

OBSERVER Pell City, Ala. July 14, 1977

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Ash also asked the City for street lights in Catatoga Estates Subdivision.

In other business, the Council:

--Approved a request from Ray Miller for Coca-Cola

Bottling Company to set up a coke concession at the Rotary Club sponsored bluegrass concert at the Civic Center this Saturday night.

--Referred to the Police Committee a request for a road block in August for Cystic Fibrosis fund raising campaign.

--Approved the appointment of First Birmingham Securities as the City's fiscal agent, and dismissed the firm of Broadnax and Cox of Birmingham.

--Approved an ordinance extending city limits. (See ordinance in full on page 12-A).



Women prove their worth

Pell City's workforce on its fire department been undergoing a change over the last two years. However, Chief Ben Windsor said one thing hasn't changed—and that is his practice of hiring the best people for the job.

The "best" people, of late, have included three females. Pictured from left are Captain Sherry Elkins, Johnnie Sue Johns, Kim Wolfe, Cathy Oakes and Luke Willis. (News-Aegis photo by Kelly Bryan)

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Pell City Hires New Fireman

BY ANNE MILAM

The City Council of Pell City met briefly at 5:00 Monday evening and moved swiftly through the night's business to an early adjournment at 6:15 in order to meet with an industrial prospect.

The Council reviewed the fire department with Fire Commissioner Harvey Watson and agreed to employ an additional fireman, bringing the total firemen for the city to six.

Pell City's Fire Department has formerly had five fireman (plus the fire chief) and the men have been working 66 hour work weeks with the addition of the new employee, the men will be able to work 56 hour weeks, with each man on duty for 24 hours and off duty 48 hours.

The Council approved the employment of Milton R. Callahan for a vacancy on the fire department staff with a beginning salary of \$395.00. With the exception of the chief, all the firemen are paid the same salary of \$395.00 per

month. At the present time, most of the firemen must supplement their pay with second jobs and the Council felt that the employment of a sixth fireman would better enable the men to do so with shorter working hours.

In further business, the Council rescinded an off premises beer license approved at the last meeting for a Harrisburg business and approved a new off premises license for Bruno's, soon to be located in the city.

An amendment to the charter of the Industrial Board of Pell City was approved and signed by the Council. (See legal notice in this issue of the Observer.)

Bids for a one ton truck for the utility department and a two ton truck for the street department were opened and referred to the departments for study.

The clerk was authorized to send invitations to bid for a cash register and billing machine for City Hall.



On the job training, Mrs. Elkins shows her stuff, rappelling from a tower at the Pell City Fire Academy. (Bob Crisp photo)

Sherry Elkins 'Firefighter of the Year'

By CAROL PAPPAS

OXFORD — Sherry Elkins apparently likes being a trendsetter, making historic firsts since she joined Pell City Fire and Rescue 10 years ago.

She was the first paid female firefighter in Pell City and in St. Clair County. But that's not all.

She is now a captain, being the first woman in a full time fire department to attain that rank in the state of Alabama, and she may even

be the first in the United States.

And that's still not all.

Mrs. Elkins just earned another honor to add to her growing collection. She was named "Firefighter of the Year" by the Insurance Women of Northeast Alabama.

She was presented the award at a banquet in her honor Oct. 6 in Oxford.

Mrs. Elkins' nomination outlined the varied and many duties she successfully performs for the Pell

City department.

As captain, she is in direct charge of a 75-foot aerial ladder, three pumpers, a rescue truck and the accompanying personnel.

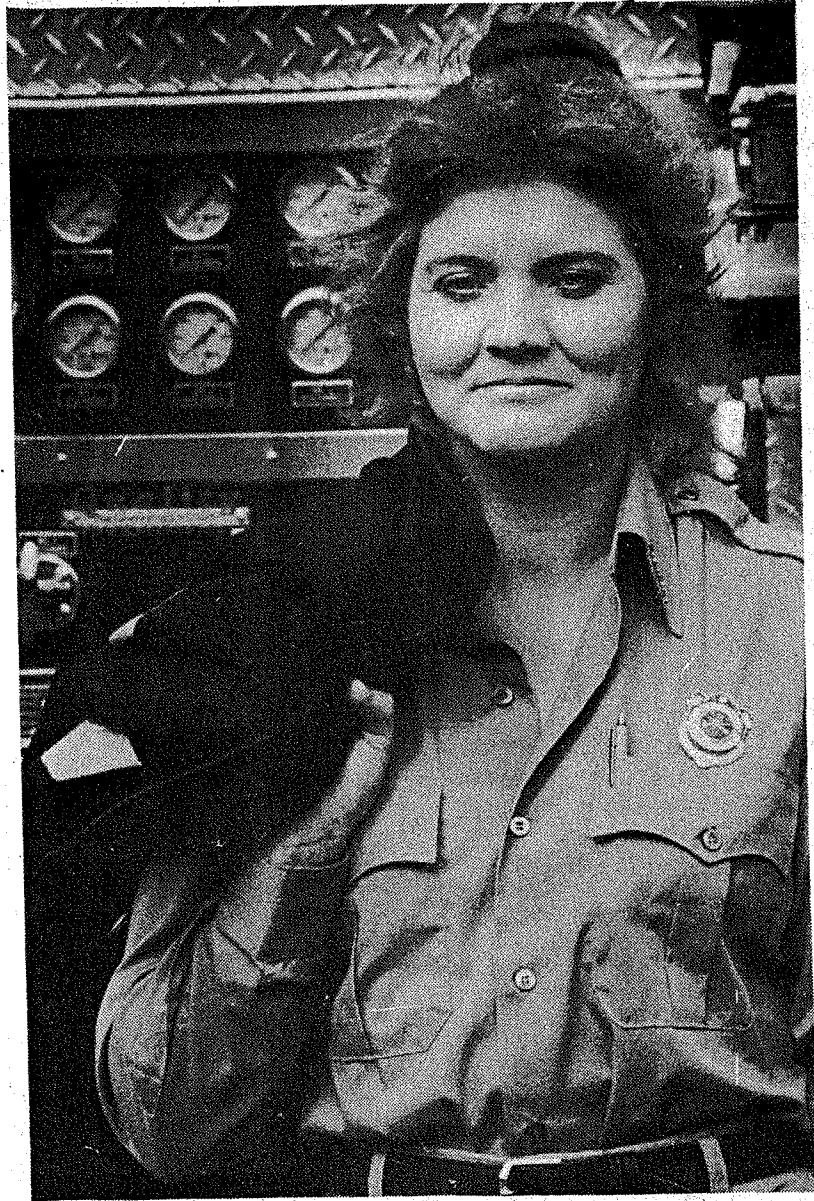
In handling her job as a paramedic, firefighter and captain, she obviously has encountered many a challenging situations, but she has proven herself time and time again, say those who know her.

She was nominated for firefighter of the year by her own department.

Mrs. Elkins attended Gadsden State Junior College, where she received her paramedic license.

When she went through weeks of grueling basic training at the Pell City Fire Academy, she finished second in her class.

On the homefront, Mrs. Elkins has made quite an accomplishment too: She and husband Bill have three children, and the family lives in Talladega.



Capt. Sherry Elkins stands near a fire truck during her first few days as a Pell City firefighter. Mrs. Elkins is the first woman in a full time fire department to attain the rank of captain in the state of Alabama. Please see story on Page 1. (Bob Crisp photo)

For New Fire Truck

City Considering Bids

BY CAROL PAPPAS

A resolution for housing and land use plans to be submitted to the Alabama Development Office concerning the downtown redevelopment project, parks, housing and community development assistance was adopted at the regular meeting of the Pell City City Council Monday night.

Bids were opened on the proposed purchase of a new fire truck for the city. The council received three bids and explained to representatives of the companies that the matter would be turned over to the finance committee.

Quality Manufacturing, Inc. of Estaboga bid \$84,131.18; Harry Harless Co. of Birmingham bid \$83,531; and Jack Cocks Co. of Mobile bid \$91,633.

Bids were also opened for cutting timber from the proposed park area near the Civic Center. North Alabama

Forest Products, Inc. bid \$1800 and Kimberly Clark bid \$1528.

The council voted unanimously to accept the high bid submitted by North Alabama Forest Products, Inc.

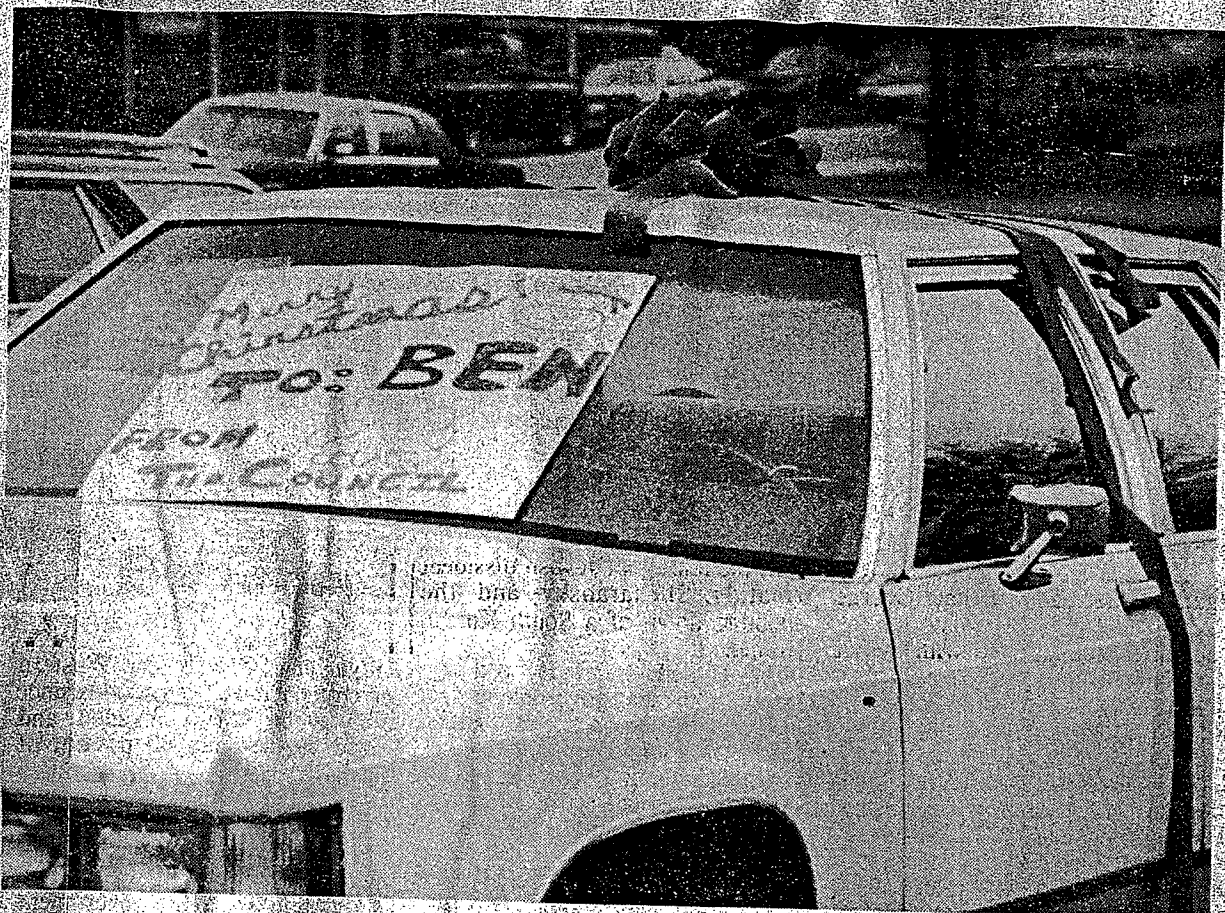
In other business, the filling of two vacancies on the Mental Health and Retardation Board was discussed. Vickie Brown, director of the Child Development Center, was appointed to fill one of the vacancies.

After Mayor Hugh Williamson contacts prospects for the other position, he said he will make a recommendation to the council before it votes.

Councilman Charles Lockridge raised a question concerning more than \$160,000 collected from beer tax that has neither been spent nor earmarked.

He wanted to know exactly where the money came, and Mayor Williamson said he would have the city attorney investigate the matter.

OBSERVER Pell City, Ala. March 16, 1978



WHILE AN UNSUSPECTING Pell City Mayor Harvey Watson was holding his weekly meeting with department heads Thursday morning, his car was being neatly wrapped for Christmas by an unknown prankster we'll call "Santa's helper." The only problem was, it was wrapped as a gift to the fire chief — apparently stemming from last

week's attempt by the Council to take the mayor's city car away and assign it to Fire Chief Ben Windsor. The identity and whereabouts of Santa's helper were still unknown at press time, and sources close to the pending investigation say the only clue left behind was the "ho, ho, ho!" echoing through city hall. (Bob Crisp photo)

DAILY HOME, Talladega-Sylacauga-Pell City, Ala., Friday, Dec. 19, 1986

Monday, March 4, 1984

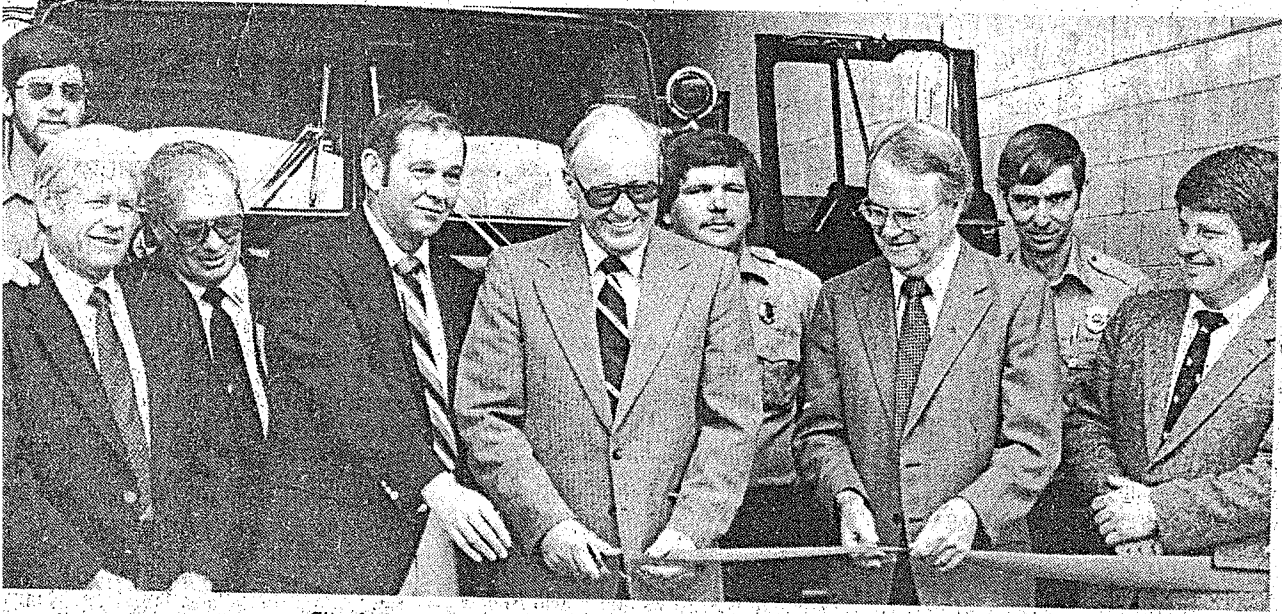
ST. CLAIR NEWS-AEGIS



Roy Smith retires

th, of whom Fire Chief Ben Windsor says, "You but like him," retired from the Pell City Fire at this week. His efforts in the 10-years he has th the department were noted at the council

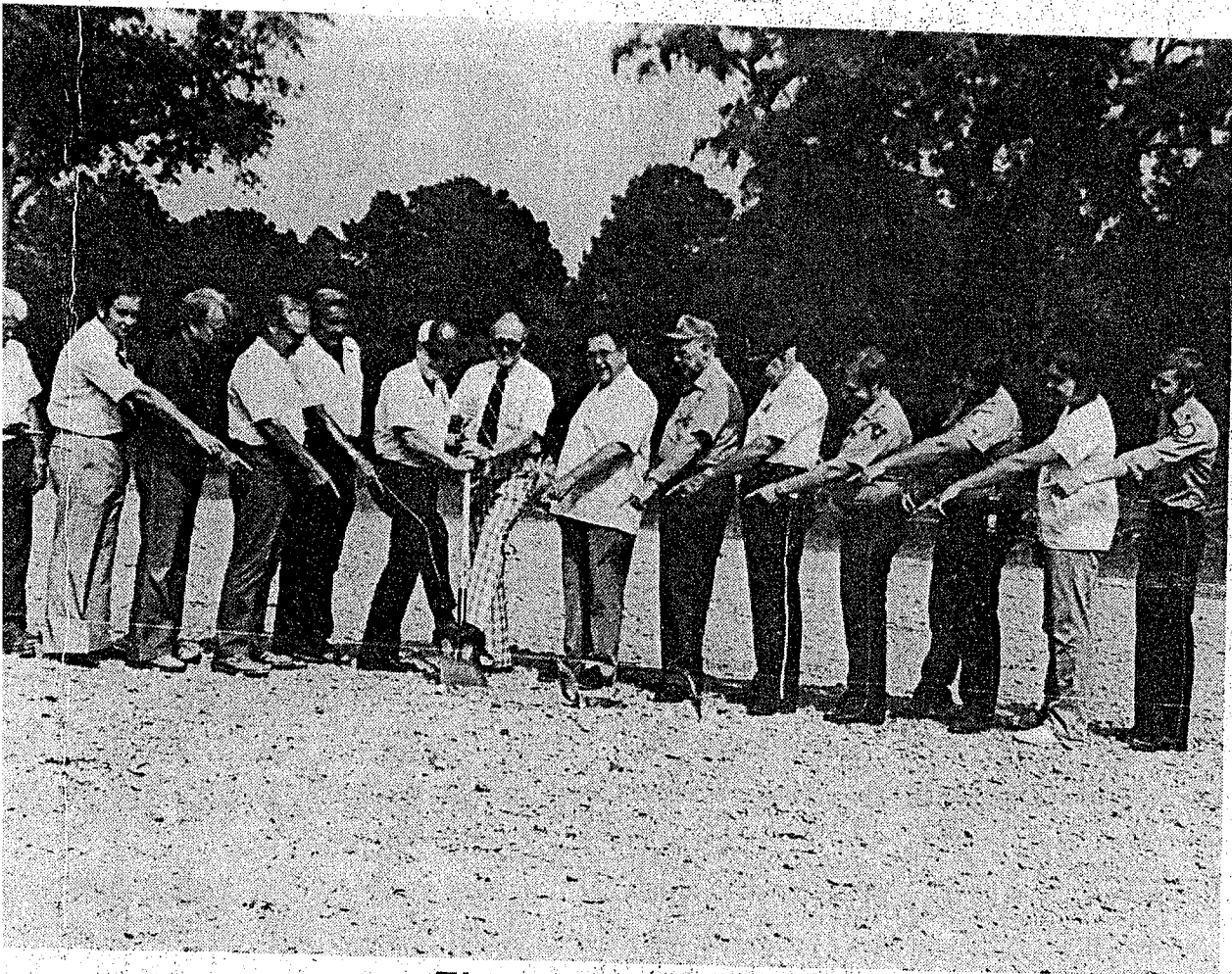
meeting Monday night. Pictured from left is Mayor Hugh H. Williamson, Smith, and Councilman Barnett Lawley. (News-Aegis photo by Kelly Bryan)



**Officially
opened**

City fathers officially recognized the opening of the new Cropwell Fire Station Saturday with a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house for the public. Above members of the Pell City Council along with firefighters were on hand for the ribbon cutting with Mayor Hugh Williamson doing the honors. From the left, is pictured firefighter Mark Lawley, Councilman Forest Walls, fire

chief Ben Windsor, Councilman Charles Lockridge, Mayor Williamson, firefighter Charles Livingston, councilman Paul Turner, firefighter Steve Harbison and councilman Barnett Lawley. The new station houses an engine and the rescue truck and two men are stationed 24-hours a day at the new firehouse. (News-Aegis photo by Mike Moser)



Finally Broke

much-talked about new Cropwell Fire Station took a step toward reality this week with ground-breaking ceremonies and a number of folks showed up for the celebration. Pointing out those who are, from the left, councilman Forest Lockridge, councilman Paul Turner,

councilman Bam Cox, councilman Joe Sawyer, fire chief Ben Windsor, mayor Hugh Williamson, contractor Pick Cosper, firefighters R. B. Graham, police chief Ruble Bowlin, firefighters John Wyatt, Terry Glidewell, Morgan Arnold and Steve Harbison. (News-Aegis photo by Bill Bryant)

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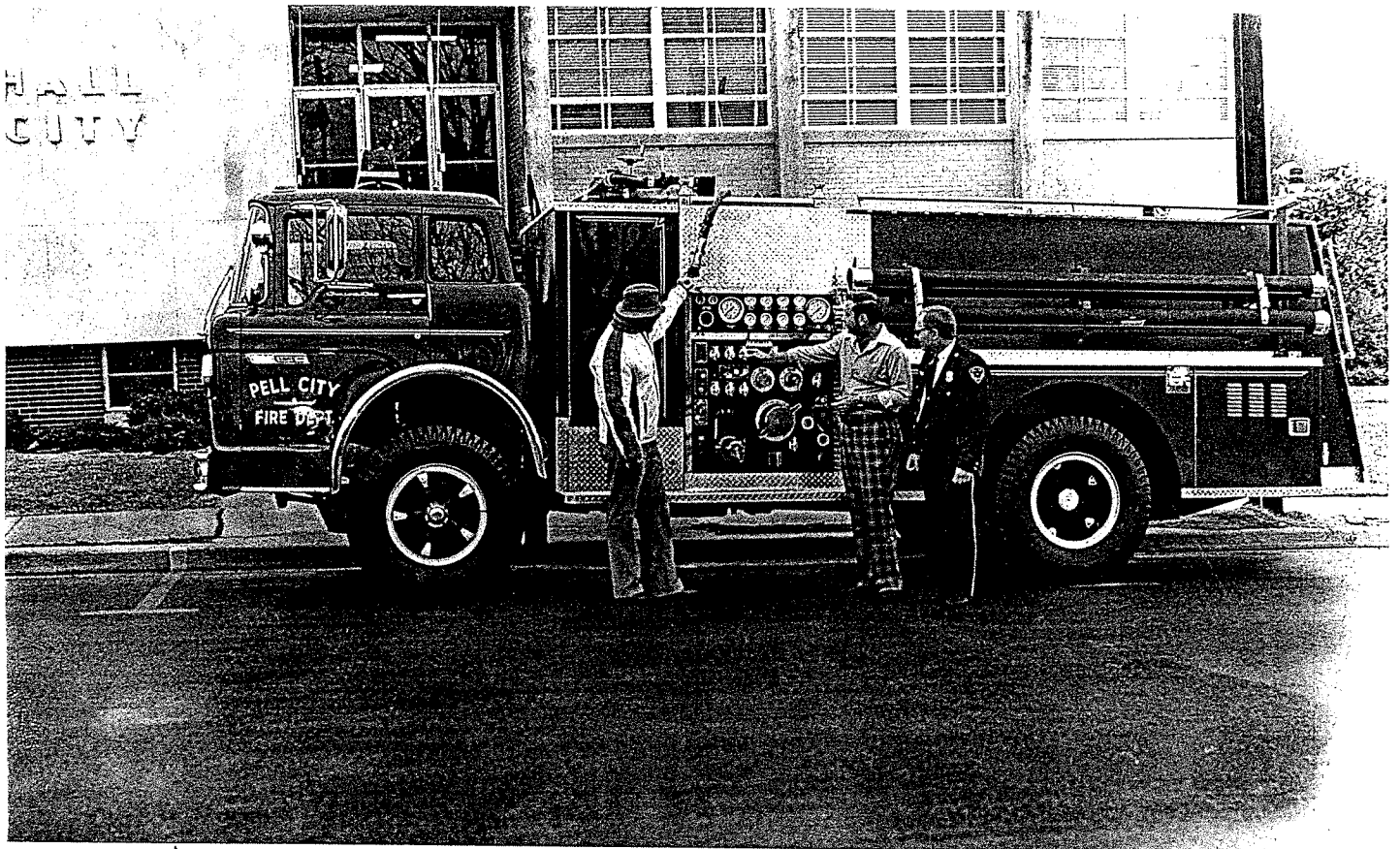
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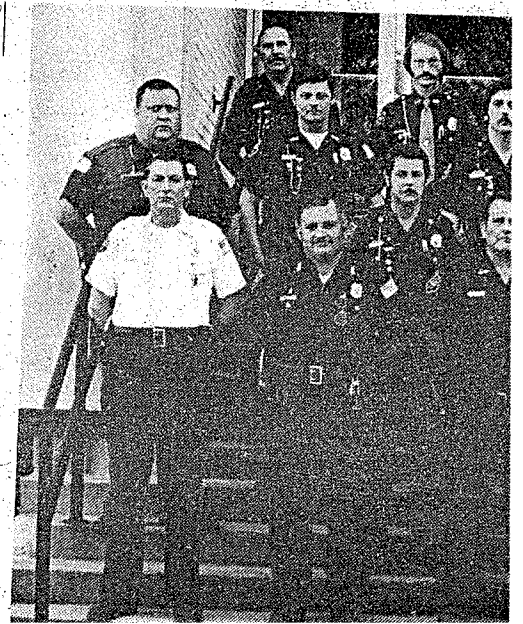


PROGRESS

EXPLORING THE WORLD OF

Progress is changing...for the better. The more challenges we meet...the more discoveries we make...bring us closer to our goal of a better life for all. Let's aim for continued success for Pell City in the '80s.

Pell City Police Department
Bottom Row (L-R) Chief Homer Layton, Ptl. Morris Smith, Ptl. Noel Washington, Ptl. Mike McCombs, Asst. Chief Shaffer Griffin. 2nd Row (L-R) Ptl. Bill Turner, Ptl. Joe Davis, Sgt. Ed Pennington, Ptl. Ricky Simmons, Ptl. Larry Hyatt, Cpl. Oscar Callahan. Top Row (L-R) Sgt. Sid Scott, Ptl. Bill Gurley, Ptl. Ray

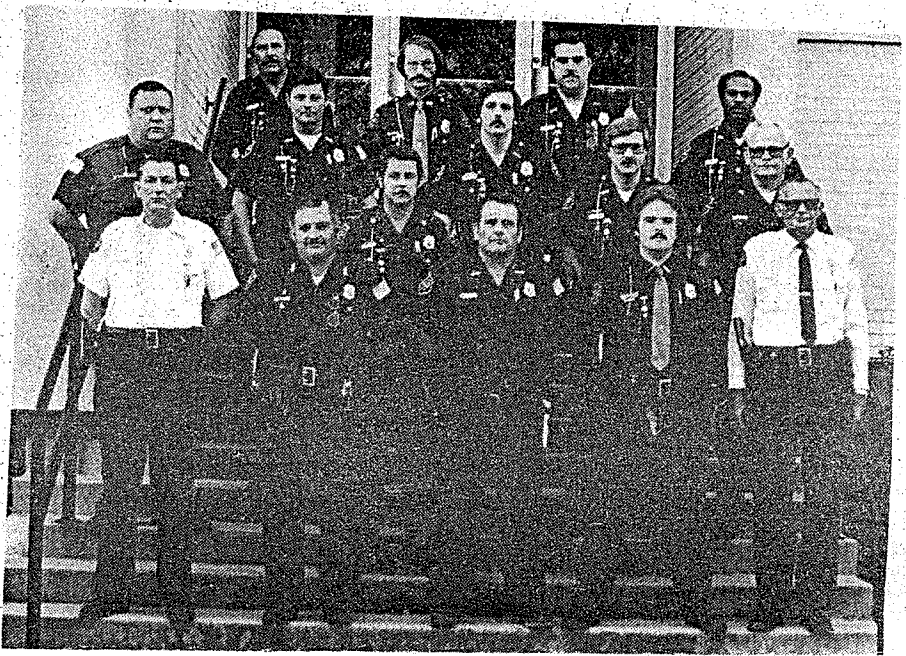


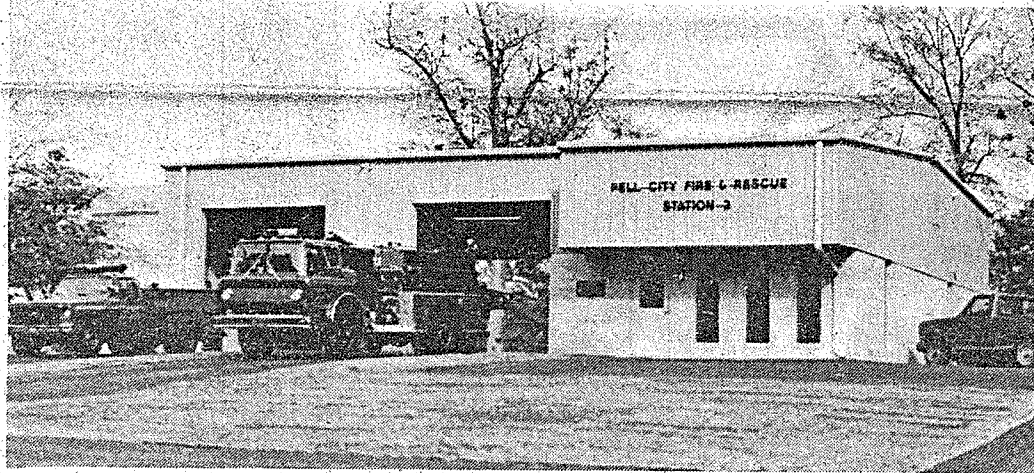
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ons, Ptl. Larry Hyatt, Cpl. Oscar Callahan. Top
(L-R) Sgt. Sid Scott, Ptl. Bill Gurley, Ptl. Ray
is, Ptl. Robert Beavers

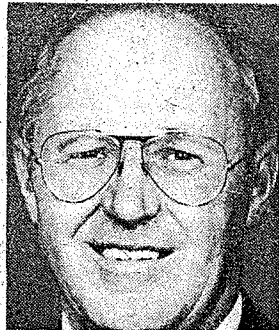




New Cropwell Fire Station

This new structure was completed February, 1981. It is manned by two firefighters 24 hours per day and houses the city's rescue truck, pumper and ladder-tower truck. This gives added fire protection to the southern part of our city.

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H.H. Williamson
Mayor



Paul Turner
Councilman



Charles Lockridge
Councilman



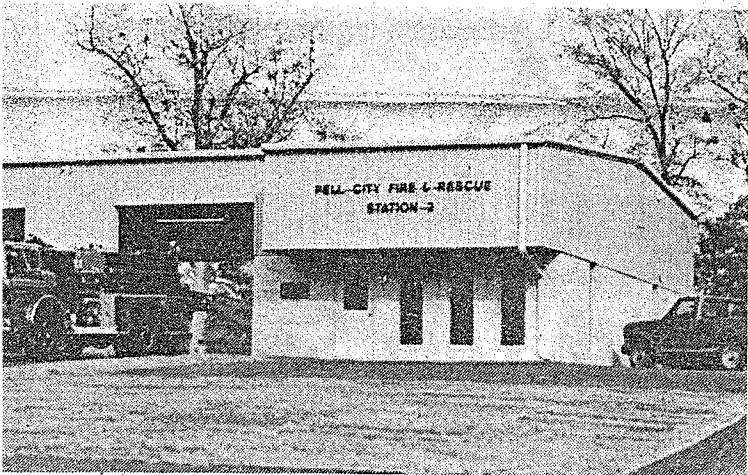
Forrest Walls
Councilman



Barnett Lawl
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Billy Church, City Attorney - Bettie Scott, City C

THE CITY OF PELL CITY



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Construction will soon

begin on a modern

SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY

It will be located on Tucker Road and will occupy approximately 600,000 sq. ft. The plant is being designed and constructed by Charles E. Tucker, Consulting Engineers, Birmingham. This new facility will afford sewage services for hundreds of more homes in our community.



Paul Turner
Councilman



Charles Lockridge
Councilman



Forrest Walls
Councilman



Barnett Lawley
Councilman



Keith Porter
Councilman

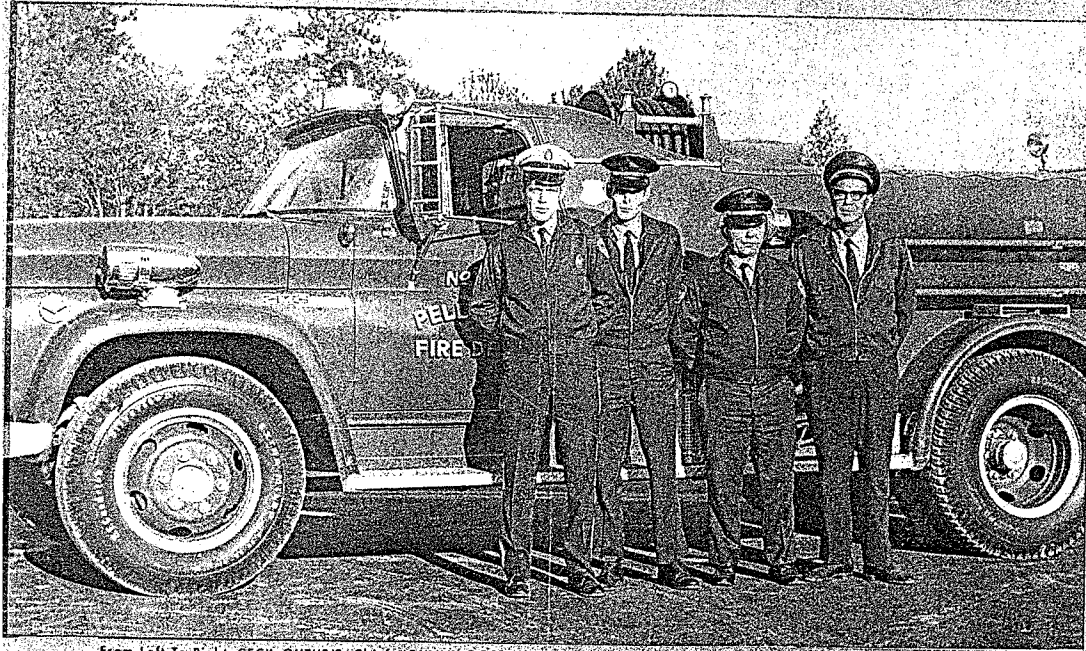
Billy Church, City Attorney - Bettie Scott, City Clerk

THE

CITY OF PELL CITY

8-2313

POSTED THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF
PELL CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT



From Left To Right: CECIL GUTHRIE, Chief; JOHNNY GOSS, Fireman; CHARLES BROWN, Fireman; LAWRENCE HANNAH, Fireman



PELL CITY FIRE CHIEFS WITH COMMISSIONER
L. To R. Cecil Guthrie, Dr. H. C. Clayton, Earl Hutton

PC Proud Of Its Fire Department

Mayor Otis Perry and city councilmen are taking justifiable pride these days in their recently revamped Pell City Volunteer Fire Department, now bolstered by the presence of two full-time fire chiefs and the very latest in fire-fighting equipment.

Cecil Guthrie, the daytime fire chief and Earl Hutton, his nighttime counterpart constitute a 24-hour readiness team which can have a fire truck and crew on the scene within minutes after a local fire is reported.

The city's 25 volunteer firemen are on constant standby, both at home and at their

a little thoughtful consideration on the part local citizens during the crucial times when their services are needed.

"One of the biggest problems we have," they said, "is curious bystanders getting in our way."

They said people who follow the fire truck to a fire often cause traffic hazards and some

as concerns fire regulations, the maintenance of extinguishers, etc. Guthrie conducts courtesy inspections of extinguishers at intervals and, in addition, the city is now equipped to re-charge extinguishers. The small charge made for re-charging goes into the Fire Station's skimpy grocery fund.

THE DEPARTMENT'S fire-fighting arsenal includes a shiny 1960 model fire truck equipped with protective gear for the firemen, 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, about 600 feet of pre-connect hose (for use when an ample water supply is available), and adjustable nozzles that can be used as "straight streams" or for more commonly used "water fog" method.

Also tucked aboard are two 20-lb. dry chemical extinguishers, one CO₂ extinguisher; drafting hose used for pumping water from wells, lakes, or streams; front and rear-mount search lights, hand lights, axes, 2-way radio, foam nozzles for oil fires. And for the water supply, there is a 750-gallons-per-minute pump, plus a 500-gallon water storage tank.

There is also an older model (1946) but still serviceable fire truck, which carries a 500-gallon pump and a 250-gallon water supply.

Chiefs Hutton and Guthrie consider this one of the finest volunteer departments in the state, but they both agree that their duties could be conducted much more efficiently with just

difference in saving and using a house. Those who are not volunteer firemen would do us a big service by not following the fire truck to a fire."

Volunteer firemen are: Asst. Chief Randles Smith, Lt. Charles Lockridge, Lt. Ulma Perry, T. C. Alexander, Bobby Banks, Don Blanton, Bubba Gray, Richard Guthrie, Dee Hyde, James Macon, J. F. Mullins, Don Rich, Nat Riddle, Bill Starnes, Forrest Walls, John Whitten, Perrigin Williams, Littleton Yarbrough, H. G. Fraim, Jr., John Lockridge, Billy Wayne Nixon, Rodney Love, James Patterson, and Millard Graham.

Dr. Horace Clayton is chairman of the City Council's Fire Department Committee, which also includes councilmen Dill Nixon and Wallace Shoemaker.

News-Aegis

G MAY 11, 1978

10 PAGES

15 CENTS PER COPY

City Council adopts explosive safeguard

By SUZANNE CRITTENDEN

A Fire Prevention Code that places restrictions on the storing, transporting and sale of explosives in the downtown section was adopted by the Pell City

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In final action, the council approved the emergency purchase of a city garbage truck which according to Councilman Joe Sawyer, only cost the

By SUZANNE CRITTENDEN

A Fire Prevention Code that places restrictions on the storing, transporting and sale of explosives in the downtown section was adopted by the Pell City City Council Monday night.

Alderman Charles Lockridge, in his presentation of the code to the council, said, "I feel like these restrictions are for the safety of Pell City and its people. We've never had one and I believe we ought to adopt this one."

Section Four of the code confines the storing and sale of explosives to the industrial parks (Comer Avenue and Highway 78 East). This section also states that the sale of explosives in the downtown section is "strictly forbidden." One of two routes approved for the transporting of explosive materials, according to the code, is limited to Highway 231 and Hospital Drive to Industrial Drive. The downtown route established is 23rd Street (off Cogswell Ave.) to First Avenue South up to 16th Street and then back to Cogswell Avenue.

The council also voted to establish this as a standard route for trucks traveling through downtown.

The code also sets restrictions on the storing and use of fireworks except on special occasions such as New Year's and July 4.

Jim Edmundson, chairman of the Pell City Industrial Improvement Association, presented the council with a list of "cosmetic improvements" to be made in the industrial park area.

Among the suggestions was a thorough clean-up of all street rights-of-way, maintenance of streets, pot-hole removal, resurfacing the street to Frost Plastics, the naming of all streets and

the erecting of signs for each, naming of the two industrial parks, installation of at least two street lights and the erection of a sign at the entrance of Hospital Drive listing the industries in the park.

"I feel like these few cosmetic improvements will really add to the parks and encourage future industrial growth in Pell City," Edmundson said.

"We appreciate the interest shown by the association in the city," Mayor Hugh Williamson said. "I don't believe that any of the requests are unreasonable, but the council will need some time to talk them over."

Alderman Forrest Walls informed the council that the work on being done should the city pools be completed, weather permitting, within another week to a week and a half.

"We've had new filters put in both the baby and adult pools and the baby pool has been completely relined," he said.

In other business, the council discussed the downtown parking situation.

According to a recent survey, when the three blocks of downtown work is finished there will be 90 parking places, ten more than what we had before," Mayor Williamson said.

"You always hear people complaining about never being able to find a parking place downtown," Lockridge

said, "but I have never had any trouble."

In final action, the council approved the emergency purchase of a city garbage truck which according to Councilman Joe Sawyer, only cost the city \$30 more than the truck being replaced . . .

"We lucked up on a demonstrator in Tuscaloosa and only had to pay 23,595.70," Sawyer said.

—Says Fireman

'Use common sense ar



Mayor Presents R. B. Graham

BY MIKE MOSER
News-Aegis Editor

"A lot of people think there's not much to fire fighting. They don't realize just how tiring it is. You have to use common sense, step back and look at the situation." Those are the words of R. B. Graham, Pell City's Fireman of the Year as he talks about the job following the award announcement this past week.

Graham was recognized by Pell City Fire Chief Ben Windsor, Mayor Hugh Williamson and Fire Commissioner Charles Lockridge during brief ceremonies at the downtown fire station Saturday.

Graham was called by Windsor to attend a 'meeting' Saturday and "when I got down there I had no idea what was going on. But when I walked in I found out that I was the only one with a uniform on and I started to suspect something then."

The firefighter stated he still felt that it was a joke, possibly one by the department trickster Bobby Bell who Graham describes as "always pulling something."

But the firefighter was caught completely by surprise and accepted the honor stating, "Thank you, I really appreciate this. I think we have the best volunteers anywhere."

Graham has been with the Pell City department over three years and worked with Petrolane 12 years prior to that. Although he wasn't born in Pell City, "I started coming this way in 1935 and just worked my way here in Pell City."

Fireman Of The Year—

Thursday, January 25, 1979

THE ST. CLAIR NEWS-AEGIS

and look at the situation'

Pell City has a fire station at Cropwell and one at the city hall which are manned 24 hours a day by one man per station. Firefighters like Graham work 24 hours and are off 48. He explained that the fulltime firefighters would respond to a fire, put the truck in pump, get the hose out and start putting water on the fire.

"By that time the volunteers are usually arriving and one man is about wore out when the volunteers get there. It really peps you up when you see help coming. I don't know what the city would do without the good volunteers we have here," commented Graham.

Windsor reported that of 72 house fires the city had last year, Graham reported to over 30 of them and often "would have the fire out before help would arrive."

The chief said that the award was based strictly on "performance from the time the bell rings. It just happened that we had a number of fires on Mr. Grahams shift and he responded to the calls well."

Graham stated that while he knew he "had a good many fires" last year, he did not realize that he had that many more than the rest of the department's firefighters. "It just worked out that way." In making the presentation Mayor Williamson stated that he was putting water on sparks that had escaped from his homes' chimney when Mr. Graham drove up in a fire truck.

"I was really happy to see this man then and I am really pleased to make this presentation today," said Williamson. Graham got a big round of applause from

his fellow firefighters who all seemed pleased with his selection.

Graham said that a lot of firefighting was just the use of common sense. "You've got to attack the fire—go to where the fire's at." He added that he has been lucky in the past and while has had things like hot tar fall on him, never has suffered serious injury.

He continued to describe different fire situations he had been called to in the past year but every fire resulted in his referring back to the volunteers.

"I went to this one fire at an apartment where a guy called in after smelling smoke and seeing smoke come from under a door in the hall. By the time I got the door down and the hose laid, a guy came up with a mask on and went on in to put the fire out. It really peps you up to have those volunteers arrive."

Graham noted that most fires he responded to last year were the result of wood heaters—not the heaters themselves but the way the heaters were installed. Electrical fires were also big. He noted he has been to all kinds including one fire caused by a "pot of butter beans left on a stove."

In noting ways the public can aid firefighters, Graham commented that a large number of fires are not reported directly to the fire department. "All our calls don't come on the fire phone and this does not allow the fire department to get the information needed to insure a faster response. If we take the calls on the fire phone we get the vital information and it also allows better response from the volunteers" concluded Pell City's Fireman of the Year.

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Pell City receives lower fire insurance classification June 1

BY MIKE MOSER
News-Aegis Editor

Hard work and improvements by the Pell City Fire and Rescue Service and Pell City Council has resulted in a fire insurance reclassification which will mean a savings to city property owners.

The good news was discussed at Monday night's council meeting and fire commissioner Charles Lockridge commented, "I see no reason we can't go down to 5 in a year."

In a letter dated May 19 from In-

urance Services Office of Alabama, the city was notified the classification was reduced from class 7 to class 6 and, according to fire chief Ben Windsor, just missed a class 5 rating by just a few percentage points.

The fire department has been busy the past year in an attempt to get the classification reduced. This campaign included enforcement of parking lane violations, a subject that did not prove to be too popular.

Other parts of the campaign included updating a city map and checking pressure around the city, updating equipment and advanced training for personnel. Windsor termed the news "great" and something the department had worked hard for.

Among the areas needing improvement or correction include improving of water pressure in some areas of Eden and Pine Harbor, according to Mayor Hugh Williamson.

According to field rating representative A. C. Carraway, "The change from class 7 to class 6 will affect typical mercantile properties to a degree depending upon the type construction, occupancy and other rating factors. The overall affect usually is about minus four percent for wood frame construction, minus 12 percent for masonry construction and minus ten percent for fire resistive construction.

"The above estimates apply only for insurance companies using ISO rates," said Carraway's letter.

The insurance reclassification will take effect June 1.

In a related matter, council formally accepted the bid of Cosper Construction Company of Cropwell to build the new fire station and work is expected to begin as soon as possible.

Lockridge told council the low bid was increased under \$2,000 to include added insulation and extra concrete but even with the addition, the bid was still the lowest.

In other business, council:

-APPROVED reaching a settlement in the traffic accident earlier this year involving a city garbage truck and vehicle owned by Coca Cola. The settlement included an agreement giving the city \$14,992.35, according to Mayor Williamson.

-TOOK no action on a request that Golf Course Road name be changed back to Country Club Road. Councilman Dr. Raymond Cox told council the name somehow got changed when

Thursday, May 29, 1980

ST. CLAIR NEWS-AEGIS

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Lockridge told council the low bid was increased under \$2,000 to include added insulation and extra concrete but even with the addition, the bid was still the lowest.

In other business, council:

-APPROVED reaching a settlement in the traffic accident earlier this year involving a city garbage truck and vehicle owned by Coca Cola. The settlement included an agreement giving the city \$14,992.35, according to Mayor Williamson.

-TOOK no action on a request that Golf Course Road name be changed back to Country Club Road. Councilman Dr. Raymond Cox told council the name somehow got changed when new signs were purchased and that residents requested the old name returned.

-HEARD a request from Councilman Paul Turner that the city make an analysis or survey of thermostats and vehicles and search for ways to conserve energy. A number of ideas were discussed including requesting experts from Alabama Power Company surveying city buildings.

-HEARD a request from Turner that a sidewalk from the Pell City Steakhouse to Iola Roberts School be cleared of curbs, signs and obstructions to allow pedestrians walking area.

-HEARD a report from Mayor Williamson on the upcoming public hearing for funding on Pell City's proposed sewage treatment plant which will be held June 3 at 10 a.m. in Montgomery.

-APPROVED June 23 at 6 p.m. as a public hearing date for the revised city code. At this time citizens will be allowed to voice their opinions about the proposals.

Hears Speed-Break Gripes—

City Cites Radio Misuse

BY CAROL PAPPAS

Councilman Bam Cox expressed concern Monday night, at the meeting of the Pell City City Council, over the "misuse of the radio system in the city."

He said there is "too much jabbering that shouldn't be and it is time to do something about it." It's used "almost like a CB system now," he added.

In complete agreement with Cox, Councilman Charles Lockridge said that people were carrying on nothing more than "childish play on our frequency."

Cox explained that those authorized to have a crystal set, who should not be, were interfering with the "normal function of duties" of the police and fire departments.

Mayor Hugh Williamson said he would check with the Federal Communications Commission to see how the problem could be alleviated.

Dick Black appeared before the council to complain about his encounter with a misleading speedbreaker sign. He said he was traveling in a 30 mph zone and saw a sign that said speedbreaker.

Twenty feet from the sign was the speedbreaker, and Black contended that that distance did not allow enough time for a driver to slow down enough to avoid doing damage to his vehicle.

He added that the sign was singular, meaning there should only be one speedbreaker ahead, yet there were four more with no warning.

The street committee, headed by Councilman Joe Sawyer, is to study the problem.

Linda Waldrop of Linwood area requested city water for her property but the Council advised her that since that particular section is outside the city limits, the city can not furnish water there.

Councilman Sawyer complained that the recreation committee was doing a poor job of taking care of something the people requested and what the council had voted on:

to study them and at the next meeting take bids to "see what we're working toward."

Sawyer added that by the next meeting he would have a recommendation for the job of city manager that he proposed at the previous meeting.

Miss Vandergrift presented prices for lights for the tennis courts in which she said the best suitable lights and poles would run about \$6220.

The recreation committee is to study the prices and check into other alternatives for the poles before making its recommendation to the council.

City Attorney Bill Church reported he had contacted Alabama Gas Corporation officials on the sale of the

city's gas system and they told him that when the city determined the sale was "feasible" to meet with them again.

In other business:

—Councilman Lockridge reported that the fire department is now in the process of enforcing the new fire codes.

—The council instructed the street committee to study a proposal to lower the curb in front of the courthouse to coordinate with the other side of the street under construction in the downtown redevelopment project.

—Councilman Sawyer's motion to give city employees July 3 off for Independence Day died for a lack of a second.

OBSERVER Pell City, Ala. June 29, 1978

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Linda Waldrop of Linwood area requested city water for her property but the Council advised her that since that particular section is outside the city limits, the city can not furnish water there.

Councilman Sawyer complained that the recreation committee was doing a poor job of taking care of something the people requested and what the council had voted on; in reference to the hiring of professional umpires to call baseball games.

Marcie Vandergrift, director of the Civic Center, said there had been a meeting in City Hall after that and it was decided to leave the umpire situation as it was.

She said that Councilman Cox had stated then that the umpires were "doing a good job." She added that the league has had a certified baseball umpire for the past three weeks.

Mayor Hugh Williamson recommended that before the season starts next year, certified umpires for each league should already be hired.

Councilman Sawyer presented a list of streets needing resurfacing work to the council. He asked the council

to study the prices and check into other alternatives for the poles before making its recommendation to the council.

City Attorney Bill Church reported he had contacted Alabama Gas Corporation officials on the sale of the

of the street under construction in the downtown redevelopment project.

—Councilman Sawyer's motion to give city employees July 3 off for Independence Day died for a lack of a second.

OBSERVER Pell City, Ala. June 29, 1978

P.C. Council authorizes funds f

By DAVID HAYNES

PELL CITY — Bids for construction of a new fire station building at Dropwell opened at Monday night's City Council meeting ranged from just over \$50,000 to nearly \$80,000.

Thirteen construction firms responded to the city's request for bids, but two bids had to be disallowed because the contractors were not properly licensed by the state. City clerk Bettie Scott explained that state law requires that any contractor bidding on a city project must be licensed as a contractor by the state. The two bids were not opened.

The new fire station will be a metal and masonry structure measuring 50 feet by 60 feet with two 12-foot-wide bays and living quarters for six men, according to Fire Chief Ben Windsor.

The new facility will be located on city-owned land adjacent the Civic Center Complex, Windsor said.

Low bidder on the job was Cosper Construction Co. of Pell City with a bid of \$50,878. The next lowest bid came from C. A. Wilson and Sons of Ashville at \$61,363.

Other bids received were: Amcon Co. of Birmingham, \$75,924; Childers

Construction Co. of Boaz, \$66,251; Caddo Construction Co. of Birmingham, \$68,879; Incho Building Associates of Decatur, \$64,244; A.H. Martin Construction Co. of Anniston, \$66,671; Miller, Allison and Miller Construction Co. of Anniston, \$79,243; Nation Construction Co. of Bir-

s for new Cropwell fire station

nition, mingham, \$71,842; Sunbelt Con-
Miller tractors of Birmingham, \$76,125;
\$79,243; Ralph Williams Construction of
of Bir- Springville, \$67,568.

The bids were turned over to the Fire Department Committee for study to determine if they met specifications. In another construction-related

item, the council approved the rezoning of an area near the Industrial Park off Highway 78 from M-2 to R-2.

The council action, which was recommended by the city Planning Commission, paved the way for construction to begin on a new subdivision in the area.

Charles Fields, whose Albertville construction company is developing the subdivision, told council members his company has \$250,000 in Farmers Home Administration money now and plans to begin construction shortly on the first 10 houses.

A subdivision map of the area showed 32 lots and room for several additional lots in the area that was rezoned.

Fields said his company plans to use all the local labor possible in the project.

Another area on the south end of town along U.S. 231 was also rezoned by the council. The area from the Big Bull Restaurant and Marina and Town and Country Food Mart was changed from R-1 to B-2.

Clerk Scott pointed out that an error was made on a zoning map making the rezoning action necessary.

Pell City awards bid for construction of new fire station at Cropwell

By DAVID HAYNES

PELL CITY — The low bid from Cosper Construction Co. of \$50,878 for a new fire station at Cropwell was officially accepted by the City Council Monday night.

Fire Department Committee Chairman Charles Lockridge recommended that the bid be accepted, including several minor changes in increasing insulation and using thicker concrete. He said even with the additional \$1,500 to \$2,000, the Cosper bid was much less than the next higher bid of over \$60,000.

The new fire station will be built near the Civic Center at Cropwell, a short distance from the converted lunchroom now being used by the

12-foot bays and living quarters for six firemen.

A ground breaking ceremony will be scheduled for later this week to officially start construction on the new station.

Council members unanimously agreed to accept a settlement of \$14,992 from the insurance company representing the Coca-Cola Company in an March accident involving a city garbage truck and a company truck. The city has already purchased a new truck for about \$29,000.

A public hearing was scheduled by the council for 6 p.m. June 23 at City Hall to hear citizen's input on a proposed revision of the city code.

City Clerk Bettie Scott said the draft

said it also brings municipal codes into compliance with state statutes and building codes.

The code was last revised in 1936, the clerk said.

Councilman Paul Turner called for an energy usage survey of municipal buildings and vehicles to determine where waste could be curtailed. Council members agreed with his idea, but no official action was taken on the survey.

Mayor Hugh Williamson said that Alabama Power Co. would inspect buildings for inadequate insulation and other energy waste free of charge.

Turner also mentioned a letter he recently received on conversion of city vehicles to run on propane rather than

changes in increasing insulation and using thicker concrete. He said even with the additional \$1,500 to \$2,000, the Cosper bid was much less than the next higher bid of over \$60,000.

The new fire station will be built near the Civic Center at Cropwell, a short distance from the converted lunchroom now being used by the department.

The new structure will measure 50 by 60 feet and will be of metal and masonry construction. It will have two

in an March accident involving a garbage truck and a company truck. The city has already purchased a new truck for about \$29,000.

A public hearing was scheduled by the council for 6 p.m. June 23 at City Hall to hear citizen's input on a proposed revision of the city code.

City Clerk Bettie Scott said the draft of the revision has taken over a year to prepare and that it is designed to condense municipal laws already in force into an easier-to-read code. She

survey.

Mayor Hugh Williamson said that Alabama Power Co. would inspect buildings for inadequate insulation and other energy waste free of charge.

Turner also mentioned a letter he recently received on conversion of city vehicles to run on propane rather than gasoline.

Police Chief Ruble Bowlin said he understands the city of Brewton has cut their fuel costs in half by switching to propane.

Councilman Forrest Walls pointed out that the initial cost of conversion is usually paid for in fuel savings in about two years. It was also mentioned that vehicles running on propane run cleaner and last longer.

Council members expressed an interest in having someone explain the pros and cons of a conversion of vehicles to propane at a future meeting.

The council discussed attending a June 3 public hearing in Montgomery on a new sewerage treatment facility for Pell City. The clerk said federal funding for such projects has been held up but that some money could be released in November.

In other business, the council discussed clearing the sidewalk on Martin Street from Cogswell Avenue to Lola Roberts School. The walkway is now blocked by signs and curbs installed by local restaurants.

In Cropwell—

Pell City receives bids for

BY MIKE MOSER
News-Aegis Editor

Pell City came out the winner Monday night when they received 14 responses to a call for bids on constructing a new fire station in Cropwell.

One response was a no-bid, two bids were rejected due to a technicality in the law and 12 bids gave the fire department a spread of over \$29,000 with the low bid lower than initial estimates.

Two bids were rejected because the contractors were not licensed by the state. Pell City attorney Billy Church quoted from the state code which requires a state licensed contractor for contract work with municipalities when the costs are more than \$20,000.

Low bid came from Cosper Construction Company of Cropwell of \$50,878. Mayor Hugh Williamson noted this was

around \$4,000 below the initial construction cost estimate. High bid came from Miller-Allison-Miller of Anniston at \$79,243.

Bids went as follows: Cosper, \$50,878; C. A. Wilson and Son, Ashville, \$61,568; Incho Building Associates, Decatur, \$64,244; Childers Construction Company, Boaz, \$66,251; A. H. Martin Construction, Anniston, \$66,671; Ralph Williams Construction of Springville, \$67,568; Caddo Construction Company, Birmingham, \$68,879; Nation, Incorporated, Birmingham, \$71,842; Anco Inc., Birmingham, \$75,924; Sunbelt Contractors, Birmingham, \$76,125; and Miller-Allison-Miller, \$79,243.

Council expressed pleasure at the large number of bidders and thanked the contractors for submitting bids and appearing before the body Monday night.

All bids were turned over to a fire

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Council to mendment Charles Fie approval of Home Adm tion on ten weeks."

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r to a fire

department committee for study to in-
sure all bids meet specification. The
committee will then report findings and
recommendation to council, which
meets next Monday night at 5:30 p.m.

Council approved a zoning change at
the request of Fields Construction Com-
pany of Albertville for the purpose of
developing a subdivision across from
Shadydale Trailer Park, adjacent to the
old industrial park.

Council took the action on the recom-
mendation of the planning board.
Charles Fields told council he had ap-
proval of \$250,000 from the Farmers
Home Administration to start construc-
tion on ten homes "in the next few
weeks."

An architectural drawing showed 32
lots planned for the subdivision.

In other business, council:

-APPROVED rezoning of property
around the Big Bull Restaurant on U. S.

231 to correct an oversight when the
zoning map was first adopted. The
rezoning was from residential to
business. Council took no action on a
rezoning request from Charles Abbott
across from the Big Bull as the proper-
ty owner did not have plans for the pro-
perty.

-HEARD a recommendation from
Forest Walls that temporary facilities
for scoreboard controls be built and ac-
tion on restroom, scoreboard and press
box be delayed.

-HEARD street complaints from Dr.
Barn Cox and Paul Turner as a matter
of routine. Both problems were
drainage related and will be taken care
of by the street department.

-HEARD a report from Dr. Joe
Sawyer concerning the replacement of
city dump trucks. Money has been
budgetted for this expense and bids will
be requested.