



PUBLIC HEARING — A large group gathered in Grover Town Hall last Thursday night to discuss the area's 201 Waste Facility Plan and what it will mean to the community.

Grover 'Hot' To Build Waste System

By TOM MCINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

GROVER — Town officials here are hot to build a waste collector line and pump stations under the 201 Facilities Plan.

Last Thursday night Mayor W. W. McCarter hosted a public hearing to review the Grover area 201 plan with Commissioners Tommy Keeter, Martha Byers and J. Harold Herndon.

John Edwards and Kim Fisher of Edwards Engineering were also present to discuss the facilities plan and the method of financing construction.

The projected total cost of the Grover facility is \$909,900, a slightly inflated price based on present material and construction costs, because actual construction and operation will not be until 1979.

Fisher told the town officials and several visitors Thursday that the Farmers Home Administration has already given Grover a letter of intent on a grant of \$287,700 and a loan offer of \$170,000. He said the town is eligible for another \$169,500 from the N. C. Clean Water Bond Act. There is a possibility the town may receive \$222,700 from the Environmental Protection Agency, but this grant as yet is not offered.

Fisher said Grover would have to come up with \$60,000 cash and float a bond issue for the \$170,000 FHA loan paycheck.

"We feel strongly that the Town of Grover can be in the priority group and be well on the road toward having its sewer collection system within the next 18 months," Fisher said. "If we run into no big impedes and have our application on file with EPA and get approval for our plan thus far."

Fisher said the overall formal public hearing on the 201 Facility Plan will be held by the lead engineering firm in July and that the overall plan should be submitted to the state for review in September.

The Grover area is a sub-part of the Gaston County 201 Plan.

There are still many "ifs" riding on the final outcome of this project according to Fisher. One of the biggest is selling the idea to the 236 customers in Grover. The majority of the voters in Grover will have to approve the \$170,000 bond referendum

in order to pay off the FHA loan and the 236 customers on the majority of that number will have to agree to tap onto the sewerage collection line in order for the town to be financially able to own its own system.

Residents here either have their own septic tanks or are on the Minette Mills collection line.

Another decision to be made is whether or not the town will make its deal with Minette Mills or the City of Kings Mountain to treat the water. For the moment the town officials are leaning heavily toward Kings Mountain, but as yet the KM officials have not given Grover a fee schedule on treatment costs.

Fisher said there are several reasons why working with Kings Mountain on the treatment project is more attractive than with Minette Mills. As a city, Kings Mountain is entitled to grants for any upgrading or improvements deemed necessary on the treatment facilities. Minette Mills, a private industry, is not entitled to grants. Another reason is Kings Mountain's facilities has greater capacity and could handle any potential growth and use of the Grover facility whereas the Minette system would be limited.

Should Grover nail down an agreement with Kings Mountain, the local system would only run about two miles from Grover to Long Branch and tie onto the line there. Grover would not have to install a collector line all the way to Kings Mountain's Pilot Creek Plant.

Mayor McCarter said the average monthly bill to Grover customers would be about \$8.30. This is based on use of 3,000 - 4,000 gallons of water per month. He said the board will next have to decide whether or not customers will be charged a tap-on fee. The customer will have to pay for the line running from the town's main to the customer's home.

Fisher suggested that as an incentive tap-ons be free during the initial stages and then the second year a fee be charged.

"In order for the program to be economically sound for the town at least 200 of the 236 potential customers must be

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MAKING A POINT — Kim Fisher of John Edwards Engineering makes a point to town commissioners concerning the Grover 201 plan.

Schools Cooperate Without Merger

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Staff Writer

"We do cooperate even though we're not merged," declared Shelby Schools Supt. Malcom Brown Thursday night during a joint dinner meeting of county school board members and superintendents at KM Country Club.

"Our three separate units — Shelby, Cleveland County and Kings Mountain — do a lot of things better together than many consolidated systems," said Brown, opening a nine-item agenda in which all three superintendents, Brown, Dr. Vincent Columbo and Bill Davis, led discussions of various county-wide programs which had paid off because of cooperation.

It was the first time the three boards had met together in several years, the meeting geared primarily to familiarize

incoming school board members of policy and program plans.

Past and current projects were discussed and members hinted of a new cooperative effort for the future in the quest for a countywide bond referendum for capital outlay projects, Mr. Brown reviewing financial history in providing funds for capital outlay for the three school districts.

Supt. Brown pointed out two methods of paying for capital outlay projects, a bond issue with funds distributed on per capita basis and a "pay as you go" method he termed "painful" saying that a bond issue would be "tough" in light of the fact that Cleveland Tech only recently sought and voters passed a \$5 million referendum for school improvements.

Dr. Columbo, County School Superintendent, recommended the three

superintendents get together soon to "match figures" and reported that Wilkes County, small in comparison to Cleveland, recently passed a \$10 million bond issue for improvements, noting that a survey of Cleveland County schools was recently completed by the Division of School Planning of the State Department of Public Instruction. KM Supt. Davis said a similar survey is slated for Kings Mountain schools next week and would "put capital outlay things this district needs in prospective."

In spite of reservations voiced by high school principals and reported by Supt. Davis, the board agreed to investigate the possibility of a countywide student council. Mr. Davis explained that the four principals — from Shelby High, Crest, Burns, and KMHS, could see the advantages but clearly opposed an organization designed primarily as an

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Under \$50,000 BOR Grant

Lake Rec Work Begins In Spring

Beginning this spring construction on recreational areas around Moss Lake is scheduled under a \$100,000 development program.

The city has received a \$50,000 grant from the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the N. C. Department of Natural and Economics Resources for the project.

The other \$50,000 is in-kind contributions, manpower and equipment, to be supplied by the city.

This is the second phase of a three-phase project under the application submitted Oct. 1, 1976 following the recreational development plan submitted by Gardner Gidley and Associates of Winston-Salem.

Mayor John Moss said he "hopes the program can get started around April

first and be completed at sometime during the summer months."

Stated for development this year is an entrance road and signage to a paved parking area for boats and trailers. A total of 22 spaces are allotted for this lot. Also a 44 space vehicle parking area adjacent to the first lot on the eastern shore of the lake, off Camp Creek Rd. There will also be a picnic shelter with 12 tables, a fishing pier and boat launch ramp.

On the western shore, of Rd. 2033, will be family picnic and restroom facilities and the beginning of development for a camper trailer camp site.

The mayor said it is doubtful the new recreation facilities will be completed in time for use during the summer of 1978.

When Nature Coughed.....

By TOM MCINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

Mother Nature has had the flu.

And when she coughed she sent winds from 50 to 80 miles an hour whipping through the Kings Mountain area last Wednesday night and Thursday.

And although trees were uprooted and sent crashing against homes and vehicles and limbs were scattered over lawns and streets and plateglass windows were shattered, it is estimated by area insurance agents that property damages were far less than those incurred during a hail storm in 1974.

Larry Hamrick, a Kings Mountain insurance agent, said he would "estimate property damages to be roughly between \$50,000 and \$100,000 overall. The hail storm in 1974 did in excess of a million dollars damage."

When Mother Nature sneezed Wednesday night she knocked out power all over Kings Mountain and city electrical and street department crews began "a long day's work," according to Harry (Dutch) Wilson, electrical supt.

"We no sooner got power restored in one area than it would be gone in another," Wilson said. "The problem was high winds kept slapping the power lines together causing them to burn out and knock the power off in sections all over the city."

The first time power went out was about mid-evening Wednesday. It was restored approximately two hours later,

then it began knocking off in one section or another on through the early morning hours.

Around 8:45 a. m. Thursday another major outage occurred and power was restored intermittently throughout the remainder of the morning. Around 12:30 p. m. power was restored to the majority of the city customers and electrical workers busy with "pocket outages" about the city.

The Kings Mountain Fire Department was called for standby numerous times during the high winds because of fire along the power lines.

Fire Chief Gene Tignor said the department only had one call when an outbuilding blazed up late Thursday afternoon.

The mayor's office compiled a list of addresses where elderly residents live Thursday, ones who had been without power and heat Wednesday night. Mayor John Moss called his department heads together to form a plan to bring relief to the senior citizens should Thursday night also leave these citizens without heat.

"We made arrangements with Rev. Ken George to turn the Depot Center into a shelter for the night," the mayor said. "We asked the members of the civic clubs in the Community to offer assistance in transporting these people to the shelter if the need arose."

Members of the fire department arranged for a generator at the Depot

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"innoculation" against school vandalism.

To a question from KM Board member Kyle Smith, Davis said the establishment of a council was suggested following incidents of vandalism at Burns and Shelby High Schools after football games.

Mrs. Mary Lou Barrier, chairman of the Cleveland County School Board, and Mrs. Bobbie Peeler, member of the Shelby School Board, said they liked the idea of forming a council and didn't want to see the idea killed. Cleveland County board member Glenda Greene suggested that student "input" be invited and Mrs. Barrier recommended that the new council, if organized, involve students other than those elected to school offices.

Following lengthy discussion, the

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