

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting held by the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall, Riverhead, New York on Tuesday, February 4, 1992 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Monique Gablanz, Deputy Supervisor
 Victor Prusinowski, Councilman
 James Stark, Councilman
 Frank Creighton, Councilman
 Harriet Gilliam, Councilwoman

Also Present: Barbara Grattan, Town Clerk

Absent: Joseph Janoski, Supervisor
 Patricia Moore, Town Attorney

Deputy Supervisor Gablanz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Deputy Supervisor Gablanz: "Would the Town Clerk please read the reports."

REPORTS

TAX RECEIVER Report to the County Treasurer 1991/92

BUILDING DEPT. Monthly report for January 1992

APPLICATIONS - NONE

CORRESPONDENCE

HELEN J. ROSENBLUM, ESQ. Writes to the Town Board in regard to the bid for additions and alterations to the Riverhead Highway and Maintenance Building

H2M GROUP Letter concerning the evaluation of a proposed extension for the Riverhead Water Dist. to include the Rollin Hargis Mobile Home Park on River Road

HAROLD NOLAN Letter notifying Town of his resignation of his position as a Home Chore Handy Worker as of 4/1/92

OLIN F. WARNER, JR. Asks Town about his right to receive just compensation for his land from the County

SUSAN KNOPP Writes of governmental procedures in awarding bids to contractors

TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN Notifies of a public hearing on 1/27/92 at 7:00 p.m. to consider change of zone for Baravarian-Yaganah Property A-5 Res. to MF-1 Res., Toppings Path, Calverton, NY

35 PETITIONS Opposition to designation of carters for Solid Waste Collection District

1 PETITION Objection to SUFFOLK LIFE as official Newspaper of the Town

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Thank you. Since we have some time here, I would open it up for anyone who wishes to address the Town Board on any matter."

Julie Takacs, Calverton: "I am a fourth grader at the Pulaski Street School. I'm nine years old and my name is Julie Takacs. I read in the SUFFOLK LIFE NEWSPAPER that they wanted to put an ice skating rink in Riverhead. I have been wanting an ice skating rink for awhile now and this article in the SUFFOLK LIFE NEWSPAPER really surprised me. I feel that an ice skating rink is a wonderful idea for Riverhead and surrounding towns just like Splish, Splash is.

I am a girl who loves to do sports like swimming, ice skating and gymnastics. I have friends that like to ice skate and want an ice skating rink too.

Sincerely
Julie Takacs, Tara Ofrias
and Friends

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Thank you. Is there anybody else who wishes to address the Board on any matter? Yes, Steve."

Steve Haizlip, Calverton: "For years and years now I've had a box number, 418 Edwards Avenue and that was it. But then when I got my tax bill, I looked on it and I had 199. I said, maybe this is a mistake. So I checked with the post office, yeh you got box number 199. It was designated by the town. I said, don't the post office set up numbers and routes and so forth. How does the town get into the act? Well, you'll have to ask them. So here I am asking you. Now, it turned out my next door neighbor, brother-in-law has box number 183. I'm box 199. Yet there is only 300 feet difference between us and even if you put two houses across the street, which would be 150 foot width lots, there is a disparity of sixteen numbers. So whose idea was this numbering system, and what brought it on and why? Why is the town, what purpose do they have for controlling and designating these box numbers?"

Deputy Supervisor, Gablenz: "Steve, I can answer this for you. What is on you tax bill is not a box number, but a house

number. The town has undertaken a house numbering project which was at the request of the postal service and also at the request of the emergency service organizations. The intent here is supposed to allow the emergency service organizations in an emergency to respond as rapidly as possible by being able to identify that house clearly. There has been situations where emergencies will exist on Sound Avenue, for example, and Sound Avenue does not have house numbers. It's difficult for the emergency service people to determine when they get to the end of Roanoke Avenue, whether to make a left or a right on Sound Avenue to reach that house that has that emergency.

We have done the house numbering with a formula. We hired Young and Young Surveyors to do the house numbering assignments. That has been completed and we are about to send out notification to everybody as to what their house number is and how it was designated."

Steve Haizlip: "Okay, can I sort of finalize this then and say I can leave my box number as it is. I have addresses and correspondence all over New York and in the City and everywhere else at 418. So you just want the house designated as 199."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Right, if you have a post office box number, that does not change. That's what you still use as your mailing address, but your house number is to be used if you have an emergency at your residence. You should identify yourself by that house number."

Steve Haizlip: "Okay, then that means that we will probably be getting notification from the town to start putting numbers on the side of the house."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Right, there will be a brochure included that explains to you the importance of properly displaying the number."

Steve Haizlip: "Okay. Can I continue?"

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Certainly."

Steve Haizlip: "South Carolina vs. Lucas on waterfront property. The State D.E.C. put a stop on his building for waterfront homes. Right now it is in the courts and what this amounts to is government seizure without compensation. But, he has continued to pay taxes on this property without compensation on the waterfront property.

I had Joe's name here, but, Deputy Supervisor don't thank me for this input. I want this followed up for the benefit of Riverhead Town and it's people and I know your Town Attorney has sources and accesses to this type of court cases and pending litigation. What I'm referring to here is, I'm getting a little tired of the D.E.C. taking our land, especially my friend, Mrs. Jaggerts,"

(Councilman Stark speaking to another Board Member privately)

Steve Haizlip: "Okay, Jim?"

Councilman Stark: "Fine."

Steve Haizlip: "Especially my friend, Mrs. Jaggerts, which she cannot do a thing with her property, but they have seized this property and said you can't develop it, you can't build, you can't do nothing, but just continue to pay the taxes. I want this case followed, because it may open up the door to help us here."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "And that's South Carolina, Steve?"

Steve Haizlip: "Yes."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Okay."

Steve Haizlip: "I guess Columbia, South Carolina, the capital. You'll probably be able to find out."

Councilman James Stark: "That case has been recently----is going in front of the Supreme Court. Actually it is one of three cases, Steve."

Steve Haizlip: "Oh, so you are aware of it too, Jim. Alright good."

Councilman Stark: "They are all pertaining in the same of taking out compensation."

Steve Haizlip: "Okay."

Councilman Vic Prusinowski: "Just so you know that's the result of the recent hurricanes they had down in South Carolina and after the first hurricane several years ago, the authorities issued a permit for him to rebuild the property. The property is rebuilt and the hurricane came and wiped it out again. So this time the State of South Carolina had been denying these permits on that basis. Now whether or not he should be compensated, I guess, that's the question before the U. S. Supreme Court."

Steve Haizlip: "Yes, I know this could be argumentative and I know we could have a dialogue" (interrupted)

Councilman Prusinowski: "I'm not being argumentative, I just giving you the background."

Steve Haizlip: "I understand Vic, but I'm still saying when the D.E.C. takes these properties around here, they ought to be compensated, because they won't let them do anything else."

The NEWS REVIEW comes out on a Thursday and I don't get the thing until like about four o'clock. I'm looking in there and I find that the Town Work Session is on a Thursday, day so and so at two o'clock so and so. Hey it's all over with when I get the paper. Now, since you have this petition in there from this lady in the correspondence about SUFFOLK LIFE being the official newspaper I want to make a request. Now, I think maybe that maybe Joe will have an ace in the hole here. That the Work Session for the Town Board be published in that paper. I get that paper on Wednesday and I read it over and I've got time to react to it. But the other paper I don't have time to react. And I can't be constantly on notice all the time going around asking or phoning and saying is the Work Session today or is it this Thursday? So I'm making that request and I think it would be favorable and it would be good towards me. I know that."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Steve, we can certainly pass that on to SUFFOLK LIFE, but we can tell you that Work Sessions are held every Thursday prior to a Town Board Meeting at two o'clock"

Steve Haizlip: "In other words there was one this past Thursday prior to this at two o'clock."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Correct. At that meeting that's the opportunity for the Town Board to review the resolutions that are before them and to make any changes that might be required and to give the staff time to make those changes appropriately."

Steve Haizlip: "Okay, but you will request it and ask if it is possible?"

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Sure."

Steve Haizlip: "Alright. Before I jump down from here, I don't want to slight Mrs. Gilliam. George Young, when he was here was known as Lonesome George. When Civiletti was here she was Lonesome Denise. You've got to be Lonesome Harriet. She's the only Democrat on the Board so she is Lonesome Harriet."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Thank you. Is there anybody else who wishes to address the Board? Yes sir."

Rolf Koesling: "As long as we've got plenty of time, I have an interesting question. I read in, I believe it could have been NEWSDAY, that in relation to the Omni, we seem to be having problems lining up customers. Now to make this short, Riverhead can only supply one hundred tons a day, which is about twenty percent of the capacity. Yet I understand that about a week or so ago representatives of Omni went down to see you was it? No, Monique."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "With regard to what?"

Rolf Koesling: "A forty five million dollar to co-sign?"

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "To the Riverhead Industrial Development Agency."

Rolf Koesling: "If they flop, who has to pay?"

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "There is a tremendous misconception about the Industrial Development Agency and how it works. Most people, from the way the papers record this, most people believe that the Industrial Development Agency has a checking account that has \$45,000,000.00 in it. And when an applicant comes and asks for assistance we merely write a forty five million dollar check. The I.D.A. Board is a separate Board of five individuals, business people in this Town, who are a separate body from the Town Board. This body works when an applicant comes before them. They look at the project to make sure that it is a project of value to the community and that it meets the I.R.S. regulations for taxable or tax exempt financing. If it meets that criteria then the I.D.A. Board has the option of inducing that applicant saying that we find you to be valuable to this community so we are going to authorize you to act as our agent. What the applicant must then do is engage in negotiations with some kind of financing authority, a bank or an insurance company so that they can sell bonds to that bank or insurance company. The transaction is between the applicant and the institution that buys those bonds. It is not the Industrial Development Agency that actually goes out and encumbers \$45,000,000.00."

Rolf Koesling: "But if they default on the bonds who makes up the \$45,000,000.00?"

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "They do. There are certain performance requirements and securities that they must post. The applicant."

Rolf Koesling: "Next question is if only twenty per cent of their project, why are they coming to us? Why don't they go to Brookhaven which it would be more?"

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Well they can go to any Industrial Development Agency that they want. Suffolk County has an Industrial Development Agency, but they are going to the home town Industrial Development Agency, because we can clearly recognize the value of that project to the Town of Riverhead. They are currently in negotiations with other towns and trying to get the required 350 tons in order to get the financing to make this all possible so that construction goes forward. They have to follow several paths simultaneously in order to keep on a time schedule."

Rolf Koesling: "It is my understanding some of these recycling projects have failed, notably down in Florida."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "It may be sir, but this is an intensive recycling and composting facility and part of what will go on in this financial review by any institution that may buy their bonds is a technical review to make sure that they are satisfied and that in fact this is a strong technology and a technology that will work."

Rolf Koesling: "Cause uh like uh you may say that Omni is a big corporation and you wouldn't have to worry about it, but it's also a thing of you have a large corporation, they open up different projects in different places and each project would be responsible for it's own debt, not that company."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Uh hum. They are responsible for the debt that they incur."

Rolf Koesling: "They are responsible."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "They are responsible."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Monique, just to follow up, that is one of the reasons why Riverhead Town, I believe wisely is not going into the garbage business as you just said we would rather have it in the private enterprise sector so that the taxpayers are not exposed. If in the future the Omni plant goes bankrupt, for example, the least of our problems would be to dispose of the hundred tons a day of garbage, we'd get that responsibility back, and with the increased capacity of incinerators all over the Northeast, I believe we are in excellent position to dispose of the garbage at a reasonable cost. Now if the Town of Riverhead, as some have proposed, built a 45 billion dollar plant and the market fell through the floor, then we're stuck paying off the bond for generations to come, plus we'd still have to get rid of the garbage. So I think this is a more prudent way and I tell you I urge the other East End towns to sign a contract or at least not sign it, at least try to negotiate a contract with this private enterprise plant. I think in the long run, because of the small amount of garbage as compared to the West End, it's better to job announce our private enterprise sector. We don't have a thousand tons a day, two thousand tons a day such as Huntington or Hempstead has 2,500 tons a day. After recyclables, we're lucky to have 50 tons a day."

Rolf Koesling: "All I'm worried is long as Riverhead doesn't get stuck with the 45 million dollars."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Plus this enterprise would play real estate taxes unlike a port authority jet port and would also hire, hopefully, people from the area to work the plant which is good for the employment picture too."

Rolf Koesling: "Okay. Thank you."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Sir, can I have your name please?"

Rolf Koesling: "Rolf Koesling. R O L F."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Mr. Zahler."

Ken Zahler: "Good evening. The reason I'm here tonight is I've had a couple of conversations with our supervisor about the situation with the methadone, proposed methadone clinic in the Riverhead area and I wanted to come tonight to explain, I'm sorry Joe's not here, I wanted to come tonight from the perspective of a friend of the administration and a friend of the town and a long time supporter. I'd like to see the supervisor and the entire Town Board, come out strongly against the proposed methadone clinic in the Riverhead area, and I'd like to explain why, briefly. Being on the School Board, we were given a presentation by the county as to exactly what the methadone clinic was going to be and after the gentleman left, after about a 20 to 30 minute presentation, it was very convincing, and I, probably along with most of the other members of the board felt that what possible reason would we have to oppose this? I should back up and say that he did not come to the Board asking for approval or denial, he was coming to the Board and he made it very clear to tell us that he was coming to town, period. He wasn't seeking any kind of a blessing. Anyway, afterwards, going to Rotary meetings, talking to a lot of people, little by little, and I would say, you know, how we were going to be getting a methadone clinic, and many people I spoke to including two social workers, two psychologists, a college professor specializing in substance abuse, a parole officer, and the owner of probably the largest substance abuse facility on Long Island and the owner of a couple of others, all of these people, to a man, said number one, methadone clinics are archaic and they don't work, for some reason the only people who seem to want to perpetuate them are various government agencies. You won't be able to get, however, social workers to come forward and publicly say this because almost every one of them whether private, privately employed or working directly for the government, either way they go in and out of employment for the county or the state or what have you and they're not going to jeopardize their income by saying publicly that methadone clinics don't work. Okay, that's as to the issue as to the validity of methadone clinics at large. The second issue and the one really that we have to concern ourselves with is, is the Riverhead area the appropriate place to put one because if the county of Suffolk or the state of New York is intent on doing something they're going to probably do it, period and what I'm saying is let them do it someplace else. For as long as Mr. Janoski has been in office, he has fought against bringing in additional welfare recipients into the town. He's been, he's been very vocal in that direction and I think it was a good direction for him to go in and I stand behind him 100

percent and this also is something that I'd like to see the boards oppose. The people that I just mentioned, the social workers etcetera, who were against it, the things that they had to say were the type of people that come to a methadone clinic, many of them are unemployed, many of them do not have their own motor vehicle, they will come, they will get a ride either by bus or a friend dropping them off, there is no regular bus service so they be hanging around until an afternoon bus or a friend goes the other to take them home. Being unemployed these are not people who have a lot of money in their pocket to walk along main street and spend it in town. I guess what I'm thinking is, is were to take a piece of paper and put pros and cons on it, there's an awful lot of cons; some of them definite, some of them possible. I can't think of any pro and..."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Ken, did any of the social workers tell you what the solution is for heroin addicts who are out of work..."

Ken Zahler: "Yes."

Councilman Prusinowski: "... needing a fix and roaming the community committing violent crimes to get their money?"

Ken Zahler: "I know exactly what you're saying."

Councilman Prusinowski: "And I'm not defending the program."

Ken Zahler: "I understand."

Councilman Prusinowski: "I'm saying, I don't, personally I could care less if these heroin addicts continue to take methadone or heroin for the rest of their lives and kill themselves as long as the don't go down main street or on the Caldor Shopping Center and attack an innocent person because they have to have a fix."

Ken Zahler: "I understand exactly what you're saying and if it succeeds in cutting down the crime rate that is something that shouldn't be ignored and it should be addressed..."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Cause it would make our case to the county why the methadone program should be cancelled, essentially what we're saying for the East End we have to have some logic."

Ken Zahler: "Yes. As far as..."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Cause it's my understanding that an overwhelming majority of the legislators have already told some representatives of this community that it doesn't seem like we have much to say about placing it over at the county center."

Ken Zahler: "Yeah, I understand that."

Councilman Prusinowski: "I'll be willing to take a stand on it, I mean, we already did, but we have to have some rationale."

Ken Zahler: "There are other things as well. The numbers of people that would be coming to the clinic from Riverhead and east and the numbers that would be coming from west of Riverhead, from what I have been finding out there are far more who would be coming from Brookhaven town, a location that the county already has exit 67 Yaphank, would be a much better location, there is no shopping area within walking distance of that area, there is no village shopping area that would be affected by people going to the methadone clinic and then walking around."

Councilman Prusinowski: "They have public transportation there."

Ken Zahler: "Exactly."

Councilman Prusinowski: "And they also have a clinic there."

Ken Zahler: "There are multiple reasons why that is a much better location than Riverhead. Also, I heard recently that somebody from Suffolk County approached the owner of the Henry Perkin's Home for Adults seeking to possibly purchase that as a site for a methadone clinic. The owner rejected the offer. Just the fact that the offer was made, I think shows us that what we have in Suffolk County government right now is an enemy of the town of Riverhead. I don't know how more strongly to put it, and there is going to be, as you may or may not know, seven p.m. Monday night, the tenth, at Polish Hall, a rally against the methadone clinic, and the reason I'm telling you this is the board should be aware of just how many people there are that are against the idea and you might want to stop down and see."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Well, Ken, I know there was a letter sent from the chamber to Mike Carracciolo. Have you received an official reply back from Mike Carracciolo this at all? What's his position on the county?"

Ken Zahler: "I have no idea."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Okay. Because, you know, like I said we're on your side and I went to that meeting in Hauppauge that morning with the representatives of the community and there was a legislator there from Huntington who was on the ways and means committee, he was the one that suggested Yaphank, that's where I got it from when I spoke to you about it. That would be a great site. We have the statistics of the ones that are one the program right now, Riverhead 13, South Hampton 19, Shelter Island 12, naturally, I assume, we don't want an influx, listen, if we have 19, if we have 13 heroin addicts in Riverhead and you're going to have a methadone center just for them I'm all for

it because that's our people but I agree with you, we don't need any more of this social consciousness for all of Suffolk County.

Ken Zahler: "There is one other thing that I think would be an inevitable outcome if it were to go in the Riverhead area, and that is because of the lack of transportation, I think it's inevitable that many of these people living both east and west of Riverhead would relocate and become residents of the town. Is this the kind of person that we want to attract to the town and realizing intimately what our school district situation is, I can tell you we don't need that. You know..."

Councilman Stark: "Let's not open up that can of worms today."

Ken Zahler: "Let's not. Anyway, I'm just speaking as an individual not as a board member."

Councilman Prusinowski: "You know Ken, that's not..."

Councilman Stark: "Well you're speaking as a Board member too, don't ever forget it."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Of course that's not the type of people we want to have moving into the town that's why the town in the past has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars our taxpayers dollars fighting the social service department, fighting the health department, buying up 414 East Main Street, tearing down this building across the street, forgotten what the name of it is now, some hotel. Also, if we're having a rally then we should have a rally that we want the social service department to stop sending not Riverhead residents who are not needed, in other words non-Riverhead residents to Riverhead on social services. People that are legitimately need help in a safety net in this society, I'm all for it. People that are from other parts of the county and want to take advantage of our housing stock that's unfair to us because it's a burden on your school system and it's also a burden on the town."

Ken Zahler: "I agree with you and as far as what you said about the fight against the dumping of additional social services here, I know the town has done that before."

Councilman Prusinowski: "Which I think was also mentioned in Bobby's letter to the..."

Ken Zahler: "Yep. Anyway that's all I have to say."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Thank you. Thank you Ken. Let the record show that the hour of 7:29 has arrived, would the town clerk please read the notice of public hearing."

Barbara Grattan: "I have affidavits of publishing and posting of a public notice for a public hearing to be held at

Riverhead Town Hall at 7:10 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 1992, to hear all interested persons who wish to be heard regarding: THE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF RONALD MAYOR FOR A PROFESSIONAL OFFICE USE WITH ACCESSORY RESIDENTIAL USE ON A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED WITHIN THE PROFESSIONAL OFFICE USE DISTRICT ON BROAD AVENUE, AQUEBOGUE.

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Let the record show that we received a telephone call from Anthony Conforti's attorney for the applicant on this date requesting that this hearing be adjourned until February 18 as the applicant was not able to properly post the property for this hearing. Therefore we adjourn this public hearing until February 18. Is there anyone else who wishes to address the board on any matter? Yes, Nora.

Nora Dirska: "Nora Dirska, Riverhead. I have many friends who have children and grandchildren, and they are very excited about that ice skating rink. If it's possible, please back it up because they're really, really excited about it and I would request that if you can do anything about having it here they would be very happy about that. As far the methadone clinic is concerned and Mr. Carracciolo. He's 100 percent in favor of the methadone clinic, here in Riverhead.

Councilman Prusinowski: "In the county center."

Nora Dirska: "In the county center."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Thank you."

Nora Dirska: "I mentioned Yaphank to him. He said they had no way of getting there. Thank you."

Deputy Supervisor Gablenz: "Is there anyone else who wishes to address the board? That being the case, we'll consider the resolutions. Town Clerk." (See resolution book)

There being no further business on motion or vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m."

GAH;BG



Barbara Grattan
Town Clerk

Barbara Grattan
Town Clerk