

# Council OKs some salary increases

By CHARLES BRITAIN  
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Town Council has approved salary increases for the town manager and the town attorney, and it will make a decision Monday on possible increases for the mayor and council members.

Last Thursday, the town council unanimously approved a resolution introduced by Mayor Jonathan Howes requesting salary increases for Town Manager David Taylor and Town Attorney Ralph Karpinos.

The proposal called for a \$10,000 increase in the town manager's annual salary, and a \$12,000 increase in the town attorney's salary.

The manager's previous salary was \$74,500, and the approved ordinance will increase this sum to \$84,500. The

attorney's previous salary was \$48,000, and will increase to \$60,000.

Howes said the increases are the result of the town's annual evaluation of the salaries of town employees, which determines the need for pay raises.

When asked where the money to finance the higher salaries would come from, he said, "Sufficient funds are available in the town's budget to cover the projected increases in salary of these positions."

Howes said his creation of the ordinance is evidence of his support for the wage increases, and he said he was pleased with the council's unanimous decision.

Howes is not as supportive, however, of a resolution introduced by council member Jim Wallace request-

ing the adoption of an ordinance to increase the salaries of the mayor and council members.

At the same meeting where the salary increases for the manager and attorney were unanimously approved, Wallace proposed an ordinance that would raise the mayor's annual pay from \$8,400 to \$12,500 and the council members' annual pay from \$4,000 to \$7,500.

Howes disagrees with Wallace on the necessity of the salary increases. He said Wallace's ordinance "needs to be viewed in a different light than the raising of the salaries of the manager and the town attorney due to the differences in the positions."

It was for this reason Howes voted against the ordinance on Thursday night, he said.

The ordinance was approved by a majority in the first vote, but did not receive enough votes to be approved on the first reading. A second vote is scheduled for Monday.

Wallace said he expects the salary increases will be approved, because only five votes are required Monday for adoption of the ordinance.

"It has been at least 10 years since the last pay raise and in that 10 years the salaries have even been lowered," he said.

When asked about the salaries of similar public officials in other North Carolina cities and towns, Wallace said, "Our figures show that the proposed increase in pay for the mayor and the council is comparable to the present salaries of public officials in other cities in the area."

# Downtown commission hires directors

By JEANNA BAXTER  
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Downtown Commission has hired two executive directors to coordinate its downtown revitalization efforts.

Deborah Dibbert and Margie Haber, who applied as a team, were chosen from a pool of more than 40 applicants, said Sally Jessee, director of the commission's search committee.

The commission, which was formed in May 1987 by the Public-Private Partnership, previously had been operated by members on a voluntary basis.

"We found it difficult with full-time jobs to pull everything together," Jessee said. "We decided to hire a director to pull everything together and keep focus."

Dibbert and Haber persuaded the commission that it would be getting "two for the price of one," Jessee said. The women have worked together before with the Ronald McDonald House, Chapel Hill Service League and other community fund-raising activities.

"We are really excited about having them on board," Jessee said.

Dibbert said, "We were excited they were open-minded and willing to take a chance on our non-traditional approach."

"Neither of us was ready for a full-time job because we both have school-age children and are involved in other community projects."

Haber added that as a team, they would be stronger and better able to serve the commission.

Dibbert and Haber began their

duties by attending the Public-Private Partnership conference in Champaign, Ill., with local business members, area government representatives and University officials.

At the conference, representatives looked at the downtown and how it will be five or 10 years from now. The group also discussed solutions for the problems facing the downtown now and the need for future planning.

Dibbert said, "It (the conference) was a terrific way to start the job. We had the opportunity to touch base with 115 of the town's most influential people and to get them excited about the commission."

The conference also offered the opportunity to get pledges and first-year operation costs confirmed, Dibbert said. The commission has collected almost \$100,000 in pledges. Chapel Hill and Carrboro pledged \$30,000 for the first year's operation costs, and private contributions have included \$10,000 pledges from Kenan Transport, the University and a group of downtown merchants.

Dibbert and Haber began their official duties Oct. 1. Both said their immediate goals are the same as those set by the commission:

- Organize a major downtown clean-up project with the help of civic groups and other organizations.
- Begin a monthly special activity to draw people downtown.
- Improve the retail mix on Franklin Street to offer a better selection of stores to attract non-students as well as students.
- Operate a trolley connecting the

Carrboro Town Hall to Franklin and Rosemary streets to enable people to park in one place and utilize the entire downtown area.

The San Francisco-style trolleys will begin operation in September 1989 and will run every five to 10 minutes, Dibbert said. The trolleys will be free or have a nominal cost and will be more convenient than the bus, she said. Operation costs for the

first year are estimated at \$30,000.

"Our goals will be constantly evolving and we encourage input from everyone," Dibbert said. "I hope the commission will continue to be seen as a positive addition downtown to both the merchants and the community at large."

The downtown commission office is located in Suite 14 of The Courtyard. The phone number is 929-9700.

# Town improvement plan gets under way

By LARRY STONE  
Staff Writer

Work has begun on Chapel Hill's new Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for the period 1989-1994, although few changes are expected from the former plan, town officials said Wednesday.

CIP is a five-year plan of expenditures for capital projects designed by the town council, the planning department and the town manager with the help of the public.

It involves identifying capital needs in the area, setting priorities for the needs and finding the money to pay for the projects from the local budget or from state or federal grants.

A capital need is one that involves a large one-time expenditure for construction, expansion, renovation or replacement of public facilities, or the purchase of land, buildings or equipment costing more than \$75,000.

Assistant Town Manager Sonna Loewenthal said the plan allows for a lot of input from everyone in Chapel Hill.

"We try to run as long and slow a process as possible to give everyone a chance to voice an opinion," Loewenthal said.

Arthur Jackson, a member of the Chapel Hill planning department, said the system tries to take major

investments as well as the smaller projects and find a way to pay for them.

"We allocate certain amounts to pay for small projects," Jackson said. About \$500,000 from the town funds items such as bikeways, sidewalk construction and park improvements.

For bigger projects, the town first looks for outside funding from federal or state grants, or it may decide to hold a bond referendum, Jackson said.

"Chapel Hill has been very successful in getting money from federal or state sources," Jackson said.

"The (CIP) system tries to incorporate all the capital improvements into one document to keep the town up-to-date on what's going on," Jackson said. "They may involve different money sources, but the same staff must work on all of them."

If, in the short term, money cannot be budgeted by the town for a project they give high priority and no funds are available from state and federal sources, the project will be placed on hold and will be reconsidered later.

The five-year plan sets its priorities based, in part, on public opinion, Jackson said.

"If the public wants something added to the list, they must convince the council that it needs to be added,"

# Chapel Hill Police Roundup

Two girls came into Sadlack's on East Franklin Street Monday night and told an employee that a newspaper rack owned by The Chapel Hill Newspaper was on fire. The employee called police, who determined that an unknown suspect had set the newspaper inside the display holder on fire. The fire was out when police arrived.

A Springview Trail resident reported Monday that a black sheepdog was stuck in a storm sewer. The resident said she could not get the dog out of the sewer grate.

When the animal control officer arrived, the dog was gone. According to the report, the drain pipe was three to four feet wide, and the officer thought the dog might have gone down the pipe and to its opening, and then left the area. The officer reported he could not locate the dog in the drain.

A McDade Street resident reported a rodent in her bathroom Monday. Police reported to the scene and found an animal in the bathroom. The rodent was then captured and released in the woods.

An Airport Road resident returned home Monday night and found that a window in his residence had been opened, and clothing valued at \$200 and beer and wine valued at \$10 had been stolen.

A resident of Tar Heel Motel reported \$200 missing from her room on Tuesday. The woman said the person staying with her had taken it and left town. She went to the magistrate to take out a warrant for the thief, but the warrant was denied due to lack of proof.

Tuesday night was unusually loud, as police received reports of excessive noise in four different areas. Police responded to complaints of noise at Shadowood Apartments, Howell Street, Taylor Street and the corner of Franklin Street and Pickard Lane.

A Fraternity Court resident reported Tuesday that last Friday someone entered the fraternity house and took his mountain bike valued at \$700. The resident said he checked with fraternity brothers, but no one had seen the bike.

Also on Tuesday, a Rosemary street resident discovered her bicycle was missing from the rack where she had left it. She said she had no idea about the whereabouts of the bike.

— compiled by Will Lingo

# Congress

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without seeing its political implications."

Although he voted for the resolution, Dickinson said he questions the CIA's right to be on campus. "We have an honor code here and I think it's hypocritical to invite agencies that don't act in the same manner," he said.

Jurgen Buchenau (Dist. 4) voted in favor of the resolution. "I agree with the intent of the bill," he said. "Those illegal actions (by the CIAAC) should be censured. At the

same time, censure should not stifle campus-wide debate on the actions of the CIA. Many students are unaware of the CIA's illegal activities in Third World countries. Debate leads to an educated and responsible approach to the agency."

Ahlschwede said the resolution's third clause is an admission that what the CIA does is wrong. The clause states: "This act in no way is to be construed as an endorsement of the CIA or its activities."

# Human rights group works to educate

By JENNIFER WING  
Staff Writer

The local chapter of Amnesty International works to provide justice for prisoners of conscience and to educate people about violations of human rights around the world, according to group members.

The international organization tries to stay out of politics by not allowing individual groups to lobby their own governments to release prisoners of conscience, said faculty adviser Gerardo Heiss. In addition, the program is non-profit and requires only minimal dues from members, he said.

"Concerning the United States, the only thing that Amnesty groups involve themselves in is the death penalty," Heiss said. The organization stands against this form of punishment, and feels it is a failure

of the judicial system, although not all of the members of the group must share this opinion, Heiss said.

Most of the prisoners are eventually freed through writing letters to government and prison officials, Heiss said. "After a while, the publicity will embarrass the country, and it does not want to be seen as a repressive government," he said. "We are calling attention to the case."

The letters do not convey feelings of political and religious ideology, Heiss said. The main office of Amnesty International in London thoroughly researches the cases to make sure they are justified, he said.

The chief project of the UNC group has been the attempt to release or provide a trial for Nabil Ibrahim, who has been detained unjustly in Syria for four years, said Bethany Chaney,

co-president of the group. "We try to promote awareness of Syrian rights," she said.

Amnesty International sponsors a country campaign two or three times a year, Heiss said. The main office asks all groups to participate if a particular country has had a series of violations of human rights, such as a rash of imprisonments or death squads, he said. The goal is to inform the public through mass media.

Chaney said the group will participate in a march for the Campaign for Children on Oct. 23 starting at the Morehead Planetarium and traveling down Franklin Street. The march is intended to make people aware of the fact that children are tortured and imprisoned in many countries, she said.

Another project is the Colombia Campaign, an educational program designed to increase awareness of death squads in Colombia and South America, said Taimi Olsen, co-ordinator of the committee. "We're hoping to get some diplomatic support for the Colombians that are trying to reform their country," she said.

During Human Rights Week, Oct. 13-17, the UNC group will participate in several activities, Chaney said.

"A big table will be set up in the Pit for letter writing and a jail will be set up with prominent citizens and popular faculty members imprisoned in it," she said. "Fifty people will have to sign a letter before the prisoner is released."

An all-night vigil in the Pit is planned during the week, with performances by different musicians and other activities, she said.

Probably one of the most well-known projects of Amnesty International is its concerts, Heiss said. Right now, an international concert is touring to provide publicity and raise money. This takes pressure off the local groups for fund raising, he said. Two of the concerts were held in the United States.

UNC has a large Amnesty International group, with 70 active members, Chaney said. The members are mostly students, but the group is open to anybody in the community, she said. The group meets the first Monday of each month at 8 p.m. at Newman Center on Pittsboro Street.

# Fake

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University documents, records or identification cards can result in expulsion, suspension or a lesser sanction."

But the honor code was not usually enforced in these cases, Overton said. Overton made a proposal to the

Honor Court in July, suggesting that falsifiers be tried by the court on their second offense, in order to enforce the code.

"You just can't do this," she said. "We will see if the honor code is a deterrent, and if it isn't, we will try more stringent action."

No offenders have been tried yet, Overton said. The proposal did not go into effect until Sept. 1, but six or eight cases are pending.

The Committee on Student Conduct, which oversees the operation of Student Government's Judicial Branch, will meet to discuss the most efficient method for dealing with the problem, said David Fountain, student attorney general. A date for the committee's meeting has not been set.

"It is hard to know how they will be punished, because we have no precedent cases," he said. "We want to deal with this as efficiently as possible, because it does have a potential for bogging down the court." "Although it is hard to say, I think that once people realize that this is an honor code offense the numbers will decrease," he said.

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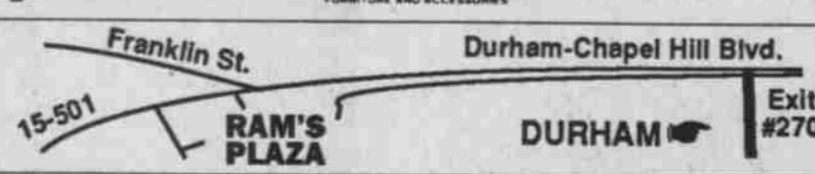
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