

Sea Trail Annexation Would Add \$20 Million To Sunset Tax Base

BY SUSAN USHER

Sunset Beach Town Council Monday took the next step in a major annexation in Sea Trail Plantation that would add \$20 million to the town's tax base and about 320 residents.

Members adopted the annexation report and dispatched of other routine business in a 30-minute session at the town hall.

A public hearing on the proposed annexation will be held Monday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. at town hall. The board is expected to adopt an annexation ordinance at its October meeting. That means the latest the annexation could go into effect is Nov. 21, while it could take effect early in the month.

The annexation is expected to add an-

other 128 households to the town of Sunset Beach, as well as two miles of paved roadway. The population could increase an additional 237 by the second year following annexation, with 89 undeveloped single-family lots and other property available.

The targeted area already receives town water at the same cost as town residents and has fire hydrants. It will continue to be served by the Sunset Beach Volunteer Fire Department, resulting in no change in insurance rates for property owners.

According to the annexation report prepared by Linda Fluegel, town administrator, and James Taylor, a community development planner, Sunset Beach expects to benefit financially from the annexation.

During the first year the town anticipates a net gain of approximately \$61,228 after expenses of \$33,842. Garbage collection, addition of a sixth full-time officer to its police force, stop signs, street lights and mosquito spraying.

In the second year, based on a 60 percent growth rate in the subdivision, the town expects its expenses to remain stable while gross revenues increase from an estimate \$100,070 to \$135,306, for a net gain of \$96,544.

During the first year accommodations tax revenues expected from 46 rental units at River Creek condominiums and 20 units at The Woods, at \$45,000. Next are property tax revenues. Based on a valuation of \$20.9 million and a collection rate of 99 percent, the town expects to collect

\$34,581.

Other revenue sources would include sales tax, \$6,507; ABC, \$1,322; intangibles tax, \$579; utilities franchise tax, \$2,727.5; Powell Bill funds for street maintenance, \$8,845; mosquito control reimbursement, \$345; Food Stamps, \$163.40.

The proposed area is extensive, running up the western side of the Sea Trail Plantation entrance on Shoreline Drive, then east and north along Clubhouse Drive to the River Creek condominium area, then follows the Calabash River Creek around to the edge of the Sunset Lakes development then along the town hall property and Shoreline Drive back to the entrance.

With the annexation of Sunset Sands effective as of Aug. 5, 48 percent of the area's

boundary is contiguous with the town limits. The area meets other requirements as well, with 223 lots (128 residential) and most of the property subdivided in tracts of five acres or less.

The target area also has 89 undeveloped homesites.

In other business, the council:

- Reappointed planning board members Schuyler (Sky) Bramley and Richard Good;
- Approved preliminary and final plats for Carol Ann Moore and for , an eight-lot subdivision in Sea Trail Plantation, as recommended by the planning board;
- Heard routine departmental reports.

Councilman Mary Katherine Griffith was absent.

Southport-Oak Island Parents Question AG Program, Transfer

BY SUSAN USHER

It was turn-about time Tuesday night, as parents from the Southport-Oak Island area traveled to Shallotte to be heard by the Brunswick County Board of

Education.

The board was meeting at Shallotte Middle School, rather than at the central office at Southport.

A series of speakers expressed concerns about proposed changes in

the academically gifted program at Southport Elementary School and the transfer of Bob Rhyne last month from principal of South Brunswick Middle School to assistant principal of Leland Middle School.

Lorene Williams, exceptional children's program director, described changes in staffing and programming in the countywide academically gifted program, and defended the model she has recommended for Southport Elementary School.

While generally pleased with existing services, some of the parents at Monday's meeting said they thought a self-contained pull-out class at Southport Elementary School might better meet the needs of their children by making better use of the teacher's time. Others questioned having a second "authority figure" in the regular classroom and the ability of one resource teacher to coordinate her efforts with numerous other teachers.

This fall an academically gifted teacher will be at the school five days a week instead of three days a week. Both Mrs. Williams and Principal Don McNeill favor expanding on the approach used last year.

Grades K-3 would continue to receive enrichment and resource help.

For grades 4 and 5, the proposed model calls for pulling students out of class for services one to three times a week; consulting with students in their classrooms to provide acceleration as needed in their area of giftedness while pairing with the regular teacher to ensure that the

state's standard curriculum is covered; and facilitating independent study by students. A diagnostician would handle committee work and testing instead of the resource teacher.

Mrs. Williams said she believes this model will provide "more of" what students received last year, and in a way that fits best into the school's integrated learning of skills and cooperative learning approach. "The bottom line is how well the student is doing after going through a particular program," she said. Test scores and other research data show the students do as well, if not better than, students in self-contained AG classrooms.

McNeill was adamant in his support of the approach because it will mean less disruption of the regular classroom.

"The more you pull children out of the regular classroom program, the more you disrupt the program," he said.

Classes are already interrupted for art, music, foreign language, physical education and the DARE, Chapter 1 reading and learning disabled programs, he said. "When are they going to have time for the classroom teachers to get done what they need to get done?"

"You can't continue to fragment the school day and make progress."

Two other schools will see changes in AG teacher hours. Hours will be reduced to from one full-time to one half-time teacher at Union Primary, and increased from one half- to two half-time teachers at Waccamaw Elementary.

Leland, Shallotte and South

Brunswick Middle schools will continue to have special AG classes for math and language, with advanced placement and advanced studies courses and consultation provided at the high schools.

This year's program will serve approximately 459 students, or 129 more than the system receives funds to serve, said Mrs. Williams.

Several parents and at least one former student spoke on behalf of Rhyne.

South Brunswick High School student Karen Blackmon told the board Rhyne created a "family" atmosphere that encouraged students to want to attend school. Margaret Rudd of Yaupon Beach presented a statement of support signed by 100-plus people saying Rhyne had done as excellent job "academically and athletically."

Changes Recommended

Superintendent P.R. Hanks and board Chairman Donna Baxter liked much of what they saw in a central office reorganization study recently completed by the state but weren't ready to discuss it Monday night.

The full board has not had time to read the reports, which only recently arrived, Hanks said, but will discuss the state's recommendations and his own at an upcoming Aug. 17 workshop.

"This is a bold piece of work," he said. "But we need time to reflect on it." While some of the recommended changes will require additional funding, others can be implemented easily, "without worrying about money."

Ms. Baxter agreed. "I like what it has to say."

The board requested the state study more than a year ago.

Other Business

In other business, the board:

- Met with board attorney Glen Peterson 1½ hours behind closed doors to discuss attorney-client and personnel matters.
- Scheduled an all-day workshop Saturday, Aug. 17, starting at 8 a.m. at the central office. On the agenda: long-range planning, recommendations for reorganization of the central office staff; outcome-based edu-

cation; the next Southern Association accreditation cycle; and policies, including the possibility of adopting a county policy to replace the old state policy that allows corporal punishment.

■ Noted the board's next regular meeting will be held Monday, Sept. 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the central office.

■ Decided the brick for the new Supply Elementary School should be gray. The other choice was tan.

■ Agreed to receive material from the North Carolina Medical Society on the possibility of local doctors working the school system on teaching, policy development or some other aspect of AIDS.

■ Learned that staff has not identified so far a grade level for use of the *Excellence in Education* program provided by the Prescription for Excellence Foundation. The program has been used at the sixth and ninth grade levels one year each.

■ Heard from James Hardy, president, that he will serve as liaison to Superintendent P.R. Hanks for the Brunswick County Education Foundation.

County Schools Open Aug. 21

DATE	EVENT
Aug. 12	Teachers report this week
Aug. 21	Students report to school
Sept. 2	Labor Day holiday
Sept. 18	Classes dismissed 11:30 a.m.
Oct. 4	Teacher workday; no classes
Oct. 14	Report cards go out
Oct. 17	Classes dismissed 11:30 a.m.
Oct. 18	Teacher workday; no classes
Nov. 11	Veterans' Day holiday
Nov. 27	Teacher workday
Nov. 28-29	Thanksgiving holidays
Dec. 2	Report cards go out
Dec. 4	Students dismissed 11:30 a.m.
Dec. 20-Jan. 1	Christmas-New Year's break
Jan. 17	Teacher workday; no classes
Jan. 20	Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
Jan. 28	Report cards go out
March 2	Teacher workday; no classes
March 11	Report cards go out
April 17	Teacher workday
April 20-24	Easter break
April 30	Report cards go out
May 25	Memorial Day holiday
June 1	South Brunswick High graduation
June 2	West Brunswick High graduation
June 3	North Brunswick High graduation
	Last day of classes

Note: Schools dismiss early Sept. 18, Oct. 17 and Dec. 4 to allow staff development at each school. Students will attend school a full day Dec. 19 and April 16 instead of dismissing early for the holidays. Also, April 14, 15 and 16 are "College Day" at North Brunswick, South Brunswick and West Brunswick high schools respectively. Snow days will be made up at the end of the year.

School Board Affirms Long List Of Personnel Actions

A week before teachers begin reporting back to work, Brunswick County Board of Education members affirmed a lengthy list of personnel recommendations Tuesday following a 1½-hour closed door session.

Joining the central office staff will be Rebecca Brandon of Wilmington, replacing Sherry Johnson as child nutrition director; and Barbara Peoples of Greenville, as school psychologist.

Other actions were as follows:

Hired: Martha Beasley, interim Reading Recovery teacher, Southport Elementary; Christine Brown, second grade teacher, Bolivia Elementary; Denise Medlin, special education teacher, Leland Middle; Kim Reinhardt, preschool handicapped/EMH teacher, Bolivia Elementary; Catalina Hena-Robledo, speech/language pathologist, Bolivia; Helen Laugisch and Hazel Holden, English teachers, South Brunswick High; Reeda Hargrove, industry education coordinator, South Brunswick High, once her career exploration teaching

post at South Brunswick Middle is filled; Terry Gile, interim JROTC instructor, South Brunswick High;

Also, Elena Foster, interim Spanish teacher, Union; Lisa Andrews, Diana Healy, Kimberly Briles, Jill Hewitt and Lisa Tate, early childhood teacher, Union; Michelle Ranson, third grade teacher, Union; Brenda Spencer, first grade teacher, Union; Robin Randolph, physical education teacher, Union; LaChawn Daniels, special education (MH) teacher, Union;

And, Lora Canter, special education teacher, West; Laura Stone, math teacher, West; Gary Noble, physical education teacher, West; Brenda Lewis, vocational curriculum coordinator, West, once her vocational support services post is filled; James Sanders, in-school suspension, West; Donald Brantley, carpentry teacher, North; Nancy Tew, self-contained cross-categorical teacher, Waccamaw; Dorothy Stanley and Arden Gaddy, language arts, South Brunswick Middle; Kathleen Owens, special education (BEH) teacher, South Brunswick Middle;

Also, Debra Noble, middle grade social studies teacher, Shallotte Middle; Eunice Abercrombie and Shelly Ludlum, elementary teacher, Shallotte; Thomas Hemphill, middle grade math teacher, Shallotte; Gale White, interim special education (BEH) teacher, Shallotte; and Mary Butler, secretary, Leland Middle, pending waiver of state hiring freeze.

Transferred: Wendy Milligan, guidance counselor, Union to Waccamaw; Cathy Furples, academically gifted teacher, Southport to South Brunswick Middle; Karen Wagoner, academically gifted teacher, South Brunswick Middle to Southport Elementary; Judy Husketh, social studies teacher, North to West; Nancy Jernigan, early childhood teacher, from Lincoln to Southport; Betty Hux, special education teacher, Bolivia to Southport; Cheryl Pitt, early childhood teacher, Union Primary to Lincoln; and Fred Baldwin, science teacher, North to West.

Resignations accepted:

Lisa Hadden, special education, North Brunswick High; Rosemary Smith, academically gifted teacher, Lincoln; Julie Gorwin, early childhood teacher, Southport Primary; Hilda Powell, kindergarten teacher, Lincoln; Karen Thomas, kindergarten teacher, Union; Ronald Pendergraft, carpentry teacher, North; JoAnn Cain, math teacher, South High; Deborah Parker, resource teacher, West; Harold Johnson, ISS teacher, West; and Delilah Cox, teacher assistant, Southport; and John Brown, teacher assistant, Shallotte Middle.

Retirements: Thelma Clemmons, fifth grade teacher, Leland Middle, after 41 years, and Valeta Cox, fifth grade teacher, Shallotte Middle, after 30 years.

Leaves of Absence: Sybil Mitchell-Simmons, assistant principal, Waccamaw Elementary; and Allison Brendle, special education, South Brunswick Middle.

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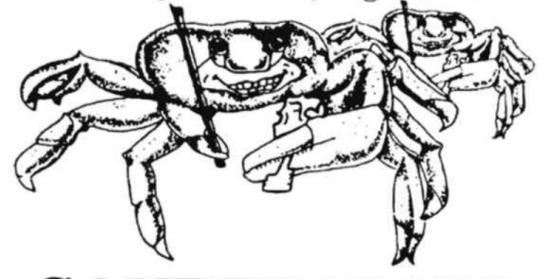
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