



Kenny Price spreads concrete for the new River-tween the pilot tower and Port Charlie's walk segment which city workers are installing between the pilot tower and Port Charlie's Restaurant.

Lakes keeps same tax

Growth of the city cited as the reason

By Terry Pope
County Editor

Growth will help Boiling Spring Lakes residents pay the same in taxes under a proposed 1993-94 budget unveiled Tuesday.

Although expenses will increase by \$28,520, for the third year in a row property owners will be assessed 40 cents for every \$100 of property value.

In 1992, the city issued building permits for 36 new homes and 13 mobile homes, marking a good year for the local economy.

"That's one reason why we're able to keep the tax rate down," said mayor Mark Stewart. "That helps to increase our tax base."

Revenues and expenses are listed at \$832,120. A public hearing will be held June 22, 6:30 p.m., at City Hall.

Finance commissioner Tom Simmons said most increases are for items the town has no control over, such as insurance rates. Salaries will increase by two and a half percent.

Keeping the tax rate down is the result of "wise spending and good choices being made," Simmons stated. "It should also be noted that services have not diminished and are being maintained and extended."

Last fiscal year, the city paved 1.77 miles of streets. It hopes to pave another 3.6 miles this year.

But water and sewer service is still

a thing of the future for residents. Systems are difficult to finance on residential taxes.

"We do plan, during this year, to update a water feasibility study done in 1989," said Simmons.

The following expenses are listed: governing body, \$16,000; administration, \$150,040; board of elections, \$1,000; building and grounds, \$11,500; police, \$142,076; animal control, \$500; fire service, \$14,500; rescue service, \$13,500; streets, \$339,441; inspections, \$18,425; sanitation, \$85,000; mosquito control, \$5,164; parks and recreation (lake and dam), \$49,000; Community Appearance Commission, \$525; and contingencies, \$5,449.

Anticipated revenues are: property taxes, \$246,220; state shared revenues and permits, \$191,200; general revenues, \$14,700; state street aid, \$180,000; and fund balance, \$200,000.

In other business, the council voted unanimously to remove the Seminole Lake swimming area as a designated recreational park.

The city has permission to use the land, although it is owned by Reeves Telecom Associates, which indi-

cated it would not convey the property to an individual without the town's blessing.

Residents George and Martha Tabor said persons who gather there are noisy, litter, use profanity and trespass onto their property.

The council also authorized police to tag 21 abandoned vehicles with notices that owners have one week to comply with a town ordinance to have them removed or brought into compliance.

Letters were sent on 62 vehicles and all but 21 persons have complied, said councilman Bert Buckbee.

A public hearing was set on two proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance for July 13, 6:30 p.m. The regular meeting was set back a week because of the July 4 holiday.

Zoning changes would prohibit the issuance of a temporary occupancy permit for a home without its exterior completed and would identify an "attached garage" as sharing a common wall with the home.

Police officer Eddie Reynolds was also removed from probationary status and made a full-time employee.

Southport woman is stabbed, remains in intensive care unit

A Southport woman remained in intensive care Tuesday after she was repeatedly stabbed early Saturday.

Police have charged Demetrius (Meatball) Ray, 19, of 918 Caswell Avenue, with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury.

Ray was placed in the Brunswick County jail under \$20,000 bond, said Southport police chief Bob Gray.

The incident happened on the 11th Street extension around 3:30 a.m., Gray said.

The 20-year-old victim, who knew the suspect, suffered multiple stab wounds to her wrist, neck, chest, back and right leg from some type of knife, said Gray.

Some nearby residents heard her scream for help and called the police. She did manage to walk approximately 50 yards to a house, Gray said.

Rescue transported her to Doshier Memorial Hospital in Southport. She was later transferred to New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington.

City clean-up planned June 19

Several major clean-up projects are planned for June 19 in Southport. "Operation Southport Clean Sweep" will begin at 9 a.m. at City Hall. Residents are invited to help pick up litter in preparation for the N. C. Fourth of July Festival. The city will provide trash bags, and full bags can be taken to Waterfront Park between noon and 2 p.m. All participants will receive free hot dogs and drinks for their community effort.

Waterfront Development Committee member Karen Perry said her group is contacting the Boy Scouts, local churches and other civic organizations in an attempt to get everyone involved.

Also on the 19th, city workers will pick up all furniture and appliances left at curbside. Anyone who wants to clean out the attic or garage should do so before clean-up day and save a trip to the landfill.

"We want people to get rid of all their old furniture and appliances, and really take advantage of this," Perry said.

Finally, the Waterfront Development Committee is organizing the project to re-deck the city dock, also scheduled for the 19th. Perry said there are already plenty of volunteers to do the work, but that boards are still needed. About 20 boards have been donated thus far, she said, and about 100 are needed for the project.

Anyone who would like to donate a board can do so at the Pelican Building Center or Lowe's of Southport.

"Instead of having everything cost the city, we're a big believer in volunteer efforts," Perry said of her committee. "Everything we try to do benefits the whole city."

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Swimming classes to be offered in city

Southport Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor swimming classes for children four years of age and up.

The classes will be held at the Sea Captain Motel pool and will be taught by Ellen Dorsett. Ms. Dorsett is a water safety instructor with the American Red Cross and an emergency medical technician-intermediate with Southport Rescue Squad. She is also a member of Southport Rescue Squad's Water Response Team.

Classes will be held in weekly sessions with a cost of \$15 per child per week. Pre-registration is suggested as participants will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Classes will be limited to ten children per class.

Registration can be done at City Hall.

Dates for classes are: June 14-18, June 28-July 2, July 12-16, July 19-23, July 26-30, August 2-6, August 9-13, August 16-20. Times for classes will be 9 a.m. for

participants with swimming ability, 10 a.m. for participants with some ability to move through the water, 11 a.m. for those just beginning. Classes will be adjusted on Monday of each week according to the skills of those attending.

Southport Parks and Recreation Department will also sponsor a session on home pool safety. The date will be announced later.

For additional information persons should contact Ms. Dorsett at 457-5493.

Shriners fish fry

Brunswick County Shriners will hold a fish fry on Friday, June 11, from 11 a.m. until.

Serving sites will be the same as in the past, it was noted. The plates will be \$4 each, with proceeds going to help the Shriner's Hospitals for Crippled and Burned Children.

Ferry guides to aid tourists

Information guides on the Southport-Fort Fisher Ferry will begin work Monday, June 7.

Paul Haislip, Tom Miller, Kris Shepard and Denise Stidham are this summer's guides who will be available to answer questions that passengers may have as they cross the Cape Fear River.

The program originated from a special legislative appropriation in 1984 and has provided a boost to local tourism. The four guides act as a link between the lower Cape Fear and the visiting public. They pass out brochures supplied by the Southport-Oak Island and Carolina Beach chambers of commerce.

One guide will be on each ferry between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. each day.

The program is administered under the N. C. Department of Cultural Resources.

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