

Utilities Reflect Largest Increase

\$8,977,672 Budget Proposed For 1979-80

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The proposed 1979-80 operating budget for the City of Kings Mountain is almost \$2-million more than the current fiscal budget.

Mayor John Moss outlined the proposed \$8,977,672.08 budget during a special commissioners meeting last Thursday night at city hall.

The new budget reflects the increased costs of electrical power from Duke and natural gas from Transcontinental Gas Pipeline and the growing improvements program to all utilities: water and sewer, electrical and gas systems. The utilities portion of the budget totals \$6,217,780.47.

The general operations budget for the entire city totals \$1,911,935.06. The mayor said the budget for the city's 12 general departments totals \$108,922.06, which is an increase of only 5.44 percent, "and this includes an increment raise for employees effective September 1."

Within his budget message, Mayor Moss said the tax rate will remain at 65 cents per \$100 valuation - "which is essentially the same since 1964 and exactly the same figure for the sixth consecutive year."

Although the 65 cents tax rate does yield higher tax revenue due to increased property values, the mayor indicated the expanded budget programs will be funded through continued federal and state grants.

The current 1978-79 city budget totaled \$7,086,835.63 - which is \$1,890,836.40 lower than the proposed figure for the coming fiscal year.

In his message, Mayor Moss said a number of activities and facilities have been designated for attention in the coming year. He said the new Governmental Services Facilities Building (city hall) will be completed and occupied by mid-July.

WATER SYSTEM: A 2-million gallon per day water storage tank and connecting lines under construction is expected to be completed by Oct. 1. New equipment and improvements for the Ellison Water Plant and technical training for personnel is included in the new budget.

SEWER SYSTEM: Equipment and increased personnel training for Pilot and McGill plants and additions and improvements to collector lines are planned.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: Continued expansion of 12,000 KVA lines is planned.

GAS DEPARTMENT: A major effort is planned to improve the gas system capabilities, services, including a cathodic protection program, calibration program, renewal of meters and a systematic data program to comply with N.C. Safety Regulations.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Five new patrol cars, one generator and copy machine are budgeted, plus departmental expansion to occupy the old city hall.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: New quarters, additional fire-fighting equipment (mini-pumper, deluge gun-fixture-nozzle, and car for chief) is budgeted.

STREET DEPARTMENT: Extensive improvements with \$222,505.90 plus assessments for new curb and gutter and paving to insure proper maintenance of the city's 55 miles of hard surface streets, 5.70 miles of stone-gravel streets. New equipment budgeted for includes street sweeper, tandem dump truck, foot roller, compactor and air compressor.

SANITATION DEPARTMENT: Garbage and trash collection equipment and two-way radios budgeted.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Implementation of master plan for Deal Recreational Complex and Davidson Parks to begin.

Budgets proposed by department are as follows:

- Water & Sewer - \$631,879.05
- Electric & Power - \$1,934,676
- Natural Gas - \$2,330,102.64
- Cemetery - \$44,956.28
- Administrative - \$169,000
- Sanitation - \$160,858
- Street - \$233,540
- Police - \$310,880.46
- Fire - \$102,495
- General - \$482,750
- Recreation - \$141,593
- Public works - \$89,810.92
- Garage-vehicle maintenance - \$40,401
- Properties - maintenance - \$59,246.40
- Engineering, codes, inspections - \$46,305
- Bond principal - \$180,000 & bond interest - \$143,853.80
- Capital improvements - \$523,482.90



The Final Parade - KMSH Students Marching To Receive Diplomas

Student Awards Presented

Three Kings Mountain Senior High seniors—Nancy Lee, Kenny Vance and Barry Lineberger, tied for the coveted Kiwanis Citizenship award during 1979 Awards Day last week at Kings Mountain Senior High School.

Numerous students won awards and were presented scholarships during the ceremonies.

Lineberger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lineberger, also won the Good Earth Garden club scholarship, the Dover Mills and Elks National Foundation Scholarships, Woodmen of the World and American History award, was a national merit semi-finalist and was recipient of the Carolina Freight scholarship.

Miss Lee, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Joe Lee, also won the Bausch and Lomb Science award and the chemistry award.

Elizabeth McGill, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John C. McGill, was the Shelby Exchange Club Youth of the Year, the National Honor Society Scholarship alternate, tied for the Woodmen of the World and American History award, won the John Phillip Sousa band award, and was the American Legion Outstanding Senior Girl.

Carla Mauney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Mauney, won the Biology and math awards.

Cathy Heavener won four scholarships, the Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Beta-Chi scholarship, the prospective teacher scholarship, the Delta Kappa Gamma Society scholarship from Beta Epsilon Chapter, and the National Beta Club scholarship.

Academic scholarships also went to Miss Heavener from

Appalachian State University, to Miss McGill from Erskine college and to Miss Cindy Wells, a national merit semi-finalist, to Appalachian State University.

Leslie Hambright and Mike Spears won "I Dare You" awards and the Rotary Club annual scholarship award went to Faye Ramey.

Stan Alexander won the American Legion Auxiliary scholarship and choral awards went to Mary McClain, Frank Summers award; Todd Gatts, Maude Crouse award; and Teresa Turner and Marty

Nicholson, Mrs. J.N. McClure award. The Key Club award went to David Bolton and a Dover Mills scholarship went to Betsy Steinert.

Todd Gatts was honored as the American Legion Outstanding Senior Boy and Senior Play awards went to John Noblitt and Jeff Moss. Ernest Hamrick won the wood-working award and Darrell Austin, Jr. won the athletic all-conference award for golf. Other athletic awards went to Diane Williams and Angie Hickman, girls track; Kevin Mack, Robert Bradley, Jimmy Bradley, Mike Womic, Mirion

White, Sammy Bell, Boys track; Girls Softball, Priscilla Rickenbacker; Boys Tennis, Baron Wilson, Tom Cox, Chris Keeter, Kenny Horne; Mark Schuman, Tim Leach and David Ray Robinson, Baseball. Cosmetology awards went to Lynn Hambright, Beverly Merck, Donna Stroupe and Amber Ramsey.

Tamara Jenkins won the Alpha Kappa Sorority Zeta Mu scholarship, Darryl Friday received the Art purchase prize, David Bolton won the Chuck Gordon Dedication Award and Laura McGinnis won the Schuessler Award.

Board Endorses Renovation

The city commissioners passed a resolution endorsing the remodeling and renovation program planned by Kings Mountain Hospital.

KM Hospital trustees have applied to Farmers Home Administration for a \$4,800,000 loan for the program, according to Grady Howard, administrator.

Howard, who appeared before the board at Thursday's meeting with John L. McGill, trustee president; J.C. Bridges, secretary; and Mark Wilson, hospital controller, said the project will offer expanded areas of operation and better quarters for patients.

Howard said the hospital trustees will meet with the Cleveland County Commissioners June 18 for discussions on the project.

The program is expected to be completed in 1982.

In other action Thursday, the commissioners approved a rezoning request from Foote Mineral on approximately 204 acres south of the city limits. The property, which has been mining operations property for 20 years, was zoned R-20, which is not compatible for the type of use Foote has put the land to. The new zoning designation is H-I (heavy

industry) following Thursday's approval.

The board awarded a rehab contract to Calvin Huffman of KM for \$5,525 and a painting contract to Leonard Miller of KM for \$1,154.48 for the Theodore Bennett home, 412 Bennett St. The total contract was for \$6,679.48.

Reg Alexander, of the rehab program, said this is project number 15 in the program.

Approved changing wording in two paragraphs under life insurance and death benefits for city employees to clarify the fringe benefits mean only "permanent fulltime employees."

Approved mandatory fishing permits for Davidson and City Lakes. The license fees will be announced along with the effective date at the June 11 board meeting.

Approved a change order for Phillips Utilities, Inc. to replace 800 linear feet of sidewalk along Oriental Ave. at a cost of \$9,600, stipulating the job be done within 30 days.

Tabled a request from KM Housing Authority Director Thomas Harper for the city to accept dedication of eight streets, including Barnett Dr., Parish Dr., Thornburg

Dr., Orr Terrace Dr., Harmon Court Dr., McGill Court Dr., N. Tracy St. Ext. and Wilson Terrace Dr.

Authorized advertising for two public hearings on amendment to fourth year Community Development Program and the financial settlement of the Central Business District and Candler St. Urban Renewal Areas.

Authorized advertising for bid for a riding lawn mower for the recreation department.

Henry Dameron To Be Honored On June 28

Cleveland County Agricultural Agent Henry Dameron is retiring June 30th and his friends plan a dinner in his honor June 28th at the Cleveland County Office Building. Barbecue, at \$4 per plate, will be served and tickets will go on sale in this area soon with Jim Yarbro heading up the ticket sales in this area.

Calendar Of Events

A North Carolina Events Calendar for 1980 is being assembled by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, according to Linda King of the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce offices.

Mrs. King said that Kings Mountain citizens and civic organizations are invited to list dates of festivals, fairs, shows, tennis, golf and fishing tournaments, horse shows, etc. for use in a 1980 "Vacation Events" brochure which will be distributed throughout the state next year by the state division of Travel and Tourism.

Deadline for submitting dates to Mrs. King at the local C of C office at KM Community Center is July 1. If exact dates are not known at the time of publication, Mrs. King said that the brochure will list them as early May, late June, etc.

For further information, contact Mrs. King.

Employment Survey Planned By KMOED

The Kings Mountain Economic Development Office is conducting an employment opportunity survey within the Community Development Target area.

The purpose of the survey is to assess employment needs in the area, and assist those living in low and moderate income to find employment, or to find work more suitable to personal job qualifications.

In the next few days residents of the target area will receive survey questionnaires and a return envelope.

"It is of vital importance these questionnaires be filled out accurately and returned as soon as possible," said Jerry King, office director. "If anyone needs assistance in answering the questions, they may contact me or Connie Putnam at the Economic Development Office."

King said local firms may also find benefit in the new Southeastern Trade Adjustment Assistance Program offered.

"This is a government program to help producing companies adjust to business problems caused by import competition," King said.

The program is authorized by the Trade Act of 1974 and is managed by the Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce.

King said the program provides two types of assistance: technical and financial.

"If your firm has been impacted by foreign imports," King said, "and you are interested in this program, contact the Kings Mountain Economic Development Office, 789-5246, or come by the office in the Community Center, Cleveland Ave., for forms and literature."