

Long Beach Water A Serious Matter

A "situation which borders on being dire" exists with the present Long Beach water system, according to new Town Manager Frank Kivett.

According to the town manager, Long Beach is "operating on four wells, each well having a different type pump," and no funds reportedly are available for repair.

"I have no recommendation as to what, but I do have a recommendation that something be done," Kivett told the Town Council Thursday.

One beach resident who said she was afraid to use her water pump for fear it would run dry, said a reduction of lawn-watering on the oceanfront would help.

Mayor E.W. Morgan mentioned a possible moratorium on building homes on the oceanfront that would tap-on to the water system, and Kivett responded, "We may be addressing something that could be that serious."

"Whether or not all the town is served," Kivett told the audience, "it is still the responsibility of the town" to insure a sufficient water supply.

Manager Cites Needs Of Area

New Long Beach Town Manager Frank Kivett said Thursday night he would "try to be open and forthright" in his new duties.

Kivett, who identified orderly growth and improved medical and education facilities among the area's primary needs, said the town should "realistically look toward" an improved water and sewer system.

He noted that all but three town cars were in bad repair — especially the police cars — and the town has "a scraper we can't get parts for."

Kivett said he would recommend changes for the beach community — "some now, some at budget time."

Barriers For Courts Funded

The Long Beach Town Council has agreed to purchase fencing for the town tennis courts at a cost of \$4,750.

"It's best to go first class and right to begin with," said Mayor E.W. Morgan of the

purchase from Sears of 444 lineal feet of 10-foot-high fencing.

The fencing for two courts could be erected by the middle of May, according to a report to the board by Troy Davis. Payment will be due August 1 with no interest charged until then.

The fence reportedly is part of the local commitment for HUD funding for the town's recreation project. The courts are surfaced but have not been made ready for use because of nearby road traffic.

The cost of the fencing reportedly is below original estimates because sufficient material "happens to be on hand." National Development Corp. has erected similar fencing on tennis courts of its own and Sears reportedly shipped too much.

New Ambulance Expected Soon

Walter Johnson, chief of the Long Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad, said the town could look for delivery of a new ambulance sometime this week, but noted that use of the new vehicle would not be immediate because of necessary outfitting for rescue work.

"We're getting the best piece of equipment for the island we can," Johnson told about 30 spectators during the Long Beach Town Council meeting Thursday night.

The rescue squad chief said that the squad during January responded to 15 calls; during February, 9 calls; and during March, 14 calls. Travel amounted to over 2,000 miles, and squad activity involved more than 550 man hours.

Manager Bonded For \$100,000

Long Beach Town Manager Frank Kivett will be bonded for \$100,000, making unnecessary the bonding of Mayor E.W. Morgan and Councilman Russ Morrison.

Co-signing by either Morgan or Morrison of general fund and revenue sharing checks will continue, however, and Kivett will be allowed to sign all payroll and clean-up checks which the town "needs immediate response on."

Cost of bonding Kivett is \$350, compared to \$1,450 for all three.

...And Other Business

Other business before the Long Beach Town Council included the following:

Russ Morrison reported that between \$800 and \$900 had been raised for two little league teams and one Babe Ruth team from Long Beach, and that \$560 remained in the account, hopefully to be held for next year to eliminate the need for soliciting.

Ten water tap-ons had been reported so far in April, and state fisheries employee Walter Johnson reported that Davis Creek could be closed due to pollution in a few years if the town did not improve water and sewer services;

Application can be made for the restoration of a vandalized section of the recreation area near City Hall;

Meeting dates will be changed to the first Thursday of each month so that the council can review bills to be paid by the 10th of the month;

The Town Council voted not to allow employment of two members of the same immediate family in the same department of the city, effective immediately;

Lee Greer of Whiteville and Long Beach will be reimbursed of overpayment of a water bill that charged him with water for three lots instead of two;

The new chief of police and the new town manager were appointed to the Lower Cape Fear Planning Unit for law enforcement departments;

Applications for grants are being submitted to the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration for a detective and a police car;

The town will provide \$12,500 either momentarily or through in-kind services for groins along the strand to curb beach erosion. A \$50,000 grant is available from the N.C. Department of Air & Water Resources;

Long Beach will pay \$3,466 for professional assistance for the town zoning committee from Jim Farr of the N.C. Department of Natural and Economic Resources;

Fire Department Chief Bob Woods reported 8 fire calls during the first three months of 1974.

Council Hears Need Of Center

The Oak Islanders, a group of older residents of the beach community, is looking for a place to use its materials.

The organization, recently denied use of Fire Station No. 2 because several other groups were also seeking use of the facility, is "looking for a home," according to spokesman Artie Swartz. He said equipment that he made — including seven formica-covered, folding tables and a horseshoe pit — is unavailable to club members at this time.

Volunteer Fire Department Chief Bob Woods said he was the one who closed the station to the Islanders because use of the facility was getting out of hand. He reported that the fire truck had "lost gas" while outside the building while various groups were using the inside.

"If we let one group use it, we've got to allow all the groups to use it," Woods said.

And this, said spectator Mrs. White Heath, "shows how badly we need a community building."

Morgan said he believed 100-percent financing and possibly a grant would be available for such a project, and that he has been working on the matter since taking office in December.

Glenda Jones, a sponsor of the "Youth In Action" organization on the island, said her group has already raised \$85 toward \$2,000 the club hopes to put towards a community building.

The Islanders were granted permission to dispense with its property (the tables, etc.) "anyway they see fit." The equipment will stay in the fire station temporarily.

Extension Given For Sick Leave

Sam Dees, a 17-year employee of the Town of Long Beach, has been granted a one-month extension of sick leave pay by a unanimous vote of the Town Council.

Dees is still recovering from an operation, and the extension is for 30 days from April 10.

The extension, which was granted "because of longevity" and the fact Dees served "many Saturdays and Sundays" before there was a sick-leave policy, is on an "individual basis."

"We are not dipping into funds," noted one member of the board. "The funds are already there."

Hamlett Reports Two Resignations

New Long Beach Police Chief James Hamlett reported two resignations from his department to the Town Council Thursday night.

Cecil Pittman and Leroy Clark both submitted resignations effective next week. Each cited economic reasons for his action, and both said they would like to continue helping the department in a reserve capacity.

Hamlett reported seven breaking and entering cases during April, with three cases cleared. To date this year, 27 breaking and entering cases have been reported at Long Beach, compared to the same number for all of 1973.

Area Hospital Status Heard

The continued operation of Dasher Memorial Hospital was sensitive subject at the Long Beach Town Council meeting Thursday night — particularly among the older folks.

Referring to a State Port Pilot article about the joint meeting of the county commissioners and Brunswick County Memorial Hospital trustees, a spectator said it looked like the county was going to close it (Dasher) down.

Weight should be given, the spectator said, to this area's

standing as a resort community, retirement place for senior citizens and budding industrial complex.

But the group was told that "the commissioners don't want to meet." Mayor Morgan expressed confidence that he could get "at least three, maybe four" of the commissioners to sit down and discuss the matter.

Long Beach Is

(Continued from Page One)

Prevatte said the Dunn Lawyers do have a leg to stand on.

On March 21, Morgan successfully asked the council to void the May, 1973 contract on the basis the commitment of a previous board was not binding on a new board. This was true, Prevatte said, "to a certain extent."

In a letter from the Dunn firm, local representative Eddie Greene said the town would be excused from its contract for his services, but not from the water system agreement.

The contract called for payment "should the client later proceed" with a town water system — a standard phrase in a standard Farmers Home Administration contract.

Prevatte said the bond issue defeat "possibly would" have a bearing on the contract, and added he would meet with representatives of the Dunn firm, seeking a mutually agreeable settlement.

Morgan said that when the contract was voided (March 21) the town did not have any plans for a water system.

Doby said he "assumed" his firm would be expected to apply for the FHA loan, "but if you've got a \$15,000 lawyer you ought to use him."

Councilman Ellis Dudley introduced the motion that the board rescind the resolution of March 21 that ended the working relation with the Dunn lawyers. Board member Russ Morrison expressed favor for tabling the matter until Prevatte could meet with the Dunn firm, and Morgan agreed.

However, Dudley and council members Virginia Christenbury, Nancy Leggett and Herman Joyce voted in favor of rescinding the March 21 resolution.

Dudley said he introduced the motion "to kill the resolution that made is liable for a (law) suit."

'Realistic'

(Continued from Page One)

struction of the county water system.

Evans and firm Vice-President Troy Doby told the board the associates are "looking for a continuing relationship" in the county, and that Evans could draw from "a staff of 50 to 55 persons right now" in planning for schools here.

Evans, an architect for 18 years, went into business for himself last October. He cited a major problem with such construction as "follow through" and promised to stay with a job long after completion.

Evans said his firm would rather spend more time with architectural work rather than looking for new clients. "We are not here to give you cut-rate service," he told the board members.

FHA Help

(Continued from Page One)

Grimes, representing the N.C. Department of Insurance.

Johnson said his agency has plenty of money to lend for the purposes set out, but stated that these loans must be secured by ample assurance of an ability to repay. He said that benefit sippers and other fundraising events do not fulfill this requirement because there never is any guarantee of success for one of these events.

He reported that these loans are made at an interest rate of 5 percent.

Grimes explained the plan for special tax districts for financing a volunteer fire department and Johnson said



ED KIRK, PUBLIC INFORMATION officer for the State Ports Authority, was the speaker last Wednesday evening at the annual dinner honoring members of the local advisory com-

mittee for the SPA. H.A. Schmidt, manager of the Southport Boat Harbor, presided. (Schmidt photo).

SPA Advisors Are Recognized

Members of the local committee for the State Ports Authority were honored last Wednesday night, at a dinner with Ed Kirk, public information officer for the SPA, as speaker.

H.A. Schmidt presided as master of ceremonies. Kirk admitted that a study commission appointed by Governor James Holshouser recently had recommended that the local facility be leased to a private operator, but this proposal had been rejected by the authority. He praised the local facility, calling it a "first-class operation" filling an important need along this section of the coast.

Moreover, he predicted that with the addition at the facility of dry boat storage it soon will be operating in the

black.

He spoke of progress and problems with the operation of port facilities at Wilmington and Morehead City and expressed the belief that there is need for both ports. He expressed the opinion that it is impossible to evaluate the economic returns to the state from these facilities on the basis of a profit and loss sheet involving activity at the two ports.

In a brief reference to recommendations for revamping the pilotage boards for Wilmington and Morehead City, he stated that there never has been one minute's trouble with services rendered by the Wilmington-Cape Fear Pilot Association.

Serving on the local board are L.J. Hardee, E.L. Oliver, Dick Skipper, John Bray and L.T. Yaskell. Schmidt pointed out that their duties extend beyond the limits of the Boat Harbor property and that they can serve as a study group for other waterfront development and improvement along this section of the Cape Fear River.

Second Service

Due to increased attendance at the 11 a.m. worship hour, Southport Baptist Church will begin at 9 a.m. service beginning this Sunday.

Sunday At Shallotte Squad Offers Blood Checks

Free blood pressure checks will be held at the Shallotte Rescue Squad building this Sunday beginning at 1 p.m., according to Mrs. Ouida H. Hewett, president of the Brunswick County Heart Association.

"We will have registered nurses and the qualified rescue volunteers to check blood pressures. If there is need, they will give referrals to family doctors," she said.

"Because high blood pressure has no symptoms, the majority of the people who have this most common cardiovascular disease in the United States today are unaware of their condition. Also, because of the lack of symptoms, many who know they have the disease do not feel they need to follow the prescribed treatment."

"However, medical research has confirmed that successful control of high blood pressure can add years of healthy living to people during their most productive years, ages 30 to 65," said Mrs. Hewett.

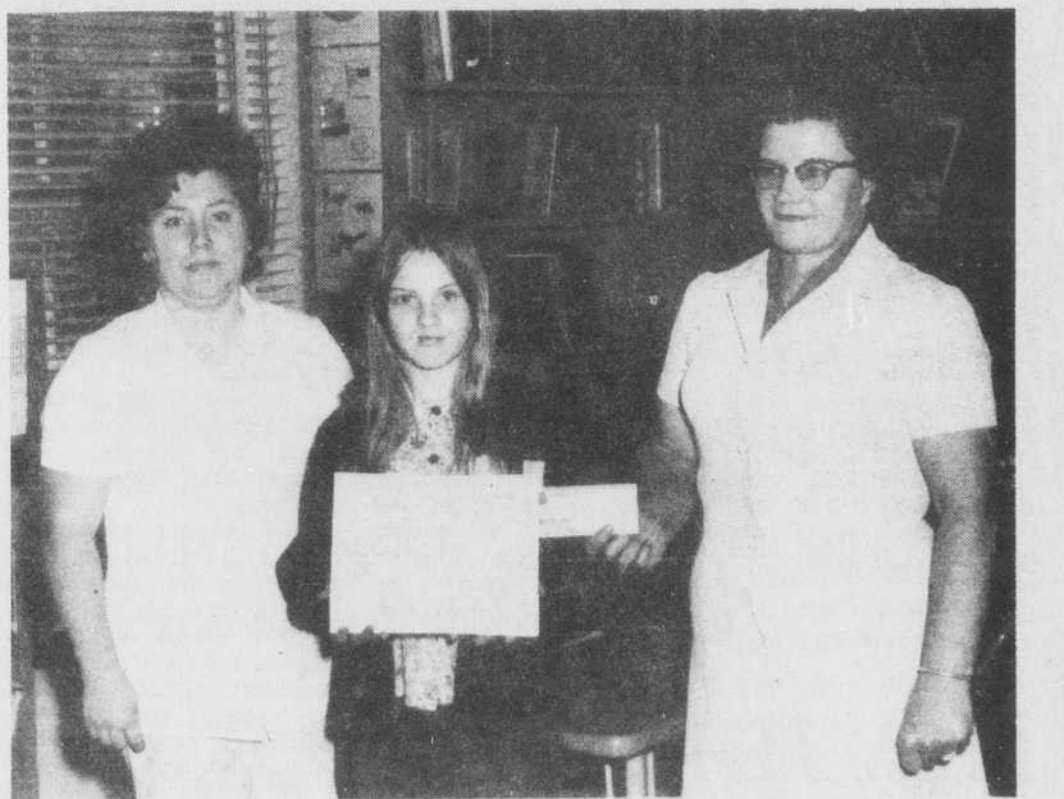
"High blood pressure, or hypertension, is a common disease. In this country over 23 million people have high blood pressure, including a large percentage of the black population. Many with hypertension do not know they have it, while others,

although they know they have it, do not follow an effective treatment plan," she said.

"Yet, hypertension is a major risk factor in the development of heart disease, particularly heart attack and stroke and particularly among males 35 and older. Most cases of hypertension can be helped with proper medical care, but first, people must understand its significance as a major disease. They must realize that it is every individual's responsibility to himself and his family to have blood pressure checks regularly and to follow the physicians' prescribed treatment to reduce blood pressure to medically safe levels," said Mrs. Hewett.

"We invite everyone to come by the Shallotte Rescue Squad building and have their blood pressure checked. Mrs. Ruth Johnson, RN; Mrs. Bobbie Piver, RN, and Mrs. Pam B. Gurganus, RN; will be there along with Mr. and Mrs. L. Jerry Hewett, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Carlisle, James Herbert Robinson, chief, to check blood pressures," said Mrs. Hewett.

"Cokes will be served by the Brunswick County Farm Bureau under the direction of Mrs. Gladys Hewett and Henry Williams.



SAFETY POSTER CONTEST winner at Bolivia Elementary School is Gina Padgett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D.W. Padgett, Jr., of Winnabow. Gina, a 12-year-old, sixth grade student, is shown with her teacher, Mrs. Beverly McColskey (left) and Mrs. Kathleen Holden, 4-H Youth Assistant who presented Gina with a \$10 check for winning. Grades 4-6 participated in the contest, which was sponsored by the 4-H. Gina, using the gas shortage as her topic, drew a gasoline station with "no gas" signs up and a truck with filled gasoline cans in the back accompanied by the admonition, "Do this and you will have worse pains than gas pains." This is the second time Gina has been a poster contest winner. Last year, in the fifth grade, she won the county conservation poster contest.