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City employees worked hard to install new filters for the Carlisle City Water Plant over the Christmas holidays. Replacement of the 22-year-old filtering system began December 17, with the two-week shut-down of Jockey International. The hull in water demand made it possible for the

overhaul to take place. Use of the two filters was alternated, at night was being replaced. The other was in operation. This phase scheduled for a January 4 completion, added an additional output of 100,000 gallons per day to the previous daily capacity of 60,000 gallons. —Paul Jones

City seeking \$750,000 grant

By Jamie H. Duncan
of The Mercury Staff

City Council members voted Tuesday night, Dec. 30 at a called meeting to give permission to Don Hasall of Bluegrass Area Development District to apply for a \$750,000 HUD Community Block grant for a \$1.3 million water treatment plant project. The filing deadline is Feb. 10.

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Ambulance service saved At least 6 months

By Hugh Bond
of The Mercury Staff

Nicholas County will continue to have ambulance service, at least until June 30, 1987.

In a unanimous vote by Nicholas County Fiscal Court a contract was extended to Ronald McDonald, operator of the Nicholas County Ambulance Service, for six months.

The action took place in a called special meeting, December 30. Over the last two months the court found it impossible to accept a one-year contract proposal.

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Caution urged in home heating

Don't stand close enough to a heater so that clothes come into contact with it.

Position heaters so that they are away from upholstered furniture, draperies or other combustible materials.

Don't use frayed or lightweight extension cords with electric space heaters.

Make sure heaters are properly installed and vented. They should be balanced and avoid any top-over.

Read labels and follow all precautions and instructions.

For wood stoves and fireplaces: Wood stoves, vents and fireplaces should be inspected annually. Chimneys should be inspected more often.

Keep a fire extinguisher near wood stoves and fireplaces.

Install smoke detectors.

Collect ashes in a metal bucket with a metal cover. Ashes that appear dry may contain live embers.

Don't burn paper, cardboard boxes or other light, flammable material in a wood stove or fireplace — this can lead to chimney fires.

Don't burn plastic or foam materials because they can generate toxic gases.

Use combustible liquids to start a fire can cause an explosion or an uncontrollable fire.

Space heaters and wood stoves can provide life-saving heat during winter's most severe months, but they can also cause life-threatening fires and injuries if not handled properly.

The federal EPA deadline is July 1, 1987 for the newer plant project to be under construction which would put it in the deadline to comply with the Administrative Order issued two years ago. That deadline, which Council members have also been aware of, is impossible for Carlisle to meet.

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For sewer Rates raised

Carlisle City Council voted Monday night to raise sewer rates. In order to fight a deficit in operational costs and in order to be eligible to apply for a \$750,000 grant for the sewer system, council passed the rate increase ordinance by a unanimous vote.

A modified schedule of the present rate. The present \$1.00 minimum charge to customers outside city limits for the first 1,000 gallons will increase to \$1.50 instead of \$1.80. Members felt that special consideration should be given to users of very small quantities of the service.

For customers outside the city, the minimum sewer rate will jump from \$1.50 to \$1.80.

Rates will take a second increase probably before the end of 1987.

According to Don Hasall, engineer with Bluegrass Area Development District, the present rate for Carlisle is 71 percent below the average for the ADA's 17-county area.

Even with the increase, Carlisle is still 6 percent below average.

The present sewer rate is 86 percent of the customer's water usage. This imbalance has never made the sewer utility cost effective, and has caused it to constantly operate in the red, according to city officials.

According to Council member Clarence Card, when the 1984 sewer renovation project was undertaken, it was suggested to Council then that 75 percent of the water bill should be charged for sewer usage. But not wanting to make rates too high, members settled on 50 percent.

The profit on the gas utility has made up the deficit on the sewer utility. But Farmers Home Administration and HUD agencies require an audit per se themselves before grants or loans can be considered.

This has been the contention of Hasall and Hasallwood for the past two years, as they tried to convince Council members an increase was inevitable in order to maintain a sound audit program.

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At water plant System is overhauled

By Henry Paul
of The Mercury Staff

While many took this holiday season to relax, city workers were busy overhauling and updating the water filtering system at the Carlisle Water Plant.

Work on this much needed project began December 17 while Jockey International shut down for a two-week holiday break. "It was necessary to shut work for a full because the total volume of water the plant uses during normal operation would be nearly impossible to run through the filter," said Gayle Vandall, superintendent.

Carlisle City

The process of rehabilitating the filter system is a major undertaking and an expensive one. This current phase is expected to cost approximately \$800,000. City officials are seeking help from the State of Kentucky's Mary Tapp. "It has been held up because they state officials want to see matching funds."

The City of Carlisle previously applied for \$750,000 of FICA loan money, available for such projects at an interest rate of 5/8 per cent. It was decided that, rather than borrow the money, the city would wait to see if grant money could be obtained from the state.

The current sewer filtering system has been overhauled 27 years ago, consist of two 12 by 17 concrete basins. Over the years, a great deal of buildup has accumulated on these filters and corrosion has occurred on the cast-iron underdrains. Clay filter beds will replace the cast iron material in the

new system.

"We are completely replacing the media filtering materials, too," said Vandall. "It will consist of four grades of rock, filtered sand and many overhauling and updating the water filtering system at the Carlisle Water Plant."

Water goes through a complex filtering process between the time it is collected in the city lake and it reaches your home. In the settling tank, chemicals (chlorine, lime, alum and soda ash) are added. Then the water is sent through the filter. Media in a clarifier where more chemicals are added before it is pumped to the water towers.

As part of the renovation, new concrete basins were poured and installed to provide a cleaner recovery for the filtered water.

According to Water Plant Superintendent Tommy Vice, "We have nearly completed about 800 hours of work before the new filters were installed in Carlisle City. City Manager Tapp. "It has been held up because they state officials want to see matching funds."

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Two fires, recently, were caused locally by lawn mowers being started on and left unattended. These heaters should never be left on when you leave the house," advised Hughes.

For your protection, the consumer

