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Override fails Councilmen Vaughn, Fay side with Mayor Bentz

By Josh Shepherd

Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

After heated debate over the annexation of property from the Carlisle Cemetery to the 19th Hole of Carnico, Carlisle City Council failed to override Mayor Lee Bentz's veto of the 19th Hole of Carnico, some before council in April of 1988 regarding the annexation of the Carnico property into the city.

Four city council members had signed a joint resolution requesting the special called meeting.

To override a veto requires one more than a majority, which in the case of Carlisle Council is five votes. Councilmen Tommy Vaughn and Charlie Fay cast no votes, upholding Bentz's veto.

There were no seats available in Council chambers as the overflow crowd spilled into the adjacent city police station.

Members of the media leaned forward to hear each statement as Bentz passed through a pre-annexation discussion of agenda items he

had included after the meeting's original call.

Several business owners as well as representatives from the Chamber of Commerce and the Main Street Program were on hand to express their views on the annexation vote.

Councilman Betty Barton said Bob Paul, owner of the 19th Hole of Carnico, came before council in April of 1988 requesting the annexation of the Carnico property into the city.

When Paul made the request, Barton recalled, all council members seemed to be opposed by the idea until the liquor by the drink issue arose.

The mayor vetoed the ordinance for the liquor by the drink several months ago, then, with no liquor even being mentioned on the ordinance.

Since the liquor did not pass, then it is unnecessary for the annexation to go through.

Carlisle Mayor Lee Bentz

name, he vetoed the annexation though three members of the council said it will help Carlisle's economy, Barton said.

Barton asked Bentz to explain why he vetoed the annexation.

Bentz explained, "The annexation is an ordinance in combination with the liquor by the drink. Since the liquor did not pass, then it is unnecessary for the annexation to go through."

However, Bentz said the liquor by the drink issue is only part of his reason for vetoing the ordinance.

"(Carlisle City Attorney) Skip Watson and I looked closely at the cost of providing city fire and police protection. Fire was all right because both county and city fire departments would be involved. But

we found there would be more cost to the city than revenue brought in if we were to annex the area. We needed a map showing exactly where the things will go and if it would involve a road through there, that would also have to be shown on the map.

"I would like to see the land out there developed. I would like to see the land taken into the city and it would love to get on US 68, but I cannot see city taxpayers getting involved in something that may be costly down the road.

"These are municipal reasons that do not make the annexation either beneficial or financially feasible. Everything annexed must be developable."

Bentz said there is also a problem with the possible ability of the way the land is intended to be annexed.

"According to talks I have had with the Attorney General's office, several other attorneys for cities in Kentucky, a case can be made for 'corridor annexation' which may lead to future legal problems for the city.

"But there is really nothing in the annexation that benefits the city. There is no place in the area for industry to settle," Bentz said.

Bob Paul said after he met with city council, he received a letter outlining eight points that he would have to fulfill before the annexation could be considered.

"Among those, I supplied a map. Billy Hopkins (planning and zoning attorney) drew it up and Watson signed it."

As far as a road, I have not heard anyone bring up a road through the area in the entire time the council has been discussing the issue," Paul said.

Vaughn asked if the golf course is to be annexed. Bentz replied only a portion of the golf course would be included in the annexation.

Paul said the way the annexation works, the area would lead across one side of the golf course to the middle of US 68 and turn back around to take in some acreage around the Lake Carnico club house.

One woman, who did not identify herself, asked if the city objects to the extra revenue which would potentially be generated from taxes.

Bentz said the city has not assessed how much tax would be assessed for the area as total sum of revenue is unknown.

Fay said, "It's likely the tax revenue would be very little."

It's likely the tax revenue would be very little.

Carlisle Councilman Charlie Fay August 4, 1989 Special Called City Council Meeting

no way you can put a sign out there saying it is the city limits."

Both Paul and Barton reiterated that the annexation does include part of the golf course which touches 68.

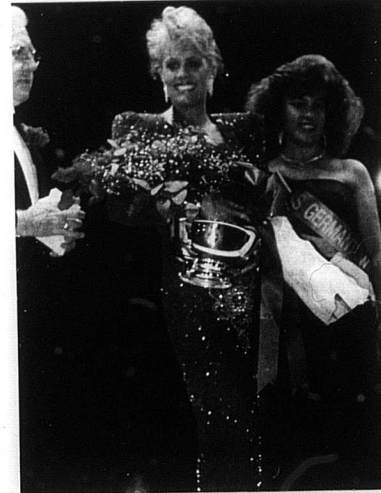
"I have provided the council with a map that has the area of annexation clearly marked," Paul repeated.

Henry Kinser, an attorney representing Paul, said, "There is no question the council gave their 100 percent approval when the annexation was first mentioned. It is on the record. And it is also on the record the council also approved a resolution stating that the community suffered from economic depression and hardship."

Both Paul and Barton for the annexation and the city attorney and the council provided him with a document outlining eight areas he would need to fulfill. According to record, he has accomplished these things. That, too, is on the record.

This council recognized that Carlisle is economically

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Thornton crowd Germantown Fair Queen . . . The Germantown Fair carnation was held last Tuesday night at the fairgrounds, in Germantown. Front (l to r) is a fair official, Leslie Thornton, a graduate of Nicholas County High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Conn Ahee of Robertson County, is being crowned Miss Germantown Fair by last year's queen Melissa Butler. - Pam Bowles Photo

For homeowners in Nicholas County

ISO rating may lower rates

By Josh Shepherd

Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Home insurance rates for some residents in Nicholas County are going to come down as a result of the ISO Commercial Risk Services evaluation and classification of the Nicholas County fire department.

In late March, Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes and the Fire Board arranged to have ISO come and evaluate the department in order to lower the Public Protection Classification of the county.

Because the fire department has never been evaluated before, the classification of Nicholas County has been a 10, which means, basically, no fire department at all.

On August 1, Hughes and Judge-Executive Reese Simot received a letter informing them ISO had completed its evaluation and will inform the insurance companies serving Carlisle and Nicholas County that the classification has been dropped to a 9 rating and in some areas, the classification could drop as low as a 7 rating, Hughes said.

We have dropped our classification and that will mean some significant drops in home insurance rates," Hughes said. "One reason not

all areas have dropped down as low as others is because several county fire hydrants did not meet ISO's minimum criterion to be recognized in the evaluation. Only five hydrants were included in the evaluation and classification.

When water lines are changed in order to increase the pressure through the county hydrants, we can apply for another evaluation and perhaps get our classification even lower."

The ISO classification is limited to a five mile radius starting from the County Fire Department. Those living beyond that radius will remain at a 10 classification.

It is unfortunate those living beyond the limit may not benefit from the change in classification, but we wanted to do as much as we could for the people of Nicholas County. It is really because of the people, and the efforts of the Nicholas County Fire Board, that we got ISO to evaluate us and get the change," Hughes said.

The ISO overall evaluation gave the County Fire Department a total assigned credit of 37.68 percent which places the fire department at just within the 7 classification, which ISO representative Jack Clark said is about normal for most places.

M.C. Blair, an independent insurance agent in Carlisle, said the change in classification will have an effect on insurance premiums.

"The way insurance companies handle the Public Protection Classification varies from company to company. It all depends on their policy concerning the classification."

"Though the effect of the drop in classification should be automatically figured into home insurance premiums, people should check with their agents about how much of a cut there will be," Blair said.

Larry Wilts, insurance agent for Shelter Insurance, said, according to rough figures, said some home and farm owners could look at about a \$200 savings, but he reiterated Blair's suggestion that individual policy holders check with their agents to see what adjustments would be made on premiums.

The County Fire Department is very good and it is good they have made an effort to bring down the Public Protection class of at least part of the county, but if they can continue to improve and cut their classification more, it could mean several hundreds of dollars in savings to the people in Nicholas County," Wilts said.