

Resolutions Now Go To HUD

## Commissioners Approve Closeout Of Redevelopment Commission

City commissioners approved resolutions outlining the closeout procedure for the Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission in a special meeting Monday night.

The two lengthy documents, already approved by the redevelopment board, spell out the assets and liabilities the city must accept under the agreement. The resolutions now go to HUD for final approval or rejection.

Sept. 15 is the date set for the city to accept full responsibility for completing projects underway by the redevelopment commission. This includes continuing, under the city's community development program, the land acquisitions, families, individuals and business relocations and demolitions.

The resolutions for the Central Business District and the Cansler St.

projects state the city will assume the project debts as well. When questioned about whether the city will have to expend money on the projects when it takes over, Gene White, executive director of the commission, explained that "the surplus in money and property the city will receive when the closeout is final - and earned grants credited to the redevelopment commission - will take care of indebtedness."

The surplus includes an estimated \$300,000 plus the value of 45 unsold lots (about \$165,000) in the Cansler St. project. In the CBD project, surplus funds is estimated up to \$50,000.

White said both projects, after 11 years of planning and action, are essentially completed. A total of 149 sub-standard structures have been acquired and demolished in both

project areas. Families and individuals relocated in the Cansler St. area number 150 and 200 parcels of property have been acquired, with about 20 more to be acquired. White said 45 parcels in the central business delocations have also been accomplished.

White began his presentation to the board with a slide presentation showing the areas where redevelopment has taken place. The slides showed before and after in many cases and caused commissioners to remark that until a backward look is taken at what was, one did not realize just how much has been accomplished under redevelopment.

In other action last Monday, the commissioners:

+Approved a resolution in memory of former city com-

missioner David L. Saunders (1946-47), who died last Saturday. The resolution will be forwarded to the Saunders family.

+Approved extending Sims St. to Waco Rd. and W. Parker to intersect with Sims St. The extensions will give the city a complete north-south street and will provide improved traffic flow to the junior and senior high schools.

Mayor John Henry Moss said the plans at this time call for grading and graveling. The mayor said other streets have priority in curbing, guttering and paving.

+Awarded contracts to ITT Grinnell and Musco for water and sewer pipe on bids of \$11,673 and \$4,380, respectively.

The city board will meet in its second regular session for August next Monday at 7:30 p.m.

## City Officials Turn In List Of New Projects

With construction complete on the new city hall, community center and Citizens Service Center, the mayor and commissioners are turning to a new list of projects they rate high in priority.

"These projects are in addition to other priority items already planned," Mayor John Henry Moss said.

One of the major efforts the city officials will become involved with is the creation of a development corporation for a downtown revitalization program.

"Within this project we will ask businessmen and citizens to make a commitment to see this project is a success," the mayor said. "We anticipate following the examples set by Hickory, Hendersonville, Rockingham and Smithfield. Those communities created development companies, which in turn developed financing techniques to assist in upgrading their business communities."

The mayor and commissioners say "a robust effort" will be made to see this program is successful. "We plan to be downright stubborn about succeeding," the mayor said. "We feel the business leaders and citizens will be interested and will assist in this case."

Another project deals with private housing development.

"The mayor and commissioners will review our subdivision regulations and city policy with an eye toward providing an incentive for construction of private housing in the community," Mayor Moss said. "We also plan to work with the local financial institutions to encourage the development of apartment complexes, condominiums and townhouse construction."

## RR Crossing To Remain Open

## Board Rejects Resolution

A resolution to close the Hawthorne St. railroad crossing was derailed by the city commissioners in last week's board meeting, until more information is available.

Commissioner Jim Childers asked the matter be tabled until the next regular board meeting and that at this meeting representatives from the N.C. Department of Transportation and Southern Railroad be on hand.

Childers asked that a study be made to determine the amount of traffic flow at the Hawthorne crossing and that more definite plans be made to re-route that traffic if the crossing is closed.

Alvin Moretz, city engineer, said the resolution before the board was just to let the DOT know how interested the city is in doing something about the dangerous Hawthorne crossing. He said the city has been insistent on a parallel street to be built to Oak St. and that a crossing be developed there.

Such a street, according to Commissioner James Dickey, who

The mayor said he and the commissioners have discussed the matter and "feel strongly that the economic conditions in Kings Mountain will remain good with orderly growth patterns in the early 1980s."

"I point this out in view of one new industry already announced this year, another national firm planning construction in early June 1980 and yet another to announce this week," the mayor continued. "One additional reputable firm is also considering a Kings Mountain location, coupled with the efforts of the Kings Mountain Development Office, which continuously searches for commercial industrial enterprises to locate in the city."

(Turn to page 3A)

## KMSHS Senior Pictures To Be Taken Aug. 28-29

Seniors at Kings Mountain Senior High School are reminded that the Delmar photographer will be at the High School on Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 28-29 for portraits.

Most students have been contacted by letter, but if a student was not notified the following schedule will be observed:

Tuesday: 9-12; 1-3:30 students whose last names begin with A-I.

Wednesday: 9-12; 1-3 students whose last names begin with I-Z.

Students are requested to dress appropriately.

also serves as chairman of the city traffic safety and flow committee, would fall on the railroad right-of-way, but added that "Southern says this will not be a problem."

In a similar agenda item, the board approved entering a contract with Southern Railroad and DOT for signalization gates to be installed at the Linwood Rd. crossing.

Other board action in last week's meeting:

+Awarded contract to Henry L. Wilson, Inc. for Northwoods pump station improvements at cost of \$8,270.

+Approved advertising for bids for a street sweeper.

+Received bids on water and sewer projects materials, then tabled action until further study can be conducted on pricing.

+Approved application to the Economic Development Administration Department for funding assistance to enlarge the city's natural gas pipe line to Transco's line on Hwy. 161.

## Election To Be Oct. 9

## File Now For City Elections

Mayoral and commissioner candidate filing opened Fri., Aug. 17 and will run until noon, Fri., Sept. 7.

The election will be held Tues., Oct. 9 and qualified voters will elect a mayor and district one, three and four commissioners to serve four years terms.

Candidates may file with Luther Bennett, chairman of the Kings Mountain Elections Board, during the day and Mrs. Betty Mercier, evenings after 6 p.m. Contact Bennett at 739-3100 and Mrs. Mercier at 739-2192. The filing fee is \$5.

Voter registration for the Oct. 9 election will run until 5 p.m., Mon., Sept. 10. To register, potential voters must contact either the registrar or judges in each precinct for an appointment.

In West Kings Mountain: Registrar, Mrs. Geraldine Myers, 317 Scotland Dr., 739-9188. Judge, Mrs. Rebecca Cook, 717 Meadowbrook Rd., 739-3950. (A

second judge has not been appointed to date).

East Kings Mountain: Registrar, Mrs. Margaret White, 102 S. Piedmont Ave., 739-4019. Judge, Mrs. Connie Putnam, 311 York Rd., 739-6617. Judge, Hillard Black, 517 Rhodes Ave., 739-2387.

Kings Mountain subscribes a non-partisan runoff form of election and mayor and commissioners are elected for four-year staggered terms. Under the No. 4 election procedures, a winner is declared when one candidate polls more than the total votes of the remaining combined candidates in each race. When this does not happen, then the second highest individual pollster may call for a runoff election. Notice of a runoff request must, however, be filed with the Kings Mountain Elections Board chairman by noon of the Monday following the election in this case Mon., Oct. 15.

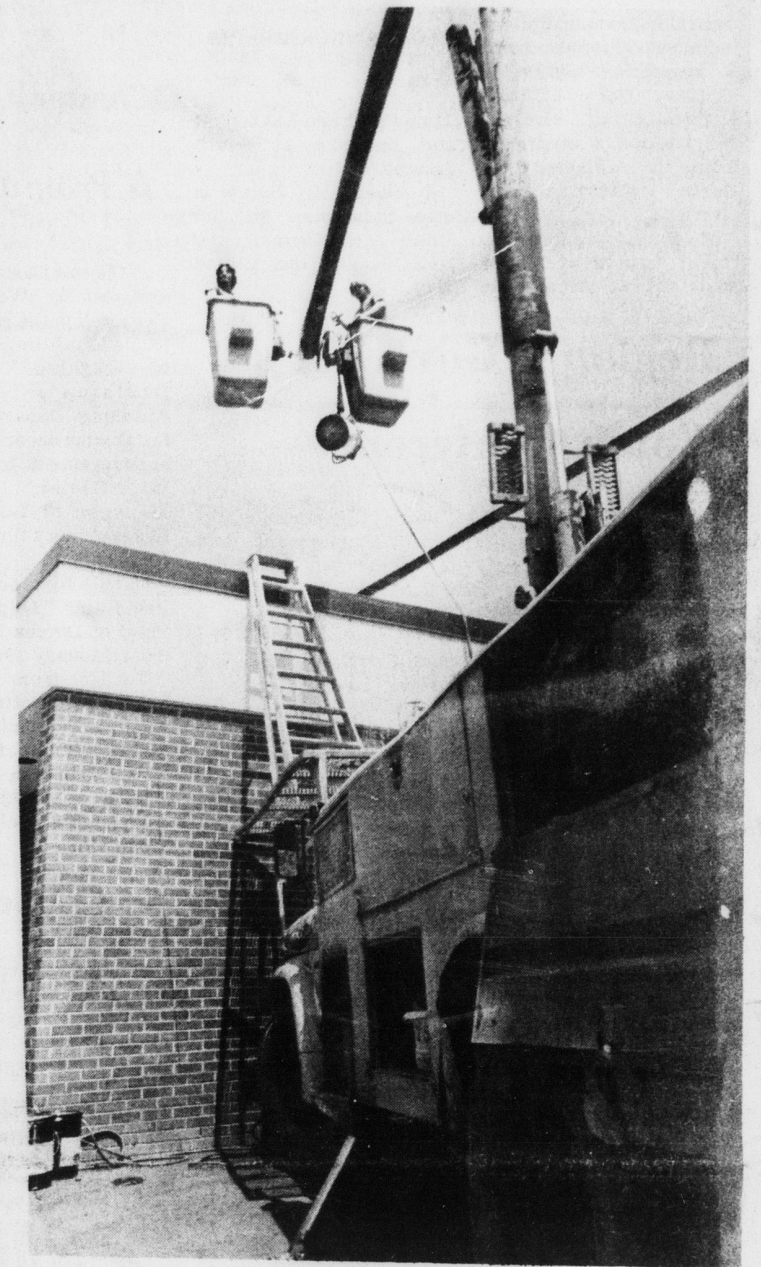


Photo by Tom McIntyre

GETTING IT ON—George Black and Jeff Chaney, two city employes, lift off in a cherry picker to continue painting operations to the exterior of the Kings Mountain Community Center. The work is being done under a development grant for renovation and expansion of the recreation-office-public meeting facility on Cleveland Ave.

## KM Teachers To Report To Classrooms Today

Kings Mountain district teachers will report to the classrooms today, and district pupils return for the 1979-80 term of school Sept. 4.

With the hiring of six more teachers and the announcement of a new position—coordinator of math and reading programs in the system—the board of education Monday night finalized plans for the opening of school.

The new position, which may pay up to \$20,000 annual salary, was recommended by Supt. William Davis, results, he said, from hours of identifying ways to improve instruction on the part of school administration and board. "Our children are progressing through the grades and not knowing how to read," said Supt. Davis, who said some system must be established to identify those needs.

In a related motion, the board approved the conversion of funds from capital outlay budget to current expense monies to fund the new position, which is expected to begin with the new term. Mr. Davis said that applications are in order for the new post, noting that several teachers in the system meet the qualifications. "This will be a very difficult and challenging role because it will involve expertise in human relations and creativity," said Supt. Davis.

All board members agreed that "reading is low" in the system but Board member Kyle Smith said he "hated to see" capital outlay funds used for the purpose, citing pressing needs in the athletic department, Larry Allen responding that the

board would need to readvertise for bids for the KMSHS gym floor, a projected sanding and finishing project, for which capital funds are to be used. He said initial bids of \$11,000 were "too high."

Mr. Allen said that all buildings "are in good shape for the opening of school," citing a large number of improvements during the summer months. At East School the fourth and fifth grade classrooms have been air-conditioned with a storage room renovated to house a classroom. Partitions have been installed between first and third grade classrooms, the first grade room has been carpeted and acoustical tile has been added to the multi-purpose room and carpets cleaned throughout the complex. A mobile unit has been moved to the camps to house the exceptional children's program.

At Grover School the office has been relocated to the library building.

Acoustical tile has been added to the multi purpose room at West School where two mobile units have been moved on campus to house the exceptional children's program. Carpets have been cleaned.

The Art program headquarters has been moved to the former shop building at Central School and present art rooms have been converted into classrooms.

A storage facility has been erected on campus of the Junior High and all carpets have been cleaned.

New student lockers have been converted into classrooms. Contract

(Turn to page 3A)



SENATORIAL ESCORT—Sen. Ollie Harris of Kings Mountain escorts Miss North Carolina - Dianne Jamerson - toward the speakers platform during last Saturday's Shrine Day Activities at the KM Community Center. Both had arrived a few minutes earlier than this photo from the shrine parade through the downtown area.

Larry Allen responding that the