

12-Inch Snow Cripples KM Area

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cies come first, which means that main thoroughfares to the city, entrances to the hospital and the doctor's clinics, and cleaning away of snow removal for any emergency case comes first. Karl Moss, supervisor of 20 city street employees, said his crews started spreading salt, slag and sand on city streets and bridges but that snow packed upon ice found their efforts futile. The mayor said street crews worked about 300 hours overtime during the weekend, responding to calls and the ci-

Testa's Request Is Denied

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agenda. The board set public hearing for Feb. 9th at 7 p.m. on annexation request of newly constructed Comfort Inn on York Road but received petition from Roger and Kay Guin for their proposed residential development in Gaston County and then referred it to the zoning board for additional information and study after Commissioner Al Moretz questioned costs. The board then tabled setting a date of a public hearing on Guin's request.

In other actions during a two hour session followed by an executive session, the board:

Unanimously reappointed W.K. Dickson Co. of Charlotte as the city's consulting engineering firm on motion of Commissioner Humes Houston, seconded by Commissioner Humes Houston, seconded by Commissioner Norma Bridges. Commissioner Al Moretz said the city needs a consulting service and concurred with Commissioner Fred Finger's suggestion that the board ask for quotations on small projects and approve each proposal.

Developer John Barker of Shelby presented a proposal for development of KOA Campgrounds for five small businesses to be constructed by David Hoyle and Associates. He said the five or six parcels would also include cul de sacs, a first class park for leasing of manufacturing spaces of 150,000 square feet at cost of \$3.5 million to be completed in a two to three year period. Barker requested city services and estimated taxable revenue would exceed \$7 million. Commissioner Al Moretz asked for more details of the project and suggested that developers return to the city council about June after determining the exact cost of the city's investment. The property is located inside the city limits but closest sewer connection is on Marie Street and the project would involve some road construction.

Mayor Smith commended Sgt. Houston Corn, Police Officer of the Year, Jackie Barnette, Reserve Officer of

ty spent about \$4,000 in snow removal, including wages and fuel to operate the vehicles. "We had four graders going, one broke down, and handled every emergency call we received", he said. The mayor said that two private electrical companies were on stand-by to assist city electrical crews in case of icing on power lines. "Thank goodness we didn't have that, we were lucky", said the mayor.

Mayor Smith said that one citizen called for transportation to a hospital for kidney

the Year, and Assistant Police Chief Bob Hayes, runner up administrator of the year in Region C and special presentations were made to Captain Hayes by Chief of Police Warren Goforth.

Street assessment rolls for Margaret Street and Country Club Circle were tabled after Commissioner Al Moretz, a resident engineer, called attention to discrepancies in costs of gravel and some property owners questioned higher costs. The city splits 50-50 with property owners the costs of materials but Dr. David McDaniel, and Ken Shick, both of Merrimont Circle, said there was a big difference in costs to Merrimont residents and McDaniel called his assessment 100 percent more than it was three years ago when his street was paved and guttered.

Karl Moss, Department head in the street department, said that concrete prices have gone up twice in the past two years and price of asphalt is up.

The Board authorized transfer of franchise request from Jones Intercable, Inc.

The board received computer bids but deferred action until bid presentation to be scheduled within 6-8 weeks. The first year costs range from \$51,920 to \$149,900. Ten companies have submitted bids.

After executive session, the board authorized City Electrical Supt. Jimmy Maney to pursue feasibility of running a gas line to one house at the end of Lee Street and to hire three linemen in the electric department.

City Attorney Mickey Corry was asked to communicate with a city employee on a personnel matter.

The Board discussed but took no action on Title V position in the Aging Department.

The Board adopted resolution of proclamation of Monday, Jan. 18, as Martin Luther King Day.

dialysis and when the city truck got over to the patient's house an ambulance, which had been on another call, came to transport the patient to Shelby.

The mayor said that some citizens on North Sims Street and Groves Street asked that city crews not scrape the road so that the kids could enjoy sledding. "We left them alone and then got calls from some of the neighbors complaining that the road had not been scraped," he said.

The mayor said he received complaints about sledders on city streets. He said he is not aware of an ordinance prohibiting sledders on city streets.

"When we scraped we got down to the ice and thus were unable to move much of the snow", said Karl Moss.

At least one person fell in the snow and was injured. Mrs. Frances Goforth, walking from her car in the back parking lot of First Presbyterian Church, fell and was injured.

Traffic was a problem as more quickly than usual the snowflakes began falling and in several hours was falling in quantity and giving citizens their biggest snowfall in many years. Charlotte weather forecasters said Charlotte had not had such a heavy snowfall in two decades or more.

Kings Mountain's last major snowfall was in December 1971. D.C. Payseur, Jr. said he had no trouble remembering that 10-14 inch snowfall. He said he suffered a heart attack during the snow and was rushed to the hospital.

Service station dealers sold out of chains quickly. Several hundred vehicles on I-85 south got stranded and closed that major highway for several days with National Guardsmen rushing to the aid of motorists.

Douglas International Airport in Charlotte closed for only the third time in history, closing about 3 p.m. Thurs-

day afternoon and stranding several hundreds of travelers in the airport overnight. Since all first class mail comes via air, no mail was delivered in this area.

Postmaster Fred Weaver said that Kings Mountain postal workers started out on their routes Thursday morning but the snow piled up so fast they had to return without completing mail deliveries. There was no mail delivery on Friday. The Kings Mountain Herald, published on Wednesday, was not delivered on rural routes until Saturday. Postmaster Weaver said the postal rush was about back to normal with the exception of trying to clear away all the snow which piled up in the post office parking lot and was causing postal patrons considerable difficulty.

Most downtown businesses closed Thursday and Friday. Some churches especially those in the rural area, did not hold services Sunday.

The quality of the snow was light and airy and was ideal for snow cream and sledding.

Temperatures, which dipped to 8 and 10 degrees, made returning to normal not very easy for citizens as they began to dig out from last week's snowstorm. Many

secondarily roads remained icy and hazardous as citizens returned to work on Monday. The problem was expected to improve significantly with 50 degree temperatures Tuesday and anticipated high temperatures on Wednesday. However, weather forecasters were predicting light snow or sleet and rain by Friday with the low in the teens again this weekend.

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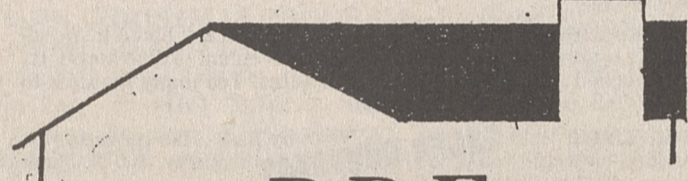
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