

Money Holds Up Town, Not Traffic

By JON DOUGHERTY
City Editor

"Show us the money."
Carrboro town attorney Michael Brough's comment during Tuesday's Board of Aldermen meeting may have been in jest, but the sentiment carried the evening.
Of the issues brought to the board's attention, everything from communication towers to speed bumps to infill regulations, all of the discussions included consideration of money.
Besieged by budget cuts and shortfalls, the state and local governments have all tightened their belts, and the Board of Aldermen members had no problem reminding their constituents of this fact.
"We can kick in for a \$50 stop sign but not a \$1,500 speed bump," Mayor Mike Nelson said in reference to Williams Wood and Wexford residents asking for traffic calming devices in their neighborhoods.
"We just don't have any money."
Stephanie Padilla of 103 Autumn Drive said the board doesn't have the luxury of claiming financial difficulty.
"You built the straight roads there, now you have to find ways to control the speeds. Sorry," she said.
To combat the lack of funds for traffic calming improvements, the board debated the merits of allowing the residents to help fund the effort to slow the traffic in the neighborhoods.
Alderman Joal Brown said she is philosophically opposed to the idea.

"I feel that this will lead to a favoring of the rich," she said. "I am against asking people to pay from their own pockets for government services."
Alderman Jacquelyn Gist took the opposite stance.
"I don't think this will favor the rich. In fact, I think it will benefit the poorer neighborhoods," she said. "If some neighborhoods can help fund their own projects, it will leave us with more funds with which to improve other neighborhoods."
The residents' main area for concern is a playground located along Wyndham Drive. The only sidewalk along the road is on the opposite side of the playground, forcing children walking along the sidewalk to cross the road, which has no crosswalk, to reach the park.
Alderman Alex Zaffron said he understands the residents' concern with the playground area.
"I was out there one day and saw two cars driven by teenagers playing tag along the road," Zaffron said. "I would encourage the (Carrboro police chief) to conduct 'stealthy patrols' in the area around the time the high schoolers are getting out of class."
After over an hour of discussion, the board decided to approve the installation of a four-way stop sign at the corner of Wyndham Drive and Tramore Road while directing the Transportation Advisory Board to take the next year to look into alternative calming methods.
The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

Town Moves Ahead With Ordinance

By CHARLES FYLE
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Town Council met for its third and final meeting of review and discussion about the proposed development ordinance Monday.
The council's first two review and discussion meetings of the development ordinance were held March 18 and April 15. They focused on articles one through five.
Monday night's meeting concentrated on articles six through nine and a lengthy appendix of definitions.
"We have to finish this document in definition and preciseness," said Mayor Kevin Foy. "On June 10, we put it into the hands of the consultant."
The consultant is Mark White, a UNC graduate and Kansas City attorney who helps handle town legal issues.
White will be responsible for making any final revisions to the ordinance up until the Sept. 18 deadline.
However, Chapel Hill Planning Director Roger Waldon said some concerns regarding simple definitions of

regulations were still left unsettled.
"Local service stations have literal archaic definitions in Chapel Hill. We have the same definitions of them that were written over 20 years ago," he said. "At that time, these were places to get gas, your tires changed and your engine tuned. Now they're all convenience stores."
On a related note, Foy detailed specific changes in the works for regulating the size of service stations located north of Estes Drive. "We would like to go from a 20,000 square foot code allowance to 10,000," Foy said. "Yes, we are looking to downsize these facilities dramatically. This is a small town."
In addition to talks about downsizing, the council discussed local active streams in Chapel Hill and their designation in relation to the town's overall stormwater management approach.
"They should be all identified as either intermittent or perennial and have consistent standards applied to them," Foy said.
The council also brought up a set of stormwater regulations modeled after neighboring governments' legislation.

"Chapel Hill should adopt regulations equivalent to the Carrboro or Durham rules," Foy said. "The criteria for watersheds of less than 50 acres used by Carrboro should be considered."
Each council meeting on the development ordinance was followed by a public question-and-answer session, which took place the evening after each meeting. Residents were given the chance to ask any relevant questions regarding the previous night's discussion on the ordinance.
The first draft of the development ordinance was prepared in spring 2001. Reviewed by citizens and the advisory board, a public hearing then pushed it to the door of the Town Council and ultimately led to its decision to invest additional time on the draft.
In the earlier stages of getting the draft off the ground Foy commented, "The development ordinance is the written guide for what ultimately becomes the physical environment of the town."
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The University and Towns IN BRIEF

UNC Speech Writer Succumbs to Illness

Elizabeth Loveless Lucas, a graduate of the UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication who worked in the Office of the Chancellor, died May 19 of complications resulting from acute myeloid leukemia.
She was 38.
Lucas graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in journalism. While a student, she was a reporter and editor for The Daily Tar Heel.
She served the University for 13 years, first as academic affairs editor at UNC News Services then as a speechwriter for three chancellors. Before coming to the University she was a reporter for local papers.

Raleigh Street Closed For Renovations

The UNC Department of Public Safety announced that the portion of Raleigh Street between Franklin Street and South Road will be closed from May 21 to Aug. 16.
Also, the traffic patterns on Country Club Road between Raleigh Street and Battle Lane will be altered.
The road closings are part of an ongoing construction project to replace the hot water pipes to North Campus residence halls.

Dean of Education School to Step Down

Madeleine Grumet, dean of the School of Education, announced that she will step down from her position at the end of her five-year term in June 2003.
Provost Robert Shelton said he will begin the search for a new dean after he collects input from faculty in the education school.
He said he hopes to have a new dean in place by next summer so that the school does not experience a gap in leadership.

CAPS to Make Move To Craige for Summer

Counseling and Psychological Service at UNC-Chapel Hill will temporarily relocate for the summer of 2002 while renovations are made to the department's regular location.
CAPS staff will move into temporary offices in Craige Residence Hall on South Campus during the week of May 20.
They will return to their normal offices on the third floor of the Student Health Services Building during the week of August 12.
The CAPS phone number, 966-3658, and office hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, will remain the same.

Student Affairs Includes TAs in Barbecue

By MEREDITH NICHOLSON
University Editor

About 50 teaching assistants joined a Division of Student Affairs barbecue Friday after their annual barbecue had to be canceled.
The outgoing student government administration is responsible for hosting the annual event honoring TAs, but lack of planning by former Student Body President Justin Young's administration left TAs without a barbecue for the first time since it was instituted in 1998.
Many TAs were disappointed the picnic was not going to be held this year because it is seen as a sign of thanks from undergraduates, said Branson

Page, president of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation.
"(Support) coming from undergraduates - the people who benefit the most from TAs - I think that's important," he said.
Rebecca Williford, student body secretary, said the new executive branch officials tried to organize a barbecue when it became apparent that the previous administration was not going to be able to sponsor one.
But she said the officers were unable to put together a barbecue on short notice and that she was grateful when someone from student affairs approached her and asked if they would like to include the TAs in the division's

picnic.
Sue Kitchen, dean of student affairs, said she decided to include TAs in a picnic her office was planning after reading that their annual barbecue had to be canceled. "It just seemed like a natural thing to do - to enlarge the event to include TAs," she said.
Page said he was grateful to Kitchen and Chimi Boyd, assistant director of the Campus Y, for including TAs in the barbecue. He said it was a symbol of recognition and appreciation from the administration.
Page said that although classes were already over, many TAs were still in town and able to attend the barbecue.
Williford, who spoke briefly at the picnic to thank the TAs for all their hard work, said at least 50 TAs were in attendance.
"I was so happy that so many people come at the last minute," she said.
Williford said the barbecue is an important tradition that gives students a chance to thank the TAs. "We need to make sure that all their hard work does not go unnoticed."
Williford said the Human Relations Committee of the executive branch, the group responsible for organizing the TA barbecue, has already begun making plans for next year's festivities.
"This is just our way of saying, 'Thanks, we made it through.'"
The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

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