

TOWN HALL DEDICATION
THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1976

There were smiling faces and much joy in the municipal building today, for it was Open House at the New Town Hall. The doors were opened at 8:00 P. M.

The Town Clerk raised the flag some time before anyone arrived. The flag that she raised was donated to the Town by our beloved Congressman Otis G. Pike. The Town Clerk was made to understand that this will be the last flag donation for henceforth the Honorable one must pay a substantial sum of money to obtain flags that have flown over the Capitol Dome.

The female officials and employees were elegantly attired in long colorful gowns and acted as official guides. The Town Clerk danced around and she actually bounced about. She had Spring in her heart. She had waited for this day for many many years.

Many taxpayers arrived to tour their new Town Hall. The attractive decor, the spacious accommodations and the sparkling cleanliness were much remarked upon. The new heating system and air conditioning were exclaimed over, and employees and taxpayers agreed that this was a structure worthy of being our Town Hall.

At 4:30 P. M. the Town Board convened in the new Town Board Meeting Room with the following present:

Allen M. Smith, Supervisor
George G. Young, Councilman
Francis E. Menendez, Councilman
John Lombardi, Councilman
Jessie Tomlinson, Councilman

Also present: Peter S. Danowski, Jr., Town Attorney, Helene M. Block, Town Clerk, Irene J. Pendzick, Tax Receiver, Assessors Charles Crump, Thomas McKay and John Ziemacki, Town Justices Gregory R. Manning and Robert G. Leonard. Alex E. Horton, Superintendent of Highways was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given after which Supervisor Smith recited an appropriate prayer.

The Supervisor then called on the following Clergy who in turn offered up prayers for the well being of the officials and employees of the new Town Hall:

Rev. Julian P. Wenda, Pastor of St. Isidore's R. C. Church
Rev. Frederick M. Moore, Pastor of the Riverhead United Methodist Church, and
Rev. Richard Warren, Pastor of the Baiting Hollow Congregational Church.

Town Hall Dedication continued:

Former Supervisor John H. Leonard was then called upon and he gave a brief resume of how the new Town Hall came into being. We well remember his campaign promise that if elected he would work towards the building of a new Town Hall. Today the realization of his dream which had been shared by so many was truly a dream come true. The round of applause that followed his words was both heartfelt and spontaneous.

Former Town Clerk and Supervisor of the Town of Riverhead and also Suffolk County Treasurer, Milton L. Burns, Former Town Justice Thomas R. Costello and former Town Justice and Assessor Frank Yousik were in attendance and Supervisor Smith asked them to stand and be recognized. They were applauded.

The Town Board on motion and vote resolved that Helene M. Block, Town Clerk be given the honor to cut the ribbon dedicating the new Town Hall.

The Town Clerk was ecstatic when so honored. Forty-one years of her life has been dedicated to the people of the Town of Riverhead. She was always mindful that she represented these people whom she loves and tried to serve with pride and humility. The new Town Hall is the culmination of her dream and the epitome of her final years of service.


The Town Board adjourned and everyone walked out to the front of the Town Hall where the Dedication exercises took place.

The Town Clerk cut the ribbon and this beautiful edifice was dedicated as the new Town Hall.

A group consisting of Town Officials, Town Employees, Former Town Officials, friends and interested taxpayers walked over from the Town Hall to Luce's Hardware where tables replete with hors d'oeuvres and cocktails were set up for the jolly group. There was also music. There was much conversation and laughter. The employees talked about the trees and shrubs they had planted on the grounds of the new Town Hall and all looked forward to working in a cheerful and spacious building.

When dusk flooded the party area, the festivities came to a close. Many of the party participants journeyed to a local restaurant where they enjoyed more food, more chit chat and music. Our Tax Receiver Irene Pendzick was in a singing mood which stayed with her during the duration of the dinner hour and she lingered near the piano and rendered melodies. Some of her neighbors consumed her food and while she protested a bit when the tab was presented to her, she nevertheless gleefully paid it.

Everyone who attended the Dedication of the New Town Hall will long remember this all important day in the history of the Town of Riverhead.



Helene M. Block, Town Clerk