

# Grover approves curbside collection, discusses park

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

Grover town council voted unanimously Monday night to move forward with curbside, rollout garbage collection. The service is planned to begin the first Friday in November.

Republic Services of North Carolina - D.B.A. GDS Cleveland, will provide approximately 310 rollout containers to Grover. Each brown plastic receptacle will hold 96 gallons. The company will be responsible for any repair or replacement of the cans. Homes will be limited to two containers. Cost will be \$4 per month to be added to the customer's water bill. The Town of Grover will pay \$5.25 each for the receptacles, making a total cost of \$9.25 per month for each one.

"I've had a lot of calls ever since we began considering rollout garbage service," said

Grover mayor Bill Favell. "No one seems to be against it."

The three year contract with GDS will include a provision to adjust the price of service up or down after 12 months depending on the Cost of Living Index. There is also a provision for service to the handicapped. Some items that won't be allowed in the cans include dead animals, tires or construction materials. Anyone who wants two cans will have to pay the full \$9.25 for the second one themselves.

After the motion to go into contract with GDS was approved, an amendment was made to the 2000-2001 Grover budget to pay for the extra expense of the rollouts. A total of \$4,500 was transferred from the capital outlay fund to the sanitation account for this purpose. The money was moved to pay for eight months of service at an additional \$542.50 per month.

In other Grover council news, a serious discussion was entered into concerning the city park.

"We continue to have problems at the park," Favell said. "We have a great park and it seems as if someone is always trying to destroy it."

Difficulties Favell cited include spray painted graffiti, broken bathrooms, drug use and suspicious parking.

Police chief Ed Pheagin also expressed concern over the park situation.

"I'm beside myself trying to think of a way to stop the problems down there," Pheagin said.

The chief went on to say he had a good idea who the culprits were, but capturing them was another story.

"They can see me coming," he said.

Ideas about how to straighten out the problem included

surveillance cameras, locking the park at night, and posting an observer in the nearby forest.

What to do with Grover's engine-powered sewer pump that has seen little use over the past few years was also on the agenda Tuesday. Purchased in 1993 for around \$20,000, the idea of taking bids on its sale was brought up. Mayor pro-tem Max Rollins said he felt the pump should be retained as a safety measure if one of the town's generator's should go out.

The Mayor's Report included information by council member Robert Hunt that the Grover library committee had met and was working towards establishing relationship with "major donors" for the project. Jack Herndon reported on the cemetery and said he was ready to begin looking at fencing for the land.



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD  
Edith Morgan recently looked over one of the new rollout garbage cans on display at Grover Town Hall. Morgan said handling the container was a snap. Rollout service will start in Grover on the first Friday in November.

## SCHOOL

From 1A

couldn't be hitting the streets at a better time."

Holland anticipates the project will take 18 months from the approval of contracts. School officials hope to open the facility in the fall of 2002.

In other matters Monday, the Board:

■ Recognized KMHS freshman Raquel Megan Welch for her participation in the Legislators' School for Youth Leadership Development at Western Carolina University.

■ Officially approved the 2000-01 budget of \$19,722,918. The budget had been tentatively approved in April, but at that time notification of state and federal allocations had not been received.

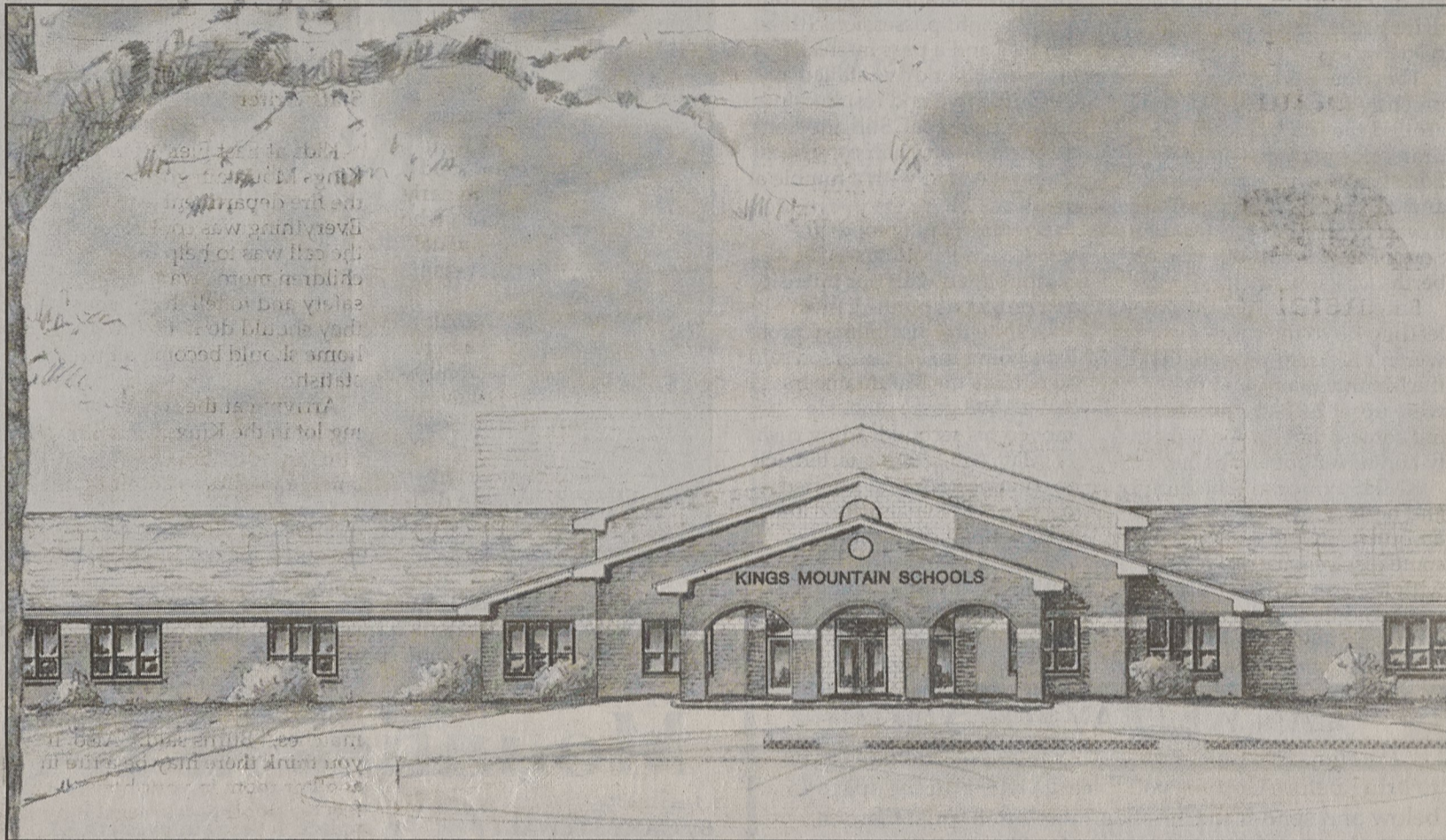
■ By a 3-2 vote, with Stella Putnam and Melony Bolin opposing, the Board approved ABC bonuses of \$1,218.75 each for seven Central office personnel. Ronnie Hawkins pointed out that it was "unfortunate"

that the state no longer recognizes non-certified personnel for bonuses under the ABC bonus plan, and recommended that the State School Boards Association lobby the General Assembly to change that policy.

"We need to let them know that non-certified employees play a vital part in educating our children," he said. "To me, it's not fair that only certified personnel get it even though I know, basically, that it's their jobs that are on the line."

■ Heard a report from John Goforth, Executive Director of Instructional Services, on the system's revised technology plan which must be presented to the Department of Public Instruction. Goforth said systems are required to formulate a plan that addresses state requirements for technology for years 2001-2005. The plan includes some \$3.2 million worth of computer technology, but Goforth said the plan is contingent upon availability of funds.

■ Changed the November meeting date to Thursday, November 16; and approved transfer and personnel matters.



Architect's drawing of proposed Kings Mountain grade 5-6 school

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