

KM's Proposed 1987-88 Budget Up 16.5 Percent

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would pay \$400. An outside city customer has been paying \$226 for the 3/4 inch water tap but the cost to the city has been \$799.96. The new charges will be \$800. For a 4 inch sewer tap, an outside city resident has been paying \$225 and the actual cost to the city has been \$603.56. The new cost, under the new budget, will be \$725. An industrial user of gas has been paying cost plus 25 percent for gas tap and the city has paid cost, time and material. In the new budget, the cost to the customer will be cost, time and material plus 25 percent.

"Now at least the city will break even on tap fees and utility connections", said City Clerk Marvin Chappell. Building permit fees will also

Room To Honor Former Teacher

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many, many of her students. If she taught you, as you have grown older, you recognize and appreciate her influence on your life.

"Out of love and gratitude for what Mrs. Weir had done for so many students, a group of seven former students formed a committee and came up with this idea: that the former students of Mrs. Weir might like to honor her by raising the \$25,000 proposed for an auditorium at the Mauney Memorial Library. This auditorium to be dedicated in her honor as the Josephine E. Weir Auditorium (to be used for literary and cultural needs of the library and community). This sum constitutes a portion of the current \$200,000 Community Fund Raising Campaign for the much needed addition and renovation of the library. We hope this idea appeals to you and that you will support our efforts.

"The library, given in memory of Jacob S. Mauney by family members, has served the community well for forty years and we have undertaken this new venture to make sure that it continues to grow with our community and meet the needs of the future. Due to the growth of our programs and services additional space is badly needed at the present time and certainly will be needed even more so in the years to come. The Board of Trustees, after studying the space needs proposes to construct 2680 square feet of new space (we presently have 3312 square feet). The addition and renovation plan as show in the enclosed brochure will provide more floor space for books, and enlargement of the children's reading room, expansion of the Carolina Room and the addition of the Auditorium we are proposing in honor of Mrs. Weir.

Please take time to acquaint yourself with the plans for improving the library by examining the brochure or by viewing the plan displayed in the library.

"We as a committee are most excited about this effort and hope that you will be just as excited. Mrs. Weir is a most remarkable person and well-deserving of this honor. We feel that we have been most fortunate in Kings Mountain to have had her influence felt in so many areas of our lives.

"The enclosed card may be used in making gifts or pledges. Please acknowledge by July 1, 1987 by returning your card to:

MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
a/c Josephine E. Weir Fund
P.O. Box 16

Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086
Pledges may be made over a period of three years and are tax deductible.

The Josephine E. Weir Auditorium Committee Members:
Hazel Herndon Fryer
Susie McGinnis Howard
Sarah Finger Warren
Laura Mauney Houser
William S. Fulton, Jr.
Howard B. Jackson
George F. Ware

go up. Electric tap fees will also go up.

The new budget also provides for the positions of personnel manager (the board is now considering 70 applications for the job) and that of Superintendent of Public Works. The Police Department represents 16 percent of the budget and also calls for more money for police reserve. Street resurfacing is expected to cost \$158,046 plus paving, curb and gutter in the amount of \$101,404, a big piece of the "budget pie", said the Mayor.

Other big items projected in the general capital fund next year include \$76,000 in the Administration department for a computer system; \$98,500 in the Police Department for a radio base station and patrol cars; \$32,170 in the Fire Department for a pumper truck; \$51,975 in the Street Department for a truck, sweeper and sand spreader; \$45,000 in the Garbage department for a garbage packer and one flat bed trash truck; \$8,500 in Property and Maintenance for one tractor mower and a five foot sickle blade; \$10,000 in the Garage department for auto testers and service truck; \$7,500 in the codes department for a map copier; \$15,000 in the Aging Depart-

ment for a van; \$7,500 to the Lake Authority for a pontoon boat; \$3,500 in the Recreation Department for bleachers; \$100,000 for a walking track in the B.O.R. Project; and \$15,000 for surface drainage program on Bridges Drive.

The 1987-88 budget for governmental funds represents a 18.3 percent increase over this fiscal year's budget. The 1987-88 budget for the KM Utilities District Funds that cover the city's utility system, water, sewer, electric, and gas show a 12.8 percent increase compared to this year's budget.

Capital expenditures account for \$740,095 in the budget. Capital expenditures for the KM Utilities District-water, sewer, electric and gas, account for \$996,513. Street and water and sewer improvements have a high priority. Street maintenance \$428,275 and capital improvements of \$321,125 total \$749,400.

The proposed budget sets into place proposals for the development of programs to increase and replace lost revenues.

The Hydroelectric project, the Kings Mountain Utility System and the annexation program will provide the economic capability to sustain the operation of city

government, said Mayor Moss in his presentation at Monday's special meeting of the city board of commissioners.

The budget calls for strict accounting procedures and proposals for more employees in police and fire department. The city employs 161 full time employees, 26 part time employees and 38 volunteers and reserves. The city's projected travel policy for employees is also outlined in the budget and the Mayor said that in his 22 and one half years of service he had found "our people very responsible in regard to travel and personal costs". The Mayor said the new budget proposes a new personnel department and addresses the need of utility extensions and proposes a strong cost management policy. He said the city tax rate of 50 cents per \$100 property valuation is the same is unchanged and the budget of \$4.1 million for the city's general expense fund and \$12.6 million for city utilities "will escalate economic, social and cultural opportunities for all our citizens."

Moss said he is proposing the cash management policy, also detailed in the budget, to promote cost efficiency and

fiscal responsibility and better investment of city funds. There is a specific resolution directed to the city clerk about establishing controls to prevent losses of public money, there is a detailed description at the beginning of each department index detailing the expenditures of each department.

The city owes \$1,370,000, according to the budget indebtedness columns. The Mayor said the city has never had bond indebtedness in many years not spent in revenue producing facilities. "I am quite proud of the surplus," he said.

"I compared this year's budget with the first budget I worked on for the city in 1985-86," said the Mayor. The budget total was \$997,338.78 and the tax rate was .85 cents per \$100 valuation.

The city in 1987 has 3,650 electric customers, 67 miles of gas lines, 64.6 miles of electric lines and two sub stations, 54.24 miles of streets with over 80 percent curb and gutter and 50.18 miles of paving; 76.8 miles of water lines with 14 pump stations, 94.92 miles of sewer and 24 pump stations and its water supply at Moss Lake.

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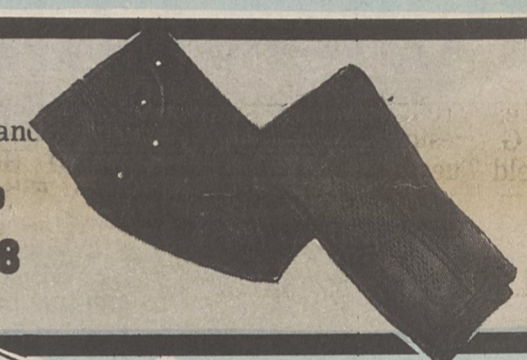
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