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**TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD**

ONE WASHINGTON STREET

TOWN HALL PAVILION

HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550

DECEMBER 12, 2017

10:30 A.M.

**BEFORE: ANTHONY J. SANTINO,**

**SUPERVISOR**

**APPEARANCES :**

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SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO

COUNCILMAN DUNNE

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY

RECEIVER OF TAXES CLAVIN

CLERK AHMAD

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK DIANA MULLER

TOWN ATTORNY RA

COMPTROLLER CONROY

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

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

3 Today, we will have the Public Meeting  
4 Calendar and the Administrative Calendar and,  
5 then, the Board will remain to listen to the  
6 concerns of the resident.

7 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance  
8 was recited by the Assembly. After, the  
9 following ensued.)

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I would like to  
11 ask the Town Attorney to make a comment.

12 TONW ATTORNEY RA: Good Morning,  
13 everyone.

14 As you might know, the Supervisor, in  
15 the past, has had the speaking time limit at  
16 five minutes.

17 Due to the large number of people in  
18 the room, today and to give everybody an  
19 opportunity to be heard, we are going to  
20 revert back to our rules which say each  
21 speaker will be limited to three minutes in  
22 speaking time.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, call the  
24 roll, please, Madam Clerk.

25 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

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SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Here.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Here.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Here.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Here.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Here.

CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman

Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Here.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-

Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Here.

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: The first item,  
please.

CLERK AHMAD: Petition of Commissioner  
of Buildings to demolish & remove the two-  
story wood frame, one-family dwelling &  
remove all litter & debris from property -  
BALDWIN - South side of Jayne Place, 102 feet  
East of Milburn Avenue - Department of  
Buildings.

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 that would like to be heard on this matter  
2 before the Town Board?

3 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
4 After, the following ensued.)

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There appears to  
6 be none, if I may have a Motion, please.

7 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr.  
8 Supervisor, I move the Public Hearing be  
9 closed and the item be adopted.

10 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second  
11 the Motion.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

15 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

20 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

21 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
23 Goosby?

24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

25 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-

1 Sweeney?

2 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

3 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
4 please.

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5 CLERK AHMAD: Petition of Commissioner  
6 of Buildings to demolish & remove the one-  
7 story, wood frame, one-family dwelling with  
8 detached garage & remove all litter & debris  
9 from property - EAST ROCKAWAY - North side of  
10 Martin Street East, 220 feet East of Hewlett  
11 Bay Boulevard - Department of Buildings

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, we have one  
13 individual who has signed in and indicated a  
14 desire to speak, Adam Spanegen.

15 Counsel, please, have a seat. Name  
16 and address for the record, please.

17 COUNSEL SPANESEN: Good Morning,  
18 Council. My name is Adam Spanegen and I am  
19 an attorney at 900 Merchant Concourse,  
20 Westbury, New York, on behalf of my client  
21 Ditech Financial, LLC.

22 My office has recently been obtained  
23 to appear on behalf of Ditech Financial.

24 Ditech Financial received a Notice of  
25 this Hearing regarding the demolition of the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 property at 7 Barn Street East in East  
2 Rockaway, New York.

3 We are asking, um, for a short  
4 extension before this is approved, so, we can  
5 speak with Code Enforcement and the Building  
6 Department regarding the condition of the  
7 building and I can discuss with my client  
8 their options on either remediating the  
9 property or recommending that it be  
10 demolished.

11 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Commissioner  
12 Rottkamp, what is the actual status with  
13 respect to this property?

14 COMMISSIONER ROTTKMAP: Good Morning,  
15 Supervisor and Members of the Town Board:

16 Right, now, the property is secured so  
17 we can give them a short window to do that.

18 However, my recommendation for the  
19 Town Board is to proceed with this Hearing  
20 and in this way if he doesn't follow through,  
21 we would be able to.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Counsel,  
23 customarily what we do, at this point, we  
24 will vote on this matter and, essentially,  
25 stay enforcement of it for about thirty or

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 so days, assuming a good faith effort to  
2 resolve the situation between yourself, your  
3 client and the Building Department, is that  
4 amenable to you?

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5 COUNSEL SPANESEN: Yes, sir.

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, very good.

7 I thank you very much.

8 Anyone else that wants to speak on  
9 this item, please?

10 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
11 After, the following ensued.)

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There being none,  
13 I will have a Motion, please.

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr.  
15 Supervisor, I move that the Public Hearing be  
16 closed and the petition be granted.

17 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second  
18 the Motion.

19 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

22 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

23 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

25 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

2 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman

5 Goosby?

6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

7 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-

8 Sweeney?

9 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,

11 please.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:

13 "Regulations and Restrictions" to limit

14 parking in BELLMORE, FRANKLIN SQUARE, WEST

15 HEMPSTEAD (To amend Chapter 202 of the Code

16 of the Town of Hempstead)

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, is there

18 anyone that would like to be heard on this

19 matter before the Town Board?

20 (Whereupon, no response was heard.

21 After, the following ensued.)

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There appears to

23 be none, I will have a Motion, please.

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,

25 I move that the Public Hearing be closed

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 and the Local Law be adopted.

2 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the  
3 Motion.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

6 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

7 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

8 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

13 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
15 Goosby?

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
18 Sweeney?

19 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
21 please.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:  
23 "Parking or standing prohibitions" in  
24 BELLMORE, NORTH BELLMORE, WANTAGH (To amend  
25 Section 202-1 of the Code of the Town of

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Hempstead)

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone  
3 that would like to be heard on this matter  
4 before the Town Board?

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5 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
6 After, the following ensued.)

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There appears to  
8 be none, so, I will have a Motion, please.

9 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Mr.  
10 Supervisor, I move that the Hearing be closed  
11 and the item be adopted.

12 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I second the  
13 Motion.

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item, please.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:  
16 "Arterial Stops" in BELLMORE, EAST MEADOW,  
17 ELMONT, MERRICK, near VALLEY STREAM (To amend  
18 Section 197-5 of the Code of the Town of  
19 Hempstead)

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone  
21 that would like to be heard on this matter  
22 before the Town Board?

23 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
24 After, the following ensued.)

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There being none,

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I will accept a Motion, please.

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,  
3 I move that the Public Hearing be closed and  
4 the Local Law be adopted.

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5 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I second the  
6 Motion.

7 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

9 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

10 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

13 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
18 Goosby?

19 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

20 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
21 Sweeney?

22 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
24 please.

25 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 "Bus Stops" in NORTH BELLMORE (To amend  
2 Section 202-52 of the Code of the Town of  
3 Hempstead)

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

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

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There appears to  
10 be none, so, I will accept a Motion, please.

11 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Mr. Supervisor, I  
12 make a Motion that the Hearing be closed and  
13 the item be adopted.

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the  
15 motion.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

19 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

20 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

23 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

24 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
2 Goosby?

3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
5 Sweeney?

6 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
8 please.

9 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:  
10 "U-Turns Prohibited" in Garden City South (To  
11 amend Section 197-2 of the Code of the Town  
12 of Hempstead)

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone  
14 that would like to be hard on this matter  
15 before the Town Board?

16 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
17 After, the following ensued.)

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There appears to  
19 be none, so, I will accept a Motion, please.

20 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Mr. Supervisor,  
21 I move that the Public Hearing be closed and  
22 the proposed Local Law be adopted.

23 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the  
24 Motion.

25 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

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SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
please.

CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law  
entitled "Department of Water, Rates &  
Regulations" in (To repeal & reenact Chapter  
70 of the Code of the Town of Hempstead)

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Mr. Supervisor, if  
I could ask for a Motion to adjourn this item  
without date since the Water Department is  
still working on numbers in this matter.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Can we have a  
2 Motion.

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr.  
4 Supervisor, I move that the item be adjourned  
5 without date.

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6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second  
7 the motion.

8 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

11 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

13 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

15 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

17 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman

19 Goosby?

20 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-

22 Sweeney?

23 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,

25 please.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law  
2 entitled "Mass Mailing Restrictons" (To enact  
3 a new Chapter 33 of the Code of the Town of  
4 Hempstead) and, Supervisor, I do have a  
5 companion proposal Local Law entitled  
6 "Ethical Standards."

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7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, on this  
8 item, I have Mr. Henry Boitell.

9 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Mr.  
10 Supervisor, I would like to offer an  
11 amendment to the mass mailing restrictions,  
12 um, it is really for purposes of  
13 clarification.

14 It would be adding Section 33-8  
15 entitled, "Interpretation - nobody in this  
16 Chapter shall be interpreted in a manner as  
17 to impede the obligation of any Town Officer  
18 or employee to perform any duties enjoined  
19 upon him or her.

20 As a matter of law, the Receiver of  
21 Taxes, if they have to send something out  
22 that would not impact, um, those duties.

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the  
24 Motion.

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, Mr. Town

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Attorney, procedurally, we vote on the  
2 amendment?

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Right, Supervisor.

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We have a Motion  
5 and a second.

6 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

8 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

9 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

13 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

15 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
17 Goosby?

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

19 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
20 Sweeney?

21 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, Mr.  
23 Boitell.

24 HENRY BOITELL: Henry Boitell,  
25 Rockville Centre, New York.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Sir, I wonder if it could be explained  
2 to the audience what the difference is  
3 between the pending Resolution and the  
4 existing practice.

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Town  
6 Attorney?

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I think the  
8 existing practice is that mailings are out  
9 within, not more - - I want to make sure I  
10 say this correct, a mailing cannot be made  
11 within thirty days of an Election.

12 And, this proposed law would extend  
13 that to forty-five days.

14 In addition, it creates changes to the  
15 Ethics Law which allows Members of the Public  
16 to file complaints if they believe that the  
17 mass mailing, um, law, Local Law is deviated.

18 HENRY BOITELL: Can you explain to us  
19 how - - whether there is a provision, here,  
20 for the administration for such complaints?

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Would go to the  
22 Ethics Committee.

23 HENRY BOITELL: In terms of timing,  
24 how long would it take for complaints to be  
25 adjudicated?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I would tell you it  
2 would be a reasonable time.

3 It is very difficult to say without  
4 knowing what the complaint is, within a  
5 reasonable time.

6 The complaint would go to the Ethics  
7 Committee and the Ethics Committee would rule  
8 on it.

9 HENRY BOITELL: In any event, my point  
10 is to speak to the issue of practical  
11 application of a rule such as this and  
12 whether further or perhaps the future, this  
13 Body, in the future should amend this rule,  
14 so, there is a practical way that people can  
15 make complaints.

16 It can be expeditiously determined in  
17 terms of the probability that there is a  
18 basis and adjudicated, so, that abuse of the  
19 system can be prevented.

20 Um, my own feeling is that this entire  
21 mailing process within the Town has been  
22 abused, um, um, the use of the mailings for  
23 the purpose of promoting the candidacy or  
24 reputation of either the Presiding Officer or  
25 the Members of the group has been

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Inappropriate at the Public's expense.

2 And, um, there should be, also, in  
3 these rules, some provision because I do not  
4 think there is for charging against any  
5 public officer, any expenditure which are  
6 made in violation of the rule.

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7 I don't believe there is such a  
8 provision, here.

9 Thank you.

10 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
11 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.

13 Mr. Felix Procacci, please.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Mr. Supervisor, can I  
15 just point out, I believe, the clock will  
16 only stop at five minutes, so, therefore,  
17 when it is two minutes, my clerk will ring  
18 the bell.

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Procacci,  
20 name and address for the record.

21 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci. 1165  
22 Barnes Street, Franklin Square, New York.

23 On this mass mailing restriction, I  
24 believe, this legislation should be tabled  
25 for another day because it is lacking in

1 a lot of things and I will not repeat what  
2 Mr. BOITELL said, but, I agree with all he  
3 said.

4 It should, also, include, it should  
5 start at zero pieces of mailing because as we  
6 know, one piece of mail can be abuse.

7 Like several of your Members up there  
8 used Town money to promote their own position  
9 in respect to the Franklin Square, Saint  
10 Catherine of Sienna dormitory that was going  
11 to be set up for homeless people.

12 They sent personal - - they used Town  
13 money to send personal opinion, one piece of  
14 mail to a Board of Appeals Member or it could  
15 have been, you know, five pieces of mail sent  
16 to five residents, you know, you cared enough  
17 to send a reply that was - - you can't  
18 promote something that was not, that is in  
19 limbo.

20 That mailing was inappropriate because  
21 that organization didn't even get their day  
22 in Court, so to speak, it was cut off before  
23 they even had a chance, the Public Hearing  
24 for that organization, that is where people  
25 were going to voice their opinion.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 And, the Town Board did that.

2 And, also, it should include Internet  
3 traffic, emails, as well as, displays on the  
4 WEB site because that can also be  
5 inappropriate as you put your, you, "won by  
6 sixty percent."

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7 I didn't see you change it saying that  
8 you, "lost by one percent."

9 So, there is a problem there.

10 And, you are promoting yourself with  
11 taxpayer money, that is where I am.

12 So, table this and let Laura Gillen  
13 have her chance.

14 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
15 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: No one else  
17 signed in to speak on this matter, so, at  
18 this point, we will call - -

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Madam Clerk, there  
20 will be two separate votes, the vote on the  
21 mass mailing and the vote on the amendment to  
22 the Ethics Law.

23 And, for the Public's information, the  
24 reason that the Ethics Law is being amended  
25 is because the mass mailing legislation

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 has changed in it that allows Members of the  
2 Public to make complaints to the Ethics Board  
3 and so, the amendment to the Ethics  
4 Legislation is to incorporate, so that is why  
5 these items are joined together.

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6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Who joined them  
7 together?

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The author of the  
9 mass mailing statute, mass mailing law  
10 providing the mass mailing law that, um,  
11 complaints could be made to the Ethics Board.

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I heard you.

13 Who said we are putting these two  
14 together?

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: In other words,  
16 there is language in the mass mailing  
17 legislation.

18 She called them together.

19 The Clerk called the items together.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I think - -

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Then I have some  
22 questions.

23 What are the ethical standards?

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The mass mailing -

25 -



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: No, no, I know  
2 the mass mailing.

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The local law - -

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I understand the  
5 local law.

6 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The Local Law that  
7 if it is passed has language in it that  
8 provides for Members of the Public to make  
9 complaints to Ethics law that language  
10 enabling the Ethics Law to hear those  
11 complaints.

12 It is not in the Ethics Law, so, we  
13 have to change it if the mass mailing is  
14 approved, then we have to change the Ethics  
15 Law to correspond to what is in the mass  
16 mailing duties.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Is there, then,  
18 going to be a vote on the ethics standards?

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Separate.

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: You are not  
22 calling the two items together?

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We just heard the  
24 two items.

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We are voting

1 on them separately.

2 Call the roll on the first one, on the  
3 mass mailing, please.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

6 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

7 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

8 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

13 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
15 Goosby?

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
18 Sweeney?

19 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

20 CLERK AHMAD: Now, I will call on the  
21 Ethics Standards.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I am advised that  
23 we had a Motion on the amendment but, I  
24 guess, not on the original Bill, so, we have  
25 to go back and do it, again.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I need a Motion on the mass mailing  
2 restrictions as amended.

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: So moved.

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the  
5 Motion.

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Call it, again.

7 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

9 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

10 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

13 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
18 Goosby?

19 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

20 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
21 Sweeney?

22 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Now, I need a  
24 Motion on Ethical Standards as amended.

25 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I make

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 the Motion.

2 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I second  
3 the Motion.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

6 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

7 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

8 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

13 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
15 Goosby?

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
18 Sweeney?

19 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law  
22 entitled "Office of Inspector General"  
23 establishing the position & title of Town of  
24 Hempstead Inspector General (IG) & the Town  
25 of Hempstead Office of Inspector General (To

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 enact a new Chapter 65 of the Code of the  
2 Town of Hempstead.)

3 Supervisor, I have a companion,  
4 Proposed Local Law entitled "Office of  
5 Inspector General/Compliance Officer"  
6 establishing the position & title of Town of  
7 Hempstead Inspector/Compliance Officer (To  
8 enact a new Chapter 65 of the Code of the  
9 Town of Hempstead)

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, signed in  
11 we have a Mr. Jerry Palar - -

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: So, Mr.  
13 Supervisor, we are voting on these separately  
14 and you are hearing from the public  
15 collectively, is that the plan?

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: That is correct.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Thank you.

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Palar?

19 JERRY PALAR: Hello, my name is Jerry  
20 Palar. 214 Paluga (phonetics) Lane,  
21 Westbury, New York.

22 What brings me, here, today, I wanted  
23 to speak briefly on, this is, that my good  
24 friend, Jim Alcus (phonetics) has been trying  
25 to get a plumbing license in the Town of

1 Hempstead for quite some time.

2 And, it appears that intentional and  
3 systematically he has been denied his rights  
4 to get that and support his family.

5 So, I think it is a great idea that  
6 there is an Inspector General position with  
7 Compliance Officer to make sure that the law  
8 and rules are being followed.

9 Further, my friend, Jim, who I have  
10 known for over twenty years and is a good  
11 man, has a handicap and, again, intentionally  
12 what it appears systematically his rights  
13 afforded to him have been denied.

14 Being a good man, he has tried for  
15 months to work out an agreement with members  
16 of the government, here, in the Town of  
17 Hempstead.

18 Again, to no avail, systematically and  
19 intentionally, it appears he has been  
20 stonewalled at every opportunity and turn.

21 So, I ask, I mean, I am from Long  
22 Island, born and bred.

23 Long Island, in my mind, was always  
24 Nassau/Suffolk.

25 I went to school at Hofstra.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           Why would a gentleman from Long Island  
2 with deep roots in the community, a respected  
3 man from our Town, why is he being denied?

4           Is there any Town Board Member, here,  
5 that is familiar with the situation and is  
6 actively taking steps to correct this?

7           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: May I, Mr.  
8 Supervisor?

9           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Go ahead, please.

10          TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't know if you  
11 know but over the past week, he has been at  
12 the Town Attorney's Office and his request  
13 was for - - he passed two parts.

14          He wanted to take the third part  
15 separately without having to take the other  
16 two parts.

17          And, we have worked with the Building  
18 Department and we have arranged for that to  
19 happen.

20          When he was told that and I would  
21 think it was late last week, he was very  
22 happy and made arrangements and the last I  
23 know from him, they are making arrangements  
24 for him to take that part.

25          JERRY PALAR: I don't know your

1 name but I have seen a lot of documentation.

2 I have seen evidence.

3 I have heard evidence to the contrary,  
4 that on a number of occasions, "Yes, Mister,  
5 we are going to work this out."

6 The rules change.

7 First they say he passed two parts and  
8 he didn't have the last part, denying his  
9 rights for extra time afforded a person with  
10 his handicap.

11 Then he goes back and it is said, now,  
12 you didn't pass two parts, you only passed  
13 one part.

14 I am telling you and intentional and  
15 systematic effort to deny him his rights and,  
16 again, one stonewall tactic after another.

17 Again, on one part, you say that he  
18 failed. He passed, he has pictures proving  
19 that.

20 He has experts that have taken a look  
21 at it.

22 He passed - -

23 (Whereupon, the three minute bell  
24 rang. After, the following ensued.)

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We may not be



1 talking about the same party.

2 JERRY PALAR: We are absolutely  
3 talking about the same party.

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Your time has  
5 expired.

6 JERRY PALAR: And, there is a reason  
7 why Mr. Santino you allowed this to happen  
8 why you are not back.

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

11 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: The next speaker  
12 on this Inspector General issue is Steven  
13 Greenfield.

14 Mr. Greenfield?

15 Name and address for the record,  
16 please.

17 STEVEN GREENFIELD: Steven Greenfield.  
18 336 Harrison in Baldwin.

19 Um, I would like to speak, briefly,  
20 about what aspect of the Ethics Reform  
21 proposed.

22 I am not going to comment on the  
23 specifics of the proposal but rather suggest  
24 a different approach.

25 I know that Nassau County is

1 discussing hiring an Inspector General.

2           The Town of Oyster Bay is discussing  
3 hiring an Inspector General and we in the  
4 Town of Hempstead are also looking to hire an  
5 Inspector General.

6           For the sake of the taxpayers, why not  
7 discuss with the other governments the  
8 possibility of creating a single,  
9 professional office of Inspector General that  
10 is truly independent of political influence?

11           Use the model of the Congressional  
12 Budget Office which is highly respected by  
13 both Parties.

14           Each government entity could contract  
15 with that office for its respective services  
16 on a contractual basis, that way, taxpayers  
17 would not be funding three, high-paid  
18 Generals, rather, one General and maybe  
19 several Captains.

20           This would not only save money but  
21 also demonstrate that our multiple layers of  
22 government can work together.

23           I urge you to table this matter until  
24 this proposal can be explored.

25           Thank you.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you, sir.

2 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
3 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: 238 Broadway,  
5 Amityville, that is you? Come on up.

6 JIM ALCUS: Jim Alcus, (phonetics)  
7 238 Broadway, Amityville.

8 First, I would like to, um,  
9 congratulate all the Board Members, again,  
10 that were reelected.

11 And, I would like to congratulate Mrs.  
12 Gillen and wish her the best of luck.

13 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
14 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

15 JIM ALCUS: Secondly, I haven't come  
16 to many Town Board Meetings.

17 As a matter of fact, I, um, only  
18 started coming after I realized, um, how bad  
19 things were inside the Building Department  
20 with John Rottkamp.

21 So, um, he will refuse to take anybody  
22 calls whatsoever and, hopefully, he gets  
23 fired January 1<sup>st</sup>.

24 But, that being said, the Legal  
25 Department is as bad.

1           So, what I have known to happen, which  
2           is why you do these Inspector General, since  
3           I have been coming, here, in August with  
4           literally - - I have the bag of proof with  
5           me, the pictures, the lies.

6           I have everything.

7           Now, I have - - now, I met with  
8           supposedly your independent individuals.

9           Um, I met with one on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

10          He corroborated what I have. I met  
11          with Mario Bove on 9/21.

12          He alleged I never brought anything,  
13          but, it was investigated.

14          After I went through that  
15          investigation, I never got to sit down with  
16          John Rottkamp.

17          Once they sent me over to Charles, um,  
18          Kovit.

19          So, now, I have three different guys  
20          alleging that they were going to look into  
21          what I was actually telling them, which is  
22          factual.

23          It is not make believe.

24          It is factual but being that I  
25          understand it is politics and

1 everybody is playing behind the scene.

2           Everybody is just playing with words,  
3 here.

4           So, you have to have somebody  
5 independent to oversee these Boards.

6           Now, I did speak, um, with Mr. Ra last  
7 week and he did take time to speak with me  
8 and I did appreciate that.

9           However, as of last time I spoke with  
10 a few people, they tell you one thing and  
11 they said this is what we are going to do and  
12 they are just trying to get you stop speaking  
13 at a Board Meeting.

14           After I spoke to them last Thursday,  
15 something was pretty reasonable, all I did  
16 since Thursday was ask very nicely.

17           They told me to speak to one  
18 gentleman.

19           I like it in writing because I am not  
20 going to believe anything anymore.

21           Now, since Thursday, all right, I  
22 spent fifty hours on coming to the meetings  
23 to be prepared.

24           They couldn't spend an hour to write a  
25 final agreement.

1 But, I have told you just so you are  
2 aware.

3 I have been told, approximately, nine  
4 times from at least five different  
5 individuals to sue you.

6 I mean, everybody that owns a business  
7 knows a lawsuit costs money and time.

8 So, of course, I will win.

9 It will be probably fifteen and twenty  
10 grand but I would come to an amicable  
11 agreement but you guys just say, "sue."

12 And, I think it is terrible..

13 I hope you get a good Inspector  
14 General.

15 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
16 rang. After, the following ensued.)

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
18 much.

19 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
20 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Ms. Rori Gordon?

22 Rori Gordon?

23 There is no one else on this matter.

24 RORI GORDON: I am here.

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Come on

1 up.

2 On Inspector General.

3 RORI GORDON: Good Afternoon, maybe we  
4 should ask the employees that are getting  
5 paid to leave, first, so we can let - -

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6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: On the Inspector  
7 General.

8 RORI GORDON: Yeah, I understand that,  
9 whatever.

10 Can you explain the difference to me  
11 between Inspector General proposition Number  
12 1 and Number 2, just so the audience  
13 understands the difference.

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Ra, would you  
15 go over the details, please.

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There are some  
17 difference in the following, um, Inspector  
18 General without the Compliance Office, just  
19 Inspector General contains language that  
20 provides that Inspector General would be  
21 hired by unanimous vote of the Town Board.

22 Number 2, it requires that if there is  
23 not a unanimous vote, then, the District  
24 Attorney or the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern  
25 District would, then, appoint an

1 Inspector General.

2 Number 3, it gives subpoena power to  
3 the Inspector General.

4 So, those are the three main  
5 differences, the issues there are number 1,  
6 under the Town Law of the State of New York.

7 You cannot - - a Board cannot diminish  
8 its power.

9 So - - and, second, State Legislation  
10 that would require a majority of a unanimous  
11 vote that would be illegal and not be able to  
12 be sustained.

13 Number 2, the Town of Hempstead does  
14 not have subpoena power.

15 So, we cannot give away to someone  
16 else that which we do not have.

17 And, Number 3, giving appointment  
18 power to an outside person/entity would also  
19 diminish the rights of the Town, the duly  
20 elected Town Board Members.

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: So, Mr. Ra,  
22 first of all, it does not require a unanimous  
23 vote.

24 I believe it is six out of seven and  
25 in the circumstance that we all



1 couldn't agree, it would be referred to the  
2 U.S. Attorney and District Attorney for  
3 recommendations and they would give us  
4 recommendations and we would have a certain  
5 amount of time within which to appoint  
6 someone that they recommended.

7 So, there is a mechanism there.

8 It doesn't require a unanimous vote.

9 It is a way to ensure that the  
10 majority doesn't have tyranny over the  
11 minority by electing an Inspector General.

12 It may have a political bias, someone  
13 who may not be truly independent.

14 So, therefore, it requires the Town  
15 Board to get together and act together and  
16 get a person that is truly independent.

17 That is Number 1.

18 Number 2, I was very curious about  
19 your statement that under the Town Law of the  
20 State of New York, the Board cannot do  
21 anything that would diminish our powers as a  
22 Board, is that correct?

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is, yes.

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: That is correct?

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: How can we be  
2 voting, today, an amendment for the CSEA  
3 contract that limits our - -

4 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
5 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

6 (Whereupon, yelling out from the  
7 audience was heard. After, the following  
8 ensued.)

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: - - Our powers  
10 as a Town Board by taking a way one of the  
11 most fundamental powers as a Town Board to  
12 control our fiscal wellbeing?

13 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Councilman - -

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: You don't think  
15 those are diminishing our powers?

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Those are two  
17 totally different issues.

18 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Would you apply  
19 your theory.

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Whatever you think  
21 the merits are of the CSEA agreement, it is  
22 certainly legal to do.

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: It is not  
24 diminishing our rights as a Board?

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Go ahead, please.

2 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: If I could  
3 add to Mr. Ra's comments, the reason why we,  
4 um, Councilman Blakeman and I propose the  
5 condition, "power," we base it on the Town of  
6 Oyster Bay's proposal.

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7 We thought it was a good idea and  
8 wanted to include it in ours.

9 RORI GORDON: Mr. Ra is saying that  
10 the Town of Oyster Bay is not doing it  
11 correctly.

12 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The Town of Oyster  
13 Bay hasn't passed anything.

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Getting back to  
15 the subpoena power, if the Inspector General  
16 does not have subpoena power, how are they  
17 going to get information within which to  
18 conduct an investigation?

19 I don't know of any Inspector General  
20 that doesn't have subpoena power.

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: All you need to do  
22 is have the State Legislature and government  
23 pass a Bill to give the Town of Hempstead law  
24 enforcement authority and you can do that.

25 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: All it requires

1 is a home rule message.

2 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: A home rule message  
3 only applies after a Bill gets introduced in  
4 the Senate and Assembly, then, they call for  
5 a home rule message.

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6 So, we can work on that going forward,  
7 if you would like to try to get subpoena  
8 power for the Town of Hempstead.

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Ms. Gordon, would  
10 you go ahead, please.

11 RORI GORDON: Ah, yes, has the Board  
12 collectively met on either one of these  
13 proposals?

14 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Have we  
15 collectively met?

16 But I have had conversations with  
17 pretty much every Board Member on the vote.

18 RORI GORDON: Yourself, Mr. Blakeman,  
19 have you met with everybody on both of these?

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I believe I have  
21 spoken to everyone, as well.

22 RORI GORDON: What I don't understand,  
23 it says, at least, six aye votes to have Town  
24 Board Members shall be needed to appoint the  
25 Inspector General, that is taken out in this

1 newer version.

2 And, I think it would be important  
3 that everybody agrees on who the Inspector  
4 General is.

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5 How else would you agree?

6 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: State Law requires  
7 a majority vote unless otherwise provided for  
8 by the State Board.

9 RORI GORDON: Just so I understand, it  
10 will be the same thing for the last three  
11 meetings where Erin and Bruce vote together  
12 and the rest of the time does not, is that  
13 where we are kind of at, now?

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We won't know that  
15 until they vote.

16 RORI GORDON: I am predicting the  
17 future.

18 (Whereupon, "Unless people come to  
19 their sense," was heard calling out from the  
20 audience. After, the following ensued.)

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Go ahead, Ms.  
22 Gordon.

23 RORI GORDON: I think that covers it.  
24 Tank you for your time.

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very

1 much.

2 RORI GORDON: I do have a question. I  
3 have to go to the bathroom, can I come back  
4 in?

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5 No, I am serious.

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I believe if you  
7 leave you can come back in.

8 RORI GORDON: Okay, did you hear?

9 Mr. Santino said I can come back in,  
10 at the front desk.

11 Thank you, Mr. Santino.

12 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
13 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Lucille Defina?

15 LUCILLE DEFINA: I guess I will sit at  
16 this mic with all these other mics.

17 And, you know, today is a very happy  
18 day.

19 We have sat, here, year after year  
20 after year and watched the Town Board bully  
21 and harass people and put words in our mouths  
22 and make fools out of us.

23 And, it has paid off to be sitting,  
24 here, today and thank you, Councilwoman  
25 Sweeney and Councilman Blakeman - -

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
2 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

3 LUCILLE DEFINA: - - For finally and  
4 before you leave, Supervisor Santino, I want  
5 to thank you and that is the only reason I am  
6 up, here, I want to thank you for being such  
7 a blatant bully.

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Are you on the  
9 subject of Inspector General?

10 LUCILLE DEFINA: Yes, yes, isn't this  
11 the reason why this place is packed because  
12 you put in the way anything that anybody ever  
13 tried to do that was honest and ethical.

14 And, I am so thanking and we will here  
15 thanking Blakeman, Sweeney for having the  
16 guts to step up and fix the situation.

17 (Whereupon, calling and screaming was  
18 heard from the audience. After, the  
19 following ensued.)

20 LUCILLE DEFINA: On the Inspector  
21 General, anyone else?

22 Mr. Procacci?

23 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
24 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

25 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci. 1165

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Barnes Street, Franklin Square, New York.

2 Um, I want to add a provision to the  
3 Inspector General amendment, um, rule, that  
4 the Town Supervisor cannot pack half the  
5 Pavilion with his cronies so the public  
6 cannot sit down.

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

9 FELIX PROCACCI: Okay, I feel it is  
10 necessary that I agree with what they are  
11 saying about the Town Law as far as the votes  
12 but somebody else should pick the candidates,  
13 not the Town Board.

14 They can vote on the candidates with  
15 majority rule but somebody else needs to pick  
16 it, just like you do later on, you will pick  
17 three corrupt people to be part of your Board  
18 of Ethics.

19 John Ryan, I know, personally through  
20 his letters from me.

21 He doesn't know the freakin law or he  
22 is just plain ignorant.

23 You can't keep people like that or  
24 just your cronies that sit on the right side  
25 of this Pavilion.



1 Okay, the Inspector General/Compliance  
2 Officers shall review, propose and existing  
3 laws to evaluate the legality and necessity.

4 He shall - - he or she shall also  
5 review proposed and existing lawsuits to  
6 ensure they are within the public interest  
7 and their necessity.

8 The Town has failed to do this and  
9 wasted hundreds of thousands of dollars in  
10 unnecessary lawsuits.

11 They shall also review Building  
12 Department records to ensure the Building  
13 Department is acting in accordance with  
14 applicable laws and they are not.

15 I will tell you that.

16 The Inspector General shall review  
17 FOIL requests and responses to ensure the  
18 Town is acting in accordance with the Freedom  
19 of Information Law.

20 Inspector General/Compliance Officer  
21 shall review Open Meeting Records, video of  
22 transcripts to ensure the Town Board is  
23 acting in accordance with the Open Meeting  
24 Laws, because you never do.

25 The Inspector General/Compliance

1 Officer shall review all media produced by  
2 the Town to ensure appropriate content and  
3 shall include but not limited to mailings,  
4 advertising, emails and WEB site content.

5 The Inspector General/Compliance  
6 Officer shall specifically state that Members  
7 of the Public may make complaints.

8 It is not specifically stated in the  
9 law.

10 The Ethics Law needs to be modified,  
11 so Ethics complaints shall be made by the  
12 public against the Inspector General or  
13 Compliance Officer.

14 Mass mailing legislation needs to be  
15 modified to include advertising, emails, WEB  
16 site content and any communication with the  
17 public using taxpayer money.

18 And, finally, we need a citizen-run  
19 Department of Transparency run by residents.

20 This is just a space on the WEB site  
21 where residents can show the facts and  
22 records of this Town because you have failed  
23 to do it.

24 Justthefactsmedia does it.

25 (Whereupon, the three-minute

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Bell rang. After, the following ensued.)

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.

3 Luis Mendez?

4 LUIS MENDEZ: Good Morning, Town

5 Board.

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Name and address.

7 LUIS MENDEZ: Luis Mendez. 36 Heart

8 Lane, Westbury, New York 11590.

9 I want to ask a few questions and,  
10 then, pertaining those answers, I will move  
11 forward.

12 Um, the first one, is there an MWBE  
13 Program incompliance process in the Town?

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Ra.

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Is there a what?

16 LUIS MENDEZ: MWBE Program?

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Minority and  
18 Women own businesses.

19 LUIS MENDEZ: Yes.

20 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
21 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

22 LUIS MENDEZ: For the knowledge of the  
23 public, there is three hundred and thirty  
24 thousand Town residents who are minority  
25 categorized Asian, Latinos and African

1 Americans.

2 The money that you spent from the  
3 State comes with a thirty percent mandated  
4 goal, twenty MBE and ten WBE and you don't  
5 have a - -

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6 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The Department of  
7 Planning oversees money from the Federal  
8 Government from the State reaching out to  
9 minority businesses.

10 LUIS MENDEZ: But that was not my  
11 question.

12 Outreach is just a portion of the  
13 compliance.

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Commissioner  
15 Tuman, do you have something to add to this?

16 COMMISSIONER TUMAN: Yes, I want to  
17 confirm we take money from the State, from  
18 the Governor, from Storm Recovery and we are  
19 required to meet those.

20 LUIS MENDEZ: And, have you met those  
21 requirements for the last five years and what  
22 was the compliance?

23 COMMISSIONER TUMAN: We meet them  
24 based on the money that we received one  
25 hundred percent.

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We are required to.

LUIS MENDEZ: Yeah, you are.

What is the percentage?

COMMISSIONER TUMAN: Fifteen percent  
for minority and women-owned businesses, so,  
thirty percent, combined.

LUIS MENDEZ: Thirty percent combined,  
so, the question is on every single question  
you do outreach like you are supposed to?

COMMISSIONER TUMAN: Yes.

LUIS MENDEZ: And, follow-up, how is  
your compliance done?

COMMISSIONER TUMAN: The State  
actually monitors us, so - -

LUIS MENDEZ: I am the former Deputy  
Director of the Nassau County Office of  
Minorities.

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Let's recognize  
Senior Councilwoman Goosby.

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Good  
Morning, I have held a conference, here in  
Town Hall for minorities.

I have worked with the County with  
meetings, had meetings and we have people  
come from all over just for those particular

1 points and I will be working stronger with it  
2 this coming session.

3 LUIS MENDEZ: I appreciate that, by  
4 the way, that is outreach.

5 The reason I am asking that question  
6 is - -

7 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Listen, I  
8 am outreaching many people who do not know  
9 about it.

10 First, we need the education and we  
11 are doing that.

12 We have started that program and I  
13 will continue it this coming year.

14 LUIS MENDEZ: That will be great.

15 So, and New York State Empire  
16 Development Entity has over fifteen thousand  
17 MWBE's that are - - already know that this  
18 law exists, that participate in these  
19 contracts.

20 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: That is  
21 why they came, here.

22 I worked with the State Governor Cuomo  
23 who sent his people here and I had a meeting.

24 We had great attendance.

25 I don't know what else you expect.

1           They are making sure, they are aware  
2 what is going on and I appreciate you coming  
3 up.

4           LUIS MENDEZ: Definitely.

5           What I would expect is not just  
6 outreach because you can comply without  
7 participating and, so, the point is as MWBE  
8 and Legislator Dunne was my former colleague  
9 at the time, understand MWBE compliance can  
10 be had without participation.

11           You can comply with the law without  
12 having minority entities participating, which  
13 is not the reason we should have the laws  
14 into place.

15           So, the point of the Inspector  
16 General's position should be to empower him  
17 or her with the ability to enforce MWB  
18 compliance that is a significant factor to  
19 drive local jobs and local opportunities for  
20 Town residents and so by the end of the day,  
21 one hundred million dollar contract, you can  
22 land twenty to thirty million for local  
23 contractors in the Town of Hempstead, that is  
24 a cyclical economy impact that gives you the  
25 ability to make sure those jobs stay here.

1           And, we have entities in the Town that  
2           have the ability to participate and if we  
3           don't have someone that gives the ability to  
4           make sure the compliance is done inhouse, the  
5           State will not look at compliance for you.

6           The compliance needs to be done  
7           inhouse and the participation has to be  
8           greater than just outreach.

9           Outreach is just a portion of the MWBE  
10          Program.

11          I am hoping with your experience,  
12          Legislator Dunne and her outreach which has  
13          tremendous impact on this will, at least,  
14          gain compliance.

15          As far as not having a Local Law, that  
16          is a Local Law that makes sense.

17          Nassau County has a law.

18          The State has a law. I don't know why  
19          the Town doesn't have that law.

20          We should adopt that law. It  
21          immediately impacts the local taxpayers in a  
22          positive manner.

23          I hope moving forward all of you  
24          consider adopting a MWBE Law that makes sense  
25          to the Town of Hempstead and empowers the



1 Inspector General.

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.

3 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
4 rang. After, the following ensued.)

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5 LUIS MENDEZ: Thank you.

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

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Now, we are ready  
9 to call the roll on Inspector General.

10 (Whereupon, "wait, wait," was heard  
11 yelling out from the audience. After, the  
12 following ensued.)

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: A Motion?

14 (Whereupon, "someone else wants to  
15 speak," was heard yelling out from the  
16 audience. After, the following ensued.)

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: No one has signed  
18 in.

19 (Whereupon, "Yes, they signed in," was  
20 heard yelling out from the audience. After,  
21 the following ensued.)

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Come on up.

23 HENRY BOITELL: Sir, I am Henry  
24 Boitell, Rockville Centre.

25 I did sign in.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, on the  
2 Office of the Inspector General, go ahead,  
3 sir.

4 HENRY BOITELL: First, my impression  
5 is that prior to November, there was not a  
6 great deal of enthusiasm for this proposition  
7 on the part of the general Members of this  
8 Body.

9 I am wondering if you could tell us  
10 what has changed.

11 (Whereupon, laughter was heard from  
12 the audience. After, the following ensued.)

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I think your  
14 premise is incorrect.

15 Do you have anything to say on this?

16 HENRY BOITELL: Yes, I do.

17 There was a gentleman who spoke  
18 earlier that was in favor of a unified Office  
19 of Inspector General across the County and I  
20 would like to speak in support of that.

21 I think it is a great idea.

22 There are - - it may not be known,  
23 there are a number of functions, which under  
24 the County Charter, the County is permitted  
25 to cooperate with the Towns in order

1 to provide unified services.

2 For example, a little known provision  
3 is that the County Attorney's Office can, in  
4 fact, provide legal services to the Town upon  
5 request.

6 In the same way, it seems to me that  
7 an Office of Inspector General which is  
8 salaried by the County and by the various  
9 Towns would be a far more efficient,  
10 productive and cost saving measure than to  
11 repeat Inspector Generals across each of  
12 these Bodies.

13 So, I would speak in support of that  
14 proposition and suggest that this matter be  
15 tabled so that it can be explored.

16 Second, I think it should be tabled,  
17 also, because there is a great deal that has  
18 come out in some of the discussion, thus far,  
19 that ought to be considered with regard to  
20 what an Inspector General should be doing,  
21 what the qualifications should be, what the  
22 powers should be.

23 It has not been, as far as I can tell,  
24 a great deal of study concerning how this  
25 office has been implemented in other

1 Jurisdictions, so that we can learn from that  
2 and adopt provisions that are similar to, um,  
3 um, what has been done successfully in other  
4 jurisdictions.

5 Um, so, I would strongly urge you to  
6 table this matter at this time and permit the  
7 new administration, um, to bring its insights  
8 into this, as well.

9 Um, and that this mater be brought up  
10 as early as possible after appropriate  
11 consideration by the new administration.

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.

13 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
14 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

15 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I have no other  
16 slips.

17 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden, East  
18 Meadow.

19 On the Inspector General, my biggest  
20 request and concern is that this person have  
21 the ability to look back retroactive to every  
22 single thing you have done, Mr. Santino - -

23 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
24 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

25 DIANE MADDEN: I want this Inspector

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 General to know every order you gave, what  
2 happened during every meeting that you had,  
3 every promotion that you passed as recent as  
4 today.

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5 You have just promoted someone less  
6 qualified in the Building Department to a  
7 Construction Inspection Division over a  
8 highly, qualified employee.

9 So, this is a great day, which is why  
10 I brought party hats and blowers.

11 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
12 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

13 DIANE MADDEN: Not for me, not for me,  
14 I could have gone on twenty-five more years  
15 but for the animals, for the minorities, for  
16 the employees, for everyone that you stood on  
17 and stepped on in the past few years.

18 This is the best day.

19 And, nothing you can do is going to  
20 change that.

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.

22 DIANE MADDEN: Bye, bye.

23 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
24 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: A Motion on the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Inspector General, first item on Inspector  
2 General.

3 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Mr.  
4 Supervisor, I move the first version of the  
5 Inspector General and the Hearing be closed  
6 and the item adopted.

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the  
8 Motion.

9 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: No.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

12 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: No.

13 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yes.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: No.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

18 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: No.

19 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
20 Goosby?

21 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: No.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
23 Sweeney?

24 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Yes.

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: On the second

1 Proposal relative to Inspector General, I  
2 believe Councilman Dunne has something to  
3 say.

4 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Yes, sir. I would  
5 like to amend the title, "Officer of  
6 Inspector General/Compliance Officer" to  
7 eliminate "Office of Inspector General"  
8 because "General" in the Military is the  
9 highest rank.

10 If you need - - if you need an  
11 Inspector General in a governmental body,  
12 that means that is the last person you can go  
13 to, to get things done.

14 Right, now, Nassau County has alleged  
15 corruption.

16 Oyster Bay has alleged corruption.

17 There has been no alleged corruption  
18 in the Town or arrests in the Town of  
19 Hempstead.

20 (Whereupon, "not yet, not yet, not  
21 yet," was heard yelling out of the audience.  
22 After, the following ensued.)

23 (Whereupon, "you have no respect," was  
24 heard yelling out of the audience. After,  
25 the following ensued.)

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: There have been no  
2 arrests in the Town of Hempstead, or  
3 appearance of impropriety in the Town of  
4 Hempstead or merely give the wrong affect if  
5 we say, "Inspector General," I would like to  
6 eliminate it.

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7 I love what the legislation says and I  
8 am wholeheartedly for compliance officer with  
9 all the duties mentioned in this legislation  
10 but I really would like the whole Inspector  
11 General, Office of Inspector General and  
12 duties, the possibility of piggybacking with  
13 the County or Town of Oyster Bay doing the  
14 one person.

15 There is a lot to look at to go to the  
16 Inspector General but, at this time, I would  
17 like to eliminate that, so, we can have it as  
18 a go to, God forbid if we need to.

19 (Whereupon, "You need it here, too  
20 much corruption," was heard yelling out from  
21 the audience. After, the following ensued.)

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Your amendment  
23 would be to retitle to the "Office of  
24 Compliance Officer"?

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Correct.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there a  
2 second?

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the  
4 motion.

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5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Wait, wait, I  
6 would like to respond.

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Go ahead, please.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: To my colleague,  
9 Dennis Dunne, I think you are absolutely  
10 right, "Inspector General," is the last  
11 resort.

12 Basically, Inspector General is for  
13 the contractor who feels that they have been  
14 treated unfairly.

15 It is for the employee who is a  
16 whistleblower.

17 It is for the man or woman who has  
18 been harassed at the workplace.

19 It is for the individual who is  
20 pressured to do something that they feel is  
21 improper and they can' go to your immediate  
22 superior because that maybe the one that is  
23 inflicting that upon them.

24 So, Inspector General is the course of  
25 last resort to investigate and do it fairly

1 and honestly and diligently to make a  
2 determination whether or not there is any  
3 merit to the claim.

4 So, I am going to vote against the  
5 amendment because I like the fact that they  
6 are the Inspector General.

7 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
8 was heard.

9 After, the following ensued.)

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Please, call the  
11 roll.

12 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I  
13 appreciate what Councilman Dunne is saying  
14 and also Councilman Blakeman and while I  
15 would greatly prefer that it be called  
16 "Inspector General," as we have been debating  
17 this for the last several months I have  
18 stated whether we call it, "Inspector  
19 General," or "Santa Claus," I don't care.

20 I am trying to get a certain result  
21 and, so, I guess, this is preferable over,  
22 "Santa Claus" while I prefer it be "Inspector  
23 General," I do have to be honest and true to  
24 my words and I am happy to call it  
25 "Compliance Officer," "Inspector General" or

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"Monitor."

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Again, on the amendment to change the item.

CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: No.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Now, on the item, itself, I need a Motion on the item, itself, as amended, anybody?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Mr. Supervisor, I move the proposed Local Law as amended be adopted.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the  
2 Motion.

3 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

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5 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

6 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

7 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Nay, I would  
9 like to explain my vote, um, this is nothing  
10 more than a watered down version of what  
11 Inspector General should be.

12 Um, this isn't BUD Light. This is  
13 near beer.

14 This is nothing in there that protects  
15 the workers. There is nothing, here, that  
16 protects the taxpayers.

17 Um, there is no power given to the  
18 Inspector General, um, so, I am voting  
19 against this because of that.

20 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
21 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

22 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

23 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

24 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
2 Goosby?

3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
5 Sweeney?

6 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I share  
7 Councilman Blakeman's concerns about this  
8 Inspector General.

9 That said, I don't think my version is  
10 perfect.

11 I think it is a good first attempt.

12 I think we need to have this dialogue  
13 going forward.

14 So, although I have some reservations,  
15 I am happy to support it, yes.

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, next item,  
17 please, call it.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Local Law Re:  
19 "Taxicabs and Limousines" in relation to the  
20 definition of the term "Terminal" set  
21 therein" (To amend Section 185-1 of the  
22 Chapter 185 of the Code of the Town of  
23 Hempstead.)

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Lawrence  
25 Blessinger, Jr.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Name and address for the record, sir.

2 LAWRENCE BLESSINGER: Lawrence  
3 Blessinger, Jr. 845 Hempstead Turnpike,  
4 Franklin Square, New York.

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5 I believe that this is an updated  
6 version for taxi legislation that is in need  
7 for the traditional taxi companies to  
8 survive.

9 Um, currently, right, now, we have  
10 been attacked by transportation work  
11 companies known as UBER and LYFT which don't  
12 have to follow the same, um, heavy  
13 regulations that we follow in regard to our  
14 drivers getting criminal fingerprinting,  
15 background checks through governmental  
16 agencies.

17 Um, our business has been dramatically  
18 hampered because of this and it is my belief  
19 that having several offices within a five-  
20 mile radius is not needed.

21 Um, I do believe having a terminal  
22 within the Town of Hempstead to service all  
23 the Town of Hempstead residents is proper.

24 This is what the Town of Oyster Bay  
25 does.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 This is what the Town of North  
2 Hempstead does.

3 Um, I believe this is just updating  
4 the Code.

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5 Um, the Taxi Industry wants to still  
6 keep providing senior citizen accounts, free  
7 rides to the polls during Election Day.

8 My company offers a program during the  
9 Holiday season to take people home who are  
10 too intoxicated, um, to drive their car home.

11 It is just it is getting with the  
12 times and for the survival of the Taxi  
13 Industry, especially within the Town of  
14 Hempstead.

15 I would be more than happy to answer  
16 any questions.

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Are there any  
18 questions of Mr. Blessinger, if no thank you,  
19 sir.

20 LAWRENCE BLESSINGER: Thank you.

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: No one from the  
22 Public has signed in on this issue, so, at  
23 this point, I will accept a Motion.

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr.  
25 Supervisor, I move that the Public Hearing be

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 closed and the Local Law be adopted.

2 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second  
3 the Motion.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

6 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

7 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

8 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

13 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
15 Goosby?

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
18 Sweeney?

19 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
21 please.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed "Handicapped  
23 parking on Public Street" in ELMONT, WEST  
24 HEMPSTEAD (Louis Avenue, Bonta Street,  
25 Oakford Street)



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Anyone that would  
2 like to be heard on this matter before the  
3 Town Board?

4 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
5 After, the following ensued.)

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6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,  
7 I move that the Public Hearing be closed and  
8 the item adopted.

9 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I second the  
10 motion.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

13 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

14 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

19 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

20 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
22 Goosby?

23 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

24 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
25 Sweeney?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
3 please.

4 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed Revised Public  
5 Parking Field Maps in WANTAGH (Field WA-1)

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

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

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

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

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I second the  
17 Motion.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

20 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

21 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

24 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

25 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

2 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

3 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
4 Goosby?

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5 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

6 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
7 Sweeney?

8 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Next item,  
10 please.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Proposed increase &  
12 improvement of facilities & authorizing  
13 district to issue refunding bonds & bonds for  
14 a capital improvement program - TOWN OF  
15 HEMPSTEAD (HICKSVILLE WATER DISTRICT)

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is there anyone  
17 that would like to be heard on this matter  
18 before the Town Board?

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

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

23 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Mr. Supervisor, I  
24 move the Hearing be closed and the item be  
25 adopted.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second  
2 the motion.

3 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

5 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

6 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

7 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

9 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

12 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

13 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
14 Goosby?

15 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
17 Sweeney?

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Call the  
20 Administrative Calendar.

21 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor, on the  
22 Administrative Calendar, today, we have Items  
23 1 through 58.

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Does any Member  
25 of the Board wish to sever any item on the

1 Administrative Calendar.

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yes, Mr.  
3 Supervisor, I would like to have Items 17 and  
4 55 severed.

5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: All right, any  
6 others?

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: For clarity  
8 purposes, Councilman Blakeman, you want to  
9 sever the amendment to the CBA agreement with  
10 the Union, right and Item 17?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Correct.

12 TOWN ATORNEY RA: And, I believe on  
13 most calendars that is Item 17, Item 55 which  
14 I have as Resolution amending resolution of  
15 various offices and positions and occupations  
16 in the Town Government that is the other one  
17 that you want to sever, correct?

18 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Correct.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: So, on the  
20 calendar, Item 55 is listed as a different  
21 number, we are severing the resolution which  
22 amends the Resolution 38-217 which deals with  
23 positions and occupations, just for clarity  
24 purposes.

25 Those are the two things that you are

1 severing?

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Was there a  
3 different calendar?

4 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There may have been  
5 a last minute either additional deletion  
6 which changes the numbers.

7 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor - -

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I am not sure.

9 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor, may I just  
10 explain.

11 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Yes.

12 CLERK AHMAD: The calendars are  
13 emailed to each of the Board Members' Aides  
14 and, then, there was a last minute change,  
15 so, the revised calendar was emailed to you.

16 Now, it is up to your Legislative  
17 Aides who printed your calendar did they  
18 print the one before the revision or after,  
19 that is, Councilman, that is where it is.

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: When was the  
21 email sent?

22 CLERK AHMAD: Thursday evening.

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: The second email  
24 was sent Thursday evening?

25 CLERK AHMAD: Friday, sir.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: What item do the  
2 other Council Members have as "55"?

3 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: "55" has a  
4 coffee stain on this, this is probably an  
5 outdated version.

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6 My "53" is the personnel, um, but, I  
7 do have this from my home desk.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Your "53" is  
9 "personnel?"

10 So, you have the earlier version.

11 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Yes, that  
12 is right.

13 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is probably  
14 accurate.

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yes, to your  
16 knowledge, Madam Clerk, I have the most  
17 recent version, thank you.

18 My Legislative Aide did a great job.

19 CLERK AHMAD: She always does.

20 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
21 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Can I  
23 also, as far as severing, I would like to,  
24 um, if we are offering, Item Number 53, I  
25 guess, no "55" and the most recent, I would

1 like to sever three names.

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We will get - -  
3 have them called.

4 So, now, we have two items that have  
5 been severed and we have the remainder of the  
6 Administrative Calendar.

7 So, as best I can discern from these  
8 sheets, okay, so, do we have a Motion to move  
9 the Items on the Administrative Calendar that  
10 have not been severed.

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY:  
12 Supervisor, I move the Administrative  
13 Calendar in its entirety from 1 through 58  
14 with the exception of number 17 and 55.

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second - -

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Would you  
17 let me finish?

18 (Whereupon, laughter was heard from the  
19 audience. "He got excited," was heard  
20 yelling out from the audience. After, the  
21 following ensued.)

22 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I am sorry.

23 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Which  
24 have been severed.

25 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: When can I



1 second it, now?

2 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: You may.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the  
4 Motion.

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

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Now, we will make  
8 an effort to deal with the items that have  
9 not been severed and we will start with Terry  
10 Winston.

11 TERRY WINSTON: This is regarding, um,  
12 Item Number 13441, authorizing continuation  
13 of recreation program for the elderly in the  
14 Town of Hempstead Senior Centers, Town Parks,  
15 Number 4.

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Which Number?

17 TERRY WINSTON: I said, 13441, oh,  
18 Number 4.

19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: It is in big  
20 letters.

21 TERRY WINSTON: Number 4.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Yes.

23 TERRY WINSTON: I, um, live in the  
24 Incorporated Village of Hempstead and the  
25 Town of Hempstead has a facility at 260

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Clinton Street and, um, I have some issues  
2 with that particular facility, um, it is my  
3 opinion that they are not really serving, um,  
4 the, um, residents in the community, um, like  
5 they should.

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6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Could we hold on  
7 a minute.

8 Commissioner Murphy?

9 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: That is the  
10 Village of Hempstead Housing Authority has  
11 powers.

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: The Village of  
13 Hempstead, not the Town of Hemsptead.

14 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: We do provide a  
15 program for them but that is all.

16 TERRY WINSTON: I was told by the  
17 Village that, um - -

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Are you  
19 complaining about the Center, itself?

20 TERRY WINSTON: The Center, itself.

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: It is the Village  
22 of Hempstead.

23 TERRY WINSTON: I was told that the  
24 Town of Hempstead.

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: No, and

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I was very, very upset what I found.

2 They did do some things. They are  
3 suppose to put a stove in there.

4 They have not done that, that goes to  
5 the Village of Hempstead.

6 All we do, we have a program for them.  
7 We don't supply anything.

8 They are responsible for putting in a  
9 stove and they did do the cabinets.

10 TERRY WINSTON: I understand that.

11 I was told by the Village of Hempstead

12 - -

13 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Well,  
14 they are incorrect.

15 TERRY WINSTON: - - That it is a Town  
16 of Hempstead, um, Senior facility, that is  
17 what I was told.

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: It is not, ma'am,  
19 I am sorry.

20 I can't be held accountable for what  
21 they told you but, it is not our facility.

22 TERRY WINSTON: So, I am getting the  
23 runaround.

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I mean if you  
25 want to tell us about your specific

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 problem with the facility, we may try to  
2 communicate with them, but, we don't control  
3 it.

4 TERRY WINSTON: Um, well, um, yeah,  
5 the transportation, yes, the Town of  
6 Hempstead provides transportation for that  
7 facility.

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We provide  
9 transportation one day a week.

10 TERRY WINSTON: Could you let me  
11 finish.

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Commissioner, why  
13 don't you come over.

14 She will sit next to you and hopefully  
15 answer your questions.

16 Commissioner Murphy from our Senior  
17 Enrichment Department.

18 TERRY WINSTON: Okay, um, the  
19 transportation is provided one day a week.

20 I am pretty sure it is more than one  
21 day a week.

22 We will not go there.

23 Um, on the days that you're to provide  
24 the transportation, um, there are no  
25 provisions made if the driver

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 goes - - if he is out sick or whatever the  
2 case maybe, um, and, then, the Seniors that  
3 are being picked up don't get picked up and  
4 it happens a lot.

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5 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Okay, so, we run  
6 a program.

7 The Town of Hempstead runs a program  
8 in the community room at 260 Clinton Avenue,  
9 three days a week, Monday, Wednesday and  
10 Friday.

11 On Friday, we provide the  
12 transportation.

13 On Monday and Wednesday, the  
14 transportation is provided by the Village of  
15 Hempstead, not the Department of Senior  
16 Enrichment.

17 Um, and that is how it has always been  
18 and as far as when someone is out sick, if it  
19 is on a Friday and we are responsible for the  
20 transportation, we do our utmost to provide  
21 transportation at that time.

22 Occasionally and not just at that  
23 particular Center, but at any of our Centers,  
24 occasionally, it is impossible, at which  
25 time, we do everything we can to

1 mitigate that by making whatever arrangements  
2 possible.

3 Sometimes, we double up with our bus  
4 drivers, etc., etc.

5 However, we do keep it as minimal as  
6 possible and we never go to one Center more  
7 than another in terms of when we are short on  
8 drivers because of somebody calling in sick  
9 and that type of matter.

10 But, the program is given by the Town  
11 of Hempstead to the Seniors who reside there  
12 and who attend that Center Monday through  
13 Friday with transportation on Friday, only.

14 The facility, though and the  
15 maintenance of the facility is strictly to  
16 the Village of Hempstead.

17 It is their Housing Authority, not the  
18 Town of Hempstead.

19 TERRY WINSTON: Like I was saying, um,  
20 it happens a lot, that - - it happens a lot  
21 that the residents of the Village of  
22 Hempstead are being deprived the  
23 transportation and that is why it is probably  
24 one of the few Senior Centers that, um, you  
25 don't have a good turnout.

1           Okay, that and the fact that the food  
2           is being ordered out a lot of the times  
3           because the stove doesn't work.

4           You got Senior that have medical  
5           issues or serious health and they are eating  
6           food from McDonalds and that is unhealthy.

7           I mean, you will send them to their  
8           deathbeds earlier than they should be.

9           Is this a way for a Town - -

10          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Who controls the  
11          stove?

12          COMMISSIONER MURPHY: The stove is  
13          absolutely controlled by the Village of  
14          Hempstead and we have an issue there because  
15          there is no stovetop, so, there is an oven  
16          but there is no stovetop because to do so,  
17          they would need to put in an ancillary system  
18          at a tremendous cost to the Village.

19          And, I have to commend Senior  
20          Councilwoman Dorothy Goosby because she came  
21          to that Center last year and really shook  
22          them up and told them that they had to do a  
23          lot better and as a result the kitchen was  
24          actually, I mean, it is amazingly how much  
25          better that kitchen currently operates

1 in terms of cleanliness and new cabinets and  
2 the like.

3 But, we are still waiting for them to  
4 put in an ancillary system, which, at some  
5 point, hopefully they would be able to have a  
6 stovetop and we will provide - - will be able  
7 to provide the type of cooking and meals that  
8 we provide in all the other Centers, but, we  
9 do, do our best with the limited resources  
10 that we have there.

11 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
12 much.

13 TERRY WINSTON: My - - um, I am not  
14 finished.

15 I question their future existence.

16 I don't see the point in having that  
17 facility if you can't provide the services  
18 that the Seniors should be entitled to, that  
19 is my opinion.

20 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Well - -

21 TERRY WINSTON: We have gone through  
22 this before, a long time and you know it.

23 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I have  
24 gone and asked them to put the stove in.

25 I cannot make them.



1 I asked them.

2 TERRY WINSTON: Shut it down, then.

3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Thank you  
4 very much.

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

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Katherine Garry?  
8 Then we will move onto Jim Alcus?  
9 Name and address for the record.

10 JIM ALCUS: Jim Alcus. 238 Broadway  
11 Avenue. I would like to speak on 1032, um,  
12 the appointment of a new - -

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Yes.

14 JIM ALCUS: I don't know anything  
15 about him but I would like to know what was  
16 the hiring process?

17 Were resumes put out?

18 Was it done by a certain individual?

19 What was the process of how this  
20 gentleman is going to be put on that Board?

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Ra, would you  
22 indicate how we go about that.

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It was a  
24 recommendation by the Building Department.

25 JIM ALCUS: Does anybody know who

1 recommended him?

2 Is there a process to hiring for this?

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Recommendation from  
4 the Building Department to put this on the  
5 calendar.

6 JIM ALCUS: So, basically, the  
7 Building Department, um, John Rottkamp has  
8 the ability to just hire the guy without  
9 going through the resume or who he is?

10 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Well, the Town  
11 Board is going to vote on whether or not he  
12 goes on the Plumbing Board.

13 He doesn't hire. The Commissioner  
14 doesn't hire anyone.

15 JIM ALCUS: Well, I just wanted to ask  
16 the Board if they would consider waiting to  
17 next month.

18 I haven't had a chance to tell you my  
19 resume.

20 I actually sat on a Plumbing Board for  
21 six years an I was blessed to sit with adults  
22 and they were gentlemen.

23 I sat with Henry Lang and for six  
24 years I was the one administering tests,  
25 believe it or not.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I had fourteen hundred children and  
2 eighteen Member Board.

3 I am not an Attorney like several of  
4 you but I do know Roberts Rules of Law and I  
5 do know how a Board should be conducted and I  
6 will tell you this, because you are the face  
7 of your Town, your Plumbing Board currently  
8 is being run by just one guy and that is it.

9 And, his brother is on the Board, so,  
10 Joe Montelli, who is the Chairman and somehow  
11 his brother is on the Board too and there is  
12 a quorum on the Plumbing Board but it is  
13 always just the two.

14 So, it doesn't sound like it is a  
15 legitimate situation.

16 So, I would hope you would leave it  
17 for Ms. Gillen and make sure - - I am not  
18 going to speak for all the other gentlemen, I  
19 do not know him, maybe he is the best guy for  
20 the job but I hope that you guys will take a  
21 look at the situation because it is  
22 definitely not being run like a Town Board  
23 and it is very, very, unprofessional.

24 I have been in front of the Suffolk  
25 County Board where I passed one license.

1 I have been in front of the Town of  
2 Babylon Board where I passed another license  
3 and you have gentlemen that treat you like a  
4 human being.

5 And, your Board, you are not even an  
6 individual.

7 It is just, "I am not talking to you."

8 It is the most unprofessional thing I  
9 have ever been involved in.

10 And, I have been doing it for five  
11 years and nothing has changed.

12 I just don't want this new guy to add  
13 to the problem.

14 And, I will tell you for five years,  
15 you know, I didn't come here because I  
16 thought I was not capable of it.

17 I thought it was my dyslexia, but,  
18 unfortunately, I found out from another local  
19 Town Attorney, that Joe Montelli doesn't care  
20 for me and the only reason I found out was  
21 one of the local administrations, their Town  
22 Attorney is a friend of mine.

23 He called me and told me, "you will  
24 never get your license in Hempstead.

25 "This Montelli hates your guts."

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I still don't know why but he has been  
2 right.

3 So, since he told me that a year and a  
4 half ago, I have a bag of proof that proves I  
5 can pass my license not once, but twice.

6 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
7 rang. After, the following ensued.)

8 JIM ALCUS: And, I still don't have  
9 it.

10 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
11 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
13 much.

14 Okay, thank you very much, sir.

15 Mr. Felix Procacci.

16 Mr. Procacci, you will be called when  
17 we deal with the severed items.

18 FELIX PROCACCI: Yes.

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: From the list  
20 that you provided, when you signed in, you  
21 wanted to talk in addition to 52 and 54.

22 FELIX PROCACCI: Yes, well, 55.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Well, that is one  
24 of the separate items.

25 FELIX PROCACCI: Yes.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: What I am saying  
2 is I will call you back. Don't think - -

3 FELIX PROCACCI: Okay, on Item Number  
4 54, the reappointing of the Board of Appeals  
5 Members, Katuria D'Amato, she is not on this  
6 list, is she going to be on the Board next  
7 year?

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Ra.

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: She is a holdover  
10 on the Board.

11 FELIX PROCACCI: She is a holdover.  
12 She should be fired immediately.

13 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
14 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

15 FELIX PROCACCI: I spent fourteen  
16 hours with her.

17 She is freakin nuts, okay.

18 And, as far as the rest of them, they  
19 are all corrupt.

20 Absolutely everyone has no concern for  
21 Building Codes, for laws, for consideration I  
22 sat through a Hearing with them, they give  
23 consideration to the people that they want to  
24 give consideration to.

25 These are the people that let Kate

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Murray, Gary Hudes and Angie Cullen go  
2 before all the residents to speak at a  
3 Hearing and the people had to wait eight  
4 hours to speak and they let the Supervisor go  
5 first.

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6 There is corruption between all of  
7 them.

8 It is very clear, if you want to see  
9 it, of course, John Ryan, who I talked to  
10 about the Ethics Board, if I reported it to  
11 him, he would say it is nothing because he is  
12 part of the problem.

13 That goes to the other issue, none of  
14 those people should be appointed to the  
15 Ethics Board.

16 I don't know.

17 John Ryan is corrupt.

18 John Ryan, he does not belong on the  
19 Ethics Board.

20 Okay, the membership dues on the Town  
21 of Hempstead Association of Towns and the  
22 employee training for Dorothy Goosby is waste  
23 of money, waste of absolute money.

24 She doesn't care about the rules of  
25 the Town of Hempstead or anything.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 She is just in it for herself, a power  
2 play, any options she gets.

3 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
4 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

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5 FELIX PROCACCI: At the last Hearing,  
6 she ordered the guard to throw me out, to  
7 remove me, thirteen seconds, how many people  
8 - - thirteen seconds over the five-minute  
9 rule.

10 I was asked to be removed by Dorothy  
11 Goosby, that happened at a time last year  
12 where she asked me to be removed because I  
13 talked about something she didn't want to  
14 hear about during my time, during  
15 miscellaneous calendar.

16 She should be removed, if anyone.

17 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
18 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

19 (Whereupon, screaming out and yelling  
20 from the audience was heard. After, the  
21 following ensued.)

22 FELIX PROCACCI: On the issue of Bee,  
23 Ready, Fishbein, Hatter & Donovan, the  
24 Counsel, I think, should be kicked down the  
25 road until Laura Gillen decides who the



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Special Counsel should because there is too  
2 much corroboration between the parties and  
3 this firm, they are very politically  
4 connected.

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5 They have their hands in everything,  
6 Garden City, name it, they are there.

7 Let the new Supervisor pick who the  
8 Counsel will be on the Bond Resolution.

9 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
10 rang. After, the following ensued.)

11 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
12 much, Mr. Procacci.

13 Rich Schurin?

14 RICH SCHURIN: Good Morning.

15 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Name and address  
16 for the record, please.

17 RICH SCHURIN: Rich Schurin. 167  
18 Jefferson Avenue, Island Park, New York.

19 Um, I would like to speak about the  
20 times on the calendar with respect to the  
21 selection of Counsel.

22 I spoke about this before, um, it was  
23 represented to me by Mr. Ra that he chooses  
24 the Counsel from his experience, his personal  
25 experience, I think that is entirely

1 an inappropriate selection process.

2 I think that the Board, the new  
3 Administration coming in should pose a  
4 process that involves solicitation of  
5 requests for qualifications and, um, all  
6 attorneys in the area or National firms,  
7 even, should have the opportunity to and the  
8 right to represent the Town, the Town Board,  
9 it's, I think, the way it has been now.

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10 It is entirely inappropriate, even if  
11 these people are not selected based upon  
12 their political contributions or whatever  
13 improper factors maybe considered, it still  
14 creates an appearance of impropriety.

15 And, I urge the Board Members that are  
16 coming back and the new Administration to  
17 consider a new process and open and  
18 transparent process.

19 (Whereupon, applause, screaming and  
20 yelling out from the audience was heard.

21 After, the following ensued.)

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Just to correct  
24 what you said, I don't do anything by myself.

25 You said I do it by myself.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I do not do anything by myself.

2 RICH SCHURIN: I asked you last time.

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We do it as - - we  
4 take recommendations, I just want to clear  
5 the record.

6 RICH SCHURIN: Well, you previously  
7 said that it was you or your office that  
8 selected the Counsel, who represent the Town  
9 based upon your own, personal preference and  
10 based upon your experience.

11 I think it is inappropriate.

12 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We disagree.

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: On the items that  
14 have not be severed on the Administrative  
15 Calendar, we need a Motion.

16 (Whereupon, "I want to speak," was  
17 heard yelling out from the audience. After,  
18 the following ensued.)

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: On the items that  
20 have not been severed?

21 We will recall people on the severed  
22 items.

23 (Whereupon, "I want to speak in  
24 general," was heard yelling out from the  
25 audience. After, the following ensued.)

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: If it is on a  
2 specific item on the Administrative Calendar.

3 (Whereupon, "I wrote it down," was  
4 heard yelling from the audience. After, the  
5 following ensued.)

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6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, which item  
7 was it, Ms. Gordon, do you have a number?

8 RORI GORDON: 54.

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: 54.

10 RORI GORDON: How many years does the  
11 BZA Member get appointed for?

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: They are varying.

13 RORI GORDON: There are varying, um,  
14 terms of office, five years is the maximum.

15 The reason you see different numbers  
16 or expiration dates because they are all  
17 based on who they took the place of.

18 In other words, if you take the place  
19 of someone who is in the third year of a term  
20 you only get another two years, but,  
21 essentially, it is a five-year term.

22 RORI GORDON: Can you explain to me if  
23 somebody was appointed in May of 2005, for  
24 example - -

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It would depend

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 on whose place that person took, if he is  
2 appointed midterm, that person would only, he  
3 or she, appointed, the term, he or she would  
4 only get the duration of that term and have  
5 to be reappointed, again, that is why you see  
6 all different terms.

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7 RORI GORDON: Okay, so, if someone in  
8 2005, hypothetically, and it is for five  
9 years that brings them out to 2020, is that  
10 correct?

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: 2005, if they were  
12 starting a new term would bring them to 2010.

13 RORI GORDON: Then, '15 and '20.

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Correct, assuming  
15 that they were appointed to a full five-year  
16 term.

17 RORI GORDON: When I FOIL-ed when  
18 people were appointed, what you gave me was a  
19 Member was appointed May 24, 2005, how would  
20 we know this document that I received from  
21 the Town of Hempstead someone was appointed  
22 in 2005, I would have to assume that it is  
23 '05. '10, '15, '20.

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Not correct, not  
25 correct, it is not a correct assumption.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 RORI GORDON: So, I would have to go  
2 back and see who is the person's place that  
3 was taken from?

4 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes, we would have  
5 to go back and see.

6 I don't know how many years we would  
7 have to go back.

8 RORI GORDON: When was Joanne Ruth  
9 Adams appointed?

10 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: If the Board votes  
11 for it, it should be today.

12 RORI GORDON: Whose place is she  
13 taking?

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't know.

15 RORI GORDON: How could you not know,  
16 Joe?

17 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There is a vacancy,  
18 I don't know - - she maybe - -

19 RORI GORDON: Is she taking Mrs.  
20 D'Amato's place?

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No, Frank  
22 Lastrose's (phonetic spelling) place.

23 He is in the middle of the term.

24 RORI GORDON: Where is he going?

25 Is he being reappointed to another

1 Position?

2 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Not that I know of.

3 RORI GORDON: 22, 23 and 24 is there

4 any obligation for the new Administration

5 that is coming in to use these attorneys,

6 Steven Lesser, Phil Marino - -

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Steven Lesser is

8 Counsel to Senior Councilwoman Goosby, Phil

9 Marino is retaining Counsel for the Town

10 Attorney's Office.

11 RORI GORDON: Steven Lesser, the new

12 administration is not under any obligation,

13 is that correct?

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: He is Counsel to

15 Councilwoman Goosby, Senior Councilwoman

16 Goosby.

17 RORI GORDON: He is not protected by

18 the Union?

19 If Ms. Gillen wants to come in and put

20 somebody else in there, is that an option?

21 That is all I am asking.

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I guess that is an

23 option, however, the Town Board Members run

24 their offices and they vote for their

25 budgets.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 RORI GORDON: I understand, you know,  
2 I got my point across.

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The short answer,  
4 it is done by Town Board Resolution.

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5 RORI GORDON: Okay, so, Ms. Gillen  
6 should have a Town Board Resolution to put  
7 somebody else in there, is that correct?

8 I am just trying to understand how  
9 this whole thing is done.

10 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is correct.

11 RORI GORDON: Okay, last one is Number  
12 41, is that being passed today or is that  
13 going on January 9<sup>th</sup>?

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is a Public  
15 Hearing for January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: No, no, SEQRA  
17 Neg., Dec.

18 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: SEQRA Neg., Dec.

19 RORI GORDON: I am sorry, what did Mr.  
20 Santino say?

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I am sorry, I  
22 thought it was a Resolution calling a Public  
23 Hearing.

24 That is Environmental.

25 There are certain laws that require



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 us to do a Finding of Non-significance on the  
2 environment that the law is not going to have  
3 an adverse effect on the environment.

4 There are certain - - it is under the  
5 New York State Environmental Law that  
6 requires these things, so, that is what that  
7 is.

8 RORI GORDON: You are not voting on  
9 the law, today, correct?

10 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We are voting on  
11 the fact that there is no deleterious affect  
12 on the environment if we pass that law.

13 RORI GORDON: I am sorry?

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We are passing the  
15 SEQRA Neg., Dec., today.

16 The Hearing on the law is going to be  
17 January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

18 RORI GORDON: Is it January 23<sup>rd</sup>, I  
19 thought I read January 9<sup>th</sup>, today?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Maybe I am wrong.

21 RORI GORDON: 9<sup>th</sup>, okay, thank you very  
22 much.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you, okay,  
24 on the none severed items, anyone on the none  
25 severed items?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           Something that is on the  
2           Administrative Calendar?

3           STEPHANIE CATANA: Yes.

4           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay.

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5           STEPHANIE CATANA: My name is  
6           Stephanie - -

7           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Name and address  
8           for the record.

9           STEPHANIE CATANA: Stephanie Catana.

10          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Go ahead.

11          STEPHANIE CATANA: Stephanie Catana.

12          (Whereupon, "We cannot hear her," was  
13          yelled out from the audience. After, the  
14          following ensued.)

15          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Speak a little  
16          louder.

17          STEPHANIE CATANA: Stephanie Catana.  
18          34 Wishbone Lane, Wantagh, New York.

19          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Which item on the  
20          Administrative Calendar?

21          STEPHANIE CATANA: Number 17.

22          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: 17 has been  
23          severed.

24          STEPHANIE CATANA: There is another  
25          one, I think the one she was just speaking

1 about.

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: About?

3 STEPHANIE CATANA: No, no, I have the  
4 specific question about the Hearing  
5 practices.

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6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: You have a  
7 specific item, a specific one that you want  
8 to speak about?

9 STEPHANIE CATANA: I am not sure.

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Later, when we  
11 do.

12 STEPHANIE CATANA: I thought it was  
13 17.

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: That has been  
15 severed.

16 STEPHANIE CATANA: I was already on  
17 the list.

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We will call it  
19 later.

20 It is separate.

21 They are being dealt with separately.

22 We are dealing with the none severed  
23 items, now.

24 STEPHANIE CATANA: I have a specific  
25 question, as far as hiring people.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: That is later in  
2 the meeting.

3 STEPHANIE CATANA: Okay.

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mary Ellen Kreye?

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5 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Mary Ellen Kreye.  
6 436 Locust Avenue, Uniondale.

7 On Items 3 and 4 are those - - what  
8 kind of programs are they?

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Commissioner  
10 Murphy, again, that would be you, Senior  
11 Enrichment.

12 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yes, um, on  
13 Numbers 3 and 4, there are two different  
14 things, one is to actually hire, um, by  
15 contract which we do specialty-type people,  
16 such as, line dancing instructors, such as,  
17 artists who do painting classes, such as, um,  
18 people who do instructions, um, in cooking  
19 and, um, also are entertainers who come down  
20 to the Summer Beach Programs and who else  
21 provide municipal entertainment at the  
22 various parties which each Center has one a  
23 month of, um, so, every Center has and  
24 anniversary parties once a month.

25 And, we do, in fact, provide some

1 Municipal entertainment for that, that is  
2 what the personal service contracts that we  
3 have.

4 So, basically, those are all little  
5 expert-type of things that would be extremely  
6 expensive to have employees that would be  
7 doing this, so, this is the way in which we  
8 save tremendous amounts of money because of  
9 instead of paying someone a large salary and  
10 also benefits instead they are able to pay  
11 them for the one or two hours of service that  
12 they provide at a substantial cost savings.

13 The other, um, situation, Number 3 and  
14 4, actually goes to the purchasing of things,  
15 such as, um, food that we sell during Senior  
16 Programs and at events.

17 We have a contract with the bus  
18 company which actually provides bus services  
19 down to the Summer Beach Program.

20 And, we have specialty events, um, so,  
21 there are primarily contracts that we have  
22 with either transportation, the large yellow  
23 buses which go to various communities, every  
24 community once a week during our Summer  
25 months and our Summer programs to provide

1 those residents with some type of  
2 transportation and also primarily whether it  
3 be food supplies or paper-good-type products,  
4 so, that is what those are, what those two  
5 items are about.

6 STEPHANIE CATANA: Thank you.

7 As you know, I am very interested in  
8 the Senior Programs and what they do for all  
9 of us who are over the age, ha, ha and, um,  
10 the programs are extremely important.

11 They are very well attended and the  
12 Salisbury Center, for example, now that the  
13 East Meadow, um, Center is closed, the  
14 Salisbury Center is quite crowded.

15 The movement classes are almost  
16 impossible to move at times because there are  
17 people sitting at the tables, now, which were  
18 empty previously.

19 So, um, they are very well attended  
20 and we really appreciate them.

21 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: A pleasure,  
22 thank you.

23 STEPHANIE CATANO: Further, on 33,  
24 Department of Planning and Economic  
25 Development, oh, Head Inspection, I am sorry,

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I guess it is 34.

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thirty-four,  
3 okay, contract for fiscal services.

4 STEPHANIE CATANO: Oh, I see, so,  
5 these are not the programs, specifically, in  
6 the - - it is these extra services?

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Correct.

8 STEPHANIE CATANO: Thank you.

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, on, now, on  
10 the Administrative Item, that has not been  
11 severed, I need a Motion.

12 (Whereupon, "hold on," was heard  
13 yelling out from the audience. After, the  
14 following ensued.)

15 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: On an Item that  
16 has not been severed?

17 META MEREDAY: If you could recap,  
18 before my time starts, as to what was severed  
19 because some of us had to wait outside.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: 17 and 55.

21 META MEREDAY: Thank you.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Name and address  
23 for the record.

24 META MEREDAY: Not a problem, Meta J.  
25 Mereday, Baldwin resident.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I am glad that we are at this  
2 particular meeting, the administrative  
3 hearing to what had been previously taking  
4 place when questions were asked, the answers  
5 would be stopped.

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6 I will not go backwards into past  
7 history, but, I do believe that residents who  
8 have participated in these meetings for an  
9 extended period of time are due an apology  
10 for the behavior of the representatives who  
11 have been elected in a position that sit  
12 before us.

13 I just want that on the record.

14 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
15 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

16 META MEREDAY: We know and it is on  
17 the record.

18 Moving forward, that type of behavior  
19 will not be tolerated.

20 Moving on, Items Number 2, 6, 8, 19,  
21 as far as these Resolutions to accept  
22 proposals, I questioning, there have been  
23 some input from the incoming administration,  
24 why does it feel like our tax rolls are being  
25 overly burdened by the extensive proposals



1 for additional services at the end of the  
2 year.

3 They are going to be mighty busy for a  
4 one or two-week period.

5 If someone can address that.

6 On Item 10, just a question with  
7 regard to authorizing issuance of this  
8 twenty-five million dollar serial bond, is  
9 that part of the initial package on the  
10 budget that seemed to be rushed forward  
11 before the Election?

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Conroy, do  
13 you want to come forward.

14 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Item Number 10,  
15 is that what you are addressing?

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Yes, the twenty-  
17 five million dollar serial bond to finance a  
18 set of appropriations to authorize  
19 construction of road improvements to the  
20 Town.

21 COMPTROLLER CONROY: That is,  
22 basically, the road improvements to the Town  
23 for resurfacing.

24 The Town has in its capital plan the  
25 twenty-five million dollars.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           The timing of this is imperative that  
2           it get down before year's end.

3           It is an accounting issue.

4           We need to capitalize some of the  
5           Engineering Department, time and effort and  
6           benefits accordingly and, basically, it is  
7           just an authorization of issuance of a bond  
8           of which we anticipate going into the Market  
9           the first quarter in 2018.

10           META MEREDAY: So, that would mean  
11           there are tax implications and this would be  
12           incorporated into the budget for the incoming  
13           administration, is that correct?

14           COMPTROLLER CONROY: It is  
15           incorporated into the Budget and there is no  
16           change in that regard.

17           It comes under the caption of "debt  
18           service."

19           It all depends upon the life of the  
20           project.

21           This happens to have what is known as  
22           "PP Unit" that stands for "Period of  
23           Probable" use for ten years, so, as to pay  
24           through the budget prospectively as amortized  
25           over ten years.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           META MEREDAY: Okay, when we had the  
2 information last year about, um, the alleged  
3 budget surplus and the alleged bond rating  
4 that was proven to be untrue, is this going  
5 to impact that in any way moving forward when  
6 we actually get the real numbers?

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7           COMPTROLLER CONROY: I am very  
8 confused upon that question.

9           META MEREDAY: I am confused.

10          COMPTROLLER CONROY: No, no, I  
11 appreciate your question.

12          I simply want to answer your question.

13          META MEREDAY: When you say, "debt  
14 service," what is the impact of the debt  
15 service on the bond rating and what is the  
16 actual bond rating for the Town of Hempstead,  
17 because there is some confusion about it?

18          COMPTROLLER CONROY The bond rating  
19 for the Town of Hempstead, currently exists  
20 at investment Grade A.

21          It is Double A, um, upper font A,  
22 lower Case A, that is about three down from  
23 the top.

24          The debt service, itself, as if you  
25 have a mortgage, you pay interest and you pay

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Principal on your mortgage, debt service is  
2 the same concept, here, interest and  
3 principal on the bonding, for the fact, in  
4 this case, the road improvements.

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5 META MEREDAY: Okay, thank you.

6 As I mentioned the other numbers  
7 earlier, I want to stay on my time, Heaven  
8 forbid.

9 I don't you really need to have four  
10 service officers trying to escort me from the  
11 table.

12 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
13 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

14 META MEREDAY: With these contract,  
15 um, accepting proposals for two, I have a  
16 serious issue with regard to the  
17 implementation of this ethics process, here,  
18 when we have people that are sitting on this  
19 Board who are determining, um, salaries and  
20 things of that nature, so, maybe, Mr. Ra,  
21 since I am still confused as to whose  
22 attorney you are, if you are trying to bring  
23 on more people to be attorneys because you  
24 stated that the Town Board - -

25 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 rang. After, the following ensued.)

2 META MEREDAY: - - authorizes their  
3 budget - -

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
5 much, Ms. Mereday.

6 We have a lot of people, here, today.

7 We are adhering to the timeframe. It  
8 is a three-minute rule.

9 The clock, mechanically, is not  
10 resetting, it is three minutes.

11 META MEREDAY: But I did have a  
12 question that was on it.

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Ra, answer  
14 that question, then, we will move on.

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Your question is?

16 META MEREDAY: Could you, please,  
17 address the clock?

18 Many of us had to stand out in the  
19 lobby, so, we weren't aware.

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Because of the  
21 large crowd, today, the Supervisor has  
22 decided to go back to the three-minute rule,  
23 that is in our rules and regulations in the  
24 past as a courtesy to the general public.

25 He was allowing five minutes but in

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 an effort to have everyone speak, we went  
2 back to three minutes.

3 META MEREDAY: Okay.

4 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Your question is  
5 about the outside counsel that are being  
6 hired?

7 META MEREDAY: Yes.

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Okay, are you  
9 talking about Mr. Lester, Mr. Marino, those  
10 are the ones that you are talking about?

11 META MEREDAY: Right, the contracts  
12 that are being voted on by Board Members, who  
13 have relatives, who work for the Town, how  
14 can they ethically vote for anything that  
15 pertains to that.

16 I don't know what relationship these  
17 attorneys have with anyone who is sitting on  
18 this Board.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't believe  
20 those attorneys have any relationship.

21 META MEREDAY: But you don't have that  
22 in writing.

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't believe any  
24 of the attorneys on the list have any  
25 relationships.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           META MEREDAY: Okay, so, in answer to  
2 the questions about the attorneys that you  
3 said that the Town Board passed in their  
4 budget, so, we need to - - need to make sure  
5 that is correct.

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6           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Thank you.

7           META MEREDAY: You're welcome, no  
8 problem.

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

11           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We are on the  
12 Administrative Items that have not been  
13 severed.

14           Name and address for the record.  
15 State the item that you wish to speak  
16 about.

17           WILIAM McCABE: William McCabe, Floral  
18 Park.

19           The Verizon lawsuit, can you explain  
20 that, what is the background?

21           When clearly we lost something really  
22 badly and the Town has to pay out all that  
23 money.

24           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The short answer is  
25 that the Town is indemnified by the County

1 of Nassau.

2 This has to do with assessment cases  
3 dating back to, at least, 2005, um, the money  
4 is being bonded because under the laws of the  
5 State of New York, the Town must pay it out  
6 first and, then, seek reimbursement from  
7 Nassau County.

8 WILLIAM McCABE: How long did the Town  
9 know that they had to pay that money out?

10 How long did the Board know?

11 Did you know, Mr. Ra?

12 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The judgments were  
13 probably issued within the last sixty to  
14 ninety days.

15 I am not one hundred percent sure.

16 But, as you might appreciate, to take  
17 twenty-five million dollars and pay it out  
18 lump sum, when it is, um, it is to pay  
19 liabilities that have formed over the last  
20 fourteen or fifteen years or so, um, would  
21 not be prudent and plus we have to wait for  
22 reimbursement from the County who will also,  
23 then, be out and bond it.

24 So, that is why that is being bonded.

25 WILLIAM McCABE: Right, the question



1 was, how long did the Town - -

2 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Whenever the Judge  
3 signs the Order to pay is when the clock  
4 starts to run.

5 I would think within the last sixty to  
6 ninety days.

7 WILLIAM McCABE: Can you get me that  
8 information before January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Sure, please, send  
10 me a FOIL request.

11 WILLIAM McCABE: Okay, and, as for the  
12 lawyers that are being hired on 23 and 25, I  
13 mentioned in the past the lawyers that the  
14 Town hires go and donate money to Citizens  
15 for Santino, Friends of Santino, Citizens for  
16 this guy, has there been any research done as  
17 to whether or not those law firms and  
18 partners and associates have donated any  
19 monies to any of these recent campaigns.

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No, it has nothing  
21 to do with their hiring.

22 Phil Marino has been a member of the  
23 Town Attorney's Office for thirty-five years.

24 WILLIAM McCABE: No, I am talking  
25 about the, um - -

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I am telling you it  
2 has nothing to do with it.

3 Short answer, it has nothing to do  
4 with it, no research was done.

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5 WILLIAM McCABE: Not on the, um, this  
6 law firm that is rated in Number 23.

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: They are of the - -

8 WILLIAM McCABE: Not 23, 35.

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: They are one of the  
10 premium Labor Relations firms on Long Island.

11 WILLIAM McCABE: Okay, I will look  
12 into that.

13 Thank you.

14 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
15 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Anyone on - -  
17 sir.

18 JEFF HANSON: Jeff Hanson, East  
19 Meadow.

20 This is my first time, here.

21 First of all, I want to say thank you  
22 to you because I think you gave your job your  
23 best shot.

24 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
25 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 JEFF HANSON: I thank you.

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you, sir.

3 JEFF HANSON: I also am concerned  
4 because, um, the appointment of all of these  
5 people that basically are going to extend  
6 into the term of the Democratic term, um, it  
7 seems to me that is a real problem because if  
8 you have someone from the other Party coming  
9 in and taking over but they have to use all  
10 the people that were appointed by the other  
11 Party, who, evidently are going to lean in  
12 that direction in terms of their political  
13 outlook, I see two clashing forces and I am  
14 concerned about that because I live in the  
15 Town of Hempstead.

16 I pay taxes here and I am also  
17 concerned this is a historic precedent, in  
18 that, you know, for the first time in one  
19 hundred years that there will be a Democrat.

20 There is a change of Party.

21 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
22 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

23 JEFF HANSON: You are setting a  
24 precedent.

25 It is here.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           You may very well win the 2020  
2 election.

3           You're setting the precedence today,  
4 you know, am I going to put all my people in.

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5           So, you are going to have to work with  
6 them in 2020.

7           The shoe is on the other foot. So, I  
8 would urge you to come to some kind of  
9 compromise so the incoming Supervisor has, at  
10 least, half a chance of working with someone  
11 of her own people, you know, you appoint one.

12           They appoint two.

13           (Whereupon, calling out and yelling  
14 was heard from the audience. After, the  
15 following ensued.)

16           JEFF HANSON: Thank you.

17           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you, sir.

18           (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
19 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

20           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, on the  
21 Administrative Calendar, now.

22           (Whereupon, "excuse me, I have  
23 something to say," was heard yelling out from  
24 the audience. After, the following ensued.)

25           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, you

1 Already spoke once.

2 Name and address for the record.

3 BARBARA SIDER: Barbara Sider(phonetic  
4 spelling), Valley Stream.

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, what  
6 specific item on the Administrative Calendar?

7 BARBARA SIDER: I want to ask about  
8 51, do you really feel a need to have not one  
9 but two Town of Hempstead IDA's and Nassau  
10 County IDA's creating businesses in my  
11 community?

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Well, these are  
13 appointments to the Board.

14 There are currently - -

15 BARBARA SIDER: Right.

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: There is  
17 currently and has been for many, many years,  
18 a Town of Hempstead IDA.

19 There are, I believe, there are four  
20 vacancies that we are filling, obviously, um,  
21 you know, there is - - a case can be made for  
22 having a Town IDA.

23 And, there are some, I guess, that  
24 would talk counter to it but that is not the  
25 issue, here, the issue really is about.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

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BARBARA SIDER: Resumes?

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Town  
Attorney?

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The resumes are  
online, but they are posted online.

BARBARA SIDER: It is a probable after  
a Hearing - -

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Well, they are  
posted online.

BARBARA SIDER: Fred Parola's office,  
yes?

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Town  
Attorney?

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The resumes for the  
people on this calendar are posted online,  
okay.

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: The Town WEB  
site.

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: On the Town WEB  
site.

BARBARA SIDER: One more thing, the  
Green Acres Mall is in litigation and we are  
paying a law firm, all of the Town of  
Hempstead, now, is funding the litigation  
because it was done wrong.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I am wondering, this is going to be  
2 the third Board, do we really want to go  
3 there or just slow it down.

4 Fix what is broken before we move  
5 forward.

6 We have Nassau County providing just  
7 as many PILOTS.

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We will know very  
9 shortly about Green Acres Mall because the  
10 State Comptroller's Office is finishing an  
11 audit.

12 BARBARA SIDER: Yes, I speak to him  
13 weekly.

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: So, we will know  
15 shortly where we are.

16 BARBARA SIDER: So, when we know, what  
17 recourse do we have?

18 We will hire another law firm to  
19 defend the Board?

20 Who defends the residents?

21 (Whereupon, "no one," was heard  
22 screaming out from the audience. After, the  
23 following ensued.)

24 (Whereupon, "We just waste taxpayers'  
25 money" was heard yelling out from the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Audience. After, the following ensued.)

2 BARBARA SIDER: Do you get what I am  
3 saying?

4 When you hired the law firm, silly me,  
5 I was excited.

6 I spoke to Bill Muller. I told  
7 everyone the were going to defend the  
8 residents.

9 And, I find out, how stupid, they were  
10 hired to defend Fred Parola and the previous  
11 Board who resigned the night before they were  
12 going to get fired.

13 There is something terribly wrong with  
14 the whole thing and I don't see why there is  
15 a rush to replace all those Board Members  
16 when we don't even know what we are dealing  
17 with and what kind of residents we should be  
18 looking for.

19 This is just more of the same.

20 Thank you.

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.

22 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
23 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Name an address  
25 for the record, please.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 TERRY WINSTON: My name is Terry  
2 Winston. I reside at 55 Winton Road in the  
3 Incorporated Village of Hempstead.

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Which Item on the  
5 Administrative Calendar?

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6 TERRY WINSTON: I am going to speak in  
7 reference to 50, which is the appointments of  
8 the Town of Hempstead IDA, the new Members.

9 Um, I would like to bring up what the  
10 last person that spoke said with respect to  
11 the IDA.

12 Again, their track record, which isn't  
13 good, they botched up Green Acres.

14 They botched up that racetrack in, um,  
15 Elmont, um, the Center in Elmont.

16 Um, a few years prior to that, I  
17 believe, um, they, um, gave a PILOT to 600  
18 Fulton Street.

19 Um, he is a slum lord and, okay, um,  
20 they recently, um, defaulted on this PILOT.

21 They recently gave him another PILOT,  
22 so he can default on that.

23 Okay, all of these, um, all of these  
24 breaks are given, um, at the expense of the  
25 taxpayers, all right.

1 Um, I also like to complain about Fred  
2 Parola and his staff and how very  
3 disrespectful and, um, total disregard for  
4 what is right when it comes down to running a  
5 meeting.

6 I was at a meeting, um, last week,  
7 Monday, um, LDC Meeting with regards to, um,  
8 an applicant in the Village of Hempstead and,  
9 um, I said about three words and Mr. Parola  
10 interrupted me and I interrupted and I said,  
11 it is my time to speak and it was and he  
12 called security on me.

13 So, I, rather than get arrested or  
14 whatever, I decided to leave.

15 So, I couldn't even, you know, speak  
16 on anything or question the applicant.

17 I feel, as a taxpayer, I have a right  
18 to know where my money is going.

19 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
20 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

21 TERRY WINSTON: And, he claims he has  
22 a vetting process but, um, if I have  
23 something or something to support my  
24 concerns, I should have a right to speak on  
25 it.

1 And, he should not be advising the  
2 applicant that, that they don't have to  
3 answer any of my questions and neither should  
4 he.

5 So, anyhow, I leave. I am out in the  
6 hallway and that gentleman right, there, he  
7 shows up with four people and, um, I was  
8 having a conversation with another, um,  
9 individual, um, and, um, he told me not only  
10 did I have to leave.

11 I told him, I said, I left where the  
12 meeting is being held and, um, and he said I  
13 had to leave the building entirely.

14 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
15 rang. After, the following ensued.)

16 TERRY WINSTON: So, I left.

17 Listen, this is important, okay.

18 Fred Parola has to go, you know and  
19 everybody else on that Board knows it.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Your time has  
21 expired.

22 Thank you very much.

23 I will accept a Motion on the  
24 Administrative Calendar except for the items  
25 that have been severed.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

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Is there a Motion?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr.

Supervisor, I make the Motion to accept the  
Administrative Calendar except for the items  
that have been severed.

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I second the  
Motion.

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Call the roll,  
please.

CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye, except for  
Item 51 which I recuse myself.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
Sweeny?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye except  
2 I will be abstaining on 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 17,  
3 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 on that we have a  
4 Compliance Officer going forward, I think  
5 these votes will be a lot easier in the  
6 future.

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7 I would like to point out that Item 49  
8 that is approval to apply for a Grant with  
9 New York State in connection with the Baldwin  
10 Redevelopment.

11 I am very excited about that.

12 I want to single out, um, Commissioner  
13 George Bakich for his monumental help in  
14 completing that activation.

15 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
16 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Ma'am, did you  
18 sign in on the Administrative Calendar?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, I did.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: What item would  
21 you like to speak on?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would like to  
23 speak about, um, item, um, I believe it was  
24 Item 35.

25 Um, essentially, I am making a

1 Blanket statement.

2 Mr. Santino lost this Election.

3 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Item 35?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, yes.

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Special Counsel,  
6 Bee, Ready, Fishbein, Hatter & Donovan.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, Special  
8 Counsel.

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Which I feel  
11 you cannot do.

12 This is a democracy. You did not win  
13 this Election.

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Yes.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This is, um, a  
16 small lame duck period and virtually every  
17 item on the agenda, um, with the exception of  
18 Town Ordinances, um, relate to, um, people  
19 that you intend to appoint in perpetuity.

20 You cannot hold onto power when you  
21 lost the Election.

22 This is not - -

23 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
24 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It doesn't work

1 like this.

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: So, and, again,  
3 with respect to Bee, Ready, Fishbein, Hatter  
4 & Donovan?

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5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think that  
6 Mrs. Gillen won the Election.

7 She will be taking office on January  
8 2<sup>nd</sup>, that is several weeks from today and she  
9 is, as the new Town of Hempstead Supervisor,  
10 entitled to choose her own law firm, her own  
11 ethics appointees, her own Inspector General.

12 Um, you have resisted, um, appointing  
13 for years and years, yes, until you lost this  
14 Election, now, you want to put someone in  
15 place who will almost have unlimited powers  
16 to reach in with a dead hand to rest powers  
17 from the duly elected Town Supervisor.

18 We all object to this.

19 We went to the polls to vote.

20 We elected Mrs. Gillen.

21 There is good reason why you weren't  
22 elected, um, and this bullying and these  
23 corrupt practices trying to install your  
24 appointees when you have lost.

25 You are no longer as of January 2<sup>nd</sup>,

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 you re not Town Supervisor anymore, that is  
2 how it works.

3 And, you are not going to tie Mrs.  
4 Gillen's hands.

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5 She is entitled to her own appointees  
6 and also her own, um, contracts with, um,  
7 Civil Service Employees, so, you know - -

8 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
9 rang. After, the following ensued.)

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
11 much.

12 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
13 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We will take a  
15 break, after, we will come back to consider  
16 the two severed items.

17 (Whereupon, a 15-minute break was  
18 taken. After, the following ensued.)

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We will deal with  
20 the two severed items, 17 and 55.

21 Mr. Steven Greenfield.

22 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,  
23 before the public speaks, I have some  
24 questions about this particular item.

25 Mr. Supervisor, can you tell me what,



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 in this item is for the taxpayers?

2 What is in this item for the workers  
3 who plow the snow, sweep the streets, clean  
4 the bathrooms and pick up the garbage?

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5 I would like to know that?

6 What is in this for the taxpayers and  
7 what is in it for our Town Laborers?

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I am assuming you  
9 are talking about the Collective Bargaining  
10 Agreement?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: That is correct.

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: The Civil Service  
13 Employee Association that is part of the  
14 negotiations with the Union and what it does  
15 it provides further protection for our  
16 employees going forth, so, that is my answer.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Protection for  
18 which employees?

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: That is my  
20 answer, Councilman.

21 DONNA CASAZZA: That is not an answer.

22 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,  
23 what did we get I return for this no layoff  
24 clause from the Union?

25 What do the taxpayers get?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 DONNA CASAZZA: Corruption.

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Ra, it was  
3 part of the negotiation Hearing.

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: It already  
5 passed the contract.

6 Why would it be amended without  
7 anything to be gained for the taxpayers of  
8 the Town?

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Councilman, you  
10 can vote and make whatever statement.

11 We want to hear from the public.

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I would like to  
13 finish my statement.

14 This provision is handcuffing the Town  
15 Board going forward, all the Members of the  
16 Town Board, not just the new Supervisor.

17 It is going to jeopardize the fiscal  
18 integrity of this Town.

19 It is against every principle of good  
20 government.

21 There is no reason for this other than  
22 a blatant power grab that benefits no one but  
23 the ruling class.

24 It doesn't benefit the wealthy class.

25 It doesn't benefit the poor class.

1 It doesn't benefit the middle class.

2 It benefits on one but the ruling  
3 class.

4 I think it is a cynical play.

5 I thin it is totally antithetical to  
6 the way government should be run.

7 And, it is certainly against the  
8 principles of the Republican Party and the  
9 Conservative Party which I have been and many  
10 Members have been given the privilege of  
11 running under those Party's banner.

12 This is against all of the principles.

13 I want to know who initiated this and  
14 what the taxpayers are getting in return.

15 Nobody has answered that question yet.

16 And, I think that question needs to be  
17 answered.

18 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
19 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Greenfield?

21 (Whereupon, "answer the question," was  
22 heard yelling out from the audience. After,  
23 the following ensued.)

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is Mr.  
25 Greenfield, here?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Mr. Greenfield is not here?

2 Please, good order in the audience.

3 STANLEY GREENFIELD: Stanley

4 Greenfield. 2336 Harrison in Baldwin.

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5 Um, I came - - I am the President of  
6 the Baldwin Civic Association and I came  
7 before this Council, um, earlier in the year  
8 to thank you, Supervisor Santino for your  
9 efforts to get the Baldwin Project back on  
10 track and I thank you for that and for your  
11 many years of service, but, today, I come to  
12 talk about good government issues.

13 When I read in the newspaper that  
14 employees were being transferred or promoted  
15 prior to the end of the year, this includes  
16 many clearly identified political appointees  
17 whose continued tenure should be determined  
18 by the income Supervisor.

19 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
20 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

21 STEVEN GREENFIELD: The laws of this  
22 State was created to limit nepotism and  
23 political appointees so that employment in  
24 government is based on objective standards,  
25 no political affiliations.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           This movement of individuals to Civil  
2 Service positions flips the Civil Service Law  
3 on its head, using the law to protect  
4 political appointees, just the opposite.

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5           Certainly there maybe employees  
6 entitled to a raise, at this time.

7           I don't propose to interfere with the  
8 salaries, but the transfers should be  
9 rescinded.

10          Second, I have read that the Board is  
11 considering a match that would amend the  
12 Collective Bargaining Agreement that would  
13 prevent the future Administration from  
14 imposing layoffs or eliminating jobs for any  
15 reason other than misconduct.

16          As someone who took great pride in  
17 reducing the Town's workforce, Mr. Santino, I  
18 cannot imagine how you would react to such a  
19 proposal if you were to continue in office.

20                 What happens if we have a recession?

21                 What happens when this new Republican  
22 tax cut is implemented dramatically  
23 eliminating New York State and localities  
24 ability to raise necessary revenue?

25                 This proposal is ill-advised and

1 potentially damaging to all residents of the  
2 Town.

3 I hope that the Counsel will put the  
4 needs of the residents and taxpayers before  
5 parochial abominations and pass the baton to  
6 the new Administration without hampering  
7 flexibility to act.

8 I can't believe I am saying this,  
9 Donald Trump was elected with the slogan,  
10 "Drain the swamp."

11 This resolution represents swamp  
12 behavior.

13 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
14 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

15 (Whereupon, "Yes, yes," was heard.  
16 After, the following ensued.)

17 STEVEN GREENFIELD: Council, voters  
18 will remember if you put patronage ahead of  
19 taxpayers' interests.

20 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
21 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Richard Schurin?

23 No Mr. Schurin, okay. Audrey Ciuffo?

24 Name and address for the record.

25 AUDREY CIUFFO: My name is Audrey

1 Ciuffo.

2 40 Nancy Boulevard, Merrick, New York.

3 I am proud to say that I am a resident  
4 of Merrick, Town of Hempstead.

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5 I love this place. I love this  
6 County.

7 I moved from Brooklyn sixteen and a  
8 half years ago.

9 I moved for a better life.

10 I moved for an ethical life with my  
11 County and Town employees behaving in an  
12 ethical manner.

13 I am speaking about this because this  
14 is unethical in every way possible.

15 I am sure you have been reading the  
16 newspapers.

17 I am sure you are listening to  
18 people's comments.

19 Are you like Pharaoh, who are so hard  
20 hearted you can't see before you?

21 What will it take for you to stop  
22 this?

23 Because this is the wrong thing to do.

24 The tide has turned.

25 You can see that by the results of the

1 Election.

2 Don't let the tide wash you away so  
3 that you can't come back.

4 People have long memories.

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5 It is really, really important that  
6 you allow the voters and me, I am part of  
7 those voters, to have their choice respected.

8 Mr. Santino, you were voted out after  
9 over a hundred years of Republican control in  
10 this County.

11 You were voted out.

12 Must you try to enforce what you want  
13 for the new Administration?

14 We voted.

15 Our vote should count and I would also  
16 like to make a special plea to Councilwoman  
17 Goosby, you are elected by Democratic voters,  
18 as well, I am sure, some Republicans.

19 We expected you and do expect you to  
20 follow the will of the people.

21 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
22 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

23 AUDREY CIUFFO: Laura Gillen is the  
24 head of our Party in the Town of Hempstead.

25 And, we expect you to work with her,



1 agreeing to this egregious proposition is not  
2 working with Laura.

3 We know you're better than this.

4 We know it.

5 I have been to events with you, Ms.  
6 Goosby, I have seen you.

7 If you don't want to work with the  
8 Democrats, then, I don't know why you don't  
9 change your Party.

10 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
11 rang. After, the following ensued.)

12 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
13 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

14 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
15 much.

16 Helene Manas?

17 Name and address for the record,  
18 please.

19 HELENE MANAS: Helene Manas. 1899  
20 Elsie Avenue, Merrick, New York.

21 Let me start by saying I am a Union  
22 Member and a big Union supporter but this  
23 eleventh hour amendment to the Collective  
24 Bargaining Agreement with the Civil Service  
25 Employees Association is a backroom deal that

1 hurts taxpayers.

2 If the economy implodes, the Town  
3 Board will not be able to reevaluate staffing  
4 which will force and increase their taxes  
5 when residents cannot afford it.

6 No responsible elected official would  
7 ever agree to this.

8 Also, in July, the Town Board voted to  
9 approve the five-year contract of this Union  
10 in which the Town's ability - - kept its  
11 ability to have layoffs.

12 Isn't it funny that, now, Supervisor  
13 Santino lost is, um, position, now, all of a  
14 sudden you want to take that away.

15 It is sabotage.

16 He is trying to bankrupt the Town so  
17 that Laura Gillen fails.

18 The taxpayers will not stand for it.

19 We made our choice and you can't deal  
20 with it.

21 I would like to also thank, um, I am  
22 sorry, ha, ha, I would also like to thank my  
23 Councilwoman Sweeney and Councilman Blakeman  
24 for speaking up and standing on the side of  
25 the people of the Town of Hempstead.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
2 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

3 HELENE MANAS: And, to Councilwoman  
4 Goosby, I hope you will vote no on this issue  
5 since you should be supporting Laura Gillen,  
6 no Supervisor Santino.

7 You are a Democrat.

8 You are the only Democrat on this  
9 Council. You should be representing us.

10 And, if you are not going to vote like  
11 a Democrat, then, you need to become a  
12 Republican so that the people of your  
13 District can see you for who you are and they  
14 will vote in a real Democrat.

15 Thank you and I hope everybody  
16 searches their conscience and votes no for  
17 this because this is going to hurt you  
18 because you will still be on the Board.

19 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Ms. Manas,  
20 thank you for your comments.

21 Following up on your financial  
22 questions, um, Mr. Conroy, would you mind  
23 answering some questions.

24 I know you were away for a couple of  
25 days.

1 I did send to your office a memo that  
2 asked for the financial impact of this  
3 amendment to the Collective Bargaining  
4 Agreement.

5 Could you share your analysis with us?

6 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Yes,  
7 Councilwoman. Oh, yes, I was out of Town.

8 I was in Denver in pursuit of another  
9 job that called me to be out of Town once a  
10 year.

11 I had staff in my Department reach out  
12 to you in regard to this matter.

13 The cost effect or the cost regarding  
14 these transfers is going to take a few days  
15 and that was communicated to your office.

16 It needs to be done on a case by case  
17 basis.

18 Looking at these transfers, um, what I  
19 see, now, subject to check, subject to  
20 comprehensive review is no real, no monetary  
21 adjustment from transfer from Department A to  
22 Department B.

23 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I  
24 appreciate that.

25 As far as the amendment to CSEA, so,

1 I think, one, is the, um, transfers or other  
2 employment actions we are taking with one  
3 hundred and ninety people, the other things  
4 which I am most concerned about is, right,  
5 now, is the eleventh-hour amendment to the  
6 CSEA, um, no layoff provision, what impact  
7 will that have on the Town?

8 COMPROLLER CONROY: That remains to  
9 be seen, prospectively, I can't quantify that  
10 at this point.

11 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Some sort  
12 of financial analysis that would be - -

13 COMPROLLER CONROY: You would have to  
14 look at it and through attrition that would  
15 have to be neutralized through the affect -  
16 -

17 (Whereupon, calling out and screaming  
18 was heard from the audience. After, the  
19 following ensued.)

20 HELENE MANAS: Any place that has  
21 made it where you can't layoff a person  
22 because of budgetary issues, have you ever  
23 heard of that?

24 It is the most absurd that I have ever  
25 heard.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 I work in the New York City Board of  
2 Education and I had tenure and if there was  
3 no money, people were laid off.

4 It is the most absurd thing I ever  
5 heard.

6 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: If I am no  
7 mistaken, there had to be an approval, um, by  
8 the Comptroller's Office in order for this  
9 amendment to go forward, so, why would that  
10 have been offered in this if we haven't done  
11 the analysis, yet?

12 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
13 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

14 COMPTROLLER CONROY: The approval that  
15 was signed off by the Comptroller's Office  
16 was the approval as for the funds.

17 If you look at the Memorandum of  
18 Understand, you will see the stamp there,  
19 "approval," the Comptroller's Office approves  
20 the funds available.

21 In this budget, the '18 budget, we  
22 elevated all vacancies and in the budget,  
23 itself, is a line item, "salary adjustments,"  
24 to accommodate something that we would be in  
25 the course of this item.

1 Salary adjustment numbers were 2.4  
2 million dollars.

3 So, therefore, getting back to answer  
4 your questions, specifically and  
5 comprehensively, a total review would have to  
6 be done by a case by case basis.

7 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Let me  
8 ask, I have no problem with appropriate  
9 salary increases, I think people should  
10 always be paid an appropriate amount for  
11 their performance and their responsibilities.

12 I have no issue with that.

13 I have an issue with the fact tying  
14 the Town Board, now and going forward, um, no  
15 layoffs in the event of financial hardship.

16 And, I started off my legal career a  
17 Labor Lawyer.

18 I represented Labor Unions.

19 I have the support of a fair amount of  
20 Labor Unions.

21 I support Labor.

22 I support many of these incredible  
23 Town workers that we have in this room, today  
24 and throughout the Town of Hempstead, that is  
25 not the issue.

1           It is the issue that we have going  
2 forward no flexibility with regard to the  
3 workforce.

4           There has not to be some sort of  
5 financial impact.

6           I don't expect that you know it down  
7 to the last cent.

8           It would be too much in the future to  
9 predict that.

10          But, this can't be a good thing.

11          This can't be a good thing for our  
12 bond rating.

13          Wall Street can't like this.

14          (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
15 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

16          COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Conroy,  
17 truthfully, you would never recommend this to  
18 any Town Board, whether it is the people  
19 sitting here or Martians?

20          (Whereupon, "that is right, that is  
21 right, be honest," was heard yelling out from  
22 the audience.)

23          (Whereupon, the three-minute bell was  
24 heard. After, the following ensued.)

25          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I want you to be  
2 honest, Mr. Conroy.

3 I am talking to an official of the  
4 Town.

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5 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Councilman  
6 Blakeman, I am always honest.

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Conroy - -

8 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Yes?

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Okay, this is  
10 not the time to get your back up to talk  
11 about your honesty.

12 I have a great deal of respect for  
13 you.

14 I am asking you a question right, now,  
15 that I think the people of this Town need to  
16 hear and this is a moment of truth.

17 This would have a deleterious affect  
18 potentially on the Town that is unnecessary  
19 at this time, wouldn't you agree with that?

20 COMPTROLLER CONROY: I would agree,  
21 depending upon the function of the economy.

22 If the economy did, in fact, go South,  
23 this probably would have an adverse effect.

24 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
25 was heard.)

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           COMPTROLLER CONROY: Again, there are  
2 many factors to consider.

3           You have to consider attrition in  
4 there, as well.

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5           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
6 much.

7           Your time has expired.

8           COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Thank you. I  
9 appreciate that.

10          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Janet Poretsky?

11          Mary Ellen Kreye?

12          Mary Ellen Kreye?

13          Felix Procacci?

14          FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci. 1165  
15 Barnes Street, Franklin Square, New York.

16          In your Ethics Law, it states that  
17 Elected Officials may not cast a vote for any  
18 matter which a relative has a financial  
19 interest and defines what it is.

20          On the CSEA amendment, Mr. Santino,  
21 Mr. Dunne and Mr. D'Esposito cannot legally  
22 vote without violating the Ethics Law because  
23 they all have relatives that will benefit  
24 financially by not having - -

25          (Whereupon, applause from the audience

1 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

2 FELIX PROCACCI: - - Personnel issues,  
3 on the personnel issues, Mr. D'Esposito  
4 cannot vote because his brother is getting  
5 the raise, so, he has to abstain if he wants  
6 to follow his own Ethics Law.

7 (Whereupon, "he has no ethics," was  
8 heard yelling out from the audience. After,  
9 the following ensued.)

10 FELIX PROCACCI: And, Mr. Conroy has  
11 guaranteed us, right, that the economy will  
12 never, ever go South and that is why he is  
13 okay with this right?

14 He guarantees that.

15 There are others. So, you should shut  
16 up and not say that.

17 "No person during any" - - "No  
18 person during any express period of time for  
19 which compensation is provided to him or her  
20 by the Town shall pursue or engage in  
21 activities for his or her benefit."

22 These amendments in which the Town,  
23 the Union gave nothing in return and which  
24 you are giving exempt employees layoff  
25 protection.

1           They never gave anything in return.  
2           You are doing this for your benefit.  
3           Another part of your ethics  
4 legislation, Mr. Santino, in determining  
5 whether a conflict of interest exists under  
6 this local law, the Code of Ethics adopted,  
7 here, "direct or indirect pecuniary or  
8 material benefit accruing to an elected  
9 official."

10           Once, again, your Ethics Law.

11           So, you are violating your Ethics Law  
12 on numerous cases, here, if you vote for  
13 this, if D'Esposito votes for it or if Dunne  
14 votes for it.

15           (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
16 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

17           FELIX PROCACCI: The Board of Ethics  
18 with John Ryan, the most unethical person in  
19 this Town, who abhors ethics.

20           When Supervisor Santino, Councilman  
21 D'Esposito, Councilman Dunne and Councilwoman  
22 Goosby support the CSEA, if Santino had won  
23 the Election, how would you be in favor of  
24 this?

25           COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Mr.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Procacci, this wouldn't have been necessary.

2 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
3 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

4 FELIX PROCACCI: Once, again, just to  
5 emphasize, when Mr. Conroy he said in this  
6 amendment you can get rid of a person for  
7 incompetence, if he is saying this is good,  
8 that is proof that he is incompetent.

9 He should be removed immediately.

10 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
11 rang. After, the following ensued.)

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Procacci.

14 Wilhelmina Funderburg?

15 WILHELMINA FUNDERBURG: Wilhelmina  
16 Funderburg. (phonetic spelling) 156 East  
17 Clinton Avenue, Roosevelt, New York 11575.

18 Um, to start off with, I would like to  
19 congratulate you on all the work that you  
20 have done since you have been in office.

21 Um, I would like to speak about  
22 Councilwoman Goosby.

23 She has been on this Board, the only  
24 person on this Board that has been here  
25 longer.

1 She has - - she has fought two fronts  
2 on this Board.

3 One front has been African American  
4 and the other front was Democratic.

5 I heard quite a few people come up an  
6 ask her why doesn't she change her, um,  
7 political party?

8 Why doesn't Councilwoman Sweeney and  
9 Councilman Blakeman change theirs?

10 They are Republicans and they are  
11 staring to look like Democrats.

12 So, it seems to me, um, and to tell  
13 truth to justice to Councilwoman Goosby how  
14 to vote, she knows how to vote.

15 She knows her constituents' needs and  
16 people are so disrespectful.

17 It is unbelievable.

18 First of all, before they can start  
19 giving suggestions, they need to know how to  
20 be respectful when someone else is speaking.

21 I have been coming to these meetings  
22 for years.

23 Okay, years I have been coming, here  
24 and I have never seen such disrespect for the  
25 Councilwomen and Councilmen since I have

1 come to these meetings.

2 And, Councilwoman Goosby has done an  
3 excellent job for her constituents.

4 You know, I am one of her constituents  
5 and before she became a Member of the Board,  
6 we had no representative on this Hempstead  
7 Town Board.

8 So, she had done an excellent job, an  
9 excellent job.

10 And, I want to say one other thing,  
11 you know, I have been in the political arena  
12 a long time.

13 I was the Republican - - I have been  
14 a Republican for years.

15 I was a Committee person for years,  
16 okay.

17 And, I tell you this one thing, when  
18 you are out there working for people and you  
19 have to walk those streets and you find out  
20 what they need and what they want, that is  
21 what she has done.

22 A new regime is taking over and we  
23 have to bind together and work with the new  
24 regime, but, by no means will Councilwoman do  
25 anything differently than she has been doing

1 by working with all the Republicans on this  
2 Board.

3 Thank you.

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
5 much.

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

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Since you  
9 addressed me, I have to tell you, I believe  
10 that this proposal is antithetical to  
11 Republican principles, so, I am voting like a  
12 Republican but I will tell you this is not a  
13 Republican issue.

14 It is not a Democratic issue.

15 I don't know any place where a Town  
16 Board, a City Counsel, a State Legislature  
17 would aggregate their responsibilities to  
18 protect the taxpayers by entering into an  
19 agreement like this that doesn't help the  
20 taxpayers.

21 It hurts the taxpayers.

22 It doesn't help the workers.

23 As I said before, this doesn't do  
24 anything for the people who get up at 3:00  
25 o'clock in the morning and plow the snow.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           This isn't for the people who pick up  
2           garbage.

3           I worked on the back of a Town garbage  
4           truck. It is a rotten job.

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5           It is a tough job.

6           I worked as a janitor. This isn't  
7           protecting the janitors.

8           This is protecting a class of people  
9           that have been handpicked by the Supervisor  
10          and it is wrong.

11          It is against Republican principles.

12          It is against Democratic principles.

13          It is against America's principles.

14          WILHELMINA FUNDERBURG: I just want to  
15          say one thing.

16          SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mrs. Funderburg,  
17          your time is really up.

18          You could come back at a later part of  
19          the meeting.

20          COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I just  
21          want to add one thing, Bruce, I appreciate  
22          your comments and I fully share them.

23          I would say instead of passing this,  
24          um, ill-conceived CSEA amendment, what we  
25          really should do going forward is to treat

1 our workers well, is to treat all of them  
2 with respect and, um, eradicate the bullying  
3 environment that is happening.

4 Treat people equally within the Town  
5 of Hempstead and have a healthy work  
6 environment that should start at the top and  
7 get rid of anyone that has been harassing  
8 employees and people and we should have  
9 people, like me, have asked that people be  
10 investigated based on comments that have been  
11 said to my staff and the way I have been  
12 treated when I am ignored as a Council  
13 person, not me as an individual, me as a  
14 Council person, you know, we have a problem  
15 and that is how we can help our employees in  
16 the Town of Hempstead.

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Arielle Kane?  
18 Good Afternoon.

19 ARIELLE KANE: Thank you. Arielle  
20 Kane. 140 Grand Avenue in Rockville Center.  
21 I want to echo the comments that I heard by  
22 my fellow Town residents so far on Item 17.

23 And, I want to thank Councilman  
24 Blakeman and Councilwoman Sweeney who are the  
25 only two offices to respond to my requests

1 for information about how, um, the Council  
2 plans to vote, today on this matter.

3 Um, I have very serious concerns about  
4 the adoption of the CBA amendment, today.

5 I see nothing in the language of the  
6 proposed amendment, there is not a "whereas"  
7 clause, not a recital, nothing in the text of  
8 the amendment that indicates that there is a  
9 consideration for what is being agreed to,  
10 um, potentially here by the Council, today.

11 Um, "consideration" is a term of art  
12 for those who are not lawyers in the room, it  
13 means that every contract there is a give and  
14 a take.

15 I heard Councilman Blakeman make this  
16 point in the reopening of the session.

17 And, I didn't get an answer of what  
18 consideration has been received in exchange  
19 for the no layoff provision.

20 And, I would like to pose that  
21 question, again for an answer.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Counselor?

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The agreement  
24 details the give and take, the benefits to  
25 the Town and benefits to the Union.

1 So, the agreement speaks for itself.

2 ARIELLE KANE: Respectfully, that has  
3 already been signed, may have considerations  
4 in it.

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5 The separate addendum should also have  
6 independent consideration for it to be  
7 enforceable.

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: And, my answer is  
9 the agreement speaks for itself.

10 ARIELLE KANE: And, then, my read of  
11 the amendment is that there is no  
12 consideration that would make it enforceable.

13 So, my next question is what say the  
14 Council about voting for an amendment that  
15 would otherwise be unenforceable?

16 Is that an appropriate exercise of  
17 your responsibilities to the Town residents?

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I think,  
19 ultimately, we are going to have a large  
20 amount of legal bills going forward.

21 We are jeopardizing our financial  
22 health by not being able to layoff people  
23 which none of us want to do, by the way.

24 It is not like we are looking to lay  
25 people off but we need to have the options

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 should there be financial hardship should we  
2 be on the brink of bankruptcy, whatever.

3 Mr. Town Attorney, do you think it is  
4 reasonable to assume that should we pass this  
5 CSEA amendment, that we will incur legal  
6 costs defending it?

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The agreement is  
8 legal.

9 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Why?

10 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is a negotiated  
11 agreement between the Town and the Union.

12 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: My  
13 understanding - -

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: You can't litigate.

15 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: My  
16 understand, what I was told, we went to the  
17 CSEA and said we will give you this and there  
18 was nothing that they were giving to us.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: And, my answer,  
20 once, again, is this agreement is legal.

21 It contains consideration on both  
22 parts.

23 (Whereupon, "what is it," was heard  
24 yelling out from the audience.)

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I will not litigate

1 here.

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Okay, wait a  
3 second, excuse me, I would just like to say,  
4 thank you, Mr. Ra, um, spoken like a well  
5 trained and professional attorney and that is  
6 what you are and you do a very good job but,  
7 Mr. Supervisor, this is your proposal.

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8 This is going to define how people  
9 look at your stewardship of the Town.

10 Is this the way you want to go out, at  
11 least, defend what you are doing.

12 Tell the people what the consideration  
13 is.

14 This woman is absolutely right.

15 She is entitled to an answer.

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: The Town Attorney  
17 gave you an answer.

18 Do you have anything further, Ms.

19 Kane?

20 Thank you very much.

21 ARIELLE KANE: My time has not  
22 expired.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Please, continue.

24 ARIELLE KANE: Well, I would urge this  
25 Council to vote no, not to accept this

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Amendment or, at least, table it until we can  
2 get a legal opinion that it is an enforceable  
3 contract.

4 Thank you.

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you.

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

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Claudia Borecky?

9 CLAUDIA BORECKY: Claudia Borecky. 20  
10 Washington Drive, Merrick, New York.

11 First, I would like to start by  
12 saying, could you imagine if Obama had picked  
13 Trump's cabinet?

14 Could you imagine if he had done that?

15 Could you imagine if Mangano had  
16 picked Laura Curran's Commissioners that have  
17 to serve under her Administration?

18 No.

19 Why is the Town the only one that is  
20 allowed to do this?

21 It is crazy that you are appointing  
22 people to really stifle the new  
23 administration putting forward what the  
24 voters wanted and the voters wanted change.

25 They wanted honesty and integrity.

1           So, I want every Council person to  
2 think about what you are voting for, today.

3           Today, we are voting to raise people's  
4 taxes.

5           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: For the record,  
6 this does not impact Commissioners.

7           You are misinformed saying  
8 Commissioners.

9           Commissioners are not part of the  
10 agreement and it does not affect staff in an  
11 elected official's office.

12           You are misinformed with respect to  
13 that and you said about someone picking  
14 someone else's Commissioners, this does not  
15 affect Commissioners.

16           CLAUDIA BORECKY: The attorneys and  
17 you are picking - -

18           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: You said,  
19 "Commissioners" and you said something on the  
20 record that wasn't so and I wanted to just  
21 enlighten you.

22           CLAUDIA BORECKY: Okay, so, but,  
23 today, you are voting to raise people's taxes  
24 so you can give four million dollars to your  
25 friends and family.



1 Are you required to file disclosure  
2 papers listing any family members that maybe  
3 impacted by this resolution or the CBA  
4 patronage amendment?

5 Councilwoman Goosby, you sold out your  
6 community so you could get raises to your  
7 high-salaried base.

8 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I did  
9 not.

10 CLAUDIA BORECKY: How many roads could  
11 be paved with four million dollars?

12 How could we look at constituents in  
13 the eye and tell them that you are raising  
14 their taxes so that you can give Aides  
15 raises?

16 How can you also invent jobs to  
17 continue to pay Mike Deery, the spinmeister  
18 for the GOP a two hundred thousand dollar  
19 salary is outrageous.

20 Come on, Confidential Assistant to the  
21 Receiver of Taxes.

22 Confidential shouldn't be in the  
23 public sector.

24 What are you hiding?

25 What is the secrecy there?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           It is a slap in the face of the  
2 residents of the Town of Hempstead, blatantly  
3 claiming that the Party is more important  
4 than the people that you are elected to  
5 represent.

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6           To say to your constituents, "give me  
7 four million dollars so I can continue to  
8 feed my friends and family," while they  
9 struggle to put food on their table is  
10 outright cruel.

11           These days of confidentiality, days of  
12 secrecy, days of backroom deals are over.

13           The public wants good, honest and  
14 transparent government.

15           You work for us.

16           We pay your salaries and we pay the  
17 salaries of your hundred and ninety-two  
18 friends and family.

19           So, I am asking you to look over these  
20 one hundred and ninety-two positions that are  
21 costing us taxpayers four million dollars and  
22 vote no on these outrageous appointments or  
23 at the least, if any of your friends or  
24 family will benefit from this vote, I ask you  
25 to abstain from voting today.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
2 rang. After, the following ensued.)

3 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
4 much.

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5 Luis Mendez?

6 Luis Mendez? Mr. Mendez? Name and  
7 address for the record.

8 LUIS MENDEZ: Thank you. Luis Mendez.  
9 36 Heart Lane, Westbury, New York.

10 Um, Supervisor, first and foremost, I  
11 want to thank you for your service and I wish  
12 you a great retirement.

13 To the Members - - I mean that, you  
14 served well and, obviously, the voters have  
15 spoken and it is time to move on.

16 To, um, Councilwoman Goosby, I have  
17 respected you always.

18 I have admired you, um, because I know  
19 exactly how you got to this Board.

20 I know the struggles of the African  
21 American, Latino community creating  
22 Councilmatic Districts and I respect your  
23 position.

24 No one, I think, here, came to  
25 disrespect you and if it came across that

1 way, shame on them.

2 I apologize on their behalf.

3 We are, here, not to disrespect you  
4 but to ask you to respect us.

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5 DONNA CASAZZA: That's right.

6 LUIS MENDEZ: And, my former  
7 colleague, who I admire for being the first  
8 Latino elected in the County Legislature,  
9 Dennis Dunne, who happens to be Puerto Rican  
10 or Puerto Rican decent.

11 I want to say to you, as Member of  
12 the Hispanic Community, um, I run the largest  
13 Hispanic organization in the Town of  
14 Hempstead, in the County of Nassau, that is  
15 Hispanic Soccer Federation, roughly about  
16 twenty-five thousand members in Nassau County  
17 and Suffolk.

18 And, I want to say to all of you that  
19 I have a set of triplets that are twenty-  
20 three years old.

21 I have a seventeen year old, who is  
22 going away to college.

23 I have a twelve year old.

24 My seventeen year old and twelve year  
25 old perform in your Hispanic event this

1 past September, um, and, so, the reason why I  
2 bring them up is I would like to have them  
3 get a job where they bypass the Civil Service  
4 components - -

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

7 LUIS MENDEZ: - - Where they end up  
8 getting a six-figure salary and not have to  
9 worry about ever being fired, that they are  
10 guaranteed a job.

11 Unfortunately, for me, I don't have  
12 the capacity to do that, even though I am  
13 politically active.

14 I run a twenty-five thousand people  
15 organization as a volunteer and so, I implore  
16 you Councilman Dunne that you have the  
17 ability to become a superstar, a rising star  
18 in the Republican Party and be able to make  
19 your voice heard today by doing the right  
20 thing.

21 I run my own company and if I run out  
22 of money, I have the ability to layoff people  
23 that I don't want to layoff.

24 And, we should have the same thing as  
25 taxpayers.

1 I love my service.

2 I want to commend the Town workers,  
3 the sanitation workers.

4 They are always there when you call  
5 for anything and I commend them.

6 And, this is not for them.

7 This is for the politically elite  
8 connected, so that they can get a free pass  
9 and do everything that they can to be able to  
10 make a lot of money by bypassing the Civil  
11 Service Laws.

12 Thank you so much for your service, at  
13 the same time, your service does not end,  
14 here.

15 It ends after this vote.

16 Thank you.

17 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
18 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Valerie Lampe?

20 Name and address for the record.

21 VALERIE LAMPE: Valerie Lampe,  
22 Baldwin, New York.

23 And, I just want to say that, um, I am  
24 here in spite of having a loved one, a World  
25 War II Veteran on life support right, now and

1 I expect the last several hours listening to  
2 everything, um, so, clearly this is important  
3 to me.

4 And, um, I really thank you, soon-to-  
5 be former Supervisor Santino for awakening me  
6 in terms of how important it is to pay  
7 attention and get involved with your local  
8 government and officials.

9 So, thank you for that.

10 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
11 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

12 VALERIE LAMPE: Now, um, I actually  
13 like to ask what the process is, Mr. Ra, I  
14 know you are busy doing something over there,  
15 what is the process of being hired or being  
16 appointed for whatever jobs are being doled  
17 out right, now?

18 For example, "Confidential Assistant  
19 to a Tax Assessor," which is not so  
20 confidential.

21 No one knows about that.

22 What is the process for that?

23 Stop my clock, please.

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: You want to know  
25 what the process of being hired, here?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           You make an application to Human  
2 Resources and if there is an opening and you  
3 get an interview and if you pass the  
4 interview, you go to Civil Service physicals  
5 and drug testing and that is the essential  
6 process.

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7           VALERIE LAMPE: That job was posted.

8           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No, I didn't say  
9 that. I said that if you are interested in  
10 employment, here, you can file an application  
11 with the Human Resources Department and if  
12 your qualifications match an opening, you  
13 will be called for an interview.

14           VALERIE LAMPE: So, what are the  
15 qualifications for "Assistant Confidential  
16 Person to the Tax Receiver"?

17           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don' have those -  
18 -

19           VALERIE LAMPE: But there was a job  
20 description for every single job that was  
21 doles out recently for this proposal?

22           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There is a job  
23 description for everything, yes.

24           VALERIE LAMPE: Are there multiple  
25 candidates interviewed for each and every



1 single position?

2 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It depends.

3 VALERIE LAMPE: It depends on what?

4 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It depends if there  
5 are candidates, if we have the right person  
6 for the position.

7 You cannot give a general answer to  
8 that type of a question.

9 VALERIE LAMPE: Of course not.

10 Well, I hear that your position may  
11 become vacant and I would like to throw my  
12 hat in that ring because I mean, I am not a  
13 lawyer.

14 I have never been to law school and I  
15 never passed the bar but the magical word and  
16 this is why I am not really scared or  
17 intimidated by this latest shenanigans, the  
18 magical word to me is, "incompetence,"  
19 regardless of not being able to lay people  
20 off due to economic downturns and anything  
21 would make fiscal, conservative sense.

22 We would still have the ability to let  
23 go of people based on the word,  
24 "incompetence," which I just GOOGLED  
25 Wikipedia says, "not having or showing the

1 necessary skills to do something  
2 successfully. Also known as inept,  
3 unskillful, in expert, bungling, clumsy,  
4 inadequate and inefficient."

5 Let me tell you, this is a great day  
6 in our life.

7 We have been looking forward to this  
8 last meeting for a very long time.

9 And, I want to let you know, soon-to-  
10 be former Supervisor Santino, we are already  
11 firing for incompetence.

12 We will do the rest. We will find a  
13 way to remove each brick of this false,  
14 hurtful wall to the taxpayers, brick by  
15 brick.

16 We will turn this Town around.

17 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
18 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Lucille Defina?

20 (Whereupon, "go girl," was heard  
21 yelling out from the audience. After, the  
22 following ensued.)

23 LUCILLE DEFINA: You know, it is  
24 incredible, I don't know what I can say any  
25 different than what everybody is saying.

1           Time after time, it is amazing to me  
2           the amount of knowledge and what people can  
3           come up here and how much they know and I  
4           learn so much just from listening to what  
5           people had to say.

6           And, of course, Supervisor Santino  
7           that has always been your greatest problem  
8           listening to people.

9           You never listen to anyone.

10          And, it is funny how Dorothy Goosby  
11          has become just such an advocate of yours,  
12          your right-hand person and someone you  
13          whisper and talk to throughout these  
14          meetings, since you have been sitting in that  
15          chair.

16          Dorothy, I don't want to insult you  
17          but you have to think on every level.

18          Everyone is coming up here and  
19          speaking their mind and speaking their view  
20          and whether you understand the ins and outs  
21          and legalities or you don't understand it at  
22          all, common sense tells you that this is  
23          horrible, corrupt and illegal.

24          And, someone has to be able to do  
25          something about it, whether it is finding the

1 words, as she just said, "incompetence."

2 It has got to be a way to put an end  
3 to this because we all know that you sitting  
4 in that chair or you not sitting in that  
5 chair, there is a long, long, history of this  
6 for many, many years in the Town of  
7 Hempstead.

8 So, I am not going to be foolish  
9 enough to think that after you are not  
10 sitting in that chair, that this is not going  
11 to continue.

12 It will continue and that that layer  
13 that has been here all along and that is  
14 exactly why you are trying to pass what you  
15 are trying to pass to protect the people who  
16 are protecting the lawyer to continue the  
17 harassment and the bullying, that has gone on  
18 in this Town and wasted our tax dollars and  
19 has turned it into the shameful township that  
20 it has become especially since you have taken  
21 that sit.

22 So, I have to ask you, Dorothy Goosby,  
23 because I am sure that this is not about your  
24 assistant getting a raise.

25 What did they promise you because

1 along with harassment and bullying, there is  
2 also bribery.

3 What is it that they are promising you  
4 that you are going to get, that you are going  
5 to turnaround and do something that is  
6 unethical to disappoint this many people?

7 Where is it going to get you in the  
8 long run?

9 Is that why you originally took that  
10 chair?

11 I don't think so.

12 Did you lose who you are?

13 Did you forget who you are?

14 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
15 rang. After, the following ensued.)

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
17 much.

18 William McCabe?

19 WILLIAM McCABE: William McCabe,  
20 Floral Park.

21 Um, absolutely, it depends Mr. Ra, ha,  
22 ha.

23 Valerie Lampe was a heck of a lot  
24 smarter than I am asking you a question and I  
25 am going to say it a little slower to you.

1           The answer that you gave confused me.

2           Are the people that are being hired,  
3 have they taken a Civil Service exam?

4           And, have they put in applications and  
5 resumes for the positions that they are being  
6 hired for or moved to?

7           Think carefully. Take your time.  
8 Stop the clock and think.

9           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The short answer is  
10 it depends.

11           WILLIAM McCABE: Why does it depend?

12           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: And, I am not going  
13 any further than that.

14           WILLIAM McCABE: Why won't you go any  
15 further than that?

16           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Because I am not  
17 going to engage in the legalities of the  
18 situation.

19           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Ra, Mr. Ra,  
20 if you would just put on the record for a  
21 moment, the facts, what is called the  
22 eligibility list?

23           WILLIAM McCABE: That is what I am  
24 getting at.

25           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Which is a large

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 portion of the new hires on this calendar.

2 WILLIAM McCABE: Thank you, outgoing  
3 Supervisor.

4 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Tosner list - -

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I asked the Town  
6 Attorney a question, please, let me have an  
7 answer.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: We are not  
9 talking about the Tosner list.

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Please, Mr.  
11 Blakeman, you are out of order.

12 I asked a question.

13 I would like to have an answer.

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: We do not want  
15 to know about the Tosner list.

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I asked a  
17 question, sir, please, have some - -

18 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Under litigation  
19 that was settled a number of years ago.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: How many years  
21 ago?

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: 2008.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: More than the  
24 last two years.

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: 2008, 2009, there

1 was litigation brought by the Union on behalf  
2 of part-timers who worked more than thirty  
3 hours a week.

4 They refer to them as the fulltime  
5 part-timers and in settling that litigation  
6 the idea was that they were not getting  
7 benefits.

8 They do not approve vacation time.

9 They did not get medical benefits and  
10 so the Union brought a lawsuit to inquire the  
11 Town hire them.

12 Obviously, there are a large number of  
13 people who are part-timers.

14 So, in settling the litigation, it was  
15 decided that the Town would hire thirty  
16 people off that list.

17 And, the name of the Plaintiff was  
18 "Tosner" and so, it became the "Tosner List."

19 And, the Town is required to hire  
20 thirty people off the Tosner List in order  
21 until that list is, um, expunged, until the  
22 list is finished.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: And, those thirty  
24 people are on this list, on this meeting, is  
25 that correct?



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is correct.

2 WILLIAM McCABE: When was that  
3 settlement made?

4 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: 2009, 2010.

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5 WILLIAM McCABE: Why are you hiring  
6 them, now?

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We have hired  
8 them every single year since then and every  
9 year until that list is depleted we are  
10 required to hire thirty people.

11 So, that is why we do it, now.

12 WILLIAM McCABE: Thank you.

13 The next question, Mr. Deery, the  
14 Confidential Specialist over there and Madam  
15 Clerk, these tow positions, if I am not  
16 mistaken were Civil Servants before they were  
17 appointed to their positions, is that  
18 correct?

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't understand  
20 your question.

21 WILLIAM McCABE: Madam Clerk is an  
22 election position.

23 Was she a Civil Servant before she was  
24 elected to her position?

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 WILLIAM McCABE: Okay.

2 Mr. Deery, was he a Civil Servant  
3 before he was appointed to his position?

4 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

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5 WILLIAM McCABE: Okay, so, they are  
6 going back to becoming Civil Servants, is  
7 that correct?

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I think they are  
9 still Civil Servants.

10 WILLIAM McCABE: Civil Servants as far  
11 as the definition that we know of taking a  
12 test, going to an application process and all  
13 of that.

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Right.

15 WILLIAM McCABE: We are all Civil  
16 Servants, here. I am simply serving you by  
17 paying my taxes.

18 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The question did  
19 Michael Deery take a Civil Service test?

20 WILLIAM McCABE: Correct.

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The answer is no.

22 WILLIAM McCABE: Okay and he is being  
23 moved into a position that was meant for a  
24 Civil Servant, was created for a Civil  
25 Servant.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           Were there applicants that put in for  
2           it?

3           TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is an appointed  
4           position by the Receiver of Taxes.

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5           WILLIAM McCABE: An appointed position  
6           by the Receiver of Taxes, so, that is an  
7           appointed position.

8           So, the Receiver of Taxes is an  
9           appointed position or elected position?

10          TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Receiver of Taxes  
11          is appointed position.

12          WILLIAM McCABE: Okay, so, why is  
13          Michael Deery moving in there?

14          It just doesn't make sense to me.

15          He is putting in - - he is just  
16          another appointed position.

17          TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is a  
18          Departmental request.

19          WILLIAM McCABE: Okay, and what about  
20          Ms. Ahmad, is she referring back to the  
21          salary that she had as a Civil Servant before  
22          she was elected to a position?

23          Wouldn't that make sense if some was a  
24          Civil Servant and they are appointed to a  
25          position and they are going back to

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 being a Civil Servant, that is what I am  
2 confused by.

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I believe she was  
4 not in a tested position prior to being  
5 elected as Town Clerk.

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6 WILLIAM McCABE: Do all Civil Servants  
7 have to be tested?

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No.

9 WILLIAM McCABE: It depends,  
10 absolutely?

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No, there are  
12 appointed positions and there are tested  
13 positions?

14 WILLIAM McCABE: Why?  
15 Why is that allowed?

16 How come there are - -

17 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is Civil  
18 Service Law of the State of New York.

19 WILLIAM McCABE: Why can't these  
20 people be let go?

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Sammon, could  
22 you give us a quick tutorial on the various  
23 kinds of positions under New York State Civil  
24 Service Law.

25 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: Happy to,

1 Supervisor, Good Afternoon.

2           There are five classifications of jobs  
3 under New York State Civil Service Law; first  
4 classification we start off is the Labor  
5 Class.

6           Second classification is non-  
7 competitive.

8           Third is competitive.

9           Fourth is exempt and the fifth is  
10 unclassified.

11           Commissioners, elected officials are  
12 in unclassified.

13           Deputies, high ranking assistants to  
14 elected officials are usually in exempt  
15 class.

16           You have many people in the  
17 competitive class.

18           You have far more people in the non-  
19 competitive class, which doesn't require  
20 exams but it does require education and  
21 experience.

22           And, labor positions has very minimal  
23 qualifications.

24           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: So, just rough  
25 estimate, in your experience, how many

1 people in work, what percentage in the  
2 workforce is tested filling Civil Service  
3 positions but whether they are laboring class  
4 or the qualifications and experience, non-  
5 competitive as opposed to sitting down and  
6 taking a test and passing it.

7 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: I would estimate  
8 about thirty percent of the working  
9 population is in the competitive class.

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Meaning tested.

11 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: Right.

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: And, the rest are  
13 not?

14 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: That is correct.

15 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: But, the yare  
16 covered under New York State Civil Service  
17 Law, labor, non-competitive, etc.

18 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: Every employee  
19 that is hired must pass the Civil Service  
20 requirements for the title that they are  
21 seeking.

22 WILLIAM McCABE: And, that is one in  
23 three law, if I am not mistaken.

24 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: Competitive  
25 Class, if they take an exam, they can more

1 than - -

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Commissioner, I  
3 have a question for you, um, when did you  
4 first learn about this amendment to the  
5 Memorandum that was just recently passed on a  
6 contract?

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7 I am sure you had to do a lot of  
8 negotiations.

9 When did you learn about this  
10 amendment?

11 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: I was not  
12 involved with these negotiations, Councilman.

13 It was several weeks ago that I began  
14 to hear dialogue.

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: So, you are head  
16 of H.R. of the whole Town and you were not  
17 involved in any of these negotiations  
18 whatsoever?

19 HR. DIRECTOR SAMMON: On this  
20 particular item, I was not directly involved.

21 (Whereupon, laughter was heard from  
22 the audience. After, the following ensued.)

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Go ahead.

24 WILLIAM McCabe: Who is Matthew  
25 Coleman and why did he resign from his

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 position and voted into another?

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Town  
3 Attorney.

4 WILLIAM McCABE: What was his title?  
5 What did he do, the position that he  
6 resigned?

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Matthew Coleman's  
8 title, prior title prior to today was Senior  
9 Policy Analyst.

10 WILLIAM McCABE: Why did he resign?

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: He is being moved.

12 WILLIAM McCABE: It says he  
13 "resigned," online.

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: He is being moved  
15 to a different Department, correct?

16 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: He resigned.

17 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: What?

18 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: He resigned to  
19 being appointed to the new position.

20 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
21 much.

22 Rori Gordon?

23 Rori Gordon?

24 RORI GORDON: Hi, Rori Gordon,  
25 Hauppauge, New York.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Are we talking about Number 17 or 55?

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Either or both.

3 RORI GORDON: Okay, great.

4 Okay, who appointed the Town - -

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5 lovely Town Clerk to the Deputy  
6 Commissioner's position of the Department of  
7 Occupational Resources?

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: It is on this  
9 calendar.

10 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: An item on this  
11 calendar for the Town Board, for  
12 consideration.

13 RORI GORDON: No, I understand that,  
14 but, specifically, who makes the appointment?

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The Town Board.

16 RORI GORDON: The Town Board, but, let  
17 me read this to you.

18 "Chapter 64, Department of  
19 Occupational Resources - - "

20 Before I get into that, um, she is  
21 replacing a Deputy Commissioner of another  
22 person?

23 Was there an opening?

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is a vacant  
25 position.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 RORI GORDON: Who is that person that  
2 she is replacing?

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Vacant.

4 RORI GORDON: It is vacant, okay, but  
5 there has to be somebody that she is  
6 replacing?

7 Okay, there are six Deputy  
8 Commissioners, Operations Assistants,  
9 Planning, Fiscal Management, Career  
10 Development, Youth Services and Monitoring.

11 Darling, do you know what position you  
12 are taking?

13 Do you know which one it is?  
14 (addressing Clerk Ahmad)

15 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We are not  
16 grueling the Town Clerk.

17 (Whereupon, laughter was heard.  
18 After, the following ensued.)

19 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Sammon, can  
20 you - - I believe she is replacing Mr.  
21 Becker, who is becoming a Commissioner, is  
22 that correct?

23 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: You are  
24 absolutely correct, Supervisor.

25 RORI GORDON: Mr. Becker, has he

1 taken the position, yet?

2 HR DIRECTOR SAMMON: Acting  
3 Commissioner at the moment.

4 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Acting  
5 Commissioner, he has been for several months.

6 RORI GORDON: And, is he on the list  
7 of one hundred and ninety people?

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I believe he is  
9 on this calendar to be appointed,  
10 "Commissioner."

11 RORI GORDON: Is he, Mr. Ra?

12 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

13 RORI GORDON: Okay.

14 Chapter 64, Department of Occupational  
15 Resources, it was established like forty  
16 years ago.

17 "There shall be established in the  
18 Town of Hempstead a Department of  
19 Occupational Resources which shall provide  
20 training and temporary appointment  
21 opportunities to the unemployed and shall  
22 develop and deliver other human services."

23 I will cut to the chase, here.

24 "The Commissioner shall be vested with  
25 the authority, direction and control over

1 "the Department and may appoint Deputy  
2 Commissioners to serve during his pleasure."

3 He has not gotten the job.

4 How - - I don't mean to pick on you,  
5 honey, you are a real nice lady.

6 I got to get my point across, here.

7 How, how are you overriding the job if  
8 the Commissioner is supposed to do that and  
9 doesn't have the job as of today?

10 Can somebody explain that to me.

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The Deputy is  
12 acting in place.

13 RORI GORDON: It does not say that,  
14 here.

15 It says, "The Commissioner shall be  
16 vested with the authority and direction and  
17 control over the Department."

18 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is Civil  
19 Service.

20 RORI GORDON: This is Town Law.

21 Tell me Town law doesn't override  
22 Civil Service Law?

23 You know the law. You wrote the law.

24 I think this is funny, Joe, not for  
25 nothing, I pay a lot of taxes in this Town.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: If you don't want  
2 to accept the answer, I don't know what it is  
3 I can do with you if you want to argue.

4 That is the answer.

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5 RORI GORDON: That is not the true  
6 answer.

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is the answer.

8 RORI GORDON: It is not the truth.

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I disagree with  
10 you.

11 RORI GORDON: Okay, it doesn't do  
12 anything for you.

13 Now, Mr. D'Esposito, did you disclose  
14 your interests, as far as, giving your  
15 brother a raise?

16 Did you put it in writing to the  
17 Board?

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I did.

19 RORI GORDON: You know, it is in the  
20 current Code of Ethics since 1990.

21 You are responsible to do that.

22 How come you didn't do it?

23 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I said I did.

24 RORI GORDON: I thought you said you  
25 didn't.

1           When did you do that?

2           COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I did it  
3 today.

4           RORI GORDON: You did it today.

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5           (Whereupon, laughter and calling out  
6 from the audience was heard. After, the  
7 following ensued.)

8           COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Ms. Gordon,  
9 the item is on the calendar, today.

10           When would you like me to let them  
11 know about the vote?

12           RORI GORDON: Oh, I would have been  
13 nice when it went on the calendar last week.

14           (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
15 rang. After, the following ensued.)

16           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
17 much, Ms. Gordon.

18           Thank you very much. Thank you very  
19 much, Ms. Gordon.

20           RORI GORDON: Goodbye, good luck.

21           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
22 much, Ms. Gordon.

23           Okay, those are the individuals that  
24 have signed in relative to this matter.

25           (Whereupon, "I signed in," was

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 heard yelling out from the audience. After,  
2 the following ensued.)

3 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, again, we  
4 are dealing with items - - two items that  
5 have been severed.

6 Name and address for the record.

7 META MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday,  
8 Baldwin resident.

9 Okay, where does on begin in all of  
10 this.

11 Um, Mr. Ra, as the, um, Town Attorney,  
12 why didn't you speak to the information that  
13 was presented by Mr. Procacci regarding the,  
14 um, ethical violations of individuals who are  
15 sitting on the Council voting for issues that  
16 impact their relatives?

17 There was silence when it was brought  
18 up.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There are no  
20 issues.

21 META MEREDAY: There are no issues?

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No.

23 META MEREDAY: So, are you saying that  
24 there are no relatives?

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No, I am not.

1 All ethical issues will be addressed  
2 during the vote and/or there are no other  
3 ethical issues.

4 We are good.

5 META MEREDAY: No, you are not.

6 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The vote has not  
7 happened, yet.

8 META MEREDAY: We are not good.

9 How are you saying it is brought up  
10 during the vote if the individuals are still  
11 here as part of the discussion?

12 Okay, moving on; with regard to this  
13 issue, it has definitely been, um, expressed  
14 very well by those who have been in this  
15 forefront.

16 I am just curious that we are at this  
17 point because having the number of people in  
18 the audience, here is interesting because  
19 from what I understand, the majority of the,  
20 actively work for the Town.

21 So, I am just trying to understand why  
22 so many of the residents had to stand outside  
23 before they had to get in?

24 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
25 was heard. After, the following ensued.)



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           META MEREDAY:  Actually and I am  
2           curious that we have these types of issues  
3           when those few of us that have been out, here  
4           and talking about those issues, we were told  
5           a couple months ago, Supervisor Santino an I  
6           am glad you are still here and I am hoping  
7           you will stay here through the whole meeting  
8           after this part adjourns, that the budget  
9           that was rushed, that we asked to have on  
10          time, that you felt that budget handled all  
11          of the issues that pertain to salaries and  
12          opportunities for the employees.

13                 Now, all of a sudden, are you saying  
14                 that your budget was flawed that you said it  
15                 was such a great budget a couple months ago?

16                 And, if this budget salary adjustment,  
17                 if Mr. Conroy could speak to that 2.4 million  
18                 dollar adjustment and how the Council Members  
19                 in good conscience and the reputation that  
20                 you are speaking for taxpayers can vote for  
21                 something that even the Comptroller said  
22                 would have to be reviewed on a case by case  
23                 basis.

24                 He has no idea of what the fiscal  
25                 impact would be.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           Each item would be subject to review.

2           And, we don't even know what the  
3 overall classifications of jobs that people  
4 are transferring to, so, how can you in good  
5 conscience vote for something that even Mr.  
6 Councilman D'Esposito, he just provided his  
7 letter, today, because it was just put on the  
8 calendar, today, so, how can you all be  
9 saying that you have effectively looked over  
10 this legislation, this regulation, this  
11 taxation without reputation and say you are  
12 factually representing the interests of  
13 taxpayers?

14           And, who are we talking about, the  
15 taxpayers.

16           I have a sheet of paper, here with  
17 seven homes in Baldwin that have been  
18 abandoned.

19           Every meeting I come to, I give out  
20 seven to ten, if you add the number of  
21 townships and hamlets, there are thousands.

22           (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
23 rang. After, the following ensued.)

24           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We will hold you  
25 to the three minutes.

1           There are no slips but I know there  
2 were people that indicated that they wanted  
3 to speak.

4           Diane Madden?

5           DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden,  
6 Hempstead.

7           Um, I just wanted to point out I think  
8 it was important for the public to understand  
9 that everybody is getting twisted about one  
10 hundred and ninety some odd positions,  
11 rightfully so.

12           But, there have been many, many,  
13 dozens upon dozens of positions that you have  
14 given out, Santino, since you lost the  
15 Election.

16           My phone has not stopped ringing and  
17 texting.

18           And, every Department that you have  
19 given raises and promotions and done job  
20 favors to since November 8<sup>th</sup>, so, this is just  
21 a portion.

22           And, I really believe nothing and what  
23 I have seen in all of these years that you  
24 are really not doing all these people any  
25 favors because the employees that have been

1 punished and discriminated against and  
2 isolated and really tormented probably in  
3 every single Department I know, their chains  
4 are off.

5 So, they are the ones that are going  
6 to keep an eye on these people, your - - your  
7 favorites.

8 And, from what I understand, Laura  
9 Gillen will have the power to decide and  
10 define what misconduct is and what  
11 incompetence is, so - -

12 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
13 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

14 DIANE MADDEN: I wanted to mention the  
15 Tosner List, you managed to manipulate that,  
16 as well.

17 You gave four raised to fulltime work  
18 to four incompetent people at the Animal  
19 Shelter, you picked off the Tosner List and,  
20 yet, you still left Mr. Benmento (phonetic  
21 spelling) the African American that you  
22 promised fulltime work to, February of 2016,  
23 that has been fighting pancreatic cancer.

24 You managed to even overlook him.

25 So, until the last day that you are

1 here, you have punished the most innocent  
2 people, but they won't forget.

3 Those are the ones that will be  
4 watching the Deerys and the Gaffneys and the  
5 Colemans and the first thing they do wrong, I  
6 promised you, they will be out.

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

9 DIANE MADDEN: I would like to know  
10 who called these positions before you  
11 appointed them, specifically for Theresa  
12 Gaffney?

13 And, does she have any experience?

14 I am told she is the new Assistant  
15 Commissioner of Parks.

16 I was told originally.

17 She use to drive around and decide or  
18 take a look at what houses had flags so you  
19 can send them out letters.

20 What are her qualifications for this  
21 position?

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: I believe you  
23 have the position wrong, incorrect.

24 DIANE MADDEN: So, what is Ms.  
25 Gaffney's position?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           What is her new appointment if it is  
2 not the Assistant of Parks?

3           SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Is Mr. Sammon,  
4 here?

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5           HR. DIRECTOR SAMMON: Community  
6 Research Assistant in the Highway Department.

7           DIANE MADDEN: Community Research  
8 Assistant in the Highway Department.

9           (Whereupon, "that is why the roads are  
10 so bad," was heard yelling out from the  
11 audience. After, the following ensued.)

12           HR. DIRECTOR SAMMON: Excuse me, I  
13 stand corrected, Department of General  
14 Services, specifically with coordination of  
15 all our automatic functions that are in that  
16 department.

17           DIANE MADDEN: How many people were  
18 interviewed for her position?

19           HR. DIRECTOR SAMMON: She was known to  
20 the appointing authority.

21           It was thought she had the skills.

22           DIANE MADDEN: I am sorry?

23           HR. DIRECTOR SAMMON: She was known to  
24 the appointing authority.

25           It was thought she had the skills.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 DIANE MADDEN: So, no one else was  
2 interviewed.

3 You are kind of dancing around that,  
4 Mr. Sammon.

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5 By the way, are you going to be here  
6 after the 1<sup>st</sup> of January because I have been  
7 hearing your name.

8 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
9 much. Thank you very much, Ms. Madden.

10 Thank you very much, Ms. Madden.

11 DIANE MADDEN: My time is not up.

12 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Your time  
13 expired.

14 DIANE MADDEN: Again - -

15 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Have a nice day.

16 DIANE MADDEN: Bye, bye, Mr. Santino.

17 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Mr. Mathias?

18 MR. MATHIAS: I am here to raise an  
19 issue, which, I guess, is my objection to  
20 this regulation.

21 I have also have an assessment of last  
22 month's meeting for each of you.

23 I am glad to say and at that time, um,  
24 I mentioned that the width of corruption  
25 seems not only to be in Washington, and

1 of course, today we know that the swamp has  
2 gone to Alabama but also we feel it, here.

3 And, last month, I mentioned that, um,  
4 I congratulated, um, Tony and those of you  
5 who are on the way out for your service but I  
6 also mentioned that it is a moment of  
7 gladness that two Lauras are entering the  
8 political field; Laura Curran and Laura  
9 Gillen.

10 I want you to know I have been  
11 teaching for fifty-two years, Political  
12 Science and in '68, I was at Manhattan  
13 College when an upstart, undergraduate said,  
14 "Professor, are you involved?"

15 I was theorizing until, then, about  
16 what democracy means at the grassroots.

17 The following morning I went and  
18 registered as a progressive Liberal  
19 Republican.

20 I know, it is a contradiction in terms  
21 of being a Republican.

22 I am a Javitz Republican and I know my  
23 students think "Javitz" is a Center.

24 Before he was a Center, he was a  
25 distinguished Senator.



1           On the way here, I came across my  
2 archives.

3           This is my poster in 1974 running with  
4 Javitz and the Liberal.

5           Yes, there was such a thing as a  
6 Liberal Party and the Republican Party.

7           As the first Assembly candidate or  
8 Greek, Jewish immigrant American background  
9 in Astoria, I lost.

10          He won.

11          But, I was attached to politics.

12          I have been attached to politics ever  
13 since.

14          In my assessment of last month, I  
15 mentioned the problem of, um, of, um,  
16 appointing relatives, giving raises, some  
17 girlfriends or some sisters, etc., this has  
18 to stop.

19          Not only it has to stop but we must  
20 have term limits in order to have  
21 revitalization.

22          I was glad to vote for Gillen and I am  
23 glad to anticipate being here for ensuing  
24 months to support her.

25          (Whereupon, the three-minute bell

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 rang. After, the following ensued.)

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
3 much.

4 (Whereupon, applause from audience was  
5 heard. After, the following ensued.)

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Name and address  
7 for the record, please.

8 STEPHANIE CATANA: Stephanie Catana in  
9 Wantagh.

10 I can't believe all this abuse of  
11 power.

12 I couldn't believe it. I am sorry. I  
13 am new at all of this.

14 I have been working for forty-four  
15 years hard and paying a lot of taxes.

16 But, anyway, I have a quick question;  
17 Mike Deery, his job, the new job, is that a  
18 newly-appointed job or has that been a job?

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is an existing  
20 position in the Receiver of Taxes Office.

21 STEPHANIE CATANA: Who had the job  
22 before it?

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I think it has been  
24 vacant for a while.

25 (Whereupon, applause from the audience

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

2 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It has been vacant  
3 for a while.

4 STEPHANIE CATANA: Because I never  
5 heard of that job.

6 I was there, yesterday, actually,  
7 paying my taxes and I was wondering is that  
8 newly appointed.

9 He is the highest paid, I understand,  
10 employee of Nassau County and he got the  
11 promotion.

12 Is that a promotion?

13 How do you get that job?

14 Did other people apply for that job?

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't know about  
16 Nassau County.

17 STEPHANIE CATANA: How did he get that  
18 job?

19 What did they just pull it out of a  
20 hat to see what was vacant an also how many  
21 other people have applied for that position?

22 (Whereupon, "no one knew about it,"  
23 was heard from the audience. After, the  
24 following ensued.)

25 STEPHANIE CATANA: I just can't stand

1 the corruption.

2 I can't stand corruption.

3 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
4 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

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5 STEPHANIE CATANA: Including you, I  
6 just can't believe this.

7 Nobody is bipartisan, just a couple  
8 people speak up for the truth.

9 What is this World coming to?

10 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Just to  
11 follow-up on your questions, can we talk  
12 about that salary of that person.

13 That person is making two hundred and  
14 five thousand and with the income cap, I am  
15 only allowed to make one hundred and ninety-  
16 six which is seventy-one thousand as Council  
17 person and one hundred and twenty-five  
18 thousand, is that reasonable?

19 (Whereupon, "no" was heard calling out  
20 from the audience. After, the following  
21 ensued.)

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The question you  
23 should ask - -

24 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I am  
25 wondering why the income cap - -

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is for all of  
2 you to decide.

3 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: So, we  
4 have a person that is Confidential Assistant  
5 that is going to make more than what we, on  
6 the Board, are allowed to make.

7 (Whereupon, laughter was heard.  
8 Whereupon, "vote no," was heard calling out  
9 from the audience. After, the following  
10 ensued.)

11 (Whereupon, "that's crazy," was heard  
12 yelling out from the audience. After, the  
13 following ensued.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I am all  
15 about, as many of you know, people getting  
16 paid properly.

17 I fought for a year and a half for  
18 that to happen.

19 I really think people should be paid  
20 appropriately for the job that they do.

21 I have no problem with that.

22 But, um, in light of the fact that  
23 Board Members are, I am not saying only, I  
24 really, I am not saying for us only being  
25 allowed to make one hundred and ninety-six.

1 Let me be very clear about that.

2 Um, but, um, since you know, we passed  
3 this fake Ethics Law that prevents me from  
4 having outside income in excess of one  
5 hundred and twenty-five thousand, one would  
6 think that a Confidential Assistant should be  
7 able to - - should make below that amount and  
8 shouldn't make two hundred and five thousand.

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

11 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: So, um, in  
12 a few minutes, I will be calling to sever  
13 three individuals from this proposal, one  
14 being Michael Deery, one being Matt Coleman  
15 and one being Theresa Gaffney.

16 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
17 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Some of  
19 you are going to disagree with me on this and  
20 I respect everyone's opinions.

21 There are a lot of people on the  
22 Tosner List.

23 There are a lot of people with Civil  
24 Service tests.

25 There are some very well-deserving

1 people with raises.

2 I don't know if everyone deserves a  
3 raise, whether or not, I am relying on the  
4 managers or direct supervisors.

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5 I want people to be paid appropriately  
6 and properly.

7 This process was less than ideal, um,  
8 that said, in the pursuit of something  
9 perfect, I don't want good people to be hurt.

10 This is a really, really difficult  
11 situation to be in.

12 I guess that is why I am on the Board  
13 to make those tough decisions.

14 Um, but, in good conscience, the three  
15 people I am calling out personally tried to  
16 hurt me.

17 They hurt people on the Town Board.

18 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
19 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: And, the  
21 salary is insane.

22 I will call for those three people to  
23 be removed from this proposal.

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,  
25 are we on 55, yet?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We are still on  
2 public discussion on 17 and 55.

3 We are not voting on anything, yet.

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: We are  
5 discussing 17 and 55.

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Correct, we are  
7 doing that all day.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I thought we  
9 were only doing 17.

10 I have something to say.

11 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We will go  
12 through - - the public is still speaking.

13 RESIDENT CALIFANO: I have to say this  
14 is a disgrace on what is going on in Nassau  
15 County, in the Town of Hempstead, especially,  
16 all the corruption with all the political  
17 connections that the Village of Island Park  
18 has and since Anthony D'Esposito has come  
19 into play, he has put in some monsters which  
20 is Gary Gordon, who just placed in here.

21 He has five lawsuits against him.

22 This is taxpayers' money.

23 He was out on disability as a Police  
24 Officer, how do you give him a job for the  
25 Town of Hempstead.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 He is abusing and harassing Park  
2 employees.

3 I am getting letters and calls from  
4 it, attacking them at home, following them.

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5 Yet, Doug Roth is going into my  
6 tenant's window that is dying of cancer, I  
7 believe he just became an employee of the  
8 Village of Island Park as Inspector going to  
9 my Uncle's property and giving him violations  
10 on his car.

11 Yet, Anthony D'Esposito pretends he  
12 does nothing.

13 He is the ringleader controlling the  
14 puppets on the string including his Father  
15 that has stepped down from the Village of  
16 Island Park Board that was, um, a Deputy of  
17 the majority of the Village, that money is  
18 missing from their accounts.

19 You have Ed Madden on FACEBOOK on  
20 company time ripping families apart.

21 He knows. He doesn't answer any of my  
22 letters, yet, Christopher Downes, another  
23 Town of Hempstead employee that is from the  
24 Village of Island Park, Anthony D'Esposito's  
25 puppets, they do all of his dirty work.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1           How many other people that are on this  
2 piece of paper that Anthony D'Esposito and  
3 his family as a taxpayer has been bullying.

4           I have the Police Department - - I was  
5 a whistleblower, 14.5 million dollars of  
6 corruption money in Nassau County.

7           I have bricks thrown through my  
8 window, acid.

9           I had the Police Department arresting  
10 myself and my niece.

11           Charges have been dropped.

12           I had to hire Attorneys but I will  
13 keep on speaking about corruption.

14           Santino, you can laugh all you want.

15           You are the worst devil that I ever  
16 came across.

17           (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
18 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

19           RESIDENT CALIFANO: You were there for  
20 my nephew that has passed away from cancer.

21           I came to you to help me.

22           I paid eight thousand dollars a week  
23 for treatment that I had to go to Rubio  
24 Cancer Center in, um, Mexico.

25           The only thing you di for my nephew is

1 throw out a baseball.

2 I went to the County and that is how I  
3 found out about corruption in Nassau County  
4 but I will keep on speaking.

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5 I have text messages from Anthony  
6 D'Esposito and from his fellow employees from  
7 the Firehouse in Island park.

8 They are monster people.

9 They are disgraced family. The power  
10 that they use to destroy families.

11 What they have done in the Village of  
12 Island is a disgrace from Al D'Amato to his  
13 daughter is sitting in the audience.

14 Matt Passone (phonetic spelling) that  
15 Anthony D'Esposito hired, he has everything  
16 in on his piece of property in Island Park,  
17 selling marijuana, growing pot.

18 Family putting for business to be - -

19 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell  
20 rang. After, the following ensued.)

21 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Thank you very  
22 much. Thank you very much. Thank you very  
23 much.

24 Now, we will - -

25 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Supervisor - -

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Call the - - Is  
2 there anyone else in the audience on 17 or  
3 55?

4 (Whereupon, no response was heard.  
5 After, the following ensued.)

6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, then, that  
7 is for the public comment on that.

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

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Please, have good  
11 order from the audience. Please, please,  
12 have some good order from the audience.

13 Please, you have already spoken,  
14 ma'am, thank you very much.

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,  
16 this Friday, this was dumped on our laps, one  
17 hundred and ninety-two transfers and salary  
18 adjustments without any consultation with  
19 this Board, without the courtesy of supplying  
20 us with the resumes and explanations and  
21 evaluation.

22 Nothing came in this package to  
23 justify this.

24 Now, let me tell you something, most  
25 of these people re very fine public servants.

1           And, they deserve to be retained and  
2           their job is not in jeopardy.

3           If you are thinking out there that  
4           your job was in jeopardy, it was not.

5           This is protecting the people that are  
6           incompetent and are bullies and haven't  
7           served the public.

8           That is why it is being done on a mass  
9           level with provisions that are provided in  
10          the CSEA Memorandum, so, there is nobody that  
11          can be laid off.

12          That is what this is.

13          It is a blatant power grab.

14          And, it is wrong.

15          I would have worked with the Members  
16          of this Town Board on each and everyone of  
17          these individuals and we would have discussed  
18          them and talked about them and I am sure that  
19          the vast majority of them we all would have  
20          agreed were good people who were serving the  
21          Town and serving the taxpayers.

22          But, that is not the way it was done.

23          Instead, we had to do it this way;  
24          with no back up, no evaluation, no  
25          explanation.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 This is Christmas for the well  
2 connected and it is a lump of coal for the  
3 taxpayers.

4 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
5 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Where, in here,  
7 is additional money to combat the opioid  
8 problem that we have all over schools in the  
9 Town of Hempstead?

10 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
11 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Where is the  
13 money to hire more public safety officers and  
14 more Bay Constables, when we are living, now,  
15 in fear of terror and we have gang  
16 infiltration in most of our schools in the  
17 Town of Hempstead?

18 That is not here.

19 Nothing is here for those people.

20 Nothing is here for the people who  
21 sweep the streets, plow the snow, clean the  
22 bathrooms, pick-up the garbage.

23 What this is, it is a message to the  
24 taxpayers, it is a message to the people who  
25 labor everyday as employees of the Town

1 of Hempstead, we don't care about you.

2 We are going to do this. We are  
3 arrogant. We are powerful and we got the  
4 votes to do this, even though by every  
5 estimation what is done, today, here is  
6 absolutely wrong.

7 This maybe legal but this is  
8 corruption.

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

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: This is  
12 corruption. This is corruption of values and  
13 it is a corruption of what we stand for.

14 And, it is a blatant corruption of  
15 power doing it this way was the wrong way.

16 Sitting down discussing it, vetting  
17 everything, talking about it, working it out,  
18 making sure that we have the right people,  
19 that would have been the right way to do it.

20 I would have put as much time as  
21 necessary.

22 And, again, please, out there, this is  
23 not an indictment on you.

24 Like I said, the vast majority of the  
25 people in this Town are good people, are

1 great workers but this is not the way to do  
2 it.

3 I have to tell you, Ronald Reagan  
4 would be rolling over in his grave knowing  
5 that Republicans were about to do this.

6 I am making less than my colleagues in  
7 the Republican Party.

8 (Whereupon, "vote no," was heard  
9 yelling out from the audience. After, the  
10 following ensued.)

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Do the right  
12 thing.

13 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: We will, now,  
14 call - -

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Do what is true  
16 to your values.

17 Do what is right for the people.

18 Do what is right for the taxpayers.

19 Do what is right for the workers.

20 Don't do what is being done, today,  
21 which is just a blatant power grab without  
22 any consideration, without any thought and at  
23 any expense that is going to cost the  
24 taxpayers.

25 It is very unfair.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 It is wrong and again it is a power  
2 and corruption.

3 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
4 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

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5 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, on Item  
6 Number 17, this is the Collective Bargaining  
7 Agreement, um, call the roll.

8 We need a Motion on the Collective  
9 Bargaining Agreement.

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr.  
11 Supervisor, I move that the item be adopted.

12 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I second the  
13 Motion.

14 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

15 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

16 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

17 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Let me explain  
18 my vote - -

19 (Whereupon, "no, no," was heard  
20 yelling out from the audience. After, the  
21 following ensued.)

22 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I am very  
23 concerned about this provision when I  
24 received the letter - -

25 (Whereupon, "no" was heard yelling out

1 from the audience. After, the following  
2 ensued.)

3 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I took it upon  
4 myself to review the material by Harris,  
5 Beach, who is a law firm very close to  
6 Supervisor-elect, an independent Labor  
7 Counsel and I said the ability of a Town to  
8 budget in the event of financial duress  
9 should never be handicapped.

10 The incoming Supervisor should have  
11 her hands free from any handcuffs from  
12 governing this Town appropriately.

13 She won the Election and I was very  
14 concerned that this clause would handcuff  
15 Supervisor-elect Gillen, soon to be  
16 Supervisor Gillen and the present Board from  
17 governing in the future.

18 So, I did a little research and called  
19 Johnson Study that Harris Beach provided me  
20 with and did an excellent analysis.

21 This clause as drafted does not in any  
22 way impede the Town's ability to budget.

23 The fiscal and no layoff clause is  
24 inoperable.

25 The future Supervisor and this Town

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Board because everyone is hired by this Town  
2 Board will be able to do whatever they need  
3 to do to ensure the taxes in this Town do not  
4 go up and we make the necessary budget  
5 adjustments.

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6 Therefore, based on the analysis  
7 provided by Harris Beach and Labor Counsel, I  
8 support this amendment.

9 I vote yes.

10 (Whereupon, screaming and calling out  
11 was heard yelling from the audience. After,  
12 the following ensued.)

13 (Whereupon, "You should go to jail,"  
14 was heard yelling out from the audience.  
15 After, the following ensued.)

16 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: First of all, if  
18 it is inoperable, why are we voting for it?

19 I don't understand that logic,  
20 Councilman.

21 Um, all I know is, you know, this is  
22 something that I think is a sad day for the  
23 Republican Party of Nassau County.

24 DONNA CASAZZA: Yes, it is, they are  
25 dirty.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: It is not in  
2 line with our principles, again, I would urge  
3 you to reconsider.

4 I would urge my fellow Republican  
5 colleagues to reconsider.

6 This isn't the way to do things.

7 There is a right way and a wrong way.

8 It is not a Republican way.

9 This is not a Democratic way and there  
10 is a right way and a wrong way.

11 This is the wrong way.

12 I vote no.

13 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
14 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

15 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yes.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

18 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Yes.

19 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
20 Goosby?

21 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: No.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
23 Sweeney?

24 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: No.

25 (Whereupon, applause from the audience

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

2 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, the next  
3 item, it will be - -

4 (Whereupon, "What was the vote," was  
5 heard yelling out from the audience. After,  
6 the following ensued.)

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: It was four,  
8 three, it passed.

9 FELIX PROCACCI: Ambrosino, you are a  
10 bad guy.

11 I hope you go to jail.

12 DONNA CASAZZA: You should go to jail.

13 FELIX PROCACCI: I want you in jail.  
14 Now, you should be in jail for this.

15 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: The next item,  
16 the next item.

17 CLERK AHMAD: To go over the vote.

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Reiterate what  
19 the vote was.

20 DONNA CASAZZA: It is an  
21 embarrassment.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Please, please.

23 (Whereupon, screaming and calling out  
24 was heard from the audience. After, the  
25 following ensued.)

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Please, please,  
2 keep good order.

3 (Whereupon, "stop stealing our money,"  
4 was chanted over and over. After, the  
5 following ensued.)

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6 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Hold on a second,  
7 we have to have some good order.

8 We will take a five minute recess.

9 (Whereupon, recess was entertained.  
10 After, the following ensued.)

11 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Item 55, I need a  
12 Motion to put that before us.

13 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I make the  
14 motion.

15 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I second the  
16 Motion.

17 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I make a motion  
18 to amend that item.

19 My Motion is to remove the names of  
20 Matthew Coleman and Theresa Gaffney from that  
21 item.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: A second?

23 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Second.

24 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Now, we are  
25 voting on the amendment, on the amendment.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 (Whereupon, calling and screaming was  
2 heard. After, the following ensued.)

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: On the  
4 amendment, Supervisor, I would ask that the  
5 Tosner people be severed and we vote  
6 separately on that.

7 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: This is just on  
8 the amendment to remove two people off so - -

9 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

10 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.

11 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

12 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

13 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

18 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

19 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
20 Goosby?

21 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

22 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
23 Sweeney?

24 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Yes.

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, now, on

1 the item as a whole.

2 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Sever  
3 Michael Deery from the resolution.

4 (Whereupon, "yes," was heard yelling  
5 out from the audience. After, the following  
6 ensued.)

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

9 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, we will  
10 vote on the remainder and vote on the severed  
11 item on the remainder of the personnel.

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor,  
13 I would like to amend the resolution to vote  
14 separate on the Tosner people, the people  
15 that are on the Tosner List.

16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, fine.  
17 Is there a second on that one.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Second.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Vote on the entire  
20 calendar except for Michael Deery and the  
21 Tosner people.

22 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: So, on the rest  
23 of the people.

24 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

25 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?

2 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

3 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: No.

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5 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

6 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I vote yes

7 with the exception of Item 57, the promotion

8 of my brother, I recuse myself from that

9 vote, the rest I vote aye.

10 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

11 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

12 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman

13 Goosby?

14 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: No.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-

16 Sweeney?

17 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Yes.

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Okay, on the

19 severed items, the people who are on the

20 Tosner Eligibility List.

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Just the Tosner

22 List.

23 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: So, do the Tosner

24 people as a class.

25 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

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SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.  
CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?  
COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.  
CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?  
COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.  
CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?  
COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.  
CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?  
COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.  
CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
Goosby?  
SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.  
CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
Sweeney?  
COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Yes.  
SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Michael Deery,  
call the roll.  
CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?  
SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.  
CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?  
COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: At the request  
of the elected officials, aye.  
CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?  
COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: No.  
CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.  
2 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?  
3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.  
4 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
5 Goosby?  
6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.  
7 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
8 Sweeney?  
9 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: No.  
10 SUPERIVSOR SANTINO: Okay, motion to  
11 adjourn.  
12 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Mr.  
13 Supervisor, I move that we adjourn.  
14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Second.  
15 CLERK AHMAD: Supervisor Santino?  
16 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Aye.  
17 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Ambrosino?  
18 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.  
19 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Blakeman?  
20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Before I vote on  
21 the Motion to adjourn, I would like to  
22 congratulate Naserin for your service to the  
23 Town of Hempstead.  
24 I wish you well on future endeavors.  
25 To the Supervisor, we have had sharp

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Disagreements but, I do appreciate your many  
2 years of service to the Town of Hempstead and  
3 I wish you well.

4 I vote to adjourn.

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5 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman D'Esposito?

6 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: My vote is  
7 yes. I also would like to commend Supervisor  
8 Santino for his decades of service to the  
9 Town of Hempstead.

10 (Whereupon, applause and whistling was  
11 heard from the audience. After, the  
12 following ensued.)

13 CLERK AHMAD: Councilman Dunne?

14 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

15 CLERK AHMAD: Senior Councilwoman  
16 Goosby?

17 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

18 CLERK AHMAD: Councilwoman King-  
19 Sweeney?

20 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye and I  
21 also would like to thank Supervisor Santino  
22 for his years of service and hope we can all  
23 start working together.

24 We have a lot of pieces to pick up and  
25 a lot of potholes to fill and a lot of

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Economic development to make happen.

2 Um, I look forward to working with  
3 Supervisor-elect Laura Gillen and all the  
4 Members.

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

8 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I think we  
9 mean well and try to fix this in the New Year  
10 and Naserin, congratulations to you.

11 Thank you for all the years of service  
12 and just a shout out to Danny Leno,  
13 Commissioner of Parks.

14 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
15 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

16 CLERK AHMAD: If I may Council  
17 Members, if I may, can I just say that it  
18 truly has been an honor and a privilege of my  
19 life to serve the great people of the Town of  
20 Hempstead and may I congratulate the incoming  
21 Town Clerk Sylvia Cabana.

22 (Whereupon, applause from the audience  
23 was heard. After, the following ensued.)

24 CLERK AHMAD: - - On inheriting the  
25 greatest workforce in the United States, the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

1 Staff, you can say what you like, but the  
2 staff of the Town Clerk's Office, they will  
3 work hard for you, if you respect the, take  
4 care of them and they will make you look good  
5 the way they make me look good.

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6 Everyone, have a wonderful holiday.  
7 God Bless you and Happy New Year.

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

10 (Whereupon, the official meeting of  
11 the Hempstead Town Board was concluded. Time  
12 noted: 3:35 p.m.)

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**HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 12/12/17**

CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I, do hereby certify that the foregoing testimony in the matter of the Hempstead Town Board Meeting held on December 12, 2017, consisting of pages 1 through 239 inclusive is an accurate transcription of my cryptic notes.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.



*MDW*

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

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