

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, April 5, 1944 at 2:00 P.M.

Present:

Joseph V. Kelly, Supervisor

Austin H. Warner

Frank J. Yousik

William J. Leonard, Justices of the Peace

Arthur H. Lundberg, Town Attorney and Myron C. Young, Supt. of Highways were present.

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Board held on March 15, 1944 and minutes of a Special meeting of the Town Board held on March 28, 1944 were read and on motion and vote were duly adopted.

Mrs Amerette Smith addressed the Board and requested that John Doscinski, Chief of Police be dismissed from the Police Force. She said that she has specific reasons for this request which she cannot divulge at this time, however they will be made known in due time. She recommended that William Fleischman be appointed Chief of Police.

Mr. Al. Trahern addressed the Board and wanted to know by what authority Mrs Smith had, to stand in the highway and stop cars of strangers coming to Riverhead. The answer was none to the knowlege of the Board.

Town Attorney Lundberg addressed the Board and recommended that the Police be instructed to keep anyone from the highways who obstructs traffic without authority. He said in making this recommendation that he not only had the welfare of Mrs Smith in mind but also of the general Public as well.

Mr. Victor Mohns wished to go on record at this time ~~as~~ expressing his confidence in the Police Force of the Town of Riverhead.

Mr. Al. Trahern seconded the above expression of Mr. Mohns.

Mr. Harry Fleischman addressed the Board and stated that he has been working as Clerk to the Board of Assessors since March 13, 1944 and as yet has not been paid. He asked the Board to take some action on the matter.

Supervisor Kelly stated that he was solely responsible for holding up Mr. Fleischman's check, however if anyone could convey to him how he could legally sign the check he would be glad to do so. He further stated that there was nothing personal about the matter, only that in his opinion he had no legal right to pay it.

Justice Warner stated that at a special meeting of the Town Board on March 8, 1944 a resolution was passed requesting the Civil Service Commission to certify a male list for the appointment of a Clerk to the Board of Assessors. Pending action of the Commission, and at the urgent request of the Board of Assessors, it was my opinion that a temporary clerk should be appointed. I therefore offered a resolution moving the provisional

appointment of Harry Fleischman as Clerk to the Board of Assessors. I had not at that time read over the Civil Service Rules and was not conversant with the word "provisional" as defined and applied in those rules. I state that my sole and only purpose was to make a temporary appointment until action could be had from the Commission or in case of a denial of the request by them, until the eligible list could be canvassed. Evidence of this fact is found in the discussion which followed. The legality of the resolution was questioned by the Supervisor and I replied that "in my opinion the appointment could legally be made pending action of the Civil Service Commission" I therefore believe, Mr. Supervisor, that a technicality should not be allowed to defeat the intent and purpose of the resolution and that Mr. Fleischman should be paid.

A communication was read from the State Tax Commission inclosing notices of the tentative full valuations of special franchise property, together with the rate of assessment as fixed and determined by it. The communication and inclosures were ordered placed on file.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Yousik it was Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead objects to the tentative equalization rate of assessment of 47 o/o for the Town of Riverhead which was fixed and determined by the State Tax Commission as inequitable, and further Resolved, that Arthur H. Lundberg, Town Attorney be authorized to represent the Town of Riverhead at a hearing of the State Tax Commission to be held in the City of Albany on the 18th day of April, 1944 at 10:00 A.M. and submit such evidence in support of the claim that the tentative rate of assessment is inequitable and should be increased. The Vote, Justices Warner, Yousik and Leonard Yes, Justice Smith absent, Supervisor Kelly Yes. Total Vote, Yes 4, Absent 1, No 0. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A communication was read from the Red Bird Hook and Ladder Company No 1, requesting permission to run a carnival on the Griffing Avenue parking lot during the last week in July or the first week in August. On motion and vote the matter was ordered placed on the calendar for the next regular meeting of the Town Board.

A communication was read from the Long Island Lighting Company stating that War-time regulations restricting the manufacture of 80 candle power street light bulbs are considered a timely opportunity to make certain favorable modifications in the rates for street lighting. Having in mind the great demand for higher candle power minimum street lighting and the desirability of encouraging better street lighting generally as advocated by many street lighting research agencies, the Long Island Lighting Company is pleased to enclose herewith new contract riders reducing various types and candle power lights that are covered in your present contracts, including the substitution of 100 candle power lights for 80 candle power lights at the present price of 80 candle power lights. On motion and vote the communication was ordered placed on file and that the new contract riders for the three Lighting Districts in the Town of Riverhead be accepted and signed by the members of the Board.

The Police and Welfare reports for the month of March 1944 were submitted to the Board and on motion and vote were accepted and ordered placed on file.

Forrest G. Downs, Receiver of Taxes submitted a report of the taxes received as of April 1, 1944 and on motion and vote was accepted and ordered placed on file.

Supervisor Kelly advised the Board that he had pre-canvassed the certified Civil Service list for Senior Clerk and reports as follows: Mary J. Hodukavich will not accept the appointment of Clerk to the Board of Assessors if offered to her for the reason that she has just accepted another position. Alice D. Smith will not accept the aforesaid appointment if offered to her for physical reasons. John Kruszon will accept the aforesaid appointment if offered to him. Isabelle Tuthill will not accept the aforesaid appointment if offered to her for the reason of temporary ill health, however she requested that her name be not stricken from the list. Harry H. Fleischman will accept the aforesaid appointment if offered to him.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Leonard it was Resolved, that the present appointment of Harry H. Fleischman as Clerk to the Board of Assessors be terminated as of this date. The vote, Justices Warner, Yousik and Leonard Yes, Justice Smith absent, Supervisor Kelly Not Voting. Total Vote, Yes 3, Absent 1, Not Voting 1. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Yousik it was Resolved that Harry H. Fleischman be appointed Clerk to the Board of Assessors at a salary at the base rate of \$2100.00 per annum, payable semi-monthly said appointment to take effect as of this date. The Vote, Justices Warner, Yousik and Leonard Yes, Justice Smith absent, Supervisor Kelly Yes. Total Vote Yes 4, Absent 1, No 0. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Supervisor Kelly advised the Board that the New York State Postwar Public Works Planning Commission had approved the Riverhead Town-wide Sidewalk Project and that it will make available the sum of \$1500.00 if and when the Town of Riverhead allocates an equal amount for the preparation of the final plans.

On motion made by Justice Leonard and seconded by Justice Yousik it was Resolved, that in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 660 of the Laws of 1943 the Town of Riverhead make available the sum of \$1500.00 being equal to the allocation made by the New York State <sup>Postwar</sup> Public Works Planning Commission for the preparation of final plans for a Town-wide Sidewalk Project, and be it further Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to execute the contract between the New York State <sup>Postwar</sup> Public Works <sup>Planning</sup> Commission and the Town of Riverhead. The Vote, Justices Warner, Yousik and Leonard Yes, Justice Smith absent, Supervisor Kelly Yes. Total Vote Yes 4, Absent 1, No 0. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

On motion made by Justice Warner and seconded by Justice Leonard it was Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to transfer the sum of \$1500.00 from the Current Surplus Account to the Postwar Townwide Sidewalk Project Account. The Vote, Justices Warner, Yousik and Leonard Yes, Justice Smith Absent, Supervisor Kelly Yes. Total Vote, Yes 4, Absent 1 No 0. The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

The Town Board then convened as a Board of Audit and examined the Town bills for the month of March, 1944.

There being no further business, on motion and vote the meeting  
adjourned to meet on Wednesday, April 19, 1944. 2 P. M.

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