

Minutes of the Proceedings
of Quarterly Meeting of the
Roscommon County Council
held at the Courthouse,
Roscommon on Wednesday
22nd November, 1922.

Councillor M. O. Brannan,
Chairman, presided, and
the following Members were
in attendance: - Messrs D. O'Rourke,
J. D. J. O. Brannan, J. J. O'Boyle,
J. Geraghty, P. Mary, J. Ryan,
J. Oates, E. Moran, J. Hughes, and
P. Ledwith.

Proposed by Councillor Mary,
Seconded by Councillor Geraghty,
And Resolved: -

"That the Minutes
be taken as read."

Proposed by Co. Padraig S. O'Mahadaig
Seconded by Co. Seamus O'Dian,
And Resolved: -

"That we, the
Roscommon County Council
view with horror and
indignation the action of
the Provisional Government
in executing men of the
Irish Republican Army, and
we hereby demand the
immediate cessation of all
further

further executions.

That a copy of this resolution be mixed at once to Mr. W. J. Cosgrave, P. D.
Government Buildings, Dublin

The following correspondence from the Ministry of Local Government was submitted:-

Letter re Proposal to train Members of the Civic Guard as ex-officio Inspectors of Weights and Measures.
Order made thereon:- "To be attended to."

Letter No. 2504/22 enclosing copy of extract from letter from Mr. D. S. Warburton, ex- Clerk of Peace for County Roscommon re arrears of pension.
Order made thereon:- "To be paid."

Letter No. 130/20 appointing Mr. Denis J. Kennedy, B. C. temporary County Surveyor for Roscommon County.
The letter was marked "Approved"

Letter No. d. b. 8/6 re boushouses in the county and suggesting that the
County

Appointment of
D. J. Kennedy as Surveyor

Co Surveyor



further executions.

That a copy of this resolution be mixed at once to Mr. W. J. Cosgrave, J. D. Government Buildings, Dublin

£130

letter No. d. b. 876 re housewife
in the county and
suggesting that the
county

bounty council still retain the tenancy of those buildings. The following Resolution was passed thereon:-

Proposed by Co. M. O'Brannain
Seconded by Co. George Geraghty.

"That the council take all necessary steps to have bouthouses provided".
The following Amendment was moved:-

Proposed by Co. P. S. O'Haradaig,
Seconded by Co. S. O'Rian.

"That we adjourn for three months the consideration of letters re providing bouthouses"

On a Poll being taken Mr. O'Brannain's Motion was carried by 4 votes to 3. The following voted for the Motion:- Councillors M. O'Brannain, Geraghty, Oates and Sedwisk. The following voted against:- Councillors Belgain, Heary and Ryan.

The Motion was then put to the Meeting as a Resolution and carried.

Letter No. 33/44/22 extending period within which Mr. W. Donagh may be paid his mileage
and

and postage Accounts.
 Letter No. 399/14 and Circular
 No. 4898 re attaching
 conditions to the payment
 of Awards in certain
 cases. Order made
 thereon: - Structures
 to be replaced. To apply
 to all such cases.
 before to day's Meeting.

The Secretary informed
 the Council that it would
 be necessary to make
 arrangements to defend
 all Malicious Injury
 claims lodged after July, 1921.
 The following order was
 made thereon: - "That the
 usual procedure be
 observed in defending
 Malicious Injury claims
 and clerks of District
 Councils be instructed
 to that effect."

Letter No. 10/22/22 sanctioning
 payment of poundage
 fees at 6d in the £
 to collectors who closed
 their collections for
 the March, 1922, half-year
 was named "Dead"
 Letter

Letter No. 11/10/22 re payment of salary to the Under-Sheriff.
Order made thereon:-
"To be paid."

Letter No. 98/2/22 re Inspectors Award on the salaries question and the apportionment of duties in the Secretary's Office.
Order made thereon "Approved"

Letter from the suggested Districts Board enclosing Maps of all roads made by the Board which they are willing to transfer to the County Council. Order made thereon:- "Refer to County Surveyors for Report"

Letter from Mr. S. E. Holt, Clerk of Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2 Rural District Council enclosing copy Resolution re the amalgamation of that District Council with Boyle No. 1. The following order was made thereon:-
"The Council raise no objection to Carrick-on-Shannon rescinding their original resolution amalgamating with

with Boyle provided same can be proved to be no financial loss to the County Council."

Letter from Mr. Gilligan, Clerk of the Roscommon Rural District Council re providing a dumping ground in Roscommon. The following order was made thereon:— "The County Surveyor be instructed to select a site for a dumping ground in Roscommon, and in any other town in the County where a necessity for same exists".

The following Report of the Sub-Committee appointed to deal with the state of the Rate Collection and other matters were submitted:—

(Copy)

Roscommon.

14th November, 1922

The undersigned, being the Committee appointed by the Council on the 6th of November, 1922, to inquire into the state of the Rate Collection report

report as follows:-

Each collector with any substantial outstanding balance we interviewed privately, and discussed with him the reasons put forward for non-payment of rates. Reports reached us from some Districts that ratepayers were not asked for rates by the collectors, and that the collectors were wanting in their duties in this respect, but the collectors in general denied this and assured us that everything possible was done by them. There were, however, some collectors who positively declared that owing to some organised efforts being made to keep people from paying the rates they were afraid to ask for payments. This seemed to apply principally to the Ashlone area and portion of Basilesea. The chief difficulty however seemed to be that although Deerees in the late Parish and District Courts had been obtained, there was no authority to enforce the Deerees and the people seeing this took advantage of the situation
where

Were it not indeed for this we would reluctantly feel obliged to recommend the dismissal of a good many of the collectors. With the different conditions prevailing at present when Courts are functioning that have a force behind them to enforce their Decrees, we would therefore recommend that the collectors be given one month to tackle their work in a businesslike manner, take advantage of every opportunity and every machinery at their disposal and report to the Committee at end of month the progress of their efforts the Committee to then decide on the merits of their work, whether their services shall be retained or otherwise. We include in this category collectors R. J. O'Brien, B. V. Doyle, J. Martin and P. J. Fallon of Ashlone District and collectors J. W. Dermott, W. Fleming, P. G. Shanagher, and M. Kelly of Baslesea District. Unfortunately it appears from statements made by the collectors

collectors that some ratepayers are inclined to treat the demand of the County Council as that of a political party and express themselves as unwilling to pay rates until they see how the unfortunate present strife will end. This ridiculous excuse scarcely needs commenting upon as it would be a slur on the intelligence of any ordinary honest man to say that he genuinely mixed the maintaining of the public services with politics.

We believe this is only a very dishonest excuse to try and evade responsibility. The public services must be maintained and we advise that the Council will shirk no responsibility no matter how unpleasant to make the defaulting ratepayers do their duty side by side with those who have already paid and kept the services intact during the past few years.

We give in tabulated form the state of the collections in the Districts where little

or no progress has been made with the collection also the explanations of the collectors:-

Athlone collector Doyle	£2644.14.8	£1691.4.5
" R. J. O'Brien	3586.16.10	3586.16.10
" J. Martin	1911.13.2	1164.3.3
" P. J. Fallon	1694.4.1	1549.0.1
	£9840.11.9	£8021.4.4

collectors O'Brien, Fallon and Martin are the chief complainants of organised opposition, and so far they have done nothing. collector Doyle makes the same complaint, but not to the same extent.

baselene collector J. Tyler	£3145.14.1	£494.12.1
" J. W. Dermott	2542.15.2	2542.15.2
" W. Fleming	5042.13.0	2041.19.8
" P. G. Shanagher	2318.14.1	1180.11.3
" W. Kelly	4454.4.8	3264.3.8
" J. Connor	2868.5.3	242.12.2
	£23404.12.3	£9863.14.0

collector Tyler owing to illness was unable to close his collection and he states there is opposition in paying the rates and that he could not have the Decees executed. Owing to the state of chaos

chaos which prevails in the collection District of collector Mr. Dermott he says he is unable to proceed. The explanations of collectors Fleming, Kelly and Shanagher were not considered satisfactory as we considered they did not visit their Districts often enough and in some cases not at all. collector bonner has made satisfactory progress.

Roscommon collector	J. J. Fleming	£1722.9.3	£259.5.10
"	J. Bonmaghton	4120.13.4	464.8.11
"	W. Dolan	1842.11.8	56.10.0
"	J. Broghan	2650.29.2	258.15.2
"	W. Geraghty	4393.19.6	1437.0.7
"	W. Murray	2196.1.5	453.8.11
		£16956.17.11	£3229.9.5

We are satisfied with the explanation of the Roscommon collectors.

The total amount of outstanding rates for the year ended 31st March last was £25641.10.2 but this sum has been further reduced by additional lodgments to £1151.11.11.

The collectors in a body put forward their claims to payment

payment of 8d in the £ according to the late Council's ruling and sanction from the L. J. Department and we feel obliged to recommend that where a collector closed his collection and lodged the full amount of his Warrant within 4 months after receiving his Books he be paid at that rate.

(Signed) Seamus O'Han, Seoirse
Uae Aicactaig, Sean O'bolgain,
Uiceal O'Brannain.

The above Report was marked "Approved" and the following additional Order was made:-
"That the two Moiety Books for the current Rate be issued together, but Accounts for both Moities be kept separate."

(Signed) M. O'Brannain
Chairman

The Proposals for Payments were considered and the following Resolution was passed thereon:-

Proposed by Councilor Ed. Moran,
Seconded by Councilor D. O'Rourke,
And Resolved:-

"That the Proposals for Payments as set out on Form 22

Form 22 for the Quarter ended 30th September, 1922, made by the several Rural District Councils and the Proposal Committee of the County Council and this day submitted to our Council be and are hereby approved."

The Report of the County Surveyor for the Quarter ended 30th September, 1922, (copy herewith) was submitted.

The Forms 20 from the several Rural District Councils in the County and the Proposal Committee were submitted and the following resolutions passed thereon:-

Proposed by Councillor G. Geraghty
Seconded by Councillor Sean O'Brian
And Resolved:-

"That the Proposals for New Works formulated by the several Rural District Councils and Proposal Committee of the County Council set out on Forms 20, from said Councils and Committee, and this day submitted to our Council be and are hereby approved, except the following numbers:-

Rosecommon

Roscommon Rural District. Nos. 225,
227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233,
234, 235, 236, 240, 242, 243,
and 246.

Boyle No. I. Rural District. Nos 13
and 16 which are
referred back as
recommended in
the Report of the
Bounty Surveyor.

No. 14 in the Boyle Rural
District is approved to the
Bounty Surveyor.

And we authorise our
Secretary to Seal this Resolution

Proposed by Councillor Sean O'Braonain
Seconded by Councillor Geo. W. Geraghty
And Resolved:-

"That in future
no Special or New Works be
considered by County Council
unless Works which have
been approved by District
Councils at their January
Meetings only."

Proposed by Councillor M. O'Braonain
Seconded by Councillor S. O'Dian,
And Resolved:-

"That a Roads
Committee be appointed to
deal

deal with all Road matters and Report same to Council. The following to constitute the Committee:- Seamus O'Rian, (Chairman) Seisise Mac Aineartaig, Seamus Mac Coice, Sean O'Brannain, E. Moran, P. J. Heary, Sean O'Colgan and P. Ledwith.

The following Order relative to the preparation of Bonds etc, was made:-

(Copy) Roads etc, Order.

"That Rural District Clerks be requested to note that, in the preparation of Bonds, that the description, (points, lengths etc.) of Work must be in accordance with the Specifications of the County Surveyor in all documents (Forms 20, Tenders) relating to contracts."

(Signed) W. O'Brannain
Chairman Co. Council

A Letter was read from the Registrar, University College, Galway, re appointing a Member of the County Council on the Governing Body. The following order was made thereon

thereon:- "Chairman to take necessary action."

Reports from Messrs. Doran and Hays, Veterinary Inspectors, re the working of the Diseases of Animals Acts in the County were marked "Approved".

The Secretary read Application from Mr. W. J. Leech, Assistant County Surveyor, for an increase of salary. The following resolution was passed thereon:-

Proposed by Councillor G. W. Geraghty
Seconded by Councillor S. O'Bradaigh
And Resolved:-

"That Mr. Leech's salary be raised to £200."

Applications from the Managers National Banks, Roscommon, asking to have out of date Paying Orders re. authorised was submitted and the following order was made thereon:- Re-authorise.

The following were marked "Read"

Resolutions

Resolutions from the Dublin County Council relative to the introduction of legislation in the next Session of Dail Eireann empowering each county council to grant pensions to their roadmen and all other non-pensionable employees upon the same basis as the other pensionable officers to the council.

Resolution relative to the preservation of our diminishing woods.

Resolution relative to the Boycott of English manufactured cement and purchase German cement until the Duinage Cement Works, Wexford, have been reopened.

Resolution relative to the advisability of floating a joint loan and taking over the Asigna mines.

Resolution from the County Borough of Cork deploring the death of commandant O'Neill.

Resolutions

Resolutions from the County
Surveyors' Association
relative to the extra
works imposed on
County Surveyors and
their Assistants in
carrying out repairs
to Bridges, and asking
that a commission
of 2½% should be
allowed to County
Surveyors and their
Assistants for the
carrying out of such
works.

Resolution from the Secretary
Waterford County Council
adjourning their Meeting
as a protest against
the war of destruction
which is being carried
out and stating that
their Meetings stand
adjourned until Dail
Eireann meet.

Resolution from Limerick Rural
District Council relative
to substituting proper
wide roads for the
narrow works of boneens
and cul-de-sacs in
existence.

Resolution

Resolution from the Leitrim
County Council appointing
members to attend a
conference on the subject
of Peace Proposals.

Resolution from the Clerk
of the District Council,
Boyle, relative to Terms
20 and 22.

Resolution from the Athlone
District Council relative
to the repairs and
maintenance of roads
in Athlone District.

Resolution from the District
Clerk, Boyle, relative to
furnishing a list of
defaulting ratepayers
for the year ended
31st March.

The following letters were
marked "Read".

Letters from ex-collector P. J. Murray
relative to Superannuation.

Letter from the Managers of the
National Bank, Roscommon,
relative to the Battle
Diseases Fund.

Letter from the Secretary, North
Wexford Employers and
Traders Federation relative
to

to the Weekly Half-Holiday.
 Letter from Collector Lane
 re poundage fees.

Letter from the Ministry of
 Education for Housheen
 Ireland stating that they
 have taken over as
 from the 1st February, 1922,
 the administration of
 the Irish services in
 connection with Education

Letter from Collector Doyle re
 Poundage fees.

Letter from Mr. Jack Bermingham
 re his Application as
 Boursheeper.

Letter from Mr. Jim Feely,
 Roscommon, relative to
 Injury to cow.

Letter signed by some Ratepayers
 in Basilea District
 relative to repairs to roads

Letter from the Secretary, Irish
 Automobile Drivers Union
 relative to the question
 of Tests being adopted
 in connection with
 the issue of Licences.

Letter from Sligo Co. Council
 relative to the developing
 of the Arigna Mines.

Letter from the Clerk of the
 Roscommon

Rosecommon Rural District
 Council relative to the burial
 of a donkey found dead on
 the public road at Shanbilly.
 Letter from Thos. Kilecrosse,
 Loughglynn, asking for
 an extension of time
 to pay rates.

Letter from Mr. Popes relative
 to payment of rent on
 the bouthouse at Elphin.

Accounts from the Secretary
 of the Ballinamore and
 Ballyconnell Navigation
 District.

Letter from the Secretary,
 Galway County Council,
 relative to the discharge
 of the Portumna Bridge
 Committee.

Letter from Mr. John J. Shiel,
 relative to monthly
 Meeting of Infirmary Committee.

Letters from Ganger J. Egan.

Letter from Mr. J. Rogers, relative
 to the use of a room
 in Strokestown bouthouse
 for dancing classes was
 marked "Refused".

Letter from Mr. J. Donnelly,
 Clerk District Council,
 Ashbourne, relative to transfer
 of

of Funds.

Letter from Collector Donlon
relative to poundage fees.

Letter from the Secretary
Canal Commission
re development of the
Shannon and the Branches
to Boyle and Strabestown
Order made thereon:—"To
be considered later."

Letter from Mr. J. B. Feely, Boyle
relative to room in
Boyle bannhouse for
Labour Exchange Office.
Order made thereon:—"Accommodation to be
given if available."

The following dates were
fixed for the Meetings of
the Rural District Councils,
the Proposal Committee and
the County Council:-

Casterea	Saturday, 13 th Jan, 1923	10 o'clock
Roscommon	Thursday, 11 th ..	do
Boyle	Saturday, 20 th ..	do
Ashlone	Saturday 6 th ..	do

Proposal Committee

Roscommon	Tuesday, 6 th Feb. 1923	11.30 oc
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County Council

Roscommon	Wednesday, 28 th Feb. 1923	11.30 oc
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(Signed) M. Cronin 6.2.23
Chairman

