

# Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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## Kinston Budget Hits High Spot For Coming Year As Recommended Expenditure Nears Two Million

As budgets go in recent years ever upward—so goes the recommendation for the 1952-53 budget for the City of Kinston to an all-time high mark of \$1,739,715.32 and this recommendation does not include pay increases for city employees, which will in all likelihood have to be made to keep the community operating at a safe and efficient level.

City Manager W. J. Heard in offering this proposed budget for the coming fiscal year points out "your employees are expecting an increase in salary which has not been included in the budget, and it is believed that many of them will seek work elsewhere if a raise is not granted."

This budget compiled by Heard with the assistance of the various department heads in the city government includes boosts in practically every department with the exception of two, the cemetery department, which is suffering a slight cut due to the transfer of part of its duties to the park department and the fire department which has taken a slight cut due to lower expectations for capital outlay expenditures.

Of this total budget it is estimated in the proposed list of allocations that \$1,117,910 be spent for operating expenses, another \$331,770.50 be spent for capital outlay items and the remaining \$289,745 is "already spoken for" in debt service items.

Major departmental expenditures recommended include \$9,000 for the Mayor and Board, \$75,190 for the recreation department and for the maintenance of parks and grounds, \$4,950 for building inspection, \$8,250 for the swimming pool operation and repairs, \$10,244 for the city manager's office, \$27,258 for the finance and accounting office, \$30,835 for the cemetery department, \$7,460 for Recorder's Court, \$12,000 for the health department, \$68,444 for the fire department, \$113,659 for the police department, \$3,604 for park-meter care and maintenance, \$127,800 for the street department, \$25,000 for the storm sewer department, \$18,750 for street lighting, \$3,750 for traffic signal operation, fire hydrant operation \$11,325, sanitary sewer department \$15,670 and tree care department \$11,400 and a big item of \$533,001 is included for operation of the utilities departments.

The answer to that all-important question, "Where in the world are we going to get that much money?" is given, or at the very least promised in an estimated listing of the gross revenues expected during the coming fiscal period.

This list includes a gross income of \$965,000 expected from the utilities department for electricity and another \$152,000 from sale of Kinston's almost perfect water supply. \$18,000 is expected from privilege license fees, \$4,500 from auto and bicycle license, \$34,000 from parking meters, \$18,000 from Recorder's Court, sale of cemetery lots and fees \$18,000, Kinston's part of liquor store profits is put at \$40,000, inspection fees account for an estimated \$4,000, income from the swimming pool is put at \$2,400, fees for water and sewer taps is estimated at \$16,000, another \$16,000 is hoped to come from beer and wine taxes, tax interests and costs are put down at \$2,500, State franchise tax \$2,500, other miscellaneous revenues are put at \$16,792.49 and \$50,000

## XRAY SURVEY ENDS SATURDAY

On Saturday, July 12th, the second free chest Xray survey to be made in Jones and Lenoir Counties will come to an end and District Health Officer Dr. R. J. Jones urges that everyone who has not taken advantage of this protective offer do so before the units end their work at 5 p. m. Saturday. Dr. Jones reported to the Board of Commissioners and the Health Board Monday that through Saturday, July 5th, some over 23,000 Xrays had been taken in the two counties. From that number 450 persons had been called back for further more detailed examination and that 132 reports had been returned on that 450 persons. Among that 132 returned there were four cases of tuberculosis needing immediate hospital care, five probable cases and six suspected cases of tuberculosis. Dr. Jones said that 75 per cent of the 132 had some form of heart condition and said that one case of cancer of the chest.

## Better Than Perfect Record Set Locally In Tax Collections

Usually 100 per cent is considered to be a pretty good target to shoot for, but Tax Collector Milton Williams in a report to the Lenoir County Board of Commissioners Monday was able to reveal that his department, with the aid of the taxpayers of the county, had beat that generally considered perfect mark by to date 104.18 per cent of the 1951-52 tax levy. This trick of the tax books was accomplished by continued application toward the collection of past due taxes by Williams' department.

The tax levy required to balance the 1951-52 budget was set at \$591,210.26 and Williams' report shows that \$618,653.99 had been collected, which amounts to \$24,269.75 more than the levy, or as pointed out above, 104.18 per cent. A pretty good batting average.

The breakdown reveals the following collections on tax assessment for each year, reaching back as far as 1927 for which a \$19.02 collection is reported.

1928 \$73.88; 1929 \$65.33; 1930

is the county's anticipated income from the state highway commission under the "Powell Bill."

This makes the total expected revenues from other than tax sources \$1,359,692.49 and from taxes for the current and past years and intangible tax returns a total of \$290,526.39 is put down in the "hoped for" column. General fund and sinking fund balances at the end of the past fiscal year amounted to \$49,496.44 and the final slice of income is put down as \$40,000 from paving assessment payments and interest.

Interesting to note is that \$1,117,000 of that budget is estimated to come from the utilities department, which in some sense might be referred to as a "business" separate and apart from the purely governmental functions of the city. Even more interesting to note in this same sphere is the fact that the recommended expenditures for the utilities department amount to just \$533,001, which by way of subtraction reveals that it is hoped by City Manager Heard and his departmental advisors that the utilities department will show a gross profit of something like \$532,191 during the coming 12 months.

Without the revenues of the utilities department it would be necessary to levy a tax of approximately six times the present level in order to provide the people of Kinston with the same standards of excellence. Which would be a considerable tax jump, even in these tax-jumping times.

\$82.43; 1931; \$97.05; 1932 \$126.73; 1933 \$148.98; 1934 \$195.46; 1935 \$271.47; 1936 \$285.08; 1937 \$33.15; 1938 \$449.54; 1939 \$442.42; 1940 \$533.62; 1941 \$618.15; 1942 \$863.54; 1943 \$847.74; 1944 \$901.65; 1945 \$1,414.55; 1946 \$2,301.37; 1947 \$3,681.10; 1948 \$6,700.78; 1949 \$12,373.26; 1950 \$43,010.24; 1951 \$538,061.41. Total \$613,898.95.

Williams states that for the past five years the percentage of the levy already collected are as follows: 1947, 98.89 per cent; 1948, 98.6 per cent; 1949, 98.5 per cent; 1950, 97.34 per cent and 1951, 91.46 per cent.

## Jones Farmers Are Organizing to Accept Challenge to Improve

Jones County agriculture workers met at the agriculture building in Trenton Thursday, July 3, and made plans to start the long range farm program known as "The Challenge." J. W. Crawford, program planning specialist and C. S. Mintz, district agent, met with the Agricultural Workers along with Marlon Holland, Field Director of the Home Administration of Goldsboro, to help plan the program for Jones County. All agricultural agencies of the county were represented at the meeting.

Committees made up of paid agricultural workers and agricultural leaders of Jones County were appointed to serve on the various subjects. Five committees were appointed as follows: (1) Land use, crops and forestry; (2) Livestock and poultry; (3)

## Jones FFA Group Wins Top Honors At Summer Camp In Mountains

Agriculture Teacher

"Boy, did we have a good time," was the comment heard throughout Jones County this past week as the FFA boys triumphantly returned from their week's stay at the Tom Brown Camp near Asheville.

The chapter borrowed the bus from the Trenton Baptist Church to make the trip. The bus left Trenton June 22, at 10:30 P. M. and arrived at camp the next afternoon at 3.

Those attending were: Allen Mooring, Bobby Mozingo, Jack Metts, Warren Davis, Donnie Thigpen, Rayford Eubanks, Donald Huffman, Jessie Eubanks, Robert Adams, Robert Phillips, Walter Simmons, William Andrews, Bobby Johnson, Preston Sasser, Worth Turnage, Durwood Koonce, G. T. Smith, and the chapter advisor, A. E. Tolar.

While at camp, the boys visited Craggy Gardens, Mt. Mit-

## Kinston Council Still Wrestling With Growing Pains and Their Demands

### Joint Session Gives Final OK to Welfare Budget for Fiscal Year

In Joint session Monday afternoon the Lenoir County Boards of Commissioners and Public Welfare approved the 1952-53 welfare department budget at the same figure in the 1951-52 budget, \$112,000, plus an accumulated balance of \$30,701 carried over in the department's accounts.

Approval of this budget by unanimous decision makes possible the following program of the department: Aid to the blind, 78 cases at an average of \$34 per month; Aid to the permanently and totally disabled, 150 cases at an average grant of \$39 per month; Old age assistance, 725 cases at an average of \$28 per month; Aid to dependent children 1575 persons at an average of \$14 per month.

Further allocations included in this proposed expenditure included \$4,000 for care of the indigent tubercular, \$7,000 for hospital care, \$10,000 for general assistance (this fund is used to help those who do not fall into either of the above listed four programs that the state and federal governments take part in), \$10,000 is earmarked for care of adults in boarding homes (former county home clients), \$1,800 is retirement pay for Superintendent Emeritus Rev. G. B. Hanrahan and \$49,586.80 is set up for administrative expenses.

When matched with state and federal funds this budget will, during the coming fiscal period, make available for the relief of the needy in Lenoir County approximately \$686,000, of which the county's part will be \$142,701, which means that just over \$4.80 of state and federal funds will be spent for each dollar furnished for this department by the county.

Home improvement; (4) Home food supply; and (5) Community activities.

The first meeting of the Committee groups has been called for Friday night, July 18th at 8:30 at the agriculture building in Trenton.

The Kinston Board of Aldermen Monday night spent three and a half hours largely tussling with problems directly connected with the considerable growing pains presently being experienced by the community and its adjacent areas.

No. 1 on the list of headaches at the July session of the council was a request by officers of the Lenoir Housing Development Corporation for city water service for a housing project north of the present city limits that will include at least 148 homes and a potential development of 419 homes. City Manager Bill Heard reported that approximately 2800 feet of heavy duty water main would be needed to fill this request and that a "rough estimate" of the cost for this would run to just above \$11,000.

The board expressed sympathy with the needs of this group and to its spokesmen, Heywood Weeks, Tom Hewitt and Paul LaRoque, but pointed out that recent additions to the city limits must stand first in line for such services and further pointed out the lack of money for any kind of sewer and water extensions, particularly out of the corporate limits, work which can only be legally done with accumulated surplus funds.

The board did agree to enter into a contract calling for reimbursement of this corporation when and if this area is annexed for funds it may have to expend on water lines.

No. 2 "growing pain" confronting the council consisted of an hour-long controversy over the traffic situation on Queen Street. A merchants' group headed by Roger Sutton asked for a return to diagonal parking and an end to the four-lane traffic pattern installed some 90 days ago. Speaking in support of Sutton were Ed Langrall, Leo Brody, Harold Flynn, J. D. Paschall and Allen Bowden.

Opposition to the diagonal parking was offered by Jerome Kaminski, Galt Braxton and Roy Wooten. The council on motion of Alderman Charlie Taylor, seconded by Alderman John Rider voted three-to-one for continuation of the present system "indefinitely." Alderman Ed Johnson voted "no" to this motion, standing in favor of a continuation until the tobacco market opened as a further trial.

One amusing aspect of the petitions offered by the two sides in this Queen Street argument was the fact that four Queen Street merchants signed both petitions. These were Midyette Hardware, The City Barber Shop, Jimmie Shell and Erskine's Jewelry Store.

The board, acting on "growing pain" item No. 3 of the evening, approved a contract with Roy Poole calling for reimbursement for sewer and water line extensions he plans to make to a housing project on Carey Road extended. This contract was to be made on a formula agreed upon between City Manager Heard and Poole.

Two subdivisions were approved by the council, following earlier approval by the City Planning Board.

The last official act of the long session consisted of approving a projected trunk line sewer that will extend northward from Neuse River up the east bank of the Adkin to the north central section of the town which was recently annexed. Heard was authorized to advertise for bids on this three and a half mile line.