

Fire Sweeps Two Buildings Tuesday

Town Board Will Consider New Annexing Plan Monday

Beaufort town officials will consider a new annexation plan, following a public hearing on zoning matters Monday afternoon at the town hall.

The plan will be presented by Claud Wheatly, town attorney. It proposes doing away with the old plan for annexation and annexing Hancock Park, the portion of Highland Park served by an existing sewer system, and the portion of Ann street where there is sewerage service and urban characteristics.

Mr. Wheatly told the board he would like action on the new proposal before the first of the year. The annexation proposal as it now stands would enlarge town boundaries by 4 1/4 acres and population by 150 to 160 persons, according to Ronald Earl Mason, town clerk.

Mr. Wheatly termed the recent supreme court decision "a service to Beaufort and all towns attempting to annex by ordinance." He reminded the board that the court did not "dismiss" the case, but sent the town plan back to the town for correction.

The attorney commented that the town had originally proposed to maintain sewerage systems in the to-be-annexed areas, after paying property owners for them. But, he continued, the supreme court decision has said that paying for already-existing sewerage systems is not required. Only if there isn't one, does the town have to put one in, according to the court.

Mr. Wheatly said further that the town would be going beyond its authority to use tax funds for buying an already-existing sewerage system.

The judgment, simply, said three things, the attorney said:

- The town can't just say that "60 per cent" of the area to be annexed is urban; it must establish urban development as a fact
 - Presently existing sewers needn't be paid for
 - If sewer already exists, there is no requirement that the town lay another "beside it."
- The board took no action on a proposal that the town purchase a new police patrol car. The clerk

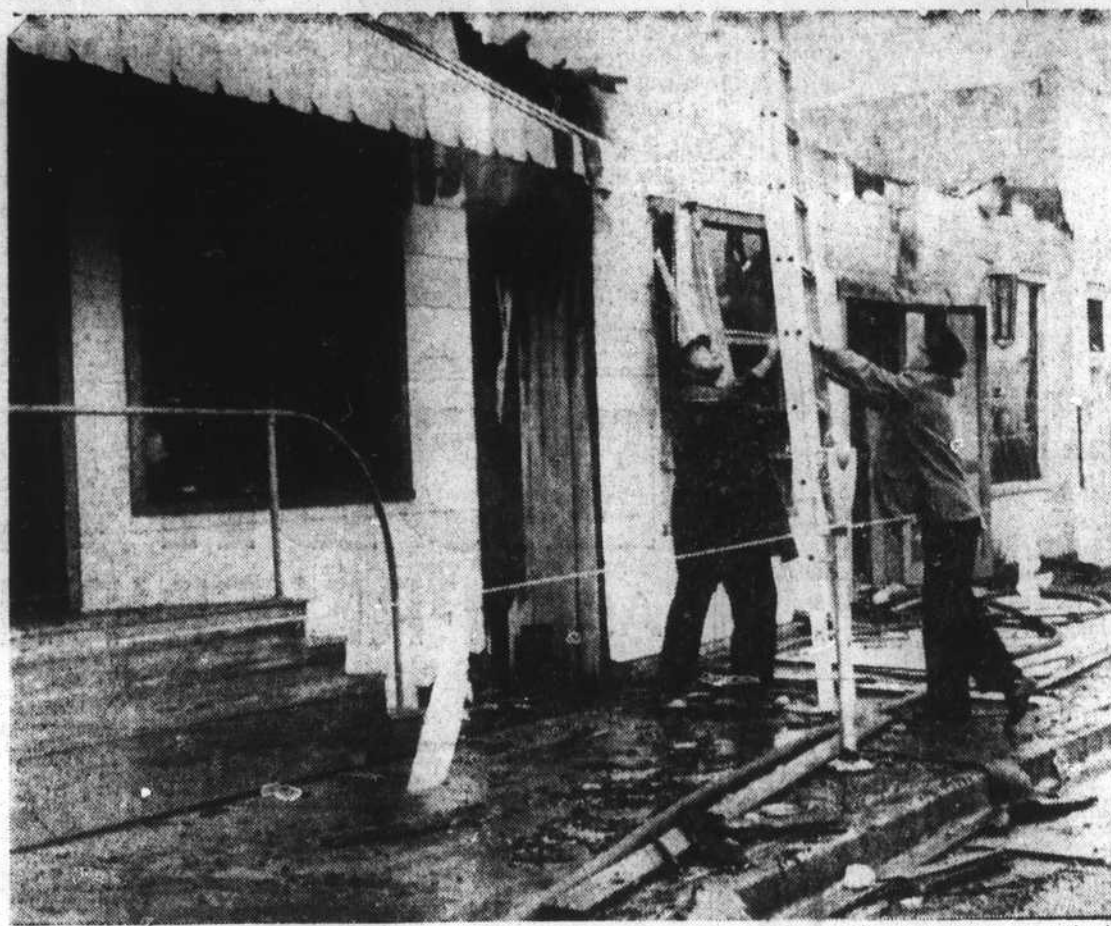
said purchase of a car is not in the budget.

Approved was a mutual fire-fighting agreement with Cherry Point. Also okayed was a proposal to change a street lighting arrangement at the school, which will cost the town an additional \$3.34 monthly.

The clerk reported actual cash balance in the debt service fund at \$13,959.90. One bond was recently purchased at 96, the clerk said. The attorney was asked to check on whether the money in the debt service fund could be put on certificate of deposit for less than six months.

The mayor said he regretted that THE NEWS-TIMES did not publicize Beaufort's Christmas parade. Commissioners William Roy Hamilton and Earl Mades stated that, on the contrary, the paper had given excellent coverage and expressed their appreciation.

Attending the meeting, in addition to those mentioned, were commissioners David Farrior, Frank Morning, chief of police Guy Springle, and building inspector Gerald Woolard.



Ronal Earl (Skip) Willis and A. L. (Bull) Brinson, Morehead City firemen, take down a ladder after a blaze raged through two buildings early Tuesday morning. At the left is Dee Gee's gift shop.

Dee Gee's Shop, Abbott Morris Building Burn

Fire which struck shortly before dawn Tuesday destroyed two buildings in downtown Morehead City. Burned were Dee Gee's gift shop and an adjoining vacant building in the 100 block on south 8th street. The vacant building was owned by Mrs. Abbott Morris, Camp Glenn.

D. G. Bell, Morehead City, owner and operator of the gift shop, estimated his loss at between \$25,000 and \$30,000. Most of the loss was covered by insurance.

Fred Guthrie Jr., Morehead City, who works at a nearby taxi stand, discovered the blaze around 4 a.m. Tuesday and turned in the alarm. Firemen from the Morehead City fire station, just across the street, answered the alarm and later were joined by firemen from the West End station.

The fire is believed to have started among some things in the rear of the Abbott Morris building. Firemen seemed to have the blaze under control, but flames traveled between the ceiling and roof and suddenly engulfed Dee Gee's. Both of the buildings were wooden frame.

Two vacant buildings, now being razed, south of the Abbott Morris building, were not damaged. A warm south wind swept flames northward. The two buildings are being torn down by Roper Van Horn, owner, to make way for a Cities Service gas station that will go up at 8th and Evans streets.

Mr. Bell owned the building in which his gift shop was located. He purchased it three years ago from F. C. Salisbury, Morehead City.

Mr. Bell, former county assemblyman and at present a state highway commissioner, has been in the gift shop business for 27 years. He expects to rebuild, but plans are as yet indefinite.

Mrs. Morris said that she does not plan to rebuild. Some of Dee Gee's merchandise was stored in her building. She said she carried no insurance.

Board to Hold Zoning Hearing At 3 Monday

● Adjustment Board Approves Changes

● Rezoning, Wider Area Of Business Proposed

Beaufort town commissioners will conduct a hearing at 3 p.m. Monday afternoon relative to rezoning the present location of Brooks and Mason funeral home, Ann street, from residential to business, and widening the business district on Cedar street.

The town commissioners were told, at their meeting Monday night, that the changes have been approved by the board of adjustment.

At present, the business district on either side of Cedar street is 110 feet back from each sidewalk. It is proposed to widen this to 220 feet, or half a block back from the sidewalk.

The hearing will be conducted at the town hall.

Commissioners discussed collection of delinquent business license fees and personal property taxes. C. R. Wheatly, town attorney, pointed out that doing business without a privilege license is a misdemeanor each day the businessman continues without the license. The license was due July 1.

The board directed that the clerk, Ronald Earl Mason, send a letter to the delinquents and if the letter does not bring payment, a warrant should be sworn out for the businessman and he be taken to court.

The board also directed the clerk to garnish wages of delinquent personal property tax-owners if they do not pay the tax by Feb. 1. Mayor W. H. Potter, who presided, said if all the town's delinquent taxes were collected, \$80,000, the debt service fund could be brought up to date.

The town attorney was requested to investigate the town's agreement with bondholders and the refinancing agreement.

The mayor reported that the Civil Aeronautics board has no

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Driver Draws Six-Month Term In City Court

A Beaufort man, George Dewey Equils, was sentenced to six months in jail Monday in Morehead City recorder's court following conviction of his sixth offense of driving without a driver's license.

Equils entered an appeal and the case was transferred to the next term of superior court. His appearance bond was set at \$500. The defendant was also charged with having no registration and no insurance but was not prosecuted on those counts.

Also drawing a six-month jail sentence was Carlton Pittman, Morehead City, convicted of his fifth public drunkenness offense within a 12-month period.

Carlton Piner, Morehead City, found guilty of assault on a minor, appealed a 30-day jail sentence suspended on payment of court costs. Bond for his appearance in superior court was set at \$50.

Robert Leon Potter, Cherry Point, was given a 90-day jail sentence, suspended on payment of \$100 and costs for drunk driving and Ernest S. Carroway, Beaufort, paid \$7 and costs for speeding.

Paying court costs only were Leroy Brown, Morehead City, charged with having no muffler and Everett Alexander Ingram Jr., Morehead City, charged with failing to yield the right of way.

Edna Trager, Morehead City, charged with trespassing on the property of Mrs. Nellie O'Neal and assault of Mrs. O'Neal, failed to appear to answer the charges. Judge Herbert O. Phillips issued an order for Mrs. Trager to be brought in for a hearing in three weeks. Bond for the defendant was set at \$200.

Malignous prosecution was ruled in the case against Charles Holland, Morehead City, charged with assault. Anthony Lee Daugherty, prosecuting witness, was ordered to pay court costs.

A charge of failing to comply with a former court order, against Dessie Pittman Gaskill, Beaufort, was dismissed.

Sixteen cases were transferred until later terms of court.

Park Still Holds Its Top Spot

Attendance at Fort Macon state park did not drop during the first 11 months of this year, as reported in Tuesday's paper.

The figures were reversed. Attendance for the first 11 months this year was 493,086, as compared with 427,680 last year.

Ray Fardus, park superintendent, said Wednesday that 1961's attendance was a new record for Fort Macon. Total attendance at all parks in the state was about 2,000 less than for the same period last year.

Eight parks had higher attendance than in 1960 and four had lower attendance. More persons visited Fort Macon than any other park, according to the Department of Conservation and Development.

Auto Accident Claims 11th Highway Victim in County

Boats Already Numbered Need Not Pay Fee Again

Board to Get Hospital Report

Mayor George Dill, Morehead City, will present the audit report on Morehead City hospital to town commissioners at their meeting next Thursday night at the municipal building.

The mayor attended the hospital board of trustees meeting Friday when the auditor discussed the report with the trustees. David Willis, hospital administrator, said that the mayor was furnished a copy of the audit for each town board member.

Asked his opinion of the past year's fiscal operations at the hospital, Mr. Willis commented, "It look's pretty good." He said a summary of the audit will be published in THE NEWS-TIMES in the near future.

The administrator also said that various church and civic organizations will be providing the hospital with favors for the patients' hospital trays during the holiday season.

Firemen Called

Beaufort firemen were called out at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday to extinguish a brush fire on a vacant lot next to the Queen Street high school gym. No damage was reported.

Beaufort Jaycees Agree to Manage Scout Building for Another Month

Beaufort Jaycees, after conferring with town officials Monday night at the town hall, agreed to continue managing the Scout building for 30 days more.

The Jaycees said they get no cooperation from organizations that are supposed to be trustees of the property and are absorbing the monthly loss incurred by keeping the building open.

During the 30-day period now in progress, the Jaycees were asked by the town to draw up a set of rules for operation of the building, assume the deficit for the month, as usual, and meanwhile commissioner Frank Morning would try to get reactivated the original trustee arrangement set up in the deed for the property.

As a result of action by the 1961 Legislature, no fee will be required for renewal of certificates of number issued to commercial fishing boats, if such boats come within certain provisions provided by law.

The Wildlife Resources commission, responsible for registration of all boats of more than ten horsepower, said, "The General Statutes of North Carolina authorize the Wildlife Resources commission to issue such renewals, free of charge; provided, the applicant submits with his request

• A signed statement certifying that the boat is a commercial fishing boat (as defined in G.S. 75A-5)

• A receipt, signed by an authorized agent of the Division of Commercial Fisheries, bearing the boat number originally awarded by the Wildlife Resources commission and showing that the commercial fishing boat license tax (imposed by G.S. 113-174.7) has been paid for the period during which the application for renewal is submitted.

State law defines commercial fishing boats as "motorboats which are used primarily for commercial fishing operations, from which operations the owners and/or operators derived more than one-half of their gross income during the preceding calendar year."

Owners of boats registering such boats for the first time must pay the \$3 fee, but will be exempted from payment of a renewal fee in subsequent years, as long as the boat qualifies as a commercial fishing craft.

The funeral service for Elbert Lennon Perry, 52, Otway, who was killed in an auto accident Monday afternoon, was conducted at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. Burial was in the family cemetery on the Crow Hill road.

State trooper R. H. Brown said Perry was killed at 5:50 p.m. on highway 70 a half mile west of Otway. He was alone in the car. His death is the 11th fatality in the county this year.

According to the officer, Perry was headed west. His car, a 1960 Chevrolet, went off to the right on a slight curve, followed a ditch and hit a culvert into the driveway of the First Baptist church.

Coroner David Munden ruled the death as accidental. Trooper Brown said no other car was involved. The Perry car was demolished.

A retired Coast Guardsman, Perry worked as a longshoreman at the Morehead City port.

Officiating at the funeral service was the Rev. J. W. Funk, pastor of the Otway Christian church. There were Masonic rites at the graveside.

Surviving are Perry's wife, Alma; one daughter, Carolyn, of the home; five brothers, Shepperd and Benjamin, both of Norfolk, Va.; Harold of Quimby, Va.; Dempsey of Kitty Hawk and Lester Perry of Morehead City; and two sisters, Mrs. Kenneth Olsend of Norfolk, and Mrs. Early Keller of Kitty Hawk.

Groundbreaking Sunday

Camp Glenn congregation will break ground at 2:30 p.m. Sunday for its new educational building, a block west of the intersection of highway 24 and 70 and a block off the highway. The new church plant will be called St. Peter's Methodist church, the Rev. J. L. Mansfield, pastor.

John Dill, 78, Died Thursday

John Howard Dill, a Beaufort merchant for many years, died early Thursday morning at John Umstead hospital, Butler, where he had been a patient for a year.

Mr. Dill, 78, operated a men's clothing store on Front street until he retired in 1956 because of his health. He was the son of the late William and Elizabeth Dill and was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal church. He was born Nov. 25, 1883.

Surviving are his wife, Charlotte Coffrey Dill; two daughters, Mrs. John Crump, Morehead City, and Mrs. Robert Lucas, Beaufort, one granddaughter, one great granddaughter, both of Greensboro, and three sisters, Mrs. Frank Perry, Miss Ella Dill and Mrs. William Wadsworth, all of New Bern.

The funeral has been tentatively set for this afternoon at St. Paul's church, Beaufort. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

The family requests that no flowers be sent.

Mayor Disappointed With Letter from Base

Mayor A. B. Cooper, Atlantic Beach, has expressed disappointment with a letter he said was recently released from the provost marshal's office, Cherry Point.

The mayor said, at the town board meeting Friday that the letter warned Marines not to visit Atlantic Beach.

"They think we're too rough here when the men from the base get out of line, but we're not," the mayor commented. "We welcome the Marines and have tried our best to cooperate with the base," he concluded.



This is Dee Gee's, as it appeared before the fire, and the building next to it, which was occupied by a shoe shop at the time this picture was taken. (Photo by F. C. Salisbury)

Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar		
HIGH	Friday, Dec. 15	LOW
2:12 a.m.		8:39 a.m.
2:33 p.m.		9:09 p.m.
	Saturday, Dec. 16	
3:13 a.m.		9:45 a.m.
3:56 p.m.		10:05 p.m.
	Sunday, Dec. 17	
4:14 a.m.		10:43 a.m.
4:39 p.m.		10:58 p.m.
	Monday, Dec. 18	
5:12 a.m.		11:37 a.m.
5:37 p.m.		11:48 p.m.

Program Announced
The annual Christmas program, presented by pupils of St. Egbert's school, Morehead City, will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday at the recreation center, Morehead City. The public is welcome, according to the Rev. Hugh Kennedy, pastor of St. Egbert's church.

Saturation Operation Nets 24, Patrol Reports

Twenty-four arrests were made Friday night during a saturation of highway 70 by the state highway patrol, the patrol announces. The area saturated included the highway in the vicinity of Newport and roads adjacent to the highway.

Violations included speeding, improper registration, no operator's license, failure to dim lights, improper muffler, failure to see that movements can be made in safety, following too close, no liability insurance, reckless driving and improper lights.

Checking stations, electrical timing devices and unmarked cars were used throughout the weekend. Patrol personnel participating included Sgt. R. H. Nutt, Cpl. A. F. Fields and troopers R. H. Brown, W. J. Smith, W. E. Pickard and J. W. Sykes.

He's Due Dec. 19

Santa Claus will ride a fire truck in Morehead City, beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19, and distribute fruit to children. At the same time there will be a party in the community center, W. S. King school. The next day the fire department plans to start its delivery of food baskets to the needy. Firemen report that they have received some substantial checks to finance their food program.