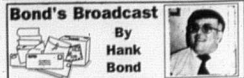


FOCUS



Bond's Broadcast By Hank Bond

Covering meetings is sorta like shooting the rapids on a raft. It's kind of like shooting the rapids, covering government actions in Carlisle and Nicholas County.

Many things you may not like, and some you may not believe, but in the all-and-all these meetings are like shooting the rapids. You can go along for several meetings with relative ease, nothing really happening, and then boom, the tempo picks up just when shooting the rapids is at its really bad.

That's not to say everyone at every meeting is that way, certainly not, but there have been several cases. There is a lot of space to the case there are the things which are legal, but just don't seem right.

At the last city council meeting, it was brought up there was an uncut track for a truck to haul through the sewer plant. The truck used by the city, which was to be used expressly for that purpose, was not working at all.

It was brought up from the floor that an individual had a truck available for sale and it was suggested that the city should purchase it. In addition, he would give the city a trade in on the old truck.

It was agreed the city should purchase the truck, but a later meeting or should a special meeting be called, a decision would be made concerning the purchase.

Let me be perfectly clear, here, the city needed a new truck and indeed the offer was a reasonable one, but the chances leave a little bit to be desired.

After having the purchase to be agreed on by the council, after purchase, I guess, discussing it, the exact opposite happened.

The truck was purchased, and that was all there is to it. Yet, it was a legal transaction. It was within the scope of the mayor's responsibilities to authorize the purchase and sign the check, but it wasn't the way it was presented. And here it was the council.

After hearing of the transaction I checked into the purchase. I spoke with several people and found the purchase was made from the capital expenditure budget line item, and the money was there to facilitate the purchase.

So, under the strictest letter of the law, the transaction was legal. This was supported by the Office of the Kentucky Attorney General. A call and message left in the office of Carlisle City Attorney Skip Lawson were unanswered. I did not ask if he was on vacation, when he was told he was not available, but simply left a message. In fairness to Mr. Lawson - if he did make an effort to return the call, it was not told, however, the fact remains I was unable to obtain his opinion on the transaction.

The purpose of this legal procedure is to point out that while operating within the legal limits set forth for the mayor of Carlisle the action was taken after it was not officially agreed on at a council meeting there would at least be some further discussion.

After talking to two council members, these individuals don't even know the final purchase agreement had been made. That only resolves the problems we are having in Carlisle.

And so, for another week, thanks and thirty. Send Your Letters to The Editor to The Carlisle Mercury, P.O. Box 272, Carlisle, KY 40311.

From Left Field By Josh Shepherd

I was never one for what the pot was spared. I know there are families who do not believe in physical punishment, and were to have grown up under those circumstances, I certainly would have appreciated it.

But such was not my fortune, nor that of my cousins, for it was the family belief that there were some lessons in life only the well administered crack of a switch could teach.

I think the reason for this belief came from growing up with a family whose roots on both sides were linked with farming. And, when appropriate, I felt that was an oak or maple sapling was a most effective instructor.

Probably taught me a little about dancing, as well. But, as with all of us, most of our sprinkles have been long since forgotten, except for that one who kept us from sitting down for a week and, lying angry in my bedroom, left us quietly plotting to run away somewhere as a lesson of our own.

It was Thanksgiving, I think. Either that or it was just one of those days when the family got together for a great afternoon. All really remember about the evening proceeding was that I was wearing some of my "nicer" clothes and I and my cousin were fully warned not to walk too far on the railroad tracks, and under no circumstances were we to go near Busyfoot Creek on the way.

The, to a child, is a guaranteed deadly combination. The idea was hatched innocently enough. An uncle and I scurried along the railroad line, removing the spikes and collecting silicon until our pockets nearly bulged, we were ready to go back to the house to get our credit card bread cracker, popping lively through the woods.

"Pappy says that dog walks all the way to Myers Station on these tracks sometimes," Jason said. "Aw that dog's old. He can't walk that far," I replied and wiped my eyes. "Scratcher made a moment and realized I had never heard of him before. He would give the city a trade in on the old truck."

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Continuing, I found a penny crushed under the weight of train wheels, added to my collection of shavings as Jason spotted. "You ain't got nothing in your pockets but a bunch of old rocks and a useless piece of copper," he said. "I ain't got nothing at all."

"You'll be glad we had them. What they want is money." "They won't take them things. We'll bring 'em to my house." "Best they can do with those is make glass."

"I thought 'bout that something else." "Maybe. Probably." Jason stopped short and waved for me to keep quiet. "For a moment, all I heard was a few crows cawing and the wind. The wind was not in my ears, it was in my head."

As I continued to listen, it occurred to me that what I thought was the wind was not. It was water, running, water, coming from over an embankment along one side of the tracks.

"What do you think," he said. "I don't know, lets go down and take a look." The embankment was steep and covered with loose gravel until we reached solid ground at the bottom, but where we finally reached the creek bank, both our eyes widened with awe.

The creek had to have about forty yards across. It was shallow and huge rocks jettied up the middle among boulders of various colored pebbles that the water floor. Crayfish scuttled away from where we were standing and small tadpoles darted back and forth in the water.

But what attracted our attention most was an old wagon wheel hung on a branch on the far side of the creek. "I can't reach it," Jason yelled. "I can't either," I yelled. "I'll get a ladder and we'll go down and get it." "You're right," I said. "I'll get a ladder and we'll go down and get it." "You're right," I said. "I'll get a ladder and we'll go down and get it."

"I can find out," "How?" "By taking a stick, Jason stepped back and looked for a clearing where the sun shined through the trees and the ground was level. He stared at the shadow for a few minutes.

"What?" "Rubbed his chin. "I think we do some time left. Myers Station."

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GENERAL NEWS

Hopkins has same gun control

Continued from Page 1 not continue to work independently," Henley said, "and aside from that, the only other alternative is contractual arrangements with business conglomerates. Farmers would no longer have control over their own land," he said.

Some business have contracts that will take over the farm, he said, providing only the livestock. It is up to the farmer to provide feed and stables to keep them. Farmers are also liable for any that die.

"If I were a big company, there are some company farmers that will take land subject to..." Hopkins said. "I can't resist," Jason yelled. "I can't either," I yelled. "I'll get a ladder and we'll go down and get it."

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Farmers hear

Continued from Page 1 erty designed and to liberalize granting authority to enforcement agents based on hunches or feelings. The risk and consequences of making a mistake are great, Hopkins said, in the rules of engagement.

Hopkins said he had not taken rules of engagement seriously until the truck bombing of the U.S. embassy in Lebanon several years ago. He said the embassy guards had guns which he assumed were armed. However, according to the rules of engagement, the guards could not have been armed.

"It took nine seconds for the truck to reach the embassy from the front gate," he said, "but he had to get a magazine out, pull the gun and fire. After that incident, I realized that the rules of engagement are serious business and if we are going to escalate the drug war toward some kind of conventional type of warfare, the rules have to be known," Hopkins said.

Drugs are the biggest business in the world, Hopkins said, and the war needs to be fought on several different fronts to be successful.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Nicholas County extension

Nicholas County extension agent Mike Phillips said reported 700 milking and 8500 head of stock in Nicholas County.

Don Wilson of Bossland farm in Fleming County said his impression of the questionnaire in this issue is too large. She also supported advancing the idea of a beef cattle cooperative.

Quoting some early statistics from the intensive grazing program being developed and tested in Nicholas County, these three markets will get people interested. Henley, looking at U.S.R.A. census figures for cattle and dairy cow populations discovered large discrepancies between the number the census had reported and the numbers the county extension agents reported.

According to the census figures, neither Nicholas Fleming, nor Robertson Counties had over 100 head of cattle.

However, Leopold said Robertson County had about 800 milking cows and 2,000 beef cattle.

Davenport said Fleming had about 9,500 milking cows and 11,000 beef cattle.

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Herald's of Carlisle 2nd Anniversary Balloon Sale

October 2 - 7 Receive 20, 30, 40, 50% or FREE Off Your Purchase of Fall & Winter Merchandise Lay-A-Way Now for Christmas

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County Concrete Inc.

Ready-Mix Concrete Delivery Anytime by Appointment - Reinforced Steel - Masonry Sand

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YOU DO HAVE A CHOICE...

WRITE-IN and ELECT G.C. Muers NICHOLAS COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

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