

## WIND

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After seven nights of hearings and two subsequent meetings last year, the board debated the Timbermill Wind project in November.

Commissioner Matt Peeler was prevented from voting on the project because a series of e-mails showed he clearly opposed wind power — hence he couldn't be impartial according to a majority of the rest of the six-member board. That left Chair Janice Cole, Vice Chair Kyle Jones and Commissioners Wallace Nelson, Fondella Leigh and Ed Muzzulin to decide the issue.

Under the quasi-judicial hearing process, the board had to look at four issues and then make a final vote.

All five of the commissioners agreed Apex had submitted a complete application plus a second condition that the project posed no public safety risks. When it came to if the project would harm other property values, Nelson and Leigh said it would and voted no. Cole, Jones and Muzzulin voted it wouldn't significantly hurt property values, based on testimony.

When it came to the fourth item, it was Jones who voted no. It asked if the project would be in harmony with the surrounding area.

The board then went into closed session for 20 minutes and when it came out, Nelson, Leigh and Jones voted against the project in November.

Sullivan argued that a majority of the board agreed Apex met the first four conditions. He said in quasi-judicial hearings the board has limited discretion and must go by the facts that were presented them by sworn witnesses. At that point in the process Sullivan said the board was

no longer acting in a legislative capacity, but instead it was acting more like judges.

Sullivan said Apex met its burden, but the county didn't meet theirs.

"Once you set down the rules, you have to play by them too," Sullivan said.

In part, opponents of the Apex project argued that a wind farm had no place in a rural area. Sullivan argued that's exactly where Perquimans County's rules say they have to be.

"They say if you want to build, you have to do it in a rural area," Sullivan said.

Attorney Doug Hannah, an outside attorney hired by the county, spoke Tuesday. He was there the night the commission took the final vote.

"What Timbermill wants you to do is disregard the final issue," Hannah said.

Chad Essick, an attorney hired by some residents and property owners in the Bear Swamp area, also urged Godwin not to overturn the county's decision. Essick said he was represented nine residents Tuesday.

Essick said he's had a dozen dealings with quasi-judicial issues in the state.

"Everybody does it differently," he said.

While the Perquimans decision has put the Apex project on hold there, Chowan County has approved that part of the Timbermill Wind project. There are 47 turbines on the Chowan side. Apex has said it intends to proceed with the Chowan part of the project even if the Perquimans part is rejected. Most of the 15,000 acres in the two-county project is owned by Weyerhaeuser.

In terms of investment, the project has been projected to cost \$400 million. A similar-sized project — Amazon Wind Farms East — is projected to provide at least \$250,000 a year in property tax revenue for that part of it located in Perquimans County. Pasquotank County is expected to get a similar amount.

The amount of revenue that would be generated by the Apex project is unknown since the county hasn't negotiated that part of the deal yet, but Apex officials have said they expect to pay more than the deal Amazon got and will likely have to pay more.

## NAACP

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"Being public servants, the members of the Hertford Police Department are always appreciative when our efforts are recognized," Freeman said Monday. "Having an event that supports the efforts of all first responders not only shows community support, but allows the member of all branches of emergency services to join together for fellowship. I appreciate the efforts of the Perquimans County Branch of the NAACP, and look forward to attending the event."

Sheriff White said he attended a recent meeting of the NAACP on a heard of the plans. He said the sheriff's office has long had a good relationship with the NAACP. He points out in January retiring Sheriff Eric Tilley was singled out for an award at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. event.

"Eric has always had a great working with relationship and I strive on strengthening that," White said.

Connie Brothers is chairing the event for first responders.

For more information on that event, contact Brothers at 333-8959, Varora Brothers, 333-0752, Rosa Riddick,

426-1399 or Rachel Johnson, 404-0157.

On July 1, the day after that event, there will be a parade in honor of Independence Day.

The lineup starts at 4 p.m. at Perquimans County High School. At 5 p.m. it will proceed down Edenton Road Street, take a right on Grubb Street, a right on Church Street, a right on Dobbs Street before taking a left on Edenton Road Street to head back to the high school.

The grand marshal of the parade will be Perquimans County Schools Superintendent Matthew Cheeseman. Also being honored will be

Jason Griffin, the principal of Hertford Grammar School. Griffin was named this year's N.C. Principal of the Year.

For more information call 426-5956 or 333-8959.

After the parade, there will be the annual Perquimans County Fireworks display over the Perquimans River between Winfall and Hertford. The event starts once it's dark.

Hertford Town Manager Brandon said donations are really needed to fund the fireworks this year. Checks can be sent to the Perquimans Fireworks Committee at 104 Carolina Ave., Hertford, NC 27944.

## GUN

Continued from 1

who say it gives sheriffs too much power to deny gun owners what they say is their constitutional right to carry a concealed weapon.

Rep. Bob Steinburg said in a brief e-mail he would "most likely" support the gun bill.

Guns purchased through a licensed dealer would still require a federal background check, but those checks aren't required for purchases from non-licensed sellers

at gun shows or for private sales. In those cases, however, the North Carolina buyers would have already gone through the background check called for to obtain a pistol purchase permit from their local sheriff.

Some businesses don't want people carrying weapons in their stores. They can post signs saying they're not allowed.

But others don't take a position, so concealed weapons are allowed. White admits that some potential criminals might avoid trying to rob from a store that hasn't put a

restriction on guns because they're not sure who in the store might be armed.

White said he's also seen members of some churches who carry a weapon inside.

"There are security teams, members of the congregation, and you're seeing a lot of that everywhere."

By eliminating the need to take a concealed weapons class, people may be unaware of the laws, White said.

"One of the things I teach is protecting the third party. If you are protecting yourself, that's one thing. If there

is an obviously robbery, that's another thing."

But if the gun owner misinterprets something they see and shoot an innocent person that opens them open to litigation.

The first two hours of the class deals with where you can and can't carrying a concealed weapon. If you have a concealed weapon permit you can have the gun on school property, but it has to be stored in their vehicle and not carried with them. A person without a permit can't have a weapon on school property at all.

## LEAF

Continued from 1

funding for Perquimans will make the final cut.

"I'm confident boat basin money for Perquimans will be part of the final budget," Steinburg said in an e-mail.

If the project is funded in the budget and if \$1.5 million previously granted to Perquimans for the project is still there, that provides \$4.3 million. The first phase of the Marine Industrial Park may cost between \$5

million and \$7 million.

Golden LEAF's mission is to increase economic opportunity in North Carolina's rural and tobacco-dependent communities as an independent and perpetual foundation. The money Golden LEAF provides comes from proceeds from tobacco companies from a lawsuit settlement over the dangers of smoking.

The Marine Industrial Park includes digging a 350-foot wide, 10-foot deep boat basin inside the park with access to the Perquimans

River. The first phase of the basin is about 700 feet long.

The entire boat basin is expected to cost \$20 million. Part of the cost is installing 4,600 feet of bulkheads along the sides of the basin. While Golden LEAF hasn't invested money to the Marine Industrial Park proper, it did invest \$306,000 for an industrial-sized boat ramp next door to it. It did so after the N.C. Wildlife Commission agreed to provide part of the money and Perquimans County agreed to provide the land. The U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service provided the last of the money because it, like the N.C. Wildlife Commission, promotes boat ramps and recreational activities.

The county pitched that the ramp alone will prompt some marine industry jobs.

Gerlach, hopes that will happen.

"Now we have a boat ramp, we will see," Gerlach, said.

A ribbon cutting for the new ramp at 310 Granby St. is set for June 23 at 10:30 a.m.

## SCHOLARS

Continued from 1

tend Milligan, had the fourth highest scholarship total \$149,950.

She received the Betty Goah Scholarship, which is \$31,300 a year and renewable for four years and a \$5,000 annual Milligan Academic scholarship that is also renewable. She also received the \$500 scholarship from American Legion Post 126, the Perquimans Arts League's \$500 Suzanne Towe Haste scholarship, a \$500 Bible College Scholarship, \$1,000 from the Towne South Church of Christ, and the \$250 Chip Chappell Memorial Bank scholarship.

Autumn Bateman had the fifth highest scholarship total at \$129,655. She earned a \$10,500 annual Methodist Merit scholarship (renewable for four years), the \$125 annual Methodist Greatest Gift scholarship (renewable for four years), a \$2,000 scholarship from Vidant, a \$215 scholarship from Albemarle Fireman's, a \$7,120 annual Methodist work study/Pell grant renewable for four years, a \$9,250 annual Methodist Founders scholarship renewable for four years; a \$4,740 annual Methodist NC Need scholarship renewable for four years, and \$500 from the Hertford Rotary Club.

## TAX

Continued from 1

eligible for merit raises and salary step increases under the new proposal.

The tax rate will remain at 57 cents per \$100 in value. Heath said it remains the lowest in five county area. Pasquotank has the highest rate at 76 cents, followed by Chowan at 74 cents and Gates and Camden at 68 cents.

While the budget may require dipping into the county's reserve fund, Heath said it will remain at over 28 per-

cent of the total budget. The Local Government Commission sets a minimum of 8 percent.

In other areas funding for county fire departments will increase from \$67,500 each to \$70,000. Funding for the library will increase to \$175,000 and the operational funding for the Tri-County Animal Shelter will remain at \$60,000. The county also has to pay \$836,577 for its part in the Albemarle District Jail.

The actual vote on the budget is scheduled to take place on June 19 at 7 p.m.

## Lunch and Learn session planned

From Staff Report

Butter Bean Burger is a Lunch and Learn session that will be held June 27 and 28 during the lunch hour. Participants will observe a food demonstration and taste a healthy meal that supports the local foods campaign.

The program at the Perquimans Extension Center will feature fresh garden salad and butter bean burgers. Perquimans' Master Food Volunteer Sue Mitchel and Jewel Winslow, North Carolina Cooperative Extension - Perquimans County Extension director are teaming up

to serve the dish that lowers sodium and fats in the diet.

Lunch and Learn Classes will take place at the Perquimans Extension Center, 601 South Edenton Road St. on June 27 from noon until 1 p.m. and a repeat class will be June 28 from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. The cost is \$10 and will include the meal. The deadline to register is June 23. Payment must be received in order to reserve your seat. Space is limited to the first 10 people that pay the course fee in each class. For more information, contact the local Extension Office at 426-5428.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**BUDGET HEARING**  
**ADVERTISEMENT F/Y 2017- 2018**  
**TOWN OF WINFALL**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**

There will be a Public Hearing **Monday, June 12, 2017** at 6:30 p.m. at the Winfall Town Hall, 100 Parkview Lane, Winfall NC 27985 for the purpose of discussing the Proposed Budget for the fiscal year 2017-18. Citizens are invited to make written or oral comments.

**THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE**

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title III requires that each local education agency submit a Title III application in order to receive federal funds. The federal funds are used to provide instructional activities and services to help English Language Learners meet high standards. A public meeting will be held June 15, 2017 at the Perquimans County Schools Central Office at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of sharing information with the public concerning the programs and give participants an opportunity to provide input for planning and implementation. In addition, The No Child Left Behind Title III application is open for public review and comments in the office of James Bunch on Thursday, June 15, 2017 located at the Perquimans County Central Office, 411 Edenton Road Street, Hertford, North Carolina. Please call 252-426-5741 ext.223 to schedule an appointment to review the application.

Notificación de Participación Pública del Acto 2001  
 "Que Ningún Niño Se Quede Atrás"

El Acto de la Educación Primaria y Secundaria (ESEA) Título III requiere que todas las instituciones locales de educación hagan entrega de la solicitud denominada Título III para recibir fondos federales. Estos fondos se utilizan en la creación de actividades y servicios educativos, que tienen como objetivo principal, mejorar el rendimiento académico de los alumnos más desfavorecidos.

El día 15 de Junio del 2017 a las 3:00 p.m. se llevará a cabo una junta pública en las oficinas del Perquimans County Board of Education con el propósito de informar a los asistentes sobre los programas y servicios que se ofrecen y al mismo tiempo solicitar su colaboración en la planeación e implementación de los mismos. De igual forma, la solicitud del Acto 2001 "Que ningún niño se quede atrás" estará a disposición del público para su revisión y comentarios del 15 de Junio en la oficina de James Bunch localizada en las oficinas del Perquimans County Board of Education, ubicadas en 411 Edenton Road St., Hertford, North Carolina.

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