

Community Development Concept Will Continue

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

For the past several years the thrust of local government has been toward a total community development concept, but without an increase in the tax rate.

The 1979-80 budget proposes the same 65 cents per \$100 rate maintained for the past six years. Mayor John Moss says "essentially the same rate for the past 16 years."

Under the proposed budget operations of the police, fire and sanitation departments will cost \$574,233.46, but the 65 cents tax rate will yield only \$571,837.56, which is \$2,395.90 short. And the three departments are non-revenue producing operations.

Mayor Moss explains the reason for this lies in the city's utilities. "Kings Mountain is able to offer utilities services as most competitive rates and that makes the city a most desirable place for the development of commerce and industry. The city's growth during the past six years has been such we are permitted to maintain the same low tax rate, provide services and at the same time continue improving utilities capacities and capabilities."

And further, the mayor indicates, the 1980-81 budget could possibly see a cut in the 65 cents tax rate.

"Through adequate supplies of water, electrical service and natural gas services we can offer commerce and industry looking for new sites the encouragement they need to settle here," the mayor said. "This helps develop a strong economy, give us a broader tax base and permits the city to keep the tax rate low."

Besides a 10-million gallon per day water treatment facility at Moss Lake, and a five-million gallon waste treatment facility, the city also has three water storage facilities within the city limits that handle another 4.7 million gallons.

As the community development concept continues, so does the updating of water and waste treatment facilities, the natural gas system and the electrical system.

"Also involved is the continued development of the Deal St. and Davidson recreational complexes and the plans for mini-parks in several neighborhoods," the mayor said.

The mayor said the city is also aware of the need for encouraging housing development, particularly private homes priced in the affordable range;

+The need for attention to planning thoroughfares and traffic flow patterns, particularly in view of the construction of the bypass;

+A continued street improvement and community beautification program;

+Plans to broaden the use of the Depot Center and Community center for citizen activities;

+Plans and funding for creating more orderly growth;

+Developing more liberal guidelines for the disposal and use of the redevelopment commission sites, which the city inherits in September.

"The redevelopment commission has done a fine job," the mayor said. "And the city will continue carrying out the programs already committed. But, local governments are

First Reunion

The Golden Anniversary reunion of the Class of '29 of Kings Mountain High School will be held Wed., June 20th, at 6 p.m. at Kings Mountain Motor Inn.

City To Assume KMRC Operations

The City of Kings Mountain will take over all assets and liabilities of the redevelopment commission effective Sept. 1.

Gene White, executive director of the commission, said the city will receive about 11 sites and surplus funds on hand, along with programs in progress.

Under the HUD guidelines the city will be obligated to complete certain portions of the redevelopment project: relocations, demolitions and acquisitions.

White said the assets could go as high as half a million dollars in funds and valuable property. "And even with the city's completion of the ongoing projects, there should still be a surplus on hand."

In public hearings scheduled Mon., June 11 and June 25 David

given more liberal guidelines for property disposal than the ones the commission is forced to operate under. We feel liberalizing the guidelines will give more encouragement in developing the central business district and the Candler St. area."

The mayor said the construction program the city has been under for the past couple of years "should put us in the forefront for the next several decades. We've had to stretch to build adequate facilities from which to serve the people, but now we have a base from which to focus full attention on community improvements."

The command post for this focus is the new Governmental Services Facilities Building (city hall) on Gold and Cherokee Sts. Mayor Moss said occupancy should take place July 14-21.

When the move is made, the present city hall will become the focal point for a proposed Citizens Plaza, which will require improvements along the entire block. This includes improvements to the library and to the property adjacent to city hall. The mayor said work continues toward finding and securing funding from various sources to renovate the present city hall for use by the police department and for the continued improvements to all city utilities systems.

"We have the basic necessities to build upon," Mayor Moss said, "so I look forward to the 1980s as a time when we can see even more quality development within our city."

After the first of next year the mayor said he will propose a series of public meetings for citizen input on a priority program of development. He said to aid the governing body in making these decisions also, there will be a community bulletin board and suggestion box placed at a public site for citizen use.

Holmes, consultant, will be on hand with White to explain in detail how much money is on hand and how much property will be handed over to the city as well as the remaining work to be completed.

White said HUD will hand down different guidelines to the city, the ones the redevelopment commission must follow in disposing of the various sites acquired.

And, White said, although the commission, as such, will be dissolved, the board of directors for the commission will remain intact to help administrate the remaining projects.

The Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission began operations July 20, 1967. Work began in the central business district in July 1970 and in the Candler St. project in December 1972.

Evening Programs Continue In Park

Evening programs will continue on Friday and Saturday evenings in the Kings Mountain National Military Park amphitheater.

On Fri., June 8, at 9 p.m. the film "Wilderness 1776" will be presented.

Much has been written, told, and filmed about American history as it was directly influenced by the War for Independence, but little has been done with other areas of the present-day United States of that same period. This film gives a view of people and customs in other parts of the United States - areas such as the Southwest, Hawaii, and Alaska.

The film will be introduced by Brock Addington, a 1978 graduate of UNCC with a major in geography. Brock is in his second season at the park. He resides in Dallas.

On Sat., June 9 at 9 p.m. the film "Age of Alaska" will be shown.

This is an excellent example of the vastness and beauty of Alaska and stresses the need for conservation and preservation of much of this "last frontier" by various governmental agencies. It will be introduced by Wes Naron of Kings Mountain, a rising Junior at UNC-Chapel Hill majoring in psychology and Radio, Television, and Motion Picture Broadcasting.

In case of inclement weather the films will be shown inside the Visitor Center auditorium.

The park Living History program will also be presented on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, weather permitting, with musket and rifle firing demonstrations at 1, 2, 3, and 4 p.m.

The public is invited to all programs. There are no admission fees.



Photo by I.G. Alexander

RAINBOW OFFICERS—Pictured are new officers of Kings Mountain Assembly Order of Rainbow for Girls following their installation May 28th, at Masonic Hall by Installing Worthy Advisor Kim Whisnant, assisted by Sandy Greene as marshal and Mrs. Ellen McCurdy as musician. Yvette Roberts, KMSHS senior, was installed as Worthy Advisor. She is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Roberts. Lynn Peeler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shuford Peeler, was installed as Associate Ad-

visor. Front row, from left, Janet Reavis, Donna Caveny, Kim Whisnant, Yvette Roberts, Sandy Green, Dawn Bowen, Sonya Taylor. Second row, Bonnie Sheffield, Joan Ballard, Gaye Caveny, Marti Clemmer, Julie Phifer, Lynn Peeler, Laura Bumgardner, Nelda Fisher, Wendy Smith. Back row, Mrs. Peggy Ford, Mrs. W.L. McMackin, Mrs. Paul Walker and Mrs. Ellen McCurdy.

Bloodmobile Here Monday

The Cleveland County chapter of Kings Mountain Jaycees announce a Bloodmobile scheduled for Monday, June 11.

Donors will be processed at First Baptist Church on West King Street from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Be a Lifesaver—Support The Bloodmobile!," said a Jaycee spokesman.



EDITOR'S AWARD—Vonda Foster, daughter of Bill and Brenda Foster, receives the Editor's trophy as Editor-in-Chief of the KMJH newspaper, "Patrick Henry Hydrant", for the 1978-79 school year from faculty sponsor Richard Hamrick.



MOST VALUABLE STAFFER—Bonnie Sheffield, KM Junior High ninth grader, receives the Most Valuable Newspaper Staff Member Award from Richard Hamrick, faculty sponsor for the Patrick Henry Hydrant, KMJH student newspaper. Miss Sheffield is daughter of Paul and Myra Sheffield of Kings Mountain.

Ray Holmes Elected LT President

Ray Holmes, veteran Kings Mountain Little Theatre member and performer, has been elected president of Kings Mountain Little Theatre for the coming year.

Other new officers are Jim Champion, vice-president; Vivian Duncan, secretary; and Joe Ann (Boots) McDaniel, treasurer. New members of the board of directors are Jim Potter, Mary Hoyle, John Grant, Mary Neisler, Reg Alexander and Lisa Whitfield.

The Little Theatre is planning an active season with regular monthly meetings at Park Grace Auditorium on the first Thursday of each month. The first of these meetings will be Thurs., June 7th, at 8 p.m. and the community is invited to participate, said a spokesman.

Hydrant Awards Presented

The second annual Patrick Henry Hydrant Awards Day at Kings Mountain Junior High was highlighted by presentation of the Most Valuable staffer award to Bonnie Sheffield and the Editor-in-Chief trophy to Vonda Foster.

Forty parents of staff members, in addition to other family members, attended the awards program at Kings Mountain Junior High.

Lee Neisler gave the welcome address and faculty sponsor Richard Hamrick presented certificates to all staff members, including Vonda Foster, Heather Crowley, Bonnie Sheffield, Richie Land, Lee Neisler, Laura Herndon, Janet Blair, Bob Smith III, Lisa White, Daune Brazzell, Robyn Ramsey, Lisa Greene and Angie McKinney.

After the awards presentations, Editor Foster spoke of the accomplishments of the staff and expressed her appreciation for the hard work in publishing five editions of "The Hydrant", including a 28 page special edition entitled, "The KMJH Hydrant Remembers 1979"



CAREN STREETMAN

Ms. Streetman Ed. Assistant At CUM Church

Caren Colene Streetman, rising senior at UNC-G where she is a music education major, joined the staff of Central United Methodist Church Monday as educational assistant.

Miss Streetman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Streetman of Charlotte, will be in charge of youth programs for the summer months, will deliver children's sermons on Sunday and lead new summer activities for children.

Miss Streetman, 21, is a member of Belmont Park United Methodist Church. Her family also includes a 15-year-old sister, Charlotte. In Kings Mountain she is residing with Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Plonk on Downing Street.

A piano student for 13 years, she also enjoys singing, playing guitar, writing, swimming, dancing and crafts. She likes working with youth and children and plans to study for a minister of music degree at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.