

Football Contest!
WIN \$100.00
 Page 7C

Homecoming Friday
Logo Brings Back Memories

MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
 100 S. PIEDMONT AVE.
 KINGS MOUNTAIN, N.C. 28086

Kings Mountain Herald

VOL. 101 NUMBER 42 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1988 KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA 25°

Bond Issue Will Seek Over \$9 Million Dollars

Rate Adjustments Will Pay For Bonds

Kings Mountain plans to repay the bonds it hopes to issue through adjustments in water sewer rates which may increase 60 percent.

City Manager George Wood made the projection Tuesday night during public hearing in which citizens voiced support of a proposed referendum for \$9 million for utility improvements.

"This is only a ballpark figure pending the result of a rate study now underway," said Wood who said if the water and sewer departments become self-sufficient, electrical rates should not

be increased to pay for electrical system improvements.

Wood said that the increase would be phased in over a period of time but that the current water rates would probably go up from 52 cents to 83 cents and the current sewer rate would go up from 35 cents to 56 cents. "This means we're still below the state average for water and sewer," he told a large crowd in attendance for a public hearing the city council conducted at the regular meeting.

Turn To Page 9-A

City Council will ask Kings Mountain citizens to approve a \$9,230,200.00 bond referendum in late January or early February for upgrading utilities.

The figure is \$3,048,800.00 less than anticipated, however, City Manager George Wood said that to fund the initial proposal by the city utilities committee would have meant a bond referendum in the neighborhood of \$16 million.

A resolution adopted Tuesday night approves the formal filing of an application and notice of intent to issue general obligation bonds totaling \$9,230,200.00.

The bonds would consist of:

- water - \$3,629,500.00
- electric - \$1,811,500.00

• sewer - \$3,789,200.00

Tuesday's action follows a recommendation of the city utilities committee which took their original suggestions back to the drawing board last week in major revisions which scrapped plans for expansion of the city's water treatment plant capacity and construction of a second water line from the treatment plant to the city. The cost of those projects alone would have amounted to \$7.5 million.

Utility Committee Chairman Al Moretz said the alternative proposal recommends construction of a storage facility for treated water. The capacity of that facility, which could be a ground level con-

Turn To Page 8-A

City Has \$1.3 Million Increase, Auditor Reports

The city showed a \$1.3 million increase in assets in fiscal year 1987-88 a good job of budgetary activity and achieving it, according to auditors with Price Waterhouse which recently completed the annual audit of the city's books.

Tim Trost, audit manager of Price Waterhouse, Greenville, S.C. said the audit showed a healthy increase in retained earnings. He gave the city high marks for credit worthiness. The city showed a working capital of \$1.4 million, up from \$1.1 million in increased additions to fixed assets and a half million dollar decrease in fund balances during the year. For the past two years the operating income has increased \$2 million, Trost said.

He congratulated new City Manager George Wood and said Kings Mountain, like most cities, is experiencing "growing pains." He congratulated Wood, City Clerk Marvin Chappell and the city staff for doing a good job with a small staff but said there was room for further improvements in internal control. Trost said that City Hall employees are quite receptive to suggestions made in the audit report and that Wood is already implementing some of them which deal with lack of segregation of duties. The auditors suggest a strengthening of internal control surrounding cash receipts and disbursements and in purchases and payable functions. They suggest that a formal receiving policy be established, documented and communicated to all personnel involved and recommend the use of prenumbered receiving reports with different sequence for each department, routing of all supporting documents promptly to accounting upon receipt of goods, preparation of receiving reports for all items received at the central warehouse, and that the purchasing department promptly inform accounting of returns of goods to insure proper vendor credit is received.

The auditors recommend that personnel files contain written documentation of approval for hire and wage rates. These files should be updated in writing for all changes to employment status and wage rates. The auditors recommend the city require unclaimed payroll checks and W-2's be returned directly to management rather than to department supervisors or payroll processing clerks, that department supervisors comply with established procedures requiring written approval of hours worked on all timecards and that someone independent of payroll processing prepare the monthly payroll account bank reconciliation. Management should review and approve in writing all reconciliations.

The auditors noted a significant lack of segregation of duties surrounding the cash function could result in undetected misappropriation of funds and recommended that bank reconciliations for all accounts be prepared on a timely basis by someone independent of cash receipts and cash disbursement proceedings; the combination of the vault be changed each time an accounting department employee leaves the city or at least yearly; that a control log be maintained for all checks and numerical continuity of need, unused and voided checks be reconciled at least monthly.

Councilman Al Moretz suggested the recently installed computer system a solution but the accountant said that segregated duties are difficult

Turn To Page 9-A



Walk To KM

Photo by Denice Talbert

Members of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association are shown walking into Kings Mountain National Military Park for Friday for the celebration of the 208th anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain. The marchers re-trace the steps of the battle participants each fall, beginning their trek in Abingdon, Va.

KM Utility Committee Meets

A three-hour session of the utilities committee, city staff and consulting engineers at city hall last Thursday resulted in formulation of a recommendation on the up-coming bond package which was presented to the city council at Tuesday night's meeting.

But it also resulted in taking another step toward a city-wide drainage policy, a matter brought to a head at the last council meeting after protest by Sandy Etters over a problem on her property that the city "has promised for eight years to correct," according to Ms. Etters.

Ms. Etters was present at the meeting Thursday, along with

her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stony Jackson, who have complained that their grandchildren have "been eaten up" by insects this summer.

"Everytime we get close to a solution with the city on the problem," Jackson said, "you (the city) changes drivers." He told the group that the family has dealt with several sets of city commissioners.

"We want to know that you are working on the problem and we can see that a lot is involved toward a city-wide policy adoption," Mrs. Etters said.

Mrs. Etters at the Sept. 27 meeting had presented a letter dated Dec. 15, 1987, and signed by

Mayor John H. Moss, stating that the city's construction and maintenance coordinator and a consulting engineer would visit the area. Nothing was done then, Ms. Etters said.

Committee Chairman Al Moretz, who presided, and City Manager George Wood again stated that all poorly drained areas of the city should be looked at and considered in devising a policy concerning surface water runoff.

Councilmen Humes Houston and Fred Finger were present as were Karl Moss, Gene White, Marvin Chappell, Walt Ollis and Jimmy Maney of the city staff

Turn To Page 2-A

Annexation Priorities Will Be Discussed

City officials will pinpoint specific priorities on annexation with planners with the N.C. Natural Resources and Community Development Department Thursday.

Planning and Economic Development Director (Eugene White said the meeting will renew working relationships with the city and state planners and that the Annexation committee will make specific recommendations to City Council.

During presentation on annexation priorities, White said that the recommended order of priority for annexation during a 1976 study targeted West, East, South, and North. Considering present growth patterns, utilities in place and the annexation agreement with Gastonia recently, the order of priority may have to be West, East, North and South, he said.

White pointed out that since there is no zoning in place in Gaston or Cleveland Counties, except Moss Lake, the City of Kings Mountain is in a vulnerable position regarding unregulated growth in the fringe areas. Consumers outside the city who receive some or all direct basic services include 25 manufacturing industries, 10 commercial businesses, six miscellaneous customers and 185 individuals, he said. There are additional miscellaneous customers such as Gold Run, Quail Run, and Huffman Sub-Division on 74 West near Pilot Plant which are not presently contiguous and will not be for some time in the future, he said. He said that similar cases will be strictly governed by water and sewer extension policies in the future.

White recommended that the Council waive the fee for annexation by petition, notify and invite all property owners who are presently receiving some or all city services and who are contiguous to the city limits to apply for annexation by petition, and include those property owners who decline in annexation by Municipal Ordinance. He also recommended the Council renew the resolution of consideration, a required procedure, due to expire December 1988.

A third public hearing Tuesday night was delayed at suggestion of City Attorney Mickey Corry over objections of City Manager George Wood, who said that citizens had been notified by certified letter of the meeting to hear concerns over possible demolition by the city of property at 214 Lackey Street, 826 Second Street, and 803 Second Street. Wood yielded to the city attorney's request but apologized to citizens in the audience who wanted to speak. Brenda Foster objected to the delay and one property owner had come from Michigan to get the matter resolved. Wood said "the city has not gone through this process in sometime and all research should be done when dealing with property rights." Council agreed.

UF Contributions Rise

Kings Mountain United Fund contributions rose to \$47,369 this week or 41 percent of the goal.

As the final report meeting nears on Oct. 21, campaign chairman Bob McRae urged all volunteers to complete their solicitations as quickly as possible. Persons not contacted about giving a day's pay as a "fair share" gift to 15 agencies are asked to mail their contributions directly to the fund treasurer at P.O. Box 122, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086.

This year's drive seeks a record goal of \$115,500.

Your one gift will benefit such deserving agencies as the American Red Cross, the Ministerial Association Helping Hand and Chaplain's fund, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, Kings Mountain and Grover Rescue Squads, Cleveland County Shelter Home, Kings Mountain Boys Club, CODAP, Hospice, Cleveland County Mental Health Association, Cleveland Vocational Industries, Child Abuse Prevention and Cleveland County Abuse Prevention Council.

Send Your Recipes For Herald Cookbook

Just in time for the holidays will be a first Kings Mountain Herald Cookbook to appear in the Wed., Nov. 23 edition.

Since Kings Mountain is well known for the good cooks in the area and since the Herald's Cooking Corner is a popular feature, the Cookbook will include recipes from Kings Mountain area people - men, women, boys and girls. The tabloid will also include stories about Kings Mountain chefs.

Readers are invited to submit their favorite recipes now for the publication. Mail recipes to Cookbook, Kings Mountain Herald, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086.

This is not a contest to select the best dishes, because all the recipes featured in the weekly Cooking Corner have been tried and tested by those submitting them. Readers tell the editors they enjoy clipping out recipes to add to their own recipe file.

Heart Attack Is Fatal To Jimmy Cloninger, 41

James Laben "Jimmy" Cloninger, 41, Kings Mountain business and civic leader, died Saturday, at 8:45 a.m., in Fairfield Memorial Hospital in Winnsboro, S.C., shortly after suffering a heart attack while on a hunting trip.



CLONINGER

A resident of 506 Ellenwood Drive, Cloninger was employed by First Federal Savings and Loan and was active in a number of community endeavors. He was a member of First Baptist Church, a Mason in Fairview Lodge No. 339, and was past president of the Kings Mountain Rotary Club.

Cloninger was the son of the late James and Ruth Black Cloninger and was a 1965 graduate of Kings Mountain High School where he was an All-State end on the 1964 championship football team and starting forward on the 1964-65 championship basketball team. He attended Appalachian State University and sold insurance in Richmond, Va., before returning to Kings Mountain.

He is survived by his wife, Juanita Dellinger Cloninger; one son, Todd Cloninger of Kings Mountain; one daughter, Lisa Cloninger of Kings Mountain; and one stepson, John Van Dyke III of Kings Mountain.

Funeral services were conducted Monday at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church by Dr. John Sloan and Dr. Joel Jenkins. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

INSIDE AT A GLANCE

KM Lions Club
Notes 50th Anniversary

PAGE 3-C

KMHS Volleyball Team
Wins Conference Championship

PAGE 3-B

George Thomasson
KM Lawyer For 35 Years

PAGE 7-A

- Classifieds 11-B
- Clubs 2-C
- Community News 3-B
- Editorials 4-A
- Food 10-C
- Lifestyles 1-C
- Obituaries 2-A
- Religion 8-C
- Sports 3-B
- Weddings 4-C

42

PAGES TODAY

