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Monday Is Deadline To Register

Registration for the Mar. 18 referendum closes Monday, Feb. 17. These final registration days will be observed at the homes of the two registrars in Kings Mountain, according to Luther Bennett, KM board chairman. Today and Friday new voters or current voters who have changed their city address since their last registration may register at the registrars' homes; Edna Myers in West KM and Ruth Hord in East KM. Registration will be open at the city's polling places, The Army on Phifer Rd. (West KM) and at City Hall on Summit Ave. (East KM). Voters may also register at the Cleveland County Board of Elections office in Shelby. Last week's registration had a considerable spurt, Bennett, "especially in Kings Mountain. During the past week there were 227 registrations and 23 transfers. Mrs. Myers said 110 new registrations were made during her hours at The Army last Saturday." East Kings Mountain, Bennett said, "there was a total of 70 new registrations, of them last Saturday at City Hall, and six transfers." The vote in the Mar. 18 general city election, citizens must be 18-years old and a resident of the city no less than 30 days. We want to remind citizens if they plan to vote in the referendum on March 18 they should play it safe and double check to see they are registered properly," Bennett said. "If you were registered in the last election, but since changed your address within the city, then you must re-register to be able to vote. Your current address must correspond with one on the registration file." Bennett suggests any citizen who is unsure about his registration status to call Jerry Mercier at 739-2192 to check your status against the master registration file.

Three citizens residing in the Gaston County area of Kings Mountain are reminded to register with the Cleveland County Board of Elections, Gastonia, or with Registrar Gordon Lutz at his home in the Crowders Mountain community. His phone is 739-3701. Citizens in East Kings Mountain at the registrar's office, contact Ruth Hord, 527 Marine Ave. In West Kings Mountain, contact Geraldine Hord, 317 Scotland Dr. Call her at 739-9188 after 12:30 p.m.

Mar. 18 Kings Mountain goes to the polls to vote the referendum on establishing an ABC package store and wine sales of beer and wine off-premises consumption.

Water Rate Committee

Works On Recommendations

The Mayor's Utility Rate Committee is winding up its activities and plan a meeting Tuesday, Feb. 25 to give recommendations to city commissioners. The main recommendations of the committee, chaired by Frank Sincox, include an increased water rate schedule, a surcharge (for large outside users) in the surcharge, a percentage (possibly 50 percent) of water profits be allocated for payment on the indebtedness each year, and to rate the eight largest consumers affected by



Photo By Tom McIntyre

VISIONS OF WINTER - Following the recent ice and snow storm the sun returned, but before its warmth restored order naked trees were heavy with crystal-coated limbs. Sunshine through the ice-covered limbs gave passersby beautiful visions of winter.

Tuesday's Decision

Solicitors Must Be

Approved By Chamber

Attention: solicitors.

If you want cooperation and sanction for legitimate solicitations in Kings Mountain you must visit the Chamber of Commerce office.

In Tuesday's meeting at the Kings Mountain Country Club directors of the chamber and merchants association voted to institute a clearing house service on solicitations as a means of protecting businessmen and residents possible fraud.

It was pointed out that several times in past years both businessmen and citizens

have been taken for money that ended up in some con-man's pocket.

Bob Smith, who chaired the committee investigating the clearing house service, told the gathering the committee recommends printed signs be prominently displayed in industrial and business offices in Kings Mountain stating that all solicitors must be approved by the chamber of commerce.

"There should be at least a three-man committee set up to approve or disapprove the solicitor's application," Smith said.

Max Mayhew was named chairman and Ron Plummer and Bob Smith as vice chairmen. This committee will be a permanent activity.

Unlike the Gaffney, S. C. Chamber of Commerce, which requires all solicitation applicants to wait three days before a decision is made, the Kings Mountain clearing house will give approval as soon as certification of the solicitor's credentials comes through.

Solicitors gaining chamber approval will be given a letter which can be presented when the solicitor approaches business, industry or citizen.

Chamber President Carl DeVane suggests that any citizen approached by solicitation agents to contact the Chamber office, 739-5051, if the citizen has any doubts concerning the agent's credentials.

In other business Bill Bates discussed with directors of both chamber and merchants association methods of setting up officer and director positions within the merged organizations.

A decision is promised when the new merger bylaws are completed, presented and voted on at a general membership meeting in April.

DeVane told the gathering the ward equalization study committee has still not received requested information concerning residents and addresses from the Mayor's office.

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Land Use Update Is Highlighted

By TOM MCINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

Kings Mountain has received an update on its land development plan and in Monday's commissioners meeting Mayor John H. Moss hit the plan highlights.

The plan, developed through the North Carolina Natural and Economic Resources Department, gives a straight portrait of the city, its boundaries and land use within. But the plan does more; it is designed to provide general and flexible guidelines for the future growth and development of the city for the next 20 years.

In his highlighting, Mayor Moss said, "Our 1965 study shows the city containing 2,100 acres. In 1975 that acreage has increased to 3,200."

The update indicates land uses in acres and shows that residential acres through 1974 totals 1,562 or 48 percent of total city acreage of 3,235. The second largest land mass is 1,022 acres, most of which is vacant, is used for agriculture and highway rights of way.

"As you can see we still have quite a bit of undeveloped land within the city limits," the mayor said.

Dry's Urge Registration

Dr. D. T. McFarland, executive secretary of Christian Action League of N. C., urged those opposed to establishing an ABC package store in Kings Mountain to work toward getting citizens registered.

Addressing a crowd of approximately 200 persons attending a Dry meeting at First Wesleyan Church Tuesday night, Dr. McFarland reminded that the special election is scheduled Tuesday, Mar. 18.

Dr. Charles Edwards, local leader opposing package stores and beer and wine sales for off-premises consumption, said the main question on the floor at Tuesday's meeting was the matter of registration of ward three citizens living in the Gaston County area of the city.

"That small group of people living in Kings Mountain, but within the boundaries of Gaston County, must either register to vote in this special election at Gaston County Board of Elections or with Gordon Lutz of Crowders Mountain," Dr. Edwards said.

Anyone desiring transportation for registration, call First Baptist Church 739-3651 or Rev. S. W. Avery 739-3772.

The final Dry meeting prior to the election is scheduled for Monday, Mar. 3 at 7:30 p. m. at Boyce Memorial ARP Church.

Commercial business exists on 135 or four percent of the city's acreage; and industrial use accounts for 256 acres, or seven percent. The remaining 260 acres is used as public and semi-public acreage.

Development guidelines for the future will essentially follow the existing pattern as far as how the land is used presently, but with an eye on more organization to promote compatible patterns.

The study delves into the city's responsibility in zoning actions on which will allow a smoother implementation of the proposed land use plan. It is also pointed out the city has the responsibility for the one-mile perimeter outside the existing boundaries.

"Future planning we already know includes updating zoning ordinances, construction of a by-pass from 74 West to I-85 East," Mayor Moss said. "Plans also call for studies on thoroughfares running north and south. We want to be able to move traffic efficiently in our city."

MASTERS TO SPEAK

Bennett Masters will speak next Monday night at the Alpha and Omega Bible Class meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Moss, Grover Rd. Interested persons are invited to attend.

The mayor said on Feb. 20 the first community development public hearing is planned "and we will see the exciting opportunities in this program."

In other action the commissioners unanimously voted to adopt a resolution for building code permit procedures in flood hazard areas.

The resolution empowers the codes administrator (building inspector) to review all building permit applications for new construction or substantial improvements to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding.

The resolution also covers proposed sites for subdivision development to make sure these proposals are consistent with the need to minimize flood damage, and that utility facilities are situated, elevated and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage, and to make sure proper drainage is planned against flooding.

Commissioners authorized legal proceedings for the demolition of 24 condemned dwellings in the city. The request for this action was submitted several months ago by Black Leonard, codes administrator.

The dwellings and owners

include; 507 and 508 Cherokee St., H. L. Patrick, 215 Fulton Dr., Denny heirs, 506, 217, 207, 114, 108, 112, 110, 215 Linwood, 11 and 27 Bennett Dr., 405 and 407 Chestnut, 416 Clinton, 804 Fourth, 416 Battleground, 505 Woodside and 302 Piedmont, all owned by Nan Jean Grant.

Also 801 Gantt, Helen Turner Latimore, 704 Gantt, Viola White (W. K. White), 212 E. Ridge, W. M. Craft and 820 Fourth, Eula England, Charles and Melvin Bagwell.

Leonard told the board all of these dwellings are vacant and have been for sometime.

Awarded Durham Life Ins. Co. the contract for city employ group insurance for the coming year, including life insurance and hospitalization benefits.

Okayed advertising for bids on a new loader-backhoe for the water-sewer department.

Authorized filing of application with the Local Government Commission and designating authorized representative (Mayor Moss) for peak shaving plant for the city's natural gas system.

The mayor will be authorized to handle procedures for \$110,000 in bonds, the city's portion of costs on the plant construction.

Heard a brief report from City Attorney Jack White on annexation.



Broyhill Speaks At KM Luncheon

Rep. James Broyhill will address the Kings Mountain Rotary Club at a luncheon today at the country club.

Rotarian Kyle Smith arranged the Congressman's visit.

The seven-term 10th District Representative from Lenoir has been an outspoken critic recently of Congressional recess in the face of such vital energy and economic legislation past due for action.

REP. JAMES BROYHILL

Voltage Record Shows Southwoods Power OK

Low voltage and high power bills brought demands for some answers from Southwoods Subdivision residents two weeks ago.

The day after that city commission meeting Harry Wilson, electrical department superintendent, had an additional transformer installed at the Southwoods utility outlet to try to find those answers.

A 24-hour recording was made of voltage going to Southwoods residences and showed the load was within the expected two percent error factor during that period.

Wilson submitted his voltage records to Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc. and in return received a meter accuracy chart and a letter from W. H. Little Jr.

The chart is for a 240-volt General Electric meter, the type used by the city, and indicated

that even operating at only 50 percent of the rated voltage the meter will read correctly for resistive loads such as lights and heaters and less than one percent error for loads such as motors and heat pumps.

In his letter, Little said, "It is also interesting to note that any error would make the meter run slow. However, for voltage levels within the plus or minus 10 percent range, 216-264 volts, you can readily see that the meter will read accurately..."

Little said he would also like to point out that the state utility commission will allow an error of plus or minus two percent.

According to voltage recordings from the additional transformer Southwoods is receiving adequate power, but according to that area's residents they are not receiving enough power to make a low watt light bulb glow at certain periods of the day.

Wilson said he is continuing daily voltage recordings in the Southwoods area and is making those readings available on a chart which will be available for viewing by homeowners.

Right Zip, Wrong City

The mail goes through. Even when the city it is mailed to does not exist.

Randy Sims is going to receive a letter mailed in Greenville, S. C., but only because the zip code is correct. The letter was addressed to Sims, P. O. Box 977, Foote Mineral, N. C. 28086.

KMers will be surprised to learn the name of the city has been quietly changed, according to Postmaster Charles Alexander.