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Minutes of a Community Development Agency meeting held by the town board of the Town of Riverhead at Town Hall, Howell Avenue, Riverhead, New York on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Sean Walter,	Chairman
John Dunleavy,	Member
George Gabrielsen,	Member
Jodi Giglio,	Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Christina Kempner,	Director
Diane M. Wilhelm,	Town Clerk
Dawn Thomas,	Town Attorney

ABSENT:

James Wooten,	Member
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Public hearing opened: 7:40 p.m.

Chairman Walter: "And open up the Community Development Agency and the public hearing is for the community development agency to conduct a public hearing on whether Altitude Express d/b/a Skydive Long Island should be designated the qualified and eligible sponsor for the extension of an existing runway use agreement between the Community Development Agency and Altitude Express.

Mr. Maynard, if you would step up."

Ray Maynard: "Ray Maynard, Skydive Long Island. Good evening, Supervisor and town board members.

As you know, we're here tonight for the qualified and eligible hearing for my runway use extension agreement. I have an agreement in principal with James Burman through his son Scott to purchase five or six acres. We have agreed on a price. A letter of intent is being drafted at this time.

I currently have a long term lease with Doug Dey of Vertical Line apparel for additional office space that I required.

Altitude Express d/b/a Skydive Long Island and Pleasure Leasing Ltd. are both empire zone certified. Altitude Express, Inc. was incorporated on January 5, 1995 and Pleasure Leasing Ltd. was incorporated on January 7, 1994.

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Skydive Long Island has been a member in good standing with the United States Parachute Association for the past 24 years, with one of the best safety records in the United States.

I have been a licensed instructor since 1973. I also hold the following ratings: Tandem Master, Coach, Pro Rating, FAA Rigger, FAA commercial pilot, with over 2,400 hours and I am the safety and training advisor for Skydive Long Island in Calverton.

I have been on five national teams and have represented the United States of America at five world championships. In 1983 I was on the winning World Cup Team in Para-ski, that is a combination of accuracy parachuting and giant slalom snow skiing. I just recently, on March 20, 21, tied for first place at the 2010 Para-Ski Championships held at Hunter Mountain. I was the oldest guy there, too.

In 2000 when Skydive Long Island moved to Calverton, we owned two four passenger Cessna 182's. We now operate a 14 passenger Beechcraft King Air B-90 and a 18 passenger Cessna Grand Caravan.

Skydive Long Island has grown from seven employees in 2000 to 38 employees in 2010. Our gross sales has increased over 600% over that same time period. And our expenses reflect the same increases. Our current payroll is in excess of half a million dollars a year.

Hundreds of people visit Skydive Long Island every weekend throughout our season, April through November. Our customers very rarely come by themselves and most will spend several hours with us and then visit other local attractions and restaurants in the area. Most will need to purchase gasoline for their return trip home.

Stonybrook University in conjunction with the Department of Defense has been conducting a research study on fear for the past five years with Skydive Long Island. This is an ongoing study.

The 106th Air National Guard stationed at Gabreski Airport has had an agreement with Skydive Long Island for training with us for the past four years and will continue to do so.

Skydive Long Island is very active in charitable events, contributing to local service organizations such as the Riverhead Lions Club, Riverhead Rotary, East End Arts Council, Peconic Bay Medical Center, Stony Brook University Hospital, the Make a Wish Foundation, just to name a few. And we are sponsoring the trophies for the Riverhead Firemen's big event this summer.

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In conclusion we are a very stable company, we always pay our bills, we do not break the laws. We are always willing to help when we can. We are a big attraction for the town of Riverhead.

All I ask is to continue to do business in this great town of Riverhead. But in order to have the financial opportunities such as getting loans for the purchase of land and equipment, I need a longer term of my runway use agreement at this time.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

I'll leave you the packet that has- will confirm all of the things I have told you about my licenses and certifications."

Chairman Walter: "Mr. Maynard, can- we would like some additional- just financial information which, correct me if I'm wrong. Do you want us to incorporate the financial statements and records from the previous qualified and eligible sponsor hearings into this? Are they pretty much the same?"

In other words, we have- we're going to require some information from you, a customer base, bank statements, tax returns, correspondence and documents establishing the need, which I think you've done. We need some more financial information- "

Ray Maynard: "Sure, I can supply that."

Chairman Walter: "You can supply that. Certain things might have to be redacted because it goes to the town attorney's office and it goes to the file in the town clerk as far as the public record. But it's just- we do need some financial information and I know you've submitted that before. We just ask that you submit it- "

Ray Maynard: "Sure. Because it's much different than the last time."

Chairman Walter: "Yeah, we can give you this list."

Ray Maynard: "I should have had it first."

Chairman Walter: "Thank you, Mr. Maynard. Does anybody else wish to be heard on this matter? Okay."

Nobody wishing to be heard, we'll close the public hearing, leave it open for comment until April 30th, Friday, April 30th at 4:30 and file anything with the town clerk, Diane Wilhelm.

That hearing being closed, let's close the Community Development Agency portion of this meeting."

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Public hearing closed: 7:45 p.m.
Left open for 10 days for written
comment to April 30, 2010 at
4:30 p.m.