

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, December 1, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Sean Walter	Supervisor
John Dunleavy	Councilman
George Gabrielsen	Councilman

ABSENT

James Wooten	Councilman
Jodi Giglio	Councilwoman

ALSO PRESENT:

Diane Wilhelm	Town Clerk
Annemarie Prudenti	Deputy Town Attorney

The meeting was officially opened at 2:00 p.m. by Supervisor Walter with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an Invocation by Reverend Emil Wcela, St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church.

Councilman Dunleavy wished every celebrating Hanukah a very happy holiday.

Councilman Dunleavy made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Gabrielsen that the minutes of November 4, 2015 and November 17, 2015 Board meetings be accepted. Motion carried.

FIRE DISTRICTS ANNUAL ELECTIONS
DECEMBER 8, 2015

The Riverhead Fire District, Jamesport Fire District, Manorville Fire District and Wading River Fire District will hold their annual elections on December 8, 2015

REPORTS

- Building Department – Monthly Report November 2015 - \$68,219.25
- Sewer District Discharge Monitoring Report October 2015

CORRESPONDENCE

- 7 letters of opposition to the proposed location of a 7-11 store at Vinland Commons, Route 25, Aquebogue
- Brown & Altman, LLP – letter requesting an extension of the Special Use Permit Approval to 626 West Main Street Realty, LLC

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

- CAC Res. #2015-24, Cinque, SCTM #0600-87-1-28

Mary, a three year old puppy was introduced to the audience. Mary has been at the shelter since the summer and is looking for a home. Anyone interested in adopting Mary or any of the other dogs at the shelter can contact the shelter at 369-6189, Ext. 2.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Dunleavy reported that Santa's Parade is this Sunday, December 6, 2015. Parade starts at Osborne Avenue at 1:00 p.m. and ends in the parking lot behind the old Sweezy store. Santa will be greeting everyone immediately following the parade.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Supervisor Walter: "We have one public hearing scheduled for 2:00 and it is now 2:07 and we open the public hearing for the Consideration of a Local Law to Amend Chapter 101, Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" of the Riverhead Town Code, (101-13 Parking Time Limited, Peconic Riverfront Parking Lot, Northerly Portion and Parking Lot East of Salvation Army Store). I think I said it all. There will be sixty stalls located immediately south of the stores that front on the south side of East Main Street on property now known as SCTM #0600-128-6-77 and property now known as SCTM #0600-126-6-71 and extending in a southerly direction terminating at the light posts located in said parking lot and this parking lot in its entirety beginning at its intersection with East Main Street and continuing in a southwesterly direction terminating at McDermott Avenue. Am I reading the wrong one?"

Annemarie Prudenti: "Well you read the first one which is already part of our town code so the second one your reading is the proposed (inaudible). There's an amendment to Section D removing from the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday."

Supervisor Walter: "So we're going to make it three hour restricted parking?"

Councilman Dunleavy: "All week."

Annemarie Prudenti: "Correct."

Supervisor Walter: "Ok, does anybody wish to be heard on this public hearing, Yes?"

Laura Jens Smith: "Hi, I'm Laura Jens Smith from Laurel. I think that placing that three hour parking limit is a start to addressing the parking issue downtown but I would urge this Board to take a much more comprehensive long term approach to this issue. I don't believe that a piecemeal approach to addressing the parking issue will result in benefits the revitalization of downtown or to the tax payers of Riverhead. A comprehensive approach will provide a much more viable solution to aid in both the short term and long term parking issues faced by downtown. I know that every time the parking issue question comes up there's always the talk of building a parking garage and I'm well aware this is an expensive proposition at a cost of approximately

thirty thousand dollars per spot. While there hopefully will be a need to provide additional parking and a parking garage in the future, I think that first we need to maximize the use of our existing parking spaces to their highest potential. This will take a coordinated effort by this Board along with the BID, the Community Development Agency the Parking District Advisory Committee and the Traffic and Safety Committee. I believe that all parking in the parking district should have time limitations and any overnight parking should be restricted to combined areas and require a permit. I believe that if all the committees coordinate via work sessions viable solutions can be reached in a timely manner to support downtown revitalization for both the businesses, Suffolk County Community College and its residents.

In order to maximize what we currently have we need better signage. According to the BOA study commissioned by this Board we have two thousand seven hundred ten parking spaces of which we use only forty-eight percent on the weekdays and nineteen percent on the weekends. We have very few signs that denote where public parking areas are and the signs that we have are not uniform. Several do not denote areas that are public parking they just say aquarium parking and also the signs do not denote location so when you go to park somewhere you don't know where it's the most convenient to park for where you want to enter into downtown.

Patrons should also feel comfortable using all available parking areas that the parking district controls and I believe that using security cameras would help in this matter to utilize all the parking spaces. We also need to create a compact car and motorcycle parking spots which would increase the number of spaces available in our current limitations.

But more than anything else we need to address the root of the problem. We have a master plan that does not require apartments to provide parking spaces either on site or off site and this does need to change. The master plan also calls for a build-out of five hundred apartments which according to the Board's own BOA study is too dense for downtown to handle and this needs to be addressed if we're going to address the parking situation downtown.

So I urge this Board to move forward with a comprehensive plan to address these issues proactively not in a piecemeal fashion so that downtown can continue to press forward and move alone for the future.

I would also like to point out that in our comprehensive plan it was planned for a movie theater downtown which I think would be a big benefit for the community and with these parking issues I do not think that it's a suitable place for a theater to be and I really think the Board should reconsider placing a, allowing a movie theater to be place on Rt. 58 so that it would benefit the community. So thank you."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you. Yes, parking?"

Robert Barta: "Robert Barta, Veil Levitt Music Hall."

Supervisor Walter: "Bob we haven't seen you in a long time, welcome back."

Robert Barta: "I'm President of historic Veil Levitt Music Hall located at 18 Peconic Avenue in downtown Riverhead. Veil Levitt as most of you know is a not-for-profit theater, a registered national and state historic site and the oldest theater on Long Island. It's been a long standing venue for performing arts and cultural presentation for the community, a theater in the downtown area."

Councilman Dunleavy: “Before you talk I’d just like people to go and look at that theater. It is beautiful inside. They did a very good job in restoring it and we should have more people going in there because they do have things in there. They have movies in there.”

Robert Barta: “There’s a whole docket of things coming up in December, yes.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “Just go in there and look at this theater. What, it seats two hundred?”

Robert Barta: “Yup, two twenty.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “Two twenty and it’s a beautiful, old theater. Sorry I interrupted you.”

Supervisor Walter: “You can always post that stuff on Channel 22 if you get it to us we will.”

Robert Barta: “Thank you, I appreciate it; we’ll take you up on that, thank you. In addition to our shows and presentations we also add significantly to the downtown economy. As a two hundred twenty seat venue we’re important because when we sell tickets to an event we promote the opportunity for one of our great downtown restaurants to get customers for food and refreshments before or after the show. It’s no secret we depend heavily on access to our facility from this riverfront parking lot.

Since shows run typically two and a half to three hours the proposed three hour universal limit would discourage audience members not only to adding a visit to one of the downtown restaurants but from attending a show itself for fear of being ticketed. Current violations in this lot could run up to a hundred and eighty-five dollars; more than the price a couple might pay for their meal and show combination. The time to walk from the car to the show and exiting afterward could easily push people over the three hour limit. Shows that run long could result in many such patrons receiving tickets.

Our problem with the proposed limits however are substantially restricted to only certain, specific days and hours of presentation otherwise every other day to day operation of the music hall by volunteers and staff can adhere to the proposed three hour limitation but after reviewing the proposed amendment to the code we believe this sixty spaces proposed for the area immediately behind East Main Street establishments including Veil Levitt are insufficient to accommodate all the customer demands. There are well over three hundred restaurant seats between Joe’s Garage, Dark Horse, Cielto Lindo, Tweeds, Mazi, ParaBell and Riverhead Grill all in the area. Add to that the business enterprises such as Robert James Salon, pizza takeout, the tea shop, frozen yogurt shop, an electronic store, vacuum and sewing among others and the sixty spaces seems far too few. I’d ask you to consider amending the proposal to a hundred spaces within the BID parking field to be established as three hour parking in any twenty-four hour period.

Another issue is enforcement. Will the town provide, allocate for officers to issue tickets or will the town then designate BID funds to hire a parking officer thereby reducing BID’s ability to do its job with regard to downtown improvements?

Another concern of our Board was accommodations of apartment tenants, Summerwind. We understand the town’s obligation to provide adequate parking for these individuals even though the apartment building owners pay into the BID. One of our Board members suggested the tenants

be issued parking permits, one per apartment regardless of size and at no cost and that these permits allow them to park in town slots, not BID slots in the downtown parking fields. These permits would allow them overnight parking in one of the town lots at no risk of a ticket. Tenants would not be guaranteed parking in the field immediately adjacent to the apartment complex but a place in one of those town lots even those on the north side of Main Street. Yes the tenants could use BID lots for the three hours permitted and the vacant spaces on town fields.

As for Veil Levitt patrons I'd like to propose that the representatives of the town, BID, parking district and the music hall meet to set guidelines and procedures for potential parking validation tickets to be placed in car windows possibly on the driver's side by the registration and inspection stickers; serialized, date stamped and recorded, in conjunction with Veil Levitt to be issued only to ticket holders and staff of Veil Levitt for use only for specific performances and times that affect us. Thank you."

Councilman Dunleavy: "Thank you. Can you make a copy of that and give me a copy of that? Oh, I have a copy of it."

Supervisor Walter: "Next speaker. Does anybody else wish to be heard on this matter? Not seeing anybody we're going to close out the public comment portion and leave it open for written comment until December 11th, 4:30 in the Riverhead Town Clerk's office. Thank you everybody."

**Public Meeting Closed at 2:20 p.m.
Left Open for Public Comment until December 11, 2015**

COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS

Supervisor Walter: "Now we're going to take comments on resolutions. Does anybody wish to be heard on resolutions?"

Sal Mastropaolo: "Sal Mastropaolo, Calverton; Resolution 828 and 829. Is this something new? I don't recall ever seeing resolutions like this allocating funds to."

Supervisor Walter: "Yeah, we do, yes we do it every year. Well there might have been a couple of years before at meetings you weren't here but since you've been here we've been doing it, yes."

Sal Mastropaolo: "What happened to the VFW?"

Councilman Dunleavy: "There's still a VFW, that's the name of the corporation."

Sal Mastropaolo: "Oh ok, thank you."

Councilman Dunleavy: We give that every year. Five hundred dollars in case there's an emergency and we have to use their establishment, that's why we give them the five hundred dollars. It's like."

Sal Mastropaolo: “That’s not the way I understood it.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “No, no. We give them another one for parades and stuff.

Sal Mastropaolo: “Yeah that’s 829.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “That’s a total of two hundred and fifty dollars, ok? This here is for the rent.”

Supervisor Walter: “How are you doing? ”

Vic Prusinowski: “Vic Prusinowski, 533 Elton Street, Riverhead, NY. I’m a consultant for 626 West Main Street Realty. I’m just here to give you a point of information on the Resolution 827. Part of that resolution is a five hundred renewal fee which I just got federal expressed to me here which I’ll, after the meeting I’ll give to the Clerk. Just so you know the five hundred dollars is here in the house and our attorney.”

Supervisor Walter: “We always like that.”

Vic Prusinowski: “Well that’s why I know Sean I wanted to come up here and let you know we got the five hundred bucks and our attorney just for your information, our attorney has just filed the covenants and restrictions per the Planning Board resolution and the cross easement which totally satisfies the Planning Department resolution and the Chairman now will be able to sign that (inaudible) just as a point of information. I know I promised the Deputy Supervisor that we’d have it all done before you vote on it so now you’re free to vote on it, 827. I appreciate your votes, thank you.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you Victor. They started the work on the building but we didn’t put a time limit in the special permits so it expired after a year so we have to extend it. They’ve already torn down the building. Ok, anybody else wish to be heard on resolutions? Not seeing anybody, Diane.”

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution # 813

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Calverton Sewer District Budget Adjustment so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “I second it.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #814

Councilman Dunleavy: “2015 General Town Budget Adjustment, so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #815

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Riverhead Highway District Budget Adjustment, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #816

Councilman Dunleavy: “Riverhead Water District Budget Adjustment, so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #817

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Appoints Student Intern to the Accounting Department, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #818

Councilman Dunleavy: “Designates Time Periods to Implement the Affordable Care Acts Look-back Measurement Method and Determining Affordability Method. This is Obama Care. We have to do this for our employees, so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #819

Annemarie Prudenti: “As to Resolution 819 if I could request the Town Board consider in the now therefore add temporary substitute, part-time clerk. It’s a part-time position”

Supervisor Walter: “Ok, ok.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Ratifies the Appointment of a Temporary Substitute, Part-time Clerk to the Sewer District as amended, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #820

Councilman Dunleavy: “Adopts a Local Law Amending Chapter 106 Entitled “Waterways” of the Riverhead Town Code, so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #821

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Authorizes Purchase of Salt for Use by the Town Highway Department, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Supervisor Walter: “Hold one second. Annemarie, I think you did this. Why did we do this this year and not in other years?”

Annemarie Prudenti: “This is a cost saving measure where there’s actual a great price on salt for right now and since we are low on it this will be, the monies will not be due until 2016 and Bill Rothaar varied that it’s within the budget.”

Supervisor Walter: “Ok.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And it’s coming to Brookhaven, we don’t have to go.”

Annemarie Prudenti: “No the second round. In case it runs out we’ll come to Brookhaven.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “We’ll go to Brookhaven so we don’t have to worry about salt.”

Resolution #822

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizes Town to Provide Funding Assistance in 2016 and 2017 for Riverhead Community Awareness Program, Inc., so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution 823

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Awards Bid for Removal of Household Hazardous Waste, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #824

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizes Rider Agreement among the Riverhead Business Improvement District, Riverhead Business Improvement District Management Association, Inc. and St. George Living History Productions, Inc. Regarding an Event Entitled “The Edgar Allan Poe Festival, so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #825

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Authorizes Town Clerk to Publish and Post a Notice of Public Hearing to Consider a Proposed Local Law for an Amendment of Chapter 101 Entitled, “Vehicles & Traffic” of the Riverhead Town Code (101-10 Parking Prohibited – Howell Avenue), so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #826

Supervisor Walter: “Are we amending this somehow?”

Councilman Dunleavy: “What is this?”

Supervisor Walter: “This is the Blue Laws.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “Yeah she’s going to cross out, nothing gets changed.”

Annemarie Prudenti: “No. So the portion which is crossed out should remain in. It was erroneously crossed out.”

Supervisor Walter: “Ok, so Diane we have.”

Diane Wilhelm: “We have to leave it?”

Supervisor Walter: “Yeah we’re going to take the line and leave the language in.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “Adopts a Local Law to Amend Chapter 93 Entitled “Sunday Activities” of the Code of the Town of Riverhead, so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #827

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Amends Approval of the Special Use Permit of 626 West Main Street Realty, LLC, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And second.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #828

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizes the Appropriation of Funds for Local Patriotic Organizations Pursuant to Town Law 64 (13), so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #829

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Authorizes the Appropriation of Funds for Local Patriotic Organizations Pursuant to Town Law 64 (12), so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #830

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizes Town Clerk to Publish and Post Public Notice to Consider a Local Law to Amend Chapter 86 Entitled “Rental Dwelling Units” of the Riverhead Town Code, so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #831

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Sets Date and Time of 16th Annual Town of Riverhead Bonfire and Holiday Celebration, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

Supervisor Walter: “Moved and seconded. Vote please”

The Vote: “Gabrielsen, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #832

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizes Extension of Time to Remit Real Property Taxes for Senior Citizens Receiving Enhanced Star Pursuant to Section 425 or Section 467 of NYS Real Property Tax Law, so moved.”

Councilman Gabrielsen: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #833

Councilman Gabrielsen: “Pays Bills, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Gabrielsen yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Walter: “Ok, now we’ve concluded the business portion of the meeting and we open it up to the residents to discuss anything that might be before them or the Town Board and we ask that you limit your comments to five minutes. Would anybody wish to be heard tonight, yes? Please step up to the microphone and state your name and hamlet or affiliation for the record.”

Marie Denise LeBrun from Aquebogue came forward to speak on the 7-Eleven store that is being proposed for Vinland Commons. Ms. LeBrun passed out a letter to the Board members and said she has spoken to the residents and a two page petition against the opening of the 7-Eleven is being signed and will be sent to the Board. She continued by saying Vinland Commons is an undesirable location due to the proximity to a karate school, a dance center and a New York

Preschool Special Education Center and the nature of items sold at the 7-Eleven; alcoholic beverages and cigarette is unsuitable for sale at an area that services children on its site.

Supervisor Walter asked Ms. LeBrun if she understood that the Town lost a case in Supreme Court. He informed Ms. LeBrun that the Town Board will be filing an appeal regarding the proposed 7-Eleven store and when they file the appeal there will be an automatic Stay.

Ms. LeBrun cited several concerns of the residents in regard to a 7-1Eleven being allowed to open at Vinland Commons. She said there is a threat to public safety through increased crime and transiency, gridlock traffic, diminished property values and over-saturation of market were several of their concerns.

Supervisor Walter told Ms. LeBrun that he and his staff have discussed the matter and will be offering legislation in the hamlets of Polish Town, Aquebogue and Jamesport that a twenty-four hour operation would be prohibited and business would have to shut down during certain hours. He said he hoped to have that legislation in and ready to discuss on Thursday. He also said that even if the Town loses the litigation against the 7-Eleven and it is allowed to open it will not be a 24/7, 7-Eleven.

Ms. LeBrun said that was good to hear and thanked the Board for listening to her.

Matthew Pendelton from Aquebogue came to speak today about the opening of the 7-Eleven. He said he has two pages of signatures in support of appealing the ruling allowing the opening of a 7-Eleven. One page is signatures of residents who immediately surround the area and the other from residents, business owners and farmers in the community.

Supervisor Walter asked Mr. Pendelton to submit the petitions to the Town Clerk. He also said the Town Board did discuss this matter in Executive Session and have directed the Town Attorney to appeal the court decision.

Mr. Pendelton asked if there was full support of the Town Board to appeal the court's decision to which the Supervisor again told him the matter will be appealed by the Town. Mr. Pendelton continued by saying he moved to Jamesport because of the rural countryside and the farming that is done. He thanked the Board for their time.

Patrick Foley from Aquebogue came forward and stated that his property is directly behind Vinland Commons property. He thanked the Board for directing the Town Attorney to appeal the court's decision and continued by saying he's lived on his property for twenty years with little to no problem however when the property was bought from the previous owner there were issues regarding a variance because their buildings were too close to the property line and when the land was being cleared they cut his and neighbors trees down without their permission. He also said the two buildings they added to the property have been vacant and he feels if a convenience store is put there those buildings could become a hangout for people who frequent the store. He also mentioned several scenarios that he feels could occur which would be detrimental to the children who attend the preschool, dance studio and karate school and to the residents of the town.

Supervisor Walter reminded Mr. Foley that the Board did not approve the site for a 7-Eleven but when the Board's denial was appealed in court a Judge approved the area for a convenience store. Mr. Foley responded by saying he read the judge's decision and wanted to go on public record that he does not agree with his decision and there are many residents who are adamantly opposed to any type of convenience store. Supervisor Walter thanked Mr. Foley for speaking on this matter.

Next to come forward was Dorothy Muller who said people who come out to this area come out to see the countryside, not a 7-Eleven or Dunkin Donuts on every corner. She told Councilman Gabrielsen that she feels his business and other businesses will decline if another 7-Eleven or Dunkin Donuts was allowed in the area. She said there are already four 7-Eleven stores in the town of Riverhead alone, one in Mattituck and a Dunkin Donuts that is supposed to be opening in Jamesport. She feels this is not right and the residents do not need to have another 7-Eleven or a Dunkin Donuts.

Supervisor Walter reminded her that they sued the town and the town lost the litigation and the town is now going to appeal the court's decision.

Ms. Muller thanked the Board for listening to her reiterating that a 7-Eleven should not be allowed to open.

Lou Evers, co-owner of Meeting House Deli & Butcher Shop in Aquebogue was the next speaker to come to the podium to speak about the opening of a 7-Eleven in Vinland Commons. He said he was not here to speak because of a conflict of interest with 7-Eleven because they are not even close to being in conflict with 7-Eleven. He said a lot of people have recently discovered the North Fork and he and other businesses are very dependent on the tourists for their livelihood. He asked that the Board continue with their decision so that he and others can continue to raise their families in a wholesome environment as pictured in the picture on the wall.

The last speaker was Marge Acevedo from Wading River who said she was here because she is concerned as to who would be appointed to the Planning Board and Zoning Board. She said she had appealed to the Town Board approximately three years ago to consider putting a Democrat on the Board of Assessment and Review and instead the Board interviewed someone from Florida on the telephone and appointed him instead of appointing a person of high quality with a lot of experience as a former assessor. She continued by saying she was here again to ask the Board to consider her plea.

She read a letter written to the Town Board which stated each year less and less people come out to vote and she believes that part of the reason for the poor turnout is that people don't feel they can make a difference. The letter continued by saying this new year brings openings on both the Planning Board and the Zoning Board and she is urging the Town Board to move away from partisan politics and seek out highly qualified new members for both Boards as well as for the various advisory committees that would provide vital citizen input to Town Hall.

Ms. Acevedo said as Chair of the Democratic Committee she urges the Town Board to advertise for strong by-partisan candidates who would bring a fresh approach to doing the people's business. She asked that the elected officials' interview qualified candidates in an advertised, open, honest and transparent process. She continued by saying it was time to recruit, interview and appoint planning and zoning board members who are up to the challenge. She said the people of Riverhead deserve the best.

After reading the letter Ms. Acevedo said she knows there are three positions that need to be filled. Supervisor Walter informed her that there were only two positions, one on the Planning Board and one on the Zoning Board that were vacant but they were five year terms so every five years one member leaves and a new appointment has to be made.

Ms. Acevedo asked if one position had already been filled to which the Supervisor responded with a yes. She then said she thought diversity and advertising for these positions is

very, very important. She also said she thought there should be a better web site that residents can go to to see what committees people can serve on as volunteers.

The Supervisor said the Internal Audit Committee is looking for two new members to run that committee. Ms. Acevedo responded by saying this information should be advertised to which the Supervisor said they did advertise on the Town's web site and no one responded. He said the committee has a twenty thousand dollar budget and a CPA at their disposal. He continued by saying the group chooses different town departments to audit, they set up the audit standards and then the CPA does an audit and reports his findings back to the Audit Committee who then reports the findings to the Town Board. He said ideally they are looking for people with business, CPA or legal backgrounds and asked if anyone was interested to please send their resume to Personnel Director.

Ms. Acevedo asked if the Supervisor could provide her with a list of town committees.

Councilman Dunleavy said he just wanted to let Ms. Acevedo know that the person who was interviewed in Florida was actually a resident of Jamesport but at the time of the interview was vacationing in Florida.

Supervisor Walter: "Does anybody else wish to be heard tonight? He thanked everyone for coming and asked for a motion to adjourn."

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

Supervisor Walter: Seconded, all in favor aye, opposite, abstentions. Motion carried, we stand adjourned. Oh, Senior Discount week is December 6th through the 12th."

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 p.m.