

Quarterly Meeting.- 2nd August 1916.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Wexford County Council, was held in the County Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 2nd August 1916.

Present:- Mr John Bolger, (Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs C. H. Peasocke, Louis Barry, Michael Doyle, N. J. Cowman, R. Scallan, P. Whelan, J. J. Stafford, James Lynch, M. Codd, J. Redmond, J. T. Mayler, P. Keating.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, and County Solicitor, were also in attendance.

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of Annual Meeting of 16th June, and of Special Meeting on 25th July, were read and confirmed.

Application Increase of Salary-County Surveyor.

The following letter under date 1st August 1916, was read from the Co. Surveyor:-

"I shall be obliged if at next Meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee and also at the County Council Meeting, you will bring forward a notice on the Agenda Paper, asking the County Council to consider my application for an increase of salary, or as an alternative to make me an allowance for travelling expenses.

If the Council will hear my application I shall be prepared to go in detail into the matter."

On the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Redmond, the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed:-

"That the Application of the County Surveyor for an increase in his salary be refused."

Audits of Accounts.

Under date 21st July 1916, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 33622: 1916, Wexford Co.,) forwarding the following report of their Auditor on his audit of the Accounts of the Wexford County Council, for half-year ended 31st March last:-

"I have the honour to report that I have audited the Accounts of the County Council of Wexford for the half-year ended March last, and I forward

herewith a certified Abstract thereof in pursuance of your Order in that behalf made.

The Accounts were prepared and submitted for audit in every satisfactory manner, and no item of expenditure calls for any remark on my part."

Under date 1st July 1916, the Local Government Board wrote letter No. 30617 : 1916, Enniscorthy Rural District, forwarding copy of report of their Auditor on his audit of the Accounts of Enniscorthy Rural District for half-year ended 30th September 1915.

Under date 3rd July 1916, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 30616: 1916, Enniscorthy Union) forwarding copy of the report of their Auditor on his audit of the Accounts of Enniscorthy Union for the half-year ended 30th September 1915.

Under date 1st August 1916, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 35361-1916, Wexford County) forwarding report of their Auditor on his audit of the Accounts of Enniscorthy District Lunatic Asylum, for half-year ended 31st March 1916."

Marked "Read"

Salaries of Assistant Surveyors.

Under date 13th July 1916, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 31968 : 1916 Wexford Co.,) forwarding copy letter received from Messrs M. J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, Wexford, relative to the salaries of five Assistant Surveyors (Messrs W. H. Jones, John Kehoe, Thomas Paddle, Gerald Flood, and V. R. Doyle) together with copy of the Board's reply thereto.

The letter of Messrs O'Connor & Co., pointed out that the County Council had granted an increase of £10 a year to Mr Flood unconditionally, and £10 to Mr Doyle on condition that he would reside in his own district. Neither Mr Flood nor Mr Doyle, were prepared to accept this condition. Although their work had been doubled and the price of living had gone up 50 per cent, the salaries of the Assistant Surveyors had been practically left the same. Would the Local Government Board receive a deputation from the Assistant Surveyors or have an Inquiry into all their cases, if necessary upon oath."

In reply to this letter, the Local Government Board wrote under date 13th July 1916, (letter No. 31968-1916 Wexford Co.,) that the functions of the

Board were confined to concurring in the amounts of salaries proposed by the County Council, and, in the circumstances they could not see their way to act on the suggestions made by Messrs O'Connor & Co., and could only suggest that the Surveyors should again approach the County Council.

Under date 28th July, the following letter was read from the five Assistant Surveyors concerned:—

"The Local Government Board have communicated to us that whilst it is not in their province to interfere with the County Council in the matter of increasing our salaries they suggest that we again approach you in this matter.

Acting in that suggestion we now respectfully ask you to give us an opportunity of proving to you the extent of which our work and consequently our travelling and out-of-pocket expenses have been increased."

The matter had been before the Finance & Roads Committee from whom the following recommendation was submitted:—

"That the correspondence from the Local Government Board in connection with the salaries of five Assistant Surveyors of the Council be referred to the Quarterly Meeting of the County Council to be held on 2nd August 1916."

Mr Doyle proposed:— "That no further consideration be given to the application of the Assistant Surveyors for increases of salaries in view of the refusal of Messrs Flood & Doyle to accept the £10 per annum increase voted them by the County Council, and also as we are of opinion that Messrs Jones, Kehoe, and Paddle, are in receipt of sufficient salaries."

Mr Barry seconded.

Passed.

Assistant Surveyors Flood & Doyle.

Under date 14th June 1916, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 23911: 1916, Wexford County) approving of the proposal of the County Council to increase the salaries of Messrs G. Flood, and V. R. Doyle, Assistant Surveyors, by £10 a year each.

Marked "Read"

Motor Car Licence Duties.

Under date 10th July 1916, the Local Government Board wrote (No. 28278-1916, Miscellaneous) forwarding copy of certified statement received from the Postmaster General showing the value of Motor Car Licence Duties levied by Local Authorities in Ireland during the year ended 31st March last.

Wexford with £1368. 4. 6d was ninth on the list.

Marked "Read"

Finance & Roads Committee Recommendations.

The following Recommendations were submitted from the Finance & Roads Committee Meetings:-

Boyce's Bay Contract:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to take the necessary steps to enforce the performance of Contract at Boyce's Bay, (Contractor-Mr H. P. Gahan) and that he be empowered to have the work carried out at the expense of Mr H. P. Gahan, should the necessity arise."

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

Road Contractors' Applications:- "That as regards the application of Road Contractors in Gorey and Wexford Districts for concessions in the matter of reduction of tonnage for Road Maintenance, our Secretary inform Messrs Huggard & Brennan, Solicitors, acting for Gorey Contractors, and Messrs M. J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, acting for Wexford Contractors, that the Local Government Board have declined to sanction any proposal for a reduction of tonnage."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Lease-Enniscorthy Courthouse:- "That the lease of Enniscorthy Courthouse, from Right Honorable The Earl of Bortsmouth to the Wexford County Council be signed and sealed on behalf of said Council. That in accordance with the terms of said lease the insurance of Enniscorthy Courthouse be increased from £1,000 to £2,000."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Road Board Loan:- "That an application be made to the Road Board for an advance (by way of loan free of Interest) of a sum of £500. That this matter be referred to the County Surveyor with instructions to prepare for next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee a list of machinery which he requires at present for road maintenance."

"That we approve of the particulars of road machinery submitted by the County Surveyor being forwarded to the Road Board, and that they be requested to grant loan to the County Council for same, for five years free of interest."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Lynch, seconded by Mr M. Codd."

Roads 113E and 114E:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to take whatever legal proceedings he may consider advisable against Michael Owens,

Munfin, Ballycarney, Contractor for Roads 113E and 114E, with a view to having these roads put into proper repair."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Whelan, seconded by Mr Redmond."

Flooding Road at Ballybro, Wexford District:- "That the County Surveyor consult with Wexford Rural District Council as to the advisability of bringing in a proposal to raise the road at Ballybro, Tagoat, with a view to avoiding flooding of same adjacent to the public pump."

Mr M. Doyle moved:- "That the recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee be not confirmed and that the County Surveyor be directed to serve notices on the owners of lands adjoining road at Ballybro, to clean up the stream through which flooding occurs, viz:- from the Bridge of Ballybro to the Little Bridge, and any other portions of land not owned by the Slob Company."

Mr Cowman seconded.

Passed.

Barbed Wire at Monroe, Screen:- "That the County Surveyor consult with Mr Charles Murphy, Monroe, Screen, as to abatement of nuisance caused by barbed wire placed on the side of the County Road at Monroe by Mr Murphy."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Duplicate Pay Order:- "That duplicate for Pay Order No. 393 (Subsidiary Account) for £3 be issued by our Secretary to John O'Keeffe, as the original was inadvertently destroyed by Payee."

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

Proposed Remission Motor Duty:- "That Mr C. H. Richards, County Council Offices, be instructed to communicate with the Authorities, and request them to remit Motor Tax paid by Lieutenant McMullan, Wexford, whose private Motor Car has been placed at the disposal of the Government for the purpose of purchasing in the County Wexford, supplies for H. M. Forces."

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

State of Rate Collection:- "That our Secretary draw the attention of the Rate Collectors who have not to the 17th July collected at least 20 per cent of the amount of their warrants, and that they be informed that the Finance & Roads Committee will expect to find they have made substantial lodgments by next meeting."

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

Gorey R. D. School Attendance Committee:- "That we recommend the County

Council to advance to the Secretary Gorey Rural District School Attendance Committee a sum of £5 for the purpose of enabling him to pay for costs of prosecutions instituted by his Committee and pending payment of quarterly amounts."

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

Case of Wm Murphy v Co Council:-

"That in view of the opinion of Mr Lupton, B. L., in the case of Wm Murphy v Wexford Co Council, we are of opinion that it would be waste of money to proceed further with the appeal in this case."

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

Kilmore Pier Repairs.

In connection with the work of repair at Kilmore Harbour, the following tender was read at Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee of 19th July, from Mr Denis Hughes (Hughes Bros) Moortown, Kilmore:-

"I propose to carry our Work No. 2 (Dumping of Boulders) placing large stones at back of Kilmore Pier as specified by County Surveyor for £720 provided I get all necessary permission from whomsoever it may concern, and that stones of required dimensions are procurable between Folbrn Point and back of Pier Wall. Also that work commence in time to have same finished before bad weather sets in."

The Finance & Roads Committee did not find themselves in a position to accept this tender but decided, that Mr Hughes be requested to send in a tender to the County Council quoting the extra cost for 3 ton concrete blocks in case he could not procure 3 ton stones, and also to hold a special meeting of the Co Council at 2.30 p.m., on Tuesday 25th July, to consider tenders for repairs of Kilmore Pier.

At the Special Meeting of the County Council on 25th July tender from Mr John Browne, Henrietta Street, Wexford, for wedging up masonry blocks at £330 was accepted.

A tender from Mr Hughes at £330 for dumping rubble etc., was also submitted, but as it did not include amount of hire of Crane, the County Council, acting on the advice of their Solicitor, declined to accept it and adjourned the matter to Meeting of 2nd August.

The following was read from Mr Denis Hughes:-

"I propose to carry out the work at Kilmore Pier of dumping Five Hundred tons of Rubble including 42 concrete blocks of three tons each

according to specification of the County Surveyor for the sum of £910 (Nine hundred and ten pounds) no responsibility to rest with me for any damage caused to completed work inspected and passed by the County Surveyor, and that concrete blocks are to be substituted if stones of required dimensions are not procurable.

Inspections are to take place as sections of the work are completed and as constantly as possible.

I name as my Sureties:-

Mr Peter Boggan, Trinity, Taghmon, and

Mr James O'Keefe, Sleedagh, Murrintown."

"On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Stafford, the tender of Mr Hughes was accepted."

James Kinsella, Littletown, Tomhaggard, Clerk of Works, Wexford R.D. Council, applied for the position of Clerk of Works for repairs Kilmore Pier.

On the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Stafford, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Secretary be instructed to advertise for Clerk of Works, for Work at Kilmore Harbour, at a salary of 30/- per week, the person appointed to be a whole-time officer.

That the County Surveyor be instructed to draw up the condition governing this appointment, and that the Finance & Roads Committee be empowered to make appointment at their next meeting."

Advertising Contract with "The Echo"

The Secretary reported that the Newspaper "The Echo" published in Enniscorthy, the proprietors of which held advertising contract from the Co. Council at £90 per annum, had been suppressed by the Military Authorities on 29th April last, and the paper had not since been published.

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

"That no payment be made for on foot of advertising Contract to "The Echo" Newspaper, during the period for which the paper is suspended by the Military Authorities."

Food & Drugs Acts.

The Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote under date 30th June 1916 (letter No. G-2654-16) that three samples of butter purchased

in New Ross Market on 8th June were found on analysis to be pure.

Marked "Read"

Under date 17th July 1916, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote (letter No.G 3072-16,) that four samples of butter purchased by their Inspector at Ferns Butter Market on 22nd June were found on analysis to be pure.

Marked "Read"

Under date 25th July 1916, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote that two samples of Butter purchased at Gorey Butter Market on 23rd June were found on analysis to be pure.

Marked "Read"

Communications were read from Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction relative to samples of Butter purchased by their Inspector from Mrs Bennett, Knockduff, Clondaw, Ferns, and which according to the report of the County Analyst contained 8.8 percent of excess of water, and from Mrs Williams, Mount Hanover, New Ross, which contained 1.6 per cent excess water.

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

"That the action of the Solicitor to the County Council in directing the Constabulary to institute proceedings against Mrs Bennett, Knockduff, Clondaw, Ferns, for alleged excess water in sample of Butter purchased from her by an Inspector of the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction, be confirmed.

That in the case of Mrs Williams, Mount Hanover, New Ross, we desire the proceedings to be withdrawn as the percentage of alleged water is such a small quantity.

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Lynch."

The following recommendation as regards further cases submitted by Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction, was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That we confirm the action of our Solicitor in instituting legal proceedings against the following for alleged excess water in butter sold by them at Ferns Butter Market:-

Richard Green, Knockrobin, Camolin.

Michael Murphy, Kilmurry, Gorey.

John Kinch, Mount Alexander, Gorey.

P. Redmond, The Harrow, Ferns."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Under date 28th July 1916, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote (letter No. 3024-16) as follows:-

"With reference to your letter of the 26th ultimo relative to a sample of butter which was purchased by an Officer of the Department on the 8th ultimo, at New Ross Butter Market, and which was found on analysis to contain 17.6 per cent of water, I have to state that the Department have been informed by the Solicitor for the Wexford County Council, that the summons which was issued in the case has been withdrawn by direction of the Finance Committee of the Council.

In the view of the Department failure to take action in respect of samples of butter found to contain as much as 17.6 per cent of water would militate against the interests of the Irish Butter industry. It may be mentioned that proceedings have been successfully instituted in several cases in which the proportion of water in samples of butter purchased by officers of the Department was found to be 17 and 18 per cent.

The Department would express a hope that suitable action will be taken in any future similar case in which the County Council are concerned."

"No Order".

Rating of Bantry Commons.

Under date 17th July 1916, the following report as to the rating of Bantry Commons, was read from Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council:-

"I have to report that the Appeal against the decision of the County Court Judge dismissing the Civil Bill brought at East March Quarter Sessions, was fully argued on Appeal before the Right Hon Mr Justice Kenny, and after a full hearing he affirmed the dismiss as against several of the Defendants as they were not in occupation or could not be proved to have grazed the Mountain, but he reversed the Dismiss as regards seven of the Defendants and gave a decree against them. Their names are Patrick Dooley, Robert Whelan, Patrick Ryan, James Morrissey, Mark Flood, and James Nolan, and he ordered them to pay £13. 13. 10d for Rates due in the Killanne Division.

As to Mr E. J. Murphy's part of the Commons he was unable or unwilling to swear who were in occupation of same, and accordingly that part of the claim was struck out.

However the whole decision comes to this, that as regards the seven

named above the Judge held that they were liable for the rates in Killanne E. D.,

I would recommend the Council to apply to the Local Government Board to allow the other Rates to be struck off and so be done with the rate.

I understand an Appeal has been lodged as to the Valuation and if so that will end matters.

Mr Somers is entitled to get the Rate for 16-17 from the seven persons in the Reversal of the Dismiss mentioned and I am writing Mr Scallan as to his Clients paying the £13. 13. 10."

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

"That the report of Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council, as to legal proceedings in connection with the rating of Bantry Commons be received and adopted."

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

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

"That in view of the decision of the Judge of Assize we request the Local Government Board to allow the Council to strike off as Irrecoverable Rates on Bantry and Blackstairs Commons in respect of amounts uncollected to 31st March 1916 a sum of £38. 6. 1d."

Under date 29th July 1916, the following letter was read from Mr E. J. Murphy, Rate Collector, New Ross:-

"Yours of the 28th inst., to hand, and observe you are only allowing me £44. 4. 9d less poundage of £1. 6/-.

This I consider rather hard, considering that the Council has had the use of this money in the first case of £30. 4. 7d for nearly twelve months, and £8. 0. 2d for 3 months, during which time I had to pay interest on overdraft to close my warrant, and would you lay the matter before your Council for their consideration and to re-compense me for my overdraft to allow me the full amount as per my Irrecoverable Lists sent you on 4th April last.

I had to close my collection each half-year and these amounts were charged against me, and as I was not responsible for the construction of the rate, I think it only fair that the Council should allow me the full amount and not deduct my poundage in lieu of what I was charged for overdraft.

If you refer to my Irrecoverable List you will see that me case is a

deserving one, and trust you will explain to your Council my position."

On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Scallan, the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was agreed to:-

"That Mr Murphy's application for payment of £1. 6/- amount of poundage on his Irrecoverable Rates be refused as the County Council have no power to accede to it."

Sheep Dipping.

The Secretary submitted correspondence from Mr Murphy, Sheep Dipping Inspector, North Wexford, and from Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction (letter No. 1790- 16) under date 21st June, which dealt with cases of Sheepowners who neglected or refused to carry out dipping on the date for which they had served the customary notice.

The Department pointed out that if the County Council adopted the Local Regulations Order 1915, it would be open to the Council to have sheep owners in such cases, served with notices requiring them to carry out dipping at the time and place specified by the Inspector to the County Council and under his supervision.

The Finance & Roads Committee submitted the following recommendations:-

"That in view of the report received from Mr Murphy, Sheep Dipping Inspector, for Enniscorthy and Gorey Districts, and the communication of the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction under date 21st June (No. 1790 16) we recommend the County Council to adopt the Sheep Dipping (Local Regulations) (Ireland) Order of 1916, in order to secure the more effective inspection of the dipping of sheep under the Order of the Department."

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

"That the Sheep Dipping Inspectors be directed to furnish a return of the number of sheep which they have inspected at dipping from the beginning of Summer Dipping period to 30th June 1916, giving the number of sheep dipped and dates of inspection in each case.

That we request the Inspectors to furnish a weekly report on these lines as from 30th June 1916 to the end of dipping periods."

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

"That we approve of the use of swim baths at the premises of Mr R. Prendergast, Ballymitty, and Thomas McCarthy, Kiltaly, at a capitation fee

per sheep of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. That we also approve of use of swim bath at the premises of Mr M. Corcoran, Nash, New Ross, provided that he be prepared to have sheep at his swim bath on Thursdays and Fridays of each week during the dipping period."

"The Secretary stated that Mr Corcoran, Nash, had agreed to carry out dipping on Thursdays and Fridays."

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

On the motion of the Chairman, Seconded by Mr Lynch, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we approve of the use of swim bath at the premises of Mr Joseph Deacon, Camross, for dipping of sheep under Sheep Dipping Order, fee to be paid by sheepowners to be 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per sheep."

Poisons & Pharmacy Act Licences.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Peacocke, Licences under Poisons & Pharmacy Act were granted to Messrs Luke Dwyer, North Street, New Ross, Mrs Margaret Roche, Ballyanne, and Laurence Codd, 26 Main Street, Enniscorthy.

Renewals of licences were granted to:- Messrs George Stafford, John Street, Wexford, Owen Kehoe, Coolgreany, P. Redmond, The Harrow, Ferns.

Illness of Mr Hickey, Co Councillor.

The Secretary reported that Mr Michael Hickey, County Councillor, had not attended a meeting of the Council, for over twelvemonths, but it was well known that Mr Hickey had been ill during the period and unable to attend.

"No action was taken."

Proposals for Works.

On the motion of the Chairman,
Seconded by Mr Whelan,
the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several proposals for Works as submitted by the Proposal Committee, and as appearing on Form 20 be and are hereby approved, subject to modifications and other orders noted thereon, and initialled by the Chairman."

Proposals for Payment.

On the motion of the Chairman,

Seconded by Mr Whelan, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several proposals for payment submitted by the Proposal Committee and recommended by the Finance & Roads Committee and dealing with matters other than public works be and are hereby approved, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon, and initialled by the Chairman."

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(Signed)

John Bolger
Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 4 day of

Oct

1916.