

Walk bids await grant

Town preparing list of streets that will get sidewalks

By Melissa Hall | Journal Reporter

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WALKERTOWN

A proposed sidewalk project for Walkertown moved forward last Thursday when the town council approved getting bids on the first group of streets.

The town has developed a list of 18 streets on which officials want to put sidewalks. They include part of Depot Street, Rocky Branch Lane and Swain Road.

Seven other streets are on a hold list until all of the streets can be done at the same time. Those streets include Leake, Willoughby and Linville streets.

Part of the money to pay for the sidewalks is coming from a grant. The money is not available yet, but town officials wanted to be ready to submit the proposal when the money is available.

"We're going to do some of the streets regardless," Mayor Doc Davis said.

In other business, the town's annual hot-dog day on July 4 will be held at the Town Center Park at town hall. Council members approved a \$4,000 budget for it.

Lynn McKinnie, the interim town manager, said that in addition to buying food for the day, the town needs to buy tables and portable shelters.

Town officials said that the 10-foot-by-20-foot tents cost about \$200, and the council approved buying three tents.

Davis said that last year, 400 to 500 people came to the celebration. Last year's budget for the celebration was \$3,000.

McKinnie said that the Booe House, a historic house that the town owns, will be open for people to tour. The council approved building a handicap ramp on the west side of the house in time for hot-dog day.

The council discussed a request to put up Children at Play signs near the playground on Rocky Branch Lane. Council Member Marilyn Martin said that signs should be placed on Martin Street also.

The N.C. Department of Transportation does not like using the signs anymore, Davis said. "They say it gives them (children) a false sense of security," Davis said.

The council approved buying six signs.

The council talked about possible uses for the former Walkertown Fire Department building on Main Street. Davis said that some repairs need to be done to the back room. "It has a lot of possibilities," Davis said.

Council Member Sarah Welch said she would like to see the room made into a conference room.

"I think we should convert it into a nice big conference room, especially for our planning board," she said. "It could be used at times for our meetings."

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