

March 17, 1969

Present: F. Elliott Burch
J. Wilmer Bowles
George R. Aud

Meeting convened at 1:30 p.m.

Budget Hearings

Special hearing for Board of Education budget set for Tuesday, April 8, 1969 at 8:00 p.m. General budget hearings set for Monday, April 14, 1969 at 8:00 p.m., and Tuesday, April 15, 1969 at 2:00 p.m. All hearings will be held at the Leonardtown School.

Leonardtown Comm. Request for Land

After general discussion, the Commissioners agreed that the county should not relinquish any property owned and a letter will be sent to the Leonardtown Commissioners denying their request to purchase the parcel of land at the intersection of Key Way and Library Circle in Leonardtown.

White Marsh School

Mr. W. S. Donaldson and Mr. H. Sterling were called into the meeting to discuss the request by the Board of Education for approximately \$108,000 for the proposed addition to this school. After reviewing county funds, the Commissioners agreed that a letter would be sent to Dr. King advising that our financial officers had informed the Commissioners that there were no funds available to be allocated to this project and the request for financing this project must be denied.

Valley Lee Sanitary Fill

Mr. Pantaleo reported that Walter Wise and McLeod are using this fill to deposit trash collected commercially, and recommended that this practice should be stopped. The Commissioners agreed that letters should be sent to both these gentlemen directing them to discontinue using this fill as a commercial trash depository and if they do not do so, legal action will be taken against them.

Employee's Hearing-C. Battenfield

Mr. Paul Raley and Miss C. Battenfield. Miss Battenfield stated that, in view of the unsatisfactory evaluation report submitted by Mr. Raley regarding her performance, she would like to discuss the matter with the Commissioners before any decision is made regarding her employment. Miss Battenfield said that she signed the report to indicate that she had read it, but it is her understanding that her signature does not necessarily indicate that she agrees with the contents.

The evaluation report was reviewed by the Commissioners and Mr. Burch said that he does not feel there is any intention here to relieve Miss Battenfield of her position and reminded her that Mr. Raley was responsible for having her placed in this office when she was transferred from another office.

There was some discussion regarding item in the report to the effect that Miss Battenfield refused to take minutes of the Commissioners meetings and she denied this. Miss Battenfield said that when Mrs. Tillman left, she gave her a written list of instructions to following, including taking of minutes, which she did. Later, Mr. Raley told her that the Commissioners had asked him to take the minutes so she stayed in the outer office instead of asking Mrs. Irene Mattingly to come in. Mr. Raley stated that she had refused to take the minutes and had stated she did not like to do this. Miss Battenfield said she did not remember ever telling Mr. Raley that she would not take the minutes or having him ask her to and refusing to do so. Mr. Bowles asked Miss Battenfield how she got the impression that she was not to take the minutes, and she answered that she thought Mr. Raley was going to be doing it. Mr. Raley mentioned that both of them had been taking the minutes and then comparing notes to be sure the information was correct, and it was not his intention that she no longer come into the meetings.

Mr. Raley mentioned instance which happened this week whereby Miss Battenfield had validated a check paid for trailer park occupancy fees, but had not recorded the payment in the trailer park account ledger. Mr. Raley then reviewed the ledger and method of keeping trailer accounts.

Mr. Burch stated that Miss Battenfield would certainly have to agree that some improvement is necessary as she will continue to work under Mr. Raley if she remains in the Commissioners office. Mr. Raley said that at one time Miss Battenfield had said that she would rather not do the mosquito control work and he has had very little cooperation from her in this respect. Miss Battenfield stated that Mr. Raley had given her the checkbook to balance, which she could not do, and Mr. Donaldson even had great difficulty in finally reconciling it. There is still a difference of just a couple dollars and Mr. Donaldson cannot balance the accounts evenly.

Mr. Burch informed Miss Battenfield that the Commissioners certainly want to help her but the work has to be done and there is really no reason why she cannot do it. He advised her to make every effort to try to improve the quality of her work and that the Commissioners will have to give the matter some thought and further consideration before any decision is made.

Mr. Raley said he would try to work with Miss Battenfield and the latter said she would make every effort to improve her performance. Mrs. Tillman mentioned that she had experienced no difficulty with Miss Battenfield regarding any duties assigned to the latter.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Approved,

F. Elliott Burch

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