

COUNCIL

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West Southern Pines ward be set up from which residents there would elect their own representative on the council.

This proposal met with objections both from members of the council and from the Rev. J. R. Funderburk of West Southern Pines, a visitor at the meeting, all of whom said they believed that voting on councilmen should be general. The Negro pastor said that he felt a West Southern Pines representative should be a general representative of the town and not appear to be on the council to plead the special case of Negro citizens.

Mayor L. T. Clark said that in his opinion a suitable candidate from West Southern Pines could win election under the present election set-up, with general voting on all candidates by the town's electorate.

In a long session that included discussion of a score of items, on all of which action was deferred until Friday night, the council heard a request from George H. Leonard, president of the Southern Pines Library Association, that the council make plans for greater support of the library and, if possible, make a capital outlay grant to cover painting and repairs estimated to cost more than \$1,000, now immediately needed by the library.

The town cannot make a regular appropriation to the library, it was pointed out, without a vote of the people authorizing this use of tax money. Any immediate grant, said City Manager Tom E. Cunningham, would have to be cut from some other appropriation and it would be up to the council to decide if and where such a cut could be made.

Garland McPherson, chairman of a Citizens Advisory Committee sub-committee that made a report to the council on Mount Hope cemetery, was present to discuss the report with the council. The committee recommended reduction of personnel at the cemetery to one person, which has already been done, and concluded that the cemetery could best be operated by a tax subsidy, rather than raising the price of lots.

In a discussion of proposed plans to cut off free water to churches and other institutions, opinion of councilmen was divided. The matter comes up for a vote Friday night. Mrs. Katherine N. McColl was present to say that discontinuing free water at the Shaw House would be a hardship to the Historical Association.

A hearing on proposal to establish a service station at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and S. W. Broad street brought forth a petition signed by 17 persons living in the area, objecting to the station. Mayor Clark, who lives next to the site and signed the petition, retired from the room during the hearing.

Since the signers number well over 20 per cent of the residents in the area, permission to allow the station can be given only by a favorable vote of three-fourths of the members of the council. The vote will be taken Friday night.

Dr. E. M. Medlin, mayor of Aberdeen, and State Rep. H. Clifton Blue will be invited to attend Friday night's meeting to discuss with council out-of-town zoning procedures to protect the approaches of the town. The proposal, made in 1951 and not carried to the General Assembly at that time, would be a matter for action by the 1955 Assembly.

Mr. and Mrs. Anton Yonker of Chicago, Ill., are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Yonker, at Lakeview.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Page Clark are spending the Easter weekend at Camp Awaniko, in the western part of the state, with their daughter, Miss Nancy Wrenn.

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