

## Selected Projects, Costs Are Listed

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- are as follows:
- Holiday Beaches, Beaves Subdivision and Thomas Gray Subdivision, \$294,000.
  - Seaside Station, \$110,000.
  - Shamilla, Long Acres, Stanley Continguum, \$598,100.
  - Brooks Acres, B&B Subdivision, \$74,000.
  - Sea Times, \$103,000.
  - Ocean Pines Acres, \$36,200, and
  - Whispering Heights, \$88,500.

The seventh project was added by dropping a small area along N.C. 120 East from the top-ranked project.

The total cost of the project comes within the estimated \$13 million available for water projects. Utility board members had acknowledged at their earlier meeting that the county was unlikely to be comfortable with committing the entire sum to assessment projects. Attending the meeting were members Bill English, Ed Gore, Ernest McGee, Robert Nibel and Alfonso Roach.

Board members also noted that the list could change as the county proceeds, because of difficulties in obtaining rights-of-way; lack of willingness of some communities to be assessed or other reasons.

Other communities that want water in the near future and are not on the project list have an alternative available. If one or more parties can provide the money upfront for the project and a majority of property owners along the road support the project, the line can be installed and property owners billed their share of the cost and the parties reimbursed.

### Plan Defended

Planning Board Chairman Ed Gore addressed the board, defending a county land use plan update that was criticized recently by the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission.

He said a revised draft would be ready in several months, adding that the planning board would meet jointly with commissioners next month to work on the project. "We will be looking at the comments and addressing them."

Chappell also defended the plan, saying, "I think we've been lambasted when we shouldn't have been lambasted."

Among other things, the state indicated the update was weak in policy issues—the regulations and ordinances required to carry out the plan, in documenting public participation opportunities, and in involvement of county government as well as staff in the plan's development.

### Shelter Employees

It took three motions, but commissioners finally reached general agreement on a funding request from the Brunswick County Health Board. On a motion by Jim Poole, they voted 4 to 1 expressing an "intent to fund" in next year's budget two new animal control positions. Voting against the motion was Commissioner Benay Ludlum. Commissioners indicated the vote didn't bind them to funding the jobs.

A state study of the animal shelter

operation done at the county commissioners' request had indicated the need for a full-time shelter attendant to care for animals and a full-time clerk typist.

Commissioners first defeated 4 to 1 a motion by Commissioner and Health Board member Frankie Babon to "fund" both positions in next year's budget since the recommendations came from a needs study the board had initiated.

Then they defeated, 4 to 1, a motion by Chappell to immediately fund the shelter attendant position for the remainder of the year, with the money to come from contingency.

### Other Business

In other business, commissioners:

- Adopted a resolution forwarding a request to the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission to establish a no-wake zone between Markers 75 and 85, between the Shallotte River and Brick Landing and the Shallotte River to Holden's Fish House. They also adopted a policy requiring the party that asks for special regulations like no-wake zones to erect and maintain the necessary signs.

- Reappointed Airfreida Ward of Thomasboro (District 3) to the Brunswick Hospital Authority and appointed Steve Craft of Olde Towne to complete the unexpired term of Leo Novak on the Ieland Sanitary District Board. Novak resigned. Other appointments to be called in include the seats of Donald Nee and Leo Fulford on the hospital board and Leo Johnson, Floyd Kirby and Michael deSherrbinn on the Industrial Facilities Board.

- Tabled consideration of a request from Darryl Somerset with a stream restoration and drainage project in Wet Ash Swamp until Dec. 9 at 5:30 p.m. Landowners have complained about poor drainage, which Somerset says is due mostly to debris and beaver habitation. He wants to investigate a possible two-thirds matching grant of \$24,000 from the state for the project. The county would have to come up with about \$16,000.

- Authorized a letter supporting the Southeastern Economic Development Commission program. The letter was needed to retain the county's eligibility for federal Economic Development Administration development grants.

- Authorized the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department to accept \$850 in ABC revenues from the Belleville ABC Board, purchase of a radio to replace one destroyed in a wreck using \$5,000 in insurance money.

- Accepted \$41,911 in additional federal funding for the Public Housing Authority, for a total budget of \$785,207. This year's contract includes 25 additional Section 8 housing units.

- Approved advertisement of bids for eight vehicles requested by various county departments.

- Set the total cost of the Brooks Drive special assessment paving project at \$19,500; the next step is to develop a preliminary assessment roll from which residents will be billed.



SAILFISH DRIVE at Holden Beach was transformed into a lake Tuesday by overflow from the canal on one side and the marsh on the other. The unusually high water level was a result of astronomical tides and gale force winds along the coast.

## Water Budget To Be Subsidized

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Residential and retail customers will be charged according to a different structure, as follows:

- Residential and commercial with three-quarter inch meter—\$8.50 minimum with 3,000 gallons consumption, plus \$1.75 per 1,000 gallons for the next 7,000 gallons, then \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons thereafter.
- Commercial one-inch meter—\$11.50 minimum with 3,000 gallons consumption plus \$1.75 per 1,000 for the next 7,000 gallons, then \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons thereafter.
- Commercial two-inch meter—\$25 minimum with 10,000 gallons consumption plus \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons thereafter.
- Commercial four-inch meter—\$50 minimum with 25,000 gallons consumption, then \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons thereafter.
- Commercial six-inch meter—\$100 minimum with 50,000 gallons consumption, then \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons thereafter.

Trailer parks, duplex, apartment or condominium buildings served through one meter will be billed at the commercial retail rate.

### Pfizer's Contract

Pfizer's contract is much more detailed than that between the county and local municipalities.

While Pfizer is to be charged the lowest commercial rate available, that figure is subject to a cap tied to the U.S. Department of Labor's Producers Price Index. Beyond the fiscal year ending on June 30, 1989, the rate per 1,000 gallons cannot exceed \$1.50 times the ratio of change in the index from May 1, 1985, to May 1 of the year in which the rate for the forthcoming year is determined. The figure drops to \$1.25 at such time as water consumption by Pfizer and Congentrix reaches 1.38 million gallons per fiscal year, double the volume delivered to Pfizer in 1985.

However, within limits and whether it bought water per the contract or not, Pfizer would continue its obligation to help pay for debt service on water revenue bonds sold to finance construction of Phases I and II only.

In turn, the county agrees to operate the water system efficiently and economically, and to do whatever is needed to furnish Pfizer with water under the terms of the contract. It also agrees to serve and charge reasonable rates to all users "impartially and without unjust discrimination"; to operate the system at the lowest rates practicable; and use water system revenues only

for water system purposes.

The county agrees also to deliver Pfizer's water to a point within 500 feet of the intersection of S.R. 1527 and S.R. 1526 near Southport; to furnish and maintain any needed metering equipment; to provide a "reasonably constant" water pressure from a 16-inch main terminating at an elevated tank built by the county adjacent to the deliver point. If more pressure is needed than usual, Pfizer will pay the difference in cost.

The amount of water provided will be based on estimates provided each May by Pfizer. The county reserves the right to limit the quantity if doing so should unreasonably burden operation of the system. It also reserves the right in a period of extended shortage, to restrict Pfizer's water supply at the same ratio as the supply to other customers is reduced.

In no case, Pfizer has agreed, will the county be liable for damages for failure to furnish water to the industry.

Pfizer cannot sell or resell water from the county or any other source except to a subsidiary located on specified property or adjoining the property.

The terms of the contract will continue to apply if the county turns operation of its water system over to a separate authority or district board of some type.

## Help Sought For Families

The Volunteer and Information Center at Bolivia is looking for pro-holiday help for several households.

- Needed are the following:
- a stove and refrigerator for a family that cannot afford to purchase one, as well as pajamas and other funds for a household member who recently underwent serious surgery.
  - a bathroom facility—either a new one, or one that can be shared. The

husband is disabled and the mother works when she can cleaning houses.

- that water heater and cabinet repairs for a widow in Southport.
- dental for a young man who cannot afford it.

Individuals, groups or businesses interested in sponsoring any of the above and are asked to contact Ouida Hewett, VIC coordinator.

## Marine Fisheries Meeting Scheduled

Four new commissioners will be sworn in and several varieties of fish discussed at a Dec. 12 meeting of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission in Morehead City.

Spanish mackerel, red drum, menhaden, clam limits, and fishing during mackerel tournaments are among the topics to be included.

Public comment is not sought at this meeting, but a brief period before the start of business will be allowed for people to speak on any topic.

The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. at the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries Building.

## Flooding, Erosion Reported

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coastal engineer with sea Grant, a federal and state sponsored marine resources extension program. But, he said it varies from time to time and place to place.

Areas along inlets, as on the ends of Holden and Ocean Isle beaches, are especially prone to dramatic changes and fluctuations, he said. These areas can have bluffs with severe erosion, but intermediate areas will build up at the same time.

The past two years, he said, have seen mild winter seasons that have stabilized some of the areas. But high tides such as those experienced this week can change the average erosion.

The astronomical tides are raised by the earth moving closer to the sun in the winter and the alignment of the sun and moon, and are common at this time of year, according to Tom Oswald, with the National Weather Service in Wilmington. But when combined with winds reaching over 50 miles per hour offshore the result can be chaos, he added.

"The winds are a result of a very strong high pressure system over Canada and Maine combined with a low pressure one over Florida and Georgia," he said.

Oswald said the winds produced from the two systems caused the surf to push more water from offshore.

The rainfall the area had from Sunday through Tuesday was not significant in the high water levels, said Oswald. There was one-half inch to three-fourths inch of rain reported across the state, and almost an inch was reported at the New Hanover County Airport Monday night.

Oswald said wind gusts were reported to have reached 40 mph inland.

The low pressure system down south that was partly responsible for the problems here will be moving in to the area by tomorrow, said Oswald, when there will be a gradual cooling trend. Temperatures are expected to drop to the mid 60s (today) and range in the high 50s through Saturday, he said, with evening lows in the 30s.

## Forecast Calls For More Rain

Temperatures should be near normal and rainfall above average during the coming week.

Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Conroy said Tuesday that temperatures should range from nighttime lows of about 40 degrees to daytime highs around 60 degrees, with about three-quarters of an inch of rain expected.

For the period Nov. 25-Dec. 1, a maximum high temperature of 26 degrees was recorded on the 28th. The minimum low temperature of 59 degrees occurred on Nov. 25. A daily average high of 67 degrees combined with an average nightly low of 54 degrees for a daily average temperature of 61 degrees, about 10 degrees above normal.

Conroy recorded 37 inch of rain at Shallotte Point.

## Holden Causeway Signal On Transportation Board Agenda

BY SUSAN USHER

Unless objections are forthcoming, residents of the Holden Beach area will get a spotlight for the causeway intersection before the 1989 tourist season, Rep. E. David Redwine announced Monday.

Meanwhile, motorists began adjusting this week to another change of stop signs. On Monday, a 30-day transition period ended and two out of four stop signs were removed. Only traffic exiting the Holden Beach causeway and S.R. 1120 will be required to stop, as was the case prior to September.

The changes were requested at a public meeting in late October, when upset residents told District 3

Transportation Commissioner Tommy Pollard they wanted the stop signs reversed, at least until a light could be obtained.

An earlier request for the light from the Town of Holden Beach was denied by the N.C. Department of Transportation on the basis that it wasn't justified by the department's warrant system.

But Redwine and others say the light is needed.

"The only way to solve the problem at that intersection and prevent someone from eventually getting killed is a traffic light," he said. "You can use the point system all you want, but the bottom line is safety."

Every time a change is made at the intersection, he suggested, its danger increases.

According to Redwine, the intersection is on a list of 169 areas across the state that DOT has identified as dangerous and expressed a desire to do something about were sufficient funds available in the spot safety fund.

With the assistance of Speaker of the House Linton Hatsey, Redwine said he has identified a source for the \$25,000 to \$30,000 needed for the project.

It has been scheduled for consideration at the Board of Transportation's Dec. 12 meeting in Charlotte,

he said. "If no one poses questions or has objections, it will be approved," he said. The project will not take money away from any other project, he said.

How quickly the light could go up depends upon the signal mechanisms needed at the causeway intersection. "If it's an intersection where they have a stoplight that's mechanically right for it, it could go up right away."

If the light must be ordered, it will still go up by Easter, he estimated, if not long before.

Even so, he said, "I don't know if that will make everybody down there happy."

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RITE AID

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

Rite Aid Pharmacy and Coastline Rescue Squad will co-sponsor a free blood pressure check at Rite Aid Pharmacy at Hill's Shopping Center in Shallotte on Dec. 6. Coastline Rescue Squad members will be available from 9 AM to 5 PM to make the blood pressure measurements.

HILLS SHOPPING CENTER, SHALLOTTE, 754-9106