

SPECIAL MEETING.- 2nd SEPTEMBER 1920.

Present:- Dr James Ryan (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also present:- Messrs R. Corish, G. Devereux, D. Kavanagh, A. F. Smith, John O'Byrne (Gorey), Michael Cloney, Michael Byrne, John Cummins, James Doyle, James Hall, Simon Kehoe, John Murphy, John J. O'Byrne, Michael Redmond, James Shannon, and Philip Lennon.

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

Appointment of Rate Collector.- No. 9 Collection District.

Applications for the position of Rate Collector, vice Mr Edward Somers, deceased, were received from the following:-

Walter Cummins, Ballylucas, Ballymurrin.
 Arthur Dunne, Courtnacuddy.
 Matthew Kelly, Garrynisk, Edermine.
 James Lambert, Monglass, Caim.
 John Leonard Junr., Moneytucker, Clonroche.
 Martin Murphy, Chapel, Clonroche.
 Patrick Nolan, Ballinastraw, Glenbrien.
 Patrick O'Byrne, Grange Lower, Killann.
 Thomas O'Gorman, Townamullogue, Clonroche.
 John P. Sinnott Junr., Ballyeland, Davidstown.
 James J. Somers, Dunsinane, Enniscorthy.
 Thomas Sutton, Tomlane, Oylegate.
 Edward Kelly, Courtnacuddy.

Messrs Lambert, Nolan, and Somers were not in attendance.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That Candidates for position of Rate Collector for No. 9 Collection District be examined in the Irish Language, and that the examination be conducted by Mr Denis O'Leary, Professor of Irish, St Peter's College, Wexford, and Mr Michael Wheeler B. A., Wexford Branch, Gaelic League."

The examination having been carried out, the Examiners presented a report as follows, the maximum marks being 100:-

W. Cummins, 100, Arthur Dunne 98, John P. Sinnott Junr., and Edward Kelly 60 each, John Leonard Junr 50, Thomas Sutton and Patrick Byrne 44 each, Matthew Kelly, 30, Martin Murphy 15, Thomas O'Gorman, Nil.

resolution was adopted:-

"That, as regards appointment of Rate Collector for No. 9 Collection District, the applications of those only who have obtained at least 40 marks at Irish Examination be dealt with."

Mr Walter Cummins, a Candidate, stated that he and the other applicants wished to withdraw in favour of Mr Patrick O'Byrne.

Mr Murphy proposed:- "That Mr Patrick O'Byrne be elected Rate Collector for No. 9 Collection District, and that the Council express their thanks to the other candidates for the position, on their action in withdrawing in favour of Mr O'Byrne."

Mr John J. O'Byrne seconded the resolution which was unanimously adopted.

On the motion of Mr Corish, seconded by Mr Murphy, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That a fee of 10s. 6d each be paid Messrs D. J. O'Leary and M. Wheeler, Irish Examiners for examination of candidates for the position of Rate Collector to this Council for No. 9 Collection District, and held this day."

The Chairman then declared Mr O'Byrne elected and he returned thanks.

The Lord Mayor of Cork.

On the motion of Mr Devereux, seconded by Mr John J. O'Byrne, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the following telegraphic message be sent to Lady Mayoress, Cork City:- "Wexford County Council" in meeting assembled sympathise with you in your great trial and appreciate the sacrifice being made by your heroic husband and his comrades."

Rate Collectors and their Duties.

The following report was presented:-

"The Sub-Committee appointed to meet the Rate Collectors met in the Co Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 27th August 1920.

Dr James Ryan, Vice-Chairman, Co Council, presided,

Also present:- Messrs A. F. Smith, R. Corish, G. Devereux, and P. Lennon.

The Accountant was also in attendance.

The following Collectors attended:-

Messrs Philip Ryan, Gregory Rossiter, J. J. Berry, Patrick Rossiter, John Mullett, Patrick Codd, Joseph Cummins, John Sinnott, Pierce Redmond, Matthew Tobin, Patrick J. Nolan, John C. Smith, J. J. Fowler, Edward J.

Murphy, Edward Cummins, John O'Byrne, and James Cogley.

The financial position of the Council and Rate Collectors' responsibilities were fully explained to the Collectors by the Chairman.

The Collectors present stated they would carry out the Council's directions as regards future lodgments.

A number of Collectors expressed a wish to have a consultation with the County Council at next meeting, and it was decided that, should the Collectors desire, a Collector representing each Rural District might appear before the County Council meeting on 2nd September, 1920.

"On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr O'Byrne (Gorey), the report was received and approved."

Collectors Tobin, Redmond, Nolan, Murphy, and Joseph Cummins, appeared before the meeting, and, after discussion, expressed themselves satisfied with the statement of the members present as to lodgments, Rate Collectors' Sureties, etc.,

Messrs Thomas Smith, Tara Hill, Gorey, and John Godkin, Kilcavan, Gorey, wrote that they were sureties for Collector J.C. Smith, and, as the financial arrangements of the Council as regards lodgments of rates had been changed, they gave notice that, as from 28th August 1920, they would withdraw from the bond.

On the motion of the Chairman, the following resolution was adopted—

"That Messrs Thomas Smith and John Godkin, sureties of Collector J. C. Smith, be released from the terms of their bond, and that Mr J.C. Smith be instructed to enter into a new bond and submit the names of new securities to the County Council with the least possible delay. That the Council will take similar action as regards other Collectors should the occasion arise.

That the Rate Collectors be requested to lodge as often as possible. We consider this should be done when they have £50 on hands.

That we appeal to the Rate Collectors of the County to pay their rates with promptitude on demand, as, owing to the action of the English Government in illegally withdrawing grants, the County Council will need money forthwith to carry on the business of the County. That the Rate Collectors furnish our Secretary with the names and addresses of persons refusing or neglecting to pay their rates and that these be considered at first available County Council meeting."

The County Council & The Local Government Board.

On the motion of Mr Devereux, seconded by Mr John O'Byrne (Gorey)

"That no further resolutions, correspondence, or minutes be furnished to the Local Government Board, Custom House, Dublin, but that Minutes be furnished Department of Local Government, Dail Eireann."

Payment, Witnesses' Expenses.

The Secretary stated that the Manager of the National Bank, Wexford Branch, had asked him if he was to honour drafts issued from Wexford Assize Court for payment of witnesses expenses.

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

"That the Manager, National Bank, Wexford, be informed as regards witnesses' expenses, that recommendation of the Finance Committee, confirmed at meeting of County Council on 26th August 1920, and a copy of which was furnished to him, stated that, while acting as Treasurer to the Council, he should not pay any money from the accounts of the Council unless on Treasurer's Advice Note signed by the Chairman and two members of the Council, and by Paying Order signed by the Secretary to the Council. This recommendation remains still in force."

Proposed Purchase of Machinery.

The County Surveyor stated that, in present circumstances, he thought it would not be advisable to purchase any of the road machinery which was sanctioned by the County Council.

"It was decided to postpone consideration of the matter to next meeting."

Meetings of County Council.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne (Gorey) seconded by Mr Corish, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That monthly meetings of the Council be held on 7th October 1920, at 10.30 a.m., and on 4th November and 2nd December 1920, the two latter meetings at 2.30 p.m.,"

University Scholarship Scheme.

Under date 31st August 1920, an application was received from James Hayden, Curragh, Kilanerin, for permission to reside in private lodgings owing to the fact that hostel fees in Blackrock College were now fixed at £50 for the three University terms.

A similar application was received from Mr Thomas J. Lambert, William Street, Wexford.

On the motion of Mr Corish, seconded by Mr Cummins, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Messrs James Hayden and Thomas J. Lambert, University Students be given permission to reside in private lodgings in Dublin, provided same receive the approval of the Dean of Residence. The Council will be prepared to favourably consider applications from students whose parents are unable to meet the extra expense entailed by increase in hostel fees to reside in private lodgings."

New County Council Offices.

Under date 1st September, 1920, the Reverend Mother, Convent of St John of God, Wexford, wrote, asking the Council if they would rent the lodge at new Co Council Offices to a workman of the Community.

On the motion of Mr Corish, seconded by Mr James Doyle, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Reverend Mother, Convent of St John of God, Wexford, be informed that the Council will, in all probability, require the lodge at their new offices for one of their own employees."

Mr J. J. Roche J.P.- Coroner.

In connection with the resolution of the County Council, calling on Mr John J. Roche, J. P., to resign the magistracy, Mr Roche wrote, under date 29th August 1920, acknowledging the resolution of the Council.

"It was decided to postpone further action in the matter pending decision of a meeting of magistrates to be held shortly."

Extraordinary Traffic on Roads.

The following report of Sub-Committee was received:-

"The Sub-Committee appointed to deal with extraordinary traffic on roads met on 27th August 1920,

Dr James Ryan, Vice-Chairman, County Council, presiding.

Also present:- Messrs G. Devereux, A. F. Smith, R. Corish, and P. Lennon

The Accountant and the County Surveyor were also in attendance.

It was decided that the County Surveyor should, as far as possible, assess the damage done by each engine to the roads and that application for that amount be made to the engine owners concerned, and that the replies received be brought before the next meeting of the County Council.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr John O'Byrne

"That the report of Sub-Committee re damage to roads by extraordinary traffic be received and adopted, and that the further consideration of this matter be referred to the meeting of the County Council on 7th October 1920."

Quarry and Road Work.

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

"That the County Surveyor prepare -for the meeting of the Co Council on 7th October 1920- a scheme as to limitation of quarry and road work."

Claim for Road Work.

A letter, under date 1st September 1920, and claiming payment for certain road work, was received from James Brien, Glenteigue, Edermine.

"It was decided to refer the matter to the meeting of the County Council to be held on the 7th October next."

The Finances of the Council.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr John O'Byrne (Gorey) the following resolution was adopted:-

"That, as arranged at private meeting of the County Council on 24th August 1920, the National Bank, Wexford, be dismissed as Treasurer of the County Council, that our Secretary be appointed Paymaster to the Council, and that he be instructed to transfer any monies received by him for or on behalf of the Council to five Trustees, whose names have been furnished to him, and that payments be made by these Trustees on behalf of the Council.

That the Paymaster be instructed to open a No. 3 Account in the National Bank, Wexford, and that the Rate Collectors of the Co Council be instructed to lodge all monies, received for or on behalf of the Co. Council, to this account."

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(Signed)

Seamus O'Keefe
Presiding Chairman.

Dated this day of

1920.