

**TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD**

**SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**ONE WASHINGTON STREET**

**TOWN HALL PAVILION**

**HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550**

**NOVEMBER 23, 2020**

**10:30 A.M.**

**BEFORE: DONALD CLAVIN, JR.**

**SUPERVISOR**

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**APPEARANCES :**

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR/COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN

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SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY

COUNCILMAN CARINI

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO

COUNCILMAN DUNNE, SR.

COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA

TOWN CLERK MURRAY

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK POKALSKY

CHIEF OF STAFF NOCELLA

TOWN COMPROLLER MASTROMARINO



**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING 11.23.2020**

1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Good Morning,  
2 everybody.

3 This is a Special noticed Meeting to  
4 consider Resolutions granting CARES Act money  
5 disbursements relating to budgetary and accounting  
6 Resolutions and other COVID 19 mitigating measures  
7 because of the pandemic.

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8 And, consistent with Governor's Executive  
9 Orders, this Meeting will be livestreamed so all  
10 Members of the Public who wish to listen and  
11 observe will be able to do so.

12 It will be recorded and transcribed.

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

15 CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

16 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Here.

17 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Blakeman?

18 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Here.

19 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

20 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Here.

21 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman D'Esposito?

22 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Here.

23 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

24 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Here.

25 CLERK MURRAY: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING 11.23.2020**

1 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Here.

2 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

3 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Here.

4 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I am, now, going to ask Page | 4

5 our Town Clerk to lead us in the Pledge of  
6 Allegiance.

7 TOWN CLERK MURRAY: Hand over your heart.

8 (Whereupon, Town Clerk Murray, led the  
9 Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. After, the  
10 following ensued.)

11 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Madam Clerk, please,  
12 call the Administrative Calendar.

13 CLERK MURRAY: There are Items 1 through 5  
14 on the Administrative Calendar.

15 Resolution - Amending Resolution No. 1127-  
16 2020 adopted on October 27, 2020 in relation to  
17 modifying the eligible population to receive PCR  
18 Diagnostic Testing through Northwell Health  
19 effective November 29, 2020 - Town of Hempstead.

20 Resolution - Authorizing an agreement  
21 between the Town of Hempstead and Baseline Health  
22 Management, LLC. to provide COVID 19 mobile  
23 testing to the Town of Hempstead employees - Town  
24 of Hempstead.

25 Resolution - Authorizing the grant of funds

1 to the South Nassau Communities Hospital. d/b/a  
2 Mount Sinai South Nassau located in the Town of  
3 Hempstead to be paid from monies received by the  
4 Town through the "CARES ACT" to establish a drive-<sup>Page | 5</sup>  
5 through COVID-19 rapid testing site in Oceanside  
6 for the residents of the Town of Hempstead - Town  
7 of Hempstead.

8 Resolution - Authorizing the transfer of  
9 monies received by the Town of Hempstead through  
10 the "CARES ACT" to fund unbudgeted, necessary  
11 expenses incurred directly related to the COVID-19  
12 pandemic related expenditures by the MOUNT SINAI  
13 SOUTH NASSAU (\$445,967.00) TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

14 Resolution - Authorizing amendment to the  
15 2020 adopted budget to increase the General Fund  
16 Estimated Revenues, an increase to the General  
17 Fund Appropriations, an increase to the General  
18 Fund Undistributed Other Expense Account and the  
19 increase of the CARES Act Assistance Revenue  
20 Account in the Town of Hempstead General Fund  
21 Undistributed (\$445,967.00) - Town of Hempstead.

22 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Just before we ask any  
23 Board Members to be hard, just so everybody knows,  
24 as everyone is well aware, the Town received CARES  
25 funding under the diligent efforts of Senator

1 Schumer.

2 We have utilized that funding in many  
3 different instances to benefit and safeguard the  
4 wellbeing of the Town of Hempstead residents. Page | 6

5 To date, because of our teaming up with  
6 other entities, we have been able to provide over,  
7 now, one million meals through Long Island  
8 Harvest, some of those being delivered through  
9 Long Island Cares through the INN.

10 In addition, we have tested thousands of  
11 residents.

12 We have given funds to all of our hospitals  
13 in the area including private and public.

14 We have given funds to the Nassau County  
15 IDA, as well as, our private and public college  
16 institutions to assist them and, as well as,  
17 reimbursed First Responders and Fire Departments  
18 and Villages.

19 The purpose of today's Meeting and those  
20 items is because of the conversations we had last  
21 week with Health Care Providers, in particular,  
22 with Northwell and that is why we are having this  
23 Emergency Board Meeting, instead of sitting around  
24 and waiting, this Town Board acts and they act  
25 diligently and I am appreciative of all the

1 efforts of all the Board Members, in particular,  
2 um, with the Resolution will amend with Northwell  
3 and expand testing to Town Residents throughout  
4 the Town of Hempstead.

5 So, regardless of where you live in the  
6 Town, you will be able to access, um, diagnostic  
7 testing.

8 This is essential, based upon our  
9 conversation with Northwell, as everybody is will  
10 aware, we see the spiking of the numbers and this  
11 is to safeguard all of our residents in every  
12 community throughout the Town.

13 The second Resolution with Baseline Health  
14 Management is the ability to provide rapid  
15 testing, not only to our Town's fulltime  
16 employees, but to our seasonal and part-time  
17 employees, regardless, if they have insurance  
18 coverage or not.

19 This, again, is based on the advice of  
20 medical providers that are seeing a spike in this  
21 mobile, rapid testing unit can be mobilized and  
22 centered around different areas of the Town so we  
23 can safeguard and keep the government functions  
24 going as we have done during this entire pandemic.

25 And, the last one is a Grant to South

1 Nassau Communities Hospital, that will create a  
2 mobile, um, drive-thru testing facility.

3 This is a wonderful initiative that South  
4 Nassau proposed and I know all the Board Members <sup>Page | 8</sup>  
5 are happy and delighted to be able to team up with  
6 all those entities and safeguard not only all the  
7 residents but the workforce, whether it be  
8 fulltime, seasonal or part-time.

9 And, you know, it has worked out well.

10 And, I do want to thank the Board, again,  
11 for coming together, today and recognizing the  
12 importance of having to do these Meetings in this  
13 timeframe.

14 And, with that, does any Member of the  
15 Board wish to be heard on any Item?

16 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Mr. Supervisor, I  
17 would just like to echo what you said, I want to  
18 congratulate you for your leadership on this.

19 I want to congratulate my colleagues.  
20 Increased testing is vitally important to keep our  
21 Town healthy.

22 And, we have great facilities. We are  
23 blessed with great facilities, such as, Northwell,  
24 Long Island Jewish, which is located in my  
25 District in South Nassau and Councilman



1 D'Esposito's District where I was born and I think  
2 it is a great thing to do for the Public.

3 And, I congratulate you.

4 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Any other Board  
5 Member's wish to be heard?

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

8 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Councilman D'Esposito,  
9 I am going to ask you for your assistance, does  
10 any Member of the Public wish to be heard on this  
11 matter?

12 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: There is one person  
13 that is here that would like to speak and that is  
14 Diane Madden.

15 DIANE MADDEN: Good Morning, Diane Madden,  
16 Hempstead.

17 I had a question about Number 2, um, these  
18 tests, this is just the rapid testing, does the  
19 Town offer the more accurate test?

20 I don't know the accuracy of rapid, but, I  
21 heard it is considerably low.

22 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Absolutely, Diane, Ms.  
23 Madden, I will rephrase that.

24 We have been providing testing through the  
25 Summer.

1 We were testing for antibodies late until  
2 Northwell and all the other Health providers asked  
3 us to provide the PCR testing.

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4 We have been doing that.

5 We have done that for residents. We have  
6 also done initiatives to focus on essential  
7 workers, um, throughout the Town and now based on  
8 Northwells' advice, we are pivoting to extending  
9 the testing, but the rapid testing gives the  
10 ability for the workforce to be checked and if  
11 they test positive, then, they can go for a PCR  
12 test.

13 You know, it may not be one hundred percent  
14 accurate but if they can identify in any instances  
15 when an employee full, part-time or seasonal, may  
16 have a symptom or test positive, it is to  
17 safeguard the workforce.

18 DIANE MADDEN: Thank you for that.

19 I mean, my concern would be, you know, for  
20 example with schools, they are not doing the rapid  
21 test because, obviously, if it is a negative  
22 positive, that person would be out of work for  
23 fourteen days, so, there is a little bit of a  
24 concern with that, that is why I am conflicted on  
25 why the rapid test for employees as opposed to

1 the more accurate test.

2 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Again, it is on the  
3 advice of the medical professionals who said, you  
4 know what, if you can start with the rapid test, <sup>Page | 11</sup>  
5 if an employee shows some sort of symptoms and you  
6 are able to identify it quickly, then, they can go  
7 for the second level of testing which would be the  
8 PCR and I believe - - I believe the rapid tests  
9 are what the, um, I believe they are the ones that  
10 the Colleges are providing.

11 At the medical advice of our providers,  
12 they said for the workforce to have this mobile  
13 rapid testing unit and the success rate of them,  
14 they highly recommend, at this time, especially,  
15 with the numbers spiking throughout the New York  
16 Region.

17 DIANE MADDEN: Does anyone know what the  
18 cost of the rapid test is versus the more thorough  
19 test?

20 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Yeah, the rapid test  
21 can be two hundred dollars, um, per test and the  
22 PCR, typically is around one hundred dollars per  
23 test right, now.

24 But, as the Supervisor said, the rapid test  
25 is much easier to administer.

1 It is much faster.

2 It has a ninety percent accuracy rate. The  
3 PCR test is a little better.

4 It is like ninety-seven percent, so, if Page | 12  
5 someone tests positive in the rapid test, they  
6 would, then, get a PCR test under the protocols  
7 that the medical professionals have established.

8 DIANE MADDEN: Number 4, it mentions a  
9 COVID Committee, could someone, please, tell me  
10 who those members are?

11 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Number 4, Resolution  
12 30283?

13 DIANE MADDEN: I believe it is Number 4, I  
14 took some quick notes here, but I believe it is  
15 Number 1 of the Resolutions mentioned.

16 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: "Fund unbudgeted,  
17 necessary expenses directly related to  
18 expenditures by Mt. Sinai South Nassau for the  
19 amount of 445,967.00," that is all that says.

20 DIANE MADDEN: Okay, maybe it is on another  
21 resolution.

22 Is there a COVID Committee appointed by the  
23 Town?

24 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Ms. Madden, I have an  
25 advisory committee of outside sources

1 and, then, we have an internal advisory committee  
2 for COVID-related expenses.

3 DIANE MADDEN: And, that is a private  
4 issue, I am assuming that is something that I have Page | 13  
5 to FOIL.

6 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Joe Nocella?

7 CHIEF OF STAFF NOCELLA: Supervisor, these  
8 are Committees which are looking to examine  
9 whether or not there is compliance with the CARES  
10 Act.

11 They don't make a determination as to  
12 whether or not anything is granted or budgeted,  
13 that is with the Town Board.

14 But, your outside advisory committee are  
15 people who are making suggestions to the Town of  
16 Hempstead residents and various Members of the  
17 Community and your advisory, internally will give  
18 proposals to make sure that they don't violate the  
19 CARES Act.

20 Neither of these Committees have any role  
21 in making the determination that any funding for  
22 the CARES Act should be spent that is exclusive of  
23 the Town Board.

24 DIANE MADDEN: I didn't make that  
25 allegation whatsoever.

1           What I am trying to get to, um, as you see  
2           in the media, there is a real problem, critical  
3           problem with the amount of Ferrell cats in  
4           Hempstead, there, I was wondering if there is  
5           anything that can be done if CARES Act money can  
6           be used?

7           For instance, there is an organization, um  
8           - -

9           SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Ms. Madden, right, now,  
10          we are having the conversations regarding the  
11          Administrative Calendar, do you have any other  
12          questions regarding the Administrative Calendar?

13          DIANE MADDEN: Well, this is an issue,  
14          Supervisor and I am glad you brought this up, this  
15          is why I pled to the Board to offer a  
16          miscellaneous portion of all of these Meetings  
17          because there are very critical issues that are  
18          pending that the Board can help with, but by  
19          shutting the public out and telling them they can  
20          only speak on these issues and, in addition to  
21          that, not allowing them to participate, today, so,  
22          is it that you don't want to hear about it because  
23          there are needs out there and I asked about a  
24          Committee so I can contact that Committee?

25          SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: The fact that

1 you are speaking clearly identifies people are  
2 allowed to participate.

3 DIANE MADDEN: Excuse me?

4 People are allowed to participate that can <sup>Page | 15</sup>  
5 come to a Meeting that was just posted on Friday,  
6 there should be an option for the public to weigh  
7 in.

8 There are many, many questions that the  
9 public has ab out these five resolutions, so, what  
10 I am asking is if whoever this Committee is, if  
11 they can meet with the Board and find out if the  
12 CARES Act allows for TNR services or donations to  
13 501-C3 that specializes in spade, neuter and it  
14 could help you redeem yourself, Supervisor,  
15 because it has become a real problem.

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

18 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Thank you, Ms.  
19 Madden.

20 DIANE MADEEN: Thank you, Happy  
21 Thanksgiving.

22 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Supervisor, I don't  
23 think there is anybody else that signed in to  
24 speak.

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Is

1 she talking about the PPE or is she talking about  
2 the areas over, here, in my area, particularly  
3 where residents are not being tested?

4 I misunderstood what she was saying.

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5 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: No, not making  
6 reference to that.

7 Councilwoman, these expansion are going to  
8 be eligible for all the residents throughout the  
9 Town, especially, the hardest hit areas,  
10 particularly in your Councilmanic District that we  
11 are going to make aware, so, the residents can  
12 know to go down to the rapid testing sites or  
13 drive-thru facility or one of the Northwell  
14 facilities that we worked so close to make sure  
15 the locations are in the hardest hit areas of the  
16 Town.

17 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Okay, I know  
18 we have been testing them and they used my church  
19 for one of them and many of the churches around,  
20 we have used for testing.

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Supervisor, I don't  
22 think anybody else has signed in.

23 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: You have done a  
24 wonderful job of helping to identify and making  
25 sure these testing facilities are exactly



1 where they need to be.

2 You are an incredible advocate for your  
3 area and I am glad that you have been very  
4 outspoken that your area is equally treated, if Page | 17  
5 not particularly focused on those areas that are  
6 testing in harder hit areas.

7 You have been dynamite for not only for  
8 testing but for food banks, as well.

9 So, may I have a Motion on the  
10 Administrative Calendar.

11 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: I will move it in  
12 its entirety.

13 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

14 CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

15 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

16 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Blakeman?

17 COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

18 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

19 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

20 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman D'Esposito?

21 COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

22 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

23 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

24 CLERK MURRAY: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

25 SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

**HEMPSTEAD TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING 11.23.2020**

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CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: May I have a Motion to  
adjourn.

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SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I make a  
Motion to adjourn.

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Second.

CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Blakeman?

COUNCILMAN BLAKEMAN: Aye.

CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

CLERK MURRAY: Councilman D'Esposito?

COUNCILMAN D'ESPOSITO: Aye.

CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

CLERK MURRAY: Senior Councilwoman Goosby?

SENIOR COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.

CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I wish everybody a  
Happy Thanksgiving. May you and your families be  
safe and thank you once, again, for all the work  
getting it done together. Thank you, everyone.

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(Whereupon, the special meeting of the Hempstead  
Town Board held on November 23, 2020 was  
concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I, do hereby certify that the foregoing testimony in the matter of the Special Hempstead Town Board Meeting held on November 23, 2020, consisting of pages 1 through 20 inclusive is an accurate transcription of my cryptic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.



*CFM*

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

NORTH SHORE COURT REPORTERS

NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK