

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall, Riverhead, New York, on Tuesday, October 30th, 1973, at 7:30 P.M. for the purpose of holding a Public Hearing to review the preliminary budget of the Town of Riverhead for the year 1974.

Present:

John H. Leonard, Supervisor  
Thomas R. Costello, Town Justice  
Robert G. Leonard, Town Justice  
Vincent B. Grodski, Councilman  
George G. Young, Councilman

Also present: Francis J. Yakaboski, Town Attorney  
Alex E. Horton, Supt. of Highways

Town Clerk submitted affidavit of Posting and Publishing Notice of Hearing Upon Preliminary Budget for 1974.

The affidavit was ordered filed.

There were approximately 21 people in attendance.

Supervisor Leonard thereupon declared the Hearing open to anyone wishing to be heard for or against any of the items in the preliminary budget for 1974.

The following responded:

Bert Rhodes, Wading River referred to Parks, Item 7110.4 - Capitol Improvements - \$25,000 and asked if any of this money is allotted for Wading River Park.

Stanley Grodski, Recreation Supervisor replied: "\$13,000 is allotted for Wading River - for two tennis courts and two basketball areas attached. Also some fencing to keep vandals away from the new comfort station."

Mr. Rhodes thanked the Town Board for including the amount of money for the improvement of the Park.

Mrs. Hoff asked what the remainder of the money (\$12,000) under the Capital Improvement Item would be used for.

Mr. Grodski replied: "\$10,000 will be used to construct a new comfort station at Stotzky Park in Riverhead."

Wickham Tyte asked what the difference was in the figure of \$167,000 increase shown in the Budget Message and the \$153,000 shown in the preliminary amount.

Supervisor Leonard explained the amounts shown in the Budget Message were tentative budget figures.

PUBLIC HEARING - continued:

Supervisor Leonard said that \$10,000 was removed from Shade Trees Item for tree spraying - that the Garden Club called him and asked that the amount be put back in the budget.

Mr. Tyte said that explains \$10,000 but what about the \$3,000 difference.

Supervisor Leonard: "\$3,500 was removed for the Supervisor's Car."

John P. Riesdorff asked if the Supervisor will have to wait and then buy a second hand car.

Mr. Tyte spoke about Police Salaries, saying he assumed that negotiations have not been completed.

Supervisor Leonard advised that the Board is waiting for the "Cost of Living Increase" before finalizing the negotiations."

Mr. Tyte asked about Highway and other employees.

Supervisor Leonard: "We are still negotiating."

Mr. Rhodes reminded the Board that Mr. Bob Donnelly spoke about the erosion problem in the West Pond in Wading River and asked for remedial action to be taken under consideration by the Board.

Mr. Rhodes asked if this would be a Capital Improvements Item.

Supervisor Leonard explained that he had discussed this with Stanley Grodski. They obtained prices on bulkheading - union wages and non-union wages.

Councilman Young said he spoke to Alex Horton about this problem and he advised that he has some broken cement that could be used to fill in but the Environmental Commission could have to be consulted.

Mr. Rhodes said that bulkheading would be a sound solution.

Dr. Caryl Granttham referred to Item A6400 Economic Development A6410.4 Publicity - noted that \$350 was expended in 1972, \$1,000 in 1973 and \$1,000 appropriated for 1974. Riverhead First Committee feels very strongly that in order to attract the right kind of industry which will supply job opportunities for our people as well as help with the tax base, we really have to put our money where our mouth is. This is a very important area and should not be left to accidental chance. Money invested wisely is very well spent.

Dr. Granttham also referred to A8020 Planning Item A8020.4 Contractual Expenses \$1,500 and assumed that the Consultant's sum is paid off, and asked if the Board envisions any further program with the Master Plan.

Public Hearing - continued:

Helen Guyer advised that Mr. Reuter is about done and there will be hearings held and it will then be submitted to the Town Board.

Police Chief Grodski referred to Public Safety Equipment A3120.2. The mileage being traveled by the Department required 7 new vehicles this year and based on the statistics (Police load and mileage to be covered) we will require 8 vehicles for 1974. The amount in budget (\$24,351.28) does not include eight vehicles.

Chief Grodski stated that if the Department doesn't have the proper tools and wheels to do the job he will not be responsible for not being able to provide the protection for the citizens of the Town. If the vehicles exhaust their usefulness and require considerable amount of repairs, they will spend more time in the garage than they will on the highway or rendering police service to the general public.

Chief Grodski asked if the reduction from 8 vehicles to 4 vehicles was a decision because there were too many vehicles or what.

Supervisor Leonard stated it was a decision because of the ten (10) cars now owned by the Department, seven (7) were 1973 models, and the highest mileage on any of the 1973 models is 36,931.

Chief Grodski asked when this mileage was reported.

Supervisor Leonard said September 11, 1973.

Chief Grodski said a year from now all will be approaching 75,000 and we still have nine months to go - in April of 1974 the cars will be a year old.

Councilman Young: "Don't we consider trading them in when they have 100,000 miles?"

Police Chief Grodski: "We consider trading before it reaches 80,000 and then have to wait six weeks for delivery."

Supervisor Leonard said it was a decision of the Board.

Police Chief Grodski said if it is a decision of the Board he will not be responsible for not being able to have the tools to do the job. He needs wheels, meaning police vehicles.

Police Chief Grodski called attention to the 1973 salary schedules of the School Crossing Guards - listing 5 guards and pointed out that there are six guards employed by the Town.

Police Chief Grodski also mentioned that auto repair costs on the vehicles have gone up and gasoline and oil costs have risen more than anticipated and also cleaning and clothing allowances.

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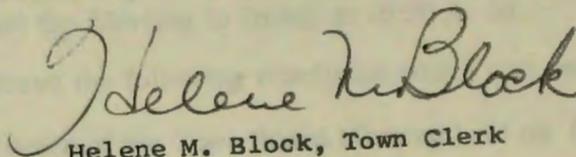
Public Hearing - continued:

Mrs. Hoff asked from what item the costs would be handled in the event the Town acquired additional Beach property.

Stanley Grodski advised that this would be charged to Beaches A7180.4 - however, since the Town has not acquired the Hulse Beach property as yet, there has been no moneys included in the budget for this purpose.

No one else wishing to be heard and no communications having been received thereto, Supervisor Leonard declared the hearing closed at 8:00 P.M. and adjourned the meeting.

No date was scheduled for the adoption of the Budget.



Helene M. Block, Town Clerk

HMB: mhj