

SPECIAL MEETING.-7th JANUARY 1919.

A Special Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the Co. Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 7th January 1919.

Present:- Mr M. Doyle, (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs R. Scallan, M. Cloney, J. J. Stafford, J. A. Doyle, P. Quigley, J. J. O'Byrne, Mark Codd, N. J. Fowler, M. Maddeck, T. Asple, L. Barry, and W. Thorpe. Also Mr P. N. O'Gorman, (New Member) who subscribed the usual declaration of office.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, and Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

Resignation of Mr J. J. Murphy, Assistant Surveyor.

Under date 4th December 1918, the following was read from Mr John J. Murphy, Assistant Surveyor:-

"Gentlemen,

I beg to resign my position as Assistant Co. Surveyor."

"The Secretary stated that according to the terms of his appointment, Mr Murphy was to give two months notice in writing of the determination of his appointment, but instead of that he vacated office on the day he handed in his resignation."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was submitted:-

"That as Mr J. J. Murphy, Assistant Co. Surveyor, left the services of the Wexford Co Council without fulfilling the conditions governing his appointment, viz:- by determining the appointment by two months' notice in writing, we recommend the Co Council to decline to pay him any salary due to the present."

Under date 26th December 1918, the following was read from Mr Murphy:-

"I duly received copy of resolution of the Finance Committee d/d 19th inst. I am surprised to think that the Finance Committee of the Wexford County Council could conceive any such drastic action as the recommendation to the County Council mentioned, viz:- not to pay for work performed by a servant of the Board, more especially considering the fact that it cost me twice the amount.



I did my work conscientiously as no doubt Mr Barry will concur.

I let word for Mr Barry that I would continue to do duty until a successor would be obtained, and again wrote him to the same effect when I enclosed Maps to him, but to neither did I receive a reply.

I would be very sorry to treat the County Council other than respectably, and if they now desire me to do duty until some one be obtained, so I will."

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

"That the letter of Mr Murphy, late Assistant Surveyor, under date 26th December 1918, and in reference to payment of his salary be referred to the Solicitor to the Council for his advice."

#### Appointment of Assistant Surveyor.

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

"That advertisements for position of Assistant Surveyor to the Wexford County Council be inserted in the three local papers and the "Freeman's Journal" "Irish Independent" and "Irish Times" salary £100 per annum (to cover travelling and out-of-pocket expenses) rising by annual increments of £5 (conditional upon good work and satisfactory service) to £120 per annum. Appointment to be made at special meeting of the Council to be held on 7th January 1919."

Application for the position of Assistant Surveyor, vice Mr J. J. Murphy resigned, were received from:-

Matthew J. Byrne, Tullow, Co. Carlow.

P. J. Cercannon, B. E., Curragh Lodge, Ballinasloe.

C. P. Curran, B. E., Ballinamuck House, Dungarvan.

F. A. Gregson, 28 Albion Street, Chester.

M. O'Carroll, Cadamstown, Birr.

John O'Dwyer, Ballinavasa, Co. Tipperary.

The only Candidates in attendance were Messrs C. P. Curran, and M. O'Carroll.

A Poll was taken with the following result:-

For Curran:- Messrs Maddock, Stafford, Cloney, Quigley, J. A. Doyle,

O'Gorman, and Aspaë.-7



For O'Carroll:- Mr J. J. O'Byrne.-1

Did not Vote:- Mr R. Scallan and the Chairman.-2.

The other Members of the Council were not present during the Poll.

The Chairman declared Mr Curran elected.

Mr Curran returned thanks for his appointment and stated he would take up duty on the 13th January.

#### Road Programme of Road Board for 1919-20.

The Secretary of the Road Board wrote under date 21st December 1918, that the Board were now prepared to deal with applications for advances from the Road Improvement Fund, and which should be made only in respect of important roads subjected to an increased amount of heavy motor traffic. No application would be entertained unless the Council could show they were arranging to execute out of their own resources as large a programme of the road work as they carried out for year to March 1914, or on the average of three years ended 31st March 1914 for special cases. The Board had a balance of £236,000 available for grants and loans.

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

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to communicate with the four Rural District Councils of the County as to the proposed Road Board Grants for County Wexford."

#### Maternity & Child Welfare and Midwives Act.

The Local Government Board under date 25th November 1918, (No. 46043-1918) forwarded Circular explanatory of the working of Schemes of Maternity and Child Welfare. They pointed out that "in view of the functions devolving on County Councils as the local supervising Authorities under the Midwives (Ireland) Act 1918, and of the fact that the Exchequer Grant is now available for defraying half the salaries and expenses of Inspectors of Midwives employed in the Administration of the Act, the Board would suggest that County Councils should take advantage of their powers as Local Authorities under the Notification of Berths Acts of 1907 and 1915, and proceed to organise Schemes for Maternity and Child Welfare, thus securing a unification of home visiting for a number of different purposes.



The adoption of the Act was optional in Rural Districts, but the Board would point out that the Act can be adopted either by the Rural District Council itself or by the County Council for the County districts therein."

Correspondence was submitted from the Local Government Board as to the County Council making arrangements for the carrying out of their duties under Section 16 of the Midwives (Ireland) Act 1918, the first step being to give due notice of the effect of the Act so far as practicable to persons who at the commencement of the Act were using the title of Midwife within their County. The Board enclosed a suggested form of Notice for this purpose.

On the motion of Mr J. A. Doyle, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the correspondence from the Local Government Board as to Maternity & Child Welfare, and also as to Midwives (Ireland) Act, be adjourned to next meeting of the Council."

#### Courtown Harbour.

On the motion of Mr Scallan, seconded by Mr Cloney, the following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to inspect breach in dam blocking the old course of river at Courtown Harbour, and report to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee."

The County Surveyor stated he would bring in a proposal for carrying out the necessary work to the Proposal Committee Meeting of February next."

#### Allowance to County Surveyor.

Under date 3rd December 1918, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 53532/1918) stating they would not raise any objection to the proposal of the Wexford County Council to allow the County Surveyor a sum of £50 for one year as travelling expenses.

Marked "Read"

#### Dr Hearn, Solicitor and the County Surveyor.

Under date 5th December 1918, the following letter was read from Dr Hearn, Solicitor, New Ross:-

"I thank for yours of the 4th inst., transmitting Resolution



passed by the Roads Committee.

My answer is that as that Resolution raises an important point whether Mr Barry or I am misleading your Committee I would ask you to obtain from such Committee an opportunity for Mr Barry and myself to answer that question.

I have already experience of Mr Barry positively denying the existence of a complaint made by me, and on that occasion I offered to forthwith bring out one of the Committee in a motor and show him the cause complained of, and this was declined.

I really think the Committee should show a desire to obtain the truth and then with same accordingly."

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

"That Dr Hearn be informed if he wishes to come before the Finance & Roads Committee with reference to the condition of New Ross-Wexford Road, that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday, 7th January 1919, at 11.30 a.m.,"

As Dr Hearn was unable to attend owing to illness the matter of the condition of New Ross-Wexford Road was adjourned to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee.

#### Defaulting Road Contractors.

The County Surveyor submitted the following list of defaulting Road Contractors to the meeting:-

204R Thomas Browne, 205R Martin Walsh, 46R John Hayes, 188R James Rensiter, 160R Martin Nolan, 98R Patrick Freeman, 88R Thomas Ryan, 41R, 45R, Patrick Murphy, 136W Thomas Kehoe, 208W John Furlong, 2G, 27G, 66G Morgan McDonald, 3G, 4G, 47G, 62G, 75G, Thomas Cline, 71G John Nolan, 5G Luke Mordaunt, 9G Edward Savage, 10G Michael Byrne, 11G, 52G, 89G James Tyghs, 12G John Flaherty, 86G, 91G Morgan Flaherty, 15G, 138G Terence Hinch, 16G, 140G John Duffy, 21G Stephen Wafer, 28G, 68G, 97G John Owley, 30G, 130G Patrick Nolan, 31G Patrick Fox, 72G James Murphy, 73G William Kavanagh, 84G James Somers, 88G, 116G, 193G William Kinsella, 92G John Maher, 93G Henry O'Neill, 101G, Thomas Byrne, 102G Michael Sunderland, 110G Joseph Deegan, 111G Edward Deran, 119G William Doyle, 126G 128G William Murphy, 132G Thomas Kehoe, 47E James Furlong, 52E Michael Cullen."



On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney, the following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor be empowered to prosecute any of the Contractors whose names appear on list submitted by him to this day's meeting should the necessity for taking such a course arise."

Camelin Streets.

Mr Fowler moved the following of which he had given previous Notice:-

"That the attention of the Board of Trade or other Department responsible be called to the state of road leading from Main Street, Camelin to Saw Mills, Camelin Park, and that the County Council request Government Department to put the road in condition for traffic."

Mr Cloney seconded the resolution which was adopted.

Refund Motor Licence Duty.

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

"That the County Council be recommended to agree to application for refund of £6. 6/- Motor Tax paid on Motor Car M. I.-479 the property of Major Harman, as the Car has not been in use for the past year."

Rate Collection.

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

"That the Rate Collectors be informed that the current collection of Rate is generally very backward, and it is expected that substantial amounts will be lodged by 21st January, that the meeting to be held on that day be requested to take drastic action as regards Messrs Mullett, and J. A. Doyle, unless a very decided improvement in the collections of these Collectors is apparent by then.

That the Secretary be instructed to take up Collecting Books of Mr E. J. Murphy, Rate Collector, New Ross, by the 15th January, unless in the meantime he has furnished fidelity guarantee bond."

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(Signed)

*John Butler*

Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February. 1919.