

NEWS

Chapel Hill Town Council

Council could increase budget by \$1 million

By LOU ANN JONES

The proposed Chapel Hill budget for fiscal year 1981-1982 has expanded by almost \$1,000,000 and will provide for the same services as last year despite President Ronald Reagan's proposed budget cuts for the nation.

"By and large, we will continue on the same level of services of the town government which were provided this past year," council member Joe Herzenberg said.

The budget of \$14.7 million, up from \$13.9 million last year, is expected to be adopted, June 29 at the next town council meeting, Herzenberg said.

"We have increased in revenue by \$900,000, half of which comes from property taxes, council member Joe Straley said. We're asking for \$60,000 from the citizens. I don't think that's enough to get excited about.

"The bottom line is that it's (the budget) not much different from last fiscal year."

Straley said the council had been under pressure from the taxpayers during budget planning.

"The reason for concern by the public comes from the 'cut-the-budget' fever from Washington, and the re-evalua-

tion of Chapel Hill property," Straley said.

One area of the budget which directly affects UNC students is transportation.

"The Transportation budget is a difficult budget, especially during a re-evaluation year," said Rosemary Waldorf, secretary to the mayor. "Several council members have been interested in decreasing the appropriations proposed by the town manager."

"Basically, the council is going along with the town manager's recommendations, modified by the Department of Transportation," Herzenberg said.

Herzenberg said the council went along with the following service cuts and improvements from DOT: rerouting the A route; eliminating the K route; increasing the service on the D and G routes during the midday period; and changing the service on the F/L evening route, by extending service hours from 10 p.m. to midnight.

In other action, the council adopted fare and pass price increases.

DOT Board member Gerry Cohen said the cash fare for all Chapel Hill Transit routes would increase from 35 cents to 40 cents beginning July 1, 1981. The exceptions are cash

fares for the S and U routes, which will remain at 20 cents. Cash fares for senior citizens and children under six also will remain at 20 cents.

In addition, all bus pass prices will increase by 14 percent. The price of a basic pass for the entire academic year will increase from \$79 to \$90. This amount is charged to the University by the town, and is offered at a discount to UNC students, faculty, and staff.

Herzenberg said the council voted 7-2 to adopt the cash fare changes, and all service changes would be effective August 15, when the academic year begins.

In addition, the budget if passed Monday would allot \$25,000 to voluntary organizations.

"As usual, the council had requests for small grants from voluntary groups, mainly in the area of social work," Herzenberg said. Most members agreed to grant money to the groups, which include the Rape Crisis Center, Women's Health Organizations Services, the Battered Women Caucus, North State Legal Services and the Dispute Settlement Center, he said.

"Some of the groups have received money from the town in the past; some have not," Herzenberg said.

Council chooses UNC sophomore to fill transportation board vacancy

By SONJA PAYTON

The Chapel Hill Town Council chose sophomore Sally Hadden and four others to fill five vacant seats on the town's transportation board Monday night.

Hadden, an English major from Wilmington, will complete two years of a three-year term held by L. Warren Collier, who graduated from UNC last May. Hadden will also serve as Student Government's transportation director on the chancellor's advisory committee for transportation.

The transportation board members view University students as temporary citizens only, and tend to disregard student interest, Hadden said.

"They take a lot of what students say with a pinch of salt."

Students often have good ideas that should be presented to the board, she said.

In other action, the council approved the proposed bus fare prices for the 1981-82 fiscal year which will go into effect July 1, (see related story page 4).

Town Attorney Emery Denny also advised the council to delay a vote on the Orange County Women's Center's petition requesting space in the police building. The council first must determine that the building would not be needed for municipal purposes, he said.



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