

February 2, 1965

Present: All commissioners, Mr. Oliver R. Guyther, Mr. W. S. Donaldson.

Contract for Civil Defense Building

Mr. Guyther has reviewed same and stated that it is standard and in order, but it is usual to pay 6% of the construction cost to the architect, instead of the 8% named. The commissioners should also be aware of the extra services under Section 2, and the architects expenses, under Section 5. Mr. Bowles said that as federal and state matching funds were involved in this project, it would be his feeling that the 8% mentioned in the contract with Mr. Tilp would be in order and legal.

Planning and Zoning Appointment

This commission will be notified that Mr. Joseph M. Gough, Jr., has accepted an appointment to same, effective as of January 20, 1965.

Civil Defense Telephone Service

Letter read from Mr. C. Donaldson regarding changes requested. Under the new hookup, there will be a direct line to the NATC. Saving of \$23.90 per month will be effected by the new arrangements. The commissioners approved same.

Welfare Patients

Mr. P. Raley asked for clarification of responsibility of county so far as this matter is concerned. Mentioned one specific case, Dolores Ford, and expense of ambulance service for this person that has never been settled in the amount of \$25.00, sent by Robinson's Funeral Home. The hospital informed Mr. Raley that the Health Department called them to state that this woman should be sent to an out of town hospital, but the Health Department denies this. The woman is a welfare patient, but Mrs. Ripple reported to Mr. Raley that she had no knowledge of this woman being committed to the hospital.

Mr. Guyther advised that the county has no responsibility to pay this expense under the situation outlined by Mr. Raley. He suggested that Mr. Donaldson pay this bill out of the Health Department budget, as the hospital has stated that the call for the ambulance was from that department. Might get written confirmation from the hospital that the call was made by the Health Department.

The commissioners reviewed statement for ambulance service for one Harry Farrell, who has a broken arm. Mr. Guyther advised setting up a meeting with Dr. Houser, Mrs. Ripple, Mr. Chrisman, the sheriff, and Mr. Raley, to settle this matter once and for all.

Tax Bills

Mr. Cecil, Mrs. V. Johnson, Mr. Herbert. Meeting called to discuss most efficient method of handling issuance of tax bills. Mr. Guyther advised that the

books should be sent out and the bills printed by the date of finality, which according to the law, is January 1st. The commissioners feel that this should be done strictly according to the law. General discussion regarding insurance and mortgage companies requesting that certain bills be sent to them. This is not necessary, but is a service provided by the treasurer's office. Said office might make it a rule that any company asking for bills before June 1st, would be honored, but after that date, the service would not be provided. Once this policy is established, the companies will be aware of it and will send the requests in earlier the following years. Date for such service was set at May 1st, and requests after that date, would be complied with at the convenience of the treasurer.

Mentioned made that Senator Raley has introduced a bill allowing property to be sold after taxes are in arrears six months, but after one year in arrears, the property must be sold.

Mr. Guyther will be given a list of delinquent taxpayers, and, acting as the treasurer's attorney, will bring suit for payment. A judgment and attachment can be obtained in one day, and the sheriff can serve papers on the same day. This will also include trailers carried as personal property. Mr. Herbert said that this year all trailers will be assessed to the land owner and he will get the bill. Mr. Guyther advised that anything further back than four years will have to be abated, and asked if he could be supplied with the names by March 1st. Mr. Cecil said they could possibly do it sooner than that.

Mr. Herbert will send his books up to Mr. Gruber now without any further changes. The tax rate will be set as soon as possible, and as soon as the bills come down, the bills for the finance companies will be pulled and they will be mailed out. Mr. Gruber will be informed as to when the treasurer must have these bills. Mr. Burch said we must make this procedure work and these tax bills must be gotten out by June 1st.

#### Roads

Mr. T. Hall, Mrs. J. Rue, Mr. C. Norris. Mr. Norris, representing Mrs. Rue, said she would like to voice an objection to changing the names of Millstone Road and Rue's Purchase Road when the county signposts county roads. Mrs. Rue has made a survey of landowners in the area, and they wish to keep the old historical names.

Also requested that the county place a gate across the Millstone Road to prevent the nuisance of people coming down and turning around in their yard. Suggested that this road could be deeded back to the individuals and they could place the gate here.

Mr. Hall reported that the Baptist Church Road will cost \$4,093.11 to construct, and will be bushed out of maintenance. Approximately \$28,000 in the maintenance account as of January 1st. Happy Land Road will be started on Monday. Mr. Hall will figure cost for the Breton Beach Road. Pegg Road - Mr. Thompson said there was a possibility that when the four lane highway is built, a spur can be built here and it will not cost the county anything at all to correct this situation. The commissioners agreed that Colmar Lane in Greenview Knolls

Subdivision should be taken into the county system. Mr. Dobry has sent in required deed and plats for same, and built the road up to specifications. Letter will be sent to SRC.

Mr. Hall will work up list of roads for the oiling schedule for this year.

#### Liquor Sale to Minors

Mr. C. Norris spoke with the commissioners regarding this matter. He suggested having someone who is not known in the county visit some of the establishments around the county, a plainclothes man, and if some arrests could be made, this practice would stop. The county will have to pay the expenses of the man who does this work, and it will cost about \$150 at most. Letter from the Youth Commission approving this plan, reviewed. It would take about four weekends and Mr. Norris said he would keep account of the men so far as expenses were concerned.

The commissioners agreed that the money should be allotted to have the plainclothesmen come into the county as requested above; approximately \$150.00.

#### Secretary for State Police

Mr. Norris said he is in favor of this. He has checked the amount of time the men spend typing reports, and if they had a secretary, this would release them to patrol the roads for longer periods. This will have to be discussed further with Mr. Guyther as to how this can be done legally.

#### Case Transfer

Mr. Norris stated that according to the statute, he must aid the attorney from Prince Georges County who has requested that a case be tried in St. Mary's County Circuit Court. This is a murder case, and the man involved went to New Orleans, and Mr. Norris must go down there to question the policemen who had custody of the prisoner. The man is still in jail and the trial will be the first week in March. Mr. Norris requested that the county pay his expenses to New Orleans and back, and said the plane ticket would cost about \$60.00 one way.

#### Dog Warden

Mr. Joseph A. Thompson interviewed for this position should it ever be open. Duties of same outlined to him and that salary at present was \$3540 per year. Mr. Thompson said he is interested and will present formal application.

#### Col. Peak's Property

Col. Peak stated that in a public sale on April 16, 1963, a piece of property was advertised in the name of Pittman, 3.15 acres on the road from Great Mills to St. Andrews, and a trailer. Assessment was \$1700, taxes, interests and costs \$42.84. Col. Peak bid \$600 for this and got it. He foreclosed the right of redemption and went out to look for the property. The trailer disappeared before it was advertised for taxes. At this point, Mr. Herbert (who had been called into the meeting) stated that Col. Peak had gone ahead with the redemption of the first peice of property even after he knew that the trailer was not there.

Col. Peak feels this property was erroneously advertised and would like a refund of the money he has spent relative to acquiring same. Mr. Guyther said this would have to be passed on by the commissioners and advised that the thing to do was refund Col. Peak's expenses he has paid out, and then sell the property. Col. Peak is willing to do this, or the commissioners can reduce the amount he paid for the property. He said he paid \$42.84 in taxes, filing was \$28.00, advertising \$109.25, and approximately \$25.00 for the preparation of the papers, and wanted to know if the commissioners would reduce the cost of the property or reimburse him for above amounts, divided by seven, as there were seven pieces of property involved in these costs. The total would be approximately \$29.30.

Mr. Herbert said the trailer was on the property two years prior to the advertisement, and he did not know if it was there at the time of the sale. He has never been notified that it was removed. Col. Peak said that the total amount involved here is \$717.75, including the \$600 for the property. \$66.02 is the amount Col. Peak feels he should be reimbursed in this matter. Mr. Burch said this will be verified with Mr. Guyther as to the legality of such a transaction.

Col. Peak mentioned another piece of property that he had been involved with, and he had been told that the SRC had bought the property on March 22, 1957, over two years before the sale, leaving two acres. The two acres had been sold to another person, but had never been transferred. Col. Peak asked for reimbursement for his time and expense in this matter, as follows: \$9.00 - title, 99.75 - advertising, 27.50 - court costs, 5.00 - deed, 150.00 - notary, totaling \$291.25, divided by nine - 32.36. Col. Peak said he would be in agreement with being refunded \$66.02 plus \$31.47 - \$97.49, plus whatever taxes he has paid since.

#### Supervisors of Elections

The commissioners agreed that the two men selected should attend the Voting Machine School in Ohio for one week, and should submit receipts for room, board, and mileage when they return. The men selected are Bernard Cullison and Richard Voorhaar.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,

*F. Elliott Burch*

F. Elliott Burch, President