

## **Town of Southern Shores Mayor's Chat April 3, 2007**

**Here are the questions and comments from this months chat. In *Italic* are the answers received after the meeting.**

Mayor opened the floor to questions.

Robin Morgan, 57 Deer Path Lane, asked about 100 Ocean Blvd. She stated the town parking lot on Chicahauk Trail was closed for everyone else as 100 Ocean Blvd. was having a wedding Saturday and used the lot. Webb explained that house had a special events parking permit for 13 cars. Robin stated there were cars everywhere in driveways, town rights-of-way and Spindrift Tr. That house is in RSI zone and it is being used as a commercial establishment, catering to weddings. A lengthy discussion on the wedding houses ensued. Webb stated that house is used as a rental house; if that house is used for a special event we can not discriminate at this time. Webb stated there will be no more special events permit issued for the Town Parking Lot. Robin Morgan stated at that house they have leveled out the beach for ceremonies. Webb explained the Town does not want to say all rental houses are a commercial property.

Bobby Walters, 60 Hickory Trail, asked about public works digging on Duck Road with out having the utilities flagged. He is worried about the safety of the workers. He also asked why we need six workers out there when five lean on the tools while one does the work; there are too many people at a job site. Webb stated he will look into the matter. ***Public works was working at the intersection of East Dogwood Trail and Ocean Blvd. and the utilities were marked by an orange line not flags.***

Kevin Stroud, 229 Wax Myrtle Tr., asked about the resolution of the tax distribution formula change, has anything happen? Mayor answered it went no where as Duck voted not to go forward., Kill Devil Hills, has a new mayor and they have not responded, Kitty Hawk and Manteo approved. He knew Nags Head would not approve, but without the majority of Town's it would not have gone anywhere in the assembly. Kevin asked what the Dare County commissioners roll is in the process to have the formula changed. Mayor stated Dare County Commissioners have to request the State Assembly to change the formula and without super majority of Towns on board would be a waist of time go to the State Assembly.

Kevin asked how is the distribution of the additional sales tax that was collected going. The Mayor answered the Dare Shoreline Management Commission on which he sits has asked the County Commissioner to approve a plan where each town will get a share of the interest on the collected tax to install sand fencing and beach grass planting. Mayor asked if each town could receive advice from professionals as to installing sand fencing and planting beach grass etc. ***After the meeting the Mayor found out the County Commissioners did approve the plan to spend in equal shares \$185,000 in FY 2008 and \$164,000 in interest earned in FY 2009.***

Robin Morgan, 57 Deer Path Lane, asked how the Chicahauk Hydrological Study is going. Webb stated the report has been received and the stormwater committee has reviewed it. The data is done and the report is being redone. Wells monitors are owned by the Town and we can keep them in the ground for future readings.

Sarah Tyler, 165 Wax Myrtle Tr., had a question about trash cans. On Monday morning she watched a recycling truck pick up one can, overshoot second can, tried to pickup without moving back then knocked down trash can did not pickup. Can something be done about this? The Mayor said to call town hall as soon as you see a problem, and we will call either Dare County of the recycling company and correct the problem.

Bobby Walters, 60 Hickory Trail stated in New Jersey he has seen stabling the dunes done by planes like crop dusting seeding and fertilizing the dunes. He suggested the town may look into this.

Sarah Tyler, 165 Wax Myrtle Tr., asked about all the other large houses that have weddings and cars were parked all over the place. Webb stated the police department will be more aggressive with parking tickets and possibly tow if cars are in travel lane.

Kevin Stroud, 229 Wax Myrtle Tr., asked about increasing the parking fines more than \$50.00. Mayor stated last year fines went to \$25.00 to \$50 and see how it goes. Maybe we should tow repeated offenders.

Jim Conners, 83 Duck Woods Drive, commented on what a great idea for the PD newsletter. He asked if we could put the monthly Police Department reports on the town website. Merrie explained on the website if a weekly crime report.

Lori Williams, 109 Pudding Pan Lane, asked how the town collects parking ticket fines for out of Towner's etc. Webb comments we can't track people down out of state, would cost too much money. ***Staff reported in FY 2005/06 out of 274 tickets written, 171 were paid and 103 were not paid. It is impossible to determine what tickets are from non-property owners from out of town.***

Sarah Tyler, 165 Wax Myrtle Tr., would like to see more bicycle racks at beach crossovers. Webb said he will look into this. The Town has given the SSCA one at E. Dogwood.

Maryellen Holland, 23 Spindrift Trail, asked how many parking spaces does the Town have. Webb answered in Seacrest, (Avenues) the Town is working on clearing the rights-of-way so more can park. The number of spaces varies street to street based on driveways. Sarah asked can the Town make the spaces wider so cars can park on an angle to allow more cars to park. Webb said we could look into this.