

City

Carrboro Aldermen revise format of town budget

By KIM JASKI

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen approved a revised budget format Tuesday evening, which would allow the board to assess programs the town manager brings before them.

Larry Gibson, assistant town manager, said board members had expressed interest in developing a new budget format. Aldermen said the present format did not give them enough input in the budget process.

"This (the new format) would give the board a better opportunity to evaluate changes recommended by the manager," Gibson said.

The board approved the new format but wants the staff to add appendices summarizing costs by each program and department, Gibson added.

During the retreat, members of the board requested that the continuation budget, which is necessary to keep programs operating at their present level, be kept separate from the recom-

mended changes and proposals for the new budget.

Town Manager Robert Morgan will take the continuation budget and add the changes and improvements considered to be in the community's best interest. He will then present it to the aldermen as his budget proposal in the spring. Morgan was out of town at a conference and could not be reached for comment.

"It is obvious that our community is growing," said Alderman Hilliard

Caldwell. "We want to maintain the same level of services for Carrboro that we have now."

During the retreat, aldermen expressed interest in building a Carrboro community center, improving sidewalks and street maintenance, expanding bus service, improving traffic signals and adding personnel in fire and police protection.

"We really did not discuss the proposals and changes Tuesday night," Caldwell said. "We tried to stay away

from that since that had been done at the retreat."

Alderman Jay Bryan said that during the retreat, the board had expressed ideas and issues they wanted to be considered for the budget. He added that individuals had said what they felt needed to be examined in the town.

"Mr. Morgan now will price the ideas out as separate options," said Bryan.

Caldwell said he hoped the community center would get consideration. "Some people feel that there is a need

for a community center in Carrboro, and I am one of those people."

The task for Morgan and his staff now is to present a budget that fits the priorities of Carrboro. Gibson said preliminary projections showed "taxes may need to be increased five cents for every \$100 on valuation, but this is just a projection now."

"One has to keep in mind that it is always good for the town not to have a tax increase," Caldwell said, "and that is being kept under close scrutiny."

Council continues search to fill vacant town manager position

By JENNIFER FOSTER

The Chapel Hill Town Council needs to continue its efforts in the search to find a new town manager, said council member Julie Andresen.

The position became vacant in January after former town manager, David Taylor, resigned. Taylor had served as the town manager for more than seven years. He announced his resignation last November, effective Dec. 31, to become chief executive of the Chapel

Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce.

"The work is ahead, what we need to do at this point is to decide what to do next," Andresen said. She said the council needs to formulate a plan of action to take once the application deadline has been reached.

The deadline for applications to be filed is Feb. 28, and current plans call for the new manager to be working by September.

The town council met in January to discuss plans for the selection process,

but it had not taken any action on selection since then, Andresen said.

"I think that at this point, the council is as involved as we could be," said Joe Herzenberg, a member of the town council who participated in the last search for a town manager in 1981. He said there was not much more the council could do until the applications were in.

Mayor Jonathan Howes and Town Personnel Director Pat Crofts wrote an advertisement to encourage interest in

the job. After Howes met with town council members to review the advertisement, it was inserted in government-related professional journals.

Crofts said the council decided to run the advertisement in five different sources beginning in mid-January. These journals include the International City Management Association publication and the N.C. League of Municipalities Newsletter.

Crofts added neither she nor the council had begun to review any appli-

cations. She said approximately 40 people have expressed interest in the position since the advertisement began running.

The advertisement calls for applicants who have demonstrated effective leadership, management, communication and organizational skills. It also requests a strong background in budgeting and financial management, and experience in growth management.

Other job requirements include a master's degree in public administra-

tion and a minimum of seven years' experience as a local government manager or assistant manager.

Sonnia Loewenthal, interim town manager, said she was not interested in the job at this time. Loewenthal had been the assistant town manager when Taylor resigned.

Crofts said the council is responsible for deciding the exact screening and interviewing process which will take place between Feb. 28 and the actual selection of the new town manager.

Proposal passes with flying colors

By JENNIFER FOSTER

The Chapel Hill Town Council passed a resolution last week to create a representation of the residents' pride in their city — a Chapel Hill town flag.

Council Member Nancy Preston introduced the resolution. The proposal to design a flag to crown the new addition to the Town Hall was a compromise from a previous idea.

A suggestion was originally made to construct a clock tower in the same location, but the council decided the proposal would be too expensive. The council voted last week instead to allot \$500 for the design and manufacture of a town flag.

"We needed something to be a symbol for us, to stand for the town,"

said Preston.

Preston said she hoped the flag would be ready when the renovations to the town hall building on North Columbia Street are completed and opened to the public this spring.

Julie Andresen, a council member who voted for the resolution, said she did not feel the flag was a necessary addition, but it would help to make the new landmark more visible.

The resolution also called for Mayor Jonathan Howes to appoint a flag design committee. Howes said this appointment process was just beginning, and no members had been named yet.

Following the appointment, a graphic design artist would be hired and asked to submit a number of designs to the committee, which would choose one of

the ideas to represent Chapel Hill.

Howes said the selection process for the design artist would be up to the committee. He said it would likely resemble the process used by the committee organized when the council voted to redesign the town seal.

Preston said the council had no specific ideas for the design because they were still in the planning stages. She also said the council hoped to eventually have several designs to present to the public for their comment.

Howes said one idea which had been voiced was to somehow replicate the town seal on the flag.

One use for the flag could be to exchange it with our sister city in Nicaragua, said Howes. He said a group would be going to Nicaragua to visit the city in the near future (taking with them mugs featuring the Chapel Hill town seal), but the flag would not be finished in time to make the trip.

Land division standards amended

By ELIZABETH MURRAY

The collar has been temporarily loosened for rural landowners who want to subdivide their tracts of land in the University Lake watershed area, but they are not being let off their leash.

The Orange County Board of Commissioners voted Monday to adopt amendments to an interim measure that will expire on April 2, when county commissioners hope to have decided on permanent measures.

The amendments give people who have owned land in the watershed as of Oct. 1 the opportunity to subdivide up to five two-acre lots. The rest of the land must remain at the five-acre minimum, according to former Chapel Hill Town Council member David Godschalk.

The amendments came at a time

when Orange and Chatham county residents were concerned about protecting water quality in the watershed.

Godschalk, who was part of a joint work group that recommended a five-acre lot minimum, said this was a fair way of balancing concerns of landowners with the concerns of the people in Orange County.

The board also discussed what would go to the Feb. 28 public hearing for the permanent watershed standards: The board decided to go with the recommendations of an engineering firm that did a study of the watershed, said Commissioner Donald Wilhoit, who also served on the work group.

He said the firm gave two recommendations for the watershed land, both of which the board would consider. The first called for five-acre lot sizes with an allowance for 6 percent of the tract to be developed. The second called for a two-acre lot minimum requiring

detention ponds to catch pollutants that accumulate on roads and rooftops and are carried into the lake.

The intergovernmental work group, which consists of representatives from Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Orange County, did not recommend the use of the two-acre proposal but wanted to give the public a chance to speak on the issue, Wilhoit said. "We haven't changed our minds. There is no backing off by the Board of Commissioners to protect water quality at University Lake."

But he said if the two-acre lot minimum proposal should eventually be implemented, it would not pose a serious problem to the watershed. It would, however, be expensive to maintain detention ponds to keep pollutants out of the watershed. Wilhoit said the ponds would be a "viable alternative that would require long-term commitment."

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Policy takes bite out of campus cookie sales
 By LISA ANTONUCCI
 Staff Writer
 The Girl Scouts' annual cookie campaign is once again in full swing, but UNC students will have to leave campus this year to buy the cookies.
 According to Wayne Kuncl, director of housing and residential education, campus policy does not allow any commercial solicitation on University property by organizations not recognized by UNC.
 "It is a long-established policy, and I am following the direction of the chancellor," Kuncl said. "To solicit on campus, they would have to be a recognized student organization and would have to have authorization from my office to sell in a specific spot."
 Susan Thomas, Orange County cookie chairwoman, said because the Girl Scouts were not allowed to sell on campus they had set up dates to sell cookies on Franklin Street and at University and Carr Mill malls.
 "I have not talked to anyone on campus this year, but I do know that cookies have been sold on campus before," Thomas said. "This year, I told our campus chairperson not to do it for fear of going against the University's policy."
 Thomas said selling the cookies on campus would be a great source of revenue for the Girl Scouts. "Each troop makes 25 cents for every box its girls sell, and if they could sell on campus it would be a good \$200 for the troops."
 Orange County residents have already signed up to buy more than \$1 million worth of cookies since the sale began Jan. 13. Thomas said the Thin Mints and the newly created Caramel Delights were the top sellers.
 "I find it puzzling that T-shirt and doughnut entrepreneurs can sell in dorms when a worthier cause like the Girl Scouts are forbidden," said Amber Marsh, a junior from Jamestown. "I don't consider them as exploiting solicitors. They're just little girls selling great cookies for a worthwhile cause."
 As for fraternities and sororities soliciting on campus, Kuncl said that there is a special provision in University policy allowing them to do so.
 "I don't know where else you can buy cookies, but to buy them in the dorms would be great," freshman Kim Byham said. "For those of us who don't have cars, we have to hope that we run across a booth in town."
 Cookie sales will continue through March 4 and booths will be set up on downtown Franklin Street Feb. 17, 21 and 24; at University Mall Feb. 16-17, 23-24 and March 2-3; and at Carr Mill Mall Feb. 17, 24 and March 3.

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