

Business community resents outside interference . . .

# Town officials, school board oppose postponement of access road project

Acting on its own initiative and noting widespread community dissatisfaction with a recent decision to postpone indefinitely the construction of a previously approved new \$400,000 access road and bridge into Hillsboro, the town board Tuesday night approved a resolution calling upon the Governor to take necessary action to begin work on the project without delay.

A companion action was taken by the county school board.

The highway department revealed last week the project, which had been scheduled last month for contract letting, had been postponed indefinitely at the suggestion of the Governor, who said he had acted at the behest of highly placed individuals in foundations interested in possible restoration projects involving historic Hillsborough.

The governor, in conversation with a delegation from

Hillsboro, mentioned Gordon Gray, head of the National Trust, as among those who had contacted him with reference to the postponement and named Mrs. Alfred Engstrom as the local person who had instigated the outside interference.

**Surprise**  
The postponement action, which came as a surprise to local people who knew of the project's approval following a public hearing last year, has

aroused widespread resentment here in the business community.

According to many, continued disapproval of the project very seriously threatens the possibility of any effective action in the future by the burgeoning Historical Society or the soon-to-be-appointed Historic Hillsborough Commission in the realm of restoration and preservation. A majority of the town board, in no uncertain terms, has stated there will be no town zoning unless the opposition of historical interests to the access road is lifted and this fact communicated to the governor. The vote in favor of the resolution was 4 to 1, with only

Commissioner Robert Murphy disapproving the action.

**Restoration aid**

The resolution, supporting the access, cited the public hearing and previous support of the county commissioners, noted that the restoration interest had been considered and that the proposed improvement would do no damage to this effort, but, indeed, would enhance it.

The County Board of Education, in its action, reiterated its approval of the original access road coming into Hillsboro and voiced its opposition to a proposed Highway 86 bypass as planned "because it runs through school property."

To begin preliminary plans . . .

# Housing Authority gets \$12,000 loan

A \$12,000 loan from the Public Housing Administration will enable the Chapel Hill Housing Authority to begin preliminary planning on its program for 60 new low-rent homes, Commissioner Marie C. McGuire announced Saturday.

The planning funds will be made available under a preliminary loan contract with the housing authority. This will be the first local-federal contract for these new dwellings and is based on a locally approved application from the housing authority.

The Housing and Home Finance Agency authorized execution of the preliminary loan contract with the housing authority

as required by law. This will not be an annual contribution contract, but a planning loan agreement that will, in all likelihood, lead to such a contract.

Upon completion of preliminary planning of the low-rent housing, the local housing authority will prepare a development program covering such details as site, sketch plans and estimated development cost of the new housing. This program must be approved by PHA, and upon authorization by the HHFA Administrator, will serve as the basis for an annual contributions contract between PHA and the housing authority.

# Hillsboro sets tentative tax rate, enlarges police dept.

Hillsboro's new town board was sworn in Monday night and returned for its first official meeting Tuesday, when a wide range of important decisions awaited.

They included:  
Accepting from three cooperating agencies, Cone Mills, the W. L. Barrell Co. and the County School Board, their offer to turn over the sewer and pumping stations to be constructed with their funds during the current sewage improvement program;

Setting a tentative tax rate for the next fiscal year at \$1.00 per \$100 valuation, the same as the past year;

The election of Frank H. Walker to continue as Mayor Pro-

tem.  
The hiring of a third full time policeman and the elimination of the position of part-time weekend officer, now held by Fred Boone. The town's police force will now work regular 8-hour shifts around the clock and have every third weekend off. The board approved the hiring of Larry Talbert, 23, of Hillsboro at \$3,000 per year for the new post. He is currently a guard at the county prison camp and was well recommended by law enforcement agencies to the board.

The presentation for further study a tentative budget for the next fiscal year upon the estimated revenue of \$41,450.

According to a formula already agreed upon, Cone, the Belle Vue owners and the county school will pay \$17,529.30 as their share of the \$240,000 the pumping station and force main in sewer improvement program. Upon completion this and other lines constructed by the three participants, including \$4,854.00 in new 10-inch lines by Cone, will revert to the town. The pump station and appurtenances will cost Cone under the agreed formula, \$2,124.18, the Barrell company \$5,837.26 and the schools \$3,505.66.

# School board asks bill for popular election of its membership

The county Board of Education Monday asked Representative L. J. Phipps to introduce legislation for direct election of its members by popular vote.

Earlier, it heard a plea for this action from Carrington Phillips of Chapel Hill, chairman of the county Republican Executive Committee.

Rep. Phipps in discussion of the proposal told the board he would introduce such a bill, if requested, but had heard no groundswell of opinion in favor of it.

Under current procedure, the school board members are nominated in party primaries and then appointed by the legislature upon certification of the county's legislative delegation. In its request to Phipps, the

school board also asked that the local bill include provisions for:

- (1) Six year staggered terms as now provided in a special local act;
- (2) Present members to continue in office until their present terms expire as follows: Delmar Brown, Dec. 1, 1964; Charles W. Stanford and Charles W. Walker, Dec. 1, 1965; and John E. Hawkins and John L. Efland Jr., Dec. 1, 1968; and thereafter their successors shall take office on the first Monday in December following their election;
- (3) Not more than two members shall be elected or hold office from any one township; and
- (4) Vacancies which occur be

# Bill would make Umstead life member of board

A bill making former State Rep. John W. Umstead of Orange County a member of the State Hospitals Board of Control for life and its chairman as long as his health permits was introduced and passed in the House Monday night.

Rep. George Uzzell of Rowan sponsored the bill which would also make Umstead chairman emeritus of the hospitals board for life when he steps down as its active chairman.

Umstead was forced to resign from the General Assembly near the start of the present session because of ill health. However, he has remained a member and chairman of the hospitals board.

Uzzell told the House "if anybody deserves this honor it is John Umstead"

# Suits seek tax recovery on stipends

Two Chapel Hill couples have filed suits in which they ask refunds of taxes they claim the government collected in error on money they received under graduate research assistantships.

The two suits were filed Monday in U. S. Middle District Court in Greensboro. One was entered by Robert S. and Julia M. Snyder, and the other was filed by Thomas A. and Elizabeth B. Parnell. A total of \$2,302.42 is sought.

Snyder and Parnell received "monthly stipends" under the assistantships while working toward Ph.D. degrees in physics at the University of North Carolina, the suits said. Refunds are sought on taxes collected on the stipends for 1959, 1960 and 1961.

According to each suit, the type of stipends received by the students is exempt from such taxation.

The Snyders seek a refund of \$1,095.66, and the Parnells ask the return of \$1,706.76.

## HIGH SCHOOL

# BASEBALL + ON THE AIR!

WCHL WILL BROADCAST LIVE  
THE BATTLE OF THE DISTRICT CHAMPS

### Friday, 3:30 P.M. — Carrboro Lions Park

## Chapel Hill Vs. Sanford

(Dist. III Champs) (Dist. IV Champs)

Behind the Mike: Jim Heavner and Bill Walker

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★ Mebane Lumber Co.

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