

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, March 5, 1952 at 2:00 P.M.

Present:

Joseph V. Kelly, Supervisor

Austin H. Warner,  
Frank J. Yousik,  
Charles W. Gatz,  
William J. Leonard, Justices of the Peace

Edward W. Connors, Town Attorney and Myron C. Young, Supt. of Highways were also present.

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board held on February 20, 1952 were read and on motion and vote were duly adopted.

Mr. William J. Hattrick, representing the Riverhead Lions Club addressed the Board in regard to the dangerous Rail Road crossings in the Town of Riverhead. He urged the Board to petition the New York State Public Service Commission to compel the Long Island Rail Road Company to place electrically operated blinker lights on all unprotected crossings in the Town of Riverhead not only for the purpose of preventing loss of life but also as a matter of good business in preventing law suits, however he stated that the loss of life is what the people of this Town is most concerned about. He suggested that a public meeting of the townspeople be called to show the seriousness of the problem and further urged the Board to do something about it. He said that the Lions Club and the newspapers will co-operate with the Board.

Mr. Thomas Stark also addressed the Board in regard to the above matter. He concurred with what Mr. Hattrick had already said and thought that the matter should be brought before the public governing body in order that it may place its weight behind the request.

It was the consensus of opinion of the Board, that the Townspeople are already aroused as to the seriousness of this problem and that a public meeting would not serve the purpose as well as a public hearing before the State Public Service Commission. The Board advised that it has already called these hazardous conditions to the attention of the Long Island Rail Road Company and the Public Service Commission on numerous occasions over the past five years, with the result that surveys were made but as yet no action taken.

Justice Leonard offered the following resolution which was seconded by Justice Gatz

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead, Suffolk County, New York, did on at least three previous occasions adopt resolutions requesting the Long Island Rail Road Company to alleviate the hazardous conditions existing at rail road crossings at Sweezy Avenue, Maple Avenue, Union Avenue and Ostrander Avenue in the Town of Riverhead, and

WHEREAS, in each instance a copy of the aforesaid resolutions were

forwarded to the Long Island Rail Road Company, and

WHEREAS, the hazardous conditions still prevail at the aforesaid crossings, and

WHEREAS, on the 1st day of March, 1952 a serious accident occurred at the Sweezy Avenue rail road crossing, resulting in the death of two persons, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Riverhead is greatly grieved, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board immediately seek a hearing by the Public Service Commission for the purpose of compelling the Long Island Rail Road Company to install flashing light signals at the aforesaid crossings for the protection of lives, and further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Long Island Rail Road Company. The resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the Town Board.

dated Feb. 21, 1952 and

A sworn affidavit signed by John Koroleski of Orient, N.Y. stating that on the 16th day of February, 1952, at approximately 10:00 P.M., Route 58, Town of Riverhead, Suffolk County, New York, he was involved in an accident. That at no time had he told a person by the name of Harry Rambo to tow his automobile which was involved in said accident away from the said scene. That he is making this affidavit voluntarily and with no promises or consideration whatsoever. The affidavit was ordered placed on file.

A sworn affidavit dated February 23, 1952 and signed by James Davenport of 9 Jersey Street, Patterson, N.J. stating that on or about the 16th day of February, 1952, at approximately 10:00 P.M., he was involved in an accident on Route 58, Town of Riverhead, Suffolk County, New York. That due to the fact he was a stranger in this county and State, he knew no one to tow his car away from the scene of the accident. He had asked the Police Department to call a wrecker for him. That he did not at any time ask a person by the name of Harry Rambo to tow his car away from the scene of the accident. That he is making this affidavit voluntarily without any promises or consideration whatsoever. The affidavit was ordered placed on file.

A communication was read from Alfred A. Cantin, registering his complaint in regard to the manner in which the matter of towing wrecked cars from the highways is handled. He stated that he felt that the Police Department should be instructed to comply with the owners request as to the disposition of their cars in case of an accident. The communication was ordered placed on file.

A communication was read from Henry Scheinberg making application for the position of Life Guard at the Iron Pier Beach during the summer season of 1952. The communication was ordered placed on file.

On motion made by Justice Gatz and seconded by Justice Yousik it was Resolved, that Henry Scheinberg be and he hereby is appointed

Life Guard at the Iron Pier Beach beginning on June 28, 1952 and ending on Labor Day, 1952, salary fixed at the rate of \$40.00 per week. The vote, Justices Warner, Yousik, Gatz and Leonard Yes, Supervisor Kelly Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A communication was read from the Harder Extermination Service, Inc. accepting the agreement with the Town of Riverhead to undertake another yearly program of rodent control at the Riverhead Town Dump at a cost of \$50.00 per month. The communication was ordered placed on file.

A deed from the Diocese of Long Island to the Town of Riverhead for a strip of land along a portion of North Wading River Road for the purpose of straightening a sharp curve in the said highway was submitted to the Board and referred to the Town Attorney.

The Police report for the month of February, 1952 was submitted to the Board and on motion and vote was accepted and ordered placed on file.

The Receiver of Taxes submitted a report as to the amount of taxes collected as of March 1, 1952 and on motion and vote was accepted and ordered placed on file.

An estimate of cost of constructing a proposed wing approximately 15 feet long, and about at right angles to the existing bulkhead at the foot of McDermott Ave. for the total sum of \$432.63 was submitted to the Board by the Defriest's Shipyard Co., Inc. The estimate was ordered placed on file.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Gatz it was Resolved that the Supervisor be authorized to enter into an agreement with the Defriest's Shipyard Co., Inc. for the construction of a bulkhead at the foot of McDermott Avenue, as specified in the above estimate dated March 5, 1952 for the sum of \$432.63. The vote Justices Warner, Yousik, Gatz and Leonard Yes, Supervisor Kelly Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

On motion made by Justice Yousik and seconded by Justice Warner it was Resolved that the Supervisor be authorized to enter into an agreement with Roanoke Lodge #463 I.O.O.F. for the rental of the ground floor of the building at 220 Roanoke Avenue, Riverhead, New York as presently used for a Town Hall and in addition, three rooms in the basement to be partitioned off substantially as agreed upon from the 1st day of May, 1952 at the monthly rent of \$500.00, on a month to month basis, paid monthly in advance. The Vote, Justices Warner, Yousik, Gatz and Leonard Yes, Supervisor Kelly Yes. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

The Town Board then convened as a Board of Audit and examined all town bills to date, the totals of which were as follows: General Town Fund-\$1887.40, Highway Machinery Fund-\$275.38.

There being no further business on motion and vote the meeting adjourned to meet on Wednesday, March 19, 1952 at 2:00 P.M.

*Harry J. Kratoville*  
Harry J. Kratoville, Town Clerk.