

On basis of \$817,000 budget proposal . . .

# 10c tax hike in Chapel Hill budget seen for current year

A ten-cent increase of the property tax rate to a new total of \$1.20 per \$100 property valuation is provided in the Town of Chapel Hill's budget estimate of \$817,000 for the 1963-64 fiscal year.

Now available for public inspection in the office of Town Manager Bob Peck, the budget proposals will be up for final adoption by the Town Board of Aldermen at its July 23 meeting.

The actual increase in appropriations over the last year would be \$79,000 above the budget of \$738,000 for 1962-63 — or about 11 per cent more. Of the 10-cent tax rate increase, \$.07 would go for the financing of the municipal public recrea-

tion program, as approved by the public in a referendum last spring. The Town Manager has based his budget estimate on a property valuation of \$37 million within the newly-enlarged town limits.

One of the major items of additional expense for the new year is a proposed retirement program for all of the approximately 100 full-time municipal employees. This brand new appropriation would cost \$21,600 for the town's current and retroactive contribution to the fund the coming year.

Total of general fund spending would be \$876,342, with \$.875 of the total tax rate going for this purpose — an increase of

one cent over last year. The debt service budget is automatically set at \$106,861 — with \$.255 of the total tax rate earmarked for this purpose, two cents more than for 1962-63.

The Recreation Department would have a total budget of \$31,139, out of which \$23,300 would come from the seven-cent recreation tax levy. (Each penny on the tax rate is estimated to bring in \$3,333.) At the recommendation of the Town Manager a \$3,300 contingency item was put in the recreation department budget, in part to provide for probable expenses if the municipality takes over the private swimming pool at the Negro Community Center.

## Hearing set on parking lot bonds

A public hearing will be held by the Town of Chapel Hill on July 23 on the sale of \$80,000 in revenue bonds to finance an off-street downtown parking lot.

The issue would be bought up by local businessmen and repaid with profits from the town's parking meter operations. It is to be constructed on three E. Rosemary St. tracts immediately behind the main business block downtown.

The date of the hearing was set by the aldermen at their Monday night meeting. At that time the Board also postponed passage of an ordinance re-organizing the Chapel Hill Recreation Commission. Town Attorney J. Q. LeGrand advised that it would be unwise to appoint out-of-town residents to that group, as had been planned.

A contract for purchase of a new Plymouth patrol cruiser police car was awarded to Yates Motor Co. on the basis of its low bid of \$2,177.

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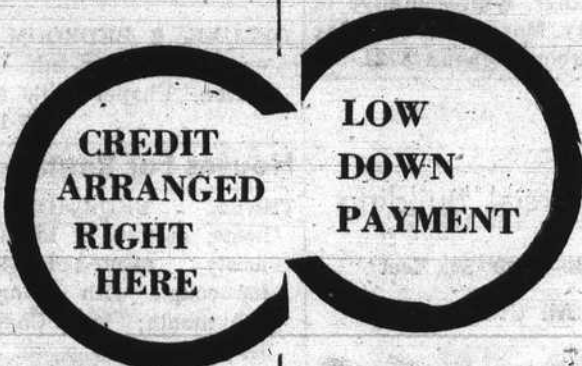
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