

# Rate of tax stays same

## Council approves annexing 2 tracts to Walkertown

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WALKERTOWN

The town council approved a \$1.8 million budget for 2008-09 last Thursday that leaves the property-tax rate unchanged at 20 cents for every \$100 of assessed value

"We've gone over it, over it and over it," Council Member Wayne Hester said before the council voted. "And Lynn (McKinnie, town clerk) has done a wonderful job on it."

Town officials estimated that they will have a collection rate 96.5 percent on the town's property-tax base of \$395 million.

The town has a \$4.4 million fund balance, or savings account, and is planning several projects including sidewalks for several streets and a new park.

In other business, the council approved the annexation of tracts along two roads. Land at 920 Walkertown-Guthrie Road and 5004 Old Belews Creek Road will be included in the corporate limits of the town.

In recent weeks, the council has discussed whether the town will incorporate roads in the High Knoll subdivision. The council decided to wait until a later date to consider the issue.

The council introduced Scott Snow, Walkertown's town manager. Hester said he was happy to have Snow as part of the town staff. "He's already been in the office and getting busy and getting his feet wet," Hester said.

"I think we're going to have a good rapport with Scott," he said. Snow said he had learned more in his first week as town manager than he had in several years of college.

"I'd like to say I appreciate the opportunity to be here. There's a bright future for the community and I look forward to working with the council," he said.

The council provided information about new Waste Management Inc. fees for the town. The recycling fees will be increased 4.2 percent, changing from \$2.20 to \$2.92 a month.

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