

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall on Tuesday, May 7, 1957 at 10:00 A.M.

Present:

- William J. Leonard, Supervisor
- Otis G. Pike
- Bruno F. Zaloga, Jr., Justices of the Peace
- John H. Benedict, Councilman

Absent:

- Thomas M. Stark, Justice of the Peace

Also Present: Jacob Harding, Town Attorney, and Myron C. Young, Superintendent of Highways.

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board held on April 16, 1957, were submitted to the Board and on motion made by Councilman Benedict and seconded by Justice Pike, it was RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as submitted. The Vote---Justice Stark, Absent; Justice Pike and Zaloga, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Mr. Cedric Luce of Sound Avenue, Riverhead, appeared before the Board, in reference to the re-alignment of a certain section of Sound Shore Road to eliminate a curve. He was willing to fully cooperate in this project with no land acquisition cost to the Town.

Matter was referred to Superintendent of Highways, Town Engineer and Highway Committee.

Councilman Benedict offered the following resolution which was seconded by Justice Pike.

RESOLVED that the Long Island Lighting Company be authorized to install improved street lighting on Second Street between Griffing Ave. and Roanoke Ave., as per letter and sketch dated April 16, 1957.

The Vote---Justice Stark, Absent; Justices Pike and Zaloga, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Police report for the month of April 1957, was submitted to the Board and ordered placed on file.

Statements of Tax Collections from the Receiver of Taxes, Charles Allen Horton, dated April 30, 1957, was read to the Board. Communication ordered placed on file.

A preliminary report of the Special Suffolk County Census, dated April 1, 1957, was submitted to the Board and order placed on file.

Councilman Benedict offered the following resolution which was seconded by Justice Pike.

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RESOLVED that Bruno Cybulski, Riverhead, New York, be hired as a custodian at the Town Dump, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings of each week and to be compensated at the rate of \$5.00 per evening.

The Vote---Justice Stark, Absent, Justices Pike and Zaloga, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Justice Zaloga offered the following resolution which was seconded by Justice Pike.

RESOLVED that Sgt. Harold Bowden be authorized to attend St. Lawrence University Institute on Delinquency and Crime on July 28th thru August 2, 1957 and that all necessary expenses be paid.

The Vote---Justice Stark, Absent; Justices Pike and Zaloga, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Justice Pike offered the following resolution which was seconded by Justice Zaloga.

RESOLVED that a request be made to the State Traffic Commission requesting them to reset the time switch on the traffic light at the intersection of East Main Street and McDermott Avenue, so that this traffic light is inoperative after 9 P.M. of each day.

The Vote---Justice Stark, Absent; Justices Pike and Zaloga, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Justice Zaloga offered the following resolution which was seconded by Councilman Benedict.

RESOLVED that Harry Boden, Riverhead, New York, be and he is hereby appointed Police Patrolman of the Town of Riverhead on a provisional basis, subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Suffolk County Civil Service Commission, salary fixed at the rate of \$4000. per annum, payable semi-monthly, effective May 16, 1957.

The Vote---Justice Stark, Absent; Justices Pike and Zaloga, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A report was made to the Board by the Town Clerk relative to the results of the Zoning Poll conducted through the News-Review and Radio Station WRIV over the past three weeks. Poll indicated 57 in favor and 48 against.

A discussion was held relative to the assignment of a Police Patrolman for duty as a Detective and Ordinance Inspection Officer. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that Roscoe Palmer be assigned to this duty under supervision of the Chief of Police.

Justice Zaloga offered the following resolution which was seconded by Councilman Benedict.

RESOLVED that a clothing allotment be and it is hereby authorized for Police Patrolman, Roscoe Palmer in the amount of \$250. per annum, payable semi-annually, effective July 1, 1957.

The Vote---Justice Stark, Absent; Justices Pike and Zaloga, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A letter dated April 18, 1957, from Horace W. Schmahl, Chairman of the Board, National Railways Security Bureau, Inc., was read to the Board as follows:

"It has come to my attention, from accounts which appeared in the public press, that various members of the Town Board have met with representatives of the U. S. Navy in Washington, D.C. in a effort to discuss the proposed acquisition of aerial easements by the U. S. Navy and the Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation in the Calverton and Wading River sections of Riverhead. It is further my understanding that this meeting was precipitated by a majority of the Town Board members, without having served notice upon a minority member of the Board.

In the event that my understanding is correct, then and in such event, and as a resident, property holder and taxpayer of Riverhead, I wish to express to your Board protest and disapproval of such action.

From an independent inquiry made by the Washington representatives of this Bureau, it appears that at least one member of the Board has expressed himself as being opposed to the government-Grumman plans for the acquisition of aerial easements in the area within which my property is located. This aspect is now being further investigated by our Washington office. It appears to me that neither an individual member of the Town Board nor a group of members of the Board should be permitted to function as a lobby or a spokesman representing obviously only unilateral interests.

You are undoubtedly aware of the fact that there are many residents, property owners and taxpayers, like myself, in the Riverhead area, who would welcome a translation into practice of the proposed acquisition of aerial easements in the area. In the archaic atmosphere in which we are now living in Riverhead, with its complete absence of a zoning code, the government's plan can only be construed as a blessing for those property owners. Plans are being made for the organization of those taxpayers who share in this view. However, I feel that it should be made clear to the Board that some of the voters in this area will, under no circumstances, tolerate any repetition of what appears to have been a lobbying trip by a majority group to Washington." End

Justice Pike had this to say in regard to this letter.

"No one member of the Town Board has been opposed to the Grumman taking, as every member has been opposed. The meeting with the Navy and Grumman officials was not attended by all members of the Town Board, neither the minority members nor the majority members. It was not considered an official meeting.

The minority member is opposed to the Grumman taking. He called me and commended me in regard to a speech I made on the radio, attacking Rep. Wainwright. President of Riverhead Republican Club saw a copy of my speech and provided me with a resolution passed by the Riverhead Republican Committee, opposing the Grumman taking.

If Mr. Schmahl, who works for Grumman, is in favor of this taking then he is the first taxpayer to voice his opinion in favor of this taking. We are not trying to lobby but are trying to protect all taxpayers interests and shall continue to do so."

Communication ordered placed on file.

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The following resolution was offered before the Town Board by Councilman Benedict and seconded by Justice Pike.

RESOLVED that the Supervisor be authorized to sign a petition authorizing the Town to establish Extension #8A of the Riverhead Water District.

The Vote---Justice Stark, Absent; Justices Pike and Zaloga, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

The Town Board convened as a Board of Audit and examined all Town Bills to date, the totals of which were as follows: General Town---\$6,190.82, Machinery Fund---\$5,560.32, Town Highway Garage Account---\$41,700.00. On motion and vote, it was Resolved that the bills be approved as rendered.

There being no further business on motion and vote, the meeting adjourned to meet on Tuesday, May 21, 1957 at 10:00 A.M.

Anthony F. Gadzinski
Anthony F. Gadzinski, Town Clerk

AFG:mvb

STANDARD B & P "Notepad"

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