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Beach Council Okays Budget

The Town of Long Beach budget for fiscal year 1974-75 passed a public hearing Thursday night with no comment.

In a brief special meeting called primarily to hear public opinion of the town budget, the Long Beach council also sold two town vehicles for \$325 apiece to Johnny Wheeler of High Point. There were three other bids submitted.

Town Manager Frank Kivett was given permission to take a police car out of service. Maintenance cost, he said, had made the vehicle a "financial burden" on the town.

A charge for removing out-of-the-ordinary garbage — such as old stoves, tree limbs, etc. — was considered by the council, with some action possible at the next scheduled meeting July 11. The cost of picking up ordinary refuse is included in the town tax rate.

The regular first Thursday meeting for July was postponed because of the conflict with Independence Day.

The board discussed a

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City Bills Due For Increases

The City of Southport August billings will reflect higher rates for both electric and sewer service, City Manager Alvin Kornegay said this week.

Electric bills for August will show about a ten percent increase because Carolina Power and Light Company has upped cost to city about ten percent, Manager Kornegay said.

The August sewer bills will be up 50 percent because of construction and maintenance operation costs, he noted.

Saturday At Ft. Caswell

Annual July 4 Fete Starts With Pageant

Pulchritude and pageantry will mark the beginning of the North Carolina Fourth of July Festival Saturday.

The pulchritude will be seen in broad daylight when reigning beauty queens of the Carolinas tour downtown Southport in a motorcade in which will be riding Southport's own queen, Mary Tomlinson, Miss Fourth of July.

The pageantry will come that evening at 8 p.m. with the North Carolina Fourth of July Pageant at Hatch Memorial Auditorium at Fort Caswell, where a new Fourth of July Queen will be chosen to reign until the 1975 festival.

Those are just for openers. The festival will get down to business next Tuesday, July 2, with the opening of at least 15 historical, educational and otherwise interesting



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR Jim Hunt (center) was guest speaker at Saturday night's Patriot Dinner, a Fourth of July fund-raising effort that drew 160 local residents. During the day Hunt toured points of interest in the area, including the Carolina Power and Light Company plant and here, Bald Head Island with hosts Mrs. Margaret Harper and Lee Aldridge, chairman of this year's Fourth of July celebration. (photo by Geof Nessosis)

exhibits. Most will open at 9 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. and will be throughout the festival, ending Thursday night.

Tuesday also marks the opening of the second annual Fourth of July tennis tournament on the courts off East Moore Street.

Tuesday evening from 8 to midnight there will be a

street dance at the Whittlers' Bench, foot of Howe Street. Music will be furnished by "The Spontanes," a Charlotte group adept at everything from rock to classic.

Eye-catchers among the exhibits will include the Army's 338-foot beach discharge lighter, the Lt. Col. John U.D. Page, one of the most unique ships afloat. On

deck, she has a third of an acre of cargo space. Equipped with what technically are known as vertical axis propulsion units, she is regarded as the most maneuverable vessel of her size and type in the world.

Not to be outdone, the Navy will exhibit a PTF (fast power torpedo boat), a 95-foot craft capable of speeds in excess of 35 miles an hour, which will participate in demonstrations by a Navy underwater demolition team, members of which popularly are known as "frogmen."

Both vessels will be docked at the Southport Municipal Pier throughout the festival. Other exhibits will include: The Fourth of July slide program at the library. The 14th annual Junior

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Early Pilot Edition

Next week's edition of The State Port Pilot will be printed a day early, on Tuesday, so that newspapers can be distributed before Independence Day.

Advertisers are requested to have material ready no later than Monday noon, preferably on Saturday. News items will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Monday, but those received before noon on Monday will have priority in next week's Pilot.

Douglas Hawes, assistant vice-presidents at Waccamaw in Southport, and Jim Tyer, manager of First Citizens in Southport, have appealed to all Brunswick County residents to turn in their pennies to banks.

The three bank officials believe, along with other banking and Department of Treasury officials, that there are plenty of pennies in the United States. But they believe the pennies are in the wrong place — out of circulation.

Treasury officials have estimated that over 30 billion pennies are in circulation at the present time. But the problem comes about because over 30 billion other pennies are out of circulation. Most banking officials believe the "hidden pennies" are in dresser drawers, shoe boxes, pickle jars, piggy banks, etc. "They are most anywhere you can think of that will get them out of pocket and out of sight," it is said. "They are unwanted, unused and unappreciated."

"We don't have a shortage of pennies, since over half are stored away in private homes," Tyer stated. "I know this is true because I recently found five to six dollars worth of pennies in my house. I gathered them up and turned them into the bank where they are needed."

In order to encourage people to turn in the coins, the federal government is issuing a Treasury Department certificate to anyone who cashes \$25 worth of pennies in a bank. Waccamaw Bank in

Southport issued one such certificate recently. Since the problem hit the county, some residents have begun to return pennies to banks. During a 15-minute period last week, two customers turned in \$6.50 worth of pennies at First Citizens. But pennies are not being turned in fast enough to make a dent in the shortage at the present time. Because of the shortage, banks in the county are offering extra incentives to people who turn in pennies.

When pennies were plentiful, customers bringing the coins to bank were "requested" to have them rolled. "If a person brings in pennies loose, we will be glad to roll them," Mrs. Smith said. "But we would rather have them rolled."

"We prefer the pennies be rolled or at least counted," Tyer added. "We will be glad to provide wrappers for people with pennies."

The penny shortage, which started months ago in major cities, has been spreading like wildfire in recent weeks. "This is not a countywide or a statewide problem," Tyer declared. "It is all across the nation."

Last week, Mrs. Smith recalled, Waccamaw in Shallotte made an unsuccessful attempt to obtain pennies from Waccamaw in Southport. "We had called the Shalotte bank earlier in the day trying to find pennies," she added.

Mr. s. Smith said the last full shipment of pennies her bank received arrived in January. The bank has received only about \$400 worth of pennies in the last two months. While banks are having a hard time keeping the one-cent coins, the problem is even more acute for businesses in the county, bankers report.

Hawes said one businessman has visited the bank every Monday for the past two weeks and requested \$5 worth of pennies. But he has yet to receive the pennies (Continued On Page 2)

Some Cuts, Some Increases

County Budget Advances Towards Final Approval

By BILL ALLEN
The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners moved the 1974-75 budget within one step of approval during a work session Monday morning.

The board scheduled a public hearing on the budget Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. After the hearing, the board expects to adopt the new budget.

department, to increase donations to fire departments and rescue squads, to fund estuary improvements and to increase money for future re-evaluation, which had been cut.

Mallory said he arrived at the figure after making the

various changes in the original budget recommended by commissioners during numerous work sessions on the proposed budget. He presented the commissioners with a nine-page recap of the budget.

Chairman William Kopp,

Jr., recommended that an assistant director of the Social Services department be hired. "This will be in keeping with our policy of having an assistant to the director of each department

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Troy Doby Appointed

New State DOT Head Has Folks Living Here

Following a brief public hearing Wednesday morning, the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners voted 3-1 to adopt the budget for fiscal year 1974-75. J.T. Clemmons cast the negative vote without explanation.

Ed Liggett of Winnabow, the only member of the public at the hearing, thanked commissioners for their sizeable contribution to county fire departments.

County Manager Neil Mallory told the board that the proposed \$15,365,110.10 budget, with a 70-cent tax rate, contains a total of \$63,197.36 in unbudgeted funds.

After a long discussion, the board decided to use the money to hire an assistant director of the Social Services

The son of a Southport couple, who is familiar with Brunswick County, has been named secretary of the Department of Transportation by Gov. James Holshouser.

Troy Doby of Raleigh, son of Mr. Alvin I. Doby of 307 East Nash Street, will take control over the Department of Transportation on Monday, July 1, as both secretary and chairman of the Transportation Board. It is one of the most powerful appointive positions in state government.

He will replace Bruce A. Lentz, who has been named

secretary of administration. Lentz succeeds William L. Bondurant, who resigned to return to the May Reynolds Babcock Foundation in Winston-Salem.

Doby, who has been associated with the DOT since 1973, will assume control of the 14,800-employee department, which spends \$534 million of federal and state money in highway funds. His salary is now \$30,975 with a 7½ percent raise coming July 1.

Doby's father, who is employed in the pipe department at Brown and Root at Southport, has lived here about four years. His wife, the former Agnes Russ,

has been living in Southport for over 30 years. She is well-known here since she operated the first kindergarten in Southport for over 17 years.

In addition to their Southport home, they have a cottage on 4th Street West at Long Beach.

Doby, 40, who is a partner in the Raleigh engineering firm of Pierson and Whitman Associates, has been involved in a number of projects for the Brunswick County board of commissioners, the Brunswick County board of education and the Long Beach town commissioners. He has been the engineer in

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Appeal Okay Sought

No action was taken Thursday on a request for a county commissioner resolution to appeal the injunction attained by two county newspapers against the county board.

The resolution was requested by County Attorney Thomas Horne, who also asked that \$4,000 be transferred to defray court costs. Board Chairman William A. Kopp, Jr., said he was not ready to act on the matter.

The injunction, granted June 7 by Superior Court Judge E. Maurice Braswell, compels county commissioners to obey the N.C. Open Meetings Law.

OK Now, Says Willetts

Couple Blasts Sheriff For Inaction On Crime

A Durham couple who complained to members of the board of commissioners about the bad treatment they allegedly received from the sheriff's department, said they were "satisfied" after meeting with Sheriff Harold Willetts Tuesday.

"We are satisfied that Sheriff Willetts will do something about the break-in at our home," Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Olive said after the two-hour meeting with Willetts.

Mr. and Mrs. Olive had written each member of the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners about the lack of cooperation they said they had received from Sheriff Willetts and his department.

"We are thoroughly disgusted with the way we have been treated and the way Sheriff Willetts has acted," Mr. and Mrs. Olive said in the letter to the commissioners. "If we have

the kind of sheriff's department we have found we have in Brunswick County, then no one's property nor anyone in the county is safe."

Mr. and Mrs. Olive said in the letter that they were unhappy with the investigation that the sheriff's department had conducted following a break-in at their home at Gause Landing on March 23. They said they

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Patriots Gather

Lt. Gov. Hunt Dinner Guest

Speaking at the Patriots Dinner Saturday evening, Lt. Gov. Jim Hunt told his audience, "You have so much to be proud of, your ancestors

have been so much a part of this nation" that every bit of emphasis being placed upon the observance of the Fourth of July in Southport — is more than justified.

He recounted the historical events which took place in North Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War and had particular praise for the events that occurred at Brunswick Town.

He recalled that the first armed resistance to the Stamp Act took place at this Colonial town on the banks of the Cape Fear and had words of praise for the discipline of the settlers who massed to resist the collection of taxes through the use of stamps. "This was in 1765," he said, "a full nine years prior to the more famous Boston Tea Party."

Hunt was talking to an audience of about 200 persons who had gathered at the Lantern at Yaupon Beach at

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"Penny Saved" Concept Hurting Banks, Businesses

By BILL ALLEN

The nationwide penny shortage, which experts believe the average person can correct, is critical in Brunswick County, banking officials here report.

Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company and First Citizens Bank and Trust Company have recently stopped supplying businesses and commercial accounts with pennies because they don't have many one-cent coins at this time.

Ethyde P. Smith and