

FLETCHER COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

March 4, 1989

UPDATE ON FLETCHER INCORPORATION

After the very successful public hearing in January, the Asheville City Council reconsidered their position on our incorporation and approved a resolution allowing us to incorporate on Feb. 21. On March 2, in Raleigh, the Joint Legislative Commission on Municipal Incorporations voted unanimously to recommend the incorporation of Fletcher in their report to the General Assembly.

At this time the bill for incorporation is being drafted by the local N.C. House Delegation. When this bill goes to the General Assembly, it will initially go to the Local Government Committee No. 2, and after approval will go to the House of Representatives and finally to the Senate. If all goes well through this process, the incorporation will be ratified at that point subject to the referendum (vote by Fletcher residents for or against incorporation) which will be held no less than 60 nor more than 120 days afterward. Results of this referendum will be certified within 48 hours and with a majority of voters expressing approval, incorporation will become official at that time.

Due to the confusion and controversy surrounding the position of interim mayor, and the resignation of Pat Ritchie, the local legislators have decided to draft the bill leaving the interim mayor position blank (see newspaper clippings). The voters of Fletcher will elect a mayor in the November general election. When we officially become a town after the referendum, the following persons will be the only members of the interim government until the November election: Harold Conner, Byron Terrell, John Parris, Sr., and Sara Waechter.

The rate at which property owners within the town boundaries will be taxed during the first fiscal year will be no greater than 25 cents per \$100 valuation.

A Community meeting will be held as soon as the bill is passed by the General Assembly to present information made available by Raleigh. So that all residents within the town boundaries may have an opportunity to vote in the Referendum, the Fletcher Improvement Committee plans to hold voter registration drives on two Saturdays prior to the Referendum. The Referendum gives the registered voters of the Town of Fletcher the last word to show support through a positive vote to have Fletcher incorporated.

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO VOTE AND RESIDE WITHIN THE TOWN BOUNDARIES IN ORDER TO VOTE IN THIS REFERENDUM.