

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

ADJOURNED MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 9TH OCTOBER, 1961

Present: Councillor T. A. Delahunt, Chairman, Presiding, Councillors J. Lalor, T. Conroy, J. Kane, G. F. Haughton and J. Everett, T.D.

In attendance: Mr. M. J. Cusack, Town Clerk

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors C. W. Hudson and J. Kelly and from Mr. J. T. O'Byrne, Town Surveyor.

The Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy to Mr. & Mrs. M. Butler and family on the death of their son, Mr. J. P. Butler, M.R.I.A.I., the Council's Consultant Architect. Councillor Kane seconded and it was also supported by Councillor Everett. All Councillors present and the Town Clerk on behalf of the County Manager and staff associated themselves therewith. The vote was passed in silence, all present standing.

Re-Election to Dail: Councillor Conroy proposed a vote of congratulations to Councillor Everett on being re-elected to the Dail for the 17th successive occasion, bringing his total years of service to 40. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Lalor and unanimously passed, being supported by all Councillors present. Councillor Everett replied and thanked the Councillors for their kind references.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 5th September, 1961, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman. Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 3rd October, 1961, were read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Arising out of the Minutes, Councillor Everetted referred to the statement at the September Meeting that no site had been definitely chosen by the Council for the proposed Swimming Pool and the meetings' attention was also drawn to the Minutes of the August Meeting which contained a resolution that the Town Surveyor was to prepare plans for a Swimming Pool to be sited at the Black Castle. The Town Clerk pointed out that the plans prepared by the Town Surveyor could be used for a site at the Black Castle or at the Murrrough. It was decided that the points mentioned by Councillor Everett be recorded in the minutes of the present meeting.

ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES: The meeting adopted as satisfactory the report of the delegates on the resolutions submitted by the Council to the Annual Conference of the Association, copy of which had been circulated.

PROPOSED SCHEME OF 7 HOUSES AT ST. PATRICK'S AVE: Plans and specification were submitted by Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. for the erection of bungalows on the 7 sites at St. Patrick's Avenue leased by them from the Council. The Town Surveyor had no objection to the proposal but there was information he required on certain points. Council unanimously recommended that permission be granted subject to Shamrock Fertilizers supplying the information required by the Town Surveyor.

CONTRIBUTION TO HARBOUR LOAN CHARGES: The Harbour Commissioners wrote to say that they would be prepared to contribute the sum of £450 repayment of loan charges in the current year so as not to upset the finances of the Council but that in respect of next year's contribution it would be advisable for the Council to make application to them before the Estimates are prepared. Noted as satisfactory.

HARBOUR IMPROVEMENT WORKS: The Harbour Board wrote to say that they were obtaining a loan of from £25,000 to £30,000 from The Hibernian Bank Ltd. for a period of 12 months at 7½% interest for the purpose of financing dredging and other urgent repair works. It was proposed that a loan term loan should be obtained from the Commissioners of Public Works to finance the complete Scheme and money from this source would be available at the end of the 12 months to repay the amount borrowed from the Hibernian Bank.

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The Harbour Board wished to know if the Urban Council would be prepared to guarantee the loan from the Bank. The Town Clerk said he had just learned that the Bank were prepared to loan the money to the Harbour Board at a special rate of 5½%. After hearing explanations on the matter from the Town Clerk, the Council unanimously resolved that they would agree in principle to the giving of the guarantee but before entering into any written statement to that effect, they would require to be satisfied that the loan would have the sanction of the Minister for Transport & Power and they would also want to know that money would be available from the Local Loans Fund to repay the Bank at the end of the 12 months period.

LEASE OF COUNTY HOSPITAL: A letter was read from Wicklow County Council indicating that they were not prepared to pay any more than £100 a year plus rates for the lease of the County Hospital Building. The amount asked by the Urban Council was £125 and having very carefully considered the matter the Council decided on the proposal of Councillor Haughton, seconded by Councillor Lalor that the Wicklow County Council be granted a lease of the County Hospital Building at Kilmartin Hill, Wicklow, for a period of 75 years from 25th March, 1961, at an annual rent of £100, the tenant paying rates and being responsible for repairs and on the condition that the building be put into a proper state of repair within 3 years from the date of the lease. Councillor Conroy dissented from voting on the resolution.

PROPOSED SWIMMING POOL: Submissions and suggestions forwarded by the Wicklow Chamber of Commerce, the Wicklow & District Men's Association, and the Wicklow Swimming Club were read to the meeting. It was agreed that these bodies be thanked for their interest and help in the matter. A discussion ensued as to what steps the Council could take to provide other amenities in addition to the swimming pool such as pitch and put green, bowling green, entertainment centre, etc. Councillor Kane suggested that the Council sponsor a Competition for the designing of an area for the swimming pool and other suggested amenities. The meeting agreed with this suggestion and it was decided that the County Manager be asked to examine if the Council would have the power to run such a Competition. Council felt that competing Architects should be free to choose whatever area in the town they themselves considered most suitable for development.

TIDY TOWNS COMPETITION: Council considered the Marking Chart and Adjudicator's remarks, copy of which had been circulated. The marks obtained were an improvement on last year, viz: 51 against 44. It was decided that the County Council's attention be drawn to the Adjudicator's on the condition of the Court House and other County Council property.

PLANNING AND SUBMISSION OF HOUSING PROPOSALS: The Town Clerk read extracts from Circular Letter from the Department of Local Government regarding the planning and submission of housing proposals, portion of which dealt with the provision of suitable accommodation for elderly persons. In reply to Councillor Everett, the Town Clerk stated that from a survey carried out recently, it was found that the average number of people in Council houses was 5, that there were single person in 19 houses; 2 persons in 24 and 3 persons in 31 houses. The meeting agreed to ask the Town Surveyor to prepare a report as to the cost of building about 20 flats suitable for old persons.

TENANT PURCHASE SCHEME: Council considered as satisfactory the Tenant Purchase Scheme which had been prepared and circulated. It was agreed that the tenants be informed of the prices at which they could purchase their houses and that they be asked to indicate before 31st December, if they were interest in doing so.

ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE - DWELLING HOUSE AT NEW STREET: It was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Conroy and resolved:-

"That we hereby consent to the Assignment by Mr. Liam O'Mahoney to Mrs. Margaret Gillespie of his interest in a dwellinghouse at New St., Wicklow, and held under lease dated 9th August, 1952, Wicklow U.D.C. to Mrs. C. Doyle, for a term of 75 years from 25th March, 1952 at an annual rent of £1. 17. 6."

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SEALING OF LEASE - DWELLINGHOUSE AT THE MALL: It was proposed by Councillor Conroy, seconded by Councillor Lalor and resolved:-

"That the Seal of the Council be and is hereby affixed to Lease, Counterpart and Memorial whereby the Council lease (being renewal of expired lease) that piece or plot of ground with dwellinghouse thereon, known as "Mallmount", Main St., Wicklow, and outoffices, yard and garden thereon to Arthur Fitzpatrick and Eileen Fitzpatrick for a period of 75 years from 29th September, 1959 at an annual rent of £6. 0. 0."

DUMPING GROUND: A letter was read from Messrs A. Cullen & Son, Solicitors, on behalf of the Wicklow Golf Club complaining about the condition of the dump and indicating that the matters complained of in July last were still a cause for complaint. Letter indicated that if the nuisance from the dump were not abated legal proceedings would be instituted and an injunction sought against the Council. The Town Clerk read the previous correspondence between the Council and the Golf Club and indicated what steps had been taken to deal with the matter. Councillor Everett queried as to why dumping was not proceeding in the Glen itself and was told that the County Council had not yet acquired the necessary land to enable the Urban Council to do so. Members felt that every effort should be made to acquire the Glen. After further discussion on the matter, it was decided that the Town Surveyor be asked to investigate what further steps could be taken to deal with the matters complained of by the Golf Club., and that the Council's Law Agent be informed of the letter from the Club's Solicitors.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACT, 1961: The Town Clerk mentioned relevant sections of the Act which came into operation on 1st October, 1961 regarding provisions relating to parking and waiting Bye-Laws. It was decided to ask the Garda Superintendent for his views on the matter and to point out to him that the Council were anxious that one side only parking be allowed in the Main Streets of the town.

MONTHLY REPORT OF TOWN SURVEYOR: The report, copy of which had been circulated, was adopted.

WICKLOW ROWING CLUB: A letter was read from the Wicklow Rowing Club indicating that instead of the site adjoining the Mill Yard there were now anxious to acquire a site at the rear of Wire Ropes premises and on which the Board of Works had at one time erected stores and office. The Town Clerk indicated that he was not sure as to the ownership of the site and that it might possibly be owned by the Harbour Board. Council agreed in principle to give a lease of the site to Rowing Club if it was in their power to do so and that meanwhile the Harbour Board be informed of the application and queried as to whether they were the owners of the site. It was further decided that Wire Ropes Ltd. be informed of the application and asked if they would have any objections to the site at the rear of their factory being leased to the Rowing Club.

DRAIN AT ST. LAURENCE'S PARK: A letter was read from tenants in the St. Laurence's Park area complaining about an open drain in the open space opposite their houses and which was a source of danger to their children. Council agreed to have it piped if possible.

ROAD AT BALLYGUILLE: A letter was read from residents at Ballyguile, complaining about the condition of the roadway leading to their houses. The Town Clerk said he doubted if this was a public road and it was decided to ask the Town Surveyor to investigate the matter.

PERMISSION TO ERECT GATE WAY: Mr. T. H. Hanan, 5, St. Laurence's Park was granted permission to make an entrance gate in the boundary wall at his house.

ROAD AT BOND STREET/NORTH QUAY: A letter was read from Wire Ropes Ltd. complaining of the condition of the North Quay Roadway caused by fertilizer falling and being blown from lorries conveying it from Shamrock Fertilizers' factory to C.I.E. Goods Station. Council agreed that both C.I.E. and Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. be written to in the matter and informed that if this nuisance continued, the Council would take legal proceedings against them.

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OTHER BUSINESS: Councillor Haughton referring to the Minutes of the last meeting wherein the County Manager is reported as denying liability by the Council for damage caused to a garden of Mr. S. Doyle at Castlefield whilst the Council was constructing a new boundary wall. Councillor Haughton maintained that the Council was liable and asked that this matter be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting for further discussion when the County Manager would be present.

The Town Clerk read a letter from the Irish Red Cross thanking the Council for their contribution of £10 towards the Association's Water Safety activities.

The meeting concluded at 9.30 p.m.

J. Adam

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

HELD ON 31ST OCTOBER, 1961

Present: Councillor T. A. Delahunt, Chairman, Presiding, Councillors T. Conroy, J. Lalor, J. Kane, W. Hopkins, G. F. Haughton and J. Everett, T.D.

In attendance: The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, Town Surveyor, Mr. J. T. O'Byrne and Town Clerk, Mr. M. J. Cusack.

Opening the Meeting, the Chairman stated that its purposes was to consider the position in relation to the water supply and to hear reports from the County Manager and Town Surveyor as to the reasons for the present shortage of water in the town.

The County Manager said it was evident for some time past that the supply of water was getting short and about 10 days ago the Old Reservoir ran almost dry. As a result certain measures had to be taken to protect the supply to industry. He mentioned that recently water recording meters had been installed and these showed that the consumption in the town worked out at an average of 100 gallons per head per day. Consequently, it was evident that the distribution system must have serious faults, particularly as the meter charts showed that the amount of water passing through the meters between the hours of 12 midnight and 4 a.m. was about the same as between the hours of 12 noon and 4 p.m. After discussing the matter with the Chairman and Councillors Kane and Conroy it was decided to obtain the services of a Water Inspector and such a man was obtained from Bray and had been working on a Waste Water Survey for the past 8 days. The Consultant Engineers had been informed of the position and had agreed that the consumption in the town was abnormal and had agreed that the house services in the town required inspection for leaks, in the first instance, and he was arranging later in association with the Town Surveyor to carry out a section by section inspection of the watermains. The County Manager also said he had seen the Assistant Chief Engineering Inspector of the Department of Local Government whose views were in accordance with those set out above.

It was pointed out by the County Manager that the Regional Supply has a production of 260,000 g.p.d. of which between 190,000 and 200,000 g.p.d. comes into Wicklow. The Old Reservoir is producing from 150,000 to 170,000 g.p.d. The total consumption therefore, in the town ranged from 150,000 to 200,000 g.p.d. and industrial consumption from 50,000 to 60,000 g.p.d. The Old Reservoir was going down steadily since April and rainfall figures showed that the Summer, at least in Wicklow, had been very dry with consequent very little water going into the reservoir and it became necessary to start pumping from the stream at Marlton to augment the limited supply in the Old Reservoir.

The County Manager pointed out that the Regional Scheme was never designed to provide more than 100,000 g.p.d. for Wicklow Town but it was now providing between 190,000 and 200,000 g.p.d. He pointed out that there should be no shortage of water if consumption in the town was normal as for a town with a population of 3,000 approximately, the daily consumption of water should not be much in excess of 100,000 g.p.d. As a result of discussions which he had with the Department of Local Government it became clear that the first thing requiring to be done was to reduce the consumption to normal figures. Other towns were faced with this problem too and were also obliged to tackle it.

The Survey to date had shown that there were up to 60 bad leaks. It was discovered also there was a large number of defective stop-cocks. These were the responsibility of the householders and would have to be replaced by them. Further it was found that the valves on the mains were not in good order and these will have to be replaced or repaired as necessary by the Council whose responsibility they are.

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The County Manager referred to the charge made for the supply of water for non-domestic use and stated that the provision of meters on the supply to such non-domestic users as public houses, would help to control waste as the charge would be on the basis of water used. The charge at present is 1/- per 1,000 gallons but it had been worked out that the cost of producing water is 1/8d. per 1,000 gallons. As portion of the Capital Cost of the water supply is borne by the State the net cost to the rates is 10d. per 1,000 gallons. Of this sum the County Council pays 7d. and the Urban Council 3d. He pointed out that if water is supplied to industry at a charge of only 1/- per 1,000 gallons, it was not a very good arrangement, and he suggested that the charge could be increased.

Councillor Everett suggested the employment of a permanent plumber by the Council whose services would also be available to householders on a rechargeable basis. Councillor Kane felt that it had not been good economy not to replace the former Waterworks Overseer and in his opinion it was possible that the present crisis would not have arisen if a Waterworks Overseer was employed. He mentioned that a number of the Councillors had inspected the Reservoir recently and they considered it very neglected. They felt that if the streams going into the Reservoir were attended to the supply of water could be increased by say 100%. He agreed that the valves should be attended to and the leaks repaired immediately. He advised that the Reservoir should be kept in as good a repair as possible and that the possibility of augmenting it by bringing in crude water supply be investigated.

Councillor Haughton said he found it hard to understand how domestic consumption could have risen so much and was told by the County Manager that the increased pressure would have accounted for this. In reply to Councillor Conroy, the County Manager gave details of the defects and leaks found to date. The Town Surveyor told Councillor Kane that he would have the cleaning of the streams flowing into the Reservoir attended to. He mentioned that the flow of water into the Reservoir at present was 115,000 g.p.d. and that in his opinion a full supply to the town could be renewed within 7 to 10 days. Councillor Kane asked that the Consultant Engineer investigate getting a supply of crude water into the Reservoir.

After further discussion by the Council the following decisions were unanimously arrived at:-

- (1) Agreement in principle to the employment of a plumber in a permanent capacity, the matter to be examined by the County Manager in association with the Department of Local Government, which would include the definition of the duties of the office and the question of whether or not he would be available to the public (on a re-chargeable basis etc.) to be defined at a later date.
- (2) Authorised the Town Surveyor to seek quotations from plumbing contractors for the repair and replacement of defective valves.
- (3) The present Waste Water Survey to be continued and if leaks are not repaired the water supply to be cut off. X
- (4) The possibility of increasing the charge for water supplied for non-domestic use to be determined at a later date having regard to the charges made in other towns, details of which to be obtained for submission to the Council.

The meeting concluded at 9 p.m.

G.A. [Signature]

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
3rd November, 1961.

To/
The Chairman and Each Member of the
Wicklow Urban District Council:

A Chara,

The Monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 7th October, 1961, at 7.30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,
M. J. Cusack
Town Clerk

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Adjourned Monthly Meeting held on 9th October, 1961 and Special Meeting held on 31st October, 1961 (copies herewith).
2. Murrough Lettings - application for camping site.
3. Housing List No. 10 - Consideration and adoption of Housing List at 1st October, 1961.
4. Superannuation - Payment of Retiring Allowance to William Murphy, Labourer.
5. Revised Remuneration for post of Town Sergeant.
6. Application from Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. for lease of site on Murrough (rear of Marine Hotel).
7. Renewal of Lease - Miss B. Kavanagh, premises at Summer Hill - correspondence from Law Agent.
8. Renewal of Lease - Yard at South Quay - Application from Mr. D. Nuzum.
9. Application from Mr. J. Cumiskey for lease of building site at Dunbur Rd.
10. Dumping Ground - Reports and Recommendations of County Medical Officer and Town Surveyor.
11. Town Planning Applications.
12. Rowing Club - Site for Clubhouse and correspondence with Wicklow Harbour Commissioners.
13. Parking and Waiting Bye-Laws.
14. Complaint re fertilizer falling from lorries in transit to and from fertilizer factory.
15. Claim by Mr. S. Doyle for damage to garden by cattle.
16. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor (copy herewith).
17. Water Supply - Report on Waste Water Survey to date.
18. Any Other Business at discretion of Chairman.

Proposed New Road at North Quay

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 7TH NOVEMBER, 1961

Present: Councillor T. A. Delahunty, Chairman, presiding, Councillors J. Lalor, J. Kane, T. Conroy, G. F. Haughton and J. Everett, T.D.

In attendance: The Town Surveyor, Mr. J. T. O'Byrne, B.E., and Town Clerk, Mr. M. J. Cusack.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors C. W. Hudson, J. Kelly and W. Hopkins and from Mr. M. Flannery, County Manager.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: Minutes of Adjourned Monthly Meeting held on 9th October, 1961 and Special Meeting held on 31st October, 1961, copies of which had been circulated were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

MURROUGH LETTINGS: An application from Rev. D. Currie, Glasgow, for the use of The Murrough for the last two weeks of July, 1962, for use as a Boys' Guild Camp was unanimously granted at a charge of £2.

HOUSING LIST NO. 10: The Council considered the revised Housing List at 31st October, 1961, copies of which had been circulated. The Council noted the present position of the List and agreed that Thomas Bouchier should be left at the head of the List, pending the availability of a bungalow. They further recommended that Messrs Thomas Boyce and N. F. Murphy, both residing in unfit houses, be placed Nos. 2 and 3 respectively on the List.

Council also recommended that Mrs. Mary Scudder be granted tenancy of No. 15, St. Dominick's Road, in succession to her mother, Mrs. Malone deceased, subject to a 50% increase in rent.

SUPERANNUATION OF WILLIAM MURPHY, LABOURER: The Town Clerk reported that William Murphy, Labourer, had retired on 7th October, 1961, and it had been ascertained that he had commenced continuous employment with the Council in July, 1945, making his total service on the date of his retirement, 16 years. His pension calculated on the basis of 16 years service and on his remuneration at the date of retirement would work out at £2. 1. 4. per week. The cost to the rates of the pension would be £107 per annum and in the current year would require excess expenditure in sum of £53. Before the pension could be paid, however, it would be necessary to seek the advice of the Law Agent due to the fact that Mr. Murphy was over 60 years at the coming into operation of the Superannuation Act of 1948. It was proposed by Councillor Conroy, seconded by Councillor Lalor and resolved:-

"That we hereby approve, subject to the advice of the Law Agent, of the payment of a Retiring Allowance in sum of £2. 1. 4. per week in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1956 to Mr. William Murphy (labourer) with effect from 7th October, 1961, and that we approve the necessary overexpenditure in the current year."

REVISED REMUNERATION - POST OF TOWN SERGEANT: The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the Town Sergeant had applied to have the recommendation of the Labour Court that the differential paid to gangers, overseers, etc. be increased by 50%, implemented in respect of his post as Town Sergeant. The Town Clerk said that the wages paid by the Urban Council to their labourers is £7. 15. 0. per week and to the Town Sergeant £9. 0. 0. per week, being a differential of £1. 5. 0. If a 50% increase is applied the revised differential payable to the Town Sergeant would be £1. 17. 6. per week being an increase of 12/6d, and bringing his weekly wage to £9. 12. 6. The annual cost to the Council of this increase would be £32 and is effective from 1st April, 1961.

It was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Haughton and resolved:-

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"That we hereby approve, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government, an increase of differential in remuneration over labourers' rate for Mr. P. Henry, Town Sergeant, from £1. 5. 0. to £1. 17. 6. per week, thereby allowing him a revised remuneration of £9. 12. 6. per week, the revised remuneration to be payable as from 1st April, 1961, and that we approve the necessary overexpenditure in the current year."

APPLICATION FROM SHAMROCK FERTILIZERS LTD. FOR LEASE OF SITE ON MURROUGH:

A letter was read from Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. applying for the lease of a site on The Murrough to the north of the Marine Hotel and extending for a distance of about 1,200 ft. The letter said the application arose out of discussions at the recent Conference between the firm and representatives of the local authority when the difficulty of obtaining adequate room for expansion on the North Quay was discussed. The Town Clerk mentioned that the area of the site immediately behind the Marine Hotel property was 1,233 ft. and contained 2 acres, 3 roods and 21 perches. Some time ago the Council had agreed to lease a site measuring 180 ft. in length to the Army Authorities for the purpose of erecting F.O.A. Headquarters thereon. He suggested that it might be possible to offer them an alternative site on the other side of the road. Members were agreeable to this suggestion. The Chairman pointed out the very important decision which faced the Council and that they should weigh up the matter very carefully. After fully considering the matter it was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Haughton and unanimously agreed to in principle - that a lease for a period of 75 years be granted to Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. of the entire site immediately north of the Marine Hotel property, but that before finalising the matter and determining the rent for the site they wished to examine the plans and specifications for the buildings proposed to be erected thereon and to be informed of the processes which the site would be utilised for.

RENEWAL OF LEASE - MISS B. KAVANAGH: The Town Clerk reminded the members that at their August meeting they had agreed in principle to accept a surrender of the lease of the 5th November, 1946 to Miss Kavanagh's deceased brother, James, and to grant her a new lease of 3 houses at Summer Hill, Wicklow, subject to a 50% increase in rent. However, at the September meeting when the matter again came up a difficulty arose in view of the Council's policy decision regarding the renewal of leases before the date of expiry of the current lease. In view of this decision the Council were doubtful if they could grant the new lease to Miss Kavanagh at the increased rent of 50%. Accordingly, the Council decided to adjourn the matter to their next meeting so that the Law Agent's views could be sought.

The Law Agent in his reply stated that as the lease of 1946 should have included other members of the family and in view of this he was of the opinion that the Council would be in order in accepting an increased rent of 50%. After discussing the matter, the Council decided on the proposal of Councillor Delahunt, seconded by Councillor Conroy, to grant a renewal of the lease at a 50% increase in rent for the balance of the unexpired term from 1946.

RENEWAL OF LEASE - YARD AT SOUTH QUAY: A letter was read from Mr. E. J. H. Hopkins, Solicitor, applying on behalf of Mr. D. R. Nuzum, Dunbur Road, for a renewal of the lease of a yard at South Quay, Wicklow, demised by lease dated 6th January, 1914, to the Wicklow District Gas Co., for a term of 75 years from 29th September, 1913, at a yearly rent of £7. 10. 0; the lessee's interest in which it was claimed is now vested in Mr. Nuzum. The Town Clerk pointed out that the current lease had still a period of 27 years to run and that there was no obligation at this stage on the Council to renew the lease. It was decided on the proposal of Councillor Haughton, seconded by Councillor Kane, that the applicant's solicitor be informed that there was no obligation on the Council to grant a renewal of the lease and that it was not the policy of the Council to renew leases before the date of expiry, unless sufficient reasons are put forward as to why they should do so.

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APPLICATION FOR BUILDING SITE AT DUNBUR ROAD: An application was read from Mr. J. Cumiskey, Market Square, Wicklow, for the lease of a building site at Dunbur Road, which site is situated between the bungalow of Mr. N. Byrne and the dwellinghouse of Mr. J. O'Carroll. It was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Conroy and resolved - "That we hereby grant a lease of the building site at Dunbur Road situated between the bungalow of Mr. Byrne and the dwellinghouse of Mr. O'Carroll, to Mr. Joseph Cumiskey, for a period of 75 years from 29th September, 1961, at a yearly rent of £7. 10. 0. for the purpose of erecting a dwellinghouse thereon within a period of 3 years from the date of the lease."

DUMPING GROUND: The following reports of the County Medical Officer and Town Surveyor were read:-

17th October, 1961.

A Chara,

I have inspected this dumping ground and found conditions not what they should be. There is not enough covering been used and there seems to be continuous burning on the tiphead facing, the whole area is strewn with papers and tins cans, which is most unsightly. There is little effort made to effect controlled tipping, the gate is left open each day, factories and other business firms are allowed to dump as they please. There is no man present to ensure proper control. When large quantities of papers or shavings are dumped they are set alight by those who dump them or by some unauthorised persons who are trespassers.

In my opinion the only way to improve conditions is to introduce a proper system of controlled tipping by:-

- (1) To have a man on the dump when open for dumping.
- (2) To have fixed hours of dumping for factories and firms and lock the gates at other times.
- (3) Reduce the area of the tiphead facing by railing the near end and the portion facing the golf links and only allow dumping on the lower end and continue dumping on a narrow facing towards the valley.
- (4) To insist on daily sealing of the top and facing with proper covering material - there is a good supply available on the dump.
- (5) The entire area should be thoroughly cleared up and all papers and tin cans properly covered.

I also feel that this field is not at all suitable for dumping, it has only space for a very limited amount of refuse and I would advise that the Valley should be used without any further delay. The Town Clerk is of the opinion that they cannot use the Valley until the Council acquires the far side of it, but I cannot see why the Council cannot dump on their own side pending the acquiring of the far side. There is slight evidence of rat infestation and I am arranging to carry out rodent control.

D. F. McCarthy,
County Medical Officer.

7th November, 1961.

I have given consideration to the correspondence with regard to this matter and the letter from the County Medical Officer.

I have reverted to the considerations given to the whole question of a suitable position for this as revealed in the discussions which took place in 1960. The objections raised to the existing position as stated in the letter from the Medical Officer can be controlled as he suggests for the moment, but I suggest that alternative accommodation will have to be sought. In this connection I offer for consideration by the Council a point immediately adjoining the sea cliffs about 350 lin. yards south of the Glen Strand. If we could get that situation it would solve all difficulties I believe.

I do not think that the situation at the end of the Old Dunbur Road is suitable. I have been trying to contact a Mr. Murphy the owner of the land leading to the sea so as to get a right-of-way and also to get land to ease the corners generally.

I hope to report at more length at next meeting.

J. T. O'Byrne

Following on his report the Town Surveyor mentioned that he proposed including the easement of the corner in the County Council Road Works Scheme for next year. Continuing the Town Surveyor said he would try and fall in with the County Medical Officer's recommendations in the matter and eventually would try and get the other side of the Glen but he felt that the Council should consider dumping into the sea further. After considering the pros and cons of the matter, the Council agreed that they should leave the matter in the hands of the Town Surveyor to do his best with the facilities at his disposal and to implement the various recommendations of the County Medical Officer.

TOWN PLANNING APPLICATIONS: An application accompanied by plan and specification was received from Mr. G. Gsell for permission to construct a garage adjacent to his dwellinghouse known as "Greenmount", Church Hill. The Town Surveyor reported that he had no objection to the proposal and Council recommended that permission be granted.

ROWING CLUB - SITE FOR CLUB HOUSE: A letter was read from the Wicklow Rowing Club acknowledging previous correspondence on this subject and indicating that they had learned that the site at North Quay could not be made available to them by the Harbour Board, and in its stead requested from the Council a lease of the site at the Gas Bank near the present Swimming Club hut. The Town Clerk drew the members attention to the fact that this land was not directly owned by the Council but was held by them on lease from the Minister for Finance and that any sub-letting would require the sanction of the Minister. It would be necessary for the Rowing Club to submit to the Minister very detailed plans and specification of the Club House which they proposed to erect. It was unanimously agreed to inform the Rowing Club that the Council were agreeable in principle to granting them a lease of the site but to indicate to them the ownership of the land by the Minister for Finance and the requirements they would have to meet before the Minister would sanction a sub-lease.

On Councillor Conroy's suggestion it was agreed that the Town Clerk would discuss with the Club the possibility of still obtaining the use of the site at the North Quay.

PARKING AND WAITING BYE-LAWS: The Council accepted the suggestion of Superintendent W. Brett, Garda Siochanna, Wicklow, that the question of local bye-laws should be deferred until General Bye-Laws are made under Section 88 of the Act.

COMPLAINTS RE FERTILIZER FALLING FROM LORRIES: A letter was read from Mr. C. Ryan, District Manager, C.I.E., indicating that he having the whole position in relation to the condition of the roadway from Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. to the Goods Station specially examined with a view to eliminating the cause of the Council's complaints in so far as C.I.E. lorries are concerned. The meeting accepted the letter as satisfactory but decided that C.I.E. be asked to include also the lorries which are hired by them.

CLAIM BY MR. S. DOYLE FOR DAMAGE TO GARDEN: On hearing from the Town Clerk that this matter was not being dealt with by the Council's Solicitor and Mr. Doyle's Solicitor, it was agreed not to have any discussion on it.

MONTHLY REPORT OF TOWN SURVEYOR: The meeting adopted the Monthly Report of the Town Surveyor, copies of which had been circulated.

WATER SUPPLY: REPORT ON WASTE WATER SURVEY: The Town Clerk reported that up to that evening 77 leaks had been located by the Waste Water Inspector who had served notices on the occupiers of the houses concerned. At that time also 37 of these leaks had been repaired. The Town Surveyor had made a test of the discharge rate of water from a number of household taps in the town and had ascertained that the discharge was at the rate of 8 gallons per minute. Assuming that the 77 leaks which had been found had a leakage of water as low as only 1 gallon per minute, the total loss in 24 hours would amount to 110,880 gallons.

Members referred to leaks in Council houses and felt that it was only right that the Council should attend to these before dealing with outside leaks. Other members felt that irrespective of where the leaks were discovered they should be attended to.

PROPOSED NEW ROAD AT NORTH QUAY: A letter was read from the Department of Transport & Power with reference to the application of the Council for a grant towards the construction of a proposed new roadway to serve the North Quay and drawing attention to the fact that the road which it is now proposed to close to public traffic was recently reconstructed with the aid of a State Grant. Having considered all the relevant circumstances the Minister is unable to accede to the request that a special grant should be allocated for the proposed scheme. It was decided to inform the Department that the Council are prepared to contribute towards the cost of constructing the proposed new roadway a proportionate amount of money to that contributed by the State towards the portion of the roadway proposed to be closed.

OTHER BUSINESS: The Town Surveyor undertook at Councillor Conroy's request to examine the condition of the Old Dunhur Road in connection with the current E.S.V. Scheme.

Councillor Kane enquired about the holding up of development at Brittas Bay by the County Planning Authority. After some discussion on this matter it was felt that at the moment nothing could be done by the Urban Council but that their representatives on the Joint Committee set up to deal with the development of the Brittas Bay Area should help to ensure that any proposed development should not be retarded.

The Council agreed that the County Manager be asked to bring the names of applicants for the post of Consultant Architect before them at their next meeting for their consideration and recommendation before an appointment is made.

It was proposed by Councillor Haughton, seconded by Councillor Kane and resolved:-

"That this Council bearing in mind the importance to the life of every rural and city community of maintaining the high standards of morale and service which has always characterised the Garda Siochanna Force in this Country, urges the Minister for Justice to give immediate consideration to the question of increasing the remuneration of the members of that Force to such a figure as will enable them to maintain a standard of living in keeping with their responsibilities. We further request that no disciplinary action be taken against the Garda pending the holding of an enquiry into their complaints."

It was decided that this resolution be phoned to the Minister the following morning, and copies be circulated to all local authorities in the country.

The Chairman referred to the necessity of School Signs on the roads adjacent to the Dominican Convent and the Town Surveyor undertook to have these signs provided as well as a sign on the Chapel Hill and at the foot of Church Hill.

Councillor Everett enquired if any repairs could be made by the Council to the old roadway within the Convent Grounds. The Town Surveyor said he was doubtful if the Council could expend any money on this road but he would examine the position.

The Chairman referred to the condition of the hallway at the Town Hall and asked if it could be re-plastered. The Town Surveyor said he would try and get it done before the plastered finished work with us.

The meeting concluded at 10 p.m.

[Handwritten signature]
Chairman
5th December, 1961.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
1st December, 1961.

To/ The Chairman and Each Member of the
Wicklow Urban District Council:

A Chara,

The Monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 5th December, 1961, at 7.30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,
M. J. Cusack,
Town Clerk

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 7th November, 1961 (copy herewith).
2. Murrough Lettings - Application for Camping Site.
3. Fix date of Christmas Fowl Market.
4. Public Lighting - Application from Wicklow Traders' Association to have the Christmas Illuminations connected to Public Lighting System - Association to recoupe Council cost of same.
5. Proposed New Roadway at North Quay - Correspondence with Department of Local Government.
6. Water Supply - (a) Letter from Department of Local Government re position of Water Supply to Wicklow Town (b) Report on Waste Water Survey to date and observations and recommendations of Town Surveyor.
7. Water Charges - Proposed revision of charges for supply of water for non-domestic purposes.
8. Water Supply Overseer - proposed appointment.
9. Report of Consultant Chemist on inspection of Acid Plant and Super-phosphate Wash Tower operated by Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd.
10. Consultant Architect - Submission of applications for post of Consultant Architect and recommendation of Town Surveyor thereon.
11. Assignment of Leases - Application for consent of Council to assignment of two leases of property at North Quay - Woodstock Ltd. to Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd.
12. Sealing of Lease - Nos. 5 and 7 High St. to Mrs. Louise M. Kavanagh.
13. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor (copy herewith).
14. Any Other Business at discretion of Chairman.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 5TH DECEMBER, 1961

Present: Councillor T. A. Delahunt, Chairman, presiding, Councillors T. Conroy, J. Lalor, J. Kane and J. Everett, T.D.

In attendance: The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, Town Surveyor, Mr. J. T. O'Byrne and Town Clerk, Mr. M. J. Cusack.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors C. W. Hudson, W. Hopkins, G. F. Haughton and J. Kelly.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 7th November, 1961, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

MURROUGH LETTINGS: Mr. J. J. Brennan of Liverpool was granted the use of The Murrough for a Boy Scouts' Camp from 28th July to 11th August, 1962, inclusive at the usual fee of £2.

CHRISTMAS FOWL MARKET: Monday, 18th December, 1961, was fixed as the date for the Annual Christmas Fowl Market.

PUBLIC LIGHTING: The application of the Wicklow Traders' Association to have the Decorative Street Lighting which they propose erecting for Christmas, 1961, connected to the public lighting system was agreed to - the Association to recoup the Council cost of same.

PROPOSED NEW ROADWAY AT NORTH QUAY: The Town Clerk read correspondence with the Department of Local Government re provision of proposed new roadway at North Quay and the closure of portion of the existing public road so as to confine its future use solely to the activities of Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. Even though the Council were prepared to contribute towards the cost of constructing the new roadway a proportionate amount of money to that contributed by the State towards the portion of the roadway proposed to be closed, the Minister was not agreeable to making a grant for the new roadway. It was decided to enquire from Shamrock Fertilizers if in view of their proposed expansion on the Upper Murrough they were still interested in the new roadway at North Quay. If that firm indicate that the matter is still very urgent it was decided that the Council should take the matter up with the Department of Industry and Commerce on the grounds that the closure of the existing public road and its future use being made available solely to Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. might be construed by that Department as an extension of Shamrock's industrial undertaking.

WATER SUPPLY: A letter dealing with the unsatisfactory position of the water supply in Wicklow was read from the Department of Local Government as follows and also a comprehensive report from the Town Surveyor on the matters raised in the Department's letter:-

28th November, 1961.

A Chara,

With reference to previous correspondence regarding the above scheme, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that on the information now available from the two meters, the total water consumption in the town is of the order of 326,000 gallons per day which corresponds to an average of over 100 gallons per head per day. This consumption is considered grossly excessive and indicates an alarming level of waste in the town. In the circumstances the submission of proposals for laying larger diameter mains in the town and providing for an increase in industrial consumption cannot be considered. The efforts of the Council should, therefore, be directed towards the elimination of waste and reduction of consumption to a reasonable level.

The Consultant appointed to investigate the necessity for an extension of the Cronroe supply to the town was also asked to investigate the existing domestic and industrial demands in the town and it is understood that he is at present engaged in a special waste water investigation for which a special inspector has been engaged. It is considered that your

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Council should ensure that the distribution and valving systems in the town are adequate to render this investigation effective and stopcocks and services between the mains and consumers' boundaries should be examined and replaced, where necessary. Proposals for any necessary expenditure in this regard should be submitted.

Thus until the consumption has been reduced to normal proportions, any proposals for increasing the supply to the town or for enlarging existing mains must be considered premature. When the waste has been reduced such proposals may be considered in the light of the altered conditions then prevailing.

Mise, le meas, etc.

4th December, 1961.

I beg to report that the position at the moment is that the Waste Water Inspector having attended in Wicklow in accordance with the arrangements already approved for the purpose of locating the cause of the high wastage of water in the town, has now reached the stage where the position may be regarded as fairly under control. When the domestic waste has been rectified as far as it is possible to do so, the next step arranged for an intensive testing of the mains distribution, valves, hydrants, sluices etc.

In September, 1961, the total water consumption in the town reached the high figure of 326,000 gallons per day. Whilst the present population may be regarded as between 3,300 and 3,400, this would give a figure of something about 100 gallons per head per day. The discovery of leaks in domestic supplies and the insistence on repairs being effected has resulted in a substantial reduction. Altogether close on 130 definite leaks were located, of these only 80 have been attended to. Some of these must be regarded as of a major type and neglect to effect repairs to these and the apparent irresponsibility of householders in this respect has caused a major part of the high consumption. As already reported to you the water has been restricted to the town between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. and during that time the amount of water used reached a figure of approximately 230,000 gallons per day. To-day 5/12/1961 the total delivery to town ex-Cronerree and Old Reservoir was 283,000 gallons (incl. 76,500 for Shamrock).

The Old Reservoir has now been restored to its function of supplying part of the town in addition to the Cronerree Supply and the readings on the two meters, one at the Rocky Road and the other at Marlton Road will indicate the present consumption over 24 hours. These figures indicate that whilst a substantial reduction in waste has been effected the demand is still too high and is in the region of 65 gallons per head per day, excluding 70/80 thousand for Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. and boats.

The further steps to be taken in the examination of the old mains and in the main system generally in the town may reveal additional accumulative wastage. There is no doubt that there are several valves and hydrants which are potential sources of wastage and I have already reported as to the necessity for renewing a certain number of these valves and fittings and for which I have now obtained quotations from Messrs Glenfield & Kennedy Ltd. for some of these units. I do not propose at the moment to ask Council to purchase any large number of valves etc. Rather do I suggest that the existing valves would be now tested by opening and closing and examining their efficiency generally: as the Council will appreciate nearly all these valves are of a very old pattern and have been fixed on the mains at the original time when the water system was provided in the town.

I suggest, therefore, that the following items should be obtained immediately from the quotation submitted and with these available for immediate insertion in the mains where replacements will be found necessary that the work be carried out at the earliest possible moment. It has been suggested that the work should be given out by way of Contract: may I suggest, however, that this would be a rather difficult matter to specify so that it would be, I think, more economical and expeditious to have it carried out by the Contractor who has been so closely associated with the Water Supply in Wicklow, Mr. P. Blake, who is regarded as an expert on Waterworks Construction. Mr. Blake would of course, submit a definite price for the renewal and/or adjusting of existing valves and/or replacement of same as the case may arise. The items I recommend which should be obtained immediately are:-

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6 - 3" dia. Glenfield & Kennedy double flanged sluice valves at			
4 - 4" Do.	£10. 14. 9. each	at	£64. 8. 6.
1 - 8" Do.	£13. 13. 0. each	at	£54. 12. 0.
1 - 9" Do.	£35. 15. 9. each	at	£35. 15. 9.
6 - 3" Xast Iron Screw Down Fire Hydrants at	£9. 15. 9.		£58. 14. 6.
6 Screw down valves for existing hydrants at	£2. 3. 6.		£13. 1. 0.
			<u>£260. 18. 6.</u>

As delivery of hydrants takes 6 to 8 weeks from date of order whilst the valves will be ex-stock, I suggest that Council would approve immediately.

With regard to the stop cocks and the service from the stopcock to the premises, this being regarded as the responsibility of the householder, attention has been drawn during the course of the waste water inspection to them and as far as we can ascertain stopcocks are in a fairly satisfactory condition. Some are very old, however, and householders will and should be warned that constant attention will still be necessary.

There is no doubt that the Council must give authority for the immediate and drastic curtailing of wastage by cutting off water supplies to any premises where leakages occur, especially if there are of a major type and where continued neglect is evident. We do not wish to take any householder unawares but if this position were realised, I feel that the Council would justify any decision on these lines. In my opinion, also, Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. should be requested to provide a storage of 3 days supply and state what further water will be required by them say within 5 years - we could not possibly guarantee water unless we know the requirements, if indeed we are bound at all to provide. They should also be asked if they have investigated the possibility of sinking a deep bore well from which their requirements could be obtained by pumping.

When the main pipe system will have been tested and the valves put right a further report will then be made and the position again examined. I feel myself that it is not at all unlikely that it will be discovered that there are many accumulative leaks on these old mains and the Council, I feel, will definitely find it necessary to confirm the original decision to re-lay certain mains in the town, which at the moment are far too small in diameter or are corroded to an alarming extent and are continually a source of trouble.

In regard to the maintenance and control of the system after all these matters will have been attended to, it is very necessary that the Council should agree to appoint a whole-time Waste Water Controller and Caretaker in this town. This man must be whole-time and in a qualified position to carry out repairs to mains, valves, waterworks fittings and to control the filtration plant at the Old Reservoir, serve the necessary Notices, examine premises for leaks, and repair leaks in Council houses. Night inspections also will have to be carried out from time to time as directed.

I definitely advise also that meters be installed immediately on all Schools, Public Houses, Dairies, Restaurants and Hotels, County Hospital, St. Patrick's Hall, Assembly Hall, Guest Houses, Court House, Garages, Tennis Court, Golf Links, and the Gas Co. premises. Even if the Council does not afterwards decide to charge for the water to any or all of these premises, it is desirable to have these premises metered so as to check consumption.

J. T. O'Byrne,
Town Surveyor

The County Manager said that the consumption had been very much reduced as a result of the Waste Water Inspection, a reduction of from 100 g.p.h. to 70 g.p.h. There were still a number of repairs to be carried out - 80 out of the 135 discovered had so far been attended to. When the remainder were repaired a further reduction could be expected in consumption. Councillor Kane adverted to the proposal to employ Mr. Blake, Contractor, and felt it would be more desirable for the Council to invite tender for this work. On his suggestion it was decided that the Town Surveyor should prepare a schedule of the work and invite tenders for replacement of the valves, hydrants, etc. Council unanimously decided to order the fittings recommended by the Town Surveyor from Messrs Glenfield & Kennedy Ltd.

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The Town Clerk read extracts from correspondence with Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. in which they pressed strongly for the Council to give them a guarantee that a sufficient supply of water would be made available at all times. The County Manager pointed out that he had never at any time been able to get a firm estimate from Shamrock Fertilizers as to what their water requirements would be. Council agreed that they could not possibly give a guarantee to Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. but would of course do everything within their power to make available an adequate supply of water to that firm.

WATER CHARGES: The County Manager said that it had been felt for some time past that the charges made by the Council for the use of water for industrial and other non-domestic purposes was completely inadequate. The cost of producing water at Cronroe was 1/8d. per 1,000 gallons and at the Old Reservoir 4 1/2d. per 1,000 gallons. To this had to be added a figure for the cost of distribution which worked out at 3 1/2d. per 1,000 gallons overall. It could be seen therefore, that whilst the Council were selling water at a charge of 1/- per 1,000 gallons, it was costing them more than double that amount to produce. The County Manager said that figures had been obtained from other town and it was found that Wicklow were supplying water to industry at one of the cheapest rates in the country. In Bray the charge was 1/4d. and in Arklow 1/6d. per 1,000 gallons, and he felt that in Wicklow the charge should be 2/- per 1,000 gallons, but agreed that the Council might not like to put on an increase of 100% at present. Councillor Conroy was of the opinion that a special charge should apply to Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. and was told by the County Manager that in effect the Council were subsidising that firm by letting them have water at such a cheap rate as at present.

After carefully considering the matter it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Kane and unanimously agreed to, Councillor Conroy dissenting, that the charge for water supplied to industry on a metered basis be increased to 1/6d. per 1,000 gallons as from 1st January, 1962. *fm* which was considered to be a reasonable charge in view of the cost to the Council of producing the water.

Regarding the installation of meters generally, Councillor Kane felt that no purpose would be served in putting meters on premises which would not be charged. The Town Surveyor pointed out that in some of these cases it was most desirable to have them metered for the purpose of keeping a check on consumption and it was finally agreed that the meters be installed on premises where the Town Surveyor considered the consumption warranted doing so.

PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY OVERSEER: The County Manager said that the Town Surveyor strongly recommended the employment of a full time Water Overseer and Caretaker and who in addition to being responsible for the maintenance of the distribution system and the caretaking of the Old Reservoir, would do plumbing work in Council Houses. It would be essential that the man appointed would be on call at all hours for water supply purposes and for that reason it would not be satisfactory for him to engage in outside plumbing work. In reply to Councillor Everett, the Manager said he would not be agreeable to the Overseer doing plumbing work after hours and a number of Councillors present did not agree with this suggestion. The County Manager further stated that the remuneration for the post would be at the normal plumbers' rate plus a small allowance for being on call after hours. After discussing the matter further, it was decided that the Town Surveyor should prepare a schedule of duties and that the job be advertised as soon as possible.

SHAMROCK FERTILIZERS - REPORT ON OPERATION OF ACID PLANT AND WASH TOWER: A report was read from the Consultant Chemist on a recent inspection of the acid plant and superphosphate wash tower operated by Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd., both of which he reported were operation satisfactorily and the discharge was within the statutory limits. NOTED.

CONSULTANT ARCHITECT: The Town Clerk read the list of Architect who had applied for the post and the Town Surveyor's report was read as follows:-

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re: Consultant Architect

Applications for this Post to the number of thirteen have been received and having examined the Statements and Credentials submitted in each case, I feel that I can justifiably recommend to the Council that Mr. Patrick O'Brien, B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A., be appointed.

He has been formerly some years with the Wicklow County Council in the whole time capacity of Architect (temporary). After that he has been in private practice and has also been engaged as Consultant Architect and adviser with Wicklow County Council.

I am, therefore, aware of and fully satisfied with his work in this respect and I believe he will prove satisfactory with this Council.

J. T. O'Byrne,
Town Surveyor

Council accepted the recommendation of the Town Surveyor and approved the proposal of the County Manager to appoint Mr. Patrick O'Brien as Consultant Architect.

ASSIGNMENT OF LEASES: Council consented to the Assignment of two leases of property at North Quay from Woodstock Ltd. to Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. arising out of recent reorganisation within the Company, the leases in question being those of the Spare Parts Store and Workshop on the North Quay and the Sulphur Store at Lr. Strand St.

SEALING OF LEASE - NOS. 5 and 7 HIGH ST: It was proposed by Councillor Lalor, seconded by Councillor Kane and resolved:-

"That the Seal of the Council be and is hereby affixed to Lease, Counterpart and Memorial whereby the Council lease (being renewal of expired lease) those pieces or plots of ground with two dwellinghouses thereon, known as No. 5 and 7, High St., Wicklow, to Louise Mary Kavanagh for a period of 75 years from 29th September, 1959, at an annual rent of £4. 0. 0."

The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the documents.

MONTHLY REPORT OF TOWN SURVEYOR: The meeting considered the Monthly Report of the Town Surveyor, copies of which had been circulated. The Town Surveyor told Councillor Conroy that he would attend to the replastering of the upper hallway of the Town Hall at a later date.

Councillor Everett referring to the dump, again enquired as to the possibility of dumping into the Glen and after hearing explanations from the Town Surveyor in the matter and of the efforts being made by him to contact the owner of the land, it was decided that this whole matter would best be discussed at another meeting.

The Town Surveyor told Councillor Everett that he would have the condition of the roof of Mrs. Quinn's house at Castle St. examined.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS DE LA SALLE BROTHERS: A letter was read from Mr. J. Murphy, Hon. Secretary, Executive Committee, which outlined the proposals of his Committee to hold Golden Jubilee Celebrations to honour the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the coming of the De La Salle Community to Wicklow. The Celebrations will continue from 15th January to 31st January, 1962, inclusive and the Committee trusted that the Council would be able to attend the various functions which the Committee propose holding. The letter also asked for the support and assistance of the Council in whatever way possible. The Chairman and members present paid tribute to the work of the De La Salle Community over the past 50 years and unanimously agreed to give every assistance that they could to the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

OTHER BUSINESS: Councillor Conroy queried if any information had been received regarding Foreshore Protection Works and was told that the Council's request in the matter had been acknowledged by the Department of Finance. He referred to the fact that recently a resolution forwarded by the Chamber of Commerce had been personally replied to by the Minister and enquired as

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to why the Council had not been given more information on the subject. The County Manager undertook to take the matter up with the Department.

Raising the question of the re-building of the wall at Bachelors' Walk and being told by the County Manager that no provision had been made in the Estimates for same, Councillor Conroy proposed that provision be made in the Estimates for 1962/63.

The Town Clerk informed Councillor Conroy that the E.S.B. had provided the new light at New Park Road and an additional light at Fallon's, Abbey St. as requested by the Council.

The Chairman wished members and their families, the County Manager and staff a very happy and holy Christmas and expressed the wish that the absent Councillors who were indisposed would be with them hale and hearty in the New Year. Councillor Conroy returned his good wishes for Christmas to the Chairman and his family.

The meeting concluded at 10 p.m.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow,
1st December, 1961.

To/ The Chairman and Each Member of the
Wicklow Urban District Council:

A Chara,

The Monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 5th December, 1961, at 7.30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,
M. J. Cusack,
Town Clerk

A G E N D A

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3. Fix date of Christmas Fowl Market.
4. Public Lighting - Application from Wicklow Traders' Association to have the Christmas illuminations connected to Public Lighting System - Association to recoupe Council cost of same.
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6. Water Supply - (a) Letter from Department of Local Government re position of Water Supply to Wicklow Town (b) Report on Waste Water Survey to date and observations and recommendations of Town Surveyor.
7. Water Charges - Proposed revision of charges for supply of water for non-domestic purposes.
8. Water Supply Overseer - proposed appointment.
9. Report of Consultant Chemist on inspection of Acid Plant and Super-phosphate Wash Tower operated by Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd.
10. Consultant Architect - Submission of applications for post of Consultant Architect and recommendation of Town Surveyor thereon.
11. Assignment of Leases - Application for consent of Council to assignment of two leases of property at North Quay - Woodstock Ltd. to Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd.
12. Sealing of Lease - Nos. 5 and 7 High St. to Mrs. Louise M. Kavanagh.
13. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor (copy herewith).
14. Any Other Business at discretion of Chairman.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 2ND JANUARY, 1962

Present: Councillor T. A. Delahunt, Chairman, presiding, Councillors J. Kane, W. Hopkins, J. Kelly, T. Conroy, J. Lalor, G. F. Haughton and J. Everett, T.D.

In attendance: The Town Surveyor, Mr. J. T. O'Byrne, B.E., and the Town Clerk, Mr. M. J. Cusack.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor C. W. Hudson and the County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery.

Opening the meeting the Chairman wished all the members a happy New Year and said it gave him great pleasure to welcome back Councillor Kelly after his recent illness. He also sent greetings to the absent Councillor C. W. Hudson who was still indisposed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 5th December, 1961, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

USE OF OLD URINAL ON MURROUGH: An application was read from the Wicklow Town A.F.C. for permission to convert the old urinal on the Murrough into a dressing room for the use of the Club. A report was read from the Town Surveyor pointing out that the urinal which was originally erected for the use of sports etc. on the Murrough had been extensively damaged some time ago and in its present state is unfit for use, so that the Council was either faced with repairing it or abandoning it as a urinal and letting it to the A.F.C. as they suggest. He recommended that the Club be given the use of it at 1/- per week. A number of Councillors felt that the use of the building should not be confined to one Club but others thought that the building was only a disgrace at the moment and it should be given to whoever was willing to pay rent for it and to maintain it. After further discussion it was finally decided its use be given to the only body who had asked for it, namely the A.F.C. and accordingly it was agreed that they be given the use of the building for the season to the 31st May, 1961, at a weekly rent of 1/-.

PROPOSED HOUSING SCHEME AT CASTLE PARK: The Town Clerk informed the meeting of the present position regarding the proposal to erect 3 houses at Castle Park. The Council's Architect, the late Mr. Butler, had been on the point of preparing final plans when he died. The Council had since appointed Mr. P. O'Brien as Consultant Architect who had now drawn up revised house plans and the floor area provided for including porch, was 787 sq. ft. which was mid-way between the 810 sq. ft. provided for by Mr. Butler and the 750 sq. ft. which the Department of Local Government thought adequate. Mr. O'Brien had indicated that with the space available on the site and using the revised plan as prepared by him it would be possible to fit 4 houses instead of 3 on the site, either two sets of two houses or one block of four houses. The cost of the semi-detached houses he estimated at £1,525 each and the terraced houses at £1,515 each. The Town Clerk pointed out that it had taken two years to get sanction from the Department for the erection of 2 houses and he wondered if there would be a further long delay in obtaining sanction for a fourth house. In reply to Councillor Everett, the Town Clerk said that the plans prepared by Mr. O'Brien were completely different from those prepared by Mr. Butler and on Councillor Everett's suggestion, it was agreed that the Council should find out from the Law Agent if they would be involved in any liability with the representatives of the late Mr. Butler on account of plans which he had prepared. In reply to members the Town Clerk said that based on a cost of £1,525 and with full subsidy the rent of the houses including rates, would be approximately 25/- per week. The meeting decided that the Department be asked to sanction the erection of 4 houses and when this was to hand the Architect to prepare contract drawings if possible for a terrace of 4 houses and otherwise for two blocks of semi-detached houses so that tenders could be invited at an early date.

BUILDING SITES: Applications were received for the lease of building sites at Dunbur Road from Messrs B. Conlon and W. Luddy. It was proposed by Councillor Kane seconded by Councillor Conroy and resolved - "That we hereby grant to Mr. Brendan Conlon the lease of a building site at Dunbur Road, Wicklow, situated between the bungalows of Messrs Lynch and Finnegan for the period of 75 years from the 25th March, 1962, at an annual rent of £7. 10. 0.

It was proposed by Councillor Kane, seconded by Councillor Conroy and resolved - "That we hereby grant to Mr. William Luddy the lease of a building site at Dunbur Road adjacent to the bungalow of Mr. Nuzum for a period of 75 years from 25th March, 1962, at an annual rent of £7. 10. 0.

SMALL DWELLINGS (ACQUISITION) ACTS: The Council noted an application from Mr. W. Luddy for a loan of £1,600 under the S.D.A. Acts for the purpose of financing the erection of a dwellinghouse on a Council site at Dunbur Road. The Town Clerk said the matter would be again brought before the Council when Mr. Luddy had submitted plans of the proposed dwelling and when these had been valued for loan purposes by the Town Surveyor.

TENANT PURCHASE SCHEME: The Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the direction of the Council he had circulated to all Council tenants particulars of the Tenant Purchase Scheme which had been prepared and approved by the Council. Each tenant had been told how much it would cost him to purchase his house either by way of lump sum payment or by way of weekly annuity. They had also been given details of Rates, Ground Rent, Insurance, and legal expenses which would be payable. Tenants had been asked to indicate by 31st December if they were interested in purchasing their houses. To date 8 tenants had indicated their willingness to purchase. The Town Clerk said he thought that there were a further number of tenants interested but possibly they had overlooked writing before the meeting. The meeting agreed to extend the time to the end of January and the tenants to be reminded to have applications in for purchase before that date.

SWIMMING POOL: The Town Clerk stated that he had written to the Department in October last indicating that it was the intention of the Council to proceed with the erection of a swimming pool at an estimated cost of £20,000. He had indicated that the Council had not at that time decided on the exact location for the pool but that it would be sited at some point in the town adjacent to the sea as it was proposed to utilise sea water. He had enquired if the Minister would be prepared, as indicated in his Circular Letter to subsidise the loan charges at the rate of 50% should the Council proceed with the erection of the pool. The Town Clerk then read a reply from the Department indicating that the Minister confirmed that subsidy would be payable at the rate of 50% on the annual loan charges on the approved cost of the work. The letter requested that before Contract documents are prepared the preliminary plans for the work should be submitted to the Department for approval.

Councillor Kane felt that the Architect should be instructed to examine the available sites and to report on what he considered to be the best site and to prepare draft drawings for a swimming pool thereon. Councillor Haughton pointed out that whether they decided to go ahead with the pool or not the preliminary investigations would cost a big amount. If they decided to have plans drawn up they would be incurring extra expenditure. The Town Surveyor said that if the plans did not go through the Architect's fees would be almost negligible. The Chairman said he felt it was essential that they have a pool but that perhaps before going further they should get some idea from the Consultant Architect as to what the fees for preparing preliminary plans would be. Councillor Kelly asked that if this information could be obtained a special meeting of the Council should be called to discuss it.

WATER CHARGES: The Town Clerk reminded the members that at their previous meeting they had given consent to a revised scale of charges for the supply of water for non-domestic purposes. At that meeting it was decided that the charge for water supplied to industry be increased by 50% from 1/- to 1/6d. per 1,000 gallons. The Council had yet to determine a similar revision for other non-domestic consumers. In addition there

were non-domestic consumers such as slaughter houses, dairies, market gardens, photographic studios, etc. which had never been charged for the use of water and it was now considered that charges should be determined for these users. On the suggestion of the Chairman, it was decided that the Town Clerk would circulate for the next meeting his proposals for the revised charges to give Councillors an opportunity of considering them before the next meeting.

ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE: It was proposed by Councillor Conroy, seconded by Councillor Hopkins and agreed that the consent of the Council be given to the Assignment of the leasehold interest in dwellinghouse at Summer Hill, Wicklow, held under lease dated 23rd August, 1949, by the Representatives of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Fogarty to Mr. Patrick Doyle, New St., Wicklow.

RENEWAL OF LEASE - YARD AT SOUTH QUAY: The Town Clerk pointed out that the Council had already considered the application of Mr. D. R. Nuzum for a renewal of his lease of a yard at South Quay, Wicklow, but felt at that time that there were not sufficient grounds to justify granting the renewal. Upon enquiry it was ascertained that Mr. Nuzum was selling the yard and that the purchaser's Bank had indicated that they would like to have a new lease of the yard. The meeting considered this reason did not justify the granting of the renewal.

REPORT OF TOWN SURVEYOR: The meeting considered the monthly report of the Town Surveyor, copies of which had been circulated. The Town Surveyor told Councillor Everett that from time to time the men engaged on the Scavenging vehicle would be changed. He also undertook to investigate the possibility of widening the foot-stand for the men on the rear of the trailer.

Councillor Lalor referred to an opening which had been made in High St. by the Gas Co. He pointed out that this road had been recently re-surfaced by the Council and the opening made by the Gas Co. was in a terrible condition and dangerous to passersby. It was decided that the Gas Co. be written to on the matter in this opening and openings generally made by them in streets and paths in the town, that they be informed that such openings should be re-instated to the satisfaction of the Town Surveyor or alternatively the Council would do the work if the cost was re-couped to them by the Gas Co.

The Town Surveyor told Councillor Kelly that he would examine the possibility of providing a crash barrier outside the gate to the Dominican Convent National School and in line with the Zebra Crossing which had recently been painted in the roadway. He would also examine the rough condition of the roadway outside the Dominican Convent.

Councillor Hopkins said he understood that there used to be back lanes into the houses at Ballynerrin and enquired if there was any possibility of having them re-opened. Councillor Kelly and the Town Surveyor both pointed out that these lanes had to be closed due to the nuisance created by tenants dumping therein and there was nothing that could be done now to re-open them.

Councillor Kane referred to the necessity of a level crossing to gain access to the outer Murrough and he proposed that an application be sent to C.I.E. for the provision of such a crossing so that cars could cross onto the outer Murrough during the summer months. It was unanimously agreed that the application be made.

The Town Clerk explained that great difficulty was experienced in operating the Allotments Scheme in 1961. Two fields were in use for the Scheme, one in Ballynerrin containing 36 plots and the other in Dunbur containing 32, making a total of 68. Of these only 53 had been availed of. In the current year 13 applications for plots had been received to date and all of these might not be eligible. It was necessary to know immediately how many persons wanted plots so that the plots themselves could be made available and seed potatoes ordered in good time so as to get the best quality. He pointed out to the meeting that unless many more applications were received within the next few days it would not be possible to operate the scheme in the current year. Council decided to extend the time for applications to the middle of January.

Councillor Conroy referred to the trees growing along the Mall and said he had received complaints that they obstructing the lights there. Councillor Haughton pointed out that something should be done regarding the entrance to the Mall from the Market Square as it was very narrow. The Town Surveyor said that in relation to the trees the County Council would shortly be arranging for their pruning. He also undertook to look into Councillor Conroy's suggestion that flowering shrubs should be planted in the vacant spots along the Mall.

The meeting concluded at 9 p.m.

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WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 6TH FEBRUARY, 1962

Present: Councillor T. A. Delahunt, Chairman, presiding, Councillors T. Conroy, J. Kelly, G. Haughton, W. Hopkins, J. Lalor, J. Kane, and J. Everett, T.D.

In attendance: The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, Town Surveyor, Mr. J. T. O'Byrne, B.E., and Town Clerk, Mr. M. J. Cusack.

Apologies were received from Councillor C. W. Hudson.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 2nd January, 1962, copy of which had been circulated, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT:

PROVISION OF CAR PARKS: Both these items were taken jointly. In the first instance the Council considered copy of a report of the Special Committee which had been set up to consider the question of speed limits in built-up areas. In respect of Wicklow Urban Area a speed limit of 30 m.p.h. had been proposed in the whole area with the exception of that portion of the main road between the Railway Gates and the boundary at Bollarney. Councillor Conroy thought that the speed limit should extend the whole way to Rathnew but it was pointed out that the Urban Council would only have control over the speed limit within their own area. Council finally agreed to recommend that the speed limit apply on every road within the Urban Boundary.

Council also considered a Circular Letter from the Department of Local Government re the powers of sanitary authorities under Section 101 of the Road Traffic Act, 1961, which deals with the provision of Car Parks. Copy of this report had been circulated. Councillor Everett referred to the necessity of prohibiting parking on the Mall and Councillor Conroy mentioned the manner in which cars parked with their wheels on footpaths. The Chairman pointed out that when this matter of parking and waiting Bye-Laws came up before, the Garda had asked the Council to hold the matter over until the General Bye-Laws came into force. Councillor Hopkins pointed out that if parking was prohibited in certain streets in the town it would then be really necessary for the Council to provide car parks. The County Manager said that it would be difficult to get a car park in the centre of the town to meet the needs of people requiring to park near the shopping area. It was decided to leave the matter for the moment and to enquire from the Gardai if the general Bye-Laws had yet been brought into force.

GROUND RENTS COMMISSION: A letter was read from the Secretary, Ground Rents Commission enquiring if the Council wished to make representations on the matter of the abolition and/or restriction of ground rents. The County Manager said that there were two types of Landlords involved in the matter of Ground Rents - private landlords and the public authority. It could be argued that the public authority created ground rents with two objects in view (1) the development of the area in their charge for the public benefit and secondly the earning of revenue, as relief to rates. He pointed out that the Council had made land available for private building, for business and for industry at low interest rates and that almost all their own houses had been provided on their own land. He mentioned that in the case of private building, sites had been made available at very low rents. The Manager mentioned that the Council derived considerable revenue from their Corporate Property, approximately £1,500 per year, but much more could be earned if full rents were charged. He felt that local authorities might be exempted from any restrictions on the creating of new Ground Rents.

Councillor Everett said there were very few public representatives who did not favour the abolition of Ground Rents as there were a lot of abuses, particularly in the matter of the renewal of leases, where exorbitant fines and rents were often imposed. Councillor Haughton said

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there would be much less private investment in new houses if Ground Rents were abolished altogether. The Chairman mentioned that a large variety of views had been put forward by members and that it would be very difficult at this stage to prepare a memorandum for submission to the Commission. He suggested that the matter be put on the Agenda for the next meeting and this would allow Councillors an opportunity of considering the matter meanwhile. The suggestion was agreed to.

FORESHORE PROTECTION WORKS: The Town Clerk reported on correspondence which he had with the Department of Local Government and Department of Finance regarding further Foreshore Protection Works required. He indicated that the Department of Local Government had replied to the effect that an Engineer from the Office of Public Works had recently inspected the Foreshore and that a communication should shortly reach the Council from the Department of Finance on this matter. The letter also pointed out that the Department of Local Government had now no further responsibility in the matter of coastal erosion and a visit by one of their engineers would serve no useful purpose. The Town Clerk mentioned that no communication had yet been received from the Department of Finance. Councillor Conroy reported on discussions which had taken place at a recent meeting of the Small Port Authorities in Dublin, when the question of coastal erosion was discussed, but mentioned that he had found it difficult to get any definite information which would be of use to Wicklow.

After further discussing the matter, it was unanimously decided that application be made to the Minister for Finance to receive a deputation to discuss the application for a grant for further Protection Works.

BUILDING SITES AT DUNBUR: An application was received from Mr. M. Carey for the lease of a building site at Dunbur Road. It was proposed by Councillor Lalor, seconded by Councillor Conroy and resolved:-

"That we hereby lease to Mr. Michael Carey a building site on Dunbur Road, adjacent to the dwellinghouse of Mr. S. O'Rourke for the purpose of erecting a dwellinghouse thereon, for a period of 75 years from 25th March, 1962, at an annual rent of £7. 10. 0."

The Town Clerk submitted a sketch plan which had been prepared by the Consultant Architect, showing proposed development of further building sites at Dunbur in the area between Dunbur Road and the Old Dunbur Lane. An accompanying letter from the Architect was read asking the Council's opinion on certain matters in connection with the proposed development, such as the approximate size of the plots and the provision of link roads between the Dunbur Road and the Old Dunbur Lane. Members agreed with the sketch plan and it was decided to recommend to the Architect Councillor Kane's suggestion that an additional road be provided which would run parallel to the Dunbur Road and also that the size of the plots be reduced.

S.D.A. ACTS: An application was received from Mr. J. Cumiskey for a loan of £1,600 under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts for the purpose of erecting a bungalow on the site leased by him from the Council at Dunbur Rd. The Town Clerk said there was no objection to the application and it was proposed by Councillor Everett seconded by Councillor Conroy and agreed that Mr. Cumiskey be accepted as a suitable applicant for a loan under the Acts.

The Town Clerk reported that it would be necessary to raise a further loan from the Commissioners of Public Works to meet advances to borrowers. It was proposed by Councillor Conroy, seconded by Councillor Hopkins and resolved:-

"That we hereby request the sanction of the Minister for Local Government to the borrowing of the sum of £10,000 from the Commissioners of Public Works repayable over 35 years for the purpose of advancing loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, 1899-1958".

TOWN & REGIONAL PLANNING ACTS: (a) Wicklow Sailing Club: The proposals having been approved by the Town Surveyor, Councilor recommended that permission be given to the Wicklow Sailing Club for the erection of an extension to their Club House at South Quay.

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(b) Finlayson Bros: Application was received for permission to erect a bungalow on the plot of ground owned by them at Dunbur Road. Town Surveyor gave a lengthy report on the proposed bungalow as outlined on the plan and specification submitted and indicated a number of points in which the proposed structure would not comply with the minimum specification laid down by the Department of Local Government. Council recommended that permission to erect the house on the plot of ground be given but that the applicant should meet the Town Surveyor for the purpose of bringing the plans up to the required standard.

(c) Mr. S. O'Rourke: Application was received for permission to erect a garage adjacent to his dwellinghouse at Dunbur Road. Town Surveyor said he had no objection in principle but that sufficient details of the proposed garage had not been given by the applicant. Council recommended that permission be granted subject to the applicant submitting the required information to the Town Surveyor.

WATER SUPPLY: The Town Clerk drew members attention to the statement on the Water Supply position contained in the Town Surveyor's report, copy of which had been circulated. He mentioned also that the water consumed in the town was now at 65 g.p.h. per day and despite many efforts could not be got any lower. Tenders had been invited by advertisement in the daily papers for the repair and/or replacement of sluice valves, and one tender only had been received from Mr. P. Blake, Contractor, Dublin. The position was that the Contractor would fit the new valves in position and supply all necessary tools, pipes, collars, etc., but the valves themselves and also the unskilled labour would be supplied by the Council. These valves had been ordered and delivery was expected within the coming week. It was estimated that the full scheme of improvements would cost £2,000 and he gave the following details:-

1. Fitting of New Sluice Valves, Fire Hydrants, etc.	£761.
2. Repairs to other Valves and Fittings which may be found to be defective (estimated 8-10), including excavation and re-instatement of roads, paths, etc.	£195.
3. Purchase and Installation of 4" Recording Meter on Main from Old Reservoir	£281.
4. Purchase and fitting of recording meters on supplies to non-domestic consumers and certain other large domestic consumers	£288.
5. Replacement of defective services and stopcocks throughout the town - 65 @ £6, average, including excavation and reinstatement of paths, roads, etc.	£390.
6. Contingencies and Engineer's Fees	£85.
	<u>£2,000</u>

In reply to questions the Town Clerk mentioned that it was hoped to get a 60% Grant for the work and on the Chairman's suggestion it was decided to send the Scheme to the Department and enquire if it met with their approval and also to find out what grant they would make available.

WATER CHARGES: The Council then considered a report from the Town Clerk copy of which had been circulated, showing a proposed scale of charges for supply of water for non-domestic purposes. The Town Clerk pointed out that the scale had been arrived at after an examination of the charges made in 30 other Urban Areas and after taking into account the cost of producing water in Wicklow Town. Council, on the proposal of Councillor Conroy, seconded by Councillor Kane, unanimously adopted the scale of charges with one amendment, the figure of £5. for photographic studios to be reduced to £2. It was agreed that the scale come into operation with effect from 1st April, 1962., and could be reviewed at the end of 12 months.

WAGES INCREASE: An application was read from the I.T.&G.W. Union for a wage increase and reduction in working week, comparable to that granted in local employment, for their members employed by the Wicklow U.D.C. The County Manager said that an increase of 12/6d. per week had been granted as from 1st April, 1961, and on that occasion it was stated that

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it was due to a rise in the cost of living. On this occasion the rise is being sought for the purpose of obtaining a better standard of living. In reply to questions the Town Clerk mentioned that every increase of 2/6d. granted was equivalent to 1d. in the £. on the rates. Councillor Kelly mentioned that the last increase of 12/6d. was passed on a similar increase being granted by Goulding Fertilizers Ltd. Councillor Kane mentioned that the working conditions enjoyed by the Council staff were different from those in the factories. The Chairman pointed out that some increase was definite but before any increase was granted it was their duty to ascertain where the money to meet the increase was going to come from. Councillor Haughton said that in his opinion the biggest increase that the Council could afford at the moment was 5/- per week, but a number of Councillors disagreed with this figure. Councillor Haughton said the matter should be adjourned to the Estimates Meeting to see if the Estimates would be up or down. The County Manager pointed out a number of items including the County Council Demand, which would lead to an increase in the rates in the coming year. After further discussion on the matter, Councillor Haughton proposed an increase of 5/- per week with effect from week commencing Saturday, 27th January, 1962, the matter to be again reviewed at the Estimates Meeting to see if a further increase could be allowed. The Proposal was seconded by Councillor Delahunt. Councillor Conroy proposed an amendment that a similar increase to that granted by Goulding Fertilizers Ltd., viz: 24/1d. be allowed. This was seconded by Councillor Lalor. A vote was then taken on the amendment as follows:-

For: Councillors Everett, Conroy, Lalor, and Kelly (4)
Against: Councillors Delahunt, Hopkins, Haughton and Kane (4)

On the casting vote of the Chairman the amendment was declared lost and Councillor Haughton's proposal carried. No decision was taken on the matter of the application for a reduction in the working week.

SWIMMING POOL: The following report from the Consultant Architect was read:
5th February, 1962.

Dear Mr. Cusack,

Further to our recent discussion re above I have considered how I could be of assistance to your Council in furthering this project in conjunction with Mr. O'Byrne, Town Surveyor. I understand that your Council has in mind what might be termed, an approximate "refusal" price for the project and I would confirm that a nominal fee only would be payable for my part in bringing the project up to the stage where a firm price could be obtained for the construction work involved.

You will realise that, apart from the question of site, much will depend on the accommodation and facilities it is hoped to obtain and at the outset I would say that a clear assessment of the possible accommodation is essential - the size of the pool and its equipment, the necessary ancillary accommodation, any "special features" which it may be considered desirable to incorporate in the project, the extent to which the site is to be developed, and most important, the standard of construction and finishes to be adopted. I feel, therefore, that the project should be considered in various stages and one of the first things must be to set up a schedule of accommodation and equipment, and the examination of what special features and services that could realistically be incorporated in the project. It should then be possible to prepare sketch plans so that the extent of the proposals can be understood clearly and approved before proceeding to a final drawings.

On the question of the site for the pool I have now made a preliminary survey. I understand that with the taking up of additional land on the Murrough by the Fertilizer Factory the obtaining of a satisfactory site in this area is not possible. While the Black Castle site is open and some what exposed and has not the same simple access and straight forward appearance of the Murrough site, it seems to me to present the best possibilities of achieving an interesting scheme which would not be dominated by the many factory and other buildings at the lower levels in the town. With the more than probable continued expansion of these buildings this could be a considerable asset and I feel that the proposal under consideration could form the nucleus of the future possible development of