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TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

ONE WASHINGTON STREET

TOWN HALL PAVILION

HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550

FEBRUARY 6, 2018

10:30 A.M.

BEFORE: LAURA A. GILLEN,

SUPERVISOR

APPEARANCES :

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- DEPUTY SUPERVISOR/COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN
- SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY
- COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO
- COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO
- COUNCILMAN DUNNE
- COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY
- TOWN CLERK CABANA
- DEPUTY TOWN CLERK TUMMINELLO
- TOWN ATTORNY RA
- COMPTROLLER CONROY
- RECEIVER OF TAXES CLAVIN

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Welcome to our
2 Hempstead Town Board Meeting.

3 For those of you who have never
4 attended a Town Board Meeting before, we
5 start with Public Hearings, which is followed
6 by the Administrative Calendar.

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7 There are agendas available in the
8 rear of the Pavilion and you can fill out a
9 slip which you can obtain from a Public
10 Safety Officer.

11 After the meeting is adjourned, the
12 Town Board will follow our custom and remain
13 in session to hear residents who would like
14 to address the Board on any other matters.

15 Just two little minor things before we
16 begin our meeting, I advised the Town Board,
17 the Town Attorney that in the event that this
18 meeting runs very long, my friend passed away
19 from breast cancer and I need to attend her
20 wake out of State.

21 So, I may need to leave the meeting.
22 The Deputy Supervisor will continue the
23 meeting if, in fact, I need to go.

24 It is my hope we will finish the
25 meeting before I need to leave, but, if I

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 do leave, I intend no disrespect to the
2 public, that is the reason I will be leaving.

3 In addition, I just want to remind
4 everybody, here, that when you come up and
5 make your comments, we ask you to be
6 respectful to the Members of the Town Board
7 and to each other.

8 If you are not respectful, we will
9 remind you that you need to be respectful.
10 If you can't be respectful, we will have to
11 ask you to leave.

12 All right, Madam Clerk, will you,
13 please, call the roll.

14 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

15 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Here.

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Here.

18 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am here.

20 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

21 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Here.

22 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
23 Goosby?

24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Here.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

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Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Here.

CLERK CABANA: Also, in attendance this morning, we have Receiver of Taxes, Donald X. Clavin, Jr.

RECEIVER OF TAXES CLAVIN: Here.

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I will ask Councilman Blakeman to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Please, join with me.

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

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay, Madam Clerk, could you, please, call the first Public Hearing.

CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law Re: "Regulations and Restrictions" to limit parking in East Meadow, Franklin Square, Hewlett, Merrick, Seaford (To amend Chapter 202 of the Code of the Town of Hempstead)

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 any slips on this item.

2 Is there anybody that wishes to be
3 heard?

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

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

9 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Second.

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
11 please, call the roll.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

13 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

14 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

17 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

18 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

19 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

20 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman

21 Goosby?

22 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-

24 Sweeney?

25 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
4 please, call the next item.

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5 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law Re:
6 "Parking or Standing Prohibitions" in
7 Bellmore, Franklin Square, Levittown (To
8 amend Section 202-1 of the Code of the Town
9 of Hempstead)

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any
11 slips on this item, is there anybody that
12 wished to be heard?

13 (Whereupon, no response was heard.
14 After, the following ensued.)

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none, may
16 I have a Motion.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Madam
18 Supervisor, I move that the Public Hearing be
19 closed, and the item adopted.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Second.

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
22 please, call the roll.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

24 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

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COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

Madam Clerk, please, call the next
Public Hearing.

CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law
regarding "Arterial Stops" in Levittown,
Merrick, (NR) Westbury (To amend Section 197-
5 of the Code of the Town of Hempstead)

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any
slips on this Public Hearing.

Is there anybody that wished to be
heard?

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

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Bearing none, may
2 I have a Motion.

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Madam Supervisor, I
4 make a Motion that the Hearing be closed and
5 adopt the item.

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
8 please, call the roll.

9 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

10 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

11 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

13 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

15 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

17 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
18 Goosby?

19 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

20 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
21 Sweeney?

22 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

25 Madam Clerk, please, call the next

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Public Hearing.

2 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law Re:
3 "Traffic Regulations in the Vicinity of
4 Schools" in Elmont (To amend Section 197-13
5 of the Code of the Town of Hempstead)

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6 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Madam
7 Supervisor, I move we adjourn this Hearing
8 until the night meeting on February 20th to
9 allow the people in the neighborhood to
10 comment on the item.

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the
12 Motion.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, will
14 you, please call the roll.

15 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

16 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

17 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

18 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

19 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

20 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

21 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

22 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
24 Goosby?

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
2 Sweeney?

3 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

4 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

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5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

6 Madam Clerk, please, call the next
7 Public Hearing.

8 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law Re:
9 "Bus Stops" in Franklin Square, Levittown (To
10 amend Section 202-52 of the Code of the Town
11 of Hempstead)

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any
13 slips on this Hearing, is there anybody that
14 wishes to be heard?

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

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Bearing no one,
18 may I have a Motion.

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Madam
20 Supervisor, I move that the Hearing be
21 closed, and the Local Law be adopted.

22 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I second the
23 Motion.

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, call
25 the roll.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

2 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

3 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

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5 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

6 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

8 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

9 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
10 Goosby?

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
13 Sweeney?

14 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

15 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

17 Madam Clerk, please, call the next
18 Public Hearing.

19 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law Re:
20 "Gross Weight Restrictions" in Seaford -
21 Washington Avenue, (To amend Section 192-1 of
22 the Code of the Town of Hempstead)

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I have no slips on
24 this Hearing, is there anybody that wishes to
25 be heard?

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 (Whereupon, no response was heard.
2 After, the following ensued.)

3 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Madam
4 Supervisor, I move that the Hearing be
5 closed, and the item be adopted.

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6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the
7 Motion.

8 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

9 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

10 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

13 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

14 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

15 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
17 Goosby?

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

19 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
20 Sweeney?

21 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

22 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

24 Madam Clerk, please, call the next
25 Public Hearing.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law
2 entitled "Ethical Standards" (To amend
3 Chapter 38 of the Code of the Town of
4 Hempstead to repeal subsections 38-1.16 & 38-
5 2.4 thereof, in regard to outside earned
6 income for elected Town Officials)

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7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay, I have a
8 slip. Felix Procacci?

9 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci, 1165
10 Barnes Street, Franklin Square, New York.

11 On this revision, I just want to go
12 back to the subject of September 5th, when,
13 um, Councilwoman Sweeney had an entire list
14 of items that she wished to put on in the
15 Ethics Law, which I support wholeheartedly
16 and more.

17 I had my own list and, um, it is on
18 the video of September 5th, both articulated
19 what we wanted, and I find it very
20 discouraging that the only thing that we are
21 modifying in this Ethical Law is things that
22 benefit, you know, Councilwoman Sweeney and
23 Councilman Blakeman, in particular.

24 And, we don't do a full modification
25 which is desperately needed because one of

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 the key things that is desperately needed in
2 the Ethical Standards, if you pick one, if
3 you are just going to pick one additional
4 things to add is the public participation.

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5 There is nothing that prohibits it,
6 but, um, the, um, the head of the Board of
7 Ethics, John Ryan has indicated he is not
8 empowered by New York State to take public
9 complaints.

10 Well, that is not really correct.

11 It doesn't state explicitly that. It
12 doesn't prohibit him from doing it, but, he
13 doesn't have to, so, it is kind of misleading
14 when he gave me that excuse.

15 And, um, in that respect, I have an
16 ethics complaint.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Felix - -

18 FELIX PROCACCI: Stop the clock.

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Can I interject
20 for one moment, one second, well, first of
21 all, good morning.

22 Basically, we, as a Town Board with
23 the Supervisor, are going to meticulously and
24 very deliberately look at all of our Ethics
25 Laws and amend them and we are going to sit

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 down and talk about many of the things that
2 Councilwoman Erin King-Sweeney and myself and
3 other Members of the Board have proposed over
4 a period of time and we will do that
5 relatively quickly.

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6 Because of the time constraints of
7 this particular, um, portion of the Ethics
8 Law that would require legal action if it was
9 challenged to it within a specific period of
10 time.

11 We are getting rid of that part of it,
12 now, to avoid anything that might cause the
13 Town money with respect to legal fees,
14 attorneys' fees, etc., and avoid litigation.

15 But, we are going to sit down and talk
16 about all the things that Councilwoman King-
17 Sweeney, the Supervisor, myself and all the
18 Members of the Town Board have put forth with
19 respect to ethics reform, that is the
20 process.

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I would echo those
22 comments, Mr. Procacci, certainly, our Ethics
23 Code is something we will be taking a look
24 at.

25 I did speak to some Members of the

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1 Town Board about it.

2 This is something that we had to
3 address in an expeditious manner. The income
4 cap was, in our opinion, not valid ethics
5 reform and it was something that we had to
6 address right away, that is why this is
7 severed out for this Public Hearing, but, we
8 will be taking a look at the Ethics Code.

9 I assure you about that.

10 FELIX PROCACCI: I worry about it.

11 I have been hearing everything is
12 kicked down the road.

13 I have been here around seven and a
14 half years. Years I have heard a lot of that
15 stuff.

16 "Oh, the next time, we will look into
17 it. We will consider it."

18 I can't tell you how many times if I
19 had a dollar every time they said that, I
20 would be wealthy.

21 But, anyway, in that respect, I
22 submit a request for Supervisor Gillen to
23 submit an ethics complaint regarding the
24 Civil Service Agreement that was, I believe
25 voted on illegally by Dunne, D'Esposito and

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Santino and I wrote it up.

2 I did email you, so you have a heads
3 up on it. This one I signed again. I didn't
4 want to submit it to John Ryan and the Ethics
5 Board because I know what they are going to
6 say.

7 They ae not in power. He doesn't have
8 to respond to me legally. They don't have to
9 because there is nothing challenging.

10 It does say in the law currently, our
11 current Ethics Board "shall respond to
12 employees."

13 So, if you implement this, they can -
14 - they must unless you ask Joe Ra.

15 He doesn't know the meaning of
16 "shall."

17 He will argue that "shall" is not a
18 command but the Bible says it is.

19 But the thing is they have to respond
20 to you and I did give it to the Clerk.

21 Like I said, I emailed it to you.

22 I like you to submit an Ethics
23 Complaint regarding that issue.

24 It is important that we get a decision
25 on it.

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1 I understand they take their sweet
2 time with me.

3 They take six months to give me a no-
4 decision claim on ethics claim filed against
5 Kate Murray.

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6 I composed my own ethics law back in
7 2015 and many Members of the Board were here,
8 and nobody had concerns about ethics when
9 Kate Murray used the Town's Animal Shelter
10 for her District Attorney campaign and all
11 her arguments were known.

12 I made the complaint.

13 John Ryan waited until the week after
14 the Election before he responded that he did
15 nothing.

16 When I asked for the folder, there was
17 not one interview with one person.

18 My complaint came back, and I echo - -
19 I said this at previous meetings that is not
20 - - it doesn't give confidence if he didn't
21 talk to one person what did he do for six
22 months?

23 If you didn't interview one person,
24 how did you determine that there was no
25 wrongdoing?

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 There was no discussion as to why
2 there was wrongdoing.

3 She clearly misused her office and the
4 Animal Shelter.

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5 It was a conflict of interest.

6 Once, again, I am asking you to submit
7 a complaint, respectfully, I ask you to,
8 please, submit a complaint so we can get a
9 determination.

10 How long it will take, I don't know.

11 There is no date and time.

12 Once, again, with the Ethics Law,
13 there is no time constraints. I proposed it
14 back in 2015.

15 I suggested sixty days and if they had
16 to go above the sixty days, they give a
17 public letter as to what reasons they need to
18 extend the sixty days and they can do that
19 indefinitely.

20 So, they are not stuck by a time limit
21 which sometimes it does take time, but they
22 have to give a reason why it is going to take
23 more than sixty days to analyze a complaint.

24 Thank you so much.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Mr. Procacci.

2 You handed your complaint to the Clerk
3 and we will take it under advisement and
4 investigate it.

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5 Thank you.

6 Next, we have Michael Watt, I am not
7 sure.

8 MICHAEL WATT: Good Morning. My name
9 is Michael Watt. I am here to speak on
10 behalf of Reclaim, New York Initiative. 501-
11 C-4 Advocacy organization regarding the
12 proposed amending of Chapter 38 of the Code
13 of the Town of Hempstead's Ethical Standards
14 as it pertains to limiting the income of
15 Elected Town Officials can earn.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Would you, please,
17 state your address for the record.

18 MICHAEL WATT: Michael Watt, 597 Fifth
19 Avenue, New York, New York 10016.

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Did you identify
21 that you were Reclaim New York, sir?

22 MICHAEL WATT: Reclaim New York
23 Initiative is a 501-c-4 Advocacy
24 Organization.

25 Being unethical is like being pregnant

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 you either are or you aren't, and you are no
2 less pregnant when you are eight months along
3 than you are at one month.

4 So, it stands to reason that Elected
5 Officials' ethics will not be impacted by how
6 much money he or she earns, in addition to
7 fulfilling his or her duties as a Council
8 person.

9 So, to insinuate that the more money
10 you earn, the more likely you are to become
11 corrupt is an insult to smart, hardworking
12 people enjoying successful careers.

13 Limited outside income also serves as
14 a deterrent to attracting successful men and
15 women into public service.

16 Local government can only benefit from
17 having men and women with work ethics and
18 discipline required to build successful
19 careers and salary.

20 Those talents and resources with their
21 fellow residents, a lot is asked of our
22 Elected Officials in terms of sacrificing
23 time away from family and fun.

24 The last thing government needs to be
25 doing is demanding they take a significant

1 pay cut, as well.

2 How much income is earned by Elected
3 Officials outside of his or her governmental
4 duties is not nearly important as how the
5 money is made, as long as the outside income
6 stems from performing services unrelated to
7 the Elected Official's role in the
8 municipality.

9 The amount earned should not be a
10 problem.

11 The Elected Official taking even a
12 dollar in order to exploit his or her
13 position on the other hand is unacceptable.

14 Reclaim New York Initiative,
15 therefore, supports removing limits on
16 outside income Elected Officials can earn,
17 assuming the earning of said income does not
18 interfere with the Elected Official's ability
19 to fill his or her responsibilities.

20 Thank you.

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

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any
24 slips on this Public Hearing.

25 Is there anybody else that would like

1 to be heard?

2 META MEREDAY: Yes. Meta J. Mereday,
3 Baldwin resident, advocate for Veterans,
4 repeat performer with regard to this ethical
5 situation.

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6 And, I am hoping this time that the
7 direction that it goes with the spirit and
8 the nature of the process takes a more fair
9 and inclusive direction.

10 Um, as previous speakers have stated,
11 and I have stated myself, previously, the
12 income stipulation was purely political.

13 Let's keep it real.

14 I am on the time clock, here, so, I
15 want to be specific, the nature of the whole
16 process, itself, was not genuine.

17 It was not sincere.

18 So, if this is an opportunity to make
19 that right with all the other issues that
20 need to be addressed and corrected in the
21 Township of Hempstead, let's, at least, in
22 this instance get it right.

23 Again, as previously stated, I am not
24 really in the mood to repeating other
25 statements, but we need an opportunity to

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 recruit the best and brightest to represent
2 the interests of this Township.

3 And, we need to have the opportunity
4 for them to do what they need to do for them
5 to be successful for their own families, so
6 they can protect the interests of all of our
7 families and the many underserved and under-
8 represented constituencies in this Township.

9 So, again, we are looking to you, our
10 leaders and our newly Elected Supervisor to
11 get this right.

12 And, for those that had the
13 opportunity to do the right thing previously,
14 this is a new year.

15 This is a new day, so, we are looking
16 for you this time to get it right.

17 Thank you.

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

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody
21 else that would like to be heard on this
22 Hearing?

23 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden,
24 Hempstead.

25 I am all for this ridiculous, um,

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Resolution, um, being voted against and done
2 away with, um, but, what concerned me was the
3 conversation that took place, um, I am happy
4 to hear Councilman Blakeman that other
5 ethical issues will be worked on.

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6 We have been waiting a very long time
7 for that to happen.

8 What I would like to know is, you
9 know, goals are great.

10 We have been hearing goals for many,
11 many years from this Board.

12 What are the deadlines?

13 What are your deadlines? Um, the way
14 I look at it, the sooner we verify - - the
15 public and the public is satisfied with some
16 ethical, very much needed changes, the
17 better.

18 So, let's take, for instance, a
19 general - - I am sorry, Inspector General,
20 what is the deadline for Inspector General?

21 And, is that something that the Board
22 is still in agreement with?

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Ra, I believe
24 that is coming up for a March Hearing, is
25 that correct?

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The Civil Service
2 Law, the position has to be created and it
3 has been sent to Civil Service in New York
4 State.

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5 It will take until March. A Public
6 Hearing has to be held by the Town of
7 Hempstead Civil Service Board and that will
8 be in March.

9 DIANE MADDEN: So, everyone
10 understands, what does that mean?

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The position has to
12 be created.

13 DIANE MADDEN: Okay, and from there?

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Once the position
15 is created, then, you know, start and move
16 forward.

17 DIANE MADDEN: So, do you have an
18 approximate ballpark time of when we will
19 have an Inspector General?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I know the position
21 will be created sometime in March.

22 DIANE MADDEN: Okay, is there anything
23 that could cause delays from that happening?

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Once the position
25 is created, then, we can move forward with

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 retaining someone to act as Compliance
2 Officer.

3 DIANE MADDEN: Okay, all right, thank
4 you.

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5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody
6 else that would like to be heard on this
7 Public Hearing.

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

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: There being no
11 one, may I have a Motion on this item.

12 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Madam Supervisor, I
13 make a Motion that the Hearing be closed, and
14 the local law be adopted.

15 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I second
16 the Motion.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
18 please, call the roll.

19 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

20 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

21 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

22 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

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COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

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CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

Madam Clerk, please, call the next
Public Hearing.

CLERK CABANA: Proposed "Handicapped
Parking on Public Streets" in Baldwin,
Elmont, Uniondale (Waddell Street, Belmont
Avenue, Macon Place)

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any
slips on this time. Is there anybody that
wishes to be heard?

META MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday,
Baldwin resident.

I would like to know the background
for this particular - - what the impact is.

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Reed?

META MEREDAY: Since we do have a
Control Section of County and Town Roads, um,

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 we are just hoping, and I am sure that there
2 are other residents from other communities
3 that are looking for more cross municipality
4 direction with regard to addressing some of
5 the traffic infractions that are happening on
6 our County/Town roads aside from the pothole
7 issues that are becoming like mission
8 impossible.

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9 I get it because of the weather but,
10 we are having issues where buses are parked
11 or school buses are being parked in places
12 that are dangerous for pedestrians, as well
13 as, drivers and we have people that are
14 parking clearly on areas that have no
15 parking, so, I am just hoping that the Town
16 and the County can kind of work together to
17 better address that because, you know - -

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: If you provide us
19 with some specifics of where you are seeing
20 problems, we will look into that.

21 Mr. Reed, can you speak to this item.

22 TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: Yes, this is a
23 handicapped item for a resident that
24 requested handicapped parking in front of
25 their home and as of today, once it has been

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 approved by the Town Board, we will issue a
2 work order to have the sign installed there.

3 META MEREDAY: Okay, pertaining to
4 Baldwin, all of these are for residential,
5 for their home?

6 TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: Yes.

7 META MEREDAY: Okay.

8 TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: Majority of
9 them, yes.

10 META MEREDAY: Okay, so, there are no
11 main streets we are talking about, Grand
12 Avenue?

13 TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: We have an
14 issue here in Franklin Square, for New Hyde
15 Park, which is a County Road and they asked
16 our assistance to update the parking in that
17 area, so, I had to modify some parking issues
18 in some areas, no stopping.

19 META MEREDAY: Okay.

20 TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: Crosswalk area,
21 you don't want cars parking in a crosswalk,
22 so, we had to update the signs in Franklin
23 Square, one of the locations.

24 META MEREDAY: Okay, and you will be
25 informing law enforcement of these changes?

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: Yes,
2 restrictions and notifying them of the
3 restrictions.

4 META MEREDAY: Because I am really
5 trying to be proactive versus reactive. We
6 have to reduce the fatalities crossing
7 streets and things of that nature.

8 We are not doing it, now, you know,
9 this Hearing.

10 TRAFFIC CONTROL REED: Police
11 Departments are notified of new ordinances or
12 parking restrictions and also residents can
13 call the police if they see parking issues on
14 the block and the police will come down and
15 respond.

16 META MEREDAY: Right, okay, thank you.
17 Thank you, Madam Supervisor.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody
19 else that wishes to be heard on this item?

20 (Whereupon, no response was heard.

21 After, the following ensued.)

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: May I have a
23 Motion.

24 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Madam
25 Supervisor, I move that the Hearing be

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 closed and the item be adopted.

2 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second
3 the Motion.

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
5 please, call the roll.

6 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

7 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

8 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

10 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

13 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

14 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
15 Goosby?

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

17 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
18 Sweeney?

19 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

20 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

22 Okay, that concludes our Public
23 Hearings.

24 Madam Clerk, would you, please, call
25 the Administrative Calendar.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor, on the
2 Administrative Calendar this morning, we have
3 Items 1 through 57.

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Madam
5 Supervisor, I move the Administrative
6 Calendar 1 through 57.

7 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Second.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, I
9 move to table Items 48, 49 and 57, so Members
10 of the Board have asked for additional time
11 to consider these items.

12 I plan to table these to the next Town
13 Board Meeting to provide Board Members the
14 time that they need to feel comfortable
15 voting on these items.

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the
17 motion.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, would
19 you, please, read Item 48 and call the roll.

20 CLERK CABANA: Resolution authorizing
21 the execution of an agreement to provide
22 legal services - Town of Hempstead (Bond,
23 Schoeneck & King, PLLC)

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Please, call the
25 roll to table the item.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

2 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

3 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

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5 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

6 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

8 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

9 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
10 Goosby?

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
13 Sweeney?

14 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

15 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

17 Madam Clerk, read Item 49 and call the
18 roll.

19 CLERK CABANA: Resolution authorizing
20 the execution of an agreement to provide
21 investigative services - Town of Hempstead
22 (Kroll, Inc.)

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

24 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

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COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

Madam Clerk, please, call Item 50.

CLERK CABANA: Item 50, Refunding Bond
Resolution, authorizing the refunding of
certain outstanding serial bonds of said
Town, stating the plan of refunding
appropriating an amount not to exceed
\$110,000,000 for such purpose, authorizing
the issuance of refunding bonds in the
principal amount of not to exceed
\$110,000,000 to finance said appropriation
and making certain other determination
relative thereto - Town of Hempstead.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Please, call the
2 roll to table this Item.

3 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

4 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

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5 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

8 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

9 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

10 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: One hundred and ten
11 million, aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: One hundred ten million,
13 yes, yes, I am sorry. Senior Councilwoman
14 Goosby?

15 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
17 Sweeney?

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

19 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

21 Are there any other items on the
22 Administrative Calendar that Members of the
23 Town Board would like to sever?

24 (Whereupon, no response was heard.

25 After, the following ensued.)

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I have a number of
2 slips of people that would like to be heard
3 on the Administrative Calendar, Donna
4 Casazza?

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5 DONNA CASAZZA: Donna Casazza,
6 Rockville Centre, New York.

7 Okay, the first one, um, inclusive are
8 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, these are with
9 respect to Youth Services contracts for
10 January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, is
11 there a reason why?

12 I guess my question is there a debt?

13 These are contracts that were not paid
14 in the calendar year 2016 and 2017?

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Ra?

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: These Resolutions
17 come out of the Department of Planning and
18 Economic Development, um, and, um, I would
19 believe that these are contracts that were
20 agreed to back, then, and were not paid.

21 DONNA CASAZZA: Right.

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Is that right,
23 Commissioner?

24 COMMISSIONER: The contract for Nassau
25 County through - - the ones you are referring

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 to are actually came from my Department are
2 involved with the Department of Parks.

3 They are all Villages on their Youth
4 Services.

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5 DONNA CASAZZA: No, no, I know they
6 are Youth Services, the dollar amounts of all
7 these contracts are for services that were
8 rendered for services and are in the budget
9 for 2016?

10 I think for some reason they didn't
11 get into that budget and they weren't paid,
12 then, they weren't paid in 2017 and, now,
13 they are coming up in the 2018 year and we
14 are paying them out from the 2018 budget?

15 COMMISSIONER: It goes back to 2016.

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It does not come
17 out of the 2018 budget.

18 The money is appropriated in 2016.

19 DONNA CASAZZA: Just so you know, with
20 respect to the layman looking at these
21 contracts, it doesn't tell me it is grant
22 money.

23 It doesn't tell me where the grant
24 money is coming from, the State, the Feds - -
25 stop the clock.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

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Am I right?

So, we know that not one dollar for these Youth Services are coming out of 2018's budget, correct?

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TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is correct.

DONNA CASAZZA: My clock keeps going. Okay, 36, um, 36, well, 36, I guess it is, um, North Shore Architecture, Inc., the contract there that is signed, does not have a name of the principal underneath, so, if you are looking, you would never know who actually is that person and that goes with Standard Evaluation Services, also.

If you are looking at that contract, you would not know who the principal is, who the owner is for ethical purposes, you wouldn't be able to vet the contract.

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Supervisor, can I address that item?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Please.

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: So, it is a valid point that has to be made.

We do disclosure for those contracts.

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Would you

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Disclose who the principals are?

2 DONNA CASAZZA: If I may, the problem
3 is if they are all bunched in and they are
4 resolutions and they are all being tied with
5 the same kind of contract, some are old and
6 have a printed name and some don't, it should
7 be all consistent with some type of
8 contracts.

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Well, I think it
10 should be consistent that the principals be
11 included in that information but the
12 disclosures that we get, do you want the
13 names?

14 DONNA CASAZZA: I think they should be
15 part of the record.

16 They should be part of the vetting
17 that is done by me who takes the time to look
18 at the Resolutions.

19 It was six and eight months down the
20 line - - I know my time is up but I am
21 answering questions for you.

22 The bottom line is it should be part
23 of the process that is open and transparent
24 for all of us to look at.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: You are saying

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 this information should be included in the
2 Resolution.

3 DONNA CASAZZA: And, it had been maybe
4 six or eight months ago, some of that, all
5 that vetting was put on and it was taken off.

6 I take a look at every one of these
7 Resolutions that come in.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I think that is
9 something that we will take under advisement
10 and look into, especially, as we look to
11 amend our Ethics Law.

12 DONNA CASAZZA: Next is 38 and my
13 question on this one is Parasails Charters,
14 Inc., now, these contracts look like they are
15 subsidized by HUD, correct?

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: What number are you
17 looking at?

18 DONNA CASAZZA: 38, part of 38 was one
19 contract, wasn't signed. I don't know who
20 the principal is but Parasails Charters,
21 Inc., this particular contract, um, you're
22 approving this particular company and you are
23 saying there were four responses to this
24 contract but you are not telling us who the
25 other three are.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 It was an RFP, who were the other
2 three?

3 What was the dollar amount that they
4 bid?

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5 COMMISSIONER: Each year there are a
6 series of contracts that the Department of
7 Planning and Development put out for RFP.

8 Respondents come in. There is a
9 procurement policy that we have to adhere to
10 because there are funds involved, um, the
11 committees are set up.

12 They review the responses to RFP and a
13 recommendation is made.

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Three contracts are
15 being awarded in this Resolution.

16 DONNA CASAZZA: Each for thirty
17 thousand dollars, each, correct?

18 COMMISSIONER: They are requirement
19 contracts.

20 What that means is none of these
21 people are guaranteed a penny of that money
22 unless they do some type of work for the
23 Department, that depends on what type of
24 funding received in the coming year,
25 including any State or additional Federal

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Grants.

It is very possible they will get nothing.

DONNA CASAZZA: So, here is my problem, four, one didn't make the muster.

Parasails Charters, Inc., I have been monitoring this particular company for the last couple years, do they have present contracts with the Town of Hempstead, right, now?

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Not with the Town of Hempstead, per say, if they have a contract with Planning, I wouldn't know about that.

DONNA CASAZZA: All right, well, they do.

I have seen their name on your, um, roster for the last few years.

This is a single-family house in East Rockaway, that is why I red-flagged this particular contact and before this one is awarded, I think we need to know what the past contracts have been with the Town of Hempstead.

My understanding is that this

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Particular company has a gmail of the
2 individual principal, only.

3 He has no other work that he does and
4 if this is HUD subsidized, I think this
5 contract needs to be vetted more before it is
6 awarded.

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Commissioner,
8 correct me if I am wrong.

9 COMMISSIONER: Parasails, last year,
10 had a contract with my department.

11 DONNA CASAZZA: See - - so, paid seven
12 hundred dollars - -

13 Okay, they were paid seven hundred
14 dollars but they have the ability to make up
15 to thirty thousand dollars, correct?

16 But, what I am saying to you, at
17 least, validate the fact - - I have been
18 monitoring this particular appraiser, I mean
19 if this is HUD subsidized, he has the ability
20 to make twenty-nine thousand three hundred
21 dollars more.

22 I think it needs to be vetted.

23 I would like to know what his resume
24 is since out of four resumes, one was chucked
25 out.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 We don't get to see who the other one
2 was.

3 And, I think there needs to be more
4 vetting of these contracts.

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5 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr. Veggage
6 was last year the only year that Parasails
7 had a contract with us?

8 COMMISSIONER: I have to go back,
9 Councilman and actually look, you know, these
10 come through the Department.

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Were there any
12 issues last year?

13 COMMISSIONER: Never had any issue
14 with any of these.

15 DONNA CASAZZA: No, again, because we
16 have been in the mantra of rubberstamping
17 most of the contracts that have come through,
18 here.

19 We are going to do some ethical
20 looking.

21 I am just letting you know that this
22 is one of the areas that need to be vetted.

23 Again, I don't know this appraiser has
24 done any other work.

25 He has a gmail and, again, it is a

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 single-family house on the water in East
2 Rockaway which red-flagged me three years.

3 They had a contract for, at least,
4 three years - -

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5 (Whereupon, the five-minute bell rang.
6 After, the following ensued.)

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

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mrs. Casazza, as
10 you know, we have a statute that will bring
11 in a compliance officer.

12 When we bring in a compliance officer,
13 that will give the public more confidence in
14 the contracting process.

15 Next, we have Diane Madden.

16 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden,
17 Hempstead.

18 Item Number 25, can someone tell me a
19 little bit more about this contract, which I
20 raised this issue last year when this Board
21 passed this ridiculous, wasteful irritant
22 that they spray at the front door?

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: What number are you
24 asking about?

25 DIANE MADDEN: Twenty-five.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Well, this is for -
2 - it is supposed to keep the air fresh, scent
3 fresh at the Animal Shelter.

4 What is your question?

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5 DIANE MADDEN: You have to understand,
6 it is mounted at the front door and it is so
7 overwhelming that the staff keep their
8 windows open to the right and it is
9 poisonous.

10 And, it is not a fragrance and it is
11 an irritant and for some reason, all of these
12 years we have managed the Animal Shelter
13 without a contract for a scent machine at the
14 front door.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Had they had the
16 scent machine before at the Animal Shelter?

17 Commissioner, would you, please, come
18 forward.

19 COMMISSIONER MARINO: Good Morning,
20 Supervisor, Board Members, Senior
21 Councilwoman Goosby.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Good Morning.

23 COMMISSIONER MARINO: The contract is
24 for a scent machine.

25 This is the second year.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 We started it last year. When I went
2 to, um, the Veterinary Guides to Animal
3 Shelter's WEB site, they recommended this
4 guide to Animal Shelters and one of the
5 things was certain scents are better for
6 animals, so, we tried this out.

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7 I actually thought it worked.

8 I thought it was not overpowering. I
9 go in there and I think it, um, helps with
10 the scent of the animals.

11 There is a lot of bleach and other
12 stuff in there.

13 And, I think it actually alleviates
14 it.

15 DIANE MADDEN: Well, there is no
16 bleach in that area.

17 Um, that is the front door. The
18 bleach, you would find in the kennels and if
19 there is an issue with bleach, that means the
20 solution is not being correctly mixed.

21 This is a wasteful contract.

22 I am interested in finding out what
23 Board Members passed this contract or tried
24 to, um, you spoke or quoted Councilwoman
25 Sweeney about your responsibility or

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Elected Officials' responsibility in running
2 out of people's money.

3 This is how you run out of people's
4 money by spending it wastefully for no
5 purpose.

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6 And, Mr. Marino, if you are starting to
7 take recommendations, maybe you should do so
8 and start hiring qualified people instead of
9 transferring wonderful people for the past
10 two years that have been in the Animal
11 Shelter out of the Animal Shelter and pulling
12 in political, um, connected employees into
13 the Animal Shelter.

14 So, I think if you are going to take
15 recommendations, those are the ones that
16 affect the animals, welfare of the animals.

17 This is not helping the Animal
18 Shelter. I would like to know who - - where
19 this contract came from.

20 Um, and, again, why it is even on this
21 resolution.

22 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Can I ask a
23 question?

24 The scent is one thing.

25 The expenditures of money is another

1 thing.

2 What ingredient in this and I am
3 asking this sincerely, what ingredients in
4 this is poisonous?

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5 DIANE MADDEN: Well, if you look on
6 the WEB site - - I don't have it with me, I
7 certainly will be happy to email that to your
8 office.

9 These are considered irritants.

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: They are not
11 poisonous. They are irritants.

12 DIANE MADDEN: Well, irritants are
13 poisonous.

14 They have chemicals. If you want to
15 mince words.

16 It is wasteful. It is wasteful.

17 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Okay.

18 DIANE MADDEN: In fact, what happened
19 and they tried to mount this right outside an
20 office and because the employee started
21 becoming ill, they moved it to the front
22 door, so, now, the scent, basically, blows
23 out the window or out the front door.

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Understood.

25 Just trying to identify the poison,

1 that is all.

2 DIANE MADDEN: I will happily email
3 what is in these scents and fragrances which
4 are irritants, um, so, you know.

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5 On another note, these are the things
6 that the public is very unhappy about seeing,
7 you know, contracts like this that spend the
8 public's money, that is why I asked for a
9 deadline for ethics reform.

10 When an Inspector General is chosen, it
11 cannot be for five thousand or ten thousand
12 or twenty thousand-dollar contracts.

13 It is this kind of money that we have
14 to keep an eye on.

15 Thank you.

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

18 SUPERVISOR SANTINO: Felix Procacci?

19 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci. 1165
20 Barnes Street, Franklin Square, New York.

21 Um, Item Number 45, the resolution
22 regarding personnel.

23 I stated last time, that you should
24 put a hold on all of this, especially if you
25 are going to hire people that could

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 be fired, could be let go, that is fine, but,
2 if you are hiring people that were given
3 raises to people who under the current CPA,
4 as it is understood, can't be salaries, can't
5 be reduced, nothing can happen unless they
6 commit like a major crime and we know we
7 don't even punish that in this Town, that we
8 put a hold on everything.

9 Um, you know, the Ethics Law needs to
10 come first.

11 It comes first and to add public
12 participation in the Ethics Law was very
13 necessary before passing this particular
14 Resolution because right, now, the public has
15 no output.

16 I have to plead to you to, please, put
17 forth an ethics complaint to John Ryan.

18 I can't do that myself. We are
19 putting the cart before the horse, here.

20 This current ethics, you know, this
21 Resolution, Michele Hanson, I have her
22 through see view, New York, would go through
23 - - I think she might have been part-time.

24 The salaries were wrong.

25 It goes from, I think,

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1 thirty-five thousand in 2013 and forty-one,
2 forty-four, fifty-one, fifty-nine, sixty-six
3 and we are going to sixty-seven or whatever
4 it is, sixty-nine, whatever it is, almost
5 doubling the salary.

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6 Um, and her husband, once, again,
7 doubling the salary within 2014, 2013 to 2017
8 in five years and there is no accountability.

9 People would love to have their
10 salaries doubled in that short period of
11 time.

12 I don't think the average person gets
13 that.

14 I don't think these are justifiable.

15 Michele Hanson just December 12th,
16 acting on behalf of Supervisor Santino let
17 the clock run, not for me, anyone who raises
18 hell, here.

19 Another guy was speaking very
20 respectfully to the Board regarding his
21 Father, the plumber and Michele Hanson, on
22 behalf of Santino, let the clock run while
23 other officials were speaking.

24 She has violated and I have a video
25 numerous times, the ethics, violating

1 the public - -

2 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I don't
3 think it is very appropriate about Ms. Hanson
4 - -

5 FELIX PROCACCI: Let me speak. I am
6 speaking accurately and I can verify
7 everything I saw with the video, like what
8 you say, it is okay.

9 It is as simple as that.

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

12 FELIX PROCACCI: Let me finish
13 speaking and, then, you can speak.

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

16 FELIX PROCACCI: She has given money,
17 regular Board of Elections' records have
18 shown that her family has given to
19 D'Esposito, Santino, Murray, Erin King-
20 Sweeney, so, she is giving campaign
21 contributions.

22 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: That is
23 not accurate.

24 FELIX PROCACCI: It is on the list,
25 either her husband or her, but, it

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1 came up in the Board of Elections.

2 I looked it up last night.

3 SUPERVISOR GILEN: Mr. Procacci, with
4 respect to some of the personnel resolution
5 that involves my staff, I need to bring my
6 staff on in order to perform my duties.

7 FELIX PROCACCI: As long as those
8 people can be let go, that is fine, bring
9 people who aren't going to follow under that
10 CPA Agreement and you bring them on like
11 everyone else.

12 Like I said, if I work for the Trump
13 Administration, if Trump didn't get elected,
14 I would be let go, that is the name of the
15 game.

16 What happened on December 12th was not
17 the norm, transferring, promoting one hundred
18 and ninety-two people en masse under secrecy
19 of the Board, no justification.

20 Even Mr. Santino could not justify why
21 he did it.

22 Mr. Ra said and I quote, it speaks for
23 itself.

24 The agreement speaks for it, I mean,
25 come on, that is what they say

1 when they don't want to explain their
2 decision.

3 And, like if you are not required by
4 law, but for the public to hear this and the
5 reason why it is important to have that
6 Ethics Law for the public because we don't
7 have any outlet.

8 Everything with us is Article 78.

9 Imagine every time you had to file an
10 Article 78, you have to hire an attorney.

11 Would anyone get punished if you had
12 to go through an Article 78, first?

13 That is the only punishment when you
14 guys violate my rights or the rights of other
15 people in this room.

16 The only outlet we have is hire and
17 attorney, doing it ourselves, learning how
18 the Court system, which is very daunting, at
19 least, seven hundred dollars in fees just to
20 get passed the door.

21 It's unfair.

22 The Ethics Law needed to come first
23 before the Resolutions.

24 The numbers I read out are accurate,
25 are accurate right from there and

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1 the Board of Elections, she is giving
2 contributions to many people who vote on her
3 increase.

4 (Whereupon, the five-minute bell rang.
5 After, the following ensued.)

6 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr. Procacci,
7 if I may.

8 This is scary to say, I actually don't
9 disagree with everything that you said.

10 What I do disagree with and I think
11 some of my colleagues on the Board disagree
12 with is to, you know, single out a person and
13 her family for their, what is really their
14 right, their democratic right to donate to
15 whoever they want to and for you to insinuate
16 they are only getting raises or moving up the
17 ladder in government is because of those
18 donations is wrong.

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

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Everyone can
22 laugh as much as they want but that is the
23 problem, here.

24 Let me finish, I let you finish.

25 I think that is the issue,

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 perhaps we could have a conversation about
2 the issues that you raise, but, when you
3 identify certain people like Ms. Hanson, Mr.
4 Hanson, who, quite honestly, work hard for
5 the Town of Hempstead and you identify them
6 as the only reason as to why they are doing
7 that is exactly how it sounds to the people
8 and the people that are going to watch the
9 video online, it sounds like you are
10 identifying them because of the money that
11 they donate.

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12 And, I think that is wrong.

13 FELIX PROCACCI: Absolutely, when I
14 asked - -

15 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: So, we agree,
16 great.

17 FELIX PROCACCI: We agree on that.

18 When I asked and you have been here,
19 when I asked and even before you came, here,
20 I asked why is somebody getting a twenty
21 thousand dollar raise, you know, "Oh,
22 Department needs, Department said this," and
23 when I ask questions like when I have
24 problems with the Town Clerk's Office with
25 FOILS, which I have had over many

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Years, many of the people here have dealt
2 with me on FOILS and I asked in the past - -

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Procacci - -

4 FELIX PROCACCI: Hun.

5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Your time is up.

6 I gave you additional time.

7 Next, I believe is - - I believe the
8 Clerk's Office requested a raise for Ms.
9 Hanson to bring her pay up to the pay of
10 other supervisors in that office.

11 FELIX PROCACCI: Sure, and I get that.

12 CLERK CABANA: Can I say something,
13 actually, Felix, I am the one that requested
14 the raise for Ms. Hanson.

15 She, as I told you, other supervisors
16 in the office are making significantly more
17 money than her.

18 The reason that I chose to give her a
19 raise, obviously, she has not ever donated
20 anything to me, obviously and I never expect
21 that of her and any of my employees, she
22 often gets to the office 6:00 or 7:00 in the
23 morning.

24 She does not take a lunch. She stays
25 late. She has done everything in her

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1 power to try and help me as I transition in
2 this role as Clerk.

3 She is very hardworking, good
4 employee.

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5 I decided. She didn't even come to
6 me. I came to her.

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

9 CLERK CABANA: That is the only reason
10 I did it.

11 FELIX PROCACCI: That is fine.

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you, Mr.
13 Procacci.

14 FELIX PROCACCI: The fact of the
15 matter is she does violate the constitutional
16 rights of many residents.

17 CLERK CABANA: She is an employee.

18 She is doing what she is told. She is
19 not trying to violate anybody's rights.

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Next person I have
21 is Rori Gordon.

22 RORI GORDON: Good Afternoon, Rory
23 Gordon, Hauppauge, New York.

24 Um, I just wanted to talk about Number
25 38 which was already discussed,

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Parasails Appraisals, um, there is no hourly
2 rate.

3 How do they determine what they get
4 paid?

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5 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Ordinarily,
6 appraisers are paid based on the magnitude of
7 the job that they are given, um, so, we would
8 get a fee quote prior to employing them for
9 a specific job.

10 RORI GORDON: There is absolutely no
11 Internet presence for Parasails Appraisers,
12 how can we, as citizens, check into what
13 their qualifications are?

14 Who, in today's World, has no Internet
15 presence?

16 Every single one of you do.

17 This organization has none. I find
18 that very troubling.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: We did just
20 discuss this item, but if you like to hear
21 it, again, we can call the Commissioner to
22 talk about Parasails.

23 RORI GORDON: The only thing I am
24 asking is how did you come to pick them
25 without an Internet presence?

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TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Our Planning

Department, they made request for proposals and, then, the number of proposals are given in and they select various entities to their needs, so, it is vetted by a committee at the Department of Planning and Economic Development.

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RORI GORDON: And, that money is spent is FOIL-able?

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Sure, yes.

RORI GORDON: Okay, that brings me to Number 39, on Number 39, you have a contract here for Berkman, Henoch, Peterson, Peddy and Fenchel, what I don't understand is how we can hire this particular firm to pay them up to fifty thousand or one hundred thousand dollars when we have FOIL bills from them and they are now appearing to working free in the litigation Green-2009 against the Town of Hempstead?

So, can somebody explain to me why bills are not FOIL-able and if they are not FOIL-able for Green-2009, why would they be FOIL-able in this particular situation?

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Well, I

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1 think I disagree with the premise that their
2 bills are not FOIL-able. Their bills are
3 FOIL-able.

4 RORI GORDON: Mr. Procacci has FOIL-ed
5 twice the bills from March, 2017 until today
6 and there has been no bills turned in by
7 Berkman, Henoch as of March, '17, seven
8 hundred thousand dollars has been spent in
9 litigation fees in this particular case.

10 Seven hundred thousand dollars of
11 taxpayer money that could go to - - Jesus
12 Christ, so, many good programs that we have.

13 It seems like they vanished after
14 March, 2017.

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: All I can say to
16 you, I will look into it.

17 Their legal bills are FOIL-able.

18 RORI GORDON: I understand that and I
19 know for a fact that there are no bills
20 found.

21 I read the FOILs myself.

22 Okay, let me move on, can somebody
23 explain to me what the association of Towns
24 and State, Number 22 is?

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: One of the

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1 Resolutions is to pay the annual dues and the
2 other two Resolutions is of Members of the
3 Town of Hempstead, Councilwoman Goosby and
4 the Town Clerk to attend the annual meeting
5 of the Association of Towns.

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6 RORI GORDON: What does that annual
7 meeting cover?

8 What does it do?

9 I looked it up. I couldn't find any
10 information online.

11 I mean, I found the WEB site. What
12 specifically do we get from this meeting?

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I believe the
14 meeting has a number of training seminars and
15 informational presentations.

16 Councilwoman Goosby is an Officer with
17 the Association of Towns.

18 So, they are having workshops, a
19 number of our staff Sylvia Cabana is going to
20 attend, our Clerk.

21 They have training seminars for
22 Clerks, issues coming up in clerking, things
23 like that.

24 So, it is just a useful presentation
25 that this is the Association of Towns

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1 throughout New York State that they have this
2 weekend and they have various information and
3 sessions like that.

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: We have
5 training, training attorneys, as well. They
6 can come, all, anyone work works in the
7 Towns.

8 RORI GORDON: The way that I read it,
9 generally, the Town Supervisors attend, and I
10 would think it would be in your best interest
11 that you attend because you are the newbie,
12 here and I mean, I would think you would be
13 wonderful for you to go.

14 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: She can
15 come if she wants. No one stopped her, but,
16 I am the Delegate. I am a Member of the
17 Board.

18 I have served as President of the
19 Association of Towns.

20 RORI GORDON: I understand that but
21 two thousand and one hundred and twenty-five
22 dollars is for you.

23 There is nothing in the budget for
24 Laura to go.

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: It is

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 in the budget if she wants to come.

2 She can come. I have no questions
3 about her.

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: There was an issue
5 if I was going to actually speak, we are in
6 the process of resolving that.

7 RORI GORDON: Okay, thank you.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mary Ellen Kreye?

9 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Thank you. Mary
10 Ellen Kreye. 436 Locust Avenue, Uniondale.

11 My question is about one and two where
12 the homes are located in Uniondale.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Yes, I am sorry,
14 Commissioner Rottkamp, can you speak to this,
15 please.

16 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: Good Morning,
17 Supervisor, Members of the Town Board:

18 Um, there are several locations in
19 Uniondale.

20 I can give you the list when I am done
21 reading it.

22 678 Clinton Avenue, 1027 Ditmus
23 Avenue, 486 Hawthorne Avenue, 418 Locust
24 Avenue, 774 McChrome Avenue, 828 Park Avenue,
25 643 Southern Parkway, 168 Walton Avenue,

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1 273 Lawrence Street and 526 Southern Parkway.

2 MARY ELLEN KREYE: And, then on Number
3 2, the assessment?

4 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: Those were
5 included in that list.

6 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I see, thank you.

7 On, um, Item Number 30, moving
8 premises from the "GSS" District?

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: This is an
10 abandoned gas station which has been vacant
11 for about ten years and they are currently in
12 the gasoline service station district.

13 They are giving up that zoning
14 designation to revert back to Business
15 District.

16 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Thank you.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Hold for one
18 second, with respect to your first question,
19 Commissioner, do you have any idea about how
20 many zombie homes that we have in the Town of
21 Hempstead?

22 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: We have about
23 a thousand twenty-six currently and what we
24 are doing as we speak, we are putting
25 together a list of all those.

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1 The Inspectors go back out on those to
2 see the status of them, because as time has
3 gone, some of them have come off the vacant
4 registry type of status.

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5 They are no longer vacant and this
6 way, we could have a more condensed list.

7 I would assume, by the time we od
8 this, it would be around five hundred.

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Someone told me
10 there is no incentive for plans to sell those
11 properties.

12 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: No, that is
13 not true because of the laws that this Town
14 Board has passed with them having to put
15 money in escrow, now, there is an incentive
16 for them to do it because they have to keep
17 that money in escrow.

18 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Yes, we have had
19 two homes on Henry Street which had been
20 board up and so on, which are, now, occupied.

21 I don't know if they had been sold
22 and, um, it is very nice to see that there
23 are people in those, now, but it is daunting
24 to look at the number of homes throughout the
25 Towns, especially, on this particular list

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1 to realize that I didn't count them but I bet
2 it is going up to seventy-five, so, it is
3 quite a number, quite daunting when you think
4 about it.

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5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

6 Next, we have Mary Gardiner?

7 (Whereupon, no response was heard.

8 After, the following ensued.)

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any
10 more slips.

11 Is there anyone that would like to be
12 heard on the Administrative Calendar?

13 (Whereupon, "yes" was heard calling
14 out from the audience. After, the following
15 ensued.)

16 PATTY DILLION: Hi, my name is Patty
17 Dillion, downtown East Meadow.

18 I just had a quick, um, thought about
19 the, um, the fragrance issue at the Shelter.

20 Um, aside from the fact that there are
21 many, many fragrances that are, in fact, very
22 detrimental to cats' health, there is one
23 door, so, that could be an issue depending
24 upon the cats vagility.

25 But aside from that, the fact that it

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1 was a contract that was awarded and we have
2 seen in the last few years, there have been
3 no enrichment and there have been complaints
4 of the cost of the amount of animals there.

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5 I felt it a little bit disheartening
6 and the gentleman who was here looking was
7 looking for things for the Shelter, that
8 fragrance would come up because in a well-run
9 shelter or rescue, you don't have to mask
10 odors.

11 It should be clean.

12 So, when that came up like versus
13 enrichment, that was evidently not in the
14 original budget.

15 I would be hoping that they would be
16 looking to keeping the animals in a more
17 fundamental way so when that money comes out,
18 again, I would just think it would be
19 probably better spent elsewhere.

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

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody
23 else that wants to be heard on the
24 Administrative Calendar?

25 LUCILLE DEFINA: Lucille Defina,

1 Merrick, New York.

2 Yes, that is exactly what I want to
3 point out as far as contracts and money being
4 spent on the Animal Shelter, this is
5 definitely not one of them.

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6 And, enrichment is so, obviously,
7 needed at the Shelter to the point that just
8 recently when there was a Press conference
9 there, the media wanted to go through the
10 kennels and they were given some ridiculous
11 excuse, where the media should not go through
12 the kennels.

13 Um, we tried to urge them that was not
14 true and they had every right to go through
15 the kennels and they shook their heads and
16 said, "we have been through this before."

17 So, it doesn't matter.

18 We would hope that changed and that
19 the Shelter would look different and I really
20 hope there starts to be things in the cage,
21 toys for the dogs and the cats, that those
22 cages are presentable and decent for those
23 poor animals so they can have a better
24 quality of life and those are the things you
25 should be thinking about, now, not the

1 | Fragrance in the front.

2 | Um, the other thing is, just I have a
3 | question, I don't know what this is Item 20,
4 | "authorizing payment to the general code for
5 | the annual maintenance of the Town of
6 | Hempstead Code 360," what is that?

7 | TOWN ATTORNEY RA: As the Town passes
8 | new local laws, there is a Town Code Book
9 | that gets published.

10 | These are the people that publish it,
11 | so, as we publish new laws, they have to be
12 | put into the book and put online and this is
13 | the company that does it.

14 | LUCILLE DEFINA: Oh, okay, thank you.

15 | META MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday,
16 | Baldwin resident.

17 | Councilman D'Esposito there is an
18 | agency for toxic substances and disease
19 | registry that could give you a list of
20 | perfumes and things of that nature that we
21 | can report toxics, no problem.

22 | And, for someone like myself, a 911
23 | responder with COPD and other certified
24 | conditions, the rugs that I inhale as I come
25 | to these meetings between whatever is

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1 blowing out of the system, here is very toxic
2 to me and my health because of the needs for
3 those who cannot be here, I have to come
4 before you on these occasions.

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5 Um, I am glad that someone asked the
6 question of the zombie homes that there is
7 over a thousand on this list, today.

8 There are over one hundred and ten
9 homes that are listed as open and abandoned
10 and in previous meetings, here, I asked
11 whether I knew the gentleman who served the
12 township with regard to Veterans Services,
13 Mr. Rick Niels (phonetic spelling).

14 I have met him on numerous occasions
15 and I am very upset with the regard of the
16 lack of resources that we need for a township
17 that has, according to the U.S. Census, as of
18 2016 over twenty-eight thousand Veterans and
19 we also have what is listed, again, but there
20 is no integrity of the due process of the
21 numbers over three thousand and nine hundred
22 Veteran businesses.

23 Um, not to mention there are about
24 fifteen thousand minority-owned and about
25 sixteen thousand woman-owned businesses.

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1 Why I put those numbers out there, as
2 previously mentioned, with regard to
3 contracts, I have yet to hear, maybe I missed
4 it, but I seem to have been at quite a few of
5 these Town meetings over the course of years,
6 I have yet to hear or see any type of
7 intervention, inclusive or outreach with
8 numbers that speak to benchmarks in terms of
9 how many Veteran women and Minority Officers
10 are involved in any of these practices and
11 procedures for professional services to the
12 actual shovel-ready architecture and
13 construction.

14 Can someone speak to that?

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Can I ask the
16 Town Attorney a question.

17 Are we allowed - -

18 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Can I speak to her
19 first?

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: You want to
21 speak to her first.

22 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: We are trying to
23 develop, right, now, in the process of
24 developing a registry of Veteran-owned
25 businesses so we can try to match them with

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1 whatever contracts are going out to see if
2 they are readily available to do any of the
3 contracts that we have coming out, so, we are
4 working on it.

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5 It is time consuming. It is a lot of
6 - - lot of work.

7 We are working on that as we speak and
8 a lot of public programs right, now, in the
9 Town of Hempstead.

10 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: And, the
11 idea is that we would be reaching out
12 proactively to those Veterans instead of
13 waiting for them to reach out to us.

14 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Absolutely.

15 META MEREDAY: Okay.

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Are we allowed,
17 by law, Mr. Ra, to create preferences for
18 Veterans?

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No, we are not.

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: What are we
21 allowed to do to help Veterans?

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: You can do what
23 Councilman Dunne said, do an outreach, let
24 them know that these contracts are available
25 to bid for or requests for proposals to make

1 sure they know about them.

2 I think Planning and Economic
3 Development does that in certain
4 circumstances.

5 You can do that kind of outreach but
6 the Town, the State is allowed to do
7 preferences but the Town of Hempstead is not.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Are we allowed
9 to do a program like we do with respect to
10 Minority/Women-owned businesses, where we try
11 to target a certain percentage of the work to
12 Veteran businesses, would we be allowed to do
13 that?

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: You mean a quota?

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: A target.

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Once, again, you
17 can make sure - -

18 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Woman-owned
19 businesses, fifteen percent, is that correct?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: You can make sure
21 that these businesses know that these
22 contracts are available to bid on or the Town
23 is asking for a Request for Proposals and
24 make sure instead of just doing the
25 publications that are allowed - -

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1 required by law, you can send out direct mail
2 to them to let them know those are the kinds
3 of things that you can do.

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I think for
5 Minority/Women owned businesses our target is
6 ten percent or fifteen percent? Does anybody
7 know the answer to that question?

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Fifteen.

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Do you want to
10 come forward?

11 META MEREDAY: Just because there is a
12 law per say, that does not negate the
13 responsibility or the, let's just say,
14 innovation from the Township considering the
15 percentages that you have in this area to
16 actively, you know, to proactively address
17 that.

18 And, quickly to Councilman Dunne, I am
19 curious as to who is the "we" and how is this
20 happening?

21 PLANNING COMMISSIONER: That "we" is
22 me.

23 META MEREDAY: Okay.

24 PLANNING COMMISSIONER: I reached out.
25 I know we spoke.

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META MEREDAY: Right.

PLANNING COMMISSIONER: Numerous times, I was hoping that you would actually assist us in this effort in composing this list.

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

PLANNING COMMISSIONER: I know we had this conversation many times.

I asked you to send me a list.

I assume you have a list, if not, we certainly can do it on our own but I am going to be putting that list together with the Councilman.

META MEREDAY: You mentioned there was difficulty on the phone.

As far as sending you a list, you have to develop that internally and the integrity of the listing that is on the Census Bureau has not been proven.

There is no due diligence on what is listed as to the three thousand nine hundred listed Veteran-owned businesses that are here in the Township.

I would have better access to get to

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1 them and I would be willing to assist you in
2 providing that due diligence to make it
3 happen, but, if I had not brought this up on
4 this occasion, when would I know, when would
5 that list be out?

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6 And, when would these opportunities be
7 available?

8 We will talk.

9 PLANNING COMMISSIONER: Okay. To the
10 other - - Councilman's questions, I think
11 you are referring to the targets that the
12 State mandates us to follow when we receive
13 money, particularly the Governor's Storm
14 Recovery.

15 It is fifteen percent for Women-owned
16 businesses and Minority-owned businesses,
17 each.

18 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Is there any
19 target under the State Law for Veterans?

20 PLANNING COMMISSIONER: No.

21 META MEREDAY: No, there is not.

22 How would I know that? Because I have
23 been doing this for almost twenty years.

24 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: We are looking to
25 do that here with Veterans.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 META MEREDAY: Federally-funded
2 projects and I see you do have some
3 Federally-funded projects on here,
4 particularly Item Number 39, where it says,
5 "Federally-funded Community Development
6 Activities," there were three percent
7 mandated goal just for services.

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8 They were Veteran-owned businesses,
9 not Veteran-owned businesses but I think
10 there should be a good faith effort to be
11 inclusive of all Veteran-owned businesses as
12 it pertains to these types of projects.

13 So, I am encouraged by and he has
14 spoken to me to his credit, so, I do look
15 forward to working with him in that regard.

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Thank you.

17 META MEREDAY: Thank you. Item 34,
18 just curious as to the pending Resolution
19 awarding contract of site work, just if I
20 could get a little bit more background on
21 that one, Item 34?

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I believe the
23 original bidder backed out of the bid.

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Supervisor, if
25 I may, you're talking about the Shell Creek

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 Park in Island Park?

2 META MEREDAY: Yes.

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I think what
4 happened was from what I understand and I
5 could be corrected by Commissioner Leno, but
6 from what I understand there was Park fee put
7 out for a contract to do work to make our
8 bathrooms and some walkways 88 compliant.

9 Upon review by the Town's Parks
10 Department, we decided that we were able and
11 had the ability and workmanship to conduct
12 the work in-house, so, we canceled the bid
13 and did it with our own CSEA workforce.

14 META MEREDAY: Okay, are we doing that
15 same review process with other projects that
16 we are utilizing?

17 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I can only
18 speak on the Parks in my District that was
19 the specific case for this Shell Creek Park
20 in Island Park.

21 META MEREDAY: Okay, I thank you for
22 that. Item 15, accepting the bid for New
23 York State Governor's Office, Storm Recovery
24 Project Generator, Meadowmere Park.

25 I am not sure where that is.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I want to tell
2 you where that is.

3 META MEREDAY: Okay.

4 (Whereupon, laughter was heard.

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5 After, the following ensued.)

6 META MEREDAY: Tell me.

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Meadowmere Park
8 is just South of Kennedy Airport and it is
9 just West of Rockaway Turnpike.

10 There is one road in, one road out.

11 It is a very small, lovely community
12 of which my nephew lived there.

13 He was a Member of the Volunteer Fire
14 Department.

15 Unfortunately, he died, um, on the job
16 as a State Court Officer in 911, um, lending
17 first aid to a woman in Tower 2 when it
18 collapsed on himself.

19 Meadowmere is very dear to my heart
20 and it is a wonderful community that was hit
21 very, very badly by Superstorm Sandy and
22 they have a lot of needs and a lot of issues
23 as a result of that storm.

24 And, we are just trying, now, to do
25 our part to get them back after, you know,

1 what they did to it is a tremendous hardship.

2 You ought to go and visit that
3 community. It is a very, very beautiful and
4 interesting small close-knit community in
5 Nassau County.

6 You would never know it was there.

7 META MEREDAY: I passed there because
8 I had to go to traffic court in that area,
9 so, I am familiar with that.

10 The reason I asked about that
11 Resolution, my question is are all firehouses
12 supplied with the adequate generators
13 pertaining to these types of resources
14 because I know the firehouse that is right
15 around the corner from me was very timely and
16 supportive of our residents as all of our
17 firehouses are typically in times of need.

18 My question has to do with that. And,
19 lastly on Item 47, um, just a question of the
20 selection process and it was previously
21 stated - -

22 (Whereupon, the five-minute bell rang.
23 After, the following ensued.)

24 META MEREDAY: If I could finish my
25 point, I will leave my seat and won't

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 need Public Safety to remove me.

2 Um, North Shore Court Reporting, just
3 trying to understand, we did not have anyone
4 from the South Shore?

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5 We have a Town of North Hempstead - -
6 we have a Town of Hempstead, just trying to
7 understand why we weren't inclusive of
8 someone from - -

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: North Shore Court
10 Reporting Agency, who, I think, might be
11 located in right over the border in North
12 Hempstead in Oyster Bay, um, a number of
13 years ago started to work for the Town of
14 Hempstead and their numbers are comparable to
15 the other reporting companies. They did
16 landmark preservation committee work and this
17 is payment for stenographic services.

18 META MEREDAY: Okay. I am still
19 asking why we are not looking at these local
20 businesses, um, in the Town of Hempstead
21 because we are paying taxes here and need to
22 be inclusive not only Veteran/Minority Women,
23 also.

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There are other
25 stenographic reporting services that we use

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

1 in the Town.

2 META MEREDAY: Okay, thank you.

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody
4 else that wishes to be heard on the
5 Administrative Calendar?

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

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, will
9 you, please call the roll on the
10 Administrative Calendar with the exception of
11 the items that have been tabled.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

13 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

14 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

17 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

18 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

19 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

20 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
21 Goosby?

22 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
24 Sweeney?

25 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

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CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

May I have a Motion to adjourn.

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I move we adjourn.

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the
Motion.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-
Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

(Whereupon, the official meeting of
the Hempstead Town Board was concluded.)

HEMPSTEAD TOWN MEETING 2/6/18

CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I, do hereby certify that the foregoing testimony in the matter of the Hempstead Town Board Meeting held on February 6, 2018, consisting of pages 1 through 89 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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