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Budget Is Adopted, Utility Rates Talked

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

The 24 percent surcharge will appear as a separate line item on the August 1, 1975 power bill.

Little said citizens should be made aware this increase is not going to the city, but on to Duke to take care of that company's increase.

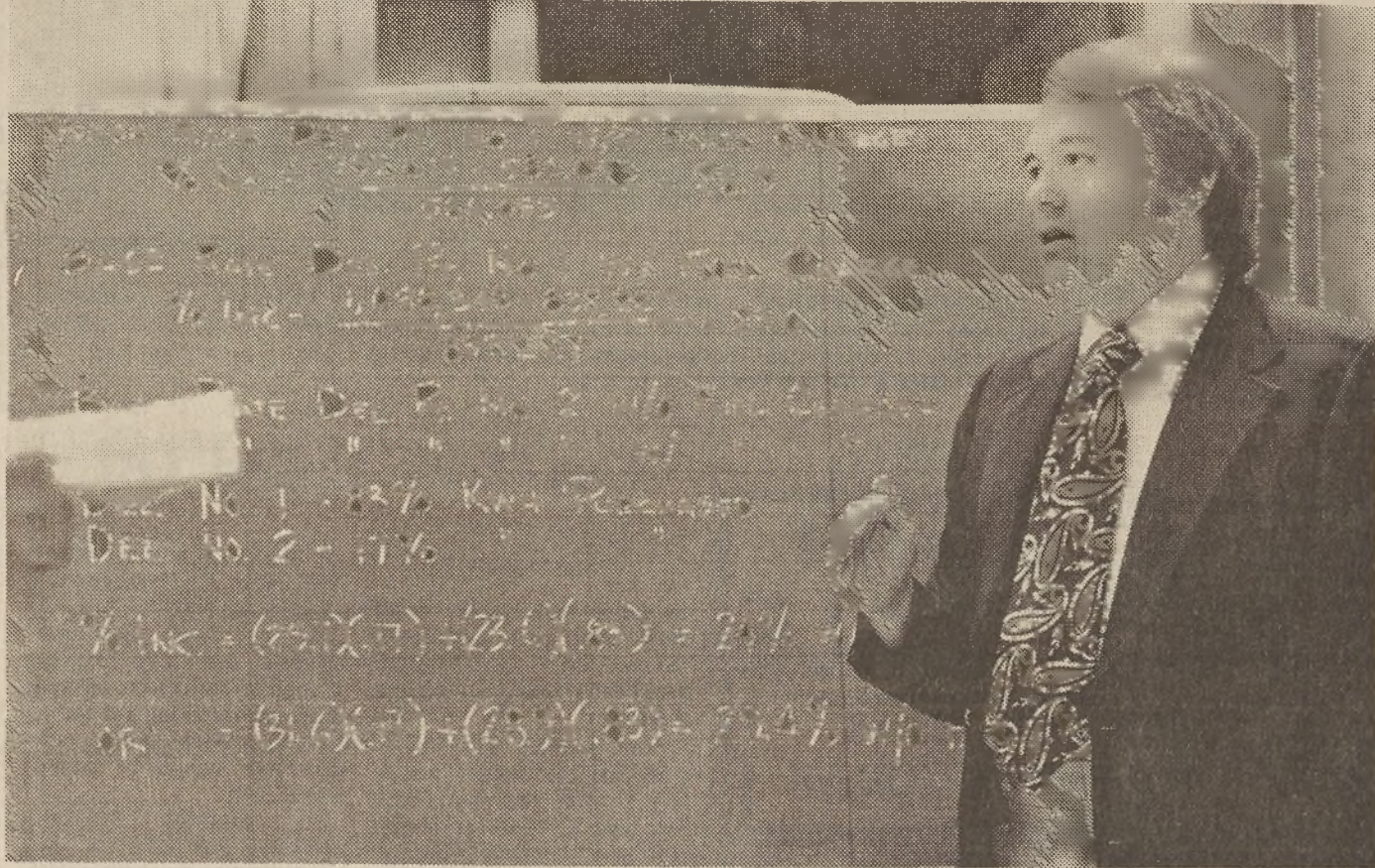
He said the 24 percent will be compatible with Duke's rates in the majority of customer use by Kings Mountains. Little also recommended the city have a study into the rates so a more concrete proposal can be adopted to handle the increased costs to the city for power. Commissioners moved to take such action.

Mayor Moss read two letters from William D. Edwards, engineering and management consultants serving municipal gas distributors, concerning the proposed increases in natural gas rates.

"... I find change from two-part to a one-part gas purchase rate has reduced cost of firm gas," Edwards stated in his letter. "At the same time it reduced this cost, the cost of gas sold on an interruptible basis was increased approximately 20 cents per 1,000 feet."

Edwards suggested the city increase the small commercial public building rate to

(Turn To Page 2A)



William Little Explains Electric Rate Increase

Gas Talk Called Off

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

MEET CANCELLED — The public meeting with William Edwards to discuss natural gas rate increases expected for city customers scheduled tonight at 7:30 at city hall has been cancelled. Edwards is unavailable to come to Kings Mountain this week.

Monday night commissioners moved to invite William D. Edwards, engineering and management consultant serving municipal gas distributors, to city hall Thursday night to meet with the board and the public at large to talk about natural gas costs.

Edwards, who could not attend Monday's meeting as scheduled, sent letters to Mayor John H. Moss explaining his study findings on the gas situation in Kings Mountain.

(See budget story for highlights on Edwards' first letter)

During the board meeting Buford DeFore, Spectrum Textured Fibers executive, suggested "a study be made before the board takes action on gas rate increases. Something seems out of line. The rate in February 1972 was 52 cents per 1,000 feet of gas (interruptible service) and now this man (Edwards) suggests a rate of \$1.03."

Mayor Moss said the Transco projection per 1,000 feet of natural gas "runs like this. Beginning in July and for 138 days the rate would be 80.1 cents. Beginning November 15

(Turn To Page 2A)

Staggered Terms Approved

Staggered terms for commissioners and mayor were adopted at Monday night's city commission meeting following a public hearing Saturday and more discussion Monday.

Under the modification of sections 131 and 132 of the city charter, beginning with the next municipal election, a mayor will be elected for four years along with the top three vote polling commissioner candidates. The three low pollers will serve for two years. In 1977 the three low wards will run commissioner candidates for four year terms.

Citizens will still go to the polls every two years, but will vote for only three commissioners. A mayoral candidate will seek office, after this October, again in 1979.

Prior to the vote to modify the tentures of office City Attorney Jack White said "the timetable calls for action tonight (Monday) in order for all qualifications to be met for the coming October municipal election."

White was speaking to a question from Jim Trammel. At last Saturday's public hearing Trammel commented, "If you have long-range projects and get new commissioners, it'll take them at least two years to catch on to what's going on."

Monday night Trammel again commented favorably for the staggered term proposal, with emphasis on four

years for a mayoral candidate.

At the Monday meeting all citizen comment favored the staggered term system.

Speaking out on the issue were Leroy Blanton, George Lublaneski, Clyde Blackwell and Mrs. O. O. Walker.

(Turn To Page 5A)

Crawford Services Held Last Friday

J. Wilson Crawford, Kings Mountain realtor and first president of KM Business Development Corporation at its organization Nov. 19, 1957, died Wednesday afternoon in Charlotte Memorial Hospital.

He was 62.

Semi-retired builder and prominent land developer, among them KM Shopping Plaza, the Country Club area, Southwoods and Northwoods Sub-Divisions of the city, Mr. Crawford was hospitalized Monday on his 35th wedding anniversary. He had been in declining health for several years.

KM Business Development Corporation was instrumental in bringing Waco Sportswear, K Mills, Concept Furniture, Now Horizons, Inc. and Carpet Industries, in addition to other industry to the area.

Former President of KM Chamber of Commerce, he was a longtime member of KM Lions club, veteran of World War 11, a member of the American Legion Post 155, and active in Boyce Memorial ARP Church.

His funeral services were conducted Friday afternoon at 4 p. m. by his pastor, Dr. Charles Edwards, assisted by a former pastor, Dr. W. L. Pressly of Mooresville. Active pallbearers were Mayor John



J. WILSON CRAWFORD

Henry Moss, Robert Neill, Howard B. Jackson, Tom Tate, Senator W. K. Mauney Jr. and Carl Goforth.

Son of the late William Joseph and Vennie Littlejohn Crawford. He was married 35 years ago June 16 to Eloise Summerford who survives. The Crawfords lived at 916 Sherwood Lane.

Also surviving are his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Coggins of Kings Mountain.

M-H Will Publish July 2nd

Look for your Kings Mountain Mirror-Herald on Wed., July 2 next week.

For the week of the fourth your hometown newsweekly will publish early. Because of the early mailing and street sales date news and advertisement deadlines will move back.

All social and women's section news must be in by early Mon., June 30. General news items must be in early Tues., June 1.

The Mirror-Herald appreciates your cooperation in this coming early publication week.

Codes Inspections Scheduled By City

Public Works Director Black Leonard told representatives of the downtown merchants group Monday night that letters are being sent to landlords and tenants that on site inspections for possible code violations are planned within a week.

Leonard was responding to the request of the merchants for strict codes enforcement and definite guidelines on what upgrading is to be done to buildings not slated for demolition under the redevelopment commission contract.

Making the request at Monday's commissioner meeting was Wilson Griffin, chairman

of a four-man committee appointed to work with the codes director and redevelopment architect C. Crawford Murphy in this program.

Bill Fulton, chairman of the downtown merchants group, also attended the meeting, but made no comment to the board.

Mayor John H. Moss told Griffin and Fulton that the codes enforcement inspections "fit in nicely with the environmental impact statements that must be sent to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the community development fund

(Turn To Page 2A)

(Turn To Page 2A)

Arts Council Plans Show, Street Dance On July 4

Let the good times roll! And come Fri., July 4 that's what the Kings Mountain Arts Council is planning to do.

"Actually, on the night of the Fourth the good times will come in two parts," said Arts Council Chairman Tom McIntyre. "First there will be a big outdoor musical program featuring a wide range of music — rock, folk, classical, calypso and country and western.

"The second part of the evening's entertainment will be a street dance," McIntyre continued.

The musical program will feature a number of Kings Mountain and area residents. The arts council chairman said, "and we can promise you there will be no flaming baton acts — unless Jonas Bridges is planning one. Jonas will handle the major portion of the master of ceremony duties for the show."

To kick off the show at 7:30 p. m. will be Don Green and The Shastells featuring RCA recording artist Joey Martin. Others on the program are Dennis Huffstickler on the organ, Andre Small, a classical guitarist and Scott Rhea, folk singer-guitarist. A full list of performers will be announced in next week's Mirror-Herald.

The show will be held at the pedestrian walk and rest area beside Rose's, just off S. Battleground Ave. and will run until approximately 9 p. m.

A professional band with a variety of styles, enough to accommodate the rock and roller and the square dancer, will begin the street dance around 9 p. m. For the dance S. Battleground will be blocked off at W. Mountain and W. Gold Sts.

The Kings Mountain Arts Council, in conjunction with the city recreation department, invites Kings Mountains of all ages to join in the festivities to celebrate the Fourth of July at home.

Mayor Will Recommend Bank Fishing

Mayor John H. Moss will recommend to the Kings Mountain Lake Authority at a meeting scheduled Mon., June 30 that the area near Camp Creek Rd. at Moss Lake be designated for bank fishing.

The city owns approximately one-half mile along the shore and back to Camp Creek Rd. and, according to N. C. Wildlife officials, the spot is ideal for bank fishing.

"However, the Wildlife Resources Commission cautions that citizens who use the designated area for bank fishing must maintain sanitary conditions," the mayor said. "My recommendation will include this provision. Also that fishing be permitted during daylight hours only."

Mayor Moss said this move is being made until public fishing piers can be constructed at Moss Lake.

Joseph Mickey Jr., of the Division of Inland Fisheries, was here this week and after an inspection said that the fish population and environment at Moss Lake is excellent.

Suicide Ruled In Gun Death Of Brian C. Lair

The gun death of Brian Christopher Lair Sunday night has been ruled a suicide by assistant Cleveland County Coroner Bennett Masters.

The 11-year old son of Rev. and Mrs. Robert E. Lair Jr., 805 Katherine Ave., was pronounced dead on arrival at Kings Mountain Hospital about 9 p. m. Sunday by Dr. Sam Robinson.

Kings Mountain Rescue Squad transported the youngster to the hospital for medical examination. The youth died from a single wound in the heart from a .38 caliber revolver.

Police Chief William Roper said the body was discovered on the floor of his parent's bedroom by a sister. The revolver was reportedly kept in the bedroom.

Police reported the

youngster left church following services Sunday night and went home alone. His parents remained for choir practice. A sister came home, found the door locked, returned to the church for a key, then let herself into the house and discovered the body.

Brian Christopher Lair was born July 3, 1963. He was a student at Central School.

A memorial service is planned Sunday at 11 a. m. at Grace United Methodist Church, where his father is pastor, by the Rev. Cecil K. Myrick and the Rev. Robert A. Foster.

The body is being sent to Duke University School of Medicine, Durham.

Surviving other than the parents are one brother, Robert Gregory Lair; and two sisters, Marlene Louise and Karen Lynn Lair of the home.

One Day He Could Save Your Life...

ROY HAMMETT

Roy Hammett is a Kings Mountain native employed by Lithium Corp. He is married to the former Linda Garris of Gastonia and has two sons, Craig, 2, and Shane, 4. The Hammetts reside at 606 Mica St.

Roy served two years in the U. S. Army in Germany. In service he attended mechanics school.

A relative newcomer to the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad, Roy joined the squad on Jan. 13, 1975. "I enjoy working with other people," he said. "Especially when they need help and you know you can be of service. I feel it's a person's duty to do what he can for his community and his fellow citizens."

Roy pulls duty each Wednesday night and totals about 15 years each week in volunteer service with the squad. He's had the standard first aid and personal safety course, which he recently finished at the squad headquarters.

"In service I got into skin diving for pleasure," Roy said. "I'm planning to get back into it, polish my skill. It could be of possible service to the squad."