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Construction of new gas lines begins

Construction work on the \$700,000 Carlisle Gas Line Renovation Project officially began Monday morning at 11 a.m. when Mayor Franklin Hughes, members of city council, engineers, Shurgas ADI and other honored guests totaling about 50 persons, broke ground at the East End of Carlisle near the old hospital.

Attending the ground-breaking ceremonies were newsmen and camera men from all three Lexington television channels, whose tapes and cameras were grinding away when Mayor Hughes delivered the remarks. "We've lost about 18.9 percent of the gas lines during recent years, which adds up to about \$160,000," Mayor Hughes said. "That is the city pays for because it was delivered to our system by Columbia Gas but never reached our customers."

City Superintendent Gayle Vanlandingham said construction was beginning on what could be, potentially, the biggest trouble spot, the six-inch line which comes from the Columbia Gas station on Scribner Road and enters the city along the Moorefield Road.

"First construction will be along Moorefield Road to Eastern Avenue to Kennedy Heights," Vanlandingham said. "We are on the right way at this point, but we are not doing property owners ahead of time where we're going to work."

Vanlandingham has often stated that he would like to finish the worst trouble spots before heavy winter and resulting frozen ground set in.

Just over half a mile of six-inch line will be replaced, Mayor Hughes said at the ceremonies, with a total of 10.2 miles of gas line to be replaced.

"In addition," Mayor Hughes told the gathering, "8.1 miles of 4-inch polyethylene customer service will also be installed."

Financing Mayor Hughes outlined how the financing totaled \$700,000. Community Development Block Grant, \$244,000; Kentucky Gas Loan Fund, \$130,000; cash from the City of Carlisle, \$50,000; gas line loans from the First National Bank of Carlisle, \$200,000. That makes an actual total of \$664,000. Actual backlog and other work will begin on Monday, Oct. 18, Vanlandingham said.

"This has been a rewarding experience to see this project get started and to see ground broken," Mayor Hughes said. "We expect that it will take about 120 days of construction to complete it."

City officials broke ground Monday for the \$700,000 gas line renovation project in Carlisle. Welding the four shovels, from left, are Mayor Franklin Hughes and Councilmen Tommy Vaughn, Carlisle Lester and Charles Fay. From left in rear are Robert Lay-Inspector, David Warner of Gas Management, Susan Anglin of BGADD, Margaret Hunter of CALF, Mary Tapp-City Clerk, with back to camera is Harry Asher of Gas Management, Paul Ramsey, Jas Sekhon of BGADD, Fred Garrett of Gas Management, Harold Mitchell-County Magistrate, John Tapp-City employee, Sharon Jones-City employee, Ed Jefferson, Betty Barton, Tommy Crawford-City employee, Gayle Vanlandingham City Superintendent, Jeff Jefferson-City employee, Margaret Wadley-City employee, Allen Earlywine-Police Chief (with hat), Innis Deckerman, Herman Highlander-City employee.—Mercury photo

Personnel matter Dominates lengthy City Council closed session

City Council opened its regular meeting Monday night one half hour early, and immediately went into closed session for two hours, reappearing at 9:30 p.m. to resume open session.

The reason for the closed session was again a personnel matter concerning City Police patrolman James City, Mark Fitzgerald, an attorney from Covington, was present with City Clerk, Mrs. Darlene Buckner and Wiley Walker, present in the Council meeting room, were called into the session by City Attorney

Stacy Vise and Mrs. Douglas Hadd. Walker, was also present in the meeting room.

Council returned to open session to conduct business while waiting to see if Council members felt they "have been had" in a Kerox copier for the City office which was purchased in May of this year. City Clerk Tapp used several companies requesting, between 1981 models of desk copiers of which Kerox was one. Council voted to order the Kerox model at the May meeting. (Goff and Waugh voted against the motion.) The copier has been in the City office since then. It was discovered the last of September that what was actually delivered was a "remanufactured 1979" model. The purchase price of the "new" model was \$2,600.00 which was paid shortly after delivery.

Bids opened At school board meeting

The Nicholas County school board opened numerous bids on renovation and window work at the high school at their regular meeting Monday night and then a special board meeting for Monday, Oct. 25, at 4 p.m. to announce the awarding of the bids.

It would appear that S.C. Neal Electric Contractors of Georgetown, Ky., has the low bid for the electrical work of \$40,641. The apparent low bidder for the new energy efficient windows was W.H. Cole and Associates of Louisville, with a bid of \$61,300.

However, there are various combinations of prices involved with the way the bidding was arranged by the architect, so that the school board might have great flexibility in getting the lowest possible price. The board and the architect, Don Shelton of Lexington, are currently reviewing the bids and will make their final announcement at the special called meeting.

Other bids were received from Cole Spradley, Inc., Tucker and Associates of Lexington, Payne Electrical Service of Lexington, Wagner Electric of Louisville, Eldridge Electric of Lexington and Shurgas Construction of Highland.

The board also approved the close estimate budget for the Nicholas County schools for the 1982-83 year of \$1,992,903.30.

Kindergarten lease

Four members of kindergarten children attended the board meeting Monday night and again expressed their dissatisfaction with the safety of their children in one of two trailers located inside the elementary building. Mrs. Delma Livingston and Mrs. Priscy McClure, who had complained at a previous board meeting, were accompanied Monday night by Mrs.

County attorney says Myers Station liquor petition invalid

The petition signed by more than 200 residents of the Myers Station area to force a wet-dry vote is an invalid one, according to County Attorney Jack Conley.

"The way the law is at present," Conley told the Mercury, "no precinct can have a wet-dry vote in a county if Myers Station wants to be wet, then a petition for the whole county to be wet must be filed."

Conley has researched the matter, including conversations with the county attorney in Magdalen County.

"Nicholas County was voted dry back in June of 1930, I think it was. Once a county has voted itself dry, that whole county must vote, in order to revert to a wet county," Conley said.

There is an exception in the law for fourth class cities, however, and that allows Carlisle to have a vote separate from the county.

In Magdalen County recently a circuit court judge ruled the law affecting counties to be unconstitutional, however the law is still on the books so far as Nicholas County is concerned.

Liquor opponents

Meanwhile, an organizational meeting for persons and groups who are opposed to the legalization of alcoholic beverages sales in Carlisle/Nicholas County, will be held tonight, Thursday, Oct. 14, at the First Baptist Church, according to a news release given to the Mercury by the Rev. David Stancil this week.

The Rev. Luther Butts, director of the Kentucky Temperance League and former pastor of the First Baptist Church, will lead the meeting, Stancil said.

"If you care about the community," Stancil said, "don't just sit there—get involved."

The City of Carlisle will vote on the wet/dry issue Saturday, Dec. 4. The question is to be on the ballot. "Are you in favor of the sale of alcoholic beverages in Carlisle, Kentucky?"

Weekly newspapers hold convention

Morehead State University is hosting the Kentucky Weekly Newspaper Association fall convention on Oct. 14 and 15.

More than 50 publishers, editors and reporters from weekly newspapers across the state, including the Carlisle Mercury, are expected to attend various workshops during the two-day meeting. Topics include photography, computers, newswriting and editing, headline and outline writing and advertising.

Fathered speaker for the banquet on Friday, Oct. 15, will be Byron Crawford, columnist for the Louisville Courier-Journal. During the program, the first "Front Page News" award will be presented to MSH.

The newswriting feature for the convention journalists will be a luncheon on Friday with Democratic and Republican candidates for the 1983 Kentucky governor's race.

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Unemployment up in county

Two hundred and sixty-three persons are unemployed in Nicholas County, according to the official unemployment figures for August, released this week by the Department for Natural Resources.

"That amounts to an unemployment rate of 8.1 percent in the county, a rise of 4 percent from the summer months. The lowest unemployment rate in the Shurgas is in Fayette County with a rate of six percent."

Answering TV questions

Following a short speech by Mayor Franklin Hughes and the symbolic shoveling of dirt marking the beginning of construction on the Gas Line Renovation Project, camera crews from Channels 15, 27 and 36 peppered Mayor

Hughes with questions. Answering were Executive Director Jas Sekhon, BGADD, Hughes and Councilman Vaughn.—Mercury photo.

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