

MEETING.-6th MARCH 1919.

A Meeting of the Wexford County Council, was held in the County Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 6th March 1919,

Present:- Mr John Belger (Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs M. Doyle, M. Maddock, R. Scallan, J. J. Stafford, P. Quigley, M. Cloney, W. Thorpe, T. Asple, M. Codd, James Codd, P. N. O'Gorman.

The Secretary, and County Surveyor were also in attendance.

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Assistant Surveyors Salaries.- Notice of Motion.

The following notice of motion was received from Councillor M. Doyle:-

"That the resolution passed on 4th February 1919, by the Wexford County Council fixing the salaries of three Assistant Surveyors at £150 per annum be rescinded."

Under date 4th February 1919, (letter No. 3872-1919) the Local Government Board wrote forwarding copy letter received from the Institution of Municipal Engineers, which was before last meeting of the County Council, relative to the salary offered for appointment of Assistant Surveyor, and requesting the observations of the County Council thereon having regard to previous correspondence as to the inadequacy of the salaries of the Assistant Surveyors in County Wexford.

Under date 19th February 1919, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 6402-1919, Wexford Co.,) approving of the appointment of Mr C. P. Curran, Assistant Surveyor, and of the proposal of the Council to allow Messrs Curran, Ennis, and Kirby, Assistant Surveyors an inclusive salary of £150 per annum each as from 14th February, to cover travelling and all incidental expenses except postage.

Mr Doyle having obtained the requisite signatures of seven other members of the Council as provided for by Standing Orders of the Council, moved his motion which was seconded by Mr Maddock.

After a long discussion a vote was taken with the following

result:-

In favour of Notice of Motion:- Messrs Maddock, James Codd, M. Doyle, R. Scallan.- 4.

Against:- Messrs Stafford, Cloney, Quigley, O'Gorman, M. Codd, Thorpe, Asple, and the Chairman.- 8.

The Chairman declared the notice of motion lost.

County Surveyors and War Bonus.

Mr J. P. Burkett, Association of County Surveyors (Ireland) forwarded a request from his Association suggesting that any County Council which had not already given a War Bonus to its Staff, should, in equity, do so, and more particularly to the County Surveyor and His Staff.

"Adjourned to next meeting of the Council."

Wages of J. J. O'Gorman.

Under date 10th February 1919, J. J. O'Gorman, Quarry Overseer, wrote:-

"In reply to your letter of 5th inst., I will accept 2/6 per week increase of wages on condition that my wages be definitely fixed at £2. 10/- per week, at the next meeting of the County Council."

Mr Stafford proposed:- "That J. J. O'Gorman, Quarry Overseer, be paid a wage of £2 per week as from this date."

Mr Asple seconded.

Passed.

Reconstruction.

On the motion of Mr Cloney, seconded by Mr O'Gorman, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That in connection with the communication received from the Local Government Board by the County Surveyor, we direct him to make an application for £20,000 for the purpose of carrying out drainage, reclamation, harbour works, etc., including drainage of Lady's Island and Tacumshane Lakes."

University Scholarship Scheme.

The application signed by J. E. Cosgrave, J. J. Travers, James Carty, Patrick O'Neill, and Peter Sinnott, University Scholarship Holders, held over from last meeting and appearing

on Minutes thereof, applying for an increase in amount of their Scholarships, viz:- £50, was considered.

Mr James O'Connor, 15 Shelly Street, Liverpool, wrote under date 12th February 1919:-

"On entering the University I took up the study of the Faculty of Medicine with the hope of completing that study successfully. But, before having completed one year I was encouraged by the example of many friends and schoolfellows to enlist, thus breaking off my studies at perhaps a very unfortunate time. However, in the Army I had further experience of medical work being a stretcher bearer in France. Adversely, however, the financial help which I had relied on to enable me to complete the Medical course has now failed me. This is purely a family matter the details of which do not bear directly on the case. The above unforeseen misfortune has of course compelled me to change my intentions. The alternative which I choose is Engineering and as it is to me a new Faculty, I must, to do myself justice, of necessity start from the beginning.

Now, a statement of accounts credits me with £108. 10/-, the deficiency of £41. 10/- having been expended whilst I was at the University till my enlistment. This leaves me in a state of financial embarrassment and I appeal to the Council for assistance. I joined the Army at a very critical time and I don't think I should be censured for leaving my studies on that account. Dr Coffey, the President of the University, on giving me a recommendation for the Army, told me that it was the most honourable thing to do even at the sacrifice of time and education. In the meantime a change in my personal affairs has forced me to renounce my former studies. This compels me to enter on a new study. I have chosen Engineering and I humbly beg of the Council on account of the exceptional and perhaps it may not be denied, deserving case to enable me by the ~~the~~ advancing of the deficiency to go through the course fully from scratch."

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the application of University Scholarship Students of this Council for increase in amount of scholarships be adjourned to next meeting, and that in the meantime our Secretary prepare a

Return showing what professions etc., have been taken up by the various Scholarship holders who have finished their education at the University."

"That Mr James J. O'Connor, be requested to state the amount of the gratuity he received on demobilization."

Old Age Pensions Business.

Under date 4th February 1919, Mrs K. C. Howard, wrote that she had been appointed Clerk to No. 7 Sub-Committee of the County Wexford Local Pension Committee, vice her deceased husband, -Mr W.H. Howard.

On the motion of Mr Cloney, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we approve of the appointment of Mrs K. C. Howard as Clerk to No. 7 Sub-Committee of County Wexford Local Pension Committee, as successor to her husband the late Clerk to the Sub-Committee."

Vacancies on Sub-Committees.

On the motion of Mr Cloney, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Rev G. M. Fry, The Rectory, Bannow, and Mrs Handcock, Colebrook, Wellingtonbridge, be appointed members of No. 1 Sub-Committee, vice Mr John Ennis Springwood, and Mrs Deane, Longraigue, resigned."

That Mr Sylvester Dempsey, Blackwater, be appointed a member of no. 8 Sub-Committee vice Mr James Walsh, N. T., Blackwater, deceased, and that Very Rev Canon Quigley, P. P., Castlebridge, disqualified thro' non-attendance be ^{re-}appointed a member of this Sub-Committee."

New Ross-Wexford Road.

The following was submitted from Finance & Roads Committee:-

"Dr Hearn came before the Finance & Roads Committee and disputed the statement made by the County Surveyor at the meeting of 3rd December 1918, that the New Ross Road had been very much improved except where it had been cut up by engine traffic and that no change had been made in the size of the material used in connection with the road."

"Mr Thorpe said he had been over the road that day and there was

no doubt but it was dangerous in parts from Camross to Wexford."

"The County Surveyor said he had been trying to make arrangements with persons to cart material to the road but without success."

"After some discussion it was decided that it was not necessary to make an order as the County Surveyor promised to do what he could to have the road put into proper order."

"On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney, the above minute from Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed."

Oylegate Roads.

The Finance & Roads Committee submitted the following Minute:-

"A deputation from Oylegate District and which was represented by Mr James J. O'Connor, Solicitor, came before the Finance & Roads Committee, and complained of the state of four roads in their district which was absolutely impassable."

"After considerable discussion the following recommendation was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to have the roads complained of by the Oylegate deputation put into order with the least possible delay."

"The Recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney."

Confirmation Minutes Finance & Roads Committee.

U. S. Naval Air Station:- In connection with the claim made by the Co Surveyor on behalf of the Co Council for payment of £100 by United States Naval Authorities for damage to roads in the vicinity of U.S. Naval Seaplane Station, the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was submitted :-

"That Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the Co Council, be requested to report to the County Council as to what are their powers to enforce payment for damage caused to roads by the traffic from Ferrybank U. S. Naval Air Station. That application from the Contractor of Roads in question, viz:- James Fortune, Tubberfinnick, Crossabeg, for an extra price for repairs caused by the exceptional traffic from Naval Air Station be adjourned until the Co Council have reply from U. S. Naval Authorities and Mr R. W. Elgee, as to claim made by

the County Surveyor to have these roads put into repair."

"The Recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney."

Road Estimate of Enniscorthy R. D. Council:- The following is an extract from the report of the County Surveyor:- When my estimate came before the Enniscorthy Rural District Council it was rejected, but since then the District Council had adopted a proposal to apply for extension of Financial Limit covering the roads, but they have not provided for the proportional charge on machinery and quarries."

The following recommendation of the Finance & roads committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney:-

"That the Enniscorthy R. D. Council be informed that the Finance & Roads Committee of the County Council have carefully considered the decision of the Enniscorthy R. D. Council in refusing to raise amount of deficit on quarries and machinery for their district, and the Committee can see no way out of the present position but to suspend the working of the quarries and machinery in Enniscorthy Rural district, and the County Surveyor is directed accordingly."

That a copy of this resolution be furnished the Clerk Enniscorthy Rural District Council."

Kerlogue Quarry:- At the Finance & Roads Committee the County Surveyor reported that the Contractor for preparation of material at Kerlogue Quarry was not proceeding with the work, and the following recommendation was submitted by the Committee:-

"That as the Finance & Roads Committee understand that labour is now available they call on Moses Power, the Contractor for supplying road material from Kerlogue Quarry, to at once proceed with his contract, otherwise the Co Council will be obliged to take drastic measures to enforce the terms of the Contract."

"Confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney."

Defaulting Contractors:- The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney:-

"That the following road contractors be prosecuted or their roads taken up under the 54th Section of the Grand Jury Act, should

the County Surveyor consider such a course advisable:- 4W Edward Reid, Kilmacee, Curracloe, 12W Thomas Merriman, Kingsford, Barntown, 13W & 139R Patrick Reilly, Camress, 258W Edward Browne, Ballyhoe, Screen."

Anchors & Chains Duncannon Hulk:- The County Surveyor asked for directions as to the disposal of the gangway, chains, and anchors, in connection with the hulk of Duncannon, and which had not been included in the sale.

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney:-

"That the County Surveyor advertise for sale the gangway anchors and chains of the hulk at Duncannon, and that the question of the readjustment of the salary of the Caretaker of the Hulk be considered at next meeting."

Temporary Clerical Staff:- The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Cloney:-

"That we authorise our Secretary to employ the usual temporary Clerical Staff for the purpose of writing up and appletting Rate Books and Rate Collectors Books."

A letter was submitted from Finance & Roads Committee from Mr R. Corish, Secretary, Irish Transport & General Workers Union, Wexford, requesting the remuneration for temporary staff should be raised from 6d to 10d per hour.

The following recommendation was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee, and adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney:-

"That as from 24th February 1919, the temporary Clerical Staff be paid at the rate of 8d per hour."

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The remainder of the business was postponed to next Meeting.

(Signed) John Bolger

Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 8 day of April 1919.