

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, November 29, 1939 at 2:00 P.M.

Present:

Henry M. Zaleski,
Joseph V. Kelly,
Austin H. Warner,
Fred H. Butcher, Justices of the Peace.

Lester M. Emmett, Town Attorney and Myron C. Young, Supt. of Highways were present.

Supervisor Homan being unable to attend the meeting due to illness, on motion and vote Justice Kelly was duly elected Chairman of the meeting.

A communication was read from Mr. Irving Williams, Commissioner of Public Welfare in regard to the Welfare law requiring that the Town Welfare Officer be bonded. The matter was referred to the Town Attorney to report at the next Town Board meeting.

A communication from the Public Service Commission in reply to a resolution sent by the Town Board in regard to certain grade crossings and the underpass at Raynor Ave. was read and referred to the Town Attorney.

A communication from the State Traffic Commission in reply to a resolution sent by the Town Board in regard to the traffic signals on Route 25 and the tripping devices on Edwards Ave. was read and ordered placed on file.

A communication was read from Mr. Alfred Tucker of the Long Island Fisherman's Protective Association relative to the scallop industry on Long Island which has fallen off tremendously in recent years, requesting the Riverhead Town Board as well as all other Town Boards in Suffolk County to cooperate in making a survey and study of the situation to the end that something can be done to help the industry. The communication was referred to the Town Attorney.

A copy of the results of the examination of samples of water collected from Flanders Bay on November 6, 1939, together with the results of samples of sewage collected from the Riverhead Sewage Treatment Plant on the same day, and the results of the samples of hard clams also taken from Flanders Bay by M.H. Bidwell, Bacteriologist of the State Conservation Department, Bureau of Marine Fisheries was submitted to the Board and on motion and vote was ordered placed on file.

The matter in regard to the application of the Friar's Head Land Corporation to construct jetties and build a harbor on their property adjoining Long Island Sound, at Roanoke was discussed by the Board.

Mr. William C. Robbins, Attorney, representing the above

Corporation addressed the Board and explained the facts in the matter. He assured the Board that it was primarily a land development, however due to the high cliffs, the natural resources must be sold to make the project possible not only from a financial standpoint but also to lower the contour of the land. He stated that in his opinion the whole development would be most desirable rather than objectional, that there would be no decrease in acreage and that it would increase the assessed valuation. He further stated that in his opinion, this undertaking would be the most desirable project that ever came to the Town of Riverhead.

Justice Warner and Justice Kelly both stated that they have looked into the above matter thoroughly and were now convinced that it would be for the betterment of the Town.

Justice Zaleski offered the following resolution which was seconded by Justice Warner,

WHEREAS, this Town Board of the Town of Riverhead, on the 4th day of August, 1939, did adopt a resolution opposing the granting of a permit by the War Department to the Friar's Head Land Corporation, to construct two permanent breakwaters and one temporary breakwater and to dredge in Long Island Sound at or near Roanoke, in this township, and

WHEREAS, a copy of said resolution was duly forwarded to the District Engineer of the War Department and by him filed with the application for such permit, and

WHEREAS, the filing of said resolution as aforesaid, has deferred the granting of such application and enabled this Board to complete its investigation, from which it satisfactorily appears that the interests of the Town of Riverhead will not be adversely affected thereby, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Resolution adopted as aforesaid on the 4th day of August, 1939, be and the same hereby is rescinded and be it further

RESOLVED: That this Board consents to the granting of such application and directs that a copy hereof be forwarded to the War Department forthwith. The Resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board.

Justice Zaleski offered the following Resolution which was seconded by Justice Warner,

WHEREAS, under date of August 10, 1939, and in pursuance of the directions of this Board, a communication was addressed by Lester M. Emmett, Town Attorney of the Town of Riverhead, to the Board of Commissioners of the Land Office, relative to the application then understood to be pending before it for the granting of lands under water to the Friar's Head Land Corporation, and

WHEREAS, under date of August 11, 1939, the said Board of Commissioners of the Land Office acknowledged receipt of said letter and in view of the contents thereof, stated that same would be placed on file as a remonstrance pending the filing of such application, and

WHEREAS, since the exchange of such correspondence, application has been made by the Friar's Head Land Corporation as above indicated, and

WHEREAS, this Board has completed its investigation as to the nature of the project involved in said application and its effects upon the Town of Riverhead and has determined that the interests of the Town will not be adversely affected thereby, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: That the remonstrance aforesaid, bearing date the 10th day of August, 1939, be and the same hereby is withdrawn and be it further

RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be forwarded forthwith to the Board of Commissioners of the Land Office.

The Resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board.

Mr. John Berezny addressed the Board in regard to protecting his property on Mill Road adjoining the property of the Cauliflower Association, stating that during the cauliflower season his property is damaged to a great extent by people trampling over his lots and urged the Board to take some action on the matter.

Justice Warner suggested that the matter be held over until the next Town Board meeting and that Mr. Dwight T. Corwin, Manager of the Cauliflower Association be invited to meet with Mr. Berezny and the Board at that time in order to discuss the problem.

The matter of County Tax Equalization was brought to the attention of the Board by Town Attorney Emmett. He stated that the Board of Assessors asked him to accompany them with the County Board of Equalization, the day that they appraised approximately 50 parcels of land in the Town of Riverhead. He explained in detail the method taken by the County Equalization Board in investigating the above properties before making their appraisals. He compared the valuations of the Assessors to those of the Equalization Board of some of the well known properties and explained the penalty Riverhead must bear according to the findings of the Equalization Board. He also compared the final ratings of all the Towns and especially noted that the three Towns in which the three members of the Board of Equalization resided, respectively were given better ratings than Riverhead. Town Attorney Emmett further stated that he did not know whether or not the Board wanted to accept these findings or appeal the matter to the State Tax Commission and that he brought this matter up at this time because the appeal must be made by December 11, 1939, which is the time limit and although an appeal is somewhat expensive, he felt in his opinion that as Riverhead is continually being penalized, something should be done to try to obtain an equalization which would be beyond reproach.

On motion made by Justice Zaleski and seconded by Justice Warner it was Resolved that Supervisor Homan be and he hereby is authorized to appeal the findings of the Suffolk County Equalization Board to the State Tax Commission regarding assessed valuations in the Town of Riverhead. The resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board present.

Supt. of Highways Young advised the Board that the bulldozer

owned by the Town is almost worn out and that it would be too expensive to repair. He stated that he has enough money in his budget to purchase a new one and requested the Board to make the authorization.

Justice Boutcher of the Highway Committee stated that he has looked at the old bulldozer and recommended that a new one be purchased.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Zaleski it was Resolved that a new bulldozer be purchased for the Highway Dept. at the discretion of the Highway Committee and the Supt. of Highways. The Vote, Justices Zaleski, Kelly, Warner and Boutcher, Yes, Supervisor Homan, Absent. Total Vote, Yes 4, Absent 1, No 0. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

On motion made by Justice Zaleski and seconded by Justice Boutcher it was resolved that the Holdup and Robbery policy and the Burglary policy of Forrest G. Downs, Rec. of Taxes be fixed at the sum of \$10,000.00 each. The resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board.

Forrest G. Downs, Receiver of Taxes addressed the Board and requested that \$300.00 be transferred from the Surplus account to the Receiver of Taxes Expense account due to extra work caused by the two-payment plan.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Boutcher it was Resolved that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer a sum not to exceed \$300.00 from the General Town Surplus Account to the Budgetary controlled Receiver of Taxes expense account. The Resolution was carried by the unanimous vote of the Board present.

A communication was read from Forrest G. Downs Receiver of Taxes advising the Board that he had appointed Helen Maks, Helen Panowich, Louise E. Downs, Sadie Goldberg, Marie Jeanroy and Helen Kukla as Special Clerks to the Receiver of Taxes, to serve for such time and at such rate of pay as the Town Board may designate.

On motion made by Justice Zaleski and seconded by Justice Kelly it was Resolved that this Board confirm the appointments of Helen Maks, Helen Panowich, Louise E. Downs, Sadie Goldberg, Marie Jeanroy and Helen Kukla as special clerks to the Receiver of Taxes to serve at his discretion at a salary of \$4.00 per day. The Vote, Justices Zaleski, Kelly, Warner and Boutcher, Yes, Supervisor Homan, Absent. Total Vote, Yes 4, Absent 1, No 0. The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

On motion made by Justice Boutcher and seconded by Justice Zaleski it was Resolved that Bond No. 4196006-A of the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland dated November 24, 1939 bonding Forrest G. Downs, Receiver of Taxes of the Town of Riverhead in the amount of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000.00) Dollars be and the same is hereby approved as to form, manner of execution and the sufficiency of the surety. The Resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board present.

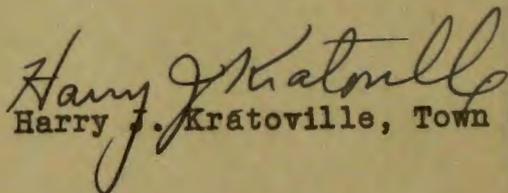
A communication was read from Mr. Asher Holsten, requesting the Board to place a street light on pole No. 11 on Elton Street. The matter was referred to the Lighting Committee.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Zaleski

it was Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer the sum of \$3,223.32 from the General Town Surplus Account to the Town Welfare Account, and further Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer the sum of \$16.36 from the General Town Surplus Account to the Interest on Debt Account, and further Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer the sum of \$21.50 from the General Town Surplus Account to the Miscellaneous-Buoy Light Account, and further Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer the sum of \$30.00 from the General Town Surplus Account to the Budgetary Control-Justices Expense Account, and further Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer the sum of \$165.06 from the General Town Surplus Account to the Budgetary Control-Advertising & Printing Account, and further Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer the sum of \$251.00 from the General Town Surplus Account to the Budgetary Control-Town Board Expense Account. The Resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board present.

The Town Board then convened as a Board of Audit and examined the bills for the month of November, 1939.

There being no further business, on motion and vote the meeting adjourned to meet on Wednesday, December 13, 1939 at 2:00 P.M.


Harry J. Krátoville, Town Clerk.