

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, February 3, 1943 at 2:00 P. M.

Present:

Milton L. Burns, Supervisor

Austin H. Warner,  
Fred. H. Boutcher,  
William J. Leonard,  
Frank J. Smith, Justices of the Peace.

Seth A. Hubbard, Town Attorney was present.

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board held on January 20, 1943, and minutes of a meeting held on January 27, 1943 were read and on motion and vote were duly adopted.

A communication was read from the Vestry of Grace Church inclosing a resolution favoring the adoption of some form of curfew regulation which would keep minors off the streets at night. (The communication was ordered placed on file)

Rev. Charles W. MacLean addressed the Board stating that he was not only speaking in regard to the above communication from the Grace Church Vestry, but also in response to a verbal resolution passed by the Rotary Club which also favors a curfew regulation. He outlined the serious moral situation in the community which is a matter of public record. He said that this situation is not only in this community but that it is prevalent throughout the country; small groups of children roaming the streets at night, presented a definite social problem. He said that a curfew ordinance is not a cure of the situation and that the community must go far beyond a curfew law. He suggested that a committee composed of representatives from schools, churches and other organizations be appointed to study the problem. He said that he brought the matter to the Board's attention for their consideration and urged that it be given a great deal of thought and intelligence.

Mr. George W. Hildreth submitted a petition signed by twenty citizens of the town urging the Town Board to enact a curfew law prescribing that all minors under the age of sixteen years unaccompanied by parents or adult guardians shall be off the streets of the town at 9:30 P. M. every evening. Mr. Hildreth stated that this situation is not singular to the Town of Riverhead but that it is epidemic throughout the United States. He said that he never saw so much disrespect for authority as now exists. He agreed that a curfew law will not be sufficient but it will help. He urged the adoption of a curfew law and said that if the law does not provide for towns to adopt such a regulation (that) he recommends that the State Legislature now in session be urged to pass a proper law giving towns the authority.

Mr. Elias Avram addressed the Board and stated that he did not attend the Town Board meeting in regard to the Curfew regulation, however, he said that he was very much interested and favored the adoption of a curfew law.

The communication from the Grace Church Vestry and the petition submitted by Mr. George W. Hildreth were ordered placed on file.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Smith, it was RESOLVED that the following Notice be published in the official paper of the Town,

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead at the Town Hall, corner of Roanoke Avenue and Second Street at Riverhead in said Town of Riverhead, County of Suffolk, and State of New York on the 15th day of February, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day, upon a proposed curfew ordinance for the said Town of Riverhead.

The general terms of the proposed ordinance are as follows:

(a) That it shall be unlawful for any minor person under the age of sixteen years to be upon the public streets, sidewalks, parking lots, rights-of-way, or other public places within the Town of Riverhead between the hours of 9:30 P. M. and sunrise during the months of September to May inclusive or between the hours of 10:00 P. M. and sunrise during the months of June, July and August, unless such minor be accompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or an adult person in whose care or custody such minor has been entrusted by such minor's parent or guardian.

(b) Any minor child under the age of 16 years violating this ordinance shall be presumed to be a delinquent child and thereupon become subject to the penalties imposed by the Penal Law of the State of New York.

(c) The proposed ordinance shall become effective ten days after publication and posting thereof, and remain in effect for the duration of the present war and six months thereafter.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is on file in the Town Clerk's Office for public inspection. The vote, Justices Warner, Boutcher, Leonard and Smith, Yes, Supervisor Burns, Yes. Total vote, Yes 5, No 0. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

The Treasurer's report of the Riverhead Fire District for the year 1942 was submitted to the Board and ordered placed on file.

Mr. Elias Avram, Attorney at Law, representing Mr. Reynold Ryan addressed the Board stating that his client has a claim against the Town of Riverhead in the amount of \$325.00 which he feels is a just claim. He urged the Board to consider this matter. On motion and vote it was referred to the Town Attorney.

A Police report for the month of January, 1943 was submitted to the Board and on motion and vote was ordered placed on file.

Forrest G. Downs, Receiver of Taxes submitted a report of the amount of taxes collected as of February 1, 1943 and on motion and vote was ordered placed on file.

On motion made by Justice Boutcher and seconded by Justice Leonard

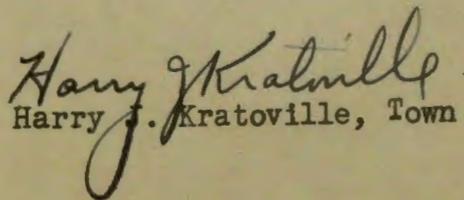
it was RESOLVED that the Supervisor be and he hereby is authorized to borrow on Certificates of Indebtedness, the sum of Four Thousand (\$4,000) for the purpose of snow removal. The resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Boutcher, it was RESOLVED that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer the sum of \$1,286.54 from the Current Surplus Account to the Miscellaneous Town's Share-Retirement System Account. The resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Board.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Boutcher, it was RESOLVED that the Supervisor, the four Justices of the Peace, Town Attorney, Supt. of Highways, the three Assessors, the Clerk to the Board of Assessors and the Town Clerk be authorized to attend the Annual Meeting of the Association of Towns of the State of New York to be held at Albany on the 17th and 18th days of February, 1943, and that each be allowed a sum not to exceed \$40.00 for necessary expenses. The vote, Justices Warner, Boutcher, Leonard and Smith, Yes, Supervisor Burns, Yes. Total vote, Yes 5, No 0. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

The Town Board then convened as a Board of Audit and examined the Town bills for the month of January, 1943.

There being no further business on motion and vote the meeting adjourned to meet on Monday, February 15, 1943 at 2:00 P. M.

  
Harry J. Kratoville, Town Clerk.