

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Tuesday, November 23, 1971

Present: George R. Aud, President
J. Wilmer Bowles, Commissioner
J. S. Guy, Jr., Commissioner
Robert Wigginton, County Attorney
Paul R. Raley, Administrative Officer
Judith D. Bowles, Secretary (Recording)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A. M.

The minutes of November 16, 1971 were read and approved.

Three Personal Leave Days

Present: Mr. Harris Sterling, Director of Finance

Mr. Sterling stated that we have to keep in mind the 5 1/2% figure for insurance, benefits and wage increases. He added that these leave days would be considered as additional compensation and he would like to get the insurance plan into effect which would also come under the 5 1/2%. Mr. Sterling stated that we could allow the three personal leave days and also the hospitalization insurance and still come in under the 5 1/2% limit.

Mr. Wigginton stated that he felt that the Commissioners could go ahead with the health insurance plan and the three personal leave days. Mr. Sterling stated that he felt that these two items as well as the state raise would come under the 5 1/2% limit. Mr. Bowles stated that he wanted to stay within the law. Mr. Guy asked if these personal leave days could be deferred until after January 1, 1972. Mr. Sterling stated that they could not in view of the fact that some of the employees had already taken some of them.

The County Commissioners unanimously approved the granting of the three personal leave days.

Holiday - New Year's and Christmas Eve

The County Commissioners unanimously agreed to granting these two days as holidays for the employees.

Planting Tulips along the walk of the Courthouse

Mr. Paul R. Raley advised that he had talked to Mr. Franklin at the Tech Center about planting tulips along the walkway of the Courthouse. Mr. Franklin advised him he had such a busy schedule he would not have the time to plant the tulips this year.

Vandalism in the Parks

Present: Sheriff Williams
John Baggett, Director Parks and Recreation
Sgt. Miedinski, Maryland State Police

Mr. Baggett stated that he had received a great deal of cooperation from the law enforcement officials in the county, but stated that the problem of vandalism in the recreational facilities throughout the county had reached serious proportions.

He stated that at Great Mills High School eleven trees were chopped down and also that picnic tables had been sawed in half. He stated that the water fountains had also been vandalized in that they tried to pull them out of the ground. The basketball hoop and the backboard had been torn down and now the County will have to go out and put it back up. Beer parties are being thrown in the summer. Mr. Aud asked if there was some way these areas could be fenced off. Mr. Baggett stated that there was not. He hoped that the police could patrol these parks during their regular beats, scheduling their men to drive into the Parks, he stated that perhaps this would help.

Mr. Baggett went on to say that they were getting large crowds at their roller skating parties and were having no problems on the inside but that large crowds were beginning to accumulate outside and they had turned over the trash cans.

Mr. Baggett added that he is having the same type of problems in the Nicolet Park area. He stated that he received a letter from Mr. Diamond stating that there were speeders and minibikes in this area until 10:00 or 11:00 P. M. every evening. Mr. Aud asked Mr. Baggett to make the public aware of this so that they can call the police. Mr. Baggett stated that he had placed a barrier four feet into the ground and someone had pulled it out. He stated that there were two backstops with canopies in Nicolet Park, which were very heavy, and are supported by two steel beams. Someone dropped them down completely. Mr. Baggett stated that he had taken them down completely and stored them and when he puts them up again he will have them welded. He asked the law enforcement officials to patrol this park stating that these people have to be caught and prosecuted. Mr. Bowles asked Mr. Baggett if he notified police of the damage at Great Mills High School. Mr. Baggett replied that he had. Sheriff Williams asked if Great Mills High School could be barricaded. Mr. Baggett stated that it could be but to no avail in that they could climb the barricade and gain access by walking across the open field to the park.

Mr. Aud asked Mr. Baggett how much money had been spent on repairing damages. Mr. Baggett stated that he had spent at least \$1000.00 on damages. Mr. Aud stated that we will have to put up no trespassing and time limit signs.

Mrs. Mrs. Patty Muchow asked if there was a law against drinking alcoholic beverages in the park. Mr. Baggett stated that there was not. Sgt. Miedinski stated that we would have to have guidelines to follow. Mr. Baggett agreed and stated that he would proceed to get these parks posted. Sgt. Miedinski stated that he would also like to have the hours spelled out, and asked if there were any other parks other than GMHS and Nicolet Park being vandalized. Mr. Baggett stated that there were no others as yet and stated that he would write Sgt. Miedinski a letter. Mr. Guy asked if we needed an ordinance. Mr. Wigginton replied that we did. He added that we would do whatever Mr. Baggett suggested. Mr. Baggett replied that cars and horses be prohibited from these areas in that they damage the turf. Sgt. Miedinski stated that the State Police were having problems with minibikes and stated that it would be nice if we could set aside a certain area for them to use. They would be doing the State Police a great service.

Bills Approved

Lorenzi, Dodds & Gunnill (Airport)	\$ 304.50
(Hewitt Road)	888.50
Supervisor of Elections (trip to Annapolis)	42.88
Maryland Association of Counties (Annual Winter Conference)	105.00
David M. Gruber & Co. (Audit-Metro. Commission)	5950.00
American Society for Public Adminis. (Listing for Civil Engineer)	30.00
Department of Health (Patients from ST. Mary's Cty. in State Hospitals)	1403.49
Bussells & Co. (Larredore Road)	204.00
Oliver Guyther (State vs. Briscoe)	600.00

Specifications on Cars and Paddy Wagon - Sheriff's Dept.

Sheriff Williams prepared and presented the specifications to the County Commissioners. He stated that he had checked with Ford, Dodge and Plymouth as to the specs and they all fit in. Mr. Aud asked the mileage on the old cars. Mr. Paul Raley stated that they range from 71,000 miles to 83,000 miles. Mr. Guy asked as to minimum size tires and stated that a minimum should be specified.

The County Commissioners agree to have the tire sizes placed in the specifications.

Detention Officers

Mr. Aud stated that the detention officers had no protection at all. Sheriff Williams stated that perhaps they could be allowed to use a night stick.

Mr. Paul Raley was instructed to order night sticks for the detention officers.

White Neck Creek Wharf

Mr. Paul Raley stated that Mr. Ozzie Wilson came in to discuss his contract and Mr. Raley stated that he advised Mr. Wilson that the Commissioners were interested in putting in a turn around basin in the contract. Mr. Wilson stated that he would have to give a separate price on this.

Bid Opening - Railroad Ties
Peggs Lane to St. Andrew's Church Road

Railroad Ties, Inc.	\$3800.00
Land Air Electronics	50.00

Commissioner Aud advised those present that the Commissioners would review the bids and be in touch with them.

Colonel Simpson

Col. Simpson stated that the end of his driveway there was a ditch three feet deep and sixty feet long. He stated that many cars are caught down in this ditch and in the process had taken down his mailbox. He stated that a roads man came and looked at it and stated that perhaps some old pipe could be used. Col. Simpson stated that if we would give him the pipe he would build the manholes and catch basin. Mr. Aud suggested that Col. Simpson keep in touch with Mr. Douglas Bond as to obtaining some pipe.

Col. Simpson also sited another problem. Coming down the hill from the Hurry the shoulder of the road is only 14" wide. There should be a headwall or a warning placed there for drivers. Mr. Bond stated that he could put up fence posts with reflectors. Col. Simpson stated that in Chaptico a bridge was repaired and headwalls were never put up. Douglas Bond stated that he would order them through the State Highway Adminis, but added that he could purchase them cheaper here. Mr. Aud advised Mr. Bond to go ahead and order them and send the bill to the Commissioners.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 P. M.

Approved,

George R. Aud
President