

6th March, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting the Members present being the same as at the Statutory Meeting.

#### DERELICT SITES.

Reference was made by Councillor Sinnott to the unsightliness of some derelict sites around the Town, as a result of Demolition Orders made by the Corporation under the Housing Acts, and the Town Clerk was asked to have a list made.

#### TRANSFER OF HOUSE.

Messrs. T. & R. Walsh, Solicitors, on behalf of Mr. James Fox, Selskar Street asked for the permission of the Corporation to the transfer to Mr. Fox of the house at Davitt Road, North, being purchased by Mr. Robert Shortle on the Tenant Purchase System, and it was unanimously decided to agree to this transfer.

#### WHITEMILL HOUSING CONTRACT.

With reference to Minutes of the 16th January last when the question of the deduction from Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton, Contractors for the erection of 62 houses was under consideration, the following letter was read from Messrs. Hamilton's Solicitors addressed to the Town Clerk:-

I. Thornton & Son.  
Solicitors & Notaries Public.

Offices: Cathedral Square,  
WATERFORD.  
27th February, 1939.

Ref.11/C.1.

Re. Wexford Housing Contract.  
Claim of Messrs. H. & A. Hmlton.

Dear Sir,

Our clients, Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton of Thomas Street, Waterford, have handed us the correspondence herein together with a copy of the Contract and general conditions, and have instructed us to take up the matter with you.

The Contract was for the erection of 62 houses at Whitemill Road, Wexford, the contract price being £20,938. The entire contract money has been paid to our clients less £1046. 18. 0 retention money and a sum of £490. 16. 0 which has been wrongfully deducted. The £490. 16. 0 is made up of 24 weeks at £20. 9. 0. per week, being loss which the Corporation claim to have been suffered by them by reason of 24 weeks delay in completing the contract. The contract was to be completed on the 8th of June 1938. Our clients say that the contract was completed on the 5th of September 1938 and that the Clerk of Works, Mr. Miller, was so informed on that day by Mr. Angus Hamilton Jnr.

Our clients dispute the Corporations right to make any deduction in respect of delay in completing the contract. Any delay in completion was due entirely to actions of the Clerk of Works, and the Engineer, and our clients have given us detailed particulars of same which we do not consider necessary to send you at the moment, but merely give you a general outline:

1. On one occasion 50 external door frames were made and left ready for use. The Clerk of Works did not pass any comment on them until they were about to be used six weeks afterwards. He then rejected the whole lot.

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2. On another occasion 129 sashes were assembled and rejected by the Clerk of Works on the ground that the material was defective. Our clients were obliged to interview the Chairman and other members of the Housing Department because the material was the very best that could be obtained and, eventually, the Engineer and the Clerk of Works passed these sashes after holding up the work for six weeks.
3. The Clerk of Works continually held up the work for one reason or other. Timber would be brought on the job and be passed by him and assembled and left ready for use. He would then reject parts of the finished articles, not for bad workmanship, but on account of the quality of the material which he had already passed.
4. Delay was caused because, when our clients arrived at the stage of putting on the roofs, the methods set out in the specification for finishing the eaves did not suit the Engineer when he saw it fixed in position. He requested our clients to make an alteration and asked for prices for the work which they gave him at once. A delay of seven weeks was caused on this account alone, viz: from September 12th to November 3rd 1937. This caused delay in the plastering work and, instead of being able to commence plastering on the 1st September, they were not able to begin until the 8th of November. It is well known in the trade that it was almost impossible to get plasterers at that time. Two other big building works were then also in operation in Wexford and they had absorbed practically all the available plasterers before our clients were ready to employ them.  
 Delay was also caused by the first flooring joists specified being too light, as a result of which they were kept waiting for several weeks before they got an order from the Engineer to fit extra joists, which they did and were allowed as extras.
5. The delay in getting the plastering done also held up the painting, and our clients were unable to take on painters in December and January as they had planned, but they were obliged to wait until the month of March which is the painters rush period and they had, therefore, great difficulty in getting painters at that time, and it was impossible to get as many as they required.
6. Our clients made a concrete road, which was not included in the contract, and they did other additional work.
7. The foundations in many cases had to be excavated two or three feet below that shown on the drawings and fitted with extra concrete at our clients expense.

Delay was caused by the Clerk of Works from the beginning, and our clients, on several occasions, saw Alderman Corish, the Mayor of Wexford, and other members of the Corporation and complained of these delays. They also complained of the delays to the Chairman of the Housing Department, and also to Mr. Moylan the head of that Department.

6th March, 1939.

These people will all be summoned as witnesses in any legal proceedings which may be instituted.

We have to say finally that our clients will not submit to the deduction made from the monies lawfully due to them. The delay in completion was not their fault, but was due entirely to the actions of the Clerk of Works and the Engineer, and the additional work done, and would have been a great deal more had they not taken the steps above mentioned in interviewing the Mayor of Wexford and the Officials of the Housing Department.

Will you please write us immediately and say whether or not the Corporation are prepared to pay our clients the £490. 16. 0 wrongfully withheld. If not, they shall be obliged to take the necessary steps to enforce payment.

(Dic.E.D.W.)

Yours faithfully,

I. THORNTONTON.

The Town Clerk,  
Town Hall, Wexford.

The Town Clerk intimated that he had referred the letter to the Borough Surveyor asking for his observations and read the following communication from Mr. McNally:-

P. K. McNally, B.E.

Town Hall,  
WEXFORD.  
6th March, 1939.

John. J. Byrne, Esq.,  
Town Clerk, Wexford.

Whitemill Housing Scheme (No.2.)

A Chara,

re letter from Messrs. I. Thornton & Son,  
Solicitors, Waterford.

I have read the above letter purporting to exonerate Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton from any blame in the matter of the serious delay in properly completing their Contract for the Whitemill Housing Scheme (No.2.). I am replying to each paragraph numbered in the letter as follows:-

- (1) At the commencement of the Scheme I pointed out to the Contractors and their representative that I particularly wished to have nothing but best quality materials used, with emphasis on the timber. The incident of the 50 external door frames arose out of the insistence of the Contractor that the timber in same was good enough. Therefore, the delay, if any, was caused by the negligence of his representative in allowing the frames to be assembled from defective materials.

6th March, 1939.

- (2) Having regard to this paragraph, one can note the implication that I or the Clerk of Works was content to allow the use of defective material on receiving representations from the Chairman or other Members of the Housing Board (I presume is meant). This is a gross untruth. But one can see to what lengths Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton were prepared to go in order to get away with shoddy materials and workmanship.

The incident of the sashes occurred as follows:-

The Clerk of Works gave instructions that no joinery work was to be glued up or fixed until finally inspected by the writer. I, along with the Clerk of Works examined the sashes in question and rejected certain portions of the sashes as not being in compliance with the Specification. Consequently, on the making good of the defective materials by sound stuff the 129 sashes were passed as fit for use.

- (3) The Clerk of Works acting on my instructions was most assiduous in the carrying out of his duties. This paragraph would read that he deliberately held up the work for frivolous or non apparent reasons. From time to time Mr. H. Hamilton made verbal representations to this effect to me, but I always found that the Clerk of Works never exceeded his instructions in regard to inspection of work done or materials supplied.

Furthermore, there is an allegation that the Clerk of Works first allowed defective materials to be used and then condemned the work. This is a matter which Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton may be called on to prove.

- (4) In this paragraph we have the allegations that plastering work was held up for seven weeks from the 12th September, 1937, to November 3rd, 1937. On the 13th September there was one apprentice plasterer on the Scheme, engaged at making concrete sills. At this period the carpenters were engaged on fixing the roofing timber s of the more advanced blocks viz: Blocks 1 to 8. During this period, I had come to an agreement verbally with the Contractors that a Fascia Board should be used on the Scheme. Correspondence on the matter was purely with a view to fixing the allowance that should be made by way of an extra. As a matter of fact in October the only contentious matter was the type of gutter bracket to be used and what should be done with the brackets the Contractors alleged they had procured but did not produce. At no time was there any hold up on the work caused by the addition of a Fascia Board.

Having regard to the difficulty of getting plasterers, the matter of the Fascia Board did not prevent the Contractors from getting plasterers, but the fact that all local men were already employed on local works. On the 18th October the Contractors had 3 plasterers working. On the 15th November ~~only 1 plasterer was working~~ only 1 plasterer was working. In fact there was no hold up on my part as the Contractors could have the roofs boarded and felted and have carried out the inside plastering work during that period. For the information of the Corporation it is well to point out that these roofs were to be boarded and felted in any event.

There was never any delay about the flooring joists, all flooring joists were carried on corbels and were not built in to the walls. Furthermore, it was found that the flooring joists supplied were in fact  $1\frac{3}{8}$ " thickness instead of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", it was on this account I thought it advisable to increase the number of flooring joists in the 3-Roomed Houses. The delay if any, was caused by Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton disputing my figures regarding cost. To bear out my point, I wish to set out some dates concerning this alleged delay. The matter of the joists was

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(4)contd.

was first discussed between the Clerk of Works and the Contractors' representative during the last week of August 1937. On the 3rd September, 1937 as a result of conversations, I had I sent the Contractors a written order to do the extra work at an agreed sum. As a matter of fact 1st floor joists were laid in some of the more advanced blocks before the 31st August, 1937.

(5) Here again we find that even the painting is alleged to have been held up by my actions or those of the Clerk of Works. In November and December two painters were working on the Scheme. In January, February, and March, and up to the middle of April only two painters were working on the Scheme. That is during the ordinary slack period for painters only two painters were working whilst after this date the number could be increased to four and later on there were seven painters working. In fact, I was approached by a local painting Contractor early in 1938 to learn if I would agree to a sub-contract, and I expressed my willingness to facilitate Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton in this respect.

(6) Messrs. Hamilton tried unsuccessfully to evade the necessity of concreting portion of the Whitemill Roadway, and I have rather lengthy correspondence on the matter. This item was first questioned by the Contractors on the 8th June, 1938, and eventually they carried out the work. However, this cannot be put forward as an excuse for not completing the contract on the specified date, viz: the 8th June, 1938, as the portion of the road was completed before the work on the houses was satisfactorily completed. In fact, there is still some painting work to be carried out.

(7) Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton seem to think that the exact depth of the foundations for each house should be shown on the Plans, seeing that they complain of doing work on the foundations extra to that shown on the drawings. Naturally such would be impracticable in a Scheme of any size owing to the variable nature of the subsoil. However, I never received any demand for extra payment for such work.

Having regard to the next paragraph where the Clerk of Works appears to be named as the principal cause of the delay, well, the Clerk of Works was at all times in touch with me from day to day and I take full responsibility for his actions. He carried out his work in thorough fashion and in so doing was acting in the best interests of his employers - the Wexford Corporation. I did receive verbal representations from the L. G. Department's Inspector, Mr. Scott, that it was considered as a result of representations made by the Contractors that the Clerk of Works was exceeding his duties by writing letters to the Contractors. I had given Mr. Millar instructions to write to the Contractors' Representative pointing out defects or irregularities coming to his notice. It is always better to have a record of any dealings with Contractors in matters of this sort, and I maintain I was perfectly justified in issuing such instructions. I never received any representations from the Mayor or any other member of the Corporation on this or any other matter connected with the Contract. In any case, I would treat such representations as confidential unless they were irregular. I never had any communication from Mr. Moylan of the Housing Department or the Chairman of the Housing Board. In any case no individual has any authority to interfere with the Architect or Engineer responsible for the carrying out of a Housing Contract for a Local Authority.

6th March, 1939.

To conclude, I would add my advice to yours that the Corporation are perfectly justified in withholding £490. 16. 0 in accordance with the terms of the Contract.

Mise, le meas,

P. C. Mac An Failgig.

Borough Surveyor.

When he (Town Clerk) had read the correspondence and had explained some points to the Members he stated that in his opinion, the time had now come when this matter should be dealt with the Solicitor as to whether or not they were legally entitled to make the deductions they claimed under Messrs. Hamiltons Bond and Contract. The suggestion of the Town Clerk was agreed to that the matter be now referred to the Corporation Solicitor.

#### HOUSE--FAYTHE.

Consideration of the question of a house at the Faythe occupied by Thomas Dolan was adjourned to enable the Town Clerk to interview Dolan with the object of having him give an assurance to the Corporation that he would try to make the house fit for human habitation for himself and his own family and would not sub-let any portion of it at any time.

#### HOUSE - GRATTAN TERRACE.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when the question of the house at Grattan Terrace occupied by Thomas Barnes was under consideration, Mr. Barnes under date of the 6th instant intimated that his reason for asking to purchase the house was that he intended to occupy and live in it.

The Corporation carefully considered this matter and were of opinion that if Mr. Barnes was earnest in his desire to purchase the house solely for his own use that he would immediately reoccupy it and not wait until the Corporation agreed to sell it to him. So it was decided to inform him that the Corporation were still without information stating that Mr. Barnes and his family were going to reside in the house, and in the circumstances, the Corporation demanded that he either occupy the house within seven days, or give up the key.

#### HOUSE - ST. JOHN'S ROAD.

Messrs. Huggard, Brennan & Godfrey, Solicitors, wrote referring to the notice to quit which had been served on Patrick Donovan, St. John's Road, for non-payment of rent, and pointed out that Mr. Donovans house was in a very bad condition and asking the Town Clerk to defer proceedings until the repairs asked by Donovan had been carried out when the rent would be paid.

In this case it was decided to point out to the Solicitors that a considerable amount of money had already been spent on this house in carrying out repairs and that the dampness was due to what was known as 'permanent condensation' and which was very difficult, if not altogether impossible to cure. The Corporation were doing everything in their power to remedy the defects, and in the circumstances, they thought the rent should be paid and could not agree to defer proceedings in the case, pending the carrying out of repairs.

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HOUSE - O'CONNELL AVENUE.

A complaint regarding the damp condition of a house at O'Connell Avenue, occupied by Councillor McGuire, was also made, and the Borough Surveyor was instructed to carry out an experiment on one of the rooms with a view to improving the condition of the house.

OVERDRAFT.

The Town Clerk asked for permission to seek sanction to Overdraft accommodation on the Ordinary Account in the sum of £2,500 up to the 31st instant. This permission was granted.

ALLOTMENTS.

It was reported that the estimated cost in the provision of allotments for the 1939 season would be £13. 7. 0 and the economic rent £1. 3. 3 per plot, so it was agreed to reduce this to a nominal rent of 1/- for unemployed persons and the names of the twelve applicants for the John Street plots as submitted were approved.

*Richard Card T. J.*

10th March, 1939.

A Meeting of the Special Rates Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor, (in the Chair) with Alderman Walsh,

Councillors: Thomas Buckland, and Thomas Hayes.

#### ESTIMATES.

The Meeting had been convened to consider the Rate Estimates prepared by the Town Clerk for the year 1939-40, and each Member, prior to the Meeting, had been supplied with a copy of the Statement of Estimated Receipts and Expenditure; Estimates of Town Rates necessary to be raised; together with an explanatory memorandum by the Town Clerk.

The figures as submitted by the Town Clerk showed that the Town Rates for the coming year would have to be increased by 1s. 4d. in the pound. A Copy of the Estimates and Statements above referred to will be found appended to the Minutes of the Corporation on the 20th instant, so that details of the estimates are not given in these Minutes.

The Members carefully examined each of the services as submitted by the Town Clerk.

In the Water Rate Estimate it was suggested that a reduction of 2d. in the pound should be made by reducing the amount for maintenance by £80 and the wages of the Furncock by £70. As regards the latter deduction, it was pointed out in support to the suggestion to reduce it, that he spent a considerable amount of his time carrying out repairs to Artizans Dwellings in the way of repairing water pipes, eave shoots, etc. and that some of his time should be charged to this service. As regards the maintenance the amount had been increased from £100 to £200 per annum as £100 was not sufficient to maintain the system in a proper manner, more especially, having regard to the extra cost in keeping the chlorinator and ammoniator working. These two deductions of £150 would enable the Water Rate Estimate to be reduced by 2d. in the pound, and would keep it at the same rate as last year.

Before coming to a decision, however, on this matter, the Committee decided to meet again on the 20th instant at 6.45. p.m. to enable them to make a final examination of the Estimates.

Arising out of the increase in the estimate for repairs to Artizans Dwellings, and the amount of painting which should be done, the Town Clerk intimated that of the £1,000 included in the Estimates he was prepared to allow £300 of it to be earmarked for painting. As regards the Housing Estimate, a lengthy discussion took place, on the subject of the rents charged for the Artizans Dwellings, and the Town Clerk intimated that the rents of their houses were based on rate calculations varying from 15s.1d. to 18s.0d. in the pound, whereas, the Rate for 1938/39 was £1. 0. 8 in the pound, and for 1939/40 it would possibly be 22s.

If the rents of the houses were adjusted in accordance with the upward movement of the Rates, the Corporation could increase their revenue by over £500 per annum. In this connection it was also pointed out that in the current year the Town Clerk had estimated to receive £225 from Artizans Dwellings for Scavenging. This would represent an allround increase in the rents of the Corporation houses (exclusive of those at present paying 2d. per week for Scavenging) of 2d. per week.



10th March, 1939.

Although he had included this sum under the head of Scavenging it was distinctly understood that no special charge was being made for this service, the amount of £225 being merely an estimate of what the scavenging of Corporate property would cost and was included in the receipt side of the Scavenging service, with the object of showing the net cost thereof. If the Corporation persisted in not adjusting the rents of their houses in accordance with the upward trend of the rate, it would be necessary to further increase the rate in the pound of the Borough Rate by 3d. The Members of the Committee thought it was only right that the rents of the Artizans Dwellings should be increased in accordance with the upward movement of the Rates, but were not inclined to recommend a bigger increase than 2d. each per week. Every effort was made to see if it was possible to further reduce the rate estimate, in addition to the suggested reduction of the Water Rate, but no member could point to any item in the estimates which could be altered, and eventually it was decided to make final decisions at the Committee Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> instant.

The Secretary of the Wexford Branch of the Irish Local Government Officials Union applied on behalf of Miss K. Lacey, Typist, in the Town Clerk's Office, to have her placed on the salary scale paid to the Co. Council Typists. This was by annual increments of £5 to a maximum of £156 per annum. In reply to a query, the Town Clerk stated that Miss Lacey's salary of £104 per annum had been fixed in 1937 and that she had always given entire satisfaction in the discharge of her duties, so the Committee unanimously decided to recommend the Corporation to change the salary fixed from £104 to a maximum scale salary of £104 by annual increments of £5 to a maximum of £156 per annum.

Arising out of the amount included for the renewal of Watermains, etc., in the Borough, during the coming 12 months, the Borough Surveyor was asked to examine the question of providing a new sewer at Summerhill; Talbot Street; and Green Street to Bride Street as soon as possible.

*Richard Corish T. 17*

20th March, 1939.

A Meeting of the Special Rates Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at 6.45. p.m.  
The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor, (in the Chair) with Alderman Walsh,

Councillors: Thomas Buckland and James Billington.

#### ESTIMATES.

With reference to Minutes of the 10th instant when the Rate Estimates for 1939-40 were under consideration, it was now decided to recommend the Corporation to reduce the Town Clerk's Estimate for the Water Rate by 2d. in the pound. This could be accomplished

(2)

20th March, 1939.

by reducing the amount allowed for the wages of the Turncock from £200 to £130 as there was a considerable amount of his time spent on the renewal of Watermains at various times of the year, and, on the Maintenance of Artizans Dwellings. As well, as this reduction of £70 a further reduction of £80 was to be made in the amount allowed for General Maintenance which estimate had been increased by the Town Clerk from £100 to £200. These two items accounted for a reduction in the Water Rate of 2d. in the pound. The remaining estimates were again carefully considered and the only place where a saving could be suggested was in No. 6 for the Maintenance of Roads and Footpaths. The estimate included a sum of £230 for the purchase of a concrete mixer and it was suggested that this should be obtained by way of Loan for a period of five years.

The Town Clerk, however, objected to this proposal on the ground that it was not good finance to be borrowing for these small amounts. In the present case, if this loan were borrowed for five years there would be just £30 interest paid in that period and he thought that even if it meant a rate of just 3d. in the pound, it was just as well to include it in the current years rates. The Members, however, were very anxious to take the extra 2d. off the Town Clerk's estimate so that the net increase would only be 1s. in the pound, and eventually, they decided to recommend the Corporation to raise this sum by way of loan for a period of three years from the Treasurer, thus reducing the Rate in lieu of Co. Cess by 2d. in the pound.

With reference to the paragraph in the Town Clerk's report dealing with the rents of the Artizans Dwellings it was decided to make the following recommendation: "that the rents of all Artizans Dwellings (except the newly erected houses at Whitemill and those houses where the tenants paid their own rates) be increased by 2d. per week as from the 1st April, and, that the Committee be authorised by the Corporation to examine the rents charged for all Corporation houses and to make any recommendation they considered necessary."

The Meeting then separated.

*Richard Corish T.C.*

20th March, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m. to consider the Rate Estimates for the year 1939-40 together with Committee recommendations in reference thereto.

The Members present were:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor, (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, Robert Coffey, and Patrick Tobin.

Councillors: James Murphy, Nicholas Connolly, Patrick Atkins, Jas. Billington, Thos. Buckland, Robert Moran, Thos. Byrne, Phillip McGuire, Jas. Crosbie, Jas. Sinnott, Patrick Hawkins, Timothy Cashman, and Thomas Dunne.

The Town Clerk's Statement of Estimated Receipts and Expenditure: Estimates of Town Rates (other than Poor Rate) required to be raised in the Financial Year 1939-40 together with an explanatory memorandum was circulated amongst the Members with a Notice convening the Meeting and a copy is attached hereto.

BOROUGH OF WEXFORD.

Town Clerk's Office,  
Town Hall, Wexford.  
14th March, 1939.

G.5.

A Chara,

In presenting to you the (A) Statement of Estimated Receipts and Expenditure for, and (B) the Estimates of Town Rates (other than Poor Rate) required to be raised in the Financial Year from 1st April, 1939, to 31st March, 1940, I regret it has been found necessary to increase the total Rate in the £ of the Town Rates from Eleven Shillings and Eightpence in 1938/39 to thirteen Shillings in the coming year - an increase of one shilling and fourpence in the Pound.

The Statement and Estimates were carefully considered by the Special Rates Committee at a recent Meeting, and although they have not yet arrived at definite decisions, they hope to be in a position, at the Meeting due to be held on the 20TH instant, to make recommendations to the Corporation, the effect of which would be to reduce the Rate in the Pound of the Estimate now submitted.

The following comparative Table of the Rate in the Pound for the different Services in respect of the Current and ensuing Financial Years shows under which headings the increases or decreases in the Estimate occur, and the cause of such alterations under various sub-heads is dealt with seriatim after the Table.

| SERVICE.                   | RATE FOR<br>1938/39<br>PENCE IN THE £. | RATE FOR<br>1939/40<br>PENCE IN THE £. |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| 1. Housing.                | 8.00                                   | 15.20                                  |
| 2. Graveyards              | 2.00                                   | 2.60                                   |
| 3. Markets, etc.           | 1.24                                   | .95                                    |
| 4. Vocational Education    | 7.90                                   | 7.80                                   |
| 5. Scavenging.             | 18.20                                  | 18.78                                  |
| 6. Streets. Etc.           | 39.62                                  | 45.06                                  |
| 7. Public Health, Etc.     | 23.28                                  | 23.30                                  |
| 8. Fire Brigade            | 2.90                                   | 3.68                                   |
| 9. Waterworks.             | 18.00                                  | 20.00                                  |
| 10. General Administration | 18.86                                  | 18.54                                  |
| 11. Miscellaneous          | --                                     | .09                                    |
| TOTALS                     | 140.00                                 | 156.00                                 |

NO. 1. HOUSING:

The estimated loss on this Service for the year 1939/40 is £1447 as against £722 in 1938/39 - an increase of £725 which is represented by an increased rate of 7.20 pence in the pound, bringing the total estimated cost of Housing in the coming year to 15.20 pence in the pound.

The estimated expenditure is up from £11,802 to £12,762 - an increase of £960, and the estimated receipts are increased from £11,080 to £11,315 - an increase of £235, which makes the net increase of £725 in the cost of the service.

As regards the increased expenditure - repayment and interest on Loans is up by £471 which is due to full provision having to be made for the repayment of the Loan for the Whiterock View Scheme; the Supplementary Loan to complete the Maudlintown Scheme; the new Schemes at William Street, Etc.; and the development of the Green Street Site.

The allowance for Maintenance and Repair has been increased by £400 to £1,000, and is necessary in view of the increasing number of houses maintained by the Corporation. At the present time the Corporation have 542 let to weekly tenants; 41 sold on the Tenant-purchase System, in addition to 20 sold out-and-out, making a total of 603 houses provided -- 469 of which have been erected since 1922. As well, during the past twelve months demands have been made from time to time by several members to have painting work carried out on Artisans Dwellings and the increased provision under this Head will enable some of the houses to be done in the coming Financial Year.

The Rates increase of £184 is under two Heads, viz.:-  
 Poor Rate £103 and Town Rates £81. Owing to an increase in the Poor Rate Demand by the County Council last year, the amount included was insufficient and the Estimate for the coming year is based on a Poor Rate, the same as 1938/39, of 9/- in the £. The Town Rates increase is due to the general rate increase for next year.

I consider it my duty at this period to again direct your attention to the provisions of the Local Government (Rates on Small Dwellings) Act, 1928; which Act makes it obligatory on the Corporation to adjust the rents of their houses each year in accordance with the upward or downward trend of the Rates. Various Local Government Auditors have called attention to this matter from year to year, and in view of the substantial increase in the past few years, I respectfully suggest that the time has now arrived to adjust the rents of the Corporation Houses in accordance with the terms of the Statute. No increase has been made in these Rents since 1929, and in the case of new houses the rents of which have been fixed since that date, such rents included a sum for rates based on the rate in the pound current in the year when they were fixed.

The Estimated increase in Rents is from the 62 houses at Whiterock View, together with the houses in course of erection at William Street and Davitt Road, North.

The subsidy to be received under the Housing Act of 1932 shows a decrease of £275 for the reason that in the year 1938/39, I estimated on receiving arrears of subsidy due from previous years, which I actually did receive. Generally speaking, the increased charge for Housing next year is due to the Whitemill Scheme; the development of the Green Street Site; and increased provision for maintenance.

NO. 2. GRAVEYARDS:

Shows an increase of £74 which is .60 of a Penny in the Pound. This is due to provision being made for the cost of removing trees in the intra mural graveyards, which work was decided on in 1938 and is now being carried out.

NO. 3. MARKETS & OTHER CORPORATE PROPERTY:

Show a slight decrease due to increased revenue from Market Tolls and Stalls.

NO. 4. VOCATIONAL EDUCATION:

Shows an increase of £24 in the Annual Contribution to the Town of Wexford Vocational Education Committee, but is offset by the increased amount produced by the Rate in the Pound, which shows a decrease of .10 pence.

NO. 5. SCAVENGING:

Shows a slight increase. As the system to be operated for the year 1939/40 is new and provides for a general system of Domestic Scavenging, I do not think it would be competent for me to comment on it at this stage. After a year or so of its operation, we shall be better able to judge its worth and compare it with the old system.

No. 6. MAINTENANCE OF STREETS, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS:- Shows an increase of 5.44 pence in the £.

The increased cost of this service is almost entirely due to provision having to be made each year for the Corporation's Contribution towards the cost of Relief Works, as Grants will not be allocated unless the Local Authorities raise their contributions in the Rates.

For the year 1939/40 Wexford Corporation are asked to contribute £965 (the same as in 1938/39) towards Schemes costing £7,350. This represents approximately 13% of the cost of the Schemes. In addition to this sum of £965 provision has to be made for the £483 which it was agreed in January last should be raised in the Rates for 1939/40 so as to qualify for the supplementary Grant of £3,022 then offered.

The increased expenditure under the head of Grants is therefore £483 for the Supplementary.

Loan Repayments are down by £116 due to normal reductions and the Transfer of Liability for the Morris Lorry Loan to Scavenging.

The cost of operating the Morris Lorry for 1939/40 is divided between Maintenance of Streets and Scavenging for the Current Year and makes a further reduction of £65.

The reduction in Receipts is accounted for by the transfer of £12. 10. 0. of the Harbour Board Contribution to the credit of Scavenging. Provision is also made in the Estimate for the sum of £250 to purchase a High Discharge Concrete Mixer which machine is absolutely essential to enable the large amount of concrete street works to be efficiently carried out.

Were it not for the Supplementary Grant Contribution and the purchase of the Concrete Mixer it would have been possible to reduce the Rate for Streets by approximately twopence in the £.

NO. 7: PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES remain at the same level, there being practically no change in the Rate in the £.

There are, however, a number of changes in the various items. Loan charges are up by £60, salary increases £10, Public Lighting £30; and I am asking a further £50 for the provision of School Meals, making a total increase of £150. The change in the system of Meat Inspection will reduce the Expenditure by £358, but there will be a corresponding loss of £319 in Revenue, so that the net increase in the expenditure will be £111. Of this £25 extra will be recouped in respect of School Meals and £2 : 10. 0 extra in respect of salary increase, so that the net increase in the cost of the Public Health services is £83.

This sum is offset by the increased amount produced by the Rate in the £ which remains at practically the same figure as 1938/39.

NO. 8. FIRE BRIGADE is increased by £90 due almost entirely to the new Fire Station and Firemens Houses being erected at Davitt Road.

NO. 9. WATERWORKS:- For the first time in a number of years it has been found necessary to increase this Rate and it is due to provision being made for repayment of some of the Loan which will be required in the coming year for the proposed extension of the Water System. As well, increased provision has been made for the General Maintenance of the System.

No. 10. The amount required for General Administration is £67 more than last year due to normal salary increments and to the necessity of including under this head the portion of the Town Sergeant's Salary formerly charged to Scavenging for his work of collecting the Dustbin Fees, etc.

No. 11. MISCELLANEOUS.

Under this head I have included an extra £10 for the Irish Tourist Association, consequent on an appeal by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health for additional support for this Body.



From a perusal of the foregoing together with the Statements and Estimates appended hereto it will be gathered that the principal increases (those over a penny in the £) are Housing, Streets, and Waterworks, while the principal reduction is Streets and Paths.

In my report last year I pointed out that the then relief in respect of Housing was only temporary, due to full provision not having to be made for repayment of the Loan for the Whiterock View Houses.

I should again like to point out that the Estimated Expenditure has been reduced to the very minimum that will allow of the Municipal Services being efficiently administered during the next Twelve Months, and estimated receipts have been placed at the highest possible figure. Only Expenditure actually estimated for can be incurred during the ensuing year and the various services must be kept within the limits now set forth. If any member has any works in mind which he considers should be carried out in the Financial Period ensuing and which are not embodied in the estimates now presented he should bring them forward immediately as after these Rates are agreed on, no proposals not included therein can be carried out.

I should like, however, to pay tribute to the whole hearted co-operation I have received from the Members during the past year in this connection; no works (not absolutely urgent and essential), being insisted on which were not estimated for.

The Town Rates as estimated for 1939/40 are as follows:--

|                   | £. | s. | d. |           |
|-------------------|----|----|----|-----------|
| Borough Rate..... | 7  | 4  |    | in the £. |
| Co. Cess.....     | 4  | 0  |    | "         |
| Water Rates.....  | 1  | 8  |    | "         |
| Total.....        | 13 | 0  |    | "         |

The Town Rates for the year 1938/39 were 11/8d. in the £.

I must now refer to a matter about which I feel in duty bound to complain, and that is the conditions under which your Clerical and Engineering Staffs are compelled to work.

The Office Accommodation available is, without any shadow of doubt, both inadequate, unhealthy and insanitary.

In my department there are only two rooms available; one of which also serves as a Council Chamber. In these rooms all the Books, Documents, and equipment of the Clerical Staff must be housed and in one of them three Clerks (one male and two females) must work together. Such overcrowding is not conducive to efficiency and I feel sure if more accommodation was available better results could be obtained.

The Borough Surveyor has only one small room in which to carry out his work and store documents.

The Tomlin Report on the English Service prepared in 1929-31 contained the following paragraph, which is of interest in this connection: "Provision of suitable accommodation should not be regarded solely from point of view of cost of administration. No one can be expected to do his best work in a dingy and inconvenient office. The provision of up-to-date equipment and good accommodation is a contribution towards a contented staff which the employer can be fairly asked to provide. The resulting improvement in organisation and increase in efficiency will provide a good return on the outlay involved."

If there is even a grain of truth in the sentiments expressed in the above extract it is evident to any person familiar with the conditions under which your staffs are compelled to work that they could not give of their best in such accommodation.

There is absolutely no privacy whatever. None of your Chief Officials can interview any person in private without the conversation being interrupted by some person, looking for, say, a house, or about some other trivial matter which could be dealt with equally as well by any junior or Public Official.

I could say much more on the shortcomings of the present offices but they are so well known to the Members that I think it would be a waste of time to enumerate them .

I would suggest, therefore, that the time has arrived for the Corporation to provide temporary office accommodation pending the erection of the proposed new Town Hall; or the erection of a suitable suite of Offices.

I had intended to comment also on the inadequacy of the Clerical Staff, but having regard to my remarks on the accommodation available, I shall reserve such comments for another occasion.

Mise, le meas,

John. J. Byrne.

Cleireach an Bhailé.

# BOROUGH OF WEXFORD

## A

### Statement of Estimated Receipts and Expenditure

AND

## B

### ESTIMATE OF TOWN RATES (OTHER THAN POOR RATE) TO BE RAISED

IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING ON 31st MARCH, 1940.

#### A.

### Statement of Estimated Receipts and Expenditure

#### No. 1.—HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

|  | Receipts.         | Expenditure.      |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | £ s d             | £ s d             |
| Repayment and Interest on Loans  |                   | 9192 0 0          |
| Maintenance and Repair of Houses                                       |                   | 1000 0 0          |
| Ground Rents   |                   | 18 1 0            |
| Rent Collectors' Commission  |                   | 275 0 0           |
| Fire Insurance   |                   | 100 0 0           |
| Rates—Town, £1,227; Poor, £950   |                   | 2177 0 0          |
| Rents (including Rates)  | 7100 0 0          |                   |
| From Houses in course of erection at<br>William Street and Davitt Road | 250 0 0           |                   |
| Grant under Housing Act, 1908  | 40 0 0            |                   |
| “ “ “ “ 1932   | 3925 0 0          |                   |
|  | <b>£11315 0 0</b> | <b>£12762 1 0</b> |
| <b>Rate Chargeable with—Borough.</b>                                   |                   |                   |

#### No. 2.—GRAVEYARDS.

|   |                 |                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Repayment and Interest on Loans             |                 | 30 0 0          |
| Wages of Caretaker                          |                 | 117 0 0         |
| “ Gravedigger                               |                 | 43 0 0          |
| Cost of Grave Openings                      |                 | 100 0 0         |
| General Maintenance                         |                 | 100 0 0         |
| Rates and Taxes                             |                 | 5 0 0           |
| Telephone Service                           |                 | 8 0 0           |
| Cleansing of Old Graveyards                 |                 | 20 0 0          |
| Removal of Trees, etc., from old Graveyards |                 | 80 0 0          |
| Sale of Grave Spaces and Burial Fees        | 250 0 0         |                 |
|   | <b>£250 0 0</b> | <b>£503 0 0</b> |
| <b>Rate Chargeable with—Borough.</b>        |                 |                 |

#### No. 3.—MARKETS AND OTHER CORPORATE PROPERTY.

|   |                 |                  |
|---|-----------------|------------------|
| Interest on Overdraft and New Town Hall         |                 | 200 0 0          |
| Fee for Performing Rights Society               |                 | 5 5 0            |
| Toll Collector (part of Town Sergeant's Salary) |                 | 31 4 0           |
| Rent Collector (Corporate Estate)               |                 | 10 0 0           |
| Insurance                                       |                 | 20 0 0           |
| Rent of Market Site                             |                 | 50 0 0           |
| Rent of Town Hall (Cornmarket) Site             |                 | 13 8 6           |
| Repairs to Corporate Buildings                  |                 | 70 0 0           |
| Market Tolls and Stalls                         | 100 0 0         |                  |
| Fees from Town Hall                             | 10 0 0          |                  |
| Rents from Corporate Estate                     | 200 0 0         |                  |
|   | <b>£310 0 0</b> | <b>£399 17 6</b> |
| <b>Rate Chargeable with—Borough.</b>            |                 |                  |

#### No. 4.—VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

|   | Receipts.       | Expenditure.    |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
|   | £ s d           | £ s d           |
| Repayment of Loans for Extension Grants |                 | 450 0 0         |
| Contribution in aid 1939/40             |                 | 500 0 0         |
| Recoupment of part Loan Charges         | 210 0 0         |                 |
|   | <b>£220 0 0</b> | <b>£950 0 0</b> |
| <b>Rate Chargeable with—Borough.</b>    |                 |                 |

**No. 5.—SCAVENGING—DOMESTIC & PUBLIC.**

**DOMESTIC.**

|                                  | £   | s  | d | £ | s | d | £ | s | d |
|----------------------------------|-----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Lorry Driver                   | 159 | 18 | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2 Helpers                        | 293 | 16 | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Supervision                      | 13  | 0  | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Cost of Tractor 20%              | 52  | 0  | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Cost of Trailer 10%              | 20  | 0  | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Interest on above two            | 23  | 0  | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Insurance of Workmen             | 15  | 0  | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Fuel and Petrol, etc.            | 65  | 0  | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Tyres, Tubes, etc.               | 30  | 0  | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Oil, Grease, Waste, Upkeep, etc. | 26  | 0  | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |   |

697 14 0

**PUBLIC.**

|   |     |     |     |     |    |   |       |    |   |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|---|-------|----|---|
| 5 Labourers (Full time)                   | 669 | 10  | 0   |     |    |   |       |    |   |
| 1 do. (Part time)                         | 80  | 3   | 4   |     |    |   |       |    |   |
| 2 do. (1 day each)                        | 43  | 6   | 8   |     |    |   |       |    |   |
| 1 do. (Dump)                              | 68  | 18  | 0   |     |    |   |       |    |   |
| 1 Lorry Driver                            | 185 | 18  | 0   |     |    |   |       |    |   |
| Supervision                               | 92  | 19  | 0   |     |    |   |       |    |   |
| Morris Lorry—Petrol, Insurance, Tax, Etc. | 65  | 0   | 0   |     |    |   |       |    |   |
| Insurance, Tools, Etc.                    | 100 | 0   | 0   |     |    |   |       |    |   |
|   |     |     |     |     |    |   | £1305 | 15 | 0 |
| Repayment of Loan for Lorry               | ... | ... | ... |     |    |   | 40    | 0  | 0 |
| Scavenging—Main Roads                     | ... | ... | ... | £50 | 0  | 0 |       |    |   |
| do. Harbour Streets                       | ... | ... | ... | 12  | 10 | 0 |       |    |   |
| do. Artisans' Dwellings                   | ... | ... | ... | 225 | 0  | 0 |       |    |   |
|   |     |     |     |     |    |   | £287  | 10 | 0 |
|   |     |     |     |     |    |   | £2043 | 9  | 0 |

**Rate Chargeable with—Borough.**

**No. 6.—MAINTENANCE OF STREETS, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS  
(exclusive of Main Roads Upkeep).**

|   | Receipts. |     |     | Expenditure.     |   |   |
|---|-----------|-----|-----|------------------|---|---|
|   | £         | s   | d   | £                | s | d |
| Repayment of Loans                                  | ...       | ... | ... | 1624             | 0 | 0 |
| Repairs to Streets and Footpaths                    | ...       | ... | ... | 600              | 0 | 0 |
| Insurance (National Health and Unemployment)        | ...       | ... | ... | 40               | 0 | 0 |
| do. (Employer's Liability)                          | ...       | ... | ... | 30               | 0 | 0 |
| Rent of Stone Depot at Faythe                       | ...       | ... | ... | 10               | 0 | 0 |
| Licence Duty, Insurance and Petrol for Morris Lorry | ...       | ... | ... | 65               | 0 | 0 |
| To supplement Unemployment Grants                   | ...       | ... | ... | 1448             | 0 | 0 |
| New Concrete Mixer                                  | ...       | ... | ... | <del>230</del>   | 0 | 0 |
| Contribution from Harbour Board                     | 40        | 0   | 0   |                  |   |   |
|   |           |     | £40 | 0                | 0 |   |
|   |           |     |     | <del>£4647</del> | 0 | 0 |

**Rate Chargeable with—Rate in lieu of Co. Cess.**

**No. 7.—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.**

|   |     |     |       |      |   |   |
|---|-----|-----|-------|------|---|---|
| Repayment of Loans (Sewers)                       | ... | ... | ...   | £360 | 0 | 0 |
| Repairing and Cleansing Sewers                    | ... | ... | ...   | 200  | 0 | 0 |
| Vaccination Acts Expenses                         | ... | ... | ...   | 20   | 0 | 0 |
| Food and Drugs Acts Expenses                      | ... | ... | ...   | 50   | 0 | 0 |
| Salary of Sanitary Sub-Officer                    | ... | ... | ...   | 143  | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Medical Officer of Health                     | ... | ... | ...   | 75   | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Veterinary Inspector, Milk and Meat Inspector | ... | ... | ...   | 150  | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Health Visitor                                | ... | ... | ...   | 185  | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Inspector of Milk Shops (Town Sergeant)       | ... | ... | ...   | 31   | 4 | 0 |
| Do. Executive Sanitary Officer                    | ... | ... | ...   | 20   | 0 | 0 |
| Administration of National Free Milk Scheme       | ... | ... | ...   | 50   | 0 | 0 |
| Bathing Place                                     | ... | ... | ...   | 80   | 0 | 0 |
| Milk (Maternity & Child Welfare)                  | ... | ... | ...   | 165  | 0 | 0 |
| Feeding of Necessitous School Children...         | ... | ... | ...   | 250  | 0 | 0 |
| Immunisation against Diphtheria                   | ... | ... | ...   | 40   | 0 | 0 |
| Public Lighting                                   | ... | ... | ...   | 750  | 0 | 0 |
| Recoupment of part of Sanitary Officers' Salaries | ... | ... | ...   | 35   | 0 | 0 |
|   |     |     | £92   | 10   | 0 |   |
|   |     |     | £382  | 10   | 0 |   |
|   |     |     | £2569 | 4    | 0 |   |

**Rate Chargeable with—Borough.**

**No. 8.—FIRE BRIGADE.**

|   |     |     |     |      |   |   |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------|---|---|
| Repayment of Loan for Fire Engine             | ... | ... | ... | £175 | 0 | 0 |
| General Maintenance (including Men's Stipend) | ... | ... | ... | 75   | 0 | 0 |
| Telephone Service                             | ... | ... | ... | 8    | 0 | 0 |
| Insurance of Fire Engine                      | ... | ... | ... | 20   | 0 | 0 |
| Loan for New Station and Houses               | ... | ... | ... | 75   | 0 | 0 |

**Rate Chargeable with—Borough.** £353 0 0

**No. 9.—WATERWORKS.**

|   | Receipts. |     |             | Expenditure.     |              |              |
|---|-----------|-----|-------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | £         | s   | d           | £                | s            | d            |
| Repayment and Interest on Loans         | ...       | ... | ...         | 1369             | 0            | 0            |
| Renewal of Mains, 1939/40               | ...       | ... | ...         | 31               | 0            | 0            |
| Income Tax and Rates                    | ...       | ... | ...         | 35               | 0            | 0            |
| Salary of Superintendent                | ...       | ... | ...         | 200              | 0            | 0            |
| Wages of Turncock                       | ...       | ... | ...         | <del>200</del>   | 0            | 0            |
| "    Caretaker                          | ...       | ... | ...         | 65               | 0            | 0            |
| "    P. Somers                          | ...       | ... | ...         | 15               | 12           | 0            |
| Collector's Commission                  | ...       | ... | ...         | 50               | 0            | 0            |
| Printing and Advertising                | ...       | ... | ...         | 30               | 0            | 0            |
| Insurance (Employers' Liability)        | ...       | ... | ...         | 10               | 0            | 0            |
| Do. (National Health and Un-employment) | ...       | ... | ...         | 10               | 0            | 0            |
| Right of Way to John Street Reservoir   | ...       | ... | ...         | 4                | 0            | 0            |
| Audit Fee                               | ...       | ... | ...         | 7                | 0            | 0            |
| Preparation of Rate Books               | ...       | ... | ...         | 9                | 10           | 0            |
| Proposed Extension and Improvement      | ...       | ... | ...         | 150              | 0            | 0            |
| General Maintenance                     | ...       | ... | ...         | <del>200</del>   | 0            | 0            |
| Sale of Water by Meter                  | ...       | ... | 500         | 0                | 0            |              |
| Special Charges                         | ...       | ... | 50          | 0                | 0            |              |
| Special Agreements                      | ...       | ... | 50          | 0                | 0            |              |
| Government Rates                        | ...       | ... | 5           | 0                | 0            |              |
| Sale of Water to Ships                  | ...       | ... | 30          | 0                | 0            |              |
| Miscellaneous Receipts                  | ...       | ... | 25          | 0                | 0            |              |
|   |           |     | <b>£660</b> | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>     |              |
|   |           |     |             | <del>£2386</del> | <del>2</del> | <del>0</del> |

**Rate Chargeable with—Water Rate.**

**No. 10.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.**

|   |     |     |            |              |             |
|---|-----|-----|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Salaries :—The Mayor                      | ... | ... | 100        | 0            | 0           |
| Town Clerk                                | ... | ... | 410        | 0            | 0           |
| Clerical Assistant ...                    | ... | ... | 190        | 0            | 0           |
| Typist                                    | ... | ... | 104        | 0            | 0           |
| Town Sergeant (part of)                   | ... | ... | 93         | 12           | 0           |
| Office Cleaner                            | ... | ... | 13         | 0            | 0           |
| Printing and Advertising                  | ... | ... | 160        | 0            | 0           |
| Telephone Rents                           | ... | ... | 40         | 0            | 0           |
| Fuel and Light                            | ... | ... | 60         | 0            | 0           |
| Law Costs                                 | ... | ... | 120        | 0            | 0           |
| Stationery and Office Equipment           | ... | ... | 50         | 0            | 0           |
| Preparation of Rate Books                 | ... | ... | 19         | 0            | 0           |
| Delegates' Expenses                       | ... | ... | 20         | 0            | 0           |
| Uniform and Boots for Town Sergeant       | ... | ... | 10         | 0            | 0           |
| Reports—Association Municipal Authorities | ... | ... | 5          | 5            | 0           |
| Audit Fee                                 | ... | ... | 10         | 0            | 0           |
| Town Surveyor's Salary (part of)          | ... | ... | 190        | 0            | 0           |
| Rate Collector's Commission               | ... | ... | 230        | 0            | 0           |
| Fees returned by Town Clerk :—            |     |     |            |              |             |
| Franchise                                 | ... | ... | 70         | 0            | 0           |
| Old Age Pensions                          | ... | ... | 18         | 0            | 0           |
|   |     |     | <b>£88</b> | <b>0</b>     | <b>0</b>    |
|   |     |     |            | <b>£1824</b> | <b>17 0</b> |

**Rate Chargeable with:—**

|          | Receipts. | Expend.    |
|----------|-----------|------------|
| Borough  | £88       | £1540 17 0 |
| Co. Cess | —         | 284 0 0    |

**No. 11.—MISCELLANEOUS.**

|                                       | Receipts. |     |             | Expenditure. |            |   |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----|-------------|--------------|------------|---|
|                                       | £         | s   | d           | £            | s          | d |
| Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts      | ...       | ... | 675         | 0            | 0          |   |
| Insurance—Employer's Liability        | ...       | ... | 35          | 0            | 0          |   |
| Do. National Health and Un-employment | ...       | ... | 12          | 0            | 0          |   |
| Tithe Rent Charge                     | ...       | ... | 2           | 0            | 0          |   |
| Irish Tourist Association             | ...       | ... | 20          | 0            | 0          |   |
| Government Rates                      | ...       | ... | 45          | 0            | 0          |   |
|                                       |           |     | <b>£720</b> | <b>0</b>     | <b>0</b>   |   |
|                                       |           |     |             | <b>£729</b>  | <b>0 0</b> |   |

**Rate Chargeable with:—**

|          | Receipts. | Expend.  |
|----------|-----------|----------|
| Borough  | £705      | £729 0 0 |
| Co. Cess | 15        | —        |

**B.**  
**ESTIMATE OF RATES TO BE RAISED.**  
**BOROUGH RATE.**

| No. | SERVICE.   | Receipts.     |          |          | Expenditure.  |          |          |
|-----|--|---------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|----------|
|     |  | £             | s        | d        | £             | s        | d        |
| 1.  | Housing of the Working Classes ...   | 11315         | 0        | 0        | 12762         | 1        | 0        |
| 2.  | Burial Grounds ...   | 250           | 0        | 0        | 503           | 0        | 0        |
| 3.  | Market and other Corporate Property ...  | 310           | 0        | 0        | 399           | 17       | 6        |
| 4.  | Vocational Education ...   | 210           | 0        | 0        | 950           | 0        | 0        |
| 5.  | Scavenging—Domestic & Public ...   | 287           | 10       | 0        | 2043          | 9        | 0        |
| 7.  | Public Health & Social Services ...  | 382           | 10       | 0        | 2569          | 4        | 0        |
| 8.  | Fire Brigade ...   |               |          |          | 353           | 0        | 0        |
| 10. | General Administration ...   | 88            | 0        | 0        | 1540          | 17       | 0        |
| 11. | Miscellaneous Contingencies ...  | 705           | 0        | 0        | 729           | 0        | 0        |
|     | Collectible Rates outstanding 31/3/39 ...  | 300           | 0        | 0        | 150           | 0        | 0        |
|     | Excess of Estimated Expenditure over Receipts and amount to be raised by means of a Borough Rate ... | 8152          | 8        | 6        |               |          |          |
|     |  | <b>£22000</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>£22000</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>6</b> |

Amount to be raised by Borough Rate... **£8152 8 6**  
 Less amounts raised in rents of Artisans' dwellings ... **760 0 0**

A Borough Rate of 7/4d. in the £ will produce:—  
 For General Town Purposes at 1/- in the £ ... **£1008 0 0**  
 For General Sanitary Purposes at 6/4d. in the £ ... **6384 0 0**  
**7392 8 6**  
**7392 0 0**

**RATE IN LIEU OF CO. CESS.**

|        |   |                     |              |              |                     |
|--------|---|---------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| No. 6. | Maintenance of Streets, Roads and Footpaths ...   | 40                  | 0            | 0            | <del>4077 0 0</del> |
| 10.    | General Administration ...  |                     |              |              | 284 0 0             |
| 11.    | Miscellaneous Contingencies ...   | 15                  | 0            | 0            | 100 0 0             |
|        | Collectible Rates outstanding at 31st March, 1939 ...   | 120                 | 0            | 0            |                     |
|        | Excess of Expenditure over Receipts and amount to be raised by means of a Rate in lieu of County Cess ... | <del>4082 0 0</del> | <del>0</del> | <del>0</del> | <b>4256 0 0</b>     |
|        |   | <b>£4431</b>        | <b>0</b>     | <b>0</b>     | <b>£4431 0 0</b>    |

Amount to be raised by Rate in lieu of County Cess ... **£4256 0 0**  
 Less amount collected in rents of Artisans' Dwellings ... **415 0 0**  
 A Rate of 3/10 in the £ will produce about **£3841 0 0**  
**£3840 0 0**

**WATER RATES.**

| No. | SERVICE.   | Receipts.           |              |              | Expenditure.        |   |   |
|-----|--|---------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---|---|
|     |  | £                   | s            | d            | £                   | s | d |
| 9.  | Waterworks ...   | 660                 | 0            | 0            | <del>2000 0 0</del> |   |   |
|     | Collectible Rates outstanding at 31st March, 1939 ...                                    | 50                  | 0            | 0            | <del>228 2 0</del>  |   |   |
|     | Excess of Estimated Expenditure over Receipts and amount to be raised by Water Rates ... | <del>1526 2 0</del> | <del>2</del> | <del>0</del> | <b>1676 2 0</b>     |   |   |
|     |  | <b>£2386</b>        | <b>2</b>     | <b>0</b>     | <b>£2386 2 0</b>    |   |   |

Amount to be raised by Water Rates ... **£1676 2 0**  
 Less amounts collected in Rents of Artisans' Dwellings ... **156 0 0**  
**£1520 0 0**

A Domestic Rate of 1/8 in the £ will produce **£852 0 0**  
 A Public Rate of 6d. in the £ will produce **492 0 0**  
**£1344 0 0**  
**£1508 0 0**

**SUMMARY OF TOWN RATES FOR 1939/40.**

|              |       |              |
|--------------|-------|--------------|
| Borough Rate | s. d. | 7 4 in the £ |
| County Cess  | 3 10  | " " "        |
| Water        | 1 6   | " " "        |
| Total        | 12 8  | " " "        |

The Total of the Town Rates for 1938/39 was 11/8 in the £.

Estimate referred to in Minutes of Wexford Corporation on 20th March, 1939.  
 When this estimate were adopted as amended in Green Paper.

20th March, 1939.

(3)

The Mayor said that as the estimates were presented to them they showed an increase of 1/4d. in the pound, when the Town Clerk had informed him of this after he had gone exhaustively into the income and expenditure of the Corporation. He (Mayor) was agreeably surprised because he thought on account of all the housing activity, and money that the Corporation had put up for social services and to supplement Unemployment Grants that the increase would have been more.

He reviewed at length the various increases and showed that the amount of money raised by the Corporation by way of loan in previous years and by rates in the Current Year for the relief of unemployment was costing 1/10½d. in the pound, in addition to the amount that had to be provided in the Poor Rate under the Unemployment Assistance Act. He explained that the estimates as prepared by the Town Clerk, and as now submitted to the Members, had been examined in detail on a couple of occasions by the Special Rates Committee and they recommended that the figures submitted by the Town Clerk be reduced by 4d. in the pound. This reduction was to be accomplished as follows:-

In No. 6. the estimate for the Maintenance of Streets, Roads, and Footpaths, there was included a sum of £230 to purchase a new high discharge concrete mixer, and the Committee recommended the Council to raise this money by way of Mortgage Loan for a period of three years. This proposal if agreed to would enable the rate in lieu of Co. Cess to be reduced to 3/10d. in the pound, instead of 4/- as estimated by the Town Clerk.

The remaining 2d. was to be found in No. 9, Waterworks, as follows: The Estimate for the Wages of the Turncock was to be reduced by £70, as the Committee felt that a considerable amount of his time was expended in repairing water taps, pipes, and cave shoots of the Corporation houses. As well, he was engaged at the renewal of watermains during the year, which work was regarded as being of a capital nature and financed by way of loan. A further £80 was to be taken off the amount allowed for General Maintenance reducing it from £200 to £120.

This amount in former years had only been £100 but the Town Clerk explained that £100 was not sufficient having regard to the cost of operating the amoniator and chlorinator at Coolree, and as well, during the spring and summer months it was necessary to have a labouring man practically full time inspecting houses for leakages of water.

These two recommendations by the Committee would reduce the Town Clerk's estimate by 4d. and the total of the Town Rates Estimate to 12/8d. in the pound as against 11/8d. for the year now ending.

The various services as shown in the Town Clerk's Statement of Estimated Receipts and Expenditure were then examined seriatim. The first was Housing:- In this connection it was pointed out that the amount allowed for repairs to Artizans Dwellings had been increased from £600 to £1,000. Of this increase of £400, the Town Clerk informed the Meeting that £700 would be required for Ordinary Maintenance and the remaining £300 could be spent in painting some of the Corporation property - great demands for painting having been made by the Members during the present Financial Year.

Arising out of No. 2 the Estimate for Graveyards:- Councillor Billington asked if any progress was being made regarding the suggestion some time ago to acquire additional lands adjoining Crosstown Cemetery, and the Town Clerk replied that he did not think it could be done until a permanent Co. Medical Officer of Health was appointed.



(4)

20th March, 1939.

In Estimate No. 3. for Markets and other Corporate property-- there was included a sum of £200 in respect of the proposed new Town Hall. When this item had come to the notice of the Special Rates Committee the Mayor had undertaken to interview the Officials of the Department of Local Government and Public Health regarding the grant which had been promised towards the piling of the site, but which had not yet been paid, and he informed the present Meeting that the grant would be available before the 31st March, and this would enable the present overdraft in connection with the building to be reduced from approximately £3,700 to £2,000. If the Grant was received the full amount included in the Estimate would not be required for interest, but some steps would have to be taken to renovate the present offices in order to make them somewhat habitable for the Officials.

Vocational Education showed little change except for a normal increase in the contribution to the Committee. The next item No. 5 Scavenging, both Domestic and Public, was accompanied by a recommendation from the Finance & Works Committee to the effect that a General System of Domestic Scavenging be provided for the Town and that it be carried out by mechanical means in accordance with the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor.

For a number of years past Wexford had a system of Domestic Scavenging peculiar to itself.

Persons requiring to have dustbins emptied paid an annual fee varying from 7/6d. to 25/- according to valuation, for which they enjoyed the privilege of having their dustbins emptied on a visit to their area of the Corporation Scavenging Cart.

Some two years ago, at the request of the Corporation, the Borough Surveyor had submitted proposals for the re-organisation of the Public Scavenging of the Town, and last year the adoption of this proposal had been adjourned by the Corporation until the Rate Estimates for 1939-40 were being considered.

On a couple of occasions during the past 12 months the Special Rates Committee had again considered these proposals and it had been suggested to them by the Town Clerk, that, in his opinion, a general system of domestic Scavenging should be provided for the Town and that this would cost very little more than the system in operation. On examining this, the Borough Surveyor had agreed that the cost would be very little more, and the Committee had asked him to give an estimate. This he had done in the form in which it appeared under the head of No. 6. in the Town Clerk's Estimates for 1939-40. The Scheme envisaged by the Surveyor had been debated at length by the Finance Committee on a couple of occasions and they eventually decided to recommend the Corporation to adopt it and carry it out by mechanical means. At this stage the Mayor stated that several Members had approached him regarding the manner in which the Scavenging should be carried out, and, he now suggested that the Corporation adopt the estimates submitted without in any way deciding on the manner in which a general system of Domestic Scavenging should be carried out, the Finance Committee to again consider ways and means.

If this suggestion were adopted the necessary funds would be available to carry out a general system of Domestic Scavenging and it would only be necessary for the Finance Committee to consider the best method of having that done inside the estimates now submitted and report to the Corporation.

Councillor Connolly strenuously opposed this general system of Domestic Scavenging although a letter was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health intimating that the Corporation had no statutory power to levy the charges they were for the emptying of dustbins and ashpits.

(5)

20th March, 1939.

It was eventually agreed, that an amendment could be moved on the proposal to agree on the rate in the pound of the Borough Rate in which this service was included.

No. 6. Maintenance of Streets, Roads and Footpaths: was next examined and it was explained that the increase in this rate was principally due to the provision which was to be made in order to qualify for a Grant for Road Works through the Employment Schemes Vote.

For the Current Year a sum of £965 was necessary in addition to a sum of £483, which the Corporation had agreed in January last should be raised in order to qualify for a Supplementary Grant then made available.

The recommendation of the Special Rates Committee that the purchase of a new concrete mixer, included in this Estimate, be financed by way of a three year loan, was agreed to.

On the net cost there was no change in the Rate for Public Health and Social Services but there were slight variations in the items which were explained in the Town Clerk's memorandum and no objection was taken to anything included therein.

The Rate for the Fire Brigade showed an increase due to the provision of a new Fire Station which was at present under construction.

The amendments in the Water Rate Estimate as suggested by the Special Rates Committee were also agreed to, and no comment was made on Nos. 10 and 11, General Administration and Miscellaneous. No further alterations were suggested in the rates and thereupon the following recommendations were taken prior to the formal resolution agreeing to the different rates in the pound. The first was from the Special Rates Committee:-

That the salary of Miss K. Lacey, Typist, which was fixed in 1937 at £104 be changed to an incremental one of £104 by annual increments of £5 to a maximum of £156 per annum. The Committee had received an application from the Irish Local Government Officials Union that the salary be made an incremental one, as the Co. Council Typists were all on an incremental salary scale to £156 per annum, so the Committee unanimously recommended that Miss Lacey's salary be fixed at £104 by annual increments of £5 to a maximum of £156 per annum, the first increment being payable as from the 1st April, 1938. No objection was raised to this recommendation, and, it was unanimously adopted on the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Alderman Walsh.

The second recommendation was that the sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to the raising of a Loan of £630 over a period of three years for the purchase of a high discharge concrete mixer. This recommendation was also unanimously agreed to on the motion of Councillor Crosbie seconded by Councillor Cashman.

The next recommendation was that the rents of all the Artizans Dwellings be increased by 2d. per week on and from Monday 3rd of April, 1939 and that the Special Rates Committee be authorised to examine the rents of all the Corporation houses and to make any recommendations to the Corporation they considered necessary. In addition to his report the Town Clerk again pointed out that under the Local Government (Rates on Small Dwellings) Act, 1938, it was obligatory on the Corporation to adjust the rents of their houses each year in accordance with the upward or downward movement of the Rates. The rents of the Corporation houses had not been adjusted since 1929 and in the case of rents fixed since that date no adjustment had been made since they were fixed.

(6)

20th March, 1939.

The Corporation were losing approximately £550 per annum by not increasing the rents of their houses in accordance with the movement of rates and it would take an average of 6d. per week on each of the Corporation houses to make up this loss.

If the terms of the statute were strictly complied with there would be varying increases in Corporation rents from 4d. to 1s. per week.

In his Estimates, the Town Clerk had taken credit for the amount of 2d. now recommended by the Special Rates Committee, and if the recommendation was not adopted, it would be necessary to increase the rate in the pound of the Borough Rate by 3d.

Councillor James Billington proposed the adoption of the Committee recommendation and Councillor Cashman seconded. On a poll being taken there voted for:- Councillors: Cashman, Hawkins, Sinnott, Crosbie, McGuire, Byrne, Buckland, Billington, Atkins, Murphy, Alderman Tobin, Coffey, Walsh, and the Mayor. (14).

Against - Councillors: Dunne, Moran, and Connolly.

The motion was accordingly declared carried.

During the discussion on this motion to increase the rents, the Town Clerk in reply to a query, stated that any of the Corporation tenants at present paying for the emptying of dustbins would have this charge removed if the Corporation decided to carry out the Scheme to provide for a General System of Domestic Scavenging in the Town. The Rate Estimates were then taken.

The first was moved by the Mayor and seconded by Councillor Sinnott that a Borough Rate of Seven Shillings and fourpence in the pound (being one shilling for General Town purposes and Six Shillings and Fourpence for Sanitary purposes) be agreed to.

Councillor Connolly moved an amendment to delete No. 5, Scavenging, both Domestic and Public, and in reply to a query, by the Town Clerk if he meant deletion in its entirety, the Councillor replied in the affirmative. It was then pointed out to him that if his amendment were seconded and carried there would be no Scavenging whatever in the Town during the ensuing year, so eventually he withdrew the amendment, and the motion to agree on a Borough Rate of Seven Shillings and Fourpence in the pound was passed but with Councillor Connolly dissenting.

On the motion of Alderman Walsh seconded by Councillor Dunne the Rate in lieu of Co. Cess estimate of Three Shillings and Fourpence in the pound was agreed to.

On the motion of Councillor Crosbie, seconded by Councillor Byrne, a Domestic Water Rate of 1s. in the pound and a Public Water Rate of 6d. in the pound was also unanimously agreed to.

Arising out of the discussion on Scavenging it was decided to refer the question of ways and means of carrying out the new system to a Special Committee composed of: Councillors: Connolly, Byrne, Billington, Dunne, Buckland, Alderman Walsh, and the Mayor.

The Meeting then separated.

*Richard Connolly T.D.*

20th March, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting, the Members present being the same as at the Special Meeting.

The Town Clerk submitted an estimate of Poor Rate for 1939-40 and pointed out that the Co. Council demand had increased by £333 : 16 : 5 but owing to the increased amount raised by a rate of 1d. in the pound they would be able to keep the rate in the pound of the Poor Rate for the year 1939-40 at 9s. so it was unanimously agreed, on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor Cashman, to recommend the Corporation to agree on a Poor Rate of Nine Shillings in the pound for the Financial Year 1939-40.

Applications were submitted from the two cinemas for permission to hold charity shows on two Sunday nights during lent and it was agreed to grant both applications.

## MILK TENDERS.

Five Tenders for the supply of Milk under the National Free Milk Supply Scheme were submitted.

The following Table gives the names of the tenderers, the price, and the quantity proposed to be delivered:-

SUMMARY OF TENDERS RECEIVED FOR THE SUPPLY  
OF MILK UNDER THE NATIONAL FREE MILK SUPPLY  
SCHEME FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1940.

| Name and Address:<br>of Tenders.               | PRICE PER GALLON FOR MILK                     |   | No. of gallons<br>proposed to be<br>supplied daily. |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | Sold under a<br>Special Designation.<br>S. D. | Sold without a<br>Special Designation.<br>S. D. |   |
| John Quirke,<br>Hayestown.                     | --  | 1 - 4   | 10  |
| Mrs. K. Clare,<br>Whiterock.                   | 3 - 0   | 1 - 4   | 3   |
| John Hayes,<br>Hayestown.                      | 3 - 0   | 1 - 4   | 10  |
| Mrs. E. Cullimore,<br>Stonebridge,<br>Wexford. | --  | 1 - 4   | 10  |
| Denis Shannon,<br>Killeens.                    | 2 - 8   | 1 - 4   | 10  |

It was seen that all five tenderers quoted the same price for milk without a special designation, namely, 1/4d. per gallon, and it was unanimously decided to accept their tenders, subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

20th March, 1939.

For the supply of Milk under the Maternity & Child Welfare to the depot at Cornmarket, Mr. J. B. Walker quoted 1/2d. per gallon, and this tender was also accepted.

## HOUSE - GRATTAN TERRACE.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of the house at Grattan Terrace formerly occupied by Thomas Barnes, a lengthy letter was read from Mr. Barnes expressing surprise that the Corporation should doubt the genuineness of his intention to re-occupy the house himself if they agreed to sell it to him.

The Members were not at all satisfied with Mr. Barnes letter and directed the Town Clerk to inform him that they inferred from the communication that he and his family intended to re-occupy the dwelling and, if so, they expected the re-occupation to take place within seven days, when his request to purchase the dwelling would be favourably considered.

Arising out of this matter it was pointed out that it was very doubtful if the Department of Local Government and Public Health would entertain a question of purchase unless the proposed purchaser was in full occupation.

## GRANTS 1939-40.

The Town Clerk intimated that he had been asked by the Department to furnish proposals for the expenditure during the spring and summer months of the sum of £2,205 on Road and Footpath Works made up of £1115 grant and £290 Local Contribution, but it was decided to adjourn this matter to next Meeting.

## TIMBER CONTRACTS.

With reference to Minutes of the 6th February last when the question of the Timber Contracts with the Wexford Timber Company was under consideration, the Borough Surveyor under this date in a letter addressed to the Town Clerk intimated that there had been only a slight improvement in the quality of the timber supplied and in regard to the observation of the conditions of the Specification. This had resulted in the work in the joinery shop being considerably delayed and they had now reached a stage where the masonry work would be brought to a stand still. Practically none of the joinery work apart from some window and door frames had been assembled nor had any attempt been made to manufacture it. In addition, the Firm responsible would not even answer his letters. Unless this matter was righted immediately he would be obliged to stop all work on both housing schemes and stated he could not be held accountable for the over expenditure that would occur under the intolerable conditions which prevailed. He requested the Town Clerk to suggest to the Corporation that endeavours should be made to procure our requirements elsewhere without further delay. As regards the last paragraph of Mr. McNally's letter the Meeting were not inclined to rely on the Clause in the Specification which gave them power to obtain the goods elsewhere without consulting their Legal Adviser, and the Town Clerk was requested to interview the Corporation Solicitor on this matter and to convene a Meeting of the Housing Committee on Friday next to consider Mr. O'Connors opinion.

20th March, 1939.

EMPLOYMENT OF CARPENTER.

Councillor Byrne referred to the employment of a man named Hendrick, Carpenter, to carry out repairs to Artizans Dwellings, and stated that this man had only just walked out of a job at Pierces when he was taken on by the Borough Surveyor although several carpenters had applied to Mr. McNally some time previously for employment. He did not think it fair that this man should be allowed to walk out of one job into the Corporation while several men had got no turn of work. Mr. McNally explained that, in his opinion, the man he had was not suitable for the work of repairing Artizans Dwellings and consequently, he employed Hendrick, who was a younger man; his explanation did not satisfy the Members, especially his Worship the Mayor, who strenuously objected to what he described as the insolent tone of voice used by the Surveyor in answering the question of the Members and he proposed that the Corporation should be recommended to employ a permanent carpenter and mason, both to be married men and members of their respective Trade Unions. Councillor Byrne seconded. The Borough Surveyor stated he had not sufficient work for these two men, but nevertheless, the motion was agreed to and it was also decided that an advertisement should be issued inviting applications for the posts, prior to the next Statutory Meeting.

*Richard Curran T.D.*

24th March, 1939.

A Meeting of the Housing Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The members present were:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair) with Alderman Thomas Walsh, Councillor James Billington, James Crosbie, Nicholas Connolly, John Billington, Robert Moran, Thomas Byrne, Thomas Hayes, Patrick Atkins, and Thomas Dunne.

#### TIMBER CONTRACT.

With reference to Minutes of Finance Committee on 20th instant, when the question of the Timber Contract with the Wexford Timber Company was referred to by the Borough Surveyor, and when the Town Clerk had been requested to consult with the Corporation Solicitor on the matter, the following letter was read from Mr. O'Connor:-

"Dear Sir,

Referring to our interview yesterday we have now examined the correspondence and the Specifications and General Conditions regarding the supply of material. We do not appear to have the Bill of Quantities referred to. We have also read the correspondence which you have shown us.

We think it is unfortunate that a proper Bonded Contract was not entered into.

It appears from the clause dealing with delivery of articles that the Corporation is authorised to purchase goods or articles elsewhere at the expense of the Contractor if the goods and articles supplied by the Contractor do not conform with the quality of the goods which he agreed to supply.

The difficulty however about giving an opinion on the Corporation's rights in this particular case depends largely upon a question of fact. From the correspondence it would appear that the Timber Company contend that they have supplied all the articles in accordance with the specifications whereas the Borough Surveyor states that they have not. The Borough Surveyor is given wide powers under the Conditions and Specifications drawn by him and such power must be used in accordance with actual fact. We are quite sure that the Borough Surveyor has exercised every care but we cannot emphasise too strongly the necessity of ascertaining in a matter of this kind that there cannot be any possibility of mistake. Hence until we have had an opportunity of an interview with the Borough Surveyor and of taking a full statement from him we would not be prepared to give an opinion.

If you wish us to go fully into the matter we suggest that you would ask the Borough Surveyor to call here and we would further suggest that you would allow us to submit the statements and the copies of the documents to Counsel for Counsel's opinion.

As far as we can interpret the general Conditions we think that the powers of purchase elsewhere should be exercised by the Corporation because the clause clearly puts such power into the hands of the Corporation."

24th March, 1939.

From this it was seen that the Committee could do very little pending Mr. O'Connor's interview with Mr. McNally. The Surveyor was asked, however, what the principal difficulties were between himself and the Timber Company, and he stated that it was both in connection with the measurements and the quality of the timber. In his specification he had set out that all timber was to be full measurements and not stock sizes. In an interview he had had with the Timber Company prior to the Contract he had informed them that he would insist on full measurements and that he was prepared to pay their price for it. As regards the quality of the timber, approximately Fifty per cent. of what had been delivered had to be rejected for various faults. After a slight discussion on these two faults, the meeting decided to leave the matter in abeyance pending Mr. McNally's interview with the Corporation Solicitor and his further opinion on their position under the Contract.

#### TENDERS FOR PLASTER OF PARIS.

Tenders were submitted for the supply of Plaster of Paris to the William Street and Davitt Road Housing Schemes. The Wexford Timber Company quoted 59/- per ton, and Messrs. McCormack and Hegarty quoted for Thirty Tons delivered to Davitt Road £82. 9. 9. and for Fifty Tons delivered to William Street £137. 9. 6., which was slightly less than 55/- per ton. As the tender of Messrs. McCormack and Hegarty was the lower of the two, it was decided to recommend the Corporation to accept it.

#### TOWN PLANNING.

The Town Clerk again called attention to the fact that the Corporation had not yet implemented the Resolution agreeing to the making of a Town Planning Scheme for the Borough. This had been referred to the present Committee, but up to the present they had not done anything in the matter.

There was very little land left in the town of Wexford for houses, and in the opinion of the Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor an extension of the Borough would have to be sought before any further houses could be undertaken.

The Town Clerk also pointed out that the Housing Survey asked for by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health in October of 1938 had not yet been completed although he had written to the Medical Officers on several occasions asking for reports on the houses in their districts which they considered unfit for human habitation. Dr. Pierse, Medical Officer for the North end of the town had given him some reports, but Dr. Sinnott, the Medical Officer for the South end, had not given any.

If the Corporation now put up a new Housing Scheme to the Ministry he (Town Clerk) was very doubtful if it would be sanctioned as there was no evidence to show that houses were needed.

In reply to a query, the Town Clerk stated that the Survey was to be carried out under the guidance of the County Medical Officer of Health in conjunction with the Surveyor, and the members thought it would be very difficult to have the Survey completed until a new County Medical Officer was appointed.

In the meantime, however, it was decided that some attempt should be made to ascertain the number of houses in the town in which more than one family were housed, and it was thought that this work could be carried out by the Sanitary Officer and the Town Sergeant if the Town Clerk got them out a Form in respect of each house and allocated certain streets to each of them.

As regards the Town Planning Scheme, the Mayor pointed out that an Amending Act had recently been passed by An Dail and was gone to the Senate. He (Mayor) understood that as soon as the Amending



27th March, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office at 8 o'clock p.m.

24th March, 1939.

Act was passed by the Senate that a circular would be issued by the Department of Local Government and Public Health on the matter, and he thought it advisable to defer consideration of a Planning Scheme pending the issue of the circular and the amending Act.

The Meeting then separated.

James McManus, and Robert Gaffey.

Councillors: Nicholas Conolly, Patrick Atkins, Patrick Henkins, Thomas Payne, James Crooke, Phillip W. Aire, Thomas Dunne, Thomas Byrne, Paul, Joseph McShannon, Robert Moran, and James...

*Richard Corry*

The Meeting had been specially convened to consider the Estimate of expenses to be raised by means of a Poor Rate in the Financial Year ending on 31st March, 1940; to agree on the Rate in the Pound of such rates; and to arrange a deed of Mortgage to the National Bank to secure repayment of a loan of £100 for the renewal of watermains at Sallins Hill Road and Hill Street.

MINUTE.

Before the business of the meeting commenced, the Mayor moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to the Community of the Christian Brothers and to the relatives of the late Brother Furey. The late Brother Furey, whose sudden demise was a big shock to his many friends in Wexford, was over eight years in the town and his work had endeared himself to the hearts of the people generally. He had acted on the Vocational Education Committee and he had given the closest attention to the education of the youth of the town.

Councillor Payne supported the proposal, which was supported by all the members present, and adopted in respectful silence.

Councillor Moran moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to the Minister for Justice on the death of his mother. Alderman Gaffey seconded this motion, which was supported by the members present and adopted in silence.

POOR RATE ESTIMATE.

The following is a copy of the Poor Rate Estimate, which had been circulated amongst the members prior to the present meeting:-

ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES to be raised by means of a Poor Rate in the Urban District of Wexford for the Service of the Financial Year ending on 31st March, 1940.

|  |        |    |              |
|--|--------|----|--------------|
| To County Council Demand:-                                       |        |    |              |
| In respect of Roads-----   | £1577. | 0. | 3.           |
| In respect of County Services-----                               | 2475.  | 0. | 3.           |
| In respect of Library Services-----                              | 51.    | 4. | 6.           |
| In respect of Poor Relief-----                                   | 3705.  | 5. | 10.          |
| In respect of Board of Health Charges-----                       | 219.   | 0. | 3.           |
|  |        |    | £8018. 0. 6. |
| To Rate Collectioners' Expenses-----                             | £250.  | 0. | 0.           |
| Printing, advertising, etc.-----                                 | 50.    | 0. | 0.           |
| Legal Expenses-----  | 50.    | 0. | 0.           |
| Preparation of Rate Book, receipt and Demand Notes, etc.-----    | 21.    | 0. | 0.           |
| To Contribution under the Unemployment assistance Act, 1933----- | 505.   | 0. | 0.           |
| Irrecoverable Rates from previous                                |        |    |              |

27th March, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The members present were:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, James McMahon, and Robert Coffey.

Councillors: Nicholas Connolly, Patrick Atkins, Patrick Hawkins, Thomas Hayes, James Crosbie, Phillip McGuire, Thomas Dunne, Thomas Byrne, James Gaul, Stephen McMahon, Robert Moran, and James Sinnott.

The Meeting had been specially convened to consider the Estimate of expenses to be raised by means of a Poor Rate in the Financial Year ending on 31st March, 1940; to agree on the Rate in the Pound of such Rate; and to execute a Deed of Mortgage to the National Bank to secure repayment of a Loan of £460 for the renewal of watermains at Whitemill Road and Hill Street.

#### SYMPATHY.

Before the business of the Meeting commenced, the Mayor moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to the Community of the Christian Brothers and to the relatives of the late Brother Foran. The late Brother Foran, whose sudden demise was a big shock to his many friends in Wexford, was over eight years in the town where he had endeared himself to the hearts of the people generally. He had acted on the Vocational Education Committee and he had given the closest attention to the education of the youth of the town.

Councillor Byrne supported the proposal, which was supported by all the members present, and adopted in respectful silence.

Councillor Moran moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to the Minister for Justice on the death of his mother. Alderman Coffey seconded this motion, which was supported by the members present and adopted in silence.

#### POOR RATE ESTIMATE.

The following is a copy of the Poor Rate Estimate, which had been circulated amongst the members prior to the present meeting:-

ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES to be raised by means of a Poor Rate in the Urban District of Wexford for the Service of the Financial Year ending on 31st March, 1940.

To County Council Demand:-

|  |              |              |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| In respect of Roads-----                 | £1577. 9. 3. |              |
| In respect of County Services-----       | 2475. 0. 9.  |              |
| In respect of Library Service-----       | 62. 4. 6.    |              |
| In respect of Poor Relief-----           | 3785. 5. 10. |              |
| In respect of Board of Health Charges--- | 219. 9. 2.   | £8119. 9. 6. |

To Rate Collectors' Poundage:-

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Printing, advertising, etc.-----                              | £250. 0. 0. |
| Legal Expenses -----  | 50. 0. 0.   |
| Preparation of Rate Book, Receipt and Demand Notes, Etc.----- | 21. 0. 0.   |

To Contribution under the Unemployment

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Assistance Act, 1933----- | 885. 0. 0. |
|---------------------------|------------|

Irrecoverable Rates from previous

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| years (part of)----- | 600. 0. 0. |
|----------------------|------------|

|  |  |               |
|--|--|---------------|
|  |  | 1856. 0. 0.   |
|  |  | £ 9975. 9. 6. |

27th March, 1939.

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Total amount to be raised by means of Poor Rate<br>for the Financial year ending on 31st March, 1940. | £9975. 9. 6. |
| Less amount collected in rents of Artisans Dwellings  | 934. 0. 0.   |
|   | <hr/>        |
| Net amount to be raised by Poor Rate-----   | £9041. 9. 6. |

Which will require a Rate of Nine Shillings (9/-) in the Pound.

On Monday, March 20th, 1939, the Finance Committee recommended that a Poor Rate of Nine Shillings (9/-) in the Pound be laid on in respect of Financial Year 1939/40.

RICHARD CORISH, Mayor.

JOHN J. BYRNE, Town Clerk.

The Estimate had been considered by the Finance Committee on the 20th instant, when it was unanimously decided to recommend the Corporation to agree on a Poor Rate of Nine Shillings in the Pound in respect of the Financial Year 1939/40. In respect of this Estimate the Mayor pointed out that it included a contribution of £885 under the Unemployment Assistance Act of 1933. He (Mayor) noticed that the Government's contribution under this Act had been reduced and he thought that if the Government found it possible to reduce their own contribution to the Fund that a pro rata reduction should be made in the contributions of Local Authorities. He, therefore, moved that representations be made to the Department of Industry and Commerce to have the contributions of Local Authorities reduced pro rata to the reduction of the Government's contribution to the Unemployment Assistance Fund.

Alderman Coffey seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed to.

The Poor Rate Estimate was then taken up, and it was seen that no alteration could be made in the figures submitted, so on the motion of Alderman Walsh, seconded by Councillor Byrne, a Poor Rate of Nine Shillings in the Pound was agreed to in respect of the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1940.

Arising out of the adoption of the Poor Rate Estimate, Councillor McMahon asked if the Estimate included anything for the salaries of the Dispensary Medical Officers, and the Councillor was informed that the Corporation contributed their share through the medium of this rate but that they had no control over the Officers in question.

The Councillor complained that he was a warden who issued tickets to the Medical Officer and that it was quite a frequent thing to send a ticket to Dr. Sinnott at 11.0. a.m. and he would not go to see the patient until 11.0. p.m. Only this morning he had issued a ticket in respect of a relative of his own and had personally handed in the ticket at 11.0. a.m. to the Doctor, but up to the time of leaving for the present meeting, at approximately 7.0. p.m., the Doctor had not turned up. It was agreed that particulars of this complaint should be submitted by the Town Clerk to the Board of Health, who had control over the Officer in question.

27th March, 1939.

LOAN FOR WATERMAINS.

The Mortgage Deed to secure repayment of the Loan of £460 was next submitted, and on the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Hawkins, the following Resolution, as submitted by the Solicitor to the National Bank, was unanimously adopted:-

"At a Meeting of the Corporation of the Borough of Wexford held on the 27th day of March, 1939, It was resolved - That in pursuance of the consent of the Local Government Minister dated 8th March, 1939, the Corporation do borrow from the National Bank, Limited, the sum of £460 to defray expenditure on the renewal of the Watermains at Whitemill Road and Hill Street, said Loan to be repaid to the Bank by half-yearly instalments spread over the period of ten years with interest thereon at one-half per cent. under the Irish Banks' Rate rising and falling therewith from time to time but at no time to be less than £4 per cent. per annum, said loan to be secured by a Mortgage over the Rates available for that purpose. And that the Seal of the Corporation be affixed to said Mortgage."

The Mortgage Deed was thereupon sealed and signed on the part of the Corporation.

NUMBERING OF HOUSES

Reference was made TO the numbering of houses in various streets in the town, and it was pointed out that some time ago the Minister for Local Government and Public Health had issued a circular requesting the Corporation to take action with a view to having the various houses properly numbered. Attempts had been made, but as the Corporation did not proceed against those who refused to display proper numbers, the matter had been allowed to go into abeyance.

After a slight discussion, it was agreed that as soon as time permitted an attempt should be made to number some of the streets where confusion appeared to be worst.

The Meeting then separated.

*Richard Curtis T-7*

27th March, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance and Works, Waterworks, and Public Health Committees was held at the close of the above meeting; the same members being in attendance.

## RELIEF SCHEMES.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting, when the question of Spring and Summer works under the Unemployment Relief Schemes Vote was referred to, the Town Clerk stated that he had asked the Borough Surveyor to submit proposals for the concreting of Rowe Street, Georges Street and Michael Street. The Borough Surveyor had suggested that Rowe Street, Upper, be concreted at a cost of £440; Georges Street, Upper, at a cost of £945; and Georges Street, Lower, at a cost of £397. He also suggested that the Main Street, from Charlotte Street to the Bullring, be concreted at a cost of £423. This made a total of £2,205, which was the amount allocated for Spring and Summer works, but in connection with the surfacing of Georges Street, Upper, and Rowe Street, the Surveyor stated that it would be necessary to renew the watermains at an approximate cost of £240, and the sewers at an approximate cost of £250. In this connection the Town Clerk stated that it would be as well if the Corporation indicated as soon as possible what streets they decided the Relief Grants for 1939/40 would be spent on so that the question of the renewal of sewers and watermains in these areas could be examined with as little delay as possible, and the entire amount required to finance those works be raised by means of one Loan and not to be raising several small Loans during the year. As well, if this indication were given soon it would mean that the work could be started early and thus obviate any delay in commencing concreting work at the appropriate time. The members favoured this suggestion and decided to leave the whole question to the Special Rates Committee who were to meet on Monday next to consider the question of where the grants should be spent.

## TEMPORARY TYPIST.

The Town Clerk intimated that sanction for the employment of a temporary typist expired on the 31st ultimo, and he wished the Corporation to renew the appointment of Miss Phillips for a further six months. Councillor Gaul thereupon proposed that the Corporation be recommended to extend the appointment to 30th September next, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health, and Councillor Connolly seconded. Alderman Walsh, however, objected strenuously to the appointment being renewed on the grounds that this girl was not a resident of the Borough, although it was pointed out that the greater portion of her wages, which was paid from the Relief Grants, was contributed by the general Taxpayer. The Alderman, however, moved that the Corporation be recommended to make a new appointment, and Councillor Dunne Seconded. After a lengthy discussion a vote was taken, when there voted for the amendment - three, and against - eleven. The amendment was accordingly declared lost, and the motion by Councillor Gaul, that the Corporation be recommended to extend the appointment of Miss Phillips, was carried as a substantive motion. Alderman Walsh thereupon gave notice that he would move at the Statutory Meeting that this resolution be rescinded, but it was pointed out that this notice was unnecessary as the proposal now carried would come in the form of a recommendation to the Corporation, when the Alderman could vote against its adoption.

## ANALYST'S FEES.

An application for a revision of the scale of fees paid to him was submitted by the Borough Analyst, Mr. B.G. Fagan, but before considering the matter the members thought it would be better if the application came direct from the Public Health Analysts' Association, which was mentioned in Mr. Fagan's application, and the Town Clerk was directed

27th March, 1939.

to so inform the Analyst.

#### WAGES OF MASON'S IMPROVER.

An application was read from the Brick and Stonelayers Association asking for an increase in the wages of Patrick Kelly, employed as an improver at Davitt Road, and it was decided to request the Association to forward evidence of the period of his employment, when he would be paid in accordance with the Corporation scale adopted in 1934.

#### APPRENTICE MASON.

With reference to Minutes of 27th ultimo, when an application was under consideration from Thomas Murphy, Croke Avenue, for permission to serve his apprenticeship as a mason, the Building Trades Group objected to his employment on the ground that there was no vacancy for an apprentice in the Masons' Society although a letter had been submitted with Murphy's application from the Secretary of the Masons' Society to the effect that they had agreed to accept him as an apprentice.

After some discussion it was decided to write to both the Trades Council and the Masons' Society pointing out the need for the employment of apprentice masons.

#### EASTER COMMEMORATION.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Easter Commemoration Association requesting the Corporation to attend the Masses in Rowe Street Church on Easter Sunday, and it was agreed that this should be done.

#### CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

A form of Preliminary Notice of application for compensation for criminal injury was received from Messrs. Huggard, Brennan & Godfrey, on behalf of Mr. Thomas Nolan, Monument Place, for £15 in respect of damage to a house at Farnogue, Wexford, his property. It was decided to refer this application to the Corporation Solicitor.

#### GANGER'S WAGES.

The Town Clerk intimated that the Borough Surveyor had increased the wages of Ganger Rossiter by 8/- per week, and when it had been brought to his (Town Clerk's) notice he had informed the Surveyor that no official had any authority to fix or alter wages in any way without the prior sanction of the Corporation, and he now asked the Committee for a decision on the Borough Surveyor's action. Mr. McNally intimated that he had increased Ganger Rossiter's work for a short time as a result of which he had given him an extra 8/- per week.

After some discussion, the action of the Borough Surveyor in this case was approved on the motion of Councillor Dunne, seconded by Councillor Atkins, but the Surveyor was given to understand that for the future all questions of wages should be fixed by the Corporation.

#### SUPERVISION ON GRANT WORK.

Reference was made to the cost of supervision on the present Relief Grants and the Surveyor was requested to make a report on this to the Rates Committee when they were considering the question of the 1939/40 Grants.

#### PURCHASE OF TYPEWRITER.

The Town Clerk was unopposedly given permission to purchase a new typewriter for use in his office.

27th March, 1939.

## PURCHASE OF SAND.

It was also agreed that any sand which Mr. W. G. Scarr, of Coolcotts, could supply would be taken from him by the Borough Surveyor.

## SALE OF GRAVE SPACE - DOYLE.

Councillor Dunne asked what was the position in regard to the dispute over a Grave Space at Crosstown Cemetery with Mr. Thomas Doyle of John Street, and the Town Clerk stated that he could not recollect the actual details of what had been offered by the Corporation, but would look up the papers by next meeting.

## PUBLIC HEALTH BUSINESS.

The report of the Meat Inspector for the month of February showed that he had examined 111 cattle, 315 sheep, and 52 swine. Of the cattle, three heads and eight organs were destroyed for Tuberculosis and twenty-four organs for other diseases. Of the sheep, twenty organs were destroyed for diseases other than Tuberculosis; and of the swine, two organs for diseases other than Tuberculosis.

It was reported that recently a Notice had been served on James Boyle, John's Gate Street, regarding a nuisance arising from the place known as the "Cock" Lane at John Street being used as a dumping ground, and that Messrs. Kirwan and Kirwan, Solicitors, on behalf of Mr. Boyle held that he was not the owner.

In this case it was decided to take proceedings under the Public Health Act against Mr. Boyle for the abatement of a nuisance, as the members of the Committee were perfectly satisfied that Mr. Boyle was the owner.

It was further reported that in December last Notices had been served on Mr. Peter Kelly, the owner of five houses at Barrack Street requiring him to provide Water Closets therefor, and under date of the 9th instant Messrs. Kirwan and Kirwan, Solicitors, intimated that in the year 1930 similar Notices were served in respect of four of the houses, when the Corporation had decided that the provision of privies and ashpits would be ample.

The members considered that it was doubtful if these houses would warrant the expense of providing Water Closets and decided to appoint a Special Committee consisting of Alderman Walsh, Councillors Atkins, Byrne, and the Mayor, with Dr. Sinnott, Medical Officer of Health, to meet on Wednesday, 5th proximo, at 3.0. p.m. to examine the houses and make a recommendation to the Corporation.

*Richard Carver T. 1)*

3rd April, 1939.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Corporation was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, Robert Coffey, James McMahon, and Patrick Tobin.

Councillors: James Sinnott, Thomas Byrne, Nicholas Connolly, Thomas Hayes, Patrick Hawkins, James Crosbie, Phillip McGuire, Stephen McMahon, Thos. Dunne, James Murphy, James Billington, Robert Moran, James Gaul, and Timothy Cashman. *Patrick O'Brien*

#### MINUTES.

The following Minutes were submitted for ratification and approval:- Minutes of Corporation on 6th, 20th and 27th instant. Special Rates Committee on 10th, and 20th instant; Housing Committee on 24th instant (copies of which had been furnished to the Members with the Agenda convening the Meeting) and Finance & Works Committee on 6th, 20th, and 27th instant. On the motion of Councillor Crosbie, seconded by Councillor Hayes, the Minutes as submitted, were confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

#### PAYMENTS.

Liabilities which had accrued due up to the end of last month amounting, in the aggregate, to £3,998. 3. 5 were submitted, and having been examined, were approved and an Advice Note signed to enable them to be discharged.

#### SYMPATHY.

Before the business of the Meeting commenced the Mayor moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to the relatives of the Late Wm. O'Leary, Distillery Road, who had died over the week-end. He recalled that Mr. O'Leary was one of those who brought lustre to the Town as a pioneer of the G.A.A., and, as one of the famous "Young Ireland" Team which brought the first All-Ireland Championship to Wexford in 1893. The motion was seconded by Councillor Dunne, supported by all the Members present, and adopted in respectful silence.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Acknowledgements of votes of sympathy passed at previous Meetings were read from the Christian Brothers; family of the Late Mrs. Rossiter; and Mr. John Larkin, Abbey Street.

#### PAYMENT OF RATE COLLECTORS.

At this stage Councillor Sinnott asked if it would be possible to have the Rate Collectors paid more frequently, and the Town Clerk replied that he did not think so. The Mayor pointed out that this matter had been raised on several occasions, but, up to the present, they had not succeeded in having them paid except about twice in each Financial Year.



(2)

3rd April, 1939.

## QUARTERLY MEETING.

The next business was to fix in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 (2) of the Local Elections Act, 1937, the day and hour of a Quarterly Meeting of the Council to be held between 23rd June and 1st July next, and on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Cashman, the Meeting was fixed for Monday, 26th June, 1939, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

## TENDERS - PLASTER.

The Housing Committee recommended that the tender of Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty for the supply of 80 tons of Plaster of Paris for the sum of £219. 19. 3 be accepted: this was, approximately, £2. 14. 2 per ton, and the only other tender received was from the Wexford Timber Co. who quoted £2. 19. 0 per ton.

On the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Alderman Walsh, it was unanimously agreed to accept the tender of Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty as being the lower of the two submitted.

## MILK TENDERS.

The Public Health Committee recommended the acceptance of the tenders of:- Messrs. John Quirke, Hayestown; Denis Shannon, Killeens; John Hayes, Hayestown; Mrs K. Clare, Whiterock; and Mrs E. Cullimore, Stonebridge, Wexford; for the supply of new milk under the National Free Milk Supply Scheme, at 1/4d. per gallon for the year ending 31st March, 1940.

*Councillor Hayes, seconded by Councillor Cashman, the recommendation was adopted.*

## HOLIDAY - CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT.

On the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Dunne, it was agreed that the same substituted holidays under the Conditions of Employment Act, 1936, be fixed for the year 1939-40 as in previous years, namely:- Ascension Thursday in lieu of Easter Monday; Corpus Christie in lieu of Whit Monday; 15 August in lieu of August Monday; and January 1st 1940 in lieu of St. Stephen's Day, 1939.

## ORDER UNDER MILK &amp; DAIRIES ACT.

There were submitted to the Meeting orders made by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health under the Milk & Dairies Act, 1935, entitled the Milk & Dairies Act, 1935, (Date of Commencement) (No.3) Order 1938; and the Milk & Dairies (Special Designations) (Amendments) Regulations 1939.

## EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY TYPIST'S EMPLOYMENT.

The Finance Committee recommended that the employment of Miss Evelyn M. Phillips as Temporary Typist, in connection with Relief Grant Works be extended to 30th September, 1939, in view of the Supplementary Grant which was at present in operation, and, the Spring and Summer Programme for the Current Year.

Miss Phillips had been appointed in September 1938 as the result of a competitive examination at a salary of £1. 10. 0 per week, and had been sanctioned by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health under date of the 16th September, No. RS/32/U.

Councillor Connolly moved the adoption of the recommendation and Alderman Coffey seconded.

(3)

3rd April, 1939.

Alderman Walsh moved that the position be re-advertised and confined to residents of the Borough of Wexford, Councillor Dunne Seconded.

In moving his amendment, Alderman Walsh stated, that there was a mistake made in the original advertisement and the position was left open, as a result of which Miss Phillips, who lived a couple of miles outside the Town of Wexford was appointed.

The Town Clerk pointed out that there was no mistake in the advertisement. The conditions were set down by the Department of Local Government and Public Health and he had placed them before the Corporation who raised no objection.

Alderman Walsh, however, held that the Town Clerk should have known that every Member would have confined the post to residents of the Borough, and he should have pointed out to the Members that this condition was not included in the advertisement. He further stated that the Town Clerk was there to guide the Council.

The Town Clerk replied that the conditions were drafted by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health and not by him. He was there to guide the Council when they were going wrong but he had not authority to tell them what they should or should not do in circumstances such as this. A lengthy discussion followed on this matter during which most of the Members appeared to be in favour of renewing the appointment of Miss Phillips.

Councillor Cashman, however, stated that while he agreed she should be retained for a further six months, he disagreed with the position of temporary labour altogether, and moved a further amendment that in the coming six months the entire position be examined of the staffing of the Corporation Offices generally, and if assistance was required, that a permanent appointment should be made. Councillor Byrne seconded this amendment.

Alderman Walsh appeared to be favourably impressed with the amendment proposed by Councillor Cashman and agreed to withdraw his own amendment that the post be re-advertised in favour of the latter amendment that the whole position be examined prior to September next.

Councillor Connolly's motion was then put to the Meeting that the Committee recommendation be adopted, and it was agreed to. Councillor Cashman's motion that the entire position of the staffing of the Corporation Offices be referred to a Special Committee was also unanimously agreed to, and the Special Rates Committee asked to undertake the task.

#### UNEMPLOYED DEPUTATION.

The Town Clerk then read a letter from the Wexford Unemployed Association which stated that a deputation would attend the present Meeting for the purpose of:-

- (1) Presenting a memorial signed by 220 tenants of Artizans Dwellings protesting against the increase in rents.
- (2) To find out the exact position as regards the payment of the extra 1d. per hour on sewerage work.
- (3) To find out whether the nomination system was to be adhered to, and, if so, the period for which men were to be employed.
- (4) To find out the attitude of the Corporation towards Councillor Cashman's motion re the employment of men with large families as keymen on Rotational Schemes.

(4)

3rd April, 1939.

No. 2 was first discussed -- the question of the extra 1d. per hour for men employed on "dirty" work. This referred to the recent sewerage work in Bride Street which gave rise to the application for extra remuneration. The Corporation had agreed to pay men engaged on "dirty" work 1d. per hour over the recognised rate, but the resolution did not provide for retrospective payments, so, after some discussion the Mayor gave notice that he would move at next Statutory Meeting that the men who were employed on this work at Bride Street should be paid the extra 1d. per hour.

Regarding the reference to Councillor's Cashman's motion - this referred to various resolutions adopted by the Corporation requesting the alteration of the three day system of Rotational Employment to five days, and gave rise to a very lengthy discussion, during which it was pointed out that the Government would not agree to change the system. The Members, however, held that when four days employment was allowed in Limerick, where the rate of Wages was even higher than in

Wexford, that similar treatment should be meted out here. It was also stated that men on relief work in Ennis-Corthy were employed for four days. Councillor Connolly eventually gave notice that he would move when the next Relief Grants came up for ratification by the Council that married men be employed for five days per week and single men for four days if it was not possible to give all of them five days.

As regards the reference to the nomination system, it was pointed out that some time ago the Members had each submitted three names to the Borough Surveyor for employment and he had absorbed some of those at the renewal of sewers and watermains. The remainder would be absorbed when new sewage and watermains work was available and until each man had been employed for a total period of not less than two months.

As to increase in the rents of the Corporation houses, the Mayor reviewed this matter at length and pointed out that the Corporation had only proposed to increase these rents by 2d. per week, whereas they could have increased them by more. Time after time the attention of the Corporation had been drawn to the fact that they were not increasing the rents of their houses to cover the upward trend in rates in accordance with the terms of the Local Government (Rates on Small Dwellings) Act, 1928. There had been no increase in the rents of the Corporation houses since 1929, and he did not think it fair that working men in all the other streets in Wexford and living in houses owned by private landlords should be subsidising, to a greater extent than was necessary, the tenants of Corporation houses. The Mayor further pointed out that the Co. Board of Health had recently built houses just outside Enniscorthy; the rent of these houses was 2/6d. per week and Rates would cost the tenants approximately, 1/2d. per week extra, and he thought that no comparison could be made between the wages of rural workers and those in the Town. Even Town residents received a higher scale of Unemployment Assistance. The Corporation houses at Wolfe Tone Villas had been let at inclusive rents of 3/- and 4/- per week, and he did not think the Corporation a bit unfair in asking these tenants to pay an extra 2d.

He thought it was time for the Corporation to assert themselves and not to be dictated to by any outside bodies. He (Mayor) was definitely against receiving the deputation as the contents of their communication could be adequately dealt with by the Town Clerk in a letter.

Councillor Connolly proposed that the deputation be heard and Councillor Dunne seconded.

(5)

3rd April, 1939.

On a poll being taken their voted for:- Councillors: Gaul, Moran, James Billington, Dunne, Connolly and Atkins. ....(6)  
 Against:- Councillors: Murphy, McMahon, McGuire, Crosbie, Hawkins, Hayes, Byrne, Sinnott, Cashman, Alderman Tobin, McMahon, Walsh, Coffey and the Mayor. ....(14)  
 The motion was accordingly declared lost and it was decided that the Town Clerk should communicate with the Association on the points raised in their letter.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when Councillor McMahon made certain complaints against Dr. Sinnott, Dispensary Medical Officer, for the Southern end of the Town, the Councillor now stated that on making inquiries during the week he ascertained that Dr. Sinnott was engaged on a Maternity case last Monday and he could not possibly attend the patient until evening. He accordingly wished to withdraw the charge he had made against him and requested the Corporation to direct the Town Clerk to communicate this withdrawal to the Board of Health.

This ~~is~~ course, was agreed to and the Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Carol T. J.*  
*Mayor*

The result of this conference was that they had agreed to suggest to the Corporation that a compromise should be made on the question of the Penalty Clause, and Mr. O'Connell, Mr. McVally and the Town Clerk strongly recommended that the Penalty of £400 : 10 : 0 be imposed in accordance with the provisions of Section 201 (b) of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1926, to £250.  
 This recommendation was contained in a lengthy letter from the Corporation Solicitor during which he pointed out that the settlement would have to be approved of by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health. He further pointed out that the negotiations were entirely without prejudice and that until an agreement was definitely approved by the Corporation the various points in connection with the case could not be made public.  
 The Board carefully considered the Town Clerk's report and Mr. O'Connell's letter in this connection, and unanimously agreed that it was better for the Corporation to accept a Penalty of £250 rather than embark on expensive litigation which might not prove quite as profitable, so on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Alderman Walsh, it was unanimously agreed to recommend the Corporation, subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to demand a Penalty in accordance with the Statute above quoted in the sum of £250.

3rd April, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting the Members present being the same as at the Statutory Meeting.

PENALTY RE WHITEMILL HOUSES.

With reference to Minutes of Finance Committee on the 6th ultimo and, when a communication was read from Messrs. Thornton & Sons, Solicitors, Waterford, on behalf of Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton, Contractors for the erection of 62 houses at Whitemill, on the subject of the deduction of £490 : 16 : 0 made in the amount of their contract under the Penalty Clause for non-completion on time, and when the matter had been referred to the Corporation Solicitor for his advice, the Town Clerk reported that as directed, he had consulted the Solicitor in connection with the entire matter.

Between them they had carefully considered the entire position and had examined the Contract and Bond on a number of occasions; they had decided that while the Corporation would appear to be justified in their action, the enforcement of a Penalty Clause was a most unusual and harsh proceeding and in which it was very difficult to anticipate what view a Court would take. They had, therefore, arrived at the conclusion that if it was at all possible to settle the matter without recourse to Legal proceedings it would be better for all concerned.

They had, accordingly, made contact with Mr. Wylie, Solicitor, for Messrs. Thornton & Son, as a result of which a number of conferences had taken place between Mr. Wylie and Mr. O'Connor, and Mr. Hamilton and Mr. O'Connor, culminating in one on Saturday last, the 1st instant, which had lasted the entire afternoon.

Those attending the conference were: Mr. Wylie, Solicitor; Mr. Hamilton; Mr. O'Connor, Corporation Solicitor; Mr. McNally, Borough Surveyor; and the Town Clerk.

The result of this conference was that they had agreed to suggest to the Corporation that a compromise should be made on the question of the Penalty Clause, and Mr. O'Connor, Mr. McNally and the Town Clerk strongly recommended that the Penalty of £490 : 16 : 0 be compounded in accordance with the provisions of Section 201 (5) of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, to £245.

This recommendation was contained in a lengthy letter from the Corporation Solicitor during which he pointed out that the settlement would have to be approved of by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health. He further pointed out that the negotiations were entirely without prejudice and that until an agreement was definitely approved by the Corporation the various points in connection with the case could not be made public.

The Members carefully considered the Town Clerk's report and Mr. O'Connor's letter in this connection, and unanimously agreed that it was better for the Corporation to accept a Penalty of £245 rather than embark on expensive litigation which might not prove quite so profitable, so on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Alderman Walsh, it was unanimously agreed to recommend the Corporation, subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to compound a Penalty in accordance with the Statute above quoted in the sum of £245.

3rd April, 1939.

## HOUSE - GRATTAN TERRACE.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of the house at Grattan Terrace formerly occupied by Mr. Thos. Barnes, Messrs. Little & Elgee, Solicitors on behalf of Mr. Barnes stated that he had handed them the correspondence which had passed in connection with this house and stated that:

- (1) Mr. Barnes and his wife proposed to reside in the house in question.
- (2) If permission for the purchase were arranged he would make such structural alterations and additions as would make the premises suitable for all his family to reside there.

This matter was very carefully considered at length and it was seen that from the beginning there was nothing but procrastination in connection with this matter, and, on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Crosbie, it was decided to point out to the Solicitors for Mr. Barnes that this procrastination had gone on long enough and it was clear to them that he and his family did not intend to reside in the dwelling. The Corporation as a Public Authority could not permit that to go on any longer in view of the very heavy demand for houses. The house in question was erected for the accommodation of the Working Classes and they would not be carrying out their duty if they permitted the house to be used as it is at present -- housing two members of his family. The Corporation should, therefore, demand possession of the dwelling or institute proceedings to recover.

Councillor Dunne, however, proposed that the Corporation be recommended to agree to sell the house to Mr. Barnes, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health, and Councillor Moran seconded. On a vote being taken only the proposer and seconder voted for the amendment which was accordingly declared lost, and the Mayor's motion carried.

## MEAT INSPECTOR.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of the appointment of a Meat Inspector, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health under date of the 31st instant by letter No. PH 5982/39 intimated that on submission by the Corporation of a proposal to extend the duties of Mr. Francis Staples, Veterinary Inspector for the Supervision of the Milk Supplies in the Borough to include the duties indicated for the supervision of Meat Supplies, together with an intimation that Mr. Staples had expressed in writing his willingness to carry out such duties, he would be prepared to approve of the proposal at a revised annual salary of £150 per annum. It was decided to write to Mr. Staples requesting him to state if he was prepared to take on the extra duties in accordance with the Minister's letter.

## C. E. ACT ALLOWANCE.

Councillor Dunne raised a question regarding an allowance under the conditions of Employment Act to two men named Dempsey and Hanton, and stated that although they had been employed for more than three hundred hours they had been refused an allowance by the Town Clerk on the grounds that they had not worked two months.

3rd April, 1939.

The Town Clerk pointed out that, in his opinion, the men had not worked the two months prescribed by the Act and, consequently, he was precluded from making the payments. He had had a number of interviews with the men and representatives of their Trade Unions on the subject and he had suggested that they should take the matter up with their Executive in Dublin, who could write to him on the point. The matter was dropped.

In reply to a query as to whether there were vacancies on the Special Rates Committee, the Mayor pointed out that Alderman Flusk had not attended for some time past, and, on his motion, it was agreed to add Councillor Connolly's name to the Special Rates Committee.

*Richard Curtis T.O.*  
*Mayor*

necessary carried out as early as possible and that there should be no delay in carrying out the work under grants when the time came.

In Georges Street Upper and Lower it was thought that a new sewer and watermain would be required at a cost of, approximately £500 and in addition, the Borough Surveyor submitted a lengthy list of streets where watermains and sewers required renewal. It was eventually decided that in addition to the proposals submitted above for the expenditure of the Spring and Summer Grants, the Borough Surveyor should examine the question of concreting the Main Street from the Bull Ring to Harpurs Lane (including the Bull Ring itself); Michael Street and the Folly to the Borough Boundary, and the footpaths at Redmond Road and Davitt Road North. If the sewers and watermains required to be renewed in any of these streets, he was to examine the cost and make a report as soon as possible when the Committee would meet again.

The Meeting had been convened to consider the Spring and Summer Grants Programme. The Borough Surveyor reported that the amount of £2500 was available. The Borough Surveyor reported that some of the proposals had been discussed with the County Council and that the County Council had agreed to contribute towards the cost of the work. The Borough Surveyor reported that the cost of the work was estimated at £440; Georges Street Upper at £240; Georges Street Lower at £200; and the work on the watermain and sewer in the streets mentioned above for the complete expenditure of the grants for the year 1939-40, so that the position of the sewers and watermains in these streets would be satisfactory for the year 1939-40, and that the position of the sewers and watermains would be satisfactory for the year 1940-41, having all the necessary work done in carrying out the grants when the time came.

In Georges Street Upper and Lower it was thought that a new sewer and watermain would be required at a cost of, approximately £500. In addition, the Borough Surveyor submitted a lengthy list of streets where watermains and sewers required renewal. It was eventually decided that in addition to the proposals submitted above for the expenditure of the Spring and Summer Grants, the Borough Surveyor should examine the question of concreting the Main Street from the Bull Ring to Harpurs Lane (including the Bull Ring itself); Michael Street and the Folly to the Borough Boundary, and the footpaths at Redmond Road and Davitt Road North. If the sewers and watermains required to be renewed in any of these streets, he was to examine the cost and make a report as soon as possible when the Committee would meet again.

*Cancelled*



3rd April, 1939.

A Meeting of the Special Rates Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting, the Members present being:-

The Mayor, (in the Chair) with Alderman Walsh,

Councillors: James Billington, Nicholas Connolly,  
and Thomas Hayes.

#### SPRING & SUMMER WORKS.

The Meeting had been convened to consider the Spring and Summer Works Programme for 1939 for which a sum of £2205 was available. The Borough Surveyor suggested that Rowe Street Upper be concreted at a cost of £440; Georges Street Upper at £945; Georges Street Lower at £397; and the Main Street from Charlotte Street to the Bull Ring at a cost of £423.

In this connection it was pointed out that suggestions should be made for the complete expenditure of the grants for the year 1939-40, so that the position of the sewers and water-mains could be examined with a view to having all the renewals necessary carried out as early as possible and thus obviate delay in carrying out the work under grants when the time came.

In Georges Street Upper and Lower it was thought that a new sewer and watermain would be required at a cost of, approximately, £500 and in addition, the Borough Surveyor submitted a lengthy list of streets where watermains and sewers required renewal. It was eventually decided that in addition to the proposals submitted above for the expenditure of the Spring and Summer Grants, the Borough Surveyor should examine the question of concreting the Main Street from the Bull Ring to Harpurs Lane (including the Bull Ring itself); Michael Street and the Folly to the Borough Boundary, and the footpaths at Redmond Road and Davitt Road North. If the sewers and watermains required to be renewed in any of these streets, he was to examine the cost and make a report as soon as possible when the Committee would meet again.

*Richard Connolly T. D.*  
*Mayor*

12th April, 1939.

A Meeting of the Housing Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: James Billington, Thomas Hayes, Patrick Atkins, John Billington, Thomas Dunne, Thomas Byrne, Nicholas Connolly, James Crosbie, and James Sinnott.

#### TIMBER CONTRACTS.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when a letter was read from the Corporation Solicitor relative to the Timber Contracts with the Wexford Timber Company for the supply of timber for the erection of houses at Davitt Road North, and William Street, and when the matter was adjourned pending a consultation between the Borough Surveyor and the Solicitor, the following letter from Mr. O'Connor under date of the 3rd instant was read:

"Referring to our interview with you and Mr. McNally on the 31st ultimo we have very carefully considered this matter and there would appear to be certain points of difficult Contract Law involved.

As far as we can see and it is our opinion that the action taken by Mr. McNally in pursuance of the clauses in the General Conditions of this Contract was in order. Mr. McNally tells us that even the best of Red wood timber supplied by the Company was not up to the specifications. He states that he accepted the best supplied by them as being the best of a bad lot.

Mr. McNally went very carefully into the complaints made by the Company and it would appear that he has completely justified his action.

For instance, Mr. McNally explained to us that in the matter of imported scantlings in Whitewood he required rafters measuring  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  and instead of those he got rafters measuring  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{8}$ . Mr. McNally pointed out that any person with the least knowledge of timber would be very suspicious of smaller scantlings. He indicated to us that if he accepted smaller scantlings he would probably be getting inferior quality of wood because they would be the tops, branches or the sapwood of larger parts. The sapwood would be the outer or younger growth of the tree. He also told us that some timber supplied contained wane edges. That would indicate that such timber was of young growth and therefore of a very inferior quality.

Mr. McNally also says that door frames supplied by the Company were slack in measurement and contained shakes, knots, wane, warps or other imperfections. He also says that he asked for net measurements in such items but in fact these items were supplied to him by the Company in larger lengths.

We spent over one and a half hours with Mr. McNally and he gave us details of other items and it would appear that Mr. McNally has dealt very responsibly with the whole question and that he has exercised every caution and reasonableness before rejecting any timber.

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The whole point in a case of this kind resolves itself to a question of fact and if Mr. McNally's evidence is accepted by a Judge there should be no doubt whatever but that any Court would decide in favour of the Corporation.

In our view the Corporation are entitled to purchase their goods elsewhere and charge same to the Timber Company but once the Corporation do this grave issues will then arise between the Company and the Corporation and such issues would in our opinion, be bound to lead to litigation. We would therefore be very cautious in giving any opinion to the Corporation which might lead to expensive proceedings and we would hesitate to do so without the opinion of Senior Counsel. The amount involved is very considerable and we will be glad therefore if the Corporation will give us permission to submit a case to Senior Counsel so that his opinion may be obtained."

This matter was discussed at length, during which it was pointed out that owing to the difficulty of procuring suitable timber that one carpenter had to be dismissed and it was possible that other men would be dismissed in the course of a few days, as it was not economic at the moment to have the works proceeding under the conditions which prevailed.

It was also pointed out that the present delays would adversely affect the building costs.

Eventually, Councillor Connolly moved that the Committee recommend the Corporation to close down the works and to ask the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to institute an inquiry. Councillor Byrne seconded.

It was pointed out to the Councillor, however, that it was most unlikely the Minister would grant an inquiry unless facts were adduced to warrant this course, and it was thought that if the position was put to him as it appeared now, that he would make no move until the Corporation had taken legal advice.

Councillor Sinnott however, moved as an amendment that the Committee authorise the Solicitor to obtain the opinion of Senior Counsel on the entire matter. Councillor Atkins seconded.

The Members however, questioned the cost of this proceeding, and it was pointed out that Senior Counsel would probably receive a fee of Three Guineas for his opinion, and that the Corporation Solicitor would receive approximately, Five to Seven Guineas for preparing the case. The Members seemed to think that the cost of Counsel's opinion would be excessive, but after some further discussion, Councillor Connolly agreed to withdraw his motion in favour of Councillor Sinnott's amendment that the opinion of Senior Counsel be sought and the amendment was unanimously declared carried.

FIELD - JOHN ST.

The Town Clerk intimated that Messrs. Kirwan & Kirwan, Solicitors, had asked him if the Corporation would be prepared to acquire the field at John Street, owned by Mr. James Boyle, for housing purposes.

It was thought that the field could be used to extend both Menapia and St. John's Avenues, and the Surveyor was asked to examine it from this angle, and ascertain how many houses could be erected thereon, and the Town Clerk was authorised to inquire at what price the field would be sold.

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12th April, 1939.

A discussion took place regarding the unsightliness of various parts of the Town through the demolition of individual houses and it was suggested that an effort should be made to acquire these sites and erect houses on them, and the Town Clerk was asked to prepare, as soon as possible, a list of Demolition Orders made, together with the names of the owners. The Surveyor was also asked to examine the site to see if it would be suitable for housing purposes.

A further discussion took place regarding the advisability of installing gas and electric services in the houses at Davitt Road, North, and William Street, and it was agreed that both services should be installed so that the tenants could use whichever they wished, or both.

The Borough Surveyor produced a quotation he had received from the local Gas Company for the installation of Gas service. For the Davitt Road Bungalows, they were prepared to install all the necessary piping required for six lighting points at a cost of £1 per house; and for the William Street houses to supply and fix all the necessary piping required for eight lighting points at 35/- per house. It was agreed that as there could be no competition in this case, that the Corporation should be recommended to accept the tender of the Gas Company and that tenders be invited for the installation of Electric wiring for both Schemes.

In connection with the electric wiring, it was pointed out, that there were a number of people in this Town carrying out Electric wiring without any qualifications whatever and it was decided to insert in the Specification that the lowest tender would only be accepted on condition that the work was carried out by Trade Union Labour.

The Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Curtis T.D.*  
*Mayor*

17th April, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Robert Coffey, and James McMahon.

Councillors: Patrick Atkins, Patrick Hawkins, John Billington, James Sinnott, Phillip McGuire, Thomas Byrne, James Murphy, James Billington, Robert Moran, Thomas Hayes, Timothy Cashman, James Crosbie, Stephen McMahon, and James Gaul.

On the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Sinnott, the Town Clerk was authorised to apply to the Minister for Local Government and Public Health for permission to overdraw the Ordinary Account by a sum of £7,000, in order to meet the Loan Charges falling due on the 1st May, and until sufficient Rates had been collected to warrant the discontinuance of this accommodation.

#### DISTILLERY LANE.

The Town Clerk reported that in connection with the development of the Green Street Housing Site the Borough Surveyor and himself had opened negotiations through the Corporation Solicitor with Mr. John Kirwan, owner of the Distillery Lane, which was required for the purpose of the Scheme. They had offered the sum of £25 for the lane but Mr. Kirwan had intimated that he was not disposed to part with his interest therein, so it was unanimously decided, on the suggestion of the Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor, to recommend the Corporation to make a Compulsorily Purchase Order in respect of the property, as it was essential for the Scheme.

#### ANALYST'S INCREASE OF REMUNERATION.

With reference to a previous discussion on the application of the Borough Analyst for an increase in his remuneration, and when it was decided to request the Analyst to have the application made through the Irish Public Analyst Association, the Town Clerk reported that Mr. Fagan himself was the Secretary of the Association, and he had forwarded an Official Application on behalf of that body.

It was pointed out that the increase asked for by the Association would mean, in so far as the Corporation were concerned, 100% over the cost of Analysis at present.

Whilst the Corporation were favourably disposed towards the application, one very serious objection was taken in the matter, and that was, that any increase would not be received by Mr. Fagan personally but by the Dublin Corporation. The Town Clerk produced a letter dated 25th May, 1934, from Mr. Fagan in connection with Local Services (Temporary Economies) Act, 1934, in which he stated that he received a salary of £1,000 per annum from the Dublin Corporation, and under contract with that body he refunded to them all the other fees he received; the Dublin Corporation maintaining the Laboratory. In the year 1933-4 he had paid to Dublin Corporation in fees the sum of £1,657 : 10 : 10, which showed a gross profit to the Corporation, on Mr. Fagan's services, of £657 : 10 : 10.

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The Corporation saw that if they granted the increase asked for by Mr. Fagan that they would be merely swelling the revenues of the Dublin Corporation, and consequently it was decided to communicate with Mr. Fagan on these lines, and ascertain if the fees he received from the Corporation would be handed over to his employers - the Dublin Corporation.

#### AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

Under date of the 5th April, 1939, by letter No. PH 10173, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health intimated that the Government had had under consideration a Scheme of Air Raid Precautions for this country in which Local Authorities would be required to participate. He forwarded with this letter a memorandum setting forth the measures, for which the Government would accept direct responsibility and the scope of the arrangements which would be required to be made by the Corporation, in accordance with the Scheme approved by the Minister for Defence.

As a preliminary measure, it was proposed to train a number of Officials as general instructors in connection with Air Raid Precautions, and the Minister requested that a suitable officer be selected for the purpose, and particulars of his name, rank, and age transmitted to the Office as soon as possible.

After some discussion it was agreed, that Mr. Henry F. Doyle, Clerical Assistant to the Town Clerk, should attend a course of instruction in Dublin about June next.

As regards the measures which the Corporation would be required to take, they were read out by the Town Clerk, and it was seen that they could be best dealt with by the Fire Brigade Committee to whom the matter was referred, and as a first step the Town Clerk was directed to consult with the Garda Authorities on this matter.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF MEN - THREE DAYS.

With reference to discussions at Meetings of the Corporation relative to the employment of men for three days on Relief Schemes, and when it had been decided to ask the Association of Municipal Authorities to take up the matter, a letter was read from the Secretary stating, that the matter had been discussed at a Meeting of the Executive Committee held on the 13th instant, when it was decided that nothing could be done in the matter.

It was agreed to refer this communication to the Corporation, and, in the meantime, the Town Clerk was directed to write to the Town Clerk of Limerick inquiring under what circumstances four days per week was permitted on Relief Schemes in the County Borough.

#### HOUSE - SALTEE AVENUE.

An application from a man named Francis J. Rowe, 12 Saltee Avenue, for permission to put a door in the yard wall, was submitted, and on the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor the necessary permission was granted.

#### REPORT - M. O. H.

Under date of the 5th instant, Dr. Sinnott, Medical Officer of Health, reported that he had inspected the houses in Faythe owned by William Barr, in which certain repairs had been carried out. He reported that the back of No. 22 was now unoccupied and it was not the intention of Mr. Barr to have it used again for human habitation. As regards No. 23 and 24, he considered that they could be used for another few years if over-crowding was not allowed, and it was decided to ask Dr. Sinnott to state the number of people which could be permitted to reside in the house without over-crowding it.

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## HOUSE - ST. JOHN'S RD.

Messrs. Huggard, Brennan & Godfrey, Solicitors, under date of the 27th ultimo referred to previous correspondence regarding the house at St. John's Road, occupied by Mr. Patrick Donovan, and intimated they realised that the Corporation were doing everything to remedy the defects but, that repairs were necessary to the flue of the fire place and that the roof was leaking. These matters, they thought, could be attended to at once. They further asked to be informed what steps the Corporation proposed to take regarding their client's furniture, and stated that unless immediate steps were taken regarding a settlement for the damage done they would take proceedings. It was decided to inform the Solicitors that the Corporation accepted no liability for any damage done to furniture and as regards their complaints it was the first time they had been brought to the notice of the Corporation, and the Surveyor was instructed to examine them immediately.

A letter was read from Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty stating that for some time past they had not received any orders from the Corporation for the repairing of Artizans Dwellings, and were at a complete loss to understand why they had not received a share of this business. The Town Clerk intimated that he had referred this letter to the Borough Surveyor who stated that there were two courses open to the Corporation:-

- (1) To advertise for Orders under a Schedule of Quantities, and a Specification.
- (2) As there were only two firms in the business that each could be given a monthly or quarterly contract for the small lots of goods required from day to day.

The Borough Surveyor was asked to examine the feasibility of preparing a Schedule of Quantities so that the tenders could be invited, and to report as soon as possible.

## MEAT INSPECTOR.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when the question of the appointment of Mr. Staples as Meat Inspector was under consideration, Mr. Staples under date of the 14th instant stated that whilst he was prepared to carry out the work, he considered the salary offered for the combined posts to be small. He was prepared, however to carry out the duties for a revised salary of £150 per annum, but reserved the right to request a revision when he had gained experience of the quantity of work involved in Meat Inspection.

Arising of this matter a question was asked as to whether or not Mr. Staples was qualified to carry out Meat Inspection, so before making any recommendation to the Corporation, it was decided, to request Mr. Staples to submit evidence that he was competent to do this work.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the interpretation of the Corporation Waterworks Regulations in connection with the employment of Plumbers, and on the motion of Councillor Hayes, seconded by Councillor Byrne, the Town Clerk was directed to instruct the Corporation Solicitor to examine the Regulations and the Act under which they were made, and to give the Corporation information as to what powers they had when work was done by persons other than authorised plumbers, and if necessary, that the Corporation Solicitor be authorised to take Counsel's opinion on the matter.

24th April, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Waterworks and Public Health Committees was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, Robert Coffey and James McMahon.

Councillors: Patrick Atkins, James Sinnott, Phillip McGuire, Stephen McMahon, Thomas Byrne, James Murphy, Patrick Hawkins, James Gaul, James Billington, James Crosbie, Robert Moran, Thomas Hayes, and Timothy Cashman.

#### RENEWAL OF WATERMAINS.

The Town Clerk reported that in connection with the renewal of water-mains at Whitemill Road and Hill Street, which the Borough Surveyor had estimated to cost £460, had actually cost £625, which was £165 over the estimate.

The Borough Surveyor in explanation stated that for some time past the Department of Local Government and Public Health had been questioning the cost of £1 per yard for the renewal of watermains, and in the present instance, he had reduced the estimate from £1 to 15s. for the 600 yards to be done. In addition, there was a slight increase in the cost of the mains.

The Members considered that it was very unfortunate that this job had exceeded the estimate, but realised that from the beginning it was a rush in order to carry out the Road Schemes under the Supplementary Grant for the relief of Unemployment, and decided to recommend the Corporation, to include a supplementary amount of £165 in their application for a loan to renew sewers and watermains in the present year.

It was also decided that permission to overdraw the Sewers and Mains Account by a sum of £165 be sought by the Town Clerk, if necessary, pending the raising of the new loan.

#### AUTOMATIC MACHINE.

An application for permission to erect a slot machine outside his premises at South Main Street was received from Michael Broaders. Provisional permission for the erection of this machine had been given by the Borough Surveyor, who made it clear to Mr. Broaders that such permission would have to be approved by the Corporation. It was pointed out that the machine in question projected on the footpath by about three inches, and if any accident occurred through this the Corporation might be joined as defendants for allowing an obstruction on the footpath, so, before granting permission, it was decided to inquire who were the owners of the machine, and if they were prepared to indemnify the Corporation against accident.

#### SCHOOL - ST. JOHN'S ROAD.

An application from Messrs. Kirwan & Kirwan, Solicitors, on behalf of the Convent of Mercy, Wexford, for permission to erect a new School at St. John's Road, was submitted.

This permission was necessary in view of the prohibition contained in Section 57 of the Town and Regional Planning Act of 1934, and a lengthy discussion took place on the application.



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Councillor Gaul proposed that the Corporation be recommended to grant permission to erect a School and Councillor Moran seconded. The Borough Surveyor, however, pointed out that in his opinion, it was not a suitable site for a school, and as well, that being a residential area the owners of property there might have an action against the Council under the Town Planning Act, if it was held that the erection of this School destroyed the amenities of the place.

It was eventually, decided, however, that Councillor Gaul's proposal be adopted.

#### GREEN STREET HOUSING.

The Borough Surveyor reported that in connection with the draining of the Green Street Housing Site, it was necessary to carry the main sewer through the south west corner of the Christian Brothers Field adjoining Distillery Road. As the work of carrying out the sewer required to be done immediately, the necessary notice under the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, had been served by the Town Clerk on the 19th instant, and on the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Alderman Coffey, this was approved.

#### REPORT OF MEAT INSPECTOR.

The report of the Meat Inspector for the month of March showed that he had examined 128 cattle; 341 sheep and 49 swine. Of the cattle, six heads and four fore-quarters had been destroyed for tuberculosis, and one head ~~xxx~~ for other diseases; as well 15 organs were destroyed for tuberculosis and 23 for other diseases. Of the sheep, 14 organs were destroyed for tuberculosis; of the swine one partial carcase and two organs were destroyed for tuberculosis and one organ for another disease.

#### HOUSE - GRATTAN TERRACE.

With reference to previous discussions regarding the occupation of a house at Grattan Terrace by Mr. Thos. Barnes, the Town Clerk reported that he had received no reply to his letter of the 17th instant informing Mr. Barnes that unless he re-occupied the house within seven days the Corporation would seek possession, so it was agreed that any steps necessary to obtain possession of the dwelling should be taken forthwith.

#### USE OF TOWN HALL.

An application from a Miss Hayden for the use of the Town Hall on Wednesday evening for a children's entertainment was refused.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF MASON.

With reference to previous discussions regarding the employment of an apprentice mason, a letter was read from the Secretary of the Trades Council intimating that they saw no reason to reconsider their attitude in the matter.

In the circumstances, the Committee thought that they could do nothing regarding the employment of the young man in question.

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STANDING ORDERS - COMMITTEES.

With reference to Minutes of the Corporation on the 2nd January last when a set of Standing Orders were adopted to regulate the Meetings of the Council, and when certain suggestions in a covering letter to the Members from the Town Clerk were made regarding the constitution of Committees, and which had been referred to the present committee for consideration, the Town Clerk pointed out that the annual Meeting of the Corporation would be held in June when Committees would be re-appointed, and he wished to know if the Finance Committee were inclined to recommend any change to the Corporation. The Committee thought that in view of the talked of changes in the system of Local Government that it would not be worth while to make a change now, so it was decided to make no recommendation on this matter to the Corporation.

TIMBER CONTRACTS.

With reference to the disputes between the Borough Surveyor and the Wexford Timber Company regarding the supply of timber for the Davitt Road and William Street Housing Schemes, the Town Clerk stated that Counsel's opinion had not yet been received on the points at issue, and pointed out that the Courts had not re-assembled until last Tuesday, and consequently Counsel would not be available until then. It was pointed out by Members that the Borough Surveyor had stated on a previous occasion that with the present working of the Scheme the Corporation were suffering a loss, and a suggestion was made that in view of the overhead expenses that the Corporation should be recommended to close the Scheme. Councillor Byrne thereupon moved that the Corporation be recommended to close down the works until such time as suitable supplies of timber and other materials were available to permit the works to carry on in a normal way. Councillor Cashman seconded.

A lengthy discussion followed on this matter during which it was pointed out that if the works were closed down the salary of the Clerk of Works, which was £5. 5. 0 per week, would be saved, and the only expense the Corporation would be under would be the employment of watchmen. After some discussion the recommendation was agreed to with Councillors: James Billington, James Gaul and Patrick Atkins dissenting.

*Richard Cairns T.D.*  
*Mayor*

24th April, 1939.

A Meeting of the Special Rates Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting, the Members present being:-

The Mayor, (in the Chair) with

Alderman: Thomas Walsh,  
Councillors: James Billington, James Sinnott and Thomas Hayes.

In connection with the renewal of sewers and watermains during the coming year the Borough Surveyor reported that in reference to the Relief Schemes it would be necessary to renew the following watermains:-

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Georges Street.....                                      | £326. 0. 0.       |
| John's Gate Street; Cornmarket and Bull Ring.....        | 368. 0. 0.        |
| Bull Ring to Rowe Street.....                            | 100. 0. 0.        |
| Rowe Street to Gibson Street.....                        | 420. 0. 0.        |
| Gibson Street to Wickham's Shop.....                     | 75. 0. 0.         |
| John Street Lr.; School Street and Carrigeen Street..... | 400. 0. 0.        |
| Thomas Street and Green Street.....                      | <u>500. 0. 0.</u> |
| Total for Watermains.....                                | £2,189. 0. 0.     |

In addition it was decided to add the £165 to cover outstanding liabilities in connection with the renewal of watermains at Whitemill Road and Hill Street, which was referred to at the Finance Committee this night, and £100 for a new sewer at George's Street.

After some discussion it was agreed that the Borough Surveyor should also try and estimate the cost of renewing the sewer at Summerhill Road and the cost of this should be included with the foregoing, and to recommend the Corporation to raise a loan for the necessary works.

#### RATE COLLECTION REPORT.

The Town Clerk made the following report on the Rate Collection for the year ending the 31st March:-

As regards the Town Rates -- Mr. Curran had collected 72.27% as against 70.20 for the year ending 31st March, 1938, which was an improvement of 2.07%.

The Poor Rate Collector, however, had only collected 62.79% as against 58.34% for 1937-38. Whilst this was an increase of 4.45% it was still practically 10% below the Town Rate Collection and he (Town Clerk) saw no reason for this. He reminded the Committee that on two occasions within the last six months he had called attention to the backward state of the Poor Rate, and pointed out then that he felt little progress was being made by the Collector in bringing the warrant into a healthy state. He realised that there was a considerable amount of Poor Rate which was temporarily irrecoverable and would only be got through the sale of a premises, but even so, this would not account for the low percentage of the collection.

The Meeting then examined the list of outstanding rates submitted

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24th April, 1939.

by Collector Curran, and agreed to recommend the Corporation to strike off a certain amount and to carry forward the remainder into the current years warrant. They also gave certain directions regarding sums which they considered should be recovered by legal proceedings.

They then carefully examined the list of outstanding Poor Rates and also agreed to make recommendations to the Corporation regarding what should be written off as irrecoverable and what should be carried forward into the current years warrant.

These recommendations will be embodied in the Minutes of proceedings of the Corporation on the 1st prox.

They pointed out to the Poor Rate Collector that they were not at all satisfied with the manner in which he was discharging his duties during the past 12 months, and warned him that unless there was a vast improvement in his collection for 1939-40 that disciplinary action would have to be taken.

The Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Coe D. 9*

*mups*

1st May, 1939.

A Statutory Meeting of the Corporation was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, Robert Coffey, and James McMahon.  
Councillors: James Gaul, James Murphy, Patrick Atkins, James Billington, Patrick Hawkins, Thomas Hayes, Thomas Dunne, Thomas Buckland, Timothy Cashman, Thomas Byrne, James Sinnott, and James Crosbie.

#### MINUTES.

The following Minutes were submitted for ratification and signature:- Minutes of Corporation on the 3rd ultimo; Finance and Works, Etc., Committees on 3rd, 17th and 24th ultimo; Special Rates Committee on 3rd and 24th ultimo; and Housing Committee on 12th ultimo.

On the motion of Councillor Gaul, seconded by Alderman Coffey, the Minutes as submitted, were approved.

#### PAYMENTS.

Liabilities which had accrued due up to the end of last month, amounting in the aggregate, to £11534. 16. 8 were submitted. In connection with the accounts, the Town Clerk stated that it included a claim for expenses by Councillor Hayes for attending a Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities, in Dublin, on the 13th ultimo. The amount of the Councillor's account was £1. 19. 5, which included first-class return rail fare of £1. 4. 5, and maintenance allowance 15s.

The Town Clerk formally objected to the allowance of 15s. on the grounds that it was excessive. He stated that the Local Conference Order laid down that reasonable expenses should be allowed, and in his opinion, 10s. would be all that an Auditor would pass in respect of Councillor Hayes's attendance at this Meeting, as he had not to stay out over night.

On a previous occasion Auditors had questioned an allowance of £1. 1. 0 for persons out over night and this had been reduced to 15s. If 15s. was sufficient for a man staying away from home over night, then 10s. should be sufficient when he was only absent for the day.

In the opinion of the Town Clerk the amount would be surcharged as not being reasonable within the meaning of the Order, but on the motion of Councillor Gaul, seconded by Alderman McMahon, it was agreed that Councillor Hayes's claim for £1. 19. 5 be allowed in full, and accordingly, an Advice Note was signed to enable all the accounts to be discharged.

In reply to Alderman Coffey, it was stated that the large amount of expenditure on the Pay Sheets was due to the repayment of half-yearly loan instalments.

#### SYMPATHY.

The Mayor moved that the Corporation extend their sympathy to Mr. Thos. Crosbie, their Lorry driver, on the death of his mother. Councillor Byrne seconded the motion, which was supported by all the other Members present and adopted in silence.

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## CLOSING OF RATE COLLECTORS ACCOUNTS.

The next business was to close the Accounts of the Rate Collectors for the year ending the 31st March, 1939. The following is a summary of the Town Rate Collection:-

|         | FOR COLLECTION |             |  | --          |               |  | CURRENT AND ARREARS. |  |  |
|---------|----------------|-------------|--|-------------|---------------|--|----------------------|--|--|
|         | BOROUGH        | CO. CESS.   |  | WATER.      | TOTALS.       |  |                      |  |  |
| CURRENT | 7034. 14. 5.   | 3368. 7. 5. |  | 1497. 3. 6. | 11900. 5. 4.  |  |                      |  |  |
| ARREARS | 2243. 11. 1.   | 865. 16. 0. |  | 526. 5. 9.  | 3635. 12. 10. |  |                      |  |  |
| TOTALS. | 9278. 5. 6.    | 4234. 3. 5. |  | 2023. 9. 3. | 15535. 18. 2. |  |                      |  |  |

## COLLECTION.

|           |              |              |  |              |               |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|--|--------------|---------------|
| COLLECTED | 6627. 0. 10. | 3105. 13. 0. |  | 1434. 15. 0. | 11167. 8. 10. |
| DISCOUNT  | 79. 6. 0.    | 39. 13. 11.  |  | 19. 16. 6.   | 138. 16. 5.   |
| ARREARS   | 2571. 18. 8. | 1088. 16. 6. |  | 568. 17. 9.  | 4229. 12. 11. |
| TOTALS.   | 9278. 5. 6.  | 4234. 3. 5.  |  | 2023. 9. 3.  | 15535. 18. 2. |

The Collector's discharge Sheets had been carefully examined by the Special Rates Committee and they recommended that they be dealt with as follows:-

|           | WRITTEN OFF AS<br>IRRECOVERABLE. | CARRIED FORWARD<br>INTO 1939-40. |
|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| BOROUGH.  | 573. 0. 6.                       | 2064. 5. 0.                      |
| CO. CESS. | 255. 0. 6.                       | 773. 4. 0.                       |
| WATER.    | 127. 0. 2½.                      | 437. 2. 8½.                      |
| TOTALS.   | 955. 1. 2½.                      | 3274. 11. 8½.                    |

It was considered that Mr. Curran had made a very good collection, which was, approximately, 2% higher than last year, and on the motion of Councillor Gaul, seconded by Councillor Sinnott, the recommendation of the Special Rates Committee was adopted, and it was further agreed to pay him the balance of the poundage due, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

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As regards the Poor Rate Collection -- the total amount of Mb. O'Leary's Warrant, including £4258. 12. 0 arrears, was was.....£13523. 11. 10.

Of this he had collected-----£8395. 2. 4.  
 Allowed Discount of----- 98. 18. 3.  
 Leaving Arrears at 31st  
 March, last year of-----£5029. 11. 3.           £13523. 11. 10.

The Special Rates Committee had also examined Mr. O'Leary's list of outstanding rates, and recommended that £1127. 16. 1 should be written off as irrecoverable, and £3901. 15. 2 carried forward as collectible arrears.

On the motion of Alderman Walsh, seconded by Councillor Hayes, the Rates Committee recommendation regarding the Poor Rate Arrears was also agreed to, and it was further agreed that Collector O'Leary be paid the balance of the poundage due to him, subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

Arising out of the closing of the Collectors' Warrants, attention was called to the very large amount of Rates due by the Franciscan Fathers, Wexford. The total due to the 31st March was £263. 19. 2, and whilst every effort had been made to collect the money it had been found impossible. Arrears like these reflected very badly in the percentage of the Collector's Warrants outstanding, and the Town Clerk was requested to get in touch with some other Boroughs and find out if the Friars were paying their Rates, so that the Corporation would have some knowledge as to what the Order was doing in other places.

#### RATES FOR 1939/40.

The next business was to formally make Rates for the service of the year ending 31st March, 1940, and the following four resolutions were unanimously adopted:-

(1) On the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Sinnott it was resolved:-

"That a Borough Rate of Seven shillings and fourpence in the pound (being 1s. for general Town purposes and Six shillings and fourpence for General Sanitary purposes) be made on the net assessable value of property within the Borough of Wexford to supply the deficiency in the Borough Fund as shown in an Estimate of Expenses required to permit the Municipal Administration of said Borough to be carried out in the year ending 31st March, 1940, as considered and adopted on the 20th day of March, 1939."

(2) On the motion of Alderman Walsh, seconded by Councillor Dunne, it was resolved:-

"That an assessment of Three shillings and tenpence in the pound be made in respect of the year ending 31st March, 1940, pursuant to the Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (Wexford) Confirmation Act, 1873, and the acts incorporated with and amending or extending same, as per an estimate duly considered and adopted on the 20th day of March, 1939."

(3) On the motion of Councillor James Billington, seconded by Alderman Coffey, it was resolved:-

"That an assessment of One shilling and sixpence in the pound viz:- A Domestic Water Rate of one shilling and a Public Water Rate of sixpence on the rateable value of property within the Town of Wexford be made in respect of the year ending 31st March, 1940, pursuant to the Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (Dalkey Etc.) Confirmation Act, 1876; the Public Health (Ireland)

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Act, 1878, and Acts incorporated with and amending or extending same as per an estimate duly considered and adopted on the 20th day of March, 1939."

(4) On the motion of Councillor Gaul, seconded by Councillor Hawkins, it was resolved:-

"That a Poor Rate of Nine shillings in the pound for the service of the year ending 31st March, 1940, be made on a net assessable valuation of property within the Urban District of Wexford as per an estimate duly considered and adopted on the 27th day of March, 1939."

The Book containing the items of the foregoing three Town Rates, together with the Poor Rate was thereupon sealed and signed on behalf of the Corporation.

#### RATE WARRANTS.

On the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor Sinnott, a Warrant authorising the collection of the Town Rates, together with arrears of previous years rates carried forward, was sealed and signed on the part of the Corporation.

On the motion of Councillor Hawkins, seconded by Councillor Hayes, a Warrant authorising the collection of the Poor Rate, together with arrears of previous years rates carried forward, was also sealed and signed on the part of the Corporation.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when a Resolution of Sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr. Wm. O'Leary, Distillery Road, was adopted, Mrs. O'Leary returned thanks to the Corporation for their kindness.

#### TEMPORARY TYPIST - SANCTION.

Under date of the 21st ultimo by letter No. RS/32/U the Minister for Local Government and Public Health sanctioned the retention to 30th September next of Miss E. M. Phillips, as Temporary Typist, with remuneration at the rate of £1. 10. 0 per week.

#### TYPIST - SALARY SCALE.

With reference to Minutes of the 20th March when it was decided to vary the salary of Miss K. Lacey, Typist, from a fixed salary of £104 per annum to one of £104 by annual increments of £5 to a maximum of £156 per annum, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health under date of the 25th ultimo, by letter No. G. 11728/39, stated that he would be prepared to agree to Miss Lacey's salary being advanced to £110 per annum as from the 3rd instant, and to her proceeding by annual increments of £5 to £120 and then by annual increments of £10 to a maximum of £140 per annum. On the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor Crosbie, it was unanimously agreed to accept the scale suggested by the Minister.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE ACT.

A letter was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce in reference to Section 26 of the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933, as amended by Section 6 of the Unemployment Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1938, which stated that the Minister could not agree that in arriving at the amount payable by the Corporation of Wexford under the provisions of these statutes any amount may be deducted from the valuation of the Borough, and that the amounts deducted from the gross valuation as set out in the Town Clerk's communication



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of the 17th February last had been improperly deducted.

This letter was marked red.

#### COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER.

The Finance Committee recommended that a Compulsory Purchase Order be made under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts, 1890 to 1931, in respect of 1 rood. 3.5. perches (Statute Measure) of Land situate at Distillery Lane, Wexford, and known as "Distillery Lane." The land was owned and occupied by:-

(a) John Kirwan,

(b) John Kirwan, Annie Walsh, and Mary Kirwan (as representatives or executors de son tort) of the late Bridget Kirwan deceased. The lane in question was absolutely essential for the Corporation in the development of a Housing Site at Green Street, and Mr. Kirwan had been offered the sum of £25 for his interest in the laneway but he had refused to sell or negotiate with the Corporation.

On the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor James Billington, the following resolution was thereupon unanimously adopted:-

"That our Corporate Seal be hereby affixed to the Wexford (Distillery Lane) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1939, and that the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to confirm the Order."

#### TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACT.

The Finance Committee recommended that permission be granted under the Town and Regional Planning Act to the Superioress of the Convent of Mercy, Wexford, for the erection of a School at St. John's Road.

When the matter came before the Finance Committee the Borough Surveyor pointed out that in his opinion (although he had not time to go into the matter in full) the site was not suitable for a school, having regard to the possible movement of population from the district in which it was proposed to be built, and the Town Clerk had pointed out that in view of the fact that no Town Planning Scheme had been made for the Borough which could contain a prohibition against the payment of compensation, that the Corporation might be made liable for damages by the residents of St. John's Road (which was a residential area) if they could prove that the amenities of the road were affected by the School.

The Town Clerk had consulted with the Mayor during the day on this matter and indicated to him that it would be very injudicious if he had to warn the Corporation at the present meeting that they might be liable for compensation, so when the recommendation came before the present meeting the Mayor stated that certain complications had arisen regarding the matter, and it would be advisable to postpone it, so that the matter could be given more careful consideration by the Members and Officials than had been possible up to the present. Councillor Gaul thereupon moved that the matter be adjourned and Councillor Dunne seconded.

This was unanimously agreed to.

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## CONTRACT PENALTY.

The Finance Committee recommended that a penalty of £490. 16.0 made under a clause in the contract with Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton, of Waterford, for the erection of 62 houses at Whitemill be compounded under Section 201(5) of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, in the sum of £245.

The position in this case was that Messrs. Hamilton had entered into a contract for the erection of 62 houses together with ancillary works for the sum of £20,939, and it provided for the completion of the houses and works by the 8th June, 1938.

The contract also provided that Messrs. Hamilton should pay the Corporation up to £25 per week liquidated and ascertained damages for every week from the 8th June, 1938, during which the houses were not completed.

The houses were not completed for 24 weeks after the prescribed time and the Corporation were at a weekly loss of:-

(1) Wages of Clerk of Works-----£5. 5. 0.

(2) (a) Rent of 24 houses @ 4s.---£4.16.0.

(b) Rent of 26 houses @ 5s.--- 6.10.0.

(c) Rent of 12 houses @ 6/6d.-- 3.18.0. £5. 4. 0.

Total weekly loss.-----£20. 9, 0.

Full loss £20. 9. 0 x 24 weeks = £496. 16. 0.

This deduction from the penultimate payment to Messrs. Hamilton gave rise to a very lengthy letter from the Contractors Solicitors threatening legal action to recover the sum deducted.

The Corporation at this stage brought their legal adviser into the case and he had had a number of consultations with the Borough Surveyor and the Town Clerk when the position of the Corporation under the Contract was very carefully examined. They had decided that whilst the Corporation would appear to be justified in enforcing at least some of the penalty, such a course was most unusual, and it would be very difficult to anticipate what view a Court would take.

So having regard to all the circumstances of the case, they thought it would be advisable to settle the matter without recourse to expensive legal proceedings.

Contact was therefore made with Messrs. Hamiltons Solicitors, as a result of which a number of conferences took place resulting in an agreement that some of the 24 weeks delay was due to circumstances over which the Contractors had no control, and it was decided that the Corporation should be recommended to exercise their discretion under the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, to compound the penalty, and the sum of £245 to be waived by the Corporation was suggested as a just settlement of the dispute. The suggestion of the Officials was considered by the Finance Committee on a recent occasion when they unanimously decided that the Corporation should be recommended to agree to the compounding of the penalty.

Arising out of this matter it was mentioned that Messrs. Hamilton had been asked to pay the Corporation's legal costs in the matter, on the grounds that it was they who had invoked legal action, but the Members thought that each side should bear its own costs, and that the withholding of £245 was sufficient penalty on the Contractors. Thereupon Alderman Coffey moved that the Corporation exercise their discretion under Section 201(5) of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, to compound the penalty of the sum of £245; each side to pay their own costs. Alderman McMahon seconded this motion which was unanimously adopted.

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## PUBLIC PARK AT FAYTHE.

In accordance with notice given Councillor Sinnott moved that negotiations be entered into for the purchase of land at Faythe with the object of establishing a playing ground there for children. Councillor Byrne seconded this motion which was agreed to.

## MEN EMPLOYED ON "DIRTY" WORK.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting, when the Mayor gave notice that he would move the variation of the resolution of the 2nd January last agreeing to pay 1d. per hour extra to men engaged on "dirty" work, so as to permit payment to be made to those who were engaged on the renewal of the Bride Street Sewer, the Mayor now formally moved this motion and said he thought it would be agreed that having regard to the obnoxious nature of the work that the men should be paid the extra 1d. per hour which would amount in all to approximately, £12. Councillor Dunne seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed to.

## ANALYST'S REPORT.

The report of the Borough Analyst for the quarter ended 31st March last showed that he had examined six samples of milk, five of butter, four of cheese, two of camphorated oil, and one each of whiskey, strawberry jam, olive oil, port wine, sherry, sausages and margarine, making a total of 24 samples. One sample of milk had been found to be deficient of 6.66% fats, and one sample of camphorated oil deficient of 21.0% camphor. This report was noted.

## DEED OF MORTGAGE.

There was submitted for execution on the part of the Corporation a Deed of Mortgage whereby security would be given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the repayment of a Loan of £2776 for the erection of eight bungalows at Davitt Road, North, and on the motion of Councillor Gaul, seconded by Councillor Dunne, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:-

"That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the repayment of the sum of £2776 proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts, 1890-1932."

The Mortgage Deed was thereupon sealed and signed on the part of the Corporation, and the following further resolution as proposed by Councillor Byrne and seconded by Alderman Walsh, was also unanimously adopted:-

"That inasmuch as this Corporation does not immediately require from the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland the total amount of the sum mentioned in the Deed of Mortgage to them this day executed by this Corporation but prefer to receive the same by instalments as occasion may require. IT IS RESOLVED that the request for each advance shall be intimated to said Commissioners by the Chairman of this Corporation for the time being, countersigned by the Town Clerk, and that each such request shall be forwarded to the Accountant for said Commissioners, and that all such advances shall be lodged to our account in the Wexford Branch of the National Bank."

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## CONNOLLY MEMORIAL MASS.

An invitation for the Corporation to attend the 11.0. o'clock Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, 14th instant, for the repose of the soul of the Late James Connolly, was accepted.

## TENDERS.

Two tenders were submitted for the supply of gun metal Stopcocks from the Wexford Timber Company and Messrs. McCormack and Hegarty.

For  $\frac{1}{2}$ " the Timber Company quoted £1. 16. 0 per dozen.

"  $\frac{1}{2}$ " Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty £2. 1. 0. per dozen.

"  $\frac{3}{4}$ " the Timber Company quoted £2. 8. 0. " "

"  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty £3. 4. 2. " "

" 1" the Timber Company quoted £4. 4. 0. " "

" 1" Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty £6. 4. 0. " "

As the tender of the Wexford Timber Company was the lower of the two submitted it was accepted, on the motion of Councillor Crosbie, seconded by Alderman McMahon.

## RENEWAL OF CINEMA LICENCES.

Applications for renewal of Licences under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, were submitted from the Wexford Cinema Palace and the Capitol Cinema for the ensuing twelve months, and on the motion of Councillor Hawkins, seconded by Councillor Dunne, the two Licences were granted with the usual restrictions.

Councillor Cashman however, suggested that a condition should be embodied in the Licences requiring that the doors be closed during the playing of the National Anthem at the close of each night's exhibitions, but the Town Clerk pointed out that this would be contrary to all regulations governing the use of public buildings where the doors must be always in such a position as to be easily opened from the inside. No action was taken on the suggestion.

The Finance Committee recommended that the erection of houses at Davitt Road, North, and William Street be suspended until such time as suitable supplies of timber and other materials were available to permit the works being carried out in a normal way.

This matter had engaged the attention of the Housing and Finance Committees for some time past as a result of a letter received from the Wexford Timber Company by the Town Clerk in February complaining that large quantities of timber had been rejected by the Borough Surveyor as not being in accordance with the Specification. The matter had been carefully considered by the Committees in the light of a Clause in the General Conditions of the Specification which appeared to give the Corporation power to obtain the goods or articles elsewhere at the expense of the Contractor.

The interpretation of this Clause, however, appeared to the Committees to be very doubtful and the Corporation Solicitor had been asked to advise on it, but he recommended that the opinion of Senior Counsel should be obtained. This had been agreed to but up to the present Counsel's opinion had not been received.

The Finance Committee had carefully considered the whole position on the 24th ultimo, and in view of the fact that the works were not progressing as speedily as they should, thought, that in order to reduce overhead expenses, they should be closed down until sufficient supplies of suitable materials were available.

It now appeared, however, that, during the past week, supplies of suitable timber, etc., had been delivered by the Contractors, as a result of which extra carpenters were employed, and in view of this, the Mayor suggested that the motion should be amended so that permission be given to the Housing Committee to close down the works if the supplies of suitable materials, which were delivered during the past week, did not continue. In the meantime, Counsel's opinion would probably be to hand when the Committee could reconsider the matter in the light of his advice.

After some discussion the Mayor put his suggestion into the form of a proposition which was seconded by Councillor Murphy and unanimously agreed to.

Arising out of the erection of these houses, Councillor Byrne complained that all the Carpenters were members of one Union and it appeared that the other Union in the Town was being victimised, but the Borough Surveyor intimated that he was not aware of what Union the men employed were in, and it was agreed that in future the employment of Carpenters should be distributed between the two Unions.

#### RELIEF GRANTS 1939/40.

With reference to the Relief Grant Works for the current year it was stated that £2205 was available for Spring and summer Works, and £5145 for Winter Works. It was proposed, subject to the approval of the Council, to utilise this money in so far as Spring and Summer Works were concerned, in the re-surfacing in concrete of:-

Rowe Street Upper.

George St. Upper and Lower.

North Main St. from Charlotte St. to Bull Ring.

For the Winter Works:- It was suggested that the Main Street be concreted from the Bull Ring to Harpur's Lane; that the surface of Michael Street to the Borough Boundary be concreted, and that concrete footpaths be laid at Redmond Monument and Davitt Road, North.

Reference was made to the condition of the footpaths at St. John's Road, Francis Street and Waterloo Road, which it was agreed were in a bad condition, and on the suggestion of the Mayor, it was decided to defer consideration of the winter proposals so as to enable these complaints to be examined, and the proposals for the spring and summer works were unanimously adopted on the motion of Councillor Crosbie, seconded by Councillor Hawkins.

#### ROTATIONAL EMPLOYMENT.

Arising out of this matter, and to a discussion at last Meeting of the Council, when it was decided to request the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities to advocate the extension of the three day system of employment on Relief Work, the Town Clerk read a letter from the Secretary of the Association intimating that in the opinion of the Executive nothing could be done in regard to the Corporation's proposal.

The Town Clerk further stated that he had submitted the Association's letter to a recent Meeting of the Finance Committee when it was pointed out that men were employed for more than three days in Limerick, and as directed then, he had written to the City Manager who informed him that as far as he was aware, the four-day rotational system of Relief Grant Work was only applicable to County Boroughs.

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There was also a notice on the Agenda in the name of Councillor Connolly to the effect that married men employed on Relief Works be kept for five days per week, and single men for four days per week, if it was not practicable to employ all for five days. In the absence of Councillor Connolly, Councillor Byrne stated he had his permission to move this motion; and moved "that married men with four children or over be employed for 5 days per week; married men with less than four children 4 days per week; and single men 3 days per week.

In moving the motion Councillor Byrne said he thought the time had arrived when they must disregard all the Regulations. There had been a precedent in regard to the duration of past grants had convinced him that the work, to a great extent, was not rotational. If the authorities could take the initiative and employ certain men for 31 weeks, he thought the time had come when they should stand up and tell the people that there were certain unemployed men who were deserving of something greater than three days. He stated that it had been brought to his notice that certain people in charge of Schemes in Wexford were employing men in key positions. He was against that and thought every individual had a right to the same opportunities.

Councillor Cashman seconded the motion, and in a lengthy address repeated most of the remarks which had been heard on this subject before, and quoted from a recent report of the Local Government Department which stated that "there was a decline in the death rate of infants, and that the cause of infantile deaths was poverty." He also pointed out that in a very short while the Corporation along with every other Council would be asked to have a certain sum of money for Air Raid Precautions, but it was impossible he said to obtain money for the relief of the unemployed. During the course of the discussion it was pointed out that the Corporation had no power to alter the regulations. The regulations were made by the Government and the Officials had to carry them out as they were sent down.

The Mayor stated they certainly had not any power to alter the regulations as suggested in the proposal before the Meeting, but they had power to send word to the Government that they would not start the work until the Government agreed to issue an Order, or the Borough Surveyor agree, that key-men should be taken from men with families of over four and that they be kept for five days, and that every married man be kept for four days and single men for three days. As far as he saw the only thing they could do was to hold up the Grants to see if their suggestions were going to be agreed to. He thought, however, that it would be futile to pass the proposal at present before the Meeting, and suggested that a Committee should be set up to consult with the Borough Surveyor about the whole matter and if they could have an agreement that the Surveyor was prepared to recruit his keymen from men with families of four and over, and change them every four weeks, it might remove the difficulties.

After some further discussion, the Mayor's suggestion was unanimously agreed to, on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor James Billington, and the following Committee was appointed, namely:- Councillors: Cashman, Dunne, Byrne, James Billington, Sinnott, Hayes, Atkins, Alderman Walsh, and the Mayor.

#### RENEWAL OF SEWERS AND WATERMAINS.

In connection with Relief Grant proposals it was pointed out that it would be necessary to relay new watermains in Georges Street; John's Gate Street; Main Street; John St; School St; Thomas Street; and Green Street, at a total cost of £2189, and a new sewer in Georges Street at a cost of £100.

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The Special Rates Committee recommended the Corporation to carry out these works which were essential, and to raise a loan from the Local Loans Fund for the purpose, together with £165 to discharge outstanding liabilities in connection with the laying of water-mains at Hill Street and Whitemill Road. This made a total cost of £2289. The Committee had also asked the Borough Surveyor to examine the question of a new sewer at Summerhill Road. He now stated that this would cost £850, so it was agreed that this should be deferred for further consideration by the Committee. As regards the £165, over-expenditure in connection with the renewal of watermains at Hill Street and Whitemill Road, the Borough Surveyor had explained to the Finance Committee that he had reduced his estimate for this work by 5s. per yard in the hope that he would be able to get the 600 yards done at 15s. This was impossible and accounted for the over expenditure. The total amount now proposed to be raised for renewal of sewers and watermains was £2454 and the cost of a Mortgage Deed would be, approximately, £6, making a total of £2460, so on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Hayes, it was unanimously agreed that the works be done and that a loan of £2460 be raised for the purpose from the Local Loans Fund.

#### TENANCY OF HOUSE AT GRATTAN TERRACE.

The next business was a motion in the name of Councillor Dunne that the Corporation agree to sell the house at Grattan Terrace to Mr. Thomas Barnes and that the decision of the Finance Committee on the 24th ultimo to seek possession for non-occupation be rescinded.

The Mayor ruled that as this matter would likely be the subject of litigation that it should be considered in Committee. The Meeting thereupon went into Committee when the matter was considered. The facts of this case were that Mr. Barnes and his family had occupied a Corporation house at Grattan Terrace since it was erected some 30 years ago until 1938 when he had gone to reside at South Main Street, but left his son and daughter-in-law who were residing with him at Grattan Terrace, in occupation of the house, and he himself had never relinquished the tenancy. The Corporation did not raise any objection to this occupation by his son, but this young man had now gone to reside at Enniscorthy and Mr. Barnes had refused to give up possession.

It was well known to the Members that Mr. Barnes was trying to hold possession of the house for a daughter of his who was to be married in June next, and the matter had been before the Finance Committee of the Corporation on numerous occasions, following a report from the Rent Collector in January last that this young man had vacated the house.

A lengthy correspondence had ensued between Mr. Barnes and the Town Clerk on this matter, in the course of which Mr. Barnes had offered to purchase the house from the Corporation and to make the necessary alterations which would enable it to house his entire family.

The Finance Committee had decided on several occasions that if Mr. Barnes and his entire family reoccupied the dwelling they would favourably consider the question of selling him the house, but would not consider the question of selling whilst he was not in occupation.

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There had been a considerable amount of procrastination on the part of Mr. Barnes since his correspondence commenced, and the Finance Committee had decided on the 24th instant, that Notice to Quit should be served for possession of the dwelling, as having regard to the present shortage of houses in the Town they could not stand over this man occupying two premises. It was as a result of this decision of the Finance Committee that Councillor Dunno gave the notice above referred to, and he now moved it. Councillor Buckland seconded the motion but on a vote being taken only the proposer and seconder voted for it and it was accordingly declared lost.

It was also agreed on the suggestion of the Mayor that Meetings of the Finance and Works, Etc. Committees should be held only fortnightly for the summer months.

*Richard Coads TD*  
*Mayor*

The Borough Surveyor, and Town Clerk  
 A letter was sent from the Department of Health and Public Health Officers who had prepared a report on the advisability of closing the streets in the town of Wexford during the summer months, and the report was forwarded to the Council on the 1st instant. It was noted that the Corporation had approved of the proposals, and that they were being prepared in the form of a Bill for the Department of Health and Public Health Officers. It was also noted that the Corporation had agreed to contribute towards the cost of the Bill, and that the Corporation had agreed to contribute towards the cost of the Bill. It was also noted that the Corporation had agreed to contribute towards the cost of the Bill, and that the Corporation had agreed to contribute towards the cost of the Bill.

*Richard Coads TD*  
*Mayor*



5th May, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's regulation) at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

A Meeting of the Special Committee appointed on the 1st instant, to consider the question of the operation of Relief Grants, was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at 7.45. p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (In the Chair) with

Alderman. Thomas Walsh,

Councillors: James Billington, Patrick Atkins, Thomas Byrne, Thomas Dunne, James Sinnott, and Timothy Cashman.

The Borough Surveyor, and Town Clerk were also in attendance.

A letter was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health pointing out that proposals for the expenditure of Spring and Summer Works should have been submitted before the 31st March, and asking that they be forwarded without further delay.

In this connection, it was pointed out to the Meeting that it was only on the 1st instant that the Corporation had approved of the necessary proposals and that they were being prepared in the form necessary for the Department and would be sent up in the course of a few days.

A very frank and full discussion took place regarding the operation of these grants, especially in relation to keymen, and after lengthy arguments, during which the position was explained both from the point of view of the Officials charged with the administration of the Grants, and the men employed, the Borough Surveyor agreed to rotate all keymen, with the exception of two tamper men, every four weeks, and it was also decided that before the next work started he should submit to the Committee a list of the men he proposed to employ *from*.

*Richard Corish T.C.*  
*mays*

15th May, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day, (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Robert Coffey, Thomas Walsh, Patrick Tobin, and James McMahon.

Councillors: James Billington, Patrick Atkins, John Billington, Robert Moran, Thomas Hayes, James Murphy, Thomas Buckland, James Gaul, James Sinnott, Thomas Dunne, James Crosbie, Phillip McGuire, Thomas Byrne, Timothy Cashman, Nicholas Connolly, Stephen McMahon, and Patrick Hawkins.

#### HOUSE AT WHITEROCK VIEW.

The Meeting had been convened to select a tenant for a house vacant at Whiterock View, and before a poll was taken on the applications, Councillor Billington asked if the motion which he had sponsored in April, 1937, for the establishment of a panel of persons eligible for the tenancy of Artisans Dwellings would apply in this case, and the Town Clerk read the Minute of the 5th April, 1937, which excluded from this proposal houses erected for the re-housing of slum dwellers.

A poll was thereupon taken, when there voted for:-

Nicholas Murphy, High St. - Councillors: Hawkins, McMahon, Connolly, Cashman, Byrne, Buckland, Atkins, Murphy, Hayes, Aldermen McMahon, Walsh, and Coffey. (12).

For Edward Murphy, Cornmarket. - Councillors: McGuire, John Billington, and The Mayor. (3).

For James Crosbie, Swan View. - Councillors: Crosbie, Dunne, Sinnott, Caul, and Moran. (5).

For William J. Foote, Selskar St. - Councillors: James Billington, and Alderman Tobin. (2).

Murphy having a clear majority of the members present was declared the tenant.

The Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Corish T.D.  
Mayor*

15th May, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting, the same members being in attendance.

#### HOUSE - GRATTAN TERRACE.

With reference to minutes of the Corporation on the 1st instant, when the question of the house at Grattan Terrace, occupied by Mr. Thomas Barnes, was under consideration, the Town Clerk reported that under date of the 6th instant Messrs. Little & Elgee, Solicitors, for Mr. Barnes stated that he was prepared to give up possession of the premises on the understanding that he was allowed 14 days, as from the 8th idem, in which to remove his furniture and fittings etc. They further stated that Mr. Barnes was prepared to leave the fittings there if the new tenant was prepared to take them over at an agreed figure. The Town Clerk had replied agreeing to defer proceedings of the matter until the 22nd, to enable Mr. Barnes to remove his furniture etc., but pointed out that the Corporation could not say who the new tenant would be and consequently, could not make any agreement on the matter. He had received a letter this day from Messrs. Little & Elgee, Solicitors, stating that Mr. Barnes was prepared to give up the key on receiving an undertaking from the Corporation that if the new tenant of the house did not wish to take the said fixtures and fittings that Mr. Barnes would have liberty to ~~take~~ enter the house to remove them, or, in the alternative, he was prepared to forego all claims to the fixtures and fittings on being paid the sum of £10 for them. The fittings included a back-kitchen, a fancy fireplace, gas fittings in seven apartments, garden railings and gate, and three outhouses.

The Committee agreed that Mr. Barnes should be given the undertaking asked for but they were not prepared to take over the fittings for the sum mentioned, as that was a matter to be settled entirely between Mr. Barnes and the new tenant.

It was further agreed that the house should be let on the 29th instant.

#### ANALYST'S REMUNERATION.

With reference to the application of the Borough Analyst for an increase in his remuneration, Mr. Fagan under date of the 24th ultimo stated that he handed over all salaries and fees received from other public bodies and private individuals to the Dublin Corporation, and was paid a salary, plus a percentage of certain fees.

As this statement was at variance with Mr. Fagan's letter of the 25th May, 1934, in which he stated that all salaries and fees received by him were handed over to the Dublin Corporation, the Committee directed the Town Clerk to inquire from Mr. Fagan on what fees he was paid a percentage.

#### AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

With reference to Minutes of the 17th ultimo when the subject of Air Raid Precautions was under consideration, and when Mr. Henry F. Doyle, Town Clerk's Office, had been nominated to attend a course of instruction to be held during the month of June at Dublin, the Department of Local Government and Public Health under date of the 9th instant, by letter No. PH 10173/2/39 intimated that it had been now recommended by the

15th May, 1939.

Department of Defence that four Officers from the Wexford District should be sent for training as General Instructors. Care should be taken, it was pointed out, in the selection of nominees for the course who should include officers from the firefighting, engineering, cleansing and housing services. They should be capable of absorbing rapidly a subject which must necessarily be taught in a limited time and in an intensive form, and should also be capable of imparting instruction clearly and making lectures interesting. They should be physically fit as the course was very strenuous and a form of Medical Certificate to be completed in respect of each candidate was enclosed. The Committee carefully considered this matter and saw that they had not four officials whom they could spare for such a course, and after some discussion it was agreed that Mr. Thomas Crosbie and John Wallace of the Fire Brigade Service; Mr. Patrick Lacey and James McMahon of the Waterworks Service; and Mr. Nicholas Lacey, Rent Collector of the Housing Service, should be provisionally selected, and the Town Clerk was to interview each of these persons to see if they would be prepared to attend a course, in addition to Mr. Doyle already selected.

#### MEAT INSPECTOR.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of the appointment of a Meat Inspector, Mr. Staples submitted a certificate from the Chief Veterinary Inspector of the Dublin Corporation stating that he had visited the Corporation abattoir and examined the carcasses there from the 15th to the 18th February, 1939.

The Members were doubtful if these three days qualified Mr. Staples to do Meat Inspection, and decided to ask the Department of Local Government and Public Health if, in their opinion, Mr. Staples was qualified to do this work.

#### APPLICATION FOR STALL.

An application was submitted from Mr. Stephen O'Mahony, for a stall in the new market in which to purchase fresh butter, and after some discussion, it was agreed on the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Councillor Gaul, to grant him this facility at a rent of 5s. per week.

#### BOAT - BATHING PLACE.

The Borough Surveyor reported that the boat at the bathing place had become useless, and that he was in a position to purchase a boat from Mr. R. E. Corish, Auctioneer, for the sum of £4. 4. 0, so it was agreed that the boat should be purchased if the following Committee approved of it on inspection, namely:- Councillors: Hayes, McMahon, Aldermen Walsh, and McMahon, together with the Borough Surveyor. It was further agreed to sell the old boat at the bathing place to a man named Cullen for 10s.

#### BUILDING - TALBOT HOTEL.

The Borough Surveyor reported that the work of building an extension to the Talbot Hotel was being carried out despite the fact that a proper plan of the proposed work had not been lodged, and that Mr. Stafford, Senior, had given orders to his workmen to make excavations in the public roadway, although informed that he had no statutory authority to do so.

There was also trouble with the sewerage in this case, and it was agreed that the Mayor and Town Clerk should consult with Mr. Stafford, Junior, on this whole matter and report back to the Corporation.

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## CLAIM FOR TRESPASS.

The Corporation Solicitor intimated that Messrs. Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey, Solicitors, acting for Mr. John Kirwan, had served a Civil Bill claiming £25 damages for trespass and damage to their wall and also asking for an injunction. The case would probably be dealt with by the Circuit Judge when he sat in Wexford, and the Solicitor asked for permission to send the file to Counsel to settle the defence. This was agreed to.

## HOUSE - ST. JOHN'S RD.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of the house at St. John's Road, Wexford, occupied by Mr. Patrick Donovan, Messrs. Huggard, Brennan & Godfrey, Solicitors, intimated that unless a satisfactory arrangement was come to regarding damage to their client's furniture they would be compelled to institute proceedings. In this case it was decided to request the Solicitors, without prejudice, for particulars of their claim for damage.

## WEIGHING MACHINE.

It was agreed, with Councillor Cashman dissenting, to give permission to Mr. Alphonsus Thornton, of Enniscorthy, to place a weighing machine on the footpath outside the Foresters Hall, which was in a corner and not likely to be an obstruction, subject to a letter from him indemnifying the Corporation against action or accident.

## LOANS - S.D.A. ACTS.

The Town Clerk reported that he was having serious difficulty in collecting outstanding instalment loans under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts. At the 31st March seven borrowers were in arrear to the extent of £162. 13. 10 and these sums should have been paid on the 1st January. It was decided to inform each person in arrear that unless the amount outstanding was cleared off within a period to be specified by the Town Clerk, that the Corporation would be compelled to take proceedings with a view to foreclosing the Mortgage.

## NUMBERING JOHN ST.

The Town Clerk was requested to make arrangements as soon as possible for the numbering of the houses in John Street.

## HOUSE - FAYTHE - BARR.

The Town Clerk reported that Dr. Sinnott had now informed him of the number of persons which could be permitted to reside in the houses at Faythe owned by William Barr, and he was directed to inform Mr. Barr that if any family larger than that specified by the Dr. were found living in the houses, at a future date they would be condemned as unfit for human habitation.

## REFUSAL ORDER.

The Town Clerk brought forward a report dealing with the sale of milk on the premises of John Kirwan, Mary Street, and asked that the Corporation should be recommended to make a Refusal Order, so it was agreed after some discussion, that the Corporation should be recommended at next Statutory Meeting to make such an Order.

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## GRAVEYARDS.

It was agreed to have the grass cut in St. John's and St. Patrick's churchyards, and the walls limewashed.

## UNIFORM.

Two tenders for the supply of a uniform for the Town Sergeant were submitted but it was decided that a small advertisement should be issued in the local press inviting tenders.

## SCHOOL - ST. JOHN'S RD.

With reference to Minutes of the Corporation on the 1st instant when the question of permission to erect a school at St. John's Road was adjourned for further consideration, in view of the provisions of the Town Planning Act, the Town Clerk stated in reply to a query by Councillor Gaul that the subject had not yet been thoroughly examined, so it was decided that the Committee should meet again on Monday next, the 22nd instant, to deal with this matter alone.

## PLUMBERS.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of the employment of Authorised Waterworks Plumbers, the following opinion from Mr. Brereton Barry, K.C., on the subject was read by the Town Clerk:-

"I am of opinion that having regard to the benevolent interpretation which the Courts put upon bye-laws made by local bodies under statutory authority (Kruse v Johnson 1898 2 Q.B. 91) a regulation made by the Wexford Corporation enforcing the employment of authorised plumbers for all work in connection with the water supply would be held to be within the powers of the Corporation under Section 13 of the Wexford Water Works Provisional Order confirmed by the Local Government Board Ireland Provisional Orders (Dalkey etc.) Confirmation Act, 1876. The difficulty in this case is that no such regulation was made. Regulation 14 of the Wexford Corporation of 1880 is in its terms clearly permissive and in my opinion it would be impossible to infer any prohibition from a regulation couched in those terms. The prohibition, however, is contained in the notes and observations printed at the end of the Regulations and it is there stated that only work done by authorised plumbers will be approved of. This note is not and does not purport to be a regulation and could not be enforced as such. It is apparently intended as a warning to the ~~the~~ public of the principles by which the Corporation will be guided in approving of the works. The approval of the Corporation is specifically required under a number of regulations but it is unnecessary to go through these as I think they are summed up in Regulation 12. I am satisfied that this regulation requires for its enforcement a bona fide opinion by the duly authorised officer of the Corporation that the materials or workmanship are of bad or defective quality. I am therefore of opinion that as the regulations now stand the Corporation have no power to compel the employment of an authorised plumber in cases where the work is satisfactorily and properly carried out. This opinion is subject to one qualification:- if the duly authorised officer of the Corporation could bona fide say that an inspection of the complete work would not enable him to form a definite opinion on its quality and that in order to approve of it he would have to rely to a certain extent on the known standard of workmanship of the plumber who carried it out it might then be arguable that he was entitled to

15th May, 1939.

disapprove of work carried out by an unauthorised plumber owing to his lack of faith in the latter's standard of workmanship. I am not sufficiently familiar with the details of plumbers work to know whether this argument is valid but I may say that my present uninstructed opinion would be that it is not. I would consider it probable that a duly skilled man could detect by examination any defects which existed.

I am quite satisfied that the penalty (if any) which the Corporation could impose would be a cutting off of the water supply. Section 17 of the Water Works Clauses Act of 1863 (26 and 27 Vic. Ch. 93) which provides for the summary recovery of a penalty not exceeding £5 deals only with cases where persons wilfully or negligently allow an apparatus to be out of repair or to be so used that the water is liable to be wasted etc. It is obvious that this section could have no application to the carrying out of effective work by a person who did not happen to be an authorised plumber."

From this it was seen that in its present form the bye-laws dealing with Authorised Waterworks Plumbers was absolutely useless. A deputation from the Plumbers Society attended the Meeting on this subject and pointed out that large amount of work was being carried out at the present time by unauthorised plumbers, and asked what action the Corporation proposed to take on the matter. The opinion of Counsel was pointed out to them, and after a very lengthy discussion, during which the whole operation of the Corporation Regulations were reviewed, it was decided to set up a meeting composed of Councillors: Hayes, Byrne, Dunne, Cashman, Alderman Walsh, and the Mayor, to meet on Monday next with a view to making recommendations to the Corporation of a new set of Bye-laws and Regulations for Waterworks.

The Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Card T-7*  
*mwp*

22nd May, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair) with

Aldermen; Thomas Walsh, and Robert Coffey.

Councillors: James Murphy, Patrick Hawkins, Stephen McMahon, Thomas Byrne, James Billington, Nicholas Connolly, Thomas Hayes, James Crosbie, Robert Moran, James Gaul, Timothy Cashman, and James Sinnott.

SCHOOL - ST. JOHN'S RD.

The Meeting had been convened to consider an application for permission, under the Town and Regional Planning Act, 1934, to erect a new School at St. John's Road, Wexford, the Town Clerk ~~reported an~~ <sup>received the</sup> application from Messrs. Kirwan & Kirwan, Solicitors, on behalf of the Superioress of the Convent of Mercy, and as well, the following report from the Borough Surveyor on the application:-

"With reference to the above application, I wish to point out the following matters for the consideration of the Corporation:-

- (1) The application does not state what type of school is proposed to be erected.
- (2) In my opinion this site is not suitable for a school for the following reasons:-
  - (a) Under the Town and Regional Planning Act it would appear that owners of adjoining properties would be aggrieved by interference with their amenities. The erection of a School will undoubtedly lower the amenities of the properties in this district which is a residential one.
  - (b) The movement of population in the Town is likely to be away from this district due to the clearing of unhealthy areas in such streets as Duke Street, Upper and Lower John Street, Temperance Row, Abbey Street, Cornmarket, Well Lane, etc. Consequently, children will be moving farther away from the School under future housing developments.
  - (c) The site is too restricted, the modern tendency being to build Schools in more open sites to enable the provision of ample playing grounds and to allow for necessary additions to meet future developments.

It is well therefore to consider these points as it would in my opinion, be unfair to allow the Superioress of the Convent of Mercy to purchase a Site, when such Site may be unsuitable. It is very likely that the Education Authorities will also consider the suitability of the site. Is it likely that this site will be more suitable than the site at Georges Street? If the Sisters are allowed to purchase this site and it is afterwards adjudged unsuitable for the purpose intended, who will compensate the Sisters for their loss?



22nd May, 1939.

The Corporation will therefore see that the erection of a School in this or any other district is a very serious consideration apart altogether from the much needed temporary relief it may give to unemployed members of the Building Trades."

In connection with this application the Town Clerk stated that the ramifications of the Compensation Clause of the Town and Regional Planning Act, 1934, were so wide that he was afraid the Corporation might possibly be liable to pay compensation to the residents, or owners of property in this area, if they could prove that the erection of this School would reduce the amenities of the Road, which was primarily intended as, and was up to the present time, a residential area. A very lengthy discussion took place on this matter during which it was pointed out that the crux was entirely due to the failure of the Corporation to make a Town Plan, although they had adopted the Act some three or four years ago.

Eventually, it was moved by Councillor Gaul and seconded by Councillor Murphy, that the Corporation be recommended to grant the permission asked for and this proposal was agreed to without dissent, but it was suggested that before the matter came before the Corporation that the Town Clerk should inquire from Messrs. Kirwan & Kirwan, Solicitors, what was the opinion of the residents in the locality regarding the proposed new school.

#### WATER LEVEL - COOLREE.

The Borough Surveyor reported that the water level in Coolree Reservoir was 37" below high water ~~xxxx~~ mark on the 18th instant, which compared favourably with 50" on the same date last year. As the meter on the trunk main had gone out of order and was at present with the makers for repairs, he was not in a position to say what the daily consumption of water in the Borough was, but judging from the daily fall of 1½" he thought it was greater than last year, and that it would be wise to curtail the supply to the Town at an early date.

The Committee were loth to curtail the supply at the present time and decided as an initial step that an appeal be issued to the public asking them to refrain ~~xxxx~~ from wasting water. This appeal was to be made by means of Press and Cinema advertisement, together with hand bills.

#### SEWAGE - GREEN ST.

A complaint was made regarding the discharge of the sewerage from the proposed new housing Scheme at Green Street into the Stonebridge River, and the Borough Surveyor intimated that it was the only way in which the sewerage could be dealt with, but admitted that it would be necessary for the Corporation at some future date to cover in this river and make it a main drain for that side of the Town.

#### WALL - ROCHES TERRACE.

Councillor Crosbie again complained regarding the condition of the wall fronting Roches Terrace houses, and in reply to a query the Borough Surveyor intimated that it would cost £75 to have it plastered, and the Town Clerk pointed out that if £75 were spent on this wall that it would have to be taken off the sum allocated for the maintenance of Artizans Dwellings during the current year.

After some discussion, Councillor Hawkins proposed that the work be done and Councillor Crosbie seconded, and on a vote being taken nine voted for the proposal and four against. It was accordingly declared carried.

22nd May, 1939.

A Meeting of the Special Committee appointed to consider the making of new Bye-laws governing the water supply to the Town was held at the close of the above Meeting.

The Members present being:-

His Worship The Mayor, (in the Chair) with Alderman Walsh,

Councillors: Hayes, Cashman, Byrne, and Hawkins.

The Committee had been appointed by the Finance Committee on the 15th instant following an opinion by Council that the Corporation had no power under Article 14 of the Regulations to compel the employment of registered plumbers to do work in connection with the supply of water, and the Town Clerk explained to the Meeting that he was not willing to be rushed into making a new set of Byelaws and Regulations without having adequate time to consider the various points which would arise thereby, and suggested that in order to overcome the present difficulty, namely, the employment of plumbers, that the present regulations dealing with them should be rescinded and a new article adopted in its place.

If this were agreed to it could be done at the June Statutory Meeting and would enable them to have more time to consider a complete new set of Regulations and Byelaws.

In lieu of Article 14 he suggested that the following be adopted together with a new article pointing out the penalty for work done in contravention of the Regulations.

14 - AS TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF PLUMBERS.

- (a) No owner or occupier of premises or consumer of water shall employ or allow any person other than a master or journeyman plumber to do any work connected with the supply or distribution of water to any premises.
- (b) No master or journeyman plumber shall do such work until after he has been admitted and enrolled by the Corporation as an "AUTHORIZED WATERWORKS PLUMBER" and has agreed in writing to conform to and comply with the Corporation Regulations in force from time to time.
- (c) No person other than the Turncock or such other person nominated by the Corporation shall tap the watermain or connect therewith.
- (d) Every master or journeyman plumber before commencing any work in connection with the supply or distribution of water shall give notice in writing of his intention so to do to the Borough Surveyor at least twenty-four hours before commencing such work; provided always that in case of a serious leakage of water such notice may be given as soon as is practicable before or after the commencement of such work.
- (e) If at any time after enrolment any master or journeyman plumber infringes the said Regulations either by himself or his workmen, or refuses to communicate any needful and proper information required of him by the Officer of the Corporation in regard to any work connected with the distribution of water supplied by the Corporation done by him or his workmen or under his superintendence or upon his responsibility his name may be erased by the Corporation from the list of "AUTHORISED WATERWORKS PLUMBERS" and may be forthwith advertised as having been so erased.

5th June, 1939.

A Statutory Meeting of the Corporation was held at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m. (2) 22nd May, 1939.

The Minutes present being: 17 - PENALTY.

Richard Corry, Mayor, stated that the Corporation had decided that Failure on the part of any person to carry out these Regulations will result in the cutting off of the Water Supply to any premises, without further warning, where work has been done in contravention of these Regulations.

In this connection reference was made to master plumbers, and on the suggestion of the Mayor it was agreed to insert after sub Article B above the following:-

"In the case of a master plumber registration does not permit of him doing plumbing work unless he has since served his apprenticeship as a plumber. He is also prohibited from employing any workman other than an "AUTHORISED WATERWORKS PLUMBER" for any work in connection with the supply or distribution of water."

With this amendment it was thought that the suggestion of the Town Clerk would get over the immediate difficulty and Councillor Byrne gave notice that he would move at next Statutory Meeting that Article 14 of the present Regulations be rescinded and the new regulation submitted by the Town Clerk as amended by the present Committee be substituted therefor.

As regards the proposed new bye-laws, it was agreed that Article 2 of the Model Series should be drafted in such a way as to entirely prevent the communication pipe of any house or premises being connected with the communication pipe of another premises. After a preliminary examination of the remaining clause of the Byelaws, the Meeting adjourned, asking the Town Clerk to furnish each member with a copy of the Draft Codes and the existing code at his convenience.

*Richard Corry T.C.*  
*Mayor*

Members who had argued up to the end of last month, amounting in the aggregate, to £300. 10s. 10d. were submitted, and having been considered were approved, and an advice note signed to enable them to be discharged.

The Mayor, at this stage, stated he did not think it would be at all out of place if they were to get on record their sympathy at the unfortunate disaster which befell the suburban "Cinema" last week. He thought the sympathy of people all over the world would be extended to the relatives of those who lost their lives under such tragic circumstances. He, therefore, moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to the relatives in their bereavement. Councillor James Billington seconded the motion, which was supported by all the members present and carried in respectful silence.

5th June, 1939.

A Statutory Meeting of the Corporation was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: James McMahon, Robert Coffey, Thomas Walsh, and Patrick Tobin.

Councillors: Patrick Atkins, James Billington, James Gaul, Nicholas Connolly, James Sinnott, Thomas Dunne, Thomas Byrne, Patrick Hawkins, John Billington, James Crosbie, Thomas Hayes, Stephen McMahon, Robert Moran, James Murphy, Timothy Cashman, and Phillip McGuire.

#### MINUTES.

The following Minutes were submitted for ratification and signature:- Minutes of Corporation on the 1st and 18th ultimo; Special Committees on 5th and 22nd ultimo (copies of which had been furnished to the Members) Finance & Works, Etc., Committees on 15th and 22nd ultimo.

The Mayor called attention to the Minutes of the Special Committee appointed on the 1st ultimo to consider the question of the operation of Relief Grants, which Meeting was held on the 5th idem, and stated that he understood the agreement between the Borough Surveyor and the Committee was, that the former should submit to the Committee the complete list of the names of men for employment on Relief Grants, which he received from the Labour Exchange, when the spring and summer works were about to commence, and not as appeared on the Minutes a list of the men he proposed to employ. He stated that he had called the attention of the Town Clerk to the Minute who agreed with his view of the decision, and as it was only a question of interpretation it was agreed that the addition of the word "from" at the end of the Minute would make the matter more clear. This correction having been made, the Minutes as submitted, were approved, on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor Byrne, and signed by the Mayor.

#### PAYMENTS.

Liabilities which had accrued due up to the end of last month, amounting in the aggregate, to £3506. 17. 10 were submitted, and having been examined were approved, and an Advice Note signed to enable them to be discharged.

#### SYMPATHY.

The Mayor, at this stage, stated he did not think it would be at all out of place if they were to put on record their sympathy at the unfortunate disaster which befell the submarine "Thetus" last week, he thought the sympathy of people all over the world would be extended to the relatives of those who lost their lives under such tragic circumstances. He, therefore, moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to the relatives in their bereavement. Councillor James Billington seconded the motion, which was supported by all the members present and adopted in respectful silence.

(2)

5th June, 1939.

## SUNDAY TRAIN SERVICE.

Councillor MæMahon referred to the lack of a Sunday train service from Wexford to Rosslare during the summer months, and after a discussion it was agreed that representations be made to the Railway Company to run a service similar to previous years.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

A letter was read from Mr. T. Crosbie, Grattan Terrace, acknowledging a vote of sympathy passed with him at last meeting on the death of his mother.

## WATERWORKS REGULATIONS.

The next business was to consider the rescission of Article 14 of the Wexford Waterworks Regulations, and the substitution therefor of a new Article together with a further Article calling attention to the penalty for failure to comply with the Regulations in force.

In the existing regulations it was provided that:- "any master or journeyman plumber will be allowed to do any work connected with the supply of water, except tapping the main and connecting therewith, after he has been admitted and enrolled by the Corporation as an AUTHORISED WATERWORKS PLUMBER and has engaged to conform to and comply with the Corporation Regulations for the time being."

For some time past a practice had grown up in Wexford whereby handy-men were carrying out work to the distribution system in houses, and the matter had been constantly before the Waterworks Committee of the Corporation. The view expressed by the Officials as to the interpretation of Article 14 was that it did not prohibit any person, other than Authorised Plumbers, from carrying out work and that it merely permitted the latter to do so. The only penalty the Corporation could enforce for a breach of the Regulations was to cut off the supply, and, in the opinion of the Officials this would be a very serious step to take unless there was an unquestionable authority for it. Eventually, the Committee had decided to take Counsel's opinion on the whole matter, and a case had been submitted to Mr. R. Brereton Barry, K.C., who stated that Regulation 14 of the Waterworks Regulations of 1880 was in its terms clearly permissive, and in his opinion, it would be impossible to infer any prohibition from the Regulation couched in those terms. He was satisfied that the Corporation had power to cut off the supply for a breach of this Regulation if it were made prohibitive, and such a Regulation would be held to be within the powers of the Corporation under Section 13 of the Wexford Waterworks Provisional Order confirmed by the Local Government Board (Ireland) Provisional Orders (Dalkey etc.) Confirmation Act, 1876. The Waterworks Committee had carefully considered this opinion on a recent occasion, and had appointed a Special Committee to consider the entire position of the Waterworks Regulations and to recommend such alterations as they deemed desirable. The Committee had met on the 5th ultimo when it was seen that to draw up a set of Bye-laws and a new set of Regulations would take some time, and as the question of Authorised Plumbers was an urgent one they recommended that Article 14 of the Regulations of 1880 be rescinded and a new Article inserted in lieu thereof. They also recommended that a new Article 17 be inserted pointing out that failure to carry out the Regulations would result in the cutting off of the water supply to any premises without further warning.

(3)

5th June, 1939.

Notice of intention to move the rescission of Article 14 together with the two new Articles recommended was given to each Member on the 24th ultimo.

The Mayor moved the rescission of Article 14 and Councillor Hayes seconded.

A very lengthy discussion followed on this matter during which Alderman Coffey asked if there was an individual in Town who served his apprenticeship as a Plumber, but whom the Plumbers Society would not accept as a Member. The Mayor stated that he knew of one individual who made application to be placed on the roll of Authorised Plumbers and when asked to produce evidence that he had served his apprenticeship it was not forthcoming. He would not be influenced by the Union if there was evidence forthcoming that a man had served his apprenticeship and stated he wished to make it perfectly clear that admission to the Plumbers Society was not a qualification so far as the Corporation were concerned. If a man could produce evidence that would be accepted by any reasonable person that he had served his apprenticeship as a plumber, the Corporation would be bound to put him on the plumbers list. He (Mayor) suggested that the matter would be better dealt with if the person to whom Alderman Coffey and the other Members were referring made an application for registration, when any evidence he had to produce that he had served his apprenticeship as a plumber could be examined.

After some further discussion on the matter of the person referred to, the Mayor's motion that Article 14 be rescinded was unanimously adopted. Councillor Byrne thereupon moved that a new Article 14 be inserted in lieu of the one rescinded and that Article 17 dealing with penalties be also inserted in the Regulations. Councillor Cashman seconded. This motion was also unanimously adopted.

The following is the old article now rescinded:-

14 - AS TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF PLUMBERS.

"Any master or journeyman plumber will be allowed to do any work connected with the supply of water, except tapping the main and connecting therewith, after he has been admitted and enrolled by the Corporation as an "authorised waterworks plumber," and has engaged to conform to and comply with the Corporation Regulations for the time being.

If at any time after enrolment any such master or journeyman plumber wilfully infringes the said Regulations either by himself or his workmen, or refuses to communicate any needful and proper information required of him by the Officer of the Corporation in regard to any work connected with the distribution of water supplied by the Corporation done by him or his workmen, or under his superintendence, or upon his responsibility, his name may be erased by the Corporation from the list of "authorised waterworks plumbers," and may be forthwith advertised as having been so erased."

The two new articles now agreed on are as follows:-

14 - AS TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF PLUMBERS.

- (a) "No owner or occupier of premises or consumer of water shall employ or allow any person other than a master or journeyman plumber to do any work connected with the supply or distribution of water to any premises.

(4)

5th June, 1939.

- (b) No master or journeyman plumber shall do such work until after he has been admitted and enrolled by the Corporation as an "AUTHORISED WATERWORKS PLUMBER" and has agreed in writing to conform to and comply with the Corporation Regulations in force from time to time.
- (c) In the case of a master plumber Registration does not permit of him doing plumbing work unless he has served his apprenticeship as a plumber; he is also prohibited from employing any workman other than an "AUTHORISED WATERWORKS PLUMBER."
- (d) No person other than the Turncock or such other person nominated by the Corporation shall tap the watermain or connect therewith.
- (e) Every master or journeyman plumber before commencing any work in connection with the supply or distribution of water shall give notice in writing of his intention so to do to the Borough Surveyor at least twenty-four hours before commencing such work; provided always that in case of a serious leakage of water such notice may be given as soon as is practicable before or after the commencement of such work.
- (f) If at any time after enrolment any master or journeyman plumber infringes the said Regulations either by himself or his workmen, or refuses to communicate any needful and proper information required of him by the Officer of the Corporation in regard to any work connected with the distribution of water supplied by the Corporation done by him or his workmen or under his superintendence or upon his responsibility his name may be erased by the Corporation from the list of "AUTHORIZED WATERWORKS PLUMBERS" and may be forthwith advertised as having been so erased.

17 - PENALTY.

Failure on the part of any person to carry out these Regulations will result in the cutting off of the Water Supply to any premises, without further warning, where work has been done in contravention of these Regulations."

## SCHOOL - ST. JOHN'S ROAD.

The Finance Committee recommended that permission be granted under the Town and Regional Planning Act, 1934 to the Superioress of the Convent of Mercy for the erection of a new School at Georges Street.

This matter had been before the May Meeting of the Corporation when it was decided to refer it back to the Finance Committee for further consideration.

The Finance Committee had again considered the matter on the 20th ultimo when the following report from the Borough Surveyor was read:-

(5)

5th June, 1939.

"With reference to the above application, I wish to point out the following matters for the consideration of the Corporation:-

- (1) The application does not state what type of school is proposed to be erected.
- (2) In my opinion this site is not suitable for a school for the following reasons:-
  - (a) Under the Town and Regional Planning Act it would appear that owners of adjoining properties would be aggrieved by interference with their amenities. The erection of a School will undoubtedly lower the amenities of the properties in this district which is a residential one.
  - (b) The movement of population in the Town is likely to be away from this district due to the clearing of unhealthy areas in such streets as Duke Street, Upper and Lower John Street, Temperance Row, Abbey Street, Cornmarket, Well Lane, etc. Consequently children will be moving farther away from the School under future housing developments.
  - (c) The site is too restricted, the modern tendency being to build Schools in more open sites to enable the provision of ample playing grounds and to allow for necessary additions to meet future developments.

It is well therefore to consider these points as it would in my opinion, be unfair to allow the Superioress of the Convent of Mercy to purchase a Site, when such Site may be unsuitable. It is very likely that the Education Authorities will also consider the suitability of the site. Is it likely that this site will be more suitable than the site at Georges Street? If the Sisters are allowed to purchase this site and it is afterwards adjudged unsuitable for the purpose intended, who will compensate the Sisters for their loss?

The Corporation will therefore see that the erection of a school in this or any other district is a very serious consideration apart altogether from the much needed temporary relief it may give to unemployed members of the Building Trades."

In addition to this report the Town Clerk advised that as the compensation clauses of this Statute were very involved that the opinion of the Corporation's Legal Adviser should be sought as to whether or not that the residents or owners of property in the area, which was a residential one, would have any claim against the Corporation if they could prove to a Court of Law that their amenities were disturbed by this erection. He further pointed out that if the Corporation had made a Town Plan after adopting the Act that this crux would not have arisen as they could have made provision in such plan prohibiting the payment of compensation.

The Finance Committee however appeared to be concerned with the commencement of work and unanimously decided to recommend the Corporation to grant the application.

Councillor Gaul thereupon moved that the recommendation of the Committee be approved and Councillor Connolly seconded. In moving his motion the Councillor stated that if the nuns were prepared to erect a school on this site at a cost of about



(6)

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£20,000 to £25,000 the Corporation should not stand in their way as work in the building trades was very slack. The recommendation was unanimously adopted.

#### GAS & ELECTRIC INSTALLATIONS.

The next business was to consider tenders for the installation of gas and electric fittings in the new houses at William Street and Davitt Road, North, as well as in the fire station at Davitt Road. For the gas installation there was, of course only one tender, that of the Wexford Gas Consumers Co. Ltd., who proposed to supply and fix all necessary piping required for eight lighting points (exclusive of fittings) i.e. labour and materials to William Street houses for 35/- per house. The fittings would be supplied for the sum of £1. 19. 9 per house, and the complete installation at £3. 12. 6 per house. For the Davitt Road bungalows they quoted £1 per house for the necessary six lighting points and for the fittings they quoted £1. 7. 0 per house. For the entire work £2. 5. 0 per house. It was explained that the actual work proposed to be done at first was to supply all fittings and necessary piping to each of the points so as to avoid tearing up floors or breaking walls when the houses were completed; whether gas or electric light would eventually be installed would be decided when the tenants were allocated. On the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Byrne, the tender of the Gas. Co., which was considered very reasonable, was accepted. For the installation of electric fittings four tenders were received. They were from the Electricity Supply Board, Mr. James Hayes, Grattan Terrace, Mr. Thomas Quigley, Main St., and the Scientific Electrical Engineering Co., Common Quay Street. The net tender of the Electricity Supply Board was £122. 10. 0; of Mr. James Hayes £99. 7. 4; Mr. T. Quigley £101. 13. 0; and of the Scientific Electrical Co. £106. 10. 0. As Mr. Hayes's tender was the lowest of the four submitted it was accepted, on the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Connolly.

#### TENDERS FOR TWISTEEL.

The tender of Messrs. MacNaughton, Dublin, for the supply of Twisteel Reinforcement at 1/1d. per square yard was accepted, on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor Sinnott. The only other tender submitted was from Messrs. Thos. Pearson & Co. Ltd. Dublin, who quoted 1/1½d. per square yard.

#### SELECTION OF TENANTS.

The next business was to select tenants for two houses vacant at Grattan Terrace and Antelope Road. Before any vote was taken on the applicants Councillor James Billington maintained that what the Corporation were about to do was not legal according to a resolution passed in April, 1937, deciding to form a panel of applicants for Artisans Dwellings, and maintained that when the Town Clerk received the key of the house he should have given it to the next person on the list. It was pointed out that the next house vacant, after the adoption of this resolution, was one at Grattan Terrace which had been allocated to a man named Crosbie and for which a man named O'Leary had been second, and a man named Moloney 3rd. O'Leary had since obtained another Corporation house and Moloney was an applicant for the present one at Grattan Terrace.

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In reply to a question by Councillor Billington as to whether the Labour Party had let the house before the Meeting and had agreed to support an individual, the Mayor stated the Labour Party could not let the house, and they were entitled to have as many meetings as they liked and to decide to support whom they liked.

It seemed the general opinion that a panel of houses could not be worked on the motion moved by Councillor Billington, and a number of members held that no panel had yet been established and that to do so it would be necessary to make the panel when there were no houses at all in question, and to classify all their houses under different types. After some further discussion it was agreed to request the Finance Committee to consider whether or not, it was possible to work a panel, and a poll was then taken on the applications for the house at Grattan Terrace, when they voted for:-

John Moloney, Carrigeen St.- Councillors: Cashman, Murphy, Moran, McMahon, Hayes, Crosbie, John Billington, Hawkins, Byrne, Sinnott, Connolly, Gaul, Atkins, McGuire, Aldermen Tobin, Walsh, McMahon and the Mayor. (18).

For Patrick Banville, John's Gate St.- Councillors: Dunne, James Billington, and Alderman Coffey. (3).

Moloney having a clear majority was declared the tenant.

For the house at Antelope Road their voted for:-

Patrick Murphy, Gibson St.- Councillors: Moran, McMahon, Hayes, Crosbie, Hawkins, Dunne, Sinnott, Alderman Walsh and McMahon. (9).

For W. Godkin, South Main St.- Councillors: Cashman, James Billington, Atkins, Aldermen Tobin, and Coffey. (5).

For F. Allen, High St. - Councillors: McGuire, John Billington, and Connolly. (3).

For Patrick Keating, Cornmarket.- Councillors: Byrne, Gaul and the Mayor. (3).

For Joseph Pitman, Maudlintown.- Councillor Murphy (1).

As no person had a majority Pitman was eliminated and Councillor Murphy transferred his vote to Patrick Murphy giving him 10 votes, and a poll was then taken as to whether Allen or Keating, who each had three votes, should be eliminated. For Allen being retained their voted:- Councillors: McGuire, Cashman, Murphy, John Billington, Dunne, Sinnott, Connolly, James Billington, Atkins, and Alderman Coffey. (10).

For Keating being retained their voted Councillors: Moran, McMahon, Hayes, Crosbie, Hawkins, Byrne, Gaul, Aldermen Tobin, Walsh, McMahon and the Mayor. (11).

Allen was then eliminated and a poll was taken as between Keating, Godkin, and Murphy, when they voted for Murphy.- Councillors: McGuire, Murphy, Moran, McMahon, Crosbie, Hawkins, Hayes, Dunne, Sinnott, Connolly, Aldermen Walsh and McMahon. (12).

For Godkin. - Councillors: Cashman, John Billington, James Billington, Atkins, Aldermen Tobin, and Coffey. (6).

For Keating.- Councillors: Byrne, Gaul, and the Mayor. (3).

Murphy having a clear majority was declared elected.

#### RESOLUTION - WEXFORD UNEMPLOYED ASSOCIATION.

The next business was to consider a resolution from the Wexford Unemployed Association condemning the recent proposal made in Dail Eireann regarding the establishment of "labour camps," and calling on the Corporation to oppose the proposal. Councillor Byrne moved the adoption of the resolution, but the Mayor explained that certain suggestions were made during the course of an unemployment debate in the Dail about concentration camps and he thought that if the Corporation were to pass a resolution saying that they were asking the Government not to entertain the

(8)

5th June, 1939.

suggestion that would be sufficient, but there was no definite resolution before the Dail, and the suggestions were made in the course of a debate. The Mayors suggestion was agreed to.

A further lengthy letter was submitted from the Unemployed Association, and in reply to a query the Town Clerk said it could be condensed into seven questions, as follows:-

- (1) The position as regards the proposed new Town Hall and if it was ever to be built.
- (2) The earliest date when the new Waterworks Scheme was likely to start.
- (3) When it was proposed to commence work at Rowe Street and Georges Street and whether it would be 3, 4 or 5 day rotation.
- (4) If the Corporation had any information from the Board of Works re 5 day rotational employment.
- (5) Who changed the period of employment from three months on the Maudlintown housing scheme to two months at present.
- (6) When was the painting of Artizans Dwellings likely to start.
- (7) What was the attitude of the Corporation towards Councillor Cashman's motion regarding the employment of men with families.

It was agreed to make the following answers to the letter:-

- (1) As regards the new Town Hall, proposals for the erection of this building were at present being examined by the Department of Local Government and Public Health, and no decision had yet been given.
- (2) Application had been made for a Provisional Order in connection with the Waterworks, and every effort was being made to have the work commenced as early as possible.
- (3) The proposals for the work at Rowe Street and Georges Street etc. were awaiting sanction.

As regards the period of employment a Committee of the Corporation were in close touch with the Borough Surveyor regarding the employment of married men as key-men.

- (4) The Corporation had no information regarding 5 day Rotational Employment.
- (5) As regards the period of employment on present works, these were principally the erection of houses and no limit was fixed to the period for which a man might be employed.
- (6) The painting of Artizans Dwellings could not be commenced until the Rates for the current year began to be collected.
- (7) The attitude of the Corporation to Councillor Cashman's motion was covered in the answer to query (3) above.

(9)

5th June, 1939.

This completed the Agenda, but Councillor Hawkins referred to the condition of a pond adjoining the Railway line at the end of Maudlintown, and said it was being used for the dumping of dead dogs and cats.

In reply to a query the Town Clerk said he did not think the place would be under the jurisdiction of the Corporation as if it were on the sea shore it would be under the control of the Wexford Harbour Commissioners, and if on the Railway property under the control of the Great Southern Railways. He pointed out that there was no Port Sanitary Authority whatever in Wexford and said he would take the matter up with the Secretary of the Harbour Commissioners, and the Secretary of the Board of Health, if necessary, to see who was responsible for the pond in question.

SCARCITY OF WATER.

Reference was made by the Mayor to the scarcity of water in the Town and he appealed to the public to co-operate with the Corporation in conserving the present supply, and in connection with the matter moved that the attention of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be called to the seriousness of the situation, and to request him to speed up the making of a Provisional Order so as to enable the Corporation to proceed as soon as possible with the Edenvale Scheme.

Councillor Byrne seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

*Richard Cairns T. ->*  
*manfor*  
*26/6/34*

5th June, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting, the Members present being the same as at the Statutory Meeting.

#### TIMBER CONTRACTS.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of the Timber Contracts between the Corporation and the Wexford Timber Company for the supply of timber for the Davitt Road and William Street houses etc., the Town Clerk read the opinion of Mr. P. J. Roe, K.C. on the case submitted to him, and from this it appeared that the contract was one to which, in his opinion, Section 201 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, applied, and consequently should have been made under seal and security taken for the due performance thereof. In this case the Corporation had merely accepted the tenders of the Timber Co. and no formal contract or bond had been entered into.

Briefly, Mr. Roe's opinion was that the contract was incomplete and in-operative and could not at present be enforced by either parties. The Committee discussed this matter at length and decided that as the supplies of timber for some weeks past had been comparatively satisfactory to take no action for the present.

Reference was made to the rejection by the Borough Surveyor of tiles manufactured by a man named Kelly of Enniscorthy, which were supplied through the Wexford Timber Co., and the Surveyor pointed out that the tiles in question were of very inferior quality which he was not prepared to use, and further stated that he should get a better quality tile as cheap, if not cheaper, than Mr. Kellys.

It was decided not to interfere with the Borough Surveyor in this matter.

#### EXCHANGE OF GROUND.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of the exchange of ground at Summerhill between the Gaelic Athletic Association and the Corporation, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health under date of the 31st ultimo by letter No. H.14605/39, pointed out that there were two sections of land marked on the map proposed to be acquired from the Very Rev. Father Doran, and as well, that the proposed road would have no access to Whitemill except through Harvey's field, and to inquire the Council's proposal in the matter. In this connection, it was agreed to open negotiations with Mr. Harvey and Father Doran for the purchase of the ground required and to point out to the Minister that Harvey's field could be used for allotments for unemployed persons, pending its development as a road and housing site.

#### TENDERS.

Two tenders were submitted for a uniform and cap for the Town Sergeant from Messrs. Healy & Collins and W. & G. Hadden Ltd. The former firm quoted various prices from £3. 12. 6 to £4. 7. 6 complete, while the latter's prices were £5. 4. 6 and £4. 14. 6. After some discussion it was agreed that the tender of Messrs. Healy & Collins at £4. 7. 6 be accepted.

For a pair of boots for the Town Sergeant Messrs. Healy & Collins quoted prices from 10/6d. to 15/11d., and Messrs. Hadden 15/6d. to 26/9d., and it was decided to leave this in the hands of the Town Clerk to ascertain what prices the boots could be obtained from the Trade List.

15th June 1939.  
5th June, 1939,

A meeting of the Housing Committee was held this day at 6.0.

A letter was read from Miss Helena Gibbons, of Talbot Road, Highgate, London, who stated that she had willed to the Town of Wexford a large oil painting by Francis Danby, who was a native of Wexford, but as she was now changing her residence to a smaller house she had decided to send the painting to Wexford at once, and requested the Corporation to pay the cost of packing and transport. On the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Hayes, it was agreed to accept the picture and to pay the transport costs.

*Richard Cairns T.D.  
Mayor of Wexford*

The work of the William Street Housing Scheme against an estimate of £7480, and the Development Scheme No. 23304 is again... He pointed out that in his opinion the... and be carried out for the estimate having... progress being made, and as regards the... the Borough Surveyor informed him that the... be ample to complete the work.

A very lengthy discussion took place on the William Street and... Dublin Road housing schemes during which it was pointed out by... the Borough Surveyor that the delay was due to the failure of the... Contractors - The Suffolk Timber Company to supply... timber and suitable stone tiles, they were... delayed waiting for supplies of... materials and in the... Borough Surveyor's opinion the Company were making no effort... to carry out their contract.

In reply to a query as to the position of the Corporation, the... Town Clerk stated that he had not advised the... of the... of a... contract... between the... and the Corporation, and the... of the... Corporation's... could not be... as... a... contract.

It was... a... query... stated that if the Corporation... signed to... any... they should first have a... of the... and materials... required... for... and... for... timber, and... a... in... with the... of... It was then pointed out by the... that if... the Corporation would not be in a... position, in... which... were only the two firms of... in the... The... and... a... was... that... If the Corporation... a... under... the... in view of the... process, their... would be... and... that... the Corporation would not... They would then be in the position that they would... After a very lengthy discussion... the... the... appointed to... the... to... if they would... whether the... was prepared to supply the... materials in... with the... specifications, namely:... and the... to... for the... to... at... on the 19th instant.

16th June, 1939.

A Meeting of the Housing Committee was held this day at 8.0. p.m. the Members present being:-

Councillors: Hayes, Dunne, Moran, Connolly, Byrne, and Crosbie.

In the absence of the Mayor, Councillor Byrne took the chair, on the motion of Councillor Crosbie, seconded by Councillor Hayes.

The Town Clerk reported that the cost to the end of last month of the Davitt Road Housing Scheme was £2439 as against an estimate of £3141; the cost of the William Street housing was £2505 as against an estimate of £7440, and the cost of the Green Street Development Scheme was £3504 as against an estimate of £4900. He pointed out that in his opinion the first two schemes would not be carried out for the estimate having regard to the slow progress being made, and as regards the Green Street development the Borough Surveyor informed him that the balance left would be ample to complete the work.

A very lengthy discussion took place on the William Street and Davitt Road Housing Schemes during which it was pointed out by the Borough Surveyor that the delay was due to the failure of the Contractors - The Wexford Timber Company to supply suitable timber and suitable ridge tiles, they were constantly being delayed waiting for supplies of suitable timber and in his (Borough Surveyor's) opinion the Company were making no effort to carry out their contract.

In reply to a query as to the position of the Corporation, the Town Clerk stated that Counsel had advised that in view of the absence of a sealed contract no contract existed between the Timber Co. and the Corporation, and the acceptance of the Company's tender by the Corporation could not be enforced as a legal contract.

In reply to a further query he stated that if the Corporation wished to take any action they should first have a Schedule prepared of the quantities and materials required to complete the jobs and to advertise for fresh tenders, and have a contract executed in accordance with the opinion of Counsel.

It was then pointed out by the Members that if this were done the Corporation would not be in a much better position, in as much as there were only the two Firms of Builders Providers in the Town, namely, The Wexford Timber Co. and Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty, and it was extremely unlikely that outside firms would tender. If the Corporation decided not to accept a tender from the Timber Co. in view of the delays caused these housing schemes, their only alternative would be Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty, and some members held that as this was a non-union firm the Corporation would not accept goods from them.

They would then be in the position that they could not obtain supplies.

After a very lengthy discussion during which this position was examined from various angles, the following deputation was appointed to wait on the Wexford Timber Co. with a view to seeing if they could ascertain whether the Company was prepared to supply the necessary materials in accordance with the Specification, namely: Councillors: Hayes, Dunne, Connolly Byrne and the Mayor, and the Town Clerk was asked to arrange for the Company to receive the deputation at 11. a.m. on the 19th instant.

(2)

16th June, 1939.

This deputation it was decided should report to the Finance and Works Committee which was meeting on the 19th instant, and if the report was not satisfactory that the present Committee recommend the Finance Committee to completely close down the works so as to avoid further overhead expenses.

A complaint was made regarding the working of overtime by members of the Corporation Housing Staffs, and it was pointed out that this was a breach of the Corporation Regulations, but the Town Clerk intimated that before any action was taken they should have absolutely unquestionable evidence that the men had actually worked for other persons after completing their days work for the Corporation, as otherwise the Corporation would be open to an action for wrongful dismissal.

Under date of the 14th instant the Minister for Local Government and Public Health requested the submission of particulars of the Housing Survey asked for on the 1st September last covering the period ending the 31st March, 1944. The Town Clerk stated that this matter had been before the Committee last year and the instructions of the Minister then was that the survey should be carried out under the guidance of the Co. Medical Officer of Health and the Borough Surveyor. He had written to the then Co. M. O. H. who stated that the survey should be carried out by the two M. O. H. He had forwarded the necessary forms to Drs. Pierse and Sinnott, and had received some returns from the former but none from the latter. Some time ago he had raised this matter before the Corporation who thought that little could be done pending the appointment of a new Co. Medical Officer of Health, but decided that the Town Sergeant should make inquiries as to the number of houses in the Town where more than one family was housed. He (Town Clerk) had recently got out a form for this purpose, but a short time ago the Corporation had insisted on doing the work of numbering Upper and Lower John Street to which he had put the Town Sergeant and up to the present the Sergeant had not an opportunity of doing anything in connection with Housing Survey.

In reply to a query the Town Clerk stated that no provision was made for the payment of the Medical Officers for the inspection of houses and it was very doubtful if it was part of their normal duties as Medical Officers of Health for which they were only paid £40 and £36 a year each.

In reply to a further query he stated that no provision was made for the payment of fees to either the Borough Surveyor or the Town Clerk for reports on houses or the preparation of clearance of Demolition Orders.

The Members stated that this was entirely unjust and that this work could not be termed normal work of any of the Officials but took no decision on the matter.

*Richard Cairns T. J.*  
*Mayor of Wexford*



19th June, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.  
The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Coffey, Walsh and McMahon.

Councillors: Atkins, Connolly, Buckland, James Billington, Gaul, Hawkins, Sinnott, John Billington, Crosbie, McGuire, McMahon, Byrne, Murphy, Moran, Cashman, Hayes and Dunne.

#### SYMPATHY.

At the outset Councillor Sinnott proposed that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to one of their employees, John Reck, on the death of his son which occurred a few days ago at the Curragh where the young man was undergoing a course of training in the Volunteer Reserve. Councillor Hawkins seconded the motion, which was supported by all the members present and adopted in respectful silence.

#### HOUSE - CARRIGEEN ST.

The first business on the Agenda was to consider applications for a house vacant at Carrigeen Street. A poll was taken when their voted for:-

John O'Connor, Dempsey's Terrace.- Councillors: Murphy, Byrne, McMahon, McGuire, Crosbie, Sinnott, Hayes, Hawkins, Gaul, James Billington, Buckland, Connolly, Atkins, Alderman McMahon, Walsh, Coffey and the Mayor. (17)

For Michael Roice, Hill St.- Councillors: Dunne, Cashman, and Moran. (3).

For James Murphy, Reilly's Lane.- Councillor John Billington. (1).

O'Connor having a clear majority was declared the tenant.

#### TENDERS.

The next business was to consider tenders for fencing for the William Street and Davitt Road Housing Schemes. Only one tender was received, and it was from Mr. T. Malone, Newtown, Wexford.

For the Front Fencing he quoted for:

|   |       |    |    |
|---|-------|----|----|
| 14 houses at William Street.....                    | £216. | 9. | 8. |
| 8 bungalows and Fire Station<br>at Davitt Road..... | 71.   | 1. | 8. |

For Back Fencing he quoted for:

|   |      |     |    |
|---|------|-----|----|
| 14 houses at William Street.....                    | £26. | 4.  | 6. |
| 8 bungalows and Fire Station at<br>Davitt Road..... | 51.  | 16. | 0. |

As this was the only tender before the Meeting it was unanimously decided to accept it on the motion of Councillor Crosbie, seconded by Councillor Byrne.

The next business was to consider tenders for the supply of Ready Mixed Paints and four tenders were submitted. They were from Messrs. Preston & Hadfields, The Wexford Timber Co., Spence & Docker Ltd., and Messrs. Brooks, Thomas & Co. Ltd.

Three qualities of Paint were required:-

- (1) White Ready Mixed Paint.
- (2) Tinted Ready Mixed Paint.
- (3) Red oxide of iron Ready Mixed Paint.

The following is a summary of the tenders:-

| TENDERER.            | (1)    | (2)    | (3)               |
|----------------------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| Preston & Hadfields. | ---    | ---    | 7/6d. per gallon. |
| Timber Co.           | 16. 9. | 16. 9. | 8.0. "            |
| Spence & Docker.     | 15. 0. | 15. 0. | 8.6. "            |
| Brooks, Thomas & Co. | 15. 6. | 14. 0. | 6.6. "            |

It was seen that for No. (1) Spence & Docker were the lowest and for No. (2) and (3) Messrs. Brooks, Thomas & Co. Ltd. were the lowest. On the motion of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Atkins, it was agreed to accept the lowest tender in each case.

This concluded the business of the Special Meeting, and at the request of Councillors. McMahon and Connolly it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to enable reference to be made to a matter of public importance.

#### G. S. R. LOCS. DEPT.

The matter was the proposal of the Great Southern Railway Co. to transfer their locomotive department from Wexford Town to Rosslare Harbour. The Members pointed out that this would be a serious blow to the Town as this Department alone was in receipt of, approximately, £250 per week in wages, all of which was spent in the Town of Wexford. If this department were transferred to Rosslare the wives and families of these men would also have to reside there and this would mean a big loss to the trading community of Wexford. The matter was discussed for some time and it was eventually agreed, on the suggestion of the Mayor, that the Wexford Development Association should be requested to convene a Public Meeting in the Town Hall on Monday next, the 26th instant at 9. p.m. of the Traders of the Town, the Harbour Commissioners, and the Corporation, and as well, that the five T.D.'s for the County should be invited to attend.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF PAINTERS.

In reply to a query the Borough Surveyor stated it would not be possible to rotate the painters on the work of painting the houses for which tenders for paint had been accepted.

The Meeting then terminated.

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A Meeting of the Old Age Pensions Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting the Members present being the same as at the Special Meeting.

A number of claims were submitted and dealt with, the decisions on which will be found in the Register of Old Age Pensions Claims and Questions.

There was also submitted to the Meeting an application from Anastasia O'Leary of Castle Hill Street to be appointed to receive on behalf of her husband, James O'Leary, any sums payable by way of Old Age Pensions, Mr. O'Leary it appeared was mentally incapacitated, and was causing a considerable amount of trouble not only to his relatives but to the Post Office Officials in connection with his Pension. So it was unanimously agreed, that the necessary authorisation should be made to allow Mrs. O'Leary to receive the Pension on her husband's behalf.

*Richard Coombs T.D.  
Mayor of Wexford*

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Waterworks and Public Health Committees was held at the close of the above Meeting the members present being the same as at the Special Meeting.

#### CONTRACT - H. & A. HAMILTON.

The Town Clerk referred to the discussion which had taken place some time ago regarding the deduction under a penalty clause made in the amount payable on foot of contract for the erection of houses to Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton, Builders & Contractors, Waterford. In one of their communications Messrs. Hamilton had made a statement which was objected to by the Clerk of Works, Mr. T. J. Millar, and under date of the 9th instant, the Contractors stated that if any improper charges were implied in their letter they unreservedly withdrew same and stated that Mr. Millar, they believed, acted strictly throughout the contract in accordance with his conception of his duties to the Corporation as Clerk of Works. The contents of this communication were noted and considered satisfactory.

#### ANALYST'S REMUNERATION.

With reference to the application of the Borough Analyst for an increase in his remuneration, Mr. Fagan under date of the 17th ultimo, stated that the terms of his employment with the Dublin Corporation had been adjusted subsequent to his letter of May, 1934, and that he now received a percentage of the revenue over a certain figure, which accrued from his outside appointments etc., and consequently had a direct personal interest in any increase he received from the Borough of Wexford.

After some discussion it was decided to request the views of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health on the salary scale requested by the Analyst.

#### RELIEF GRANTS & WATERMAINS.

Under date of the 9th instant by letter No. RU/206/131 the Minister for Local Government and Public Health intimated that he had sanctioned the proposals of the Corporation to re-surface Rowe Street Upper, Georges Street Upper and Lower, and part of the Main Street in concrete at a cost of £2205. The Grant would be £1915 and the local contribution £290.

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In reply to a query it was stated that at present only Rowe Street could be carried out as it was necessary to renew watermains in the other areas.

As regards the proposal to renew watermains the Town Clerk intimated that he had submitted them to the Department for approval on the 7th instant, and under date of the 14th instant by letter No. S.1225/9/38 the Minister pointed out that in recent years the Corporation had undertaken numerous schemes for the relaying of sewers and watermains the total cost of which had involved a very appreciable addition to their indebtedness. In August 1938 the capital indebtedness of the Corporation on foot of Public Health Loans, including roads, was approximately, £20,693, in addition to balances of £2297 in respect of loans certified under the Local Authorities (Financial Provisions) Act, 1921. The total indebtedness of the Corporation, he stated, was approximately seven times the valuation of the Borough, and it was very heavy in addition to the extensive scheme under consideration for the improvement of the Water Supply, this latter scheme would completely absorb the margin of borrowing powers remaining. Continuing, the Minister said, it should be obvious to the Corporation that it would be essential to restrict borrowing for other purposes to an absolute minimum, and work of a public health character would require to be certified as being of a primary urgency on the grounds of public health, and the views of the Co. M. O. H. on the necessity for the proposed extensions should accordingly be obtained. It was pointed out that these were not extensions but renewals of mains which had been originally laid some 60 years ago and were of primary urgency in view of the proposal to concrete the streets. The Town Clerk also intimated that he had requested the views of the Acting Co. M. O. H. in accordance with the Minister's suggestion. It was decided that the Special Committee appointed to consider these Relief Grants some time ago should meet at the close of the present Meeting.

#### REGISTERED PLUMBERS.

Applications from Messrs. Thomas Underwood, South Main St., Daniel Gordon and Patrick Gordon, Parnell St., James Gordon, St. Ibar's Villas, and James Furlong, Old Pound, to be admitted and enrolled as authorised waterworks plumbers were submitted, and as these men had all been on the Old Register it was unanimously agreed, on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Byrne, to renew their registration.

In reference to an application from George Gordon, Parnell Street, for registration, the Town Clerk pointed out that he had not been registered before, and it was decided to request him to submit evidence that he had served his apprenticeship.

A further application for registration as a Waterworks Plumber was submitted from a man named James Jones, of John Street, who submitted a certificate from the Reprs. of John Browne, Builder & Contractor, Henrietta Street, that he had served at plumbing with Francis Browne for at least seven years. The position about this young man was that the Plumbers Society would not recognise him as a plumber or recognise that he had served his apprenticeship, and whilst it was pointed out that whether or not he was a member of the Plumbers Society could not effect his application for registration if the Corporation were satisfied that he had served his apprenticeship and was a competent plumber, it was decided to adjourn the matter for a week and to ask the Plumbers Society why they objected to taking him in view of the evidence submitted by his late employer.

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## PUBLIC WEIGHBRIDGE.

A letter from the County Surveyor addressed to the Borough Surveyor was read asking for permission to erect a public weighbridge at the Faythe. In a covering letter the Borough Surveyor stated that the weighbridge would be the property of the Co. Council and at the disposal of the Gardai for the purpose of checking road vehicles under the Traffic Act, and would not be for commercial use. The Members were not very enamoured with this proposal to erect a weighbridge at the Faythe and decided to request the Co. Surveyor to submit a photograph of the building before they came to a final decision.

## PROPOSED BUILDINGS.

There was submitted to the Meeting an application accompanied by a plan from Mr. Nicholas Murphy, South Main Street for permission to erect a betting office at the Faythe. Some members objected to this application on the grounds that the building was in course of erection before the permission of the Corporation was obtained, but the Borough Surveyor stated that Mr. Murphy had been with him when he informed him that he could not grant any permission without the authority of the Corporation. It appeared that Mr. Murphy was anxious to make an application to the Court for a Licence and he was prepared, if the Corporation did not approve, to take down any part of the building already erected. Councillor Hayes thereupon proposed that the necessary permission be granted and Councillor Gaul seconded. On a show of hands the proposal was adopted by 12 votes for to 4 against. A similar application was made by Mr. J. A. Parker, South Main Street, for permission to erect a shop and dwelling house at South Main Street for Mr. Patrick Kelly. A plan had been approved by the Borough Surveyor, and on the motion of Councillor Gaul, seconded by Councillor Connolly, the necessary permission was granted.

## WATER SUPPLY.

The action of the Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor in cutting off the Water Supply to the Town between the hours of 8. p.m. and 6.a.m. and for prohibiting the use of water for purposes other than domestic or legitimate trade purposes was approved.

## MALICIOUS INJURY.

An application on behalf of Mrs. Mary Holbrook, Rocklands, for £50 compensation for malicious damage was referred to the Corporation Solicitor to defend when it came before the Circuit Court.

## REPORTS - FIRE BRIGADE.

Two reports were submitted from the Captain of the Fire Brigade regarding attendance of the Brigade at fires. The first was for attendance at Rocksborough on the premises of Mrs. Holbrook for which the Brigade were engaged for 1½ hours, and the Town Clerk intimated that he had submitted an account for £5. 5. 0 the minimum charge for the attendance of the Brigade.

This was agreed to. The second was for a fire at Littlegraigue, Bannow, which occurred on the night of the 8/9th instant. In this case the Fire Brigade were engaged for seven hours and the Town Clerk reported that he had submitted an account for £30.

This action of the Town Clerk was also approved.

Arising out of this matter a question was raised as to whether or not it was advisable to allow the Brigade to attend fires outside the Borough, and it was pointed out that if a fire occurred in Town while the Brigade was absent a very serious position might arise and the

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Corporation might be liable to an action for failure to perform a statutory duty to the residents of the Borough. On the other hand it was pointed out that if it was definitely decided to restrict the operation of the Fire Brigade within the Borough Boundary an equally serious position might arise if a fire took place at the Co. Hospital which was only just outside the Town and the Brigade could not attend through such restriction. And again it would be a very difficult matter to refuse the attendance of the Brigade if a fire occurred at ~~the~~ an Institution such as the Mental Hospital or Sanatorium near Enniscorthy where lives might be endangered through lack of fire fighting equipment. It was eventually decided to leave the position as it was at present namely:- that it be at the discretion of the Executive Officers, i.e. The Mayor, Town Clerk or Borough Surveyor to permit of the Brigade travelling outside the Borough. It was also decided to purchase more hose for the use of the Brigade.

#### ASSOCIATION MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES.

A letter was read from the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities intimating that the Annual Conference of the Association would be held at Cork on the 12th, 13th, and 14th September next, and requested the Corporation to appoint delegates. It was decided that delegates should be appointed at the next Statutory Meeting and notice of this intention should be given. With reference to the expenses of delegates attending this Conference the Association forwarded copy of a letter received from the Department of Local Government and Public Health stating that no binding rule as to what would constitute reasonable expenses could be laid down. The normal rate of allowance to cover the cost of absence from home would not exceed 16s. for each night covering a period of 24 hours. In the special circumstances connected with attendance at the Conference the Minister would however regard as reasonable an allowance within a limit of £1 for each night on which delegates who are members of Local Authorities are necessarily absent from home and in addition the payment of all necessary expenses of locomotion. With regard to officers who are appointed delegates an allowance may be at the appropriate rate for the particular officer where it has been fixed with the Minister's sanction, otherwise, the same allowance may be paid the officers as to the other delegates. In this connection it was decided to recommend the Corporation to fix the following scale of expenses for members and officers travelling on the business of the Corporation either to this conference or on any other business.

Where a member or officer is absent from home over night.-----£1.

Where a member or officer is absent for a day and is able to return home that night.-----15s.

Travelling allowance to be First Class Return Rail Fare.

#### LOANS - S. D. A. ACTS.

The Town Clerk referred to the position of Loans under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts and stated that some time ago he had called the attention of the Committee to the fact that there was £162. 13. 10 outstanding on foot of instalments due on 1st January last. Since his last report he had collected £68. 19. 5 leaving still outstanding £93. 14. 5. This amount was due by:-

19th June, 1939.

|                                  |     |     |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| J. Leonard, St. John's Road..... | £3. | 0.  | 6.  |
| Edward Howlin, " .....           | 48. | 7.  | 7.  |
| Saml. Yates, " .....             | 3.  | 9.  | 11. |
| Mary Bolger, Fishers Row.....    | 26. | 19. | 11. |
| Michael Coghlan, High St.....    | 11. | 16. | 6.  |

As regards Leonard and Yates the Town Clerk stated that he expected to receive the small balance due in each case in the course of a couple of weeks. In the case of Coghlan he had received the sum of 25s. and Councillor Connolly stated that he was aware Coghlan was still in negotiation with a person for the sale of the house when the outstanding balance would be cleared off.

In the case of Howlin, the Town Clerk read an application from this man for one of the new houses at William Street, and it was thought that it might be as well for the Corporation to accede to this if Howlin could dispose of the house at St. John's Road to an approved person who would meet the installments due regularly, and before deciding to take further action in this case he was to be written to and asked what he proposed to do about the outstanding installments if the Corporation decided to give him a house at William Street. As regards Mrs. Bolger it was decided to take whatever steps were necessary to obtain possession of this house with a view to its sale in order to redeem the money advanced by the Corporation to erect it.

#### HOUSE - ST. JOHN'S RD.

With reference to previous discussions relative to the claim of Mr. Patrick Donovan, St. John's Road, for damage to his furniture through dampness in his house, Messrs. Huggard, Brennan & Godfrey, Solicitors, submitted a detailed claim totalling £18. 10. 0. It was decided to request the Corporation Solicitor to advise whether the Corporation were legally liable in this matter or not.

#### MACHINES ON FOOTPATHS.

Under date of the 19th ultimo Mr. A. Thornton, Enniscorthy, acknowledged receipt of the permission of the Corporation for the erection of a weighing machine on the footpath outside the Forester's Hall and stated that he would indemnify the Corporation against any accident or action which might arise through the machine referred to being on the footpath on the site for which they had given their permission. This was considered satisfactory.

The Town Clerk referred to an application for permission to erect an automatic cigarette machine on the footpath outside the premises of Mr. Ml. Broaders, South Main St. which had been before the Committee on the 24th April last, when it was decided that as the machine projected a few inches outside the line of the adjoining building that Mr. Broaders be asked who was the owner of the machine and if the owner would be prepared to indemnify the Corporation against any loss which might be caused if an accident occurred.

The Town Clerk intimated that he had written to Mr. Broaders in April asking for these particulars and had received no reply; he had written a further letter on the 2nd June asking for a reply to his letter of April but did not receive a reply to this communication either, so it was decided to inform Mr. Broaders that unless the machine in question was removed within seven days the Corporation would proceed against him for obstruction.

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## ACCIDENT TO CHILD.

The Town Clerk read a letter from Mr. Denis Frayne, Selskar Street, intimating that an accident had occurred to his daughter in Georges Street owing to the uneven state of the footpath, which necessitated medical attention when surgical clips had to be inserted in her knee. Pending a further claim in this case no action was taken.

## ACQUISITION OF LAND - SUMMERHILL.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting, when the Town Clerk had been directed to communicate with the President of St. Peter's College and Mr. Robert Harvey, regarding the acquisition of land, he reported that Mr. Harvey had interviewed him on the subject of his three fields at Whitemill, which contained approximately,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  acres, and were subject to a revised annuity of £4. 13. 10 per annum. Mr. Harvey had intimated that he was prepared to sell the fields in question for the sum of £650, which was at the rate of £100 per acre. The Members considered that this offer was reasonable but as the fields in question were just outside the Borough the Town Clerk was directed to see what steps were necessary to be taken in order that the Corporation might acquire them.

## FRANCISCAN RATES.

The Town Clerk reminded the Members that some time ago he had been asked to communicate with some other Town Clerks regarding the payment of rates by the Franciscan Fathers on their various convents.

He had written to the Town Clerk's of Clonmel, Killarney, Galway, and Waterford, and found that in Clonmel the Friars were paying rates for the past three years. In Killarney they were paying since the time they had unsuccessfully contested the valuation, they were also paying in Waterford, but were not paying in Galway.

The Meeting instructed the Town Clerk to get in touch with the local Guardian and ascertain if he would be prepared to pay the current rates, if the outstanding ones were written off.

## REPORT - M. O. H.

Dr. Pierse, Medical Officer of Health, reported that he had inspected the grating of the sewer at end of Georges Street outside of Messrs. M. J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, and found an offensive smell emanating from same, and recommended that the sewer be opened and cause of smell removed.

The Borough Surveyor intimated that he would shortly be making alterations in the sewer in Georges Street when he would be re-surfacing it in concrete and he would have the complaint investigated and remedied.

## SEWERAGE - KING ST.

The Town Clerk intimated that he had received complaints regarding the connection of the sewerage from the Green Street Housing Development site with the King Street River, and the Borough Surveyor was asked to make a report and estimate of the cost of covering this river and converting it into a main drain.

## PUBLIC BATHING PROTECTION.

Under date of the 31st ultimo by circular letter No. P.H.65 the Minister for Local Government and Public Health called attention to the necessity of providing life saving apparatus and shelters at places used for



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public bathing, but as the only bathing place under the control of the Corporation was an enclosed one in which a caretaker was constantly employed, during the bathing season, the Town Clerk was directed to explain the circumstances to the Minister.

Arising out of this matter the Borough Surveyor was directed to have a few cart loads of sand or gravel placed over the mud in the shallow water at the bathing place.

#### REPORT - MEAT INSPECTOR.

The report of the Meat Inspector for the month of May showed that he had examined 123 cattle, 418 sheep and 58 swine. Of the cattle, three heads, two fore-quarters and 11 organs were destroyed for tuberculosis, and 21 organs destroyed for other diseases. Of the sheep, one whole carcase and 11 organs were destroyed for diseases other than tuberculosis. Of the swine, one whole carcase, two heads and two fore-quarters, together with three organs were destroyed for tuberculosis.

Arising out of this report the Town Clerk was asked if he had yet received any intimation from the Department as to whether Mr. Staples was regarded as being qualified to carry out Meat Inspection, and he replied that up to the present he had not, so it was decided to again communicate with the Department on the matter.

#### REPORT. M. O. H.

Dr. Fierse, M. O. H. reported that he had inspected a yard at rear of house in Georges Street occupied by Mary Boyne, and found surface water flowing over the yard due to drain to main sewer apparently being choked under the hall of the house and causing a menace to public health. He recommended that the drain be opened and cleaned, and it was agreed that notice should be served on the owner requiring this work to be carried out within seven days.

#### OVERTIME- EMPLOYEES.

With reference to a Meeting of the Housing Committee on the 16th instant when complaint was made that two employees of the Corporation named Bolger and McCormack were engaged erecting a house for a person outside the Borough after their working hours with the Corporation, the matter was again raised at the present meeting. It was pointed out that by a resolution of the Corporation made some few years ago employees were prohibited from working for any other person whilst in the employment of the Corporation under pain of dismissal and it was agreed that the two men should be written to and asked if the complaint was correct.

#### APPLICATION FOR LOAN.

Mr. T. Walsh, of Rowe Street, who had been granted a loan last year of £450 under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, applied for a supplementary loan of £50 and as the house had been valued for approximately £600 by the Borough Surveyor, it was unanimously agreed, on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Connolly, to recommend the Corporation to grant the loan.

#### HOUSE - ST. MAGDALEN'S TERRACE.

A complaint regarding the condition of a house at St. Magdalen's Terrace was referred to the Borough Surveyor for attention.

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## DEPUTATION TO TIMBER CO.

With reference to Minutes of the Housing Committee on the 16th instant when a deputation had been appointed to wait on the Proprietors of the Wexford Timber Co. relative to their timber contracts in connection with the Davitt Road and William Street Housing Schemes, the Town Clerk reported that owing to being engaged in Court proceedings at Arklow on this day the Company had found it impossible to receive the deputation and had suggested that, if suitable to the Corporation, that the members should call on Tuesday, the 20th instant at 11. a.m. and this was agreed to.

*Richard Coombs T.D.  
Mayor of Wexford*

A Meeting of the Special Committee appointed to consider the administration of Relief Grants was held at the close of the above Meeting.

The Members present being:-

His Worship the Mayor, (in the Chair) with Alderman Walsh,

Councillors: Cashman, Byrne, Atkins, Dunne, and Sinnott.

Reference was made to the fact that some key-men at Green Street had been employed for the duration of the job, and the Town Clerk was asked to prepare a Schedule against the next Meeting of the Committee showing the length of time each of these men had been employed by the Corporation.

The Borough Surveyor reported that he proposed to commence the Spring and Summer Relief Grant at Rowe Street on the 26th instant, so it was decided to hold a Meeting of the Committee on Friday next at half-past seven o'clock p.m., and in the meantime, the Labour Exchange were to be asked if it would be possible to arrange to have the men notified by Saturday morning.

As it was now 11. 35. p.m. the Meeting adjourned.

*Richard Coombs T.D.  
Mayor of Wexford*

23rd June, 1939.

A Meeting of the Special Committee appointed on 1st May, 1939, to consider the administration of Relief Grants for the year 1939/40 met this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor, (in the Chair) with Alderman Thos. Walsh.

Alderman Thomas Walsh,

Councillors: James Billington, Thomas Byrne, Patrick Atkins, Timothy Cashman, Thomas Dunne, and James Sinnott.

The Borough Surveyor and Town Clerk were also in attendance.

With reference to Minutes of the Committee on the 19th instant when it was agreed that the list of names of men for employment furnished to the Borough Surveyor by the Labour Exchange be submitted to the Committee before men were selected, the Borough Surveyor laid this list before the Meeting and intimated that he saw no reason for not employing the first twenty-five thereon. No objection was raised by any of the members to this course when it was pointed out that the Regulations provided for the men to be taken in the order in which they appeared, and no man should be passed over unless good cause for such action could be shown.

During a general discussion on the cost of these works the Borough Surveyor intimated that two-course reinforced concrete street work was costing the Corporation 15/- per square yard and he was aware that it had been carried out for 6/10 by Contractors in other places. He was of opinion that a Contractor would carry out this work in Wexford for about 8/6 per square yard. Members expressed surprise at this contention and in reply to a query the Surveyor stated that the men would not give the same return to the Corporation as to a contractor who would not keep men who were not giving a fair return.

As requested at last Meeting the Town Clerk submitted a Return of the men employed on the Green Street Development Scheme since its inception. This showed that there were nine such men and the Borough Surveyor intimated that these would be finished in a short while and if he changed them now he would only get young men without experience as the higher rated men on the Green Street panel were exhausted.

It was agreed that a man named White of King Street should be employed as week-end watchman when this work commenced. On the question of the employment of a Ganger the Borough Surveyor stated that he proposed to employ a man named Patrick Cleary for this job, who had been previously employed as a ganger on Relief Work.

A number of members strenuously opposed this proposal of the Surveyor on the grounds that Cleary had been employed by the Corporation since September, 1938 and had only been finished on the 3rd instant. Previously he had been employed for a lengthy period with the Contractors for the Whitemill Housing Scheme, and as he had a number of stamps in respect of which he could draw Unemployment Insurance Benefit it was considered that some other person should be given an opportunity to act as ganger.

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The Borough Surveyor, however, would not agree to this and the matter was argued for a couple of hours without avail. Eventually the Meeting considered that they would not be justified in permitting the works to commence without having the entire matter considered by the Corporation and as a Quarterly Meeting was due to be held on the 26th instant, it was agreed to place the matter of the administration of the Grants on the Agenda for discussion and pending a decision by the Corporation the Grant work was not to commence.

Councillor Cashman raised a question of employing a large number of the men for five days but it was pointed out that sufficient cause should be shown for the employment of any person for more than three days and the Surveyor stated that only three keymen would be required on the jobs now about to commence.

As it was now 10. 0. p.m. the Meeting terminated.

*Richard Coats T. J.*  
*Mayor of Wexford*

26th June, 1939.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Corporation was held this day at the Town Hall at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: James McMahon, Thomas Walsh, Robert Coffey, and Patrick Tobin.

Councillors: Thomas Dunne, Timothy Cashman, Thomas Hayes, Phillip McGuire, James Billington, James Sinnott, James Crosbie, Thomas Byrne, James Gaul, Patrick Atkins, James Murphy, John Billington, Patrick Hawkins, Nicholas Connolly, and Stephen McMahon.

#### MINUTES.

The Minutes of Meeting of the Corporation on the 5th instant (a copy of which had been furnished to the Members with the Agenda for the present Meeting) were taken as having been read and were signed by the Mayor, on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Alderman Walsh.

#### ELECTION OF MAYOR.

The first business was to elect a Mayor to hold office until Quarterly Meeting due to be held between the 23rd June and 1st July, 1940, and until his successor had been appointed and made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

As had been the practice for some years past Alderman Corish, the Mayor, vacated the Chair during the election, and on the motion of Councillor Sinnott, seconded by Councillor Byrne, Alderman Walsh presided.

Councillor Byrne proposed that Alderman Richard Corish be elected Mayor of Wexford for the twentieth year in succession to hold office until Quarterly Meeting due to be held between the 23rd June and 1st July, 1940, and until his successor had been appointed and made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

In moving the motion Councillor Byrne said that during his Mayoralty Alderman Corish had carried out the duties with the dignity and respect which the Office required.

Councillor Connolly seconded and said he thought it would be very hard to get a man to carry out the work of Mayor as Alderman Corish had done.

Alderman McMahon and Councillor James Billington supported the proposal.

Councillor Atkins however stated that while he agreed with everything that the speakers had said about Alderman Corish he believed it was time after 19 years that they should have a change and he proposed that Alderman Walsh be elected for the coming year.

Alderman Walsh however declined to accept nomination nor was the proposition seconded.

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Alderman Coffey said he held Alderman Corish in great esteem, but about 20 years ago it was declared from every platform in Wexford that one year, or at the most two years, was enough for any man in the Mayoralty. Now they were going on for 20 years and he thought a change was due and that a healthy change would not be one bit of harm. He did not know if they had any member of the Council capable for the job - he believed they had - but if they had not, he suggested that they should go to the citizens. There were plenty of young men in the Town whom he would like to see coming in and being trained in Municipal Administration.

As there was no other nomination for the Office of Mayor, Alderman Walsh declared Alderman Corish re-elected amidst applause.

The re-elected Mayor then made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office prescribed by the Municipal Corporations (Ireland) Act, 1840, which was witnessed by Alderman Walsh and Councillor Hayes.

Alderman Corish then re-occupied the Mayoral Chair and in returning thanks to the Members for having elected him again stated he had no objection to what had been said by Alderman Coffey or Councillor Atkins. He certainly had held the Mayoralty for a long time but had done so because he was so deeply interested in his native Town. At the present moment, he stated, the task of a Public Representative in a Municipal Authority was an unenviable one because they were faced with abnormal expenditure all round. The Rates had reached a very high level and a great many of the increases were not due to the activities of the Corporation. Various schemes had had to be undertaken in recent years which had been responsible for piling up the Municipal Debt. It seemed that they were to have more expense, which to his mind, should not be a municipal charge. He then reviewed the provisions of the Bill before An Dail with Air Raid Precautions; the question of unemployment; the new Combined Purchasing Act; the proposal to improve the Water Supply to the Borough, and Housing.

In conclusion, he stated there would certainly be a change in Local Government within the next 12 months and hoped it would be for the benefit of the people in general, and that they would get results as good from the new system as he thought they had got from the old.

#### QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

The next business was to fix the days and hours for three Quarterly Meetings of the Corporation to be held prior to 23rd June, 1940, and on the suggestion of the Town Clerk it was agreed, on the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Alderman McMahon that the three Quarterly Meetings be fixed for:-

Monday, October 2nd, 1939 at 7. 30. p.m.

Monday, January 8th, 1940 at 7. 30. p.m.

Monday, April, 1st, 1940 at 7. 30. p.m.

(3)

26th June, 1939.

## STANDING COMMITTEES.

The appointment of Standing Committees of the Council as well as an Old Age Pensions Committee for the Borough was the next item on the Agenda and on the motion of Councillor Sinnott, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed that the existing Committees should be re-appointed, but that the Town Clerk should report to the Corporation as soon as possible if there were any members of the existing committees who had not attended during the past 12 months when their places could be filled.

## HOUSE - HARBOUR VIEW.

Four applications were submitted for the tenancy of a house at Harbour View and on a poll being taken their voted for:-

John Molloy, The Faythe.- Councillors: McMahon, Dunne, Hayes, McGuire, Sinnott, Crosbie, Byrne, Gaul, John Billington, Hawkins, Alderman McMahon and the Mayor. (12).

For William Godkin, North Main St.-Alderman Walsh, Coffey, Tobin, Councillors: Cashman, James Billington, Atkins, and Connolly. (7).

For John Murphy, The Faythe.- Councillor Murphy. (1).

Molloy having a clear majority was declared elected.

## RELIEF GRANTS.

The next business was to consider the administration of Relief Grants for 1939-40. The Mayor thought that this matter should be considered in Committee and in accordance with Standing Order No. 42 moved that the Council go into Committee. Councillor Crosbie seconded this motion which was agreed to, and the Meeting thereupon resolved itself into Committee.

The position with regard to the administration of these Grants was that at a Meeting of the Corporation held on 1st May last a discussion had taken place regarding Rotational Employment and a Committee had been set up to consult with the Borough Surveyor to see if he was prepared to recruit his keymen from men with families of four and over, and change them every four weeks. This Committee had met on the 5th May when a very frank and full discussion took place regarding the operation of these Grants, especially in relation to keymen, and after lengthy discussions during which the position was explained both from the point of view of the Officials charged with the administration of the Grants and the men employed, the Borough Surveyor agreed to rotate all keymen with the exception of two tamper men every four weeks and to submit to the Committee a list of the men he received from the Employment Exchange prior to commencing the next grant.

A Meeting of the Committee was also held on the 19th June when the Surveyor intimated that the Spring and Summer Works had been sanctioned and that he proposed to commence work thereon at Rowe Street on the 26th instant, and it was decided to hold a further meeting on the 23rd instant to examine the list of names submitted from the Labour Exchange.

(4)

26th June, 1939.

As arranged the Committee met on the 23rd at 7.30 p.m. and the list furnished to the Borough Surveyor by the Labour Exchange was laid before the Meeting. The list contained 53 names and the Surveyor stated that he would only require 25 men and saw no reason for not employing the first 25 whose names appeared on the list. No objection was raised by the Committee to this course when it was pointed out that the Regulations provided that the men be taken in the order in which they appeared, and no man should be passed over unless good cause for such action could be shown.

The question of the employment of a ganger was then raised by the Committee and the Surveyor intimated that he proposed to employ a man named Patrick Cleary for this job who had been previously employed as a ganger on Relief Work.

A number of members of the Committee strenuously opposed this proposal of the Surveyor's on the grounds that Cleary had been employed by the Corporation since September 1938 until the 3rd instant and previously had been employed for a lengthy period with the Contractors for the Whitemill Housing Scheme. As he had a number of stamps in respect of which he could draw Unemployment Insurance Benefit it was considered that some other person should be given an opportunity to act as Ganger. The Borough Surveyor, however, would not agree to this and the matter was argued until 10 p.m. without avail.

The Committee therefore decided that they would not be justified in permitting the works to commence without having the entire matter considered by the Corporation and had further decided to request such consideration at the present Meeting.

It was seen that the question of the employment of a ganger was the only point at difference between the Committee and the Borough Surveyor, but Councillor Cashman stated he dissented because he disagreed entirely with the principle of three days and considered that each man should get at least five days work for a period of a month.

This whole question was again debated at length by the Corporation and a number of members seemed to consider it very strange that the Borough Surveyor could not select a ganger from amongst the names on the list submitted by the Labour Exchange, and a further suggestion was made that a mason should act as ganger, but it was pointed out that the services of a mason would not be required until actual concreting commenced.

During the course of the discussion Paragraph 9 of the Departments Regulations S.G.A./206 E. (u) was read and this paragraph appeared to give absolute discretion to the Borough Surveyor in regard to the employment of gangers or keymen.

Councillor James Billington proposed that the appointment of a foreman or ganger be left to the Borough Surveyor in accordance with this Regulation, and Alderman Coffey seconded.

After a very lengthy debate however, a suggestion by the Mayor met with general favour. This was that no objection should be raised to Cleary's appointment as ganger but that when the second portion of the work commenced at Main Street that a man be selected from the list to act under Cleary as Timekeeper on the jobs and that all keymen to be appointed be married men who were not keymen before. The Borough Surveyor agreed to this suggestion of the Mayor's as did also the entire Corporation and Councillor James Billington withdrew his formal proposal.



(5)

26th June, 1939.

A question was raised regarding the employment of keymen on Green Street and the Borough Surveyor intimated that the entire gang there would be due for changing in two weeks time, and pointed out that the names he was receiving now for the Green Street Grant were all low-rated men with very little experience, but as far as possible he would apply to the Labour Exchange for high-rated men to act as keymen.

The Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Coombs T.D.  
Mayor of Wexford*

30th June, 1939.

A Meeting of the Housing Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair) with Alderman Walsh.

Councillors: Thomas Hayes, John Billington, James Crosbie, Patrick Atkins, Nicholas Connolly, Thomas Byrne, Thomas Dunne, James Billington, and Robert Moran.

The Borough Surveyor and Town Clerk were also in attendance.

The Meeting had been convened to consider the position of the Housing Works at Davitt Road North and William Street. It was recalled that at a Meeting of the Corporation held on the 1st May that power had been delegated to the Housing Committee to take such steps to deal with the situation regarding the delivery of supplies as they deemed advisable at any time.

The Committee now recognised that a stage had been reached when it was impossible to allow this situation to go further and thought that it should be closed down and the Minister for Local Government and Public Health asked immediately to send down an Inspector to investigate the dispute with the object of advising the Committee as to what steps they should take in all the circumstances.

Councillor Connolly moved that the Schemes be closed down and that the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be asked to send down an Inspector to make an investigation into the whole dispute and advise as to what steps the Corporation should take in the matter. Councillor Dunne seconded this motion and after some discussion it was seen there was no other alternative to the proposal, and it was unanimously agreed to.

The works were to be closed on the 1st prox. at 12. 30. p.m. and the men paid off.

As regards the Clerk of Works, it was also agreed that he should be informed that his services would not be required pending resumption of the work, and the day watch work was to be divided between the two present night watch-men of each Scheme.

Reference was made to the quantity of materials etc. on these sites and it was agreed that if anything went wrong that the watch-men should be held responsible and instantly dismissed.

It was further agreed that the Town Clerk should communicate with the Department of Local Government and Public Health immediately after the Meeting, and in order to enable him to do this by the night post the Meeting terminated.

*Richard Corish Esq.*  
*Mayor of Wexford*

3rd July, 1939.

A Statutory Meeting of the Corporation was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The members present were:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, Robert Coffey, and James McMahon.

Councillors: Thomas Hayes, Thomas Byrne, Thomas Dunne, Patrick Atkins, James Billington, Stephen McMahon, James Gaul, Patrick Hawkins, James Sinnott, James Crosbie, Phillip McGuire, James Murphy, Nicholas Connolly, and Timothy Cashmar.

#### MINUTES.

The following Minutes were submitted for approval and signature:- Minutes of the Corporation on 19th and 26th ultimo; Finance and Works Committee on 5th and 19th ultimo; Special Committee on 19th and 23rd ultimo; and Housing Committee on 16th and 30th ultimo.

Councillor Crosbie moved that the Minutes, as submitted, be approved and signed, and Councillor Byrne seconded.

Alderman Coffey, however, asked to have the Minutes of the Housing Committee on the 30th ultimo read, when it had been decided to close down the Housing Schemes, but the Mayor stated it would be unwise to read the Minutes as there was a disagreement between a Contractor and the Borough Surveyor, and the Department had been asked to send down an Inspector to investigate it.

In view of the Mayor's statement, Alderman Coffey did not press to have the Minutes read, and they were signed as submitted.

#### PAYMENTS.

Liabilities which had accrued due up to the end of last month, amounting, in the aggregate, to £2221. 12. 3 were submitted, and having been examined, were approved and an Advice Note signed to enable them to be discharged.

Arising out of an item in the Accounts in respect of repairs to the Fire Engine, Councillor Hayes asked if the work of repairs to the Corporation Motors was spread around all the Garages in Wexford, and the Town Clerk replied that it was. The Councillor thought the officials should see that work of this nature was only given to garages where Trade Union Wages were paid.

#### LOAN - T. WALSH.

The Finance Committee recommended that a Supplementary Loan of £50 be made to Mr. Thomas Walsh, Rowe Street, in respect of the purchase of a house there. The original amount of the Loan was £450, and the Borough Surveyor had placed a value of £600 on the building, so that the Corporation were within their Statutory rights in granting the loan of £50. The recommendation was adopted on the motion of Councillor Dunne, seconded by Councillor Atkins.

Arising out of this. Alderman Coffey asked what was the position regarding the repayments by people who had already got loans. The Town Clerk replied that there were only two people whom he had difficulty in collecting from. In one case he had instructed the Solicitor to take the necessary proceedings to foreclose on the Mortgage, and the other case was at present being considered by the Finance Committee.

3rd July, 1939.

#### NEW BUILDINGS.

The Finance and Works Committee recommended that permission be given under the Town and Regional Planning Act for the erection of a Shop and dwelling house at South Main Street for Mr. Patrick Kelly, and for the erection of an office at the Faythe by Mr. Nicholas Murphy, in accordance with the plans deposited. On the motion of Councillor Gaul, seconded by Councillor Hayes, the necessary permission to erect these buildings was granted.

#### TRAVELLING EXPENSES.

The Finance Committee also recommended that the following scale of expenses be fixed for members or officials travelling on the business of the Council.

- (a) Where a member or official is absent from home for a day and night (covering a period of 24 hours) £1. 0. 0.
- (b) Where a member or official is only absent from home for a day, and could reach his home the same night.- 15/- per day.
- (c) In addition, First Class Return Rail Fare should be paid.

In this connection, the Town Clerk stated that this matter had been the subject of dispute on recent occasions between members and himself, and he read a copy of a letter addressed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health, under date of the 31st May, 1939, to the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities. This letter stated that the normal rate of allowance to cover the cost of absence from home would not exceed 16/- per night, but in the special circumstances connected with attendance at Conferences of the Association the Minister would regard as reasonable an allowance of £1 for each night. This matter had been considered by the Finance Committee, who had decided that less than £1. per night would not be sufficient to cover expenses, and had agreed to recommend the payment of such a sum by the Corporation; the Committee had also considered that an allowance of 15/- per day should be paid when absence from home over night was not necessitated. Councillor Moran moved that the scale, as recommended by the Finance Committee, be adopted, and Councillor Byrne seconded. The motion was carried without dissent.

#### PURCHASE OF CONCRETE MIXER - MORTGAGE.

There was submitted for execution on the part of the Corporation a Deed of Mortgage whereby security would be given to the National Bank for the repayment of a Loan of £230 for the purchase of a Concrete Mixer, and on the motion of Councillor Gaul, seconded by Alderman Walsh, the following Resolution, submitted by the Bank's Solicitor, was unanimously adopted:-

"At a Meeting of the Corporation of the Borough of Wexford held on the third day of May, 1939, It was resolved - That in pursuance of the consent of the Local Government Minister dated 19th May 1939, the Corporation do borrow from The National Bank Limited the sum of £230 for the purpose of the purchase of a concrete mixer said loan to be repaid to the Bank by half yearly instalments spread over the period of three years with Interest thereon at one half per cent. under the Irish Banks' Rate rising and falling therewith from time to time but at no time to be less than £4 per cent. per annum, said loan to be secured by a Mortgage over the rates available for that purpose, and that the Seal of the Corporation be affixed to said Mortgage."

3rd July, 1939.

The Mortgage Deed was thereupon sealed and signed on the part of the Corporation.

#### IRISH TOURIST ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTION.

The next business was to execute a Local Contribution Agreement with the Irish Tourist Association in respect of a contribution of £20, which had been included in the rates for the current Financial Year. Councillor Hayes moved that the Agreement be executed, and Councillor James Billington seconded.

This gave rise to a very protracted discussion, and Alderman Coffey stated that while he had a great admiration for the Tourist Association, he had to complain that the Hotels were not all that they should be. Councillor Sinnott complained that County Wexford was not being advertised sufficiently. A number of members, however, pointed out that the Monthly Bulletin issued by the Association very often contained references to Wexford as well as photographs of interest. As regards the Hotels, it was pointed out that there had been a vast improvement in recent years, and that under new legislation at present before the Oireachtas, a Board would be set up with power to grade hotels and to give grants for their improvement. It was also pointed out that there must be a certain amount of advertising of Wexford across Channel as the Town Clerk was continually receiving requests for particulars of accommodation, etc. during the Spring and Summer months. The motion to execute the Agreement was eventually adopted, and it was sealed and signed on the part of the Corporation.

#### CONFERENCE - ASSOCIATION MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES.

The next business was to appoint delegates to attend the Annual Conference of the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities to be held in Cork on the 12th, 13th and 14th September next.

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Conferences Order, notice of intention to appoint delegates had been given to each member on the 22nd ultimo.

Councillor Connolly thereupon proposed that the Mayor and Councillor Dunne be appointed delegates, and in moving the motion said that in appointing delegates on previous occasions to similar Conferences they had not made as good a selection as they might have. The Conference was a very important one which dealt mainly with the Housing question, and he thought that the most suitable persons they could appoint as delegates were men who understood something about the building trades, and asked the Corporation to agree with him that the two best men were the Mayor and Councillor Dunne, who were so closely in touch with building.

Councillor James Billington seconded the proposal, but remarked that he thought the Conference should be constituted similar to the Technical Congress held recently where the C.E.O. was present with the delegates, and in his view the Town Clerk should accompany the delegates appointed to the Conference of the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities.

It was pointed out, however, that there could not be three delegates, and the Mayor said that the matter should be raised at the next meeting of the Association.

Councillor McMahon, however, proposed that Councillor Hayes be appointed one of the delegates, and Councillor Crosbie seconded. In reply to a query by Alderman McMahon, it was stated that Councillor Hayes was at the Conference last year, and was a member of the Executive.

In reply to a further query it was stated that the members of the Executive would not be ex officio delegates to the Congress.

3rd July, 1939.

After some further discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the Mayor should be one of the delegates, and as regards the second delegate, on a show of hands nine members voted for Councillor Hayes, and seven for Councillor Dunne.

Councillor Hayes was accordingly declared elected, and it was further agreed that if either of the two delegates were elected on the Executive Council of the Association that he be authorised to attend the number of meetings of such Executive permitted by the Local Conferences Order.

As regards the Agenda for the Conference, Councillor Cashman suggested that the Conference should be asked to call on the Government to amend the Regulations relating to Rotational Employment so as to permit married men with dependents to be employed for five days in each of every four weeks.

The Mayor then stated that he wanted permission to raise the question of the Local Loans Fund at the Conference, and stated that the annuities on foot of these loans were not now being paid to England, and he thought that the Local Authorities should receive some benefit considering that the farmers had their annuities halved. Permission to raise these matters at the Conference was given.

#### PLAY GROUNDS.

Councillor Sinnott raised the question of the provision of Play Grounds or Public Parks in the town, and stated that it would be a good day's work if the Association could make some arrangements in the matter. It was pointed out, however, that the Corporation had ample powers to deal with this matter themselves.

Councillor Byrne asked if the Town Clerk had any particulars regarding the proposal made some time ago to negotiate for the purchase of certain lands with the object of making a public park in the Southern end of the town. The Town Clerk, in reply, stated he had been asked by the owners' Solicitor to indicate what particular lands the Corporation required out of the lady's property in the area. He had sent a copy of this letter to Councillor Sinnott asking him what particular fields he had in mind when he moved in this matter, but he had received no reply, and it was now agreed that a Committee consisting of Councillors Sinnott, James Billington, Dunne, Connolly, Aldermen Walsh and Coffey be appointed to inspect sites in this connection.

#### CAR PARKS.

Councillor McMahon stated that some time ago Anne Street had been concreted and the Borough Surveyor had left a horse track on both sides of the steep part of the street to enable horses to travel on it, but both sides of the street at present were being used as car parks, as a result of which horses had to travel in the centre of the roadway.

The Town Clerk was asked to take up this matter with the Gardai with a view to having this particular part of the street kept free from parking.

#### OVER TIME.

Reference was made to a query at last meeting of the Finance Committee regarding two employees of the Corporation working after hours for other persons in contravention of a Resolution of the Corporation of some years ago, and it was stated that a reply had been received from the workers concerned and would be dealt with at the Finance Committee meeting to be held at the close of the present meeting.

3rd July, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance and Works, Waterworks, and Public Health Committees was held at the close of the above meeting, the members present being the same as at the Statutory Meeting.

## OVERTIME.

With reference to Minutes of the 19th ultimo, when complaint was made that two employees named Bolger and McCormack were working for persons other than the Corporation after hours, the Town Clerk intimated that he had written to the two gentlemen in question on the 22nd idem, and had received a joint reply stating that the information of the Corporation was inaccurate and that further observations on the complaint were unnecessary.

As these men were not now in the employment of the Corporation, it was agreed that the Borough Surveyor be instructed not to re-employ them until the Corporation had an opportunity of reviewing the whole matter in the light of further inquiries which the members seemed inclined to make.

## AUTHORISED PLUMBERS.

With reference to Minutes of the 19th ultimo, when an application of George Gordon of Parnell Street to be registered as an Authorised Waterworks Plumber was adjourned to enable him to submit evidence that he had served his apprenticeship, he submitted a certificate from Mr. James Furlong of Messrs. Gordon & Furlong, Plumbers, to the effect that he had served an apprenticeship of seven years.

This was considered satisfactory, but before registering this young man it was decided to request the Plumbers' Society to state if they recognised George Gordon as having served his apprenticeship.

Applications to be registered as Authorised Waterworks Plumbers were also submitted from:-

Richard Delaney, Columba Villas.  
 John Hayes, Grattan Terrace.  
 John Doyle, Commercial Quay.  
 James Doyle, Do.  
 Patrick Murphy, Monument Place.  
 John Molloy, Sr., Faythe.  
 Michael Fitzpatrick, Talbot Street.  
 Francis Goodison, John Street.

As all these men were on the old register it was agreed, on the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Councillor Gaul, to register them again.

With reference to Minutes of the 19th ultimo, when an application for registration as an Authorised Waterworks Plumber was submitted from James Jones, John Street, the Plumbers' Society intimated that Jones had applied for admission in January 1932, when it was decided not to admit him as he had not served his apprenticeship. At the time they had evidence that Jones was employed by the late John Browne, Builder, as a labourer to attend Plumbers, Carpenters, Masons, etc. Since 1932 he had applied for membership on three occasions and was refused as not being eligible.

In view of the diversity of opinion as to whether or not this young man had served his apprenticeship as a plumber, it was agreed on the suggestion of Councillor Connolly that Jones be permitted to appear before the Committee at next meeting in connection with the application. The Plumbers' Society under date of the 30th ultimo asked the Corporation not to register any plumbers outside the Wexford Borough Boundary, but it was decided to inform the Society that the Corporation could not agree to this suggestion and must continue the present practice of considering each application on its merits.

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Under date of the 30th ultimo, by letter No. H.30456/39, the Minister

3rd July, 1939.

for Local Government and Public Health pointed out that the arrears of rents at the end of May amounted to £634. 4. 11, and represented a rate of almost 7d. in the Pound. Immediate action, he stated, must therefore be taken by the Corporation to have the arrears reduced substantially. The Minister also pointed out that in assessing the amount of contribution to annual Loan Charges in any Financial Year, due consideration would be given to the amount of rent collectible and the standard of collection throughout the year. It was decided to forward a copy of this letter to each of the two Rent Collectors with a request for their observations on the state of arrears in their district. It was decided to ask the Rent Collectors to report on the condition of the houses in regard to cleanliness and sub-letting.

#### DAMAGE TO FURNITURE.

With reference to Minutes of the 19th ultimo, when a claim for compensation for damage to furniture through dampness in the house at St. John's Road, occupied by Mr. Patrick Donovan, was referred to the Corporation Solicitor, Mr. O'Connor, under date of the 26th instant, stated he could not see how the Corporation could be liable, and it was decided to inform the Solicitors for Mr. Donovan that the Corporation could not accept liability for their claim of 24th May last.

#### RATES, ST. PETER'S COLLEGE.

The Town Clerk referred to a disagreement which had arisen between the President of St. Peter's College and himself regarding liability to letting of half-annual rent, and it was agreed to refer this matter to the Corporation Solicitor to deal with, as there was a peculiar point of law involved.

#### HOLIDAYS.

The Sub Sanitary Officer applied for and was granted his usual two weeks holidays. The foreman also applied for his holidays and the application was granted. In reply to a query as to whom he recommended to act as foreman in the absence of William Byrne, the Borough Surveyor stated he would recommend Thomas Crosbie, Lorry Driver. This was agreed to.

#### RETENTION MONEY - WHITEMILL HOUSES.

There was submitted to the Meeting a letter from Messrs. Graves & Co. Ltd., Waterford, enclosing a letter from Messrs. H. & A. Hamilton, Builders and Contractors, authorising the Corporation to pay to Messrs. Graves the sum of £1041 retention money on behalf of their Contract with Wexford Corporation for the erection of Sixty-two houses at Whitemill. In reply to a query, the Town Clerk stated that he did not think the assignment in its present form was legal, and it was decided to ask the opinion of the Corporation Solicitor, and if the matter were put in legal form the Committee would raise no objection to the payment being made to Messrs. Graves.

#### PLOT AT ST. JOHN'S ROAD.

Mr. James Quirke, St. John's Road, applied to be given a small triangular plot of ground adjoining his house there for use as a garden. At the moment this plot was a wilderness and was used as a dumping ground by a number of people. It was unanimously agreed to recommend the Corporation to grant Mr. Quirke this plot at 1/- per year; the tenancy to be terminated by a month's notice in writing on either side.



3rd July, 1939.

## PLOT AT GREEN STREET.

A letter was read from Mr. Phillip Hall, Carrigeen Street, asking the permission of the Corporation to acquire the plot of land at Green Street over which he had given them a right of way some time ago. It was decided to ask the Borough Surveyor to examine this plot, and indicate the area of it.

## S. D. A. ACTS.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting, when the question of arrears of loans under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts had been under consideration, the Town Clerk reported that as directed he had instructed the Corporation Solicitor to take the necessary proceedings against Mrs. Bolger of Fisher's Row; and in regard to Mr. Edward Howlin, of St. John's Road, Mr. Howlin stated that if he got one of the houses at William Street, he would dispose of the present house at St. John's Road and pay the Corporation out of the sale the sums due.

It was decided to ask Mr. Howling what prospect, if any, he had of a sale.

## SPECIAL WORKS COMMITTEE.

Councillor Byrne referred to the amount of work being carried out by the present Committees, and asked that a Special Works Committee should be appointed, so it was agreed to give notice of this to each member before the next meeting of the Committee.

The Meeting then terminated.

*H. Cairns T.D.*  
Mayor.

11th July, 1939.

A Meeting of the Housing Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past eight o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Alderman. Thomas Walsh,

Councillors. Robert Moran, Thomas Byrne, Nicholas Connolly, James Billington, Thomas Hayes, Thomas Dunne, John Billington, and James Crosbie.

The Borough Surveyor and Town Clerk were also in attendance.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when it had been decided to close down the two building schemes at Davitt Road North and William Street and to request the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to hold an investigation into the dispute between the Borough Surveyor and the Wexford Timber Company regarding the supplies of materials, The Minister under date of the 7th instant by letter No. H. 19852/2/39 intimated that the question as to whether the materials supplied were in accordance with the Specification was a matter for the Engineer in charge of the works. The Engineer was responsible to the Corporation for seeing that the houses were built in a satisfactory manner and that the materials used were of the required standard of quality. The Minister was not prepared to intervene in the matter at this stage and the Corporation would do well to consult their Legal Adviser as to the appropriate action to be taken to insure that the terms of the Contract and Specification were complied with.

It was explained to the Meeting that on receipt of this letter on the 10th idem the Mayor, Borough Surveyor, Clerk of Works, and Town Clerk had had a conference on this entire matter. At this conference the Borough Surveyor intimated that in so far as the sizes of timber were concerned he would not be particular if the materials supplied by the Timber Co. were not more than a 16th of an inch slack and if the quality was all right he would be prepared to accept it a 16th slack. As a result of this conference it was thought advisable that the Mayor and Town Clerk should interview the proprietors of the Wexford Timber Company to see if they were in a position to meet the Borough Surveyor's requirements in regard to this timber, and if so, to have as much of it as possible delivered on the sites for inspection, so that it could be seen whether or not ample supplies of materials were available to warrant the re-starting of the works.

As regards the question of ridge tiles, the Borough Surveyor had informed them that the latest tiles supplied by the Timber Co. were not of a uniform colour throughout and that the pitch was 5% inaccurate.

The Mayor and Town Clerk had interviewed the Wexford Timber Co. and had had consultations with Mr. Stafford, one of the Directors, and Mr. McElroy, the Manager. As a result of this conversation a large quantity of rafters and flooring boards had been delivered on the sites on Monday evening. The Borough Surveyor now reported on the whole matter as follows:-

11th July, 1939.

"In pursuance of our conversation of yesterday, and acting on the Mayors suggestion, I inspected some timber delivered at William St. and Davitt Road Housing Sites. As far as I can see all this timber is what is known to the trade as 'short cut' material and therefore is not in accordance with my specification.

However, I shall require the services of the Clerk of Works to properly cress out all the materials so that a detailed examination be made of the various lots. Until this is done I am not in a position to start work again on the two Schemes. It would be interesting at this late stage to find out definitely from the Contractors if it is their intention to properly fulfil their contracts. In fact until this is done the Corporation does not know whether this firm regards these contracts as legal at all.

Having regard to the suggestion that I should cancel the order to the Contractors for ridge and hip tiles, and obtain these elsewhere, I would like to have this confirmed by the Corporation in case the Contractors should regard the matter as a breach of Contract."

It was seen from this report that the present meeting could do nothing until the materials had been inspected by the Surveyor and Clerk of Works in accordance with Mr. McNally's report, and it was unanimously decided to authorise Mr. McNally to re-engage the services of Mr. Millar, Clerk of Works, for the purpose of examining the timber delivered on the two sites. It was decided that Councillors John Billington, Dunne and Alderman Walsh together with the Mayor should meet the Borough Surveyor on the William St. Housing Site on the 12th instant at 5 p.m. when the Surveyor could point out to them the materials he proposed to reject and when it could be measured in their presence so that the members of the Committee would be in a position to say definitely to the Timber Co. that the materials delivered were "short cut."

As regards the ridge tiles, the Mayor and Town Clerk informed the Committee that the Timber Co. were quite prepared to waive their claim to these goods and to permit the Borough Surveyor to obtain them elsewhere, as he stated he was in a position to do at a price less than that quoted by the Wexford Timber Co.

It was further decided to hold a Meeting of the Committee on Thursday the 13th instant at half-past seven o'clock p.m. The attention of the Borough Surveyor was directed to the condition of the outfall sewer at Maudlintown from underneath which the concrete bed had been washed away by the tides, and he was requested to look after this sewer with a view to having it properly protected.

*R. Curran T.D.*  
*Mayor*

*Cancelled*

11th July, 1939

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However, I shall require the services of the Clerk of Works to properly cress out all the materials so that a detailed examination be made of the various lots. Until this is done I am not in a position to start work again on the two Schemes. It would be interesting at this late stage to find out definitely from the Contractors if it is their intention to properly fulfil their contracts. In fact until this is done the Corporation does not know whether this firm regards these contracts as legal at all.

Having regard to the suggestion that I should cancel the order to the Contractors for ridge and hip tiles, and obtain these elsewhere, I would like to have this confirmed by the Corporation in case the Contractors should regard the matter as a breach of Contract."

It was seen from this report that the present meeting could do nothing until the materials had been inspected by the Surveyor and Clerk of Works in accordance with Mr. McNally's report, and it was unanimously decided to authorise Mr. McNally to re-engage the services of Mr. Millar, Clerk of Works, for the purpose of examining the timber delivered on the two sites. It was decided that Councillors John Billington, Duane and Alderman Walsh together with the Mayor should meet the Borough Surveyor on the William St. Housing Site on the 12th instant at 5 p.m. when the Surveyor could point out to them the materials he proposed to reject and when it could be measured in their presence so that the members of the Committee would be in a position to say definitely to the Timber Co. that the materials delivered were "short cut."

As regards the ridge tiles, the Mayor and Town Clerk informed the Committee that the Timber Co. were quite prepared to waive their claim to these goods and to permit the Borough Surveyor to obtain them elsewhere, as he stated he was in a position to do so at a price less than that quoted by the Wexford Timber Co.

It was further decided to hold a Meeting of the Committee on the 13th instant at half-past seven o'clock p.m. The Borough Surveyor was directed to the site of Maudlintown, from underneath the main road, to inspect the materials, and



13th July, 1939.

A Meeting of the Housing Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

His Worship the Mayor, (in the Chair) with Alderman Walsh,

Councillors: Byrne, Moran, Atkins, Connolly, James Billington, Dunne, John Billington, and Crosbie.

The Borough Surveyor and Town Clerk were also in attendance.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting the Borough Surveyor intimated that all the timber delivered by the Timber Co. as referred to at last Meeting was of short size and, consequently, rejected on the grounds of size. As regards its quality it was of good quality generally.

The rafters were a 16th of an inch slack and the flooring boards were in some cases an 8th slack.

A lengthy discussion followed this report during which reference was made to the legal position of the Corporation in regard to this material. They had the opinion of Counsel that in the absence of a contract and bond the acceptance of the Timber Co.'s tender could not be construed as a contract, and in reply to a query the Town Clerk pointed out that if the Corporation desired to purchase materials elsewhere they would be obliged to have a Schedule of Quantities drawn up of the balance required and to invite fresh tenders by public advertisement.

The Members of the Committee agreed with the Surveyor's report regarding the sizes of the Timber delivered by the Company. It was also suggested that the Timber Co. should be requested in writing to state if they were prepared to carry out this contract in accordance with the Borough Surveyor's specification, but it was considered that having regard to the lengthy dispute that had taken place in this connection that the Company would be very unlikely to put anything in writing at this stage. After a protracted discussion the Borough Surveyor stated:-

- (1) "If the Timber Co. were prepared to cut a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " by 3" or 9" by 3" or other suitable sizes giving the same units he was prepared to accept it for size.
- (2) If flooring boards were of uniform  $\frac{7}{8}$ " finish he would also be prepared to accept them for size.
- (3) Flooring joists should be 8" by  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " full.

These three statements were read over by the Town Clerk in the presence of the Borough Surveyor and Committee, and Mr. McNally agreed that they were correct and he was prepared to stand by them.

It was therefore agreed that His Worship the Mayor should be again asked to interview the Wexford Timber Co. and see if they were prepared to supply timber as set out by the Borough Surveyor in the above three statements, and if so, to have as much as possible of it delivered on the sites immediately so that it could be inspected by the Borough Surveyor and Clerk of Works and a report submitted to next Monday night's meeting.

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The Borough Surveyor was also directed to order the ridge tiles from Concrete Products Ireland immediately, and he stated that they would have them delivered in three days.

As regards the position of the Clerk of Works, it was agreed to retain his services for the purpose of inspection until Monday next when it would be seen if sufficient materials were available to enable the workmen to re-start.

Reference was made to two workmen named Bolger and McCormack who had been the subject of a discussion at a Meeting of the Finance and Works Committee on the 3rd instant regarding working overtime for other people after their hours with the Corporation.

Some members thought that they should not be re-engaged but it was pointed out that no evidence whatsoever had been submitted to prove that these men had actually worked after hours and it was suggested that they should be re-employed, and if the Corporation had proof that they had worked after hours they should be dismissed for a breach of the Regulations. After some discussion however, it was decided to leave this matter to the Finance & Works Committee who had originally instructed the Borough Surveyor not to re-employ them.

*R. Conroy F.D.*  
*mey*



17th July, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Waterworks and Public Health Committees was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Robert Coffey, and Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: Patrick Hawkins, Phillip McGuire, James Crosbie, Thomas Byrne, Thomas Hayes, Patrick Atkins, James Billington, James Murphy, Thomas Dunne, Timothy Cashman, Nicholas Connolly, Robert Moran, and James Gaul.

#### GANGER.

A Complaint was made by Councillor Connolly that ganger Rossiter, who was in charge of the Green Street Housing Development Works had been seen in Rowe Street on several occasions recently, and the Borough Surveyor explained that he could possibly be there for the purpose of checking up of tools, etc., of which he had complete charge for Grant Works.

The Surveyor asked Councillor Connolly to give him specific days on which he alleged Rossiter was absent from Green Street when he would investigate. The Members however thought no matter what the reason, Rossiter should not be absent from Green Street unless it was absolutely essential, and the Borough Surveyor was instructed to inform Rossiter accordingly.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

It was agreed that the water supply should not be turned off on Saturday nights until 10 p.m.

#### AUTHORIZED PLUMBERS.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting, when the application of George Gordon of Parnell Street to be registered as an "Authorised Waterworks Plumber" was adjourned to enable the Town Clerk to ascertain from the Plumbers Society if they recognised this young man as having served his apprenticeship.

The Plumbers Society under date of the 15th instant intimated that George Gordon had served his full apprenticeship, and was a member of the Union. It was decided on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor Byrne, to register this young man.

An application from James Browne, Distillery Road, to be registered was also agreed to, on the motion of Alderman Walsh, seconded by Councillor Connolly.

With reference to the application of James Jones of John Street, to be registered as an "Authorised Waterworks Plumber" which had been under consideration on several occasions recently, Jones appeared before the Meeting in accordance with the decision arrived at on the 3rd instant and gave particulars of his employment. He commenced to serve his apprenticeship in 1917 at the age of 16½ years when he received 4/- per week. He was out through illness for two or three years about 1920 and he left the firm of John Browne in 1930 when he had a wage of 30/- per week. He stated that he had worked entirely with Francis Browne and denied that he had ever worked with carpenters or masons.

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He also intimated that he had worked with Messrs. Doyle & Sons, Plumbers in 1935 at the Technical School.

In connection with this application Councillor Hayes stated he had been informed by the Secretary of the Plumbers Union "that if the Waterworks Committee passed a job Jones had recently carried out, the Plumbers Society would be prepared to admit him to membership."

The whole difficulty in this case was to decide whether or not Jones had actually served his apprenticeship to the plumbing trade. Jones claimed he had, while on the other hand, the Plumbers Society held he did not serve his apprenticeship and refused him admission to the Society.

It was pointed out that whether or not he was a member of the Plumbers Society should not arise, and if the Corporation were satisfied that he had served his apprenticeship and was a duly qualified plumber they were bound to register him.

After a lengthy discussion it was decided to ask the Plumbers Society in writing if the statement which Councillor Hayes had made was correct, and as well, the Town Clerk was instructed to inquire from Messrs. Doyle & Sons, Plumbers, if the statement made by Jones to the effect that he had been employed by them in 1935 to do plumbing work at the Technical School was correct.

#### KING ST. SEWERAGE.

The Borough Surveyor submitted the following report on the King Street sewerage:-

"In order to amplify my report on the matter raised by Mr. Thos. O'Brien in his letter of the 22nd May, 1939, it is well to consider the position as regards the present state of the sewerage in King Street Upper and the adjoining streets.

The present sewer in King Street Upper is in part a 12" pipe laid to a fall of 1 in 150 approx. and in part 9" pipe laid to a similar fall. The 12" pipe line is of recent construction and under ordinary circumstances would be capable of dealing with a considerable quantity of sewerage. It must be borne in mind however that this sewer is subject to back flooding from time to time due to high tides. The upper portion of this sewer from King Street Avenue to the junction of Joseph Street and King Street Upper is a 9" sewer of unjointed pipes and laid to a fall of approx. 1 in 150. This sewer is intended to carry the sewage and storm water from a very considerable area viz:- Summerhill Road, Talbot Street, Wolfe Tone Villas, Whiterock View, Green Street, Thomas Street, Joseph Street, and also Distillery Road. It is therefore obvious, without going into any calculations, that the 9" sewer is not sufficient to take the sewage, hence my reason for diverting the proposed sewer from the Green Street Housing Site into the stream at Mill Road crossing.

Having regard therefore to the question of culverting the Horse River, as previously stated, this is a matter which must receive long and careful consideration, and I am not prepared to make any recommendation as regards such culverting. I will only add that this question of the culverting of the Horse River if found necessary will involve a detailed survey of the whole district which the Stream drains together with a Plan showing the future development of all or portion of this District.

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However, in order to avoid any further complaints regarding the Horse River I recommend the following improvements to the Sewerage of this District:-

1. A new 9" pipe sewer be laid from junction of Thomas Street and Joseph Street to connect with the newly laid 9" sewer in Bride Street; the existing built sewer in Joseph Street to be used as a storm water overflow.
2. The existing 9" sewer from junction of Joseph Street and King Street Upper to King Street Avenue be replaced by a 12" pipe sewer and that the newly laid 12" connection to Horse River at the Mill Road crossing shall act as a storm water overflow.

My Estimate of the cost of these improvements is as follows:-

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| 100 yards lineal 9" sewer at Bride Place.  | -----£100. |
| 80 " " lineal 12" sewer at King St. Upper. | -----£100. |

Making the total cost of improvements.-----£200."

It was seen that even if the Borough Surveyor's recommendations in this report were carried out it would not deal with the long standing problem of the river, and after some time it was decided that the matter should be referred to the Special Works Committee which it was proposed to consider appointing at the present Meeting.

#### TALBOT HOTEL SEWERAGE.

A further report from Mr. McNally on the question of the sewer at the Talbot Hotel was also submitted. This report was as follows:-

"After considerable investigation in connection with the above, I am now in a position to give a report on the matter.

The sewer in question is a built sewer starting in a yard at slaughter house lane the property of Messrs. J. J. Stafford & Sons and finishing under the Railway at the rear of the Steampacket yard and Gas Works. This sewer passes under the Talbot Hotel but is now obsolete as I could not trace any connection to same until it reaches the roadway in front of the Talbot Hotel doorway where the sewer from the Hotel yard joins it. In my opinion, the portion of the sewer above this point may be scrapped as it serves no purpose, and in any case was never intended for other than surface drainage.

I find that where this sewer enters the Gas Company's property the sewer has been interfered with and the stoppage occurs there. In order to remedy this it will be necessary to dismantle plant erected over this point and relay the built sewer from there to the Talbot Hotel door. In my opinion the trouble was caused by converting the outfall part of the sewer into a pipe sewer which seems to have been carried out on the Gas Company's instructions some years ago.

In order to put the whole matter right it will be necessary to put in 40 yards of 9" sewer together with 3 manholes at a cost of £60. As the sewer originally was never intended for other than surface water and served only the Talbot Hotel premises it would be only right that the Talbot Hotel Co. should bear at least 50% of the cost, and incidentally the Gas Co., should contribute some of the cost as they were responsible for most of the trouble."

17th July, 1939.

In this connection it was agreed that both the Talbot Hotel and the Gas Co. should be asked to contribute one-third of the cost of relaying this sewer.

#### CUTTING TREES.

The Borough Surveyor reported that Francis Randall of Killurin who had recently completed a contract for the removal of trees in the Town graveyards was entitled to a sum of £10 for extra work, and it was unanimously agreed that Mr. Randall should be paid the sum recommended by the Borough Surveyor.

#### PETROLEUM LICENCE.

A Licence under the Petroleum Act, 1871 was signed in respect of the premises of Messrs. Bell & Murphy, Custom House Quay.

#### VACCINATION.

Under date of the 11th instant by letter No. MC.17808/39, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health forwarded an extract from the Return Form "L" showing the number of vaccination defaulters in the Borough, and requested that the necessary action be taken thereon by the Council.

It was agreed to take no action on this matter.

#### BILLS OF QUANTITIES.

No action was taken on a letter from the Federation of Builders & Contractors, and Allied Employers of Ireland requesting that Bills of Quantities should be provided in connection with Housing Schemes exceeding £2,000 in value.

#### CONDEMNED HOUSES.

A letter was read from Catherine Mythen, of Cornmarket, regarding the gable end of her house following the part demolition of two adjoining houses under a Demolition Order.

It was pointed out that this was entirely a matter between Mrs. Mythen and the owner of the condemned houses, and one in which the Corporation should not interfere, but it was decided to write to the owner pointing out that he had not yet complied with the terms of the Order by demolishing the houses, and clearing and levelling the site.

#### REPAIRS TO HOUSES.

The Borough Surveyor was given power to take whatever steps were necessary to repair the houses at O'Connell Avenue occupied by McGuire and Gethings.

#### FREE MILK.

It was agreed to pay the usual bonus of 5% for the administration of the National Free Milk Supply Scheme to the Town Clerk, Miss K. Lacey, and Miss F. M. Daly.

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17th July, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Works Committee was held at the Town Clerk's Office on the 17th July, 1939.

## MILK &amp; DAIRIES ACT.

In connection with the applications of Mary Kirwan, Mary Street, and Martin Flood, Seaview, Murrintown, the Acting Co. Medical Officer of Health recommended that Refusal Orders be made in both cases, and it was unanimously agreed to recommend the Corporation to make such Orders at their next Meeting.

## ELECTRIC INSTALLATIONS.

A question was raised regarding the installation of electric lighting equipment at the Davitt Road and William Street houses, and the Borough Surveyor agreed to allow the Contractor, Mr. James Hayes, to commence work on the morning of the 18th instant.

## HOUSING CONTRACTS.

At this stage the Mayor gave a resume of what had taken place at the last two meetings of the Housing Committee in connection with the dispute between the Borough Surveyor and the Wexford Timber Co. regarding materials for the Davitt Road and William Street houses. Particulars of this will be found on the Minutes of the Housing Committee on the 11th and 13th instant. Following the Meeting of the 13th, the Mayor stated he had interviewed the Wexford Timber Co., and they were prepared to carry out the requirements of the Borough Surveyor regarding the sizes as detailed at that Meeting, and some of the rafters which had been cut in accordance with Mr. McNally's requirements had been sent up and approved of. Further supplies of timber were being delivered daily and were being inspected, so it was agreed, in view of this, that as soon as ample supplies of suitable materials were available that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to re-commence the building work.

## OVERTIME.

With reference to the two tradesmen named McCormack and Bolger who had been reported for working overtime in contravention of a Corporation Regulation, a lengthy discussion took place on the question of allowing them to be reinstated with the other men. It was pointed out that no evidence whatever had been produced to prove that these men had worked after hours, and it was very likely that if they were dismissed without evidence that they would take an action against the Corporation for wrongful dismissal. A lengthy discussion took place on this matter at the end of which Councillor Atkins proposed that they be taken back and an investigation held afterwards, and any statement made be put in writing. Councillor McGuire seconded this. Alderman Coffey however proposed that an investigation be held first before the men were reinstated, and Councillor Billington seconded. On a show of hands 10 members voted for Alderman Coffey's proposal and it was declared carried.

As regards the investigation, the Town Clerk was asked to inquire from the Assistant County Surveyor what men were working on this house, as it was thought it was one in respect of a loan which was being made by the County Council under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.

As regards the Notice of Councillor Byrne to set up a Special Works Committee, this was adjourned to enable the Town Clerk to furnish the Members with his views on the question of the amalgamation of Committees.

R. Curran T.D.  
Mayor

25th July, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Works Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past eight o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Walsh, McMahon, and Tobin.

Councillors: Gaul, Atkins, Hawkins, Stephen McMahon, Crosbie, Cashman, Moran, Dunne, Hayes, and Byrne.

The Borough Surveyor and Town Clerk were also in attendance.

The Meeting had been convened to consider the situation created by a strike of men engaged on Relief Grant Works.

The position in this case was that, for the Spring and Summer programme of work under the Employment Schemes Vote it was intended to concrete the surface of Upper Rowe Street, portion of the Main Street between the Bull Ring and Charlotte Street, and Upper and Lower Georges Street.

On the 3rd instant work was commenced at Rowe Street with a panel of 25 men working in gangs of 15 per day for three days each week. Rowe Street was now practically completed and the second part of the work, namely, the Main Street, was scheduled to commence on Monday last, the 24th instant.

A gang of 11 men from the panel operating in Rowe Street was sent to Main Street on Monday morning to commence excavating the old concrete surface but about 11 a.m. 10 men ceased work and demanded from the Borough Surveyor that they be given 5 days per week on this part of the works. The Borough Surveyor informed the men that this demand could not be granted, as the Regulations governing the State Grant towards the cost of these works set out the period of employment in the Wexford Area as three days per week. The men then proceeded to Rowe Street and induced two of the remaining four men of the daily gang to cease work, and the group due to commence this morning did not turn up.

This matter was debated at length and a suggestion was made that the work at Main Street should be temporarily suspended and a start made at Georges Street until representations could be made to the Department with a view to allowing five days per week, until the excavation of the Main Street was completed, and it was stated that the men were willing to complete their time as this Street.

This suggestion, however, did not meet with favour and a proposal was made by Councillor Byrne, and seconded by Councillor Crosbie, in the following terms:-

"That in order to have the work on the Main Street done as expeditiously as possible and in order to have as little inconvenience as possible on the street, the Borough Surveyor be instructed to engage two different shifts of men to be employed between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10. 30. p.m. for five days per week until the excavation is finished."

It was intimated that the men concerned were outside and wished to be heard, so it was agreed to ask them to nominate two of their members to come before the Meeting and state their grievance. This was done and two members came before the Meeting and contended that for their three weeks period at Rowe Street they had done all the work, heavy and light, and that for their last week of three days they were being asked to do all the heavy work at Main Street, that is to say, excavate the old concrete surface, while the new panel due to replace them on the 31st instant would have lighter work to do. As compensation for this they demanded that they be given 5 days employment for their last week.

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25th July, 1939

It was pointed out to the Meeting that the proposal made to employ the men for five days per week was in direct conflict with the terms of Paragraph 11 of the Department's Memorandum SGA/206/E (U) of the 17th April, 1939, which set out the period of employment as three days, and that as the Meeting was only a Committee (even though composed of all the Members) it had no authority to make such an order without convening a Meeting of the Corporation proper. In addition, the Borough Surveyor stated, that in his opinion, the operation of two shifts was not practicable. Nevertheless, the Resolution as proposed by Councillor Byrne, and seconded by Councillor Crosbie, was put to the Meeting and unanimously agreed to.

With reference to previous discussion on the working of overtime by William Bolger, O'Connell Avenue, and Bernard McCormack, St. John's Avenue, the Town Clerk submitted the following statement, which had been made to him on this day by Wm. Bolger:-

"I admit having been employed by John Fielding of Mountain View to carry out the masonry work on a house there for him, but before the job commenced, my brother Francis Bolger was discharged from Davitt Road and I handed the job over to him. The only work I done on the House was to erect two chimneys in order to hurry up the finishing of the house.

I never thought that the Corporation Rule relating to the working of overtime was still in force, and my part of the work was completed a week prior to the Town Clerk's letter calling attention to this Rule.

It was pointed out to the Meeting that the proposal made to employ the men for five days per week was in direct conflict with the terms of Paragraph 11 of the Department's Memorandum SGA/206/E (U) of the 17th April, 1939, which set out the period of employment as three days, and that as the Meeting was only a Committee (even though composed of all the Members) it had no authority to make such an order without convening a Meeting of the Corporation proper. In addition, the Rules of the Masons Society provide that a member may work overtime while there is no other member idle.

Nevertheless, the Resolution as proposed by Councillor Byrne, and seconded by Councillor Crosbie, was put to the Meeting and unanimously agreed to. I should be glad if the Corporation would come to a final decision on the matter of my employment as soon as possible, as if I am not to be reinstated, I must look for work elsewhere."

With reference to previous discussion on the working of overtime by William Bolger, O'Connell Avenue, and Bernard McCormack, St. John's Avenue, the Members considered that this was a very frank and open confession, and unanimously agreed on the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Crosbie, to reinstate Bolger.

A complaint was made by Alderman Tobin regarding a shore at Well Lane. The Town Clerk intimated that he had served Notice on the Agent for the Owner requesting to have the drain opened and cleaned within 24 hours, and it was agreed that if the work was not done immediately that the Town Clerk should institute proceedings.

The Meeting then terminated.

I never thought that the Corporation Rule relating to the working of overtime was still in force, and my part of the work was completed a week prior to the Town Clerk's letter calling attention to this Rule.

It was pointed out to the Meeting that the proposal made to employ the men for five days per week was in direct conflict with the terms of Paragraph 11 of the Department's Memorandum SGA/206/E (U) of the 17th April, 1939, which set out the period of employment as three days, and that as the Meeting was only a Committee (even though composed of all the Members) it had no authority to make such an order without convening a Meeting of the Corporation proper. In addition, the Rules of the Masons Society provide that a member may work overtime while there is no other member idle.

31st July, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Robert Coffey, and Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: James Billington, James Gaul, Patrick Hawkins, Patrick Atkins, James Crosbie, Robert Moran, Nicholas Connolly, Thomas Dunne, James Murphy, Thomas Hayes, Timothy Cashman, and Stephen McMahon.

The Meeting had been convened owing to the August Finance Meeting falling on a Bank Holiday to pass Accounts due to date and liabilities amounting in the aggregate to £ were submitted.

Arising out of this Alderman Coffey queried the cost of the Free Milk Supply Scheme, and the Mayor informed him that the money for this was supplied by the State.

The Alderman also referred to an amount for hardware, and complained that goods of as good a quality could be obtained locally, but was informed that the Corporation were compelled to purchase through the Combined Purchasing Department.

In reply to a query regarding a payment for renewal of Insurance Premiums, the Alderman was informed that the Insurance was placed with the Irish Public Bodies Mutual, which was formed by a number of Public Bodies in the State.

Councillor Billington questioned the item for the payment of overdraft interest and asked if this was due to some of the Ratepayers not paying, and was informed that at this period of the year the Rates would not be collected during the first quarter but if the arrears carried forward on the 31st March had been collected the overdraft necessary at this period would be considerably less.

The Accounts as presented were approved and an Advice Note signed to enable them to be discharged.

*R. Corish T D*  
*Mayor*



31st July, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Etc., Committees was held at the close of the above Meeting, the members present being the same as at the Special Meeting.

## A. R. P.

The Town Clerk intimated that under date of the 21st instant he had received a communication from the Department of Local Government and Public Health inquiring whether arrangements could be made for three officers to attend a further course of instruction in Air Raid Precautions and he had replied to the effect that the only Officers who would be likely to satisfy the conditions laid down were the Borough Surveyor and himself, neither of whom could be very well spared at the present time.

Under date of the 28th ultimo the Department suggested that the question of nominating Mr. P. K. McNally, Borough Surveyor, to attend a course might be considered, and in the event of him being selected the Corporation might deem it desirable to appoint a duly qualified substitute to carry out the necessary duties during the period of the course.

It was however intimated to the Meeting that the Borough Surveyor had an application in for his annual holidays as from the 6th prox. and he would not be able to attend the course. In any case, Mr. McNally did not seem disposed to doing so.

After some discussion it was agreed that Mr. T. Crosbie, Driver and Mechanic of the Fire Brigade Service, should be nominated, and it was further agreed that in the event of the Department agreeing to Mr. Crosbie attending that he be paid the usual expenses of £1 per day.

## Borough Surveyor's Holidays.

The Borough Surveyor's application for three weeks of his annual holidays was next submitted and it was unanimously agreed to grant them, Mr. T. J. Millar, Clerk of Works on the Housing Schemes, being nominated to act as Borough Surveyor during Mr. McNally's absence, and be paid the same rate of remuneration as Mr. McNally enjoyed.

## PLUMBERS.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when the question of the enrollment of James Jones as an Authorised Waterworks Plumber was under consideration, Messrs. Doyle and Sons, Plumbers, intimated that Jones was employed by them as a helper on several jobs. The Plumbers Society stated that as Jones had not served his apprenticeship to the Trade and was not eligible for membership, the Union would not have any more correspondence with the Corporation on the matter. As regards the letter from Messrs. Doyle & Sons, it was seen that they only recognised Jones as a helper which could mean anything, and referring to the letter from the Plumbers Society it was thought that having regard to the fact that the Corporation were doing everything possible to protect the interests of the Plumbers Society they considered the tone of their letter most impertinent, and the Town Clerk was directed to again ask them for a reply to the query contained in his letter of the 18th instant.

## PLAN OF HOUSES.

Mr. T. O'Leary, John Street, submitted a plan of two houses he proposed to erect on a site at Monument Place, and it was agreed to recommend the Corporation to grant the necessary permission. Reference was made however in this connection to the demolition of houses which formerly stood on this site, and Mr. O'Leary was to be asked when he proposed to repair the gable end of the Corporation house adjoining, which was affected by the demolition of the property referred to.

31st July, 1939.

## S. D. A. ACTS.

With reference to previous discussions on the subject of arrears of instalments due by Mr. Ed. Howlin, St. John's Road, on foot of Loan of £790 made to him under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, a letter was submitted from Mr. Howlin asking to be allowed to repay the sum due by instalments at the rate of 25/- per week. In reply to a query, the Town Clerk stated that the annual annuity of £790 was £49. 11. 2 and this left Mr. Howlin £15. 8. 10 to clear off the arrears. It was pointed out that this would take Mr. Howlin four or five years to clear off but the Members thought that if he came to this arrangement and paid 25/- per week it would be better than incurring the expense of seeking possession on foot of the Mortgage, so it was decided, to inform Mr. Howlin that his offer was accepted, but, that on the first occasion that he defaulted in the weekly payments the Town Clerk was to report to the Corporation.

## INSURANCES.

The Town Clerk intimated that he had found it necessary to separate the Corporation Employers Liability Insurance under two heads, namely, Normal Workers and Relief Workers. At the present time he stated insurance of separate policies are being taken out for Relief Workers, but, as this premium would be charged to the Grants it would not materially affect the Corporation. He further intimated that following conversations with the Borough Surveyor regarding the danger of excavating and re-surfacing the narrow streets of Wexford he had thought it advisable to provide temporary cover against public liability, and that Irish Public Bodies Mutual now asked if the Corporation proposed to go ahead with this policy.

In reply to a query the Town Clerk stated that the annual premium would be based on the amount of wages paid by the Corporation within a year, and the Members did not consider this a fair basis of computation, and the Town Clerk was asked to secure some further quotations for this business.

## HOLIDAYS.

The Town Clerk intimated that the Caretaker of the Cemetery had asked him about his holidays under the conditions of Employment Act and the Holidays Act of 1939. The Caretaker, the Town Clerk stated, was on duty for the seven days of the week and was not receiving Bank Holidays or Church Holidays, and in the circumstances, he thought that he would be entitled to two weeks leave. The trouble, however, was to make arrangements to carry out the work in the cemetery during his absence, and it was decided that Mrs. Sutton, the caretakers wife, should look after the clerical end and that John McDonald, Gravedigger, should look after the work in the cemetery proper, and for this it was agreed that McDonald should be paid an extra £1. 5. 0 per week, and Mrs. Sutton £1.

## LAND SUMMERHILL.

With reference to the proposal to exchange land at Summerhill Road with the Gaelic Athletic Association, Messrs. Kirwan & Kirwan, Solicitors, on behalf of the President of St. Peter's College, stated that he was willing to give the proposed plots to the Corporation on payment of the sum of £10 compensation provided that the Corporation re-built any portion of the existing boundary wall taken down and that they built a boundary wall in lieu of the existing boundary fences between his property and Wexford Park.

31st July, 1939.

Mr. R. Harvey was prepared to sell the  $6\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land owned by him, subject to an annuity of £4. 13. 10 for the sum of £100 per acre which was £650, and it was agreed to offer Mr. Harvey at the rate of £90 per acre. If he was agreeable to accept this sum the Corporation should be recommended to accept both offers subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

#### LICENCE - PETROLEUM ACT.

A Licence under the Petroleum Act, 1871 was signed in respect of the premises at Custom House Quay occupied by Bell & Murphy.

#### REPORT - M.O.H.

The Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sinnott, reported that the house in Trinity Street occupied by John O'Connor had been inspected by him and he found a waterlogged ashpit and a dry closet. He recommended that a proper waterproofed ashpit be provided and that a water closet be installed to replace the dry closet. It was agreed to serve notice on the owner requiring this work to be carried out within seven days. The Medical Officer was also to be asked for a report on the house at Carrigeen Street occupied by a man named Pender.

#### SLOT MACHINE.

The Town Clerk reported that the automatic slot machine at South Main Street at the premises of Mr. M. Broaders had not yet been removed although it was an obstruction to traffic, and the Town Clerk was directed to inform Mr. Broaders that unless the machine was removed forthwith proceedings would be taken against him for obstruction.

#### DUKES LANE & HOUSING.

Councillor Cashman raised the question regarding the condition of Dukes Lane and as to whether or not the houses therein were fit for human habitation. The members agreed that they were not, and as a first step the Town Clerk was asked to have a census taken of the number of families residing therein.

This matter again gave rise to a discussion as to whether alternative accommodation could be provided for residents in Duke Street and the Borough Surveyor was asked to make a report on Harvey's field at Thomas Street to see if it would be suitable for the erection of Working Class Dwellings.

It was pointed out to the Meeting that in the absence of a proper housing survey of the Town it was very difficult to state the number of houses required for the re-housing of the population, and it was also seen that very little progress could be made in this matter until a Co. Medical Officer of Health had been appointed.

A discussion also took place regarding a Town Plan. It was pointed out to the Meeting that some years ago a resolution was passed deciding to make a Planning Scheme for the Borough, but that no steps whatever had been taken to give practical effect to this resolution, so it was agreed to recommend the Corporation at next meeting to advertise for a Planning Expert to make a report.

#### OLD FEVER HOSPITAL.

A complaint made by Councillor Hayes regarding the condition of the old Fever Hospital at Grogans Road was referred to the Borough Surveyor for a report.

31st July, 1939.

## STRIKE ON RELIEF WORKERS.

A discussion took place regarding the strike on Relief Works which was the subject of a Special Meeting on Tuesday last, and in reply to a query the Town Clerk stated that he had phoned the Local Government Department on Wednesday morning and was informed that nothing could be done with regard to the proposal of the Works Committee to give five days per week on the Main Street. He was also asked to forward a full report on the whole position. He had forwarded such a report on Wednesday last, but, beyond a formal acknowledgement had received no reply or instructions. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that nothing could be done to give the men five days per week and that the Corporation were bound by the Regulations which laid down three days. A question was then raised as to whether or not the strikers would be debarred from receiving Unemployment Assistance for any period consequent to the strike, and the Town Clerk stated that in his opinion the mens benefit would accrue immediately the strike was terminated. It was thought that every effort should be made to induce the men to declare the strike off as no useful purpose could be served by allowing it to go on indefinitely. As to the ways and means of doing this it was suggested that the Mayor should see the men, but he pointed out that he would be away until the end of the week, and the Town Clerk agreed to interview them on Wednesday morning with the object of inducing them to declare the strike off. In the meantime, he intimated that he would see the Officers of the Labour Exchange and ascertain what benefit the men would be entitled to. As regards the Winter Relief Grants the Borough Surveyor was asked to submit a number of alternative proposals to the Corporation. Meeting which it was agreed should be held on the 14th instant. The Meeting then terminated.

R. Caud T.D.  
Mayor

1st August, 1939.

Following the discussion regarding the strike on Relief Works which took place on last night, the Mayor, with Councillors Hawkins and Hayes attended at the Town Clerk's Office at 10 a.m. in order to interview the men on strike. The Town Clerk stated that on last night he had interviewed a senior Official of the Labour Exchange and had a lengthy conversation with him on the subject of the mens benefit. He had a further conversation this morning when the Officer informed him that according to his interpretation of the Regulations the mens benefit would accrue immediately the strike was terminated. The three members and the Town Clerk then interviewed representatives of the men who were on strike and after lengthy arguments during which it was pointed out to them that more than three days per week would not be sanctioned and that only three days was being given in most other places. The representatives of the men agreed to recommend the men on strike to declare it off.

The Meeting then terminated.

R. Caud T.D.  
Mayor

14th August, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Robert Coffey, and Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: Thomas Dunne, Patrick Atkins, James Billington, Patrick Hawkins, Thomas Hayes, James Crosbie, Robert Moran, Nicholas Connolly, and Stephen McMahon.

#### MINUTES.

The following Minutes were submitted for ratification and signature:- Minutes of Corporation on 3rd and 31st ultimo; Finance & Works, Etc., Committees on 3rd, 17th, 25th and 31st ultimo; Housing Committee on 11th and 13th ultimo; and Special Committee on 1st instant.

On the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor James Billington, the Minutes as submitted were approved and signed by the Mayor.

#### SYMPATHY.

With reference to Minutes of the 5th June last when a Resolution of Sympathy was adopted with the relatives of those who lost their lives in the "Thetis" disaster, the Town Clerk intimated that he had transmitted this Resolution through the Department of External Affairs, and under date of the 14th instant by letter No. 239/42, the Secretary to the Department intimated that the terms of the resolution were communicated to the First Lord of the Admiralty through the High Commissioner, and the High Commissioner had now been asked by the First Lord to convey to the Corporation of Wexford his sincere thanks for their message.

The Mayor moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to Councillor Sinnott on the death of Mrs. Luccan, the Faythe, an old and respected citizen of the Town. Councillor Dunne seconded the motion, which was supported by all the members present and adopted in respectful silence.

Councillor Dunne moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to Mr. John Cardiff, one of the Press Reporters, who attended the Corporation Meetings, on the death of his child, and the Mayor seconded this motion which was also adopted in respectful silence, and for which Mr. Cardiff, who was present, returned thanks.

#### PLOT AT ST. JOHN'S ROAD.

The Finance Committee recommended that a plot of waste ground at St. John's Road be rented to Mr. James Quirke, at a rent of 1/- per year the tenancy to be terminated by one months notice in writing on either side. The plot in question was a small triangular one adjoining Mr. Quirke's residence and at the present time was of no use to the Corporation and was being used as a dump for refuse. So on the motion of Councillor Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Walsh, the Committee recommendation was unanimously adopted.

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14th August, 1939.

## REFUSAL ORDERS - MILK AND DAIRIES ACT.

The Finance Committee also recommended that Refusal Orders under the Milk and Dairies Act, 1935, be made in respect of the applications for registration of Mary Kirwan, 3 Mary Street, Wexford, and Martin Flood, Seaview, Murrin~~town~~. Councillor Crosbie moved the adoption of the recommendation and Alderman Walsh seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted, and the Orders sealed on the part of the Corporation.

## TOWN PLANNING.

The Finance Committee also recommended that an advertisement be issued inviting applications for persons competent to advise the Corporation on Town Planning. It was pointed out that the Corporation had adopted the Town Planning Act some years ago and it was mandatory on them to prepare a Town Plan. To do this it would be necessary to employ an expert, and on the motion of Councillor James Billington, seconded by Alderman Walsh, the recommendation was adopted without dissent.

## PURCHASE OF LANDS.

A further Committee recommendation was submitted to the effect that lands at Summerhill and Whitemill be purchased from the Very Rev. James Doran and Mr. Robert Harvey.

It was recalled that in March last the Corporation had agreed, subject ~~to~~ the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health, to give the Gaelic Athletic Association a strip of ground situated at the west side of the Association's Sports field, and which was being used by the Corporation as a ~~jumping~~ ground in exchange for a strip of ground at the east side of the field, which would enable the Council to construct a roadway from Summerhill to Whitemill, where 156 houses had been constructed during the past few years.

The construction of this road would entail the acquisition from the Very Rev. James Doran, President, St. Peter's College, of 10 square perches in order to ease corners, and Father Doran was willing to give the required amount to the Corporation on payment of the sum of £10 as compensation, provided that the Corporation re-build any portion of the existing boundary wall taken down at the corners in line with the portion left standing so as to complete the turn round the corners, and that they build a boundary <sup>in lieu</sup> in lieu of the existing boundary fence between his property and Wexford Park.

Mr. Harvey owned three fields containing, in the aggregate, 6.446 acres, which were subject to a Land Commission Annuity of £4. 13. 10 and he had intimated his willingness to dispose of this land for the sum of £650.

The Finance Committee had considered both these offers and thought that the Corporation should be recommended to accept Father Doran's, and as regards Mr. Harvey, the Committee had asked the Town Clerk to offer him at the rate of £90 per acre. The Town Clerk now intimated that he had written to Mr. Harvey making this offer, but Mr. Harvey had interviewed him this day when he intimated that he was not disposed to sell this land for less than £650.

If the land in question were acquired (although some of it was outside the Borough Boundary) a number of houses could be constructed thereon at a later date, in addition to making the new road from Summerhill to Whitemill, and as the difference in price between Mr. Harvey's offer and the offer of the Finance Committee was not considerable it was now thought advisable to agree to Mr. Harvey's price rather than go to the trouble and expense of seeking compulsory powers to acquire it, so on the

(3)

14th August, 1939.

motion of Councillor Moran, seconded by Councillor Dunne, it was unanimously agreed to accept both the offers of Father Doran and Mr. Harvey, subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

## ERECTION OF HOUSES.

The Finance & Works Committee recommended that permission be granted under the Town and Regional Planning Act to Mr. T. O'Leary, John Street, for the erection of two houses at Wygram Place in accordance with a Plan submitted, which had already been approved by the Borough Surveyor and the Committee. Alderman Coffey moved the adoption of this recommendation which was seconded by Councillor Crosbie and unanimously agreed to.

## RELIEF GRANT PROPOSALS.

The next business was to consider proposals for Winter Relief Grants, and a number of alternatives were submitted. After some discussion it was agreed on the motion of Councillor Crosbie, seconded by Alderman Walsh, to select the following proposals out of the six submitted:-

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| (1) Resurfacing Michael St. and Mill Road in concrete together with widening the Mill Road.----- | £1860.        |
| Surfacing in concrete Francis Street and Waterloo Road.-----                                     | £2035.        |
| Surfacing in concrete Bull Ring and Main Street to Rowe Street.-----                             | 930.          |
| Concrete footpaths at Davitt Road, North.-----   | 215.          |
| Concrete footpaths at Redmond Place.-----  | 105.          |
|  | <hr/>         |
| Total.-----  | <u>£5145.</u> |

This was the entire amount of the Grant and Local Contribution which was made up of a Grant of £4470 and a Local Contribution of £675.

In connection with the proposal to concrete the Bull Ring Mr. Moran asked if a public lavatory could be provided, and it was pointed out that when the Corporation considered this matter before they found that to do so would entail the appointment of caretakers and the matter was dropped at this stage.

Councillor Hayes complained about the surface of Gibson Street, and it was agreed that the macadam being taken off parts of the Main Street and other streets should be rolled on which would do as a temporary job on it, as the Acting Borough Surveyor suggested that if anything was being done at Gibson Street it should include widening.

Councillor Crosbie proposed the adoption of the above proposals and Alderman Walsh seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Arising out of this a question was raised regarding the completion of the Spring and Summer Programme and it was pointed out that when the portion of the Main Street at present being done was completed that Georges Street remained to be concreted and it was suggested that the work at Georges Street should be commenced immediately.

14th August, 1939.

It was pointed out, however, that the work in Georges Street would entail the laying of a new watermain and proposals for this were before the Department for some time past, and the Town Clerk intimated that he thought the Department would not sanction any further proposals for the renewal of watermains pending a decision on the Edenvale Scheme, which would deal in a comprehensive manner with the Water Supply to the Town. In this connection, the Mayor suggested that the money available for Georges Street be left in abeyance until it was possible to renew the watermain. It was pointed out, however, that this would require ministerial sanction, and it was thought that this should be sought immediately. It was also agreed that the Mayor and Town Clerk should visit the Department during the present week with a view to explaining the position on the spot and seeking approval to the transfer of the money allocated for streets in the Spring and Summer Programme to Francis Street and Waterloo Road and the leaving of Georges Street in abeyance pending a decision on the watermains when it could be done out of the Winter Grants.

#### HARBOUR COMMISSIONER.

The next business was to elect a member to serve as Harbour Commissioner for the ensuing year and it was intimated that only the ~~member~~ outgoing member, Councillor Robert Moran, had been nominated in accordance with the provisions of the Wexford Harbour Act, so on the motion of Councillor Dunne, seconded by Alderman Walsh, Councillor Moran was re-elected to represent the Corporation and the Harbour Board for the ensuing 12 months. In this connection, Councillor Hayes asked the Town Clerk to request the Harbour Commissioners to provide some seats on the Quay for the use of the public.

#### ANTI GAS INSTRUCTOR.

Under date of the 14th ultimo by letter No. P.H.20931, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health forwarded a First Class Certificate in Anti-gas Precautions for Mr. Henry F. Doyle which qualified him to give instructions on the subject. Mr. Doyle was congratulated by the Members on securing this Certificate.

#### REPORT - BOROUGH ANALYST.

The Report of the Borough Analyst for the quarter ended the 30th June last showed that he had examined eight samples of milk, three each of butter and tea, and one each of cheese, strawberry jam, whiskey, sugar, cocoa, olive oil, rice, marmalade, and puddings, making a total of 24 samples submitted for analysis, all of which were found genuine with the exception of two, one sample of milk was deficient of 11.66% fats and one sample of butter contained 18.4% moisture. The report was considered satisfactory.

#### ADOPTION OF BYE-LAWS.

The next business was to adopt a new code of Bye-Laws with respect to slaughter houses and the decent and seemly conveyance of meat through the public thoroughfares. These bye-laws had been considered by the Public Health Committee some time ago and had been provisionally approved by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health under date of the 26th May last by letter No. PH 28104, and the Town Clerk intimated that the Provisions of the Public Health Acts in relation to the publication of notices and the deposit of the proposed



bye-laws for inspection had been complied with. Thereupon the Mayor moved the adoption of the Bye-Laws and Alderman Walsh seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously and the Bye-laws sealed and signed on the part of the Corporation.

The following further resolution was then adopted on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Alderman Walsh: "That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to confirm the Bye-Laws with respect to slaughter-houses and the decent and seemly conveyance of meat through the public thoroughfares adopted this day."

#### LETTER FROM WEXFORD UNEMPLOYED ASSOCIATION.

A lengthy letter was read from the Wexford Unemployed Association and fell under the following main heads:-

- (1) The rotation of key-men on Grant Works.
- (2) The commencement of Relief Work on Georges Street.
- (3) The duration of the employment of men on Housing Schemes.
- (4) The commencement of the Waterworks Scheme at Edenvale.
- (5) The renewal of sewers and watermains.
- (6) Air Raid Precautions.

As regards No. 1., the Association claimed that the agreement which the Corporation had made with the Borough Surveyor to rotate all keymen on Relief Grants monthly was not been observed, but as the Borough Surveyor was on holidays at present this point was adjourned for his attendance.

As regards the commencement of Georges Street, it was already seen from an earlier discussion that the commencement of this was not possible pending a decision on the renewal of watermains.

As regards the men on Housing Schemes it had already been pointed out to the Association that the erection of houses was a business proposition, and consequently, men could not be changed monthly.

(4) The commencement of the Waterworks at Edenvale, the Town Clerk intimated that he had just received a communication from the Minister for Local Government and Public Health stating that the Provisional Order was being prepared.

(5) The renewal of sewers and watermains, proposals were already before the Department for such renewals but up to the present had not been sanctioned.

As regards Air Raid Precautions, the Association inquired when the Corporation proposed to spend the Grant for this work and it was pointed out that up to the present the Corporation had no information on the matter beyond what had appeared in the public press during the debate on the Air Raid Precautions Bill in the Oireachtas.

Councillor Connolly complained about the employment of keymen but he was urged to leave the matter over for the attendance of the Borough Surveyor.

#### COST OF LIVING.

Alderman Walsh at this stage said he wished to draw attention to the terrible increase in the cost of living in Wexford and all over Eire. Since 1938 the cost of living had increased by 50% and he thought that Public Bodies like the Corporation should draw attention to the way the people were being fleeced. Councillor Connolly also complained of this matter while Councillor Atkins thought it was due to profiteering.

A very protracted discussion arose on this matter which covered the activities of the State regarding tariffs, commencement of factories, the wages scale in these factories, and profiteering. No proposal was put before the Meeting and the discussion dropped.

#### DEPUTATION FROM TRADES COUNCIL.

Alderman Walsh then asked that a deputation from the Trades Council be heard, and although it was pointed out that it was entirely out of order to hear such a deputation at a Special Meeting it was nevertheless decided to hear them, although Councillor Hayes objected on the grounds that a very short time ago a deputation from the Unemployed had been refused. The deputation came before the Meeting and stated they came in connection with the Housing Schemes, and it appeared that in the opinion of the Trades Council there were not sufficient men employed, and that married men should receive preference over single men. They also complained that the division of the Carpentry work between the Amalgamated Society of Wood Workers and the Irish Union of Wood Workers was not equitable, and that members of the former were receiving a greater proportion of the work.

After some time it was agreed that the Acting Borough Surveyor be instructed to employ as many men as possible with as little delay as possible for work on the Scheme and that married men should be given first preference. As regards the carpenters the employment was to be divided as far as possible equally between the members of both Unions.

*Richard Connolly T. J.*  
*Mayor*

14th August, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held at the close of the above Meeting, the members present being the same as at the Special Meeting.

#### TOWN CLERK'S HOLIDAYS.

The Town Clerk applied for and was granted permission to take his annual holidays as when he found it convenient.

#### INSURANCE.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting when the question of Public Liability Insurance was under consideration and when it had been decided to request further quotations for this business, it was now reported that on this morning a Circular Plate Gas Window the property of Mr. J. J. Whelan, Bull Ring, had been struck with a flying stone and of course the Corporation would be liable for the damage. In view of the large amount of work being carried out in narrow streets at the present time it was thought that no further delay should be occasioned in taking whatever steps were necessary to have all these risks insured against, and it was unanimously decided to instruct the Town Clerk to affect such insurance with the Irish Public Bodies immediately without waiting for any further quotations.

#### ACCIDENT TO CYCLIST.

It was reported that some time ago one of the Corporation lorries had been involved in a slight accident with a cyclist at John St. as a result of which the wheel of the cycle had been badly damaged, and the owner now claimed 7/6d. compensation.

The Town Clerk recommended that the amount be paid and intimated that he would not claim it from the Insurance Co. as the premium was at present subject to the maximum no claims bonus of 20%, and it would not be wise to make any claim on the Company.

The Town Clerk's recommendation in the matter was unanimously agreed to.

*Richard Coombs T.D.*  
*Mayor*

28th August, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Waterworks and Public Health Committees was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Alderman Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: Atkins, Connolly, James Billington, Crosbie, Byrne, Sinnott, Murphy, Dunne, Moran, Gaul, Hawkins, Hayes, McMahon, and McGuire.

The Acting Borough Surveyor was also in attendance.

#### TENDERS.

Two tenders were submitted for the supply of colocrete. They were from Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty at 92/6 per ton and the Wexford Timber Company at 102/6 per ton. On the motion of Councillor Crosbie, seconded by Alderman Walsh, the lower of the two was accepted.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS.

Permission to prosecute for a breach of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts was unanimously given on the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Alderman Walsh. The Traders involved were:- Messrs. Wm. Walker & Sons, (Wexford) Ltd., and Messrs. Godkin & Co., (Wexford) Ltd., both having butter for sale which contained 16.6% of water and 17.0% of water respectively.

#### PETROLEUM LICENCE.

A Licence under the Petroleum Act 1871 was signed on behalf of Messrs. McMullan Bros., Ltd., of 28 Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin, authorising them to keep petroleum at railway siding Trinity Street, Wexford, as defined by and subject to the provisions of the Petroleum Acts, 1871-1881.

#### SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

A complaint was made regarding the removal of offas from slaughter houses, and the SubSanitary Officer was directed to make a report thereon.

A long discussion took place regarding the dumping of the offals from slaughter houses, and finally, the whole question was adjourned to a future meeting.

#### REPORT - MEAT INSPECTOR.

The Report of the Meat Inspector for the month of July showed that he had examined 105 cattle, 369 sheep and 29 swine. Of the cattle, three heads, six forequarters and eight organs were destroyed for tuberculosis, and 11 organs for other diseases. Of the sheep, nine organs had been destroyed for diseases other than tuberculosis.

28th August, 1939.

## REPORT - M.O.H.

The Medical Officer of Health reported that he had inspected a house at 2 Upper John Street occupied by Thomas McGuire, and found it unfit for human habitation, so it was decided to serve notice on the owner fixing the time and place for the receipt of any offer with regard to its future user.

A complaint was made regarding offensive odours emanating from a piggery at the corner of Summerhill, owned by Mr. Moore, and the Medical Officer of Health was asked to make a report.

## HOUSE - JOHN'S GATE ST.

Dr. Peirse reported that a house at John's Gate Street occupied by Johanna Nagle should be provided with a W.C. or a proper privy and ashpit, so it was decided to serve notice on the owner requiring this work to be carried out within one month.

## HOUSE - TRINITY ST.

Adverting to Minutes of last Meeting when a notice was served on Mr. Peter Kelly, 104 South Main Street, owner of a house in Trinity Street, occupied by John O'Connor requiring him to put in a W.C., a letter was now read from the Agent pointing out that a privy had recently been re-constructed at some considerable cost in this house, and suggesting that in the circumstances it would be a hardship to have to put in a W.C. The Corporation, however, decided to refuse the application and insisted on a W.C. owing to the congestion in this area.

## DANCE HALL LICENCES.

Notices were submitted of intention to apply to the District Court for Dance Hall Licences in respect of the Town Hall and the Geraldine Athletic Club. These were both approved.

## AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

A lengthy circular was read from the Minister for Defence regarding the Air Raid Precautions Act, 1939. A long discussion took place and finally, it was decided to write to the Minister for Defence to inquire if he could send them any Model Scheme or an Officer who could instruct them in the making of a Scheme. Many members were anxious to know what proportion of the cost of any scheme the Corporation would have to bear, and the Acting Clerk was directed to make these inquiries, on receipt of which the Committee would specially meet to consider the matter.

In the meantime, it was decided to inquire from the Electricity Supply Board and the Wexford Gas Consumers Co., Ltd, if arrangements could be made for the extinction of public lighting in case of war without involving the continuance of the supply to consumers for domestic or power purposes.

It was decided to go ahead with the painting of Artizans Dwellings as soon as practical. It was stated that there was £200 in the estimate for this purpose and the Acting Borough Surveyor in a reply to a question estimated that this would cover about 60 houses.

*Richard Corbett T.D.*

4th September, 1939.

A Statutory Meeting of the Corporation was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: James McMahon, Robert Coffey, and Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: Thomas Hayes, James Murphy, Patrick Atkins, James Billington, Stephen McMahon, John Billington, Patrick Hawkins, James Crosbie, Thomas Byrne, Timothy Cashman, Robert Moran, James Sinnott, and Nicholas Connolly.

#### MINUTES.

The following Minutes were submitted for ratification and approval:- Minutes of Corporation on 14th ultimo, and Finance and Works, Etc., Committees on 14th and 28th ultimo. The Minutes as submitted were approved on the motion of Alderman Coffey seconded by Alderman Walsh, and signed by the Mayor.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

Councillor Sinnott acknowledged a vote of sympathy passed with him at last meeting.

#### PAYMENTS.

Liabilities which had accrued due up to the end of last month amounting in the aggregate, to £3045. 17. 2 were submitted, and having been examined were approved, and an Advice Note signed to enable them to be discharged.

#### RESOLUTION - F. RYAN RELEASE COMMITTEE.

There was submitted to the Meeting a Resolution from the Frank Ryan Release Committee calling for the repatriation of Frank Ryan from Spain. This resolution was adopted on the motion of Alderman Walsh seconded by Councillor Atkins.

#### AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

The only other item on the Agenda was urgent business received by the Town Clerk subsequent to the issue of the Agenda, and he explained that he had put this down in the hope that there might be some information from the Department of Defence regarding Air Raid Precautions.

It was explained that at a Meeting of the Finance Committee on the 28th ultimo, a letter was received from the Department of Defence urging the Corporation to proceed immediately with the preparation of a Scheme for the Borough of Wexford, and the Acting Town Clerk was then directed to inquire from the Department:-

- (1) what proportion of the cost of any Scheme the State would bear
- (2) If an Officer of the Department was available to come to Wexford and assist the Corporation Officials in the preparation of a Scheme
- (3) if an officer was not available, if it would be possible for the Department to send a Model Scheme for adaptation.

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4th September, 1939.

It was explained that up to the present no reply had been received from the Department, but during a 'phone conversation this afternoon they had informed the Town Clerk that it would be impossible to send down an Officer and neither had they a Model Scheme, but that Memoranda on some of the matters to be dealt with in the Scheme would be sent to them in the course of a few posts.

In view of this it was seen that no progress could be made at the present meeting, but a suggestion by the Mayor was unanimously agreed to that a Committee composed of His Worship the Mayor, Borough Surveyor, Mr. Millar, Clerk of Works, the two Medical Officers, Mr. Doyle, of the Town Clerk's Office, and the Town Clerk should appoint a Committee to consider the entire matter. The Mayor also suggested that if sufficient information was not received from the Department of Defence in the course of a day or so that himself and the Town Clerk should be permitted to go to Dublin to interview some of the Officials there in connection with a Scheme. This suggestion was also unanimously agreed to. This discussion on Air Raid Precautions and the present War in Europe gave rise to many complaints regarding hoarding and profiteering on food supplies and fuel.

A very protracted discussion followed on this matter during which a suggestion was made that a Local Committee should be set up to investigate complaints with a view to bringing specific instances of hoarding and profiteering under the notice of the Minister for Supplies, but it was pointed out that the Government had taken powers to deal with these matters, and until their proposals were made known it would not be advisable for the Corporation to do anything except appeal to those who were in a position to purchase large stocks of food not to do so, and in the meantime to lay this information before the Minister for Supplies and to inquire if and when the Government proposed to control the matters above referred to and what form such control would assume. This was agreed to. Councillor Hayes referred to the deputation which had attended at last meeting from the Wexford Trades Council, and said it appeared in the local Press last week that the deputation had stated at a Meeting of the Trades Council that they were very much surprised at the attack made by Councillor Hayes and pointed out that his remarks were not consistent with the policy of a representative of the Working Classes. Councillor Hayes, continuing, said he wanted to defend himself through the medium of the Press, and stated that so far as he was concerned he did not care about any other party but was going to do his duty and speak his mind. The Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Corish TD*

4th September, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Waterworks and Public Health Committees was held at the close of the above Meeting, the members present being the same as at the Statutory Meeting.

#### HOLIDAYS - CLERK OF WORKS.

Mr. Millar, Clerk of Works on the Housing Schemes, applied for and was granted two weeks holidays, on the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Alderman Walsh, they to be taken at a suitable time in accordance with arrangements to be made with the Borough Surveyor and Town Clerk.

#### REPORT - M.O.H.

The Medical Officer reported on a defective dry closet and the absence of a drain in the yard of a house at William Street, occupied by Miss Margaret Johnson, and it was decided to serve notice on the owner requesting him to provide a water closet and drain within one month.

The Medical Officer was to be asked to make a report on a number of houses at King Street.

The Medical Officer was also to be asked to report on a sewer leading from Abbey Street to Main Street.

#### WHITEMILL PENALTY CLAUSE.

With reference to Penalty Clause enforced on the Contractor for the Whitemill Housing Scheme, the Town Clerk intimated that in making his estimates for the year 1938-39 he had estimated to receive Rents £497 from these houses, but owing to the failure of the Contractors to have them ready for letting the actual amount received amounted to only £253 was £244 less than the estimate.

The Penalty Clause enforced amounted to £245, £63 of which was in respect of the salary of the Clerk of Works, and a balance of £182 was in respect of loss of rent. Owing to the reduction in the Penalty Clause, however, there would only be £148 left to meet loss of rent after paying all accounts in connection with the scheme and he had proposed to appropriate this towards the making good the loss of rent. Under date of the 28th ultimo by letter No. H.11628/5/39, the Minister pointed out that the appropriation proposed to offset the loss of rent could not be allowed and the all in cost of the Scheme would be regarded as £221,552. It was decided to point out to the Minister that in making their Claim on the Contractor the Corporation had based it largely on this loss of rent, and consequently, they held that the appropriation proposed should be allowed.

#### LAND - GREEN ST.

Mr. Phillip Hall, Carrigeen Street, under date of the 14th ultimo offered to sell a piece of ground at Green Street for the sum of £50, and this was referred to the Borough Surveyor for a report.

#### SHOP - TALBOT STREET.

It was decided to recommend the Corporation to grant permission for the erection of a shop at Talbot Street on the side of a house formerly occupied by a man named Clarke, provided that the Borough Surveyor was satisfied with a plan of the proposed building.



11th September, 1939.  
4th September, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

**AUTHORISED PLUMBERS.**

The question of the registration of James Jones as an Authorised Plumber was again considered, so it was decided to place this matter on the Agenda for next Meeting.

Attendance: Walsh, McEneaney, Gaffey.

**INSURANCES.**

The estimate of the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances for the insuring of Corporation Employees engaged on Relief Grant Work at premiums varying from 100s. to 150s. was accepted, as was also their quotation of 11/6d. for Public Liability Insurance.

*Richard Curran T.D.*  
*Mayor*

The Town Clerk & himself had visited the Office of the Department of Defence on the 21st instant when they had informed a number of Officials in charge of the Air Raid Precautions, that it was impossible for them to remain in the town for the night of any night which might occur on the 22nd instant. This included their own children & the children of Air Raid Precautions. The officials of the Department of Defence were informed that the officials of the Corporation were prepared to prepare such a scheme. An outline scheme detailing the officials responsible for the various duties was sent to Article 2 of the Air Raid Precautions Regulations. This provided that the Town Clerk be the Air Raid Precautions Officer for the Corporation and preparation of the scheme, and in addition, the Deputy Surveyor, Mr. W. J. Miller, Clerk of Works, the Water Co. S.O.S. and the Corporation's officers of health were responsible for various duties in connection therewith. As regards the carrying of Air Raid Precautions the officials mentioned were after careful consideration, they recommended that they be placed on the following classes: namely, Staff, Fire and the Corporation's employees. The officials were approximately 24,000 and would amount to about 1,000 employees. If they were provided with additional arms of approximately 2,000 shells could be issued. In this connection the Mayor advised that the Town Clerk, through the Surveyor and Mr. Miller could not provide a number of shells which would amount to the Corporation's employees and shells of this nature could be provided if they were provided with shells of this nature. It was thought it was not necessary to provide shells of this nature. The Mayor stated that he was already with the Department of Defence and he thought a scheme could be prepared for the shells. He mentioned that the Surveyor and Mr. Miller should work on a basis of 200 and the Town Clerk a basis of 250 for the preparation of the scheme. The Mayor stated that he would be prepared to provide the shells and the shells would be provided in a special manner.

11th September, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Walsh, McMahon, Coffey.

Councillors: Moran, Dunne, Atkins, James Billington, Gaul, Hawkins, Crosbie, Byrne, John Billington, Sinnott, Hayes, McMahon, Murphy, Cashman, and Connolly.

The Meeting was specially convened to consider the position regarding Air Raid Precautions in the Borough, and the Mayor informed the Committee that the Town Clerk and himself had visited the Offices of the Department of Defence on the 7th instant where they had interviewed a number of Officials in charge of Air Raid Precautions.

Whilst it was impossible for them to ascertain what proportion of the cost of any Scheme the State would recoup the Corporation they had made good progress in ascertaining what was required to be done in the Town. This included inter alia the provision of Air Raid Shelters, emergency fire-fighting, first aid etc. etc., and the Officials of the Corporation he stated were at present engaged on preparing such a Scheme. An outline scheme detailing the Officials responsible for the various matters set out in Article 3 of the Air Raid Precautions (Prescribed Provisions) Regulations 1939 was submitted. This provided that the Town Clerk be the Air Raid Precautions Officer for the co-ordination and preparation of the Scheme, and in addition, the Borough Surveyor, Mr. T. J. Millar, Clerk of Works, the Acting Co. M.O.H. and the District Medical Officers of Health were responsible for various matters in connection therewith. As regards the provision of Air Raid Shelters the Officials suggested that after careful consideration they recommended that they be placed in the following places:- namely, Bull Ring and St. Patrick's Square underground. Redmond Monument and Upper King Street overground. These shelters would cost approximately £6,000 and would accommodate about 1,000 persons: if they were provided with artificial means of ventilation approximately 2,000 people could be housed therein. In this connection the Mayor pointed out that the Town Clerk, Borough Surveyor and Mr. Millar would have a considerable amount of extra work and overtime in the preparation and administration of this Scheme and he thought it was only equitable that they should be remunerated therefor. He had raised this matter already with the Department of Defence and he thought a proposal would be favourably considered. He therefore suggested that the Borough Surveyor and Mr. Millar should each be paid a bonus of £75 and the Town Clerk a bonus of £50 for the preparation of the scheme together with an annual payment of £50 each for administering it for so long as the necessity for the Scheme being in operation, continued.

He also thought that it might be necessary for the Town Clerk to have Clerical Assistance and suggested that he be authorised to apply for an open sanction to employ temporary clerical assistance as and when he required it.

Councillor Gaul moved the adoption of the entire scheme as outlined by the Mayor above and Councillor Dunne seconded.

11th September, 1939.

A very lengthy discussion followed on this matter during which some members thought that it would be better to provide more shelters of the sand-bag type rather than spend a large sum of money on the erection of four reinforced concrete structures as outlined, but it was pointed out that it was no function of the Corporation to provide shelters for the entire population and that they were only providing for what might be termed the moving population, namely, those likely to be caught in the streets during an air raid. Eventually, opposition to the recommendations of the Officials in this connection was withdrawn and the Scheme as outlined by the Mayor, the adoption of which was proposed by Councillor Gaul and seconded by Councillor Dunne, was unanimously agreed to, and it was decided that as soon as approval thereto was received from the Department of Defence that the Corporation should be recommended to adopt it.

The Town Clerk stated he expected a house to be vacant in Maudlintown during the course of the coming week, and a lady named Mrs. Connors, who was at present residing with her mother ~~xxxxxxx~~ there had reminded him that when she and her mother with their families had been removed from a condemned house at Maudlintown she had been promised the first three-roomed house that became available.

It was explained to the Meeting that at the time this re-housing took place the Corporation were reluctant to give Mrs. Connors a house because she was not residing with her husband, but it now appeared from a statement made to the Town Clerk by the Inspector of the National Society for prevention of cruelty to Children that there was every possibility of a reconciliation taking place between the husband and wife, and it would help such a reconciliation if they were given a house.

It was therefore unanimously decided on the motion of the Mayor seconded by Alderman Walsh that Mrs. Connors husband be given the tenancy of this house if and when it became vacant provided she submitted evidence to the Town Clerk that a reconciliation between himself and her husband had been arranged.

The Town Clerk further reported that two tenants had left houses at Wolfe Tone Villas during the past week and had gone to reside in England, and that other persons had taken possession of them. The Rent Collector, Mr. Roche, was called before the meeting and explained the entire position to the Members as far as he knew it, so it was unanimously decided that the Town Clerk should take any steps necessary to obtain possession of the two dwellings.

It was explained to the meeting by the Mayor that for some time past the Town Clerk and himself had been discussing the question of Office accommodation in the present building. At the present time two ladies and a man had to work in one office which was open at all times to the public, and it was extremely difficult under such conditions to have work carried out efficiently. They therefore proposed to the Council that alterations should be made in the present office of the Town Clerk with a view to converting it into two rooms which could be occupied by the lady members of his staff. If this were done both of them believed that greater efficiency in the carrying out of the Corporation work would result.

It was also mentioned that in view of the enormous amount of work which would be entailed by Air Raid Precautions, that a second telephone line to the building would be essential in the near future and it was thought that if alterations were being carried out that a second line should be installed forthwith. The recommendation of the Town Clerk and Mayor was unanimously agreed to in this connection on the motion of Councillor Dunne, seconded by Councillor Blyne, and they were authorised to take

11th September, 1939.

such steps as were necessary to give effect to the decision and to purchase such furniture as might be necessary for the altered offices.

The Borough Surveyor reported in connection with the dispute some time ago regarding the timber supplied by the Wexford Timber Company for the erection of houses at Davitt Road and William Street, that everything had been satisfactorily arranged except flooring boards, but it was impossible at the present time to procure supplies of 1" boards as required by the Borough Surveyor's specification. He therefore proposed to invite tenders from the two local Builders Providers for 7/8" flooring boards. This was unanimously agreed to and the Borough Surveyor, Mayor and Town Clerk were authorised to deal with the tenders when they were received, in order to expedite work on the erection of the houses.

James Murphy, Timothy Lashan, Phillip McGuire, John Hillington, and James Sinnott.

*Richard Cairns T D*

Five applications were submitted for the vacant house at William Street. Councillor Connolly reminded the Meeting that some time ago it had been agreed that the first house vacant at William Street should be given by the Town Clerk to a man named Harry who was residing in a condemned house at Green Street. The Town Clerk agreed with Councillor Connolly in so far as the details referred to was concerned, but, pointed out that this man was residing in one of a number of houses acquired by the Corporation with a dumping site at Green Street.

*Mayor*

The house had been designated as unfit for human habitation and the Corporation were merely waiting until houses were erected by re-locating these persons and demolishing their present dwellings. The rent of the house was 2/- per week, and at the present time this man owed no less than £4. 0. 0 and it was for this reason that the Town Clerk had not been at all anxious to give this man the vacant house.

A lengthy discussion followed on this matter and whilst every member was satisfied that Harry should be given the house it was thought that some steps should be taken in connection with the arrears.

The members realised that the house in which he at present resided was undoubtedly a bad one, but, nevertheless, it was providing him with some kind of shelter, and they thought that some attempt should have been made to pay the very small rent of 2/- per week. Eventually, it was agreed on the motion of Councillor Sinnott, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that if Harry succeeded in procuring the house at the present meeting that the debt of £4. 0. 0 on his present dwelling should be liquidated for the sum of £3, and this was unanimously agreed to.

Councillor Connolly then moved that Harry be given the tenancy of the present vacant house, and Councillor Sinnott seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed to.

The Meeting then adjourned.

*Richard Cairns T D*

*Mayor*

18th September, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Council was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m., to allocate a house vacant at Wolfe Tone Villas.

The Members present were:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor, (in the Chair).

Alderman. Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: Thomas Hayes, Patrick Atkins, James Billington, Patrick Hawkins, James Crosbie, Thomas Byrne, Robert Moran, Nicholas Connolly, Thomas Dunne, James Murphy, Timothy Cashman, Phillip McGuire, John Billington, and James Sinnott.

Five applications were submitted for the vacant house, and Councillor Connolly reminded the Meeting that some time ago it had been agreed that the first house vacant at Wolfe Tone Villas should be given by the Town Clerk to a man named James Kenny who was residing in a condemned house at Green Street. The Town Clerk agreed with Councillor Connolly in so far as the decision referred to was concerned, but, pointed out that this man was residing in one of a number of houses acquired by the Corporation with a housing site at Green Street.

The house had been condemned as unfit for human habitation and the Corporation were merely waiting until houses were erected to re-house these persons and demolish their present dwellings. The rent of the house was 2/- per week, and at the present time this man owed no less than £4. 8. 0 and it was for this reason that the Town Clerk had not taken it on himself to give this man the vacant house.

A lengthy discussion followed on this matter and whilst every member was satisfied that Kenny should be given the house it was thought that some steps should be taken in connection with the arrears.

The members realised that the house in which he at present resided was undoubtedly a bad one, but, nevertheless, it was providing him with some kind of shelter, and they thought that some attempt should have been made to pay the very small rent of 2/- per week. Eventually, it was agreed on the motion of Councillor Sinnott, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that if Kenny succeeded in procuring the house at the present meeting that the debt of £4. 8. 0 on his present dwelling should be liquidated for the sum of £1, and this was unanimously agreed to.

Councillor Connolly thereupon moved that Kenny be given the tenancy of the present vacant house, and Councillor Byrne seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed to.

The Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Corish TD*  
*Mayor*

18th September, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works Committee was held at the close of the above meeting, the members present being the same as at the Special Meeting.

#### STORAGE OF PETROLEUM.

The Town Clerk stated that owing to the European War he believed that large quantities of Petroleum were being stored in unlicensed premises in the Town and under anything but ideal conditions. He felt that if some action was not taken to control this promiscuous storing of petroleum that parts of the Town were liable to serious risks of explosion followed by fire, and it was agreed that the Town Clerk in consultation with the Garda Authorities should take whatever steps were necessary to control the storage of petroleum.

#### RELIEF GRANT EMPLOYEE.

Attention was called by the Mayor to the fact that a man named Lacey who had been employed for some 32 weeks on the Green Street Relief Grant had been re-employed on the present Spring and Summer Works Grant. He (Mayor) realised that the Officials could not prevent him being re-employed once his name was sent from the Labour Exchange, but the objection he had was that he had been made a keyman and engaged for 5 days per week.

The Members agreed with the Mayor that this was entirely unfair and directed the Borough Surveyor to investigate the matter and to have Lacey put back on three days per week the same as other men.

#### FIRE BRIGADE CHARGES.

It was decided to recommend the Corporation to adopt the following scale of charges for the attendance of the Fire Brigade outside the Borough Boundary:-

- |    |   |     |    |    |
|----|---|-----|----|----|
| 1. | Minimum Fee for Call-----   | £5. | 5. | 0. |
| 2. | Where the Brigade is engaged for more than one hour, and not more than four hours-----                                | 15. | 0. | 0. |
| 3. | For every hour or part of an hour in excess of the first four hours mentioned at 2 above.--                           | 4.  | 0. | 0. |
| 4. | In addition, travelling expenses for every mile, or part of a mile, from Station to fire, and return to Station.----- |     | 2. | 0. |

Time will be reckoned from the hour Brigade leaves Station until the hour it arrives back to Station.

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The Brigade will not be permitted to leave the Borough

(a) Without the permission of an Executive Officer of the Corporation.

(b) Unless the Fire is extensive, or likely to become extensive.

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- (c) Unless there is a sufficient supply of water available to enable the Brigade to be of utility.

The Brigade may, at the discretion of the Officials of the Corporation, be recalled from a fire outside the Borough Boundary.

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#### FIRE AT LITTLE GRAIGUE.

The Town Clerk reported that some time ago the Fire Brigade had attended a fire at Littlegrigue, Bannow, in respect of which he had sent an account for the sum of £30. The owner of the premises had called on him during the week and showed him correspondence from the Insurance Company allowing only £25 for Fire Brigade Expenses, and he asked the Corporation to accept this sum in full settlement, so it was unanimously agreed on the motion of Councillor Hayes, seconded by Councillor Connolly, to accept the sum of £25.

#### LICENCE.

An application for a Licence under the Slaughter of Animals Act was submitted from Mr. William Houghton, Cornmarket, and the Town Clerk was authorised to issue such a Licence.

#### WATERWORKS SCHEME.

Under date of the 7th instant, Messrs. Delap & Waller, Consulting Engineers for the Waterworks Improvement Scheme stated that they had been in touch with the Department of Local Government and Public Health and learned that the Provisional Order in connection with the Waterworks could not be issued under two months time and it was doubtful owing to the unfortunate circumstances of war whether this Scheme would even then go on or not, and they had been advised not to carry on with their preparation of contract, drawings, specification, etc. They attached an account amounting to £325. 14. 11 in respect of fees and out-of-pocket expenses from 1933 to 1937 and asked the Corporation to make some arrangements to pay them a substantial amount on account.

In this connection the Town Clerk was directed to write to the Department of Local Government and Public Health sending a copy of Messrs. Delap & Waller's letter and asking what was the position regarding the Waterworks Scheme.

#### SCAVENGERS BOOTS.

An application from the scavengers for their annual pair of boots was submitted and granted.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF PAINTERS.

A letter was read from the Painters Society asking the Corporation to receive a deputation regarding the employment of Painters, but it was pointed out to the meeting that the Corporation had at present five painters employed, so, it was decided that no useful purpose could be served by receiving the deputation, and the Society was to be informed that the Corporation had instructed the Surveyor to employ further painters as soon as possible.

18th September, 1939.

## HOUSE AT JOHN ST.

It was reported that a notice had been served in 1931 fixing the present meeting as the day when any offer regarding the condition of a house at John Street occupied by Thomas McGuire would be considered, and the Town Clerk intimated that the Agent for the owner had called on him this day and asked to be supplied with what repairs were necessary to make the house fit for human habitation, so it was decided to ask the Borough Surveyor to set out what would be required as soon as possible.

## REPORTS - M.O.H.

Reports from the Medical Officer of Health stated that he had examined five houses at John Street, occupied by Richard Goodisson, John White, Roseanna Conway, Mary Anna Walsh, and Thomas Burke, and found a proper privy and ashpit, but stated that a water closet would be desirable. It was decided to serve notice on the owner requiring the provision of a water closet in each house within one month.

## HOUSE - CARRIGEEN ST.

In reply to a query by Councillor Dunne, the Town Clerk intimated that on several occasions he had asked the medical officer of Health, Dr. Sinnott, for a report on a house at Carrigeen Street, occupied by a man named Pender, but up to the present he had not received it, so it was decided to ask the County Medical Officer for such report.

## WATERWORKS PLUMBER.

The application of James Jones of John Street, for registration as an authorised waterworks plumber appeared on the Agenda as per directions given at last meeting, but it was decided to adjourn the matter for the present.

## FIRE BRIGADE.

A Meeting of the Fire Brigade Committee was held at the close of the above meeting the members present being:-

His Worship the Mayor (in the Chair) with Alderman Walsh,

Councillors: Moran, Connolly, and McGuire.

The Town Clerk intimated that four members of the Brigade, namely, John Wallace, Captain, Patrick Lacey, Frank Nolan, and Thomas Crosbie, had intimated their willingness to occupy the new houses at Davitt Road, but Councillor McGuire stated he did not think that either Frank Nolan or John Wallace would reside there, as it was decided that the Town Clerk should again ask these two men if they were prepared to reside at Davitt Road, North, when these houses were finished.

It was further decided that an advertisement be issued inviting applications for membership of the Brigade. It was to be confined to building tradesmen and builders labourers but that applications should also be received for an auxiliary driver. It should be made clear to the applicants that they will only occupy these houses whilst they are members of the Brigade, and that their service as such could be dispensed with at any time when they would be required to leave the houses. As well that they would have to pay a rent for these houses to be fixed by the Corporation at a later date.

The applications should be invited for not later than the 28th instant so that they could be examined by the Fire Brigade Committee before the Statutory Meeting of the Corporation to be held on the 2nd prox.

*Richard Curran*  
*myer*



2nd October, 1939.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Corporation was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: James McMahon, Robert Coffey, and Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: James Billington, Patrick Atkins, John Billington, Timothy Cashman, Robert Moran, Thomas Dunne, James Murphy, James Crosbie, Phillip McGuire, Thomas Hayes, Thomas Byrne, James Sinnott, Patrick Hawkins, and Nicholas Connolly.

#### MINUTES.

The following minutes were submitted for approval and signature, namely, Minutes of Corporation on 4th and 18th ultimo; and Minutes of Finance, Etd. Committees on 4th, 11th, and 18th ultimo. On the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Alderman Walsh, the Minutes as submitted, were approved and signed by the Mayor.

#### ACCOUNTS.

Liabilities which had accrued due up to the end of last month amounting in the aggregate, to £6072. 13. 8 were submitted, and having been examined were approved and an Advice Note signed to enable them to be discharged.

Arising out of the Accounts, Councillor Byrne referred to an item of £52. 17. 9 for public lighting for the month of September, and pointed out that only 25% of the lights were lighting and asked how was it that the account corresponded with the accounts for previous months.

The Town Clerk replied that the question as to whether or not the Corporation were liable under their contract with the Electricity Supply Board for the full amount of the lighting charged during the black-out period was one which would have to be decided legally before the close of the Financial Year. He already had had informal discussions with an Official of the Board on the matter, and he thought it would not be judicious to discuss it at the present moment. The matter was dropped.

A question was also raised regarding the purchase of Paint from firms outside the Town and it was pointed out that this material had been advertised for competitive tender, and the lowest had been accepted.

#### SYMPATHY.

Councillor Sinnott moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to James McMahon, Caretaker of the Reservoir, on the death of his father. Councillor Byrne seconded the motion which was supported by all the members present.

His Worship the Mayor moved that the sympathy of the Corporation be extended to the Sub-Sanitary Officer, Mr. Edward Byrne, on the death of his nephew. Alderman McMahon seconded this motion which was also supported by the members present.

Both Resolutions were adopted in respectful silence.

2nd October, 1939.  
2nd October, 1939.

The Finance Committee recommended that the following scale of charges be fixed for the attendance of the Fire Brigade outside the Borough Boundary:-

1. Minimum Fee for Call.....£5. 5. 0.
2. Where the Brigade is engaged for more than one hour, and not more than four hours..... 15. 0. 0.
3. For every hour or part of an hour in excess of the first four hours mentioned at 2 above..... 4. 0. 0.
4. In addition, travelling expenses for every mile, or part of a mile, from Station to fire, and return to Station.--- 2. 0.

Time will be reckoned from the hour Brigade leaves Station until the hour it arrives back to Station.

The Brigade will not be permitted to leave the Borough

- (a) Without the permission of an Executive Officer of the Corporation.
- (b) Unless the Fire is extensive, or likely to become extensive.
- (c) Unless there is a sufficient supply of water available to enable the Brigade to be of utility.

The Brigade may, at the discretion of the Officials of the Corporation, be recalled from a fire outside the Borough Boundary.

Councillor Dunne moved the adoption of the recommendation and Councillor Connolly seconded.

Alderman Coffey suggested that during the Winter Months the Corporation Executive Officers should be very careful about allowing the Fire Brigade outside the Town. The recommendation was unanimously adopted.

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## ERECTION OF SHOP.

On the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Dunne, a Finance Committee recommendation that permission be granted for the erection of a shop at Talbot Street was unanimously agreed to.

## PETROLEUM INSPECTOR.

On the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor Murphy, Sergeant John J. O'Brien, Garda Síochána, was appointed as Inspector under the Petroleum Acts in lieu of Sergeant Scanlon, transferred.

## CHARGES FOR ELECTRICITY.

The following Resolution from the Galway Electricity Consumers and Ratepayers Association was submitted:-

"That the Galway Electricity Consumers and Ratepayers Association emphatically protests against the continuance of the existing electricity charges, and in particular the fixed or valuation charge, which it considers are excessive and inequitable, having regard to, amongst other reasons, the huge profits recently published by the E.S.B. It demands an immediate reduction in all these charges and suggests the withdrawal of the fixed valuation charge, and the substitution of a reasonable, equitable and uniform charge for the entire country.

It is further resolved that, in the Associations opinion, a united demand should be made on the E.S.B. in respect of this all important question, and with that object in view a National Association should be formed.

Copies of this resolution to be forwarded to the E.S.B. and all the Councils of the Cities and principal provincial towns in Eire."

Councillor Hayes proposed the adoption of the Resolution and stated that last year the Electricity Supply Board had an increase in lighting of over 50 million units and for industrial purposes an increase of over 30 million units. Councillor James Billington seconded the motion and stated it was not the first time he had spoken at a Corporation Meeting on the same subject. For some time past they had been asking the Electricity Supply Board for a reduction but had received no satisfaction. After some further discussion the resolution was unanimously endorsed.

## INTEREST LOCAL LOAN FUND.

Under date of the 27th ultimo by letter No. S.27153 the Minister for Local Government and Public Health intimated that it had been decided by the Minister for Finance that save where the terms of an existing Mortgage Deed or Charging Order precluded it, interest on every issue made out of the Local Loans Fund on and after the 12th September, 1939, would be charged at the rate of  $5\frac{3}{4}\%$  irrespective of the purpose of the loan and whether it was authorised by him before on or after that date.

2nd October, 1939.

In reply to Alderman Coffey, it was stated that the previous rate was  $4\frac{3}{4}\%$ , the Mayor pointed out that this was a very serious matter and would interfere with any housing programme a Municipality had in mind. He suggested that representations be made to the Ministry to bring the rate of interest back to  $4\frac{3}{4}\%$  in consequence of Bank rate having been reduced recently by 1%.

The Mayor also referred to the fact that annuities to the Local Loans Fund were being collected from Municipalities all over the country since 1933, and were not now being paid to the British Treasury as in former years. He thought they had a right to get some credit for that money and that one of the best ways in which it could be done would be by reducing interest on loans. He intended to raise this matter at the Annual Congress of the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities. The discussion on this Circular extended over the field of unemployment and its causes, but eventually, the Mayor's suggestion that the Minister be asked to bring the interest rate on loans to  $4\frac{3}{4}\%$  was unanimously adopted, on the motion of Councillor Sinnott, seconded by Councillor Cashman. Councillor Sinnott referred to the recent decision of the Broadcasting Authorities to permit sponsored programmes being broadcast for the purpose of advertising and moved that the Corporation protest against it. Alderman Walsh seconded. It was pointed out that this method of advertising would seriously affect the revenues of national and local newspapers which were mainly dependent on advertising for such revenues. If the advertisements in the Press declined it would mean a reduction in staffs, and in one local newspaper office no less than 11 men had been placed on short time during the past week. A Resolution of protest was adopted and it was decided that it should be sent to An Taoiseach, the Minister for Posts & Telegraphs, and to the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities.

#### WINTER RELIEF SCHEMES.

Councillor Dunne asked if it was the intention of the Corporation to put in operation the Winter Relief Schemes. There was a rumour, at present, he stated, that owing to the European Crisis the proposals made by the Corporation would not be implemented. It was pointed out that proposals for Winter Relief Works had been forwarded to the Department during the month of August, and up to the present no reply had been received as to whether or not they had been approved. It was decided to communicate with the Department on the matter.

#### TEMPORARY TYPIST.

On the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Alderman McMahon, it was unanimously agreed to extend the appointment of Miss E. M. Phillips, Temporary Shorthand-typist up to the 31st March, 1940, with remuneration at the rate of £1. 10. 0 per week and subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

*Richard Connolly T D*  
*Mayor*

2nd October, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Waterworks and Public Health Committees was held at the close of the above meeting, the members present being the same as at the Quarterly Meeting.

#### APPRENTICE CARPENTER.

An application was submitted from a young man named McGrath, John Street, for permission to complete his apprenticeship as a Carpenter, and it was decided on the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Councillor Dunne, to grant the application.

#### CORPORATION MEETINGS.

The Wexford Trades Council intimated that at a recent Meeting a discussion had arisen in connection with the Corporation Housing Schemes when it was decided that it would benefit the Schemes and everything appertaining to them if weekly meetings of the Corporation were held. It was pointed out that the Corporation usually held weekly meetings during the winter months, and agreed to commence them on the 16th instant.

#### WATERWORKS REGULATIONS.

Under date of the 22nd ultimo by letter No. PH. 26742, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health adverted to the Waterworks Regulations made on the 5th July last and stated he was advised that they were ultra vires having regard to the provisions of Sections 48-58 of the Waterworks Clauses Act, 1847. It was decided to adjourn consideration of this matter until next meeting.

#### UNAUTHORISED PLUMBER.

A Report from the Plumbers Union to the effect that work was being carried out by an unauthorised plumber at Castlehill Street was adjourned for a report from the Turncock.

#### MEAT INSPECTOR.

Mr. F. Staples, V.S., wrote referring to the decision of the Corporation intimated to him on the 4th April to amalgamate the position of Milk & Meat Inspector in the Borough at a combined salary of £150 per annum and requested to be informed what was the position, if it was not the intention of the Authorities to amalgamate the posts he would have to request the Corporation to increase his salary of £30 per annum for the supervision of the Milk Supplies.

It was pointed out that as far back as the 16th May last the Corporation had asked the Minister to state if in his opinion, Mr. Staples was now qualified to carry out Meat Inspection, and on the 22nd June last he had been asked to reply to the Corporations letter of the 16th May, but up to the present nothing had been heard. It was decided to again write to the Department on this matter.

#### FRANCISCAN RATES.

With reference to the large amount of Rates outstanding for some years past on the Franciscan Convent in Wexford, it was stated that the new Guardian of the Friary was agreeable to pay the current rates for the present and future years, but intimated that he did not expect to be held responsible for previous years rates when he was not in charge in Wexford. So, it was unanimously agreed on the motion of Councillor Hayes, seconded by Alderman Walsh, that if the current and future years rates were paid the Corporation would agree to wipe out the outstanding arrears.

2nd October, 1939.

## GRAVEYARDS.

It was agreed on the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Councillor Sinnott, to have the grave-yard attached to the Franciscan Church cleaned.

A complaint was made that trespass was occurring on St. Patrick's Churchyard from old condemned houses at Gibson Street, and it was decided to write to the owner of this property requesting him to take steps to prevent trespass on this property. It was also decided to request the Gardai to pay some attention to grave-yards in the Town with a view to preventing trespass.

## OILSKINS - GRAVEDIGGER.

An application from the gravedigger, John McDonald, for a suit of oilskins was granted.

## HOUSE - ST. JOHN'S ROAD.

Messrs. M. J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, on behalf of Mr. John Whelan, St. John's Road, requested to be informed of the redemption value of the house at present being purchased by Mr. Whelan on the tenant purchase system. It was pointed out that the sale price of this house was originally fixed at £360, and subsequently amended to provide for the deposit of £20 and a rent-charge of 12/- per week for 30 years. There was no record of what was comprised in the rent charged but it would appear to be an instalment that was meant at the time, as to repay £340 in 30 years would require an instalment of principal of £11. 6. 8 per annum. Interest on £340 at 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ % would amount to £17. 17. 0, Rent collection £1. 11. 4 and Insurance and Administration 9.0.s. By this method of computation the amount outstanding on the 31st December next would be approximately £227, and it was unanimously agreed to recommend the Corporation, subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to dispose of their interest in the house to Mr. Whelan for this amount.

## REPORT - M.O.H.

A report from the Medical Officer of Health on a house occupied by Mr. Pender, Carrigeen St., was submitted, which stated that the house was too small for the present family and the occupants should be housed elsewhere. The house would then need alterations and repairs and would only be suitable for a childless couple. As the house could not be considered as unfit for human habitation according to this report, no action was taken in the matter.

## HOUSE - JOHN'S GATE ST.

It was reported that a notice had been served on the owner of a house at John Street occupied by Johanna Nagle, requiring the provision of a Water Closet against the 30th ultimo. It appeared that the owner of the house was renovating the old privy, and it was decided to inform him that the Corporation would insist on the instalment of a W.C. in this house.

2nd October, 1939.

HOUSES - KING ST.

The Medical Officer of Health reported that he had inspected 5 houses at King Street occupied by John White, James O'Leary, John Bolger, John Roche, and Mrs. Walters, and recommended that proper W.C.'s be installed. It was decided to serve notice on the owner requiring the provision of W.C.'s within one month.

HOUSE - FRANCIS ST.

The Medical Officer of Health also reported that he had inspected the premises of Thomas Mythen, and found a dry privy and ashpit in a filthy and delapidated condition and recommended that the owner be required to provide a water closet.

DISTILLERY LANE. - C.P.O.

Under date of the 21st ultimo by letter No. H. 2761, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health referred to the Distillery Lane Compulsory Purchase Order, and stated it was understood that the question as to whether the land proposed to be acquired was a public or private right of way was the subject of litigation in the Circuit Court and a decision was deferred until the matter had been decided before the Court.

REPORT - M.O.H.

The M.O.H. reported that he inspected the sewer at Whites Hotel Yard and found same choked and sewage bursting through ground and spreading over surface, and recommended that it be opened and obstruction cleared. It was decided to have the Medical Officers recommendation carried out.

RENT - MCEVOY.

Councillor Byrne raised the question as to rent owed by James McEvoy, Distillery Road, against whom a Notice to Quit had been served, and the Town Clerk stated he would make a complete report on the matter at next Meeting.

WALL - BULL RING.

The Town Clerk was also asked to look up the ownership of a wall in the Bull Ring adjoining the premises of Messrs. Somers & Porter.

LANE - JOHN ST.

He was also asked to look up the position regarding the laneway at John Street over which the Corporation had a right of way and over which water was at present flowing on to the public road from Mr. Boyles field.

Reference was made to a number of matters held up for some time in Dublin. These included, Air Raid Precautions, Waterworks Scheme, proposed new dumping ground, Winter Relief Grants, Meat Inspector, Housing Etc., and it was agreed that the Mayor and Town Clerk should visit Dublin as soon as possible and try to obtain some information as to the position of the matters above referred to.

*Richard Cairns T.D.*

*mayor*

16th October, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Waterworks and Public Health Committees was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, Robert Coffey.

Councillors: Patrick Hawkins, James Crosbie, James Gaul, Thomas Byrne, James Billington, James Sinnott, Thomas Hayes, Thomas Dunne, and Timothy Cashman.

#### OLD FEVER HOSPITAL.

Councillor Hayes asked if any report had yet been received from Mr. T. J. Millar, who was acting Borough Surveyor some time ago, on an inspection made at the old Fever Hospital, Grogans Road, and the Town Clerk replied that he had not received any report, and Mr. Millar was to be asked to submit the report immediately. The Town Clerk was authorised to take whatever action was necessary on such a report.

#### RENT ARREARS.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when the question of the rent due by James McEvoy, Distillery Road, was referred to, the Town Clerk reported that on the 26th June last a Notice to Quit had been served on McEvoy requiring possession of the house on the 10th July, and on the 18th July a summons had been issued for possession, so there was no truth whatever in the statement made at last meeting that the summons had been served on McEvoy two days after the Notice to Quit. In this case it was explained that after the issue of the summons McEvoy had agreed with the Corporation Solicitor to pay the sum of £1 per week until the arrears of rent, and costs which amounted to £2, were cleared off. McEvoy had paid £7 and from this had been deducted by the Solicitor the £2 costs and he had been credited in the Corporation Rent Book with £5.

A lengthy discussion followed on this matter during which it was pointed out that by a Resolution of the Corporation full power had been given to the Rent Collectors to deal with defaulting tenants and that the present meeting had no power whatsoever to interfere. Nevertheless, it was decided that McEvoy should be communicated with by the Town Clerk and the fact pointed out to him that he had agreed to pay £1 per week until the arrears of rent and costs were cleared off, and if he was not prepared to keep this undertaking the Corporation could not interfere with the action of the Collector.

#### ROADS GRANT.

Under date of the 5th instant by letter No. SGT/32, the Minister for Local Government and Public Health intimated that a grant of £1500 had been made in the Roads Improvement Grant for 1939-40 to widen the carriageway, surface in reinforced concrete and construct footpaths at Redmond Road. In this case it was pointed out that the Co. Surveyor had decided to do this work himself and the Mayor stated that from the information given him by the Co. Surveyor he intended to bring in rural workers to do the work.



16th October, 1939.

The Committee were entirely opposed to this and asked the Borough Surveyor to carry it out, but Mr. McNally pointed out that the Assistant Co. Surveyor, in whose area this main road was situated, was being paid extra money for administering this Road Grant, and consequently he did not see why he should carry out the work. He stated, further, that from his conversation with the Co. Surveyor it was the latter's intention to only bring in a ganger from the rural area and to recruit town labour for the remainder, and he agreed to again get in touch with Mr. Barry, Co. Surveyor, on this matter. Final consideration of the matter was therefore adjourned pending the result of Mr. McNally's conversation with the Co. Surveyor.

#### PETROLEUM LICENCES.

Licences under the Petroleum Act, 1871 were submitted for signature in respect of the following premises:-

Messrs. Statham Ltd., West Gate.  
 R. F. Roche, Redmond Road.  
 Great Southern Railways, Custom House Quay.  
 Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty, Custom House Quay.  
 The Wexford Motor Company, Bull Ring.  
 Messrs. Godkin & Co., Ltd., North Main St.  
 Messrs. F. O'Connor & Co., North Main St.  
 White's Hotel, North Main St.  
 William Doyle, John St.  
 Messrs. J. J. Stafford & Sons, Paul Quay.  
 Mrs. Catherine O'Connor, Westlands.

All these premises it was stated had been inspected and approved for the storage of petroleum by the Borough Surveyor and Sergeant O'Erien, Petroleum Officer, and the Licences were accordingly signed on behalf of the Corporation.

#### PETROL PUMP LICENCES.

Licences to maintain petrol pumps were also signed in respect of the premises of:-

The Wexford Motor Company.  
 Mr. Patrick Meyler, North End Garage.  
 Messrs. Statham Ltd., West Gate.

#### AGREEMENT.

An Agreement with Mr. James Hayes for the installation of electric light fittings at Davitt Road, North and William Street was sealed and signed on the part of the Corporation.

#### HOUSING SCHEME.

A discussion took place regarding the preparation of a new Housing Scheme. It was pointed out that it would be extremely difficult owing to the present international situation to procure supplies of timber, and consequently, it might be necessary to have a concrete stairs, concrete floors and a concrete flat roof. This, however, did not meet with favour on the grounds that it would not give employment to carpenters, so it was decided, eventually, that the Borough Surveyor assisted by Mr. T. J. Millar, Clerk of Works, should immediately prepare a normal scheme for submission to the Department of Local Government and Public Health without delay, and if the Department suggested any alterations from the orthodox method of building in Wexford it should be further considered. The Engineers were also directed to prepare an alternative plan of a house in the bungalow style.

16th October, 1939.

With reference to minutes of last meeting when a complaint had been made that an extension to water service had been carried out by James Jones, an unauthorised plumber, to a house at Castle Hill Street, the Borough Surveyor reported that the Turncock informed him the work consisted of the extension of an existing service and did not contravene the Waterworks Regulations, the work was water tight and there was no waste. He also reported that a mason and a carpenter were employed on work at the same time in connection with this house and the mason actually did work to facilitate the finishing of the water service extension. As the Department of Local Government and Public Health had intimated they were advised that the bye-law made by the Corporation prohibiting any person other than authorised waterworks plumbers to interfere with the water system was ultra vires, it was decided that the Corporation Solicitor should be consulted on this matter having regard to an opinion expressed by eminent Counsel that the Corporation were within their rights.

It was decided that the Minister should be communicated with and sent a copy of Counsel's opinion which stated that the Corporation were within their rights in making such a bye-law.

As regards the general condition of this house, it was intimated that a previous owner had given an undertaking that it would not again be used for human habitation, and it was decided to ask the Medical Officer of Health for a fresh report on the premises.

#### GRAVE SPACE - CROSSTOWN.

With reference to a discussion in March 1938 on the subject of a grave at Crosstown for Thomas Doyle, John Street, when the Corporation had decided to inform him that they could not grant the permission asked for, but that they would be prepared to provide the 9' of extra kerb necessary to enable him to enclose the new grave if he decided to purchase it, Doyle, under even date, stated that he was not prepared to accept anything less than a new grave free of charge.

It was decided to inform him that the Committee had nothing to add to their previous decision on the matter.

#### SALARY - RATE COLLECTORS.

An application from the Irish Local Government Officials Union for an increase of 1% in the poundage of Messrs. O'Leary and Curran, Rate Collectors, was adjourned for a report from the Town Clerk on the state of their collection.

#### WATER METERS.

The Borough Surveyor reported that for some time past he had been advocating the renewal of the present water meters by more up-to-date ones as the meters in use were expensive to maintain. The manufacturers were prepared to allow a Discount of £10 off the cost of new meters against the old ones and it was unanimously decided that the new meters should be procured.

The Town Clerk was asked to examine the question whether the Corporation would be authorised to have meters placed in the Cinemas.

#### PUBLIC LIGHTING.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting when the question of the cost of the Public Lighting during the black-out period was raised, the Electricity Supply Board under date of the 11th instant intimated that as explained to the meeting by the Town Clerk the matter was still the subject of legal examination.

16th October, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Etc., Committee was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m. It was also decided to have the Lamp outside the Technical School lighted.

The Corporation Solicitor submitted his Bill of Costs for the acquisition of land at Green Street from Messrs. P. Pierse & Co., which amounted to £27. 16. 9 and his account for the purchase of a plot of ground at William Street from Mrs. Annie Donoughoe, which amounted to £12. 9. 6, and it was thought advisable that the Minister for Local Government and Public Health should be asked to permit the payment of these accounts without taxation.

APPLICATION FOR OILSKINS.

The Caretaker of the Cemetery applied for a suit of oilskins for the Winter, and his application was granted.

It was reported that James Delaney, Antelope Road, had vacated a house and placed a sub-tenant named Pitham there, and it was unanimously decided that full possession of the house should be obtained immediately.

*Richard Caird TD*  
*Mayor*

It was thought that this remuneration was very low and that at the present time could not be justified. It was decided to adjourn further consideration of the Financial Year.

The Town Clerk reported that the proceeds of the current year was £75 by Collector Corran and £20 by Collector O'Leary.

Collector Corran applied for a sum of £150 on foot of the assessment due to him and £400, reported that he had collected up to the 15th instant £7840, and that the commission received would amount to £191. 4. 6, and it was unanimously decided to refer the matter to the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to recommend the Corporation to pay £150 on account.

Collector O'Leary applied for £20 on foot of the assessment due to him. It was reported that he had collected £1000 up to the 15th instant and that the commission thereon amounted to £20, and it was unanimously decided to recommend the Corporation to pay the amount of £20 to the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to pay Collector O'Leary £20 on account.

There was also read a Form of preliminary Notice of Application for Compensation for Criminal Injury or Damage on behalf of Mrs. Mary, a ward of Court, in respect of the destruction of her property known as "The Wexford Social and Tennis Club" situated at Slip Street, Wexford. The amount set out in the claim was £1000 and the Corporation of the disposal of the matter it would appear that the damage was done by the tenants of the property who were considerably in arrears with their rent, and against which a decree for possession had been obtained by the Corporation.

The members were unanimously of the opinion that this was a very serious case and that the Corporation should be asked to pay the amount of £1000 to Mrs. Mary and to instruct the Corporation Solicitor to recover this sum in every way possible.

23rd October, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Etc., Committees was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Alderman Thomas Walsh.

Councillors: James Billington, James Crosbie, James Sinnott, John Billington, Patrick Hawkins, Thomas Byrne, Thomas Hayes, Robert Moran, Patrick Atkins, James Murphy, Nicholas Connolly, and Thomas Dunne.

#### RATE COLLECTORS POUNDAGE.

With reference to Minutes of last Meeting when an application was submitted on behalf of Rate Collectors Curran and O'Leary for an increase of 1% in the poundage rate paid them, the Town Clerk, as requested, reported that in the year ending 31st March last Collector Curran's remuneration amounted to £293 and Collector O'Leary's to £260, including in the latter's case £50 franchise fees. It was thought that this remuneration was very fair and an increase at the present time could not be justified, consequently, it was decided to adjourn further consideration of the matter until the close of the Financial Year.

#### RATE COLLECTION.

The Town Clerk reported that the percentage of rates collected for the current year was 47% by Collector Curran and 33% by Collector O'Leary.

#### COLLECTORS COMMISSION.

Collector Curran applied for a sum of £100 on foot of the commission due to him and it was reported that he had collected up to the 16th instant £7649, and that the commission thereon would amount to £191. 4. 6, so it was unanimously decided subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to recommend the Corporation to pay £100 on account.

Collector O'Leary applied for £80 on foot of the commission due to him. It was reported that he had collected £4282 up to the 16th instant and that the commission thereon amounted to £107, so it was unanimously decided to recommend the Corporation subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to pay Collector O'Leary £60 on account.

#### MALICIOUS INJURY.

There was submitted a Form of Preliminary Notice of Application for Compensation for Criminal Injury to property on behalf of Kate Hayes, a ward of Court, in respect of the destruction to the property known as "The Wexford Social and Tennis Club," situate at High Street, Wexford. The amount set out in the Claim was £210 but from the information at the disposal of the members it would appear that the damage was done by the tenants of the property who were considerably in arrear with their rent, and against whom a decree for possession had been obtained by the landlords.

The members were unanimously of the opinion that this was a case which should be fought to the bitter end and the Town Clerk was directed to instruct the Corporation Solicitor to oppose this case by every means in his power;

23rd October, 1939.

## BYE-LAWS - SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

It was reported that the bye-laws made by the Corporation on the 14th August last, with respect to slaughter-houses and for the decent and seemly conveyance of meat through the public thoroughfares in the Borough, had been approved by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

## ALLOTMENTS.

A lengthy letter was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health on the subject of the provision of allotments for unemployed persons during the 1940 season, and it was decided as a first step to advertise for persons wishing to acquire allotments during this season.

## UNEMPLOYED.

A letter was read from the Unemployed Association on the subject of their plight owing to the outbreak of war, and the consequent increase in prices of foodstuffs, and complained that the purchasing power of the dole had been reduced by at least 25%. They asked the Corporation to do everything possible to provide work for the unemployed. This matter gave rise to a lengthy discussion, during which it was pointed out that the Corporation were doing everything possible to have the Waterworks Scheme, the Winter Relief Grants, and Housing Schemes pressed on with as little delay as possible. As regards Housing, a Scheme was in course of preparation by the Borough Surveyor for the erection of 54 houses at Green Street and this would be submitted to the Department for approval as soon as possible. A further Scheme was also in course of preparation for the erection of houses on Harvey's field at Thomas Street, and would also be submitted to the Department.

## OLD FEVER HOSPITAL WALL.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting when Councillor Hayes raised the question regarding the condition of the boundary wall between his house at Grattan Terrace and a field attached to the old Fever Hospital, the Borough Surveyor reported that he had inspected the wall and in his opinion it should be repaired with cement mortar in order to prevent rats from gaining access to the premises occupied by Councillor Hayes. Further, it would be advisable to lower the top of wall adjoining house so that debris, etc., could not fall into the gutter at the gable end of this house. It was decided to communicate with the Board of Health who were the owners of the old Fever Hospital on this matter.

## W.C., HOUSE - WILLIAM ST.

The Town Clerk reported that on the 19th September last a Notice had been served on the owner of a house at William Street occupied by Margaret Johnson, requiring the provision of a W.C., but nothing had been done to install this convenience, so it was unanimously decided that the Town Clerk should again communicate with the owner pointing out that unless she carried out the work the Corporation would be compelled to do it themselves and proceed against her for the costs.

23rd October, 1939.

## WATER - CINEMAS.

As requested, the Town Clerk reported on the revenues received from the Cinemas in Town through the Water Rate. The Capitol Cinema was valued at £70; the Palace Cinema at £50; and the Theatre Royal £16. The Water Rate was collected at the rate of 1/- in the pound in respect of each of these buildings, which meant that the annual revenue was £3. 10. 0; £2. 10. 0.; and 16/-, respectively. It was doubtful at the moment if the installation of meters in these three cinemas would provide a bigger revenue than at present being received, so it was decided to take no action pending a general revision of charges for water when the proposed new Waterworks Scheme was in operation.

## HOUSES AT BARRACK ST.

With reference to the provision of Sanitary Conveniences for houses at Barrack Street, which a Committee had been appointed to inspect with Dr. Sinnott, Dr. Sinnott submitted fresh reports on these houses and Councillor Byrne intimated that he was in attendance with the Dr. when he made this inspection. From the tone of the Doctor's report and the views of Councillor Byrne, it was very doubtful if these houses were fit for human habitation. So it was decided to have reports made by both the Doctor and the Borough Surveyor on the general condition of the houses before taking any further action in the matter.

## REFUSE DUMPING.

A complaint was made that a considerable amount of refuse dumping was taking place on the streets and the S.S.O. was to be asked to make a report on this.

The Rent Collectors were to be asked for a report on the condition of Corporate houses from the point of view of cleanliness.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting when the question of the rent due by James McEvoy, Distillery Road, was under consideration, the Town Clerk intimated that he had written to McEvoy who had called on him and was very abusive. McEvoy, he stated, did not deny that he had made an agreement with the Corporation Solicitor to pay the arrears of rent and costs by instalments of £1 per week, but he now wanted to pay off the arrears by instalments of 2/- per week. The Town Clerk intimated that he was not prepared to recommend this, having regard to previous experience of McEvoy's promises. If, however, continued the Town Clerk, McEvoy was prepared to pay a sum of 10/- per week, to include the current rent, until the arrears were wiped out, he thought the Collector would be prepared to allow the case to stand and give him an opportunity of clearing them off. As this question of rent was entirely one for the collectors, the Corporation made no decision on the Town Clerk's report.

## WALL - FOUNDRY LANE.

A complaint was made regarding the condition of a wall at Foundry Lane and the Borough Surveyor was to be asked to inspect it.

*Richard Cairns T.D.*  
*mwp*

6th November, 1939.

A Statutory Meeting of the Corporation was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, and Robert Coffey.

Councillors: Thomas Byrne, Patrick Hawkins, James Gaul, James Billington, Nicholas Connolly, John Billington, James Sinnott, James Murphy, Patrick Atkins, Thomas Hayes, James Crosbie, Thomas Dunne, Robert Moran, and Stephen McMahon.

#### MINUTES.

The Minutes of Meetings of the Corporation on 2nd ultimo; Finance and Works, Etc., Committees on 2nd, 16th, and 23rd ultimo were submitted for ratification and approval, and on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Alderman Walsh, the Minutes as submitted were taken as having been read and signed by the Mayor.

#### ACCOUNTS.

Liabilities which had accrued due up to the end of last month, amounting in the aggregate, to £9,480. 6 were submitted. Arising out of the accounts Alderman Coffey referred to the purchase of oil coats and remarked that they had always been bought locally. In reply to a query, the Town Clerk stated that they were purchased from the Contractor under the Combined Purchasing Act, and that it would be against the law to purchase the articles locally. The Town Clerk further stated that under the recent Act of Parliament dealing with Combined Purchasing an Officer of the Corporation was liable to a fine of £50 for permitting purchases to be made other than from the Combined Purchasing List.

The accounts having been examined were approved and an Advice Note signed to enable them to be discharged.

#### MILK DELIVERY.

Reference was made to the fact that milk was only being delivered in the Town once a day and members thought that such a method would have a deleterious effect on its quality, so it was decided to ask the Co. Medical Officer of Health if delivery of milk once a day had any effect on its quality.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

The Caretaker of the Reservoir and the Sub-Sanitary Officer acknowledged Votes of Sympathy passed with them at last meeting, and An Taoiseach acknowledged receipt of the Resolution on the subject of Sponsored Programmes from Radio Eireann, and intimated that the letter had been transmitted to the Minister for Posts & Telegraphs. In reply to a query, the Town Clerk stated that he had received no acknowledgement to the communication sent direct to the Minister for Posts & Telegraphs.

#### REFUSAL ORDER.

The Public Health Committee recommended that a Refusal Order be made under the Milk & Dairies Act, 1935, in respect of the application for registration of a Dairy, located at Sarrintown, and on the motion of Alderman Coffey, seconded by Councillor Sinnott, the Order was sealed on the part of the Corporation.

(2)

6th November, 1939.

## REPORT - BOROUGH ANALYST.

The report of the Borough Analyst for the Quarter ended 30th September last showed that he had examined samples from the Inspector of Food & Drugs as follows:- nine of milk, one each of whiskey, port wine, buttermilk, olive oil, jam, butter and sherry, two each of margarine and cheese. In addition, he had examined four samples of butter submitted by Mr. E. Kenny, Inspector of the Department of Agriculture.

All the samples submitted by the Inspector of Food and Drugs had been found genuine, but two of the samples of butter submitted by Mr. Kenny were found to have been adulterated, one contained 16.6% water and the second containing 17% water.

The Town Clerk reported that on receipt of the reports from the Department of Agriculture in these two cases proceedings had been instituted against the Vendors, but the Inspector of the Department of Agriculture, although he attended the Court, refused to give evidence in the case and the proceedings could not be conducted in the orthodox manner.

As regards the costs, the Corporation Solicitor had been instructed to apply to the Department of Agriculture for a refund of the costs incurred by the Corporation, having regard to the fact that such costs had arisen through the failure of their Officer to give evidence at the District Court.

This report was approved.

## RESOLUTION - N. A. &amp; I. D. ASSOCIATION.

A Resolution from the National Agricultural and Industrial Development Association calling on the Government to re-consider their present financial Policy anew was submitted, and after some discussion the Resolution was adopted on the motion of Councillor Sinnott, seconded by Councillor Byrne, with Alderman Coffey and Councillor Gaul dissenting.

## ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES.

At this stage, the Mayor gave a complete report of the proceedings at the Annual Conference of the Association of Irish Municipal Authorities, which himself and Councillor Hayes attended on behalf of the Corporation. At the conclusion of the report Councillor Billington moved a resolution of congratulation to the two delegates which was seconded by Councillor Sinnott and unanimously agreed to.

## COST OF LIVING.

At this stage Alderman Walsh referred to the cost of living and stated that Meat was being retailed in Wexford at 1/4d. and 1/5d. per pound, whilst the price of this commodity in Dublin and Cork was 4d to 5d. per pound less.

Very strong references were also made to the increase in the price of sugar announced during the previous week, which increase the members held was entirely unjustified.

This matter of the increase in the cost of living had been referred to at the September Meeting, when the Town Clerk had been directed to communicate with the Department of Supplies, and in reply to a query, stated, he had received a reply that the contents of his communication had been noted by the Minister.



(3)

6th November, 1939.

A suggestion had also been made at the September meeting that a Local Committee should be set up to consider complaints of over-charging which could be placed before the Ministry, but at the time it was considered that it would not be advisable for the Corporation to set up such a Committee pending knowledge of the Government's proposals regarding the control of prices.

A very protracted discussion followed on this matter at the end of which it was decided on the motion of Alderman Walsh, seconded by Councillor Atkins, to request the Minister of Supplies to hold an investigation into the cost of meat.

On the motion of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Atkins a very strong protest was made against the increase in the price of sugar.

As regards the setting up of a Committee, it was agreed that this should be done, and the following members were appointed to act thereon:- namely, Alderman Walsh, Councillors. Sinnott, Atkins, Hayes, Connolly, and Hawkins. Mr. Henry F. Doyle, of the Town Clerk's Office, was appointed Secretary to the Committee.

#### UNEMPLOYED.

At this stage a letter was read from the Wexford Unemployed Association requesting the Corporation to receive a deputation, and it was decided to do so, but in Committee.

The Meeting thereupon went into Committee and the deputation was called before them.

It appeared that the object of the deputation was to see if the Corporation had any idea when the Winter Relief Grant Works would be commenced, as owing to the rapid manner in which the cost of living was increasing the unemployed, the deputation stated, were in a sad plight.

It was pointed out to the deputation that the Corporation had submitted their proposals for Winter Relief Grant Works as far back as August last, but up to the present had not received sanction, and it was decided to again write to the Department of Local Government and Public Health requesting them to be informed when sanction to the commencement of the Winter Grants might be expected.

The deputation was also informed that the Corporation were doing everything in their power to expedite work on the proposed new Waterworks.

The deputation then withdrew, and the meeting terminated.

*Richard Connors T.D.  
Mayor of Wexford*

6th November, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Waterworks and Public Health Committees was held at the close of the above meeting the members present being the same as at the Statutory Meeting.

#### MAIN ROAD GRANT FEES.

With reference to Minutes of the Committee on the 16th ultimo when the question of the carrying out of work on the Main Roads was under consideration, the Mayor stated that he considered it only fair that the Borough Surveyor should be paid some extra remuneration for carrying out this work as the Assistant Co. Surveyors received such remuneration, but pointed out that it could not be taken from the Grant, and suggested that the Corporation should pay Mr. McNally fees at the rate of 1½% on the amount allocated, namely, £1500, so on the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Alderman Walsh, it was unanimously agreed to recommend the Corporation to pay these fees, subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

#### LICENCE.

An application for a Licence under the Explosives Act, 1871, was submitted from Mrs. M. M. Cooke, 77, North Main Street, Wexford, and it was unanimously agreed to grant same subject to the approval of the Superintendent of the Gardai Síochána.

A number of Licences under the Petroleum Act, 1871, were also agreed to.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR ALLOTMENTS.

The Town Clerk reported that he had received a number of applications for allotments from unemployed persons, and that it would now be necessary for the Corporation to acquire further land in order to deal with such applications, so it was decided to advertise for land in or near the town of Wexford.

#### EXCHANGE OF HOUSE.

An application from James Murphy, Whiterock View, and Laurence Grace, Wolfe Tone Villas, to exchange houses was agreed to, on the motion of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Alderman Walsh.

#### PUBLIC LIGHTING.

The Town Clerk reported that under the Emergency Powers (Control of Lights) Order 1939 normal public lighting would be permitted as from the 18th instant, but it would have to be cowed and subject to instantaneous switching. On receipt of the Order he had taken up the matter with the Electricity Supply Board and given them instructions to carry out the requirements of the Order in so far as public lighting in Wexford was concerned, and he now reported that the cost of this would amount to £50, portion of which would be recouped by the Department of Defence under the Air Raid Precautions Act.

As regards the public lighting at Wolfe Tone Villas and Whiterock View and the side streets leading from the quays, which were lighted by gas, he pointed out that he did not think it would be possible to have this method of lighting subject to instantaneous control, and he was directed to confer with the Officials of the Local Gas Company to see what they could do in this matter.

6th November, 1939.

#### FIRE BRIGADE HOUSES.

A letter from the Department of Local Government and Public Health under date of the 31st ultimo inquiring what rent it is anticipated would be obtained from the tenants of the Fire Brigade houses, and whether it was proposed to advertise for tenants, was adjourned to next meeting.

#### CHANGE OF NAMES IN RATE BOOK.

At the request of the Town Clerk it was unanimously agreed, on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Alderman Walsh, to change the names of two persons in the Rate Books who were wrongly described, namely, John Dolan, of Faythe to Thomas Dolan; Charlotte Whelan, Georges St. to Kathleen Whelan.

#### SUNDAY CINEMA EXHIBITION.

An application from the Manager of the Theatre Royal for permission to hold Cinematograph Exhibitions on Sunday afternoons was adjourned to enable the Town Clerk to obtain the opinion of the Administrator on the application.

#### PAINTERS.

A letter was read from the Painters Society requesting the Corporation to employ more painters on their housing schemes, and the Borough Surveyor was requested, if at all possible, to increase the number of painters at present employed.

#### FIRE.

The Town Clerk reported that a fire had occurred at the premises of Mr. John Codd, Mayglass, on the 30th ultimo, and that the Wexford Fire Brigade had been requested by the Gardai Authorities to attend. He had sent an account to Mr. Codd for £25 for the attendance of the Brigade and had that morning received a letter enclosing a Cheque for this amount. Mr. Codd also conveyed his very best thanks to the members of the Brigade as but for them the remainder of the buildings could not have been saved.

#### RANGE.

An application from John O'Connor, Carrigeen Street, for a closed in range was granted.

#### RATES - LENNON.

The Town Clerk reported that Mrs. M. K. Lennon, South Main Street, who owed a considerable amount of Rates had made him an offer to pay £100 early in 1940 in complete discharge of all the Rates due to the 31st March next, and gave an undertaking to have the current rates paid as they became due afterwards. The amount of rates due by Mrs. Lennon was £270. 10. 0 and the members considered that if £100 could be obtained it would be a very good settlement having regard to the fact that there was no property which could be seized on this estate.

With reference to the suggestion that houses be erected on a field of Mr. Robert Harvey's, Thomas Street, the Town Clerk reported that he had interviewed Mr. Harvey on the subject. The land contained 1½ acres approximately, and was subject to a rent of £1. 8. 4 per annum and Mr. Harvey was willing to dispose of the field for the sum of £200. The Members considered this offer reasonable and unanimously agreed to recommend the Corporation to accept it subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

6th November, 1939.

## GRAVEDIGGERS WAGES.

An application from John McDonald, Gravedigger, for an increase in his wages was referred to the Town Clerk for a report.

## REGISTERED PLUMBERS.

No action was taken for the moment on letters from the Plumbers Society regarding work carried out by non-registered plumbers in the Town.

A letter from the Trades Council was read asserting that no tradesman had worked with James Jones, non-registered plumber, at a job in Castle Hill Street.

## PUBLIC HEALTH BUSINESS.

Mr. Staples, V.S. under the Milk and Dairies Act, 1935, applied for an increase in his remuneration of £30 per annum. He pointed out that in the Wexford Area there were upwards of 30 cowkeepers, purveyors and milk shops; in the New Ross Area, where there was only about 10 registered, the salary was £60 to £70, and in the Gorey District, which was not an Urban Area, the Inspector was allowed £40.

In this connection reference was made to the proposals of the Corporation at present before the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to amalgamate the posts of Milk and Meat Inspectors under one officer and it was decided to forward a copy of Mr. Staples letter to the Ministry and to inquire when a decision might be expected on the amalgamation proposal.

## REPORTS - M. O. H.

Reports were read from Dr. Pierse, M.O.H., and Dr. MacDonald, Co. M.O.H. on the condition of the Convent of Mercy Schools, Georges Street, and both Medical Officers considered that they were in a very delapidated condition, the sanitary condition was a disgrace and most primitive in construction, and they both considered that the Schools were a danger to the health of the children.

It was pointed out that the Convent of Mercy had proposals before the Department of Education for the erection of new schools, so it was decided to send copies of the Medical Reports to the Department of Education with a request that they would be so good as to expedite a decision on any proposals before them for the erection of new Schools.

It was reported that notice had been served on the Agent for owners of 5 houses at John Street on the 21st September last requiring the provision of water closets for the 5 houses within one month. Up to the present nothing had been done and it was decided to communicate with the Agent informing him that unless the work of providing the conveniences was proceeded with forthwith, the Corporation would be obliged to carry out the work themselves and proceed against the Estate for the costs incurred.

A similar order was made in connection with a house at John's Gate Street occupied by Johanna Nagle, where a notice has been served on the owner requiring the provision of a W.C. against the end of September last and nothing had been done up to the present.

A letter was read from a Mrs. Ellen Gordon, Parnell St., the owner of a house at William St., on whom notice had been served requiring the provision of a W.C. for house occupied by Miss Margaret Johnson.

6th November, 1939.

Mrs. Gordon asked to have the matter postponed for a short time, so it was decided to allow a further two weeks to have the work carried out.

REPORT - MEAT INSPECTOR.

The report of the Meat Inspector showed that he had examined 103 cattle, 373 sheep and 29 swine. Of the cattle, 8 heads and 19 organs had been destroyed for tuberculosis and 22 organs for other diseases. Of the sheep, 4 organs were destroyed for diseases other than tuberculosis. The 39 swine were found to be in order.

*Richard Conroy TD*  
*Mayor of Wexford*

FEWELSS LICENSES.

Licences under the Petroleum Act, 1891, were signed in respect of the premises of The Irish-American Oil Co., Ltd., Richmond Place, and the premises of Irish Shell at Trinity Street.

PROPOSED NEW WATERWORKS.

With reference to the proposed extension of the Waterworks, Messrs. Delap & Waller, Consulting Engineers, under date of the 5th instant stated that they had made application to the Superiress of the Convent of Mercy for a site for a water tower as indicated on a Plan attached. The site was the most suitable they could find and fitted in very well with the requirements in connection with the lay out of mains, etc. They mentioned a copy of a letter received from Messrs. Kivven & Kirwan, Solicitors, Cross Street, Wexford, on behalf of the Convent of Mercy.

Mr. Kivven stated that the Reverend Mother was at present proposing to acquire a vacant site at St. John's Road for the erection of two Schools, the frontage of which could be improved by the acquisition of a small triangular piece of ground, the property of the Corporation, and she would be prepared to accept an exchange of the piece of ground in question for the proposed site of the water tower. If, however, the project for the erection of the Schools did not go through, they would not require the piece of ground in question, and they would accept the sum of £75 for the site for the water tower.

With reference to this matter, the Mayor stated, that some time ago at the request of Mr. Kirwan, Solicitor, he had had an interview with the Reverend Mother of the Convent of Mercy and Mr. Kivven on the subject of this plot of ground, and they had agreed, subject to the approval of the Corporation, that if the Water required the site for the proposed new Schools at St. John's Road that the Corporation should give them the triangular plot in exchange for a piece of ground at the rear of Mr. Quirke's house which adjoined this plot, Mr. Quirke not having the same amount of ground as other Corporation houses in the vicinity, and he

13th November, 1939.

A Meeting of the Finance & Works, Etc., Committees was held this day at the Town Clerk's Office, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, and Robert Coffey.

Councillors: Thomas Dunne, Patrick Atkins, Nicholas Connolly, Stephen McMahon, James Sinnott, Patrick Hawkins, James Crosbie, Timothy Cashman, Robert Moran, James Billington, James Murphy.

Sitting as an Old Age Pensions Committee the Meeting considered a letter from a Mrs. Doyle, of Abbey Street, whose mother Mrs. Panella Cloke, was an applicant for the Old Age Pension, but was mentally incapacitated and incapable of answering questions. Mrs. Doyle, therefore, applied to be appointed as Agent for her mother to answer any questions relating to the claim and to receive the Pension on behalf of Mrs. Cloke.

As several members were aware that Mrs. Cloke was incapable of answering questions, it was unanimously agreed on the motion of Alderman Walsh, seconded by Councillor Crosbie, to appoint her daughter, Mrs. Doyle, as Agent.

#### PETROLEUM LICENCES.

Licences under the Petroleum Act, 1871, were signed in respect of the premises of The Irish-American Oil Co., Ltd., Redmond Place, and the premises of Irish Shell at Trinity Street.

#### PROPOSED NEW WATERWORKS.

With reference to the proposed extension of the Waterworks, Messrs. Delap & Waller, Consulting Engineers, under date of the 8th instant stated that they had made application to the Superioress of the Convent of Mercy for a site for a water tower as indicated on a Plan attached. The site was the most suitable they could find and fitted in very well with the requirements in connection with the lay out of mains, etc. They enclosed a copy of a letter received from Messrs. Kirwan & Kirwan, Solicitors, Rowe Street, Wexford, on behalf of the Convent of Mercy.

Mr. Kirwan stated that the Reverend Mother was at present proposing to acquire a vacant site at St. John's Road for the erection of new Schools, the frontage of which could be improved by the acquisition of a small triangular piece of ground, the property of the Corporation, and she would be prepared to accept an exchange of the piece of ground in question for the proposed site of the water tower. If, however, the project for the erection of the Schools did not go through, they would not require the piece of ground in question, and they would expect the sum of £75 for the site for the water tower.

With reference to this matter, the Mayor stated, that some time ago at the request of Mr. Kirwan, Solicitor, he had had an interview with the Reverend Mother of the Convent of Mercy and Mr. Kirwan on the subject of this plot of ground, and they had agreed, subject to the approval of the Corporation, that, if the Nuns required the site for the proposed new Schools at St. John's Road that the Corporation should give them the triangular plot in exchange for a piece of ground at the rear of Mr. Quirke's house, which adjoined this plot, Mr. Quirke not having the same amount of ground as other Corporation lessees in the vicinity, and he

13th November, 1939.

(Mayor) did not think it advisable for the Corporation to agree to the suggestion now made on behalf of the nuns that they should exchange this plot at St. John's Road for a site at Summerhill, and the Town Clerk was directed to lay these facts before Mr. Kirwan and to point out that so far as the Corporation were concerned the agreement made by the Mayor with himself and the Reverend Mother still held good. As regards the price of £75 asked for the site, the Town Clerk was directed to inform the Solicitors that they considered this price altogether unreasonable for approximately one-twelfth of an acre of ground, and thought that the site in question should be given for a nominal sum, more especially as the Convent of Mercy would largely benefit from the increased water pressure provided by the tower.

## MALICIOUS INJURY CLAIM.

The Corporation Solicitor requested permission to brief Mr. Fergus O'Connor, B.L. to defend the malicious injury claim of Kate Hayes against the Corporation in respect of damage to the premises at High Street, Wexford, formerly known as "The Hibernian Social and Tennis Club."

## LAND AT FARNOGUE.

Messrs. Little & Elgee, Solicitors, intimated that they were selling under the Land Acts part of the lands at Farnogue containing approximately 4 acres, held by Miss Thompson from the Repts. of Archer, at the yearly rent of £3. 4. 8. Archer held the premises which they were selling along with other lands forming part of St. Peter's College under lease to the Corporation at the yearly rent of £7. 7. 8, and they asked for permission to dispose of this land without going to the expense of having rent apportioned, and pointed out that there were still ample security for the Corporation's rent inasmuch as there was a surplus margin amounting to £33. 7. 6 per annum. It was unanimously decided to grant the permission asked by Messrs. Little & Elgee.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting when an application from the Manager of the Theatre Royal for permission to hold Cinematograph Exhibitions on Sundays during the winter months between the hours of 3 p.m and 5.30 p.m. was adjourned to enable the views of the Administrator to be obtained on the proposal, the Town Clerk reported that he had interviewed Father Sinnott who was teetotally opposed to such permission being granted, so it was unanimously decided to inform the Theatre Royal that the Corporation could not grant the permission sought.

## APPLICATION - GRAVEDIGGER.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting when an application from the gravedigger for an increase of 5/- per grave was submitted, the Town Clerk reported that during the past three years McDonald's average remuneration was 30/4d. per week and that for the 12 months ended the 30th September last his average remuneration was 28/6d. per week. After some discussion it was decided to recommend the Corporation to grant McDonald an increase of 3/- per grave opened, on the motion of Councillor Hayes, seconded by Councillor Byrne.

## HOUSE - JOHN ST.

The Town Clerk reported that some time ago a report had been submitted from the Medical Officer of Health intimating that the house at John St. occupied by Thomas McGuire was unfit for human habitation, and that the necessary notice under the Housing Act, 1931, had been served on the owner, who had requested to be informed of what repairs were necessary to make the house fit for human habitation. The matter had then been referred to the Borough Surveyor for a report, who stated that in his opinion, the house was not

13th November, 1939.

fit for human habitation and could not be economically made habitable. He thought the house should be demolished, but pointed out that the adjoining house was in a similar condition and one could not be demolished without interfering with the stability of the other. Having regard to the Surveyor's report it was decided to request the Medical Officer of Health to make a report on the adjoining house.

Reference was made to the position of the Town during the coming Winter owing to the Public Lighting Restrictions. In so far ~~the~~ as the actual town itself was concerned the lighting would not be too bad, but on the quays and streets leading therefrom, which were lighted by gas, they would be in absolute darkness, and the Town Clerk was requested to again take up the matter of these lights with the Wexford Gas Company.

In reply to a query, it was stated that there was no information yet available as to when the Winter Relief Grants would be commenced.

In reply to a query by Councillor Connolly as to whether the Plans for the proposed new houses at Thomas Street had yet been forwarded to the Department, the Town Clerk intimated that the Corporation had not yet acquired all the land necessary, and he had written to Mrs. Browne of Green Street inquiring if she was prepared to dispose of a quarter of an acre of the field held by her which adjoined Mr. Harvey's property. So far, he had received no reply, and, at the request of Councillor Connolly stated, that he would endeavour to interview Mrs. Browne the next day.

#### FOOTPATH - BRIDE St.

A complaint regarding the condition of the footpath outside Bride Street Church was referred to the Borough Surveyor for an estimate of the cost of replacing it.

With reference to the 14 houses at present being erected at William St. it was decided to communicate with the original applicants for these houses and inquire if their applications still hold.

The Meeting then terminated.

*Richard Curran TD*  
*Mayor of Wexford*



James Swanson, Faythe. - Councillor Dunne, (1)

It was seen that no candidate had a clear majority and Messrs. Moran, Swanson and Rossiter each having only one vote were eliminated, when Councillors Atkins, Moran and Dunne transferred their votes to Gordon giving him a total of nine. Gordon had now a clear majority of the members present and was declared tenant.

20th November, 1939.

A Special Meeting of the Corporation was held this day (pursuant to the Mayor's requisition) at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

The Members present being:-

Richard Corish, Esq., Mayor (in the Chair)

Aldermen: Thomas Walsh, Robert Coffey, and James McMahon.

Councillors: Connolly, Hawkins, James Billington, Thomas Byrne, James Crosbie, James Sinnott, Patrick Atkins, Robert Moran, Thomas Dunne, and Stephen McMahon.

#### HOUSES - WOLFE TONE VILLAS.

The First business was the selection of tenants for two vacant houses at Wolfe Tone Villas, lately tenanted by John Sutton and John Cullen, and on a poll being taken there voted for:-

Stephen Lewis, Bride St. - Councillors. Hawkins, James Billington, Thomas Byrne, McMahon, Atkins, Dunne, Connolly, Sinnott, with Aldermen Coffey, McMahon and the Mayor. (11)

James Gordon, Carrigeen St. - Alderman Walsh, Councillors Moran and Crosbie. (3)

It was seen that Stephen Lewis had a clear majority over all the rest and was elected tenant of Sutton's house. The Meeting then proceeded to elect a tenant for the house lately occupied by John Cullen, and on a poll being taken their voted for:-

James Gordon, Carrigeen St. - Alderman Walsh, with Councillors Connolly, Hawkins, Byrne, Crosbie, and the Mayor. (6)

Thomas Connors, Green St. - Alderman McMahon, Councillors Sinnott and McMahon. (3)

John Rossiter, Wolfe Tone Villas, Councillor Moran. (1)

Michael Moran, Wolfe Tone Villas, Councillor Atkins. (1)

John Carroll, Castle Hill St. - Councillor Billington and Alderman Coffey. (2)

James Swanson, Faythe. - Councillor Dunne. (1)

It was seen that no candidate had a clear majority and Messrs. Moran, Swanson and Rossiter each having only one vote were eliminated, when Councillors Atkins, Moran and Dunne transferred their votes to Gordon giving him a total of nine. Gordon had now a clear majority of the members present and was declared tenant.

*Richard Corish T.D.  
Mayor Wexford*

(2)

20th November, 1939.

## LAND - THOMAS ST.

Adverting to Minutes of last meeting when the question of acquiring portion of a field at Thomas Street owned by Mrs. Browne was under consideration, a letter was now read from Messrs. Kirwan & Kirwan, Solicitors, on the subject which stated that his client, Mrs. Browne, was not the owner of the land in question in fee but held same for a leasehold term of 49 years from the 1st November, 1939, so the Committee directed that the matter be taken up with the head landlord, Mr. Thomas Myler, with a view to negotiating for the sale.

## WATER TOWER.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting when application was made to the Superioress of the Convent of Mercy for a site for a water tower, a letter was now read from Messrs. Kirwan & Kirwan, Solicitors, pointing out that in their opinion, the figure of £75 as the price for the site for the water tower was not unreasonable bearing in mind the nature of the proposed structure and its probable effect on the value of the rest of the land as building ground. The Committee however considered this price excessive and directed the Clerk to point out that the Nuns would benefit most from the erection of this tower owing to the very low pressure of water in their vicinity, and that in their opinion the ground in question was not suitable for any other purpose, and having considered all the aspects of the case the figure asked for this land was absolutely out of the question.

## PUBLIC HEALTH BUSINESS.

## REPORT - MEAT INSPECTOR.

The report of the Meat Inspector showed that he had examined 109 cattle, 349 sheep and 31 swine. Of the cattle, 5 heads and 15 organs had been destroyed for tuberculosis, and 2 quarters for diseases other than tuberculosis. Of the sheep 12 organs were destroyed for diseases other than tuberculosis. The 31 swine were found to be in order.

A letter was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health No. P.H. 5982/5/39, from which it was gathered that Mr. F. Staples, Inspector for the Supervision of the Milk Supplies of the Borough was now sanctioned so that his duties would include the Supervision of the Meat Supplies at a revised salary of £150 per annum, and it was decided to recommend the Corporation to appoint Mr. Staples to the joint posts.

## HOUSES - JOHN ST.

Adverting to minutes of the 6th instant when it was decided to communicate with the Agent of 5 houses at John St., where an order had been made for the installation of W.C.'s, a letter was now read from the Agent asking the Committee to adjourn the matter for the time being and pointing out that the owner of these houses had already installed 4 W.C.'s in adjoining houses at an approximate cost of £100. After a long discussion on this matter however the Committee could not see their way to alter their previous decision on the matter and directed that the agent should be so informed.

20th November, 1939.

## HOUSES - JOHN'S GATE ST.

With reference to Minutes of last meeting when an Order was made requiring the provision of a W.C. in house of Mrs. J. Nagle, John's Gate Street, a letter was now read from the Agent asking if the Corporation were prepared to give an undertaking that this house would not be condemned if the convenience were provided. It was decided to inform the Agent that as long as the house was kept in a reasonable state of repair, it would not be condemned.

## REPORT - M.O.H.

With reference to last meeting of the Corporation when members raised the question of delivery of milk twice per day and requested a report from the Co. M.O.H. on this practice, the Co. M.O.H.'s report was now submitted to the meeting, who recommended the continuance of the practice of morning and evening delivery of milk in the Borough. This report was referred to the Monthly meeting.

The Mayor informed the Council that at the coming Conference of the Association of Municipal Authorities to be held in Dublin, he intended to vigorously oppose the Managers Bill which was now under going the second reading in Dail Eireann, and the Meeting unanimously endorsed his attitude.

*Richard Coombs TD*  
*Mayor of Wexford*

