

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall, Riverhead, New York, on Tuesday, March 7, 1989 at 7:30 p.m.

**Present:** Joseph F. Janoski, Supervisor  
John Lombardi, Councilman  
Louis Boschetti, Councilman  
Robert Pike, Councilman  
Denise Civiletti, Councilwoman

**Also Present:** Patricia Moore, Town Attorney  
Irene J. Pendzick Town Clerk

Supervisor Janoski called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Janoski, "Reports."

REPORTS

Riverhead Fire District-1988 Annual Budget.	Filed.
Building Department-Month of February, 1989.	Filed.
Tax Receiver-Total collections as of 3/1/89.	Filed.
Conservation Advisory Council-Minutes of February 27, 1989 Meeting.	Filed.
Planning Department-Negative Declarations for "Greenfields" subdivision and "Miller Bluffs".	Filed.
<u>OPEN BID REPORT - PICK-UP TRUCK - WATER DISTRICT.</u>	Filed.

(See Water District Minutes)

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you. Applications."

APPLICATIONS & PETITIONS

Petition-Water District Extension/Alvin Benjamin.	Filed.
Site Plan-Victor Pafundi-Amendment to Aquebogue Commons Application.	Filed.

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you. Correspondence."

CORRESPONDENCE

Owen McDonald, III, 3/1/89-Submitting resignation as Court Officer, effective 4/1/89. Filed.

Charles R. Cuddy, 2/27/89-Objects to proposed rezoning of 18.4 acres at Hulse Landing Road. Client has application pending for more than two years. Filed.

Riverhead Raceway, 2/28/89-Copy of Raceway Schedule for 1989. Filed.

S.C. Dept. of Planning-Resolved to approve applications for amendments to implement Wading River Hamlet Study; Resolved to disapprove application of William Hubbard. Filed.

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you. Under Unfinished Business, we have listed on the back of the agenda a list of applications before the Town Board and status report. I would recognize anyone who wishes to be heard on any subject or any question on the agenda. Steve."

Steve Haizlip, Calverton, "Last week when the hearing was going on about Denise Civiletti's sponsored hearing, there was quite a few speakers. One of the speakers was a young Bill Talmage. Nothing against those. They are very nice people. I've never had the occasion to talk or anything with them. But I believe Mr. young Bill Talmage has been given misinformation when he made the statement that the land Grumman is located on doesn't pay any taxes. Well, I've looked into the record and they do pay taxes. Now, this goes back to the time that Mr. Leonard was in office (we had two Mr. Leonards by the way) Bill Leonard, and he got his information or research based on a Michigan law that when federal government activities are occupying land or facilities, they are to pay taxes on the interest that they hold in their facility on that land. So that's where it came from and the amount (the last time I heard) was back a few years ago, about ten years ago and was \$160,000. Well, I'm sure that it has increased many times since then and I don't exactly and I didn't go into that to find out how much. So this is like when someone when they make that statement intentionally or how they were informed, the rest of the audience sitting which was quite a few, are going to pick that up and believe that. So this is why I'm correcting the record. This is like the time I expressed myself that Mr. Rosso said that people put the 18 man legislature body in place and the people didn't. It was the court that put them there. And I guess you've read a lot of times in Newsday, correction please. Well, two weeks ago or thereabout when I announced Mr. Halpin's middle name, I'm sorry I left out a word but

I'm going to correct it tonight. I meant to say grab the taxes Mr. Halpin. Thank you."

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you Steve. You're absolutely right. Grumman is a taxpayer in the town. The property is tax exempt to a large extent belonging to the United States government but there is a payment made in lieu of taxes. The last time I looked, they were the fourth largest taxpayer in the town. Dotty is nodding her head that they still are. Steve is back."

Steve Haizlip, "I've got a rebuttal. The only thing I'm correcting is the word no."

Supervisor Janoski, "They are the fourth largest taxpayer. Is there anyone else who wishes to be recognized on any subject? Felix. Some how I knew you had something on your mind."

Felix Mackie, Riverhead, "I'm just a plain old taxpayer but I'm dismayed about the way the taxes are going up. A while back the Riverhead Board of Education put out a flyer; if you want to do something about your taxes, write to Albany, write the Suffolk County Executive and even blame the Town of Riverhead for not doing their fair share. And I'm going to give you some information that you're never going to hear from the Riverhead Board of Education because it's a big secret. They don't want this to get out at all. They never said a word about it and they never even hinted at it. I got contracts here that I got from the district office. Contracts covering the faculty of Riverhead Central School District. In 1984, the maximum salary for a teacher in the Riverhead School District was \$34,500. The maximum. And in 1989, July 1st, that same teacher at top pay will be getting \$59,463. That's an increase of \$25,000 a year. This for a teacher who works 180 days a year. If they teach for three hours a day and we're lucky if they do, they're getting an amount of \$110 an hour to teach. And it doesn't matter if they teach two time two, dog and cat. If they've got the time in and the credits, that's their pay; \$59,434. That's an increase of 70% over what they were making on June 30, 1984. And you go up to one of those meetings up there about the budget and ask them about the salary increases, they say about 7%, nominal wage increase. They're not going to tell you they get \$25,000 a year. This is like a \$50 an hour increase over what they made in 1984. And the administrators or the principals, they went from (in 1984) \$51,000 a year and July 1st of this year they're going to be making \$81,000. That's an increase of \$30,000 a year. These people also work 180 days a year. And the School Board and Suprina keep pointing their finger at everybody but the right people. The people that are running the Board of Education. And our school taxes... I've got more god d--- papers than Charles has got pills here. Our school taxes in the year 1983 and 1984, the school was 18 million dollars. The teacher's salary was 8 million, 500 and 15 thousand. And now in this year of 88/89 and we've got another year to go on this school contract, the budget went from 18 million to 33 million. The teachers salaries went

from 8.5 million to over 15 million. The administrative salary went from 666 thousand to 1 million 150 thousand. So they've increased the school budget just for salaries alone by almost 10 million dollars. And they never tell you a d--- word about that when they talk about things going up. They blame everybody for the expenses but themselves. And really the people who caused this increase of 10 million dollars are the Board of Education and Suprina and the Board of Education is supposed to represent the will of the people. And I'd like to know how the h--- they think they're representing the people if they give out \$25,000 a year increases to teachers, 30,000 to the principal and Suprina went from 50,000 to 90,000. So I think they're not taking a gun out and holding it to our heads. But by passing these and approving these contracts, they're robbing us just the same. It's just that they ain't using a gun. They're using the school contracts that they approve. So they've got us worrying about building a new school. 17 million dollar bond. And what they also don't tell you is that the Riverhead School District, we've got 1074 kids coming that live in the Town of Southampton but they're coming to our school because of some big hearted schmuck said we'll take them in our schools. So instead of Southampton building a school for these kids, we're building the school. We're paying the school teachers, we're paying the principals. And Southampton with all their million dollar estates, don't pay a d--- dime for it. We've got 200 kids coming here from Brookhaven and we're putting up schools for them. If the Board of Education would contact Albany and say, hey we don't have room for these kids in Southampton. Let Southampton build a school for them and we'd have more than enough room in Riverhead for our schools. And if we've got to build a school for them, what happens if St. Johns closes or St. Isidores, or St. Davids or Mercy? We're going to have to keep building school after school and all the time we've got kids going over 1,000 that live in the Town of Southampton. So I think this god d--- Board of Education are not representing us. They're a god d--- bunch of fools. It's a wonder they didn't buy us some building plots in the dessert for Christ's sake. I wouldn't let them represent my dog let me alone me. The thing you've got to do is get rid of them. And the only thing to do is ask them to resign or write to this guy in Albany, Bob Abrams. Let them investigate this. Let them find out why people that are supposed to represent us, give out \$25,000 a year increases to teachers. What the h--- is the reason for that?"

Supervisor Janoski, "Felix, if you could come to a conclusion."

Felix Mackie, "Why? You getting bored?"

Supervisor Janoski, "I got the message."

Felix Mackie, "Yes but you've got to get into the papers, Joe. You got it and I've got it but it ain't getting out to the people. That's my problem. We're getting ripped off by our own

Board of Education and they're blaming everyone around them but them. Go up there to the district office and get some copies of these contracts. Also, we're replacing two roofs that were never inspected. Nobody even inspected the god d--- roofs. But the Board, in their wisdom, is going to remove and replace them. And you know when you write and complain to somebody, don't put a tea bag in there. Put a god d--- condom in there and show you what they're really doing to us. Alright. Thank you."

Supervisor Janoski, "Felix, thank you."

Felix Mackie, "You got any questions."

Supervisor Janoski, "No. Is there anyone else present wishing to be heard at this time? Mary Beth."

Mary Beth Andresen, Church Lane, "And just to set the record straight, I think that Felix should have been at the School Board meeting last week and every week to talk his problems over with him. But contractual issues, be that as it may, you can not vote on them in any school budget. You're voting on a very very small percentage, less than 8% of the school budget. And many of the items that you do vote on in the school budget, are reimbursable by state aid. The contractual situation is truly dependent on the Board and Mr. Suprina. And I certainly hope that the people who are in disagreement with the contractual raises, would bring those people to answer for that and don't take it out on kids by voting down a school budget because truly, the very very few items that you do do, you will do nothing towards contracts and they will still keep going up."

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you. Is there anyone else present wishing to address the Town Board on any subject? Betty."

Betty Brown, N.F.E.C., "Most recently at our past Town Board Meeting we had a three to two vote in favor of the Mill Pond Common Project. On many occasions, the North Fork Environmental Council has asked you to review, discuss, look over all the information to make sure things went according to Hoyle. That was never done. I would like now to mention to you, in accordance with the provisions of section 239 of Municipal Law it is blatantly apparent that the Town Board has violated the law once again on the same project. I'd to quote from that if I may. Each municipal body which has jurisdiction to adopt or amend zoning regulations, approve site plans or issue special permits or grant variances pursuant to such regulations, shall be foretaking final action on certain of such matters, refer the same to such county planning agency. The term special permit and site plan shall be deemed to include any special use permit exception or other special authorization which the Board of Appeals, Planning Board or legislative body is authorized to issue under the provisions of any zoning ordinance. The matters covered by this section are triggered by one; any action within

500 feet of the Atlantic Ocean, Long Island Sound, any bay within this county or any estuary of the foregoing bodies. Two; any action within 500 feet of a proposed right-of-way of any stream or drainage channel owned by the county or for which the county has established channel lines. The North Fork Environmental Council requests this Board to undergo a complete investigation of this project and this process. Mr. Danowski, attorney for the applicant, stated at a work session before this Board, that the School Board supports this project. The School Board has never supported a residential development project to date. We find this extremely curious. Do you? We ask this Board, who is responsible for this inexcusable error and not have the opportunity for this Board to send the County Planning Commission this project for review and recommendation? We're asking now what do you plan to do about this?"

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you Betty for your statement. Certainly we'll take a look to see that the procedure was properly followed and then we'll know what we have to do."

Betty Brown, "Then I hope to hear from you."

Supervisor Janoski, "Is there anyone else present wishing to address the Board?"

Steve Haizlip, "Did everybody speak?"

Supervisor Janoski, "No everybody didn't. Is there anyone else wishing to address the Board?"

Betty Brown, "I just wanted to make this part of the record."

Supervisor Janoski, "Give it to the Clerk. Steve, did you wish to...?"

Steve Haizlip, "I want to bring Mr. Felix, whatever his last name is, (Mackie) bring up to date on the two roofs that are leaking. On the 21st day of February, I attended the meeting for the removal of the asbestos which is going to be 5 million dollars that we've got to pay for."

Supervisor Janoski, "Nine."

Steve Haizlip, "It went up since that meeting? The meeting had said five. So the roofs that was leaking was inspected and confirmed that they need replacement by an outfit called ECS (I think) in Hauppauge. Environmental Consultant Systems. While that's a public institution and this is a public institution, is the EPA jumping all over here about asbestos removal? Are we going to be stuck with another bill?"

Supervisor Janoski, "As far as I know, there is no asbestos in this building."

Steve Haizlip, "Good."

Supervisor Janoski, "Well, so much for the shortest meeting in history. I didn't think he was arguing with you but go right ahead."

Felix Mackie, "I don't know who ESC is. That's why I told that guy I don't believe a god d--- word you say about Suprina."

Supervisor Janoski, "Felix, if I could make one request. If you could leave out the adjectives."

Felix Mackie, "I don't believe a d--- word he says. Here's the recommendation for the rehabilitation, reconstruction and additions to the school building. So I went and I filled out a freedom of information form and I asked him can I have it. I want a copy of the reports regarding the condition of the roof on the Middle School as to why that roof can not be repaired and has to be replaced. I want a copy of the reports on the condition of the roof at Riley Avenue School as to why it can't be repaired. And here is the answer on the inspection. The report does not exist. That means it was never inspected. And I called this guy Weiderson who made the recommendation on replacing the roofs. I spoke to a man named Rick Weiderson. I said; listen I'm from Riverhead. I'm interested in when you inspected these roofs and who determined that they have to be replaced. He said listen, based upon what I was told by the people in Riverhead. He never inspected it. They told him what the size of the roof was and he came up with the recommendation to replace it. Nobody inspected the roof. The Board in its wisdom, said the roof should be replaced. And they've got brains where they sit. Who the h--- replaces and removes roofs? Does that answer your question? Thank you."

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you Felix. Dick."

Dick Benedict, Fanning Boulevard, "I have a concern on Middle Road that I was going to bring up one other time but I wasn't recognized and the meeting got out of hand. It's regarding Timothy Hill again. I know that in the past (probably) month and a half or two months ago, there was two more accidents on Middle Road involving Timothy Hill people. This is the third one I know of. The one I witnessed myself was a drunk driver. The one with the kids on Middle Road, I don't know what that one was all about. But one Sunday, a van tried to go through Mrs. McBurnie's yard."

Supervisor Janoski, "Dick, I think you should clear up that you're not talking about the kids, you're talking about people."

Dick Benedict, "No. I'm talking about who ever is involved down there."

Supervisor Janoski, "Who works there."

Dick Benedict, "Well, they work there. They're involved in Timothy Hill. Now, I know for a fact one of them was drunk driving. This is daylight. All three of these were in the daytime. And the other one, talking to the people who were there when the car plowed through Mrs. McBurnie's fence, that was also drunk driving. Now, somebody is not taking care of Timothy Hill. I don't know who is supposed to but we've got almost 1,000 condominiums planned for Middle Road. The three accidents, all three cross Middle Road to get to the woods, my father-in-law's yard and Mrs. McBurnie's yard and fence. These are all daytime. Does anybody watch that place? There's 106 acres off the tax rolls. Does somebody take care of this place? What the h--- are the kids doing?"

Supervisor Janoski, "Are you talking about government agencies?"

Dick Benedict, "I don't care. Town agencies, government agencies, trustees. Who runs that place?"

Supervisor Janoski, "There is, I believe, a Board of Directors."

Dick Benedict, "You sent me that paperwork. They're in New York City. Who runs it out here? Would somebody look into this situation and see what's going on down there? Talk to Reverend Hill. How do you have drunk drivers in the afternoon driving their vehicles?"

Supervisor Janoski, "Absolutely a good question."

Councilman Boschetti, "Dick, before you go, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask some questions. Are you saying they were driving Timothy Hill vehicles at the time? They were on duty?"

Dick Benedict, "The one I witnessed was. The children, the accident in their van was. They pulled out in front of some people. I talked to witnesses to that accident. I've talked to the people who were there when it drove through Densieski's yard, through McBurnie's fence."

Councilman Boschetti, "You made reference to the fact that you witnessed somebody..."

Dick Benedict, "Well, he was supposedly a counselor at Timothy Hill. Oh yeah. People driving the van when I witnessed it were definitely drunk drivers. This was the one before this. I know that."

Councilman Boschetti, "But you're not sure about the other two accidents and whether they were on duty or not."

Dick Benedict, "They were connected with Timothy Hill. Let's put it that way. That's why I'm asking somebody to look into it."

Supervisor Janoski, "The van accident was...."

Dick Benedict, "The van accident was their van, their kids in the van. But the one that went through on a Sunday afternoon, Densieski's and McBurnie's yard, was supposedly a counselor at Timothy Hill. Now, I don't even think that's good but I'm not stating all these as facts. I want somebody to look into it."

Supervisor Janoski, "As far as the accident reports, the one that mentioned, the van, I know for a fact that you're absolutely correct because you made me aware of it and we checked into it. The other two I'm not familiar with it."

Dick Benedict, "Those were more recent. Those were within the last six weeks or so. I mentioned it to John but then when we got to the meeting, it got out of hand or something and I wasn't recognized. It was a late meeting. I have concerns because my father-in-law lives next door to the place. But besides that, like I say, the ones that I witnessed all crossed Middle Road to have their accident. Now, if anybody had been coming the other way, it would have been head-on and there's a lot of things planned for Middle Road. Thank you."

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you. Is there anyone else present wishing to be recognized at this time? Ok. We're taking up the resolutions now and I'd like to make a motion to take from the table resolution #38 designating the official newspaper. It is moved and seconded."

Resolution #38 was removed from the table for Town Board action.

Supervisor Janoski, "The resolution as prepared, resolves that a list of newspapers; The Long Island Traveler Watchman, News Review, Suffolk Life Newspapers, Newsday and the Wading River Community Journal be designated as official newspapers for the town. And it further resolves that a newspaper be designated as the official newspaper of the town. In the resolution that was tabled, that area was left blank. I would like to, I guess this is an amendment, fill in that blank with The Long Island Traveler Watchman and I make that motion. There being no second."

Councilman Boschetti, "Discussion. This has not been discussed prior to this time. So I think it's important that we know that whatever we fill in that we have sufficient votes to carry. Since you were the third vote Denise, will you be going with this?"

Councilwoman Civiletti, "No."

Councilman Boschetti, "You will not. Do you have a different choice?"

Councilwoman Civiletti, "Yes."

Councilman Boschetti, "Would you make known your choice?"

Councilwoman Civiletti, "Why don't we vote on the motion first?"

Councilman Boschetti "On the Traveler Watchman?"

Councilwoman Civiletti, "I voted yes to take it off the table because I think it's worthy of a vote. I don't mind this Board designating an official newspaper and I was interested in hearing what the Supervisor wanted to designate as the official newspaper."

Supervisor Janoski, "Well, to that issue, there would be another paper that I would have put in that empty space because of the requirement of the law and meeting those requirements. The Suffolk Life Newspapers is a paper published in the town. It is a tax paying business in the town. It is more likely to reach the people than any other paper and does have the last requirement which is a second class mailing permit. However, I recognize that it would not receive sufficient support. So that I moved The Long Island Traveler which is my motion."

Councilman Pike, "Do you think that one has sufficient support?"

Supervisor Janoski, "Well, that is the question before us. I don't think there is a strong opposition to that as there is to the Suffolk Life Newspaper. I just tried it. There is a motion."

Councilman Boschetti, "I'll second it."

The vote, Boschetti, yes, Pike, no, Civiletti, no, Lombardi, no, Janoski, yes.

The amendment to the resolution was thereupon duly declared denied.

Supervisor Janoski, "Is there any other motion? Does anybody want to table this again?"

Councilman Boschetti, "Move to table."

Supervisor Janoski, "Is there a second to the table?"

Councilman Pike, "It doesn't have to be tabled. It was denied."

Supervisor Janoski, "Does anyone want to second the motion to table?"

Councilwoman Civiletti, "Second."

Councilman Pike, "Can we floor it? It's amazing Mr. Supervisor. You managed to try to curry favor with two newspapers in town. Neither one of which had majority support for anything. And it's a very interesting exercise. I wonder what you're up to. I vote yes to table."

Supervisor Janoski, "I would only observe that for three years, the paper which serves as the official paper of the town has also failed to receive a majority support of this Town Board. It serves in that capacity through default. So that they do not have a majority vote either. I guess I have to vote in favor of tabling so we can still consider it at a future time. "

The vote, Boschetti, yes, Pike, yes, Civiletti, yes, Lombardi, yes, Janoski, yes.

The resolution was thereupon duly declared TABLED.

Supervisor Janoski, "Let's take up the real work."

Resolutions #189-#203 found on 271-285 pages of the 1989 Resolution Book.

Supervisor Janoski, "Did you wish to be recognized? Is there anyone before we call it an evening, who wishes to be recognized? Alice."

Alice Graff, Riverhead, "I would like to recommend that the News Review continue to be the legal paper for Riverhead Town. It is the paper that deals primarily with the subjects concerning Riverhead. Thank you."

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you. Yes."

Nancy Gassert, Riverhead, "I would like to ask you Mr. Janoski, the statement you just said that Suffolk Life is a taxpayer in this town. I was under the understanding that they had a 15 year tax abatement and they weren't paying any taxes."

Supervisor Janoski, "It's not 15 years. It was a 10 year tax abatement which every year that goes on, it increases the amount of taxes paid on the property. They are in the fifth year I believe. So that they would be around 50%."

Nancy Gassert, "I see. It goes down."

Supervisor Janoski, "It goes down 10% each year. Plus, they are an employer in the town and I believe they have about 150 employees which are doing business in the town and we did do a study on it. They generate about 5 million dollars of business in the Town of Riverhead on a yearly basis."

Nancy Gassert, "Ok. Thank you."

Supervisor Janoski, "Thank you. One more time. Is that what you said."

Alice Graff, "Sure maybe do that. But what about all the papers they take to the town dump by the truckloads. Do they pay extra for that or how does that work when they bring a whole trailer load of unused Suffolk Life."

Supervisor Janoski, "I don't know that they pay extra but they do pay what they are supposed to. Dick Benedict."

Dick Benedict, "Just one quick question. Did we buy a boat or just stop bidding? I don't see it on here. Did I miss something last week?"

Supervisor Janoski, "Well, we went out to bid for the fourth time for a boat and this time we're going to do it Dick."

Dick Benedict, "I see a lot of used boats on sale in Yaphank in the newspaper, repossessions and things. I didn't see it on here and that's why I wondered if I missed it."

Supervisor Janoski, "Well, we're in the receiving period of getting bids. That being the case, without objection, this meeting is adjourned."

There being no further business on motion or vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

IJP:nm



Irene J. Pendzick  
Town Clerk