

# Holden Beach Property Owners Must Give Up Street Right-Of-Way

**BY DOUG RUTER**  
Holden Beach property owners who have let their yards get out of control will be receiving at least two pieces of mail from the town in the coming weeks asking them to clean up their act.

The first of these letters, which will be sent to all town property owners, will request that the owner remove anything now situated in the street right-of-way. This will clear the way for Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation to come in and move all utility lines underground.

Commissioners decided to send the letter during a meeting Monday morning which was a continuation of the regular board meeting held Nov. 7.

The one-hour session ended before the board had a chance to discuss annexation in detail, which was one of the original reasons for the recessed

meeting. Commissioners will hold a special meeting for that purpose on Monday, Nov. 28, at 10 a.m.

While annexation was touched upon lightly, this week's session focused on improvements within the existing town limits.

Commissioner Gay Atkins, who read a letter from BEMC Operations Manager Bobby Gore, requested the town letter, noting that some property owners have encroached as far as 20 feet inside the right-of-way.

Since BEMC is now proposing to bury lines on both sides of the streets to avoid cutting through paved areas, she said the clearing will have to be done on both sides of the street on town and state roads.

Town board members have primarily targeted shrubbery and

trash can racks which have illegally been placed inside the right-of-way for several years.

In the letter, commissioners plan to make it clear that neither the town nor BEMC will be responsible for any damage to private property left in the right-of-way resulting from the transition to underground utilities. Also, repairs to asphalt driveways which may have to be cut during the process will also be the responsibility of the property owner.

Mrs. Atkins said, "We're gonna help to make this as pleasant a move back as possible."

The only exception to the rule will be mailboxes, which by law cannot be more than five feet from the pavement. In the words of Commissioner William Williamson, "The federal government is the only one that can mess with mailboxes."

around the meter.

The town will give the property owner a short period of time to do the work, probably 60 or 90 days, and if it is not done in that time, the town will do the work and bill the landowner.

Holden Beach municipal code allows the town to charge the property owner for such work around water meters, but Williamson said he wanted to give the lot owners a chance to correct the problem at no cost.

**To Accept Bids**  
In January, Holden Beach will advertise for bids for sanitation service.

Commissioners will be looking to sign a two-year contract with a one-year option to extend the contract at

the agreement of both parties.

The current two-year contract with Chambers of South Carolina expires March 31, 1989. The town will pay about \$46,000 for the service this year and if it extends the contract into the option year, it can expect a 10 percent increase.

While board members said they were pleased with the present sanitation service, they felt it would be better to open it up to bids to get the lowest price and best service possible.

Commissioner Bob Buck said, "I think the bid process keeps everybody honest."

Town board members also discussed using roll-out containers for trash pickup, but decided against it in part

because it would mean an annual cost increase of approximately \$24,000.

The containers are currently used at Ocean Isle Beach. According to Commissioner Georgia Langley, who spoke about the operation with Ocean Isle Town Clerk Alberta Tatum, the town could expect problems the first year until residents and renters got used to the system. "I'm not really sold on it," she said.

**Christmas Tree Approved**  
Also this week, commissioners agreed to allow the Greater Holden Beach Merchants Association to use the regional beach access facility under the bridge as a site for a Christmas tree. The tree and lights will be set up at no cost to the town.

## Holden Beach Audit Report Reflects Repurchase Of Bond

Repurchase of the town's water system bond earlier this year is reflected in the annual audit report for the Town of Holden Beach, which saw a decrease in water fund cash and investments of \$218,043 over last year.

Despite that decrease, however, the audit report indicated a good financial position for the town, which collected \$297,169 in taxes last year. That tax collection was based on a tax base of more than \$212 million, a tax rate of 14 cents per \$100 of valuation and a collection rate of 98.9 percent.

The audit report, compiled by Minton Padgett of Brock, Berry and Padgett of Southport, covers all financial activity for the town from July 1, 1987, through June 30, 1988. It was presented to the town commissioners during their Nov. 7 meeting.

Primarily because of the repurchase of the Farmers Home Administration water bond in May, cash and investments in the town water fund dropped from \$366,082 last year

to \$148,039 in fiscal year 1987-88. In the long run, however, the town will save thousands of dollars and complete payments on the system in a shorter period of time.

Also in the water fund, revenues increased by \$13,590 over last year to \$260,135, while total operating expenses decreased by \$47,391 to \$197,785. Retained earnings in the water fund also increased last fiscal year, from \$211,950 to \$267,421.

In the general fund, revenues and expenditures both increased by about \$160,000 from fiscal year 1986-87 to last fiscal year. Total revenues were \$572,855 and expenditures were \$486,826, leaving the town with a net gain of \$86,029.

Cash and investments and the fund balance in the general fund also increased substantially last year. There was an \$85,662 increase in cash and investments last year, from \$297,053 to \$382,715, while the fund balance went from \$285,779 to \$371,808.

## Local Scouts Are Honored

Shallotte Boy Scout Troops 287 and 201 received Presidential Awards and blue ribbons at the Cape Fear Council's camporee last weekend in White Oak.

The local troops were honored for demonstrating outstanding Scouting skills, which included teamwork and living up to the youth organization's ideals.

During the weekend event, 45 troops consisting of 750 Scouts were judged on uniforms, cooking, first aid, fire safety, handicapped awareness, pioneering, maze, volleyball, Frisbee golf, and a nature and compass course.

Kenneth Perrone is scoutmaster of

Troop 201. Cecil Logan leads Troop 287.

Shallotte Troop 201 and Bolivia Troop 243 have scheduled open houses in upcoming weeks for boys ages 11 to 18 who are interested in Boy Scouts. Ulysses Johnson is scoutmaster for Troop 243.

The open houses will be held on Monday, Nov. 21, at 7 p.m., at St. Johns Missionary Baptist Church near Bolivia for Troop 287, and on Monday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m., at Camp United Methodist Church in Shallotte for Troop 201.

For more information, contact either scoutmaster or Stephen Chapell at 395-1100.

**Where's The Meter?**  
A separate letter will soon be mailed to property owners who have made life difficult for the town's water meter reader by allowing shrubs to grow over the meter or placing trash cans on top of it.

On a request from Commissioner Williamson, board members agreed to send out a letter to 53 lot owners requesting that they clean up the space



For those on low-cholesterol diets, we have...

**Oat Bran**

**20% DISCOUNT WITH THIS AD**  
Shop early for Christmas!

Thurs. & Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 2-6  
HOLDEN BEACH CAUSEWAY  
842-5678

### Jailbreak To Freedom

The last month has been wild! Folks who had been cooped up because of the rainy weather suddenly broke loose and made it one of the finest weekends we have had in a long time. We had a good time!

More parties are coming up because the Christmas season is approaching. We still have some dates open for organizations who are not yet committed.

Oh yes! I almost forgot to tell you about our Talent Show for kids only. Know a kid who can sing, dance or play an instrument? Bring him to the Island House Restaurant next Saturday evening and let him do his (or her) thing. We'll have prizes, of course, and after a month of competition, all on consecutive Saturday nights, we will award the first place winner \$100. Lots of other prizes, too.

If your child is under 12 years of age (2 and talented will be fine), bring 'em over. All of them will receive a gift whether they chicken out or not.

You might want to give us a call at 579-3787 after 5 pm any night and let us know you're coming with your talented young 'un.

We'll be looking forward to seeing all of you so we can shake your hand and wish you a Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,  
*Pearl*  
Island House Restaurant  
Ocean Isle Beach

# GRAND OPENING

OF

## BILL'S GRILL

OLD FASHIONED BURGERS & HOT DOGS  
(WITH HOMEMADE CHILI & SLAW)

'BEAN OF THE DAY' WITH CORNBREAD  
HOMEMADE CHICKEN SALAD  
FRESH BAKED DESSERTS

**FREE DESSERT**  
WITH PURCHASE OF SANDWICH & DRINK  
DURING OUR GRAND OPENING

EAT IN OR TAKE OUT  
**754-8500**  
MONDAY-SATURDAY 11-5  
EAST GATE SQUARE • HWY. 130, HOLDEN BEACH ROAD

Also, catering available...  
**BILL & DONNA'S CATERING**  
Book your holiday parties now!

OWNED & OPERATED BY BILL & DONNA SALMON

## SEARS Catalog Home Appliances & Electronics Store

### FREE SHIPPING & HANDLING

4 days only... November 16 thru 19\*

**NO SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES** on orders placed from any current Sears catalogs from November 16 thru 19\*

- Enjoy free shipping and handling on all display items on the sales floor.
- Don't miss a chance to buy sale items and save on shipping and handling, too!
- Save on toys, clothes... everything Sears stocks for catalog. Buy more, and save more! Christmas shop for everyone.
- Buy now on SearsCharge... choose Deferred Credit for major purchases, make no payment 'til January.\*\*



Turn to Sears Wish Book, Fall/Annual catalogs and Sale Catalogs to Christmas shop from your easy chair.

Say "Charge it" on SearsCharge or Discover card

\*Applies only to store pick-up orders. Home delivery extra. Does not apply to orders placed before 11/16/88. No factory orders. Applies only to continental U.S. \*\*There will be a finance charge for deferral period.

**SEARS** — OPEN —  
Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri 9-6  
Wed. 9-3, Sat. 9-1

**SEARS**  
Sears, Roebuck and Co., 1988  
Satisfaction Guaranteed, or Your Money Back

**New Owners:**  
Scott & Lynne McLamb

TO PLACE CATALOG ORDERS, CALL 754-4361 or 1-800-255-3000  
Most merchandise available for pick-up within a few days.

Get These

### SEARS Appliances

For \$19 a month on approved credit

**Frostless Refrigerator**  
19.9 cubic ft. w/ice maker  
**\$579<sup>99</sup>**  
Model 79051

**Premium Dishwasher**  
3 Level Wash  
**\$289<sup>99</sup>**  
Model 16585

**Chest Freezer**  
22.7 Cubic Ft.  
**\$349<sup>99</sup>**  
Model 18338

**Extra Capacity Washer**  
2 sp. 9 cycle, 3 temp & 3 water levels  
**\$349<sup>99</sup>**  
Model 28791

**Extra Capacity Dryer**  
5 temp., Soft heat cycle, lint alert, wrinkle guard  
**\$279<sup>99</sup>**  
Model 68731