



VEST FOR POLICE - Walter Wade, left, treasurer of the Kings Mountain Rotary Club, presents a check for \$450 to the City of Kings Mountain Police Department to purchase a ballistic vest. Accepting the check is Interim Chief Bob Hayes as City Finance Director and Rotarian Maxine Parsons looks on.

Kings Mountain Weather Report

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

	May 17-23	Year Ago
Total precipitation	.54	0
Maximum one day	.43 (18th)	0
Year to date	19.62	20.86
Minimum temperature	48 (19th)	46 (20th)
Maximum temperature	88 (21st)	90 (23rd)
Average temperature	71.1	63.6

HOSPITAL

From Page 1-A

there through June 30 and Dr. Paramjit Shergill will have it open on Saturday, July 1, and plans to be open six days a week, including Saturday hours," said Neal. The Paramjit family has pur-

chased a home in Country Creek in Kings Mountain.

Neal said that two new doctors from Canada are expected in August and will also be admitting patients in Kings Mountain Hospital. At least two more Canadian doctors have indicated interest in practicing in Kings Mountain next year.

BILLS

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the finance department at cost of approximately \$13,000.

The board indicated funding for two police cars, a dog truck, money for updating of zoning ordinances, a tractor, improvements at the Community Center, Senior Center, City Hall and Library, giving department heads a choice if the department head had recommended several items. Most of the

projects left over from last year's budget planning session when spending was curtailed will probably be approved.

Council indicated it would approve a 3 percent across-the-board cost of living adjustment for the 160-plus city employees but the budget does not call for merit raises.

The proposed pay plan is not funded in the preliminary budget. Council indicated it needed more study and will return it to MAPS consultants with an eye to looking at it again during the year.

MAYOR

From Page 1-A

year Neisler has again faxed copies of his proposals to the LGC but he said he was told in a telephone conversation that the city needs to "remain on course."

"If we don't have the cash to put 8 percent of the estimated general fund in reserves, don't do it," said Neisler. Councilwoman Norman Bridges agreed but Councilman Jim Guyton argued that Council could not make the 8 percent goal this year.

"You're trying to get back to the Mayor/Council form of government, Scott," said Guyton.

But the mayor said he saw no harm in making transfers if the city has the cash.

"Let's take the gloves off, fellas," he said.

Mayor pro tem Rick Murphrey said that transferring money from one fund to the other was a false impression and made the general fund look good on paper but the state rules against such procedures.

If the year ends as City Manager Chuck Nance projects, Kings Mountain will have approximately \$615,000 in all accounts but not 8 percent in the general fund for reserves which would amount to a little more than \$300,000 to be set aside for emergencies.

"We're not where we need to be but we are better than we were," Nance said.

Nance and Finance Director Maxine Parsons said that if the city continues on its conservative course the reserve balance will build slowly.

Neisler proposes that the city can rebuild its reserves and meet the state's standards this year and avoid more reprimands from the LGC by:

Adding surplus from water and sewer funds, estimated at \$202,999.

Adding surplus from gas and

electric funds, estimated at \$50,000.

Put added funds into reserve fund balance of \$105,750 for total of \$258,749.

Cover an expected deficit in the electric fund with budgeted fund reserves.

But Council members said one problem with the Neisler plan is that the electric fund will end the year with a \$8,565 deficit and taking the money from the individual funds will decrease much-needed capital outlay for next year.

Parsons said that in order to transfer money from fund to fund the fund must have more revenues than expenditures and enough cash on hand to transfer. The gas and electric funds are already projected to come in under their expected levels of transfers to the general fund by about \$100,000. The gas department owes more than \$300,000 to the water and sewer department for funds borrowed at the end of the 1993-94 fiscal year when the gas department was in a deficit.

Bridges said she was not comfortable with giving raises and spending money when the city would probably get another letter from the LGC about not meeting the 8 percent reserve requirements.

"The LGC will be excited that we have come this far by cutting expenses," said Murphrey.

"We were in the red \$1.3 million when we started this year and we did not get in a hole over night," said Guyton.

"Let's don't play politics with two or three budgets but adopt another conservative budget and get the city back on its feet," said Councilman Ralph Grindstaff.

"Quit trying to get the figures to bounce around to make the other look good."

GRANT

From Page 1-A

Registry of Historic Buildings. Because of that designation, the kind of renovation and improvements that can be done are limited.

Plonk said that most of the renovation will include repairs to the building that has stood empty for eight years.

Plonk said that a hole in the roof has led to some significant damage to the original wood floors of the building but that the flooring will

not have to be removed entirely.

Plonk said that the building will be left as much in its original state as possible, with the same light fixtures, radiators, doors and other fixtures that were installed in the late 1930s.

"We have not actively asked for artifacts and other memorabilia because we haven't had a place to display or store them," said Plonk.

"Now we will have plenty of room to preserve the memories of days past in a city whose name is nearly synonymous with the area's history."

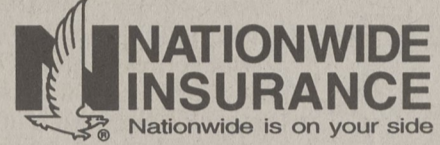
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