

SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL-GEORGETOWN, DELAWARE-SEPTEMBER 3, 1991

Call to
Order

The regular meeting of the Sussex County Council was held on Tuesday, September 3, 1991, at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, Courthouse, Georgetown, Delaware, with the following members present:

Dale R. Dukes	President
Ralph E. Benson	Vice President
George B. Cole	Member
George J. Collins	Member
William D. Stevenson, Sr.	Member

The meeting was opened by repeating the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

M 376 91
Approval
of Minutes

A Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Benson, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as submitted. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Corre-
spondence

Mr. Bayard, County Attorney, read the following correspondence:

RONALD C. JESTER, EXTENSION SAFETY SPECIALIST, UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE, COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, GEORGETOWN
RE: Thanks for proclaiming Wednesday, August 14, 1991, as "Sussex County Safe Kids Day" and for sponsorship of the squeeze bottles. Approximately 450 children participated in the 12 exhibits and demonstrations.

CHARLES N. VALENTI, SAVE OUR SUSSEX COUNTY COMMITTEE
RE: DelDOT's Proposed Limited-Access East-West Corridor.

KERMIT H. JUSTICE, SECRETARY, DELDOT
RE: DelDOT will be holding statewide public meetings concerning their proposed Capital Improvements Program, beginning with Fiscal Year 1993, in each County during the month of September. Sussex County's meeting will be held at the DelDOT Administration Building, Georgetown, starting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 11, 1991.

KERMIT H. JUSTICE, SECRETARY, DELDOT
RE: DelDOT's design study report for the West Rehoboth Connector project from Hebron Road to Church Street is available at the Rehoboth City Manager's Office in Rehoboth Convention Hall between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays. The report is also available at the DelDOT Administration Building on Route 113 in Georgetown and on Route 113 in Dover between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays.

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Farmers
Home
Adminis-
tration
Request

Mr. Stickels, County Administrator, discussed a request by Farmers Home Administration for the release of lien held by the County against the property owned by Mrs. Catherine Gatton. The lien is for housing rehab made through the Community Development Block Grant program. Farmers Home Administration holds a mortgage on the property and due to serious illness, Mrs. Gatton has been unable to live in the home for some time. Consequently, she has asked them to take the property back to satisfy the mortgage. The County lien for rehab must be released before Farmers Home Administration will honor this request.

Mr. LeCates, Community Development Director, confirmed that the resale by Farmers Home Administration would satisfy the low to moderate income guidelines set by HUD for Community Development Block Grant monies.

M 377 91
Release
of Lien

A Motion was made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Collins, that the Sussex County Council authorize the release of lien in the amount of \$5,107.05 from the property owned by Catherine Gatton as requested by the United States Department of Agriculture Farmers Home Administration. Motion Adopted: 4 Yea; 1 Abstention.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Benson, Yea; Mr. Cole, Abstained;
Mr. Collins, Yea; Mr. Stevenson, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea

Building
Code
Report
Addendum

Mr. Stickels, County Administrator, reviewed an addendum to the Building Code Report. The addendum included cost analyses for three proposals to administrate single-family homes and additions. It was stressed that the figures are estimates, and could and would fluctuate with the economy. The proposals are briefly summarized as follows.

Proposal One - Twelve inspectors would be hired to enforce both single-family and additions. This proposal would result in a loss of \$47,164 the first year.

Proposal Two - Six inspectors would be hired to enforce single-family structures only. This would result in a loss of \$118,497 the first year. Additions would be eliminated from the inspections due to lack of staff; thus a high loss of revenue.

Proposal Three - Field inspections would be contracted and one plan reviewer would be hired to enforce both single-family and additions. This proposal would generate a plus revenue of \$12,375 the first year.

September 3, 1991

Building
Code
Addendum
(Con't.)

Mr. Stickels, County Administrator, reviewed each proposal in detail and discussed the choices available to Council. Council's discussion of the proposals included: their position concerning the enforcement of the Single-Family Building Code; the fear that the County will lose control of the inspection process if the work is contracted; and present and future fee structures that will make the program self-sufficient.

The general fund has subsidized the Building Code Department in past years. There was a consensus that this should not be necessary. Fee structures should be developed to make the program self-supportive.

Exploring the market for contractors to see if the projected figures by the County Administrator are workable was discussed. In addition, the possibility of holding a Public Hearing to amend the fee structure to make the program self-sufficient was considered, as was the possibility of rescinding the single-family portion of the Ordinance.

M 378 91
Proposals
for Bldg.
Code

A Motion was made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Benson, to authorize the County Administrator to advertise for proposals from contractors to enforce the Single-Family and Additions Section of the Building Code Ordinance. Motion Adopted: 4 Yea; 1 Nay.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Benson, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Collins, Yea; Mr. Stevenson, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Nay

Adminis-
trator's
Report

Mr. Stickels, County Administrator, reviewed the following information included in his Administrator's Report:

1. Recyclers of the Month - Raymond A. Parker of Bridgeville and Jane R. Jones of Bethel were the winners of the two \$50 U. S. Savings Bonds for participating in the County's Recycling Program during August. One thousand, one hundred eighty-eight people participated in the program during August compared to 1,369 during July.
2. Public libraries In-Service Training - Public Libraries throughout Sussex County will be closed on Tuesday, September 17, 1991, in order that all staff members may participate in a Staff Development Day sponsored by the Sussex County Department of Libraries. Training sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. at Delaware Technical and Community College.

The Sussex County Council has been invited to attend the noon luncheon.

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Adminis-
trator's
Report
(Con't.)

3. American Red Cross, Sussex County Branch - The Sussex County Branch of American Red Cross will be conducting a class entitled "Introduction to Disaster". This class provides an orientation to Red Cross disaster services, as well as fundamental information about disasters and their effects. Class will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 1991, at 7:00 p.m. at the Sussex County Branch Office on 10 North Bedford Street, Georgetown, Delaware.

Agenda
Change

President Dukes announced that Mr. Wood, County Engineer, had requested that the Bid Recommendation for West Rehoboth Expansion of the Dewey Beach Sanitary Sewer District Phase 1A be deferred.

Future
Funding
for
Sewer
Districts

Councilman Cole discussed the possibility of directing the County Administrator, County Attorney, and representatives of the Engineering and Finance Departments to prepare a proposal that would allow the County to establish "special assessment districts" for collection of funds to be placed in escrow for the construction of sewers in areas included in the priority list of the South Coastal Area Planning Study. There are presently eight priority areas listed. Another consideration suggested by Councilman Cole to help offset future sewer costs for new districts was establishing a special assessment on the older sewer districts [their rates are much lower] to be placed in a revolving fund that the new sewer districts could borrow from.

Mr. Bayard, County Attorney, advised that each of Mr. Cole's suggestions would require enactment of legislation by the General Assembly.

Councilman Stevenson complimented the Engineering Department on the work currently being done by the department on Long Neck, West Rehoboth Expansion of Dewey Beach, and Dagsboro-Frankford Sanitary Sewer Districts. It is his belief that the present workload of the Engineering Department precludes their having the time to do this additional project suggested by Councilman Cole.

M 379 91
Future
Funding
for
Sewers

A Motion was made by Mr. Cole to direct Mr. Stickels, County Administrator, to explore the creation of "special assessment districts" for construction funds for future sewers included in the priority list of the South Coastal Planning Study. Motion Died for lack of a second.

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Engineering Department Recognition Councilman Collins took the opportunity to praise Mr. Wood, County Engineer, and his department on the presentation and the conduct of the department at the West Rehoboth Expansion of the Dewey Beach Sanitary Sewer District Public Hearing held at Cape Henlopen High School on Wednesday, August 28, 1991.

President Dukes also praised the Engineering Department for the way the West Rehoboth Public Hearing was conducted.

M 380 91 Councilmanic Grant A Motion was made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Benson, to give \$500, from Mr. Stevenson's Councilmanic Account, to Andy's Diner Softball Team to assist with expenses to play in the National Championship Tournament. Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Benson, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Collins, Yea; Mr. Stevenson, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea

M 381 91 Councilmanic Grant A Motion was made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Collins, to give \$600, \$300 from Mr. Dukes' and Mr. Stevenson's Councilmanic Accounts respectively, to Delaware MADD to be used toward the purchase of a Camcorder for Seaford Police Department. Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Benson, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Collins, Yea; Mr. Stevenson, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea

M 382 91 Councilmanic Grant A Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, to give \$200, from Mr. Dukes' Councilmanic Account, to Laurel Pop Warner Football League to assist with costs for their program. Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Benson, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Collins, Yea; Mr. Stevenson, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea

M 383 91 Councilmanic Grant A Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Benson, to give \$250, from Mr. Collins' Councilmanic Account, to Frankford Public Library to assist with repair for a typewriter. Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Benson, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Collins, Yea; Mr. Stevenson, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea

September 3, 1991

Child
Care
Providers
Recommen-
dation

Mr. Stickels, County Administrator, reviewed a request from the Delaware Association of Family Child Care Providers asking for funds to help with the third annual conference being held at Delaware Technical and Community College, Georgetown, September 14, 1991. He recommended that \$250 be taken from the Grant Fund for this purpose, as has been done in the past.

M 384 91
Grant -
Child
Care
Providers

A Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Benson, that \$250 be given to the Delaware Association of Family Child Care Providers from the Grant Fund to assist with expenses for their third annual conference. Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Benson, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Collins, Yea; Mr. Stevenson, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea

Pot Nets
Homeowners
Assoc. -
Long
Neck

Mr. Paul Hewett, speaking on behalf of the Pot Nets Homeowners Association, thanked the County for the open communications and cooperation that has been displayed during the construction of the Long Neck Sanitary Sewer District. Pot Nets has approximately 1,800 dwellings and the majority of the people are happy. Mr. Hewett named the following members of the Engineering Department for their outstanding cooperation: Robert Wood, Robert Green, Andrew Talley, Russell Archut, and Vincent LaCourt. Mr. Hewett also thanked Leon Collins, Utility Billing, and Miles Bennett, KCI Technologies, Inc., for their cooperation and time.

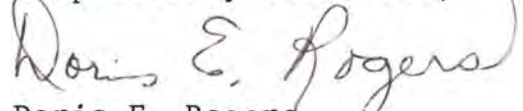
Mobile
Home
Tenants
Assoc. -
Long Neck

Mr. Ron Beideman, President of the Mobile Home Tenants Association, basically expressed the same sentiments concerning construction of the Long Neck Sanitary Sewer District. In addition, he added Ed James, Engineering Department, to Mr. Hewett's list to be publicly acknowledged.

M 385 91
Adjourn

A Motion was made by Mr. Benson, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Doris E. Rogers
Clerk of the County Council