

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, November 1, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Sean Walter	Supervisor
John Dunleavy	Councilman
James Wooten	Councilman
Jodi Giglio	Councilwoman
Timothy Hubbard	Councilman

ALSO PRESENT:

Diane Wilhelm	Town Clerk
Robert Kozakiewicz	Town Attorney

The meeting was officially opened at 2:00 p.m. by Supervisor Walter with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an Invocation given by Warren McKnight.

Harriet Haas entertained everyone with her rendition of the Monster Mash and the Purple People Eater. The Supervisor and the Board members thanked her for her Halloween cheer.

Councilman Dunleavy stated there were no minutes from the October 18, 2016 Board meeting to approve as there was a problem with the disc. The minutes will be approved at the November 15th meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Linda A. Meise – letter to the Town Board regarding concerns over the heavy traffic conditions on local roadways during the fall agri-tourism season
- Joanne Stravinski- letter to the Town Board conveying her opinion against the “Tax levy Increase”

FIRE DISTRICTS

2017 Adopted Budgets submitted from:

- Jamesport Fire District
- Riverhead Fire District
- Manorville Fire District
- Wading River Fire District

REPORTS

- Sewer District – Discharge Monitoring Report September 2016

TOWN BOARD REPORTS

Councilman Wooten invited everyone to attend the Holiday Bonfire on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

Councilman Dunleavy thanked the BID for sponsoring the Halloween Festival and parade for the children of Riverhead. Trick or Treating was from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Main Street with a Halloween parade at 7:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Giglio thanked the Riverhead Flower Shop on Main Street for tying pink ribbons around the downtown lamp posts.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Supervisor Walter: “We’re going to move on to our public hearings. We have five public hearings and the first public hearing was scheduled for 2:00 p.m. and it is now 2:10. We’re going to open up the first public hearing for the Consideration of the Adoption of the 2017 Annual Budget for the Town of Riverhead. Does anybody wish to be heard on this?”

Laura Jens Smith: “Laura Jens Smith from Laurel. Good afternoon and I would like to make a few comments and ask a few questions about the proposed 2017 budget. First let me say that I find it distressing that once again we are unable to stay within the tax cap or even close to it. We are facing a near five percent increase in our general fund. As you have said many times there’s only three ways to emerge out of our budget crisis. We can grow our way out, save our way out or increase taxes.

Mr. Supervisor you have attempted all three methods over the past seven years and the results have been less than stellar. You have attempted to grow our way out by developing every square inch of land on Rt. 58 but we’re still facing a robust increase each and every year in our budgets.

You have attempted to save our way out to prosperity but our tax increases are generally much higher than those in our neighboring towns.”

Supervisor Walter: “That’s not really accurate what you’re saying but go ahead.”

Laura Jens Smith: “And Mr. Supervisor while you label yourself a fiscal conservative our tax increase gallop way past the rate of inflation year after year. So, are we on a permanent austerity? We have altered our rural lifestyle in the name of increasing our tax base and yet we still face huge tax increases year after year with no end in sight. And Mr. Supervisor and members of the Town Board each year we talk about our budget crisis but let me ask, after seven long years when do we put the crisis behind us? As we get closer to a decade isn’t it fair to expect the problem to be solved?”

You said repeatedly that we will never make ends meet unless we properly develop EPCAL and for years now we’ve heard a lot of talk about the potential of land sale there but without infrastructure at EPCAL how can we realistically expect to attract developers and tap the lands true potential?

You have said that our Water District is already stressed to capacity. You said our store capacity is already too maxed out to support further development and you’ve said it will take two years for the utilities to catch up.

If we are to achieve maximum sale price for our land, if we are to close the budget gap how are we addressing the service gap in this budget? And Mr. Supervisor, how do you square the lack of water infrastructure with the development that we see at EPCAL?

You have talked also about saving our way out yet we continue to spend, to need over four hundred thousand dollars a year to cover the cost of operating a scavenger waste plant, a plant that treats waste from private and commercial septic systems and cesspools; septic waste that is transferred to the plant from the five east end towns and eastern Brookhaven by private haulers. How is it that Riverhead taxpayers have to shell out four hundred thousand dollars a year to have others dump their stuff here.

During the campaign of 2015 you talked about raising those fees but you haven't done that so how is that the mark of a self-described fiscal conservative?"

Supervisor Walter: "Is this a campaign speech or is this a speech on the budget?"

Laura Jens Smith: "No., that's a question about the budget, that's the four hundred thousand dollars that you've appropriated funds for the waste."

Supervisor Walter: "Alright, go ahead."

Laura Jens Smith: "Last year we were also told that a million dollars worth of savings was coming our way in the form of new development and improvement in the parks, recreation and senior department. This year the budget tells a different story."

Supervisor Walter: "That's not accurate."

Laura Jens Smith: "It is but you can answer that question."

Supervisor Walter: "That's not accurate."

Laura Jens Smith: "And finally this budget also continues to erode away at the staff and cuts you claimed as part of your cost cutting in your 2015 budget proposal. You have increased staffing by almost thirty percent since then.

So Mr. Supervisor and members of the Board, there are two lines in every budget, revenues and expenses. I have yet to hear or see when those two lines will meet without a huge tax increase. After seven long years I expect that you can do better."

Supervisor Walter: "Alright, so let's go one step at a time. I never said anything about a million dollars as far as the recreation is concerned."

Laura Jens Smith: "I believe Ray Coyne he's presented to you, a million dollars over five years that would be saved.."

Supervisor Walter: "Ray may have said it but it's not accurate. So that's not accurate."

Laura Jens Smith: "I believe you were quoted in the press."

Supervisor Walter: “That’s not accurate. Unless you get a recording of me saying that that’s not accurate. This Board knows (inaudible) recreation program. Scavenger waste, let’s go to the scavenger waste. This Town Board eliminated the scavenger waste tax on the residents of Riverhead. The scavenger waste plant is a, basically it’s a regional plant. It’s like twenty, less than twenty percent, it’s probably like fifteen, sixteen percent of the scavenger waste in the scavenger waste plant comes from the Town of Riverhead. The lion’s share of it comes from Southold, South Hampton and East Hampton. So, in order to not burden the taxpayers of Riverhead we eliminated the tax, the ad valorem tax, the tax revenue the tax bill from the scavenger waste plant and what we said was we would use the fund balance in the scavenger waste plant to ease us into a rate that is compensative with what it costs to treat the waste. So, you don’t want to put the scavenger waste plant out of business. If you did that the five East End Supervisors, four East End Supervisors, us included, would be very upset because all of our waste would have to get shipped up to Bergen Point.”

Laura Jens Smith: “So this is more cost effective for everyone to bring it here, correct?”

Supervisor Walter: “It is. Bergen Point can’t take the waste, they don’t probably have the capacity as I understand it for everything that we’re taking, about a hundred thousand gallons a month in the summer. So, the taxes, not the taxes, the fees went up to try to equal exactly what the expenses are. Last year, you know you have to look at it but we’re pretty close to what our fees and revenue are so it doesn’t place the tax burden on Riverhead. We want to operate it as a regional scavenger waste plant because we are applying to the County to get sewerage stabilization funds for entire district, sewer district. Scavenger waste is a part of the sewer plant, not a part of the sewer district. So, we’re holding ourselves out to be a regional waste plant for both scavenger and sewer and we can say that because we take in from South Hampton, all the jail court facility so the scavenger waste basically is not on the backs of the tax payers.”

Laura Jens Smith: “But four hundred thousand dollars was appropriated to cover the cost of scavenger waste.”

Supervisor Walter: “Four hundred thousand dollars, listen to what I say, we didn’t want to, our scavenger waste, I want to say is a dollar ten.”

Laura Jens Smith: “Point zero nine two cents per, ninety-two per thousand.”

Supervisor Walter: “We are probably about twenty-five percent higher than Bergen Point the last time I checked.”

Laura Jens Smith: “Much less fuel and trucks.”

Supervisor Walter: “Twenty-five percent higher than Bergen Point so if the county had completely subsidized us we would treat at I think point six, seven cents, it’s not a thousand, I think, whatever it is, you’re right, it’s that number I just don’t know what the multiplier is. So, we can’t just jack it way up because if you jack it way up with the fuel costs being such that they are all the scavenger waste will wind up going to Bergen Point. That will jack our prices through the roof or we’ll have to shut the scavenger was plant down. There’s a, I mean if you follow a business

model at all there's a point, any business model there's a point. If you charge too much you're going to lose your customers. You lose your customers you either have to charge more which causes you to lose more customers and you go out of business. So, there's a balancing act and I don't know, Bill was it four hundred thousand we're taking out of fund balance?"

William Rothaar: "Yeah."

Supervisor Walter: "Ok, so it is four hundred thousand."

Laura Jens Smith: "But you're not even monitoring because last year it was three hundred thousand. Nothing was done to adjust the prices and now we're at four hundred thousand and that's the point I am making."

Supervisor Walter: "We are."

Laura Jens Smith: "For appropriated funds so it's costing us a hundred thousand dollars more this year out of appropriated fund balance because we're not, what's it's costing us is more than we're taking in. Last year it was three hundred thousand and this year it's four hundred thousand dollars."

Supervisor Walter: "Do you want the answer? You can say that as much as you want but you're and I don't mean to be insulting but there's basic business principles you have acknowledge here. This is the business principle I'm asking you to acknowledge. You don't have to agree with this but if you raise the price too much, especially with fuel cost being what they are, it will all go to Bergen Point. If it all goes to Bergen Point our revenue drops. If our revenue drops you have two choices; you raise the price more to cover the drop-in revenue which could shift more to Bergen Point or you shut it down."

Laura Jens Smith: "But I don't think it's even been addressed to see what the business town will tolerate. I've been here, Sean, for the entire year. You have not addressed what the threshold would be for the towns to bear so the tax payers are not having to appropriate (inaudible)."

Supervisor Walter: "Is this a political speech again or are you interested in the answer?"

Laura Jens Smith: "No but you're trying to say something to me and I disagree with the way you're saying."

Supervisor Walter: "And so we look at this every year and I will say to you this year there probably will be an increase but the reason the scavenger waste number is higher this year than previous years, this was a very, very dry year. So when you have a very, very dry year you bring in less waste. If you really had done your homework you would find out that the scavenger waste that was brought in was significantly less this year so in order to cover the costs that wouldn't know, we will evaluate this in the spring time, winter time. In order to cover the costs for next year's scavenger waste budget you have to cover it based on the numbers you brought in last year. If we have a particularly wet year, the amount of the appropriate fund balance will be reduced

because we'll bring more revenue in. So, it's a balancing act and we will be looking at increasing the scavenger waste but it's not costing the tax payers per say any money, the fund balance was tax payer money."

Laura Jens Smith: "Yeah it is. It's kind of playing the shell game."

Supervisor Walter: "So you have two alternatives, three alternatives. You could put the ad valorem tax back on the residents which we removed, you can put the scavenger waste plant out of business like East Hampton did and say no more scavenger waste because we don't want to have a scavenger waste plant."

Laura Jens Smith: "I think they chose to go out of business because they felt it was more cost effective to bring it to us than continue to run their own scavenger waste."

Supervisor Walter: "So that is an option. You can put the scavenger waste plant out of business which to me would be a fool's errand but if you got elected, which I know you're going to try and run again, maybe against me, but if you were to put it out of business that'd be a fool's errand because we have to hold ourselves out to be a regional sewerage treatment facility in order to get the three percent county subsidy that every county facility gets. So then the third option which is what we're doing, we're trying to balance the amount of scavenger waste fees with the amount of poop we bring in and raise that amount commensurate with the amount it costs to run the facility so that eventually we're at a break even. We're."

Laura Jens Smith: "I think we're in agreement on that Sean. I think that's what I was saying. I was just hoping you had done it last year."

Supervisor Walter: "Why would I do it? See that's the mistake of the business model I asked you to acknowledge. Fuel prices are really, really cheap right now, so the decision was made last year not to increase the scavenger waste because we were looking at a dollar ten, per gallon. So I think we were looking to bring it up to, I think, a dollar ten a gallon but our, now there's no exact science here. If I brought it up to a dollar ten, our feeling was that two dollars a gallon fuel that the waste would go to Bergen Point. Had we done that this year, had we brought it up to a dollar ten I think our revenues would have taken a much deeper dip than they did. Anyway, because of the season we brought in a lot less waste this year so I think we probably hit it right on the money because we kind of fell in where we did last year but this year we're going to look at probably whether we want to increase. Michael Reichel and Bill Rothaar and I sit down on a regular basis and go over this at least two or three times a year to see where we are and I think we tried, I think it was a dollar ten is what we were looking at so we may be looking to put it at a dollar ten. What was the next issue, balance budget?"

Laura Jens Smith: "The next issue was about the parks and recreation."

Supervisor Walter: "That's a non-issue, I never said that. Ray Coyne may have said that. That's a non-issue, it wasn't said by me. So, infrastructure."

Laura Jens Smith: “The other is about addressing the infrastructure at EPCAL where we have no water there right now for development. We’ve turned down solar, any chance of solar there.”

Supervisor Walter: “We never turned down solar.”

Laura Jens Smith: “You did.”

Supervisor Walter: “No we never did.”

Laura Jens Smith: “Sean, there were presentations here for proposals to go out for solar on less than three hundred acres out at EPCAL.”

Supervisor Walter: “We never turned down solar so let’s go with a different question. So, solar probably, if you had to say one reason that the town’s budget is from what I would say a one shot revenue is going up because we had a contract, we negotiated with LIPA and (inaudible). That would have brought in seven hundred fifty thousand dollars a year on a solar lease.”

Laura Jens Smith: “Which is not required to be put in a budget but that was not a sure deal so it did not have to be put into the budget. That was your choice to put it in the budget for two years without a signed completion.”

Supervisor Walter: “Will you let me finish this please? If you don’t want me to answer the question.”

Laura Jen Smith: “No, no go right ahead but some of the things you are saying are not correct also.”

Supervisor Walter: “You don’t want me to answer the questions I’ll just move on to the next speaker. I’m very happy to answer your questions for you. So, we had a negotiated contract. When you do a budget, when anybody does a budget you do two things, you look at your expenses, you look at your revenues. This was a revenue stream we reasonably believed we would have. We spent six months negotiating this contract. The LIPA would not allow anybody else to tie into the substation because they did not have any more capacity and the voltage these guys wanted. Unfortunately for us we were not in a situation that we could say anything about this and they would not move forward with the contract. Now, should that have been put into the budget? You can debate that.”

Laura Jens Smith: “I think it was highly debated amongst the Board members.”

Supervisor Walter: “We used the information that we had and all the information from every place we were looking at said we would receive this money on a twenty year basis, it didn’t happen. Now, LIPA has put out other solar RFP’s but we have chosen not to go forward with that because there is, LIPA has still not built other capacity at the Edwards Avenue Substation. So, I don’t think it would be wise for the town to even consider solar because it’s just not something that we see if LIPA put improvements in. What we did do to bring solar in is we offered property

to LIPA for free. We passed a resolution I think for we them to do test holes and everything else so they could build a substation in EPCAL. LIPA chose not to do that. When LIPA chose not to do that we decided we're not going to do the solar so as far as the infrastructure."

Laura Jens Smith: "Has LIPA made a final decision that they would not put if you did not agree with the RFP's from the different solar companies then it was taken off the board at EPCAL for putting a substation in."

Supervisor Walter: "LIPA ignored it."

Laura Jens Smith: "Well I think you had to agree to have the RFP's put out for the solar for them to consider putting a substation in there which you decided not to go forward with."

Supervisor Walter: No, no that's not accurate. LIPA ignored our request because all of this was done about two years ago before the last RFP came out and that was supposed to be something that they were going to do for the previous RFP and they ignored it."

Laura Jens Smith: "Right but then a second round of RFP's went out not too long ago and you chose not to participate in that for solar at EPCAL."

Supervisor Walter: "Why would you do something that you already know won't work. You know you can't tie them in. We had a solar presentation here the other day and they said well you know we can't tie into the low voltage that we want to, we have to step the voltage up. Asked a couple of questions about that. In stepping up that voltage it becomes less cost effective for them to do it but they're going to do it."

Laura Jens Smith: "I think we agree to disagree on this because I think it's one, short term planning verses long term planning and I think we can disagree on that, that's fine."

Supervisor Walter: "What other questions do you have because I'm really tired of political debate here?"

Laura Jens Smith: "I really didn't think it was politically. I really think I was addressing some of the issues that are in our budget but thank you."

Supervisor Walter: "Let's talk about the budget. You made something a statement. I think every other town, I think at least half of the towns on Long Island are piercing the tax cap."

Laura Jens Smith: "Yeah but we for the second year."

Supervisors Walter: "I think every other town is higher than the town of Riverhead. I've looked."

Laura Jens Smith: "I think if you combine our two years we are higher."

Supervisor Walter: “I’ve looked at Newsday and I think that every town, even if you combine the two years they’re probably higher. I mean Southold is eight percent.”

Laura Jens Smith: “I think they’re seven something.”

Supervisor Walter: “Islip is nine, nine point nine, so. Here’s what the residents have to understand. Tax cap, I’m a firm believer of a tax cap. It’s not sustainable in the way the tax cap is laid out. The government’s costs are seventy percent, seventy percent of the government’s costs are roughly employees so just the health insurance alone went up ten thousand dollars. The amount you can raise the taxes are four thirty one.”

Laura Jens Smith: “I’m sorry, how much did the health insurance?”

Supervisor Walter: “The health insurance costs alone went up over eight hundred thousand dollars and the amount that you can raise the taxes, the levy was just a little over four hundred, four thirty one and what was the other, eight?”

(Inaudible)

Supervisor Walter: “Ok, just use the number eight hundred and four hundred. You can’t get there from here. Just your health insurance without any other increases. Now the PBA, SOA and the CSEA are out of contract. Just without any increases the health insurance went up double for what you can raise the tax levy. You add in the steps that the CSEA gets automatically, now you’re well over a million dollars. What was the step, was it two?”

(Inaudible)

Supervisor Walter: “A hundred thirty thousand.”

Laura Jens Smith: “What was the percentage on that?”

Supervisor Walter: “It’s one point two five.”

Laura Jens Smith: “Alright so they went up one point two five.”

Supervisor Walter: “Just in very preliminary calculations you are, I’m going to say not quite two thirds behind the eight ball. Every municipality on Long Island is facing this. You saw a lot of municipalities across the state have been pulling down fund balance, drawing down fund balance. You see the school districts doing it. The tax cap is not sustainable especially just with health costs so.”

Laura Jens Smith: “I’m not arguing with staying under the tax cap. I’m arguing with the increase we have over the tax cap.”

Supervisor Walter: “Well the increase; every three hundred dollars is one percent.”

Laura Jens Smith: “Yes I’m well aware of that.”

Supervisor Walter: “So if you just in the health insurance alone one percent in the increase, it’s not even one percent, covers the health insurance so the different things that go into the budget that raise it beyond the tax cap make the tax cap unsustainable and you see this. I mean Islip’s at nine, Southold I think is almost eight percent. I don’t know what Venditto did but I’m pretty sure he busted the tax cap.”

Laura Jens Smith: “But I’m pretty sure what we care about is what’s going on in Riverhead here, not comparing ourselves to every other town.”

Supervisor Walter: “I’m done. Are they any other questions Laura? Does anyone else wish to speak? Warren how are”

Warren McKnight: “I’d like to talk about PSE&G and EPCAL and Riverhead for us to get economic development, it’s a dilemma. PSE&G is, they charge one of the highest rate in the nation, right?”

Supervisor Walter: “Can you, we’re on a hearing about the budget.”

Warren McKnight: “But to relieve the money on the budget you have to have economic development so we have to work on that and. For next year, I’m talking about next year and of course health care. Everything is going to go up, there’s nothing anyone can do about it. My health care is going up. We’re all living longer. We have two policemen on pension here, everyone else is going to get on pension here and that’s the way it is but we want to alleviate it and get the budget down we have to think. Randy (Inaudible) when he ran for Congress, what did he do when he lost? He went down South and opened up a big business and put money down there. Nobody’s going to come to Riverhead to development unless we can get the utility rates down. I pay eighty-two dollars more a month for my electricity in my house and I don’t use a lot of electricity from over last year. Nothing has changed.”

Supervisor Walter: “I don’t disagree with you. New York State is a high cost of living state. We have somebody that is willing to buy EPCAL right now. We are putting together their documentation to bring them into a qualified and eligible sponsor hearing. They’re going to give us, at the time they signed the contract assuming we find them qualified. If they’re not eligible they’re going to give us a million dollars’ nonrefundable cash payment. They are building the infrastructure. They are going to post letters of credit to build the infrastructure and there will be three closing which will roughly equal forty-five million dollars to the tax payers of the Town of Riverhead into our funds. So, we’re well on our way. The subdivision, final touches are being put on the subdivision by the Planning Board and if this suitor doesn’t come there’s a second suitor behind it that said if we can’t make the deal with (inaudible) Industrial, Lincoln Equities would be interested in us reevaluating their offer so you know we’re in a very good position. You know the problem is I’ve got to balance the budget this year and I can’t put revenue, I’m not going to put forty-five million dollars that could have easily made numbers up and say we’re going to close next year but I can’t do that. So, economic development should come to EPCAL.”

Warren McKnight: “I hope so, we need it.”

Supervisor Walter: “They’ve got some exciting Long Island companies they’re trying to attract here and in fact they have some that are planning to come here, so all’s not lost. I know electricity, they actually get a discount, a twelve or fifteen percent discount on their LIPA rates over at EPCAL. They do get a discount because of that particular former Empire Development zone that they’re in, they do get a small discount for electricity over there.”

Warren McKnight: “Well the one thing in getting people to live here, I don’t have to tell you, this is one of the most temperate climates, one of the most beautiful areas in the world, Riverhead, Long Island and the East End. That’s the basic thing to get people to move out here but it’s a dilemma and it’s going to go up, you know I hate to be a fatalist. The biggest employer in Long Island is government, right.”

Supervisor Walter: “Yeah, I think that’s true.”

Warren McKnight: “I’ve come to accept it but my life is in autumn, it’s going into winter so that’s the way it is and if anybody can do something positive let’s bring it forward. You said something and I just hope it comes through, thank you.”

Supervisor Walter: “Us too; Mr. Romano?”

Steve Romano: “Good afternoon, Steve Romano, Riverhead. First I would like to make a statement I know normally but it pertains to the budget. I think people have become so cynical whether you’re Republican, Democrat, Liberal, Progressive, Conservative I think when you guys run for office you have to tone down the rhetoric. I bet if you look back at all the leaflets and all the information not only you guys but your opponent’s everyone talked about lower taxes, freezing taxes, staying within the tax cap. I don’t remember anybody, you guys and your opponent’s talking about the kind of tax increases we’re facing. I understand based on what you have in front of you you have to have to do it but I think we need a little bit more honesty and I don’t know how we get there because if your opponent is telling everyone they’re going to freeze taxes I think you’re caught between a rock and a hard place but I don’t remember anyone on that Board.”

Supervisor Walter: “I did it. I told people, whether it was recorded, but a lot of people were upset with me but I said I’m going to pierce the tax cap; I’m going to do it in an election year where people can throw me out of office. I said that, it was on record and I’m pretty sure it was recorded. In the most difficult election that I’ve ever faced, that we ever faced we raised taxes. I think there will be relief. The town is laboring tremendously under the debt service from the landfill. What’s the debt service bill, three point seven million dollars a year, which is great because it was roughly five million when we took office. What my plan is and I think what the Town Board’s plan is going to be, I hope, is to take the money from the sale of EPCAL, put it in a lock box for the debt service for the landfill. It’s kind of unfortunate because the landfill really destroyed the economy of the town’s general fund. So, everything we’re selling EPCAL for was the cost to dig up our landfill and move it off Long Island. It’s a fifty million dollar cost we’re selling for forty-five million dollars. We did that to cap the landfill so it’s pretty much equal. So, what we’re going to do is put the money in a debt service account so the debt service comes from

the proceeds of EPCAL. If you remember three point seven million dollars a year is the landfill service; divide that by three hundred thousand you can see the amount of relief, we'll be able to give the town residents. But you know everything goes up, that's why we don't have a contract with our Unions. I can't do anything about health insurance."

Steve Romano: "Well, the question I did have in regard to the budget and I know we've had this conversation and you made a statement that seventy percent of the budget is basically related to cost for employees, pensions, benefits, the whole and I think we all understand that. I remember unless I'm wrong again, that after the police contract was signed based on the fact that the new employees for quite a few years would be a hell of a cheaper than the existing police officers you guys, I'm pretty sure, said there's going to be a cost savings in the outer years. We're in the outer years so I guess my question is has the police budget at least maintained or gone down because based on what I heard it should have."

Supervisor Walter: "No, you have that backwards. The savings was in the beginning years. We're still experiencing the savings because it take six full years for a police officer to get up to the top step so the outer years becomes much more expensive. We average about three police officers a year that retire and we have a younger department now but the savings is in the beginning. The police department, and I don't know if people understand this, and we do an analysis, usually it's Bill's tax bill verses my tax bill. We do an analysis with the Suffolk County police district verses the Town of Riverhead. One half of your general fund budget is police services. Bill, what is the amount of the general fund, forty-seven? What's the general fund budget right now, forty-seven?"

William Rothaar: "Forty-seven, one."

Supervisor Walter: "Forty-seven, one; so. The general fund budget is forty-seven million dollars. Just a hair over half of that is your police department but when you take the cost of similarly situated house in Suffolk County and Brookhaven and compare it to their (inaudible) district taxes verses what we pay, we're still cheaper than the Suffolk County police district but I don't know that residents understand on that forty-seven million dollar budget half of your costs are the police department."

Steve Romano: "Has that basically maintained or has?"

Supervisor Walter: "Yes because the budget has only gone up, now I'm not going to remember this. I think the budget, what did we go down to, forty-two million? We're treading water. Our budget has been going up, what, less than a million dollars a year?"

William Rothaar: "Police salaries have only gone up one point three from this year to next year. (Inaudible)."

Supervisor Walter: "So it's one point three percent."

Steve Romano: "Sean, when you say police costs is that everything; pension, benefits, cars?"

Supervisor Walter: “Everything.”

Steve Romano: “And how about when you add in the courts and code enforcement? What part of the budget?”

Supervisor Walter: “Code enforcement costs us four hundred and ninety thousand dollars a year and Justice Court brings in about half a million dollars a year. What’s the Justice Court’s budget, about eight hundred thousand?”

William Rothaar: (Inaudible)

Supervisor Walter: “it’s about eight hundred thousand.”

Steve Romano: “Ok, thank you.”

Supervisor Walter: “It’s tough to run a government. Does anybody else wish to be heard on the budget? Not seeing anybody I’ll close the public comment portion and leave it open for written comment until Thursday, November 10th, 4:30 in the Town Clerk’s office. Thank you for everybody coming out tonight for the budget.”

**Public Hearing Closed at 2:43 p.m.
Left Open for Written Comment Until November 10, 2016, 4:30 p.m.**

Supervisor Walter: “The second public hearing is scheduled for 2:05 and it is now 2:44. We open the public hearing for the Consideration of a Local Law to Amend Chapter 273, Entitled “Solid Waste” of the Riverhead Town Code and Antoinette Carbone, would you like to be heard on this issue before I say what it is?”

When we passed our solid waste code we didn’t really think about this. You couldn’t put your trash out before 6:00 p.m. the day before. A lot of people, in my opinion, myself included, especially in the summer and the winter, do put their trash out before 6:00 p.m.; twelve hours before it’s going to be collected. So, the Town Board felt that it was not unreasonable for somebody to put their trash out at 12:00 p.m. for the next day and the reason that I say that, here’s my editorial comment, is in the summer time when I get home from church because they pick my trash up on Monday, I like to get that garbage out of the garage because it really stinks so putting it at the curb at twelve or one o’clock is something that I have done. And, in the I reported building # winter time when it’s really bitter cold. I don’t necessarily like to go out that late and just put it out again after church. In the fall and the spring I probably don’t put it out until after dinner on Sunday night but after discussing it with the majority of the Board members I think we all kind felt that six o’clock at night was probably not, it’s probably better to give the residents more of an opportunity to put their trash out without being summons by the Town of Riverhead. Antoinette Carbone likes to send me pictures and the floor is yours’ Antoinette.”

Antoinette Carbone: “Antoinette Carbone, I live in Sunken Pond Estates on Middle Road, Riverhead. I had noticed a few years ago that people on a Sunday morning, when I went to church

at 10:30, had their garbage outside. I reported Building #425 to the Town of Riverhead. I filed a complaint. In the year 2014 they acted on the complaint with a letter and the people ceased to put their garbage out. Middle Road has a tremendous amount of debris along its roadside; some of it from garbage some of it from out the window. Then in 2015 a neighbor adjacent to where I live was putting their garbage out at 10:30 in the morning. It doesn't bother me during the week as much as Sundays. We use Middle Road as a by-pass for Rt. 58. We have visitors to our town and I thought "wow, visual pollution, Riverhead, land of garbage." I also thought, but the other type of concern was really and you mentioned it, you're garbage smells. You put it outside in the summer to bake, cook and ferment and increase the population of bacteria and disease within that garbage and allow longer hours for wildlife to distribute that garbage. Do you want me to give you the house number of people who had their garbage out this week? It's a different house. On Middle Road, not in black trash bags, not the thick kind but in semitransparent trash bags at the curbside for all to see what was in.

Well, you have visual pollution, health concerns, sanitation concerns along the roadway, wildlife feeding and not exactly pressure from the community to change the code. The code is being changed for a select few, that's not right. Why does the majority of the people have to bear health concerns, sanitation concerns, visual pollution concerns and wildlife concerns, why? I asked that when the resolution was before you and I'm asking now when we have a public hearing. Why do each one of you feel you must change the code?"

Supervisor Walter: "Well we're having a public hearing so we're going to see if anyone else wants to be heard on the subject."

Antoinette Carbone: "Ok, thank you."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you Ms. Carbone. Does anybody else wish to be heard on the subject? Not seeing anybody we will close the public comment portion and leave it open for written comment until November 10th, 4:30 in the Town Clerk's office."

**Public Hearing Closed at 2:50 p.m.
Left Open for Written Comment Until November 10, 2016, 4:30 p.m.**

Supervisor Walter: "Alright, we have the next public hearing which is scheduled for 2:10 and it is now 2:50. This is a public hearing to allow citizens to express their views on Local Housing and Community Development Needs to be met with Federal Community Development Block Grant Funds (approximately \$150,000.00). Seems to be going down every year. Chris Kempner, want to introduce this?"

Chris Kempner: "Thank you. It's actually worse than that. It's approximately a hundred and thirty-five thousand based on this year's allocation. We're hoping to move it up and we keep lobbying the County to bring us back up to where we were in the previous years. But this particular hearing is to solicit verbal and written comments and input into the Town of Riverhead's 2017 Community Development Block Grant application under the Suffolk County Consortium allocation.

In 2015 despite the poverty and extreme need in the Town of Riverhead the County drastically cut the Town of Riverhead Community Block Grant Funds from an expected one hundred and forty-three thousand by forty thousand to one hundred and three thousand for 2015.

In 2016 we were able to restore a portion of the previous funding to one hundred and thirty-five thousand and that's the amount we anticipate will be allocated for 2017. We're vigorously lobbying the County to adjust this allocation based on the demographics of Riverhead that will be describing many of our social service organizations that will come up and speak at this public hearing. There's a larger number of Social Service agencies in Riverhead that service residents from the surrounding towns and they create a great need that Riverhead is bearing.

In the past we've funded five Social Service agencies and we've been able to maintain that five at five thousand dollars each and we probably will apply for that in 2017.

In the past the Town of Riverhead has used CBGD funds allocations for the home improvement program, program administration, public services, public facilities and public infrastructure projects.

Public service projects technically may not exceed fifteen percent of the maximum total grant which would be about twenty thousand dollars and may not be for less than five thousand dollars individually. These include counseling, soup kitchens and senior services providing at least fifty-one percent benefit too low to moderate income persons. Projects must be located in low to moderate income areas or serve special populations such as seniors; we've used this to improve our Senior Center as well.

Potential Grant allocations for the upcoming year could be the Town of Riverhead home improvement program as we've funded in the past. Social Services we have to get five for five thousand each and potentially another twenty-five thousand or so for downtown public infrastructure improvements which could include parking lot improvements or street lighting. Administration funds are limited to five percent of the total allocation and would be approximately six thousand and we've attached what we were awarded last year.

We haven't received our 2016 Grant contracts yet. The Town Board must make a final determination the November 15th meeting and everything must be submitted to Suffolk County by December 1st."

Supervisor Walter: "I can leave it open then until November 10th. I'm going to have letters returnable to your office."

Chris Kempner: "Ok and so far we've received."

Supervisor Walter: "Actually no, I'll keep it at the Clerk's office."

Chris Kempner: "Ok, we've received a couple letters which will be distributed to the Board and we have some of the agencies that are going to speak today."

Supervisor Walter: "Just give the letter to the Clerk. Alright, does anybody wish to be heard on this matter?"

Judy Barth: "Supervisor Walter, Council people, Giglio, Wooten, Dunleavy, Hubbard, Diane and Bob Kozakiewicz. For those of you who don't know me I am Judy Barth and I am the

Co-President of Bread and More Inn. We are located at the first Congregation Church in Riverhead. It is our mission to help serve those in need with love, dignity and respect.

Over the last twenty-six years every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday a group of volunteers gather around 3:00 p.m. to start their task of preparing meals for those in need in our community. The meals provided many be the only meal that some of our guests get that day. Some of the meals will go to those that perhaps can't afford to cook for themselves that day and some of those meals may go to someone that just simply want some company and friendship to break bread with. A meal is a simple thing that a lot of us take for granted but for some this is not the case.

The dining room chairs are full and there is quiet conversation. These guests realize that they have come to this place where they are not judged by race, color or creed. They share their hardships and hopes to lighten their load; they are safe here, they are welcome.

In order to fulfil this need in our community we rely on donations and grand monies to provide a wholly nutritious meal. We no longer receive FEMA monies. We have one fund raiser a year and other donations come in throughout the year. However, this is usually not enough to cover our expenses and we have come once again to ask for your support from the Community Block Grant. We fit under the Grant of a soup kitchen as this is what we have become known as. This has been in the past years the bridge that has allowed us to operate without interruption three nights a week.

We are run solely by volunteers from the steering committee to the cooks to the dishwashers. We are insured, our cooks have health department certificates and our kitchen has Health Department approval. We run a tight ship with proper guidelines.

So once again I am asking for your support so we may continue to fill this need in our community. Thank you for making this a true community effort.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you Ms. Barth, next.”

Felicia Scacoza: “Hello, I’m Felicia Scacoza from the Riverhead Community Awareness Program. Riverhead Cap is grateful for the generosity and support and you’ve given us in the past with these funds and we’re using the funds to serve the most needy students in the Riverhead Central School District as I’m going to describe.

The funds we are proposing will once again be used for our counseling and prevention services for Riverhead town students and their families at Roanoke Avenue Elementary School. This includes group and individual counseling, evidence based substance abuse and bullying and prevention programs, social skills groups, crises and prevention and family outreach resource connections.

We have a Social Worker placed at Roanoke Avenue School two days a week. Roanoke Avenue School is a Title 1 school according to the US Department of Education meaning it has a high poverty rate. It’s the most impoverished school in the Town of Riverhead. Currently eighty-seven percent of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch which is indicative of the poverty rate among their families. However, in 2015 all students became eligible for free breakfast and lunch under the USDA’s Community Eligibility Provision. That is more than forty percent of the students are Identified Students, approved for free meals without an application because they either have been identified as low income by another program or are considered at risk of hunger.

Seventy-six percent of the students at Roanoke represent minority groups. Hispanic students are the fastest growing segment of the community. This year they comprise sixty-three percent of Roanoke Avenue School which is an increase of eleven percent from last year.

Forty percent of the students at Roanoke are new English languages learners, an increase of twenty-five percent from last year. Most of these students come from households where the parents do not speak English which creates an additional barrier to accessing much needed services.

Students and families at Roanoke would normally not be able to access these social work services that we provide outside of school. They are already at risk and need to be continued access to the services we provide with this funding.

A minimum of sixty percent of the students served by all of CAP's programs come from low income households but currently students that are served by the Community Development Block Grant funds are identified as very low and extremely low income according to the HUD Income Limits System, thank you."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you Ms. Scacoza."

Jacquelin Tapley: "My name is Jacquelin Tapley and I represent the Dominican Sisters Family Health Services. Meanwhile we want to thank you for your past support. We are here again requesting the five thousand dollar Grant that we received in the past. We service seniors in the Town of Riverhead and elsewhere but I'm here for Riverhead.

The goal of many seniors are to live independently in their homes for as long as possible and the Helping Hands Program provides light housekeeping service, shopping, laundry, picking up prescriptions, taking the garbage out, making the beds, all the things our seniors can no longer do on their own and if they didn't the support they would probably have to move into an assisted living or nursing home. So, we make it possible for them to live independently. So basically, that's it.

Oh, on a side note, I forget to mention this every year. For the last six years, we've teamed up with Nassau County Culinary Institute, Suffolk County Community College Culinary Institute and we've provided over a hundred and forty meals, Thanksgiving meals that the students prepare. Dominican Sisters volunteer to deliver the meals. We have local schools that prepare beautiful trays for the seniors and we deliver these meals. So, I wanted to invite one of the Board members. It's the day before Thanksgiving. We meet at the college at 2:00 p.m. and you're welcome to come and see. This is Wednesday, the 23rd. Thank you for your past support, I appreciate it."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you."

Jennifer LaMana: "Good afternoon, my name is Jennifer LaMana and I'm a business owner and a resident of Riverhead. I am also proud to be a Social Worker for Maureen's Heaven Homeless Outreach. Thank you for the opportunity to address you this afternoon to request funding to support our life saving work.

Maureen's Haven provides safe, warm temporary shelter to homeless individuals from November 1 through April 1 by utilizing over twenty-three houses of worship located throughout the twin forks. Members of seventeen congregations and community organizations offer additional support and help comprise the over fifteen hundred dedicated and selfless volunteers that provide an estimated twenty thousand hours of community service to our guests.

Maureen's Haven is responsible for screening and transporting homeless guests to the host families each evening.

In October 2011, we opened a day center in order to provide services focused on building self-sufficiency and provide respite during the day for those in need. All are welcome at the Day Center where clothing, food and case management services are available. We also partner with other agencies to provide mental health and substance abuse treatment. Some of our host congregations even offer free medical care.

Last winter we served three hundred fifty-eight individuals over one hundred thirteen nights. Our average number of guests per evening was forty-nine with a high of fifty-seven. Overall, five thousand four hundred sixty-three beds were made for the season. Of that total, eighty-two percent were male and eighteen were female. At least half of our guests are temporarily or "first time" homeless. Generally, they are the working poor who have suffered setbacks like job loss, illness and loss of transportation or divorce. The other fifty percent of our guests are chronically ill homeless. They often face one or more serious issues, including mental illness, addiction and cognitive or developmental disabilities.

According to the Housing and Urban Development 2014 Point-in Time report they report thirty-four percent of the total homeless population is under twenty-four and tragically our most recent statistics bear this out. An alarming new trend for us has been an influx of young people. Since January on any given night forty-two percent of our guests have been under the age of twenty-five. Of those, fifty percent have been under the age of twenty-one. These young people bring with them unique challenges and risks. Many are runaways or former foster children who have aged out of the state services or they have been victims of abuse or homophobia at home. Well known throughout the communities as a safe haven, we are often the first point of entry for the newly homeless. We believe that our reputation for compassion and inclusiveness is what has attracted so many young people to seek solace and shelter from us.

Through Maureen's Haven our homeless guests can access programs that meet their immediate needs, support them through transitional periods and lead them back towards self-sufficiency and long term success. We assist homeless adults to acquire supportive housing through Suffolk County's Single Point of Access (SPA). We help our guests with securing entitlements and advocate for them tirelessly.

While we continue this essential work, we hope to meet the unique challenges that the influx of young people has presented us with. We need to gather our resources in order to determine precisely how best to serve the young people who have presented themselves before us. We feel a deep sense of urgency in front of them since we are well aware of the perils of the path that they are on. We hope to continue to strengthen relationships, build trust, properly assess and adequately address the myriad of needs of both our homeless youth population and our older guests. The impact of our work can best be told through the stories of the people who come to us for assistance.

Harry age thirty-four, grew up in Aquebogue. He suffered with undiagnosed schizophrenia for almost twelve years. His parents were divorced when he was a teenager and his mother sent him to live with his abusive father when he was seventeen. When he began to show symptoms of schizophrenia, his father abandoned him and he was homeless ever since. He heard about Maureen's Haven from a friend that he met on the street. He has come for food and respite for almost a year now and is warmly embraced by the Maureen's Haven family. He is currently utilizing our emergency shelter program but soon will be placed in supportive housing. He is excited and happy to begin his new life and is full of hope for the future.

Sam is twenty years old and has high functioning autism. His parents are divorced when he was ten. He was raised by his mother who moved out of the area when Sam attended college out of state. As a result of his disorder the stress and anxiety eventually became too much for him to manage and he quickly dropped out. He lost his housing, his friends and his self-worth. He returned to eastern Long Island where his father, stepmother and younger siblings reside with the hope of living with them. With no resources and no adequate support for his disability, he became depressed, anxious and disruptive. He dabbled in substance abuse and alcohol. Soon after, he was told to leave because his family could no longer tolerate his behavior. He came to Maureen's haven seeking shelter, solace and support. After staying with us for a week our case worker was able to secure SNAP benefits for him and apply for SSI and Medicaid on his behalf. After requesting his records from his former school district, she was able to get him an appointment with ACCES/VR. Soon after his demeanor and attitude had changed. We were aggrieved for a meeting with his stepmother. She agreed to allow him back into their home because she witnessed him working towards something. He told us recently "You guys understand me and you are the only ones who took the time to really help me."

There are many more people like Richard and Sam that we have to help but we need the assistance of Riverhead Town and others to support our life-saving work.

In an effort to provide services to the homeless in Riverhead Town, we have partnered and collaborated with the faith community to provide overnight shelter and other supportive services.

Maureen's Haven seeks to be good neighbors so this past spring we partnered with Cornell Cooperative Extension and ADD (Aid to the Developmentally Disabled) to create a Community Garden in our shared yard. We are very proud of the beauty it adds to the neighborhood and the sense of community it has begun to foster. We invite you to come visit us and see for yourselves.

We are very appreciative of the past support we have received from the Town of Riverhead and respectfully request funding once again in support of our program. We ask the Town Board to consider an allocation of five thousand dollars to assist in the cost of screening and transporting our guests to the host facilities throughout the season, ongoing operations of our day center and to offset the salaries of the program staff. Thank you for your consideration of this request."

Supervisor Walter: "Thank you very much. Next speaker."

Zona Stroy: "Good afternoon, I'm Zona Story and I volunteer with the Open Arms Care Center, Riverhead Emergency Food Pantry.

Each year I'm impressed and honored to be among the group of people who come before you to ask for funding because there are lots of people doing very good work and so I don't envy your decision but each year I come to ask for funding. I'd like to read the letter that I've submitted for your consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to request Community Development Grant funding for Open Arms Care Center's Emergency Food Pantry. We are again requesting support in the amount of five thousand dollars to present the hunger and the related insecurity that cripples many in our community.

For our clients, an emergency food pantry is often the bridge presenting the insecurity of not knowing how to feed themselves, their children and aging members of their households. For the past year, this funding has allowed Open arms Emergency Food Pantry to sustain fifty to seventy-five households each month with enough food for every person in the household for three

meals a day for three days. We continue to see a core of long term clients and several new clients each month.

The Community Development Grant funding is used solely for buying food and client shopping bags for distributing the food. Open Arms continues to operate with an all-volunteer staff in donated space in the lower level of the First Baptist Church of Riverhead. We continue to service approximately fifteen hundred each year with support from the Community Development Grant, Long Island Cares, Long Island Harvest which are food banks and food rescuers and generous members of the Riverhead community.

We thank you as Town Board members for your decision to provide Community Development funding in the past. We will continue our mission to eliminate hunger and the associated insecurity of those in need in our area and we look forward to earning your support again this year, thank you.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you, next.”

Marge Lawrence: “Good afternoon and thank you for allowing us to speak. My name is Marge Lawrence and I’m here representing the Riverhead Garden Club ladies. Sean, you may remember from 2013 that we are still trying to reestablish the boxwood garden between East End Arts and their gallery and when I read the article in the paper it sounded like a neighborhood improvement kind of application and would work here.

We are hoping to reestablish that garden. In April 2017 in time for Riverhead’s birthday celebration we were hoping we might have a ribbon cutting ceremony maybe either before the banquet or on the day of the parade.

Basically, a little bit of the history for everyone sitting here. The Riverhead Garden Club ladies initially invested in replacing the boxwoods in that garden to fill it out and those boxwoods were stolen. So, we came to the Town Board and they agreed to replace our funding but we also had the issue of irrigation and we had the issue of security down there. Some of the issues have been addressed but over the last three years in approaching other similar organizations like (inaudible), we have not accumulated enough money to put this project in place.

Right now, the ladies have been to approximately twelve surrounding nurseries and the size shrubs we need, the boxwoods we need and the fact that they have to be blight resistant because there is a blight that is hitting the kind of boxwood that are in that garden.

Our proposal for that is fifty-nine hundred dollars and so we’ve come here today asking number 1, if the Town Community Block Grant could help us with that project and we hope to get the shrubs purchased in April like I said and celebrate at the birthday.

In my supported materials, I did a board so everybody could see what the problem is down there and I will leave that with the committee. I’ve also included a wonderful article that was in News Review, *Main Street Steps Back in Time, East End Property* as a reminder of the nineteenth century. So, we’re looking to reestablish that area as a center piece for the town. There’s also a support article here from the newspaper on how Port Washington did exactly that. They made the center of their town, their garden, a focal point and for a town that’s trying to revitalize the downtown area and for the fact that we now have that wonderful theater and people walk through that area to get from the parking lot to Main Street. We talked to Pat Snyder and she borrows art from artists and she feels they would feel more secure if that area were developed. We’re hoping that you will consider it.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “I just want to talk on this. The problem that we’re having (inaudible) she wants to know why we’re having a tax increase, everybody’s lowering these Grants, the County. Last year we wanted to give six thousand to each one of these groups that requested money. We had to cut that to five thousand because we just didn’t have the money to do it. We had to cut the Senior Program by forty thousand dollars because we didn’t have it and we wanted to give these. We have a lot of people that are below poverty in Riverhead that are hungry so we want to give these people food so you have to take it from someplace or we have to take it out of our budget which then we raise taxes. So, where everybody wants to reduce and they put it down to the town. We are the lowest level that you can go. We can’t say oh we want this and people will fund us. We have to fund it. If we want our programs to stay the way they are, to help people, we have to make up the money that the State and the County is reducing for these non-for-profits and every non-for-profit in Riverhead does a great job. I volunteered for a year for one and the food they give out to these hungry people is amazing. So, if taxes are raised and we give them more money to make up for, we got to do something and I’m a taxpayer in the Town of Riverhead and I’ll be glad to have my taxes raised so we can include the same funding we gave them last year for these people who are in the poverty level. So, we can be criticized for raising taxes but you know things have to be done and taxes have to be raised and in the long run when (inaudible) says what are you doing on your debt and we can’t say we’re taking it out of reserve, they don’t want to see that, they want to see us working on our debt. So, in the long run the Town of Riverhead is going to be saving money because our ratings will go up and a quarter percent of fifty million dollars or a hundred million dollars is a lot of money for the taxpayers to pay so in the long run you’ll be saving money so, that’s all I’ve got to say but this funding, everybody’s decreasing funding and we don’t want to take any more money away from the poor people that (inaudible). We are residents, the majority are poor people that live in the Town of Riverhead so that’s all I have to say.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you John. Does anyone else wish to be heard on this public hearing? I’m going to close the public comment portion and leave it open for written comment to November 10th at 4:30 in the Town Clerk’s office. Thank you everybody for coming out.”

**Public Hearing Closed at 3:20 p.m.
Left Open for Written Comment Until November 10, 2016, 4:30 p.m.**

Supervisor Walter: “The next public hearing was scheduled for 2:15 p.m. and it is now 3:21. This was a public hearing for the Consideration of a Special Permit Application of Gendot Associates, Inc. for the Establishment of a Retirement Community Complex at 450 Middle Road, Riverhead, NY (SCTM #0600-82-4-22.1) I am opening the public hearing and closing the public hearing. The notification from the town did not go to the attorney so he was not able to publish and post the required notices to the residents so we are going to reschedule this and re-notice this public hearing for December 6th and we’ll pass another resolution to do that. We opened it and we closed it. No comment on it.

(Inaudible)

Supervisor Walter: “Nope, there’s no public hearing. December 6th it will be rescheduled. Jeff raise your hand. Antoinette turn around, speak to him he will tell you what it is. Alright, thank you.”

Public Hearing Ended at 3:22 p.m.

Supervisor Walter: “The final public hearing is scheduled for 2:20 p.m. and it is now 3:22 and this is a Consideration of a Special Permit Application Use for Joseph Gazzola, North Fork Auto Body at 26 Edgar Avenue, Aquebogue, NY (SCTM #0600-86-1-21.1) and 32 Edgar Avenue, Aquebogue, NY (SCTM #0600-86-1-19). We’ll open that public hearing and Mr. Danowski are you presenting for the applicant?”

Peter Danowski: “I am, my name is Pete Danowski. I do represent North Fork Auto Body. I’ve handed up the affidavit of posting and I previously handed up the affidavit of mailing.

This is a proposal to expand a small business operation located on Edgar Avenue. By way of identification I’ll always identify this as Massey Zaweski’s Auto Body Shop. Massey sold it to Joe Gazzola who has a summer home out here in Southold. Mr. Gazzola would like to spend more time out this way and looks to put up a new three thousand square foot building to be centrally located on a lot that will become a merged lot.

Today if you look at the site you see a small building to the front which is extremely close to one property line and there’s also an existing dilapidated residence at the back of the site which we intend to demolish. The net effect of the application is that the three thousand square foot building would replace the five hundred square foot dilapidated residence. We would merge two parcels and I would say by way of identification this property on Edgar Avenue is surrounded on three sides by business interests of the Corwin family. The duck farm and the duck processing plant is to the east of the proposed structure and also to the south of the proposed structure. The Corwin residential home is to the north.

Looking across the street on Edgar Avenue the business operations that are located at the vicinity include Clete Galasso’s Marine Supply Business and an adjacent building that was improved with an expansion of a nonconforming use that you see the (inaudible) Motor sign on and another auto body shop at the corner of Hubbard Avenue and Edgar Avenue. Also beyond the duck processing plant operation are the railroad tracks and what I always refer to as Eve’s Deli because of the Lewin Family interest in the past.

We started this application by coming to the town and sitting down at a Tuesday morning meeting a couple of years ago and we talked about what we might do in trying to expand the operation. One of the thoughts was building a building extending the existing building location. However, that would put the building again close to a property line so it was thought best to separate out this new proposed building in more centrally located on the property. So, after discussions with planning staff we submitted an application to the town. They looked at the application and by town policy and procedure they referred us over to the Town Zoning Board of Appeals for a setback variance and another dimensional variance. It was also indicated at that time that the SEQRA review would not be completed until after we appeared before the Town Board with the Special Permit process. As a result of that the Zoning Board heard the application, has not voted on it until the conclusion of SEQRA and I would say no one appeared from the public at that

particular Zoning Board hearing. I did however say and I said this in my application that I did in fact personally speak to the Corwin family, our most immediate neighbors, and they had no objection to the application. Even by way of suggestion, I'm not sure you would want to encourage me to put a new residential home on the back of this property adjacent to the duck farm and the duck processing plant. And I would also note that Clete Galasso who I also spoke to forwarded a letter of support. But by way of history Mr. Galasso also had an application similar in nature to this in which the Town Board granted a Special Permit to allow for an expansion of the existing building on the adjacent property adjacent to his marine supply business.

With that said, I would think that the public and the Board would be favorably disposed. Howard Young has prepared a detailed Site Plan; we've made that submission to Planning staff. It's been reviewed by staff and awaits your vote on the Special Permit. Rob Stromski has done the architectural detail and I have his plans and depictions presented on a board for anyone's review today. So with that said I will step aside and hear from members of the public or answer any further inquiries from the Town Board."

Supervisor Walter: "Can you do me a favor and take a copy of that Clete Galasso letter for this. I know."

Peter Danowski: "Certainly, certainly."

Supervisor Walter: "We'll leave it open for written comment and Jeff, Planning staff memo, can you make sure that, I know you did submit it, you did do a memo on this, you make sure it's part of the record. Jeff would you like to say anything on this?"

Peter Danowski: "I think that Jeff is attuned as Brad Hammond is. Unfortunately for us and you Mr. Hammond had to leave however I can repeat his comments that he's, he's generated the comments that get us to this point but also note that this is referred to Suffolk County Planning. We also note that there are farms within a distance of five hundred feet at least if I draw the line and do my math. That included John (inaudible) parcel which is to the west of the buildings. Across the street from us and on that farm the development rights have been sold so that will always remain as an active farm and not built for residential purposes. I say that because the notification and the Ag district data statement you know allows for farmers to come in and be assured that no one's going to complain about they the farmers so it's there to protect the farmer's rights so we have sent the appropriate notices out in that direction."

Supervisor Walter: "I just want to make sure the Planning staff memo gets to."

Peter Danowski: "I'll make sure the Planning staff memo gets to the Board."

Supervisor Walter: "I think he's got it right there Sir so if you hand it to Peter, hand it to Diane we'll have it in the records."

Peter Danowski: "Have it in the record, thank you."

Supervisor Walter: "Does anyone else wish to be heard on this matter?"

William Charles Van Hilman: “Good afternoon, how are you, William Charles Van Hilman. I’m not really familiar with this.”

Robert Kozakiewicz: “Sorry, you’ve got to raise your hand. Do you swear the testimony you’re about to give will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?”

William Charles Van Hilman: “I do. I’m not very familiar with the specific planning data but I will talk about Mr. Gazzola, about his character, I happen to personally know him. He’s a very fine man, he’s a very good business man and I think he’s got very good character. I know several employees that work for him at his current location and they are very happy employed. He’s a good community minded type of person and as a small business owner myself I would think he would be a great asset and developer to do whatever he feels he needs. He does good quality work, he’s done some work on my vehicle and I just think he would be an asset to the area and with that area in the location that it is, you know, I think any type of improvement in business you know would help everybody else in general.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you Sir, alright does anyone else wish to be heard on this matter? Mr. Danowski there’s one question from the Board, maybe two.”

Councilwoman Giglio: Will there be more than an acre of land disturbed.”

Peter Danowski: “No, no.”

Councilwoman Giglio: (inaudible) pollution plan will be necessary?”

Peter Danowski: “No there won’ be

Councilwoman Giglio: “And what is the exiting building size?”

Peter Danowski: “Twenty-two hundred plus.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Ok, so the only thing that I would like to see as a condition of the Special Permit is that gutters and leaders must be put on the building and drywells in order to prevent runoff into the creek nearby.”

Peter Danowski: “That’s not a problem and I recognize that you made that comment at work session.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Ok, thank you.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you. John did you want to say something?”

Councilman Dunleavy: “Yeah, I just want to say, people come to us, to me, and they say gee how come you guys don’t speak at these public hearings, all you do is listen to people. Before we schedule this meeting Mr. Danowski comes and we give him all our questions at that time so

that's why most of us do not speak, we just listen to what the public wants to say in favor of it or against it, so that's why we don't ask too many questions."

Supervisor Walter: "And we do that at an open meeting."

Councilman Dunleavy: "We do that at an open meeting and at a work session and Mr. Danowski can qualify that and answer all our questions, thank you."

Supervisor Walter: "So Mr. Danowski is it your request that we make the record of the work session part of this record as well?"

Peter Danowski: "I have no objection to that."

Supervisor Walter: "Ok, we will do that. Alright does anybody else wish to be heard on this matter? Not seeing anybody we will close the public comment portion and leave it open for written comment to November 10th at 4:30 in the Town Clerk's office. Thank you Mr. Danowski."

**Public Hearing Closed at 3:320 p.m.
Left Open for Written Comment Until November 10, 2016, 4:30 p.m.**

COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS:

Supervisor Walter: "We have resolutions, does anybody wish to be heard on resolutions?"

Sal Mastropaolo: "Sal Mastropaolo, Calverton, Resolution 801. The *resolve* says, the last three words, *modify the budget* but there's no mention in here of any leftover moneys or money being returned to the individual. Should there be comments in here about the amount of money modifying the budget?"

Supervisor Walter: "Bill this that Goldman parcel we looked at. We're returning money to."

Sal Mastropaolo: "Well usually Resolution have the amount of money that's going to be returned to the individual."

Supervisor Walter: "It's about five, say it to me."

(Inaudible)

Supervisor Walter: "It's fifty-nine hundred dollars going back into the CPF Fund."

Sal Mastropaolo: "Should that comment be in the resolution?"

Supervisor Walter: "Probably should have been in there."

Sal Mastropaolo: “That’s all I have.”

Supervisor Walter: “Alright, does anybody else wish to be heard on resolutions?”

Eric Russo: “Mr. Supervisor, members of the Board. Just a request on Resolutions 817, 818 and 819 that the order be switched and 819 and 8.”

Supervisor Walter: “I already that. I asked the Clerk to smith 819 and 818 so now 819 is 818 and 818 is now 819.”

Eric Russo: “That would be great and as you’re aware I’m here on behalf of J. Petrocelli Development Assoc., Eric Russo, Vanbrunt, Juzwiak & Russo. I’d also like to point out that I appreciate everybody in this town with this project and we had received our last round of comments from the Health Department today. We anticipate getting Health Department approval shortly and I know our foundation permit application is in and I believe Mr. Hammond has reviewed it and provide also comments on as well the regular building permit that we’re going to comply with. So we’re trying to proceed, thank you.”

Supervisor Walter: “Thank you, Ms. Carbone?”

Antoinette Carbone: “I just want to ask a question on Resolution 804. Does that pertain to the EIS, the Environment Impact Statement? It doesn’t say, it just says special permit. The resolution doesn’t say what the special permit.”

Supervisor Walter: “It says Special Permit to construct a retirement community complex for sixteen condominiums units including the conversion of an existing single family house into a retirement community unit with the construction of fifteen more retirement units. It’s a total of fourteen attached units in sets of two and one detached unit.”

Antoinette Carbone: “And that’s it, just, you need a special permit even though you have the zoning?”

Supervisor Walter: “Every one of those communities, including the one your live in was done by special permit. It’s in the zoning but you need a special permit of the Town Board.”

Antoinette Carbone: “In addition, even though you have the zoning you need. I thought maybe.”

Supervisor Walter: “You don’t have the zoning without this special permit.”

Antoinette Carbone: “Ok, they’re married. I thought it pertained to the Environmental Impact Statement.”

Supervisor Walter: “No, no.”

Antoinette Carbone: “Ok, thank you.”

Supervisor Walter: “Your welcome. Alright, anybody else wish to be heard on resolutions? Not seeing we’ll take up resolutions”

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #801

Councilman Dunleavy: “Capital Project Closure #42051, as amended, so moved.”

Supervisor Walter: “We’re going to amend that one to include the return of approximately fifty-nine hundred dollars. Fifty-nine hundred dollars back into the CPF fund.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second the amendment.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes as amended; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #802

Councilman Wooten: “General Fund – Police Budget Adjustment, so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #803

Councilwoman Giglio: “Accepts the Resignation of a Homemaker (Adrienne Dillingham), so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #804

Councilman Hubbard: “Authorizes the Town Clerk to Publish and Post Notice for a Public Hearing for a Special Permit for Country Wood Village (Gendot Associates, Inc.), so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #805

Councilman Dunleavy: “Authorizes the Town Clerk to Publish and Post Notice for a Public Hearing for a Special Permit Application known as S-Power Calverton Submitted by VHB Engineering on Parts of Two Parcels Located on the Southside of the Middle Country Road, West of Peconic Avenue, Calverton, NY Described as SCTM # 600-116-1-7.2 and #600-98-1-21.1, so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #806

Councilman Wooten: “Authorizes Attendance at the Association of Towns 2016 Personnel Management School, so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, no; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #807

Councilwoman Giglio: “Adopts a Local Law Amending Chapter 301 Entitled “Zoning and Land Development” of the Riverhead Town Code so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #808

Councilman Hubbard: “Adopts a Local Law to Amend the Town of Riverhead Community Preservation Fund Project Plan to Include Water Quality Improvement Projects, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #809

Councilman Dunleavy: “Adopts a Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit established by and Set Forth in Article Two 3-C of the General Municipal Law, so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, no; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #810

Councilman Wooten: “Ratifies Authorization of Co-Sponsorship of “2016 Halloween Fest” on Saturday, October 29, 2016, 2:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Rain Date: Sunday, October 30, 2016, 2:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with the Riverhead Business Improvement District Management Association, Inc., along Main Street, Between Griffing Avenue and Union Avenue, so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #811

Councilwoman Giglio: “Calverton Park Community Development Budget Adjustment, so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #812

Councilman Hubbard: “Adopts a Local Law to Amend Chapter 103 Entitled “Town Officers and Employees” of the Code of the Town of Riverhead, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes, Giglio, yes, Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #813

Councilman Dunleavy: “Adopts a Local Law to Amend Chapter 105 Entitled “Boards, Commissions and Councils” of the Code of the Town of Riverhead, so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #814

Councilman Wooten: “Adopts a Local Law to Amend Chapter 219 Entitled “Coastal Erosion Hazard Areas” of the Code of the Town or Riverhead, so moved.”

Councilwoman Giglio: “Second.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “Yes, this is just changing who represents the town at these meetings, so I vote yes.”

Vote Continued: “Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #815

Councilwoman Giglio: “Adopts a Local Law to Amend Chapter 301 Entitled “Zoning and Land Development” of the Code of the Town of Riverhead, so moved.”

Councilman Hubbard: “Seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #816

Councilman Hubbard: “Authorizes Supervisor to Execute Agreement with Riverhead Soccer Club for Training and Referee Services for Town of Riverhead Police Athletic League Girls and Boys Soccer Program for 2016 Calendar Year, so moved.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes, Giglio, yes, Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

Resolution #817

Councilman Dunleavy: “Approves Petition for Extension of the Riverhead Parking District Made by J. Petrocelli Development Associates (Preston House), so moved.”

Councilman Wooten: “I’ll second.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy.”

Councilman Dunleavy: “I’m going to have to vote no on this. We’re starting to have a big parking problem downtown. People are complaining and we just keep adding more people to park down there without getting more parking spaces. I just think that pretty soon we’re going to have to build a parking garage which nobody wants on this Board and taxes are not going up so I just can’t vote for this. I vote no.”

Vote Continued: “Walter, absolutely.” I told you I was going to create a parking problem and we’re going to work to solve the parking problem but if you ever go to Port Jefferson or

Sayville you can't park in Sayville or Huntington. So we're working to have full stores, we'll fix the problem, overwhelming yes. Resolution adopted."

Resolution #818

Supervisor Walter: "Ok, so we need to move, switch Resolutions 819 and 818 so 818 is going to be Grants Special Permit Application of J. Petrocelli Development Associates Preston House. So Jodi will you move that?"

Councilwoman Giglio: "I'll move that. Resolution 818, Grants Special Permit Application of J. Petrocelli Development Associates for the Preston House, so moved."

Councilman Hubbard: "Seconded."

Supervisor Walter: "Moved and seconded. Vote please."

Robert Kozakiewicz: "There's one more thing that has to be changed. Between for and illuminated it should say *and automatically activated*."

Supervisor Walter: "Moved and seconded as amended."

The Vote: "Hubbard, yes as amended; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, no; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted."

Resolution #819

Councilman Wooten: "Approves Preliminary Site Plan Application of J. Petrocelli Development Associates (Preston House), so moved."

Councilwoman Giglio: "Seconded"

Supervisor Walter: "Moved and seconded. Vote please."

The Vote: "Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy."

Councilman Dunleavy: "Again for the parking problem I vote no."

Vote Continued: "Walter, yes. Resolution adopted."

Resolution #820

Councilman Hubbard: "Appoints the Law Firm of Sinnreich, Kosakoff & Messina LLP to Act as Special Counsel, Nunc Pro Tunc in the Matter of Traditional Links LLC v. Riverhead Town Assessors, so moved."

Councilman Dunleavy: "And seconded."

Supervisor Walter: "Moved and seconded. Vote please."

The Vote: "Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted."

Resolution #821

Councilman Dunleavy: "Appoints the Law Firm of Smith, Finkelstein, Lundberg, Isler and Yakaboski, LLP to Act as Special Council to Represent the Town of Riverhead Zoning Board of Appeals in an Article 78 Proceeding, so moved."

Councilman Wooten: "I'll second."

Supervisor Walter: "Moved and seconded. Vote please."

The Vote: "Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted"

Resolution #822

Councilman Wooten: "Authorizes the Supervisor to Execute Professional Services Agreement with Lockwood, Kessler & Bartlett, Inc. for Engineering Services for South Jamesport Avenue Road and Drainage Improvements, so moved."

Councilwoman Giglio: "Second."

Supervisor Walter: "Moved and seconded. Vote please."

The Vote: "Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted."

Resolution #823

Councilwoman Giglio: "Sets Date and Time of Town of Riverhead's 17th Annual Bonfire and Holiday Celebration, so moved."

Councilman Hubbard: "Seconded."

Supervisor Walter: "Moved and seconded. Vote please."

The Vote: "Hubbard, yes; Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted."

Resolution #824

Councilman Hubbard: "Pays Bills, so moved."

Councilman Dunleavy: “And seconded.”

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

The Vote: “Hubbard, yes, Giglio, yes; Wooten, yes; Dunleavy, yes; Walter, yes. Resolution adopted.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Walter: Alright now we open the public comment portion for any matter that’s before the Town Board. We ask that you limit your comments to five minutes.”

George Knez stated that he was a vendor at this year’s Country Fair that had been rained out. He said as of this meeting he did not receive the letter that was being sent to all the vendors who were at the Fair. Councilman Wooten informed Mr. Knez that this was not a matter before the Town Board and he would give Mr. Knez the name and number of the person to contact regarding this matter.

Steve Romano came up with several concerns. He wanted to know if the Court parking issue was resolved. Supervisor Walter informed him that it had been resolved. Steve also was concerned about the sale of the (inaudible) Building and a comment made by Mr. Fischer who was interested in purchasing the building. Supervisor Walter told Steve that issue never came fruition. Mr. Romano also spoke about docking permits and the lack of enforcement regarding the monitoring of permits. His last issue was the law passed by the Board regarding fire alarms. Supervisor Walter suggested he talk to Dan McCormick regarding this matter.

Supervisor Walter: “Does anybody else wish to be heard tonight? Not seeing anybody can I get a motion to adjourn?”

Councilman Dunleavy: “I make a motion we adjourn the Town Board meeting, so moved.”

Supervisor Walter: “All in favor, aye? Opposed? Abstentions? Town Board meeting is closed.”

Meeting Adjourned at 3:53 p.m.