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City council hears complaints on police

By Josh Shepherd
Of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE — Allegations of harassment and vulgar language were leveled at officers of the Carlisle Police Department at the regular meeting of the Carlisle City Council Monday night.

Six Nicholas County women, Kimberly Hatfield, Betty Kelley, Mary Lou Fryman, Belinda Watkins, Duffe Ross, and Elizabeth Watkins, claimed officers David Hardin, II, and Brent Wade offended them using foul language and threats following the arrest of Victor and George Watkins and Ernest Zachryne last weekend. The arrests at issue were made in connection to a single car accident on Sugge Road last weekend. All three Nicholas County men were arrested and charged with public intoxication and assault.

Kimberly Hatfield's complaint involved officer Hardin's arrest of a companion when they were pulled over in Carlisle for making an improper start.

In order to hear all sides of the story, council members asked officers Wade and Hardin to appear in council chambers. Both stories were presented in the open meeting.

According to Mrs. Watkins, she went straight to the back of the police department following the single vehicle accident and arrest in an effort to bring the men home. When she arrived, however, she claimed Hardin refused to release them, used harsh language toward her and threatened to arrest her himself if she didn't leave the back office of the department.

In his defense, Hardin related the same story, but added that in the case, Mrs. Watkins had burst into the back room of the police department without authorization and asked for the release of the Watkins' men. "I can't un-arrest somebody," Hardin said.

He admitted he may have also used harsh language in

retaliation to Watkins. Kimberly Hatfield alleged Hardin may have illegally searched a car she was in which led to the arrest of one of her friends. According to her, the liquor they had in the car was hidden. Hardin, however, said the alcoholic beverages were in plain sight and further claimed there were minors in the car. He denied ever using foul language in the incident.

To the more serious claims of abuse, council advised the women they may have the option of filing formal charges against the department if they feel their case is credible. Carlisle Mayor Frankie Hughes said he had received an anonymous call so approximately 1:30 a.m. Sunday and was informed of the problem. He went immediately to the police station for further details and was satisfied that the incident was provoked and stood firmly behind the actions of the officers in this

Board weighs options for new school

By Pam Bowles
Of the Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — Bob Coakley of the Kentucky State Department of Education and Finance gave his alternatives to the Nicholas County Board of Education on building a new school facility for the Nicholas County campus.

First, Coakley said, the school could escrow \$100,000 over the next four years from the local school board.

Second, they could accept facility money, take the sum of the building fund and escrow the money at the end of this year, primarily because the initial funding would not be enough.

Third, he said, would be to build a new school in phases, but the school can only anticipate about \$9,000 from the School Facilities Construction Commission money.

The board had expected the commission to be the avenue to build the new school, but because of the Governor Brent Jones' budget cuts this year, Nicholas County will not receive adequate bonding funds.

Superintendent Ceberth Gilbert said the school would be able to escrow money because the school will not incur certain operating costs this year since the elementary school has been renovated and the work on the central office over the summer has been completed.

Gilbert said fuel consumption has decreased and there will be a savings there this year.

But money needed for the basic operation of the school will not be touched, said Gilbert.

Gilbert said, we plan on buying three or four buses this year and will still have enough in the budget to give salary increases.

Nicholas County School Board member Broghe Hall felt the board need to hire an architect so someone would be in line if the money did come in for the new school.

"We would be under no obligation to pay until we have the money. If the money doesn't come in we do not have to pay," Hall said.

Board member Sammie Vice said he didn't want to hire an architect and have to be committed to this person 10 years down the road.

Board member John Cleaver said hiring someone would obligate the school board. If we need to fix the track or the roof, he will need that one architect to do those jobs.

Vice said we told the people we were going to get the commission and now it is not there. Gilbert said, I never anticipated Governor Jones cutting

the commission money for schools."

Cleaver said, come up with a way without raising local taxes.

Gilbert said, "There will be no more local taxes. This county district is above the tier one and would lose money if school system, said Gilbert."

The Nicholas County Board of Education wanted to commend everyone responsible for the safety of the children who were involved in the school bus accident.

"We have a real need to separate these children and with a more room in the elementary with sixth through eighth out there would be room for the pre-K."

"We wouldn't have to contract the children out to the CA-1 with the child's head already be accounted for

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to acknowledge the receipt of the required notification form the Superintendent regarding his hiring of Winford C. Hughes, as substitute bus driver. All bus drivers have passed their CDL test in the Nicholas County school system, said Gilbert."

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to amend Section III of Site Based Decision Making Policy to read as follows: On receiving a petition signed by twenty-five (25%) of the faculty, the school principal shall set the date and place of the meeting for the purpose of voting on entering in the SBDMA.

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Court reviews redistricting

By Pam Bowles
Of the Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — The Nicholas County Fiscal Court approved the work of the special redistricting committee on Tuesday night at regular court meeting.

All magisterial districts were redrawn to compensate for the recent United States House of Representatives redistricting and balance the population in each voting precinct.

The court appointed a special committee to look over the old county precinct map and make changes to the county precincts to conform to state and federal regulations.

Most significant change was Magistrate Carl Coburn and Darrell Slaney into the city limits.

Magistrate Floyd Bussell had the largest numbers because he carried the heaviest populated areas in the city

The proposed redistricting plan evens population totals.

The fiscal court now has the option to accept or reject the committee's recommendations.

Magistrates have decided to table their decisions until the next court meeting.

Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes came before the Nicholas County Fiscal Court for operation of the fire department.

Nicholas County Judge Executive Reese Smeot said the court had promised the fire department \$15,000 last year.

Smeot said he hopes the county will receive enough ADF money to split the money between the city and county fire department.

Hughes said the department has had 61 runs this year, building needs repair and the firemen have to have a shot which cost \$115 each.

Hughes know as soon as he found about the ADF money.

Rodney Brookshire of the Nicholas County Soil Conservation ask to the court to help the conservation meet its budget of \$9,300 or let it set up a mill tax rate.

This would enable the soil conservation to set their tax rate at one and half cents per \$100 of property valuation and could finance its funding.

The fiscal court gave the soil conservation \$8,000 last year. Smeot said the court would make a decision and let Brookshire.

Garvey Cuttinger of the Nicholas County Water District ask the fiscal court to pay for a case of distilled water, which the water board gave the customers while the water was off. The fiscal court approved paying \$23.70 for a case of distilled water.

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The Carlisle-Nicholas County Tourism Inc sponsored a Woman's Wedding Friday night. Pictured from left to right: Dennis the Menace-Chris Crawford, Mother Wayne Cum, Gladys-Carenco Cord, Dolly Parton-G.C. Myers, Oprah Winfrey-Kevin Ledford, Liz Taylor-Cecil Strout, Gov. Jones-Gary Sibert, Lizzy Jones-Doug Fryman and Fred George Bush-Dick Garret.



The Carlisle Mercury/Pam Bowles Photo: Bob Coakley of the Kentucky State Department of Education and Finance gave his alternatives for building a new school on Monday night. Superintendent Ceberth Gilbert in the background.