

## Laying Grassy Carpet

Because of the irregular contour of the property surrounding the Kings Mountain Housing Authority units off Canaler St., the grounds will be sodded instead of sown.

Tom Harper, executive director of the KM Housing Authority, said the suggestion was made by B. E. Holland, landscape architect for HUD's Greensboro office.

"Sodding is like laying a carpet," Harper said. "The grass is grown commercially, then grass, sod and roots are cut in strips and rolled up like carpet to be transplanted elsewhere."

The material being used was purchased from Bud Neisler, who owns a commercial farm where the sodding material is grown.

Hickory Construction Co. has sublet the contract for sodding to Hal Stroup of Cherryville. Stroup had his crew on the site Tuesday.

"This is being done as an experiment," Harper said. "It hasn't been done in this area before. It should prove interesting."

## Paving Will Close Street On July 4-5

Watterson St. from King to Morris will be closed to all traffic Mon. and Tues., July 4 and 5 for paving.

As soon as paving is complete the street will be opened again to normal traffic, according to Gene White, executive director of the Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission.

The paving program is part of the Canaler St. Urban Renewal Project.

## New Law Disqualifies

### Some Payments

Amendments to North Carolina's Employment Security law become effective July 3 which will disqualify certain workers from receiving unemployment payments.

Franklin L. Ware, manager of the ESC Job Service office in Shelby, reported Monday that the new provisions deny jobless payments to persons who:

- quit their jobs or job training without good cause.
- are discharged from jobs or training because of misconduct
- refuse offers of suitable jobs or training without good cause
- fail to return to customary self-employment when directed.

Under the old law, claimants who quit, were discharged or failed to take job referrals without good cause were disqualified from receiving unemployment payments from four to 12 weeks.

Ware also said that workers receiving pensions who qualify for unemployment pay in many cases have payments reduced or done away with entirely.

"Workers drawing jobless benefits while receiving any tpe of pension based on prior employment will have their unemployment payments reduced by the amount of the pension. Persons whose weekly pension entitlement meets or exceeds their jobless benefit amount will not receive unemployment insurance," he explained.

Individuals receiving pension benefits not based on their prior employment, such as wives receiving social security payments based on their husband's employment, will not be affected by the amendments.

The amendments were passed by the General Assembly in March to provide tighter control on unemployment payments.



A GRASSY CARPET - These rolls of "carpet" actually are strips of sod containing living grass. The young men in the background work for Stroup's Nursery of Cherryville and they are preparing the ground at Kings Mountain Housing Authority site 12 off Canaler St. for the sodding operation.

# Committee To Study Housing Program

A special committee plans to meet with Robert Mathison of Asheville for in-depth inquiries into a new housing plan for Kings Mountain.

Mathison appeared before the commissioners on Monday to explain his concept for using city-owned property for modular home construction.

The idea is revolutionary, according to Mathison, "If Kings Mountain approves the plan, this will be the first time in this country such a plan has been put into effect."

The idea has been offered to the City of Shelby, but turned down. Mathison said the reason for the rejection of the plan was that the city-owned property considered was already earmarked for other needed construction for city services departments.

"The concept is one where people can buy homes without buying the land to go with it," Mathison said. "The average purchase of property and home construction runs about \$45,000 with seven to nine percent interest. Very few people can afford this. Under this plan a person can buy a home, a factory-built home on land owned by the city."

Mathison said the proposal has been approved by the FHA and that the Department of Housing and Urban Development has set aside funds to serve as rental subsidies for tenants.

Under N. C. law a community or county may not give land they own to a private group, however, the property can be turned over to a housing authority and that group in turn may lease the property for housing construction as outlined in the Mathison plan.

The new owners of the modular homes (not mobile homes), according to Mathison would form a cooperative. The cooperative would have first right of refusal to buy out any tenant within the co-op. The cooperative would also have the power to evict "unsuitable tenants."

The factory-built homes, manufactured in Salisbury, would

average about 1,200 square feet and would be in the \$14,000 price range. Mathison said the type of homes his plan has figured on are single family dwellings with three bedrooms and two baths.

Mathison said his plan calls for five units per acre, with "lots of green areas and a community center." About 50 percent of the homes planned would have brick facing.

"Sen. Robert Morgan has supported this plan since its inception," Mathison said. "And if Kings Mountain makes the decision to accept the plan and put it into effect, there is sure to be national recognition because it is a first."

Mathison proposed that the Kings Mountain Housing Authority serve as the landlord in this venture. He said if the authority decides to manage and maintain the units, then the authority will receive additional monies. However, the authority would have the option to turn

management and maintenance over to another party or parties.

Mayor John Moss appointed Commissioners Corbet Nicholson, Jim Childers and Fred Wright as the special committee to study the plan and bring back a recommendation to the full board. Nicholson chairs the committee.

Commissioner Childers commented that he has a number of questions on the plan and also indicated that because of the rush nature of the proposal he is a bit skeptical.

Mathison said Monday that he must have an answer to the home office in Greensboro prior to July 1. He said because of the press of other personal business that the time frame for a decision has become very tight.

"I'm not asking you to buy a pig in a poke," Mathison said, "but if you want the pig you're gonna have to do it in a hurry."

## For Public Service Jobs

### Job Service Attempts

### To Reach The Veteran

Franklin L. Ware, manager, Employment Security Commission, now known as Job Service, has announced today that the staff is attempting to reach unemployed Veterans for possible referral to expected Public Service Jobs. Labor Secretary, Marshall, according to Ware has set a national goal of using 35 percent Veterans for filling the expected Public Service Jobs.

Under Title II and VI CETA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) funds have not yet

been allotted to Cleveland County. It is difficult to determine when this will be forthcoming. However, Ware related Veterans must be contacted and processed beforehand to determine eligibility.

There will be guidelines to be met which determine whether or not any Veteran qualifies. Interested, unemployed Veterans should contact Job Service offices at either Community Center, Kings Mountain, or 503 N. LaFayette Street, Shelby.

# \$6,368,748 City Budget Approved Monday

Commissioners approved and adopted a \$6,368,748.15 budget Monday night effective from July 1, 1977 through June 30, 1978.

Also in the budget ordinance the tax rate for the new fiscal year, which begins Friday, was maintained at .65 cents per \$100 valuation. This is the fourth consecutive term this tax rate has been continued.

Under capital outlay for 1977-78 purchases for the water and sewer

department include water and sewer pipe, 18 fire hydrants and assorted valves and fittings. A line truck will be purchased for the electrical department and an electric welder for the gas department.

A large truck is budgeted for the sanitation department, a backhoe and dump truck for the street department, four patrol cars for the police department, a truck chassis and hoses and nozzles for the fire department.

Two adding machines and a typewriter is slated for the administrative department, mowers for the cemetery department, water distribution systems for Davidson and Deal pools and fencing for fields at both parks is budgeted for the recreation department.

Under the general department, \$90,000 is budgeted for the public works building, \$25,000 for fencing at the site and another \$10,000 for surface drainage.

In other action the commissioners voted to refund \$10,212.15 to Cleveland County for overpayment of taxes from Reeves Brothers - Duplex International. The county has already refunded the overpayment to Duplex.

Approved hiring Harvey Webb of Shelby as a patrolman for the Kings Mountain Police Department. Webb begins work here Tues., July 5, replacing Houston Corn, who has been assigned to the Crime Prevention Bureau.

Gave permission to Alvin Moretz to seek written permission from Elizabeth Anthony, the Winfred Hope heirs, Jennette D. Patterson and Thelma Liles to demolish structures on their property at 925 Grace St., 927 Grace St. and 400 N. Battleground Ave., respectively.

Moretz said the structures are beyond repair and have already been condemned. He said he is cleaning out the files on such work. The city will demolish the structures and haul away the debris, then bill the property owners.

Reappointed Luther Bennett, chairman, M. L. Campbell and Mrs. Betty Mercier to the Kings Mountain Election Board.

Officially named the public

works building on N. Piedmont as the Citizens Service Center.

Approved advertising for bids for outfitting the police department Crime Scene Search and Evidence van, advertising for sale by public bid of a 1969 Plymouth Fury II, approved advertising for bids for a loader-backhoe for the public works department.

Accepted a petition from 11 of the 12 landowners on Scotland Dr., for curb and gutter construction from Lee St. to Phifer Rd.

Forwarded to zoning and planning board requests from Home Savings and Loan Association to

rezone from LI to RO property at 704 King St. adjacent to the hospital; from Robert Sheffield to rezone from R8 to GB property at 837 E. King St. - Kings Mountain Motor Court; from Jim Rowell to rezone from R8 to NB property at corner of Fulton Dr. and Ark St.

Heard comments from Mayor John Moss and Commissioner Norman King on the town meeting and depot center dedication held here on Sat., June 1. King, chairman of the meeting, publicly thanked all the citizens who helped organize and carry out the events of the town meeting.

## Family Needs Aid

### Arson Suspected

### In Conner Fire

Arson is suspected in a fire Thursday afternoon which destroyed the home of Bill Conner and his 11-year-old son, David, near Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Mr. Conner, brother of Nancy Ross, Kings Mountain Postoffice employee returned home from work at 6 p. m. to find the four-room frame house and carport, which he had just purchased, completely razed by fire, including all the family's furnishings and clothing. His young son was staying with relatives.

Mr. Conner, employe of Warner-

Swasey of Bessemer City, had just purchased the house and had not obtained insurance at the time.

Also lost in the blaze were approximately \$1500 worth of tools, a motorcycle, drum set and go-cart, all stored in the carport.

Kings Mountain citizens who want to help the family should contact relatives at these numbers: 739-8200; 739-8207; and 739-8209 who will be happy to pickup any furnishings or items of clothing.

David Conner wears a size 14 pants, 12 shirt, and 6 1/2 shoe. Bill Conner wears size 34 pants, 16 shirt, and 9 1/2 EEEE shoe.

## Sixth, Seventh Graders

### Program Begins Tuesday

Rising sixth and seventh graders interested in participating in a summer recreation program must register at Central School Tues., July 5.

About 100 students are expected to register for the July 5-August 5 recreation program sponsored by the Kings Mountain District Schools. Numerous activities have been planned under the direction of Ms. Pam Salyers and Phil Weathers.

## Traveling Art Exhibit

### Opens At Depot Center

The public is invited to see superior art work created by local artists and craftsmen beginning at 2 p. m. tomorrow at the Kings Mountain Depot Center.

The Shelby Arts League sponsored traveling art exhibit will be on display at the depot center through next Thurs., July 7, open to the public from 2-5 p. m. daily.

Mrs. Lawrence Patrick of Kings Mountain will be in charge of the exhibit during the Kings Mountain showing.