

CONFLICT

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A spokesman from the audience asked to speak on the issue but was silenced.

Corry said that the board should have a policy in writing.

No vote was officially taken on the sick leave policy but the Mayor said the board consented to leaving it as is and following the same policy as the post office for holidays.

"Our offices don't need to be open when the post office is closed," said the mayor.

After hearing two reports, the board recessed reports for an hour for an executive session before taking up other business.

Cindy Cook asked Council to make up its minds on whether or not the general public could speak for three minutes at the open meetings. "You tell me one thing one month and the next month you shut me up," she said.

Queen said a notice was put on the front door that gives citizens three minutes to speak on any issue they wish to speak on at the end of the meeting. Cook said she was not allowed to speak at the last meeting unless she placed her name on an agenda.

Cook said she placed her name on the agenda for the Monday meeting. "I'm a taxpayer and I don't want to be short-changed," said Cook. "I want to speak."

MEETING

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fourth annual budget/planning retreat next month and work up the 1994-95 city budget. Last year's budget topped \$19 million.

Neisler said he will call on Jake Wicker, formerly with the Institute of Government and now retired in Chapel Hill, to help in the process. Wicker was called on by former Mayor Kyle Smith to begin the screening process which resulted in the hiring of George Wood of Southern Pines May 9, 1988.

"We have to go through the process now of continuing the strong government under George's leadership," said the mayor.

"I am very disappointed that George is leaving us but I wish him well," said Neisler.

ZONING

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extra territorial or land outside town that falls under the town's zoning restrictions, and etc.

The new ordinance contains a provision for non-conforming use of a parcel of land, commonly known as a grandfather clause.

Two matters concerning property uses were tabled at Monday's board meeting.

Businessman Tommy Keeter wants to put up 30 mobile homes on his property beside of Grover Cemetery and develop them 10 at a time. He requested water and sewer from the town. Councilman Jack Herndon suggested that Queen contact an engineer to look at the property before the board makes a decision.

Another citizen wants to put up a trailer on Chestnut Street. No present ordinance prohibits it but City Attorney Mickey Corry suggested that the woman place the request on the agenda for the next board meeting. Corry said the board could legally issue a moratorium until the zoning map is approved but no action was taken. Queen said the woman wants a trailer permit and a sewer tap.

Rollins said the new zoning ordinances may have an effect on both the Keeter proposal and the mobile home request. He said that the new ordinance calls for a buffer between the cemetery and other lots and that the trailers would have to sit 50 feet from the property line. He suggested that the board take a look at the ordinance as it affected the new requests.

Rollins said that what appears to be a junk yard with junked vehicles is going up on Highway 226 and is inconsistent with the proposed zoning. Councilman Robbie Sides said that some trailers and as many as 10 junked cars are currently on the lot. He said an ordinance is already on the books that prohibits junked vehicles.

Rollins said the zoning recommendations were based on land use trends in the various areas of town and what the zoning board felt would be a logical growth pattern.

"I don't think there will be much opposition to the zoning map because land can be used as it is being used now," said Rollins. "Any time you begin to regulate construction there will be some objection because people see it as a restriction rather than a protection. Right now anybody can do anything anywhere in Grover."

SHOCK

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Hager said Kings Mountain has come a long way since the implementation of the City Manager/Council form of government. "I'm glad George could set the pattern for us to follow."

Hager said that Council needs to work together on one accord and see Wood's goals for Kings Mountain through to fruition.

City planner Gene White said George Wood was the right man at the right time at the right place and will do a good job for Cleveland, Tennessee. "I learned a lot from him and I was lucky to work with him."

"Mr. Wood's leaving is a loss to the city," said Fire Chief Frank Burns.

City Clerk Marilyn Sellers also praised Wood for his leadership and said she wished him well in his new position. Sellers said Wood has a wide reputation as a professional administrator.

GEORGE WOOD

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was among 162 people vying for the job and the applicants were narrowed to five and then to two this week.

Cleveland is located 28 miles northeast of Chattanooga on Interstate 75.

"This is their first city manager position and I am excited by the opportunity to assist in this transition to the Council-Manager form of government," said Wood.

Wood came to Kings Mountain May 9, 1988. His annual salary is \$58,000 plus \$250 a month car allowance. He and his wife, Pam Hinson Wood, had bought a new home in Kings Mountain. Their son, Andrew, is a second grade student at West School. Mrs. Wood and Andrew will continue to live in their home here until the end of the school term. Mrs. Wood has been employed at Carolina State Bank.

Wood said he is proud of the accomplishments of Kings Mountain over the last six years.

In his letter to Council, he said, "You have made a successful transition to the Council-Manager form of government; saved \$3.0 million on the Crowders Waste Water Treatment Plant with Gastonia; improved your internal accounting and budgeting systems; recruited six new industries and helped the expansion of others; improved your equipment, vehicles and installed the E911 communications center. You have a balanced budget and a solid system of annual budget planning sessions to continue this progress."

Wood told department heads of his decision to resign at a 4:30 p.m. meeting Monday. He praised the

160-plus employees as the city's greatest asset.

"Kings Mountain has developed a municipal organization that surrounding communities have come to recognize for solid service delivery and innovation. I have never been prouder of any group than I was of these employees in the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo. I have enjoyed my association with both Mayor Neisler and former Mayor Kyle Smith and the current and former council members who have worked diligently to bring progress to this community," said Wood.

Wood said in his letter to Council that he was particularly grateful for the advice and counsel of City Attorney Mickey Corry, whose service to this city he called outstanding.

"Kings Mountain is poised for further economic development and growth as the Charlotte region continues to expand and you are positioned well to benefit from it," he said.

Wood came to Kings Mountain from Pinehurst where he was manager for 5-1/2 years. Before that he was manager in Kingstree, SC for two years; city administrator in Lancaster, SC for a year and assistant to the city manager in Salina, Kansas. He completed graduate school at the University of Kansas and holds a Master's degree in public administration, Class of 1978. He was graduated from Georgia Southern University in 1974 with a B.S. degree in political science. He is a native of Savannah, Ga.

In Kings Mountain the Woods have been active in First Baptist Church. Wood has been active in the Rotary Club, the Crisis Ministry board, United Fund and on Cleveland Tomorrow serves as vice-president for economic development. He is treasurer of Electricities and has served on that board since 1991.

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