

**WAIVER OF NOTICE AND CONSENT
OF SPECIAL MEETING**

We, the Undersigned, being all members of the Riverhead Town Board of the Town of Riverhead, County of Suffolk, and State of New York, do hereby waive notice of the time, place, date and purpose of a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead, to be held at the Town Hall, Riverhead, New York at 1:00 pm, on the 20th day of November, 2006, and do consent to the holding of such meeting for the purpose of:

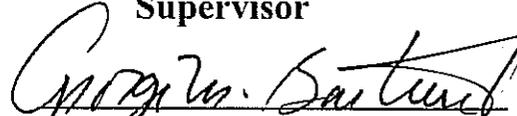
- #1048 Community Development Administrator Provisional Appointment (C. Kempner)
- #1049 Authorizes Amendment to 2007 Preliminary Budget
- #1050 Authorizes Amendment to Preliminary Budget for 2007 Funding in Ambulance District
- #1051 Adopts Town of Riverhead 2007 Annual Budget

Dated: November 20, 2006
Media Notified by
Supervisor

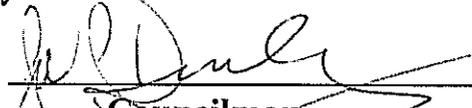
Town Board Members
of Riverhead, New York



Supervisor



Councilman



Councilman



Councilwoman



Councilman

Minutes of a Special Town Board Meeting held by the Town Board of the Town of Riverhead at Town Hall, Howell Avenue, Riverhead, New York on Monday, November 20, 2006, at 1:00 p.m.

Present:

Philip Cardinale,	Supervisor
Edward Densieski,	Councilman
George Bartunek,	Councilman
Barbara Blass,	Councilwoman
John Dunleavy,	Councilman

Also Present:

Barbara Grattan,	Town Clerk
Dawn Thomas, Esq.,	Town Attorney

Supervisor Cardinale: "Okay, this is the town board special work session of Monday, November 20th. We're meeting to pass a few resolutions related to the budget and personnel matters because we must take action on the budget by this date, November 20th."

And we're also going to-- so we're going to begin by indicating to the public who is here that we're going to look at resolutions 1048, which is hiring a community development administrator on a provisional appointment; 1049, authorizing an amendment to the 2007 preliminary budget regarding supervisor and town board members' salaries; 50, authorizing amendment to the preliminary budget for the funding of the ambulance district; and then a general adoption of the 2007 annual budget inclusive or exclusive depending upon the vote of the last two I mentioned.

And then we are also going to take off the table 1046 which establishes the terms and conditions of employment of Christine Hubbs, a legal secretary part time with the town attorney's office, as part of our safe housing initiative.

That's it, right? Those are the ones we're going to consider. If anyone has any comment on any one of those, we'd be pleased to take it."

Councilwoman Blass: (Inaudible)

Supervisor Cardinale: "Okay. And as we- I'm just being told that 1048- and what was the other one- and 1051 will require amendments which we'll give at the time we'll consider it. But maybe we'll do it now.

1048, would you read that in, please?"

Councilwoman Blass: "1048, the Resolve clause should say development- community development administrator at group 7 step P of the administrative salary schedule."

Supervisor Cardinale: "Group 7- oh, it's group 7, step P- "

Councilwoman Blass: "Of the administrative salary schedule. Got that, Barbara?"

Barbara Grattan: "Yes."

Supervisor Cardinale: "And on 51, it should read on the resolve, Be It Resolved, the town of Riverhead 2007 annual preliminary budget filed with the town clerk on November 8th with previously adopted changes as set forth in Resolutions 1049 and 1050, is hereby adopted."

Barbara Grattan: "You've got that written down?"

Supervisor Cardinale: "Yes, I have that right here."

Barbara Grattan: "Okay, can I have it? If I can read that writing."

Supervisor Cardinale: "I'll interpret, I'll interpret."

Councilman Densieski: (Inaudible)

Supervisor Cardinale: "Yes. My driving is worse than my writing. Okay.

So with those amendments, we're going to consider 1048 through 1051 and then also call up tabled 1046 from the last meeting."

Councilman Densieski: "Phil, quick question."

Supervisor Cardinale: "Yes?"

Councilman Densieski: "Is this community development resolution a community development resolution or is it a town board- "

Supervisor Cardinale: "It should be- good question, but it should be a town board resolution because we're going to pay her, community development administrator. Okay. Do you want to call these since no public comment- but we should- John just reminded me, we should do the Pledge of Allegiance to begin the meeting."

(At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited)

Supervisor Cardinale: "Okay. Any- Barbara, I think we're just here for the purposes of these resolutions. So could you call them, please?"

Resolution #1048

Councilman Bartunek: "Hires Christine Kempner (phonetic) as community development administrator provisional appointment. So moved. As amended."

Councilwoman Blass: "And seconded."

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

The Vote: "Dunleavy, yes; Bartunek, yes; Blass, yes; Densieski, yes; Cardinale, yes. The resolution is adopted."

Resolution #1049

Councilwoman Blass: "Authorizes an amendment to the 2007 preliminary budget. So moved."

Councilman Dunleavy: "And seconded."

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

The Vote: "Dunleavy, yes; Bartunek."

Councilman Bartunek: "I was going to take the chicken way out and abstain from this, but I'm going to vote no."

The Vote (Cont'd.): "Blass, yes; Densieski, yes; Cardinale, no."

Supervisor Cardinale: "I want to say also that I've said it before but I want to repeat it. That I believe to legitimize the salary raise for ourselves that it's necessary that before we consider it, it be reviewed and recommended by a dis- hopefully not disoriented- we have a disoriented third party panel, but we need a disinterested third party panel, thank you, made up of respected citizens on the context that as I've said before, raises should be given, not taken.

Very possibly, I want to point this out, that such a panel might have approves these raises but we'll never know.

Further, I think such salary review should equitably consider all elected officials not just ourselves. So with that, I would vote no."

Barbara Grattan: "The resolution is adopted."

Resolution #1050

Councilman Dunleavy: "Authorizes amendment to preliminary budget for 2007 funding in ambulance district. So moved."

Councilman Densieski: "Second the motion."

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

The Vote: "Dunleavy, yes; Bartunek, yes; Blass, yes; Densieski, yes; Cardinale."

Supervisor Cardinale: "Yeah. This- I want to thank John for working on this. I wish that there were a way to avoid this increase which is substantial but because of increased personnel costs to make the- to get the work done we need done, because of increasing insurance costs, those two alone were \$80,000 additional from last year. And because also of attorney costs associated with two accidents, this is necessary.

I vote yes."

Barbara Grattan: "The resolution is adopted."

Resolution #1051

Councilman Densieski: "Adopts town of Riverhead 2007 annual budget. So moved."

Councilman Bartunek: "And seconded."

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

The Vote: "Dunleavy."

Councilman Dunleavy: "Before I vote, I just want to- I know something is going to be said because this is a greater than the preliminary budget that was- greater than the tentative budget- this is the preliminary.

And the reason why is because when the tentative budget was made, certain services were left out which are important services to the town of Riverhead. And one was \$50,000 that we have a counselor for youths in the JAB office.

Another one was \$88,000 for the seniors. Now this senior program has been going on for years and years and years and they neglected to put the \$88,000 which is not reimbursed by the county to us, but still I think seniors deserve and they should get what they've been always getting.

We're going to hire a new town engineer this year. We do need one. We were \$25,000 short and that \$25,000 was left out so we had to put \$25,000- these are things that we've been talking about all year long. So we had to put that \$25,000 back in again.

\$10,000 they left out of the budget for the STOP program. The STOP program has been very successful in the town of Riverhead and, again, we need the STOP program so we had to put that \$10,000 back in there for that STOP program. And that's for the batteries, the gas cans and everything else that you cannot dump in the regular garbage.

\$9,200 for the pump out boat that was neglected, it didn't go back in the budget and we need that for the Peconic River. We signed on that we will help keep the Peconic River clean and for \$9,200 that was left out, we put it back in for the pump out boat.

\$5,000 for maintenance program for the aging and that's, again, we need that because people cannot fix their own homes and what we do, is the county funds most of the program but we have to add \$5,000 to that program and it's a good program for the senior citizens.

What we added that was not left out of the budget, and that equals 1% more to the tentative budget, what was left out. What we

added, the town board, is- are accounting department. Our accountant got sick, there was no one to take over for him, we need a deputy accountant. So we put in \$65,000 to hire a deputy accountant so if anything happens to the accountant we have today, we don't have to worry, we're not going to be held up or nothing. He or she can take over that position.

\$63,500 was for an administrator of the youth bureau. Now the youth bureau can bring money into the town of Riverhead. If you have a youth bureau, you can grants from the State of New York. \$63,500- we talked about this for, again, for eight months this year and it was left out of the budget but that is an income producing area.

\$40,000 was justice court court officers. We want to keep our court personnel safe. We're the only court that doesn't have court officers that will watch out for guns and knives going in this court. The court has taken a lot of knives off of people that go into the court and one of these day someone might have gotten hurt, so we need these court officers.

Right now we have a police officer in there who's making \$108,000. I think that \$108,000- police officers can do better by going on the road where he belongs and have a \$40,000 court officer sitting there which would be part time and they only work when the court is open.

\$20,100 for the town attorney's office. This is for the rental law. We need a paralegal in there for- to do all these court cases when we have to go to Supreme court with.

The town of Southold- and here's where we come up on top on this one. The town of Southold is doing a rental law and they're going to use our rental law as guidelines for their new rental law and the reason why they say is because since we passed our rental law, people have been moving to Southold. So this is a good- it's good for the town of Riverhead so we added that \$20,100 back in again.

\$16,700 for community- we just hired a community development administrator. We were \$16,700 short. We had to put that in the budget for her. The reason is that office brings in over three or four million dollars to the town of Riverhead. Also, we lost our great coordinator last year, nobody was handling the small grants for the police department or for other agencies in the town. She will take over that job and bring more money into the town of Riverhead. This is all incoming money that we can get from these people.

And we added \$2,500 for town board travel which was not put in the budget and we do- we took a trip to Boston for the F-1 so we need some money in for some kind of travel.

That added up to 1.3% so if you add the 1 and the 1.3% it will come out to 2.3% but these are things that are need for the town of Riverhead and so we decided to add those into the budget.

And I vote yes."

The Vote (Cont'd.): "Bartunek, yes; Blass."

Councilwoman Blass: "Yes. I'm just going to take one minute to give you the bottom line in case you're interested in the actual numbers.

The differences between the tentative and preliminary budget including the numbers for the salary increases, spending in the tentative was 4.5% and it's going up to 6.1%. The tax increase itself is 5.9% going up to 8.2% and the tax rate increase 6.4% to 8.7%. Those are the bottom line- the bottom lines I should say.

With that, I will vote yes."

The Vote (Cont'd.): "Densieski."

Councilman Densieski: "Yeah, I believe this is partially an irresponsible budget but it's better than the first budget we looked at. I think there's a six figure cut in police in this budget- in police overtime, and there's no money allocated for the landfill in 2007. And granted we might not need it, depending upon when the bond goes out but there is just as good a chance that we might.

I think some of the other speakers are right. We've said it 100 times. We can't save our way to prosperity. We have to make things happen. In the business community, especially in places like EPCAL but with that said, this is the budget that we're voting on today and we have to run the government.

So I'll vote yes."

The Vote (Cont'd.): "Cardinale."

Supervisor Cardinale: "The process that most of you probably know out there now but some of the public doesn't, is that the

supervisor produces a tentative budget by September 30th, by the first week in November the board should have looked at it and make the changes they feel appropriate and then by November 20th it has to be adopted or whatever is on file, the tentative or preliminary, becomes the budget. The State knowing full well little towns could argue about it forever if they didn't have those rules.

So I produced a tentative budget on September 30th. That called for what I thought was a high spending increase of 4.5% and a tax increase of 5.9 because of our reduction in assessment.

I made only one request of my board at that time and continue to make it through the couple of meetings we had to review it, because they're all good people looking for the best interest of the town. And that is I was setting a bench mark, 4.5% increase in spending and I had made some selections of what I thought were most important to the town and I know they might differ. But if they were going to add, they needed to subtract so that we would come in a 4.5%.

I think they legitimately tried to do that but they didn't succeed because as Barbara indicated, her numbers are absolutely correct, the 4.5% spending increase became 6.1 and the 5.9% tax increase became 8.2.

Now there's nothing wrong with the town board making the budget their budget, which they have done. But the numbers in this budget are as indicated. They've gone up from 4.5 in spending increase to 6.1; from 5.9 in tax increase to 8.2.

Also, the spending it self has gone up \$500,000 including the most recent vote, 50- 60 actually in salary increases. More than 10% of that is simply the town board salary increase.

Much of it is well intended and helpful but the real question is what's essential. And even if you believe that the changes they made were essential, as I've jokingly said and I'm saying now with seriousness, the easy part is to add. The hard part is to cut.

So what I could have used help with is not adding \$500,000, but adding the \$500,000 that they thought was critical and then subtracting \$500,000 someplace lese. That didn't happen.

You will note all of the good things that John indicated and I'm sure they're well intended, and they'll do good for the town. But all of those things were additions. Where's the subtractions? And as a

result, we have \$500,000 more spending.

So in any event, I will vote— my question now as always is do I prefer my tentative budget which— or do I prefer this? I prefer mine. I will vote no. This budget will pass. I think it's a responsible budget but it is 1 and 1/2% or 1.6% more spending than I'd like to see.

Barbara Grattan: "The budget— the resolution is adopted."

Resolution #1046

Barbara Grattan: "Now we have resolution #1046 which has got to come off the table."

Councilman Bartunek: "I'll make a motion for taking Resolution 1046 off the table. Establishes terms and conditions of employment for Christine Hubbs."

Councilman Dunleavy: "And I second it."

Supervisor Cardinale: "Yeah, moved and seconded to untable 1046 and consider it. Vote please."

The Vote: "Dunleavy, yes; Bartunek, yes; Blass, yes; Densieski, yes; Cardinale, yes. The resolution is adopted to be taken off the table."

Barbara Grattan: "Now we have 1046 for adoption."

Councilman Bartunek: "Make a motion to adopt Resolution 1046, establishes the terms and conditions of employment for Christine Hubbs as amended. So moved."

Councilman Dunleavy: "And I second it."

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

The Vote: "Dunleavy, yes; Bartunek, yes; Blass, yes; Densieski."

Supervisor Cardinale: "Yes. This is the final component of the safe housing initiative which is already having a positive effect on the community. And, yes, as the supervisor points out, it does require taxpayer dollars to fund it, but this is one of those things

in my opinion that's needed.

So I'm going to vote yes."

The Vote (Cont'd.): "Cardinale."

Supervisor Cardinale: "Yeah. As Ed points out, this is the final component with the town attorney, 15 years experience, 25 years experience with- 19 years experience town attorney, 25 for the investigator. Now an experienced paralegal.

And it is a good example of what we just talked about. And I'm delighted the prior vote allows me to vote yes on this. But it was one of those things among- incidentally there wasn't 500 we were disputing probably 250 everybody agreed on. But among that 200 was this 20 which I'd like- I want her, I'm voting yes now that it's budgeted. But I think we could have done without her. And now that we've got the budget, I'll vote for her. But we- this is the kind of thing that sometimes you've got to button your belt and let somebody else do the work.

I vote yes, because it is budgeted as of now."

Barbara Grattan: "The resolution is adopted."

Supervisor Cardinale: "I want to close the special meeting of the town board then and I also want to tell everybody that we're going to have a work session which will suffice to go over the resolutions for tomorrow night which we'll do in public right now. And we're going to have a meeting at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow night.

We're also going to consider anything else the board wants to consider because we will not be meeting on Thursday or Wednesday or Friday in the normal work session."

Meeting closed: 1:42 p.m.

Barbara Grattan
Town Clerk