

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall on Tuesday, June 3, 1958 at 9:30 A. M.

Present:

William J. Leonard, Supervisor

Otis G. Pike

Bruno F. Zaloga, Jr., Justices of the Peace

John H. Benedict

Elmer A. Stotzky, Councilmen

Also Present: Jacob Harding, Town Attorney, and Myron C. Young, Superintendent of Highways.

Minutes of the meeting of the Town Board held on May 20, 1958, were submitted to the Board and on motion made by Councilman Benedict and seconded by Councilman Stotzky, it was Resolved that the minutes be approved as corrected.

A letter dated May 19, 1958 from the State Traffic Commission was read to the Board as follows:

"This will acknowledge your letter of May 14, 1958 requesting the prohibition of parking on the east side of Route 25 between the driveways to Down's Service Station, adjacent to Edgar Avenue in the Unincorporated Village of Aquebogue.

This is to advise that a study of conditions is being initiated. Upon completion of the field study, you will be notified of the Commission's conclusion." End.
Letter ordered filed.

A letter dated May 26, 1958 from the State Traffic Commission was read to the Board relative to the traffic signal at the intersection of Route 25 with Edgar Avenue in Aquebogue. The Board requested some time ago that this traffic signal be placed in full stop & go operation. The Commission advised that no decision had been reached.
Letter ordered filed.

Copies of letters sent by Charles A. Wood, architect, to Lee Dennison and the Southampton Lumber Company, regarding the new highway barn construction were submitted to the Board and ordered placed on file.

A letter dated May 27, 1958 from Albert Cass, Suffolk County Commissioner of Public Works was read to the Board advising that full stop signs would be installed on streets intersecting Roanoke Avenue in Riverhead, as per request. Letter ordered filed.

The Chief of Police reported that these signs have been installed.

An application was received from the local VFW Post for the installation of curbs and gutters in front of their clubhouse on Parkway Street. Matter referred to the Highway Committee.

A "Notice of Motion to Confirm Final Report of Commissioners" relative to the matter of the petition of Suffolk County for the purpose of acquiring real property in the Town of Riverhead and Southampton for the construction of Center Drive, County Road 94 was submitted to the Board and ordered placed on file.

Mr. Perry Weisen appeared before the Board relative to littering on Town highways. He felt that a large number of trash cans should be placed throughout the Town and posters printed and posted requesting people to cooperate by disposing of their trash in these trash cans. Supervisor Leonard was requested to send a letter to Clifford Saunders asking him to place more trash cans in the Town.

Police report for month of May 1958, was submitted to the Board and ordered placed on file.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Stotzky.

WHEREAS, by resolution of this Board made on the 7th day of January, 1958, Raymond H. Nugent was duly appointed to the position of dog warden pursuant to the provisions of Section 119 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, whereby he can be removed at the pleasure of this Board, and

WHEREAS, representatives of various humane societies, including the Hampton Animal Shelter of Bridgehampton, New York, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Long Island Humane Society and the North Shore Animal Shelter of Great Neck, New York, have from time to time, inspected the premises maintained by said Raymond H. Nugent for the impounding of dogs, and have thereafter reported to the Supervisor that said premises are allowed to remain in a filthy and unfit condition and that impounded dogs are improperly housed, fed and disposed of, and

WHEREAS, an information has been filed against said Raymond H. Nugent pursuant to the provisions of the Penal Law of the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, said investigations, conditions and criminal charge have received wide publicity through the newspapers and radio, all of which has reflected discredit upon the Town of Riverhead and its citizens,

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 119 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, said Raymond H. Nugent be removed and discharged from the position of dog warden effective immediately.

No one seconded this motion. Councilman Stotzky requested that this resolution be inserted in the official Town Board minutes.

Justice Pike had this to say in regard to this resolution.

"I think that our dog warden has had a great many responsible persons criticizing him and I think he has had a great many responsible persons defending him. I don't think any body of this type should ever take the place of due process of law and I think that any employee of the Town of Riverhead is certainly entitled to the same presumption of innocence until he is proven guilty, that a person charged with a crime is entitled to.

If the charges which have been made against him are proven and he is found guilty, I will second your resolution, but I certainly will not do so at the present time."

Supervisor Leonard strongly criticized the article that appeared in Newsday relative to this matter and directed his remarks to the reporter from Newsday seated in the audience.

Justice Pike offered the following resolution which was seconded by Justice Zaloga.

RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 12, "Refuse Ordinance," be amended as follows:

That Section IV be amended to read "Any person, persons, firm, association or corporation who shall violate or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$250.00 or thirty days in jail or both."

FURTHER RESOLVED that a public hearing be held on said amendment to Ordinance on June 17th, 1958 at the Town Hall, 220 Roanoke Avenue, Riverhead, N.Y. at 10 A.M.

FURTHER RESOLVED that notice of said hearing be published in the News-Review, the official newspaper on the 5th day of June, 1958.

The Vote---Councilman Stotzky, Yes; Councilman Benedict, Yes; Justice Pike, Yes; Justice Zaloga, Yes; and Supervisor Leonard, Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Mr. Irving Kahn appeared before the Board relative to the offer of his property on East Main Street for a Town Hall site. He presented to the Board a survey of this property which was ordered filed.

The overall acreage of this property is approximately 3.7 acres. Mr. Kahn gave the following tentative cost figures to the Board.

- (1). Town to acquire all land and present building except approximately .4 (four-tenths) acre on which he would build another building for his own use, cost \$65,000.
- (2). Town to acquire all land except approximately .4 (four-tenths) acre to which he would move the present building for his own use, cost \$48,500.

Matter held in abeyance for further study.

The Town Board convened as a Board of Audit and examined all Town Bills to date, the totals of which was as follows: General Town---\$3,919.63 and Machinery Fund---\$12,180.06. On motion and vote, it was Resolved that the bills be approved as rendered.

There being no further business on motion and vote, the meeting adjourned to meet on Tuesday, June 17, 1958 at 9:30 A.M.

Anthony F. Gadzinski
Anthony F. Gadzinski, Town Clerk

AFG:mvb