

Photographer Charges Conflict Of Interest In School Photos

Shelby photographer Lem Lynch appeared before the Kings Mountain Board of Education for the second time Monday night complaining about the school system's policy of letting bids for photography business.

Lynch told the board that he had bid on annual pictures at the high school and the bid was awarded to Delmar Studios. Lynch claimed, the bidding form given to him stipulated that the photographer who was awarded the annual pictures bid would also take sports pictures and make packages available to players.

Lynch said that Delmar did not make football pictures but that a photographer who is employed at Kings Mountain High School did. Lynch claimed that constitutes a "conflict of interest" because the school employee has access to information that other photographers do not have.

"If I had gotten the bid, would the teacher been given the football picture business?" Lynch asked Supt. Bob McRae. "I assume not," McRae answered.

McRae said he disagreed that the high school teacher was in a "conflict of interest" because when school

employees do sideline work on school days they must take personal leave from their school job. McRae also said that he designates such items as bidding for pictures to principals and that each principal has the right to designate that authority to a coach or team sponsor.

"If the pictures are taken during the school day, the employee would have to request personal leave," McRae said.

In the case of football pictures, they are made during the summer months and before the start of the school year. But Lynch claimed

there have been instances when the school photographer in question took pictures on school time without taking a personal leave.

"I've only been superintendent for a year and a half," McRae said. "If he takes pic-

tures for his own gain during school time, he has to take personal leave in increments of half-days or more depending upon how much time he is away from school. I can't speak to anything that might have happened before I became superintendent, but if anyone has taken pictures

on school time without taking personal leave I don't have any knowledge of it."

The board discussed the matter further with Lynch, KMHS principal Ronnie Wilson and board attorney Scott Cloninger in executive session, but no action was taken.

KINGS MOUNTAIN CITY ELECTIONS - 1987

ISSUE #1: SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

By State statute changes in elected officials salaries or compensation cannot be changed by vote or resolution until the new budget resolution is proposed in July 1988. However, individual Commissioners and the Mayor can agree to a reduction during the budget term regardless of the wishes of the remaining board members.

POINT — With the adoption of a City Manager form of Government at the September 8, 1987 City Council meeting and the pledge to hire the New City Manager "as soon as possible", the salary issue becomes relevant. The day the City Manager is installed, the duties of the Mayor and Commissioners will be reduced substantially. Most of the duties will be assumed by the City Manager leaving the Mayor and Commissioners as basically a policy making body.

If the City Manager is hired January 1 (or February 1, March 1, etc.), should the Mayor and City Commissioners be paid at the same rates as they are currently --Mayor - \$33,000 a year; Commissioners - \$4800 a year - until the budget is drawn up in July 1988?

ACGG POSITION - An unqualified NO! We feel that the salaries should be reduced to levels equal to that paid by other towns and cities similar in size to Kings Mountain. The newly elected officials AND those elected in 1985 should pledge and promise to take a reduction in salary the day the City Manager is installed and not any later. For the Mayor and Commissioners to continue their salaries at the same rate until the new budget resolution in July 1988 is made would be a complete waste of the taxpayers money.

WHAT IS THE POSITION OF THE CANDIDATES?

CITIZENS OF KINGS MOUNTAIN ASK THEM!!! IT'S YOUR MONEY!!!

ACTION COMMITTEE FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT

Paid Pol. Adv.

Mountaineer Days Slated

Circle your calendar for Friday, Oct. 2 and Saturday, Oct. 3 and attend Mountaineer Days 1987 in Kings Mountain.

Friday events will feature a street dance at 8 p.m. on Battleground Avenue and continuing until 12 p.m. A street dance will also be held on Saturday evening from 8 until midnight and followed by fireworks.

Anyone wishing to place something in the program should call in advance Jim Downey, 734-0333 from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. and after 4 p.m. 739-3148.

Opening ceremonies on Sat., Oct. 3, will be held on Battleground Avenue from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. followed by an ongoing program from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. An arts and crafts exhibit will be open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at City Hall, bingo games in the Fire Department from 5 until 9 p.m., special exhibits on Battleground Avenue from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., show cars on Cherokee St. from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., tractor trucks on exhibit on E. Gold St. from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts exhibit on Lake Street throughout the weekend; horseshoe contests from 1 until 5 p.m. on Spruce Street and fireworks on Railroad Avenue at midnight on Sat., Oct. 3.

Meet Candidates

From Page 1-A

Friday that KM utility police officer Mike Sanders is withdrawing from the District 4 race.

Mrs. Cook said voters can still register for the school board election and city run-off election by Oct. 5th at Mauney Memorial Library. Registration has closed for the city election Oct. 6.

Since the city is conducting its own elections, no absentee voting will be permitted, said Mrs. Cook, who reminded that absentee voting will be permitted in the board of education race Nov. 3 which is conducted by the county at the same time as the general election. If a run-off in the city municipal election is required it will also be held on Nov. 3.

The candidate list:

For Mayor: Irvin (Tootie) Allen, Kyle Smith, Norman King, James Edward Carroll, Steve Russell Belt and Gilbert Hamrick.

For District I Commissioner: Ken Jenkins, Al Moretz, Marshall Mullinax, Carl Goforth and Lyn Cheshire.

For District III Commissioner: Corbet Nicholson, Clavon Kelly, Norma Bridges, Robert Poston, Jr., Wayne Worcester and Ronnie Franks.

For District IV Commissioner: Jackie Dean Barrett, Jeff Gregory and Joe King.