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Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting held by the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Riverhead Town Hall, Riverhead, New York, on Tuesday, December 15, 1992, at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Joseph F. Janoski,	Supervisor
Victor Prusinowski,	Councilman
James Stark,	Councilman
Frank Creighton,	Councilman
Harriet Gilliam,	Councilwoman

Also Present:

Patricia Moore,	Town Attorney
Barbara Grattan,	Town Clerk

Supervisor Janoski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Janoski: "This evening, the Town Board is going to make a promotion in the Police Department from Police Officer to Detective. The officer is Tim Hubbard who serves the Town in the Juvenile Aid Bureau an agency of the Police Department and one in which I think we can all be proud, and he is an outstanding member of that bureau. With him tonight, is his wife, Lisa, and children, Jean-Claude, Megan and Kyle. And also the Chief of Police and Lieutenant Grattan are here and I thought I saw Dave Cheshire from the Juvenile Aid Bureau. So if all you folks would come up here, we will consider Resolution #726."

Councilman Stark: "So moved."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Timothy Hubbard was sworn in as Detective in the Riverhead Police Department.

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Supervisor Janoski: "Well, we have a wonderful Christmas gift idea at a reasonable cost of \$7.00. The Riverhead Community Cookbook or the Journey Through Time, the Riverhead Bicentennial Edition, oh, that's \$8.00, I'm sorry. But wonderful things to give as a gift, as a matter of fact, I wouldn't mind having either, and they're available here at the Town Hall at the Clerk's Office or at the Tax Receiver.

May I have a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of 10-20-92?"

Councilman Prusinowski: "So moved."

Councilman Creighton: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. 5 Yes.

**REPORTS:**

**TOWN CLERK**

Monthly report for November, 1992

**SEWER DISTRICT**

Monitoring report for November, 1992

**APPLICATIONS:**

**SPECIAL PERMIT**

For Stanley Tanger & Company for a Manufacturers Outlet Center

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**ROBERT D. PIKE**

Letter requesting that the Town move on the destruction of property owned by Craig and Anna Walker, Sound Avenue, Northville, by Carl Juliano who removed trees, brush and made a path on the bluffs on March 6, 1991

**ALEX HANSON**

Would like to see a casino come to the Town of Riverhead

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NORTH FORK  
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Endorses phase one of the Omni plan

Supervisor Janoski: "Thank you. The first scheduled Public Hearing, and only scheduled Public Hearing, is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. So before we take up the Resolutions, I would recognize anyone who wishes to be heard on any subject or something that's on the agenda. Steve."

Steve Haizlip: "Steve Haizlip, Calverton. On the subject that I'm going to speak of, I would request that the news reporters please copy, maybe take a picture. It is concerning Nancy Metzman and Irene Schofield. Nancy Metzman is the chargee of the Golden Donors Blood Drive out in Melville. She was going to be here tonight, but something probably might have come up and neither one of them could make it. So, I'm going to handle it. Now, they are going to have, this organization, is planning a blood drive at the Holiday Inn, January 4th of '93. Henry and I is on the (inaudible) committee of this organization with Nancy Metzman and Irene plus quite a few other people who run it. But we just one. So she's after as much coverage as she can and it don't necessarily concern just seniors like myself and Henry there. It's anyone, young people, that can come out and go to the Holiday Inn on January the 4th. And there will be refreshment, prizes, and so forth. So, she wanted to get the word out on this end of the Town, so at the last meeting, December the 8th, Henry and I thought of coming down here with, let her come down here and make her plea. But since she didn't make it, then we're asking that she gets coverage through the media and put it down and say that they are going to have it there, and everyone is welcome to come out and then they'll screen them from there to see if they're eligible for blood donation. So much for that. I don't think I've used five minutes."

Supervisor Janoski: "No, but why don't you just repeat the day and the time."

Steve Haizlip: "January the 4th at the Holiday Inn. I guess it will start about 9:30. I think Henry could probably confirm that, I believe they'll get started about 9:30, 9:30 to 2:30. Okay. And they'll take real good care of anybody that comes up, prizes, and food and refreshment, and music and so forth as I understand. Okay. We got that covered, right? The

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Grumman Retiree Club has 19 chapters, and everybody that's a Club member gets a monthly Club update from each Club, what each Club had to talk about. Now, the headquarters of headquarters of this Club, I know Mr. Creighton knows what I'm talking about when I say headquarters of headquarters, maybe the rest of you don't, but there's a little group of people off to one side and they're the headquarters for all the whole entire other 19 chapters. So they call themselves headquarters of headquarters. So they had their meeting a while back, I think it goes back (inaudible). Now, Mr. Corporelli who is the President and the Chairman of Grumman that replaced Mr. O'Brien, of course Mr. O'Brien has a nickname but I didn't give it to him, but it circulated round through the company and I think they call it lying (inaudible), something like that. So, anyway, it goes on to say these are competitive and hard times and we have to beat out for new contracts on both technology and cost basis, and I think I'll skip here and just get up to the-- so, other words, what he's saying is, (inaudible) percentage of prime contracts has dropped every year since 1983. That hurts business and affects jobs. Now, as voters and a people who have to pay bills with part of your pension, I would encourage you to make your concerns known to legislators. These are the people who can work to reverse all these skyrocketing costs, but I can assure you, they won't take on the hard job of doing so until they sense the majority of the people want them to. You are an important voice in this community and now we all need to be heard. Letters, phone calls to politicians can make a difference especially from a group like this. So, you see, even though you retire, Grumman is still trying to squeeze a little more out of you. So the reason I'm making this pitch, instead of writing letters and phone calls, I got the news media right here. I haven't been very popular in it lately, but it doesn't matter. This is for the community, not for me. I'm already retired and out. You know. But there's other future people. In that plant, right now, there's only two airplanes sitting there. You don't know how desolate it is. And, so I am making the pitch, right here, because you, Mr. Supervisor, and the Board members have been good over the years to allow anyone to speak on any subject that they wish. So, I'm making a desperate plea through the newspaper, the media here, to get this out and I'm asking these politicians, especially that 18 man legislative body that we don't need, and maybe to get them to work a little bit and Mr. LaValle and Mr. Sawicki, all these politicians involved."

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Councilman Prusinowski: "Don't forget the school districts."

Steve Haizlip: "Yeah, they ought to give a little bit, too. You got that right, Vic. All right. So I guess that's it. Thank you very much, Joe."

Supervisor Janoski: "Thank you, Steve. Does anyone else wish to address the Board, ask any questions of anything on the agenda? Let us take up the Resolutions."

Resolution #704

Councilman Prusinowski: "Authorizing the publication of a notice regarding affordable housing, so moved."

Councilman Stark: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #705

Councilman Stark: "Appoints clerk to the office of Receiver of Taxes, so moved."

Councilman Creighton: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #706

Councilman Creighton: "This authorizes the execution of an amendment to our Community Development Office restore program contract, so moved."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

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The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #707

Councilwoman Gilliam: "This resolution authorizes the Supervisor to establish the following budget adoption to the RESTORE Program, so moved."

Councilman Creighton: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713

Councilman Prusinowski: "I'd like to move 708 and 715. These are the various-- at the end of the year, we go out to bid for practically everything that we buy in the Town. And these are some of the resolutions coming through right now, so moved."

Councilman Stark: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #716

Councilman Prusinowski: "Appoints recreation aide for the Riverhead Recreation Department, so moved."

Councilman Stark: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

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Resolution #717

Councilman Stark: "This authorizes the preparation of an urban renewal plan by the Planning Department, Community Development Department and Supervisor staff, so moved."

Councilman Creighton: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #718

Councilman Creighton: "This authorizes the law firm of Rains & Pogrebin to assist the town attorney in representing the Town regarding a civil rights action brought against the Town by Nancy Morrow, so moved."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #719

Councilwoman Gilliam: "Approve site plan of the Reginald H. Tuthill Funeral Home building addition, so moved."

Councilman Prusinowski: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #720

Councilman Prusinowski: "Reassigns Mark Heppner to the provisional position of computer graphics mapping specialist,

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so moved."

Councilman Stark: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #721

Councilman Stark: "This authorizes the Supervisor to contract for accident insurance policy for the recreation program participants. This is a blanket policy per 1,000 participants for the 12 month period, so moved."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Seconded."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "The first time I received notice of this resolution was in a memo today from Councilman Stark, and as far as I'm concerned, there has been no discussion or participation by the full Board as to whether the Town needs this sort of coverage or what sort of door are we opening up with regard to this practice, nor has there been any discussion as to what this will cost the Town, and I think that this is something that should be discussed in the open body of the full Board, and for those reasons, I vote no at this time."

Councilman Creighton: "I received a memo about the same time and I discussed the proposal with Mr. Stark and I was, frankly, appalled to learn that we did not have this kind of insurance, this same kind of insurance that your children have when they participate in athletics at school and that sort of thing. And rather than have the Town be exposed to these kind of hazards, people using the recreational facilities, I think it makes sense to move expeditiously to get it in force, so I vote yes."

Councilman Stark: "Just one slight explanation. This policy is being paid for by the participants in all the programs that participate in our physical gymnastics, weightlifting, volleyball, etc. They will pay a fee and that is a blanket policy and it covers, so there are many young people, many

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people out there participating in our programs today, that are not covered by medical insurance or coverage. If they were to be injured during participating in one of these particular programs, more then likely they would seek back to sue us to get the medical coverage covered. This is a policy that will give them up to \$25,000 medical coverage, certain benefits for loss or dismember, and loss of an eye, or what have you. There's about a \$150.00 deductible on it. The reason that it came to light so rapidly was that we did not consummate this until yesterday. We have programs starting right after the holidays. This is the last meeting for the year, 1992. I thought it imperative to have this in place for our programs starting in January, so that if anything happened, these people would be covered. Broken arms, there's any numerous amounts of accidents that can happen and subject to. So, in light of that, and it was my recommendation, I vote very heartily, yes."

Councilman Prusinowski: "For all the reasons stated, I vote yes."

Supervisor Janoski: "The meeting with the Recreation Department and Mr. Stark, who is the Chairman of the Recreation Committee, took place just Thursday, I believe. I'm sorry, yes."

Councilman Stark: "This has been an ongoing process for almost a year to achieve this."

Supervisor Janoski: "And it was presented to me Monday, and rather then wait until the following Town Board Meeting, I said that we should move ahead with it now, 'cause Mr. Stark did produce a memo for all the members of the Board. And it's good business. Now, Miss Gilliam would have liked to have been recognized, but unfortunately we're in the middle of the vote to make an amendment that would guarantee-- "

Councilwoman Gilliam: "No, I think as worded right now, the resolution does not reflect that the coverage will be covered by the recreation fees. And that was my concern."

Supervisor Janoski: "All I can say is that was the plan that was presented to me that it would be incorporated into the fees that the individuals pay to take part in the program, that it would go up three or four dollars per individual to offset

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the cost of the insurance. That's what was presented, that's the plan."

Councilman Stark: "This particularly covers basketball for young children, gymnastics which is a very vulnerable sport, which, I think, we're offering which is not being offered in the schools. It is a floating policy. We have elected that we will have 1,000 participants at a particular time and we pay a blanket fee for that 1,000 participants. Joe Blow could be in it for the first three months, and then somebody else. But they will continually-- it will be added on to their fee as they enter these particular functions during the year."

Supervisor Janoski: "And I vote yes."

Barbara Grattan: "Resolution is adopted."

Resolution #722

Councilman Creighton: "This ratifies the execution of a lease with NYNEX Meridian and authorizes execution of a purchase agreement with Northern Telecom Meridian System. And this is for a new and improved telephone system for the Town, so moved."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes.

Supervisor Janoski: "Let me say that this the third system that we have installed in Town Hall since I've been Supervisor, and in each time, we have been able to reduce the cost of communication by making these moves, as well as improving the efficiency and the capability of the phone system. I vote yes."

Barbara Grattan: "Resolution is adopted."

Resolution #723

Councilwoman Gilliam: "I would prefer to have someone else do that."

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Supervisor Janoski: "Okay. Anybody else want to do this one?"

Councilman Prusinowski: "I'll make the motion, so moved."

Councilman Stark: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "A question on the motion. Could someone state as to what Department the first appropriation, the transfer is from? What Department is that, and the purpose of the transfer."

Supervisor Janoski: "It's Highway."

Councilman Creighton: Highway Department."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "And the equipment repair, is what?"

Supervisor Janoski: "That's the budget line, oh, I'm sorry, from drainage to-- I couldn't quite honestly tell you what piece of equipment-- "

Councilman Creighton: "I'm assuming that he probably-- it's December, he's probably running short on some of his lines for repair and so he transferred from one account to another. Am I close Jack?"

Supervisor Janoski: "It's a piece of equipment, I mean what piece of machinery it is specifically I wouldn't know. It could be a truck, it could be a payloader, but it is for the repair of a piece of equipment. Charlie is not here, is he?"

Councilwoman Gilliam: "And the second transfer from heat to telephone, is that Highway?"

Supervisor Janoski: "Yes."

Councilman Creighton: "That's the whole resolution. As you see on the bottom, it's CB. He initials the bottom."

Councilman Prusinowski: "So if I understand, we're allowing

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the Superintendent of Highways to transfer \$1,500 from his account for drainage to equipment repair and for his account for heat-- \$150.00 from his account for heat to his account for telephone. That's what we're doing, right?"

Councilman Creighton: "That's correct."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #724

Councilman Prusinowski: "Adopts local law amending chapter 103 Solid Waste Management of the Riverhead Town Code at Section 103-40 Licenses and Permits. We're extending the business permits until the December 31st, 1993, so moved."

Councilman Stark: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #725

Councilman Stark: "This authorizes the Town Clerk to publish and post public notice to consider a local law amending chapter 95 of the Code of the Town of Riverhead. This refers to the rates and schedules of which we allow senior citizens exemptions on property taxes, so moved."

Councilman Creighton: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "I have a question on the motion. Well, actually, I'd like to propose an amendment to the resolution as it now exists. Right now, the maximum eligible income under the county and with the school district going into next year, will be \$19,800. Back on November 12th of this year, at a work session, I asked the Board to consider the Town raising its current cap of \$14,800 to the maximum of \$19,800 for senior

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citizens in order for them to get a partial tax exemption up to that point. At that time, the Board discussed it a little bit and it was decided we would meet with the Assessor to see what sort of an impact this would have on our budget. Again, last Thursday at the work session, I reintroduced the subject and, in fact, the state, as of next year, has raised the eligible income to \$21,300, and again, I asked the Board to consider raising the amount. The school district has raised the amount to \$19,800. The county right now is at \$19,800, and Riverhead has one of the lowest maximum ceilings in terms of eligible income. And I was told by the Supervisor that I was politicking in so many words, and that if I proceeded with trying to introduce my resolution, that he would not place it on the agenda. And that if I wanted to introduce this, I would have to introduce it from the floor because he was not going to entertain it. He said that by me being-- suggested that by me being the lone Democrat on the Board, that I was doing this to embarrass the Republicans. And I explained to him that this was nothing further from the truth, I had been approached by a resident who was concerned for her parents about them getting the maximum that they could in terms of a senior citizen exemption and, again, the impression was left at the end of the meeting, that if I wanted to pursue this, I would have to raise the resolution from the floor because the Supervisor was not going to place it on the agenda. Now, only I found out moments before the Board meeting that this resolution had been prepared reflecting a 3% cost of living increase. And I would like to point out that still the maximum under this resolution, \$15,100, where there would be a 10% tax reduction, that is only really a drop in the bucket when you look at the county scale. The county starts at \$15,000 for a 50% reduction. The school starts at \$15,000 for a 50% reduction. And I think that if the Board were going to seriously entertain going ahead with this 3% increase, that as a professional courtesy to me and to the other Board members, that we should have talked about this rather than trying to put this in at the last minute as was done. So I would move to amend this resolution to reflect the full amount of the exemption as authorized by the state legislature to the maximum of \$21,300."

Supervisor Janoski: "Motion to amend. There being no second, the motion to amend fails. The resolution is moved and seconded. Victor, did you wish to be recognized?"

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Councilman Prusinowski: "All I just want to say is there was a whole other discussion at the work session, too, that I want to point out, which was the fiscal impact this will have to the entire residents, including the senior citizens. Over the years, the School Board and the Town Board worked very closely to act responsibly to try to control the rate of tax increases in this Town. The School Board, the next tax bill, not the tax bill that everybody received today in the mail, is going to start off with a crisis. Because of the senior citizen tax exemption, they're going to be down over \$4,000,000 in assessed valuation. That is going to increase taxes on all the people in the Town of Riverhead, including senior citizens, especially the senior citizens who do not pay real estate taxes. The county is broke. The state is broke. The state does this every year. It's complete politicking. It is a disgrace. The Assemblymen run around and the state Senators and say, look what I've done for you senior citizens, but it's not their money. I think senior citizens should get all the breaks in the world. I have a grandmother up in the hospital today, very ill, and I want her to survive, and she gets Medicare and a lot of benefits. And the Town of Riverhead has a great record with the senior citizen population and they know that. But let's talk about taxes. Everywhere I go, people want tax relief. And it's one thing to act responsibly and another thing to be politicking. We had a veterans exemption a few years ago. We re-fought the Viet Nam War here. The Town Board is all for veterans. Hey, there's other tax deductions you can be entitled to. How about a sales tax exemption? Oh, they'll never consider that. How about state income tax deduction? These are other mechanisms and, believe me, if you live in a day to day world, and you're buying things in the store, it's 8½% New York State. I think a lot of people would like to get an 8½% discount on their purchases. This entitles people to get something that we can afford. Now, the senior citizens will get a benefit because 62 or 63% of the tax bill is the School Board. So, yes, they went up to \$19,800. The county, only 10% to 15% of their revenues comes from property taxes. The bulk of their income comes from other sources, like sales tax and grants from the federal government and fees that they collect. We're trying to be responsible. We're not anti senior citizen, we can only do what we can afford. Our tax base is so fragile right now that even if the outlet malls were approved, the assessed valuation is maybe three or four million dollars on the rolls, would be completely wiped out if we went

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up to \$21,800 as authorized by the state. We'll have a Public Hearing in January, and I'm sure a lot of people have a lot to say about it. But when you're dealing with taxes, you have to be responsible. We have cut the budget. We've consolidated. We have a wage freeze on the table to our unions, some of the Department Heads have already agreed to it. No elected official raises. The School Board is not making the same effort. They've increased the staff over there. There's one BOCES Superintendent's retirement with a million dollar pension. Everybody's got to do their part. And the fact of the matter is, why I'm so emotional about it, is this is the first time since I've been in politics in this Town in 12 years that this has turned into a political issue. And I'm especially disappointed at the School Board because the previous Superintendents always called the Supervisor and communicated with the Town Board and talked to Leroy or starting with Charlie Crump years ago, who was the Board of (inaudible) Chairman, for all the span that I have been on this Board, to responsibly understand what we can afford in those tax base years. There were times when we jumped even higher because the tax base was good. So we're not here trying to say, hey, we're opposed to this because it's hurting the senior citizens. All tax increases. Everybody wants to get the cost of living down on Long Island. We've got to start somewhere. I mean, I don't want to turn into a Suffolk County legislator because this is what they do in the county. They act irresponsibly. And if people are not going to vote for us again in the future should we run for office again, so be it. But at least we're telling them the truth. We have a very fragile tax base in this Town and we're trying to do the best we can to keep all taxes down. This will affect everybody. So, on that I'd like to move for the roll call."

Supervisor Janoski: "If I could, we're taking the vote here on the Public Hearing. Now, there will be plenty of time to speak your mind at the Public Hearing, which will be at the next Town Board meeting. And, of course, before we go home, I will recognize you, but we're like, in the middle of a vote. This is really an unfortunate occurrence and it has been a first for me. As Vic has pointed out, there has never been a time that the School District moved on this without communication with me and the Assessors to find out exactly what the impact was, what the financial implications were. It is very difficult for a politician to say no. But every once in a while, a group

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of people had better stand up and say no. And this is one of those times that I am glad to see that the Town Board in a majority is saying no. Riverhead, as beautiful as it is, is the least wealthy Town on Long Island. It has the smallest tax base of any community on Long Island. We just took a loss of \$15,000,000 in our tax base. We can do this kind of increase of benefits in times when the tax base grows and it can be absorbed. When you make this kind of move in this financial situation, what you do is transfer the taxes to someone else. And, as much as this Town Board over the years that I have been here and before, has supported the senior citizens efforts as far as the tax exemptions and programs for senior citizens, we also recognize that there are some young families out there who are struggling to keep their homes, too. To transfer the tax burden from one group of people to another group of people does not make sense to us at this time, in a majority. I hope that the Town of Riverhead will grow economically in the years ahead so that the tax base, in fact, does grow enough so that an exemption granted would be absorbed by that increase in tax base and no one would feel the impact. But that is not the circumstances that we have right now. Riverhead does what it can, and you have to remember also and very importantly, that the Town taxes are a small part of your tax bill. How about a third? The big exemption is being given on two-thirds of the tax bill, which is the School District. We cannot afford to absorb any further loss in our tax base because that means that everybody else is going to pay more. I think the Town Board is acting very responsibly in taking the action that benefits everyone. By cutting costs and holding the tax rate in check at the Town level, that benefits seniors, it benefits the young people, it benefits us all. So that is why I took the position that I took. Yes."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Just one point. Over the years, too, we have, every senior citizen program that has been sponsored by the state or federal government, Riverhead has led the way in pioneering these programs and grabbing every dollar that we can, Meals on Wheels, the Home Chore Program, our Nutrition Center. However, over the years, the state of New York and the county has continually cut their share of their funding to us. We have never cut the programs. We have continued the level of the programs by making up the difference with the general Town tax dollar. As recently as last year, we

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renovated the Nutrition Center. So as the dollars from the state and the federal government and the county have been decreasing to us, we have continued the funding at those levels by making up the difference with the general Town tax dollar. So, like I say, I am not ashamed of our record with the senior citizens and I think they know that, and certainly if we could do more, we will. Also, if we went to the limit, we're estimating conservatively then in the general Town budget we would get-- preparing our '94 budget, we would be already behind \$150,000 in real dollars. So there is-- \$150,000 to \$200,000, and every \$100,000 one per cent increase of the tax bill. So you can see, it's very tight in putting these budgets together. And I just hope that, you know, we can move on on this and we'll wait for the Public Hearing in January."

Supervisor Janoski: "Please call the roll."

Barbara Grattan: "Okay. Gilliam?"

Councilwoman Gilliam: "In view of my earlier comments, rather than have there be no movement, I vote yes, that there will be a Public Hearing to at least fully address this issue."

The Vote: Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #727

Councilwoman Gilliam: "This resolution corrects resolution 18 adopted January 7, 1992, so moved."

Councilman Creighton: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #728

Councilman Prusinowski: "We're approving the declaration, I think this is the resolution if I'm not mistaken, we're accepting the roads on behalf of the Highway Superintendent,

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that's what we do here, right. We haven't done one in a while, so moved. We're accepting the roads, releasing the bond. I think releasing the bond is-- no, we're accepting the roads in this resolution for Karlin Drive, Jakes Lane, Rose Court, Florence Court and recharge basin. These roads are up to the standards as approved by the Highway Superintendent, so moved."

Councilman Stark: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #729

Councilman Stark: "Releases letter of credit of Sound Meadow Investors Corp. (Karlin Farms), so moved."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #730

Councilman Creighton: This releases a bond of Calverton Homesteads, so moved."

Councilwoman Gilliam: "And seconded."

Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Resolution #731

Councilman Prusinowski: "I make a motion to pay the bills."

Councilman Stark: "Seconded."

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Supervisor Janoski: "Moved and seconded."

The Vote: Gilliam, yes; Creighton, yes; Stark, yes; Prusinowski, yes; Janoski, yes. Resolution is adopted.

Supervisor Janoski: "Well now, Henry, I find myself with 12 minutes before the Public Hearing, and I know the Board wants to take a little recess but perhaps you could take a few moments."

Henry Pfeiffer: "Henry Pfeiffer, Wading River. I'd like to say that I've observed each of you on the Board and I'm fully confident that each one of you have the welfare of the Town of Riverhead and its residents at heart. What I did wish to touch upon was the over-emphasis on the fact of the property tax allowance for senior citizens. Senior citizens are the only ones who have a means test before there is an allowance. This is not true of the veterans. It is not true of these (inaudible) or charitable organizations who are completely excused from paying tax. It is not true of the farmers whose assessment is not realistic compared to other property and whose tax rate might be questioned as well, and while I'm not at this point advocating that this-- that you approve the change in deductions or make any other adjustments beyond what you consider correct, I just want to emphasize that the deplorable financial condition of the Town is not the fault of the senior citizens."

Supervisor Janoski: "And, no one is suggesting that."

Henry Pfeiffer: "Okay. I just want to get that on the record because Steve has inaugurated or rather enlisted the use the media here as an advertising-- "

Councilman Prusinowski: "Henry, I just want to say one thing to follow up on what you said. The fact is financially as a Town government, we're stable. Some of the other Towns around the county have been running deficits this year, like Huntington has an unexpected, they had to make up almost \$16,000,000. \$4,000,000 was this ridiculous charge back from the county, I understand that. And, again, nobody is saying that it's the senior citizens at all. In fact, the senior citizens get the benefit of that as everybody else. We're trying to make it fair for everybody and we want to control the costs for everybody."

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By no means, it's not the senior citizens fault. Please. That was never implied."

Henry Pfeiffer: "Good, we have that cleared up. Two other things that I would like to touch upon very briefly. As I say, Steve has inaugurated an enlistment of the media here for purposes-- I think recently you may have read in the paper where there was an individual, a prisoner, in the local jail who committed suicide rather than go back into prison. I would like to state that we have at the present time, scheduled on January 5th at 1:00 p.m. over at the Legislative Auditorium, Father William Scryll, who is a chaplain over at that particular place, and he is going to tell us a little about how things run over there. It seems to my knowledge, that 95% of appropriations over there are used to-- for the confinement, the enforcement and the caging of the prisoners as the wall, the whole thing, and only 5% is dedicated to rehabilitation. Everyone of us knows that these are meanies over there and deserve all the vengeance we can get, except the fact that when we approach this on a vengeance type program, we get a resistance there which causes (inaudible) as the same people come back, and so forth. Father Scryll is involved in this 5% rehabilitation program and we know that we can't rehabilitate these people, but we can give them the opportunity to be rehabilitated by themselves. And I would like to invite any of you, and all of you, and in particular the media, to attend that meeting on January 5th, at 1:00 p.m. at the County Legislature. And now if you have time, Mr. Janoski, I would ask that possibly you might want to report on the conditions, the effects of the storm, in Riverhead and its environs. Thank you."

Supervisor Janoski: "Henry, we're going to take a short recess and I'm going to go grab my report so that I can report. Okay."

Recess was taken.

Meeting called to order 8:06 p.m.

Supervisor Janoski: "The meeting will return to order. And I am advised that the folks from the blood drive have arrived and we will give Nancy a little time to make her program understood by everyone. And Steve has primed the media for you. They're waiting for your information."

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Nancy Metzman: "Yes, I'd just like to say thank you very much to the Town of Riverhead for sponsoring this historic opportunity from the blood center to make it convenient for people who have formerly have been blood donors who are retirees or who are certainly over the age of 65 in the eastern end of Long Island. The Golden Donor Blood Program was begun three years ago by retirees from Grumman Corp., the telephone company, from Lilco, from (inaudible), National Association of Retired Federal Employees, and now, the Suffolk County employees who are retired to continue participating in a program to help us have enough blood in our hospitals. We need on Long Island, 800 pints of blood every day that are collected by 8 blood drives a day, and the donor age up until 1989, had been-- you could be a donor from the age of 17 up to 65. It's been elevated to 76th birthday. So you can continue donating over 76 with a note from your doctor. But there is certainly a lot of people who could continue participating. The Holiday Inn, graciously, offered their grand ballroom to us on January 4th, Monday, the first day back to work after the holiday week, when blood is so desperately needed, and donations will begin at nine in the morning and will continue until two-thirty in the afternoon. And we hope that everybody who is not just over the age of 65, but all of us in the community out here, can participate from 17 on. You could be a blood donor every 56 days of your life, five times a year. It takes five to seven minutes to actually be a donor. It's a wonderful experience. We hope the people who have never been blood donors would try it. We know they would love it. It's a wonderful opportunity to save a life or more. One donation now saves five peoples' lives because we use blood as a medicine. For cancer patients, heart patients, those of us in accidents. And it's really critical. There's no artificial blood. There's no hope for artificial blood at this point in time. And we all depend upon each other to see that it's there. It takes five hours to type and cross-match blood, and to do all the testing to have it safe, so that you can't go with an accident victim to the hospital to save their life. It has to be donated in advance and delivered to the hospital and be there when you get there. We hope that this community will rally behind this most important cause and will be able to help us recover from what we know will be a shortage because of the long holiday weekends and the week between Christmas and New Year's. So I would like to say thank you and to thank you very much to Henry Pfeiffer and to Steve Haizlip from the Grumman Retiree group and to all the people of

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this community and I'd like to thank you and the Town Board for allowing us to be here, and I'd like to say thank you very much and God bless you and hope to see you there."

Supervisor Janoski: "Thank you and good luck in this drive. Let the record show that the hour of 8:10 p.m. has arrived. The Town Clerk will please read the Notice of Public Hearing."

Barbara Grattan: "I have affidavits of publishing and posting of a Public Notice for a Public Hearing to be held at Riverhead Town Hall, at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 1992, to hear all interested persons who wish to be heard regarding the special permit application of Wenco Food Systems Corp. for the addition of a drive-in service window to the restaurant."

Supervisor Janoski: "You two young men who I don't recognize, I assume that you are representing the applicant? The microphone is yours if you want to-- oh, you're representing the applicant?"

Peter Danowski: "Along with Mr. Steve Gold who is correctly identified by you and Mr. Chris Robinson of Nelson & Pope, who is next to Mr. Gold. Pete Danowski representing Wendy's. As this Board knows, I appeared before you briefly to show you a site plan that was then being submitted to the Town Clerk and through site plan review. I have appeared before the Architecture Review Board. I have appeared before the Riverhead Town Planning Board. The Health Department application is pending. The site plan will soon be returned to you for review and potential approval. Tonight's hearing is limited to the sole issue of whether the Town Board, by special permit, should permit Wendy's to have a drive-in window. As you might recognize, the other fast food franchises in Town, McDonalds has one, as does Burger King. With that said, I'll sit down."

Supervisor Janoski: "Thank you. Excellent presentation, Peter. Is there anyone present who wishes to address the Town Board in the matter of the drive-in window, drive through window, for Wendy's which will be located on Route 58 in the Town of Riverhead, to the west of Meatway? Now, Sheri, you told me that you were here to talk about it."

Sheri Johnson: "Sheri Johnson. I currently serve as Program Director for the North Fork Environmental Council."

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Given the two and a half year battle that we had in Mattituck over the McDonalds, I feel it is my responsibility to at least come up tonight and comment on this application. Clearly, the two situations are very different. In Southold, there are no chain fast food restaurants. In Riverhead we seem to have an over-abundance of them. We did learn several things in researching the Mattituck McDonalds issue. One of them was that McDonalds claimed that 40% of their business was through the drive-in, so solid waste disposal of the material that goes out became an issue. And I don't know if there's any way you can think about that or control it or have some bearing on it, but it was a concern. The other concern was, there was a safety issue in people from the parking area crossing the drive through lane, and I don't know if in site plan review, you can do anything about that either. It also is a concern. And, basically, that's all I have."

Supervisor Janoski: "Thank you. Peter, I don't know if you know this or not, perhaps one of these-- we should really give them a chance to say something, but, what has Wendy's done as far as the packaging to address the issue of solid waste?"

Peter Danowski: "Okay, I'll have Steve Gold come up in a minute and talk about this. When I went down to the brand new Wendy's on the Route 112, which opened on November 17th or 18th, I got a chance to eat the product that Steve Gold personally was serving to me. So, I'm sure he can enlighten us in that regard. Steve, if you would in a minute, come up to the microphone to address Sheri's other comments. We recognize the traffic situation and the site plan has already called for not only an entry or exit out to 58, but also an entryway out toward Meatway to their parking lot. So not everyone has to go directly out onto Route 58. I think that is a help. And we've tried through site plan review to listen to the comments of the Architecture Review Board and also the Town Engineer who's reviewed the site plan, and we've made one change already by way of site plan analysis and probably we'll do a further one at the final submittal stage. With that said, Steve, if you want to talk about how Wendy's packages their items, make whatever comment you want."

Steve Gold: "Thank you, ladies and gentlemen of the Board. Steve Gold, I'm the Director of Real Estate and Development for

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Wenco Food Systems Corp., and we are the prospective owners and operators of this prospective restaurant. With respect to the safety issue, I'm going to have Chris just come up real quick and talk about where the main entrance to our restaurant is with respect to the drive through and things of that nature. With respect to garbage as an issue, and it's an issue with us, and we take, I don't want to sound facetious or make any statements that would be taken the wrong way, but basically, we look at that as a bigger issue to us than it is to our surrounding neighbors and the people in the community. The last thing I want to see is a Wendy's cup, you know, sitting in the middle of the road. It reflects badly on us. Obviously, we don't have complete control over those folks that take our product out in their car and go someplace else and sit and eat it and throw it out in the street. But, with respect to policing of our lot, and I can also tell you that Mr. Grimaldi had the same concerns with respect to his Meatway, which he keeps very neat and clean, we will be not only policing our own parking lot on a daily basis, but also the Meatway lot, Mr. Tommasini's property adjacent to ours, and the other properties in the area to make sure that the waste is kept to a bare minimum. And we take, basically, great pride in making sure that that does not become an issue because it obviously reflects badly on us and becomes an issue in the community. If anybody has any other questions for me, I'd be happy to answer them."

Supervisor Janoski: "Have you discontinued the use of plastic packaging material?"

Steve Gold: "Yes, we have. That's-- everything is based on paper products and things of that nature. Is there any other questions that I can answer with respect to anything? Anybody? Okay, thank you very much."

Supervisor Janoski: "Thank you."

Steve Gold: "Chris, I guess, wanted to come up and address, I want him to address that safety issue that was brought up with respect to the drive through."

Peter Danowski: "We have also brought the site plans here and have them on display for any member of the public."

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Chris Robinson: "Good evening. Chris Robinson from Nelson & Pope, Engineers. One of the ways we've laid out the site to separate the pedestrian traffic to the building from the drive through, is we provided most on the parking on the west side of the building with sidewalks that bring them all to the front doors. We have a small amount of cars on the east side of the building which has been designated essentially employee parking so the main pedestrian traffic will be along where the sidewalk is and away from the drive through area. I'm also available if there are any other questions."

Supervisor Janoski: "The Board will-- "

Councilman Stark: "Which side of Route 58?"

Chris Robinson: "Route 58 is right."

Supervisor Janoski: "The Board will see that in detail when we review the site plan. Is there anyone else, anybody on the Board have any questions? Is anyone else present wishing to address the Board on this matter? It is really-- on the question of the drive through, that is the issue which needs the special permit. Actually the restaurant is a permitted use, but for some reason drive throughs require a special permit. I didn't write it, I just go through these things. No one wishes to address the Board so, therefore, the Hearing is declared closed. Thank you all very much. There is no further business, so without hesitation, this Meeting is-- "

Councilwoman Gilliam: "Well, before we adjourn, I think that you would join me in wishing the people of the Town of Riverhead a healthy and happy holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year."

Supervisor Janoski: "From all of us to all of you a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year."

Meeting adjourned 8:19 p.m.

*Barbara Gustafson*  
Town Clerk