

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, September 17, 1947 at 2:00 P.M.

Present:

Joseph V. Kelly, Supervisor

Frank J. Yousik,  
William J. Leonard,  
Henry M. Zaleski, Justices of the Peace

Arthur H. Lundberg, Town Attorney was present.

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board held on September 3, 1947 were read and on motion and vote were duly adopted.

A petition <sup>was read</sup> signed by approximately forty residents registering a complaint against the Long Island Railroad for making too much noise all night long by blowing whistles, crashing of cars and emitting terrible black smoke and asked the Board to take some action on the matter. The petition was ordered placed on file.

Mr. George Cushman, representing the Long Island Produce and Fertilizer Co. addressed the Board in regard to the above petition stating that he is very sympathetic to the people who live near the rail road and assured the Town Board that the Long Island Rail Road Company is trying to keep the noise and the smoke down to a minimum, however, he said that at present there is a demand for Long Island potatoes but for how long he does not know and that the L.I.R.R. is doing a good job in transporting the large crop of potatoes and in so doing, it is a tremendous job in keeping the hundreds and hundreds of box cars available for the shipment. He stated that it takes three trains and sometimes having to work way into the night to be able to move an average of 140 cars a day, he said that that it was not only the problem of moving the full cars away but that the Company has to keep a pool of from 500 to 600 empty cars on hand all the time which cannot help but make some noise while they are being moved back and forth, however, he said that Agriculture means a lot to the people of the Town of Riverhead in no matter what walk of life they are in, and he hoped that the Town Board would do nothing to prevent the curtailment of the movement of cars.

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

WHEREAS, a petition signed by numerous town residents has been presented to the Riverhead Town Board complaining of the unusual loud noise created in the night time in the switching and placing of freight cars, the whistling of engines and the emitting therefrom of unnecessary amounts of black dense coal smoke, and

WHEREAS it is further claimed that this disturbance and annoyance is much worse at the present time than it has been in past years, and is resulting in the loss of nightly sleep and rest to the petitioners and that

the unregulated smoke is causing damage to their property, and

WHEREAS, this Board after due delberation is of the opinion that the complaint of the petitioners is reasonable but is nevertheless mindful that the moving of freight cars in the nighttime is presently necessary for the welfare and interest of the industry in this community, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the complaint of the petition be brought to the attention of the Long Island Railroad so that this matter may be investigated by it for the purpose of eliminating and minimizing the abuses and annoyance complained of. The resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board present.

A communication was read from Harry G. Penny, Secretary of the Riverhead Fire Department giving notice that Eugene Schaefer was injured at the G.L.F. fire on September 5, 1947. The communication was ordered placed on file.

The Supervisors Report for the month of August 1947 was submitted to the Board and on motion and vote was accepted and ordered placed on file.

A communication was read from the State Traffic Commission together with orders issued under date of August 29, 1947 restricting speed on the roads in the vicinity of Wading River. The communication and orders were ordered placed on file.

A communication was read from Mr. George W. Hildreth, Pres. of the Riverhead School District No. 5, in regard to the use of the north end of the Pulaski Street school property. The communication was ordered placed on file.

On motion made by Justice Zaleski and seconded by Justice Leonard it was Resolved, that the Town of Riverhead accept the offer of the Board of Education of School District No.5 of the Towns of Riverhead and Southampton as stipulated in its letter dated September 9, 1947. The Vote, Justice Warner absent, Justices Yousik, Leonard and Zaleski Yes, Supervisor Kelly Yes. Total Vote yes 4, No 0. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A petition for additional street lights on East Avenue Extension was submitted to the Board and on motion and vote was refered to the Lighting District Committee.

The Town Board then convened as a Board of Audit and examined all Town and Highway Machinery bills to date.

There being no further business on motion and vote the meeting adjourned to meet on Wednesday, October 1, 1947 at 2:00 P.M.

*Harry J. Kratochville*  
Harry J. Kratochville  
Town Clerk.