

Holden To Vote Again On Appointment Issue

BY DOUG RUTTER

Holden Beach Commissioners may finally decide the fate of a controversial appointment issue that has been debated off and on since it was introduced nearly three years ago. Commissioners are expected to decide next week if residents appointed to the planning and zoning board or board of adjustment should be allowed to serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.

The town board voted 3-2 in favor of the idea at its April 8 meeting. Since the proposal wasn't approved by at least a four-fifths margin, a second vote is required to settle the issue.

The deciding vote is expected when the board meets Monday at 7

p.m. in town hall.

Bob Buck, the town commissioner who originated the proposed policy shift in 1988, supported it last month along with board members Gloria Barrett and Judy Bryan. Gay Atkins and Kenner Amos voted against the plan.

Town commissioners appoint members to both boards, which are made up of five regular members and two alternates who vote only when a regular member is absent. There are presently no limits on the number of terms someone can serve.

If the proposed change is approved again next week, island residents would not be allowed to serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.

Appointed board members who serve two terms in a row would have to sit off the board for at least one year before they could be appointed again. The proposal applies to regular members and alternates.

Until last month, Buck's plan had received very little support from the town's elected officials or the public.

Ms. Atkins, the only person besides Buck who was serving as a commissioner when the idea was introduced in June 1988, said the proposal was opposed at a recent public hearing.

In previous discussions of the idea, she has stated that commissioners often have a hard time finding enough people who will volunteer to serve on a board. Members receive no pay for their service.

Amos said last month that town commissioners should be allowed to make appointments without being restricted by an ordinance. "I think it's up to the board to take care of these things."

If approved, the policy shift would affect five of the 13 regular and alternate members on the two present boards, according to planning board member Sid Swarts and town hall staff.

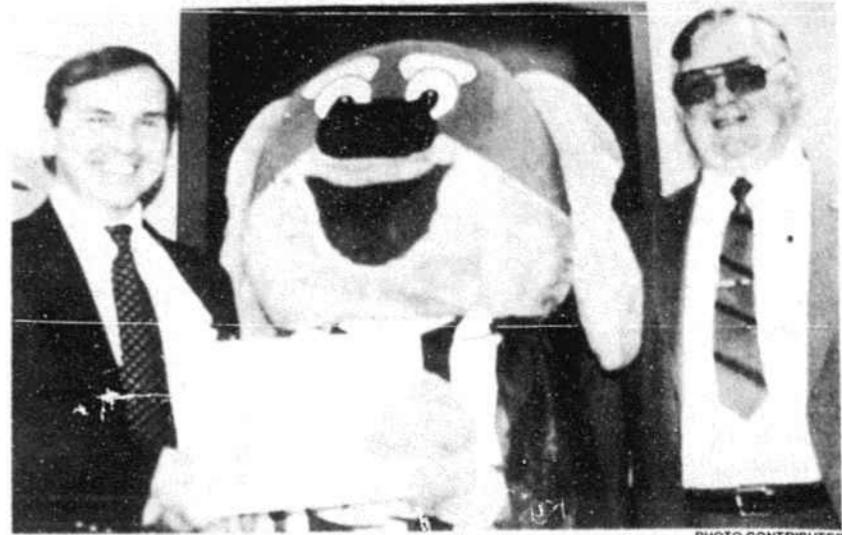
Swarts is one of three planning board members who wouldn't be eligible for re-appointment if the ordinance is amended. His second consecutive term on the board expires in July.

Alan Holden, a regular member of the planning board since 1980, would be affected along with Perrian Padgett, who has served on the planning board as an alternate or regular member since 1986.

On the board of adjustment, Martin Feldt is serving a third consecutive term that expires in July 1992. Rose Cole previously served five years as a regular member and is now an alternate whose term expires next summer.

All along, Buck has said the intent of the proposed change is to keep the boards stocked with new faces and ideas. He has said that he isn't trying to get rid of any board members in particular.

Buck has said that another purpose of the proposed limitation is to get people on the boards with a wide variety of backgrounds who represent a balance of interests on the island.



Safety Pup Thanks Hospital

Safety Pup, mascot of the National Child Safety Council, recently presented a certificate of appreciation to John A. Marshall (left), administrator of The Brunswick Hospital in Supply. The hospital was recognized as being an advocate and supporter of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department's efforts to teach children about the dangers of strangers, Halloween safety, drug abuse, sexual abuse and other general safety topics. Pictured at right is Don Gates, crime prevention office with the sheriff's department.

SAY I SAW IT IN *Island Living*

Bill Provides Way For Authority To Repay County \$5.6 Million

A bill introduced this past week by Rep. E. David Redwine would clear the way for counties in general—and Brunswick County in particular—to get repaid through the issuance of revenue bonds for funds advanced to authorities.

In 1982 Brunswick County and the Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority entered into a contract. It provided for the county to issue \$5.6 million in county general obligation bonds to finance the authority's construction of raw water collection, transmission and storage facilities on the Cape Fear River.

The county agreed to this because they would be the authority's only water customer.

The contract provided that, upon any other customer beginning to purchase raw water from the authority, that the authority would begin paying back the county both principal and interest on the portion of the county's general obligation bonds which financed the authority's initial facilities. It did not specify how this would be done.

Recently the authority entered into contracts to provide water to two customers in New Hanover County, Takeda and Cape Industries.

Under Redwine's bill, the Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority would be required to issue revenue bonds. The proceeds of these bonds would be used to repay Brunswick County its original \$5.6 million contribution to the authority, with interest.

Redwine has also introduced a series of bills relating to the environment.

■H.B. 960 would have state offices begin using reusable hand towels statewide by Jan. 1, 1994.

■H.B. 961 would prohibit distribution, sale and offering for sale plastic containers—such as cooking oil bottles and peanut butter jars—made from polyvinyl chloride (PVC). Because of their rigidity they are very hard to recycle.

■H.B. 962 would authorize the Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources to deny a permit for a sanitary landfill or a solid waste incinerator to an applicant that does not submit an approved waste reduction plan. Redwine says this bill would cause a city or county to have a plan in place to reduce its waste.

■H.B. 1109 would "refine and improve" existing solid waste management law (S.B. 111) regarding the state's solid waste reduction goal. Instead of only reducing the solid waste stream through recycling, it would provide for source reduction, re-use, recycling and composting. Using 1991-92 as the base year, goals for reduction would be 25 percent by 1993, 30 percent by 1994 and 40 percent by 1995.

Further, it requires all stat agencies to develop a solid waste plan whether or not they generate waste, and requires the Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources to identify materials in the waste stream that are marketable or should be recovered.

Redwine can be reached at the Legislative Office Building, Raleigh, NC 27603-5925, 919-733-5787.

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