ADDRESSES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

her report.

Police Department Reports Busy Month

Police Chief Darren Harvey reported a particularly busy month for the department, with numerous investigations requiring considerable time and effort.

Preparations are underway for the department's annual Shop with a Cop program. Letters will be distributed regarding the event, and officers expect to assist with fundraising efforts involving chance tickets sold at Uncle Lee's.

The department also discussed cooperation with other agencies and upcoming activities.

Members raised concerns about downtown traffic, particularly drivers crossing the center line while making turns or maneuvering around vehicles waiting at intersections. Police officials acknowledged the problem and said officers address violations when possible, although enforcement can be challenging.

Additional discussion focused on property maintenance concerns, including brush and other materials placed along streets that could create obstructions or safety hazards.

Bridge Repairs and Industrial Zoning Discussed

City officials provided updates on bridge repairs and efforts to secure emergency funding for the project.

A preliminary assessment has been completed, with auditors reviewing the information for accuracy before a final report is issued. The work was conducted in conjunction with the University of Kentucky.

A state bridge inspector also completed an assessment, and city officials are preparing documentation for submission to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet in hopes of obtaining emergency funding. Officials expressed optimism that the city could qualify for assistance based on the assessment.

Utility coordination remains another important part of the project. Atmos has agreed to cut and patch an existing line on both sides of the bridge and relocate it later at no cost to the city. Other utility infrastructure in the area will also require attention as work progresses.

Officials said coordinating utilities, completing paperwork and working with transportation officials takes time, but efforts continue on several fronts.

Members also discussed zoning regulations involving industrial operations near residential areas. The discussion centered on permitted uses within manufacturing districts and how ordinances address noise, smoke, glare, waste and other potential impacts.

Concerns were raised about odors reportedly occurring at various times near an industrial property. Officials said the Environmental Protection Agency had previously been contacted and discussions held with local representatives, but a clear solution had not been identified.

Members acknowledged the need to balance permitted business operations with the quality of life for nearby residents. The possibility of reviewing applicable ordinances and determining whether additional action could be taken was discussed.

Drought Conditions Drive Water Costs

One of the meeting's major discussions centered on Greenville's continuing drought conditions and the increasing expense of supplementing the city's water supply with county water.

Gary Russ reported that the reservoir was approximately nine feet below its overflow level, with an elevation of 462 feet and an estimated 75 million gallons remaining.

The city began supplementing its water supply with county water in August as lake levels declined. The cost of purchasing county water has increased significantly, with the city spending approximately $22,000 in August, $70,000 in September and $75,000 in October.

Officials said the water treatment plant currently operates approximately four to five days per week, producing around six million gallons monthly from the lake. Continued drought conditions, however, are making reliance on county water increasingly expensive.

To help offset those costs, officials proposed a temporary water surcharge. Billing scenarios based on September usage were presented, with potential increases ranging from $1 to $5 per 1,000 gallons.

A surcharge of $5 per 1,000 gallons would generate approximately $67,000 based on September billing. Officials acknowledged that the amount would not fully cover current water purchasing expenses but could provide some relief while the city continues relying on county water.

The surcharge would be temporary and could be reduced or eliminated once rainfall restores the reservoir. However, officials cautioned that prolonged drought conditions and greater dependence on county water could require additional financial adjustments.

Members also discussed the possibility of monthly water expenses increasing substantially if county water becomes the primary source for an extended period.

Long-Term Water Improvements Considered

Officials outlined several long-term projects intended to improve the city's water supply and infrastructure.

Plans include increasing the capacity of the connection with the county, dredging the reservoir, repairing and potentially raising the dam, and exploring additional water sources, including springs.

Country Club Lake was also examined as a possible alternative water source. Officials said significant sediment buildup has reduced its usefulness and that it does not contain enough usable water to provide substantial assistance.

A previously operated well was also ruled out because of elevated sodium levels.

The dam has experienced deterioration over the years, including leakage affecting portions of its structure. Officials said efforts are underway to address those problems and improve the reliability of the city's water system.

Members acknowledged that multiple improvements are necessary but emphasized that drought conditions and infrastructure limitations have complicated efforts to resolve the situation.

Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to proceed with the proposed water-related action. The motion passed.

Financial Updates and Meeting Schedule

Members reviewed financial matters involving tax revenue, retirement plans, expenses, property taxes, printing and mailing property tax bills, and building-related projects. Grant-related expenses and retirement plan administration were also included in the financial discussions.

Officials indicated that work on ongoing projects is progressing as quickly as possible while efforts continue to secure funding.

A motion to adjourn was subsequently made and seconded, bringing the meeting to a close.

Welcome Home

Bobby Hardison and Gene Keith

By **Misty Hutchinson**
NEWS AND MARKETING
LEADER-NEWS

Veterans Bobby Hardison and Gene Keith joined The Billy and Wendell Show on 105.5 WKYA to share their experiences of wartime service.

They discussed being drafted, their families and how young they were when they entered the military.

They also spoke about the lasting effects of war and the memories they continue to carry.

As the veterans left the studio, Hardison and Keith shook hands. Their firm grip reflected the strength of their bond as they welcomed each other home once again—a

WELCOME
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