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**TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD**

ONE WASHINGTON STREET

TOWN HALL PAVILION

HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550

APRIL 4, 2017

10:30 A.M.

**BEFORE: ANTHONY J. SANTINO,**

**SUPERVISOR**

**APPEARANCES :**

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SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY  
COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO (ABSENT)  
COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN  
COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO  
COUNCILMAN HUDES (PRESENT, NOT AT THE TIME OF  
ROLL CALL)  
COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY (PRESENT, NOT AT  
THE TIME OF ROLL CALL)  
CLERK AHMAD  
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK MULLER  
TOWN ATTORNY RA  
ACTING DEPUTY TOWN COMPTROLLER CAPOBIANCO

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Welcome to the  
2 Hempstead Town Board Meeting.

3 We will have the regular calendar, the  
4 Decision Calendar and then, the  
5 Administrative Calendar and after the Board  
6 will remain to listen to the concerns of the  
7 Town Residents.

8 At this time, I would like to ask  
9 Councilman Bruce Blakeman to lead us in the  
10 Pledge of Allegiance.

11 (Whereupon, Councilman Blakeman led  
12 the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
13 After, the following ensued.)

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Madam Clerk,  
15 please, call the roll.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Here.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Here.

20 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Here.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
23 Goosby?

24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Here.

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Before

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 we begin, today's meeting, I would like to  
2 first acknowledge an outstanding Hempstead  
3 Town Public Safety Officer who went above and  
4 beyond the call of duty.

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5 On March the 15<sup>th</sup>, Officer Matthew  
6 Gassert responded to an emergency situation  
7 in the Town Hall Parking Garage.

8 He found one of our most-dedicated  
9 employees, Elizabeth Muller passed out in the  
10 driver's seat of her car.

11 As trained, Gassert immediately  
12 radioed the Public Safety desk to call for an  
13 ambulance and he checked her vitals.

14 To his dismay, she did not have a  
15 pulse nor was she breathing.

16 Processing the dire circumstances of  
17 the situation, he removed her from the  
18 vehicle and performed CPR.

19 Thanks to his efforts, Ms. Muller  
20 began to breathe faintly and her pulse  
21 returned.

22 Gassert turned her on her side and she  
23 began to regain consciousness.

24 (Whereupon, Councilman Hudes and  
25 Councilwoman King-Sweeney entered the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 Meeting Room. After, the following ensued.)

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Matthew Gassert,  
3 cool, calm and collected response was  
4 critical in saving Ms. Muller's life.

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5 We are proud to call Officer Gassert a  
6 valuable Member of the Hempstead Town Family  
7 and want to thank him for his heroic efforts.

8 Matthew, please, step forward and  
9 accept an official Town of Hempstead  
10 citation.

11 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
12 was heard, photos were taken with all of the  
13 Board Members in attendance and a citation  
14 was presented to Officer Gassert. After, the  
15 following ensued.)

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Call the first  
17 Item, please.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:  
19 "Regulations and Restrictions" to limit  
20 parking in GARDEN CITY SOUTH, OCEANSIDE,  
21 WOODMERE (To amend Chapter 202 of the Code of  
22 the Town of Hempstead)

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone  
24 that would like to be heard on this matter  
25 before the Town Board?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 (Whereupon, no response was heard.

2 After, the following ensued.)

3 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There being none,  
4 I will accept a Motion, please.

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5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,  
6 I move that the Public Hearing be closed and  
7 the Local Law be adopted.

8 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the  
9 Motion.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

11 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

13 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

15 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
17 Goosby?

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

19 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Hudes?

20 COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
22 Sweeney?

23 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
25 please.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:  
2 "Parking or Standing Prohibitions" in  
3 BELLMORE, ELMONT, OCEANSIDE (To amend Section  
4 202-1 of the Code of the Town of Hempstead)

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone  
6 that would like to be heard on this matter  
7 before the Town Board?

8 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
9 After, the following ensued.)

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There being none,  
11 I will accept a Motion, please.

12 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Mr.  
13 Supervisor, I move that the Public Hearing be  
14 closed and the item be adopted.

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the  
16 motion.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

19 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

22 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

23 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
24 Goosby?

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Hudes?

2 COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

3 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
4 Sweeney?

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5 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
7 please.

8 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:  
9 "Arterial Stops" in EAST MEADOW (To amend  
10 Section 197-5 of the Code of the Town of  
11 Hempstead)

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone  
13 who would like to be heard on this matter  
14 before the Town Board?

15 MELINDA CANASTRO: Yes, I would.

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Come forward,  
17 please.

18 Have a seat. Make yourself  
19 comfortable.

20 MELINDA CANASTRO: Melinda Canastro.  
21 I am an East Meadow resident.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Can we have your  
23 address for the record.

24 MELINDA CANASTRO: 2429 Cambridge  
25 Street.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1           This isn't the reason why I am here  
2 but, um, I see I would like to know what  
3 areas you are considering putting these  
4 arterial stops in?

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5           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Sure, I think we  
6 can deal with that.

7           From Traffic Control, yes, sir, come  
8 on forward, please.

9           MELINDA CANASTRO: May I speak in the  
10 meantime?

11          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: He will answer  
12 your question, first.

13          Good Morning.

14          TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: Good Morning.  
15 Tom Reed, representing Traffic Control.

16          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Where are the  
17 arterial stops in East Meadow, the East  
18 Meadow matter?

19          TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: This one is  
20 being adopted one on Macarthur Street and  
21 Post Street.

22          MELINDA CANASTRO: Macarthur and Post,  
23 that is right over near Hempstead Turnpike,  
24 now, do you think that this stop is necessary  
25 for what reason?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1           TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: The right-of-  
2 way as per State Law, we were given a survey  
3 to do at this location.

4           We have no traffic control devices,  
5 so, the lease we could do is support the  
6 State Law by putting the Stop sign on the  
7 minor road.

8           MELINDA CANASTRO: That is the very  
9 lest you could do.

10           Macarthur and Post is not a very  
11 heavily-traveled area, although I can't  
12 imagine why it would need some sort of device  
13 to begin with but, you know, if you look at  
14 that area, you will see that our roads are  
15 much more of a danger than anything and that  
16 is my reason for being here, today.

17           So, if I may take a moment to speak  
18 about the roads in East Meadow - -

19           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: If it is not  
20 about this particular item - -

21           MELINDA CANASTRO: I have to wait to  
22 the end of the meeting.

23           Well, I can't argue putting a traffic  
24 device somewhere, where it is needed, so - -

25           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: That is great,

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 well, thank you.

2 TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: That is why we  
3 try to enhance the traffic safety for the  
4 roadway and follow the State regulations.

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
6 much.

7 MELINDA CANASTRO: I will give you the  
8 rest of my concerns at the end. Thank you.

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
10 much.

11 Anyone else on this matter?

12 (Whereupon, no response was heard.

13 After, the following ensued.)

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There being none,  
15 will you call the roll, please.

16 COUNCILMAN HUDES: Mr. Supervisor, I  
17 move the Public Hearing be closed and the  
18 proposed Local Law be adopted.

19 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I second  
20 the Motion.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

23 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

25 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

2 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
3 Goosby?

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

5 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Hudes?

6 COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

7 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
8 Sweeney?

9 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
11 please.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed "Handicapped  
13 parking on public streets" in(NR) EAST  
14 ROCKAWAY, ELMONT, FRANKLIN SQUARE, ROOSEVELT,  
15 SEAFORD, UNIONDALE (West Blvd., Sewanne  
16 Avenue, Wool Avenue, Pennywood Avenue,  
17 Jackson Avenue, Duryea Avenue, Macon Place)

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone  
19 that would like to be heard about this matter  
20 before the Town Board?

21 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
22 After, the following ensued.)

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There being none,  
24 I will accept a Motion, please.

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBYZ: I move

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 that the proposed Public Hearing be closed  
2 and adopted.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the  
4 Motion.

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5 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

7 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

9 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
12 Goosby?

13 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Hudes?

15 COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
17 Sweeney?

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
20 please.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Application of AMPM FOOD  
22 MART, INC. for inclusion within the "GSS"  
23 District to include existing gasoline service  
24 station and install two (2) underground  
25 storage tanks each with a capacity of 12,000

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 gallons and operate a convenience store and  
2 self service station - ROOSEVELT - northeast  
3 corner of West Centennial Avenue and  
4 Brookside Avenue.

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5 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Good Morning,  
6 Supervisor Santino.

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Good Morning.

8 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Good Morning,  
9 Honorable Members of the Board:

10 My name is Diane Mendez; law firm  
11 Murphy, Bartol & O'Brien. Offices at 22  
12 Jericho Turnpike, Mineola, New York 11501.

13 I am here this morning on behalf of  
14 the applicant, AMPM Food Mart, Inc.

15 Also, present with me this morning is  
16 Lawrence O'Brien, P.E. a licensed  
17 Professional Engineer with High Point  
18 Engineering, the design plans that are before  
19 the Board, today.

20 If I may take a moment to give a brief  
21 history of the site.

22 The subject property is currently  
23 located in a Business X Zoning District.

24 The property has been operated as a  
25 Gasoline Service Station.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I am sorry,  
2 Counselor, if you could hold the microphone a  
3 little closer.

4 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: As I was saying, the  
5 subject property has been operated as a  
6 gasoline service station since about 1952,  
7 approximately, sixty-plus years.

8 There have been certain modifications  
9 throughout the years and our client took over  
10 the property in about, approximately fifteen  
11 years ago, where it has been operating,  
12 essentially as it has been operated as it is,  
13 today.

14 The site, itself, is somewhat an  
15 irregular shape.

16 It has a frontage of 127.37 feet on  
17 West Centennial Avenue and a frontage of  
18 approximately 118.85 feet on Brookside  
19 Avenue.

20 It is currently improved with an  
21 existing building and three pump islands on  
22 the site.

23 Today's application on behalf of AMPM  
24 Food Mart, Inc., is to include the subject  
25 premises within the "GSS" Zoning District.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1           Also, for installation of two  
2           underground gasoline storage tanks, as well  
3           as, permission to operate a convenience store  
4           and self-service operation at the existing  
5           service station.

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6           The application calls for the removal  
7           and replacement of existing underground  
8           gasoline storage tanks that was the gas at  
9           the time when the original filing of the  
10          application.

11          It should be noted that due to the  
12          Nassau County Fire Marshal regulations, the  
13          existing tanks which were super wall  
14          fiberglass tanks had to be removed and  
15          replaced with double wall fiberglass tanks  
16          and with approval from the Nassau County Fire  
17          Marshal's Office and a building permit earned  
18          by the Town.

19          The underground storage tanks were  
20          recently removed and replaced with two, new  
21          double wall, fiberglass underground gasoline  
22          storage tanks.

23          One compartment with eight thousand  
24          and four thousand gallon tanks and the other  
25          with simply a twelve thousand gallon tank.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1           What the applicant is proposing is to  
2 include the subject premise within the "GSS"  
3 Zoning District inasmuch as, it is the  
4 current Zoning District with the gasoline  
5 service stations within the Town of  
6 Hempstead.

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7           When the service station was first  
8 built and continued to operate, it was in the  
9 Business X Zoning District which allowed  
10 gasoline service stations.

11           The application also seeks as part of  
12 physical improvements are concerned is to  
13 modify the building slightly to create more  
14 cooler space and more storage space, while  
15 removing some of the existing sheds to the  
16 rear of the subject premises and replacing  
17 them with a more permanent structure.

18           The façade of the building has been  
19 recently upgraded.

20           The service station is void of  
21 landscaping.

22           Our landscaping plan has been prepared  
23 by High Point Engineering as part of this  
24 application.

25           Other improvements would include the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 installation of two canopies.

2 One canopy over the pump island which  
3 runs parallel to West Centennial Avenue and  
4 with the size of twenty feet by twenty-four  
5 feet.

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6 And, the second canopy would be over  
7 the two proposed pump islands which run  
8 parallel to Brookside Avenue and that canopy  
9 measures twenty feet by thirty-five feet.

10 Additionally, I am aware that there  
11 were violations issued after an inspection  
12 was conducted.

13 Since some of the issues were  
14 inherited when we took over the site, which  
15 is part of the basis and the reason we are  
16 here before the Board and others, such as,  
17 graffiti, have recently been painted on the  
18 side of the building and that has been take  
19 care of.

20 I am happy to entertain any questions  
21 that the Board may have.

22 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Excuse  
23 me, I have questions.

24 I visited the premises yesterday and I  
25 noted that you have already moved some of the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 chairs there, already, did you do that  
2 recently?

3 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: My understanding is  
4 they were removed.

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5 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Then, I  
6 have questions as far as all of the  
7 violations that were found when it came to  
8 the inspection, it had to do with, many, many  
9 violations, I want to know what has been done  
10 to correct some of those violations?

11 It was supposed to be done by fifteen  
12 days.

13 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: I mentioned the  
14 graffiti has been painted over and there have  
15 been additional, um, remedial jobs done to  
16 the exterior of the premises.

17 Additional signs, banners and flags  
18 have been removed, um, in terms of the free  
19 air signage that is in place and the, um,  
20 AMPM Food Mart, Inc., also comply with all of  
21 the Town Ordinances and requirements  
22 requiring free air.

23 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Now, you  
24 are asking to have food there?

25 I was understanding that food was not

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 prepared.

2 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: That is correct.

3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: The  
4 grille, has it been removed?

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5 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: I would have to get  
6 back to you on that.

7 I would have to check with the  
8 property owner and respond to the Board  
9 within a day or two.

10 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: All the  
11 outside will be in a refrigerator, outside?

12 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: That is taken care  
13 of.

14 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBYZ: The  
15 wheel barrel is taken care of?

16 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Yes.

17 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: The  
18 barbecue grille is taken care of?

19 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Yes.

20 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: It tells  
21 me apparently they were selling food,  
22 preparing food and selling food, they are not  
23 supposed to sell food.

24 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: That is correct, in  
25 the future only prepackaged food, such as

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1       Prepackaged snacks will be sold at the  
2       property.

3               SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I also  
4       see you have alcohol.

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5               ATTORNEY MENDEZ: That would be beer.

6               SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: You will  
7       not sell alcohol, you will Covenant to that?

8               ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Yes.

9               SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: So, you  
10      are operating 24/7?

11              ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Correct.

12              SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Have you  
13      always operated 24/7?

14              ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Intermittently. We  
15      find it would be better to have 24/7 for a  
16      number of reasons, not only to serve the  
17      community, it is easier shift-wise to have  
18      three, eight-hour shifts.

19              The, um, late shift, later-morning  
20      shift would probably be most for restocking,  
21      inventory and cleaning up the property.

22              SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: You will  
23      be selling?

24              ATTORNEY MENDEZ: We would be selling  
25      24/7.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: 24/7?

2 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Yes.

3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: If you  
4 are operating 24/7, what happens to those  
5 people that need help pumping gas, how would  
6 you take care of them?

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7 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: What we would do  
8 from the hours of 7:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m., there  
9 is someone that will assist the elderly or  
10 someone with special needs.

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: 7:00 p.m.  
12 to 7:00 a.m.?

13 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Correct - - no, 7:00  
14 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

15 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: You are  
16 operating 24/7 that means you are operating  
17 twenty-four hours, is that right?

18 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: We are operating  
19 twenty-four hours.

20 There will be an additional person  
21 available from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in  
22 order to assist those who need help with  
23 pumping gas.

24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: What  
25 about the ones that come in later?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1           ATTORNEY MENDEZ: I have to get back  
2 to the Board on that.

3           This is what I was advised by my  
4 client.

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5           I certainly will discuss with them the  
6 need to, perhaps extend those hours until  
7 later in the evening, so, to assist those  
8 individuals that require assistance.

9           SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Of  
10 course, all the signage has been removed from  
11 the windows, right?

12          ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Yes.

13          SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I am also  
14 concerned about the side that is next to the  
15 church; right across that street, there is a  
16 church and I want to make sure we don't have,  
17 um, deliveries.

18          We don't have anything that will make  
19 a problem for those people in that church.

20          You have the garbage that is going to  
21 be collected on the side, is it still going  
22 to be on the side where the church is?

23          ATTORNEY MENDEZ: The garbage, I  
24 believe, is collected on the same side  
25 between 6:00 and 7:00 a.m. in terms of any

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 deliveries we have only be in off-peak hours,  
2 so, as not to disturb any church members or  
3 any members of the community.

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: You will  
5 Covenant to that?

6 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Yes.

7 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Did you  
8 notify the residents of this?

9 There are many residential properties  
10 around it.

11 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: I did.

12 As a matter of fact, I have to present  
13 to the Board one hundred and twenty  
14 signatures from community members and various  
15 people that live in the area.

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: And, they  
17 are - -

18 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: Only in support.

19 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Next to  
20 you, there is a tall green fence and there is  
21 a lot of refuse inside, that is yours or the  
22 person next to you?

23 ATTORNEY MENDEZ: The person next to  
24 us.

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I think



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 that is all I have at the present time.

2 COUNCILMAN HUDES: I have a couple of  
3 questions on the landscaping plan.

4 Some of the bushes along the back need  
5 to be tighter.

6 I think you can make changes in some  
7 of the selection that would give that  
8 community a little bit more color and a  
9 better look for the Spring period on that.

10 And, the Councilwoman asked about the  
11 Covenants on the deliveries and another  
12 suggestion I would make would be to do a  
13 little bit more on the design of the front of  
14 the building.

15 It is pretty plain. Make it look like  
16 a little bit more appetizing for the people,  
17 as was mentioned, the church and residential  
18 homes across the street and I think it should  
19 be more of a plus for the neighborhood, if  
20 you are going to bring in a business like  
21 that.

22 Minor changes have to be done to make  
23 it look better and less industrial looking.

24 ENGINEER O'BRIEN: This is the  
25 elevation used of the proposed site.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1           There is crown molding on the top and  
2           stucco finish on the three sides along the  
3           storefront on the main entrance.

4           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Are there any  
5           other questions from any Members of the  
6           Board?

7           (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
8           After, the following ensued.)

9           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Counselor, is that  
10          your application?

11          ATTORNEY MENDEZZ: That is my  
12          application.

13          Thank you.

14          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, thank you  
15          very much. I have no member of the public  
16          that has asked to sign in on this  
17          application.

18          Is there anyone that wants to speak on  
19          this application?

20          (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
21          After, the following ensued.)

22          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There being none,  
23          I will accept a Motion, please.

24          SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Mr.  
25          Supervisor, I move that we close the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 Application and reserve decision.

2 COUNCILMAN HUDES: I second the  
3 Motion.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

6 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

8 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

9 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
11 Goosby?

12 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

13 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Hudes?

14 COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
16 Sweeney?

17 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: On the  
19 Administrative Calendar.

20 CLERK AHMAD: On the Administrative  
21 Calendar, Mr. Supervisor, we have Items 1  
22 through 50.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there any  
24 Member of the Board that would like to sever  
25 any item on the Administrative Calendar?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 (Whereupon, no response was heard.

2 After, the following ensued.)

3 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There being none,  
4 I will accept a Motion on the Administrative  
5 Calendar.

6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Mr.  
7 Supervisor, I move we accept the  
8 Administrative Calendar, 1 through 50 in its  
9 entirety.

10 COUNCILMAN HUDES: I second the  
11 Motion.

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Now, we will hear  
13 from the Public on the issues on the  
14 Administrative Calendar.

15 Diane Madden.

16 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden,  
17 Hempstead, New York.

18 Item Number 6.

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Yes?

20 DIANE MADDEN: So, this is the  
21 adoption of that event?

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Yes, it is.

23 DIANE MADDEN: It is a very  
24 interesting theme, that should be carried  
25 over to the staff and volunteers that have

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 | been bullied for a long time.

2 |           Number 7, can you tell me if this is a  
3 | contract?

4 |           Can someone explain?

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5 |           Mr. Denny would know what is the  
6 | Resolution for.

7 |           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Town  
8 | Attorney.

9 |           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: This is one of the  
10 | hospitals that the - - veterinary hospitals  
11 | that the Town of Hempstead uses for the care  
12 | of our dogs and cats, um, and the Resolution  
13 | is to pay them twenty-eight thousand three  
14 | hundred and forty dollars for off-street  
15 | veterinary services which have already been  
16 | performed but it is Central Veterinary  
17 | Associates of 73 West Merrick Road and it is  
18 | just we use another one that escapes me at  
19 | the moment.

20 |           We have two that we use.

21 |           DIANE MADDEN: Okay.

22 |           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: This is a  
23 | specialty.

24 |           DIANE MADDEN: This probably comes on  
25 | the heels of my position about how the dog

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 was picked up injured and needed to get to  
2 that Vet but the Vet turned it away and the  
3 dog died on the way to Farmingdale, is that  
4 the case?

Page | 30

5 How long has that Vet been owed that  
6 amount of money?

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't know if any  
8 animal that was denied care at any of our  
9 specialty Vets.

10 DIANE MADDEN: No, the dog, there was  
11 no - - there was a very big bill due at  
12 Central Vet and they were told that Hempstead  
13 could not bring anymore animals there and as  
14 a result of that, the dog didn't make it.

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I disagree with  
16 your premise.

17 I don't know of any dogs. We checked  
18 into that when you said it the last time,  
19 they were not denied treatment to any animal.

20 DIANE MADDEN: I didn't say it. I  
21 said it on a post.

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Well - -

23 DIANE MADDEN: That, that - -

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No animals were  
25 denied.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 DIANE MADDEN: Was there an  
2 investigation done about that at the Animal  
3 Shelter?

4 Was there an investigation done?

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5 You said you came to the conclusion  
6 that there was no dog that died as a result  
7 of the fact that the Vet could not take that  
8 dog because there was an astronomical bill  
9 that the Town had not paid and, therefore,  
10 the Animal Control Officer had to proceed and  
11 drive in traffic another forty-five minutes  
12 and the dog did not make it to the  
13 Farmingdale Vet.

14 You are telling me that is not the  
15 case?

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yeah, that is my  
17 information, that is not the case.

18 DIANE MADDEN: Your information?  
19 Was there an investigation done?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: If you want to ask  
21 the question of was a dog denied, not to  
22 bring dogs there or animals there, if you  
23 call that an investigation?

24 The answer is it did not happen.

25 DIANE MADDEN: It did not happen,

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 okay, it did not happen.

2 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is my  
3 information.

4 DIANE MADDEN: Okay, um, and where is  
5 Central Vet located?

6 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: West Merrick, 73  
7 West Merrick Road in Valley Stream.

8 DIANE MADDEN: Okay, thank you.

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Once, again, on  
10 the Administrative Calendar, Felix Procacci.  
11 Name and address for the record.

12 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci. 1165  
13 Barnes Street, Franklin Square.

14 Um, Item Number 21, A-6305, Franklin  
15 Square Park District, we had FOIL-ed  
16 documents back in 2014.

17 We borrowed money to do the work, I  
18 believe this is for the Cherry Valley  
19 Ballfield, am I correct on that?

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Commissioner  
21 Zapollo? Where is Commissioner Zapollo?

22 Commissioner, the question is on the  
23 Item on the calendar relating to the Franklin  
24 Square Park District and authorizing an  
25 increase in the capital outlay and adding a



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 new State aid account, does this relate to  
2 the new ballfield?

3 COMMISSIONER ZAPOLLO: No, it is the  
4 lighting.

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Lighting.

6 COMMISSIONER ZAPOLLO: The lighting in  
7 Cherry Valley.

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: One hundred  
9 thousand-dollar State Grant.

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: One hundred-  
11 thousand dollar State Grant for the Cherry  
12 Valley Ballfield.

13 COMMISSIONER ZAPOLLO: Yes.

14 FELIX PROCACCI: Back in 2014, we  
15 bonded out this money to do the work.

16 We had got in, what Joe Ra said is not  
17 a quote but was a quote, um, from one vendor  
18 for one hundred and sixty-nine thousand  
19 dollars to do lighting.

20 We borrowed this money.

21 We had more than enough to do it and  
22 change left over and, now you are getting a  
23 Grant.

24 I would like to know, are you going to  
25 have excess money what you propose doing?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1           How can I find out?

2           What are you going to do with that  
3 excess money?

4           Are you going to give it back to the  
5 bondholder?

6           What happens to all that extra money  
7 that was borrowed?

8           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The one hundred-  
9 dollar Grant is for items other than what the  
10 bond was for.

11           So, they are adding lighting to the  
12 field that is in addition to the improvements  
13 that were bonded back in 2014.

14           FELIX PROCACCI: Um, well, correct me  
15 if I am wrong, I spent a great deal of time.

16           I actually have a whole file on this  
17 at home when I asked back in 2014 what it was  
18 for.

19           It was for backstops.

20           I got the invoices for the backstops  
21 from Land Tech.

22           They did the backstops and it was for  
23 the lighting.

24           The lighting was included in the bond.

25           I didn't bring the file here, maybe I

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 should have done that but it included that  
2 cost because you had a lot left.

3 If you are not doing it with that  
4 money, then, you have a lot left over.

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5 Are you going to return that money  
6 that you borrowed because you have a lot left  
7 over money if you didn't do the lighting,  
8 that was the biggest ticket item on the list  
9 that was one hundred and sixty-nine, that is  
10 the estimate that you got from one vendor.

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The Commissioner  
12 will correct me if I am wrong, I think that  
13 every ballpark has lighting.

14 This one hundred thousand dollars is  
15 to light, make it possible to play night  
16 baseball.

17 The lighting, I think you are  
18 referring to in 2014 and the bond for 2014  
19 was for the purchase of the ballfield and to  
20 do some incidental upgrades, not for lighting  
21 the field.

22 So, that night baseball one on the  
23 calendar, today, is for that purpose.

24 FELIX PROCACCI: I will let it go, not  
25 to belabor the point.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 I will come in next meeting with all  
2 the data but I am one hundred percent sure,  
3 in my mind, that it was the lighting and we  
4 did discuss this right, here because I  
5 remember FOIL-ing the invoices and asking you  
6 directly about it and why you only got one  
7 quote.

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8 You didn't put it out to bid. I  
9 remember the whole conversation.

10 I actually have it on video.

11 We will let it go for, now.

12 But, the thing is you had a lot of  
13 left over money.

14 If you didn't do that and only those  
15 backstops, they were twenty thousand dollars  
16 apiece, if I remember, I am not sure about  
17 that.

18 But you did all the backstops there  
19 and the lighting was extra.

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Well, you know,  
21 Felix, we don't know if there was excess  
22 money.

23 Why don't we do this, Mr. Ra, if you  
24 could, get a list of what the expenditures  
25 were, what the bond amount was, how much the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 Bond was, did we spend it and the one hundred  
2 dollar Grant.

3 It is addition and subtraction. We  
4 will figure it out.

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5 We will get an answer for you.

6 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
7 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

8 FELIX PROCACCI: That is why I know we  
9 will go to the next one but, thank you very  
10 much, Councilman Blakeman.

11 On Number 7, I notice there is a lot  
12 of automotive workers you are retitling  
13 everybody, um, just what is all that about?

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: That is a program  
15 to consolidate all of the different  
16 mechanics' functions that currently exist  
17 across five or six different Town  
18 Departments, all operating their own  
19 automotive and mechanic shops to coordinate  
20 them under one umbrella, obviously, it is  
21 more efficient to do it that way.

22 We don't need to be operating five  
23 different mechanic shops; one in the Parks  
24 Department, one in the Water Department, one  
25 in Conservation and Waterways, one in

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 Sanitation, one in Highway, consolidate all  
2 in one is more efficient.

3 It would be more cost effective.

4 It will enable us to better utilize  
5 the manpower that we have.

6 It will better able us to service the  
7 various vehicles that we have because we will  
8 be able to have extended shifts, none of it  
9 being on overtime.

10 So, ultimately, it is good management.  
11 It is consolidating a service that should  
12 have not be defused over several departments  
13 into one operation.

14 And, in order to do that, you have to  
15 change the titles of the employees because  
16 titles in many cases are specific to a  
17 Department and Civil Service Law, those  
18 titles have to be vacated and the employees  
19 have to be transferred in a new title,  
20 similar title but into, now, this umbrella  
21 department.

22 FELIX PROCACCI: I think that is a  
23 good idea.

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Oh, thank you.

25 FELIX PROCACCI: Do you estimate how

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 much it will save?

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Not yet but,  
3 obviously, experientially will tell the tale,  
4 eventually.

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5 But just being able to consolidate the  
6 ordering of parts to consolidate inventory  
7 and all the rest of that, it is going to be a  
8 better allocation of manpower.

9 It is going to be a much more  
10 efficient operation and it will be cost  
11 effective.

12 FELIX PROCACCI: Thank you.

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Rori Gordon.  
14 Name and address for the record.

15 RORI GORDON: Sure, Rori Gordon. 25  
16 Kristen Lane, Hauppauge, New York.

17 Number 39, disorderly conduct, could  
18 you just explain that to me because I didn't  
19 quite understand it.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Town Attorney,  
21 sir, if you would.

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: This Public Hearing  
23 is going to be held on April 25<sup>th</sup>, when the  
24 public will have a chance to weigh in on what  
25 we are doing but we are going to be writing

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 disorderly conduct tickets under the Town of  
2 Hempstead Town code as opposed to under other  
3 sections of County and State Law, so, that  
4 the Town of Hempstead can keep more of the  
5 revenue.

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6 RORI GORDON: So, would that be  
7 written by Code Enforcement?

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: On the actual - -  
9 now, that it has been explained to you, on  
10 the actual law, what we are doing is calling  
11 the Public Hearing.

12 If you have specific questions about  
13 the item, then, please, attend that Hearing  
14 on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April.

15 RORI GORDON: Mr. Procacci you  
16 answered questions.

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: It was not on a  
18 scheduled matter. This is purely a scheduled  
19 matter to call a Public Hearing.

20 We will discuss the merits or the  
21 specifics of this particular item when the  
22 Public Hearing is held on April the 25<sup>th</sup>.

23 All we are doing, today, is scheduling  
24 the Public Hearing.

25 If you have a question about the



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 Scheduling of the Hearing, the timing or some  
2 other aspect, this is purely to call the  
3 Public Hearing.

4 The actual details and merits from  
5 your prospective of this proposal, they will  
6 be appropriate to discuss that at the April  
7 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting when we are calling the meeting.

8 RORI GORDON: Okay, what is the  
9 difference between 39 and 42?

10 Is there a difference?

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is two different  
12 code sections.

13 RORI GORDON: Exhibiting disorderly  
14 conduct and disorderly conducting?

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Two different code  
16 sections that deal with it.

17 We have both sections.

18 RORI GORDON: Okay, Number 43, Notice  
19 of Violation, don't you guys already do it?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That makes it easy  
21 for the Town of Hempstead to get non-resident  
22 or absentee landlords to serve us.

23 We are changing the code for that and,  
24 once, again, that Hearing is April 25<sup>th</sup>.

25 RORI GORDON: Okay and lastly,

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 Number 41, selling of tobacco products,  
2 liquid nitrogen.

3 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Right, now, we  
4 will be raising, if the Town Board concurs,  
5 the proposal is to raise the legal age for  
6 the sale of cigarettes and other nicotine-  
7 based products to the age of twenty-one, that  
8 Hearing will be held on April the 25<sup>th</sup>.

9 RORI GORDON: Okay, I guess my concern  
10 about that is will we be notifying people  
11 that this affects or is it going to be like  
12 windows and restaurants, free air law that  
13 you don't notify people, these people and  
14 people that own small businesses and depend  
15 on the sale of tobacco products?

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We welcome you to  
17 discuss that with us on April the 25<sup>th</sup>.

18 All we are doing, today, is calling  
19 the Public Hearing.

20 RORI GORDON: So, on April the 25<sup>th</sup>,  
21 you make that decision?

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: On April the 25<sup>th</sup>,  
23 we will have the Public Hearing and if the  
24 Town Board votes, we could enact it at that  
25 time.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

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We can reserve decision.

The Town Board has two options.

RORI GORDON: So, what you are saying is if people don't know about it and does something that affects a local bar - -

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TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It affects the sale of tobacco products to those people under 21 years of age.

And, we will discuss it in depth at the Public Hearing.

If we discuss it, now, we are discussing it without having given notice to the general public.

RORI GORDON: I am not asking you to discuss it.

I am trying to figure out if a local bar falls into this category.

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Anyone selling - -

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Any entity that sells nicotine or nicotine-based products to individuals under 21 will be subject to this law should it pass in the sense that it will no longer be permissible in the Town of Hempstead, just like it is not in the Town of North Hempstead or in Suffolk County it is

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1 not permissible to sell tobacco, nicotine-  
2 based products to anyone under the age of 21.

3 RORI GORDON: Okay, great, thank you.

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you. On  
5 the Administrative Calendar, no one else that  
6 has signed in to speak on the Administrative  
7 Calendar, so, if you would, please, we have a  
8 Motion and a second, call the roll.

9 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

13 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman

16 Goosby?

17 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Hudes?

19 COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

20 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-

21 Sweeney?

22 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Yes,  
23 except 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,  
24 16,17,18,19,20,21 and 28 in which I abstain.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

1           These items deal with contracts and  
2           expenditures of Town money.

3           In light of recent events, I think it  
4           is prudent to take a pause to read the  
5           contracting process and confirm there are no  
6           conflicts of interest and all necessary  
7           safeguards are in place.

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8           (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
9           was heard. After, the following ensued.)

10           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Motion passes,  
11           thank you very much, the Administrative  
12           Calendar in its entire is approved.

13           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We will take a  
14           five-minute break.

15           (Whereupon, a break was entertained.  
16           After, the following ensued.)

17           SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I move we  
18           adjourn.

19           COUNCILMAN HUDES: I second the  
20           Motion.

21           CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

22           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

23           CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

24           COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

25           CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17**

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COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Hudes?

COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

(Whereupon, the official meeting of  
the Hempstead Town Board held on April 4,  
2017 was concluded.)

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 4/4/17

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CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I, do hereby certify that the foregoing testimony in the matter of the Hempstead Town Board Meeting held on April 4, 2017 consisting of pages 1 through 47 inclusive is an accurate transcription of my cryptic notes.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.



*MDW*

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CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

NORTH SHORE COURT REPORTERS

NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK