

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead, held in the Town Hall, Riverhead, New York, on Tuesday, May 9, 1978 at 7:30 P.M.

Present: Allen M. Smith, Supervisor
George G. Young, Councilman
Francis E. Menendez, Councilman
John Lombardi, Councilman
Antone J. Regula, Councilman

Absent: David P. Fishbein, Town Attorney
Alex E. Horton, Supt. of Highways

Supervisor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC HEARING - 7:45 P.M.

Town Clerk submitted affidavits of publishing and posting, dated April 27, 1978, that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 1978 at 7:45 P.M. in the formulation of an application for the entitlement of the Town of Riverhead to apply to the Department of Housing & Urban Development for participation in the "Small Cities Program" of the Housing & Community Development Act of 1977. The affidavits were ordered to be placed on file.

Supervisor Smith: "Ladies and gentlemen, for those of you that previously heard me, I apologize, but I'd like to re-cap for those new faces in the audience, the purpose for which we are gathered this evening. We are participating members, at this moment, in what's called a Suffolk County Consortium. Under that arrangement, we and other Towns and Villages of Suffolk County participate in the Community Development Act. Under that program, we have conducted certain activities such as the Acquisition of the Raspberry Hilton and its forthcoming demolition, the Historic Preservation Project downtown, the Home Improvement Loan Subsidy Program and other programs in Riverhead.

For reasons that are not all that germane this evening, that particular arrangement will not be followed after August of 1978. The alternative of the Town of Riverhead is to compete under a program called "Small Cities". Under that particular program, the Town of Riverhead does not have what is called a Direct Entitlement. We are not guaranteed any sum of money. We compete generally against other communities for a Community Development Program. Our maximum entitlement might be in any one of three years, \$650,000.00 and an entitlement over a three-year program of \$1,950,000.00.

PUBLIC HEARING - continued

It may be that we might be disapproved for all of these projects. It also may be that we might be approved partially for some of these projects. There is a system of evaluation by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The projects that were selected such that on a scoring sheet we can acquire the greatest number of points in competition with other communities.

At the first hearing, the purpose was to listen to all segments of the community address the Town Board with reference to any projects that they might like to see undertaken. The purpose of this particular hearing is to discuss in a public forum the formulation, the results of those hearings, and the input that we have had on the Town level into the formula that is before you.

Now anybody who hasn't picked it up, there is a copy of what we propose up front here and if you'd like to pick it up and read it, then we can discuss the thing meaningfully and I will, generally, for the record, lay out what is entailed. You see before you a face sheet and four pages following, two of which are Year I, the second of which is Year II, and the third is Year III. In each of the Years I, II, and III, there is a provision for administration. This is similar to our current program and the administration aspect of the program provides among other things, Mr. Scheiner, who helps administer these programs by working with the condemnation of the Home Improvement Loan Program, etc.

Land Acquisition Program, this is similar to our Discretionary Grant Program which has been approved on Monday and permits certain acquisitions such as the Raspberry Hilton, quite possibly the 500 Doctors Path can be a slum clearance program. It can be a write down program depending upon how we wish to treat it. The Riverhead Loan Program is very similar to that which you have previously heard discussed as exists under the Suffolk County Program. We see it as a three-barreled program write down for Home Improvement Cost Loans of \$40,000. A Direct Grant Program of \$40,000 and the new aspect is a Commercial Loan Program which, for instance, might be used in Polish Town to under write or write down the cost of facade improvements.

For the number 4 in Year I is a Water Extension Project in the Horton Avenue Area of \$55,000. It is tied to the number 5 which is a Drainage Program for Horton Avenue Area for \$100,000. Actually numbers 4 and 5 are conjunctive and it could be that we'll spend a little less on one and a little more on another.

Number 6 is a Job Training Program. As was suggested, there is a program currently underway with the Riverhead Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the Suffolk County Department of Labor. We envision the con-

PUBLIC HEARING - continued

Supervisor Smith continues:

tinuing of that particular program. This program, however, would be oriented towards Riverhead Residents.

Capital Improvements to Town Parks, we have not specifically set dollar figures for the four items that are listed there, but suggested activities can include Stotsky Park, Wading River School, Jamesport School, exterior facilities and neighborhood parks, as were suggested.

Number 8 in the first year is a continuation of the Townscape Program which is the Downtown River Front Park Beautification Program. Number 9 is a built-in cost to evaluate the program for the first year and the last item being Contingencies.

Year II, again you see the item for Administration. In number 2 in Year II is, again, a continuation of Land Acquisition Program.

Number 3 is a new item that would be a Water Extension Project for the Belltown Area. Number 4 is a relocation fund, should occasion warrant the moving of people or the relocating of people because of the activities of the drainage solution problem.

Demolition and Acquisition Fund, again, similar to the Raspberry Hilton kind of thing.

Number 6 is a single-family rehabilitation program. This is in our Discretionary Grant that I mentioned before and we propose to pick it up again on Year II. We think that the Discretionary Grant will carry us to Year II so we have not put that one in Year I of this program.

Commercial property, acquisition downtown Riverhead Parking, again the Townscape concept \$50,000 and the major effort along the Peconic River in Year II. Number 8 is in conjunction with Townscape. Again Job Training. Number 10 is Evaluation of Programs. Number 11 is Contingencies.

Year III, Overhead Administration etc., number 1. Number 2, possible Senior Citizens Project. Number 4 a new item. Other communities have had substantial success in attracting business by a write down effort with reference to industrial sites. We consider this a viable program for the Town of Riverhead and would like to pick it up in Year III. The Loan Program, again, is a continuation of the Year I Program. Number 6 is again a continuation of the Jobs Program. Number 7 is Evaluation. Number 8 is Contingency, and it all adds up to \$1,950,000.00.

Again ladies and gentlemen, we do not guarantee we will ever get dime one of the funds, but we intend to compete for the same.

This brings us to that portion of the hearing process where we will listen to you. You may suggest changes, you may suggest additions, or you may suggest that certain

PUBLIC HEARING - continuedSupervisor Smith continues:

items be left in the program as presented. I, therefore, ask you if you will and you wish to address the Town Board to please step to the microphone, give your name and address to Mrs. Pendzick and address the Town Board?

Mr. Langhorn, you don't want to address the Jobs Program. You see that it is included. You suggested that the last time. For the public record, do you want to say that you agree to that?"

Ernest Langhorn, Philips Street, Riverhead; "At the public hearing concerning this proposed project, I indicated that I thought there was a need for some type of jobs program for Riverhead Residents and I'm very happy to see that included."

Supervisor Smith: "Thank you Sir. How about Horton Avenue? Do we have a representative back there Sir? We tried to work in some things with reference to Horton Avenue. Would you like to put on the record some supporting statement?"

Arthur Anderson, Horton Avenue, Riverhead; "Last meeting I was mentioning certain things which I know that was on this proposal, and I'm just hoping that this will materialize. It would be very beneficial to the area. However, I noticed that maybe if we get this first — try to get some of this anyhow to try to help the neighborhood and then we will start working on the recreation facilities. I thank you Sir."

Supervisor Smith: "Thank you Sir. Anyone else choosing to address the Board?"

John Langhorn, Box 71, Horton Avenue, Riverhead; "I would like to know if you have any idea when you will start putting the drainage in?"

Supervisor Smith: "Mr. Langhorn, if we go with this program, I can't tell you definitely whether we would. I have to get the money first. That does not mean that with reference to your drainage problems that we will not address it. This is one of several approaches that we might have and we will pursue actively, let us say, for the next three months, if we get some idea as to whether this particular solution to your problems. We realize that it's a minority area and needs these solutions. If this particular solution does not work out, we will attempt to work out other solutions for the area."

John Langhorn: "Okay, thank you."

PUBLIC HEARING - continued

Arthur Anderson, Horton Avenue, Riverhead: "I would like to ask one question about Horton Avenue and the vicinity. Is that a residential area or is it zoned for business also?"

Supervisor Smith: "Mr. Anderson, I'm very much like the conductor of an orchestra. I don't necessarily know how to play a flute. I try to get everybody to do their thing and you caught me not knowing how to play the flute, and my zoning guy isn't here at the moment. I'll have to get you the answer for that one. I think it's a residential area.

Miss Peters would you ask Mr. DeLuca to stick his head in here and he can answer that question immediately. Mr. Anderson, continue if you will, or do you want to wait for the answer to that question first."

Arthur Anderson: "Well I had a reason for asking that. We are fighting quite hard to better the neighborhood, in this particular vicinity. We have enough problems up there to start with, and the reason I was asking whether it was zoned for business or whatever, there is a business - you know, more or less I guess you would call it, and I was just wondering whether it could be bettered or something done so that - like on Sunday afternoon, you could have an opportunity to go through your own Avenue being your paying taxes for it."

Supervisor Smith: "I got the idea. I will look into it. If it is something that is in violation, we'll see that the matter is taken care of by the Building Department."

Arthur Anderson: "Thank you. I'd appreciate that very much Sir."

Supervisor Smith: "Yes Sir."

Dick Benedict, Fanning Blvd., Riverhead: "Since I live on a private road, I was wondering if we don't get the revenue sharing that was promised, that, if possibly, some of these privates could be included in this, since maybe they at least would be a one-time deal to get them into decent condition and I haven't heard any more about revenue sharing. This is not in lieu of revenue sharing, is it?"

Supervisor Smith: "No Sir. It is not and the last entitlement that I received, I recall seeing crossing my desk. I think that that fund is there. Really what's holding us up on the private road problem is that lawsuit at this particular point."

PUBLIC HEARING - continued

Dick Benedict: "However, none of the private roads would be mentioned in this part of the funding for the community if revenue sharing didn't take care of the problem?"

Supervisor Smith: "It is a consideration. We will note your comments."

Dick Benedict: "Thank you very much."

Supervisor Smith: "Is there anyone else?"

No one else wishing to be heard and no communications having been received thereto, Supervisor Smith declared the hearing closed at 8:51 P.M.

Irene J. Pendzick

Irene J. Pendzick, Town Clerk

IJP/vlv