

Isn't That A House?

STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

Luckily for the moving crew, traffic was light on Second Street at Ocean Isle Beach when two flat tires slowed efforts to relocate "Surf 'N' Sands from a temporary resting place to a new permanent site a short distance away. Meanwhile, the sight of a house parked in the middle of the road drew a few second takes from motorists as they detoured to First Street.

Calabash Board Preparing For 911

BY DOUG RUTTER

Calabash officials last week continued preparing for the introduction of the 911 emergency telephone service in Brunswick County.

Commissioners approved a name change for one of the town's streets and reaffirmed two others at their meeting last Tuesday.

Wilson Street was renamed Madison Street. The board confirmed an earlier vote to change Sunset Place to Egret Court and Boundary Court to Cleek Court.

County officials are trying to name every street in the county and asking towns to name their own so fire and rescue workers will be able to locate homes once the emergency phone system starts operating.

Town commissioners approved new spellings for seven streets last week and voted to keep six names that the county had proposed to change.

"I feel we won on this one because we don't have to make a lot of changes and we can stay the same," Commissioner Ray Card said.

Budget Season Looms

Commissioner Jon Sanborn last week urged his fellow board members to start working on items relating to next year's budget as soon as possible.

Several town contracts expire when the current fiscal year ends June 30, he said, and the board will need to know about any changes in costs when it starts working on the new budget.

Sanborn also said the board has to decide how the town should handle code enforcement in the future.

Building Inspector Ed Schaack, a part-time employee, presently spends part of his time enforcing ordinances. But officials agree all of the rules are not enforced equally due to lack of time.

Mayor Pro tem George Anderson, who was out of town and missed last week's meeting, thinks the town should consider separating the building inspector and code enforcement officer positions, according to Sanborn.

As another alternative, Sanborn said the town could hire one person on a full-time basis to handle both jobs.

Sanborn also reported last week that Calabash will probably receive about \$20,000 less than it expected from the state in local option sales tax this fiscal year. The town budgeted \$135,000.

Other Business

In other business last week, commissioners:

■Heard from Sanborn that Powell and Associates of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., is expected to present a preliminary draft of the wastewater treatment study to the board at its April 14 meeting.

■Set a public hearing for Wednesday, June 3, at 7 p.m. in the Calabash fire station on a proposal to rezone part of the extraterritorial area. The planning board recommends rezoning Calabash Acres north of N.C. 179 to allow mobile homes and rezoning nine lots in Clariday Woods for commercial purposes.

■Set a public hearing for Tuesday, April 14, at 6 p.m. in the town hall on proposed changes in the ordi-

nance establishing a planning board.

■Rejected an N.C. Department of Transportation proposal for the town to take ownership of River Road and Riverview Drive from the state. Town officials said maintenance of the streets would cost more than the town would receive for the roads in Powell Bill money. The board also voted to drop Somerset Drive from the town's Powell Bill map. The

town doesn't own the street.

■Heard from Noe that a representative of State Transportation Secretary Tommy Harrelson's office will recommend that a six-foot-high wall be placed between the widened U.S. 17 and Northwest Drive in Carolina Shores. He will also suggest that a traffic light be placed at the Calabash Drive intersection when widening is completed.

Democrat
JoAnn BELLAMY SIMMONS
COMMISSIONER
Building A Better Brunswick County

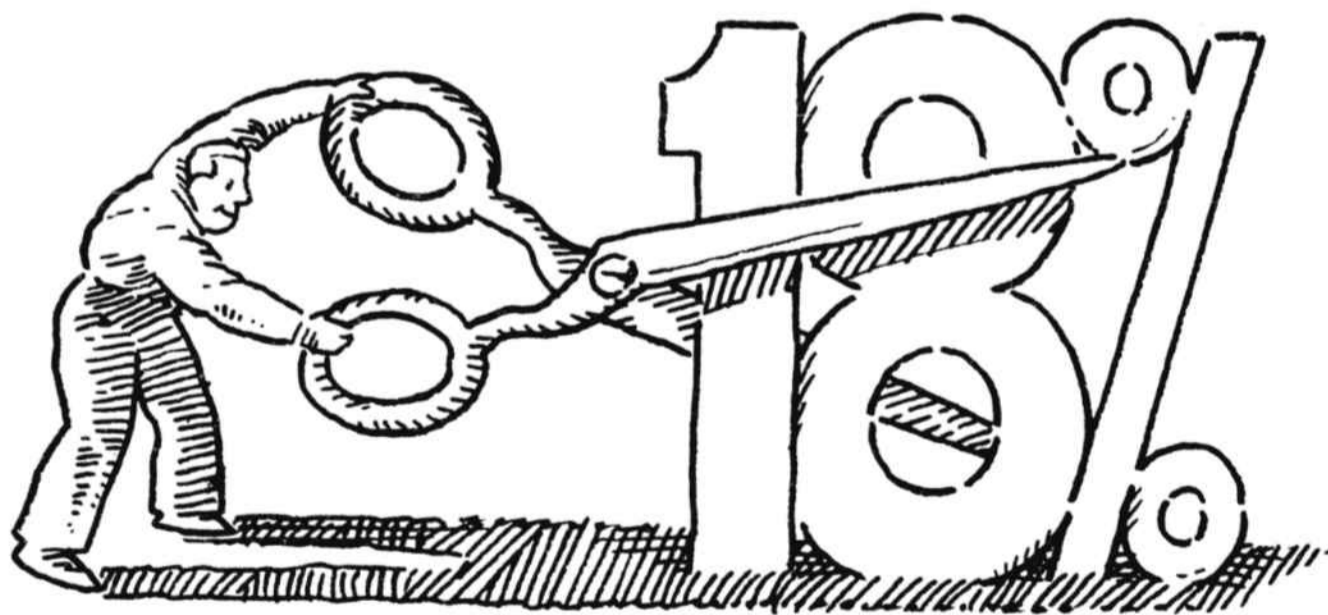
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