

A Public Hearing was held on July 30, 1999 at 10:00 am.

Present were: Adam Grossman, Town Attorney
Charlene Kagel, Senior Auditor
Capt. David Heggermiller, RPD

The Public Hearing was called to order at 10:10 am.

Melissa White, Deputy Town Clerk: I have affidavits of Publishing and Posting for a Public Hearing to be held at Riverhead Town Hall, 200 Howell Avenue, Riverhead, New York at 10:00 am on July 30, 1999 to hear all interested persons who wish to be heard regarding: The Proposed use of Grant Funds for Local Law Enforcement.

Adam Grossman, Town Attorney: Dave, would you like to speak on the subject matter of this Public Hearing?

Capt. David Heggermiller, Riverhead Police Department: It has been proposed by the Advisory Committee that the \$51,000 be spent to buy a rescue boat for the Police Department.

Adam Grossman, Town Attorney: Is there anyone who would like to be heard regarding this public hearing?

Steve Haizlip, of Calverton: I wouldn't mind saying a little something.

Adam Grossman: Steve, if you wouldn't mind stepping up here.

Melissa White: Could you please come up so that the recorder can get you....

Adam Grossman: If you could just state your name for the record..

Steve Haizlip: Steve Haizlip, of Calverton. Community Advocate. Enemy of no one. Now, where did this \$51,000 suddenly arrive from. Is this a federal grant? State grant?

Charlene Kagel: yes.

Capt. Heggermiller: Block Grant

Charlene Kagel: Department of Justice

Steve Haizlip: Alright. So it's not costing us...

Charlene: nothing. Well, actually, we do have a match, we have a...

Steve Haizlip: well, I know we have to pay for gas and oil, but

Capt. Heggermiller: Well, the price of the boat and gas and oil exceeds what we are getting from the grant

Charlene Kagel: But we do have a 10% match, well actually, it's less than that, its 9.87% that's the local match. The boat is \$57,000, and we are getting \$51,052 and the difference has to be funded by us. That's the condition of the grant. We have to provide 10% of the money, and then we can buy whatever we want.

Steve Haizlip: So, in other words, we are getting hit with 6% so to speak. \$51, 000 and \$57,000. Now, I have a good question. Are those three or two lads were in Wading River , and here they are, standing on the bank, and they are saying, "Well, these guys are out there, and there is no one pursuing anything out there." Will this boat, in this case, be ready to go immediate action?

Capt. Heggermiller: That's exactly why we are getting this boat. Because the boat we had couldn't continue to search, so that's why we are getting this one.

Steve Haizlip: Hey, I have no problems. Anything that helps this Town out. And the personnel, recreation, good citizens and you are ready to deploy when needed. But in this case, there were people just standing around not doing anything. They were waiting for someone else to move.

Charlene Kagel: Well, we didn't have the equipment. When we got this funding, the Chief came to me and said that he thought we needed a boat.

Steve Haizlip: I tell ya, how that guy held out for six hours to swim one mile to shore to tell someone is miraculous.

Capt. Heggermiller: The other guy spent the whole night in the water.

Steve Haizlip: And well, one other thing. Is there any requirement in this particular case you could only do whatever you know. In this particular case, they had no way of communication that they had a problem. Is this ever going to come to light that when you go out in a boat, fishing or something, you better have some kind of communication, that they can get to us, or we can get to them.

Capt. Heggermiller: I think that is called common sense.

Charlene Kagel: There is no law against not having common sense.

Steve Haizlip: There isn't a law about a lot of stuff, but common sense, in this particular case, it was kind of mild. Did they think it was going to down pour and rain? Common sense is good when you leave, but there always should be some kind of communication when you are in trouble. Of course, I know you can't respond in a big storm like that...

Capt. Heggemiller: Now we will be able to.

Steve Haizlip: ...you will have communication. I have no problem against it. Hey-spend the money. Help out these people when they are out there stranded and so forth.

Adam Grossman: Is there anyone else who would like to be heard regarding this public hearing? Doesn't look like it. The time is now 10:14am, I now declare this public hearing closed.

Melissa A. White