

May 26, 1964

Present: All commissioners.

Supervisors of Elections

Mr. John Bean, Mr. W. Abell, Mr. Bailey, Mrs. Irene Mattingly. Presented cards to be used in the new books, to be filed alphabetically by district and precinct. These will be completed in duplicate, one for the book and one for the files in the office. File copies will be filed alphabetically as a whole.

Asked permission to appoint two registrars to travel from district to district for the general registration. These people will have typewriters with them. The two registrars could be paid \$20 per day, as they are now, and could later remain in the office and register people as they came in. Average time in each district would be about five days, with less time in the smaller districts, and figure this will cost approximately \$100 per day. There is a possibility that the two extra days for registration can be eliminated, but the law will have to be checked on this. It will take about nine weeks to complete the entire registration, making the total cost approximately \$7,000, and will need two portable typewriters for this work.

Roads

Mr. T. Hall presented maintenance report - spent \$10,000 during month of May, and had approximately \$20,000 available. Reported priming of Nelson, Brown, and St. Joseph Welfare Roads for oiling. Discussed maintenance request for the Spencer Martin Road, in Hollywood, approximately quarter of a mile long. Mr. G. Hayden will be notified that this road will be worked on some time this summer.

Mr. Cherbonnier has requested that portion of the Snow Hill Road be deeded back to him as the road will be straightened. Mr. Hall said he was under the impression that this would revert back to Mr. Cherbonnier under the terms of the agreement. Right of way agreement to be signed by the commissioners discussed and reviewed, and Mr. Burch signed same. Mr. Guyther will be asked to make up a quitclaim deed for that portion of road in question. The commissioners agreed that said portion should be deeded back to Mr. Cherbonnier.

Trap Road - county share approximately \$14,000. Not approved with two inches of bituminous concrete, must have four inches for approval. Final cost to the county - \$20,545.31, including everything. Reason for the increase in cost is the extra blacktopping, work and gravel.

(Mr. Donaldson came in at this point).

Trap Road is the last project in the 10th Series Bond Issue. Discussed pros and cons of building same. It might be less expensive to tear up this road and rebuild it with nine inches of gravel and two inches of blacktop. Mr. Hall agreed that this might be so. Costs were compared and it would seem we are getting more for our money on the Willows Road than on Trap Road. Mr. Hall explained that Willows Road is being built to higher specifications due to the higher traffic count.

Lanedon Road will cost \$3,520.79. McKay's Beach Road by John Hodges property is nearly completed. Mr. Hall will check Mr. E. Lang's road in this area. Will work up Snow Hill Manor Road and present to commissioners. Mr. Hall asked for a decision on the Lanedon Road and the commissioners agreed that this should be done. This money could be advanced and paid back out of the 11th Series Bond issue when the money is available. Mr. Donaldson gave Mr. Hall check in the amount of \$3,520.79, Check No. 6550, out of the general fund.

Nicolet Park will be started June 12th, and to date, the fence has not been erected. Valley Lee sanitary fill is in operation. Mr. Hall suggested putting up two rows of fence on each side near the actual dumping area to prevent people from dumping on the sides of the area. Also suggested putting fence along entrance to the Willows Road fump to prevent trash being dumped along this road. Entire cost for both places would be approximately \$50.00. The commissioners agreed that this should be done.

Mr. Guyther will be asked to dictate a letter to be sent to Mr. Weiner re roads in Carver Heights.

Courthouse Ceilings

Mr. M. Dean and Mr. F. Tilp. Mr. Tilp reported he had inspected ceilings and written to Armstrong Co. Man came down last Friday and reported to Mr. Tilp his findings. Job was installed under Class C, the type tile made from wood fibers, which are no longer being used. There was an alternate in the base bid for Class A, which is the best tile money can buy, but the previous commissioners would not agree to this. Mr. Dean pointed out that he installed what the previous commissioners wanted, and that for \$2300 more, the best type tile could have been used. Mr. Tilp said to correct the situation, the tiling would have to be replaced with tiling approved by the fire underwriters, at an approximate cost of \$.75 to \$.80 a square foot. He will write up a short specification and send it to the commissioners.

Tax Matters

Mr. D. Gruber, Mr. W. Herbert, Senator Raley, Mr. H. Fowler, Mr. Guyther, present. Mr. Gruber mentioned going on the new fiscal year, and that we have until June 1966 to actually accomplish this. Has been mentioned that we would go under this in 1965. Have two choices - to have a one and a half year billing at one time, which is not practical, or bill for half year, the more practical thing to do. Could also do nothing, but this would be expensive because of no money coming into the treasury. Mr. Gruber asked when the county will make this conversion, so it can be made in 1965, as to how long the billing period will be for. The earliest bills could be mailed would be January 1, 1965, a half year bill, and the most logical date of finality would be the same date as the bills now going out. Mr. Herbert will have to decide if he can give his books out in October. His books would have to be worked up so we could use July 1, 1965, as the next date of finality and bills could go out a couple months after this. If the bills go out January 1, 1965, we must begin making plans now. If there are no name and address changes, and no additional assessments, we can simply take the information we have and put in a half year tax rate and create another set of bills. This would be the easiest way to do this.

Mr. Herbert said that January 1, 1965, would have to be the date of finality, as he cannot give up his books until after that date. Mr. Gruber suggested using July 1 as the date of finality for the half year bill, and January 1st as the date of finality for the 1965 bills. Taking July 1 as the finality date, bills would go out January 1st, payable by April. People will have to be educated to the fact that they will be getting another tax bill within several months. Mr. Gruber said that in the next few weeks some definite conclusion will have to be made to settle this matter. Stated he could get information from other counties as to how they are handling this if the commissioners would like this. Mentioned that if the books were gotten out by July 1, they would be back by September 1, and this way the people would know they had two or three months to prepare for this bill coming due. Mr. Herbert said he could ask the Calvert County Assessors to come over to meet with our commissioners, but the commissioners felt it would be better for them to go over there for such a meeting.

County Police Enforcement

Senator J. Frank Raley mentioned complaints received concerning this matter, and many claims received for stolen goods. It is difficult to have any law enforcement as the men are paid wages for part time work and they are only going to work part time. People complain that the sheriff does not show when called for two or three days, or not at all. Senator Raley asked what can be done about this situation.

Mr. Guyther said results can only be gotten by convictions and punishments through the courts. Convictions can only be obtained when people concerned are well trained and can present information properly in court to get convictions. Cases are appealed from the trial magistrate court to circuit court and felons are allowed to go free due to some technicality in the law. A program must be developed and adopted and a good system established. If the sheriff's bill is passed on referendum, perhaps the legislators would want to make some changes, and this could be done. An emergency measure could be introduced in January if this is desired. Under the general welfare clause, the commissioners might possibly have the authority to create some emergency deputies, but this will have to be checked.

Sheriff's bill discussed and possible changes to be made to the Board of Safety. Could also have change made whereby the commissioners would appoint deputies. Salaries and expenses would be handled under the budget by the commissioners. Mr. Bowles said there should be minimum and maximum salaries mentioned in the bill. Mr. Burch stated that if the county goes under the merit system these men would qualify and the salaries would then be set.

Supt. of Schools mentioned as possible replacement for the state's attorney on the Board of Safety. Might also use the parole and probation officer on this board. At this point, Mr. Henry Fowler mentioned that his only objection to the sheriff's bill was the composition of the Board of Safety, and he would be willing to make any amendment at the next session of the legislature in 1965.

Senator Raley suggested that the commissioners be giving some thought to what legislation they want passed at the 1965 session, and suggested trying to get the referendum passed with the understanding that in January the Board of Safety would be changed with whatever changes would be acceptable.

Working Hours

Notice will be sent to all departments stating that all employees must be at work at 9:00 a.m. each morning.

Budget

The commissioners agreed that a copy of same be sent to Maryland County Commissioners Association, re Mr. Ratchford's request.

State Police

Corp. Wayne Pettit discussed with the commissioners the possibility of establishing an office for the state police in the Health Center building in Carver Heights. Mr. Burch said the county would furnish heat, lights, and telephone service. Corp. Pettit said he felt this would be a fine idea as he was going to have one night patrol man stay in the Lexington Park area to check buildings only. He said he will go over the building with Dr. Houser, and would prefer having an office in the front, so that the men can keep watch on the cars.

Corp. Pettit asked if it would be possible for the county to build a transmitter room at the base of the control tower. The transmitters would be moved at the expense of the state. A building ten feet square would probably be large enough, and Mr. Burch asked the corporal to furnish the commissioners with a drawing of what he wants.

Board of Education

Mr. R. King and Mrs. E. Hayden asked the commissioners to sign forms for reallocation of \$16,981.40 to expense for the Mechanicsville School, an overcharge to the Banneker School. The state will not correct their records until the commissioners sign the forms presented. Commissioners signed same.

Office Equipment, etc.

Mr. Raley will get bids on typewriters for various offices in the courthouse. Presented information re copy machine. Apeco has machine selling for \$995 and will allow discount of \$400. Paper cost about \$.04 per copy. The commissioners agreed that this machine should be purchased. Purchase of a postage meter tabled for the time being.

Mr. Peterson said he could remove the wall in the commissioners office for \$230, and would fix the ceiling so that it matched at joinings. He quoted price of \$265 for partitioning the office of the register of wills. An agreement will be signed by Mr. Peterson for the work he is to do. The commissioners agreed he should be given the work in their office first, and if satisfactory, will be given job in office of register of wills.

Mr. Hurry gave low bid on tile flooring of \$143 in the commissioners office. The commissioners agreed that this should be done.


Jail lights tabled until next week. Mrs. Buckler has stated that she does not want to stay for another month but would stay for a week or two. Classified ad will be placed in papers relative to position of jailor.

Welfare Board Appointments

The commissioners reviewed list of possible appointments to this board and selected Mr. Edsel Potter and Rev. George Ellis. Letters will be sent asking these men to accept same.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,


F. Elliott Burch
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President