

TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

ONE WASHINGTON STREET

TOWN HALL PAVILION

HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550

MAY 8, 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, SR.
- MAJORITY LEADER/COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY
- TOWN CLERK CABANA
- DEPUTY TOWN CLERK TUMMINELLO
- TOWN ATTORNY RA
- COMPTROLLER CONROY

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Good Morning,

2 I would like to welcome you to this regularly
3 scheduled Town Board Meeting.

4 For those of you who have never attended ^{Page | 3}
5 Board Meeting before, we will, first, have Public
6 Hearings, followed by an Administrative Calendar.

7 There are meeting agendas available in the
8 rear of the Pavilion.

9 If you wish to be heard on any matters,
10 please, go to the rear of the Pavilion and fill
11 out a slip which maybe obtained from one of our
12 Public Safety Officers.

13 After the meeting is adjourned, the Town
14 Board will follow our custom of three hundred and
15 fifty years to remain in session to hear any
16 residents who would like to address the Board on
17 other matters.

18 Madam Clerk, would you, please, call the
19 roll.

20 CLERK CABANA: Good Morning, everyone.

21 Councilman Ambrosino?

22 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Here.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am here.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Here.

2 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Here.

4 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby? Page | 4

5 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Here.

6 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

7 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Here.

8 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Here.

10 Councilman Dunne, I would ask you to,
11 please, lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

12 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: All rise, place your
13 right hand over your heart and join me.

14 (Whereupon, Councilman Dunne led the
15 Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. After, the
16 following ensued.)

17 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Thank you.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, would you,
19 please, call the first Public Hearing.

20 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law Re:
21 "Regulations and Restrictions" to limit parking in
22 Garden City South (To amend Chapter 202 of the
23 Code of the Town of Hempstead)

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any slips
2 on this matter, is there anybody that would like
3 to be heard?

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

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6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none, may I
7 have a Motion.

8 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I move that the
9 Public Hearing be closed and the Local Law be
10 adopted.

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the Motion.

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, please,
13 call the roll.

14 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

15 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: 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 Goosby?

21 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

22 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

23 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

24 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

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1 Madam Clerk, please, call the next Public
2 Hearing.

3 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law Re:
4 "Park or Standing Prohibitions" in Oceanside, Page | 6
5 Near Valley Stream (To amend Section 202-1 of the
6 Code of the Town of Hempstead)

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any slips
8 on this matter, is there anybody that would like
9 to be heard?

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

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none, may I
13 have a Motion.

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Supervisor, I move
15 that the Public Hearing be closed and the local
16 law adopted.

17 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the
18 Motion.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, please,
20 call the roll.

21 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

22 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

2 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

4 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby? Page | 7

5 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

6 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

7 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

8 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

10 Madam Clerk, please, call the next Public
11 Hearing.

12 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law Re:
13 "Arterial Stops," in Roosevelt, Wantagh (To amend
14 Section 197-5 of the Code of the Town of
15 Hempstead)

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any slips
17 on this matter, is there anybody that would like
18 to be heard?

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

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none, may I
22 have a Motion.

23 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I move that
24 the Hearing be closed and the Local Law be
25 adopted.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEEENEY: I second the
2 Motion.

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: Aye.

11 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

12 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

13 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

14 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEEENEY: Aye.

15 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

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

19 CLERK CABANA: Proposed "Handicapped
20 Parking on Public Streets" in Bellmore, Elmont,
21 Franklin Square (Bellmore Avenue, Eagle Avenue,
22 Kirkman Avenue, Theodora Street)

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have any slips
24 on this matter, is there anybody that would like
25 to be heard?

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

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none, may I
4 have a Motion. Page | 9

5 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Supervisor, I
6 move that the Hearing be closed and the item
7 adopted.

8 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I second the
9 Motion.

10 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

11 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

13 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

14 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

15 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

17 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

18 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

19 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

20 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

21 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

22 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

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

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 CLERK CABANA: Proposed creation of a new
2 Article VIIB of the Building Zone Ordinance of the
3 Town of Hempstead to be entitled "GC Golf Course
4 Costal Residence District (GC) & setting forth Page | 10
5 regulations pertaining to possible residential
6 redevelopment of certain existing private golf
7 course properties - Town of Hempstead.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Madam Supervisor, I
9 move that we adjourn this matter to June 5th.

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the
11 Motion.

12 Actually, I do have a problem with the
13 date, if we could extend it a little further, I
14 will not be attending the June 5th meeting, so, I
15 want to make sure I am here for that.

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: How long is the
17 moratorium set for?

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: For ninety days.

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: What is the next
20 meeting after June 5th?

21 I will amend my Motion that this matter be
22 adjourned to the June 19th meeting.

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

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I have a number of
2 slips on this matter, if you wish to be heard on
3 the adjournment of this matter, please, let us
4 know.

5 Felix Procacci?

6 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci. 1165
7 Barnes Street, Franklin Square, New York.

8 On the adjournment, I would like to know
9 the reason for the adjournment, why you are
10 recommending that this is going to be adjourned?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Okay, so, um,
12 Basically, when we originally scheduled this for,
13 today's Hearing, we were under the impression that
14 we would have had the report a long time ago,
15 shortly after the Town calendared it, we didn't
16 get the report from our engineers until Thursday
17 of last week.

18 In addition, we have heard from the
19 community and we had the community meeting last
20 night for about two hundred and fifty people that
21 attended and we made a representation to them that
22 we would keep our options opened, with respect to
23 this, listen to more political, um, more public
24 comment, here, from the people in the community.

1 And, then, um, we would make a decision at
2 a later date, after we had a chance to thoroughly
3 vet this and the public had a chance to thoroughly
4 vet it.

5 FELIX PROCACCI: The only reason I wanted
6 to speak on this, I don't live in the area,
7 particular item, was to ensure that those owners
8 of those properties were properly meeting with the
9 Board and all the engineers and all the people
10 working on it to make sure they are not
11 shortchanged in any change of zoning in their
12 fight, here.

13 And, I wanted to make sure everybody gets
14 treated fairly and that was my only concern
15 talking on this.

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Okay, Felix, one, we
17 sent out postcards to everybody within a radius of
18 the area that would be affected by this and we
19 also put out a Press Release and we put out a
20 public notice, so, there was a lot of information
21 out there.

22 And, I believe the developer is well aware
23 that this matter is on the calendar and they are
24 well aware it is going to be adjourned.

1 And, I would assume they had somebody, I
2 don't know for a fact, but I assume they had
3 somebody at the meeting last night, but if you
4 would like, we will have our lawyer send a letter ^{Page | 13}
5 to the developer and tell them that.

6 FELIX PROCACCI: That is the proper way,
7 the proper way to do this, in my opinion, when you
8 change zoning, that is affecting properties, which
9 people invested millions of dollars in, possibly
10 even if it is only hundreds of thousands of
11 dollars, it is only right that you take the extra
12 mile.

13 You send out mailings on trivial things
14 for two hundred and thirty-five thousand
15 households, I believe, when you are affecting the
16 development and costing the people's investments a
17 lot of money, I think they have the right a little
18 bit more than just have them read the paper or
19 communicating with the civics.

20 I think it should be more formal than that.

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I don't know if they
22 received formal notice. I am aware but it is a
23 good point.

24 We will have our lawyers send them a letter
25 the matter has been adjourned to June 19th.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 FELIX PROCACCI: All the owners of all the
2 golf courses are affected by this law.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: All the golf courses,
4 okay. Page | 14

5 Mr. Regina, will you take care of that for
6 us.

7 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Before we go
8 further, I m actually requesting a little bit more
9 time to discuss with the public and Five Town
10 Community, I like to change the date from the June
11 date that we mentioned to July 3rd, I believe there
12 is a July 3rd meeting.

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

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I have no problem
16 with that, um, Supervisor - - is this the last
17 one?

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: That's it.

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Supervisor, I move -
20 - I withdraw my previous Motion.

21 I move that the matter be adjourned to July
22 3rd.

23 Anthony, would you like to second that.

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Second.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anyone else
2 that would like to be heard on the adjournment?

3 (Whereupon, no response was heard. After,
4 the following ensued.) Page | 15

5 Hearing none, Madam Clerk would you please
6 call the roll - -

7 Please, come forward.

8 Would you, please, state your name and
9 address for the record.

10 RENA SAFFRA: Rena Saffra, 23 Ira Road in
11 Cedarhurst, New York. 11516.

12 On behalf of the Five Towns Civic
13 Association, I want to thank you for coming out
14 last night presenting a comprehensive overview
15 of issues of possible solutions that we all have
16 to face if development comes to the Woodmere Club.

17 We all have to work together with community
18 input.

19 We can, hopefully, reach a Resolution that
20 is palatable to everyone.

21 We appreciate the steps the Town Board has
22 taken, however, more needs to be done.

23 We look forward to continuing the
24 conversation before any decisions are made.

1 In the meantime, thank you for extending
2 the moratorium, which I am assuming you are doing
3 a little bit later today, so, that intelligent and
4 rational decisions can be made.

5 Further, thank you for tabling any vote on
6 any proposed resolution until all avenues can be
7 pursued.

8 I would like to put on record, also, that
9 the Army Corp. of Engineers is currently
10 conducting a study of the back bay area where the
11 Woodmere Club is located.

12 We respectfully request that no zoning
13 decisions be made and no building be allowed until
14 the Army Corp. study can take into account the
15 proposed development of land that is currently
16 a buffer for flooding in the wake of recent storms
17 like Hurricane Sandy and the rising sea levels,
18 there should be no rush to make decisions that
19 will affect this area for a long time.

20 When green space is gone, it is gone
21 forever.

22 You know that sad song, "They paved
23 paradise to put up a parking lot," that is what we
24 in the Five Towns will see happen at the Woodmere
25 Club.

1 I don't know about you, but I moved to live
2 here in the suburbs to live in a Town.

3 I didn't move to live in a City and that is
4 what this Town is starting to feel like, traffic, ^{Page | 17}
5 gridlock, overburdened infrastructure, no parking,
6 large homes being built to the limits of their
7 small properties leaving green space that we took
8 for granted.

9 Please, please, continue to work hard for
10 us, your constituents to preserve our quality of
11 life and beautiful downtown.

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I would like to be
13 clear with you, um, first of all, thank you for
14 coming last night and thank you for coming, again,
15 today.

16 Just to be clear, um, the change of zone if
17 it is approved, whether it is approved in this
18 form or some other form would have no affect
19 whatsoever on the Army Corp. of Engineer's Study.

20 The fact of the matter is as we stated last
21 night, we have a fuse, here that is running out on
22 our time to act and for us not to act would mean
23 that, um, they would be entitled to the zoning
24 that is now in existence.

1 So, we can't promise that we can wait until
2 the Army Corp is done, but, believe me, the Army
3 Corp. has - - they have a higher, um,
4 responsibility for that, so, we would be guided by
5 what any developer would be guided by that, so
6 they are mutually exclusive.

7 They are not the same thing.

8 So, I just wanted to be clear on that, so,
9 you understand the process we may have to act if
10 we are pending an Army Corp. of Engineer's report,
11 if the Army Corp. of Engineers said no building
12 whatsoever, we would be bound by it.

13 The developer would be bound by it.

14 The community would be bound by it.

15 RENA SAFFRA: The building had to be before
16 that Army Corp. of Engineer's Study is done?

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: No.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I have a slip from
19 David Bucosky, I am sorry if I am not saying it
20 right, David Bucosky? (phonetic spelling)

21 (Whereupon, "nothing at this time," was
22 heard calling out from the audience. After, the
23 following ensued.)

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody else
25 that would like to be heard?

1 PETER STEIN: Good Morning, thank you for
2 the opportunity to speak.

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Good Morning.

4 PETER STEIN: I want to thank those in
5 attendance last night.

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6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Sir, I am so sorry,
7 would you state your name and address for the
8 record.

9 PETER STEIN: Peter Stein. 766 Broadway,
10 Woodmere, New York, a forty-year resident of the
11 Town.

12 I want to thank those that were in
13 attendance last night from the Board.

14 I know it was - - probably was a very long
15 and difficult evening and I would like to just
16 state that I think your actions are and I am
17 speaking as a private individual, your actions
18 were commendable.

19 I think your proposal is going in the right
20 direction.

21 I think the problem, basically, was one of
22 a comedy of error.

23 The postcards were not received in a timely
24 fashion.

1 There was no, um, documents that anyone
2 could look at before the meeting and as you say,
3 you got it Thursday, so, if I were to suggest, um,
4 a remedy for this in the future, there needs to be ^{Page | 20}
5 a good deal more transparency because I think you,
6 as our representatives are there looking out for
7 our interests.

8 We just need the forum and opportunity to
9 reflect to you what our feelings and fears are
10 about this subject.

11 So, once, again, I thank you, everybody for
12 their efforts and hopefully, we can move in a
13 direction that is humanly possible that makes
14 everybody happy.

15 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr. Stein, I know
16 we spoke both on the phone and last night.

17 I think that you know putting the
18 communication issues, perhaps, aside, I think that
19 we can all agree we have the best interest of the
20 Five Towns in hand.

21 Moving forward, we will communicate with
22 all of you as best we can, whether it is this
23 proposal or something else or something completely
24 different.

1 I think if we all put our heads together,
2 we can come up with a good solution.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Stein, first of
4 all, your points are well taken. Page | 21

5 And, we will review what your communication
6 process was and, um, we will fix it so if there
7 was any confusion, we apologize for that.

8 It wasn't our intention.

9 PETER STEIN: Thank you.

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you, sir, that
11 was the importance of last night to really get the
12 community input and I commend my colleagues on the
13 Town Board, Councilman Blakeman and Councilman
14 D'Esposito for organizing.

15 We want to hear from you, it is very
16 important to us.

17 PETER STEIN: Thank you.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

19 Is there anybody else that would like to be
20 heard?

21 LAUREN SOBEL: My name is Lauren Sobel. I
22 am a resident of 312 Hess in Woodsburgh.

23 I moved, like my fellow residents have
24 stated, we moved to Woodsburgh, it abuts the
25 Woodmere Club.

1 It abuts Woodmere Channel, both of which
2 are rich, natural habitats for fish, migrating
3 birds, wading birds and shore birds.

4 I have a great deal of concern for any
5 development of the Woodmere Club, not only due to
6 the impact of that environment but also due to
7 impact on our infrastructure, the traffic,
8 Broadway is a single lane in both directions and
9 already is practically impassible during certain
10 times during the day.

11 Also, likewise, that concerns me about our
12 evacuation routes when we have storms like Sandy
13 or Irene or any others that might pose a hazard.

14 As it is, today, during regular rainstorms,
15 during high tide, our streets are flooded, period.

16 Obviously, the concern remains about the
17 flood plains and finally about our taxes and our
18 home values.

19 My neighbors and I already pay high taxes
20 and it seems it will be expected to subdivide this
21 project and that will have a negative impact on
22 our beautiful area we chose to live here because
23 of the beautiful landscaping and we already pay a
24 pretty price to enjoy it, via our home prices and
25 tax bill.

1 If any development is permitted, how do you
2 expect the area that was impacted by Sandy to be
3 able to withstand future storms?

4 There will be less ground for stormwater. Page | 23

5 As it is, now, the street floods as it
6 rains.

7 How will the area be expected to absorb the
8 additional traffic when it is one lane?

9 We are also aware that this developer is
10 known for multi-family units.

11 What assurances do we have that the
12 developer won't be able to nip away at the
13 proposed zoning over the years to appeal to the
14 Zoning Boards in the future?

15 When will we be given information on the
16 environmental study?

17 And, what is the prospective of the DEC, in
18 addition to the Army Corp. of Engineers and

19 just as a final note, the word, "Woodmere," using
20 it very loosely, researched history of wording is
21 derived from an old English and German word
22 meaning woodland at the sea.

23 This development would change the very
24 nature of the area from which the name is derived

1 and likely at a cost to us as taxpayers and to our
2 way of life.

3 Finally, I just want to ask if there has
4 been any consideration given to the use of the Page | 24
5 land for green space?

6 Woodmere, as beautiful as it is, doesn't
7 have a single Park within its border.

8 There is a Park in Hewlett.

9 There is a Park in North Woodmere. There
10 is a Park in Cedarhurst but not one in Woodmere.

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I will be very
12 brief.

13 I know we are speaking on the postponement.

14 We are not really supposed to get into, um,
15 the resolution but as stated last night and, um, I
16 think that we have relayed the same information to
17 many committee members, we are open to all
18 options.

19 If that is a Special Park District
20 and the community is willing to, you know, incur
21 those costs, we are behind it.

22 We are willing to help you get there.

23 And, I think that was clear last night,
24 but, just to point out, the Resolution that was
25 adjourned, today, really has no bearing whether

1 that becomes a Park or not, the zoning could be
2 changed and it could become a Park without
3 question.

4 LAUREN SOBEL: A-hun.

5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Just amplifying and
6 adding onto what Councilman D'Esposito said right,
7 now, we are faced with the reality that it is
8 zoned on the Town side alone, for two hundred and
9 forty-four building lots.

10 So, we are faced with the dilemma, now, of
11 coming up with a number somewhere between zero and
12 two hundred forty-four that a Court would approve
13 if we are sued because the developer is most
14 likely going to sue us if we refuse the number of
15 building lots.

16 That would not preclude the ability as
17 Councilman D'Esposito said of the community to get
18 together to create a Park District, that is not
19 off the table.

20 And, again, getting back to, um, the
21 previous comments that are made by the two people
22 that were up, here, before you, there is a whole
23 approval process to any developer would have to go
24 through that is not being short cut, here.

25 They have to go for site plan approval.

1 They have to get County approval.

2 The Village of Woodsburgh would be entitled
3 to weigh in.

4 The Village of Cedarhurst would be entitled ^{Page | 26}
5 to weigh in.

6 The Village of Laurence would be entitled
7 to weigh in.

8 The Army Corp. of Engineers would require a
9 study, most likely, um, the Department of
10 Environmental Conservation because of the
11 environmentally sensitive zone would have to weigh
12 in.

13 There is a lot of hurdles that would have
14 to be done.

15 All we are trying to do here is review the
16 zoning and consider reducing the amount, in the
17 event that something is going to get built.

18 Councilman D'Esposito and the Supervisor
19 and I all agree we would prefer it to stay
20 a private golf course, that may not be realistic.

21 We would like it to stay that way but in
22 the meantime, we have to do something.

23 If we do nothing, then, the developer will
24 get two hundred and forty-four building lots and

1 that is something that we believe would be a
2 disaster for the community.

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I think if there is
4 one thing that is important to take out of last ^{Page | 27}
5 night and today, um, is that the Town, you know,
6 we can and we will pursue both options
7 simultaneously.

8 They are not exclusive to one another, so,
9 if there is anything that is coming out of today,
10 last night, the discussions that we had that is
11 most important, it is not one or the other.

12 We are pursuing both of them.

13 And, you know, we are doing it at the same
14 time, you know, to sort of be ahead of the clock.

15 LAUREN SOBEL: One final question, can you
16 clarify which part of the golf course is up for
17 discussion for development?

18 Is it only the block from Broadway to
19 Railroad or does it also include the parts that
20 are southwest or southeast of that?

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Let me explain to you
22 the Woodmere Club is, approximately, one hundred
23 and eighteen acres.

1 Both one hundred and eighteen acres, the
2 North side or the side closest to Broadway is
3 under the jurisdiction of the Town of Hempstead.

4 The rear part is shared partially by
5 Woodsburgh and partially by Lawrence.

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6 So, they have their own zoning, their
7 zoning which goes back eighty years like ours does
8 is different than the Town zoning.

9 What we have proposed is making our zoning
10 in that area more consistent with Lawrence and
11 Woodsburgh.

12 LAUREN SOBEL: Okay, thank you.

13 And, finally, I also like to submit for
14 your consideration when you are adjourning until
15 July 3rd, it seems like when a lot of people will
16 be taking their kids to sleepaway camp could be on
17 vacation because July 4th is the following day.

18 It seems like it is not a great time for
19 the community to attend.

20 Thank you.

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody else
22 that would like to be heard on the adjournment?

23 MARIAN DAVID: Good Morning, my name is
24 Marian David. 417 Yale Avenue in Woodmere.

1 Um, I thank all of you and I thank those of
2 you who came last night to Woodmere.

3 It was very much appreciated. I have been
4 living in Woodmere for forty-nine years. Page | 29

5 And, in that time, it has changed.

6 Of course, so many more people have moved
7 in and, um, the character of the neighborhood has
8 changed.

9 If you excuse me, I am not a public
10 speaker, so, I may be a little disjointed.

11 Um, the, um, the area where the Woodmere
12 Club is has been getting more and more traffic in
13 the past years.

14 The problem with the Engineering Report,
15 the charts which we looked at after the meeting
16 showed that there was a whole block.

17 There was an a.m. and p.m., a.m. and p.m.
18 and Saturday.

19 Now, I don't know who guided the engineers,
20 I am sure that they meant the best but you cannot
21 consider Saturday traffic in that area because
22 Saturday there is no traffic.

23 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Ma'am, that was
24 completely false.

1 The traffic was not studied by our
2 engineering firm on Saturday.

3 And, let me be very clear if that was the
4 case, I can guarantee you, there would be two Page | 30
5 individuals, probably more, if that were voted to
6 pay them, we know the Five Towns very well, there
7 is no way that we would allow an engineering firm
8 to go in to do a study that we were funding and do
9 a traffic pattern study on a Saturday in the Five
10 Towns.

11 It is not happening, that was a bad
12 FACEBOOK rumor that we tried to dispel months ago.

13 And, when other members of the Civic
14 Association came - -

15 MARIAN DAVID: But the woman we spoke to
16 from the engineering company said that there
17 wasn't done a study done, yet.

18 It wouldn't be done until the plans are
19 coming through, but isn't that going to be too
20 late?

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: The traffic report
22 that was done was included in the entire, um, the
23 entire survey of the area.

24 What she is trying to say is that an actual

1 Traffic Study done by a Traffic Engineer specific
2 to a project right, now, there is no project in
3 front of us, so, it is very hard to conduct a
4 traffic survey without a project because you can't ^{Page | 31}
5 just make up roads.

6 So, I know it is hard to understand, but,
7 it is what we are dealing with, that is the way
8 that the building code is written, that is the way
9 our process works.

10 What would happen is the study that was
11 done was done solely on change of zoning.

12 What was given to you last night, what was
13 tried - - what was explained to everyone that this
14 study that was done was done solely for changing
15 zoning.

16 Okay, when individuals who, then decided,
17 if they decided to develop like it was mentioned,
18 this could be a golf course for the rest of our
19 lives, we have no idea there were rumors on
20 FACEBOOK that there was development that was
21 submitted to us, already, that there were plans
22 that have been seen.

23 I haven't seen plans about anything.

24 I haven't seen plans for three hundred
25 thousand.

1 I haven't seen plans for five hundred
2 thousand, maybe the guy just wants one big
3 backyard and he wants one house and we don't know
4 that.

5 It is very hard to do a traffic study on
6 something that doesn't exist.

7 So, what would happen is the changing of
8 the zoning is one thing, having an actual, um,
9 having a proposal for a development is something
10 completely different regardless of the zoning,
11 when that proposal for the building is put in
12 front of us, when it goes to the Planning
13 Commission, when it goes in front of the SEQRA
14 process, when it goes to DEC and Army Corp. of
15 Engineers, all of these individuals, everyone that
16 is a stakeholder in this is going to have a
17 problem if the traffic is unbearable.

18 We are kind of putting the cart before the
19 horse.

20 MARIAN DAVID: It seems counterproductive.

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: It is not
22 counterproductive.

23 If we don't propose some sort of zoning
24 change, hen, you're faced with three hundred and
25 something houses.

1 MARIAN DAVID: Yeah, that is also something
2 I wanted to mention.

3 No matter whether it is three hundred
4 homes, two hundred and fifty, two hundred and
5 forty-four, one hundred and fifty or seventy-seven
6 like was mentioned, if it is seventy-seven, then
7 there are tremendous homes, very affluent people
8 and each of their teenagers have a car, so, there
9 will be four cars.

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I understand that.

11 You need to realize we are discussing
12 something that is not in front of us, yet,
13 unfortunately, you know - -

14 MARIAN DAVID: But what I am saying, we are
15 doomed no matter how many.

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I wouldn't say that
17 because who knows, this gentleman, I don't know
18 who he is, maybe he enjoys running a golf course.

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: You know what, let me
20 say this, Councilman D'Esposito is absolutely
21 right, the traffic study was done just so that we
22 could justify reducing the number from two hundred
23 forty-four to some other number, okay.

24 Whoever develops this property, whenever
25 that happens, if it ever happens, they will

1 have to do their own traffic study and justify to
2 the County, to the own and to the two Villages,
3 the three Villages, excuse me, that their program,
4 their development is not going to have a Page | 34
5 deleterious affect on traffic and that they have
6 taken mitigation into consideration of things they
7 could do to ameliorate the situation, that is way
8 down the road.

9 MARIAN DAVID: Who is to say they will do
10 their study of it also done on a Saturday?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: If they do, we will
12 poke holes through it.

13 MARIAN DAVID: Okay.

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: If they don't do a
15 thorough and smart study, it won't hold up and we
16 will prevail.

17 If they are going to do something foolish
18 like that, we can't stop them, but, we would all
19 see through that.

20 We know and on Saturday the traffic in the
21 Five Towns is de minimus.

22 It is busy at 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on the
23 weekdays and it is 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on the
24 weekdays.

25 We know that Broadway is a disaster to go

1 down those days.

2 We understand that.

3 MARIAN DAVID: And, on Fridays.

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Right.

5 MARIAN DAVID: I thank you all.

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Thank you.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody else
8 that would like to be heard about the adjournment?

9 We are talking about the adjournment of
10 this Hearing.

11 (Whereupon, "I have something to say," was
12 heard calling out from the audience. After, the
13 following ensued.)

14 ROCHELLE KEVELSON: My name is Rochelle
15 Kevelson, Causeway, Lawrence, New York.

16 I have been coming to most of the meetings
17 for over a year.

18 The first time I came, there were a few
19 people from Lawrence and a few people from
20 Woodsburgh and right outside this door and I was a
21 novice about this.

22 I was President of the Civic Association in
23 Lawrence and a gentleman was talking.

24 We were in like a semicircle and he said at
25 that time and this is way over a year ago that

1 a study was made and it was made on a Saturday
2 afternoon at 1:00 o'clock.

3 So, there was, I don't know who he was or
4 what, but a study was made. Page | 36

5 This is what we were told way over a year
6 ago.

7 I still want to thank you for last night.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Can I interrupt? No,
9 no, I just want to interrupt you. I do want to
10 correct something.

11 The study was done on a number of days,
12 Saturday, maybe one day out of a bunch of days
13 they went there only because they had to take the
14 peak traffic at the Woodmere Club to determine how
15 many streets went up and down Meadow and how many
16 streets went up Broadway.

17 Saturday was considered the peak day for
18 golfing, so, they needed a baseline for a number
19 of traffic trips on the day that people go to
20 golf, so, they can compare that residential use.

21 They needed that for their data, but, that
22 was not the only day because when I heard the same
23 rumor that you did, that they did it on a
24 Saturday, I said to them, how could you do it on a
25 Saturday?

1 They said, Saturday was one of many days.
2 We will get you the data on the traffic study.

3 I think that Councilman D'Esposito and I
4 share the same thoughts with the community, so, Page | 37
5 you know, what days they were there, because I
6 called them, if you're traffic engineer and you
7 only went on a Saturday in the Five Towns, you are
8 fired.

9 Okay, so, I just want to clear that up.

10 ROCHELLE KEVELSON: Okay.

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: They may have gone on
12 a Saturday but that was just to, um, test how many
13 cars came in and out of the Woodmere Club.

14 ROCHELLE KEVELSON: Thank you very much.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody else
16 that would like to speak on the adjournment?

17 META MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday, Baldwin
18 resident.

19 Um and I am speaking with regard to the
20 adjournment, I have issues.

21 And, for those who are not assisted in this
22 process, I just want to advise them, based on
23 history that it is important and I do appreciate
24 Councilman Blakeman, as well as, Councilman
25 D'Esposito's standing up for the constituency

1 and offering to provide them with the information
2 because they need to have the information that
3 they need to make sure that they are as equally
4 vigilant in this because this is time that comes ^{Page | 38}
5 out of their day to come, if this is set up on the
6 agenda, I appreciate the fact that you are
7 postponing this for the right reasons to give
8 people ample time and to give you all ample time
9 to get the information, but, I encourage the
10 residents who are here to make sure that they are
11 also vigilant in following up and making sure they
12 become better situated on the information and
13 channels that are involved with this type of
14 process because historically what happens all the
15 reports are in, all the studies are in, all the
16 findings are submitted and the Hearing is set up,
17 residents come.

18 They are outraged.

19 They get heard.

20 The issues get tabled for another time
21 period.

22 Unfortunately, life happens to everyone and
23 they are not able to participate.

24 It comes before this Body and you feel that
25 you are justified because of the developers c

1 come forward to plead their case.

2 You approve it and it goes onto the next
3 step.

4 Now, you maybe speaking from a position of ^{Page | 39}
5 due diligence, that doesn't necessarily speak to
6 the other layers of the process, we, the
7 residents, have to see shovel in the ground
8 projects that are overwhelming our infrastructure.

9 So, just to have this postponed, I would
10 prefer all the information, all of the background
11 work is done ahead of time so that everyone out,
12 here that is not making money or losing money to
13 sit in the room could be able to make that time to
14 come here to have their voices heard, so, that
15 they can have a fair and equitable Hearing and
16 representation for their concerns.

17 Because, they would get access to the
18 reports from all parties involved, be it the Army
19 Corp. of Engineers, whoever did the Study, whether
20 it was a Saturday, a Tuesday, a Wednesday night,
21 it doesn't matter.

22 They need to have access to have all of
23 that.

24 You need to know when the meeting is going
25 to be, the time period, who else is going to

1 be participating, if there is the opportunity to
2 meet ahead of time to address some things and all
3 the residents want to know what financial
4 implementations for the rest of us and it is great Page | 40
5 that we can have all of these studies.

6 We need to address some issues and I think
7 it is wonderful Woodmere has a Country Club, we
8 are just trying to get a supermarket in Baldwin.

9 We are trying to get the potholes addressed
10 on our roadways.

11 So, if we could stop studying that and fix
12 that, that would be great.

13 I know I kind of went off subject.

14 Again, I just hope that those that are here
15 for the first time continue their vigilance and
16 participation in this process.

17 Ask the questions ahead of time before you
18 get too far in the weeds, then, it becomes too
19 late and then we have another issue going on.

20 Thank you.

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Supervisor, in
22 consultation with Councilman D'Esposito and
23 yourself, the point that was made ab out July 3rd
24 by Ms. Sobel, I think, is a valid point.

25 There will be a lot of people away

1 and it occurred to Councilman D'Esposito and I
2 that June 19th is a night meeting, we might afford
3 more working people to attend, so, again, I am
4 going to amend it for the 4th time, this time we Page | 41
5 would like to amend the Hearing, adjourn it to
6 June 19th, is that correct, Councilman D'Esposito?

7 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yes, second.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: June 19th at 7:00
9 p.m., correct, at 7:00 p.m.

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

12 (Whereupon, "I would like to speak," was
13 heard calling out from the audience. After, the
14 following ensued.)

15 MICHAEL TURI: Good Morning, everybody.

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Good Morning.

17 MICHAEL TURI: Thank you for hearing our
18 Five Towns' concerns, my name is Michael Turi. I
19 am a resident of 774 Addison Street, Woodmere.

20 I am a third generation Lawrence graduate.

21 My Father grew up on Elm Street, that is
22 one of the three streets that directly abuts the
23 Woodmere Club.

24 I want to thank you all for coming and
25 having the meeting last night.

1 You gave the community a lot more
2 information that it had.

3 I want to thank you for the opportunity
4 that I had to speak to any of you individuals,
5 thank you for changing the time of the meeting.

6 That will greatly give the community an
7 opportunity to respond when it is more able.

8 My question is with regard to a large point
9 that was brought up last night about the special
10 district creation, given that June 19th meeting is
11 five or six weeks away, is there some type of
12 information that could be provided to the
13 community for that meeting for the June 19th about
14 what the steps for a Special Park District would
15 be?

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: If I may, I don't
17 mean to interrupt, it goes back to the statement I
18 made earlier, if there is one thing that could be
19 taken out of today and last night is that we are
20 working on both options simultaneously.

21 One doesn't have to be done without the
22 other.

23 Um, I know the Town Attorney's Office is
24 working on getting the land appraised, that is
25 really the first step, so, we are going from

1 there.

2 We will fill you guys in on the process
3 that needs to go forward soon.

4 MICHAEL TURI: Is that study separately Page | 43
5 commissioned?

6 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: You mean separately
7 commissioned from this?

8 MICHAEL TURI: Well, somebody doing a study
9 for rezoning for a small amount of houses would
10 be, however that plays out, is there some other
11 type of study that needs to be done?

12 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I don't think it is
13 a study.

14 It is more of a legal issue which is a
15 discussion for a different venue.

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I think the question
17 is could we provide you with all the steps
18 necessary to make a Park District so you
19 understand what the process is and what the
20 potential cost is, is that correct?

21 MICHAEL TURI: So, the community would see
22 what it takes to do the other thing.

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yeah, we can do that,
24 but, we want to make it clear because the fuse is
25 getting short on the timeframe that we have to

1 act.

2 We may have to rezone, first, but that
3 doesn't preclude a Park District.

4 All it would do is protect the neighborhood Page | 44
5 from two hundred and forty-four building lots.

6 MICHAEL TURI: That is totally reasonable
7 and understandable.

8 I would say that this process with Cannon
9 Engineering that we learned about last night
10 started years ago and we just learned a bout it in
11 the last two weeks, so, maybe starting sooner
12 would give us more advance lead time if that
13 eventual potentiality happens.

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Well, our
15 understanding is that there are four more years to
16 go, left on the contract between the developer and
17 the Woodmere Club to operate the Club as a golf
18 course, so, we don't think anything is going to
19 happen quickly, but, you never know.

20 Basically, we could have sat back and
21 waited to see what the developer did but we made
22 the determination that we should be proactive and
23 get this resolved, so, that there wasn't this, you
24 know Damocles over everyone's head of two hundred
25 and forty-four building lots.

1 MICHAEL TURI: And, I commend you on the
2 action that was taken to bring this to the point
3 that where the Town Board is protecting the
4 community in its best possible interest.

5 No one is debating that.

6 So, I commend you on doing what you know
7 would end up being the right decision.

8 I would hope there would be as much
9 information on the other aspects of what the
10 community was potentially doing at this time.

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: We will do that.

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: We will be happy to
13 supply that information as it becomes available.

14 MICHAEL TURI: Thank you.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anyone else
16 that would like to be heard on the adjournment?

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

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I believe we have a
20 Motion and a second.

21 Madam Clerk, would you, please, call the
22 roll.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

24 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

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1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

2 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

4 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

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5 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

6 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

7 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

8 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

9 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

10 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

12 Madam Clerk, would you call the next Public
13 Hearing, please.

14 CLERK CABANA: To consider the adoption of
15 the Town of Hempstead's 2018 Capital Plan & the
16 2018 to 2022 multi-year capital plan - Town of
17 Hempstead.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I have a slip from
19 Richard Schurin.

20 RICHARD SCHURIN: I will pass, thank you.

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

24 META MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday, Baldwin
25 resident.

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1 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I move to
2 adjourn it, sorry.

3 META MEREDAY: Move to adjourn it, perfect.

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: What are we doing?

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5 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I move to
6 postpone indefinitely.

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

8 (Whereupon, "Can I be heard on the
9 postponement," was heard calling out from the
10 audience. After, the following ensued.)

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Felix Procacci, you can
12 come forward.

13 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci. 1165
14 Barns Street, Franklin Square, New York.

15 I want to speak on the postponement, um, I
16 read the newspapers, it said that people aren't
17 talking to each other.

18 I have no way of knowing what the truth is.

19 But, just to be a facilitator and try to
20 get things done, any time you guys want to meet, I
21 will be there.

22 I won't attend the meeting. I will sit
23 outside, twenty feet away so I can't hear what you
24 are saying.

1 I will take attendance who shows up and the
2 time they arrive and who shows up and the time who
3 leave and the time they leave.

4 Okay, because it is absolutely ridiculous. ^{Page | 48}

5 I don't know who is telling the truth, who is not
6 talking to who, if it is 3:00 o'clock in the
7 morning, I don't care what time it is.

8 It could be my daughter's wedding, I will
9 show up, here, anyway, I will be here instead,
10 okay.

11 So, I want you guys to talk to each other.

12 I don't want to hear that you are not
13 talking to each other in the future.

14 Okay, so, let's facilitate discussion.

15 When are you going to discuss it, I will be
16 there, twenty feet, outside taking attendance who
17 shows up in the meeting.

18 Let me know the time, I will be there,
19 okay, so, let's end this all.

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

22 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Mr. Procacci, are we
23 invited to your daughter's wedding?

24 FELIX PROCACCI: Sure, she is seventeen. I
25 hope she is not getting married for a while.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody else
2 that would like to be heard?

3 (Whereupon, "yes, please," was heard
4 calling out from the audience. After, the
5 following ensued.)

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Come forward.

7 RICHARD SCHURIN: Richard Schurin. 167
8 Jefferson Avenue, Island Park.

9 I agree with Mr. Procacci, it is ridiculous
10 but I have more specific concerns.

11 It is my understanding that there was a
12 project included in the capital plan concerning
13 the raising of a street in Island Park, California
14 Place that continually floods and a real danger,
15 um, to the community and the residents and it has
16 been a danger for a very long time.

17 And, I was informed that it was included in
18 the capital plan.

19 It bothers me to hear that Councilwoman
20 Sweeney, you are putting this off indefinitely,
21 delaying it for whatever reason.

22 Um, it is distressing. The Town of
23 Hempstead has critical issues that need to be
24 addressed.

1 The battle for control of the agenda hurts
2 us, hurts the residents and, um, it is not
3 appropriate.

4 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Let me clarify, ^{Page | 50}
5 we received this five, seven days ago, the capital
6 plan and I was quoted publicly saying if it brings
7 more efficiency, saves money, that is great.

8 I am all for it. We met with the
9 Comptroller, today to understand it, um, as we
10 read the capital plan, it would increase the
11 borrowing for the Town of Hempstead.

12 So, as a good, fiscal conservative, we are
13 concerned about that, so, we need a few days to
14 reach the Commissioners to understand what the
15 capital plan calls for, that is it.

16 If we rushed it through and voted for it
17 quickly, that wouldn't be fulfilling our
18 responsibility as Council people.

19 There is no tussle here for control or
20 anything like that.

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: You can stop the clock.

22 We voted to have a Public Hearing on the
23 capital plan.

24 The reason it is on a Public Hearing is
25 because we voted for it, um, the Council Members

1 have been aware, um, that this plan has been going
2 on since February, um, I am deeply disappointed.

3 First of all, you said it is a few days.

4 Why do we need to postpone it indefinitely?

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5 Why don't we put it on the next Board
6 Meeting, if you need a few days?

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

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: A few days, you had it
10 for a week.

11 I have not received one email, one phone
12 call, one knock on my door, one question from
13 anybody sitting on this dais about this capital
14 plan, not one.

15 This planning has been going on since
16 February and I am deeply disappointed that this
17 Board is going to hold up critical environmental
18 and infrastructure planning.

19 The Board has the knowledge of this plan
20 since February and not one email, one memo, one
21 call.

22 She sent a memo about the animal shelter
23 and you sent memos about a surf program but I did
24 not receive one memo about the capital plan.

1 It is my job as the Chief Financial Officer
2 of the Town to initiate planning for capital
3 projects, that is what I did with full
4 participation of every Commissioner involved in Page | 52
5 capital spending and with the full involvement
6 of the Comptroller's Office.

7 To try to say I am excluding Republicans is
8 ridiculous.

9 I think I didn't check your Party's
10 registration, I think every Commissioner and the
11 Comptroller are all members of the Republican
12 Party.

13 We have worked on this plan extensively for
14 months with them.

15 Communications work both ways, to say that
16 you are not aware is inaccurate.

17 I can't believe how disappointed I am that
18 these projects will be held up indefinitely when
19 this is something that we need to do as a Township
20 to make sure that services and critical
21 infrastructure is preserved for our residents.

22 We spent countless hours with the
23 Commissioners and Department Heads to craft a plan
24 that meets both our infrastructure needs and fits

1 into our budget and it is my responsibility to
2 develop a capital plan and I have done my job.

3 And, it is time that you do yours.

4 You have had this plan for a week, not one ^{Page | 53}
5 question, not one memo, not a word about the
6 capital plan.

7 I advised every single member of this Board
8 that my door is always opened, both verbally and
9 in writing.

10 I actually sent out a memo saying that I
11 would like to have regular meetings to avoid any
12 misperception of me not being responsive to what
13 Council Members have to say.

14 I have had zero response.

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

17 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I did not say
18 that you excluded Republicans.

19 Can we talk to the Comptroller's Office.

20 Have you been involved with all of these
21 meetings?

22 COMPTROLLER CONROY: I would like to set
23 the record straight, in November, December of last
24 year, we started meeting with all the

1 Commissioners to develop the 2019 capital plan, as
2 we have done in years past.

3 It is an annual plan that we put together.

4 The new Administration came in, that plan ^{Page | 54}
5 was handed over to the new Administration.

6 They took it and they ran with it.

7 I was involved with one meeting, of which,
8 the grant was that of the component of the capital
9 plan that dealt with EPA, DEC issues, that there
10 was a consent order, unless we remedy the
11 situation, we are looking at some heavy penalties.

12 We were in accord.

13 Since, then, there have been no meetings
14 that I have been involved in.

15 A week we got the five-year capital plan.
16 Again, the Comptroller's Office has had limited
17 input into this capital plan.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Ms. Smith?

19 Ms. Smith, did you discuss the capital plan
20 with the Comptroller's Office.

21 FELIX PROCACCI: Microphone, please.

22 MS. SMITH: So, I met with Comptroller
23 Conroy and his team and Mr. Murray - -

24 (Whereupon, "can't hear you," was called
25 out. After, the following ensued.)

1 MS. SMITH: At that time, Mr. Conroy
2 advised me to work directly with Mike Capobianco
3 and Mr. Capobianco is here, today and I documented
4 the process that was followed for the capital Page | 55
5 plan.

6 And, we have emails that were sent between
7 myself and the Comptroller's Office.

8 I was fortunate in some of the meetings,
9 the Chief of Staff attended one of those meetings
10 with the Comptroller.

11 Mr. Davenport attended one of those
12 meetings with the Comptroller, um, and the emails
13 speak for themselves.

14 If you permit me to read the process that
15 was followed and I would be happy to answer any of
16 the questions.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Please do.

18 MS. SMITH: So, in January, I met with the
19 Comptroller to understand the existing process for
20 capital spending.

21 In summary, the process called requesting
22 from the Commissioners, at the time, the budget is
23 prepared, their capital needs - -

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Can you move closer
25 to the microphone.

1 MS. SMITH: Sure.

2 This is the existing process before the
3 Supervisor's Administration came on board.

4 So, I wanted to understand what was the Page | 56
5 process, is there a process for a five-year plan.

6 Um, so, at the time, the budget is prepared
7 in the Summer of the prior year.

8 The information is received from the
9 Commissioners.

10 And, from the information received,
11 adjustments are made to come up with a one-year
12 plan for the Town and a document is prepared of
13 which I was provided a copy of what the
14 Comptroller's Office was projecting to spend for
15 2018.

16 My understanding is based on that one-year
17 plan, the Board is presented the, um, capital
18 requests, the authorizations and, then, borrowing
19 is done.

20 Borrowing is done for the near term and to
21 keep borrowing as close as possible to be flat.

22 Those were the explanations and Mr. Conroy
23 is right here and Mike is back there.

24 Um, I also learned from that meeting when
25 the borrowing needs to happen, in January, it was

1 communicated to me that the borrowing needed to
2 occur sometime after February because of the
3 judgments that were, um, pending.

4 I also asked them, the Comptroller seemed Page | 57
5 to explain the logic behind the borrowing.

6 And, the thought process was as money came
7 off, we will enter into new capital projects and
8 try to keep it flat as best as possible.

9 However, in looking back at the last three
10 years, there was no borrowing in '16, so, while
11 this is a great idea, there was no borrowing in
12 '16, so, there is a hole in the existing numbers
13 that we are looking at.

14 So, at that time, I requested and received
15 a letter of existing authorizations because the
16 Administration is new, we weren't familiar with
17 what the Board may have already authorized and,
18 so, I asked the Comptroller's Department, this is
19 in January, for a list of the existing
20 authorizations.

21 The thought process there is what exists?

22 What has been borrowed? Where can we use
23 those?

1 And, um, with the help of Mike to determine
2 how much money we do have available with the
3 existing authorizations that occurred in January.

4 Early January, the Supervisor requested Page | 58
5 from Commissioners to provide information to their
6 respective liaisons on the five-year capital plan,
7 requesting that this be sent to liaisons by the
8 end of February.

9 I was not in those emails, but my
10 Understanding is that the Board was copied on some
11 of those emails.

12 I don't have that information, excuse me.

13 So, I received all of the information from
14 the liaison s. I didn't work directly with the
15 Commissioners.

16 I received all of that information and in
17 summary, um, it was about four hundred and twenty-
18 five million.

19 Keep in mind, I meet weekly or speak weekly
20 with the Comptroller.

21 On March 9th, in a meeting with the
22 Comptroller and his team, along with my Chief of
23 Staff, my Boss, um, we spoke to Mr. Conroy and
24 Capobianco about the total of what was presented

1 and I sent the file of everything that was
2 submitted from the Departments.

3 At that time, I asked Mr. Capobianco if he
4 wants to be included in every change or if he Page | 59
5 would like just a final document.

6 And, he said his preference is let him know
7 when we are close to getting to the final
8 document.

9 I am not sure if Mr. Conroy, but at that
10 point, he already said to me, "Work with Mike."

11 Um, so, we made changes.

12 Um, I worked with Mike - -

13 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Excuse me, can I
14 interrupt for a second.

15 MS. SMITH: Certainly.

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: This matter is not
17 before us, right, now.

18 The question is whether or not to adjourn
19 the item.

20 I think the only question on the agenda,
21 right, now, is has the Comptroller worked with you
22 on the five-year plan?

23 Did you have contact or not?

24 MS. SMITH: I was walking through the
25 process.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I think this is very
2 important.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I completely
4 understand but if the item does go forward, I
5 think your part is important, but, for right, now,
6 the question on the table is was the Comptroller's
7 Office involved in the compiling of the data for
8 the capital plan and did they agree with you,
9 disagree with you or have no opinion whatsoever?

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10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I ask you to continue
11 with your outline.

12 She is detailing her extensive
13 communication with the Comptroller's Office and
14 their involvement.

15 So, please, continue.

16 MS. SMITH: So, I sent - - thank you, so, I
17 sent the - - um, the four hundred and twenty-six
18 and at that time, Mr. Conroy said that is a huge
19 number.

20 We have to bring it down. That was the
21 extent of truly Mr. Conroy's involvement because,
22 again, he said to "work with Mike."

23 I worked with Mike and there were things
24 that were overlapped.

25 There were things that were omitted.

1 So, saying I haven't worked with the
2 Comptroller's Department, I don't know these
3 projects and there are cases where there are
4 organizations that maybe vague but Mike knew for ^{Page | 61}
5 sure if something was authorized.

6 You don't put them in the plan, so, I
7 worked closely with the Comptroller's team and
8 Mike to come with the number that would make
9 sense.

10 Um, and, we had another meeting.

11 There are two meetings with Mr. Conroy
12 where we talked about that meeting and I am not
13 going to go off track. It was snowing, okay, we
14 rescheduled a couple of times, okay.

15 Um, any rate, the plan we wanted, I would
16 say, was eighty to ninety percent complete.

17 I sent it to both Mr. Conroy and Mike and
18 said, is there any feedback?

19 I received suggestions on three items, um,
20 and made those changes, um, and subsequently, Mr.
21 Locaruba met individually with the Commissioners
22 and we are, here, today.

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I have a couple more
24 questions.

1 I am looking at the chart of authorized
2 spending, um, and for example, I am looking at a
3 chart of authorized spending for, "Highway," and I
4 see authorized spending, one hundred and twenty-^{Page | 62}
5 five thousand, 1.3 million, four hundred thousand,
6 twenty million, twenty-five million and see no
7 borrowing for those projects that authorized
8 spending, but, I see that money was spent.

9 Where are we getting that money from, Mr.
10 Conroy?

11 COMPTROLLER CONROY: We borrowed the money,
12 first.

13 Cash is fungible, so, the borrowing with
14 regard to the authorization that you have in front
15 of you, does not occur simultaneously, it occurs
16 when we need the money.

17 Again, the capital projects, cash is
18 fundable.

19 We dip into those funds to pay for the
20 items that you just identified, Supervisor and we
21 go into the Markets when you need to go into the
22 Markets.

23 We are about to go into the Markets the
24 third week in June to borrow about one hundred and
25 seventy-seven million dollars.

1 What we have, here, if you don't manage the
2 borrowing as it relates to the authorizations, we
3 may have an arbitrated issue.

4 An arbitrated issue means when you borrow ^{Page | 63}
5 money for a particular project, you have,
6 approximately, two years to spend that and
7 complete the project.

8 If you violate that, you are, basically,
9 putting at risk your tax-exempt status.

10 We have process in place that has worked
11 and worked very, very well.

12 I don't see where the confusion is.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Where is the money
14 coming from, though, to fund these projects?

15 There is authorized borrowing.

16 There is expenditures, where is the money
17 coming from?

18 Where is the money coming from?

19 I don' know. That is why I am asking you.

20 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Borrowing in five
21 years - -

22 (Whereupon, "what," was heard calling out
23 from the audience. After, the following
24 ensued.)

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Please.

1 MS. SMITH: Part of my concern, but I am
2 just - - we had this conversation, Mr. Conroy in
3 2017, the Board, um, authorized three million
4 for capital projects. Page | 64

5 As of today, nothing has been borrowed.

6 So, if there has been spending of, um,
7 spending of 6.4 million, um, in at the end of
8 '17, the Board approved twenty-five million for
9 Highway projects, again, the spending against
10 that authorization is roughly six million, so,
11 my concern is there cash?

12 Can we move this back?

13 My concern if I was in Mr. Conroy's
14 position, but I don't know that would be my fear
15 that we don't have the cash because these
16 projects are in the red.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Now, I am getting
18 confused.

19 Is there circumstances where we fund the
20 money out of the General Fund to do a project
21 and then bond?

22 COMPTROLLER CONROY: As Mr. Capobianco.

23 MR. CAPOBIANCO: That is not what is done.

24 Capital Funds have a cash balance.

1 It is a Fund. You can take all the capital
2 projects you have cash in each one of those
3 projects, some have cash, some do not, at the
4 end of the day, there could be a number of
5 sitting projects.

6 I will make something up, twenty million
7 dollars.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: That is a capital
9 account?

10 MR. CAPOBIANCO: That is a cash account in
11 the bank account.

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Cash account?

13 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Correct.

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Capital account on
15 money that has previously been borrowed?

16 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yes, sir, when you asked
17 where is the cash coming from, it is coming from
18 a cash bank account for the capital funds.

19 Now, each one of those capital projects,
20 whether they have a General Ledger cash balance
21 or a negative cash balance, we add them all up.

22 It ties up to that bank account.

23 When we make the expenditures, as Mr.
24 Conroy said, cash is fungible, it is sitting in

1 that bank account, that is where the cash is
2 coming from.

3 MS. SMITH: May I respond?

4 MR. CAPOBIANCO: You may respond.

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5 MS. SMITH: Okay, I will read an email that
6 I received in February, am I reading this
7 correctly, that there is a negative cash
8 balance, in essence, you're five million and
9 seventy-one, um, dollars in the hole?

10 This is an email. I have a copy of that.

11 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yes, you are taking it out
12 of context.

13 You are taking it out of context.

14 The six million dollars of that, that you
15 just mentioned, which is the advent charge was
16 not physically transferred as a cash transfer.

17 It was set up as 222 fm. and is still on
18 the books as a 222 fm. and will be repaid for
19 the advent charge for the 2017 year for bond
20 rating.

21 MS. SMITH: Absolutely and I agree to, in
22 2016, at the end of the year, twenty million was
23 transferred from Operating Accounts that - -

24 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Not transferred, loaned.

1 MS. SMITH: Was loaned, was loaned, was
2 loaned and I asked if there was a Board
3 approval.

4 We had this conversation.

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5 I asked if there was any representation,
6 just, now, is that the capital fund and can it
7 stand on their own and has no interaction with
8 the other accounts and I am saying - -

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Excuse me one second.

10 MS. SMITH: Certainly.

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Basically, what you
12 are saying is that here was two million dollars
13 that was transferred - -

14 MS. SMITH: Twenty million, twenty million.

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Made into the Capital
16 Fund to cover a shortfall?

17 MS. SMITH: Correct.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: With no bond
19 resolution.

20 MS. SMITH: And, those papers I have, I
21 have had conversations with, um, again, this
22 discussion going in a different direction, I am
23 concerned there is no cash.

24 There is no cash because if we keep moving
25 this, we are - - the number that I have, um,

1 and I agree with Mr. Conroy, there are capital
2 funds that have balances that cash position to a
3 negative nine million as of February is when I
4 did the cut off, so, yes, there is, um, cash to ^{Page | 68}
5 use even the total for everything that we need
6 to borrow, that we are proposing to borrow,
7 twenty million of that is to fund, um, projects
8 that are currently in the red.

9 Um, so, I am concerned if you move - - I am
10 surprised the Comptroller is not more, um - -
11 because we had this conversation.

12 There are projects that need to be started,
13 um, and it will be a problem.

14 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Correct me if I am
15 wrong - -

16 MS. SMITH: Certainly.

17 MR. CAPOBIANCO: If I understand this
18 correctly, I think you should also, in all
19 trueness, to use your phrase, "full disclosure."

20 MS. SMITH: A-hun.

21 MR. CAPOBIANCO: When you present this
22 capital five-year plan to the Board, I think
23 everybody in this room should know that is not
24 the authorization spending on these projects,
25 nor is it authorizations - -

1 MS. SMITH: It is the one - -

2 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Ah, ah, ah, no, under the
3 Local Finance Law, you have past bond
4 resolutions, so, that capital plan that you are ^{Page | 69}
5 presenting right, now, to this Board and asking
6 this Board to vote on and lock them in for the
7 next five years is technically null because you
8 need a bond resolution on each and every one of
9 those projects.

10 MS. SMITH: Agreed.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The capital plan is a
12 road map that is developed in conjunction with
13 every Commissioner to provide what projects they
14 needed and when they should be done.

15 It is agreed to always be amended, but, it
16 is to prioritize what projects the Commissioners
17 said are a priority and they needed funding for,
18 how much money they needed and which ones are
19 the most important ones, are the most important
20 ones to get done.

21 And, when should we map out how they are
22 going to get done over five years.

23 It is just good, sensible planning that
24 most businesses use.

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Just one second, just
2 one second.

3 First of all, I served on the County
4 Legislature.

5 I served on the Board of the Port
6 Authority.

7 It is not unusual to have a five-year
8 capital plan.

9 I think we can all agree on that, so, I
10 would commend the Supervisor for putting forth a
11 five-year capital plan.

12 I think it is a good idea.

13 However, I also respect my colleagues who
14 want to put this off and maybe tweak this
15 capital plan a little bit, little bit because
16 for myself, while I am a fiscal conservative and I
17 hate to spend taxpayers' dollars, I recently
18 found out from our Engineering Department that
19 our Capital Budget for road repairs for the year
20 is thirteen million dollars, which, I think, is
21 woefully inadequate.

22 I think we need to increase it in all of
23 our Districts.

24 I am sure everyone on this Board gets the
25 same complaints that I get, so, I would like to

1 take a look, potentially looking at a five-year
2 plan to increase the repairs.

3 So, can't we all just agree that this is a
4 good idea and can we just table it for a sort ^{Page | 71}
5 period of time and work together on a plan that
6 we can all be proud of.

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

9 MS. SMITH: It is not accurate that it is
10 thirteen million.

11 It is twenty-five that is approved - -

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Only thirteen million
13 goes to actually repairs of the roads, the other
14 money goes for admin, this and that.

15 I can't with a straight face tell people
16 in my District that we are spending twenty-five
17 million dollars on the actual repairs because
18 that is not the case.

19 But, your point is well taken, in twenty-
20 five million dollars includes a lot of things.

21 MS. SMITH: There is concern regarding
22 this.

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: We are all fiscal
24 conservatives.

1 We have to maybe prioritized, maybe we will
2 make a plan to spend more on roads and less on
3 something else.

4 We can still be conservative and do that. Page | 72

5 But, the fact of the matter is our roads
6 are crumbling.

7 We need to be more proactive and I think we
8 need to spend a little more money on those
9 repairs.

10 That is only one Councilman's opinion.

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: This is
12 ridiculous, what really should happen is that we
13 work together.

14 This is not just you are here and you are
15 here. I feel that here. We have my people and
16 your people, it should be one people, one.

17 They are all taxpayers. Please, work
18 together with Mr. Conroy.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Conroy has been
20 involved, Councilwoman, that is what Ms. Smith
21 has been talking about for the last ten minutes,
22 the involvement of Mr. Conroy's Office because
23 the accusation was made that we did not include
24 Mr. Conroy's Office, which is unfounded and
25 untrue and patently untrue.

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1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: So, Mr. Conroy, I am
2 sorry, Senior Councilwoman, Mr. Conroy - -

3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Let me speak.

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Give an opinion on ^{Page | 73}
5 the five-year capital plan so we can consider
6 that and how long would that take to formulate?

7 COMPTROLLER CONROY: If I could hold off on
8 answering that question, I certainly want to
9 clear the record.

10 My statement was that the Comptroller's
11 Office was not omitted from the process, it had
12 limited involvement in the process.

13 I stand by that statement.

14 I think Councilwoman Goosby is right on the
15 mark, we should sit down collectively, put
16 together a capital plan that does make sense
17 and with regard to, as you pointed out before, we,
18 now, have the opportunity to get this plan to
19 include additional roadwork, whereby, twenty-
20 five million dollars was approved in December of
21 last year.

22 So, I am sorry to interrupt you, what was
23 our question?

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: My only question is
25 would you be prepared to take a look at the

1 Supervisor's five-year plan and prepare a report
2 for the Board on the plan?

3 And, how long would that take you to do
4 that?

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5 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: They just testified they
6 received information from the liaisons for the
7 Commissioners.

8 I would like you to talk to the
9 Commissioners.

10 They are the ones that have the boots on
11 the ground and they are the ones that know what
12 they need to keep this Town running properly. I
13 rather hear from the Commissioners than the
14 liaisons, where they got their information to
15 put this together.

16 They report to the Commissioners, who come
17 to us, which complain about things that they don't
18 have.

19 I appreciate that.

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Councilman, I just like
21 to let you know I did not come up with this plan
22 sitting in my office.

23 This plan was developed by working - -
24 extensively working with every Commissioner and
25 the Commissioners provided reports.

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I was just advised too, the Comptroller's Office, the Comptroller's Office received the reports from the Commissioners about the requests.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Can I address the issue?

At the time that the budget was prepared, we sent out a form.

It is called "Bud-5 form," which lays out a five-year request to the capital plan, that is the only input that we had with the Commissioners.

Now, when the new Administration came into effect, I believe, Mr. Davenport and Director of Finance, Mrs. Smith, then, met with Department Heads and used that information.

They did not use our reports.

They got their reports directly from the Department Heads.

So, the information, when you say that, making it sound like that information came from the Comptroller's Office, I provided them with what we get at Budget time.

However, Mr. Davenport and I believe Abel Smith will confirm this, they got new information from each of the Department Heads.

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1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Yes, the Commissioners
2 were involved with the process.

3 They provided information which was
4 subsequent shared with you.

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5 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Okay, shared with us only
6 in the sense - -

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Capobianco, I
8 think, basically, we get everybody's argument.

9 We get the picture. Now, let's solve the
10 problem.

11 The issue is that we have a five-year plan
12 of which maybe a great plan and certainly, I
13 think a five-year plan is a good idea.

14 We should have it.

15 We are a big organization. We should know
16 what we are going to do tomorrow and have
17 some vision of what we are going to do four or
18 five years from, now, that is a good idea.

19 Councilwoman Sweeney has raised the issue
20 that we only had it for a week.

21 We need a little more time to absorb it and
22 maybe add to it or detract from it or make
23 recommendations.

1 And, the fact that you guys need to be more
2 involved, we all agree that you need to be more
3 involved.

4 I think the Supervisor's representative Page | 77
5 would like you more involved.

6 I think you would like to be more involved.

7 So, again, I go back to a very simple
8 question that I haven't gotten an answer to, can
9 you prepare a report on the five-year capital
10 plan?

11 And, how long would that take?

12 COMPTROLLER CONROY: As Councilman Dunne
13 pointed out and I do want to set the record
14 straight, the meeting with the Commissioners
15 that did take place, the Comptroller's Office
16 was omitted from those meetings.

17 We were not involved in those meetings.

18 So, in order to give you a
19 comprehensive answer to that, we need to sit down
20 with all of the Commissioners and go over the
21 plan and put forth what we believe to be a
22 proven plan which may, in fact, be the same
23 plan.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Let's do that this
2 week, let's do that this week, are you
3 available?

4 COMPTROLLER CONROY: I am available.

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5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Let's set up the
6 meeting.

7 COMPTROLLER CONROY: At this point, we got
8 twenty-six Departments, it is going to take some
9 time to sit with all the Commissioners.

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: When we ask them to get
11 together, they get together, so, we can try to
12 find a date.

13 This is a very important thing for the
14 Town, I think everybody can find the time.

15 COMPTROLLER CONROY: There was no
16 disconnect with you.

17 I agree with you. I agree with the process
18 and as I said, the plan that you have in front
19 of you maybe a plan that we sign off on.

20 So, again, please, recognize he has
21 Twenty-five years of institutional knowledge.

22 This gentleman knows what he is doing and
23 it is like looking at debt service and looking
24 at level debt service, we are on target all the

1 time, very few variances in the budget when it
2 comes to the debt service.

3 So, I totally agree with you.

4 I can't give you the timeline.

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5 I don' know how long it will take.

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Can we put this back on
7 May 22nd, for our next Hearing and we can try to
8 get this done before then.

9 Why don't we put it on for May 22nd?

10 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Mr. Conroy, is
11 that a reasonable amount of time or do you need
12 more than two weeks?

13 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Supervisor, I don't
14 know at this point. I don't know.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Comptroller, delaying
16 this will not cause us the ability to borrow?

17 COMPTROLLER CONROY: No, not at all.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

19 COMPTROLLER CONROY: One has nothing to do
20 with the other.

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: So, Councilwoman, I
22 think June 5th may give them enough time.

23 COMPTROLLER CONROY: There are DEC and EPA
24 regulatory matters that we have to comply with
25 in a timely fashion.

1 The risk here is if we don't get, at least,
2 this aspect of the plan approved, we may be
3 looking at some sizable penalties.

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: But, you just said ^{Page | 80}
5 this is a plan, right?

6 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Yes.

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: There is nothing
8 before us with those specific issues and if it
9 were necessary, we could put them on the
10 calendar at the next meeting that is exigent.

11 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Yes, I am stressing
12 those items that are regulatory matters of which
13 we agree with Mr. Davenport, we need to get
14 those passed timely.

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: What is our drop-
16 dead date on those?

17 COMPTROLLER CONROY: As soon as possible.

18 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Has anything been put
19 before the Board on the calendar with respect to
20 those matters?

21 MR. CAPOBIANCO: If I can seek bond
22 Resolutions from bond counsel.

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: There is nothing to
24 approve.

25 There is nothing before us.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It is part of the
2 capital plan.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Okay, we can segment
4 that out, can't we, if it is exigent? Page | 81

5 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Why don't you
6 provide us with a list of the items that are
7 critical so we can address them at the next
8 meeting.

9 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Can it wait until May
10 22nd, is that doable, because we have to get the
11 regulatory stuff done?

12 COMPTROLLER CONROY: We can sit down with a
13 definitive drop-dead date.

14 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Pull out the regulatory
15 stuff so we can vote on that and we don't get
16 any fines.

17 COMPTROLLER CONROY: That is what we are
18 advocating, here.

19 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Madam Supervisor?

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Councilman Ambrosino.

21 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: A capital plan is
22 only planning in nature, it is not executory.

23 In other words, we would need an
24 independent item to be voted on by this Board.

1 With respect to the DEC funding, the DEC
2 funding is so critical.

3 Why don't we have an item on the next
4 available calendar, the independent Page | 82
5 authorization to fund whatever we need to comply
6 with this order, because this capital plan,
7 whether or not we pass this capital plan that
8 would not do anything to effectuate the DEC
9 plan.

10 We are mixing apples and oranges.

11 It is a plan. It is not binding on the
12 Town.

13 You would need to pass something separate
14 to fund the DEC.

15 So, the fact that the picture is being
16 painted, if we don't vote on this capital plan,
17 we are jeopardizing the DEC issue does not make
18 any sense.

19 We would require something else.

20 What is the status of that legislative item
21 needed to fund whatever is necessary to comply
22 with the DEC order, whatever that is, that
23 should come before us immediately on an emergency
24 basis and the capital plan can be debated, tweaked
25 or we can come to a consensus.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 COMPTROLLER CONROY: Exactly, yes, we
2 agree.

3 Carve out that portion potentially and get
4 that done ASAP, that is where we are at. Page | 83

5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Between now - - in
6 the meantime, between June 5th, do you feel you
7 have adequate time to meet with the Commissioners
8 and Supervisor's Office to opine on the five-year
9 capital plan?

10 COMPTROLLER CONROY: If we have to make
11 that work, we will make that work.

12 We are not in a position to comment on that
13 to you right, now.

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Try to make it work.

15 COMPTROLLER CONROY: IF that is a
16 directive, we will put it in play.

17 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: So, I would
18 like to amend my Motion to June 5th.

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I second the Motion.

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, would you,
21 please, call the roll.

22 Mr. Schurin still has time.

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: See what you
24 started.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 RICHARD SCHURIN: I just want to say from
2 what I just witnessed, I just want to say that
3 the residents of this Town have the right to
4 know what is going to happen in this Town in Page | 84
5 advance.

6 We have a right to a five-year plan.

7 I don't want to have a process that deals
8 with the emergencies that come up and get put on
9 the calendar the day before and we vote on it
10 because we are going to face regulatory fines.

11 You said you work for the Port Authority.
12 I worked for the Port Authority, as well.

13 Good municipal agencies have plans that
14 they can communicate to their constituents, to
15 the public, where they say what they are going
16 to do.

17 And, they also discuss how they are going
18 to fund that, and in the bonding or whatever,
19 but, you know, it is communicated to their
20 residents.

21 The way this Town Board works, has worked
22 for the last hundred years, because one Party
23 controlled it, you do things, you know, when

1 you need to do them and no communication and you
2 just get it done and you put out glossy things
3 about what you had done congratulating yourself.

4 That doesn't work anymore.

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5 And, Councilwoman Sweeney, you designated
6 yourself as the Majority Leader, okay, with that
7 title comes some responsibilities when you see,
8 when you know the Supervisor is putting together
9 a five-year project, I submit, it is your
10 responsibility as the Majority Leader to
11 communicate to the Commissioners, with the other
12 people, most of them are political appointments
13 in the Republican Party, you know, enable a
14 process to get done that works, that makes sense
15 not to have a grandstanding thing at a meeting,
16 you know, in front of everybody where it becomes
17 evident nobody knows that is going on.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I am not
19 grandstanding.

20 RICHARD SCHURIN: Yes, you are.

21 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I don't think
22 there has been a single glossy brochure out with
23 me.

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

1 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I wouldn't
2 engage in that.

3 I would respectfully ask you to correct
4 that. I don't do that.

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5 Um, we have internally been doing our
6 business to improve communications and there is
7 no grandstanding today.

8 We received this five to seven days ago, as
9 Mr. Conroy said, if this is efficient, if this
10 is the right thing to do, I wholeheartedly
11 support it.

12 And, I fully agree with you, we should have
13 a five-year plan.

14 I think it is a great idea to do it.

15 We just need more communication on it and
16 we are taking a pause to review it, that's all.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I have an email, here
18 with Douglas Touban about the capital plan and
19 capital budget.

20 "Please find our draft of the capital
21 construction program and capital plan addressed
22 to Laurie Gillen, Erin Sweeney, Anthony
23 D'Esposito, Dorothy Goosby," and it cuts of the
24 cc. Christopher Cianualli - -

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I didn't get a copy of

1 it.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I think you got cut off
3 on this print out.

4 Then, I have another one with the response ^{Page | 87}
5 from Dennis Dunne, who actually had his staff
6 look at what was proposed.

7 And, he said, I would like to swap out some
8 streets.

9 This is dated March 5, 2018.

10 So, Councilman Dunne's office did, um, did
11 respond to this email and did participate in the
12 process.

13 I can't control whether or not you read
14 your emails or respond to it, but, you were made
15 aware of the capital plan was in place and you
16 had the opportunity to chime in.

17 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Hold on just
18 one second before this gets way too personal.

19 Of course, I read my emails and I have a
20 staff that is great, the point we are all trying
21 to say, this was the final product that was
22 presented to us five or seven days ago, all we
23 want to do is review the final product and see
24 if there should be further input.

25 That is all.

1 We fully support a five-year plan.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I am just trying to
3 correct you saying you were blindsided by
4 something that you knew about in February.

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5 RICHARD SCHURIN: My point is you have the
6 title of "Majority Leader," so, everything that
7 took place just before should have and could
8 have been coordinated and done before this
9 meeting took place.

10 And, I submit to you that as the Majority
11 Leader, you have the responsibility to do that,
12 communicate with the Supervisor and get it done
13 so we don't have a spectacle like this.

14 And, I just want to add one more thing, I
15 am not an accountant and I am not a Comptroller
16 in any way, but, what I just heard concerns me.

17 And, the way I interpreted this was that
18 the way the Town of Hempstead does business is
19 they fund projects from any capital fund and
20 then they subsequently, um, bond those projects,
21 um, and I think that is what got Long Beach in
22 trouble.

23 You can't assume that necessarily bonds are
24 going to be approved in the future and if the
25 work is done and the money is spent and you are

1 relying on the future bonding, you are going to
2 wind up in a situation where you are in trouble
3 just like Long Beach is.

4 So, for the last fifty years you might have ^{Page | 89}
5 been able to have a reliable Board to approve
6 everything that goes before it, it may not be
7 the case anymore or in the best interest,
8 situations might change and bonding might become
9 very difficult.

10 So, what appears to be happening, namely,
11 you're spending the money before you get it, is
12 concerning.

13 Um, and should be taken a look at.

14 Thank you.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anybody else
16 that would like to be heard?

17 META MEREDAY: Meta Mereday, Baldwin
18 resident.

19 Considering the Resolution on the table
20 that has a, "whereas, it is the policy of the
21 Board to conduct its operations and compliance
22 with the highest standards of conduct and
23 ethical behavior and with best practices
24 applicable to conducting meetings and hearings
25 of the Board," I can't even say I am

1 appalled.

2 I have been through this situation.

3 I have been the direct recipient of some
4 conduct that was not in the best behavior, but, ^{Page | 90}
5 this was - - this was - - I want to continue to
6 participate in because of the level of expenses
7 and taxes and suffering and sacrifice that
8 residents have to continue to ensure in this
9 Township and in this County is unacceptable,
10 completely unacceptable.

11 I just - - I am so - - I am so disgusted at
12 this point and to the point where we are
13 talking, again, about hard-earned taxpayer
14 dollars and to sit here and to have to go
15 through this tennis match with the back and
16 forth, who said this and who didn't say that and
17 who spoke to who.

18 Again, enough is enough.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I agree.

20 META MEREDAY: Enough is enough.

21 Now, I am in full support of a capital
22 plan.

23 I am not in support of anything that is
24 going to give rush to those that do not have the
25 information and I requested a copy myself

1 of the capital plan, still waiting to get that.

2 Because residents, those of us who do care,
3 I am not saying that other residents don't, but
4 so many of us do not make the money that the Page | 91
5 Commissioners, their assistants, their
6 secretaries, even the people that operate
7 technical stuff, we have residents that don't
8 even make those salaries, here to pay the taxes
9 and have their voices and the things that are
10 going on here, the roads, as Councilman said are
11 atrocious.

12 So, it says to me, even those plans that
13 you are putting forth, you are not even looking
14 at the quality and care of the vendor for the
15 money that we are putting out there for these
16 types of services.

17 So, where is the oversight for that?

18 And, I have to hear, "someone sent me an
19 email but I didn't read this email."

20 But, "I got this email." "My staffers got
21 the email." "I can't be responsible if you got
22 the email."

23 What is that?

24 We are not six years old and this is not a
25 sandbox.

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SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I agree.

META MEREDAY: We need to get this together and get it together soon.

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If this is how you are acting over a discussion about a capital plan, which is a blueprint, I am going to forget it, maybe I will be a Maid of Honor at Felix's daughter's wedding but residents are up in arms.

I am glad Newsday had something on the front talking about residents stepping up and coming together and working together because that is what we are going to have to do.

I got another sheet, today, with four house in Baldwin that are getting boarded up.

There is another twenty that are on the list.

Our residents are fleeing.

Our Seniors are dying. Our Veterans are not getting any opportunities and yes, I will keep asking about what we are not doing for our Veterans and put it on the list, on Newsday and on the website is still unacceptable.

And, our student Veterans are not getting work.

I will continue to advocate for that just

1 as long as my sciatica will let me, so, I will let
2 you know, now, if you see me walk in here with a
3 Hover round, don't ask, just spread it out so I
4 can get up here and talk. Page | 93

5 But this is enough, get it together.

6 Thank you.

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

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

10 Is there anybody else that would like to be
11 heard on this?

12 VALERIE LAMPE: Valerie Lampe, Baldwin.

13 Um, first of all, I should mention that I
14 find these, um, lectures about good
15 communication laughable, okay.

16 First of all, um, you're talking about how
17 you and your office and the Commissioners and
18 this and that have been working on this
19 tirelessly since January.

20 I say, respectfully, and you're the first
21 one to say the Republicans, the Republicans, the
22 Republican Commissioners, the Republican Board
23 hasn't done their job, they are asking for a
24 little more time.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I didn't say they

1 didn't do their job.

2 VALERIE LAMPE: Let me rewind the tape.
3 Let me rewind the Tape.

4 I listen. I write, I take notes. We have Page | 94
5 other things on video that we are going to bring
6 up later, today.

7 But, in the interim, I want to make this
8 point, your office, in my experience, has an
9 incredible reputation, both for me personally
10 and many other constituents, as well as, other
11 departments for not getting back to us.

12 Phone calls go unreturned.

13 Text messages go ignored. Emails go
14 ignored. Someone from your office - -

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

17 VALERIE LAMPE: I want name him right, now,
18 but they promised me, "let's speak next week,"
19 that is well over a week ago.

20 I recall our last conversation, which was a
21 little heated when you and I were talking on the
22 phone, personally, at night, I expressed my
23 disappointment in the fact that you told me you
24 were going to call me tomorrow and a month went
25 by.

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

3 VALERIE LAMPE: A month, okay, so, I don't
4 recognize the person who I am looking at Page | 95
5 anymore.

6 This is the person who use to encourage
7 people's questions and they wanted to engage in
8 good honest government.

9 And, yet, here we are and you're talking a
10 bout how the Republicans aren't getting back to
11 you and your door is always opened.

12 I find it really hard to believe but, in
13 addition to that, maybe because the lack of
14 communication prior to slapping everyone with a
15 lawsuit, which I see you amended, yesterday,
16 maybe this hindered some of the communications
17 that should have transpired in the past several
18 weeks.

19 So, I can't just sit here and watch other
20 people, you know, try to bash the Republicans.

21 I am a Republican.

22 You remember that, I crossed the Party
23 lines to vote for you and to support you and so
24 did many other Republicans.

25 And, so, I can't stomach the further

1 divisiveness that is occurring here, okay, you
2 remember - - Councilman, and hi, okay, I want to
3 wait until you were done.

4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am done.

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5 VALERIE LAMPE: Councilman Blakeman and
6 Councilwoman Sweeney - - Councilwoman Sweeney
7 verbally supported you and - - and countered
8 Santino's antics and some of his antics were
9 something that you are repeating, here, today.

10 I can't believe it.

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

13 VALERIE LAMPE: You said you were working
14 on this since January, they got it this week.

15 I think it sounds extremely reasonable for
16 them to review it a couple of weeks to make sure
17 that they are confident in the plan and make
18 sure it is a good decision for the Township and
19 all of their constituents, Republicans and
20 Democrats.

21 You were supposed to be the person that was
22 going to bring it together.

23 That was what we talked about all the time
24 and in your Victory speech, in your Youtube
25 video immediately following your

1 Victory speech, the bipartisanship, the ability to
2 work with everyone.

3 Let's stop labeling, okay, we don't care.

4 We don't care who is a Republican, who is a Page | 97
5 Democrat.

6 We want everyone to work together and,
7 please, please, stop with the sarcasm.

8 I can't handle it, I can't.

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

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is there anyone else
12 that would like to be heard?

13 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Mary Ellen Kreye. 436
14 Locust Avenue, Uniondale.

15 I take issue with the, um, excuse me,
16 "indefinitely postponed."

17 It is very important to put a date on this.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: We put June 5th.

19 That is what we will be voting on.

20 MARY ELLEN KREYE: So, it has been amended,
21 okay, thank you.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: We have a Motion and
23 second already to adjourn this to June 5th.

24 Madam Clerk, would you, please, call the
25 roll.

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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: Before I vote, I
7 just want to mention something, what started
8 which seems hours ago, was a comment by a
9 constituent from Island Park with regards to
10 California Place road raising and I want to make
11 it public, for the record, I think he stepped
12 out for those watching at home before this
13 becomes some effort to twist on social media,
14 the California Place project is part of the
15 Governor's storm recovery.

16 The money has already been allocated by the
17 Governor's office and will be used for that or
18 tabling or postponing the vote for this capital
19 project has zero affect in the work being done
20 in my hometown.

21 I vote yes.

22 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

23 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

24 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I vote no.

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1 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

2 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

3 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I really do wish we put ^{Page | 99}

5 this forward today in an effort that the Town
6 Board has a continued opportunity to look at the
7 capital plan, I will vote yes.

8 Madam Clerk, will you, please, call the
9 next application.

10 CLERK CABANA: Application of JAS, USA,
11 INC. to include premises, existing and extend
12 premises into the GSS District to maintain
13 existing repair bays and snack shop,
14 installation of a 24 by 54 inch canopy over the
15 existing pump islands with lighting, vacuum
16 station, air station, dumpsters enclosure and
17 various other site improvements including
18 paving, curbing landscaping and the relocation
19 of an existing curb cut along Chest Street
20 located at 1198 Front Street - Uniondale,
21 southeast corner of Front Street and Chester
22 Street.

23 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Good Afternoon,
24 Supervisor Gillen, Honorable Members of the
25 Board, Madam Clerk:

1 Kevin O'Brien from the firm of Murphy,
2 Bartol & O'Brien with offices at 22 Jericho
3 Turnpike, Mineola, New York, here, on behalf of
4 the property owner and applicant. Page | 100

5 I also have seated to my right, Mr. Larry
6 O'Brien, P.E. , licensed Professional Engineer
7 from High Point Engineering and the principals
8 who prepared the application.

9 We are before the Board and just one quick
10 thing before I get going, I just want to either
11 thank, commend, recognize, I am not sure what
12 the right word is, the Town Board or whoever it
13 is that does all the work outside in the front
14 with the tulips.

15 I come here on a regular basis, it brings a
16 smile to my face.

17 Someone is doing a great job. Thank you.
18 I am sure it brings a lot of smiles to other
19 faces, as well.

20 It is great. It is perfect timing, right,
21 now, so, when the meeting is over, go out and
22 enjoy.

23 It looks great.

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

25 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Um, let's see, another

1 compliment, if I can, it is good to see we have
2 the electronic system up and working, so, this
3 way, we don't have to use the boards if there is
4 any questions of a technical nature, certainly,^{Page | 101}
5 Mr. Larry O'Brien, no relation to me, can answer
6 those.

7 So, we are here before the Board, today in
8 an application to include the subject premises
9 as indicated in the "GSS" Zoning District.

10 Certain other things associated with that,
11 which will be self service operation, um, a
12 small snack shop in conjunction with a gasoline
13 service station.

14 The property is located at 1198 Front
15 Street, which is the southeast corner of Front
16 Street and Chester Street.

17 It, basically, has a street frontage on the
18 Front Street side of 122.27 feet and a street
19 frontage of 132.11 on Chester Street.

20 Just a brief background, um, and that is
21 the service station is an existing gasoline
22 service station in accordance with the laws that
23 were adopted by the predecessors of this Town
24 Board in 1974, was seeking to be included in the
25 GSS Zoning District.

1 Back in the day, gas stations were
2 permitted in the Business X Zoning District
3 which is all throughout the Town pretty much
4 every roadway in the Town, the Town Board
5 controlled service stations.

6 So, we are in the "X" District, now.

7 We are built in around 1951, so, operating
8 close to seventy years as a service station.

9 And, um, will continue to operate
10 continuously and a lot of regulations that we
11 have to provide by one of which, what was the
12 Nassau County Fire Marshall, now, the Health
13 Department.

14 So, the underground gasoline storage tanks,
15 which might to some, be the most important
16 component of the gasoline service stations, had
17 been, um, removed and replaced and installed in
18 accordance with the County regulations.

19 We have one, twelve thousand gallon and
20 one, ten thousand gallon, um, double wall
21 gasoline storage tank, twelve thousand gallon
22 regular fuel, ten thousand gallon is what they
23 call "compartmentalized tank" which has five
24 thousand gallons of premium and five thousand
25 gallons of diesel.

1 Um, the pump island, if you look at the
2 site plan, which is to my right and left, the
3 area which would be, I guess, the lighter shade
4 of a beige, I guess, um, that is where the
5 proposed canopy would be over the existing pump
6 islands.

7 So, there are three existing pump islands.

8 You get eighty grade motor fuel or any one
9 of those pump islands, there is presently no
10 canopy over those, over those pump islands.

11 The yellowish - - so, I guess right next
12 to that would seem like a lighter gray area is
13 the place where the underground gasoline storage
14 tanks have been replaced.

15 All the underground fuel storage tanks are
16 all up to County, State and Federal regulations.

17 The building, itself, is the yellowish
18 building which we have three service bays
19 presently would be seeking to continue to
20 operate those, continue those service bays as
21 they have since 1951.

22 And, I guess in the area to the left, which
23 would be East, um, there is - - we would like to
24 operate three hundred fifty square feet of sort
25 of office area, snack area for the sale

1 of retail snack type of products.

2 Um, let's see, we have also been seeking to
3 operate the self-service, um, will have the
4 required equipment which is required by the
5 Nassau County Department of Health in order to
6 operate self-service but while at the same time,
7 maintaining, um, what is termed "split island
8 service," where full service would be available
9 to Seniors, handicapped and, I believe, that the
10 dispenser that they have there which are new
11 dispensers, have either a blue button, something
12 along the lines, to make it easy to, um,
13 identify if somebody that has needs pulls up,
14 pushes the button, someone comes out and they
15 get the fuel.

16 Um, presently, there is really little to
17 know landscaping on the site and, um, the site
18 quite frankly, um, to be honest, the bloom is
19 off the rose.

20 It has been a service station, like I
21 indicated, since, about 1951.

22 Um, we have had some operational issues
23 over there.

24 The building could use, you know, a
25 facelift, um, fencing.

1 So, what we are proposing, here, in
2 conjunction, you know, with the application is
3 really a complete upgrade, you know, to the
4 facility, simple things like the asphalt, you ^{Page | 105}
5 know, the asphalt, in my opinion you can't just
6 patch the asphalt, you have to completely redo
7 as part of the tank installation.

8 And, this part of the reconfiguration of
9 the pump islands and the like that are necessary
10 to do that, the double-wall tanks to double-
11 wall, um, double-wall dispenser, so, all of that
12 has been done.

13 That is concrete work.

14 If you have been to the site and you look
15 at it, there is problems with the asphalt, um,
16 you can't just fix a pothole, you got to do all
17 the asphalt and in discussing this and meeting
18 with the engineers and the applicant and really
19 an overhaul is necessary with respect to the
20 fencing, with respect to the landscaping, with
21 respect to the asphalt and actually with respect
22 to the building, itself.

23 So, that is something that we would intend
24 to do as part of the application.

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Have you

1 visited the premises lately?

2 Have you been there?

3 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yes, I have and I have
4 been there on a number of occasions.

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5 I met with the property owner.

6 I met with the operator.

7 Um, the operator indicated to me that he
8 had been ill for a period of time, so, that he
9 wasn't - - that the place has really fallen into
10 a state of disrepair.

11 Quite frankly, I don't think that is
12 necessarily an excuse.

13 You got employees. I think it is also
14 incumbent upon the landlord to do that, as well
15 and um, I have seen improvement from say two
16 months ago to two weeks ago to today, um, where
17 there were - - there was a storage of, um,
18 inordinate amount of tires and all kinds of
19 stuff on the site, so, I have seen that.

20 I would say ninety percent, ninety-five
21 percent of all of that stuff has been removed or
22 eliminated.

23 So, they have a yeoman's job in connection
24 with it.

25 But, sometimes if you clean up something

1 that is dirty, that is not enough.

2 I think, I mean you clean it up, you see,
3 sometimes people in their driveway with a hose
4 and they wash their property every now and
5 again, you have to replace.

6 You know washing isn't enough, so, I think
7 in this particular instance, I have been there.

8 I have been there before.

9 I have been there after, um, I think it is
10 greatly improve, but, do I feel satisfied with
11 that?

12 Do I feel - - I don't think it is enough.

13 I think such things as asphalt, I looked at
14 the asphalt, it is a mess.

15 It has to be replaced.

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I want you to
17 look at this.

18 Would you come, here, please.

19 Tell me what improvements you have seen and
20 that is 5/2?

21 That is this month.

22 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: The first photograph I
23 see is where the air machine is, we would be,
24 um, on the eastern property, on the eastern
25 property line, um, and actually, that is not

1 a bad photograph.

2 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: What do you
3 see on the sheet?

4 Is there a note on it?

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5 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Okay, I think it says,
6 "out of service."

7 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: We actually have
8 someone here to help you with that.

9 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Keep going.

10 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yeah, if my recollection
11 is correct, I think that was repaired when I was
12 there.

13 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: 5/2, were you
14 there since the 2nd of May?

15 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: I have been there about
16 two months ago.

17 I was there this past Thursday.

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: All these
19 photographs are from 5/2, May 2nd.

20 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yeah, I was there as
21 recently as this passed Thursday and Friday.

22 Um, the fence that you depict over, here,
23 um, absolutely, correct, it is in the same exact
24 condition as being, um, in a complete state of
25 disrepair.

1 In discussing that with, um, the property
2 owner, it indicated that he like to, basically,
3 make all the improvements at the same time as
4 opposed to just sort of doing, you know, doing ^{Page | 109}
5 things piecemeal.

6 Um, you have a photograph of tires in the
7 back.

8 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Oh, boy.

9 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: And, it looks like, I
10 will just estimate, forty, fifty - -

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Counsel, just to
12 point out - -

13 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Sure.

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I think, um, you
15 mentioned that, um, it is not up to par in
16 cleanliness, in cleaning, I think what is also
17 important it needs to be clean to be safe when
18 you have a gas station, just looking at the
19 pictures that the Senior Councilwoman just
20 showed me, you are in pretty direct proximity to
21 houses, um, with all that garbage, the tires,
22 um, there is almost ten, fifty-five gallon drums
23 with unknown liquid in them, God forbid one of
24 those ignites, the Uniondale Fire District is
25 going to have a big problem on its hands and

1 it all can be avoided if things are cleaned up and
2 done properly.

3 ATTORNEY OBRIEN: You are absolutely right.

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Especially Page | 110
5 since you have something that looks like this
6 that you are presenting before us, today, I
7 really am, I know you very well, I have never
8 seen anything that looks this horrible that is
9 an application.

10 ATTORNEY OBRIEN: I would like to disagree
11 with you, quite frankly, I can say those tires
12 are all there - -

13 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: It is a safety
14 hazard, as well.

15 You know, once in there, that is a
16 violation, right there.

17 You have so many violations, I don't - - if
18 you can tell me what would make me think that we
19 should give you permission to do what you are
20 asking to do?

21 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Well, I can say looking
22 at the photographs, um, I would say that ninety
23 percent of the things that are in there, if you
24 sent an Inspector out there, today or tomorrow,
25 um, those have been secured or eliminated.

1 What I am trying to say, I don't even think
2 that is enough to just secure on thing.

3 There are certain, um, almost structural
4 type of things that have to take place. Page | 111

5 It is the asphalt.

6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: But before you
7 can get to the structure, you have to remove all
8 of this garbage and stuff that I seen, all of
9 those tires and drums and what else.

10 There is so much stuff I want you to see it
11 yourself.

12 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: And, you are one hundred
13 percent correct, like I said, I was there
14 recently as this past Thursday and Friday and
15 ninety to ninety-five percent of the stuff that
16 is depicted in those photos are gone.

17 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Really?

18 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: So, if you are out
19 there, um, the fencing that is existing as
20 current, but the garbage that you accurately
21 pointed out, that has been removed, like I said,
22 I have been there, like I said I was there
23 Thursday and Friday and I would say ninety
24 percent of the stuff there has been removed, so

25 -

1 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I don't know
2 how all of that accumulated in the first place,
3 he is in business.

4 Why?

5 It doesn't make sense.

6 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: And, you are right and I
7 spoke with the landlord and I indicated to the
8 landlord he has to step up his game to be
9 actively involved in it.

10 Yes, I understand the leases and the tenant
11 is responsible for this and the tenant is
12 responsible for that and if you own the property
13 in the Town, it is incumbent upon you to make
14 sure that your property is what the Councilman
15 said, that it is in a safe condition, as well
16 as, you know, it should be in visually appealing
17 position.

18 SO, um, I absolutely agree.

19 I recommend that we go back out to the - -
20 we go back out to the location and send an
21 Inspector with the appropriate upgrades and
22 improvements.

23 I think the garbage has been removed but,
24 like I said, it is going to take more than that.

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Absolutely.

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Did you see it?

ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: So, with that in mind, I don't know, like I said, those things are sort of operational clean-up type of things which I would indicate that we can certainly have further inspections to show that is the case.

And, I think the improvements that we are proposing would enable it to be something in the future that would be much more aesthetically appealing, upgrades to the building, upgrades to the property and whatever is necessary to replace all the fencing and upgrade the building, itself, replace all the asphalt and the like.

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I think I am going to do something a little bit different.

ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Okay.

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I think we should forget about this application today, have someone come back and do the inspection to see what you have done before we even bother with this.

This is not worth it.

It is really, you know, coming in with an application like this and you know we are going

1 to come out and inspect it and to bring it here,
2 especially in a neighborhood where people live,
3 it is not worth my listening to.

4 I don't know about the rest of the Board, ^{Page | 114}
5 but, I don't want to listen to this.

6 This is something that I would have to
7 approve in a District that I have residents in
8 and people would not like to have this in their
9 neighborhood.

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Senior Councilwoman
11 if you are putting that in a form of a Motion, I
12 would be happy to second it.

13 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I would, okay,
14 I put it in a Motion before we continue to
15 listen to this application that we have someone
16 come, an Inspector come and check to make sure
17 that everything is in order.

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Second.

19 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Could I ask a question?

20 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Yes, you can
21 ask a question.

22 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: So, will we put it on
23 another date.

24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: You can put it
25 on another date once we have an inspection.

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1 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Once you are satisfied,
2 Councilwoman, it is extremely fair. You have
3 always been fair. The Board has been fair.

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: That is a good ^{Page | 115}
5 idea.

6 I give you a month. How about that?

7 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: That is fine.

8 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Adjourned for
9 one month.

10 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: That is fine,
11 Councilwoman.

12 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the new
13 Motion.

14 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I never seen
15 anything look like this that someone has brought
16 before us as an application.

17 It is really bad.

18 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: I am disappointed
19 myself, Councilwoman, so, um, I am hoping when
20 you go back out there, you will be pleased.

21 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: All right, I
22 certainly hope so.

23 I am glad that you understand, thank you.

24 Our residents would be very upset if I let
25 it go through.

1 I couldn't let it go through because I
2 couldn't live with it.

3 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Thank you, Councilwoman.
4 Thank you for your considerations. Page | 116

5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: We have a Motion and a
6 second, Madam Clerk, would you, please, call the
7 roll.

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 Goosby?

15 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

17 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

18 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

20 (Whereupon, at the time of calling for the
21 vote, Councilman Ambrosino was not present.)

22 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Thank you. Have a nice
23 day.

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, would you,
25 please, call the Decision Calendar.

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1 CLERK CABANA: Yes, Supervisor.

2 There are two items on the Decision
3 Calendar.

4 The first item for decision is Application ^{Page | 117}
5 of Nassau Land Developers, LLC, for rezoning
6 from "Residence B" District to "Business"
7 District located at 1184 Hempstead Turnpike -
8 Uniondale - southeast corner of Hempstead
9 Turnpike & Walton Avenue.

10 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I move we
11 accept it.

12 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the
13 Motion.

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

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

17 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

18 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

20 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

22 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

23 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

24 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

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1 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

2 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

3 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I can't vote on this Page | 118
5 matter.

6 Would you, please, call the next item on
7 the Decision Calendar.

8 CLERK CABANA: Yes. Application of BOLLA
9 EM Realty, LLC., for a variance from provisions
10 of "GSS" Ordinance to operate a convenience
11 store at an existing gasoline service station,
12 as well as area sign parking variance relief
13 from the Gasoline Service Station District
14 required - near Westbury - southwest
15 intersection of Carman & Stewart Avenue with
16 frontage on Carman Avenue of 181 feet & 150 feet
17 on Stewart Avenue.

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I move that the
19 application be granted.

20 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second the
21 Motion.

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

24 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

25 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I recuse

1 myself from voting on this matter.

2 I recently became aware that my law firm
3 has done some transactional work for Bolla and
4 even though it has no bearing on this issue and ^{Page | 119}
5 not connected with this issue at all, I still
6 feel that in prudence, I should recuse myself.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

8 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

9 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

10 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

11 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

12 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

13 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

14 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

15 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

17 Madam Clerk, would you, please, call the
18 Administrative Calendar.

19 CLERK CABANA: Yes, on the Administrative
20 Calendar, this afternoon, there are Items 10
21 through 46.

22 But, first, I also have two Resolutions of
23 urgent matter, the first Resolution is a
24 Resolution authorizing the Town Attorney to
25 retain Rosenberg, Calica & Birney, LLP., as the

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1 Attorney for Edward A. Ambrosino in the matter
2 of Gillen versus the Town of Hempstead, et.al.

3 All this would be Item Number 47 on the
4 calendar.

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5 The second Resolution is Resolution
6 authorizing the Town Attorney to retain
7 Besceglie & Associates, P.C. as the Attorneys
8 for Dennis Dunne, Sr., in the matter of Gillen
9 versus the Town of Hempstead, et.al.

10 This would be Item Number 48 on the
11 Calendar.

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Are there any Council
13 Members that would like to sever any items on
14 the Administrative Calendar?

15 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I move that Item 32
16 be stricken from the calendar.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, would you
18 call the roll on removal of Item Number 32.

19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I second the
20 Motion.

21 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

22 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

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1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

2 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

4 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby? Page | 121

5 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

6 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

7 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

8 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

10 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Supervisor, I would
11 ask that 29, 30 and 31 be severed.

12 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: What did you
13 say?

14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: 29, 30 and 31 be
15 severed.

16 I withdraw that, um, never mind.

17 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Okay.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I move to table Item
19 Number 28, which is the personnel. I received
20 some feedback on that Resolution and I think
21 that it requires further tweaking, so, the
22 comments I have incorporated were not part of
23 that Resolution and I think we need to look at
24 it further as a Town Board to make sure that we
25 are balancing the needs, that the Public

1 has an opportunity to speak.

2 And, that it is going to make sure that is
3 accomplished.

4 I move to table Item Number 28.

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5 Madam Clerk, would you, please, call the
6 roll.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

8 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Because the
9 Resolution has no public comment, I vote no on
10 the Motion to table.

11 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

13 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: No.

15 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: No.

17 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Yes.

19 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

20 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: No.

21 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Yes.

23 Are there any other items that anybody
24 would like to table or sever?

25 Can we have a Motion on the Administrative

1 Calendar.

2 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Okay, I move
3 that - -

4 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I have more Page | 123
5 Items to table.

6 I move to table Item Number 43.

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, would you,
9 please, call the roll.

10 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I think you have the
11 wrong one.

12 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I have the old
13 calendar.

14 I think we are operating with different
15 calendars, sorry about that.

16 I move to table Item Number 44.

17 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I second the Motion.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, would you,
19 please, call the roll.

20 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

21 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

22 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

24 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

25 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

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CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

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SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Ay.

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: 44 is which
one?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It is about special
elections.

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I vote no on
that all right, to table.

Has everyone voted?

CLERK CABANA: I will start over.

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Let's call the roll,
again.

There is a Motion to table Item 44, which
is the Resolution calling for a Public Hearing
on - - for special elections and the Motion is
to table that item which calls for a Public
Hearing.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

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1 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

2 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yes

3 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

4 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Yes.

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5 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: No.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

8 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

9 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I vote no.

11 This is just calling for a Public Hearing
12 on this matter.

13 The Members of this Board have had two
14 weeks to come up with a reason why they want to
15 vote against this.

16 That is plenty of time to come up with
17 their theory.

18 This is a good government initiative that
19 should move forward.

20 I vote no against to table.

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

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: May I have a Motion on
24 the Administrative Calendar.

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Okay, I move

1 the Administrative Calendar in its entirety with
2 the exception of those that have been tabled.

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

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5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Excuse me, I have a
6 question with regard to, um, Item Number 21, I
7 meant to table that.

8 And, also there was another item with
9 respect to substance abuse.

10 What item is that?

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: That was 15.

12 Can I make a request that before each Town
13 Board Meeting, we make sure that all Town Board
14 Members have the same calendar.

15 I will not make that as a Motion, but - -

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I am good with 21.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: No more severing?

18 No more tabling?

19 You are all good?

20 We have a Motion on the Administrative
21 Calendar.

22 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I move the
23 Administrative Calendar with the exception of all
24 those that have been tabled or severed.

25 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Second.

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1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Public comment, I have
2 a number of slips of those that wish to speak on
3 the Administrative Calendar.

4 Ms. Stack? Ms. Stack is no longer, here, ^{Page | 127}
5 okay.

6 Charles Meyer?

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

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Rori Gordon?

10 RORI GORDON: Good Morning. I am a little
11 confused, is 28 tabled?

12 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Yes.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The Board failed to
14 table it.

15 It is not tabled.

16 It has not been tabled.

17 RORI GORDON: It has not been tabled?

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It has not been tabled.

19 RORI GORDON: First of all, I want to
20 mention I could not print this document to
21 physically bring it here, today.

22 It was incorrectly uploaded onto the
23 agenda.

24 It is not the first time.

25 It is not the first time. I brought this

1 to the attention of the Board.

2 Whoever is doing this job, some pages come
3 out okay, that page came out - -

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Which document, the Page | 128
5 Resolution?

6 RORI GORDON: Yes, yes, because I think
7 that was an important Resolution and I wanted to
8 take it and separate it and send it out to a bunch
9 of people and I couldn't do it.

10 And, it is not the first time.

11 It is probably that person's only job,
12 since it is very, very important.

13 Um, public comments have advanced the Town
14 of Hempstead like getting information from the
15 very people that each and every one of your
16 decisions affect.

17 We, as constituents, have interrupted our
18 lives to advance local government by attending
19 these public meetings.

20 In what World of democracy and transparency
21 would you seriously wish to silence your
22 constituents?

23 That is all I have to say on that issue.

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

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Actually, a lot of
2 residents have been complaining the meetings go on
3 for so very long, they get stuck here all day.

4 To move it to the beginning of the meeting ^{Page | 129}
5 would make it easier for the residents to come and
6 to be able to offer their public comments before
7 the public hearings, so, this way, they could come
8 in and know it would be handled first.

9 It would from 10:30 to 11:30 and this way
10 they can know within that hour that is when they
11 are going to be heard and they can go back to work
12 and go about their business and know they don't
13 have to wait for a Board Meeting which could take
14 hours.

15 They don't even have any predictable idea
16 when the public comment is going to take place.

17 A number of people in this audience spoke
18 before the meeting.

19 So, that was the push to move the public
20 comments to the beginning of the meeting, to
21 actually make it easy for people to plan, to know
22 when they can comment.

23 Um, my issue is I didn't think thirty
24 minutes was really long enough.

25 I think we need sixty minutes.

1 You know, I tried to get information, the
2 average number of speakers that speak at a
3 meeting, so, that is why I wanted to tweak it a
4 little bit and look at how many people generally ^{Page | 130}
5 speak at public comment.

6 We can gauge how long we need that period
7 to be.

8 Um, Councilman Dunne was helpful.

9 He pointed out to what they do for public
10 comment at the Nassau County Legislature.

11 He was a Legislator there. I think the
12 public comment is thirty minutes there and they
13 actually let anybody that doesn't get an
14 opportunity to speak, can speak at the end.

15 But, thirty minutes might not be long
16 enough.

17 I think it should be sixty minutes, that is
18 why I wanted to go back on that and see.

19 That is why I moved to table it and amend
20 the Resolution to make it sixty minutes instead of
21 thirty minutes.

22 RORI GORDON: Why would anybody here not
23 want to table that and do that?

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Because Ms. Gordon,
25 I think and I don't want to speak for the whole

1 Town Board, we did caucus prior to this Meeting.

2 And, I really do not want to beat a dead
3 horse.

4 I wasn't even going to bring this up, what ^{Page | 131}
5 this comes down to, again, is with this issue,
6 specifically, that I am not talking instances that
7 happened over the last week, this and the meeting
8 changes were something that was discussed probably
9 in the first week of January.

10 Me, personally, I haven't heard anything
11 else about that since I saw it - - until I saw it
12 on the calendar.

13 So, at this point, I am not saying that it
14 shouldn't be done to give people more opportunity
15 to speak before the meeting.

16 I think the way it is written, I think it
17 needs communication between the entire Board.

18 I find it, um, somewhat - - I am somewhat
19 skeptical for someone who has been criticized and
20 beat up on this Board more than anybody over the
21 last year and a half.

22 I have sat up here and take it in strides
23 and I find it somewhat troubling when things
24 aren't going so well at Town Board Meetings, all
25 of a sudden, we are going to change the process

1 of how we operate.

2 So, I think the communication needs to - -

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

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5 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: We need to have
6 conversations with each other and until, then, we
7 are going to vote it down or well, I am voting it
8 down.

9 And, we need to sit together and come up
10 with a new plan.

11 Just because we are voting it down, doesn't
12 mean it is completely off the table forever, you
13 know, it is sort of like what Harry Truman said,
14 "if you can't stand the heat, get out of the
15 kitchen," you know what I mean.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So, when they need more
17 time to tweak something or look at something, they
18 move to table and pass it and when I say I like to
19 table it to look at this because I think we
20 actually need more time and public-comment period,
21 they just vote no, we won't table it.

22 He said we should discuss it more but he
23 won't table it.

24 He just wants to kill it.

25 I don't understand that logic.

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: The logic is pretty
2 simple, we can meet and put the resolution back
3 together.

4 It is not really that difficult. It is Page | 133
5 pretty simple, that is the plan.

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Why would you vote
7 against tabling it, that is why I tried to table
8 it, so, we can talk about the time period.

9 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: That is fine. I
10 chose not to table it.

11 I think that we should redraw the entire
12 resolution with input from everybody on this
13 Board, so that is why I voted not to table it.

14 Right, now, we will vote it down and we
15 will create a new document.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: This idea and consent
17 was discussed at a meeting with Councilwoman King-
18 Sweeney, my Chief of Staff and Joe Ra sometime
19 ago.

20 RORI GORDON: Wouldn't it make it easier to
21 just table it.

22 I don't understand what is the difference.
23 You can all get together and talk about it.

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I respect your
25 opinion and my opinion is I will vote it down.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 RORI GORDON: Just a waste of taxpayers'
2 dollars and you guys spend more money and time and
3 just do it in one sweep.

4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am sorry we will ^{Page | 134}
5 spend more time on it anyway we get paid the same
6 amount if we sit here and discuss these items over
7 and over again, so, I don't see - -

8 RORI GORDON: You could discuss it.

9 There is so much to discuss. Why don't you
10 get together.

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: You agree it should
12 be tabled.

13 RORI GORDON: And you don't.

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Correct, but in the
15 end, we both want to discuss it further, so, in
16 the end, we are doing the same exact thing.

17 I chose to vote, "no." If you were up,
18 here, you would table it.

19 RORI GORDON: Yeah, I would, just get it
20 over with.

21 We are all going to come up and talk about
22 it and waste time.

23 I mean there are so many more things to
24 talk about.

25 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Ms. Gordon,

1 I think the thinking was that, um, I have been
2 updated with people upset about this proposal.

3 So, I think, give them a chance to voice
4 their concerns and as we draft the new policy
5 going forward, we can incorporate those concerns
6 into it.

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7 I do believe we need to change something up
8 because there is a lot of residents that have to
9 leave early, whether it is health issues, um,
10 child care, commitments, whatever the case maybe,
11 so, I think we need to figure something out, do
12 something on a pilot basis to see if it works.

13 The idea is just to get some input from
14 residents, that is all.

15 RORI GORDON: Okay.

16 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: At least that
17 is my opinion.

18 RORI GORDON: Okay, we can solve the
19 problem and have night meetings and nobody is
20 going to be inconvenienced.

21 The people will have all the time in the
22 World, you know, they can come early and talk late
23 and talk.

24 And, everybody takes off from work. I
25 know, I rearrange my schedule to be here.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: And, I proposed more
2 night meetings my first Board Meeting and I
3 proposed four more and they cut it down to two.

4 RORI GORDON: Let's follow North Hempstead, ^{Page | 136}
5 all night meetings where normal people work during
6 the day.

7 I have my own business, so, I can get here
8 but I have to rearrange my schedule to get here.

9 And, quite often I am late.

10 So, I have to take care of my own business
11 in the morning.

12 Okay, let me move on.

13 Um, first, Mr. Blakeman, I would like to
14 express my sympathies to you and I saw you at the
15 Town meeting and I had no idea you lost your Dad.

16 I read about it in the local paper and I am
17 truly sorry. There is nothing worse than losing a
18 parent.

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Thank you.

20 RORI GORDON: I read in a Newsday article,
21 um, as far as he other resolution with all the
22 lawyers and everyone is lawyering up and all of
23 this stuff, that you represent yourself in the
24 lawsuit filed by Supervisor Gillen against former
25 Supervisor Santino, the Town Board and the Civil

1 Service Commission and the Union, that is quite an
2 admirable position to take, specifically shows
3 that you are looking out for the business
4 interests of the constituents by saving them
5 money.

6 Have you spoken to your contemporaries to
7 follow your lead?

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Let me say this,
9 first of all, I think the issue is moot as far as
10 I am concerned because Supervisor Gillen has
11 amended the Complaint to remove all the Council
12 Members individually, so, for me, at least, I
13 think the issue is moot.

14 I think each Council Member has to make a
15 decision for themselves as to what they think is
16 best for themselves.

17 So, I don't criticize anything that my
18 colleagues on this Board decide to do, that they
19 think is in the best interests of themselves and
20 the District that they represent.

21 For me, um, I am a lawyer. I was willing
22 to donate my time pro bono to representing myself.

23 Now, that the Complaint has been amended,
24 it is no longer necessary.

25 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: If I could add

1 to that, I am an Aviation Lawyer.

2 I am not a Municipal Attorney, so, I don't
3 believe I am qualified to represent myself or
4 anyone else in this lawsuit.

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5 Um, the next thing, while I am happy that
6 my name has been removed from the caption, as of
7 9:30 this morning, Mr. Ra, you can correct me if I
8 am wrong, it hasn't been filed with the Tort, so,
9 until that happens and until my lawyer tells me,
10 "you're good," I still have to retain Counsel.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The amendment complaint
12 was filed yesterday.

13 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Um, so, Mr. Ra,
14 can you expand upon that because I was told
15 knowing I would be lying about it if it was filed
16 or not.

17 Was it filed or not?

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I am not accusing you
19 of lying.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I was informed
21 this morning from what we understood from the
22 Judge's Chambers, it had not yet been filed.

23 Nothing has changed and I still need a
24 lawyer to tell me that I am covered and everything
25 is fine because this happened close of business

1 Yesterday and no one has had a chance to review
2 this, yet.

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I was shown an email
4 from an Attorney that was the courthouse and asked
5 if the documents, the amendment had been filed, as
6 of 9:30 this morning it had not been filed.

7 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Okay.

8 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: But I believe the Board
9 has been served, is that right?

10 Has the Town Board been served?

11 (Whereupon, "it is my understanding the
12 papers were filed yesterday before the close of
13 business," was heard calling out from the
14 audience. After, the following ensued.)

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Since Federal Court
16 has electronic filing - -

17 (Whereupon, "it is Supreme Nassau," was
18 heard from the audience. After, the following
19 ensued.)

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: It is Supreme,
21 Nassau.

22 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: It should never
23 have happened in the first place, but, you had two
24 weeks to correct this and to have it happen after
25 close of business yesterday when no one can

1 confirm if this happened or to have lawyers to
2 protect our interests that this was good, that is
3 why we need to go forward hiring Counsel to make
4 sure all of this can be resolved. Page | 140

5 RORI GORDON: Okay, you kind of gave me a
6 picture into what is going on inside amongst the
7 Board and, um, would you agree there should be
8 negotiations before you guys all jump on the
9 bandwagon to hire Attorneys, maybe you guys should
10 all sit down and discuss it because, apparently,
11 um, this Board, which is made up fifty percent of
12 Lawyers are taking the same position to negotiate
13 with Laura Gillen before you spend taxpayers'
14 money.

15 You are not looking at that.

16 And, you ran out and hired your hired guns.

17 Let's do this and instead of trying to make
18 it work together and I don't quite understand, you
19 have to put your differences aside and try to make
20 it work.

21 Um, now, apparently since this Board was
22 blindsided, have you sat down, done any
23 negotiations, since that time, is that correct?

24 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: We are
25 personally names in a lawsuit.

1 We have to have Counsel present in order to
2 have any negotiations.

3 RORI GORDON: I just find it very
4 disheartening that you guys immediately ran out Page | 141
5 and hired Counsel.

6 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Well, we are
7 named in a lawsuit.

8 RORI GORDON: I did not immediately run out
9 and hire Counsel.

10 COUONCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Well, it was
11 about four weeks ago and no one has been hired,
12 yet.

13 The Board will approve it and we sat down
14 and got engagement letters.

15 No one has immediately been hired at all.

16 RORI GORDON: Listen guys, maybe you should
17 sit down and try to settle it with a mediator.

18 I know someone who can do it pro bono for
19 you.

20 I don't know, I would think, Mr. Blakeman,
21 just you sit down and make preliminary
22 negotiations - -

23 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am sorry, I am
24 confused, what is there to mediate?

25 RORI GORDON: What is there to mediate?

1 All your disagreements.

2 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: We have already
3 been served a lawsuit.

4 Mediation should have been done while ago. ^{Page | 142}

5 RORI GORDON: You can still mediate after
6 you have a lawsuit.

7 I am in the middle of mediation right, now,
8 this week, as we speak.

9 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Okay.

10 RORI GORDON: I am suing you - - not you,
11 the Town, not you, personally, the Town.

12 You can mediate. You can always mediate.

13 Um, okay, that's it.

14 I wish you guys luck.

15 Please, try to get it together.

16 (Whereupon, the five-minute bell rang.

17 After, the following ensued.)

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Mary Ellen
19 Kreye?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Madam Supervisor, I was
21 just showed a clocked in copy of the Summons and
22 Complaint showing that it was closed in, in
23 Supreme Court's mail room, 4.43, yesterday.

24 The Judge does not have it as of 9:30 this
25 morning.

1 The Judge does not have it.

2 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: But, um, I
3 think that none of us are happy that it happened
4 at the 11th hour, which is, essentially, close of ^{Page | 143}
5 business when everyone's attorneys are not
6 available.

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

9 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: It should not
10 have happened, anyway, four weeks ago and we asked
11 two weeks ago, our names be removed.

12 So, to file this close of business when
13 none of our Attorneys are our ourselves can review
14 it, that is the issue and until I have a lawyer
15 who can independently confirm to me that
16 everything is in order, we have to proceed.

17 I am not happy about this, but, we have to
18 proceed.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: There is nothing
20 nefarious about the filing.

21 The Complaint was filed as soon as it was
22 amended.

23 It was not just the Complaint that was
24 mended, some of the facts were streamlined, so, it
25 took some time to prepare that document.

1 No ill intent. It was filed as soon as it
2 was ready, which was 4:33, yesterday.

3 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Some facts have
4 been streamlined, is there more things we need to ^{Page | 144}
5 review so, we have to have Counsel to confirm our
6 interest are protected because we were brought
7 into this thing individually for something that I
8 voted against.

9 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Mary Ellen
10 Kreye?

11 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Mary Ellen Kreye. 463
12 Locust Avenue, Uniondale.

13 On Item Number 13, that is an indoor firing
14 range at a restaurant?

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yes, I had the same
16 questions, um, apparently, they have had this
17 amateur Rifle Club for many, many years probably
18 in excess of twenty years.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: In excess of thirty.

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: In excess of thirty
21 years.

22 I understand that Nassau County Police
23 Department also uses the firing range.

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: And, they inspect it.

25 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: They inspect it and

1 the Fire Marshal inspects it.

2 I had the same issue that you do.

3 I am convinced that the Police Department
4 and the Fire Marshal is on top of it and that, um, ^{Page | 145}
5 it is something that we have done for the last
6 thirty years.

7 It is just every five years, it comes up
8 for renewal, okay.

9 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: You talk too
10 long.

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

13 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I just want to, on Item
14 Number 16, again, commend the reading on 18, um,
15 "formal bid for evaluation and inventory of Town
16 Real Estate assets," is this a particular set of
17 assets or what would that mean?

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Town of
19 Hempstead, Number 18, "formal bid for evaluation
20 of Town Real Estate assets" - -

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Senior Councilwoman?

22 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Yes.

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: This is something that
24 is going to be done of inventory of vacant Town
25 properties, um, by an assessed valuation of

1 the property - - I am sorry, fair market value of
2 the properties.

3 MARY ELLEN KREYE: So, is this every piece
4 of property is owned by the Town that is vacant? ^{Page | 146}

5 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

6 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Thank you.

7 On Item Number 22, "certain equipment
8 obsolete and authorizing the disposal for the
9 Department of Senior Enrichment," is it a specific
10 Center or what type of equipment and where is it
11 being disposed?

12 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: It is being
13 disposed at the Town of Hempstead.

14 You can't use it, I can tell you that.

15 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: We have some very old
16 pieces of photo type of equipment and use to be
17 used and now is obsolete that our Department had,
18 as well as, some very old and in disrepair
19 cabinets and that is really pretty much all it is.

20 MARY ELLEN KREYE: The filing cabinets are
21 metal, recyclable metal?

22 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: They are metal. This
23 is the process in which we go through and
24 depending upon whether or not there is a buyer,
25 then, at that point, the Town of Hempstead would

1 retain - - we might be able to sell some of the
2 stuff for more than we would get, but our
3 Purchasing Department does take care of this in a
4 very efficient manner, so, we do not lose any
5 revenue.

6 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Thank you.

8 MARY ELLEN KREYE: On Item 28, I was
9 thinking about, I was preparing this morning and,
10 um, I had concerns for one thing, I wanted to be
11 sure this would be enough time for public comment
12 and, um, sixty minutes would include five minutes
13 per person, twelve people.

14 So, in any case, I felt that the current
15 situation, public comment at the end is better.

16 It also kind of indicates a lack of
17 importance of the agenda and the issues which come
18 before this Board.

19 It kind of says, well, you know your
20 comments are important, but, what we are doing,
21 here is not important and, um, the forty years I
22 have been coming, I have been coming since Richard
23 Kessel was one of the gadflies and asking
24 questions.

25 So, you can imagine that was many, many

1 years ago, so, we have all heard a lot in that
2 time and I feel it is a very important agenda.

3 And, the issues are of great concern to all
4 of us, certainly everybody talks about taxes, but ^{Page | 148}
5 there is more than that.

6 The people who have their items come before
7 the Board, um, they certainly have an expectation
8 that their time is valuable, as well.

9 I didn't realize you were putting a time
10 period on it and certainly if people speak
11 afterwards, if there are additional people that
12 would be helpful, but I don't know if this is time
13 to change as far as that is concerned.

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

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I am writing
17 that down.

18 MARY ELLEN KREYE: The parking in
19 Uniondale, Item Number 38, I am just wondering
20 where that is and the traffic, also on 40?

21 TRAFFIC CONTROL REP: Good Afternoon, I am
22 a representative of Traffic Control.

23 Unfortunately, I don't have this
24 information for this particular agenda.

25 I do have Ms. Kreye's phone number in

1 my office.

2 I will do some research and be happy to
3 give her a call where this location is.

4 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Thank you.

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5 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Thank you.

6 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Just curious. Thank
7 you. I appreciate it.

8 I have to say this, but I also must call
9 for more collegiality among the Members of the
10 Town Board.

11 Can't se all just try to get along?

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

14 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Five minute
15 break for the stenographer.

16 (Whereupon, recess was entertained for five
17 minutes. After, the following ensued.)

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: We are resuming the
19 Meeting.

20 We are going to resume the Meeting, now.

21 Next, Christian Brown?

22 ATTORNEY BROWN: Good Afternoon,
23 Supervisor, Board Members, Christian Brown from
24 the law firm of Sahn, Ward & Coschignano. 333
25 Earle Ovington Boulevard, Uniondale.

1 I am here to speak about the moratorium and
2 the Woodmere Club issue.

3 I will try to limit my comments to,
4 obviously, five minutes.

5 But, by way of background, there were a
6 number of questions brought up and perhaps I can
7 fill you in with some information, um, right, now.

8 I am asking you, today, with all due
9 respect not to extend the moratorium, again.

10 And, I will tell you why in a moment.

11 But, by way of background, as you know, the
12 Woodmere Club is, obviously, now, been the cause
13 of a lot of consternation in the community.

14 It is a large piece of property.

15 It is fifty-eight acres in Woodmere,
16 twenty-eight acres in Lawrence and thirty-eight in
17 Woodsburgh.

18 It is zoned in the "Residence B" District.

19 As you also know, there is only one use
20 allowed in the "Residence B" District and that is
21 single-family homes.

22 The minimum lot size of "Residence B"
23 District is six thousand square feet.

24 The "Residence B" District, I would say,
25 covers, at least, ninety percent of the Town's

1 Residentially zone properties.

2 And, all of the residential properties,
3 under the Town's jurisdiction that surrounds the
4 Club are zoned "Residence B." Page | 151

5 Now, the Club and, obviously, I represent
6 the owners of the Club.

7 The Club has never sought to change that
8 zoning and is not contemplating and has never
9 contemplating developing anything other than
10 single-family residences.

11 So, um, the whole issue of whether or not
12 the property should be rezoned, I think is - - I
13 think the rezoning process and the moratorium are
14 not really necessary to address the legitimate
15 concerns that the Town and the community has by
16 what the development would ultimately be.

17 The Town imposed a moratorium supposedly
18 with the goal of studying the potential
19 development of all private golf courses, but, I
20 think everyone would agree that the impetus for
21 the moratorium was the potential development of
22 the Woodmere Club.

23 The stated purposes of the moratorium was
24 set forth in the adopted language which I will
25 quote, "The Town Board notes that the key

1 "aspect of accomplishing the goal of protecting
2 the area character is to ensure that substantial
3 new residential development beyond the lot of a
4 minimum size and subject to dimensional area
5 requirements that are fairly consistent with the
6 existing residential lots in the surrounding
7 area."

8 But, it is also consistent with the
9 residential lots in the surrounding area because
10 it is zoned "Residential B."

11 The other parts are zoned, "Residence B."

12 So, that rationale to me, for the
13 moratorium makes a tremendous amount of sense.

14 That is not to say, that any of the
15 comments that the Board mentioned earlier that the
16 public has what ultimately will be there are
17 illegitimate.

18 I don't take that position at all.

19 Um, but there is a process and I think
20 Councilman Blakeman alluded to it for dealing with
21 the subdivision of property and that would be
22 based upon engineer's plans presented through the
23 Nassau County Planning Commission through the
24 Villages, through the various Boards with
25 jurisdiction where issues like environmental

1 impact would be fully vetted out, where issues
2 with like density would be fully vetted out, the
3 creation of roads, etc.

4 There would be an actual plan presented
5 that the developer would have to provide a full
6 environmental impact statement to be commented by
7 the involved agencies and so forth, but, the
8 actual data for municipalities and the public to
9 look at.

10 So, what I am trying to get to is with this
11 ongoing moratorium and sort of a process that is
12 going on for well over a year, it is really
13 impossible for my clients to move forward with the
14 project, even in the initial stage, just to
15 develop a map, a proposed map to be submitted to
16 the Nassau County Planning Commission which is
17 where we will start because they have the overall
18 subdivision jurisdiction would probably cost in
19 excess of three hundred thousand dollars because
20 they require a fully engineered set of plans even
21 to begin.

22 So, if we were to submit such a map and
23 then have the Town subsequently change the zoning
24 because we want to comply with the zoning, not
25 looking to out outside of what is allowed, the map

1 that we provide could be rendered thereafter non-
2 zoning complaint.

3 Now, you wasted three hundred and so
4 dollars on the project.

5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Brown, can I ask
6 a question?

7 ATTORNEY BROWN: Sure.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: On the Town portion
9 of the Woodmere Club, is it your client's
10 intention to develop it up to what is currently
11 zoned two hundred and forty-four building lots?

12 ATTORNEY BROWN: Well, I guess that comes
13 to my ultimate point, um, what my clients hoped to
14 do would be to engage in the process with the Town
15 to hopefully arrive at a number, a map that was
16 agreeable to the developer and the Town and of
17 course, input from the public.

18 I don't want to comment on what would be
19 proposed because it is hard for us to say right,
20 now.

21 What would be proposed, given all of the
22 various things that are influx - -

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

25 ATTORNEY BROWN: - - And, we haven't

1 | been able to do the adequate studies on our own
2 | because of the reasons I mentioned since we don't
3 | know what we will be allowed to do, in other words

4 | - -

5 | COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: If we reduced the
6 | density that currently exists, 244 building lots
7 | to 77, would your client comply with that?

8 | ATTORNEY BROWN: I don't - - the proposed
9 | legislation has been released to this point, no,
10 | we have serious disagreements with the
11 | restrictions, not just on lot size, but on some of
12 | the other requirements that are being proposed.

13 | I would like to emphasize along the lines
14 | of the comments that were made by Councilman
15 | D'Esposito and yourself that what we do not wish
16 | you to extend the moratorium.

17 | We do wish to engage with you in the coming
18 | weeks to try to reach a compromise, reach an
19 | agreement or make some progress at some input into
20 | what the Town ultimately does.

21 | We were made very concerned because of the
22 | unwilling nature that the process has undergone
23 | over the last, at least, two weeks and beforehand,
24 | you know, we have been waiting for a year or so
25 | for this report.

1 We were surprised to see that the
2 legislation came out apparently the report wasn't
3 done.

4 My understanding is that it is still, now, ^{Page | 156}
5 in a draft form and yet, we are looking at a
6 proposed zoning ordinance that is based on the
7 report, that is of grave concern.

8 And, I just want to say I think it is
9 important to note that my client wishes to make
10 clear, as you indicated Mr. Blakeman, that we will
11 take legal action, if necessary.

12 Not in the habit of threatening litigation
13 and it is not my intention but when you hear talk
14 about potentially not only rezoning it but at a
15 later time even trying to condemn it in some way
16 to take it as a Park, it raises grave concerns and
17 they are very serious claims that could be
18 brought here in the nature of 1983 types of
19 claims.

20 You only need to look at the City of Long
21 Beach, I think, to see that these kind of claims,
22 if prosecuted properly, can end up not only
23 expensive in terms of legal fees, but expose
24 municipalities to significant damages and we don't
25 want that.

1 I am not saying - -

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: And, Mr. Brown, let
3 me say this - -

4 ATTORNEY BROWN: Yes.

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5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I can only speak for
6 myself, I do not take that as a threat.

7 Obviously, your client has legal rights and
8 in consultation with his Counsel and your firm - -

9 ATTORNEY BROWN: Yes.

10 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: - - You will make a
11 determination as to what you want to do with
12 respect to anything that we may do in the future.

13 Um, my suggestion to you and your client
14 would be, um, to engage the community and talk to
15 the community and see if there is some
16 accommodation that could be met with the
17 community.

18 Right, now, the community is pretty, um,
19 clear that under the current zoning, it is not
20 consistent with the character and nature of the
21 community and it would cost significant
22 environmental, traffic and flooding issues, as
23 well, on the quality of life issues.

24 So, my suggestion would be to engage with
25 the community and certainly I can't speak for

1 Councilman D'Esposito, but our office is open.

2 If there is some communication that you
3 would like sent to us that outlines your position,
4 we would be more than happy to hear from you.

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5 ATTORNEY BROWN: We would very much like to
6 do that.

7 We would hope that we would be able to
8 engage.

9 It is a complicated matter and so it is
10 difficult to not discuss it at a table with the
11 professionals, with the engineers looking at a
12 possible plan and impacts.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It is something that we
14 can look at, we can explore forward.

15 So, you can reach out to Council or my
16 office.

17 ATTORNEY BROWN: We will do that.

18 We, again, just - - we are looking to move
19 the project forward.

20 We want to engage the community.

21 We need to know what it is the Town, what
22 parameters the Town is going to set, that is why
23 we are asking, please, do not extend the
24 moratorium.

25 I think to do so would be illegal on the

1 face because you have done it so many times, now
2 and engaged in a dialogue with us over the next
3 couple of weeks to see if we can come to a fair
4 resolution and present it to the community.

5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Brown, you are
7 familiar with Mr. Ra and Mr. Regina?

8 ATTORNEY BROWN: I am.

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Would you communicate
10 with them and any suggestions you want to have
11 with them on any of those issues, I am sure that
12 they are happy to make themselves available to
13 you.

14 ATTORNEY BROWN: I will speak with both of
15 them and hope to sit down with them and discuss
16 some of the details.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Thank you.

18 ATTORNEY BROWN: Thank you very much.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Efrem GenszbergZ?

20 EFREM GENSZBERG: Efrem Genszberg, 450
21 Harrison Avenue, Island Park, New Jersey.

22 Chris Brown represents me.

23 I am one of the owners, two owners.

24 You heard from the other owner, um, two
25 weeks ago when he asked you to engage in open

1 and constructive dialogue.

2 I want to set the record straight, we have
3 sat here for one year asking to meet with
4 professionals.

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5 We have sat here and had our professionals
6 look at you guys and ask you to meet with people
7 to have discussions.

8 We are the largest landowner in this
9 Country.

10 No one will meet with us.

11 You guys talk about noticing people.

12 Did we get a Notice?

13 Did we get a phone call?

14 I don't know how you do this.

15 We are constructive developers that want to
16 work with the surrounding area.

17 Has one local person, has "Stop Woodmere
18 Club," have they reached out to us?

19 Not one person.

20 And, now, you want to extend the
21 moratorium.

22 We did have someone there, yesterday, Mr.
23 Blakeman and I appreciate it and I would have to
24 tell you, I thought you and Mr. D'Esposito did an
25 unbelievable job controlling that unruly

1 crowd.

2 But, having said that, to, now, say, "let's
3 talk, now, we are putting in a moratorium," which
4 is patently illegal. Page | 161

5 And, for the record and my lawyer is a very
6 nice guy and he doesn't want to threaten lawsuits,
7 it is not a threat.

8 It is a fact.

9 I intend to file a lawsuit against you and
10 against this moratorium.

11 It is a fact.

12 And, I would like to just say that when you
13 pass this zone, you know, I want to tell you one
14 this, we talk about an open process but an open
15 process is not Mr. Cannon getting up yesterday and
16 stating an illegal position that, "we left this
17 report as a draft report so we can hear the public
18 comments."

19 And, then rewrite the report which is what
20 he said last night on videotape with CBS, there.

21 I mean there is legality that you guys are
22 just ignoring.

23 I am now and I apologize talking out from
24 the audience, to say, now, Mr. Blakeman,
25 respectfully, now, we should meet.

1 Now, we should talk.

2 We are happy to talk.

3 We would love to talk with you.

4 The neighbors yesterday came in with a

5 Park.

6 Okay, a Park?

7 You guys want to spend the money, you know
8 the hundreds of millions of dollars, it is fine.

9 With regard to, if you do pass this
10 ordinance as constructed, now, we will, forewarn
11 you, we are not here to threaten.

12 We are here to educate, if the current
13 proposed ordinance is voted on and passed in the
14 future, we will be suing the Town of Hempstead to
15 disqualify the new ordinance in Federal Court
16 under Section 1983 of the U.S. Constitution, as
17 well as sue over one hundred million dollars in
18 damages.

19 If you think, to be clear, this is not a
20 publicity stunt or shock value.

21 The damages are real. If you have been
22 following the case in Long Beach, which I hope you
23 are, where they maybe exposed over fifty million
24 dollars to do something very similar in a similar
25 manner, this will create a huge liability

1 for Hempstead.

2 Think about the financial impact on the
3 Town if you are found to be actually illegal.

4 Can the Town of Hempstead afford one
5 hundred million dollars in damages?

6 Can you afford to explain to your
7 constituents why you are in litigation causing the
8 Town one million, two million dollars in legal
9 fees to create a gated community of mansions
10 instead of affordable six thousand square foot
11 zones?

12 This zone is consistent with almost every
13 one of your zones in every one of your Districts.

14 Maybe Mr. Blakeman has some - - some very
15 small portion that are acres.

16 Our professionals calculated at least of
17 over 2.5 million dollars of property tax revenue
18 that the proposal will cost the Town of Hempstead
19 to lose and more than five million dollars of
20 property tax revenue lost to the school system of
21 Hempstead.

22 Please, note, that our professionals have
23 studies the area and over ninety percent of the
24 children attend private schools.

25 It is a boom, a financial boom to

1 all the people of Hempstead.

2 Please note, the financial benefit of
3 having smaller, affordable homes without school-
4 age kids costing the public schools any monies is ^{Page | 164}
5 unparalleled.

6 The tax revenue benefits to Baldwin,
7 Roosevelt, Uniondale and the greater Hempstead
8 communities are tangible.

9 My partner came here last Meeting to create
10 dialogue because he truly desires to compromise on
11 the current in order to build a project that is
12 workable between different constituents but this
13 compromise will only be out of Court.

14 Once we file in ten days, we will be
15 seeking damages, as well as, for legal and
16 procedural reasons, if you choose to afford the
17 cost of this litigation maybe unparalleled.

18 And, Ms. Sweeney, you maybe established in
19 another litigation.

20 You can answer to your constituents why you
21 decided on litigation versus dialogue.

22 I urge you to choose dialogue and do not
23 pass this moratorium.

24 (Whereupon, the five-minute bell rang.
25 After, the following ensued.)

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: We have a difference
2 of opinion, since you have indicated that you are
3 going to engage in litigation, um, I think that
4 your Counsel should communicate with our Counsel. Page | 165

5 Obviously, communication with Members of
6 the Town Board will be difficult, um, in addition,
7 I would continue to recommend that you meet with
8 the community, talk to the community.

9 Um, I think you should unveil what your
10 plans are to the community and give them an
11 opportunity to be heard.

12 I think more information is better.

13 EFREM GENSZBERG: I agree with that and I
14 am happy to do that.

15 Just one comment, first of all, to clear up
16 the numbers, the way the Cannon report was done,
17 was just not engineeringly sound.

18 We actually see three hundred and fifty
19 total houses, so, we are clear, two hundred eighty
20 is not the right number, three hundred fifty.

21 Um, we are happy to, I think take your
22 advice.

23 No one on this Board has organized a Public
24 Meeting between us and the constituents.

25 Last night they seemed quite unreasonable.

1 They only want a Park, even though you
2 suggested something we won't tolerate anyway.

3 We would be in Court anyway.

4 It was, um, it was very generous for you, ^{Page | 166}
5 for the neighbors.

6 They didn't seem to take it that way.

7 I think you can feel the position they
8 didn't take from you.

9 I am thinking I am not going to be the guy
10 to convince them of anything.

11 If you want to do it, the Council people,
12 especially, Councilmen D'Esposito and Blakeman, if
13 you want to get something up or we can do that,
14 that is fine.

15 I want to be very clear, we have not had
16 one conversation with your professionals.

17 We have not had one conversation with any
18 of you and I think it starts first with the Town.

19 It is like the tail wagging the dog.

20 Don't you control the zoning?

21 Okay, thank you.

22 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Thank you.

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Rena Saffra?

24 RENA SAFFRA: Thank you. I have a pile of
25 more petition letters for the Council Members and

1 for the Supervisor.

2 Um, as you know, this has been a real hot
3 button issue in the Five Towns.

4 And, I don't need to go over and over it Page | 167
5 but I think that the people that have to drive our
6 streets and have to live on our roadways and have
7 to live with our flooding, really do need to have
8 a say in what goes there.

9 And, I don't know of any new homes in our
10 area that anyone would consider affordable.

11 Any new home is being built in our area is
12 being sold for a million or more.

13 I don't consider that affordable and I
14 totally support the Board extending the moratorium
15 and making sound decisions, um, that are going to
16 last and have lasting affect for many, many
17 generations going forward.

18 Thank you.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Peter Stein?

20 PETER STEIN: Peter Stein.

21 It is good to see you after all this time
22 who our neighbors are going to be and how
23 magnanimous he is in trying to create affordable
24 housing.

25 Um, I come from the City of New York.

1 I know what affordable housing is, it is
2 not any where around the golf course.

3 In terms of threats, if it walks, quacks
4 and has wet feet, it is a duck. Page | 168

5 It that wasn't a threat, I don't know what
6 a threat is.

7 Um, there is also the possibility of
8 litigation.

9 We all know that.

10 What is it we want?

11 We want to continue to live in a place
12 where we can pull out of our driveways without
13 having to wait twenty minutes to try to break into
14 the traffic flow.

15 We want to be able to not worry about what
16 the next Superstorm hits that our houses are going
17 to be flooded, that is what we want.

18 Um, had an opportunity to talk with us.

19 I have contributed money, so have my
20 neighbors.

21 There is an organization that has a website
22 that has phone numbers.

23 It has names.

24 It has addresses and I guess one could ask
25 what outreach has been provide by the developer?

1 Um, we waited patiently for your study, as
2 you did.

3 The results are in.

4 It is not unreasonable to give people an Page | 169
5 opportunity to review it.

6 Even the developer should have an
7 opportunity to review it, if it only arrived, here
8 last Thursday before he gets up here and tells
9 everybody how terrible and what he is going to do
10 to you all, so, I would suggest that the
11 moratorium gets passed for a little bit more time.

12 I would suggest and I am not an attorney
13 but, again, neither is the developer.

14 There is something called eminent domain.

15 I did some reading. I found places where
16 eminent domain has been applied.

17 Municipalities have taken private property
18 and then turned it over to developers for private
19 development.

20 Maybe that is the way to go, here in the
21 veils of threats, we want to compromise.

22 We want to have a quality of live. Many of
23 us worked hard.

24 None of us are developers.

25 We don't develop hundred acres at a time.

1 Many of us worked very hard to buy our
2 houses and our way of life to afford to live in
3 the Town of Hempstead.

4 And, we would hope that this Board has the ^{Page | 170}
5 wherewithal to make sure that we continue to have
6 some sort of quality of life, that is all we are
7 asking for.

8 I thank you for your time.

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Stein, just to
10 reiterate, um, I think that this Board has been
11 very respectful of the property rights of
12 everybody, including the owners of the Woodmere
13 Golf Club and that we have done everything in a
14 very reasonable way and in a way that would, you
15 know, be sustained by the judicial scrutiny.

16 So, I can't tell you how many times we are
17 threatened with lawsuits, um, as a Town by people
18 who are unhappy with decisions that we make.

19 And, um, unfortunately, that maybe the
20 result of what we do in the future, but, again,
21 Councilman D'Esposito and I and this Board have
22 said, we have kept an open mind to everything.

23 We still have an open mind.

24 And, we haven't come to any conclusion or
25 decisions, yet.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 PETER STEIN: I would like to - - I am
2 talking directly to the developer, instead of
3 making a trillion, billion dollars on this sale,
4 maybe you will only make half a trillion, billion ^{Page | 171}
5 dollars.

6 When is enough, enough.

7 Thank you.

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

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Felix Procacci?

11 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci. 1165
12 Barnes Street, Franklin Square, New York.

13 Just real quick, I wasn't going to talk on
14 the moratorium but this Board, since I have been
15 here, and I have read a lot of cases.

16 I become more - - I never wanted to be in
17 the law field.

18 I read so much.

19 This Board regularly disregards the law all
20 the time.

21 I don't want to discuss it, here, but, they
22 regularly disregard the law, I believe, in order
23 to save litigation.

24 I asked earlier, did you talk to the guy?

25 Apparently, from them, you never had a

1 Meeting.

2 A hysterical meeting is - -

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: For the record, for
4 the record - -

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5 FELIX PROCACCI: Let me finish.

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: No, no.

7 FELIX PROCACCI: No back and forth here.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: No, no, no. Hold his
9 time. Hold his time.

10 For the record, Felix, I met on, at least,
11 two occasions with the developer and we have been
12 open o the developer to talk to them whenever they
13 want to talk to us.

14 However, now, we are threatened with
15 litigation.

16 The talk will have to be between the
17 lawyers.

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: And, for - - just
19 for clarification, I don't even know who the
20 developer is and that is first time I laid eyes on
21 him.

22 FELIX PROCACCI: He was here two weeks ago.

23 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: No, that was
24 somebody different.

25 FELIX PROCACCI: It was his partner,

1 still a developer, but, anyway.

2 Um, follow the law.

3 On Item 28, since we are going to table it,

4 I will go through it really quick.

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5 We are going to vote it down. Let's put it
6 that way.

7 My mistake, okay, the resolution is vague.

8 It is too much.

9 The population of North Hempstead, which
10 gets thirty minutes is one third the size of
11 Hempstead, so, if you do it proportionally, it
12 should be ninety minutes.

13 Um, Number 6, the idea that this is not a Q
14 & A session, you know, this is prejudicial
15 dialogue, here.

16 Certain people, just today, I don't have to
17 go to ancient history, just a few hours ago, we
18 were supposed to talk on the adjournment, instead
19 of talking on the adjournment, they talked about
20 everything else and there was no control over the
21 dialogue.

22 So, when people are looking at the video of
23 this and look at this resolution, we went off in
24 this direction.

25 You can't even get an idea where we

1 stand.

2 You have to watch the whole meeting instead
3 of watching a particular resolution, section.

4 It is prejudicial.

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5 Certain people get grouped together as far
6 as their community and it has been always that
7 way.

8 And, this law, the way it is proposed is
9 for people, the Board doesn't want to hear from,
10 so, they will impose the three minutes.

11 They will propose no Q and A.

12 They will propose all the draconian things
13 that are in this law.

14 What is proper decorum?

15 What is defined?

16 What is, you know, derogatory, a slur?

17 If I tell the truth, you get offended by
18 the truth because I read the budget - -

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Felix - -

20 FELIX PROCACCI: Reading out of their
21 documents and I have been accused of attacking
22 people by reading documents that were prepared by
23 a municipality.

24 They don't want to hear it and, then, that
25 is all attacking them.

1 So, it needs to be reworked.

2 I understand it will be voted down, but,
3 you know, we have to do it in this manner.

4 I am not sure - -

5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Felix, I agree with
6 you.

7 That is why I tried to table it.

8 The Resolution that is published, here, was
9 given to me by the Town Attorney, that was not my
10 Resolution.

11 And, I actually had comments and changes to
12 the resolution and it was not incorporated.

13 FELIX PROCACCI: Just one more thing on
14 that point, I think since the community is going
15 to be affected most by this, public comment that
16 we have, you have community meetings in the
17 neighborhoods at predetermined times, posted on a
18 number of FACEBOOK pages, the website, so, you can
19 meet with the people who will possibly be coming
20 to these meetings.

21 And, what do they want to hear?

22 How can we make the dialogue better?

23 How can we make sure that the Town Board is
24 listening to us and not just say yeah, yeah, yeah
25 and so go ahead do something else on the issue

1 of all of these lawyers.

2 This is a judgment which would never
3 adequately advertised by NEWSDAY.

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4 We should have, say, Kate Murray,
5 Supervisor of the Town of Hempstead voluntarily
6 accepted judgment in her name for violating the
7 constitutional rights of three Town of Hempstead
8 residents that was never reported if you read the
9 NEWSDAY article, January 13, 2013.

10 It is so vague you have to be an attorney
11 to understand it.

12 And, there were eight defendants, six of
13 them were employees of the Town of Hempstead
14 Animal Shelter, which was six out of thirty.

15 What is that? One fifth, twenty percent of
16 the employees of the Town of Hempstead Animal
17 Shelter voluntarily took the judgment in their
18 name with no stipulation for violating the
19 constitutional rights of three residents.

20 That has never been adequately, you know,
21 stated, here.

22 There was no reprimanding of those people
23 by this Board.

24 It just went away.

25 It was Mike Deery who said, "no

1 "wrongdoing by either side," which made no sense.

2 How can you have a judgment with no
3 wrongdoing?

4 You know, that is what you have gotten away ^{Page | 177}
5 with.

6 Why you need individual attorneys, I don't
7 know.

8 They had one attorney.

9 Eight defendants, one attorney.

10 If you have a problem, I am not sure what
11 it is.

12 You guys voted - - some of you voted for
13 that.

14 (Whereupon, the five-minute bell rang.
15 After, the following ensued.)

16 FELIX PROCACCI: Two more seconds, some of
17 you guys voted for that illegal agreement with the
18 Union on a no layoff clause but, what are you
19 going to say?

20 You didn't want to discuss it at the
21 Hearing.

22 It spoke for itself. I want to hear Joe Ra
23 tell the Judge, "Judge, you don't have to testify
24 here, it speaks for itself."

25 I want him to say that because that is what

1 he told the constituents who came here and waited
2 for many hours, that is what he told us.

3 So, I want you to tell the Judge that.

4 What are you going to do? There is no
5 punishment, even if you are found guilty.

6 I am not sure what you needed a lawyer for.

7 What are you trying to prevent? Thank you.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you, Felix.

9 Valerie Lampe.

10 VALERIE LAMPE: Valerie Lampe, Baldwin.

11 I just want to start really quickly by
12 saying I apologize to Council Members because I
13 don't have enough copies for everyone because my
14 stupid printer ran out of paper this morning.

15 Can I hand these in? These are all the
16 same. I labeled them and specifically to anyone
17 statements are coming from someone in your
18 District.

19 In addition to this, I am speaking,
20 specifically, on Item Number 28, Resolution 28
21 and, um, this is from an Island Park resident.

22 "Dear Town Board: I am an Island Park - -
23 I am a resident of Island Park and registered
24 Republican because of that passion and efforts she
25 convinced me to cross Party lines and to vote

1 "for, now, Supervisor Gillen.

2 "My impression was that Laura was a great
3 person and when a root is good, good grows
4 throughout the tree from its foundation." Page | 179

5 "I want to remind the Supervisor, she asked
6 her supporters for many things; to put lawn signs
7 up with name, to show up for her fundraisers, to
8 talk to people about her values, to get involved
9 in her campaign and she encouraged people to ask
10 her questions.

11 "I was at the Meet the Candidates night in
12 Island Park, where I bumped into Mrs. Lampe, who I
13 have known for about ten years. We spoke at
14 length before and after the meeting.

15 "This was at the Island Park Railroad,
16 where, if you recall, you stayed after to answer
17 any and all questions, the few of us.

18 "You encouraged questions, in fact, you
19 were quite thirsty for them.

20 "Remember, you also asked us for one more
21 thing, our vote.

22 "How dare you, now, in turn, ask us to not
23 ask questions.

24 "This is appalling and I do not believe
25 this is even in need of a vote.

1 "Councilman D'Esposito, I ask that you shut
2 this first amendment offense down.

3 "I ask the entire Board to do the same.

4 "Laura Gillen, I ask you to attempt to go ^{Page | 180}
5 back to your pre-election self and find the roof
6 of the person of the values you convinced us to
7 vote for you.

8 "Respectfully, Debbie, S., Island Park."

9 Still on Item 28, um, Supervisor Gillen, if
10 you recall, October 18, 2017, the Budget Hearing,
11 you spoke on the Budget Hearing, during public
12 comment, um, you used all of your five minutes
13 and, in addition to that, you asked five
14 questions.

15 Now, I understand there is some discrepancy
16 in where this came from.

17 Some of it was from you, some of it was
18 from Mr. Ra.

19 But, I do know it didn't come from anyone
20 else on this Board.

21 So, this is why I am speaking for the most
22 part to you.

23 Um, during those questions, while you were
24 seeking election, another question, which was
25 raised was brought up by a prior speaker,

1 Lucille Defina, specifically, what happened was
2 she noticed an additional job posted, budgeted for
3 the Animal Shelter for eighty-three thousand
4 dollars.

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5 And, there was a different copy of the
6 budget that was provided to Councilwoman Sweeney,
7 so, she had a copy that was missing about sixty
8 pages.

9 You remember that?

10 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Yes.

11 VALERIE LAMPE: Okay, there was a
12 discrepancy and you had piggybacked - - you were
13 the last speaker of the night and you piggybacked
14 to highlight the fact that there was a different
15 copy circulated and you didn't want everyone to
16 vote on the budget that night.

17 My point is this, my point is that had this
18 Resolution already been in place, you would have
19 never even had the chance to speak.

20 You certainly would never have had the
21 chance to ask your questions.

22 To take away our rights, I believe to ask
23 the people whose salaries we pay for through
24 taxes, public commentary opportunity and questions
25 is to me outrageous.

1 Um, I think, in addition to squashing this
2 for, now, there is a lot of important things that
3 need to be considered and I think that you guys
4 should make an effort to work with the
5 constituents to hammer this out.

6 We are here sacrificing our time, our time
7 away from our jobs and livelihoods or if someone
8 is retired, time away from their family, their
9 volunteer efforts, whatever they do.

10 None of us want to be here.

11 We are here because something is important
12 to us.

13 Local government and involvement should be
14 encouraged and what a contrast.

15 I mean I remember during your campaign
16 season, okay and after, while I was handling your
17 social media, we use to talk about engaging the
18 public and encouraging people to come to these
19 meetings and speak their voice.

20 When I was handling still in January your
21 Instagram and Tweeter, whatever I had, I was
22 posting notices for the public meetings and
23 inviting people to come down.

24 I look, now, at the community that I
25 thought you were building and I roll my eyes

1 and shake my head.

2 It is not good.

3 It is actually the opposite. This feels
4 like we are treated like mushrooms.

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5 I literally call myself, porcini and other
6 constituents portobello and shitake because we are
7 kept in the dark and we are fed, for lack of a
8 better word, feces - -

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

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Locaruba, could,
12 you, please come forward.

13 VALERIE LAMPE: Is this for me? Am I
14 staying?

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: You can stay if you
16 want to.

17 VALERIE LAMPE: I forgot to hand in this
18 statement from another person.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Locaruba, can you
20 talk about how this resolution came to be on the
21 calendar.

22 MR. LOCARUBA: Sure, this resolution was
23 introduced to the Supervisor's Office probably
24 back in January by the Town Attorney.

25 It has been sitting, going nowhere until

1 it was requested that it be reintroduced by the
2 Town Attorney.

3 At that point, we made amendments. I think
4 it has been mentioned that Mitch Pitnick (phonetic
5 spelling) has issued amendments to it, that are
6 not included in this resolution that is before the
7 Board, today.

8 And, I think that is part of the reason you
9 asked to have it tabled because - - so, these
10 items could be considered before this is voted on.

11 But, the resolution ever came from the
12 Supervisor's Office.

13 It was drafted in the Town Attorney's
14 Office.

15 It was not drafted by you or Mr. Pitnick or
16 anybody else.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

18 VALERIE LAMPE: Thank you.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: And, I think it is a
20 good idea for the public comment to be moved to
21 the beginning of the meeting because I think that
22 actually serves transparency and it serves the
23 interests of the public, so, this way they could
24 be heard at the beginning of the meeting and they
25 can leave and go about the day and they

1 don't have to sit around here and it is after 3:00
2 o'clock and it is not even close to public
3 comment, right, now.

4 If public comment was moved to the
5 beginning, it would have already been heard.

6 You would have been out of here by 10:30 -
7 - 11:30.

8 VALERIE LAMPE: I love that idea, as well
9 and I just need to say one thing, though, other
10 people from your Administration, I won't name
11 names for now, they also made very similar
12 comments to me and other people kind of lecturing
13 me on what this opportunity is all about and we
14 should bring documentation, this isn't really a Q
15 and A session, which, by the way, is very Santino-
16 esque, if you recall.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: That is why I mentioned
18 that in my modification to this resolution.

19 This does not reflect my modification.

20 This is not a question and answer, yes, it
21 is.

22 VALERIE LAMPE: Unless - -

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It is explicitly
24 stricken - -

25 VALERIE LAMPE: Good.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: In the draft that is
2 why I tried to table it.

3 Sixty minutes, at least, so that people
4 would have a larger opportunity to comment and Page | 186
5 wouldn't be cutting people off.

6 VALERIE LAMPE: That is a relief and I do
7 appreciate that and, again, I just want to
8 emphasize that other people from your office have
9 said very similar things, if not identical to
10 things that were or were not being proposed as of
11 a few minutes ago.

12 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: If I can, I would
13 like to point out real quick, I really don't want
14 to drag it out any longer than it already has
15 been, I think we all get the point, but, I do
16 want to point out if this resolution was drafted
17 by the Town Attorney back in January, it is, now,
18 May.

19 We heard nothing about it.

20 We talked nothing about it, um, the last
21 time I checked, the way the calendar is put
22 together is by the Supervisor's Office.

23 So, I am going to ask my Board Members a
24 questions, Councilman Ambrosino, Senior
25 Councilwoman Goosby, Councilman Blakeman,

1 Erin King-Sweeny, Councilman Dunne has anyone sent
2 a letter to force this issue onto the calendar,
3 today?

4 So, the item was put on the calendar by ^{Page | 187}the
5 Supervisor without any discussion with anybody on
6 the Board.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It was forwarded by the
8 Town Attorney.

9 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: The Town Attorney
10 doesn't make the calendar, the Supervisor does.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Who sets Resolutions,
12 Mr. Lacaruba, where do these resolutions come
13 from?

14 From the Commissioners?

15 Where do they come from, generally?

16 MR. LACARUBA: We hold weekly meetings in
17 the Supervisor's Office to discuss the calendar.

18 Commissioners submit their resolutions to
19 your office and we present those at those
20 meetings.

21 Generally speaking, the resolutions put
22 forth by the Town Attorney in that meeting come
23 from the Board.

24 They don't come from the Commissioners.

25 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: And, I agree

1 one thousand percent with Mr. Lacaruba, but, I
2 think the point is that and I have a pretty good
3 understanding what the day-to-day operations of
4 the Town of Hempstead are and the calendar is
5 approved by the Supervisor and the only way that
6 there is something added to it is if two Council
7 Members, which I believe two Fridays before have
8 to submit a letter signed by two Board Members in
9 order to force something onto the Calendar.

10 This is not forced on the calendar, so,
11 therefore, whether Mr. Lacaruba, David, Mr. Smith
12 David, make up a name and they gave it, this was
13 put on the calendar by the Supervisor, not the
14 Town Board.

15 And, we didn't discuss anything about it
16 since the first week of January.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: And, when I realized my
18 amendments to this resolution were not in there, I
19 moved to table it so we could amend the resolution
20 and they refused to table it.

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Okay.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Rich Schurin, you are
23 next.

24 (Whereupon, "I pass," was heard. After,
25 the following ensued.)

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Alicia Meating?

2 (Whereupon, "She has left," was heard
3 called out from the audience. After, the
4 following ensued.)

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5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: This is why we need to
6 get the public comment in the beginning.

7 Carl Teradda? (phonetic spelling)

8 CARL TERADDA: Oh, alrighty. My name is
9 Carl Teradda, Franklin Square.

10 I want to make a brief comment regarding
11 Item 44, um, including the vacancy for elected
12 offices by special election, um, I just want to
13 say that, um - -

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: This item was tabled.

15 CARL TERADDA: Yes, but I can make a brief
16 comment on it?

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Yes, certainly.

18 CARL TERADDA: The brief comment I want to
19 make on it is just because something is allowed to
20 happen, doesn't make it right.

21 When you create an artificial incumbency
22 for the next general election that takes away from
23 us as voters who we want to choose.

24 A lot of times people are put into place
25 because they need to have someone to fill a spot

1 that needs to get a record, so, they can run on it
2 in the general election.

3 I disagree with that, if a position becomes
4 vacant, let's have the special election. Page | 190

5 Let the voters be heard, not a body
6 choosing to pick someone to keep certain things in
7 place.

8 I disagree with that wholeheartedly and
9 that is, basically, what I wanted to say.

10 I encourage that you look into this and
11 have a special election whenever you have a
12 vacancy.

13 Thank you.

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

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Pearl Jacobs?

17 PEARL JACOBS: Good Afternoon, Pearl
18 Jacobs, Uniondale, President of the Nostrand
19 Gardens Civic Association.

20 First, I would like to speak to my fellow
21 Town of Hempstead neighbors in Woodmere, hoping
22 that they will be successful in advocating against
23 the developer.

24 We recently had an issue in Uniondale with
25 the A. Holly Patterson site.

1 I know, I spoke up as President of the
2 Nostrand Gardens Civic Association, as well as,
3 UNITE and other civics in the Uniondale area, um,
4 advocating against this development. Page | 191

5 And, unfortunately, it was passed by the
6 Town Zoning Board.

7 In spite of not having a report done on the
8 water quality as this was the former ARMS site,
9 where there were chemicals, fertilizers and all
10 such chemicals that were in the groundwater, so, I
11 would like to say that in spite of that, the
12 developer was still successful, um, but that
13 doesn't surprise me because it was Uniondale and,
14 um, Uniondale does not matter in a lot of cases.

15 But, um, I just had to say that.

16 Regarding Item 28, um, I am against the
17 resolution to reduce or revise our public speaking
18 time in any manner that is not favorable to our
19 Town residents.

20 Residents take time out of their day for no
21 other reason but to advocate and speak to the
22 issues that affect their communities.

23 As a resident of Uniondale, a community
24 that has historically been marginalized, excluded
25 and disenfranchised, I could sit here and speak

1 before the Council for three days and still would
2 not be enough time to convey the myriad of issues
3 that plague the Uniondale community, as a result
4 of the Town of Hempstead and civic leader who
5 continually brings forth the issues that are most
6 concerning to the residents of Uniondale.

7 I would respectfully request incorporating
8 favorable options for residents, i.e., more
9 evening meetings or to put public speaking in the
10 front of the meeting so residents won't have to
11 leave to speak.

12 And, um, Council - - I am sorry, Councilman
13 D'Esposito, you did say it doesn't matter,
14 everyone here is getting paid but the residents
15 are not, okay.

16 It is, now, after 3:00'clock and I do think
17 we are still here and we don't get paid and that
18 should give more credence to our advocacy for
19 increased public speaking.

20 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: The comment is not
21 I am getting paid at the meeting, the comment was
22 regardless how we look at this, if it is tabled or
23 voted down, it is the same case for us by being
24 tabled or voted down.

25 PEARL JACOBS: You did use the word, "pay."

1 I want to bring that up, you did say,
2 "pay."

3 We don't get paid.

4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Nobody said paid. Page | 193

5 PEARL JACOBS: You said, "paid."

6 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: You are taking it
7 completely out of context and making it something
8 else.

9 PEARL JACOBS: I apologize for that.

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I accept your
11 apology. Thank you.

12 PEARL JACOBS: I apologize for that but I
13 do say the residents do not get paid.

14 It is exactly 3:00 o'clock, okay and that
15 should give more credence to our application for,
16 um, enhanced public speaking.

17 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Apology accepted.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Meta Mereday?

19 META MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday, Baldwin
20 resident.

21 I ant to address Item 28, here is my
22 comment about that, as I am sure, now, Councilman,
23 then Legislator Dunne can attest, I think I
24 probably be responsible for some of the extensive
25 meetings in Nassau County including the one they

1 had yesterday, but, I ultimately left 5:30 and
2 they were still meeting.

3 As it pertains to having an opportunity for
4 residents to speak prior to a meeting, I really Page | 194
5 don't have a problem with that.

6 The problem that I have is that it takes
7 away from the shenanigans back and forth.

8 The clear disfunction on this Board, it
9 take away from the additional information that
10 many of the residents are not aware of,
11 particularly when we are dealing with the
12 situation an scenarios that are going on in our
13 own communities.

14 We are impacted by things that are going on
15 in our neighbors' communities.

16 So, if we don't know what is going on in
17 the Five Towns, but we know it is going to impact
18 us, we won't hear about it until there is the
19 presentation, so, if you are going to have the
20 opening session for those who generally do have
21 specific issues, that they want to share with
22 their elected officials before the meeting, I get
23 it.

24 I appreciate that you wanted to make
25 changes, the thirty minutes or sixty minutes,

1 Three minutes for each, I get it.

2 That, at least, gives that group, that body
3 that opportunity but let's maintain the integrity
4 of the process during the meetings so that
5 residents who do have the additional time or like
6 those of us who have been here, who continue to
7 make the sacrifice to be here, let's do that, but,
8 by the same token, let's include in this language
9 the information that if you want your public,
10 those of us who put you all in these positions,
11 for the most part, if you want us to conduct
12 ourselves in a certain way and to have certain
13 timeframe, read the open laws as it pertains to
14 how all of you should conduct yourselves, how you
15 should handle yourselves, how you should handle
16 discussions back and forth with each other, that
17 is my point with regard to that one.

18 Okay, Item 15 the resolution authorizing
19 execution of an agreement to provide employee
20 assistance program, I finally took an opportunity
21 at 3:00 o'clock in the morning, because it is the
22 only way I can physically be here.

23 I am in extreme pain.

24 The only way I can be here. I have to work
25 at night so someone said earlier, you are crazy,

1 you know, to work at night.

2 I am one of the crazy people who have to
3 work at night.

4 So, I was pulling this up 3:00 o'clock this ^{Page | 196}
5 morning just so I could be informed where the
6 reports and limitations as we are tossing money
7 out to do employee assistance programs when the
8 top of the food chain is acting the way it is
9 acting.

10 And, I looked at that agreement.

11 I looked at that proposal and it really
12 looked like something that a teenager could do
13 back twenty, thirty years ago, like a cut and
14 paste format.

15 And, we are paying out hundred of dollars
16 on a monthly basis.

17 What is the return on our investment in
18 these processes?

19 How are we addressing the bullying that you
20 have on your platform on something that you were
21 going to address?

22 Is this how you are conducting yourself?

23 There are no changes as far as I can see
24 and from what I have been hearing from many of the
25 employees who are still afraid to speak up about

1 the certain conditions that they have to work on.

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

4 META MEREDAY: Number 16, the rejecting of ^{Page | 197}
5 bid authorizing rebid, Uniondale, why is that?

6 Who, again, are we looking at in terms of
7 the types of services that we are providing in
8 the community, particularly those communities
9 that generally, unless you have someone who is a
10 staunch advocate, are we talking about Bernard
11 Brown Park?

12 It is rejecting bid and authorizing
13 bids for construction of ADA compliance
14 bathrooms and those bathrooms have been a hot
15 mess for a long time.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I believe every single
17 response that we got in was over the budgeted
18 amount.

19 They had to revoke the RFP and they will
20 put it out, again.

21 META MEREDAY: It would help, again, if you
22 had this type of information in there.

23 Again, we have issues of impropriety and
24 the last two days I heard about "1983" like if
25 the developer, Councilman Bruce Blakeman

1 said a "threat" really, a threat and clearly

2 Nassau County cannot seem to win a lawsuit.

3 And, they bonded out in upwards of one
4 hundred million dollars, just for lawsuits.

5 I don't want to hear about another one
6 hundred-million-dollar potential lawsuit.

7 Don't want to hear about it, I really don't
8 or, you know, I might have to pack up after
9 being in this region over three generations and
10 maybe leave my house zombie, like so many others
11 are doing because I am tired of all this
12 nonsense going on, here.

13 26, authorizing payment of Notary Public,
14 really, how many attorneys do we have here?

15 Come on, now.

16 You can't get someone to notarize? You
17 have notaries in the library.

18 We have to really start thinking about
19 where our money is going, whether it is ten
20 dollars or ten thousand dollars, which everybody
21 has to be fiscally prudent and fiscally
22 conservative in saving us money.

23 Let's start looking at those types of
24 things that we need to be doing with regard to
25 that.

1 24, this is the main one that I wanted to
2 talk about, authorizing - -

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Ms. Mereday, you have
4 to wrap it up. Page | 199

5 META MEREDAY: I will wrap it up - - Town
6 of Hempstead to obtain a membership in the Long
7 Island Community Development Organization.

8 We don't follow Federal guidelines, so,
9 what is the rationale for a membership, here?

10 To have some attend more workshops,
11 incorporate Federal funds for community
12 development when we have no development as it
13 pertains to Veteran businesses, no development as
14 it pertains to real jobs for our Veterans, Senior
15 Service Support Programs as opposed to picking
16 them up on a bus and taking them out at an outing.

17 Our Youth programs are very subpar in the
18 Summertime.

19 What is the story with that?

20 I don't want to get on with the legal
21 issues.

22 I don't want to get myself upset, again.

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Ms. Mereday, you have
24 to wrap up your comments.

25 METE MEREDAY: I am wrapping up.

1 Last one, 34 is talking about authorizing
2 the Town Attorney to execute a service agreement
3 to provide assistance with certain potential air
4 quality, noise and vibration matters in the Town Page | 200
5 of Hempstead, is that a priority, now, over the
6 potholes?

7 I want to know the rationale and other
8 taxpayers want to know, as well.

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Commissioner Leno, I
10 want to make sure I characterize that right, about
11 Item Number 16.

12 COMMISSIONER LENO: Yes, good afternoon,
13 fifty thousand dollars over budget and there was
14 only one bid.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

16 Stuart Krawl?

17 (Whereupon, "left," was heard yelling out
18 from the audience. After, the following ensued.)

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Diane Madden?

20 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden, Hempstead.

21 Number 28, what concerns me, even if this
22 came from Mr. Ra's office, this was put on the
23 calendar by your Administration, correct?

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It was put on without
25 the amendments that I made.

1 DIANE MADDEN: So, you had suggestions, how
2 could it have been put on without the amendments,
3 without your permission?

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: When I realized that, ^{Page | 201}
5 moved to table it.

6 DIANE MADDEN: Before this meeting?

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I moved to table it
8 once it was already on the agenda.

9 DIANE MADDEN: I am still not understanding
10 how it even made it to the agenda and if this is
11 an example of how you're operating, I think that
12 you should put off making any changes to when the
13 public speaks.

14 Evidently, we have to pay close attention
15 to what is going on, here, if a resolution about
16 freedom of speech are thrown on the calendar and
17 everyone is pointing the finger, um, I wouldn't be
18 in a hurry, you know, to try to get rid of the
19 residents early in the day.

20 I think we need to sit down and look at all
21 of these resolutions even more carefully.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I am not trying to get
23 rid of residents.

24 I am trying to make it easier for them to
25 make public comments but if that is something

1 that you are against, you can say it right, now.

2 DIANE MADDEN: Well, I am - - um, based
3 upon this and what happened, here, this is like, I
4 said, an attack on the Constitution. Page | 202

5 So, if this is happening so casually and,
6 again, you're blaming the Town Attorney's Office
7 while it was put forward from your office, that is
8 a big concern.

9 And, I think that more residents need to be
10 here to keep an eye on all the resolutions under
11 your Administration.

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

14 DIANE MADDEN: Number 36, I would like to
15 know are there any transfers from the Animal
16 Shelter in or out?

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The personnel
18 resolution has people going on family leave,
19 medical leave.

20 There is one person getting a raise.

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: No Animal Shelter.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: No Animal Shelter.

23 DIANE MADDEN: What about internal
24 transfers, I understand that the experienced
25 Adoption Coordinator, who was hired for this

1 purpose years ago, um, does an outstanding job,
2 has an impeccable record, has been moved out of
3 adoptions and into the office of the main office,
4 knowing nothing about the main office?

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5 So, our key Adoption Coordinator is now
6 removed from adoptions at the most, um, vulnerable
7 time of year for kitten season into an office
8 where she knows nothing about and a person that
9 was trained to manage the office is, now, been
10 moved into adoptions.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is here anything else
12 on the Administrative Calendar that - - I am sure
13 that we will talk about that during public
14 comment?

15 DIANE MADDEN: No, that was part of
16 "transfers."

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It is not part of the
18 personnel calendar, personnel agenda.

19 DIANE MADDEN: It is about transfers.

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Marino, would you
21 like to speak to this issue, now?

22 COMMISSIONER MARINO: Good Afternoon,
23 Supervisor, Town Board Members, Senior
24 Councilwoman Goosby and to you.

25 After discussing with the Supervsior's

1 Office and the Department of General Services has
2 decided to assign seventy employees to different
3 assignments within their division effective
4 yesterday, Monday, the 7th of May.

5 It is in the best interests of the Town of
6 Hempstead and our position - -

7 DIANE MADDEN: That is not in the best
8 interests of the animals.

9 Why would you take an experienced Adoption
10 Coordinator, who has been hired for that purpose,
11 who has filled that job, as a matter of fact, I
12 believe helped, um, the Town Clerk, just recently,
13 adopt a kitten, unless she had some complaints,
14 which I really doubt, um, about this employee is
15 no longer in the adoptions?

16 Like I said, a crucial time of kitten
17 season.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Operational changes are
19 made at the Animal Shelter that they think are in
20 the best interest of the Animal Shelter.

21 DIANE MADDEN: They think, who is, "they"?

22 Do you understand what is happening, here?

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I understand there are
24 a number of official changes that have been made
25 at the Animal Shelter, yes.

1 DIANE MADDEN: So, I can assume that you,
2 basically, put your stamp of approval on this
3 transfer, that is really what I am trying to get
4 at? Page | 205

5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: This is a recommended
6 transfer.

7 DIANE MADDEN: Recommended by who?

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: By the Animal Shelter
9 and by the Commissioner.

10 DIANE MADDEN: So, you are still taking
11 recommendations by the Commissioner and Animal
12 Shelter Director, is that how I am to understand
13 this?

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I understand that
15 operational changes were made at the Animal
16 Shelter that they think are in the best interests
17 of the Animal Shelter and animals at the Animal
18 Shelter.

19 DIANE MADDEN: Well, I am telling you and I
20 am here to say that they are not.

21 In fact, they are detrimental to their
22 lives.

23 And, I think that is part of the problem,
24 here, that you are taking the word of the people
25 that probably - - you are still - - this is

1 all part of your lawsuit, you know, the people
2 that have been protected and secured in their jobs
3 and these are the people that you are listening
4 to.

5 You are not listening to staff.

6 You are not listening to good volunteers
7 and you are certainly not hearing what I am saying
8 to you, that you don't take in the interests of
9 the animals and their health and wellbeing.

10 You don't take experienced adoption people
11 out of adoptions and put them in a front office
12 where they know nothing.

13 The office is already overcrowded, where
14 the main office - - well, semi-manger has gone out
15 on leave.

16 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor, it is Sylvia,
17 um, I just want to say I did deal with that
18 particular employee at the Town Animal Shelter.

19 She is exceptionally kind.

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

22 CLERK CABANA: She was kind to me and my
23 children because she was afraid of her, the
24 animals were barking.

25 She is exceptionally kind and skilled at

1 her job, so, maybe someone, they want to speak
2 with her ab out possibly keeping her.

3 DIANE MADDEN: I thank you for those words
4 and coming from you, they are very meaningful. Page | 207

5 We all know that. I had my own experiences
6 in the past, where my daughter years ago when we
7 were having issues and these individuals first
8 came in, we didn't see much improvement and my
9 daughter decided to volunteer and Monzie (as
10 heard) was her mentor and she came home.

11 She said, "Mom, I think you got this one
12 wrong. This woman is amazing. Um, she is not
13 here, politically. She is here for the animals.
14 She does the right thing."

15 CLERK CABANA: And, she is following up
16 with me an asking for my children.

17 DIANE MADDEN: She is an expert.

18 She is the kind of person that we fought
19 for to get in there and, now, by the way, she is
20 the last one under attack.

21 CLERK CABANA: I don't know what is going
22 on, Supervisor.

23 DIANE MADDEN: I think your word has spoken
24 volumes and let's hope that the Supervisor heeds
25 your advice to take a look at this, again,

1 because these animals, you know and I do thank you
2 for choosing to adopt.

3 And, I think you even more, which I meant
4 to do this privately for not going in there and Page | 208
5 making a big deal about it and putting it about
6 you.

7 It was a bout, obviously, saving a life and
8 I just can't thank you enough for that.

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

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOAMN GOOSBY: I want to read
12 my statement because I would like it to go into
13 the Minutes about the development of the property
14 surrounding the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum,
15 openness and transparency for the future
16 prosperity of the HUB.

17 Recently, I read a NEWSDAY article on the
18 future of the development of the property
19 surrounding the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

20 The HUB developer tells Legislators about
21 entertainment/retail plans.

22 HUB developer tells - - okay, I read that.

23 As of 5/2/18, as one of the officials that
24 help create the Mitchel Field Mixed Use District
25 for this parcel in 2011, after the Lighthouse

1 Project stalled, I have the back ground and depth
2 to contribute to the conversation on this matter.

3 Indeed, the other representative whose
4 District surrounds the site, also would like to Page | 209
5 have been heard at the County Legislative Meeting
6 that was held last week concerning the future of
7 the HUB.

8 While one of the Members of this Board
9 spoke out at the meeting, a comment of openness
10 and transparency should have led to inclusion of
11 myself and other affected Board Members in this
12 meeting.

13 Clearly, the voices of the 1st Councilmatic
14 District, residents who live next to the HUB
15 deserve to be heard.

16 I was surprised to read that Hempstead Town
17 Executive Assistant of Economic Development, Adam
18 Haber and Evelyn Tismiss (phonetic spelling),
19 okay, Nassau County Executive for Economic
20 Development had the meeting on new ideas for the
21 HUB.

22 Does it seem out of line to anyone else
23 that the three Board Members whose Districts are
24 directly abutting the Coliseum property have not
25 been part of these meetings?

1 I worked hard alongside my colleagues on
2 the Town Board to ensure the framework,
3 progressive development of the HUB in 2011.

4 Then, Supervisor Kate Murray and I
5 presented the Mitchel Field Mixed Use District for
6 the area concerning the Coliseum.

7 The future zone provided for a refurbished
8 Coliseum and different uses permitted construction
9 included hotels, convention center, health and
10 technology facilities, business offices,
11 restaurants, education facilities and mixed-use
12 housing, among other uses.

13 The density of permitted development is
14 standard floor area ratio of 6.1, in fact, the
15 development density is greater than the OMNI
16 building, the Marriott Hotel and RXR Hotel and
17 building heights of one hundred feet are
18 accommodated.

19 The Town Board worked collaboratively with
20 the Rechler Group and Sloan Kettering officials to
21 ensure the existing development at a rapid pace.

22 Colleagues on this Board stand ready to
23 continue to work with prospective developers at
24 the site on projects that are substantial and in
25 the best interests of the community that we

1 represent.

2 And, this Board has flexibility and zoning
3 provisions accommodating, reasonable, responsible
4 growth.

5 We will continue to have open minds and
6 open doors on development.

7 However, we must all work together in an
8 open, transparent manner in the best interest of
9 our residents served.

10 I demand that meetings between Town
11 Officials not be conducted without the knowledge
12 of officials who represent the constituents in and
13 around the HUB property.

14 I insist that we are included in such
15 meetings and I respectfully request that the
16 Supervisor commit to an open and transparent
17 process advising me and other affected Town Board
18 Members of the meetings that concern the future of
19 the property around the - - surrounding the
20 Coliseum.

21 Anything less is unfair to this Board and
22 the residents of this Town.

23 This project is too important to be
24 conducted without the full impact of the entire
25 Town Board.

1 Thank you.

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

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So, the meeting that I ^{Page | 212}
5 appeared at was a meeting of the County
6 Legislature.

7 That was not called by me.

8 It was called by the County Legislature.

9 It was a Public Hearing that was published
10 and advertised in NEWSDAY.

11 Um, I chose to attend that meeting, that is
12 why I was there because I chose to attend and I
13 chose to make a comment.

14 Any Member of this Board, as far as I know,
15 could have appeared and made a comment.

16 I did not prevent anybody from showing up
17 at a meeting that I didn't call.

18 I just chose to make an appearance there
19 and I chose to make my voice heard, with my
20 opinion about a development at the HUB.

21 Um, as far as being aware, I reviewed the
22 legal documents with respect to the HUB.

23 Have you, Councilwoman, reviewed contracts
24 for the development at the HUB?

25 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: I reviewed

1 what I was provided last year, but, no, I have not
2 met with any developer.

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So, as far as I am
4 aware, the Town has already approved zoning in Page | 213
5 place.

6 No one has approached me and said, "we have
7 an application to change the zoning in the Town of
8 Hempstead."

9 If they do, certainly, that we would
10 definitely want the Council Members and the whole
11 Board involved but there has been no presentation
12 to me about changing the zoning.

13 There is not even a plan and they don't
14 even know who their developer is, yet.

15 There are two parties that have the right
16 to develop that parcel as far as I am concerned.

17 I am not the lawyer representing the Town
18 rather the County or ONEXIUM. (phonetic spelling)

19 But, from my understanding, the two parties
20 that have a right to - - chose to go forward with
21 development at the HUB are the County or ONEXIUM
22 (phonetic spelling) who owns the lease to the
23 Coliseum.

24 Those are the parties that can move forward
25 with the plans.

1 They are the parties who are working with
2 developers.

3 If they want to make a change in zoning to
4 the Town, they have to bring that to us. Page | 214

5 There is - - nobody asked me to do that.

6 I went to listen to the plan that was
7 presented by a developer, who is in the mix of
8 possible developers at the HUB, that is it.

9 I listened to his plan. I thought there
10 was some good things a bout it and I commented on
11 it.

12 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: That is not -
13 - you know what I am speaking about, I am speaking
14 about the fact, first of all, we have someone
15 entirely new that you brought in that knows
16 absolutely nothing about it.

17 There are seventeen Members on that Board.

18 There is not one person from this Town who
19 knows the developer who knows the facts of what
20 the plans are that are on any committees.

21 The Town is not involved.

22 You were there. We were not invited.

23 I was not invited. I don't go to anything
24 that I am not invited because if you have seven
25 Members already chosen, no one from this Town

1 is on that.

2 We have residents who live in Uniondale,
3 who live in Garden City, who live in Westbury,
4 they have all been affected by the increased
5 traffic.

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6 We have apartments, now, that are going to
7 be put up in Holly Patterson and, yet, you have
8 more apartments and this is going to create so
9 much traffic and this is very important for the
10 residents.

11 They need to know what is going on in that
12 area.

13 There are some things that are different
14 that I read in the newspaper that are being
15 proposed and you had a gold shovel that you were
16 swinging around like, "get it going."

17 We don't know what is going on, so that is
18 what it seems like, you approved it for us and we
19 have not - -

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The zoning was approved
21 a long time ago.

22 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: No, no.

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Before I was here.

24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: That is a
25 different thing.

1 What I am talking about and what I saw has
2 nothing to do with the original plans where they
3 have something entirely different.

4 They have to come back to the Town to make ^{Page | 216}
5 sure that they are proper.

6 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I like to weigh in, it
7 borders my District.

8 I like to weigh in whether or not, um,
9 there is any changes in the zoning.

10 I think the courtesy of coming in and
11 giving us a demonstration of what they think they
12 might put there would have been nice for the Town
13 if they are going to put on the screens so the
14 people in our audience can see what they are doing
15 there.

16 We don't have to vote on it because if
17 there is not a change in zoning, but, sure would
18 be nice to have the courtesy of letting local
19 government knowing what is going on.

20 I am sure, hopefully they will develop it
21 with the School District.

22 Let them know what the ramifications will
23 be on their schools and the teachers and the Fire
24 Departments and let them know what is going to
25 happen with the area.

1 But just common courtesy. Give us a
2 demonstration of what you think you are going to
3 put there.

4 I was a little disappointed the contractor ^{Page | 217}
5 hasn't contacted - - have they contacted you and
6 do that for us.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The developer, as far
8 as I know, has not even been settled on.

9 It is not certain that the Blumenfeld
10 Development Group will even be the developer for
11 that site.

12 It could be completely opened again, that
13 is what is one of the things being discussed,
14 opening up the RFP, that is not our decision, that
15 is the County's decision, so, the County may open
16 up the RFP and seek new partners for development,
17 so, there is not even a plan, yet to let anybody
18 know about and this is really - -

19 COUNCILMAN BALKEMAN: I would like to say
20 something because I think the HUB affects the
21 whole Town at large.

22 It is such a major project and representing
23 part of the West Hempstead and Franklin Square and
24 Elmont, it is material to my District, as well,
25 what is done there.

1 One of the things that I was very concerned
2 about when I read the material in the media about
3 reopening this process was the fact that this was
4 a long-exhausted process that took place before I ^{Page | 218}
5 got here.

6 Decisions were made. There was a plan and
7 now to try to reopen the plan and do something
8 different is very concerning to me and I will be
9 keeping a close eye on it, especially, since there
10 is a proposal that affects my area.

11 It is not directly in my District.

12 It is in Councilman Ambrosino's District
13 know as the Belmont Racetrack and there are plans
14 there, now, to put an arena.

15 Um, I want to know what that affect will
16 have on the Nassau Coliseum because the last thing
17 we need in the Town of Hempstead is an empty arena
18 in the HUB, in the heart of our Town.

19 And, I don't know how we can be able to
20 sustain too large arenas in our Town and I think
21 we need to be more proactive and ask those
22 questions about Belmont Racetrack and whether or
23 not that arena will have a deleterious affect on
24 the Nassau Coliseum because we have a tremendous
25 investment there and we have a tremendous

1 interest in the HUB.

2 And, quite frankly, I haven't been
3 convinced that the economics work for a new arena
4 at the Belmont Racetrack. Page | 219

5 I don't know if the traffic issues will
6 have a deleterious affect on the people who live
7 in the Elmont Community and Franklin Square
8 community, which, I think it will.

9 And, I think that, basically, we have to
10 take a careful look at what is going on at Belmont
11 Racetrack and how that might affect what we
12 currently have which is the taxpayer investment
13 already in the Coliseum.

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So, may I have a Motion
15 to adjourn - -

16 (Whereupon, "need to vote on the
17 Administrative Calendar," was heard. After, the
18 following ensued.)

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Call the roll on Items
20 10 through 48.

21 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

22 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Two good points, I
23 am sorry about this, I have two questions on two
24 items.

25 On Item 18, I am not sure who can

1 answer this question, the low bidder who would
2 that be on Item 18?

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Haber, who worked
4 on this committee with you?

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5 MR. HABER: Which is?

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Real Estate - -

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Cost Control Associates.

8 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: No - -

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Which Resolution?

10 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Smith and

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: What is your question
12 with Smith & Degron?

13 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Smith and Degron,
14 the proposal is one hundred thousand dollars plus
15 fees, it doesn't itemize the fees, which are
16 incidental or ancillary fees.

17 MR. HABER: First, the committee was
18 comprised of the Town Attorney's Office,
19 Purchasing and Supervisor.

20 We, then, called in the best two bids and
21 met them in person, um, the real estate proposal,
22 basically, to get complete summation of all the
23 properties the Town owns.

24 Um, there isn't a comprehensive list out
25 there and one of the proposals we found that

1 the Town has property over five billion dollars
2 and we want to get section, block zoning and
3 receive that, um, the winning bidder, which you
4 approve, today, submitted a proposal of one
5 hundred thousand dollars.

6 There are three parts to it, first, do it,
7 hopefully, in two parts, first to identify the
8 value accessible database that you can search any
9 way you like.

10 And, the second part, which we want to make
11 sure we are comfortable with the first part.

12 We are comfortable with the first part.

13 And, the fees they wanted associated were
14 hourly fees above and beyond one hundred thousand
15 dollars, which I don't see really happening.

16 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: And, the fees would
17 be consistent with the other ones.

18 When you say "fees" it is all consistent,
19 is that what you are saying, basically?

20 MR. HABER: The fee is one hundred thousand
21 dollars.

22 I don't know what other fees they are
23 talking about?

24 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Look at the
25 resolution, fee amount, one hundred thousand

1 dollars plus fees.

2 I get concerned when this is a low bid.

3 MR. HABER: This is - - actually, that is a
4 good point.

5 It wasn't a low bid.

6 It was the best provider of services that
7 we chose.

8 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Are the fees limited
9 to one hundred thousand dollars plus fees?

10 MR. HABER: I hear what you are saying and
11 respect your point.

12 I don't know what fees you are referring
13 to.

14 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: If there is a fee, there
15 should be a cap on it.

16 MR. HABER: There weren't any fees that
17 were listed that I was concerned about.

18 I don't think there will be anything
19 additional.

20 Travel is what they were talking about.

21 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: That is fine, travel
22 fees.

23 MR. HABER: Driving.

24 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: That is fine.

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: If it is not limited,

1 they could add anything they want if you approve,
2 "plus fees."

3 And, it is wide open and it could go over
4 the one hundred thousand dollars.

5 MR. HABER: If it is a concern - -

6 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Put a cap on it.

7 MR. HABER: Cap on it, okay.

8 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Amend and put a cap
9 on it.

10 What is a reasonable amount?

11 MR. HABER: Twenty-five hundred.

12 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Fees would be - -
13 Supervisor, a motion to amend the contract to
14 reflect a cap as fees not to exceed twenty-five
15 hundred dollars.

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Thank you, Councilman.

17 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: We will do that.

18 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: We have a Motion to
19 amend.

20 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Second.

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Call the roll.

22 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

23 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

24 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

25 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

2 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

3 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

4 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

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5 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

8 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

9 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

11 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: One other item that
12 you are on, Item 19 on my calendar, the Cost
13 Control Associates.

14 MR. HABER: All right, so - -

15 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Let me ask my
16 question, the need for this I understand, even
17 though we have done it already, but Cost Control
18 Associates, every other bidder, proposer has a
19 percentage of savings.

20 They have option of 135 dollars per hour?

21 MR. HABER: No, it is twenty percent of
22 savings.

23 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: The Resolution says,
24 "or option, 135 per hour," whose option?

25 Is that theirs or ours?

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 MR. HABER: That is a good point. I am not
2 quite sure.

3 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The contract says - -

4 MR. HABER: I will make sure.

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5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Ambrosino, I got
6 a better idea, why don't we exercise our option,
7 now, to take the twenty percent deal, whatever
8 they save us, they will get twenty percent.

9 If they can't save us any money, they won't
10 get any money.

11 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Let's exercise the
12 option, now, agree with that?

13 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Let me get this
14 straight, let me understand this, if they find no
15 savings, they get paid zero?

16 MR. HABER: Every single person who
17 submitted an RFP was under the impression - -

18 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Second the Motion that
19 Councilman Blakeman just made the amended.

20 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Charging the hourly
21 option.

22 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: And, approved.

23 MR. HABER: Before you do that, if it would
24 have come in cheaper as opposed to if they put in
25 fifteen hours and they find thirty thousand

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 dollars in saving costs, the Town - - let's do the
2 hourly option.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: We will take our
4 chances.

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5 MR. HABER: Okay, your call.

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 Goosby?

15 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

17 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Aye.

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: We have to vote on
19 the Administrative Calendar.

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Did we vote on the
21 moratorium, yet?

22 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: No, we haven't voted
23 on the calendar.

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Are we going to vote
25 separately on the moratorium?

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: No, all part of the
2 calendar.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Have we made that
4 part of the Administrative Calendar? Page | 227

5 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yes.

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: That is Item 47.

7 Now, I want to make sure the moratorium is
8 there and we are voting on it.

9 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: And, you
10 changed it?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: No, no, that is
12 something else.

13 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Let's vote.

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Now, we need to vote on
15 the Administrative Calendar.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk, would you
17 call the roll on the Administrative Calendar.

18 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Ambrosino?

19 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye with just two
20 comments; with respect to the hand-up with the
21 individual lawyer, we have attempted to have one
22 lawyer represent the interests of the Town Board
23 and despite the Supervisor saying she never sued
24 us personally, she amended the Complaint,
25 apparently we are not being sued personally

1 and the lawyer we chose to represent the Town
2 Board was rejected by the Supervisor raising some
3 sort of conflict.

4 I want to vote for my own, however, the Page | 228
5 thinking is among, at least, the majority, I
6 haven't spoken to Senior Councilwoman Goosby, if
7 we can come up with a consensus of one lawyer
8 representing us all at the Town Board, we will do
9 that and - -

10 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: True.

11 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Correct. One, we
12 confirm the accuracy. I also question the
13 addition of additional plaintiffs.

14 I believe that might be a time bar and I
15 question the motivation there.

16 My other point is on, I vote aye on
17 everything except for Item 28, changing the rules.

18 No matter how you slice it, thirty minutes,
19 sixty minutes, changing public comments, I vote
20 no.

21 (Whereupon, applause from the audience was
22 heard.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Okay, um, with
25 respect to the calendar, first of all, I would

1 like Mr. Ra to confirm what he told me privately,
2 that with respect to Item 33, I was an employee of
3 Fensterman law firm five years ago.

4 I have no financial connection with them ^{Page | 229}
5 whatsoever and you indicated that there is no
6 reason why I have to recuse myself on that?

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is correct.

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Okay, so, I am going
9 to vote aye on the full calendar with the
10 exception of Item 29, 30 and 31, I am abstaining
11 from voting on those three items.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

13 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I just want to get
14 a better understanding.

15 I am not one of the Attorneys that sits on
16 this Board.

17 There are, now, additional Plaintiffs named
18 in this lawsuit.

19 Are they getting different attorneys or how
20 does that work?

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Just to change my
22 vote, Item 28, I vote no, also.

23 Also, abstain on two hand-ups regarding the
24 legal fees.

25 ATTORNEY: They are being represented

1 Pro bono from the law firm.

2 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: From the same law
3 firm that we are hiring today?

4 ATTORNEY: Yes.

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5 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: The extra
6 people you are adding, they are pro bono?

7 ATTORNEY: It is my understanding they are
8 representing them pro bono.

9 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I can't
10 believe that.

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: First of all, it is true
12 because the Town Board has no power to authorize,
13 um, payment for the - -

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am not
15 questioning that. I am just trying to understand
16 it.

17 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Right.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: How will we
19 know, I mean, Mr. Ra, how will we know that the
20 fees are really for representing the Supervisor
21 against the Board versus representing these
22 taxpayers?

23 How do you split that out?

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am not a lawyer,
25 it seems like a conflict to me.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I don't think there is
2 a conflict.

3 I think they are being represented pro se.

4 There are no legal fees associated with Page | 231
5 their representation.

6 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Leventhal have a
7 conflict with us for some reason.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Leventhal has a
9 conflict, yes.

10 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: We don't agree with
11 that item, so, I believe Princeton has a conflict
12 representing multiple plaintiffs.

13 Leventhal - - I am concerned, I don't think
14 we can authorize that appointment of Supervisor's
15 Counsel for the same law firm representing - -

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Nope, she
17 brought the lawsuit.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: If there is a counsel
19 that can be guided by the Court, Mr. Leventhal
20 agrees there is a conflict of interest.

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

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: You're talking about
24 being represented by the same counsel as the Town
25 Board.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Can I ram in on this,
2 I think that the Supervisor is entitled to choose
3 her own counsel.

4 COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: I agree with that. Page | 232

5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: However, um, there is
6 an issue as to allocation of taxpayer dollars in
7 that lawsuit, so, um, I would say that our
8 condition of, um, approving Fensterman is
9 conditioned upon not representing any other
10 plaintiff other than the Supervisor because,
11 obviously, it may not be a direct conflict but it
12 certainly gives an appearance of one.

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

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I disagree.

16 People many times have the same counsel.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Not paid by taxpayer
18 dollars, so - -

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

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: There are no legal fees
22 associated with their representation as far as I
23 am aware.

24 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Similar issue
25 on the backs of the taxpayers, we are paying for

1 that in reality.

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Supervisor, just to
3 respectfully disagree with you, if they are
4 preparing a Motion and in the Motion they are
5 representing you at "X" amount of dollars per
6 hour, okay and they are also representing another
7 plaintiff in that circumstance, the public could
8 say, well, wasn't that factored into representing
9 you on the Motion.

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10 It really creates a problem for you and for
11 the Town.

12 I think the more prudent way is for you,
13 any group that would like to join in, friends of
14 the court or as a plaintiff that they need to have
15 their own counsel and maybe somebody could
16 represent them pro bono.

17 There is the Touro Law Clinic which is very
18 proactive in things like that, Hofstra Law Clinic,
19 I just think there is a terrible appearance
20 problem having a law firm represent another
21 plaintiff and do work for them and then bill the
22 Town for it.

23 It is an optical thing.

24 I am not saying they would do that but it
25 is an optical thing.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Should I continue
2 to vote?

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I am going to ask for a
4 five-minute recess in the middle of this vote so I Page | 234
5 can discuss this with my attorney.

6 (Whereupon, a recess was entertained at
7 3:04 p.m. After, the following ensued.)

8 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: If I could make an
9 announcement before we start, um, the 2:00 o'clock
10 safe and security meeting will take place
11 immediately after the Administrative Calendar, so,
12 we will go upstairs for a brief meeting on safety
13 and security.

14 For those of you who were to attend,
15 please, head up after the Administrative Calendar.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I will clarify, Counsel
17 is only to represent me and the other plaintiffs
18 should be represented by a different firm.

19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am voting no on
20 28 and aye for the rest.

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

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

24 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I am voting no on 28.

25 (Whereupon, applause from the audience was

1 Heard. After, the following ensued.)

2 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Yes, on everything else.

3 I think we have a right and if you watch
4 Judge Judy you better protect yourself and have Page | 235
5 your own attorney.

6 Don't say later on, oh, should have, could
7 have, would have, do it, now.

8 I do watch T.V. sometimes.

9 Judge Judy, "protect yourself."

10 I vote ay on everything except for Item 28
11 I vote no.

12 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

13 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I vote yes and
14 28 - -

15 (Whereupon, "Can't hear you, microphone,
16 microphone," was heard calling out from the
17 audience. After, the following ensued.)

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I said - - oh,
19 I am sorry, I am voting yes on everything except
20 28, I am voting no on 28.

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

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilwoman King-Sweeney?

24 COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: No, on 28, yes
25 for everything else.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 5/8/18

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CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

SUPERVISOR GILLEN: No on 28, yes for everything else.

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Do we have a Motion to adjourn?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KING-SWEENEY: Second.

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.

(Whereupon, the official meeting of the Hempstead Town Board was concluded. Time noted: 3:15 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I, do hereby certify that the foregoing
testimony in the matter of the Hempstead Town
Board Meeting held on May 8, 2018, consisting of
pages 1 through 237 inclusive is an accurate
transcription of my cryptic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.



MDW

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

NORTH SHORE COURT REPORTERS

NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK