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Mayor: Blame On City Unfair

Mayor Eugene B. Tomlinson said Tuesday that blame for any delay in construction of Brunswick County Memorial Hospital should not be directed at the City of Southport.

Tomlinson said, "It has come to my attention that if there is a delay in the new hospital, such delay will be blamed on Southport's planned legal action. I want to make it perfectly clear to all county residents that Southport supports the mandate of the people which is to build a new hospital, not to close Doshier."

The mayor has directed that a restraining order be sought against county hospital construction until assurances are received that Doshier will continue to function at its present level.

"We have tried to meet with county officials to discuss this situation; no answer to our request has yet been received. Therefore, if there is a delay in the new hospital, don't blame Southport's planned action which is aimed at keeping faith with the people of our area, but rather blame those officials who have steadfastly refused to meet and discuss reasonable solutions to the adequate meeting of the county's acute care medical needs.

"If new hospital plans are now only about 60 percent complete, as I understand, any delay to this point can be attributed directly to those responsible for the new hospital planning," said the mayor.

Auto Mishaps Thursday

Supply Youths Struck, Killed

Two Brunswick County children were killed Thursday within a five-hour period while walking beside highways in the Supply area, according to Highway Patrolman W.A. Long.

Felicia Mia Gray, 8, of Rt. 1 Supply, was killed when hit by a car near Holden Beach on Highway 130 Thursday afternoon about 4:30.

Warren Bellamy, 11, of Rt.

2 Supply, died instantly after being hit by a car Thursday night at 9:40 while walking along Highway 211 in the Green Swamp area of Brunswick County.

Long, who investigated both fatalities, charged Jerry Lee Stevenson, 18, of Rt. 2 Supply, the driver of the car that hit Bellamy, with

(Continued on page 2)

Long Beach Thoroughfare Renamed

Modular Home, Footage Issues Tabled By Board

By BOBBY HILL

The Long Beach town council at a public hearing Thursday delayed action on banning modular homes and increasing square footage requirements.

The modular home issue was referred back to the Planning Board after little more than a half-hour of discussion.

The square footage requirements, thought to be a simple matter, was still unresolved after two and one-half hours of heated debate. The crux of the argument was whether the minimum footage would be required on one single floor or allowed to include total "living space" of a residence.

Both questions were referred to town attorney James R. Prevatte.

The council will again hold public hearings on the matters at its regular meeting next Thursday.

The square footage requirement bogged down after several people claimed the restriction to one floor would inhibit architectural variety. In answer to questions, Building Inspector Boyd Phillips said, "There won't be any A-frames built (under the single floor requirement)."

Prevatte was instructed to research the deeds of town property to see how they currently read.

Town Manager Frank Kivett instructed Phillips that the square footage requirement in the meantime will be enforced on one single floor.

The footage requirements had been proposed to coincide geographically with deed restrictions. The move was reportedly made at the request of National Development Corporation spokesman Hannon Templeton.



SURVEYING DAMAGE caused Thursday morning when lightning struck the steeple of Trinity United Methodist Church is the Rev. Earl Richardson. The bolt, which occurred during a heavy rainstorm that lessened the danger of fire, shattered the steeple with great force, causing wooden shingles to penetrate other shingles. Wiring throughout the church was destroyed; a section of wall was knocked out in the interior of the building.

The amendment would have required 1,000 square feet from 2nd Street West, south of Ocean Highway, to the end of Pinner's Point. Also, 1,200 square feet would have been required from 33rd Street East, south of Ocean Highway, west to 12th Street East.

Planning Board members Mrs. Rosetta Short did not agree with the specific wording of the proposed amendment; however, she did not deny the amendment reflected the intent of her board. Mrs. Short charged that the town council has not provided the planning group with legal counsel after being requested to do so.

Mrs. Short then encouraged interested persons to come to the planning meetings the third Wednesday of every month. "This was all done last night," she said, referring to the debate on the proposed amendments. She said public attendance of planning meetings would prevent debate at the public hearings over "who shot John."

At one point, Mayor E.W. Morgan called Mrs. Short out of order. Citing several instances of failing to be recognized by the mayor before speaking, Morgan said he would have the next offender of order removed from the meeting.

Councilman Ellis Dudley had made a motion to accept the footage requirements;

(Continued on page 2)

To Sustain Doshier

Mayor Foresees Small \$\$\$ Need

After hearing a passionate plea from Southport Mayor Eugene Tomlinson, the Boiling Spring Lakes Property Owners' Association Tuesday night voted to support Doshier Memorial Hospital and a Smithville Township hospital district.

The amended resolution put members of the association from Smithville

Township on record as supporting continued acute care services at Doshier and the establishment of a hospital district for tax purposes. Town Creek Township members in the resolution are on record as supporting "some sort of medical facility" at Doshier.

Of about 30 persons present, only one voted against the resolution. The

turn-out was light, according to those who regularly attend the monthly meetings.

County commissioners have called for Doshier to close when the county hospital is completed, sometime early in 1976. Doshier advocates claim the \$2.5 million hospital bond issue which passed last summer did not include closing the Southport hospital.

Tomlinson told the group, "It (in the bond issue) was not intimidated, implied ... it was not even suggested that this hospital was to replace Doshier."

Tomlinson said Doshier advocates support the "mandate of the people" to build a new hospital to be located near Supply. He spoke favorably of operating two hospitals in Brunswick County.

The mayor said Doshier is ending the fiscal year \$4,000 in the black. "We are not the financial white elephant on

(Continued on page 2)

Merchants Participate

'Octoberfest' Set At Beach

About 40 Oak Island and Southport area merchants met Monday to begin plans for an Oak Island festival to be held October 1-6.

The group set up a number of committees to oversee several planned activities.

An initial board was created and voted on, including Chairman Ted Wood, Frank Kivett, Marvin Watson, Troy Davis and Lee Aldridge. The intent of the motion, according to Kivett, is to alternate the chairman position between Yaupon and Long Beach. The intent is also to make the celebration an annual event and to incorporate it under the name "The Oak Island Octoberfest."

A host of special events planned include a fair with rides and amusement booths, a demolition derby sponsored

by a Leland race organization, a fishing tournament, an exhibit tent similar to those of county fairs, street dances, (both modern and square dancing), athletic events and com-

(Continued on page 2)

Eye-Witness Reports

Lightning Hits Church Steeple

Several eye-witness accounts have been found of people who saw lightning strike the Southport Trinity Methodist Church steeple about 9:30 Thursday morning.

"It sounded like you'd touched off a stick of dynamite," said Jim Johnson, who lives across the street east from the church. He was sitting in a chair on his porch at the time with a clear view.

Johnson said he saw "shingles flying and a ball of flame." Immediately prior to the explosion, he said, there was a click like the sound of

an air conditioner thermostat shutting off.

Col. M.L. Burn, principal of Southport Primary School, is another who saw the static electricity. He said the flame hit the peak of the weather vane and "burst into smoke."

Burn said he was "standing right on an iron post" and that when the lightning struck it "shocked the bejabbers out of me. The clap of thunder sounded 'like an artillery shell' striking the roof, he said.

Burn was standing on the school grounds, across the street from the church to the

(Continued on page 2)

Labor Day Closings

All governmental offices and Brunswick County schools will be closed Monday for the observance of Labor Day.

Most businesses, including banks and savings and loan institutions, also will be closed, and post offices will have box service only. The Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education will postpone first-Monday meetings one day; the Yaupon Beach board will meet Monday, Sept. 9.



BOSS OF THE YEAR for the American Business Women's Association is Col. M.L. Burn (center), principal of Southport Primary School. With Col. Burn at the ABWA annual Boss Night dinner Thursday are, left to right, Mrs. Judy McCormick, who represented the award to Col. Burn; Mrs.

Yvonne Adams, who wrote the letter on which Burn's selection was based; Marjorie Livingston, club president and "Woman of the Year"; and Cheryl Watts, who presented Mrs. Livingston her trophy.