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**TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD**

ONE WASHINGTON STREET

TOWN HALL PAVILION

HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550

MARCH 3, 2020

7:00 P.M.

BEFORE: DONALD X. CLAVIN, JR.

SUPERVISOR

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**APPEARANCES :**

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR/COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN

Page | 2

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY

COUNCILMAN CARINI

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO

COUNCILMAN DUNNE, SR.

COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK POKALSKY

TOWN ATTORNY RA

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Good Evening,  
2 everybody. I like to welcome everyone to the Town  
3 Board Meeting.

4 For those that have never attended a  
5 Meeting before, we will first have our Public  
6 Hearings followed by the Decision Calendar and the  
7 Administrative Calendar.

Page | 3

8 There are meeting agendas available in the  
9 rear of the Pavilion if you wish to be heard,  
10 please, fill out the form in the back and submit  
11 it.

12 We will call you up after the meeting is  
13 adjourned.

14 Of course, we will stick around for a bit  
15 to hear Public Comment.

16 Madam Clerk, please, call the roll.

17 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Supervisor Clavin?

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Here.

19 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
20 Blakeman?

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Here.

22 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Carini?

23 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Here.

24 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY : Councilman  
25 D'Esposito?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I am here.

2 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Dunne?

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Here.

4 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Senior Councilwoman <sup>Page | 4</sup>

5 Goosby?

6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Here.

7 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman

8 Muscarella?

9 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Here.

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, Councilman

11 Carini, will you lead us in the Pledge of

12 Allegiance.

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

16 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Madam Clerk, please,  
17 call the first item.

18 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Supervisor, the  
19 first Public Hearing is a proposed Local Law Re:  
20 "Parking or Standing Prohibitions" in Baldwin,  
21 East Meadow, North Valley Stream, Oceanside, near  
22 Valley Stream (To amend Section 202-1 of the Code  
23 of the Town of Hempstead)

24 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I don't have any slips  
25 on this matter, does anybody wish to be heard?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

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

3 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: If not, may I have a  
4 Motion. Page | 5

5 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I move that the  
6 Public Hearing be closed and the item be adopted.

7 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second the  
8 Motion.

9 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Supervisor Clavin?

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

11 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
12 Blakeman?

13 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

14 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Carini?

15 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

16 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY : Councilman  
17 D'Esposito?

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

19 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Dunne?

20 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

21 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Senior Councilwoman  
22 Goosby?

23 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

24 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
25 Muscarella?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

1 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

2 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Madam Clerk, call the  
3 next item.

4 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Proposed Local Law <sup>Page | 6</sup>  
5 Re: "Arterial Stops" in East Meadow, Wantagh, West  
6 Hempstead (To amend Section 197-5 of the Code of  
7 the Town of Hempstead)

8 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I do not have any slips  
9 on this matter, does anybody wish to be heard?

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

12 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: If not, may I have a  
13 Motion.

14 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: I make a Motion that we  
15 close the Hearing and move the item.

16 COUNCILMAN CARINI: I second the Motion.

17 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Supervisor Clavin?

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

19 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
20 Blakeman?

21 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

22 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Carini?

23 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

24 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY : Councilman  
25 D'Esposito?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

1 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

2 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Dunne?

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

4 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Senior Councilwoman <sup>Page | 7</sup>

5 Goosby?

6 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

7 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman

8 Muscarella?

9 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Please call the

11 Administrative Calendar.

12 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: There are Items 1

13 through 25 in the Administrative Calendar.

14 I also have two Resolutions of an emergency  
15 or urgent nature.

16 The first is a resolution appointing Kate  
17 Murray as Registrar of Vital Statistics in the  
18 Town of Hempstead.

19 This will be Item Number 26 on the  
20 Administrative Calendar.

21 The second is a resolution appointing Susan  
22 Trainor Pokalsky as Deputy Registrar of Vital  
23 Statistics in the Town of Hempstead.

24 This will be Item Number 27 on the  
25 Administrative Calendar.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Does anyone wish to  
2 sever any items?

3 (Whereupon, no response was heard. After,  
4 the following ensued.) Page | 8

5 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: If not, may I have a  
6 Motion.

7 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I move the  
8 Administrative Calendar.

9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I have a number of  
11 slips on the Administrative Calendar that I would  
12 like to call up.

13 Ms. Kreye? How are you doing, Ms. Kreye?  
14 Name and address? Thanks.

15 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Mary Ellen Kreye. 436  
16 Locust Avenue, Uniondale.

17 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you.

18 MARY ELLEN KREYE: My questions is about  
19 Item Number 10, does it mean about adopting -  
20 rescinding the resolution and adopting the  
21 assessment roll?

22 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Supervisor, may I?

23 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Please.

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: There was a monetary  
25 mathematical error in the resolution that was



1 adopted and so we had to correct the assessment  
2 roll.

3 Basically, the Town is going to collect  
4 about ten thousand dollars too much than it should  
5 have. Page | 9

6 So, we are correcting it, tonight.

7 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I see and so the one  
8 following this is the correction?

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

10 MARY ELLEN KREYE: And, my other question  
11 relates to, um, I am sorry, the one where it says  
12 "special exception," um, oh, yes, here, Number 6.

13 What does that mean, "adopting application  
14 for a special exception for public garage,"  
15 please?

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Are you talking about  
17 the SEQRA neg. dec.?

18 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Yes.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Okay, this is an  
20 environmental resolution.

21 It says that the proposed action, the  
22 proposed rezoning will not have an adverse effect  
23 on the environment and, now, the application can,  
24 now move forward to a Town Board Meeting.

25 MARY ELLEN KREYE: What is the special

1 exception, please?

2 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: The special exception is  
3 the application, itself.

4 And, forgive me, it is an auto repair, I <sup>Page | 10</sup>  
5 believe, it is an auto repair shop.

6 So, to have an auto repair shop in the Town  
7 of Hempstead, you have to apply to the Board for a  
8 special exception to the Building Department.

9 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Does this relate to the  
10 "GSS" zoning, also?

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: To the extent "GSS" is a  
12 zone.

13 It is comparable.

14 This is not a gasoline service station.

15 MARY ELLEN KREYE: This is not a gasoline  
16 service station, it is auto repair?

17 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Only auto repair.

18 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Auto repair doesn't have  
19 gas?

20 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Correct, correct.

21 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I see. So with special  
22 exceptions, can you have that, also, with the  
23 "GSS"?

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes, you can have - -  
25 ask the Town Board to accept some rules in the

1 "GSS" District to make an exception.

2 You can do that.

3 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I have reason for asking  
4 because I understand that, um, our gas station Page | 11  
5 will be coming up at the end of the month and  
6 there are varied community oriented organizations,  
7 so, we want to make sure that whatever can be done  
8 to assist them.

9 And, I am looking to you, Senior  
10 Councilwoman Goosby to help us with this, please.

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: You know I  
12 will. Notify my office.

13 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Thank you.

14 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you, Ms. Kreye.

15 Felix Procacci? Good Evening, name and  
16 address for the record, please.

17 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci.

18 Item Number 22, the Town Board Majority is  
19 still short one Member on the Town's Ethics Board  
20 violating Town Code.

21 The Town has been violating its own Ethics  
22 Law for over two years since the Ethics Law was  
23 enacted in December, 2017.

24 One solution to obtaining an Ethics Board  
25 Member is to ask ordinary citizens to participate.

1 Another solution is for Town Board Members  
2 that feel the Town should comply with the law to  
3 speak on this issue.

4 Board Members have many followers on social <sup>Page | 12</sup>  
5 media and frequently interact with the community.

6 Even if one Board Member would treat this  
7 as the important issue it is, I am certain that  
8 the Town would soon have a functioning Ethics  
9 Board.

10 Thank you.

11 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you very much.

12 Diane Madden?

13 Name and address for the record.

14 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden, Hempstead.

15 Item Number 22, I just have a question, the  
16 name was familiar to me Heather Crosley, Deputy  
17 Town Attorney, who, by the way, is always  
18 professional.

19 She is bright. She is openminded.

20 I have worked with her. I think she has  
21 been here many years.

22 It appears her salary is eighty-seven  
23 thousand and when I compared that to other Deputy  
24 Town Attorneys for Albina Kataeva was hired in  
25 2016 at ninety-five thousand.

1 A few months later, she was given ninety-  
2 eight thousand.

3 Um, from the records I see, Heather was  
4 even serving on the equal employment opportunity <sup>Page | 13</sup>  
5 as an officer.

6 So, my question is really who comes to the  
7 determination of these salaries?

8 Because talk about a lack of equality, this  
9 seems wrong to me.

10 Could someone tell me who decides on these  
11 salaries?

12 It is something, if I was sitting up there,  
13 I would be uncomfortable about this.

14 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: General Department  
15 Heads have recommendations on it.

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: They are Department Head  
17 recommendations to the Town Board.

18 The Town Board will enact on them or not  
19 act on them.

20 DIANE MADDEN: So, who made this  
21 recommendation, the Department Head of the Town  
22 Attorney's Office?

23 Would that be you?

24 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: It is done by - - yes.

25 DIANE MADDEN: So, you don't go by

1 someone's quality of work or length of time here?

2 Because I believe Ms. Crosley has been here  
3 a number of years.

4 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: I think we are all <sup>Page | 14</sup>  
5 fans of Ms. Crosley.

6 DIANE MADDEN: Yes.

7 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: We will look into it  
8 and see if there is anything that we overlooked.

9 DIANE MADDEN: I think there is something  
10 drastically overlooked, here.

11 And, um, I do think she is entitled to be  
12 treated, at least, equally to the other Deputy  
13 Town Attorneys based on her history, her  
14 professionalism, how she contributes and, again,  
15 her open mindedness to work with all people.

16 Thank you.

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Thank you for  
18 bringing it to our attention.

19 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you.

20 Valerie Lampe?

21 Good Evening, Ms. Lamp. Your name and  
22 address long distance, for the record.

23 VALERIE LAMPE: Good Evening, Supervisor  
24 Clavin.

25 I believe it is my first meeting, um,

1 with you at the helm and I am still thrilled about  
2 that.

3 3309 Rebellio Drive, Saint Augustine,  
4 Florida.

5 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you very much for  
6 bringing nice weather.

7 VALERIE LAMPE: Ha, ha, I would disagree  
8 with that.

9 So, and, good evening, Town Board:

10 Um, contracts, um, I notice there were a  
11 few contracts on these resolution, Number 9,  
12 Number 7 and, um another one, two of them went out  
13 for a bid.

14 One was a sole bidder.

15 So, from what I am seeing, these bids were  
16 awarded to the lowest bidder and qualified vendor,  
17 correct?

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Commissioner of Parks?

19 VALERIE LAMPE: It is not a trick question.

20 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: No, no.

21 PARKS COMMISSIONER: Good Evening,

22 Supervisor, Members of the Board:

23 Yes, they were.

24 VALERIE LAMPE: And, I want to commend them  
25 that is actually prudent and I believe it is

1 good government.

2 The other contract item was a sole bidder  
3 and I see the contract was awarded to such sole  
4 bidding vender. Page | 16

5 And, I am just curious this triggers a  
6 question for me, is there any scenario where there  
7 is just one individual bidder for an RFP that they  
8 will be denied for?

9 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Sure, if only one person  
10 responds to an RFP and we don't think that the  
11 proposal is, um, proper, there are various reasons  
12 we can reject - - might reject because we want to  
13 get more proposals, sometimes it can happen.

14 VALERIE LAMPE: If the proposal is not  
15 proper.

16 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: For example, you said  
17 there is one response to an RFP, one response for  
18 a Request For Proposals, we look at that  
19 professional sometimes, it is not responsive.

20 Sometimes there could be things in there  
21 that are left out or there are too many things, we  
22 may review.

23 There are circumstances where we would  
24 reject the proposal and maybe it could be a  
25 distance issue.



1 For example, if you buy salt, you don't  
2 want to buy it from Pennsylvania because - - so,  
3 there are things like that, that can happen.

4 VALERIE LAMPE: Okay, um, so, all right, Page | 17  
5 that is fine.

6 I will accept that answer.

7 Um, is there any circumstance in which a  
8 contractor would offer their services at the  
9 highest bid and least qualifications where the  
10 Town would approve that contract?

11 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: What item are we  
12 speaking on?

13 I am not sure.

14 I am talking in the dark, here.

15 What resolution are you talking about?

16 VALERIE LAMPE: Well, I am just speaking on  
17 items - - contracts, Number 9 contract, Number 7,  
18 which I believe were done.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: That is not the case in  
20 any of those.

21 VALERIE LAMPE: Correct, what I am asking  
22 you since we are on the topic of contracts, what  
23 case scenario, if any, would the highest bidder  
24 but least qualified contractor be accepted?

25 I am asking an honest question.

1 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: I would be at Belmont if  
2 I could predict the future.

3 VALERIE LAMPE: That is a bad analogy  
4 considering that there were forty horse race  
5 deaths in Belmont last year, alone, in the  
6 calendar year 2019.

Page | 18

7 And, horse racing is one of the most  
8 scrutinized industries right, now, in the World of  
9 animals, that is okay.

10 But, no, there have been times within this  
11 Township where a contractor was approved with the  
12 least qualifications and the highest bid,  
13 specifically, the trainer at the Town of Hempstead  
14 Animal Shelter - -

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

17 VALERIE LAMPE: - - And, still wondering  
18 why.

19 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell rang.  
20 After, the following ensued.)

21 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you, Ms. Lampe.

22 I don't have any other slips on the  
23 Administrative Calendar, is there anyone else that  
24 wishes to be heard?

25 (Whereupon, no response was heard. After,

1 the following ensued.)

2 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: If not, may I have a  
3 Motion.

4 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I move we  
5 close the Administrative Calendar and approve it.

6 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

7 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Supervisor Clavin?

8 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

9 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
10 Blakeman?

11 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

12 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Carini?

13 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

14 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY : Councilman  
15 D'Esposito?

16 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

17 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Dunne?

18 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

19 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Senior Councilwoman  
20 Goosby?

21 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

22 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
23 Muscarella?

24 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

25 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: On the

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

1 Administrative Calendar, there should have been an  
2 amendment to Item, I think, Number 13 to remove -  
3 -

4 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Do you want me to <sup>Page | 20</sup>  
5 make that amendment?

6 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Yes.

7 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Supervisor, I move  
8 to amend Item 13 to remove the Floral Park  
9 Bulletin and the Gateway newspaper from the  
10 resolution.

11 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY Second the  
12 Motion.

13 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Vote on that amendment?

14 TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Vote on that amendment.

15 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Supervisor Clavin?

16 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

17 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
18 Blakeman?

19 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

20 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Carini?

21 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

22 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY : Councilman  
23 D'Esposito?

24 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

25 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Dunne?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

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COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Senior Councilwoman  
Goosby?

Page | 21

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
Muscarella?

COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

TOWN ATTORNEY RA: Supervisor, if you could  
move the Administrative Calendar.

SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I move the rest of the  
Administrative Calendar.

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Second.

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Supervisor Clavin?

SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
Blakeman?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Carini?

COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY : Councilman  
D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD 3/3/20**

1 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Senior Councilwoman  
2 Goosby?  
3 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.  
4 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
5 Muscarella?  
6 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.  
7 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Move we  
8 adjourn.  
9 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.  
10 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Supervisor Clavin?  
11 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.  
12 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman  
13 Blakeman?  
14 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.  
15 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Carini?  
16 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.  
17 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY : Councilman  
18 D'Esposito?  
19 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.  
20 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman Dunne?  
21 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.  
22 DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Senior Councilwoman  
23 Goosby?  
24 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD** 3/3/20

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DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY: Councilman

Muscarella?

COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

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

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CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I, do hereby certify that the foregoing  
testimony in the matter of the Hempstead Town  
Board Meeting held on March 3, 2020, consisting of  
pages 1 through 24 inclusive is an accurate  
transcription of my cryptic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.



*MDW*

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

NORTH SHORE COURT REPORTERS

NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK