

Town Planners Suggest No Change In Sign Ordinance

Shallotte Planning Board has recommended against a proposed change in the sign ordinance that would allow more than one free-standing sign at corner lots in Highway Business districts.

The present ordinance limits all businesses to one-free standing sign, but town aldermen asked the planning board to consider changing the rule and allowing two signs at corner lots.

Aldermen had received a request for a variance from Han-Dee Hugo's. The convenience store located at the intersection of U.S. 17 Bypass and N.C. 130 West wanted a second sign to better advertise the store.

The existing sign is visible from N.C. 130, but motorists traveling on the bypass cannot see it easily.

Planners voted Monday night to recommend that the board of aldermen not change the ordinance, according to planning board clerk Sandy Hewett.

In other business Monday, the planning board recommended the annexation of one lot in Brierwood Estates, but didn't decide on two other requests for annexation.

Planners voted in favor of the annexation of a lot owned by Charles and Ellen Allen in Brierwood.

The planning board did not act on an annexation request from Jan

Dale. He has asked the town to annex 74 acres on N.C. 130 West between Shallotte Manor apartments and West Brunswick High School.

Ms. Hewett said board members want to find out how much capacity the town has at its sewer plant before making a recommendation on the annexation.

Planners also tabled an annexation request from B.B. Ward, who asked that 1.46 acres in Brierwood Estates be incorporated into the town limits.

The property is located at the intersection of Wendy Lane and Country Club Drive, according to Ms. Hewett.

Ward has asked that the town impact fees be waived until water and sewer service is rendered. The land is currently being used for a parking lot and tennis courts.

Ms. Hewett said board members want to study the impact fee ordinance and check with the town attorney before making a recommendation.

Also Monday, the planning board recommended that aldermen zone 84 acres in Brierwood Estates as R-15 residential.

The golf course property was annexed in 1989 but never zoned. It is currently being used for the golf cart shed.



STAFF PHOTO BY TIMBERLEY ADAMS

Storm Floods First Street

A four-wheel drive pickup truck drives down a flooded First Street at Ocean Isle Beach during a severe thunderstorm Saturday. Ocean Isle Beach Fire Chief Terry Barbee said he wasn't aware of any property damage caused by the storm. "I don't ever recall seeing as much rainfall at one time as there was Saturday," Barbee said. "The storm sewers were just taking all they could take."

SEWER SYSTEMS NEED REPAIRS

Health Officials Cite Ocean Isle Business

BY TERRY POPE

An Ocean Isle Beach businesswoman has been ordered to appear in court on charges that she has failed to repair a leaky sewer system.

In an unrelated case, a Belville businessman faces a Friday deadline for submitting plans on how he will correct a leaky sewer system at his motel.

The Brunswick County Health Department has filed charges against Betty Gore, owner of a building that houses the Ocean Isle Seafood Market on N.C. 179 just west of the town limits. She is accused of failing to provide a sanitary means of sewage disposal, a misdemeanor, said John Crowder, environmental health supervisor I.

The case has been scheduled for Brunswick County District Court, Tuesday, Aug. 13.

Last month, Ms. Gore was given 30 days to make repairs to a sewer system at a building that, in recent months, has also housed a nightclub upstairs. Crowder said the deadline passed Friday, July 5, with no improvements made.

At a meeting of the Brunswick County Board of Health on July 8, some residents complained that the leaking system was causing a health hazard and claimed it was draining into a ditch that feeds into the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway.

Crowder said the owner has no room to upgrade the sewer system without purchasing additional property. The town's sewer lines do not extend to the business.

The health department can issue a criminal summons for persons to appear in court on misdemeanor charges for violating county ordinances if they fail to make repairs to sewer systems by a deadline. The maximum penalty is a \$50 fine and 30 days in jail.

"We do go to court about two or three times a year," said Crowder.

Correction

An article in the July 11 issue of *The Brunswick Beacon* gave the wrong name for an Ocean Isle Beach Police officer who was promoted July 1.

The officer promoted from sergeant to lieutenant was James Stewart, not Jimmy Stewart as was reported.

The *Beacon* regrets the error.

Shallotte Re-Appoints Carter As Fire Chief

Tim Carter has been re-appointed as chief of the Shallotte Volunteer Fire Department for the third straight year.

At their regular meeting last Wednesday, Shallotte Aldermen approved the slate of officers recommended by fire department members.

Other officers re-appointed last week were David Moore, assistant chief; Tony Hewett, captain; Ricky Danford, first lieutenant; Danny Roden, second lieutenant; and Sandra Roberts, secretary/treasurer.

In other matters last week, board members discussed a pile of debris and pieces of asphalt located in a field off Smith Avenue.

Alderman David Gause said he

visited the site following a complaint. "She said there was a lot of people on Smith Avenue upset about it and I can't blame them," Gause said.

Public Works Director Albert Hughes called the pile of trash a "marginal violation" of the town code because it is a public nuisance. "They obviously dumped a couple of dump trucks there."

Hughes said he spoke with the property owner last Thursday and was told the debris would be cleaned up as soon as the owner found another place for it.

Also last week, the board met in executive session for about 10 minutes to discuss a legal matter. Mayor Sarah Tripp said no action was taken.

Driver Charged For Not Reporting Bypass Wreck

A Camp Lejeune man told the State Highway Patrol that he walked to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply after his car wrecked on the Shallotte U.S. 17 bypass early Sunday morning.

Todd Milton Brown, 21, was charged with a stop sign violation and failure to report an accident by State Trooper B.D. Barnhardt.

According to Barnhardt, the accident occurred at the intersection of U.S. 17 business and U.S. 17 bypass, just southwest of its intersection with S. R. 1316 (Old Shallotte Road).

Brown's 1986 Pontiac was traveling southwest on business 17 when it failed to stop for a stop sign, traveled across the bypass and struck a ditchbank, Barnhardt reported.

The driver and a passenger in his car, James Kevin Laughlin, 21, of Camp Lejeune, both went to the hospital, but not by ambulance.

They both received class B injuries, which are serious but not incapacitating.

Damage was estimated at \$3,500 in the 2 a.m. accident.

Motorcyclist Injured

A motorcyclist was injured Saturday afternoon after he fell from his bike about four miles north of Shallotte on U.S. 17.

Jesus Ignacio Mesa, 20, of Camp Lejeune, was traveling south on U.S. 17 in heavy traffic and during

a rainstorm, reported State Trooper T.W. Caulder.

When Mesa attempted to stop for traffic, his Kawasaki motorcycle slid sideways and overturned, Caulder reported.

Mesa received class B injuries in the 12:15 p.m. accident and was taken to The Brunswick Hospital for treatment. He was not charged.

Damage was listed at \$500 to the bike. No other cars were involved.

Car Overturns

A Shallotte teen-ager was charged with reckless driving after his car overturned last Thursday, July 18, on State Road 1345 (Royal Oak Road) about three miles east of Shallotte.

Joel Langdon Reeves, 16, was traveling southwest on Royal Oak Road at a speed too fast to negotiate a curve, reported Barnhardt.

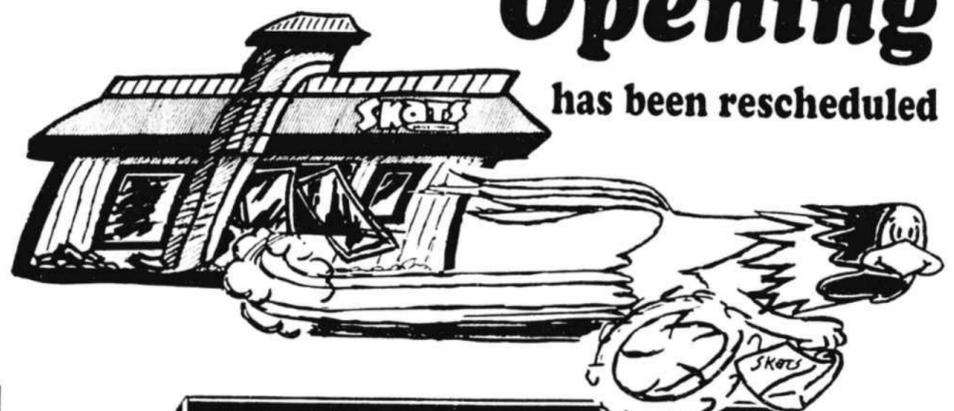
Reeves' 1982 Datsun traveled off the shoulder, skidded out of control, spun sideways and overturned onto the northbound lane, Barnhardt stated. The car came to rest in an upright position.

Reeves and a passenger in his car, Kevin Seay, 15, of Supply, both received class B injuries and were checked by emergency personnel on the scene. They refused to be transported to the hospital for treatment, Barnhardt stated.

Damage was estimated at \$1,500 in the 11:30 a.m. accident.



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