

Board Honors Retired Officer

The city board of commissioners voted Tuesday night to honor retired policeman Sgt. L.D. Beattie with his badge and police revolver.

Beattie retired April 12th after over 20 years service with the City of Kings Mountain.

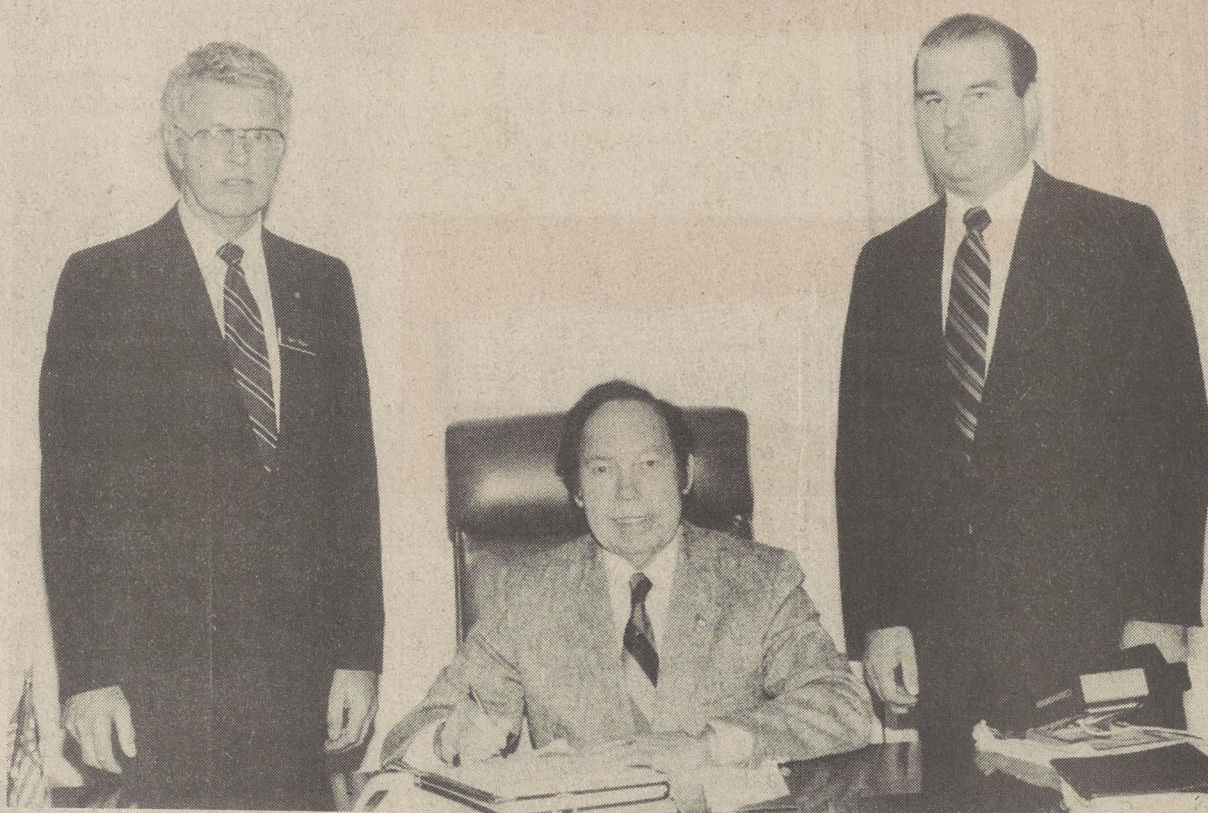
Chief of Police J.D. Barrett said that Beattie will be honored with appropriate ceremonies at a dinner to be hosted by the Police Department.

Board Okays Pool Money

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several minutes from the audience, among them members of the sponsoring Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club, Supt. Bill Davis and school board members Kyle Smith, Paul Hord, Jr. and Doyle Campbell.

Dr. Scott Mayse, chairman of the steering committee, for the Kiwanis Club, made the request for \$15,000 annually for operation and upkeep of the pool to be located at Kings Mountain Senior High School. "A large number of people have worked hard to give \$600,000 of a proposed \$750,000 cost. These people have worked for no personal gain. They love this community and they want to improve it. We need the help of the city to make this project a reality," he said.



THIS IS HOSPITAL WEEK — Kings Mountain Hospital Administrator Huitt Reep, left, and Director of Nursing Ron Bagwell observe as Mayor John Henry Moss, seated, signs an official proclamation on the occasion of National Hospital Week May 11-17. "Hospitals Make Healthy Neighbors" is theme of the observance and the proclamation pays tribute to the dedicated staff of the local hospital for providing high quality health care that helps Kings Mountain area citizens lead healthier lives.

This Is Senior Week

National Senior Center Week is May 11-17. Proclamations were issued from the President, Governor, and Kings Mountain's Mayor and Board of Commissioners.

"Senior Centers Are Wellness Centers" is this year's national theme. Senior

Centers promote life long good health through a variety of programs and services. It is the entry point for sharing resources of retired professionals and pooling community resources to expand service capability.

Kings Mountain Senior Center, volunteers, contributors and the enthusiasm of hundreds serves 2000 in-

dividuals 60,000 units of service annually.

Among the most exciting is Adopt-A-Grandparent. This program develops communication skills and friendships between individuals several generations apart.

Grandparents from Kings Mountain Senior Center and grandchildren from Central School completed a four week session May 13, as a highlight to Senior Center Week. A summary from both on the program was "Give Me More!" "I hope we have it next year at Junior High."

"As North Carolina's Delegate to the National Institute of Senior Centers/National Council on Aging, I wish to commend Kings Mountain for its "Senior Center", says Teresa Melton, Director.

Aides Raise Questions

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stated that their pay was prorated at 90 percent rather than 91.6 and that because of the error they've lost approximately 1½ hours every week they worked.

Van Dine's statement asked the board a number of questions which he said should be answered now so aides will know "where they stand" when school resumes in August. Those questions include:

"1 - Was the proration computed in 1979 accurate?

"2 - How many years was the 1979 proration formula utilized?

"3 - Will opting for the 37½ hour workweek in '86-'87 result in any reduction in their fringe benefits?

"4 - How will this affect teacher aides who also drive school buses?"

Van Dine said at least one school unit in his service area has eliminated fringe benefits for aides because they do not work a 40-hour week. Aides in Kings Mountain feel they deserve fringe benefits even if they do not work 40 hours per week, because they work the exact amount of hour as certified teachers, who receive full benefits.

Labor laws require overtime pay for all employees who work over 40 hours per week, and Van Dine said some aides who also drive buses work more than 40.

Some teacher aides attending Monday's meeting said during a break in the agenda that they have not been moved up the aide salary scale in years, and that in many cases a first-year aide makes as much as one with eight or more years experience. Van Dine said a good solution to the current problem would be for the school board to move a veteran aides up several steps on the salary scale. He said aides are usually moved up the scale only when legislation mandates a move, but the local board has authority to move them.

Many of the aides said they would like to have any back pay owed to them, even though it would not amount to a lot of money. Van Dine said there is no legal channels available to force the board to pay.

"Legally, they're probably off the hook, but not morally," he said.

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6-Weeks Grading To Begin From Page 1-A

mended is still as valid today as it was in March," Davis said. "It seems the issue has gotten to be a battle of wills, but it's simply an issue of which method better informs parents of the progress of their children. It doesn't need to be any more than that."

Smith said he polled many principals and teachers since the March vote. "Every teacher I talked to said they had not been asked before and that they favored the nine weeks grading period," he said.

McDaniel said he had also talked to "a fairly cross-section" and that most favored a six-weeks system. "I guess it just depends on who you talk to," he said.

Hord said he had talked to teachers and had received mixed reactions but that he still favored the nine-weeks system.

Campbell said he was "not aware that there was a problem" with the grading system, but that he favored the six-weeks period because it was recommended unanimously by the leadership team. "The superintendent and principals are in the position to know what is best in an area that I have no expertise in," he said.

Mrs. Lee added, "He said it very well."



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