

The Tides

June 2014
Special Summer Edition

Mayor William L. Otis, Jr.
billotisjr@aol.com



Contents

Sewer System Problems	1
Underground Wire	1
Beach & Groin Study	2
Trash, Storm & FEMA	2
Cameras	2
72 Day Rental Legislation	2

Upcoming Events

- ◆ 4th of July Parade - July 4th
- ◆ Island Trash Pickup - July 7th & 8th
- ◆ Kayak Race - July 22nd
- ◆ Beach Sweep - September 20th

Sewer System Problems

Before Easter there was a problem with the Georgetown Water and Sewer system on Pawleys at, and south of, the Pelican Inn. That problem turned out to be cast iron sewer pipe which had deteriorated and collapsed. After investigation, GW&S piped the system between several manholes with a big pump, and dug up and replaced the deteriorated pipe. They then repaved the road. During this process GW&S was very concerned with working with the Pelican Inn and adjacent owners to minimize disruption during the Easter break holidays, which the Town and the owners appreciated very much.

Two weeks ago the same thing happened at, and south of, Town Hall, creating issues with the North Causeway intersection and the entry to Pawleys Pier Village. The Town was informed Friday June 6, that the majority of Myrtle Avenue at the blockage would have to be dug up, and that traffic would be diverted to one lane, using the parking area in front of Town Hall as part of the lane. We had a meeting with the President of Georgetown Water and

Sewer and explained that folks would be streaming into Town Hall over the 10 days or so before the 4th buying T-Shirts and signing up for the parade, and that the parade would occur on the 4th with hundreds (or thousands) of folks on the roadsides and at that intersection where the judging takes place. After consideration GW&S agreed to continue to use the pump and piping and not start construction until the 7th of July. After that it is estimated to take two to three weeks to complete construction, so the plan described above will be in effect for that period of time. We again appreciate the cooperation of GW&S in working with us and you, our owners.

GW&S has used a camera to “scope” the balance of the 3,600 feet of cast iron pipe originally installed in our system, and they believe that only an area adjacent to the pump station at Myrtle and Doyle will also have to be repaired. All of us hope that will not have to take place until the fall.

Underground Wire

The underground wire project is scheduled to begin construction of the first phase, between the causeways, in the 4th quarter of this year. With direction and input from the Underground Wire Committee and Chairman Guerry Green we have been continuing to work with Santee Cooper and Time Warner, and have been very pleased with their cooperation. With this cooperation we can hold the costs down and minimize disruption on the island while completing this important

project. The 414 property involved owners will soon be receiving more information on easements, scheduling and billing of the property owners first year payment. It is important to again note that no work will be done on the project during the summer vacation periods. The schedule for construction of all phases is totally dependent on the timely receipt of necessary easements from the involved property owners.

Beach & Groin Study

As a result of the beach erosion discussed in the March Tides, your Council has determined that we need a study of our beach and groins to evaluate the causes and the potential solutions to the beach erosion and loss of dunes. The Town has entered into a contract with Coastal Science and Engineering from Columbia to evaluate the beach and dune erosion and the

potential causes, and to evaluate the beach groin system. Coastal Science has worked with the Town several times over the past 15 years and is very familiar with Pawleys. We hope to gain some scientifically factual information on our problems as well as suggestions of repairs to groins and alternatives as it relates to the beach and dunes.

The weather has been beautiful on Pawleys Island in late spring and this month! We have had classic Pawleys Island early summer conditions and hope you have had a chance to enjoy it with us, or will shortly.

Bill Eds

Trash, Storm & FEMA

In our March Tides we said “*The Town cannot go on private property, so for those owners who have not cleaned up their property, we will continue to pick up tree limbs from the storm through Easter weekend*”. The Town worked with our property owners for 5 weeks, through Easter, to assist with cleaning up the issues arising from the ice storm. We even extended the clean up an extra week to accommodate those owners who came down for Easter and realized that they needed to clean up storm caused vegetation damage. Fortunately the extra costs to the Town through Easter will be reimbursed by FEMA 75%. Unfortunately 13 property owners chose to continue to pile vegetation and cuttings in front of or near their houses as late as last week. This is in contravention of our expressed requirements, and in spite of the fact

that their neighbors have all worked within the guidelines established. Our next scheduled trash pickup is not until the Monday and Tuesday after the 4th of July and the roadside trash was very much in evidence. The Town decided to pick up this trash in order to present the best appearance for all of our owners and visitors during June and before the 4th of July weekend. We did this rather than fine the offenders, and require them to dispose of their trash, because of the special circumstances this year. As in the past, in the future we will not pick up trash between the 4 trash pickups each year, which are scheduled after New Year’s, Easter, the 4th of July, and Labor Day. Owners who violate the ordinances will be cited. The Town has no property tax and it is important to keep our island looking nice, while keeping our costs down.

Cameras

The Cameras on the causeways which record license plate numbers have proved to be a success already. Our Police Department identified a sex offender who came on the island within 6 hours of the report. Within 48 hours the offender was located in Horry County and was in jail. Chief Fanning

and his Officers have also solved several other crimes using information from the cameras to help in their investigations. In addition, as reported in the March Tides, there have been only 2 break ins on Pawleys compared to well over a dozen on other local beaches.

72 Day Rental for Residents Signed into Law

Residents will once again be able to claim their home on Pawleys as a personal residence for property tax purposes and also rent the home for up to 72 days in order to pay taxes and insurance. Thanks to Senator Cleary

who authored it at our request and got it passed in the Senate and representative Goldfinch who got it through the House! We appeared before the Ways and Means Committee in support of the bill.