

## KM School Budget Record \$2 Million

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Co-Editor  
Kings Mountain District School's budget for 1981-82 is a record \$2,603,675, up six and one half percent over last year, and calls for a five percent across-the-boards increase for personnel.

Approving the proposed budget Monday night, Kings Mountain Board of Education unanimously asked the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners for a 15 percent increase in appropriations, or \$1,192,066 compared with last year's revenues of \$1,036,579 and based on a 14 cent tax rate per \$100 valuation, unchanged

over previous years. "We have tried to be as frugal as possible and have tried to hold the line in our current expense budget", Supt. William Davis told the Board as members reviewed the budget proposals during the regular Monday night meeting. "However, personnel expenses and maintenance expenses are up and in order to continue our programs we feel the increase is in order."

Supt. Davis said that appropriation request are to be directed to the county commission by Friday and said that the proposed budget "does not leave much margin for paring."

The local funds budget anticipates that locally paid teachers will receive \$317,150, a difference of \$68,968 from last year, and that general supplements will increase by \$6,192. Electrical services are expected to jump from \$130,000 to \$160,000 and natural gas costs from \$35,000 to \$45,000. Costs of fuel oil is expected to rise from \$15,000 to \$17,500 maintenance personnel are expected to be paid \$10,430 more. Telephone costs are expected to jump from \$4,000 to \$15,000 and repairs and replacements from \$115,000 to \$135,300.

The current expense budget for 1981-82 was \$2,448,411 and the 1981-82 proposed budget is \$2,603,676.00 or a difference of \$155,265.00.

The budget anticipates revenue from county funds of \$265,816.68 for capital outlay which project a number of new purchases of equipment, furniture, air conditioning, and a school car with top priority items to be considered first.

Supt. Davis pointed out that the instructional program calls for an increase in current expenses of \$89,880 and the vocational program calls for an increase of \$65,920. The system expect to receive \$399,382 in site vocational funds.

Capital outlay expenditures are anticipated to increase about  
**(Turn To Page 2-A)**

### Job Sign-Up Starts Saturday

Vietnam veterans who need jobs are invited to make applications with the Kings Mountain Committee to Assist Vietnam Veterans Saturday morning from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the lobby of the new City Hall.

Dickey Burgess, Commander of the VFW, and Aud Tignor, Commander of American Legion Post 155, will be at the facility, along with other representatives of the two veteran's organizations, to assist veterans in filling out application forms.

The application forms are also available in the Mayor's office at City Hall Mondays through Fridays, from 8:30 until 5 p.m.

## School Board Approves Student Transfer Policy

Kings Mountain Board of Education Monday night unanimously approved a school transfer policy which is effective beginning with the 1981-82 school year.

The policy spells out that beginning students in the system will be assigned to the school which serves the zone in which the students and their parents reside. The policy also spells out that students who have been permitted in the past to attend school outside their attendance zones will be allowed to remain in their out of zone schools until they complete the fifth grade unless class size inequities between schools make it impossible.

Board member had discussed the policy for several months. Because the current transfer policy had made it virtually easy for students to attend schools outside their attendance zones the result was overcrowded situations in the five elementary schools of the KM system.

The new policy provides an appeal process for parents who have valid reasons for the waiver of the school assignment plan.

The full text of the new policy follows:

"Beginning with the school year 1981-82 the following policies will govern the school assignment of elementary students (grades K-5) in the Kings Mountain School District.

"At the beginning of the 1981-82 school year and thereafter students who are beginning school for the first time in Kings Mountain Elementary Schools will be assigned to the schools which serves the zone in which the parents or legal guardian resides.

"Students who have been permitted to attend school outside their attendance zone prior to school year 1981-82 will be allowed to remain in their out of zone schools until completing the fifth grade unless class size inequities between schools make it essential to transfer students back to the schools of their own zone.

"In the event such transfers do become necessary, the current dated request file will be used. The latest request will be transferred first. Requests for enrollment in an elementary school other than the one in

one's own zone must be renewed each year.

"Students who reside outside of the Kings Mountain School District may be admitted to a Kings Mountain School upon application to the Superintendent and approval by the Kings Mountain Board of Education. Out of district students will be required to pay a tuition fee which will be set by the Board of Education.

"Beginning with the 1981-82 school term, out of district elementary students who are admitted to Kings Mountain Schools for the first time will be assigned to a school by the Superintendent with the following factors to be taken into consideration: Distance from home to school and Class size in the nearest school. The Superintendent will assign out of district (tuition) students to the nearest elementary school unless class size overload in the nearest school makes it necessary to make another assignment.

"Tuition students who were admitted to Kings Mountain elementary schools prior to the 1981-82 school year will be allowed to remain in those schools until completing the fifth grade as long as tuition requirements and other School Board regulations are complied with.

"When an elementary child's parents or legal guardians move from one attendance zone to another within the school district the child will be required to attend the school within the attendance zone of his or her residence.

If the move takes place after the first quarter of the school year the child may be allowed to complete the school year in the zone of his or her former residence upon request to the Superintendent and approval by the Board of Education.

Parents who believe that valid reasons exist for the waiver of the foregoing school assignment policies may submit a request for special consideration to the Kings Mountain District School Superintendent.

Each case will be considered on its own merits and determined by the Kings Mountain District of Education."



MINISTERS ENDORSE CANCER SUNDAY - Kings Mountain ministers, above, endorsed April 5 as Cancer Sunday in Kings Mountain at a meeting Monday at which Lou Sabettie,

cancer drive chairman, distributed materials which ministers will distribute to their congregations.

## No Citizens Appear Board Discusses Use Of Surplus UR Funds

By GARY STEWART  
Co-Editor

No citizens appeared at the first of two public hearings Monday night at the Governmental Services Facilities Center to make suggestions on how the city can best spend \$422,000 of surplus Urban Renewal funds which are eligible to be used in a number of community projects.

The second and final public hearing on the matter will be held during the March 23 Board of Commissioners meeting.

After Community Development coordinator Gene White explained the eligible and ineligible activities the money can be used for, Mayor John Henry Moss issued several calls for citizen input.

After no one appeared, Moss noted several activities that the board could consider, including:

- The Small Cities Program in District Four, which would include the rehabilitation of houses and improvements in the electrical, water and sewer systems there, and improved streets.

The area under consideration includes Fairview Street, Third Street, Fourth Street, Cranford Drive, Ellison Street, Phillips Drive, and portions of Linwood Road.

The city is currently in the running for a grant of over \$900,000 for that project, and city officials are hopeful the grant will be approved.

Moss said the proposal has been met with favor by residents of the area. "We have found a very fine acceptance," he said. "I hope the city continues in this type of programs."

Commissioner Jim Childers, who along with commissioners Norman King and Bill Grissom recently attended the National League of Cities Conference in Washington, said such programs are also highly-thought-of by

President Reagan.

"These programs are probably going to be the thing of the future," Childers said. "It's going to be great for us."

Moss said he favors such programs because they continue "to permit the owner to retain his residence of long standing and improve his property, and they give the public body an opportunity to improve services, such as water and electricity."

Moss said the city has been in the Neighborhood planning process since late 1965. "I feel like we are prepared and am hopeful the grant application will be approved."

•Completion of any unfinished activities in the Cansler Street renewal project. Moss said the city still must make two property acquisitions and one re-location

in that area, and two or three demolitions.

•Beautification of the Central Business District, including the recently-approved wall restoration project and the completion of underground wiring. The city lacks only one phase of underground wiring before having the project completed.

•Adding 20 parking spaces on the west side of Battleground Avenue north of Mountain Street.

The city board urges citizens to attend the next board meeting and offer their suggestions.

"A number of programs have been developed by citizens committees," Moss pointed out. "Citizen committees have always been active in the grant

**(Turn To Page 10-A)**

## Public Hearing Slated To Discuss RR Crossings

The City Board of Commissioners have called for a public hearing on March 23 during the City Commissioners meeting for citizen input into a proposal by Southern Railway and the N.C. Department of Transportation to close the Hawthorne Street railroad crossing.

Also proposed is the improvement of South Railroad Avenue from Hawthorne Street to Oak Street, upgrading the Oak Street crossing and the installation of signals and gates at the Oak Street crossing.

The proposal is a part of the Department of Transportation's statewide railroad crossing safety program.

The Hawthorne Street crossing, located on Highway 216 at the old Kings Mountain Ice Plant, is considered dangerous by Southern Railway and the

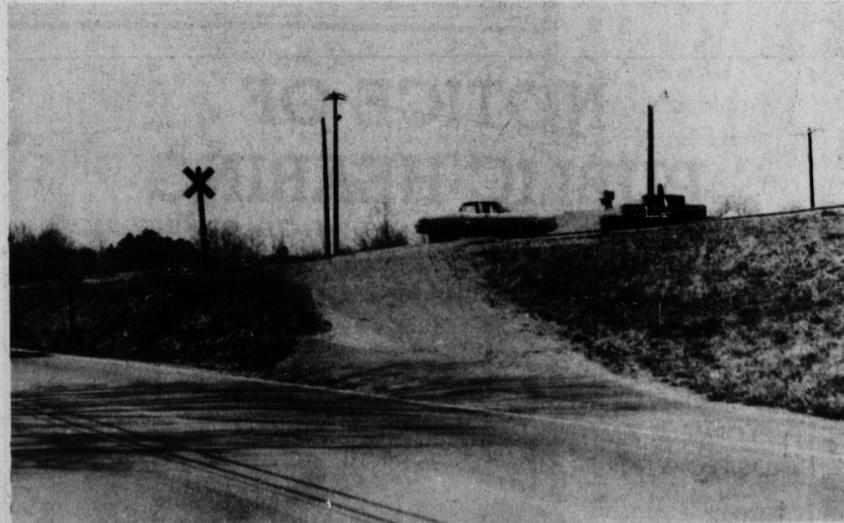
DOT. A number of accidents have occurred there in the past and many deaths have resulted.

The Oak Street crossing, also the site of many accidents in the past, is located across from First Citizens Bank and Trust Co. and is better known as the Mauney Mill crossing.

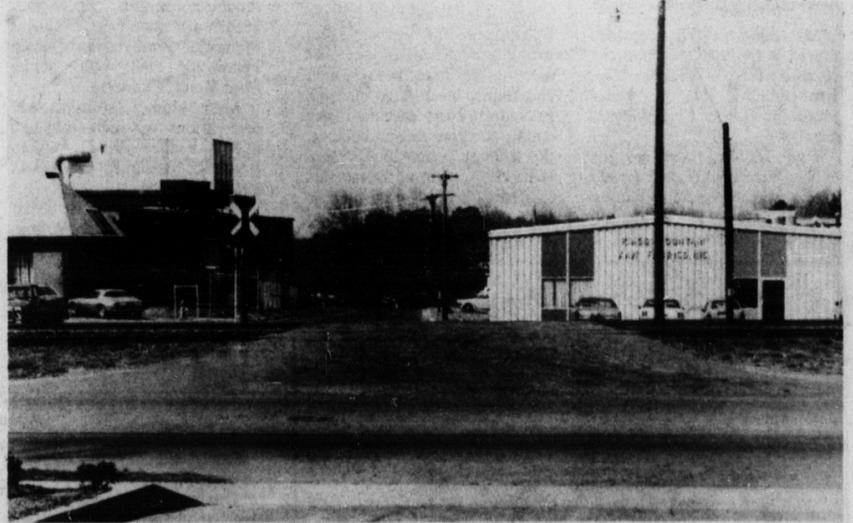
Railroad Avenue runs parallel to the railroad tracks and Battleground avenue (Highway 216). Part of the proposal is that it be widened and straightened.

According to Mayor John Henry Moss, the city's expense in the project would be small, but the proposal requires action by the Board of Commissioners.

"We would like to get an expression from citizens on how they feel about it," Moss said. "It is basically a state program and a very small percentage of the cost would be city money."



HAWTHORNE STREET CROSSING  
... Southern Railway, DOT want it closed



OAK STREET CROSSING  
... Signal lights, gates would be added