Spring Creek School To Remain Open Next Year

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renovations at Hot Springs Elementary School before Spring Creek students will be transported there for classes, Baker said.

"It will be impossible to attempt to comply with state requirements and make the necessary improvements at Hot Springs which are part of our plans by the coming fall," he said. "I can tell you that when we submit

our budget, we will be appropriating funds for all schools in Madison County," he said.

'Amen," said one Spring Creek resident at the meeting.

"I'm glad we've made somebody happy," Baker said.

facilities plan also calls for the eventual closing of Laurel Elementary, Walnut Elementary, Marshall schools, and the construction of new year. K-5 and 6-8 facilities.

million to Madison County in "critical needs money." School officials say that money will be used to build the new middle school, and they are studying options - including a possible bond issue -- to pay for the consolidated elementary school and other construction and repair pro-

In a related matter, Bill Barutio of

County Board of Commissioners for funds to bring Spring Creek School up to state standards, assuming the Elementary and Marshall Primary school will be open in the coming

5-5 and 6-8 facilities.

Barutio, a member of the Spring
The state last month awarded \$5.5 Creek School Foundation, has been a vocal spokesman for residents wanting to see Spring Creek School remain open. He spoke the county commissioners before Baker made the announcement concerning Spring

Barutio told commissioners that the school needs some repair in order to meet state school building standards and fire codes.

repairs need to be made to protect the children of Spring Creek while they're attending that school," he

Under state law, it is the responsibility of county government to see that public school facilities are maintained, he said

The commissioners agreed to look into Barutio's concerns.

In other action at Monday's school board meeting, the Rev. Stanley Peek of Beech Glen Baptist Church asked for the board's help in solving a property problem.

A recent survey revealed that about two-tenths of an acre of land

"If it does operate next year, these previously thought to belong to the church is actually part of the old bildren of Spring Creek while Beech Glen School property. Peek

he church has used and maintained that property as a churchyard since 1934, he said.

"Do you desire to purchase the pro-

"We'll take it as a gift," Peek

Baker told Peek that the property may belong to Madison County government, which has used the school as a day care and community

The board agreed to ask attorney Forrest Ball to investigate the mat-

"Hmm," Capps responded, then asking Steen for further explanation.

Capps asked DSS director Anita

Davie if anyone had pressured her to

recommend Maney for the most re-

After the meeting, Steen said he did

"It is my benef through reliable

sources that the chairman by conver-

sations had requested the director to

hire Chris Maney," Steen said. "This

He would not say who his "source"

In other action, the commissioners:

· Agreed to set June 27 as the date

for a public hearing on the proposed

county budget for the 1988-89 fiscal

year. The hearing will be held at 1

p.m. That day will also serve as the

commissioners' regular July meeting

date. The board usually meets on the

first Monday of the month, but in July

that falls on Independence Day.

has happened before."

not object to the hiring of Maney, but

rather to the way the county is hiring

"No comment," Steen said.

cent vacancy. She answered no.

employees.

'I don't think any of us would be in objection to your continued use of the property, especially in view of your continued use of the property for 34 years," he said.

The board also agreed to check on the number of students who would articipate in extracurricular activities if the school system provided

some type of transportation.

The board took that action in response to a letter from a parent in the Laurel area who complained that students who live far from Madison High School are not likely to participate in sports or other acitivities.

The school system used to provide transportation for those students, but stopped the practice when participation in the program dropped, said Superintendent Robert Edwards.

"What we're hearing now is that participation is back up," Baker said. 'Let's document a need and let's act on it."

The board also learned from the N.C. Attorney General's Office that school systems do not have the authority to shorten the school day. That finding came after school officials already agreed to shorten the last three days of the year for final

In other action, the school board:

· Heard a presentation from Anita Davie, director of the Madison County Department of Social Services, and Linda Payne, social worker, on the Community Work Expansion Program (CWEP), or workfare. The board took no action on a proposal that the school system use program participants to have work done around the schools.

· Accepted the resignations of Liston Rice, Madison High School custodian, and Frankie Thomas, Mars Hill lunchroom worker.

· Approved \$5,895 in budget amendments for the school system's Title I programs and \$12,500 in budget amendments for the schools' food ser-

Firm To Locate In County Industrial Park

-Continued from Page 1

he saw this as being for the betterment of Madison County.

By locating at the industrial park, Morlin will be able to consolidate warehouses now in operation in Madison, Buncombe and Transylvania counties.

Under an agreement between the county and Morlin, prepared by county attorney Larry Leake, Morlin will pay \$16,500 to the county for the

Leake suggested that the deed to Morlin include the following provi-

· That the use of the property be restricted to the stated use.

. That within six months of the sale. construction of a building of at least a 5,000-square foot building be under

. That within two years the company employ at least 30 people.

. That Madison County will have

the right to acquire the property back from Morlin if those provisions are not met.

Morlin was also looking at property in Buncombe County, but decided to locate operations in Madison, Ponder

In other action at Monday's meeting, the commissioners agreed to hire Chris Maney as an eligibility specialist for the Department of

The hiring came on a 2-0 vote, with Commissioner Reese abstaining because of "certain reservations about the process of hiring."

That prompted a short debate between Steen and board Chairman Robert Capps.

"What's wrong with the process," Capps asked.

"I think there is too much influence from commissioners being brought to bear on department heads to hire certain people," Steen said.

Hot Springs Asks For Water Conservation Hot Springs Day Care Center.

Continued from Page 1

watershed extends into that area. Harp said he considers the

chemical to be safe, and he told the board that he would not be using the chemical within 1,000 feet of any water source.

But the town board said they would not approve the use of the chemical in the watershed until they could consult pact of the chemicals.

The board also called a special meeting for 7:30 p.m. Monday to discuss the budget for the 1988-89

Town Clerk Lillian Whitten told the board she has found several inconsistencies in the recent property revaluation conducted by Madison County government.

While some residents' property tax values doubled or tripled after the revaluation, some remained the same and some actually fell, Whitten

This inconsistency means that the impact of the revaluation on Hot Springs' property tax base has not been as great as expected, she said.

The town is now faced with having to lower its tax rate to keep pace with

20 North Main

Weaverville

while receiving less tax revenue and zone. less funding from other sources, she

Town officials say they feel this is

due to a walk-in gate located adjecent The board also discussed a traffic to Jackson Avenue. The board agreed problem on Jackson Avenue. The pro- to investigate the possibility of blem occurs every baseball season eliminating that gate and installing a when motorists park in a no-parking new one near the parking lot at the

Alderman Ruth Smith presented the board with completed brochures which picture views of 16 historic sites in Hot Springs. The brochures were a project of the town's Tourism

the watershed until they could consult other sources about the possible im- Weaverville Annexation Case In Court

Club requested that only 189 homesites be annexed, while an 18-hole golf course and other property remain outside town limits.

State annexation law requires that all portions of a subdivision be included in an annexation.

Attorneys for the town and developers have argued that the golf course is a separate entity from the residential development while Bennett has argued that the entire tract of property owned by Kenmure has already been subdivided.

State law prohibits a town from annexing more than 10 percent of its existing municipal acreage. Developers say they intend to ask the General Assembly this summer to allow other municipalities in the county. Weaverville to be exempt from that

1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday

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Plaintiffs in the lawsuit - Joe and Ann Joyner, Juanita Proffitt, Mary Traxler, Lawrence Sprinkle Jr. and David Bell - have asked that the court grant an order restraining the town from annexing the Reems Creek

development until after the lawsuit is settled.

Town officials say they hope that Lewis will rule on the lawsuit before annexation is scheduled to take effect

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The date for the tournament is June 18 (June 19 rain date) at the Wolf Laurel Golf Course. Cost is \$50 per player, \$25 for non-golfers, For reservations, call Bill

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