

## ***A Matter of Vital Interest to Edenton's Future***

Legislation has been introduced in the North Carolina General Assembly which provides a referendum on May 2 to allow the qualified voters of the Town of Edenton to express themselves on dissolving the Board of Public Works and reorganizing the Town Council.

This permissive legislation was requested by the Town Council in an effort to provide the taxpayers of Edenton with a better, more business-like form of government

While this action is new, active discussion of the local municipal structure has been conducted for more than two decades. The idea of having only one policy making board for Edenton has been discussed by joint committees from the two elective boards.

**WHY** is this referendum being held and **WHY** is the Citizens Committee For Progressive Government dedicated to an educational program in support of the Town Council's action?

There are many reasons, among them:

1-The conditions and opinions which were responsible for the creation of separate boards no longer exists, and this is justification alone for giving consideration to abandoning separate boards.

2-Edenton is growing and expanding each year. Essential to its growth is the sound, orderly extension and improvement of utility systems. When one governing body has the responsibility for utilities and a separate governing body the responsibility for all other community services, conflicts and retarded growth are inevitable. Under today's system of local government, one responsible governing body has all the tools necessary and can more readily govern all the affairs of a community than two boards.

3-Experience in all but FIVE of 72 North Carolina cities owning electric systems is evidence of the fact that municipalities have no need for separate boards. If this were not true, why have utility boards in recent years been dissolved instead of more being formed?

4-One governing board, working through a Utilities Committee, could eliminate duplication of effort, equipment and personnel.

Vote "YES" on May 2 to dissolve the Board of Public Works and to reorganize the Town Council into a more functional elective body.

This message paid for by  
Citizens Committee for Progressive Government  
George Alms Byrum, Chairman