

## **Town of Southern Shores Mayor's Chat May 1, 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.

Pete Macfarlane, 67 Trinitie Tr., stated the police newsletter print needs to be made larger and not blue print. When he prints it out it comes out grey and difficult to read. Mayor will look into this.

Jim Pfizenmayer, 4 Loblolly Dr., asked for a dredging update. Webb stated it is not going as quickly as he would like. Ike is getting the letters out to the Hillcrest property owners. Quible is finishing up with what they need to do. If any hang ups, it will not be approved this year. We are cautiously optimistic.

Al Smith, 279 Sea Oats Tr., stated NC12 improvements look really good, but he has heard about a safety pedestrian island above the pavement. Webb stated there will be a rounded 5" concrete islands at Ocean View Loop and Skyline Rd. and they will be marked so people will see it at night. There will also be a curb placed by Town Hall to keep the traffic going right.

Bob Pfeil, 136 E. Holly Tr., saw a sewer cover at NC12 where the improvements are but haven't seen if there are sewer pipes. Webb stated a french drain with a pump has been installed and that public works and/or DOT can pump water across to the island.

Maryellen Holland, 23 Spindrifft Tr., asked if the traffic lights at Chicahauk/NC12 are they set by the state or local. Webb answered DOT set the switches which are very sensitive to salt so they have many problems with them. They do change the timing for the summer traffic. The trigger does not stop traffic right away; it lets the traffic flow for a certain time. Webb will contact DOT and see if they will shorten the time but they are only concerned with north and south bound traffic movement. Pat Storey, asked to make sure Hillcrest, Sea Oats and East Dogwood are added to the request.

Webb gave the update on Juniper Trail traffic lines, NCDOT has the money in the budget and it is on the their calendar to repaint the lines at Juniper Trail and US158. However no date could be given when the job would be done due to manpower problems.

Maryellen Holland, 23 Spindrifft Tr., asked who has jurisdiction of RT158. Mayor answered Kitty Hawk does. Maryellen feels they could make a lot of money by giving out speeding tickets. Webb mentioned the Police Chief is talking to Kitty Hawk about not stepping on their toes, but trying to help out because Southern Shores Police are closer to the incident in some cases.

Steve Uperti, 157 Wax Myrtle Tr., asked about the proposed cell tower. The Mayor answered the Town is not doing anything about it at this time. Council will be discussing it at tonight's meeting. Webb stated Verizon will ask for the ordinance change and approval at tonight's meeting, staff does not want to fast track the process.

Pete Macfarlane, 67 Trinitie Trail, asked why the County takes so long to fix a fire hydrant. He has one across from his house that has been broken for nine months. Webb will look into this. Chief Harvey stated they usually fix them very fast. Chief Harvey will also look into this.

Jim Conners, 83 Duck Woods Drive, asked if the Southern Shores Volunteer Fire Department was at the Lone Cedar fire. Chief Harvey stated they had 2 engines. It was previously an old hunt club with a lot of old dry wood.

Jim Pfizenmayer, 4 Loblolly Dr, asked if there are any plans for a light or a feeder road at the new Cove development. He feels traffic will be increased turning onto RT158 from it. Webb stated there are no plans not at this time. Webb added a dentist office is going up at the intersection of Dogwood Tr. and US158.

Kevin Stroud, 229 Wax Myrtle Tr., asked about a drug arrest, on Wax Myrtle and is the police department keeping on eye on this house as he heard the people are back. Mayor stated he would ask the Police Chief. ***Chief Kole stated some of the people are back at the house and they are aware of it and that is all the comment he could give at this time.***

Kevin Stroud, 229 Wax Myrtle Tr., stated the vegetation committee last year came to the council with an ordinance and was turned down. Now he heard they are coming back again. How does the Mayor feel about this? Mayor stated he is a property rights person, however he is only one vote and he does not want to tell someone what tree they can take down or not. Stormwater report does have some recommendations council will be looking at them.

Jim Conners, 83 Duck Woods Drive, Chairman of the Vegetation Advisory Committee, stated he did not agree with last years recommendations. They are trying to balance a standard with what the public wants; to preserve our environment and property owner's rights.

Maryellen Holland, 23 Spindrift Trail, asked if there is anything new on the home occupation ordinance. Mayor said they will be discussing a date for the public hearing tonight on the proposed ordinance.

Jim Pfizenmayer, 4 Loblolly Dr, asked since the Town owns the water, the sound side beach is bad again, and can the Town do anything? Webb answered it is in the sound and civic association has that property. The Town owns the bottoms of the canals. Many studies have been done on the water quality at the sound side beach. Jim asked if the Town has any more pull to clean it up. Webb said he doesn't now if it can be cleaned up.

Jodi stated it has to do with the shallow water, lack of water flow and the bulk heading there may be to blame.

Paul Watson, 171 Sassafras Ln., asked when the pot holes on S. Dogwood Trail are going to be fixed. Trucks going off the road have caused most of them. Webb stated he will look into it. Paul asked about the stop signs on Dogwood Trail why are they up? Can Council take a look again at this issue? Jodi stated Council agreed last year to leave the stop signs alone. Al Smith added at Yaupon the big tree blocks the drivers views coming out to S. Dogwood Tr.

Steve Uperti, 157 Wax Myrtle Tr., asked who fixes pot holes, public works or contractor. Webb explained public works can fix small pot holes. People are to call town hall to have pot holes fixed. Edge work may be different.

Paul Watson, 171 Sassafras Ln., asked about the grass planting of the dunes. Mayor stated he is on the Shoreline Preservation Committee and at this time the interest of the collected sales tax will split between the towns, to do dune stabilization. The funds will be used towards sand fencing, planting beach grass and expert help. Mayor is going to request, now that Nags Heads vote was defeated, to split all the money with all the Towns.

Maryellen Holland, 23 Spindrift Trail, asked about an article about increasing the land transfer tax through the state. The Mayor stated that the state is proposing to let counties increase land transfer tax and sales tax on real estate. It is outrageous people need to voice their options and vote.

Pete Macfarlane, 67 Trinitie Trail, asked is the Town doing anything to slow the tourist cut through in town. Webb stated absolutely not, this issue has been studied for many years and if anyone has any good idea we will listen.

Bob Palombo, 159 Duck Rd, asked why can't we have a no left hand turns onto S. Dogwood off of US158 on the weekends during certain hours? Webb stated he can ask DOT.