

20¢ HIGHLIGHTS 20¢

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Town Board reviews 1977-1978 audit

Cleve Street is subject of controversy

Complaints about the condition of the street leading to the home of Chester Elks were heard by the Vanceboro Board of Aldermen at their regular meeting Monday night, March 5th. Elks complained that the street was in very bad condition and almost impassable. He requested that the Board do something to correct the situation. Mayor Jimmie Morris explained that the street in question runs on private land not owned by the Town of Vanceboro and so the Town of Vanceboro is not required to maintain it. Morris added that Powell Bill money must be used to maintain existing streets owned by the town. He said that the town could not pave new streets unless the street was owned by the town. When the street was surveyed, an error was made which placed the street on the wrong property. The error has never been corrected. According to Morris, the surveyor had been contacted and had

agreed to correct the street layout. Morris explained that no improvement to the street can be made until the proper papers are signed which require the correct surveyor's measurements. Since town records do not show a street there, town water lines were not run to Elks' home. However, easements were obtained allowing sewer lines to be run back to Elks' home. Morris explained that as soon as the proper papers are signed work could begin on improving the street in question.

Morris announced that a Housing Authority had expressed interest in putting thirty-six housing units for the elderly in Vanceboro. Details at present are sketchy, Morris explained, indicating that more would be known by the next meeting.

The hiring of an employee to help out at the Waste Treatment Plant was discussed. Sanitation Director Earl Lewis explained that the employee

should be qualified to handle most any of the jobs at the plant and be able to work possibly seven days a week. Alderman Alton Whitley commented that it would be a good idea to try to get a person living in the Vanceboro area if possible.

Mr. Edmund T. Knott presented the board with the Report on Audit for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1977 through June 30, 1978 as prepared by Armstrong, Brinkley, Elam, and Knott, P.A., Certified Public Accountants. The Audit showed that the Town of Vanceboro had total revenues of over \$109,119.00. Thirty-eight per cent of this came from Vanceboro's ad valorem or property taxes including late penalties. About 37% of the Town's income came from the State of North Carolina. Under expenditures, forty-three per cent of the \$109,458.00 or \$46,769.65 was spent for Public Works which includes street repairs and sanitation. About 22% or about \$25,000 went for Pub-



STILL THERE—One month after the Vanceboro Board of Alderman ordered Elmer Leary to move one of his two mobile homes located on his lot on Buck Lane. The mobile homes were judged to be not in compliance with the Vanceboro Zoning ordinances. Mayor Jimmie Morris reported to the Board of Alderman that the matter had been turned over to the town attorney. [Photo by Rick Cannon]

lic Safety compared to a little over \$12,000 during the previous fiscal year. General Governmental expenditures totaled \$38,214.09 or around thirty-five per cent of the total expenditure. The Town of Vance-

boro spent over \$44,000 in General Governmental expenditures during the prior fiscal year. For a more complete explanation of the Town of Vanceboro Audit see next week's Highlights. A copy of the Audit is

available for public inspection at the Vanceboro Town Hall.

Good quality beef has red, porous bones; veal bones are soft and very red.

Sheriff's Department to get new vehicles

By Connie Bryan

Craven County Sheriff Pete Bland presented a request for the purchase of 8 vehicles to the County Board of Commissioners at a meeting of the board on Monday, March 5. Sheriff

Bland explained that four of these vehicles would be used to replace old cars that have over 100,000 miles on them. The other four would provide additional protection for the coun-

ty and would bring the total to 16 vehicles. Sheriff Bland also pointed out to the board that larger size cars might be better in the long run, because they require less maintenance.

During the discussion on the size of the new cars, Commissioner George Nelson stated that he would like to see figures on the operating expenses, including repair cost and gas, for both the compact cars and the larger cars. The board moved to ask for bids for both sizes of cars.

In other business, the board heard a request from George Sawyer, Director of the Craven County Recreation Department, for a transfer of funds. Sawyer reported that \$2,500 were needed, \$1,500 for the Brinson Memorial Lighted Field and \$1,000 to complete the wiring at the Dover lighted field. The board approved the transfer. They also gave Sawyer permission to use the Bicentennial park for soccer practice.

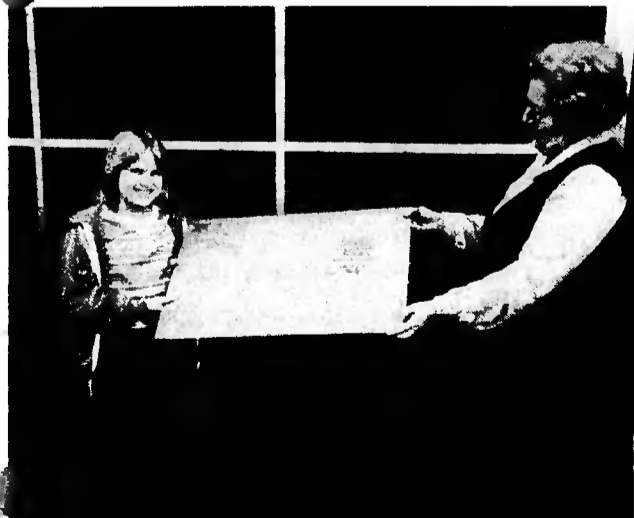
In another budget amendment, the board approved the request of Jane Stephenson, Director of the Craven County Department of Social Services, for the transfer of \$70,000 to the Medicaid funds. When asked if this relected a possible increase in funds needed for this program, she replied that after preparing a tentative budget for next

year she estimated the Medicaid cost for the county could increase 82%. She cited the rising cost of medical care as the reason behind this dramatic climb.

In other business the board approved the plans of the Craven County and New Bern City School Boards for merger of the two systems. The plan will now be sent to the State

Board of Education for approval.

The board also voted to interview applicants for County Manager, which will be the new title for the County Auditor. Wilbur Williamson, who is currently County Auditor, will retire on June 30.



VANCEBORO'S LARGEST VALENTINE—Miss Frankie Moore, [left] daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Frank R. Moore, received the largest Valentine to ever come through the Vanceboro Post Office. The Valentine was delivered by Mrs. Virginia Cleve [right]. The card measures 51 by 27 inches and was sent by Frankie's sister, Miss Lou Anne Moore of St. Pauls, N.C. Frankie said that she "will always treasure the card."

Transportation Board to select U.S. 264 Route

The North Carolina Board of Transportation, in its meeting Friday, March 9, is expected to select a corridor for US-264 from Wilson to Greenville. The meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the board room of the Highway Building in Raleigh.

Secretary of Transportation Tom Bradshaw said, "US-264, as well as US-64,

are very critical and vital routes in tying our state together with a modern transportation system. We will continue to place a strong emphasis on improving these east/west highways to complement Governor Jim Hunt's balanced growth and economic development policy."

Plans to improve the 28 miles of US-264 are inclu-

ded in the state's 1979-1985 Transportation Improvement Program. Right-of-way acquisition is scheduled for fiscal year 1980 and construction is expected to begin in fiscal year 1982.