

GENERAL NEWS

# First public hearing held on tax

**By Tim Jones**  
**The Carlisle Mercury Staff**

CARLISLE — The Nicholas County Board of Education held a public hearing on the utility tax at the school system's central offices last Saturday afternoon.

Nicholas County Superintendent Robert Gilbert addressed a crowd of about 100 concerned citizens who gathered for the public hearing.

Gilbert told the assembled group of the necessity the school board had for raising additional revenue with the utility tax.

According to Gilbert, the Education Reform Act passed by the Kentucky Legislature in 1990 gave the school boards around the state three options for generating revenue outside of the traditional property and motor vehicle levies.

The additional taxes are an occupational tax, an income tax and a gross utilities receipt tax.

The utility tax was implemented by many districts around the state. It places a three percent levy on utility receipts from natural gas, electricity, in-state telephone calls, water and cable television. A cable television franchise in Adams County questioned the tax the local district had imposed there and brought the suit to the attention of the attorney general.

The board, Gilbert said, chose the utility tax because it was the fairest possible tax system.

"It's a monthly bill," Gilbert noted, "and it picks up renters and others who have not had to pay school taxes in the past."

Gilbert also told the assembled group the utility tax would generate an 10.1 cent

# Council hears bids

**By Kara Reed**  
**The Carlisle Mercury Staff**

CARLISLE — When the Carlisle City Council meets on Monday, life insurance for the city's employees.

Last week in a special meeting of the council, several representatives from insurance companies presented quotes on life insurance for the council to review.

In all, the council was presented with five quotes, one of which came in the regular meeting of the council last month.

**Proctor Blair, Blair Insurance, Principal Mutual Life Insurance Company** — Representatives Blair, Carlisle Certified Public Account and independent insurance agent, gave the council a quote during regular session September 10 of \$199 per month for coverage in the amount of \$25,000 and \$96 per month for a policy of \$10,000.

He said a \$25,000 policy would be the better option for the city.

"In this day and time, \$25,000 is what you want to be looking at," he explained.

He explained his proposed policies are transferable if the employees leave employment with the city.

He also explained last week to the council that policy coverage decreases as the age of the employee increases.

He said, "Most major companies will not insure past age 70."

Larry Wills, Shelter Insurance Companies agent, said insurance will also likely increase when an employee leaves the city, therefore leaving the group policy.

**Larry Wills, Shelter Insurance Companies** — Wills presented quotes for life insurance in the amounts of \$1,000, \$15,000 and \$25,000. He said the policy of \$10,000

equivalent of the property tax. Board attorney Billy Hopkins also addressed the board. Clark asked the board if the building plans the school district had would lead to financial problems for the future.

Superintendent Gilbert explained the board implemented the Facilities Support Program property tax on the district could qualify for state funds in building new structures. The program requires the local district to implement an equivalent five cent tax which meant Nicholas County must assess a 6.2 cent tax to meet the equivalent rate for the rest of the state. From this rate, the state grants the remainder of the money based on need, Gilbert said.

Gilbert addressed the crowd at the end of the common session and noted Nicholas County is 93 in the state in per pupil expenditure. "The legislature has given local districts the right to do more for themselves," he stated. "We board said there was the possibility of lowering the tax rate in subsequent years but any increase or decrease would depend on the situation and the needs of the school system."

Hall also asked a legal question. According to House Bill 44, school boards are only allowed to raise taxes to a certain level. Hall asked if the board had pushed the tax rate past the legal limit.

Hopkins answered for the board. In order to enable local boards to generate needed revenue the Education Reform Act of 1990 allows school districts to raise taxes past the point prescribed in House Bill 44, he said. In effect, House Bill 44 will not be enforced for the next two years so local districts can raise the money necessary to equalize education in the state, Hopkins said.

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would cost \$6.70 monthly per employee.

The city employs 22 people with a \$15,000 policy would be \$221.00 and a \$25,000 policy would be \$368.50.

Wills said his proposed policy will continue if the insured becomes totally disabled. He added Shelter Insurance would pay the premiums if an employee covered by their life insurance would become disabled.

**Leslie Buck, Commonwealth Insurance** — Leslie Buck, representative with Commonwealth Insurance, presented a policy which could also contain Premium Waiver Benefits for disability and a conversion option in case of employee termination or retirement.

She presented the council with a \$25,000 life insurance plan with a premium of \$34.25 for all full time city employees.

**Melissa Davis, Metropolitan Life Insurance** — Melissa Davis, representative for Metropolitan Life, gave a quote of \$519 per month for a \$25,000 policy for 22 employees.

Davis' proposed policy could also include an indemnity benefit in the event of loss of life, eyeight or limbs in which case the policy would pay half or all of the amount of insurance.

Her proposed policy also includes a disability benefit and dependent life insurance.

She told the council in last week's meeting she thought she could "squeeze in" the mayor and council on her plan.

**Dave Allen and David Seer, American Family Life Assurance Company** — Representatives Allen and Seer presented quotes for life insurance in the amounts of \$1,000, \$15,000 and \$25,000. He said the policy of \$10,000

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The boosters will sell pizza, whole or by the slice, from the New Little Caesar's in Paris during the Homecoming Game, Thursday night, and the Homecoming Dance, Saturday night.

Pizzas will also be available for **TO GO ORDERS** (on an available basis)

**Join us at the game and the dance for Pizza!**

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<p><b>BABY PAN! PAN!</b> and a double 10 oz. Soft Drink</p> <p><b>\$2.29</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>Two adorable little individual-sized pan pizzas for one low price. Valid only with coupon at participating Little Caesars. Expires 10/90</p>	<p><b>FREE Crazy Sauce</b></p> <p>With any Crazy Bread purchase</p> <p>Valid only with coupon at participating Little Caesars. Extra toppings available at additional cost. Excludes pizza cheese. Expires 10/90</p>	<p><b>TWO LARGE PIZZAS</b> with cheese and 1 topping!</p> <p><b>\$10.99</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>YOUR CHOICE              • ONE OF EACH!              • PAN/PAN!              • PAN/PAN!              • PIZZAZZA!              • PIZZAZZA!</p> <p>Valid only with coupon at participating Little Caesars. Extra toppings available at additional cost. Excludes pizza cheese. Expires 10/90</p>	<p><b>PARTY PACK!</b></p> <p>4 large pizzas with cheese and 1 topping plus two 12 oz. soft drinks</p> <p><b>\$22.99</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>YOUR CHOICE              • 4 PIZZAS              • ANY COMBINATION              • PAN OR ROUND!</p> <p>Valid only with coupon at participating Little Caesars. Extra toppings available at additional cost. Excludes pizza cheese. Expires 10/90</p>
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