

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead, held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, January 11, 1939 at 2:00 P.M.

Present:

Dennis G. Homan, Supervisor

Henry M. Zaleski

Joseph V. Kelly

Austin H. Warner

Fred H. Butcher, Justices of the Peace.

Seth A. Hubbard, Town Attorney and Supt. of Highways, Myron C. Young were present.

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board held on December 28, 1938 were read and on motion and vote were duly adopted.

A communication from the Association of Towns in regard to their annual meeting at Albany on Feb. 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 1939 was read and ordered placed on file.

Forrest G. Downs, Receiver of Taxes submitted a report showing the total tax collection as of January 3, 1939. The report was accepted and ordered placed on file.

A communication was read from Mrs. Charlotte Lewis, stating that she has been paying a light tax in the Wading River Light District since it was created and has never had street lights on Beach Road where she resides. She further stated that it is very dangerous at night with no sidewalks and urged the Board to place lights on the said road. The communication was referred to the Light Committee.

Mr. Manny Nathan addressed the Board ~~in~~ commending the Police of the Town of Riverhead and especially spoke of the responsibilities and duties of the Special Policeman in charge, stating that he felt as well as many others that the Special Policeman in charge of the Police was being underpaid and recommended that his salary be raised to \$2400.00.

Justice Zaleski addressed the Board in regard to the above matter, stating that many taxpayers have approached him expressing their opinions, that due to the responsibilities and splendid work the Special Policeman in charge had done and is doing he was being underpaid. Justice Zaleski compared the salaries of Police in other Towns and in view of these comparisons, he also favored an increase in the salary of the Special Policeman in Charge.

Supervisor Homan stated that an increase in salary of the Special Policeman in Charge has been a matter of discussion for many months. He commended the Police for their efficiency and brought to the Board's attention the fact that often the Special Policeman in Charge is called upon to do much extra work and many times has to use his own car in line of duty which is an extra expense to him and even though his salary is increased a few hundred dollars he would no more than come out even.

Justice Kelly addressed the Board stating that during the preparation of the Police budget for this year, people anticipated an increase in salary of the Special Policeman in Charge of the Town Police and that Mr. Nathan was not alone in his opinion, many other persons have spoken to him regarding an increase in wages for the head of the Police. Justice Kelly also spoke of the additional duties and responsibilities that a Special Policeman in charge of the Police has. In view of these facts, Justice Kelly offered the following Resolution, which was seconded by Justice Boutcher.

RESOLVED that the salary of Frank Sowinski, Special Police in Charge of the Police of the Town of Riverhead be increased from \$1800.00 per annum to \$2000.00 per annum, payable semi-monthly, effective as of January 1, 1939. The Vote, Justices Zaleski, Kelly, Warner and Boutcher, Yes, Supervisor Homan, Yes. Total Vote, Yes 5, No 0. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Justice Warner before voting on the above resolution, stated that he will vote Yes, providing the Board will consider an increase in salaries of the employees of the Water and Sewer Districts, which he felt was no more than fair in comparing the wages of all Departments.

Mr. John H. Mundo addressed the Board comparing the salaries of the employees of the different Departments of the Town and hoped that the feeling of the good Samaritan would prevail and that the Water District employees would be given a little raise in salaries.

Mrs. Ivy Pugsley addressed the Board, stating that she understands the matter of the purchase of the Van Brunt Tandy property for a Town Hall would be brought up at this meeting, if so she would like to discuss it at this time as she has another engagement.

It was brought out that upon the request of Mr. Tandy, the Town Board did inspect the Tandy Building but due to the fact that many persons wanted to present their properties for consideration as a proposed Town Hall site, the members of the Board felt that the matter should not be hurried, (and further that the disposition of such propositions of this nature are all governed by law) and in any event it would be subject to a permissive referendum of the people of the Town of Riverhead.

Mrs. Ivy Pugsley addressed the Board stating that she was opposed to the purchase of the Tandy property for a Town Hall. Further stating that the purchase or the building of a Town Hall should be delayed for many years or until such time when the bonded indebtedness of the Town is greatly decreased.

Mr. Van Brunt Tandy addressed the Board, stating that in purchasing his building there would be a saving in taxes and further that it could be renovated into a Town Hall for the sum of \$2000.00. He emphatically urged the Board to take a vote on his proposition.

The above matter was ordered placed on the calendar for the next Town Board meeting.

Supervisor Homan declared a recess for 10 minutes.

The Town Board reconvened with all members present.

The matter of the appointment of an assessor to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Charles O. Morse, deceased was discussed by the Board.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Boutcher, it was Resolved that Frank Yousik be appointed assessor to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Charles O. Morse, deceased. The Vote, Justices Zaleski and Kelly, not voting, Justices Warner and Boutcher, Yes, Supervisor Homan, not voting. Total Vote, Yes 2, Not Voting 3. The Resolution was thereupon declared defeated.

On motion made by Justice Kelly and seconded by Justice Zaleski it was Resolved that Charles B. Jones be appointed Assessor for the Town of Riverhead to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Charles O. Morse, deceased, whose term of office as Assessor for the Town of Riverhead would have expired on December 31, 1939. Said appointment to be effective as of January 1, 1939. The Vote, Justices Zaleski, Kelly, Warner and Boutcher, Yes, Supervisor Homan, Yes. Total Vote, Yes 5, No 0. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

On motion made by Justice Kelly and seconded by Justice Zaleski it was Resolved, that the salary of George C. Welch, Supt. of the Sewer District be increased from \$1800.00 to \$1900.00 per annum, that the salary of Raymond Corwin be increased from \$1700.00 to \$1800.00 per annum, that the salary of John Victoria be increased from \$1400.00 to \$1550.00 per annum. Said increases in salaries to be effective as of January 1, 1939. The Vote, Justices Zaleski, Kelly, Warner and Boutcher, Yes, Supervisor Homan, Yes. Total Vote, Yes 5, No 0. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

On motion made by Justice Zaleski and seconded by Justice Kelly it was Resolved that the salary of Roselle G. Benjamin, Manager of the Riverhead Water District be increased from \$2000.00 to \$2100.00 per annum, that the salary of John Rabcinski be increased from \$1500.00 to \$1650.00 per annum, that the salary of John Kelly be increased from \$1500.00 to \$1650.00 per annum, that the salary of Roswell C. Homan be increased from \$1500.00 to \$1650.00 per annum, that the salary of William L. Terry be increased from \$1500.00 to \$1600.00 per annum. Said increases of salaries effective as of January 1, 1939. The Vote, Justices Zaleski, Kelly, Warner and Boutcher, Yes, Supervisor Homan, Yes. Total Vote, Yes 5, No 0. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A communication from Seth A. Hubbard tendering his resignation as Town Attorney of the Town of Riverhead, effective immediately was read and ordered placed on file.

Mr. Hubbard addressed the Board and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity they had afforded him in being Town Attorney for the past year, stating that it had been a most pleasant and informative one for him and pledged his fullest cooperation to the Board and new Town Attorney in the future and sincerely thanked the Board for their kindness toward him during the past year.

Supervisor Homan expressed his appreciation to Mr. Hubbard for his services as Town Attorney during the past year, stating that he

has been of great benefit to the Board in solving many of their problems and wished Mr. Hubbard every success in the future.

On motion made by Justice Kelly and seconded by Justice Zaleski it was Resolved with regret that the resignation of Seth A. Hubbard as Town Attorney be accepted. The Vote, Justices Zaleski and Kelly, Yes, Justices Warner and Boutcher, not voting, Supervisor Homan, Yes. Total Vote, Yes 3, Not Voting, 2. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

On motion made by Justice Zaleski and seconded by Justice Kelly it was Resolved that Lester M. Emmett be and he hereby is appointed Town Attorney for the Town of Riverhead to fill the unexpired term of Seth A. Hubbard, resigned, salary at the rate of \$1200.00 per annum. The Vote, Justices Zaleski and Kelly, Yes, Justices Warner and Boutcher, Not Voting, Supervisor Homan, Yes. Total Vote, Yes 3, Not Voting, 2. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Attorney Emmett thanked the Board for their kindness to him, stating that he will give them his full cooperation and will work diligently, not only for the Board but for the best interest of the Town of Riverhead. He also thanked Mr. Hubbard for extending to him his continued cooperation.

Attorney Seth A. Hubbard thereupon administered the Oath of Office to the New Town Attorney, whereupon the Supervisor declared Lester M. Emmett duly qualified as Town Attorney for the Town of Riverhead.

The Determination and Agreement of Myron C. Young, Supt. of Highways was submitted and on motion and vote was accepted and signed by the Board.

Mr. Robert Stivers addressed the Board in regard to promotional activities for the Town of Riverhead which would direct, invite and entice people coming out on the East End of Long Island into the Village of Riverhead, especially those visiting the World's Fair next year. He felt that if nothing is done in this line many would pass by the Village on County Highway No. 50. He submitted two proposed sketches for promotional structures to be placed at advantageous points to be agreed upon if accepted. He further advised the Board that he has taken the matter up with the Garden Club, Women's Club and many of the business men of the Town, and that they all agreed to its benefit, but disagreed as to types of promotional structures and asked the Board for its cooperation in the plan, suggesting that a committee be appointed to work in conjunction with committees from the Garden Club, Women's Club and the Business men of the Town to further this proposed project.

Supervisor Homan appointed Justice Boutcher and Justice Zaleski on the committee, stating that no doubt this committee will be pleased to cooperate with the committees of the Garden Club and Woman's Club on this matter.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Kelly, it was Resolved that the County Review be and it hereby is designated the official newspaper in and for the Town of Riverhead. The Vote, Justices Zaleski, Kelly, Warner and Boutcher, Yes, Supervisor Homan, Yes.

Total Vote, Yes 5, No 0. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

There being no further business, on motion and vote the meeting adjourned to meet on Wednesday January 25, 1939 at 2:00 P.M.

*Harry J. Kratville*  
Harry J. Kratville, Clerk.