

# The Pamlico News

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Lisa Flowers from the Hobucken 4-H club shows the Toll House cookies that she received a blue ribbon and award money for at the area favorite food show.

## Board Wants to Withdraw THE BLUFFS From Arapahoe

The Arapahoe Town Board met at 7:30 p.m. on March 2. All Commissioners were present along with the Mayor and Town Clerk and Treasurer. Duval Hardison, citizen of Arapahoe was also present.

The first order of business was discussion of the need to have an Insulation Officer for the Town. Electricity can not be turned on in a newly constructed building unless the building has been inspected and approved for having the required amount of insulation. The Board requested the Mayor to contact Charles Hardison and offer him the job.

The next order of business was a discussion of the status of the Town of Arapahoe in the annexation of the subdivision, The Bluffs, owned by P.E. McCotter, Inc. The Board members felt that there are too many unknown quantities at present to make the annexation to the Town. The maintenance

of streets, providing of street lights, and any other future financial obligations, were some of the concerns expressed. Individuals also expressed the feeling that it was no longer of much importance to the owners of The Bluffs whether they were in the Town of Arapahoe. It was felt that since the Town does not have a tax and is not expecting one soon, the additional land with the restrictions in the way of Areas of Environmental Concern and flood prone areas, would be more trouble than it is worth.

George Harper moved and Pete Daniels seconded that the Town get out from under the law suit. Discussion of the motion followed.

Harvey Hardison said that he wanted to be sure anything that is done does not leave Arapahoe open to further lawsuits from any party involved. He also asked if it wouldn't be necessary to advertise a

meeting where the decision is made to rescind the annexation. Mayor Gary Langston said he thought not, that all the meetings are open to the public. Woodrow Boyd asked what actions will be necessary for rescinding the annexation.

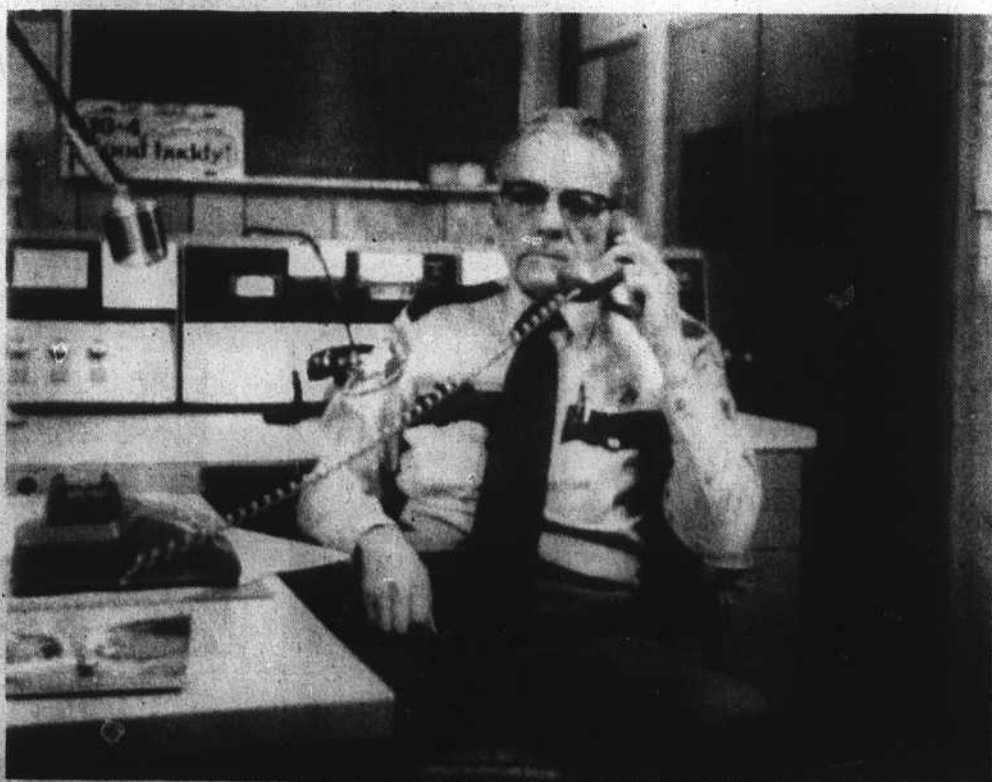
Mayor Langston offered three alternatives: P.E. McCotter, Inc. could ask to be taken out of the Town; the Town could say that the Minnesota law suit is correct as far as annexation of the Bluffs is concerned; or a resolution could be passed asking that the annexation of The Bluffs be rescinded.

Mr. Harper and Mr. Daniels withdrew their motion and

made another one stating that the Town should contact a lawyer to draw up the necessary legal papers to withdraw The Bluffs from the Town of Arapahoe. The favorable vote was unanimous. The Board decided at its February meeting to contact Attorney James Ragan for assistance and the Mayor requested to retain him.

The Mayor reported that he had been approached by two or three residents concerning turning off the street lights during the energy crunch. The Board felt that since it is not yet required by the State, that the lights should be left on for safety and protection.

## 745-3636 Is Fire Number in Pamlico County



Tom Toler, Sheriff's Department Dispatcher, using red "hot line" phone newly installed for fire calls only. 745-3636.

The new number for reporting fires anywhere in Pamlico County is 745-3636.

This red phone will replace the old system of dialing the Sheriff's Department in case of

need for fire department assistance, leaving the Department's phone free for other assistance calls including requests for the Rescue Squad.

The 745-3636 number is to be used only for reporting fires to insure faster response and greater safety for individuals and property in Pamlico County.

## Ordinances Followed In Granting Subdivision Approvals

The Pamlico County Planning Board met on February 27 with all members present. The minutes of the January meeting and a called meeting were approved.

Ross Boyer, Pamlico County Coordinator, presented the Board with a complete documentation of the broad goals and annual objectives of Pamlico County for the next three years. This document will be submitted as a continuing part of the County's participation in CAMA. Mr. Boyer noted that a number of the objectives are well on their way to being met for the 1978-79 period.

A number of questions, particularly dealing with water and sewer were asked. Concerning water, Mr. Boyer stated that the first phase of the water system will include service to most of the main roads in the County including those on Goose Creek Island. The second stage will include extending lines to less traveled areas and perhaps buying the systems now operated by individual towns. He stated that it will be June before the contracts are let and about 18 months before any water is turned on. Tank sites have been secured at Reelsboro and Merritt as well as a well site at Vandemere.

Concerning waste treatment, Mr. Boyer said that at the present time he did not see the County being able to afford a countywide system. He believes that there will be sewer districts around the more populated areas since these areas are where Federal funds are usually designed for use. He remarked that the County is actively seeking industry and is

looking at areas for an industrial park of some 40 to 50 acres. Various methods of dealing with waste treatment for such an industrial area are available.

Rex Willis and H.E. Allen of New Bern appeared before the Board concerning their subdivision, Sail Haven, located on the Cemetery Road in Oriental. Sail Haven had been granted preliminary plat approval two years ago for 33 lots. The developers have enlarged the size of 10 of the lots and reduced the number of 25, thus coming under the regulations for a mini-subdivision. They stated that their attorney had drawn a declaration statement for the subdivision and that the road bed is being checked to see how much work is needed to bring it up to County standards.

Board members Frank Willis and Odell Spain asked Mr. Willis and Mr. Allen several questions concerning total acreage (22.85) and whether the 30 foot minimum building set back of thirty feet will be met. The developers assured them that this is the case and that the set backs are 70 feet from the canal and 100 feet from Morris Creek. A variance was granted by the Board for the road and preliminary plat approval was given.

Real estate Developer Ray McCotter and Surveyor Darrell Daniels presented a final map on the Pinedale Subdivision. An exchange of views occurred when County Subdivision Administrator and Board Clerk, Gene Broughton, said that the maps presented are too large according to the specifications laid out in the Subdivision Ordinance. The maximum size should be 21"x30". Mr. Daniels stated that the size of his maps (2'x3') is standard, but Mr. Broughton said that he had never received any that large except from Mr. Daniels. No member was absolutely sure why the size specification had been set and said they would find out, but that until they found out, the size requirement would stand. Mr. Spain said that

in order to change the maximum size, it would have to go through the County Commissioners and have a public hearing.

Mr. Daniels felt that the Board was being arbitrary, that he had read the regulations and felt that the Board could give a variance.

Mr. McCotter asked what else is necessary for approval and was told that since nothing has been done on the roads at this time, he will need to post a letter of credit, a deed of trust, or a bond. A variance was granted by the Board for the road and preliminary plat approval was given.

Mr. Willis asked about the cost of the lots in this new section of Pinedale and Mr. McCotter said they will start at \$4,000 on a paved road plus the cost of hooking up to water. He said the lots could cost less if there is some way to pave a road more cheaply.

A discussion of the signature or the stamp of Lex Kelly, District Engineer, on the certificates presented for the Planning Board's approval ensued. The Certificates of Approval of Street Drainage Plans reads, "This is to certify that all streets and street drainage plans in the (named) Subdivision have been examined and found to comply with the specifications of the North Carolina State Department of Transportation." It was noted that State specifications apply only to paved roads and paved roads are required by County ordinance only in subdivisions with over 25 lots. In the case of approving mini-subdivision streets or "private" streets, Mr. Kelly has his name stamped on the certificate which signifies to the Board, that except for paving, the streets conform to the width and base and drainage necessary to be brought up to State standards at a later time. In other words, the State has not approved the roads, but standards set by the County have been met. In the cases where Mr.

Kelly stamps his approval, it is necessary for the Planning Board to grant a variance which allows County standards, not State standards to prevail.

Mr. Broughton brought a request from Bill Rawls before the Board for a mini-subdivision in Maribel consisting of eight lots on 13.35 acres behind the ball park. Preliminary approval had been given in 1974 but since this was for nine lots, preliminary plat approval was given on the new map pending health department approval.

Preliminary plat approval was requested by P.E. McCotter, Inc. for additional lots in The Bluffs subdivision. This was granted pending Health Department approval on the additional lots and a description of the control point to the new access road out to Bennett Road, SR 1121. The Board noted that a bond will need to be posted on the entire proposed road system, which will have to be paved. It was noted by Mr. VanHook that only one access road will be available to residents of a 128.15 acre area.

The method by which deeds are recorded in the County was discussed again. An instance of three separate lots being sold by an individual from a single tract of land and duly recorded has been brought to the Board's attention. More than one lot cannot be sold off a tract without the necessity for applying for subdivision status.

Other problems dealing with the recording of deeds were discussed and remedies were suggested. Mr. Broughton said that these problems have been discussed before with the County Commissioners and the Register of Deeds office, but that it would be necessary to read and map every deed to catch the discrepancies and that apparently time and staff are not sufficient for doing this.

Requirements for mobile homes in the way of improvement permits and time allowed to make these improvements were discussed.

## Aurora Seeks Rec Director

The Aurora Town Board met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 28. Present at the meeting were Mayor Grace Bonner, Board members Joe Paul, Malcome Rowe, and Joe Galloway. Board member Joe Hollowell was not in attendance. Also at the meeting was Town Administrator Marvin Jennings, Town Planner Brian Benson, and Merle Bynam, Chairman of the Recreation Committee.

Mr. Bynam was asked for the 1978 budget for the Recreation Committee. He told the Board that he figures on about \$8,000 for the year. He said that the Recreation Committee is looking for a recreation director to serve on a part-time basis. The Committee figured up the salary of the director based on a 4-hour day at \$4.00 per hour. The director would be responsible for drawing up programs, such as softball, Babe Ruth,

volleyball, tennis, and senior citizen programs. The director can delegate volunteers to handle the specific programs.

Mr. Jennings said that he would like to act as a go-between to coordinate these programs and that in this way it would save the Town some money. He pointed out that he was not ready at this time to make a final commitment and wished to talk to the Recreation Committee before making any definite plans. He pointed out that he is interested in aspects of recreation and felt that he could delegate interested volunteers to head up the individual programs.

The Board set a date to review the Personnel Manual and to finish reviewing the Town Ordinances. The meeting will be held Tuesday, March 7, at 7:00 p.m.

(Continued on page two)

## Individual Water Users To Be Served First

The Pamlico County Commissioners were invited to a briefing session on the county wide water system on March 1 by County Coordinator, Ross Boyer, and Rivers and Associates engineers, Bob Pittman and Ray Church. Cost estimates on the system for land, equipment, and labor were discussed.

Commissioners John Bond, Patsy Sadler, Charles Alexander, and Jimmy Spencer were present as well as Finance Officer, Bill Rice, County Attorney Bernard Hollowell, and Bayboro Mayor Lee Whorton.

Mayor Whorton announced that the Town Board is interested in selling the Bayboro water system to the County for

what the system has cost the Town. He and the engineers had discussed this alternative because of the possibility of some \$40,000 worth of duplication of water lines through the Bayboro area. Mr. Whorton also stated that if the Bayboro system were brought by the County, he would highly recommend that the Bayboro system's operator, Florentina "Chico" Martinez be employed by the County in its operation.

The Commissioners discussed the situation of duplication and the possibility of acquiring private systems in the second phase of the water plan. They were emphatic that the first phase of the plan, as stated throughout the preliminary planning period, is to provide water to the people who have

signed up for it throughout the County. The second phase would come when everybody is served who it is practical to serve.

All the available money, from the bond, FHA, CRC, and Clean Water grant, is earmarked only for serving county residents outside of the municipal systems. Purchasing the municipal systems will be possible after this is done and if additional grant money or funding requiring a referendum, can be arranged.

No action was taken at this meeting. However, a strong reaffirmation of getting water to people throughout the county outside the municipal systems, was made by the Commissioners.