

Warns Turkey Plant

City Sticks By Sewage Cleanup Plan

Despite pledges by an industry representative, members of the Raeford City Council vowed Monday night to get tough with a local turkey processing plant if the sewage discharges are not cleaned up by November 1.

House of Raeford spokesman Harold Brock told the council that the firm would get grease and oil, which is now being discharged, out of the municipal treatment system by November 1.

Brock, who was appearing on behalf of firm President Marvin Johnson, said the plant was working with a Charlotte engineering firm and that new equipment would be installed by the deadline date.

House of Raeford is subject to \$10,000 a day fines if the firm continues to violate mandated pre-treatment regulations.

Brock apologized for "an acci-

dent" last week in the company's existing pre-treatment system that sent at least nine turkey necks to the city's sewage treatment facility.

The necks clogged the new city plant and "blew out" a pump, causing the facility to shutdown, an engineering firm supervisor told the council.

"We can't pump turkey necks," Consulting Engineer Hiram J. Marziano said.

House of Raeford will pay for any damage caused to the sewage plant, Brock said.

If the plant can remove the grease and oil from the system and control some of the flow of feathers being received by the city facility, the municipality will be close to meeting state imposed discharge standards before the deadline, Marziano said.

The sewage plant had a four-foot deep build up of feathers this week,

the engineer added.

"We're going to be checking on November 1," Mayor John K. McNeill told Brock.

"I understand that language," Brock assured the council.

With the improvements to the city plant, sewer discharges into Rockfish Creek have improved, Marziano said.

The discharge into the creek is almost half what it was before the \$1 million in improvements were made, he said.

The city's discharge must still improve in order to meet the regulations, he added.

Water Plan Muled

In other business the council agreed to make a decision before the November meeting on a proposal to sell water to Hoke County.

County engineers offered to pay the city \$85,000 to install lines which would provide the Antioch area with 50,000 gallons of water a day, as part of the first phase of the countywide water service plan.

Under the proposal, the city would provide a pipe, a meter, 50,000 gallons a day and a reserve of 50,000 gallons.

No decision was made on what the municipality will charge the county for the water.

County officials hope to install the first phase of the water system to serve around 1,200 users with funds from the federal Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), federal and state grants and from a public bond offering.

City residents will have a chance to vote on the bond issue, County Engineer David Upchurch said.

In still further business, the council took action on these other matters during the regular monthly meeting:

-- Approved the installation of two street lights on North Carolina Highway 20 and on West Sixth Street.

-- OK'd a \$26,500 addition to the Raeford City Garage.

-- Signed a proclamation declaring October 17-24 North Carolina Textile Week in Raeford.

-- Approved a plan to transfer part of the city funds into a special state pool. The funds would gain a high interest rate and would be available whenever needed.

-- Read a letter from Hoke High Principal Lenwood D. Simpson commending city Police Officers Junior Ward and Clarence Patterson for an outstanding job done during a recent school function.



Peterkin during council meeting.

City: No Help Needed In Hunt For Woman

In the opinion of the Assistant District Attorney, everything that can possibly be done to find a missing Raeford woman, is being done, Raeford City Attorney Palmer R. Wilcox told members of the city council Monday night.

Assistant District Attorney Jean Powell has looked into the investigation being conducted in the disappearance of Mrs. Florence R. McCray, 38, and has concluded that the Raeford Police Department is doing all that can be done, Wilcox said.

Wilcox made his remarks in response to a request for a stepped up probe by members of the Hoke County Urban League of Concerned Citizens.

About 150 city and county residents attended Monday night's meeting, to request that the council hire additional personnel and ask North Carolina Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr. to offer a reward for information about the missing woman.

"No arrest warrants can be issued until a body is found," Wilcox said, adding that the city is being assisted by the Federal

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Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

I hope the weather in Hoke County was as nice as it was at the beach. The temperature was in the 80s during the day and many people were fishing and swimming. There wasn't any rain so the weekend was perfect.

It seems that many people now wait until September and October to go to the beaches. The prices have come down on the rooms and maybe also on the food prices at the restaurants.

For the past two years Southern Bell Telephone Company has been at Wrightsville Beach the last week in September. Their groups along with the people who love to fish, help keep the motels and hotels nearly full during this time of the year.

It couldn't have been any nicer for a beach trip in the middle of the summer than last week. The forecast is for the same type of weather this week.

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The football players strike has caused many people to change their schedules for the weekend, when the strike will end is hard to say, because it seems the players and management are a long way apart on many issues.

Maybe it was a good thing that the strike was on this past weekend because I believe the football ratings would have fallen with the tight races in the American and National Leagues of baseball. With Atlanta in the pennant race, most folks around here were more

(See AROUND TOWN, page 16)



Pound Animals Looking For Home

by Warren Johnston

Hoke County and City of Raeford officials may be finding that years of neglect have placed the jointly operated animal pound in a "Catch 22" situation.

At least in the city, authorities are receiving stepped up pressure to enforce the municipal leash laws and to curb the problem of straying dogs.

Although both city and county authorities are willing to pick them up, dog wardens are reluctant to put captured animals in overcrowded pens, where diseases spread rapidly and where dogs and cats have about an 87% chance of being exterminated.

City officials agreed last spring to go along with a Hoke County Health Department recommendation to build a new pound facility, however, the proposal was shot down by County Manager James Martin.

"In my opinion, we needed the funds in other areas, like roofs for school buildings," Martin said.

A proposal had been included in the health department's budget request for the county to provide \$20,000 to go along with an \$8,000 contribution from the city to build a new pound.

The pound was eliminated from the budget by Martin and not presented to the Hoke County Commission.

The new pound may not be dead, Martin said Friday, adding that

funds might be obtained for the project out of the county's capital reserve fund.

Renovations and improvements will at least be made to the existing facility, he said.

Another problem with a plan to either rebuild or remodel the pound is the lack of an agreement between the city and the county.

"We need something outlining specific responsibilities," Martin said.

Under the present plan, the city provides the site for the pound, along with water and sewer treatment, and the county provides the feed for the animals.

Extermination of the animals is paid for out of the health department budget, Health supervisor Lloyd Horne said.

There is no provision under the present arrangement for maintaining the facility, Martin said.

Although city taxpayers are paying for the pound through county taxes, Martin said extra payments by the municipal residents were justified because of Raeford's dog leash law.

Martin said he was unsure whether or not animals were being treated in a humane manner by being placed in the pound.

Horne, who also was unsure of how humane the pound is, noted that it will be only a matter of time before the city and county have to build a new facility.

"I think that they are being treated as humanely as possible under the present conditions at the pound," the health officer said.

The present facility is clean and animals receive ample water and food, Horne said.

Horne did admit that the facility has these problems:

- At some times during the year, the pound is "grossly" overcrowded.

- Because of the lack of pens, sometimes large animals are placed in with small animals. The little animals are often killed.

- Sick animals are not able to be isolated from healthy ones and diseases are hard to check.

- There is no heat source in the facility and some animals freeze to death during cold winter days.

- Roads to the pound are impassible at certain times of the year, and difficult for the residents to get in who might want to adopt an animal.

- There are no facilities for volunteers or wardens to get out of the weather, and therefore no regular hours are maintained at the pound.

- On some winter days, pipes freeze at the facility and water must be brought in in 50 gallon drums.

- Animals must be exterminated, because the county cannot afford to keep them longer than 10 days.

(See POUND, page 12)

County Approves Hiring DSS Staff

The Hoke County commissioners Monday approved employing extra people for the Hoke County Department of Social Services low-income assistance programs and a continuing lease of the South Hoke Community Building by the Lumber Regional Development Association.

The commissioners also adopted a motion asking the Lumber River Council of Governments not to approve a Raeford apartment project for funding by the U.S. Farmers Home Administration until the project is sent through the Hoke County-Raeford Housing Authority for approval. A regional organization approval of a project is required by the federal government before a federal loan or grant is issued.

A loan of \$1,451,100 in FmHA funds has been requested by Bent Tree Associates of Raeford for construction of 16 one-bedroom and 32 two-bedroom apartments in the Adams Street-East Prospect Street area near the Raeford Fire Department building. The project cost amounts to the sum being asked of the FmHA and \$76,400 in the applicant's funds.

The commissioners, meeting the Social Services Department request, authorized establishment of two temporary fulltime Eligibility Specialist I, one half-time temporary Eligibility Specialist I, and one temporary Clerk-Typist II fulltime position for no longer than 10 weeks each.

Ken Witherspoon, the SS Department director, in his written request said that the extra help was needed because the Energy Assistance Program for low-income

people this year requires it for processing the more than 1,300 applications in two months.

He said the anticipated cost in salaries and fringe benefits would be about \$7,855, with the total cost paid by the federal government. About \$137,000 in benefits were paid to Hoke County residents in the 1981 program, he added.

Witherspoon appeared before the commissioners Monday to present his request.

His letter said that in conducting an evaluation of the implementation of the 1981 energy assistance program it became evident to him that the department's other programs suffered to some degree by using the existing staff.

BUILDING LEASE

The LRDA recommended the commissioners authorize a lease agreement for the period from last July 21 through October 31, 1983, that the rental be \$300 per month, and that the LRDA be responsible for cleaning and other janitorial services inside the building and maintenance of the yard and other grounds outside the building.

The commissioners adopted a motion made by Commissioner Danny DeVane that the lease be automatically continuing from year to year, and that 60 days' notice be given the tenant if the commissioners plan to terminate the lease.

ROCKFISH BUILDING

John Balfour, the commissioners' chairman, appointed Commissioners Neil McPhatter and James Albert Hunt as a committee team-

(See COUNTY, page 16)

Tylenol Cleared From Stores Here

No Extra-Strength Tylenol of the MC 2880 lot had been found by managers of five Raeford stores contacted by a reporter Friday afternoon.

Officials started working Thursday to get the product withdrawn from sales in at least 31 states, including North Carolina.

Two Raeford stores withdrew all Extra Strength Tylenol capsules, regardless of lot numbers, just to be on the safe side. Mike Wood, pharmacist and owner of Hoke Drug Co., said he had withdrawn all capsules from sales and wouldn't sell any for two days, though he found none of the MC 2880 lot in his store.

Clyde Register, manager of the A&P, also said that, though he had found none of the suspect lot in the store, he had removed all Extra Strength Tylenol capsules.

Managers found none of the suspected lot at Edinborough Pharmacy, Valu-Mart and Howell Drug after checking, they reported.



Inside Today

Alexander McQueen, who is 113 years old and Hoke County's oldest resident, was honored Thursday in Raeford by the state.

The story and photos of the program are on Page One, Section Two, of today's edition of *The News-Journal*.