

City Board Approves Sewer Use Ordinance

City commissioners Monday night approved a sewer use ordinance over the protest of several citizens and an industry spokesman.

The ordinance, which includes a fee for sewage use, becomes effective May 1. The fee will be 35 cents per 1,000 gallons for domestic, commercial and industrial users inside the city limits and 55 cents per gallon for users outside the city limits.

Ralph Johnson of the W.K. Dickson firm of Charlotte, the city's consulting engineers, said it was "quite commendable" that the city had gone so long without charging a fee for sewage use, but the time had come to begin charging. He said the Environmental Protection Agency required a sewer use fee for city's to qualify for federal grants.

A 7,000 gallon bill, which the city says is normal, would be \$2.45. Johnson said industrial users would be effected most by the fee.

Reggie Broome, a spokesman for Anvil Knit, said the sewer use fee would result in his company paying \$60,000 a year for water and sewer.

Broome said Anvil "is extremely disappointed. Why not stair-step this? We think that it is too much at one time and that you are making a big mistake."

Mayor John Henry Moss said the fee is comparable to other surrounding towns.

Clayvon Kelly, a resident, called the fee "an unfair tax. The people are taxed to death and now we're taxed to go to the toilet," he said.

Kelly charged that the city should have enough money left over to maintain sewer treatment facilities and said he thought it would be cheaper for industries to handle their own waste. Kelly also produced a photo he took of private contractors filling up water trucks and claimed the city was not being paid for the water. Ted Huffman, superintendent of the Public Works Department, said those companies are billed for the water.

In other matters Monday night, the board:

*Received three bids for 38 lots in the Cansler Street urban renewal area. Bidders included Fred Dixon of Shelby, Dixon-Jenkins of Belmont and Don Ware of Kings Mountain.

Ware's bid of \$2,302 was for two lots.

Mills' bid on all lots was \$74,600. He proposes to build 39 new single family houses for moderate income families. Price range will be from \$36,000 to \$38,000.

*Approved annexation of properties at 308 and 314 Fulton Drive.

*Approved a contract with the A.M. Pullen Co. of Charlotte for the city's annual audit. The cost will be \$22.50 per hour plus out-of-pocket expenses. The contract represents a \$1 increase from last year.

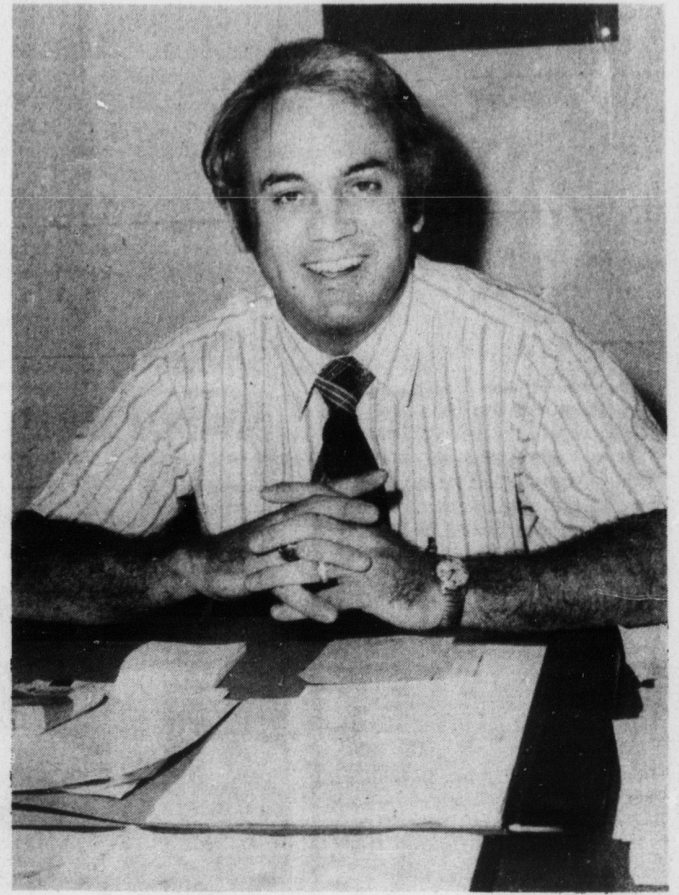
*Proclaimed May as Older Citizens Month.

*Referred to the Zoning and Planning Board a request to rezone property of Herman Cash Grocery from R-20 to general business. The property is located in the one-mile perimeter.

*Approved advertising for bids for electrical supplies at the Kings Mountain Hospital expansion project.

*Approved advertisement of bids for a pickup truck for the public works department.

*Approved following executive session a recommendation from Commissioner Humes Houston that a personnel request from Acting Police Chief J.D. Barrett be approved. The name and position of the person involved will not be announced until he has time to inform his present employer.



MIKE NAPPI ... In Happier Times

Board Fires Rec Director

In a stunning move Monday night, the City Board of Commissioners fired Recreation Supervisor Mike Nappi in open session.

Nappi was not allowed to talk until after the board voted 4-2 to fire him. Commissioners Humes Houston and Bill Grissom voted against the motion.

Members of the softball league complained of a "lack of communications", and Jim Guyton pointed to a certain incident of April 11 when his group found a locked gate at the softball field after paying \$45 for the use of the field and lights.

Guyton said he filed a request to use the field and paid \$45 for the use of the lights. He said when his group arrived, the gate was locked and no one from the recreation department was there to turn on the lights. He said the light switch was knocked loose with a pole as had been done on previous occasions, and he was billed for the damage. Guyton said he could pay for the damage but was unhappy with the way the rec department was being operated.

Nappi said he was unaware of a communications problem but was willing to work it out. "It was unfortunate the gate was locked," he said. "A lack of communications can be solved easily."

Commissioner Corbet Nicholson, who made the motion to relieve Nappi of his duties immediately, said he had heard nothing but complaints since Nappi took over the department. Nappi moved here two years ago from Florida, where he held a similar position.

"I don't think he's the man for the job," Nicholson said.

But Grissom, a member of the recreation committee, but who later resigned his committee assignment, said Nappi has done a "good job. Maybe the church league, the commissioners and Nappi need to sit down and hash this thing out," he said.

Nappi issued the following statement:

"In response to my termination as the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation for the City of Kings Mountain, I have a few statements to make.

"First of all, I was shocked at the abrupt and inconsiderate manner in which I was terminated. I had no indication about what was to take place Monday night. At 7:30 p. m. I left for city hall to attend the council meeting and at 11:00 found myself unemployed. I was not given the opportunity to defend myself until after I was terminated.

I have always tried to treat everyone with equality. In fact, this has created problems for me in the past two years when certain groups or individuals felt they should be given special privileges and treatment in regards to rental fees, field and facility usage, etc. and I have not given this special treatment.

"Complaints were also received by city council from Church League officials in regards to a \$15 bill I sent them for damages they made to the new light control box at the Deal Street softball field. It was destruction of city property and was in violation of city and state codes and I still feel they should pay for the damages. I agree, the lights should have been on for the league's tournament. I have given in the past, both written and oral directives to the city's Athletic Department as to its responsibilities in regards to facility lights, scheduling procedures, park supervision, etc. but without support, I have not been able to properly enforce these directives.

"An administrative plan for the City of Kings Mountain's Recreation Department was established May 15, 1977. If I am guilty of anything, it would be the enforcement of these city codes, rules regulations without playing political games.

"I don't want to dwell entirely on the negative aspects of this thing although it has been tremendously upsetting to my family and myself. I have found, in the last two days, that I have many friends and supporters in Kings Mountain that I didn't realize I had. These "silent" citizens have been a great comfort to us since Monday night. I want to especially thank Mr. Bill Grissom (to whom I was publicly alleged to be related to) and Mr. Humes Houston for their continued support.

"I will close by saying that although this is a dark period for us at this moment, we know that all things work out for the best. After all, everyone will get their just reward in the end."

Town Board Meeting Set

Grover Town Board will hear more complaints by citizens on backfilling and seeding of Carolina Avenue at Monday night's regular meeting at 7 p.m. in Town Hall.

Clerk Gloria Horton said the agenda also includes Grover Industries request to close a portion of Maple Avenue, commissioner reports and miscellaneous items.

Bloodmobile Here Monday

The Red Cross bloodmobile returns to Kings Mountain Monday for a visit sponsored by Kings Mountain Senior High students.

Donors will be processed from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at B N. Barnes Auditorium. Goal of the collection is 200 pints of blood.

The visit, the second to be held by Kings Mountain

students this school year, is under sponsorship of the Future Homemakers of America Chapter. Mrs. Betty R. Gamble is advisor.

"We are encouraging all students, their parents and the community at large to come out and sponsor this bloodmobile

visit", said Mrs. Gamble. The month of May is Bloodmobile Month and the National Red Cross Chapter is calling attention to the 100th anniversary of the American Red Cross. Local chapter officials are planning to attend the bicentennial celebration to be held during the national convention the third week in May in the nation's capital.



Photo by Tommy King

CONTEST - Kings Mountain scouts are shown competing in a firebuilding contest in last weekend's district spring camporee at Camp Davidson. Left to right, Gerald Gladden, Keith Morris, Monte Huffstetler, Keith Dixon, Patrick Hamrick and Jimmy Moretz.

Scout Camporee Held

Kings Mountain Boy Scout Troop 92 of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church hosted the district spring camporee last weekend at Camp Davidson.

The local troop won first place in the best camp site competition, was second in two other contests and was judged second best in the overall competition.

Scouts arrived at the Kings Mountain camp Friday at 2 p.m. and broke camp at noon Sunday.

Over 200 scouts and leaders from Cleveland County participated in the event. In addition to Troop 91, others participating included Troop 100, Shelby Presbyterian Church; Troop 104, Central United Methodist Church, Shelby; Troop 105, Lafayette Street United Methodist Church; Troop 109, Shiloh Baptist Church; Troop 111, Friendship United Methodist Church; Troop 112, Lawndale Baptist Church/Lawndale First

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Methodist Church; Troop 113, Lattimore Baptist Church; Troop 117, Boiling Springs Baptist Church; Troop 118, Zion Baptist Church; Troop 290, Aldersgate United Methodist Church; Troop 400, Putnam Memorial Baptist Church; and Troop 413, Belwood Clinic.

Competition was held in firebuilding and string burning, log canoe race, jamboree salute, fishing, tree identification, compass knowledge and cooking.

Each patrol was presented a

ribbon for its participation. First place ribbons went to Troop 118, best overall; Panther Patrol, best patrol overall; Troop 104, best patrol flag; and Troop 113, cooking award.

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Tommy King, Scoutmaster of Troop 91, presented a history of the Davidson Scout Camp, tracing from 1947, when the Plonk Family donated the land to Kings Mountain Boy Scouts, until today.

Troops were awarded points in each category of competition, and points were tallied to determine the overall champion. Troop 118 had 308 points to 270 for Troop 91.

Members of the Kings Mountain Jaycees and their wives served as judges.