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TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD
ONE WASHINGTON STREET
TOWN HALL PAVILION
HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550

November 12, 2019
10:30 A.M.

BEFORE: LAURA A. GILLEN,
SUPERVISOR



APPEARANCES :

- 1
- 2 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR/COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN
- 3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY
- 4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO
- 5 COUNCILMAN DUNNE, SR.
- 6 MAJORITY LEADER/COUNCILWOMAN
- 7 KING-SWEENEY (ABSENT)
- 8 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA
- 9 TOWN CLERK CABANA
- 10 TOWN ATTORNEY RA
- 11 TOWN BOARD COUNSEL REGINA
- 12 RECEIVER OF TAXES CLAVIN, JR. (ABSENT)
- 13 MICHELE HANSON, TOWN CLERK OFFICE

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1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. Good
2 morning, ladies and gentlemen.

3 Before we begin today's Page 3
4 Town Board Meeting, my colleagues and I
5 would like to recognize the New York
6 State League of Women Voters, who, one
7 week from today will be celebrating its
8 100th anniversary.

9 Representing the "League" today to
10 accept a citation and proclamation from
11 the Town of Hempstead are Barbara Epstein,
12 Ruth Jones, Paula Blum, Pat Meadows, Liz
13 Boylan and our own League of Women
14 Voters Member, Senior Councilwoman
15 Dorothy Goosby.

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

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Pioneers
20 during the "women's suffrage movement,"
21 the "League" has established itself as a
22 leading advocate for voting rights for
23 all Americans. By remaining
24 non-partisan, the League is able to
25 extend its reach of informing and

1 educating the public on the critical
2 issues that are affecting their
3 communities.

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4 On behalf of the Town of
5 Hempstead, congratulations on its
6 achieving this historic milestone. We
7 are grateful for your service to our
8 community and to our State.

9 Thank you very much, ladies.

10 (Whereupon, The Hempstead Town
11 Board awarded a citation and
12 proclamation to the New York State
13 League of Women Voters, a photograph was
14 taken and applause from the audience was
15 heard. After, the following ensued.)

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: All right,
17 good morning everyone. Welcome to this
18 regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting.

19 For those of you who have never
20 attended a meeting before, we will first
21 have Public Hearings followed by an
22 Administrative Calendar.

23 There are meeting agendas
24 available in the rear of the Pavilion.
25 If you'd like to be heard on any matter,

1 please fill out a slip and hand it to
2 the public safety officer, and they will
3 call you up to be heard during the Meeting. Page 5
4 Meeting.

5 After the Town Board Meeting is
6 adjourned, the Town Board will follow
7 our custom and remain in session to hear
8 any residents who would like to be heard
9 during Public Comment.

10 Madam Clerk, will you please call
11 the roll.

12 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Here.

14 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Here.

16 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

17 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I'm here.

18 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

19 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Here.

20 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
21 Goosby?

22 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Here.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

24 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Here.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. We just

1 celebrated Veteran's Day. And we have
2 our own Veteran here on the Town Board,
3 so I'd ask Councilman Dunne to lead us Page 6
4 in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: All rise, face
6 the American Flag, place your right hand
7 over your heart and join me.

8 (Whereupon, Councilman Dunne led
9 us in the Pledge of Allegiance. After,
10 the following ensued.)

11 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Thank you.

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. Madam Clerk,
13 will you please call our first Public
14 Hearing.

15 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law
16 Re: "Regulations and Restrictions"
17 to limit parking in Bellmore (NR)
18 Island Park and Oceanside. (To amend
19 Chapter 202 of the Code of the Town of
20 Hempstead.)

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have
22 any slips on this Public Hearing. Is
23 there anyone who'd like to be heard?

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

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none,
2 may I have a Motion?

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I move Page 7
4 that the Public Hearing be closed and
5 the Local Law adopted.

6 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Second.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk?

8 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

10 CLERK CABANA: Councilman
11 Blakeman?

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

13 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

14 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

15 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

17 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
18 Goosby?

19 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

20 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

21 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
23 will you please call our next Public Hearing?

24 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law

25 RE: "Parking or Standing Prohibitions"

1 in Elmont, Franklin Square, Merrick,
2 Oceanside and NR Rockville Centre. (To
3 amend Section 202-1 of the Code of Page 8
4 the Town of Hempstead).

5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have
6 any slips on this Public Hearing. Is
7 there anyone who'd like to be heard?

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

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none,
11 may I have a Motion?

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I move that
13 the Public Hearing be closed and that
14 the Local Law be adopted.

15 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: I second
16 it.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk?

18 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

20 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

22 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

23 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

24 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

1 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
2 Goosby?

3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye. age 9

4 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

5 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
7 will you call our next Public Hearing
8 please?

9 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law
10 Re: "Arterial Stops" in Bellmore,
11 East Meadow and Seaford. (To amend
12 Section 197-5 of the Code of the
13 Town of Hempstead).

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have
15 any slips on this Public Hearing. Is
16 there anyone who'd like to be heard?

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

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none,
20 may I have a Motion?

21 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I move that the
22 Public Hearing be closed and the item be
23 adopted.

24 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk?

1 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

3 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?ge 10

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

5 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

6 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

8 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

9 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman

10 Goosby?

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

13 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk,
15 please call our next Public Hearing.

16 CLERK CABANA: Proposed Local Law
17 entitled "Intentional Release of
18 Balloons Prohibited" in order to reduce
19 the negative impact that balloons have
20 on the environment by discouraging the
21 intentional release of balloons. (To
22 establish Chapter 172 of the Code of the
23 Town of Hempstead).

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. I have
25 a number of slips on this Public

1 Hearing. The first is from George
2 Porall [sic] or Povall.

3 George, am I saying that right, Page 11
4 George?

5 Oh, here he comes.

6 GEORGE POVALL: Good morning, Town
7 Board Members and Supervisor.

8 Thank you for having this Hearing
9 today.

10 I just wanted to let you know that
11 our group, "All Our Energy" has spoken
12 to the numerous members of the public
13 over the past few months.

14 I have with me approximately
15 745 petition signatures to support a --
16 some kind of action on intentional
17 balloon releases. There's no reason for
18 it. I can give you those.

19 I want to show you -- we've been
20 working with the Town to do beach
21 cleanups. And it's just something that
22 we do as a volunteer, you know,
23 something that we do to help the
24 environment.

25 We cleaned Lido Beach West on

1 October 6th, and here's (indicating)
2 just the balloons that we got from that
3 day.

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4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: And
5 turn it to the public too.

6 GEORGE POVALL: So that was just
7 from one beach, in one day, that about
8 45 people cleaned up.

9 It did not include us going into
10 the dunes, which are a huge like filter.
11 That's for the Town workers to do and
12 the dunes are off limits. So we --
13 there's much more in there that they
14 were probably responsible for taking
15 care of.

16 And we don't trample on the Town
17 law to not go into the dunes.

18 So this is something that does
19 have some widespread support.

20 We're not a big group. We're
21 mostly all volunteers.

22 And this is just an issue that I
23 really think that you could make a huge
24 difference to protect the beaches that
25 we have, as part of one of the beautiful

1 things that this Town has to offer for
2 all of our community and our residents.

3 So this (indicating) is also a Page 13
4 photograph just to show you what can
5 happen. This is from -- not from one of
6 our beaches, but this is a tern being
7 rescued by Fire Island Officers, that
8 had gotten entangled in some of the
9 balloon strings there, in that one
10 instance.

11 So this is obviously not just a
12 Town of Hempstead issue. And we are
13 pushing for other municipalities to
14 consider this.

15 But Town of Hempstead could really
16 be right out in front of this issue,
17 just like Long Beach has and East
18 Hampton has, because you really have a
19 lot of beaches and a lot of waterfront
20 that is yours to protect.

21 So we're asking you to please
22 consider taking up this Motion and
23 passing it today.

24 Thank you.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,

1 sir.

2 (Whereupon, applause from the
3 audience was heard. After, the Page 14
4 following ensued.)

5 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO:

6 Supervisor, if I may, I'd like to offer
7 an amendment to the proposed Local Law
8 just prior to anyone else speaking, so
9 they could speak on the amendments.

10 And with that said, I want to
11 thank you, sir, for your cleanups in the
12 Town of Hempstead and across Long
13 Island.

14 And I think that the issue with
15 the balloons is something that needs to
16 be tackled. But I do think that it's a
17 work in progress.

18 So I'd like to move to amend the
19 proposed Local Law from:

20 "No person," to "No person 18 or
21 older;"

22 And to amend the penalty section
23 to eliminate jail time;

24 And reduce the fine from "500" to
25 "100."

1 And like I said, this is just an
2 amendment to this. If it's something
3 that we see is working or not working, Page 15
4 we can move forward and make changes in
5 the future.

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: And Councilman --

7 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I second that
8 Motion.

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: -- I just
10 wanted to add, this is to address the
11 concern that a child might run afoul of
12 the law. Is that right, Councilman?

13 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yes.

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. Thank
15 you.

16 All right. So we'll take a vote
17 now on the amendment.

18 Madam Clerk?

19 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

21 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

22 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

25 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

1 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

2 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman

3 Goosby? Page 16

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

5 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

6 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Abstained.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. We had
8 a slip also from Matt Gore or Gove?

9 MATT GOVE: All right, good
10 morning.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Good morning.

12 MATT GOVE: Thanks for talking
13 about this topic today.

14 My name is Matt --

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I'm sorry.
16 Can you just state your name and where
17 you live for the record please?

18 MATT GOVE: My name is Matt Gove,
19 G-o-v-e, and I live in Brooklyn.

20 So thanks for having me.

21 I'm from the Surf Rider
22 Foundation. We have a bunch of people
23 in the area, a lot of people out in
24 Long Beach, in the Town of Hempstead
25 that love the beach.

1 And like George, they do a lot of
2 beach cleanups and they find a lot of
3 balloons. So they've been asking us to Page 17
4 help them pass -- pass some laws to slow
5 down all this balloon pollution.

6 And it's an important topic. You
7 might not have seen one of these balloon
8 releases, but they're apparently pretty
9 common, if you just Google balloon
10 release. A lot of times at funerals, at
11 memorial services, they'll release, you
12 know, a hundred balloons.

13 So it's a -- it's something that
14 does happen and I think it's -- I think
15 it's mostly just people don't know.
16 They're like, "Oh, this isn't littering,
17 I'm just -- this is nice. It's a nice
18 event. We're going to let the balloon
19 go."

20 But I don't think they know that
21 they -- that what comes up comes down,
22 and does end up putting litter on our
23 beaches. And animals actually eat them
24 thinking they're jellyfish or something
25 else and then they can choke.

1 There's also the issue of mylar
2 balloons. I don't know if you've ever
3 heard of mylar balloons. They're the Page 18
4 shiny ones, and they can cause power
5 outages.

6 Basically utility people are
7 worried about squirrels and mylar
8 balloons, 'cause they -- they're
9 conductive. If they hit, they can cause
10 a power outage.

11 What else?

12 Yeah, I see the amendment you
13 made. I mean we're definitely not
14 talking about, you know, arresting kids.
15 That's, you know, a kid that let's one
16 goes, that's not the -- it's these
17 organized events where people do it on
18 purpose.

19 We also just are doing some
20 petitions. We have about 350 people
21 that signed our petition just at a
22 couple of public events. So we've got
23 some folks onboard.

24 And we're part of, with George and
25 his group "All Our Energy," there's

1 about 12 groups in total that signed a
2 letter that was sent in earlier this
3 year asking for this to happen. Page 19

4 So thanks for thinking about it,
5 and I hope we can pass it.

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
7 sir.

8 And if you and Mr. Povall, do you
9 have copies of those petitions? It
10 would be helpful if you could just hand
11 them up and make them part of the
12 record.

13 MATT GOVE: Is there a way to do
14 that?

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: You can hand
16 them right to Ms. Hanson right here, or
17 if you don't have them with you --

18 MATT GOVE: I can do that --

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: -- today, you
20 can submit them after the fact to the
21 Clerk's Office.

22 Thank you.

23 Thank you, sir.

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Can I just
25 ask the clerk to get copies of those for

1 all the Council Members?

2 Thank you.

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Next we have Page 20
4 Liz Moseman.

5 LIZ MOSEMAN: Yes.

6 I'm Liz Moseman. And I did just
7 want to add I'm a member of "All Our
8 Energy," so I help in the cleanups.

9 And, you know, I have some photos
10 here too to submit, that I took a walk
11 later in October. And again, there's
12 evidence of these balloons, you know,
13 still on the beach after the summer.

14 And I think the amendment makes
15 sense with children.

16 I'm a former teacher. And I think
17 perhaps too, we can work with the
18 schools to start to, you know, make
19 children and, you know, through
20 the science programs, you know,
21 environmental programs, more aware of,
22 you know, how balloons can impact our
23 environment and come up with maybe more
24 creative ways of celebrating, you know,
25 events without using balloons.

1 So, you know, start working, you
2 know, with the school districts.

3 Thank you. Page 21

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
5 Ms. Moseman.

6 Karen Zilber?

7 KAREN ZILBER: Hello. My name is
8 Karen Zilber. I'm from Kings Park.

9 And I'm also a volunteer for "All
10 Our Energy." And I want to thank you
11 for allowing me to speak today.

12 I'm here today to speak in support
13 of the proposed new law to prohibit the
14 intentional release of balloons.

15 Although, we all know that
16 balloons can be fun to use in
17 celebrations, we now also know that the
18 release of balloons can be dangerous for
19 our wildlife, killing birds and marine
20 animals.

21 Balloons are bright and colorful
22 and animals are attracted to them
23 thinking they're food. They can try to
24 consume them or accidentally become
25 tangled up in the strings, either of

1 which can cause injury or death.

2 They also travel farther than we
3 think, and litter our streets, and our Page 22
4 beaches, and pollute our waterways.

5 Moreover, at any given release,
6 thousands of balloons can be sent up to
7 the sky. As one example, the Clemson
8 Tigers of South Carolina, college
9 football champions of 2016, last year
10 discontinued their practice of releasing
11 10,000 orange balloons every game, due
12 to the -- excuse me, due to the pressure
13 from the College's Sustainability
14 Commission.

15 Although, we know that these laws
16 may be hard to enforce, we also know
17 that by enacting these laws, we send a
18 message to organizations, corporations
19 and individuals that intentional
20 balloons releases should be avoided when
21 planning an event.

22 Currently we depend upon the good
23 intentions of people. And
24 unfortunately, there are those who do
25 not find this issue important.

1 However, with the injection of
2 media and public sharing of every event
3 through Facebook and other mechanisms, Page 23
4 the odds are that enforcement will
5 become easier.

6 Nowadays, all public behavior
7 tends to be recorded and disseminated
8 widely by individuals taking videos or
9 pictures with their phones. So this may
10 perhaps make event planners more
11 unwilling to put their intransigence on
12 public display.

13 You also would not be the first
14 municipality to make such a law.
15 California, Connecticut, Florida,
16 Tennessee and Virginia all have enacted
17 laws against intentional balloon
18 releases. And other states have
19 introduced bills limiting the numbers of
20 balloons allowed to be released. There
21 are also laws in municipalities in the
22 U.K. and Australia banning balloon
23 releases.

24 I urge you to pass this law. And
25 in so doing, join other states and

1 municipalities to work for a cleaner,
2 safer and better environment for all.

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you, Page 24
4 ma'am.

5 Joanne Moore?

6 JOANNE MOORE: Hi, I'm Joanne
7 Moore. I'm also a member of "All Our
8 Energy."

9 And as you know, we're a
10 non-profit "501(c)(3)" organization
11 based in Point Lookout. And so we're an
12 environmental advocacy organization with
13 a focus on education and public
14 outreach.

15 We are asking you to support a ban
16 on intentional balloon releases, similar
17 to the law passed in Suffolk County and
18 Long Beach.

19 I want to say this is not a
20 partisan issue, just as animal cruelty
21 is not a partisan issue. Our wildlife
22 suffers from being caught in the ribbons
23 of the balloons, as you could see. And
24 sea mammals will ingest the balloons,
25 mistaking them for jellyfish and other

1 edible resources, which can result in
2 intestinal blockages, malnutrition and
3 possibly a painful death.

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4 Our oceans, and beaches, streets,
5 parks and streams are being polluted by
6 these balloons, which will never, ever
7 decompose.

8 Also, a ban on intentional balloon
9 releases will save the Town of Hempstead
10 money. These balloons will all
11 eventually end up in the environment.
12 Many will get stuck in sewer drains,
13 clogging them and thereby increasing the
14 chance of flooding after a storm.

15 So not only is taxpayer money
16 going towards cleaning the storm drains,
17 but citizens need to contend with all
18 the problems that occur when our streets
19 are flooded.

20 And I want to just say that laws
21 and regulations are not a bad thing. If
22 a town does not pass a law such as a
23 banning of intentional balloon releases,
24 I, as an average citizen, will continue
25 to believe that it can't be all that

1 bad, because the Town of Hempstead says
2 it is okay to do this. That's what I
3 would think, because there's no law in Page 26
4 place saying it's not okay.

5 So please let everyone know that
6 it's not okay by passing a ban.

7 Thank you.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
9 ma'am.

10 Joseph Varon?

11 JOSEPH VARON: Not now.

12 (Whereupon, laughter was heard.
13 After, the following ensued.)

14 JOSEPH VARON: Sorry. Of course.

15 Okay. Good morning, ladies and
16 gentlemen.

17 My name is Joseph Barone, and I am
18 a resident of West Hempstead right here.
19 I am also the past President of the
20 New York State Marine Educators
21 Association.

22 I'm sorry.

23 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Don't forget
24 the groceries.

25 JOSEPH VARON: Oh.

1 (Whereupon, laughter was heard.
2 After, the following ensued.)

3 JOSEPH VARON: And I am a current age 27
4 volunteer for the Long Island Chapter of
5 Food and Water Action. And I'm a
6 retired New York State Educator for
7 36 years.

8 I am here representing some very
9 special Long Island constituents, our
10 sea turtles, dolphins, seals, whales,
11 seagulls, and terns and a variety of
12 other seabirds. Unfortunately because
13 of transportation issues, they could not
14 be here today to testify.

15 To offer -- too often the
16 international [sic] -- the intentional
17 release of balloons has a devastating
18 and deadly impact on those creatures.
19 Mistaking these deflated balloons as
20 floating jellyfish and other natural
21 delights, these creatures eat them.
22 Tragically they get impacted in their
23 digestive systems where they cannot
24 excrete them, causing them to die very
25 painful deaths -- deaths.

1 Such intentional balloon releases
2 are not necessary for groups to have a
3 wonderful event. But they leave a trail age 28
4 of death behind and should be
5 eliminated.

6 We are not really talking here
7 about a child who releases a balloon.
8 We're talking about colleges, and
9 football teams, and high school
10 teams and massive events where they
11 intentionally release a large amount of
12 balloons. And that's what we're asking
13 that the Town of Hempstead prohibit.

14 And we ask you to do this. We
15 have a responsibility for our citizens,
16 but we also have a responsibility for
17 the beautiful creatures that live around
18 our Island.

19 And we ask you to take this bill
20 seriously. And thank you very much.

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

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
25 sir.

1 I do not have any other slips on
2 this Public Hearing. Is there anyone
3 else who would like to be heard? Page 29

4 Yes.

5 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden,
6 Hempstead.

7 Just a special thank you to "All
8 Our Energy."

9 I am, as everyone knows, a huge
10 fan of advocates. And if not for them,
11 we probably wouldn't be here talking
12 about this today.

13 And if not for that photograph of
14 the Supervisor, which, you know, talk
15 about negative that turned into a
16 positive, I am glad that hopefully the
17 Board will pass this, get it done,
18 protect our sea life.

19 No negative reflection on
20 "Camp A.N.C.H.O.R." I think they do the
21 most amazing work. And I think they
22 were misguided into believing that
23 balloons are actually biodegradable.

24 And once again, congratulations
25 advocates, because if not for them,

1 these things really would not get
2 accomplished, as they haven't in the
3 past. And I thank them for that.

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4 Have a great day. And I encourage
5 you to pass this, even as amended. It's
6 progress. And that's what we need in
7 Hempstead, especially for the sea life.

8 Thank you.

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

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
13 Ms. Madden.

14 Is there anybody else --

15 DIANE MADDEN: Oh, very sorry.

16 To take it a step further, I had a
17 thought. I know that there are rules
18 posted in, you know, the beach areas.
19 Is it possible, providing this passes,
20 to include that on these signs at our
21 beaches, about the law prohibiting the
22 intentional release?

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Maybe that's
24 something we can do.

25 DIANE MADDEN: Thank you.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

2 Is there anybody else who'd like
3 to be heard on this Public Hearing? Page 31

4 META MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday,
5 Baldwin resident. And I'm also a member
6 of "Long Island Clean Air and Water."

7 I support this legislation, and as
8 amended. And I'm hopeful that the
9 information will be disseminated, as was
10 mentioned earlier, not in a partisan
11 format, but for a community benefit.

12 And I'm also just concerned with
13 regard to how we can possibly -- I guess
14 as the previous speaker, if we can turn
15 this situation into something that can
16 be positive, because I mean we need --
17 we have communities and we have
18 constituencies that need something in
19 some format in which they can celebrate.
20 And we need to have something.

21 So I am hoping that through this,
22 we can use this as an opportunity to
23 provide some, let's say "healthy and
24 constructive alternatives" to provide
25 celebrations for moments that we need to

1 celebrate, or the moments that we need
2 to provide recognition for memorials, or
3 other services that this balloon Page 32
4 demonstration had been used for.

5 So I am definitely in support of
6 this.

7 Just, again, concerned with regard
8 to the other pending issues in our
9 community in terms of the contamination
10 of our water systems, that particularly
11 in this season with the need for leaf
12 cleanings and things of that nature,
13 that we look at this from, again, from a
14 constructive and comprehensive format.

15 There are a number of things that
16 are contaminating our waterways. There
17 a number of things that are jeopardizing
18 not only our sea life, but our residents
19 as well.

20 So if we can look at, again,
21 making this a broad stroke, and to make
22 it comprehensive and to, as I said,
23 expand and provide alternatives for
24 celebrations, recognitions and
25 memorials, because sometimes -- and

1 particularly right now, everyone needs
2 to have some kind of hope. And we need
3 something to hold on to and we need to Page 33
4 have something to mark significant
5 moments, whether it's a celebration or
6 just a remembrance.

7 Thank you.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
9 Ms. Mereday.

10 Is there anybody else who would
11 like to be heard on this Public Hearing?

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

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

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I move
17 that the Public Hearing be closed and
18 the local law adopted as amended.

19 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY:
20 Second the Motion.

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk?

22 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

24 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

25 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yes. I

1 would just like to say that there has
2 been a renaissance in my District, of
3 wildlife returning in the Atlantic
4 Beaches throughout the Five Towns in
5 Valley Stream and Franklin Square, the
6 streams that run through it.

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7 And I vote with the whales, the
8 seals and the dolphins. I vote aye.

9 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

11 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

12 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Thank you,
13 Councilman D'Esposito, for your
14 amendments. That makes it very easy to
15 vote aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
17 Goosby?

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

19 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

20 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: I abstain.

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

22 Madam Clerk, will you call our next
23 Public Hearing please?

24 CLERK CABANA: Proposed contract
25 for furnishing fire protection services

1 in the Wreck Lead Fire Protection
2 District, Incorporated Village of
3 Island Park.

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4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have
5 any slips on this Public Hearing. Is
6 there anyone who would like to be heard?

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

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none,
10 may I have a Motion?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I move that
12 the Public Hearing be closed and the
13 item adopted.

14 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Second
15 the Motion.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk?

17 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

19 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

21 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

22 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

23 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman
24 Goosby?

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

1 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

2 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Just for Page 36

4 full disclosure, I recused myself from
5 that vote 'cause I am a member of the
6 Island Park Fire Department.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: All right.

8 Madam Clerk, will you call the next
9 Public Hearing please?

10 CLERK CABANA: Application of
11 135 F Realty Corp. to modify an existing
12 "GSS" approval, TBR 420-1989 and modify
13 TBR 200-2017 to perform interior and
14 exterior alteration to convert the
15 existing automobile repair to a
16 convenience store and operate
17 self-service, all the described premises
18 at or NR the corner of Bellmore Avenue
19 and Newbridge Road in North Bellmore.

20 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: I don't know
21 where she went.

22 But good morning, Supervisor
23 Gillen, Senior Councilwoman Goosby,
24 Honorable Members of the Town Board.

25 My name is Kevin O'Brien from

1 O'Brien Law PC, here representing the
2 applicant, 135 F Realty, with respect to
3 this application. Page 37

4 I also have here with me this
5 morning Mr. Chris Tartaglia, a licensed
6 professional engineer with
7 High Point Engineering. He's one of the
8 principals. And they're the design
9 professionals which have the Board --
10 which have prepared all the
11 applications, the information and the
12 documents that are before the Board.

13 And just before I get going, I do
14 want to congratulate the Board over
15 here, being that my daughter and I are
16 surfers on Long Island Surf of South
17 Shore.

18 And part of the reason that we all
19 live here is for our beaches. So I
20 commend you on your actions this
21 morning. Thank you, on a personal
22 basis, and from my daughter as well.

23 Now, with respect to the
24 application, I'm probably going to jinx
25 myself here a little bit, in a sense

1 that I'm going to say this is a
2 relatively simple one because we're
3 dealing with an existing gasoline Page 38
4 service station, as you could see on the
5 overhead.

6 And just the mini history of this,
7 it's operated as a gasoline service
8 station for over 60 years. Previously
9 we were included in the "GSS" Zoning
10 District, which, as the Board is aware,
11 is the proper zoning district for a
12 gasoline service stations within the
13 Town of Hempstead.

14 And not too long ago in connection
15 with some of the -- what used to be the
16 Nassau County Fire Marshall Regulations,
17 now the Department of Health
18 Regulations, we had replaced a --
19 removed and replaced the existing
20 gasoline storage tanks and put new
21 gasoline storage tanks in there, did a
22 little island reconfiguration.

23 We currently have three pump
24 islands with a canopy over the pump
25 island, which I believe is parallel to

1 Newbridge. And parallel to Bellmore, we
2 have another single-pump island over
3 there, with a canopy over that pump Page 39
4 island.

5 Why we're before the Board -- and
6 we actually made some improvements to
7 the building itself. And I might be a
8 little bit bias, but if you go over
9 there, I think the place looks
10 fantastic.

11 And I mean we do a fantastic job
12 on the landscaping. The building itself
13 we -- it looks really good and we're
14 proud of it.

15 So we're here today, you know,
16 for really a minor modification,
17 inasmuch as we were unable to secure any
18 repair-oriented tenants in the building.

19 So we have done the fascia of the
20 building for the most part. But what
21 we're really looking to essentially
22 close the service bays of the building,
23 turn the rest of the building into a
24 convenience store.

25 I guess we could probably maybe

1 shift one of the overheads. And
2 actually I do have for the Board, if
3 you would like, some hand ups about Page 40
4 11-and-a-half by 17s, if that makes it
5 more convenient.

6 But we do have the overhead. And
7 in the overhead, the dark yellow is the
8 actual building itself. Sort of the
9 beige portions of it are the pump
10 islands that I just recently referred to
11 and the canopies over them. The white
12 area is the underground storage tanks
13 that have been recently replaced.

14 And perhaps if you go to the next
15 slide, we might have -- let me see --
16 well okay, that's that -- that's the
17 elevation of the building.

18 And it almost looks like that now,
19 because if you look to the right, okay,
20 that portion of it has been done. But
21 on the left-hand side if you go to the
22 site currently, you'll see three service
23 bays.

24 So what we're essentially looking
25 to do is to convert it. I believe if my

1 recollection is correct -- but Chris,
2 you could correct me if I'm wrong
3 here -- I think it's like 1700 and
4 change is the --

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5 ENGINEER TARTAGLIA: 1718.

6 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: 17, what is
7 that?

8 ENGINEER TARTAGLIA: 16.

9 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: 1716 is the
10 square footage of the building itself.
11 And the building itself was similar to
12 our other operations. It would contain
13 the office area. It would have the
14 restroom, as well as the convenience
15 store area itself.

16 Other than that, I know I did see
17 there was a memo and it talked about,
18 you know, quote, unquote, "some open
19 violations." And really the open
20 violations really just deal with, you
21 know, open building permits that we
22 have, okay, as part of the work that we
23 had just done. And now what we're
24 trying to do is close off all that sort
25 of work out.

1 We are mindful of our Veterans, so
2 we are intending to put in an American
3 flag. What we're looking to do, so as Page 42
4 not to be -- the story -- I think Chris
5 if my recollection is correct, we're
6 trying to put it on the north side of
7 the site; is that correct?

8 ENGINEER TARTAGLIA: Yes, within
9 the landscaped area along the northerly
10 quadrant of the site.

11 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: And the other
12 thing I would just mention, I -- if you
13 go to the site, I think the landscaping
14 we've done is fantastic. But then
15 again, that could be personal and
16 subjective.

17 I know we have some I think what
18 they refer to as "Elephant Ears," which
19 we think adds some sort of depth and
20 character to the -- and we change the
21 landscaping out seasonally. But we are
22 always open to suggestions in that area.

23 And other than that, I think
24 unless there are any questions of the
25 Board or questions of my professional

1 engineer over here, I think that's
2 pretty much what we're thinking.

3 We think it's reasonable, Page 43
4 necessary. And we're looking for your
5 favorable discretion.

6 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I did have a
7 question at first, until I saw the
8 pictures.

9 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yes.

10 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: And thank you
11 for this (indicating), because that
12 answered the question.

13 There's, you know, these tractor
14 trailers getting taller and taller.

15 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yeah.

16 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: And I was just
17 wondering if it would fit underneath
18 your -- and the overhang, and it
19 definitely does. The pictures tell the
20 story in plain words right there.

21 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yeah, it's
22 usually -- I think there's usually a
23 minimum of 14-and-a-half feet clearance,
24 which I think might even be a national
25 thing. I think, Chris, you could

1 correct me --

2 ENGINEER TARTAGLIA: Yes.

3 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: -- if I'm Page 44
4 wrong here.

5 ENGINEER TARTAGLIA: 14 is the --

6 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Oh, 14. So
7 that this way, you know, for
8 international trucking. It would just
9 be the delivery truck, you know, would
10 be able to make it under there.

11 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: You know,
12 ambulances are getting taller. Fire --

13 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yeah.

14 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: -- trucks are
15 getting bigger. So it's good you have
16 the clearance.

17 Thank you.

18 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yeah.

19 If there's nothing further, I
20 would just ask for the Board's favorable
21 discretion.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. Thank
23 you, gentlemen.

24 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank
25 you, Supervisor.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I do not have
2 any other slips on this Public Hearing.
3 Is there anyone else who'd like to be Page 45
4 heard?

5 RORI GORDON: (Gesturing.)

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.
7 Just give them a minute to clear
8 out.

9 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: There you go.

10 RORI GORDON: Will the convenience
11 store be open 24 hours?

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: First of all,
13 could you just state your name and
14 address for the record?

15 RORI GORDON: I'm sorry.

16 Rori Gordon, Hauppauge, New York.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.
18 Gentlemen, maybe if you could come back
19 to just answer questions.

20 You don't mind if they sit right
21 next to you?

22 RORI GORDON: No, not at all.

23 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: On this item?

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Yeah, on that
25 item.

1 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Yes, it would
2 be open 24 hours.

3 RORI GORDON: Seven days a week? age 46

4 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Seven days a
5 week, yes.

6 RORI GORDON: Okay. That's the
7 only question I have.

8 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank
9 you.

10 RORI GORDON: Thank you.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

12 Is there anybody else who'd like
13 to be heard on this Public Hearing?

14 META MEREDAY: Have a seat.

15 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Sure, okay.

16 Well, you can go first and then

17 I'll --

18 META MEREDAY: No problem.

19 Meta J. Mereday.

20 Again, with all due respect and
21 since we are coming one day after
22 Veterans Day, which is always that
23 monumental occasion for us to recognize
24 and salute our Veterans, those that made
25 it home and those who didn't, for me,

1 it's the next day.

2 And the plight of the Veterans
3 that are still underserved continues to Page 47
4 ring very true for me. So while the
5 gesture with regard to the flag is
6 definitely appreciated, I would be
7 asking more so along the lines of your
8 contracting and your job development
9 aspects.

10 Not only that, would there
11 be accommodations possibly for
12 service-disabled Veterans, in terms of
13 handicapped parking, maybe a special
14 section in the facility for the area
15 residents and area Veterans to kind of
16 come together?

17 I mean again, we need to kind of
18 get more than the flags and the parades.
19 Because again, particularly out here
20 since we have the largest Veteran
21 population concentration with Nassau and
22 Suffolk Counties, in New York State, in
23 the northeast region, we have to talk a
24 little more than just, "Okay, we're
25 going to have a flag," because they're

1 dying like flies on a daily basis.

2 So that would be my request in

3 terms of some kind of output that Page 48

4 focuses on creating some jobs, a

5 supportive environment, and something

6 that's going to be beneficial and

7 long-term for those who can provide

8 services, with regard to the various

9 activities with regard to your projects.

10 So if you can speak to that I'd

11 appreciate it.

12 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Certainly.

13 I'm glad you raised that. On one

14 end it's obviously probably more of a

15 social issue, probably more of a

16 governmental issue.

17 But in having a company and a

18 principal of that company, probably I

19 can't think of anybody more so. I know

20 his son-in-law was a flight instructor

21 at Miramar. He was in the Iraqi War,

22 day one.

23 I remember the celebration that

24 they had. And it was incredible to see

25 these people come back, you know, from

1 that conflict.

2 And if anybody can do something,
3 it would be him. So I don't know Page 49
4 exactly what we could do, but certainly
5 we'll try.

6 META MEREDAY: I appreciate that.

7 Thank you.

8 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I just want to
9 go on record saying that when we ask
10 that you display the flag, I was at a
11 Marine Corps birthday party Saturday
12 night with -- it was a party. It wasn't
13 formal Marine Corps Ball. It was a
14 party with over 60 Marines. And the
15 language, we could never even think of
16 what they -- the kind of language we
17 used was all drill instructor kind of
18 language.

19 But they appreciate seeing the
20 American flag on all build -- all new
21 buildings going up.

22 So I'm not going to belittle it.
23 I'm not going to in any way, shape or
24 form play it down. It's -- it is
25 important to a lot of men and women that

1 come home -- and women that come home
2 saying thank you.

3 So you know what, it might be Page 50
4 little, but it's something.

5 META MEREDAY: I never said it was --
6 with all due respect, I never said it
7 was little.

8 I said we need to extend beyond
9 that. I would never --

10 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Absolutely, but
11 the --

12 META MEREDAY: -- say -- I would
13 never say --

14 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Well, we're not
15 going to eliminate it.

16 META MEREDAY: -- that having a
17 flag in recognition of our Veterans is
18 little.

19 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Just so you
20 know, we're not going to eliminate us
21 asking for that.

22 Thank you.

23 META MEREDAY: I never said that.

24 And for the record, I've been the
25 one that travels through the County and

1 the Town -- it's particularly Nassau
2 County -- and made sure that they
3 replace the damaged flags that fly over Page 51
4 government facilities.

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

8 META MEREDAY: So I don't even
9 want to even known or intimated that I
10 would say anything that would jeopardize
11 recognizing our Veterans.

12 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: You did.

13 META MEREDAY: I'm focusing on the
14 ones who are losing their homes and
15 living out on the street, as we speak.
16 That's my purpose.

17 Thank you.

18 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Thank you.

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

22 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Thank you very
23 much.

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

25 Is there anybody else who'd like

1 to be heard on this Public Hearing?

2 (Whereupon, a discussion was held
3 off the record.)

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4 JAY BLACKMAN: Hi.

5 This is going to be a question.

6 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Okay. Would
7 you like me to sit there?

8 JAY BLACKMAN: Well, I guess if
9 everybody can hear, my name is
10 Jay Blackman from East Meadow.

11 And in listening to what we're
12 describing, it sounded really very
13 useful and very beautiful. Because of
14 the emergence of the electric cars, I
15 was just wondering if there was any
16 accomodation for electric charging
17 stations?

18 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Not at this
19 time.

20 Interesting, you know, concept.
21 But not at this time, at this particular
22 location.

23 I know you see it at some public
24 buildings. You see it at hotels. We'd
25 have to see -- but like I said, it's not

1 part of these plans at this time.

2 JAY BLACKMAN: Well, it's a
3 personal thing 'cause I just bought an Page 53
4 electric car.

5 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: There you go.

6 JAY BLACKMAN: I want a place to
7 charge.

8 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: I know my
9 brother's got one also. And when he
10 goes on a trip somewhere, he has to plot
11 out as to how far it can go.

12 And they've got some of these that
13 are -- can do it rapidly, and then there
14 are the other ones that do it on a
15 longer period of time.

16 JAY BLACKMAN: Yeah.

17 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: You know, and
18 then there are proprietary ones for
19 Tesla, and then there's the general ones
20 for everyone else.

21 But that is -- it is moving in
22 that direction. A lot of the hotels,
23 you'll certainly see that.

24 JAY BLACKMAN: I'm thinking in
25 terms of the environment, is more than

1 anything else.

2 We are turning more and more
3 towards electric, and hydrogen fuel cars age 54
4 will be on the horizon.

5 They're already in California. So
6 it might be something --

7 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Well --

8 JAY BLACKMAN: -- that can come in
9 the future.

10 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: -- we'll look
11 into it.

12 Thank you.

13 JAY BLACKMAN: Okay. Thank you.

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: All right. Is
15 there anybody else who'd like to be
16 heard on this Public Hearing?

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

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Hearing none,
20 may I have a Motion?

21 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Okay. I'm
22 going to make a Motion to close the
23 Public Hearing. And instead of
24 reserving decision, I'd like to adopt
25 this because you answered all the

1 questions that we did have.

2 So I make a Motion to adopt --

3 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Thank you. Page 55

4 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: -- this item.

5 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Okay.

6 I'll second the Motion.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk?

8 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

10 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

13 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

14 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

15 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

16 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman

17 Goosby?

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

19 CLERK CABANA: Councilman

20 Muscarella?

21 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

22 ATTORNEY O'BRIEN: Thank you very

23 much.

24 Have a good day.

25 ENGINEER TARTAGLIA: Thank you.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Bye, bye
2 gentlemen.

3 All right. Madam Clerk, will you age 56
4 please call the Administrative Calendar?

5 CLERK CABANA: Yes.

6 There are Items Numbers 7 through
7 54 on the Administrative Calendar. I also
8 have two hand-up resolutions that are of
9 an emergent nature.

10 The first one is a resolution
11 awarding purchase contract 107-2019 for
12 the yearly requirements for the transfer
13 and/or acceptance of mattresses
14 collected by the Town of Hempstead.
15 This will be Resolution Number 55 on the
16 Calendar.

17 I also -- the second resolution is
18 one -- a resolution amending Resolution
19 Number 1640-2017, which authorized an
20 agreement with the Xerox Corporation,
21 for the maintenance of the two "HLC 128"
22 printers for use in the Department of
23 Information and Technology. This will
24 be Item Number 56 on the Calendar.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. Would

1 any of the council members like to sever
2 or amend any of the items on the
3 Administrative Calendar? Page 57

4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yes, I'd
5 like to adjourn, without date, 16, 36
6 and 49. And I'd like to adjourn
7 Number 17 to our next meeting,
8 December 10th.

9 Oh, did I miss one?

10 BOARD COUNSEL REGINA: Yeah, right
11 here, see? Item 32.

12 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Oh, okay.

13 (Whereupon, "Can you repeat that
14 please," was heard from the audience.)

15 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Oh, I'm
16 sorry. I'd also like to:

17 Amend Item 32 so the points of
18 contact reads, "Commissioner Rottkamp
19 and Supervisor's designee;"

20 And 33, to remove January 2nd, 2020
21 as a meeting date;

22 And to table items -- so I did
23 those already; yeah.

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Could you just
25 repeat everything?

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yeah.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Because it's
3 hard to --

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4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Sure.

5 So I am -- let me do this one
6 first. I move to:

7 Postpone 17 to December 10th;

8 Amend Item 32 so the points of
9 contact reads, "Commissioner Rottkamp
10 and the Supervisor's designee;"

11 And to amend Item Number 33 to
12 remove January 2nd, 2020 as a meeting
13 date;

14 And to table Items 36, 49 and 16.

15 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Just a
16 point of inquiry to our counsel, the
17 Motion to adjourn, does that need to be
18 separate from the Motion to amend?

19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I didn't
20 adjourn it.

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Well, he made
22 it as one motion. You can -- you cannot
23 entertain it the way he did. For
24 clarity purposes if you want it broken
25 up, I'm sure counsel would --

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Well, I
2 think people would be entitled to speak
3 on the amendment, but not on the Page 59
4 postponement; correct?

5 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is --
6 that's correct. So --

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So should we
8 do two separate motions here? Mr. Ra,
9 would that be cleaner?

10 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: He made it as
11 one motion.

12 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Okay, second
13 it.

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: So there's no
16 public comment.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I'm sorry
18 Councilman. I have 7 -- 16, you're
19 moving to adjourn 16 without a date.

20 17, you're moving to adjourn to
21 December 10.

22 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: 36, 49.

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: 36, 36 is
24 without a date or 36 is to a different
25 day?

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: 36, 49 and
2 16, without date. Sorry.

3 And 33 to remove January 2nd, 2020 ge 60
4 as a meeting date, which I believe is
5 the Inauguration.

6 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I'm sorry.
7 40, 49, what else?

8 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: 49, 16.

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Oh, thank you.
10 Just a moment.

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Rich, can
12 you give them a list?

13 Oh.

14 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: He just did.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I just need to
16 know what I'm voting on.

17 Okay. So Item 16 is about a
18 contract with TVEyes.

19 Item 17 is establishing the list
20 of designated newspapers, and that's
21 moving over to the 10th.

22 Item 32 relates to -- and you're
23 just amending that; is that correct,
24 Councilman? You're just amending
25 Item 32 to designate certain people?

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Correct.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: No, 32. Page 61

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: 32, yes.

5 33 is the -- 33, you're amending
6 it and you're removing the January 2nd
7 meeting?

8 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yes.

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: And 36 is
10 establishing a panel of engineering and
11 planning firms.

12 Commissioner, will that cause you
13 any hardship if we adjourn that?

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

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is the
17 Commission here?

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

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Which one is
21 that?

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It's Item
23 Number 36.

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr.
25 Regina?

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Will this
2 cause any --

3 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: You Page 62
4 conferred with the departments?

5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Have you --

6 BOARD COUNSEL REGINA: Which Item?

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Number 36,
8 establishing a panel of engineering and
9 planning firms pursuant to the Town's
10 procurement policy.

11 I just want to make sure that we
12 will not be jeopardizing anything going
13 forward.

14 BOARD COUNSEL REGINA: No.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The
16 Commissioner is not here?

17 BOARD COUNSEL REGINA: Not to my
18 knowledge, Supervisor.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Yes, Tuman or
20 Bakich, either one, if you would just
21 come forward.

22 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Don't get
23 comfortable for that question.

24 COMMISSIONER TUMAN: Yeah, no, it
25 would -- it will have no disruption at

1 all to my office. I -- yeah.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER TUMAN: Yeah. Page 63

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

5 That's all I wanted to know.

6 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Thank you,

7 Commissioner.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: And 49, okay.

9 So we have a Motion and A second.

10 And now we have to vote on all

11 these changes; is that correct?

12 (Whereupon, no response was heard.

13 After, the following ensued.)

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Go ahead,

15 Madam Clerk.

16 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. I think

18 I'm okay with everything, except:

19

20 I don't move to -- I don't agree

21 with Item Number 49;

22 And I abstain on Item Number 16,

23 because I'm unaware if we owe that

24 contractor any money, and if we do, we

25 have to pay them.

1 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

3 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito? 64

4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

5 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

6 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

7 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman

8 Goosby?

9 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

10 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

11 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

12 (Whereupon, a discussion was held

13 off the record. After, the following

14 ensued.)

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Now, can I

16 have a Motion to adopt the

17 Administrative Calendar as amended?

18 (Whereupon, a discussion was held

19 off the record. After, the following

20 ensued.)

21 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Okay.

22 I move that we adopt the

23 Administrative Calendar, along with the

24 changes, the administrations and the

25 amendments.

1 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. I have
3 some slips on the Administrative Page 65
4 Calendar. First is Diane Madden.

5 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden,
6 Hempstead.

7 I believe I put a slip in for 40;
8 is that right?

9 MS. HANSON: Yes.

10 DIANE MADDEN: Oh, thank you.

11 So this goes back to, for me
12 anyway and about five other advocates,
13 to some concerns we had back in 2017 for
14 this contract.

15 And I know that recently I believe
16 the Supervisor had tabled the payment
17 for this?

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Yes. At a
19 Board Meeting in September, we tabled
20 the potential -- we tabled this
21 resolution about settling this case.

22 DIANE MADDEN: Okay. So what
23 changed?

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It's pending
25 litigation, Ms. Madden. We can't

1 comment.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Procedurally
3 Mr. Ra, actually can this even be on the age 66
4 agenda if we have not yet had a vote to
5 un-table it? I think it was tabled
6 without a date.

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Excuse me,
8 Supervisor.

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I think
10 this -- I'm just -- as a matter of
11 procedure, I think this was tabled
12 without a date.

13 So can it even be properly on the
14 agenda if we did not vote to un-table
15 it, or do we need to do a vote to
16 un-table it.

17 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Well, it was
18 brought back by two council people. It
19 was placed back on. Other than that,
20 I'm not going to comment.

21 DIANE MADDEN: But --

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So
23 procedurally, is it proper for it to be
24 on the --

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I believe --

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: -- the
2 agenda --

3 TOWN ATTORNEY: -- I believe so. Page 67

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: -- if there
5 was not a vote to un-table it --

6 TOWN ATTORNEY: I believe so.

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: -- according
8 to the rules?

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I believe so.

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I don't know
11 if I agree with that.

12 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Okay.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I just want to
14 make sure it's done procedurally
15 correct.

16 Maybe we should -- do you want to
17 take a look at the rules? Mr. Regina?

18 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I'm comfortable
19 with my answer.

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

21 DIANE MADDEN: So was there any
22 fund -- I've been approached about this,
23 because we were very upset about this in
24 2017.

25 What do they say, "When there's

1 smoke, there's fire."

2 And was there any fundraising
3 involved with -- for a political party Page 68
4 with this law firm?

5 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There's pending
6 litigation concerning this matter. I'm
7 not going to comment.

8 DIANE MADDEN: This was an \$85,000
9 settlement. Is it correct that
10 taxpayers are billed at least over a
11 half a million dollars to settle this
12 case?

13 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't have
14 that information available.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. --

16 DIANE MADDEN: Is this the law
17 firm that you hired to defend
18 Stanley Lombardo's \$15,000 settlement to
19 keep from feeding cats on a landfill?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Off the top of
21 my head, I'd probably say yes it was.
22 But I'm really -- I'm not sure, because
23 I don't have either file in front of me
24 right now.

25 DIANE MADDEN: "Camp A.N.C.H.O.R."

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't know.

2 DIANE MADDEN: I'm told that

3 there was billing from this law firm Page 69

4 before they were even approved on that

5 resolution.

6 I am just trying to find out what

7 the truth is, because everything in the

8 future, with the new incoming

9 Supervisor, hinges on what this Board

10 does and who advises them.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The Counsel

12 for this was Anthony Bisceglie or

13 Bisceglie or Angelo Bisceglie was the

14 Counsel for the Town on this litigation.

15 I don't know. Was he the counsel

16 for the "Camp A.N.C.H.O.R." as well?

17 Yes, it appears he's --

18 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I don't recall.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: -- the counsel

20 for the "Camp A.N.C.H.O.R." litigation

21 as well.

22 And what other litigation did you

23 ask about, Ms. Madden?

24 DIANE MADDEN: Stanley Lombardo.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I don't know

1 about Stan. I'm not sure about that
2 one.

3 DIANE MADDEN: Okay. Page 70

4 So I've been told that this law
5 firm was not even legally able to
6 practice in New York when this
7 resolution passed. Is that the truth?
8 Is that the case?

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Not to my
10 knowledge.

11 DIANE MADDEN: There are so many
12 lawsuits that have not been settled,
13 including the lawsuits against the
14 Animal Shelter, and the director there,
15 and Santino. And yet, this one's
16 settled.

17 It just there's -- there's --
18 something doesn't make sense to me here.
19 Why now?

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I can't answer
21 that question, Ms. Madden.

22 I have to be careful because there
23 is pending litigation. But there was a
24 motion for sanctions, because there was
25 no settlement in this litigation,

1 because we postponed the settlement,
2 because I became aware of information
3 that made me think it was not the best Page 71
4 use of the taxpayers' money to settle
5 this litigation, including reading a
6 deposition transcript where the
7 principal of "Double Eagle" admitted
8 that he had no contract with the Town of
9 Hempstead, which seems to sum up the
10 whole case.

11 So it was not a prudent use of the
12 taxpayers' money to settle this
13 litigation. And other information came
14 to me, so that's why we tabled it.

15 But now it's being un-tabled. I
16 don't know which members of the Board.
17 Joe Ra indicated to me members of the
18 Town Board un-tabled it.

19 I don't think it should be
20 un-tabled. And I do think this -- we
21 should pay any settlement in this case.

22 DIANE MADDEN: Yeah, I'm very
23 concerned about this. And I don't think
24 the Board -- I think they need to think
25 seriously about passing this.

1 And I agree that it should be
2 tabled in the best interests of the
3 taxpayers, and in view of the fact that Page 72
4 we have a new incoming Supervisor, and
5 everyone is watching very closely. And
6 I pray to God he takes the same position
7 that I did and asks for your
8 resignation, Mr. Ra.

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

12 DIANE MADDEN: Thank you.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
14 Ms. Madden.

15 Barbara Epstein.

16 BARBARA EPSTEIN: Barbara Epstein
17 from Wantagh, New York.

18 The League of Women Voters has a
19 position related -- oh, I'm talking on
20 Number --

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: 31.

22 BARBARA EPSTEIN: -- 31. Yes,
23 okay.

24 The League of Women Voters has a
25 vision relating to affordable housing.

1 And the concern when we deal with the
2 "zombie" housing, it's important that
3 we do as much as we can to make sure Page 73
4 that these "zombie" properties can get
5 back onto the tax rolls. And hopefully
6 a lot of them can be renovated, so
7 that -- or rebuilt with other
8 not-for-profit organizations, so that
9 these can be made affordable homes to
10 residents in the Town, because there's
11 we all know there's a great need for
12 more affordable -- for affordable
13 housing to keep our young people here in
14 Nassau County and the Town of Hempstead.

15 Thank you.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
17 Ms. Epstein.

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY:
19 Ms. Epstein, I agree with you, but we
20 need to put them all over the whole
21 Town.

22 BARBARA EPSTEIN: I totally agree
23 with you.

24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Not
25 just in the area that we live here.

1 BARBARA EPSTEIN: I totally agree,
2 throughout the Town of Hempstead.

3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Page 74

4 What's happened is we need to do it so
5 that we don't get settle with all the
6 money that comes out of "IDAs." 'Cause
7 our people where I live in my District,
8 the taxpayers are paying a hell of a --
9 a lot of money. I don't want to say the
10 other word. But they're paying an awful
11 lot of money, because people are
12 borrowing against to build them.

13 And it's to the point now in some
14 of my areas, there's no place to park
15 your cars.

16 (Whereupon, "That's right" was
17 heard from the audience.)

18 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: So
19 thank you.

20 BARBARA EPSTEIN: Thank you.

21 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: If
22 everybody agrees to put them in all
23 over, then that'll be fine with me.

24 BARBARA EPSTEIN: I agree.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mary Ellen

1 Kreye.

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

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5 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Good morning.

6 Mary Ellen Kreye, 436 Locust
7 Avenue, Uniondale.

8 Let me go to the front.

9 On Item Number 19, which areas
10 please? And I'd like to draw attention
11 to the fact that a survey could be made
12 of the sidewalks at Echo Park.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Commissioner,
14 if you would please.

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Good morning,
16 Supervisor, Town Board.

17 Hi Mary Ellen.

18 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Yes.

19 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Good morning.

20 MARY ELLEN KREYE: How are you?

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Good.

22 This resolution has 96 properties
23 that have sidewalks constructed or
24 reconstructed. The residents will be
25 given 30 days to make those changes and

1 then we will take the next steps after
2 that.

3 In Uniondale, we have these four Page 76
4 items. Okay, I can get them for you
5 though.

6 MARY ELLEN KREYE: All right.
7 Okay. That would be good.

8 THE COMMISSIONER: All right,
9 we'll get them for you of course.

10 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Okay, thank
11 you.

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
13 Commissioner.

14 MARY ELLEN KREYE: There are some
15 in Uniondale.

16 Thank you.

17 I'd like to note that the time was
18 not stopped while Commissioner came
19 forward.

20 On Item Number 31, I would like to
21 point out that the Uniondale Community
22 Land Trust has just had the lottery on
23 the home that it -- the "zombie" home
24 that it had renovated. And we're in the
25 process of seeing who -- I mean which

1 people will qualify and how that goes.

2 So we very much are in favor of that.

3 So on the -- I can't read my own Page 77
4 notes. (Laughter.)

5 Oh, Nostrand Avenue. They've been
6 working on Nostrand Avenue for a long,
7 long time. So is this some new
8 situation or --

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Which item
10 are you talking about?

11 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Oh, I'm sorry,
12 34.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: 34, okay.

14 THE COMMISSIONER: Council
15 Members, Supervisor.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Item Number 34
18 was an amending resolution. There was
19 an error in the estimating quantity for
20 one of the construction items. This is
21 an amending resolutions to take care of
22 that situation.

23 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I see. So it's
24 to pay more to the construction company;
25 is that it?

1 THE COMMISSIONER: It's to pay
2 additional from quantity that was left
3 off the original contract.

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4 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I see.
5 Thank you.

6 On Items Number 42, 3 and 5, I'm
7 wondering where in Uniondale these
8 various situations are go -- you know,
9 for the public hearings, just so we know
10 where in Uniondale please.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

12 TOM REED: Good morning,
13 Supervisor, Town Board Members.

14 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Good morning.

15 TOM REED: Tom Reed, representing
16 Traffic Control.

17 These are all issues for the
18 upcoming --

19 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Yes, I
20 understand.

21 TOM REED: -- Town Board and I can
22 get the --

23 MARY ELLEN KREYE: That's why we
24 wanted to --

25 TOM REED: -- information for you.

1 MARY ELLEN KREYE: -- oh, you'll
2 get it for me?

3 TOM REED: Yeah. Page 79

4 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Okay, very
5 good.

6 TOM REED: Yeah.

7 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Because we'd
8 like to know the specific locations.

9 Thank you.

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
11 Mr. Reed.

12 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I think that's
13 all.

14 Thank you.

15 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
16 Ms. Kreye.

17 Felix Procacci.

18 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci.

19 On the meeting dates, I recommend
20 this -- recommended this before. I wish
21 the Town would e-mail, on their e-mail
22 list, the dates when you're having the
23 meeting. So people will always expect
24 it when you have unexpected meetings --
25 you know, may not read the paper, so

1 they could get it in their e-mail.

2 'Cause I signed up for it, but, you

3 know, they -- you know, we don't get Page 80

4 that notification.

5 On the list of designated

6 newspapers, it was adjourned. I agree

7 with the adjournment.

8 There's one thing. I've brought

9 this up several times in the past. The

10 Franklin Square Bulletin, I believe is

11 still owned by a Town employee. I

12 believe his financial disclosure form

13 should be available to the public.

14 If he's doing -- if he is still an

15 employee, if he's doing business with

16 the Town, I believe that should be

17 public information so people know that

18 it's a Town employee running it. I

19 think it's only fair and just, you know,

20 to make sure there's no conflict of

21 interest.

22 Also, on the Code of Ethics, the

23 adjournment, I agree with that. The --

24 we don't have ethics board, a working

25 ethics board. We really need a working

1 ethics board, otherwise the Ethics Code,
2 you're really useless.

3 Also, as I've spoken about this Page 81
4 before, that the procedure for how to
5 file an ethics inquiry -- it's not
6 necessarily a complaint -- should be put
7 on the website.

8 It should be very conspicuous so
9 if people do question behavior of a Town
10 Official, that they could see it, the
11 guidelines. Maybe they'll decide after
12 reading it that there was no wrongdoing.

13 But, you know, it should be
14 readily available so people could
15 understand it, just a very simple guide
16 to it.

17 On Number 25, the transfer of
18 funds, I know we postponed this. Is
19 there anything else besides this that's
20 holding up getting our audited
21 financials done or is this it?

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr.
23 Longobardo, are you here?

24 MR. LONGOBARDO: Good morning,
25 Supervisor, Town Board.

1 The only thing we are waiting for
2 on our audited financial statements
3 right now would be from one of -- one or age 82
4 two of the outside districts waiting for
5 their audited financial statements.

6 FELIX PROCACCI: Which ones are
7 those?

8 MR. LONGOBARDO: One is the
9 Western -- the Water District in Western
10 Hempstead. And I'd have to check --

11 FELIX PROCACCI: West Hempstead
12 Water District?

13 MR. LONGOBARDO: Okay.

14 FELIX PROCACCI: And you don't
15 know the other one?

16 MR. LONGOBARDO: I'm not sure of
17 the other one.

18 FELIX PROCACCI: Okay.

19 MR. LONGOBARDO: They may have
20 already submitted theirs, so --

21 FELIX PROCACCI: Okay.

22 And on Number 28, the litigation
23 with Lisa Whitaker, what is that about?

24 I couldn't find -- I looked up the
25 code on, you know, Nassau Supreme Court.

1 I couldn't find that case there.

2 Can you -- someone tell me what
3 that case is about? It should be public age 83
4 record.

5 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There's -- the
6 matter is in litigation and, therefore,
7 I will not comment on the matter.

8 FELIX PROCACCI: But I should be
9 able to get a copy of the case work. I
10 couldn't find --

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Sir --

12 FELIX PROCACCI: -- that on --

13 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: -- Mr. Ra --

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I guess you
15 should.

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: -- Mr. Ra,
17 can you just with respect to that
18 portion of the litigation that is
19 already in the public domain, just tell
20 Mr. Felix Procacci --

21 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: But I cannot --

22 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: -- what the
23 case is about.

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: -- but I cannot
25 Councilman, because the -- they're -- it

1 is not in the public domain right now.

2 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: There isn't

3 a complaint filed that's in the Clerk's -- Page 84

4

5 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I --

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: -- Office?

7 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: -- cannot.

8 That is correct. There is not a

9 complaint filed.

10 FELIX PROCACCI: You gave a

11 complaint number on the resolution. And

12 I looked at that complaint number and I

13 couldn't find it.

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I'm not going

15 to comment on Item -- if the Board would

16 like to go to Executive Session, I'll

17 tell you what's going on.

18 But I can't tell you. I can't

19 tell you.

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I think we

21 should go into Executive Session to

22 discuss this.

23 FELIX PROCACCI: Okay.

24 Thank you.

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So we'll just

1 take a short break to go into Executive
2 Session.

3 FELIX PROCACCI: Okay. Page 85

4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Thanks,
5 Felix.

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Hopefully
7 ten minutes.

8 (Whereupon, an Executive Session
9 was held from 12:02 p.m. to 12:07 p.m.)

10 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Supervisor
11 if I may, we went into Executive Session
12 and we deferred to Counsel.

13 Counsel, will you give Mr. Procacci
14 the answer?

15 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There is
16 pending litigation and I am not going to
17 comment.

18 (Whereupon, laughter was heard.
19 After, the following ensued.)

20 FELIX PROCACCI: Okay.
21 Thank you very much.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. Rori
23 Gordon.

24 RORI GORDON: Can somebody explain
25 to me Resolution Number 32?

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Commissioner?
2 (Whereupon, no response was heard.
3 After, the following ensued.) Page 86

4 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Is
5 Commissioner Rottkamp here?
6 Commissioner Rottkamp? Oh, there
7 he is.

8 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: Good
9 afternoon, Supervisor, members of the
10 Town Board.

11 Resolution 32 is we've been
12 asking FEMA since day one for
13 information that they had on the
14 properties within the Town of Hempstead.
15 And they basically been refusing up to
16 this point.

17 And then they finally said if
18 there's a resolution approved by the
19 Town Board, that they would give us that
20 information.

21 RORI GORDON: Information in
22 regards to what? I mean financial, or
23 the documents that they received to get
24 assistance? What type of information?

25 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: We would

1 have access to all of that information.

2 RORI GORDON: So --

3 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: So we Page 87
4 would know which houses were considered
5 substantially damaged by FEMA.

6 RORI GORDON: But your department
7 is the one that did the assessment on
8 that. How -- I'm lost somewhere here.

9 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: My
10 department did a preliminary damage
11 assessment seven years ago. Looking
12 from the outside, we searched 167,000
13 homes, so we did not get inside of them.

14 Most people came forward and filed
15 building permits, because the building
16 permits were free since day one and are
17 still free.

18 So the Town Board has made it
19 possible for people to come forward,
20 because there is no cost for the
21 permitting fees. The Town Board has
22 waived over \$7 million in permit fees up
23 to date.

24 Unfortunately, some people have
25 not taken advantage of this yet. And by

1 us getting this information from FEMA,
2 it'll help us assist the residents.

3 RORI GORDON: But shouldn't you Page 88
4 already know who hasn't come forward,
5 based on the Code that you gave them
6 originally, and whether it was yellow or
7 red? You would know; right?

8 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: We have a
9 list and they're still coming in slowly
10 but surely.

11 RORI GORDON: Okay. Is there a
12 cutoff for this particular time?

13 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: No,
14 there's not.

15 The homeowners are still coming in
16 as they're getting their paperwork and
17 their finances in order.

18 RORI GORDON: Okay. And on
19 Number 38, can somebody explain that to
20 me?

21 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: That's the
22 Town Board's resolution.

23 That would be -- Supervisor, I
24 don't know if you want to answer that
25 one.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Can you
2 explain about the flood insurance?

3 COMMISSIONER ROTTKAMP: Yes. Page 89

4 Basically, what the Town Board is
5 looking to do is write a letter to the
6 House of Representatives stating that
7 they shouldn't change their policies.

8 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: And
9 actually just a question on that.

10 38 is a resolution asking the
11 Board to, I guess, you know, like the
12 Commissioner said, send a letter to
13 Congress.

14 Is there a reason why it's a
15 resolution and we're not just preparing?

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: This is a
17 sense of the Board, Resolution --

18 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Time out.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Did you just
20 say shut up?

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

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Oh, I'm
24 going --

25 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: No, I

1 understand what the sense of the Board
2 is. I understand the definition.

3 But what I don't understand is -- age 90

4 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: FEMA has
5 already -- the "National Flood Insurance
6 Program" has already postponed to I
7 think 2021. They've already did what
8 this resolution calls upon them to do.
9 But it happened after this calendar was
10 published.

11 So that's why -- so it's here, but
12 last week they already did what we're
13 asking them to do.

14 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: In
15 other words, it's already passed.

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Right. So
17 what I'm trying to say is there's no
18 point in this resolution.

19 I'm just trying to get an
20 understanding. I'm not saying it's
21 right or wrong. I'm just trying to get
22 an understanding.

23 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: To the extent
24 that they've already done.

25 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I get

1 that.

2 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: They -- yeah.

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Ms. Sinclair, age 91
4 do you have anything to just offer about
5 this resolution?

6 Thank you, Commissioner.

7 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I
8 read it in the newspaper. It's already
9 been done, so we don't have to do
10 this --

11 REBECCA SINCLAIR: So while they
12 did postpone the date of enacting the
13 new flood insurance reform, they still
14 haven't rewritten the bill.

15 And the issue we have right now is
16 that most of our homeowners who have
17 flood insurance based on the new risk
18 rating program could see their flood
19 insurance go through the roof.

20 And so we're basically saying even
21 though you've delayed it by a year,
22 there still needs to be significant
23 reform or we're going to have people
24 essentially having to foreclose on their
25 homes, 'cause they won't be able to

1 afford the burden of their flood
2 insurance.

3 So the sense of the resolution is age 92
4 to say that, you know, we support
5 reform, but we support smart reform that
6 doesn't open up our homeowners to
7 additional risk, more than they already
8 have living in the floodplain.

9 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Right.

10 I think all I'm trying to point
11 out is that we're not -- all we're doing
12 is letting Congress know that we are in
13 support of them moving this forward.

14 This is not something that's going
15 to change the Building Department
16 tomorrow. We're in essence sending a
17 letter saying we support this.

18 REBECCA SINCLAIR: What we're
19 saying is we don't support the bill as
20 written. It --

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Right.

22 REBECCA SINCLAIR: -- needs
23 reform.

24 And it's what most of the counties
25 along the east coast and --

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Yeah --

2 REBECCA SINCLAIR: -- towns have
3 been doing is --

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4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: -- yeah.

5 REBECCA SINCLAIR: -- adopting
6 these just as --

7 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: And I
8 agree with that.

9 I'm just trying to point out that
10 it's not --

11 REBECCA SINCLAIR: Correct.

12 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: -- that
13 there's nothing -- just 'cause I know
14 there was questions that the
15 Commissioner had to answer. That's all.
16 I was just pointing that out.

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Uh-huh. And
18 so --

19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Thank you.

20 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: -- this would
21 really just give us a way to advocate
22 for our residents. And it's certainly
23 something that we will circulate with
24 the Town Board, and everybody can weigh
25 in and give comments on it.

1 It's not going to be done
2 unilaterally.

3 REBECCA SINCLAIR: Correct. Page 94

4 RORI GORDON: But I know you
5 really have a handle on all this. About
6 how many homes are still up in the air?

7 REBECCA SINCLAIR: As I mean as
8 the Commissioner just described, because
9 we haven't had homeowners coming in --
10 so let's say we have 20,000 flood
11 insurance policies in the Town of
12 Hempstead. We had 13,000 people who had
13 "PDA's".

14 There are some dealt, and there
15 are people who have just haven't taken
16 any action. And so therefore, we can't
17 determine until they come into the Town
18 and apply for permits.

19 So that's why we've been sort of
20 doing more of an awareness, so that
21 people know what they can do to help
22 themselves.

23 RORI GORDON: And what is it, the
24 awareness that you do, beside the letter
25 that Laura sent out? I'm not talking

1 about that. That, I am aware of.

2 REBECCA SINCLAIR: Well, there's
3 been information that's been on the Town age 95
4 website about coming in and applying for
5 permits post Sandy. And I think in all
6 of the media that's gone out and
7 everything we've discussed, we've been
8 telling people you need to be aware that
9 you may have a storm damage that needs
10 to be mitigated.

11 RORI GORDON: Okay. And this
12 letter from FEMA that's supposed to be
13 answered in 30 -- I'm sorry, 60 days.

14 REBECCA SINCLAIR: Uh-huh.

15 RORI GORDON: Who's responsible to
16 answer this?

17 REBECCA SINCLAIR: Well, the
18 Building Department. And then I assume
19 the Town Attorney's Office would sign on
20 whatever their formal response is.
21 Yeah.

22 RORI GORDON: So the same people
23 that screwed it up are responsible to
24 put it back together?

25 REBECCA SINCLAIR: I think we

1 have an opportunity, with FEMA's
2 requests for policy and procedures, to
3 ensure that we are handling things Page 96
4 properly. So we look at this as an
5 opportunity.

6 RORI GORDON: Well, from your
7 mouth to God's ears. Because if not,
8 they have an opportunity to say "Hey,
9 Town of Hempstead, we're not going to
10 insure you anymore." Is that correct,
11 in your opinion?

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

13 REBECCA SINCLAIR: I can't speak
14 to us being de-obligated from the flood
15 insurance program. I think that that's
16 not the --

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: We do need to
18 stick to the item on the calendar,
19 Ms. Gordon.

20 RORI GORDON: Well, okay.

21 But thanks, you've been very
22 helpful. I appreciate it.

23 And in Number 40, I also agree
24 that this should not be settled at this
25 time. It's a travesty what's going on

1 behind the curtain. And it took
2 somebody like you to open up the
3 curtain so we all would know, although Page 97
4 we had a pretty good idea.

5 And I think it was insulting, the
6 night of the election that they dragged
7 Yamali up on stage. That's just my two
8 cents.

9 Thank you.

10 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay, thank
11 you, Ms. Gordon.

12 Rich Schurin.

13 RICHARD SCHURIN: Good afternoon.

14 Richard Schurin, 167 Jefferson
15 Avenue.

16 I have a question concerning
17 process between the departments and the
18 Legal Department. I'm not asking
19 concerning a specific case that's on
20 under litigation or anything like that.

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Mr. Schurin,
22 I'm sorry, I have to confine you to the
23 items on the Administrative Calendar.

24 So if you -- so if you're tie --
25 your comments are tied to an item on the

1 calendar --

2 RICHARD SCHURIN: Yeah.

3 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: -- you can go age 98
4 right ahead. But otherwise, you'll have
5 to wait for a public comment.

6 RICHARD SCHURIN: Well, my comment
7 is tied to Item 40.

8 It's been reported with respect to
9 Item Number 40 and other items and other
10 issues, that the Town of Hempstead has
11 contractual relations with the vendors
12 that are of an extremely informal
13 nature.

14 For example, it's been reported in
15 this case that the vendor said he didn't
16 even have a contract, and he's running a
17 huge facility, multimillion dollar
18 facility. And other vendors have
19 indicated that they're running
20 operations without contracts or based on
21 letter agreements.

22 And it's very disturbing to me, as
23 a resident taxpayer, that apparently the
24 Town has entered into legal
25 relationships with entities, without

1 proper contracts, proper indemnification
2 provisions, proper other provisions in
3 a normal contract that would protect the age 99
4 taxpayers.

5 So my question really is, what's
6 the process with respect to department
7 heads either extending, modifying,
8 amending or entering into contracts with
9 vendors?

10 Do they present that to the Legal
11 Department for approval, or for advice,
12 for consent, or do they just go ahead
13 and execute it themselves based upon
14 their own authority.

15 Mr. Ra, is there any type of
16 process and review, as an attorney, that
17 your office participates in with respect
18 to approving or sanctioning these types
19 of arrangements?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Since there is
21 litigation or potential litigation on
22 a -- on a couple of contracts that fit
23 into the category that you're speaking
24 about, I cannot comment. Anything I say
25 would be used in Court one way or

1 another, so I cannot comment.

2 RICHARD SCHURIN: Okay. Well,
3 as a citizen of the Town of Hempstead Page 100
4 and as a taxpayer, you know, it's
5 extremely -- and an attorney, it's
6 extremely disturbing to me, to hear
7 reports that the Town of Hempstead is
8 entering into relationships that allow
9 vendors to operate, for example, running
10 a catering hall, which creates all sorts
11 of liability issues, without having
12 proper agreements in place that protect
13 the Town of Hempstead and its taxpayers.

14 And it's the relationships between
15 the vendors and political individuals,
16 it's just very, very, very disturbing
17 and quite frankly frightening, as to,
18 you know, liability issues that can and
19 will arise in these types of situations.

20 I mean for example, somebody were
21 to be hurt at the golf course, for
22 example, while Double Eagle was running
23 it -- I know they're not running it
24 anymore. They've been forced out.

25 But I mean and they were to sue

1 the vendor and the Town, I mean you
2 don't have agreements in place,
3 indemnification agreements, insurance Page 101
4 agreements, various -- other various
5 things. It's just extremely, extremely
6 reckless.

7 Thank you.

8 (Whereupon, the bell rang. After,
9 the following ensued.)

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

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
14 Mr. Schurin.

15 I do not have any other slips on
16 the Administrative Calendar. Is there
17 anybody else who'd like to be heard?

18 META MEREDAY: Meta Mereday,
19 Baldwin resident.

20 I have a question with regard to
21 Number 14.

22 And my time is kind of ticking
23 away. Should I like keep talking or
24 would you be able to stop it for --

25 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I'm sorry.

1 It's Item Number 14?

2 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I'm
3 sorry about that. This is something Page 102
4 very important.

5 META MEREDAY: Item 14.

6 With no due disrespect, I had
7 mis-posed a question and I lost like
8 five seconds on the clock.

9 So I just wanted to -- as long as
10 I get it back.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Commissioner,
12 could you just come up and speak on
13 this?

14 THE COMMISSIONER: Good afternoon,
15 Meta. How you doing?

16 META MEREDAY: Good. How you
17 doing?

18 THE COMMISSIONER: Good afternoon,
19 Supervisor, Town Board Members,
20 Senior Councilwoman.

21 This item is for exterminating
22 services that aren't -- weren't covered
23 under line item, like stuff that was at
24 200 North Franklin Street.

25 META MEREDAY: So this is office

1 building?

2 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. It's our
3 main building at 200 North Franklin. Page 103

4 META MEREDAY: We have a
5 situation with bed bugs?

6 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

7 META MEREDAY: Interesting.

8 Oh, okay.

9 Thank you.

10 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: It's over.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: It's over?

12 It's done?

13 THE COMMISSIONER: It was many
14 months ago. It's done. It was taken
15 care of.

16 It was mainly preventive. There
17 was actually not a situation. It was
18 very contained. It was actually on a
19 person. There was none in the building.
20 And we just did very extreme preventives
21 to make sure that it was safe for all
22 our residents.

23 META MEREDAY: Okay. I always
24 just hope and was making sure that it
25 wasn't at any facility or anything that

1 we have, you know --

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
3 Commissioner.

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4 META MEREDAY: -- vulnerable
5 populations.

6 I'm concerned about certain items
7 that get moved and when the residents
8 really don't have clarification and may
9 not be able to come to speak.

10 I was kind of, again, trying to
11 keep up with Councilman D'Esposito's
12 changes and requests for that.

13 I won't repeat some of the
14 statements that were made earlier. My
15 concerns, I echo with regard to Item 40.
16 I'm concerned with regard to the
17 situation with FEMA and those houses,
18 meaning those residents have not been
19 able to come forward. Right now,
20 they're having fights with the County
21 and the State. So many -- a number
22 them, including a number of Veterans are
23 facing foreclosure actions, because
24 they're still paying taxes on properties
25 that they can't live in.

1 The procurement policy, Item 36,
2 not sure why that was adjourned without
3 a date. If someone could explain that Page 105
4 to me I'd appreciate it.

5 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Which one
6 I'm sorry?

7 META MEREDAY: 36.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: 36 about the
9 panel.

10 META MEREDAY: From what I
11 understand, you wanted it adjourned
12 without a date.

13 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: 36.

14 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: 36.

15 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Mr.
16 Regina.

17 BOARD COUNSEL REGINA: Yes.

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: 36.

19 BOARD COUNSEL REGINA: The -- this
20 is the panel of architectural service
21 providers.

22 My recommendation to the Board was
23 to hold on approving that. There are
24 items in procurement guidelines that I
25 want to discuss with the Board, before

1 any other panels are established.

2 META MEREDAY: Could you be a
3 little more specific?

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4 BOARD COUNSEL REGINA: No.

5 That's between me and them on
6 legal matters.

7 META MEREDAY: Okay. Seems to me
8 to be a lot of internal stuff that
9 notice fully residents are concerned
10 about.

11 Particularly we talk in 38 where
12 we say seek meaningful and affordability
13 protections, we're looking to do that
14 writing a letter to the government, our
15 federal government agencies, and
16 residents are not getting it from our
17 local government. And so I'm just
18 concerned about that.

19 Item 31 as it pertains to the
20 funding for building development for
21 "zombie" homes, my focus has always been
22 particularly on trying to keep residents
23 in their homes, again, particularly our
24 Veterans who normally come forward well
25 beyond the realm of possibility to get

1 the assistance.

2 So again, why I also focus on
3 making sure that we do all the relative Page 107
4 and necessary salutes, I'm also the one
5 that is dealing with the local sheriffs
6 to try to avoid foreclosure and
7 evictions processes. So I would like to
8 see possibly some of those funds go
9 towards housing protection, as opposed
10 to homeless support services. If we can
11 do that, we can make less homes "zombie"
12 homes.

13 Lastly, on Item 49, I just want
14 to, again, understand what the process
15 is with this overall ethics board,
16 because there seems to be, again,
17 questions as to what this is actually
18 going to do 'cause public trust is over.
19 It does not exist. It's sad to say.
20 But we still have to pay these taxes.
21 So if somebody could explain that to me.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: An ethics
23 board was empaneled. However, one of
24 the designees resigned, I think very
25 shortly after he was appointed by the

1 Council as one of the Council's
2 designees. And I -- they have to refill
3 that position.

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4 I don't see any reason why the
5 Board -- the Ethics Board still cannot
6 meet. I wrote to them and asked them to
7 meet. But they have not met yet, to my
8 knowledge.

9 META MEREDAY: I see, okay.

10 One of the other things I would
11 hope with the incoming administration or
12 possibly with this current
13 administration is if we can truly affect
14 some type of process that we can --

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

17 META MEREDAY: -- increase
18 inclusion for service disabled and
19 Veteran-owned businesses, so that we can
20 actually see on the listings here if
21 these companies -- some of these names
22 are familiar, so I'm not seeing anything
23 new. I'm not seeing anything diverse.
24 And that's a challenge and a concern.

25 Thank you.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
2 Ms. Mereday.

3 Ms. Jacobs. Page 109

4 PEARL JACOBS: Pearl Jacobs,
5 Uniondale, representing Nostrand Garden
6 Civic Association.

7 Regarding Item 31, reduction of
8 "zombie" homes, I'm all for anything
9 that would reduce "zombie" homes in our
10 areas.

11 However, we need a moratorium and
12 I'm sure Uniondale residents would
13 wholly support a moratorium on shelter
14 homes in our communities. And I'm not
15 referring to shelter homes with women
16 and children, domestic homes. I am
17 talking about shelter homes with the,
18 you know, people coming out of prison,
19 drug related and the such.

20 Okay, so the statistics are
21 alarming. 81 percent of all shelter
22 homes in Nassau County that are
23 sanctioned by the Nassau County
24 Department of Social Services are
25 located in majority/minority

1 communities, Uniondale, Roosevelt,
2 Hempstead and Freeport.

3 Every community in Nassau County Page 110
4 in the Town of Hempstead should share
5 the burden of shelter homes. And this
6 sort of practice lends to further
7 marginalization of communities of color.

8 Senior Councilwoman Goosby, would
9 you support me on that?

10 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Of
11 course. I have no problems supporting
12 that.

13 First, we have to get the
14 Legislature to really help us, because
15 it comes through them. We don't really
16 have anything to do. They pay the money
17 to those folk who have those shelters.
18 I would really support that.

19 PEARL JACOBS: So perhaps maybe we
20 can get together, and meet and start
21 some sort of a dialogue with the
22 Legislator, a joint discussion regarding
23 moratoriums on these shelter homes?

24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY:
25 Sounds good.

1 PEARL JACOBS: Thank you.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

3 Is there anybody else who'd like Page 111
4 to be heard on the Administrative
5 Calendar?

6 JAMES JACOB: Oh, it's afternoon.

7 Good afternoon, Supervisor.

8 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Good
9 afternoon.

10 JAMES JACOB: Senior Goosby,
11 Council.

12 A point of inquiry of Case No.
13 2915, Item 7, is that connected to a
14 Case Number 2943, Number 10, for as
15 their Resolution to ratifying, and
16 confirming and granting permission of
17 the Town of Hempstead Parking Fields,
18 'cause I notice it has Uniondale in
19 there. And then it speak about
20 Number 10, about donations.

21 So I just want a point of inquiry
22 for its clarification.

23 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So you're
24 asking about Item Number 7; is that
25 correct, sir?

1 JAMES JACOB: Yes.

2 For the first part, because it
3 says the first part, Resolution 10, Page 112
4 which if you go down to Number 10, it
5 speaks about donations from the Town of
6 Hempstead of \$5,000 to author -- to the
7 subsidy of the Parks, the Town, for the
8 Summer Concert Program.

9 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay.

10 JAMES JACOB: So I'm wondering if
11 the two are connected.

12 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So
13 Commissioner, are these connected, the
14 use of the park, the deal about the
15 donation --

16 JAMES JACOB: No, because it has
17 Baldwin here --

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: The district.

19 JAMES JACOB: -- Merrick -- I'm
20 sorry, it has Uniondale.

21 On 7 it has -- let me make sure
22 I'm readying this right --

23 THE COMMISSIONER: I actually
24 don't believe so. The Town of Hempstead
25 gives -- just gives a permit for

1 different uses, for parking fields.

2 JAMES JACOB: Oh, okay.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: And that's our age 113
4 total responsibility.

5 We don't allow anyone to make
6 money or things to that nature. If it's
7 a 501(c) or so we'll allow that. But I
8 didn't see anything negative when I
9 reviewed them.

10 JAMES JACOB: Yeah, 'cause when I
11 read it said Resolution 10, I went down
12 to Resolution 10 and it says
13 authorization of the Town of Hempstead
14 to --

15 THE COMMISSIONER: No --

16 JAMES JACOB: -- that's it.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: -- that's
18 completely different.

19 JAMES JACOB: That's why I said,
20 point of inquiry for clarification.

21 All right, thank you.

22 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you,
23 sir.

24 Ma'am.

25 JAMES JACOB: Oh, for the record,

1 James Jacob, Uniondale.

2 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

3 Thank you very much. Page 114

4 DENISE RIGGIO: Hi. My name is
5 Denise Riggio and I'm from Valley
6 Stream.

7 This is my first time coming to a
8 meeting like this, but I can tell you it
9 probably won't be my last.

10 It's been very eye opening to sit
11 and listen to what's going on, and what
12 is not being disclosed to the public.

13 Having come from a corporate
14 environment during my career, I'm deeply
15 concerned what I'm hearing with regards
16 to policies and procedures, a lot of
17 these items on here from:

18 Awarding contracts;

19 To moving funds from one account
20 to another, which doesn't even tell you
21 what's happening or why it's happening;

22 To procurement policies;

23 To settlements of cases, to the
24 lack of an ethics board functioning,
25 because a single member is not there.

1 So in summary, I'd like to ask
2 where are the policies and procedures
3 that fundamentally run our government? Page 115

4 And where is that available for
5 public review and comments, so that we
6 can go through them. We can understand
7 what those procedures are, when they
8 were last updated, when they were last
9 reviewed.

10 Who's sitting on those committees?
11 When those committees last were
12 functioning? When the next meetings
13 are. Who is attending those meetings
14 and who is not attending those meetings?

15 So that when we come to meetings
16 like this, we are informed about what is
17 going on and how our government is
18 functioning.

19 'Cause coming from a corporate
20 environment, I have to say, I'm shocked.

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: So -- do you
22 want to --

23 DENISE RIGGIO: And if it's
24 available and I'm just new to this game,
25 that's fine. But I really, really would

1 like for someone to explain on these
2 policies and procedures.

3 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yes. So Page 116
4 first of all, the Town is a creature of
5 the State. So the first place to look
6 for the rules and regulations on how we
7 operate is Town Law. That's the title
8 of the section.

9 And then there is some interaction
10 between the Town Law and the General
11 Municipal Law, which is also a State
12 Law.

13 So you would want to look in
14 Town Law, General Municipal Law. And
15 then we have rules and regulations that
16 we promulgate here on the Town Board.
17 And in addition to that, the ultimate
18 policy maker is this Board.

19 DENISE RIGGIO: Okay. So --

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: That doesn't
21 mean the Commissioners can't set rules
22 for their departments, so long as it's
23 micro rather than macro. And but if
24 it's a macro issue, it has to be
25 approved by the Board.

1 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: So in terms of
2 other concerns of yours, we have tried
3 to make a push towards transparency. Page 117
4 The things that are on the agenda,
5 except the emergency hand ups which come
6 generally right before the Board
7 Meeting, the agenda is available on the
8 Town's Website.

9 We did put forward a Resolution
10 to bring in a contractor called
11 "Novus Agenda" to make the Town Agenda
12 more searchable for residents. So that
13 if there 150 items on the calendar,
14 100 items on the calendar and there's
15 something in particular you're looking
16 for, right now you have to scroll
17 through the agenda.

18 I'm hoping that maybe in the
19 months ahead that -- the Town Counsel
20 tabled that resolution. I'm hoping that
21 perhaps they will reconsider that, and
22 move forward and bring that Resolution
23 back.

24 We worked on it for about a year.
25 It will ultimately save the taxpayers

1 money, and it's a really good idea. And
2 it's a way to make things more
3 transparent.

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4 In terms of other procedures with
5 moving money around into different
6 accounts, the Resolution here is to
7 reconcile some of the expenditures.

8 This is something that does happen
9 at the close of every year.

10 However, I did have concerns about
11 way -- the ways monies were moved around
12 in the Town of Hempstead.

13 My concerns were so severe that I
14 wrote to the State Controller and he
15 actually is doing a top-to-bottom fiscal
16 audit of the Town of Hempstead, because
17 of the concerns that I raised. And I
18 expect that we will be getting a report
19 probably -- I don't know if it's going
20 to be within the month, or the next
21 month or so. They had been here working
22 in Town Hall doing an audit.

23 We have put forward transparency
24 legislation that suggests unless it's
25 changed, that once that audit is

1 finalized it should be published on our
2 website.

3 So that should give you some more age 119
4 information about some of the fiscal
5 controls, and some of the fiscal
6 procedures here in Town Hall and
7 recommendations of the State Controller.

8 DENISE RIGGIO: Thank you.

9 As a follow-up question to
10 Mr. Blakeman. So I understand what
11 you're saying to me is that it starts
12 from the top down. And I can appreciate
13 that.

14 But from an operational standpoint
15 you're operating day to day, which means
16 whether or not you have gotten the
17 guidance from above, you've interpreted
18 it in one way or another, and you should
19 be documenting what those policies and
20 procedures are. And that should be
21 available.

22 So from an operational standpoint,
23 this government is operating day to day.
24 How is it operating? Where are those
25 policies, procedures, guidelines, rules

1 or whatever you want to call them? And
2 then we can work out -- ideally it
3 should come top down, but we can work Page 120
4 bottom up.

5 So I would still like to
6 understand how I can get to these
7 details.

8 Before you answer that,
9 Ms. Gillen, I would also like to know
10 where we can get more details on these
11 individual items?

12 They're individual line items and
13 it's -- you know, money's moving, but
14 it's not -- it's just -- it's 25, it
15 just says money's moved.

16 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: I'd be happy
17 to provide you with a copy of the
18 Resolution, so you can see the -- where
19 exactly the money is moving.

20 So for example for 2018, there is
21 an over-expenditure of over a half a
22 million dollars from the Tax Receiver's
23 Office. And so money has to be
24 moved over there to cover those
25 over-expenditures.

1 the position on whether or not
2 Commissioners are authorized to execute
3 contracts on behalf of the Town without Page 122
4 putting them before the Town Board, is
5 an issue that's involved right now in
6 litigation with Dover Catering.

7 So if he took a position here,
8 that could be used against him or used
9 against the Town in litigation. And so
10 he would not do so without, you know,
11 following the legal protocol with
12 respect to that ongoing litigation.

13 So there are sometimes legitimate
14 reasons why we cannot comment on ongoing
15 litigation.

16 Also, there are concerns about
17 privacy matters, sometimes with
18 employees and things like that.

19 DENISE RIGGIO: I appreciate that.

20 So that goes back to where I would
21 now like Mr. Blakeman to answer the
22 question with regards to the procedures,
23 rules, policies and procedures. Again,
24 it doesn't matter what you're going to
25 call them.

1 Or like for example, policy and
2 procedures for the Animal Shelter that
3 we just put into place, I'd be happy to Page 124
4 post those online and make that -- those
5 things available to you.

6 So if you want to reach out to my
7 office about some of the things that you
8 think were important, I'd be happy to
9 address those in specifics with you.

10 DENISE RIGGIO: Thank you.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Thank you.

12 Okay. Is there anybody else who'd
13 like to be heard on the Administrative
14 Calendar?

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

17 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: All right.
18 Madam Clerk, can you call the roll on
19 the Administrative Calendar?

20 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

21 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye, except --
22 I'm sorry, I vote aye, except with
23 respect to Item Number 33 which is the
24 calendar.

25 Regardless of who is sitting in

1 this seat, I believe there should be
2 more night meetings that are more
3 accessible to residents. I put forward Page 125
4 originally a calendar that had I think
5 50 percent of the meetings at night. I
6 do believe that's something that the
7 Town Council and the Town Board should
8 reconsider.

9 And I vote most decidedly no on
10 the settlement that's contemplated in
11 Item Number 40.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

13 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yes, I vote
14 aye on the Administrative Calendar as
15 amended, with the exception of Number 40
16 I vote no.

17 CLERK CABANA: Councilman
18 D'Esposito?

19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I vote aye
20 on the amended calendar.

21 I'm recusing myself from
22 Number 23.

23 And I'm voting no on Number 40.

24 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I vote aye on

1 the amended calendar, and no on 40.

2 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman

3 Goosby? Page 126

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I

5 vote aye on all, except Number 40 I vote

6 no.

7 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Muscarella?

8 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: I vote

9 aye on all the proposals, and no on

10 Number 40.

11 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Okay. I would

12 like to thank my fellow Town Board

13 Members for voting no on Item 40. I

14 think that was a great move. I am very

15 happy that we agreed on that.

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Well,

17 thanks, Supervisor.

18 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: And may we

19 have a --

20 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY:

21 That's what we do. When there's

22 something that's right, that's what we

23 do.

24 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: That's right.

25 Thank you.

1 May I have a Motion to adjourn?

2 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I

3 move that we adjourn. Page 127

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

5 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Madam Clerk?

6 CLERK CABANA: Supervisor Gillen?

7 SUPERVISOR GILLEN: Aye.

8 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Blakeman?

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

10 CLERK CABANA: Councilman D'Esposito?

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

12 CLERK CABANA: Councilman Dunne?

13 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

14 CLERK CABANA: Senior Councilwoman

15 Goosby?

16 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

17 CLERK CABANA: Councilman

18 Muscarella?

19 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

20 (Whereupon, the official meeting

21 of the Hempstead Town Board was

22 concluded at 12:39 p.m.)

23

24

25

CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I, do hereby certify that the
 foregoing testimony in the matter of Page 128
 the Hempstead Town Board Meeting held on
 November 12, 2010, consisting of pages 1
 through 127 inclusive is an accurate
 transcription of my cryptic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.

Stephanie J. Valder

STEPHANIE J. VALDER

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK

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