

Minutes of the Town of Riverhead Board meeting held by the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead at Town Hall, Howell Avenue, Riverhead, New York on Tuesday, October 17, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Sean Walter	Supervisor
John Dunleavy	Councilman
James Wooten	Councilman
Jodi Giglio	Councilwoman
Timothy Hubbard	Councilman

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Diane Wilhelm	Town Clerk
Anne Marie Prudenti	Deputy Town Attorney

The meeting was officially opened at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Sean Walter with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an Invocation by Rev. Janet Wright, Interfaith Minister.

Supervisor Walter presented Yan Gabriella who is a former student of the East End Art Council and a graduate of the program. Yan introduced herself stating she is a Riverhead resident and had been a part of East End Arts since she was five years old. She presently has a paper cut exhibit in Town Hall and in November will have an exhibit in the town library.

As October is Dysautonomia Awareness Month, Councilwoman Giglio, on behalf of Supervisor Walter and the Town Board, presented a Proclamation to the Dysautonomia International. Accepting the proclamation was Lauren Stiles, Esq., President of the Dysautonomia International.

Supervisor Walter introduced Harriet Haas who entertained everyone with some Halloween songs. The Supervisor thanked Harriet for her singing and explained that Harriet ushers in every season with a song.

**APPLICATIONS**

- Eastern Energy Systems - Change of Zone Application SCTM #0600-21-2-8, Sound Avenue, Jamesport

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilwoman Giglio reported that Polish Hall celebrated their one 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Saturday night. Everyone who attended had a fun time dancing to polka music and enjoying the company of friends. On Friday night the Vail Leavitt celebrated their 136<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Councilwoman Giglio added that it is the oldest theater on Long Island and urged everyone to attend one or all of the events they have planned.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Supervisor Walter: “It’s 7:18 and we’ll open the first public hearing. It’s scheduled for 7:05 and we’ll open the public hearing concerning this the appeal of J. Petrocelli Development Associates to seek the demolition of the existing residence known as the Howell House located at 420 East Main Street, Riverhead, NY (SCTM #0600-129-3-12), which appeal is taken pursuant to Riverhead Town Code Section 241-4 from the recommendation made by the Riverhead Landmarks Preservation Commission which denied the aforementioned application and I believe we have Mr. Eric Russo for the applicant.”

Eric Russo: “Mr. Supervisor, members of the Town Board, for the record my name is Eric Russo and I’m with the law firm of Vanbrunt, Juzwiak & Russo with offices at 140 Main Street, Sayville, NY 11782. We’re here this evening representing J. Petrocelli Contracting Inc. for J. Petrocelli Development Associates of 100 Commack Street in Ronkonkoma.

The premises in question is 420 East Street in Riverhead, tax map # 0600-129-3-12 and what we’re here for as you stated in the call, was seeking relief of the demolition approval denial from the Riverhead Landmark Preservation Commission.

Your section of the code under Section 241-5 indicates, and I’ll just recite it, *that in addition to the appeal process described the applicant whose application for demolition, alteration or improvement of a historic structure of a building is denied may apply to the Town Board for relief from the denial on the grounds that the denial presents a hardship*. To prove the existence of the hardship, the applicant must establish to the Town Board satisfaction, which is why we’re here this evening, that the property is incapable of earning a reasonable return and reasonable return not be the most profitable return. In addition, as to “B”, that was “A” is that the property cannot be adapted for use which would result in such a reasonable return. The code section that I’m referencing flows out of Chapter 241, Landmarks and Historic Districts where in there is a procedure under 241-4 in which we seek a building permit for demolition and then a request for the Landmark Preservation Commission to review our request as referred to it by the Building Department and we have to provide the necessary documents.

That being said, our applicant in this case myself and Mr. Petrocelli, met with and appeared before the Landmark Preservation Committee after we made the necessary building permit application and its referral to the Commission. The problem was we had two meetings and what I have provided you with so that you can follow along is a binder that the Town Clerk has and I’ve provided the Supervisor with so that he can share with the other Board members. It includes in the binder a notice of tonight’s hearing, the Resolution that the Board approved to schedule a hearing, a total of twenty-eight photographs, nineteen of the subject resident and nine of the site and streetscape as well as a survey a Young & Young from September 16, 1983, the tax map showing you the respective parcel in relation to its position on Main Street and then there are various other documents that were presented to the Riverhead Landmark Preservation Commission. There is the decision of June 30, 2017 in which they denied our application which I will review with you as part of the presentation. There is a copy of Section 241-5, of the Hardship criteria of the town code. There is the August 24, 2017 letter from the Town Attorney that I filed requesting this hearing and the appeal along with the letter that addressed to the Supervisor and the Town Board also August 24, 2017 with documents provided indicating the meetings that were held with the Commission on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 25<sup>th</sup> and the relief that’s being sort this evening.

There is also a plan that’s provided. I have given you the plan and it’s the plan that’s presented to the public to the left. It is showing you the proposed parking that the applicant would seek through the proper zoning channels with the Town Planning Department and the Town Board

if it is required as to creation of twenty-four stalls adjacent to what is now under construction the Preston House with a rear access to the parking through the municipal lot to the west. The number of municipal spaces that would be removed out of the municipal lot would be moved into the proposed parking of twenty-four stalls and designated as four stalls which is what would be removed for the use by the town in relation to that parking space. So that although one lot is being diminished, it's being created in the other leaving a total of twenty that we would hope would be used in connection with the Preston House.

That being said, there's also a letter of May 22<sup>nd</sup> of Mr. Andrew Giambertone Associates our architect who discusses the building condition. There is also a May 22<sup>nd</sup> letter from J. Petrocelli Development Associates talking about the demolition of the property and the cost which in order to demolish the building without abatement costs for asbestos comes in the range of a hundred-thirty-five thousand. There is a letter of June 26<sup>th</sup> from Breslin Appraisal Company who is our property appraiser which provided the information as to the valuation of the property in reference to and relation to the section of the code that we must demonstrate and then there are twenty-eight photographs, nineteen of the subject property internally as well as externally, nine of the area and the streetscape as I've referred to previously and alternative plans because as part of the inquiry into the demolition and the discussion with the Riverhead Landmark Preservation Commission they asked us to provide them with alternatives.

Alternative #1 which is in the documents I provided to you, it's labeled #2. I believe that one is the one they asked that the house remain and parking be placed behind which would allow for the driveway and then alternate parking in the rear. Alternative #2 is the entire parcel being eliminated with access into the parcel coming from the municipal lot and no access on Main Street showing a total I believe of twenty-nine parking spaces. Alternative #3 is with access off Route 25 going into the parking lot being created. As we presented it to the Commission at the time so that they could see that we were discussing and referring to various alternatives not just our preferred choice but so that everybody could have a full understanding that we evaluated and tried to see ways and benefits which we could either preserve the house or demolish the house and what the alternatives were. The proposal that we have before you this evening is one that we're asking again for you to review the decision of the Commission and as part of that review grant and approve the demolition of the structure as it exists.

With me this evening is Andrew Giambertone who did an evaluation of the structure and who's going to present to you and verify to you and any questions you may have as to the relation of the condition of the residence. Also with me is Tom Wolpert from Young & Young who is our project engineer who designed the parking lot through their office which the public is seeing in front of them and we also have John Breslin who prepared the valuation for the property and did the analysis in looking and in keeping with the recommendations of the Commission so that he can walk you through it and if the Board has questions he can respond as the other two can also as to any concerns or questions that you have regarding this particular project.

The elevation that you're seeing in front of you, the colored one that I presented to each of you individually is also being shown to you and the public is one that was prepared by J. Petrocelli Development Associates through their graphics department. So it gives you a sense of what the project would look like when the Preston House is completed in their vision and when the parking lot, with a little landscaped parking prep would look like with a pond in their vision in terms of how it would be developed.

That being said, one of the reasons that we're providing you that is because I want to review with you briefly the Landmark Preservation Commission correspondence and denial of June 30<sup>th</sup>.

One of their concerns that they pointed out is when they talked about the significance, and again I refer you to the photographs, they talk about and I'm sure the Commission's Chair is here and he may be articulating to you exactly where their thought was and how we progressed along that way and how they reached their decision after our presentation. But, they talked about the significance of the style of the architecture as a single style popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. They talked about assemblage of three important structures that are on Main Street that should be preserved in order to eliminate an unsightly gap in the streetscape. They talk about demolishing this historic structure would alter the character of downtown and continue to be chipped away as to the downtown look for historic structures. They referred to and brought to our attention the 1905 B. Frank Howell which was one of Riverhead's leading old families who in this particular case they tell you about the family background, they tell you about how he was Town Supervisor, they tell you about the people who attended his funeral, so Mr. Supervisor I hope you have as large attendance in the twenty-first century as the Supervisor did in 1905, and in addition, it referred to articles in the County Review in which Riverhead's real estate boom was being constructed and that this property was developed as was related to real estate downtown and then they did an analysis and here's the problem that I was very frustrated and got very aggressive with the Commission because they talked about the fact about a financial incentive and the financial incentive that they offer is that if the applicant should agree to allow this to be preserved the applicant can benefit from federal and state tax benefits in terms of its construction and how you can have deductions on your corporate returns to allow for this to the tune of forty percent of a realized combined federal and state rehabilitation tax credit.

Now the problem with that when we went through the math, and I explained to them because I also provided to you as well as to them a copy of the contract of sale to purchase the property. The property is being purchased for two hundred-fifty thousand and we do not yet own it. It's tied up in an estate which we're hoping to close within the next thirty or sixty days. But the point is what we're paying for it verses the demolition cost in addition to any asbestos which we cannot quantify at this time. When you look at that and you start to look at the cost that we figured out would be proposed for the creation of the parking lot, the cost of maintaining the house and refurbishing it for either an office use which was one of their proposed suggestions or a bed and breakfast or a residence. So the applicant and I acknowledged their curtesy of trying to provide us a tax way through this and they also offered assistance as stated in the letter that instead of taking this down, we could seek to acquire properties further north on Ostrander Avenue and in doing the acquisitions north they would help us and assist us and benefit us by coming and supporting the applications to the Town Board or to the Planning Department or to the ZBA for variance relief in hopes that would build parking north on Ostrander and not on Main Street, accept, the Preston House is on the corner of Main Street. The parking lot across the street is a parking lot that was created in conjunction with the Hyatt Hotel and the aquarium for the benefit of parking. We lease space further up the street as your Board is well aware on Ostrander and in addition the applicant, although we were listening to the suggestions very patiently with the Commission, we looked at the fact that we've already acquired the Preston House, we're renovating the Preston House as an historic structure with a hotel behind and keeping its integrity.

We've also acquired from the town the East Lawn House and we're renovating and maintaining that structure which is not fully occupied and at ten dollars a square foot the remaining thousand square feet is not being rented as office space and we created a parking lot across from the East Lawn House at 543 where we created parking stalls in there that after two years we got a building permit within the last thirty days so that we could finally construct the parking much

needed on Main Street and because the town code has a provision in it, and I believe the section is 301, Section 301 or 321 H, it says that within two hundred feet of respective zoned property whether it's DC1, DC3, DC4 and we have an approval previously for 543 with East Lawn, you can create parking and we don't need a change of zone and although our Preston House property is part of the Riverhead Town IDA with the leaseback for the benefits we got for it, this property we want to keep separate and apart and we want to keep it on the tax rolls and we want to develop it and improve it so that it can be used in connection with the Preston House and any other ancillary parking requirements on Main Street because there isn't enough parking on Main Street to get through that in addition to the fact the applicant through the 543 application and through this application for Preston and this, has been improving through the NYS DOT has discussed and represented at prior hearings, lighting to eliminate street, what you refer to as the guard crossing, crossing guard, so that there is a light there or a blinking signalization to allow for a better flow of traffic on Main Street.

So, the Commission's analysis, in our opinion, was flawed and flawed because although they're telling us we should develop up on Ostrander and flawed because they're telling us we can have tax incentives, they're not aware of the corporate structure of the J. Petrocelli Development Associate and I appreciate them wanting to help us with our client's accounting, but it's really none of their concern to be a benefit to review our books and figure out what the best tax advantage of our client.

That being said, the Commission denied the application after two meetings and in conformity with the code section that I referenced and applied for to this Board, that being said I would like to move forward and have the architect talk about the condition of the building, respond to any questions you may have, ask Mr. Wolpert to just explain a little bit about his engineering design that you have a copy of and then have Mr. Breslin talk about the financial evaluation. Now, we did not bring Mr. Breslin to the hearing before and I just want to share, the Commission's meeting is one that is not televised. There are no meeting minutes kept and it's a meeting that is handled by the Commission and all their members were present on the first situation of the meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup> but at the second meeting not all of the members were present and with no minutes they led a discussion that I had to refer to notes I wrote from the first from notes I had to refer to at the second and take notes from the second to get us to where we need to be. Your code as discussed with the law department and your town, the town attorney, acknowledged that it was a little sparse in terms of how it's written and what the process should be for due process.

So based on what we have before you under that section of the code which is 241.5 we are here asking for this Board to grant us the relief that's necessary so that we can proceed and continue with the construction and completion of the Preston House with the creation of a parking area to the west of it.

If you have any other questions of me I would pause at this time and ask Mr. Giambertone to come forward and if you want to swear in the three witnesses that's up to you but they've all been asked to attest to the correspondence and any questions you may have. Do you have any questions?"

Supervisor Walter: "Does the Board have any questions?"

Eric Russo: "Then I would ask that Mr. Giambertone come forward and perhaps he could review with you through his inspection of the property and when you look at the inspection of the property that he's referencing, you can look at the various photographs that I provided in the binder

to the Town Clerk and the Town Board to review and the photographs, there are nineteen in total and then nine of the area.”

Supervisor Walter: “Do you swear to tell the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?”

Andrew Giambertone: “I do.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you Sir.”

Andrew Giambertone: “Good evening Mr. Supervisor, ladies and gentlemen of the Board. Andrew Giambertone of Andrew Giambertone & Associates having offices at 62 Elm Street, Huntington, NY. I was asked by Mr. Petrocelli to come inspect the subject premises for suitability and capability of possibly be renovated or reused.”

Supervisor Walter: “Are you a licensed architect.”

Andrew Giambertone: “I’m a licensed architect in the state of New York. My practice focuses on the design and construction of historic, classical and traditional homes and buildings. My office actually occupies an 1870’s Victorian that was renovated so I’m very well versed in this type of architecture.

When I first visited the site the first thing you do, you see the appearance of the building. The building has not been maintained for many, many years. Besides the lack of maintenance there are numerous defects in the roof both in the flashing and of the roofing itself which has resulted in water infiltration over a long period of time throughout the house. So we discount the esthetic value of the house because esthetics could always be changed and we look at the structural integrity and the structure itself. When you go through the structure you see throughout every floor level and every major construal component of the building we find extensive rot resulting from the long-term water infiltration in the premises starting from the roof rafters and working its way down. The blueprint structure is subject to failure. If really left unattended for any period of time it would only be a matter of time before the building came down.

When we evaluate buildings for historic preservation we look at their potential suitability to replicate what the original historic integrity of the building was verses whether there is any redeeming value to it. Regardless of the historic nature of the house due to the extensive structural damage to the efficiency of the structure it would be virtually impossible to bring this building back to life. It would be, you would have to build a new building in its entirety. So, if anybody has any questions regarding.”

Supervisor Walter: “Just in regard to your resume, how long have you been a licensed architect and how long have you been practicing?”

Andrew Giambertone: “Twenty-eight years licensed and I’ve been practicing for a full twenty-eight years.”

Supervisor Walter: “Ok, thank you Sir. Does the Board have any questions?”

Annemarie Prudenti: “Can I ask one question? Did you come up with the monetary figure of six hundred and seventy thousand dollars to rehabilitate the premises or is that somebody else’s figure?”

Andrew Giambertone: “It was in conjunction with Petrocelli Contracting.”

Annemarie Prudenti: “Ok, did you yourself issue any report regarding the monetary figure to rehabilitate the structure?”

Andrew Giambertone: “I don’t believe I did, no.”

Annemarie Prudenti: “Ok. So Eric perhaps you can answer the question for me who prepared the estimate of six hundred seventy thousand dollars?”

Eric Russo: “That report was prepared by J. Petrocelli Development Associates and Mr. Petrocelli is here and can elaborate on that if you’re seeking that information but that is one of the documents we presented to the Landmark Historic Preservation Commission when we were discussing it because after our first meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup> they were asking for dollars and cents specifics as to how they could evaluate because their concern and focus as stated in the section of the town code is that you show that there is a reasonable return not necessarily the highest and best, not necessarily the lowest but establish the cost of where you’re going so based on their criteria and their discussion points, we then provided that information and we didn’t recreate it to come to you we took what we gave as part of the denial and brought it to this Board.”

Annemarie Prudenti: “And Mr. Petrocelli is the applicant along with yourself, is that correct?”

Eric Russo: “That is correct and Mr. Petrocelli is in the construction trade as the family has been for decades.”

Annemarie Prudenti: “Did you obtain any independent appraisal of that evaluation in regard to that estimate of six hundred and seventy thousand dollars?”

Eric Russo: “As to that particular estimate no but Mr. Breslin who will testify for you has a discussion as is indicated in his appraisal that was provided to the Board.”

Annemarie Prudenti: “Ok, (inaudible).”

Supervisor Walter: “Councilwoman Giglio?”

Eric Russo: “And I just want to point out for Council and for the Boards edification, your code is replete as to what needs to be provided. It had to be created and tried to figure out what would be the best information and how best to proceed to get to the numbers that were referenced vaguely in the codes section. I know you’re looking for something specific but refer to the code.”

Supervisor Walter: “Councilwoman Giglio has a question.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Have you done a, you represented that there’s no reasonable rate of return on restoring the historic structure. Have you done an analysis as to what could be collected as far as rent is concerned.”

Eric Russo: “I’ll let Mr. Breslin address that because what I was trying to just summarize in my part was that we have established and Mr. Breslin’s report will reflect it, that there’s various open office space for rent throughout the village. There’s also a lack of desirability to have a residence on Main Street and there’s also a question as to, in terms of other uses like a bed and breakfast, why would we want to put a bed and breakfast as suggested by the Commission next to the hotel that we have, a boutique hotel that we’re spending millions of dollars creating that this Board has approved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “I didn’t see that report in this binder. Is it in?”

Eric Russo: “The Breslin report is in that binder.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “The Breslin report is in there but all I saw was the appraisals, I didn’t see another report in there from Mr. Breslin.”

Eric Russo: “That’s Mr. Breslin’s. I’ll let him come and testify, Jodi. I’ll let Mr. Wolpert explain what we’re proposing to put should the Board grant our request to demolish.”

Supervisor Walter: “Mr. Wolpert will you raise your right hand and repeat after me. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God.”

Thomas Wolpert: “I do. Good evening Mr. Supervisor, members of the Board and staff. My name is Thomas Wolpert and I am a civil engineer with Young & Young in Riverhead, 400 Ostrander Avenue.

I’ve been asked by Mr. Petrocelli and his counsel to talk a little bit about the configuration and components of the proposed parking lot that are shown on the plan that I believe you have before you, it should be referenced Conceptual Plan C.

Basically, this plan depicts the configuration of a new asphalt parking lot consisting of twenty-four parking stalls in accordance with town code, twenty-foot length, ten-foot width with a twenty-four foot aisle in between together with proposed drainage structures that would also be designed in accordance with town site plans requirements.

As Mr. Russo had indicated, the access to this parking lot will be through the municipal lot to the west of this parcel towards the north end or rear of the parking lot and we’re proposing a twenty-foot-wide, paved connection to the existing, from one parking lot to the other.

The new parking lot pavement will be lined with Belgium block. We’re proposing planted buffers on all four sides, north, south, east and west and the plan also depicts some of the site amenities which are concentrated at the south end of the proposed lot and they consist of two benches, some masonry pavers, a four-foot-high estate fence that would match the fence being installed in front of the Preston House project, decorative bollards and also landscaping. And I’ll also note that the total area of this lot is about a third of an acre and of that, the asphalt pavement will comprise about sixty-six percent, sixty-eight percent and the landscaping, the remaining

thirty-two percent. So, it's not a real aggressive parking plan but the one that I think is in conformance with the spirit of the DC1 zoning requirements."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you Sir. Does anybody on the Board have any questions?"

Eric Russo: "Mr. Supervisor and members of the Board, in order to respond to Ms. Prudenti's concern and question, what we did is we also have a listing that was prepared by J. Petrocelli Development Associates for the cost as it relates to the project and what will take place at this moment is I'm going to have Mr. Giambertone review that with you and hopefully that will respond to your questions. Ok?"

Councilman Dunleavy: "Excuse me, can I ask a question? Do you know how long this house has been vacant?"

Eric Russo: "(Inaudible). I don't have a date specific but I'm sure Mr. Wines if he's present at the hearing could maybe give you that information, but we can go look it up online."

Supervisor Walter: "My guess is it's been vacant for twenty years."

Councilman Dunleavy: "It's been vacant for a very long time and if you don't purchase the property it's going to be vacant for a very, very long time after this. So I mean."

Eric Russo: "My recollection is I did represent the Petrocelli family for the development of the aquarium as well as the hotel and I know they were in search of property around to find additional parking and this was one that was being considered but because they had a very inflated price we did not proceed and did not have interest in it. The price has gotten more realistic and so as I indicated, it's two hundred and fifty thousand that we're paying and it's through an estate."

Councilman Dunleavy: "(Inaudible) it's really in deteriorating condition because it has been vacant for a very long time so anything to pick up East Main Street I would go for it."

Annemarie Prudenti: "So Eric, I don't have a detailed cost estimate identifying the breakdown."

Councilwoman Giglio: "It's in there, I saw it."

Eric Russo: "Here's the document."

Supervisor Walter: "Alright, why don't we proceed with the testimony."

Andrew Giambertone: "I just had the opportunity to take a look at this and I am well versed in construction. I've been in construction all my life and a lot of the work we do is on a design build basis.

The first thing I find that may be deficient in this estimate is the fact that it presupposes that there's enough structural integrity to actually rebuild the house using conventional methods. The other thing that's lacking here, also in terms of expense, is the cost of the asbestos abatement

and lead paint removal. But in looking at these numbers I think they're actually fairly optimistic. When we take a look at things such as selective building demolition at twenty-six thousand dollars, assuming there was any benefit to the existing structure, trying to take everything down that's damaged around it selectively so that the house does not fall down I think it'd cost considerably more than twenty-six thousand dollars. I think when we look at the numbers here, foundation forty-six thousand dollars you're going to build the foundation around the existing foundation there, rough carpentry at only sixteen thousand dollars. You know insulation, roofing, fifty-nine thousand. I think the numbers are not exaggerated at all. In fact, I think to a certain extent they're probably a bit light. I would suspect that if a true remediation were attempted on this building it would probably cost considerably more than what's indicated here because I think the structure's woefully in disrepair far beyond what was anticipated in looking at these numbers. I think this is a very optimistic view of what it might cost to renovate."

Supervisor Walter: "And that was what, six hundred?"

Andrew Giambertone: "Six hundred, seventy thousand dollars."

Supervisor Walter: "(inaudible) there's still vacancies in the East Lawn building?"

Eric Russo: "Yes, (inaudible) the wine council and the town and if you move out then it's only the wine council. Just pointing that out. You are a partial tenant in the building that we took over and agreed to renovate."

Supervisor Walter: "Does anybody have any more questions for the architect? No, we'll bring Mr. Breslin up."

Eric Russo: "That being said then I'd ask Mr. Breslin to come forward and review and Ms. Prudenti did he answer your question?"

Annemarie Prudenti: "Yes but I'm certainly not getting into the construction aspect but I just wanted to."

Eric Russo: "I just wanted to indicate we did have numbers and we now had someone attesting to the numbers."

Supervisor Walter: "Mr. Breslin will you raise your right hand? Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?"

John Breslin: "I do. My name is John Breslin and I'm the Principle and President of Breslin Appraisal Company with offices at 44 Elm Street in Huntington. I was asked by Mr. Petrocelli, thru Mr. Russo's office, to study this proposal and give opinions and come to a conclusion with respect to the standards under your statue with respect to the hardship section and the idea of looking at ability of the applicant looking to demolish this structure if it would be a hardship in order to retain this structure."

Quite frankly, my analysis was very easy. When he's talking about paying two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the property and the cost of six hundred and seventy thousand dollars to renovate it brings the cost to almost nine hundred thousand dollars.

There are two buildings for sale around the corner on Ostrander that are restored colonials of this similar styles, size and everything that are on the market for under four hundred thousand dollars. So, clearly you can't match that. Granted the one on Main Street would be worth a little more because it's a better location than being on Ostrander but the difference is not enough to equate that so clearly the dollars don't make any sense to restore this, to spend that kind of money and Mr. Giambertone went through it and you see it from the outside obviously and you can see that it's dilapidated, it's been vacant for many years, for as long as I can remember, it's been vacant.

If you see the pictures of the inside you can see it's completely ruined inside and to restore it I, when I looked at the numbers I, they didn't strike me as being high in any respect. It seemed to me to restore it didn't make any sense, it would have to come down and be rebuilt. And that's often the case, to rebuild something that's older costs more than to build something new. You might be able to build something new that would cost less so by demolishing it and with the plan, the streetscape provides a nice look along Main Street, but it also provides necessary parking which is obviously something of a benefit to the business community in that area and the town as a whole. So clearly the applicant can't get a return. There are existing buildings for sale that are far less money than what this ultimate project would. So clearly, they can't get any return much less a reasonable return.

One of the other questions that was asked was about the idea of renting it. Again, if you invested upwards of nine hundred thousand dollars that was indicated the existing building that they have their seeking ten dollars a square foot, you just couldn't possibly make any type of a return if you got those types of numbers. So clearly in my opinion there's just no way to get a reasonable return by restoring this building.

With respect to the comments that were made in the denial letter about the use of tax credits as a means of offsetting some of the cost, I'm sure they're made with altruistic intentions in the idea of trying to restore the building. In spending someone else's money and looking at a way to design something there's no design of actually had to do that. It just says you can use it and can save money (inaudible) percentages.

The whole idea of tax credits is you're offsetting the money on income that's earned somewhere else, so the applicant would have to spend all the money and then offset his income somewhere else to get some benefit. That has nothing to do with this project. I don't think it has anything to do with statue and reviewing it. He would be offsetting income that he earned someplace else as a justification for overspending on property. I don't think that's what your statue is intending."

Supervisor Walter: "What do you think the value could be if he did the full renovation of the building? What do you think the sell value would be for the building?"

John Breslin: "Well I think based on the sales across the street, I mean the properties listed around the corner, they're on the market for four hundred thousand dollars. That sort of presents a ceiling of what you can do, what you can expect to get for something like this. I mean this would be worth a little more because it's on Main Street but I don't think you'd be expecting to get more than a half a million dollars for it after you renovated it and economics don't make any sense."

Supervisor Walter: “Ok, you have questions, Councilwoman Giglio?”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Are you aware of the fact that the properties up and down Ostrander Avenue are in very different zoning districts than this particular piece of property.”

John Breslin: “I am aware but they do permit a lot of the same things, the office use, it is actually an office building that’s for sale so the use is similar. You could have some other uses permitted, yes I am aware of that.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Ok and when you refer to the office space at ten dollars a square foot that was a discounted rate that Mr. Petrocelli kindly gave us to have the town historian do you know what the going rate is?”

John Breslin: “That’s the rate they’re asking for the vacant space.”

Eric Russo: “Not the town historian.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “So what is the going rate for office space on Main Street, say West Main Street closer to Roanoke Avenue, do you know?”

John Breslin: “I didn’t specifically look, I only went by what they had given me the information on what they were trying to get on the space they had in that building.

Councilwoman Giglio: “Fourteen, ok?”

Supervisor Walter: “So.”

John Breslin: “Even if you used fourteen dollars.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “I understand. I’m just trying to get all the facts together.”

John Breslin: “Not even close to making.

Supervisor Walter: “So the representation is that you’re offering this at ten dollars a square foot and it is not leased?”

John Breslin: “On the other space, that is correct.

Supervisor Walter: “So that’s really, that’s really the ceiling for the rent that you can get for the building?”

John Breslin: “You would expect that, correct.”

Eric Russo: “One other point I would just like to clarify. So it’s your testimony that the property is incapable of earning a reasonable return but not necessary most profitable, correct?”

John Breslin: “That’s correct.”

Eric Russo: “And the second point the town code requests is that the property cannot be adopted for the use which results in a reasonable return?”

John Breslin: “That’s correct. I think that’s clearly evident by both the pictures and the discussion of Mr. Giambertone that the building is in dire repair and to spend that kind of money would not allow a reasonable return to be had.”

Eric Russo: “The other point Ms. Giglio, but the point I would like to make, we are aware of the zoning and we checked that it is DC1 going up Ostrander. We’re also aware.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “DC1 or DC3?”

Eric Russo: “DC1 I believe. We double checked the map out there and it appears to be blue and it appears to be DC1 unless there’s a different map.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “I think it’s DC3 once you get beyond (inaudible).”

Eric Russo: “Regardless, office use is a permitted use, residential use is a permitted use and as far as the zoning is concerned the parking we’re seeking within two hundred feet of an existing use would be a permitted use as we’ve already gotten approval from the Planning Department and the Zoning Board of Appeals for our property at 543 Main Street where we have parking across the street from the East Lawn House. So our concern here and what the Landmark Commission has come forward and suggested, buy the properties that are going up, it’s part of our historic district that we just created and sanctioned and we’ll support you in terms of the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning to try and allow that to be demolished some of those houses where it’s not as visible, it’s right in their decision as it is on Main Street and we’ll support you with parking there. But the concept, although an altruistic one, is spend more money Mr. Petrocelli and your family, buy up all of Riverhead make it a parking lot going north when, when you look at the concept of the Atlantis Hotel, the Atlantic Aquarium, the Preston House, it has always been a symbiotic relationship between the town and the two developers to create parking on behalf of the town (inaudible) develop so that it will improve the quality of downtown life. When we had hearings before the IDA, when we had hearings before this Board and the Planning Zoning Board (inaudible) came out and thanked this project and the other project for the boom coming into Riverhead as the result of being the first ones to come in here in 1997 and 1998 and start creating the turn around that you’re seeing now. So it’s part of the fermentation of a process they invested in and with your support they need to continue because the parking is required. I don’t have anything else at this time,”

Supervisor Walter: “Does the Board have any other questions? I’m going to open it up to public comment but I’m going to start with the Landmarks Preservation. Does the Landmarks Preservation Commission wish to comment first and then we’ll open it up to public comment? Richard Wise raise your right hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?”

Richard Wise: “I do. For everyone else here I’m Richard Wines and I’m Chair of the Landmarks Preservation Commission and a few of my colleagues are here with me and I just want to take a few minutes to explain why the Commission did deny the request to demolish this fine structure but before I do that I want to say we love Joe Petrocelli. Joe has done a lot for Riverhead, (inaudible) through the hotel and the aquarium but he’s also done a lot for historic preservation so in many ways he’s our hero. He came to us a few years ago and wanted to demolish the Preston House and instead he’s done a wonderful restoration of the Preston House and I give him a lot of credit for that. Then he went down the street and did something that probably doesn’t make financial sense, but he bought East Lawn and again has done a beautiful restoration job at East Lawn, so I want to say thank you first of all. He deserves a lot of credit and a lot of praise from the Town Board for everything he’s done.

I do want to explain the pickle we’re in as the Landmarks Preservation Commission. Mr. Russo couldn’t have said it better or I can’t say it better than what he really did. I mean we do think that the Howell House which is the one right next to the Preston House is a bit shabby on the outside, but this is a beautiful house at one point and could be made into a beautiful house again.

This is a picture of what it looked like back around 1905. Unfortunately, we don’t have the budget that Mr. Russo does. We work on zero budget by the way from the Town Board (inaudible). This was a fine house and this is the Preston House here on the corner and this is the Howell House next to it and the next house unfortunately (inaudible) but the next one is currently the Tuthill-Mangano Funeral Home. So it’s a wonderful way to come into Riverhead if all three houses were restored and in good shape.

So I don’t think we need to say anything more about that and we do have to raise questions about, do we really want to line Main Street, the entrance to our beautiful town, with parking lots? Even if there is a strip of landscaping in front, it’s still going to be a parking lot, no matter how you look at it and it doesn’t seem like that should be the goal of redeveloping Riverhead. It seems like it should be a strip of beautiful buildings that people are going to want to see, not cars parked there.

A few other things I want to mention. One thing Mr. Russo hasn’t mentioned in his analysis when talking about this is in fact by demolishing the Howell House they only get a net gain of, and you won’t believe this, eleven parking spaces. All the rest of the parking spaces they’re talking about could be done anyway and we think there’s actually a much better plan and that is, we understand that Petrocelli Associates is also either (inaudible) in contract with the parcel immediately behind the new hotel and we think if that parcel, if that house were demolished which is not nearly as historically significant nor does it have the presence on Main Street it has no presence on Main Street of course, you could put parking back there and the parking could continue into the back part of this lot. You would not have the situation you have now. Do you realize that to park their car for the hotel they’ll have to go out onto Ostrander Avenue out onto Main Street, down Main Street, turn into the parking lot next to the funeral home and then eliminate some parking spaces there and then go into this parking lot? I mean it’s a very awkward situation where if they took the lot right behind it and made that as parking and then connected that to the back part of this lot we think there would be a net gain of forty parking spaces which is whole lot more than this plan would get.

We recognize there could be some challenges from zoning there. It would probably require approval from the ZBA but certainly their Master Plan calls for flexibility if historic preservation is at stake here and we think it is.

So, as Mr. Russo said we are committed in doing everything we can as a Commission, I hope the Town Board will be too to make an alternative plan like that possible.

We think certainly looking at the exterior of this house everything I can see on the outside looks like it's in reasonable shape. It's shabby certainly, it hasn't been occupied. The pictures you have, mostly what you're looking at is the junk left in there by the tenants, not the condition of the house and almost any old house you can take a few picture and make it look terrible but we suspect this house is extremely well built and extremely restorable but what their analysis doesn't do is, they're going to be saving their demolish cost which is quite high, I don't memorize numbers I learned on Wall Street not to do that, but they will be saving the demolish cost and these tax credits that Mr. Russo has poo poed are in fact very real and can be used against any income that Petrocelli Associates may have or if they, I hope they're making income, if they're not making income those tax credits can be sold and because they're tax credits not deductions, every dollar of a credit is worth a dollar savings in your taxes or someone else to whom you can sell the taxes.

So, I really just wanted to explain why the Landmarks Commission came to the decision we did. What our Code says is that properties which contribute to the character of the historic district shall to the greatest extent practicable be retained with their historic features altered as little as possible. Given that the code says that, we felt we didn't have any choice because we think restoration is possible here. We believe that there are certainly uses that may not be a good rental house let's say but it could be ideal as adjunct to the hotel next door. They talked about putting a spa and the structure in back. They can put the spa into the Howell House and then connect it over to the Preston House next door. You could build in between the two there and add some more space there so there are ways this could be a wonderful part of the hotel as well as being a wonderful part of downtown Riverhead and part of the entrance into downtown, but I think it would probably end up being profitable for the hotel and certainly would be a major benefit for Riverhead.

That all being said, I've explained why the Landmarks Commission made the decision we did. We certainly understand the Town Board has other considerations, things they have to take into consideration in making your determination here. We are aware of course that this is a self-inflicted hardship. They don't have to buy that house. I believe there is actually another party that is interested in buying it so they don't have to take this hardship on. We think it could work for them but we also understand that to implement our plan and to but the parking in the back it's not a sure thing that they'll be able to do that because it would probably require variances. I can understand their desire to have the ability to demolish this house if they chose too but our hope is that all said and done when we get to the end of this, whatever the decision the Town Board may reach in all of your wisdom, that Mr. Petrocelli and his family and his company will decide that this should be another preservation victory for Riverhead and become another great part of downtown as some of the other projects they worked on have been, thank you."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you. Does anyone else wish to be heard on this subject? Mr. Russo, are you finished?"

Eric Russo: "Just about. I only want to respond to the comments of Mr. Wines and it will be brief. First of all, I appreciate and find laudable his concerns and that of the Commission. However, we have provided specific testimony and documents to reflect our position. In addition, his position is unsupported. It's his own theories that he set forth both at the committee meeting that we had before the Commission and the hardship of self-created or self-inflicted hardship to

my knowledge when you review the statute does not bear out what is being represented and lastly the other Boards that he's referring to are autonomous Boards, they make the decisions based on 267B of New York State town law and the criterion have to be established to grant the relief requested should applications move forward and I'm certainly not aware of anybody else who has an interest in acquiring it if we don't proceed with the purchase of the property. So I thank you for your time and consideration and ask you rake due deliberation and made a decision in a timely fashion."

Supervisor Walter: "All right, thank you Mr. Russo. We'll close the public comment portion and leave it open for written comment until October 27<sup>th</sup>, in the Town Clerk's office.

**Public Hearing Closed at 8:15 p.m.  
Left Open for Written Comment until October 27, 2017, 4:30 p.m.**

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Supervisor Walter: Our second public hearing was scheduled for 7:10 and it is now 8:16 and we're going to open the public hearing for the Consideration to invite town residents to express their views on local housing and community development needs to be met with the anticipated \$200,000.00 in Federal Community Development Block Grant Funds expected in April 2018. Ms. Thomas, would you like to just give a quick synopsis of what this is and then we will let the residents from different agencies come up and address the Board."

Dawn Thomas: "Good evening. Just quickly, the Community Development Block Grant is federal funds provided to the Town of Riverhead through the county of Suffolk. We have a public hearing in which any agency or entity looking to apply for the Block Grant can make a presentation to the Board. This is a public hearing and I think we have several different presenters this evening that would like to address the Board."

Supervisor Walter: All right, thank you Ms. Thomas. Does anybody wish to address the Board on this public hearing or request funds through the Block Grant Program? Please step up. If you would state your name and affiliation for the record."

Tijuana Fulford: "Tijuana Fulford, the Butterfly Effect Program."

Supervisor Walter: "So Ms. Fulford, would you just let us know what the Butterfly Effect Program is and what the Butterflies do and what you're looking for and we are limited to five thousand dollars per Block Grant? I think we are."

Tijuana Fulford: "Let's be generous Ms. Thomas."

(Inaudible)

Supervisor Walter: "Alright Ms. Fulford, let us know what you want to do with the money."

Tijuana Fulford: “I just want to say thank you for giving us the opportunity. I would like to say to everyone in the audience that the town has helped in many ways each of them collectively and individually and I do appreciate that but the Butterfly Effect Project just to quickly summarize it; it’s a one hundred percent free program for underserved communities in our area. Honestly a lot of the communities are underserved right now with the things that are going on out there, so we create a safe environment for young girls so they can explore their options by eliminating obstacles for each person. We do this without thinking of any barrier that unfortunately adults think of and so I feel that the Butterfly Effect Project is not only a necessity in the community but it’s an asset. By the girls enrolling in this program today will definitely impact their lives tomorrow.

One of the best parts about the program is that anyone can actively have a voice, anyone can volunteer and it goes to show the children in our community that your idol doesn’t have to be a celebrity, it could be Ms. Giglio, it could be Mr. Walter, Mr. Wooten, it could really be any one of us. So, to be able to come into the program and have forty-five minutes to impact on someone’s life just by you coming in and being your normal self, I think it is extraordinary and the way the world is going right now and specially in Riverhead, we need to create a place where kids can be and explore to get to the next level otherwise we’re not going to have a next generation and otherwise all the buildings we’re talking about building are not going to be built because no one is going to build them because our youth are leaving and I want to do my best to keep them here and I want to make sure that they appreciate Riverhead as much as I do.”

Supervisor Walter: “Ms. Fulford, I’m going to ask you a question. I think you have some Butterfly’s here.”

Tijuana Fulford: “I do.”

Supervisor Walter: “I’d love to hear from one or two.”

Tijuana Fulford: “Ok, can I have all of my Butterfly’s?”

Supervisor Walter: “Ladies, come on up.”

Tijuana Fulford: “They don’t all have to speak but I’m proud of every one of them. I actually have some Mosquito’s here too. They don’t like being called Mosquito but (inaudible).”

Supervisor Walter: “What is a Mosquito?”

Tijuana Fulford: “Mosquito are the boys.”

Supervisor Walter: “Oh, the boys. I’d love to hear from one of the ladies if they would like to speak.”

Tijuana Fulford: “Can I have two of my junior volunteers and two of my Butterflies and a Mosquito? So just so you guys know they have nicknames because in the Butterfly Effect Project when you become in your leader division you lose your regular name and you inherit a name that people perceive you as so that way we can teach the girls to always be on their best. So we have

Happy Feet because she's constantly wearing jazzy shoes and we have Slim Shady because at one point she literally looked like a stick figure."

Supervisor Walter: "I'm not going to your project. I don't want to know what my name is. Tell us who you are and your name and where you go to school and what do you think of the Butterfly Project."

Butterfly: "My name is Janiyla Miles and I go to William Floyd Paca and I like the Butterfly program because I get to do fun things like I get inspired by Ms. Tia. I do stuff I never did before."

Supervisor Walter: "I'm going to say I've been inspired by Ms. Fulford as well. What's your name and where do you go to school and what do you like about Butterfly's"

Butterfly: "My name is (inaudible) and I'm a sophomore at Riverhead High School and I've been in the program for two years. I've loved every moment I've had with the Butterflies and Ms. Tia."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you."

Butterfly: "My name's (inaudible) and I go to Pulaski and I like the Butterfly Project because we get to do a bunch of fun crafts and we get to help the homeless and do other things for people who don't have a lot."

Supervisor Walter: "You know Ms. Fulford one of the things that I would say about the Butterfly Project is what it inspires me and I'm not quite sure how far the Riverhead town bus goes to pick up these young ladies. It's okay with me they can keep going wherever they have to go to keep getting these young ladies but I like the idea that you're able to tie in, a lot of times we just know who we are in our own school district, but you're tying in other school districts and other demographic areas and I think that's important because we're all part of one larger community."

Isabella: "My name is Isabella. I go to Riley Avenue School."

Supervisor Walter: "You like Ms. Tia?"

Isabella: "Yes."

Supervisor Walter: "Well thank you very much Isabella. Does anyone else?"

Karen McDonald: "My name is Karen McDonald and I volunteer with the Butterfly Effect Project and I think the community has really become aware of Tia and her program and we're going lots of places and it's exciting and she's won awards and people want to volunteer and people want to be part of her. People want to touch her and people say what do you need? The fact is what we really need is, we need money, plain and simple. We beg, we borrow, we think about stealing, we don't. When people say do you have a budget we kind of look at each other and laugh and say we wish we did because honestly, we really are on a shoestring and we're hoping to

go places. We just found a place where we can have rent for an office space, rent free for six months and we're so grateful. We're grateful to you guys for the spaces you've given us for the girls, the transportation, it's been awesome."

Supervisor Walter: "Did you move out of the?"

Karen McDonald: "No we use that space for the girls but we actually qualify for (inaudible)."

Supervisor Walter: "Behind EPCAL, are you at Shade Tree Lane now?"

Karen McDonald: "Yea."

Supervisor Walter: "Good."

Karen McDonald: "So to qualify for Grants that we're hoping to get we've actually acquired free office space for the next six months but we're hoping in six months to be able to pay that rent. So, all I can say is money would be so deserving, thanks guys."

Councilwoman Giglio: "I want to say something about Tia because Tia used to work in my doctor's office and I used to go in there crying in pain all the time and she was the most compassionate, helpful, loving person that can be and when she told me about this idea that she wanted to do this Butterfly Project I tried to give her the best advice I could on what to do and I told her the first thing you have to do is file a 501c3 and I'm so proud of you and you're a happy lady all the time but you're the happiest in your element and you're doing a wonderful job so I want to thank you."

Supervisor Walter: "Young lady, what's your name?"

Dusty (inaudible): "My name is Dusty (inaudible)."

Supervisor Walter: "Where do you live?"

Dusty: "And I go to kindergarten."

Supervisor Walter: "Kindergarten, wow. Who's your teacher?"

Dusty: "Miss Stromski."

Supervisor Walter: "Do you like Miss Stromski? Well we like Miss Stromski too. Well, thank you for coming. Does anyone else want to speak? You are a 501c3 now?"

Tijuana Fulford: "Yes."

Councilman Wooten: "When was the first time you've come before the Board for a Block Grant?"

Tijuana Fulford: “This is the first time.”

Supervisor Walter: “It’s a shame that those developers were still not here. This is a 501c3 folks so any of you that can dig into your pockets this is a very, very, worthwhile startup 501c3. I thank you and we will keep you in.”

Genesis Fulford: My name is Genesis Fulford and I go to (inaudible) Elementary School and the thing I like about the Butterfly Project is that we make friends.”

Supervisor Walter: “Is this your mom?”

Genesis Fulford: “Yeah.”

Supervisor Walter: “Did she say Fulford? Is that your daughter?”

Tijuana Fulford: “Yes.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you very much; ladies safe home. Does anybody else wish to be heard tonight that’s not part of the Butterfly Project but some other very, very, worthwhile organization that we have supported in the past?”

Jennifer LaMaina: “Good evening. My name is Jennifer LaMaina and I’m representing Maureen’s Haven. I’m an owner and a resident of the Town of Riverhead and I am also proud to be a volunteer Social Worker for Maureen’s Haven Homeless Outreach. Thank you for the opportunity to address you this evening to request funding to support our life-saving work.

Maureen’s Haven provides safe, warm, temporary shelter to homeless individuals from November 1st through April 1st by utilizing over twenty-three houses of worship located throughout the twin forks. Members of seventeen congregations and community organizations offer additional support and help comprise the over fifteen hundred dedicated and selfless volunteers that provide an estimated twenty thousand hours of community service to our guests. Maureen’s Haven is responsible for screening and transporting homeless guests to the host facilities each evening.

In October 2011, we opened a Day Center in order to provide services focused on building self-sufficiency and provide respite during the day for those in need. All are welcome at the Day Center where clothing, food and case management services are available. We also partner with other agencies to provide mental health and substance abuse treatment. Some of our Host congregations offer free medical care provided by volunteer doctors and nurses from the community. For this oncoming 2017-2018 shelter season, we are hoping to establish a critically needed foot clinic.

Last winter we served three hundred fifty-seven individuals over one hundred fifteen nights. Our average number of guests per evening was forty-six with a high of fifty-three. Overall, five thousand, nine hundred eighty-three beds were made for the season. Of that total eighty percent were male and twenty percent were female. At least half of our guests are temporarily or “first time” homeless. Generally, they are the working poor who have suffered setbacks like job loss, illness and loss of transportation or divorce. The other fifty of our guests are chronically

homeless people. They often face one or more serious issues including mental illness, addiction and cognitive or developmental disabilities.

According to HUT 2014 Point-in time Report, thirty-four percent of the total homeless population is under of twenty-four and tragically our most recent statistic bear this out. An unfortunate continuing trend for us has been the influx of young people. On any given night, thirty-nine percent of our guests have been under the age of twenty-five, of those, fifty percent have been under the age of twenty-one. This thirty-nine percent indicates a very slight decrease from the previous year but one that is neither statistically significant nor any less alarming. These young people bring with them unique challenges and risks. Many are runaways or former foster children who have aged out of the state services or they have been victims of abuse or homophobia at home.

Well known throughout the communities as a safe haven, we are often the first point of entry for the newly homeless. We believe that our reputation for compassion and inclusiveness is what has attracted so many young people to continue to seek solace and shelter from us.

Through Maureen's Haven, our homeless guests can access programs that meet their immediate needs, support them through transitional periods and lead them back towards self-sufficiency and long-term success. We assist homeless adults to acquire supportive housing through Suffolk County's Single Point of Access (SPA) and more recently the Housing First Model in partnership with the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless. We help our guests with securing entitlements and advocate for them tirelessly.

In an effort to provide services to the homeless in Riverhead Town, we have partnered and collaborated with the faith community to provide overnight shelter and other supportive services. Maureen's Haven seeks to be good neighbors, so we continue to maintain a Community Garden in our shared yard with Aid to the Developmentally Disabled. We are very proud of the beauty it adds to the neighborhood and the sense of community it has fostered.

We are very appreciative of the past support we have received from the Town of Riverhead and respectfully request funding once again support of our program. We ask the Town Board to consider an allocation of six thousand dollars to assist in the cost of screening and transporting our guests to the host facilities throughout the season, ongoing operations of our day center and to offset salaries of the program staff. Thank you for your consideration of this request."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you very much. Do you want to give us that letter? We can leave this open for written submission for ten days as well. You do a wonderful job and actually you make our lives and the Town Supervisor's office and the Town Hall easier because we have referred people to you that need help that we're not able to help so we thank you for that. Ms. Fulford, we're going to leave the record open for ten days, so you want to submit something formal you can do that as well."

Judy Barth: "Hello, good evening to you. For those of you that don't know me I am Judy Barth and I'm here tonight on behalf of Bread and More.

Bread and More is our community soup kitchen located in the Riverhead Congregational Church right here in downtown. Even though it is coined as a soup kitchen it is much more than that.

Bread and More is an all-volunteer organization that was founded in 1990 by some residents in Riverhead along with a few past and present councilmen. At that time these founders saw a need to help some of the less fortunate in their community. Now in operation for over twenty-

seven years we have grown to serving three full dinner meals a week. At any given night we serve an average of seventy to a hundred dinners per night. Multiply that by three and we were serving sometimes three hundred dinners per week, fifteen thousand average per year.

Not only do we serve soup, but we provide a full meal which consists of a salad, protein, mainly beef or poultry, starch, fresh vegetables that this time of the year are provided by generous local growers. Desserts are also served and mostly donated by local bakeries. Any additional foods that are left over, guests are allowed to take with them wherever that home may be. These meals are prepared in a Health Department approved kitchen by Health Department approved cooks.

We are an all-volunteer organization that depends on donations and grant monies such as the Community Block Grant. The monies help provide the food that we need and also what else it takes to put the meal on. So, between the voluntary staff, the monetary donations and a Community Grant, we are basically a community taking care of the community.

Our guests come from all walks of life. We take pride in offering them a safe haven in an otherwise chaotic life. For some, this is the bridge that gets them to tomorrow.

I have been with Bread and More for twenty-three years now and I never tire of the commitment and joy that it takes to help those that are not quite as fortunate as we are, so tonight, I am once again asking you to please consider awarding us the upcoming Community Block Grant. We are ever so grateful for your past support and hope that we can all work together again for another year.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you. Do you want to submit that written to us? Next speaker, Ms. Story.”

Zona Story: “Good evening, I’m Zona Story. I’m Chair of the Board for Open Arms Care Center emergency food pantry and this is, I think, the tenth year I’ve come before the Board to ask for Block Grant Funding. I’ve given you a copy of Long Island Cares distribution capacity survey because it’s well done and it has a lot of data which puts the work that Judy and her group do and our pantry and a bigger perspective in terms of the need on Long Island. So, my letter accompanies this and there’s a copy of a Newsday article from 2006 talking about the people on Long Island who struggle to feed themselves and their families.

My letter says in addition to thank you for your prior support, it says we’ve again asking for at least five thousand dollars to support the food pantry that we operate.

This Capacity and Distribution Survey Report from Long Island Cares says that this year or last year 2016, there were about three hundred and sixteen thousand people on Long Island struggling to have enough food. That’s up from, if you look at the Newsday article about two hundred, fifty-nine thousand in 2006.

The need continues to grow. Some of these people are working poor, some are unemployed, many are children, many are elderly and our job is to just bridge the gap between what they get from the services they receive and the benefits they receive and what they do when they run out of money because many of them have to decide every month whether they’re going to buy prescriptions, whether they’re going to pay rent, whether they’re going to pay child support. So they make critical decisions and often food is the last thing, is the thing that gets crunched. So our job, along with organizations like Judy’s, is to fill that gap so that we don’t have people insecure wondering about what they’re going to eat because that doesn’t allow people to do the best at work. It doesn’t allow for children to do the best at school and it doesn’t support families very well.

I want to tell you that your decision as a Board to continue the Communi8ty Development Block Grant Funding for food pantries and soup kitchens is a vital linchpin in taking care of Long Island's hungry. So, I commend you every year when you help us out. We will work as we always do to earn your support every year and we appreciate your helping us help the people who need help here on Long Island."

Supervisor Walter: "Ms. Stroy, I just want to say that through what you're doing, what the various organizations that have spoken before you and I know a couple more are going to speak, shows me that the face of God shines through in this town in a way that amazes me every time you guys come so I'm sure you're going to do well."

Zona Stroy: "Thank you."

Ron Fisher: "Hello, my name is Ron Fisher. I actually live in Flanders but I'm here tonight to support the Butterfly Effect Project.

In the Town of Southampton, we do things a little different. The Housing Authority is responsible for the CDBG money. I sat on the Housing Authority and was on your side of the table listening to people appeal so I don't envy the position that you're in. However, Tia needs money. If you give a person a fish, you feed them for a day if you teach a person to fish you feed them for a lifetime. Tia is teaching young girls how to fish. She's making it, so they will not be homeless, they will not require soup kitchens and all that great work that all these groups are doing. Tia is addressing the root cause; her group is addressing the root cause.

There's no limit as to how much CDBG money you can give. Last year you awarded twelve thousand-dollar Grants. Tia needs ten thousand dollars at least, please. She brought people here to tell you about the program. There is a ton of support for her. The program is incredible. I've been volunteering with her for about six months helping her find different pots of money, turned her onto the CDBG Grants in the Town of Riverhead. There's no cap on what you can give."

Supervisor Walter: "We've done five thousand dollars and I think we are capped. I'm not going to disagree, but I think that that's what I was told in the past that we are limited."

Ron Fisher: "I have the resolutions from last year where you approved twelve thousand dollar check for."

Supervisor Walter: "Hold on."

Councilman Wooten: "(inaudible) confused with Southampton?"

Ron Fisher: "No, this was you guys. Ms. Giglio seconded it. Last year Resolution 192 you gave twelve thousand dollars to Open Arms and Bread and More. You gave twelve thousand dollars to Maureen's Haven, six thousand dollars to CAP and seventy-five thousand dollars to the Home Improvement Budget. You can even decrease the Home Improvement Budget if there's not a call for it to give Tia more money."

Supervisor Walter: “We’re going to have to pull the resolutions because I think that might have been a combination but we’ll look but it’s my understanding that we’ve always given five thousand dollars. That might have been a combination of two years together but five thousand is always the number that we give.”

Ron Fisher: “I’m still making my pitch for ten. I appreciate that you’re researching it.”

Supervisor Walter: “You should have pitched to the four men in suits.”

Ron Fisher: “I have pitched to more men in suits for money for Tia than I can count and I’m going to continue to so please really consider her application. I know she’s a new comer to the CDBG program. She is not a newcomer to investing in Riverhead’s youth and the money will help her amplify her efforts, so I hope you see the resolution in (inaudible).”

Supervisor Walter: “She’s on our screen.”

Ron Fisher: “Perfect, that’s where she should be, thank you.”

Felicia Scocozza: “Hello, good evening. I’m Felicia Scocozza from the Community Awareness Program and I’m here tonight first of all to thank you for your support with Community Development Block Grant funding and to once again request the funding to help provide drug and alcohol prevention education, counseling and community services to students and their families in Riverhead school.

The Grant will be used for services to Riverhead Town K through 4 students and their families at Roanoke Avenue Elementary School and the services are provided by a New York State licensed clinical social worker. She provides individual and group council evidence based substance abuse and bullying prevention programs, social skills programs, crisis intervention, family outreach and resource connections.

Roanoke Avenue School is a title one school according to the US Department of Education. Seventy-eight percent of the students there qualify for free or reduced lunch which is an indication of poverty. In addition, in September 2017 a mobile food pantry has been implemented there due to the number of students and families living in poverty.

Seventy-eight percent of Roanoke students represent minority groups with Hispanic students at sixty-two percent being the fastest growing segment of our community. Forty-one percent of students are new English language learners, an increase of twenty-five percent from 2015, Most of these students come from households where very little English is spoken which creates an additional barrier to accessing much needed services.

Many children seen by the CAP social worker at Roanoke report living in overcrowded homes consisting of several families. This creates a lack of privacy for students with no suitable area to complete their homework as well as considerable chaos in the home. Many students also report that they are not permitted to play outside due to fears of deportation.

These children have experienced stress and trauma at an early age which has been shown to be directly correlated with substance abuse beginning in early adolescence and continuing throughout the lifespan. This is preventable as we’ve heard many times tonight. The connection of these families to community resources is vital for the children’s emotional and academic success. The success of these Riverhead children will have a direct impact on the economic future

of our town and as Chief Hegermiller likes to say, “*for every dollar you invest in prevention a return of two and twenty dollars is realized, it’s just a long term invest that you have to wait for the results.*” Thank you for your support.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you very much. Does anybody else wish to be heard on this public hearing? So what I’ll do is I’ll close the public comment and leave it open for written comment until October 27<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 in the Town Clerk’s office. If you want to submit anything else, you can. Thank you very much for coming out everybody.”

**Public Hearing Closed**  
**Left Open for Written Comment until October 27, 2017, 4:30 p.m.**

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**RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution #774**

Councilman Dunleavy: “Riverhead Sewer District Plant Improvement Budget Adjustment, so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes.. Resolution adopted.”

**Resolution #775**

Councilman Wooten: “1035 Pulaski Street Roof Replacement Water Capital Project #30145, so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

**Resolution #776**

Councilwoman Giglio: “Authorizes Town Clerk to Publish and Post Notice of Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of the 2018 Preliminary Annual Budget for the Town of Riverhead, so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #777**

Councilman Hubbard: “Authorizes the Community Development Department to Apply for a Main Street Revitalization Grant from PSEG in Conjunction with the Riverhead Business Improvement District Management Association (BIDMA), so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #778**

Councilman Dunleavy: “Awards Bid for Water District Roof Replacement, so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #779**

Councilman Wooten: “Awards bid for Collection and Recycling of Electronic Waste, so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #780**

Councilwoman Giglio: “Authorizes Town Clerk to Publish and Post the Attached Notice to Bidders for the Removal of Household Hazardous Waste, so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #781**

Councilman Hubbard: “Ratifies Authorization to participate in the Suffolk County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #782**

Councilman Dunleavy: “Appoints Accountant Trainee (Emily Toth), so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #783**

Councilman Wooten: “Appoints Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator IIA (Brian Cybulski), so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Seconded as amended.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded as amended. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

#### **Resolution #784**

Councilwoman Giglio: “Appoints a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator IIA (Thomas Gallo), so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

#### **Resolution #785**

Councilman Hubbard: “Appoints a Part-time Maintenance Mechanic II to the Seniors Programs (Alan Kavasch), so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

#### **Resolution #786**

Councilman Dunleavy: “Accepts the Retirement of a Building Inspector Richard Podlas), so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Rich Podlas has been here a very long time and he’s well known and he did a great job and we’re happy for him for his retirement, yes.”

Vote Continued: “Wooten, yes; Dunleavy.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “Hate to be losing Rich and again like Councilwoman Giglio said he did a great job. I wish him all the happiness in his retirement. I vote yes.”

Vote Continue: “Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #787**

Councilman Wooten: “Appoints a Part-time Maintenance Mechanic I to the Seniors Programs (Alan Kavasch), so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #788**

Councilwoman Giglio: “Appoints a Temporary Senior Citizen Aide (Donna Danowski), so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #789**

Councilman Hubbard: “Authorizes the Supervisor to Execute a Municipal Cooperation Agreement between the Town of Riverhead and the Riverhead Fire District for Sand and Salt Services, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #790**

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizes the Highway Superintendent to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Vehicle Tracking Solutions for Automated Vehicle Location and Monitoring (AVLM) for Town of Riverhead Highway Department Fleet, so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #791**

Councilman Wooten: “Authorizes Supervisor to Execute an Agreement with the Riverhead Soccer Club for Training Referee Services for the Town of Riverhead Police Athletic League Girls and Boys Soccer Program for 2017 Calendar Year, so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #792**

Councilwoman Giglio: “Awards Bid for Chemicals for Town of Riverhead Sewer District, so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes.. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #793**

Councilman Hubbard: “Authorization to Publish Advertisement for Dowflake Extra 83-87 percent Calcium Chloride or Equal for the Town of Riverhead, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, Yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #794**

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizes Town Clerk to Publish and Post a Notice of Public Hearing to Consider a Proposed Local Law for an Amendment of Chapter 245 Entitled, “Littering and Graffiti” of the Riverhead Town Code (245-2 Definitions), so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #795**

Councilman Wooten: “Adopts a Local Law Amending Chapter 263 Entitled, “Rental Dwelling Units” to the Riverhead Town Code (263-4 Rental Occupancy Permit required), so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “This is so we can issue summons to management agents whose owners live out of the State of New York. So if there’s a manager on the property we can then issue the summons to them whereas you couldn’t before, yes.”

Vote Continued: “Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #796**

Councilwoman Giglio: “Authorizes the Supervisor to Execute an Agreement with the Riverhead Business Improvement District Management Association, Inc. Regarding 2018 Calendar Year Events and Services, so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

**Resolution #797**

Councilman Hubbard: “Authorizes Legal Actions against the Owners, Tenants, Occupants and Mortgagee of Premises Located at 769 Harrison Avenue, Riverhead, New York, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

**Resolution #798**

Councilman Dunleavy: “Adopts a Local Law to Amend Chapter 301 Entitled “Zoning and Land Development” of the Riverhead Town Code, so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

**Resolution #799**

Councilman Wooten: “Authorizes the Supervisor to execute a Stipulation of Settlement with Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Riverhead Unit of the Suffolk Local #85 (CSEA), so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

**Resolution #800**

Councilwoman Giglio: “Appoints Garrett W. Swenson, Jr. as Special Counsel in the Matter of Oak Hills Association, Inc. v. the Town of Riverhead, Et Al, so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “I can’t see voting for this when we’re not giving the Highway Superintendent an attorney so he can represent himself so I’m going to vote no.”

Vote Continued: “Wooten, yes; Dunleavy.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “I also vote no.”

Vote Continued: “Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #801**

Supervisor Walter: “I’m going to table the next resolution Diane because they agreed to extend the Bond for another year. Can I get a motion to table Resolution 801?”

Councilman Dunleavy: “I make a motion we table Resolution 801.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Second it.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded to table. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes to the motion to table; Giglio, yes, Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution 801 is tabled.”

### **Resolution #802**

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizing Settlement of Lawsuit, so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

### **Resolution #803**

Councilman Wooten: “Order Establishing Lateral Water Main Extension for Peconic Care Research, Recovery and Rehabilitation Center, so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

#### **Resolution #804**

Councilwoman Giglio: “Pays Bills, so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please.”

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Supervisor Walter: “Ok, right now we open the public comment portion. We ask that you limit your comments to five minutes. We ask you state your name and affiliation for the record.”

Henry Silverman, 4654 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, spoke of an ongoing dispute with the town regarding the corner of Pennys Road and Sound Avenue. Mr. Silverman wanted to give the town another change and go on record regarding the money the Town of Riverhead owes him for an easement onto his property. He said the town has been putting water into a pond on his property flooding over two acres of his backyard with drainage pipes from Pennys Road. This has been an ongoing issue since the time Supervisor Walter was the Town Attorney. Supervisor Walter told Mr. Silverman he will put this on the calendar for an Executive Session with the Town Attorney and the Highway Superintendent.

Butch Langhorn spoke on the hateful posting that was made on social media. He continued by saying he’s not asking the town to fire the Town Attorney, but that decision should be made by the five members of the Town Board.

Laura Jens Smith also spoke regarding the hateful posting that was recently made on social media. She said the rant came from the wife of the Town Attorney and this was not the first time she posted her prejudice and hostility towards the Black community of Riverhead. She continued by saying that her husband, the Town Attorney, did nothing to intervene in airing the posts. She said the posts diminishes the community of Riverhead.

Supervisor Walter said there is nothing that could justify nor are there any excuses that could be made for what was said, however he continued by saying he will not accept guilt by

association on the part of Mr. Kozakiewicz. He said he is not going to make excuses for what was said but he will not punish a man for guilt by association because Mr. Kozakiewicz is trying to hold everything together. He also said the statements made by Mr. Kozakiewicz's wife were said by her alone.

Darren Harden, a resident of Riverhead said he feels there is guilt by association. He said in her posting Mrs. Kozakiewicz mentioned slavery and then spoke of the abolishment of slavery by President Lincoln. He was upset by her attitude and actions and the fact that Supervisor Walter is saying that her husband knew nothing of this and does not associate with himself with her rantings.

Supervisor Walter said he will never make excuses for Mrs. Kozakiewicz but Mr. Kozakiewicz would be the guy to come and help you out in the middle of the night if need be. He added that he hopes the community comes together and not react as the rest of the nation has acted over the last several months. He said the residents as a community are going to be defined as to how everyone treats, not only the White community, the Black community, the Latino community but someone who has a mental illness issues. He's asking that everyone pray saying that is the only answer he can come up with.

Mr. Harden said he feels this cannot go unpunished and if nothing is done it shows that these rants can continue. He also added that if the Board does nothing about what was said it's showing that the Black community does not matter.

Susan Harden was the next speaker who came forward to speak about the hateful posting on social media. As a bus driver for the Riverhead school district she said color is not an issue and that everyone is one big family. She said because of social media it's easy to put your good, bad, horrible, hurtful, stupid, thoughts out into the world and hurt so many people no matter color, age, young or old with just a click of a button without any thought of what you're doing. Mrs. Harden continued by saying she does not know what should be done but this is the talk of the town, everyone knows about what was said and feels that Mr. Kozakiewicz must be mortified, embarrassed. She said the only thing to do is pray, treat each other better and she hopes that the younger generation would stop and think and not hurt one another.

Greg Fischer came forward also commenting on the posting on social media. He asked if Mr. Kozakiewicz was eligible for family medical leave suggesting that may be an option he could possibly consider. He also commented on the claims against the town and the Oak Hills highway issue.

Tijuana Fulford came forward stating she is representing approximately sixty-eight families in regard to the hate posting on social media. She said she is not asking for Mr. Kozakiewicz resignation nor is she offended by what Diane Kozakiewicz said; however she is offended by people making excuses for what was said. She continued by saying until the community can come together and say "I'm going to be a good person" she believes nothing is going to change.

Ethel Sussman said the issue of Mr. Kozakiewicz's being dismissed or taking time off is just a distraction. She said there is a lot of racism in The Town of Riverhead and the town should take this opportunity to actually do something about this matter. She also feels that separation of

church and state is a very important issue and is offended when she hears that we must apply christen values to town issues. She also said everyone is not christen nor religious and Jesus Christ should not be brought into Town Hall. She continued by saying Supervisor Walter's thoughts on solving the problem of Diane Kozakiewicz's hateful posting by everyone praying together is not a solution.

Catherine Kent, a resident of Riverhead said she was appalled by, not shocked by the racial posting and feels this incident is symptomatic of a much broader problem. She continued by saying Riverhead residents should not let this incident define the town and said "we are all strong together".

John Ofrias a Riverhead resident since 1976 commented on the posting on social media. He feels Mr. Kozakiewicz should not be asked to resign due to the posting by his wife but should be as proud of himself as his son is for him at this very difficult time. He also commended the Supervisor for standing by Bob and giving support to him instead of blaming him. He also said he calls upon the Supervisor and all the Board members to repudiate the words and behavior of the head of the Republican Party.

Michele Lynch a member of the Anti-Bias Task Force said the town definitely needs a frank and open dialogue on racism. She continued by saying the town should look at the Code of Ethics in regard to social media and comments that are made by employees of the town.

Charles Scalafani from Wading River complimented Tijuana Fulford on the Butterfly Effect Project adding that it was a wonderful group. He then suggested that someone not politically affiliated should be on the Anti-Bias Task Force. Councilman Dunleavy said the members of the Task Force are not appointed, not politically affiliated and are all volunteers. Mr. Scalafani concluded by saying Supervisor Walter has invited all faiths to speak at the beginning of each meeting and he is offended because people are offended by this.

Noreen LaCann, the Vice-Chair of the Anti-Bias Task Force said this is the second time the town has convened this task force. She said in 2014 due to racial issues Supervisor Walter asked that the task force be established again. A general call to the public was issued, several residents volunteered to participate and the task force was reestablished. She concluded by saying no one was appointed, all members are volunteers.

Councilman Hubbard asked to speak. He said after the Anti-Bias Task Force meeting he thought the matter over. He wanted to know why the Riverhead Local and the Riverhead News Review provide a blank slate for terrible people to voice themselves publicly. He feels that vile letters sent to the paper should be edited and not printed. He concluded by saying the comment section of the paper should not allow morally inept people to spew their venom and hateful comments.

Supervisor Walter: "All right, if there's nobody else can someone make a motion to adjourn?"

Councilman Dunleavy: "I make a motion we adjourn the Town Board meeting, so moved."

Supervisor Walter: “All in favor, aye? Opposed? Abstentions? Motion carried. Folks, thank you very much for coming out. Safe home everybody. Meeting adjourned.”

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:55 p.m.**