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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES
PRESIDING OFFICER

FULL LEGISLATIVE

County Executive and Legislative Building
1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Monday, December 18, 2017
12:58 P.M.

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2 A P P E A R A N C E S:

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4 LEGISLATOR NORMA L. GONSALVES

5 Presiding Officer

6 13th Legislative District

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8 LEGISLATOR RICHARD J. NICOLELLO

9 Deputy Presiding Officer

10 9th Legislative District

11

12 LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

13 Alternate Presiding Officer

14 7th Legislative District

15

16 LEGISLATOR KEVAN ABRAHAMS

17 Minority Leader

18 1st Legislative District

19

20 LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE

21 2nd Legislative District

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23 LEGISLATOR DENISE FORD

24 4th Legislative District

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2 LEGISLATOR LAURA CURRAN

3 5th Legislative District

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5 LEGISLATOR C. WILLIAM GAYLOR III

6 6th Legislative District

7

8 LEGISLATOR VINCENT T. MUSCARELLA

9 8th Legislative District

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11 LEGISLATOR ELLEN BIRNBAUM

12 10th Legislative District

13

14 LEGISLATOR JAMES KENNEDY

15 12th Legislative District

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17 LEGISLATOR LAURA SCHAEFER

18 14th Legislative District

19

20 LEGISLATOR ANDREW DRUCKER

21 16th Legislative District

22

23 LEGISLATOR ROSE WALKER

24 17th Legislative District

25

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2 LEGISLATOR DONALD MACKENZIE

3 18th Legislative District

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5 LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS

6 19th Legislative District

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8 MICHAEL PULITZER

9 Clerk of the Legislature

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2 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
3 Legislator Gaylor.

4 Ladies and gentlemen, we have a
5 special point of personal privilege today and
6 they happen to be one of my favorites, that's
7 soccer. I know that I said to minority leader
8 that they could go on first today so that you
9 can go home and have something good to eat.
10 You're hungry. I know you are. Minority
11 leader introduce the Uniondale soccer Team.

12 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I want to
13 thank Presiding Officer for indulging us.
14 Normally when our meetings begin, usually on
15 meetings like today, we start with recognizing
16 the top cops but I did want to bring in these
17 young men. I had the pleasure and the
18 opportunity a little while back to see the
19 county championship first in Syosset and for
20 those you of who didn't get a chance to see it
21 in the paper or read about it these young men
22 truly made Nassau County very proud.

23 The game went into overtime,
24 multiple overtimes, and was decided by kicks
25 at the end. And I have to tell you, it was

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2 thrilling watching this event develop over a
3 period of time. And from every single player
4 on both sides, from Syosset to Uniondale, you
5 saw the effort and you saw the enthusiasm and
6 you saw the dedication that they had to their
7 craft.

8 But today I'm very happy and proud
9 to announce that we have the Nassau County
10 champions in soccer in Uniondale and I want to
11 bring up two of the coaches and then bring up
12 the players as well. But I would be remiss if
13 I didn't bring up coach Pedro Ferraras and
14 coach Cohen Nelson. Please join me in a round
15 of applause in recognizing these two coaches.
16 Gentlemen please come to the podium as well.

17 If I had nails, as I was rooting
18 for Uniondale, if I had nails I probably would
19 have bit them all off watching this game
20 unfold from the kicks and the potential scores
21 and the saves and even when it got to the
22 penalty kicks at the end. Uniondale had
23 shifted the goalies and brought in one of
24 their younger goalies. I have to tell you it
25 was amazing watching the whole thing unfold.

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2 It was like watching something in FIFA or
3 something of a higher magnitude. It had the
4 hype and the buildup of everything. I'm so
5 proud of these young men who I didn't get a
6 chance to meet but I will come down and shake
7 hands with them now. But I'm so proud of
8 them. They represented their community as
9 well as our county.

10 They went on to the Long Island
11 championship where they weren't successful but
12 just the mere fact of winning the Nassau
13 County championship with all the obstacles.
14 Many of these young men work part-time jobs in
15 addition to their schooling. So they're
16 working, they're going to school. They're
17 pridefully dedicated to their communities.

18 Coaches, please, if you would like
19 to say something and if you want to bring up
20 the captain or a couple of the young men as
21 well and then we will come down and take a
22 picture. Presiding Officer we should be able
23 to move on from there.

24 MR. COHEN: First and foremost,
25 to the distinguished delegates, I want to

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2 thank you for this gracious opportunity. You
3 pretty much hit it on the head Mr. Abrahams.
4 One of the things that's not shown in the
5 statistical area, besides the goals and
6 everything else, is the indomitable spirit,
7 the work effort and the commitment to
8 excellence. As the leader, as the general you
9 might say, all gratitude to these young men
10 because of the serious work ethic and for the
11 commitment to excellence which ultimately
12 brought us a championship. Thank you very
13 much for this opportunity on behalf of my
14 entire team and the Uniondale community at
15 large.

16 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you
17 coach. Thank you so much. Any of the young
18 men want to say anything? Coach Ferraras
19 would you like to say something?

20 MR. FERRARAS: Thank you for the
21 recognition. Thank you very much.

22 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Man of few
23 words. Any of the young men coach that would
24 like to say anything.

25 MR. FERRARAS: Not necessarily

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2 because I think because it's a collective
3 endeavor I would not like to single out any
4 individual. One particular individual absent
5 today is our goalkeeper. I had an interview
6 that asked me to describe the whole event. I
7 said to them this young man came to school in
8 the morning 7:25 and after a full day of
9 school, worked part time, came to the game and
10 after we were victorious we were in the locker
11 room celebrating he walked by me and I'm like
12 where are you going? And this is 11:15.
13 11:30 coach I have to go back to work. I'm
14 thinking to myself 7:25 in the morning and
15 going back to work at 11:30 at night. That
16 typifies the team that we have and these young
17 men. As a result of that, on his behalf, for
18 the entire team to come up because we don't
19 try to have individual attention but a
20 collective attention. So the entire team to
21 representative him who is absent today.

22 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Please join
23 me in a round of applause in congratulating
24 these young men on their achievement.
25 Freshman to seniors. All high school

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2 individuals. All attend Uniondale High
3 School. All students first and athletes
4 second. They are the epitome of
5 student-athletes.

6 Let me come down and present you
7 guys I do have certificates for each and every
8 one today to present you with the recognition
9 from this legislative body as your
10 achievement. Hopefully more titles in the
11 future to come. I will be staying in tune.
12 No pressure to continue to churn out those
13 titles, and I'm proud to say I'm proud of the
14 Uniondale soccer team and the Uniondale School
15 District and the community as a whole very
16 proud day for Nassau County as well. Thank
17 you.

18 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
19 Gaylor, your attention is needed. Please lead
20 us in the pledge of allegiance.

21 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance
22 was recited.)

23 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Today's
24 meeting marks the end of the 13th meeting of
25 2017. And as we've done for the past several

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2 months we have had the privilege of
3 recognizing many of Nassau County's finest and
4 today is no exception. So I would like to
5 begin with recognizing the four detectives who
6 have been recognized truly for their
7 leadership far above and beyond. And so I'm
8 going to ask the president of the detectives
9 union and also the Commissioner Patrick Ryder
10 to please come and introduce the honorees for
11 today.

12 MR. WIGHAUS: Good afternoon.
13 John Wighaus, president of the Detective
14 Association. I would like to thank Presiding
15 Officer Gonsalves, Minority Leader Abrahams
16 and the full legislature for honoring our
17 detectives today. Today we are honoring third
18 squad detectives Pete Sikenger and Juan
19 Pichardo and from the Vehicle Theft Unit
20 detectives Joe Fontana and Frank Leckler.

21 In October detectives Sikenger and
22 Pichardo began an investigation into a stolen
23 car burglary ring occurring in the residential
24 areas of the north shore. There were several
25 cases of subjects walking through north shore

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2 residential neighborhoods checking cars for
3 unlocked doors. If unlocked the subjects
4 would enter the vehicle and attempt to start
5 the vehicle. If the vehicle started they knew
6 the transponder key was in the vehicle and
7 they would steal the vehicle. The subjects
8 would drive the stolen vehicles to different
9 areas of Nassau County and Suffolk and Queens
10 and rent them to friends and associates. This
11 is known as street rentals.

12 Additionally, if there was a garage
13 door opener within the vehicle they would open
14 the garage door, enter the residence and
15 commit burglaries. Detectives Sikenger and
16 Pichardo notified the Vehicle Theft Squad and
17 began to work together with detectives Fontana
18 and Leckler to enhance the investigation.
19 These detectives worked tirelessly throughout
20 this investigation and as a result three
21 subjects were arrested and a total of 13 open
22 burglary and stolen vehicles cases in Nassau
23 County were closed. Searches were conducted
24 and stolen vehicles were recovered. The
25 defendants are suspected of causing losses of

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2 approximately \$1 million to the residents of
3 Nassau County.

4 I would like to congratulate these
5 detectives for their tireless work and
6 attention to detail. I would again like to
7 thank the full legislature for your continued
8 support of the Nassau County Police
9 Department. And best of luck to you Norma on
10 your retirement. Merry Christmas and Happy
11 New Year.

12 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES:
13 Commissioner Ryder.

14 COMMISSIONER RYDER: First, I'd
15 like to thank all of you for your well wishes
16 and calls over the last week for officer Roger
17 Vergara. He was the officer hit on Sunrise
18 Highway. He is home. He is recovering. He
19 will be out of work for awhile but he's more
20 concerned about making his deployment to serve
21 our country. Again, a lot of well-wishes and
22 calls came in on his behalf. Add something
23 else that you don't always see when we stand
24 here and talk about the good work.

25 Five officers this weekend alone

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2 were assaulted in this county. Five officers
3 got some teeth knocked out. Some concussions
4 and got banged around doing their job.
5 Another, as you saw, the auto accident. This
6 year alone we had 20 vehicles that were
7 totaled in auto accidents not to our officers'
8 fault. It's the job that they do and they
9 sign up for and they know that and they go out
10 and continue to do it every single day with
11 the support of this body in front of me. That
12 always gives us the tools to do it.

13 What saw in this case behind us
14 with these detectives and the great work that
15 they do, that's those promotions that we're
16 always saying we have to do to make more
17 detectives and then we've got to merge some
18 units from our Vehicle Theft Squad into our
19 Burglary Pattern Team. You all supported that
20 merger. That merger has reduced our
21 burglaries were down almost 34 percent in
22 residential burglaries. It's kudos to the
23 detectives that stand behind us and the great
24 work they do putting those pieces of the
25 puzzle together every single day and put their

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2 life on the line every single day to serve the
3 people. I can't be more proud than to stand
4 on top of this group of people and waving the
5 flag for them. So again, thank you for all
6 the support that you give us.

7 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Would any
8 of the detectives like to say anything?
9 You're welcome. Before I call you up for a
10 photo I'm going to ask Jim McDermott to please
11 come up and introduce the top cop for this
12 month. The detectives please stay there.

13 MR. McDERMOTT: First of all, I
14 want to thank you for recognizing our top cop
15 as you do every month. Second of all, I want
16 to thank you Norma for your years of service
17 and dedication. You are going to be missed.
18 There's not too many Norma Gonsalves out
19 there. I'm sure there's life after the leg.
20 You go and enjoy it. You can come visit us at
21 a PBA office whenever you want and bring us
22 treats.

23 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: You can
24 count on it.

25 MR. McDERMOTT: Also Don where

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2 are you? Best of luck. I'm sure we're not
3 done with you and thank you for your service
4 too. You did well by my cops and I appreciate
5 you.

6 Today we are honoring Joe Nocella,
7 a police officer from the Fifth Precinct.
8 He's also the trustee in the Fifth Precinct
9 and the PBA and he's the corresponding
10 secretary-elect. He will be taking over the
11 22nd of this month and be on the executive
12 board with me.

13 Four years ago we partnered with
14 Island Harvest on Operation Hope. It's a food
15 drive and it provides food and supplies to
16 local veterans and their families that are in
17 need. Joe did all this for us. He
18 coordinated all of the efforts between Island
19 Harvest and the DAI and SOA. If you know Joe,
20 he doesn't do anything I can't use the word
21 half -- rear end. Is that all right? Joe is
22 a diligent worker. He put in countless hours
23 to make it a success.

24 The first year we were able to
25 collect 4,000 pounds of food and this past

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2 year, 2017, we got up to 8,000 pounds of
3 food. We were able to provide 7,000 meals for
4 these families in 2017. In the four years and
5 through Joe's effort we were able to provide
6 over 21,000 meals for these veterans and their
7 families.

8 So this month we are proud to
9 recognize Fifth Precinct police officer and
10 PBA trustees Joe Nocella as our top cop for
11 the month of December 2017.

12 MR. NOCELLA: Thank you very
13 much. It's an honor to be here and to have
14 this work recognized. When Island Harvest
15 contacted us four years ago for us to get
16 involved in this it was an absolute no
17 brainer. I don't think you'll find a more
18 special group of individuals than the men and
19 women in the United States military.
20 Especially during this time of the year, the
21 holiday season, many of them are going to be
22 away from their families. They're going to be
23 overseas and they're going to be fighting for
24 us. So for us we have such a tremendous
25 influx of new police officers in the

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2 department now, an inordinate number of them
3 are former soldiers.

4 For us, now especially, it means a
5 lot for us to be involved in something like
6 this. I would like to thank Joan from Island
7 Harvest thank you for allowing us to get
8 involved in this. It's a tremendous honor for
9 us. Thank you very much.

10 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES:

11 Commissioner Ryder.

12 MR. MCDERMOTT: You know he wants
13 to speak.

14 COMMISSIONER RYDER: I just want
15 to say I had the pleasure of supervising Joe.
16 He's been a great cop. Great to his
17 membership and he constantly does the right
18 thing. Doing what they do, we've been through
19 the Toys for Tots and we've been to all these
20 other items that the military has been
21 behind. Joe is a great advocate and does the
22 right thing and represents us very well. We
23 are very proud of him today. Thank you.

24 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Now, all
25 of you join us up here for a photo op and the

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2 presentation of citations on behalf of all of
3 us here on the legislature.

4 Go ahead.

5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you
6 Madam Presiding Officer. I just want to take
7 the opportunity as everybody joins us up here
8 on the dais, thank Jimmy McDermott and the
9 PBA. On Saturday we hosted our eighth annual
10 holiday of giving at Turtle Hook Middle School
11 in Uniondale. It was our largest event that
12 we've ever had. We were able to host
13 thousands of people and hand out thousands of
14 toys and that would not be possible without
15 the efforts from the Nassau County PBA. So I
16 do want to take this opportunity to thank Jim
17 McDermott publicly because without the PBA's
18 support which has been there year after year
19 we would not be able to achieve what we
20 achieve on Saturday. So thank you Jimmy and
21 thank you to the PBA as well.

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Madam
23 Presiding Officer may I have a moment please?

24 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Do I have
25 a choice?

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2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: No, you
3 don't. Presiding Officer mentioned when top
4 cops was here about leadership and service to
5 the community. I want to take a moment to
6 recognize an outstanding career of service to
7 our community. 25 years of teaching,
8 community leading in East Meadow community.
9 20 years of serving on the legislature.
10 Deputy presiding officer, presiding officer.
11 Our presiding officer Norma Gonsalves has been
12 serving the community, the people, the
13 residents with distinction for 40, 50 years.
14 Truly an incredible record in this era in
15 which political figures are under attack on a
16 regular basis. This is what all we aspire to
17 be, what Norma's career has been.

18 On behalf of a very grateful I'm
19 sure all of your students, on behalf of a
20 grateful community of East Meadow, on behalf
21 of a grateful 13th Legislative District and on
22 behalf of all of the residents of Nassau
23 County as well as all of us who are here we
24 thank you for your extraordinary service Norma
25 Gonsalves.

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2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So, for those
3 of you who remember some bad times I'm going
4 to bring it back. Norma took over at a time
5 of tragedy. A time of difficulty. A time of
6 a shock for all of us over here when we loss
7 our previous presiding officer. She wasn't
8 looking for the job, it came to her. It kind
9 of crashed in on her. But she picked up the
10 mantle of leadership with determination, with
11 grace, with humility, with courage and really
12 showed leadership. Her school teacher ways
13 didn't hurt. Sit down and be a good
14 legislator. But she was also a mother to many
15 of us in many ways. It's been an absolute
16 privilege to serve on the legislature with
17 Norma. It's been a wonderful experience and
18 Norma, I certainly hope you won't be a
19 stranger. Thank you.

20 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you
21 Madam Presiding Officer. Obviously I could
22 very easily echo what Deputy Presiding Officer
23 Nicoletto as well as Alternate Deputy
24 Presiding Officer Kopel have said. Norma and
25 I have worked together as counterparts in

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2 leading the legislature. Her as presiding
3 officer. Many times when you come to the
4 legislative body you see sometimes the
5 confrontation and the back and forth. But I
6 can tell you in 99.9 percent of the cases this
7 legislative body is focused on the goodwill of
8 the people of this county and there's no other
9 person that embodies those principals than
10 Norma Gonsalves.

11 I can tell you also in my time in
12 leadership in working with Norma has been
13 truly a pleasure. Do we agree all the time?
14 No. That's why you elect 19 people to this
15 legislative body to fight for your interests.
16 You will never get agreement among all 19
17 people all the time. But what you do have is
18 a symbol of respect and a symbol of
19 dedication. I know at the end of the day that
20 whether we disagree that both sides are
21 working what they believe is the betterment of
22 this county.

23 Norma, you have been truly a
24 friend. Your family instincts, your approach
25 to the legislature I think goes unquestioned.

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2 I know it's not been easy in that role, and I
3 can tell you that your shoes are very big to
4 fill because it takes a lot of leadership and
5 a lot of patience to not only work with a
6 legislative body but to work as a county as a
7 whole, with the county executive and
8 everything else. I agree with Howard, you
9 never seeked the position but when you took it
10 over after the passing of the late Peter
11 Schmitt you handled it with dignity and
12 character and respect.

13 As I said before, those shoes will
14 be very, very hard to fill. But obviously
15 also talking to you as a friend I'm sure you
16 will be looking forward to spending more time
17 with your family, spending more time in your
18 community. Norma and I share the East Meadow
19 community and I know Norma is not going
20 anywhere. She's a part of the Kiwanis, part
21 of many groups in that area. She's going to
22 serve this community in a different capacity
23 but she will still serve this community
24 because that's how she's built and that's what
25 she knows. She's truly a friend and it brings

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2 some sadness to see her go. But I know as
3 this transition is occurring I believe that
4 she is going to turn the page to something
5 even bigger and brighter.

6 Norma, you have been a treasure to
7 this legislative body. I think it goes
8 without saying that we will all miss you. We
9 all love you. We appreciate your service. We
10 appreciate your dedication and wish you
11 nothing but success in your future endeavors.
12 Please, if we're not doing the right thing in
13 this legislative body I'm sure we will hear
14 from you from that podium shouting at us about
15 working together and making sure we try to
16 bring some type of unity for the betterment of
17 Nassau County residents.

18 But Norma, we love you dearly and
19 we wish you nothing but the best. As one page
20 turns another book, another opportunity opens
21 and I'm sure that will occur for you as well.
22 God bless you, your family, the residents of
23 the 13th Legislative District that you've
24 represent very well and we love you from the
25 bottom of our hearts. God bless you Norma.

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2 LEGISLATOR FORD: It's always
3 tough to say good-bye and for me it's going to
4 be very tough without having Norma actually by
5 my side. I remember when I was first elected
6 we were all on West Street and the
7 legislators' staff and all the legislators
8 shared a hallway and Norma's office was
9 directly across from mine. The friendliness
10 and the openness and the support that she gave
11 me as I transitioned and I was a new
12 legislator trying to learn the ropes. She was
13 always there for me in helping me and my
14 staff.

15 I have to say with having a woman
16 on the legislature was like a good feeling to
17 have someone to call your sister. Norma,
18 definitely I'm not going to call you my
19 mother, no, but you've heard the speakers
20 before me. All talk about it. The great job
21 you did. She really did. You have always
22 been compassionate, always understanding.

23 Norma has always been firm as
24 well. She has a certain work ethic that she
25 abides by and she would like us all to follow

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2 her lead. Her honesty goes without question.
3 The drive she has makes her stand tall amongst
4 all of us. You served your students well, you
5 served your community well. Most importantly
6 I know you served Nassau County well, but most
7 importantly you served all of us very as
8 well. You were always there for us. You were
9 always at times when things were tough you
10 kept us guided in the right direction and
11 you've always been a good friend. I have to
12 say it really is going to be tough. I don't
13 know what I'm going to do without you. Love
14 you and I do hope you do come back and make
15 sure that we are all doing a good job. Take
16 care.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I have to
18 say that when I got up this morning I knew it
19 was going to be a very bittersweet day. I
20 wasn't too sure I wanted to be here, but I
21 said I'm not one who doesn't finish what she
22 starts. So I'm here today primarily because I
23 would not miss the opportunity of finishing up
24 my career as legislator for District 13th and
25 as presiding officer of Nassau County without

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2 being here and doing what I thought was
3 necessary to be done.

4 One thing is for sure, 22 years
5 ago, I'm not a legislator for 22 years, but
6 for some reason somehow I got roped into
7 something that I thought had to be done. And
8 I was not successful in 1995. But that did
9 not mean that I was not interested in pursuing
10 something that I thought was extremely
11 important. That something was to serve the
12 needs of the communities in which we all
13 represent. I went from teaching. I had a
14 great career as a teacher for 25 years in the
15 City of New York, in Bushwick. Until this day
16 I still communicate with my students and know
17 how they're doing. But my whole life has been
18 devoted to public service.

19 I have to say, I had role models
20 and like each and every one of us up here we
21 all have role models. My role models were my
22 mother and father. My mother was the epitome
23 of the 21st century woman even though she
24 lived in the 20th century. She knew how to
25 multi task and she taught her children how to

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2 do the same thing.

3 My dad was a businessman who came
4 to this country at the age of 17. Knew that
5 if he was going to make it he had to do
6 everything in his power to succeed. By the
7 time he was 21 years of age he was in business
8 for himself. But in six months time he
9 learned how to speak, read and write the
10 English language. So I had role models. I
11 didn't do this alone. There's no way in
12 heaven that any of us do it alone.

13 I served on the legislature for 20
14 years and I didn't do it alone. I served as
15 deputy. I served as presiding. One thing I
16 leave and I hope it will continue it's
17 important to communicate. It's important to
18 work together. Yeah, we can differ but you
19 know what? There are ways to iron out those
20 differences.

21 Today you are going to see the
22 final -- this is very hard -- the final
23 efforts that all of us really have made to
24 bring to us to the point we are at this
25 particular moment.

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2 I have to say it's been my love to
3 serve. I know what it is to work with others
4 and it's important that we listen to one
5 another. Even though you don't think we're
6 listening we're listening. Just like the
7 kids, your children say Ma, but you're not
8 listening. Yeah we're listening. You don't
9 want to hear what we have heard.

10 So let me say something to you. We
11 can differ. We can make sure that we get
12 together, communicate and make sure that
13 whatever we do we do what we were elected to
14 do and that's to serve the residents in our
15 district and in Nassau County. I know that I
16 will continue, the legislature is going to
17 continue in that pattern and make sure that we
18 are the role model for other forms of
19 government in this county.

20 So, I wish my colleagues who are
21 remaining here to serve another session of the
22 legislature the very best. Learn from one
23 another. Talk to one another and make good
24 things happen and when you can't take the time
25 out to make them happen.

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2 So, I don't know what else to say
3 to you except that I said how am I going to
4 get through this day. I'm getting through the
5 day because I know there's a lot of love in
6 this room. I know there's a lot of sincerity
7 in this room and I know that every one of us
8 here sitting up here have the best interests
9 of Nassau County at heart and that is enough
10 for me to move on to another part of my life.

11 And I never retire. I didn't
12 retire from teaching and I'm sure as shooting
13 not retiring from the legislature. I always
14 look forward to another part in my life. And
15 there is one person in this room who has to
16 know that I've worked a long time on behalf of
17 veterans and that's my goal in the next few
18 years as long as the good Lord wants to keep
19 me moving I'll work on behalf of the veterans
20 in Nassau County.

21 So, I say thank you from the bottom
22 of my heart. I had said to so many of my
23 colleagues don't do anything. I really don't
24 want you to do anything. But someone say to
25 me it's not up to you. So I said thank you

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2 Kevan, the very best to the county
3 executive-elect Laura Curran and of course my
4 dear friend Don MacKenzie, you will be missed,
5 that smiling face of yours. But there's
6 always a telephone.

7 I have to say something to you.
8 Today we are voting on appointments to the
9 Human Rights Commission and there's one
10 individual, Keria Blue, I need to tell you
11 something. I didn't tell you that the other
12 day. But my son spent two years in South
13 Africa working on behalf of the people of
14 South Africa in regards to HIV and AIDS. When
15 President Clinton was president he met with
16 him, sat side by side, and he said to him we
17 need to do more for AIDS in this country. And
18 president Clinton at that particular time said
19 you got it and ever since then we started to
20 move.

21 There's a lot of history in my
22 life. A lot of things to be proud of. But
23 the most important thing is that I happen to
24 love people. So I'm definitely a people
25 person. So thank you, God bless you and the

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2 very, very best for the holiday. I didn't
3 mean to go on so long but I needed to say
4 what's in my heart. So God bless each and
5 every one of you here. God bless my
6 colleagues and thank you for your lovely
7 thoughts and I will be watching.

8 I'm going to call a Finance and
9 Rules Committee together because there's one
10 item that needs to be addressed before we get
11 to the full leg. So I'm going to ask the
12 chairperson of the Finance to call the Finance
13 meeting to order.

14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I will do
15 that in a moment but I wanted to also
16 recognize my friend, our friend and colleague
17 Don MacKenzie, who will be leaving us at the
18 first of the year. Guy who is in this
19 business for all the right reasons, smart
20 dedicated, receptive, despite being a
21 politician regular guy. He's done an
22 outstanding job on behalf of his residents. A
23 very bright future in this business in public
24 service. Don, we're going to miss you.

25 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Just

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2 quickly. My career obviously hasn't been as
3 long and distinguished as Norma's and I don't
4 think I would have made 22 years here because
5 Denise Ford would have strangled me before
6 that ever happened. As I said last week at
7 our luncheon, the best part of this job of
8 course beyond all the great things you get to
9 do for your community is the people you work
10 with. You get to meet very dedicated public
11 servants. People in it for the right
12 reasons. It refreshes your views of people in
13 public service when you get to work with great
14 people like this. For anyone who has given up
15 on political leaders doing the right thing
16 they need to spend more time seeing what our
17 leaders are doing here in this county. Thank
18 you Rich.

19 (Meeting was recessed at 1:45 P.M.)

20 (Meeting reconvened 1:50 P.M.)

21 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Let's move
22 on. Now we go to the full leg. Mr. Pulitzer
23 we are opening the full legislative calendar
24 call the roll please.

25 MR. PULITZER: Thank you madam.

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2 Roll call. Deputy Presiding Officer Richard

3 Nicolello.

4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.

5 MR. PULITZER: Alternate

6 Presiding Officer Legislator Howard Kopel.

7 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

8 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Siela

9 Bynoe.

10 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.

11 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Carrie

12 Solages. That's absent.

13 Legislator Denise Ford.

14 LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.

15 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Laura

16 Curran.

17 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Here.

18 MR. PULITZER: Legislator C.

19 William Gaylor III.

20 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Present.

21 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Vincent

22 Muscarella.

23 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.

24 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.

25 Legislator Ellen Birnbaum.

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2 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Here.

3 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Delia

4 DeRiggi-Whitton. That's absent.

5 Legislator James Kennedy.

6 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.

7 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Laura

8 Schaefer. She is here.

9 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Arnold

10 Drucker.

11 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.

12 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Rose

13 Marie Walker.

14 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

15 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Donald

16 MacKenzie.

17 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Here.

18 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Steven

19 Rhoads.

20 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.

21 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Kevan

22 Abrahams.

23 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

24 MR. PULITZER: Presiding Officer

25 Norma Gonsalves.

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2 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Present.

3 MR. PULITZER: We have a quorum
4 ma'am.

5 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
6 very much.

7 At this point in time it's
8 customary for us to call on those individuals
9 who wish to offer public comment, and I have
10 several here, and I ask that each and every
11 one of you please adhere to the three minute
12 rule. And if I don't get to all of the
13 individuals who have submitted a slip we will
14 be here to listen to the additional comments
15 if need be.

16 So I'm going to begin with Michael
17 Schlernoff.

18 MR. SCHLERNOFF: Michael
19 Schlernoff, Syosset, New York. I have been a
20 resident of Nassau County for 45 years, a
21 taxpayer of Nassau County for 45 years. And I
22 want to speak against the 480-17 which is the
23 independent office of inspector general. I
24 feel it's a waste of money. We already have
25 the legislature, which we pay \$10 million

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2 for. Legislative Budget Review, which we pay
3 almost \$1 million for. The district
4 attorney's office, which we pay \$44 million
5 for. The Office of the Comptroller, which we
6 pay eight and a half million dollars for. And
7 the Commissioner of Investigations, which we
8 pay \$350,000 for. All of these have oversight
9 over purchasing in Nassau County. I feel it's
10 a waste of money, especially in the 2018
11 budget period where we do not have enough
12 money to do everything that is required to
13 support buses or social service agencies, that
14 anything that would be spent for the inspector
15 general would be a waste of money. Thank
16 you.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
18 Mr. Schlernoff. Gina Barbara.

19 MS. BARBARA: Good afternoon. My
20 name is Gina Barbara. I'm a resident of
21 Wantagh. I also attend Hofstra University.
22 I'm a senior majoring in Rhetorical Studies
23 with a concentration in public advocacy due to
24 graduate this May. I come before the
25 legislature today in hope of some assistance

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2 in addressing our declining transportation
3 system. Especially Able Ride, Nassau County
4 Paratransit Services. I'm one of thousands of
5 constituents who utilize this dysfunctional
6 but only available method of accessible as
7 well as affordable transportation in the
8 entire county.

9 I sit before you almost a year from
10 when Legislator Bynoe called for an audit of
11 TransDev in which has been continually bailed
12 out by this county time and time again. I
13 would like to take this opportunity to convey
14 that the ultimate treatment of clients and
15 also the operations of this essential system
16 is inexcusable and intolerable. Thus placing
17 clients as victims to be stranded at locations
18 for several hours in the elements. Excessive
19 call times and lack of communication is
20 contributing to negative results. Clients are
21 also riding on the buses for excessive periods
22 of time.

23 As we all know, this is a share
24 ride program and granted rides take a little
25 bit longer than if we drove. But overall

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2 rides are being miscalculated, schedule is
3 faulty and the overall behind the scenes seems
4 sketchy. Clients are being blamed for the
5 failures of the system and this must stop
6 immediately. We pay a fare of 3.75 each way
7 in hopes of retaining a reliable gateway into
8 the community. Resulting from these issues,
9 people have been choosing to refrain from
10 riding the service due to undue stress and not
11 caring about issues.

12 As we are aware, we are stuck with
13 this abusive situation, TransDev, until 2021.
14 Both Lyft and Uber are not viable options to
15 constituents who use mobility devices as the
16 vehicles do not have a lift. This leaves the
17 disabled and elderly community without a
18 choice than keep using this horrible service.

19 I have a copy that I have submitted
20 to Legislator Bynoe. The statistics from the
21 month of November stating that their ultimate
22 goal is 90 percent on time performance.
23 However their real true numbers is an abysmal
24 75.6 percent. It is most troubling here,
25 however, is the lack of caring and support of

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2 their cliental. We demand and deserve
3 better. I ask our new county executive-elect
4 to please help us in this crucial matter.

5 I personally, on behalf of the
6 clients, have reached out to several media
7 outlets to address the need for immediate
8 change, which I believe has gone on deaf
9 ears. Able Ride responded again blatantly
10 blaming us. We are clients not victims.

11 In conclusion, I would like to
12 thank my legislator Steve Rhoads for his
13 assistance thus far and as this entire
14 legislature for their support as well. Have a
15 happy holiday and I'm hopeful for a better
16 2018.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
18 Gina. Legislator Rhoads.

19 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Ms. Barbara,
20 I want to say thank you very much. Thank you
21 for coming today and thank you for giving
22 light to this important issue. I appreciate
23 your advocacy and I can promise you we are
24 going to be taking a look at that. There is
25 no question with respect to all of public

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2 transit but specifically our Able Ride
3 system. The point you make is 100 percent
4 correct. These are individuals that don't
5 have the ability to access other means of
6 transportation. If you are stranded at
7 Hofstra University and Able Ride doesn't show
8 up you can't call a cab. You can't call a
9 friend. You simply can't access other
10 vehicles. You need Able Ride to be able to
11 move on from where you are.

12 So I can promise you it will be
13 given the utmost priority and we will look
14 into bettering Able Ride's performance and
15 holding the appropriate persons accountable.
16 I appreciate it.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Pat
18 Boyle.

19 MR. BOYLE: Hi. My name is Pat
20 Boyle. I'm with Gateway Youth Outreach and
21 also with the Coalition of Youth Services
22 Agency. Let me start out with some things
23 that I don't want you to forget them but I
24 will start out with the bad things first and
25 move into good things later.

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2 NIFA. We all heard about what's
3 happening with NIFA cuts. Cuts are going to
4 be supposedly now across the board. Every
5 department is going to be receiving some kind
6 of a cut. I don't think that that was NIFA's
7 intention to be able to cut every single
8 agency but I think that they kind of didn't
9 know what else to do. I'm not blaming them
10 for that. But from what I heard from some of
11 them was they really didn't want to hurt youth
12 services. They know youth services hadn't had
13 an increase in funding since you can probably
14 tell me what that number is now. 1988. No
15 increase in funding, yet we're talking about a
16 cut now. It just doesn't make any sense.
17 Doesn't make any sense now especially within
18 the times we are in now.

19 There's an opioid crisis right
20 now. Gang-related issues. Children that
21 don't have anything to do and therefore will
22 be getting into trouble. Is it to go after
23 youth services? Is that the place we want to
24 be able to go after? I really don't think
25 so. I don't think it's ever been your

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2 intention and I don't think it's even NIFA's
3 intention right now. There are other ways
4 these cuts could be gone about that would keep
5 youth services at least whole.

6 How crazy am I to be standing in
7 front of you here today and say please keep us
8 at our 1989 levels? How nuts is that? That's
9 what I'm asking you to do. If you can keep
10 that at those levels then maybe we can get out
11 there and find other money as well. It's the
12 only way I've been able to keep my agency open
13 is being able to hustle and shake every bush
14 and get every tree and make sure we get money
15 from places. Please think very long and hard
16 about NIFA and what you want to do with that.

17 As far as the transition goes,
18 congratulation to Laura Curran and your
19 position now as soon to be as county
20 executive. I know you have a lot to do with
21 transition and a lot of things need to happen
22 right now. I hope that you're going to be
23 able to speak with us about those transitions
24 before they happen. One being as far as who
25 is going to be the head of the Nassau County

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2 Youth Board or Nassau County Department of
3 Youth Services as it's now called. Maggie
4 Melito did a good job there. She did. She
5 hustled and did what she needed to be able to
6 do. We need somebody in there who has her
7 kind of background and her kind of experience
8 to be able to keep this going. I'm not
9 telling you who to put in that position. All
10 I'm saying is that we need somebody who is not
11 just going to be a figurehead. Somebody who
12 knows about youth services and who's going to
13 get involved with youth services. It's very
14 important to us.

15 Also too, as far as contracts and
16 things go, now is not the time to start
17 playing around with nine month contracts or
18 anything less than a year. I'm hearing some
19 things that are a little bit on the troubling
20 side with regard to that.

21 If I can have one more second
22 because the last part is the part I think is
23 most important about what I'm saying right
24 now.

25 Legislator MacKenzie I want to

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2 thank you for your time here. Thank you for
3 backing up youth services and doing what you
4 could to be able to make things well for us.

5 But I have to say thank you to
6 Norma. Saying good-bye is not going to be
7 easy. It really won't. You have been a
8 champion for youth services for us. You've
9 helped us on very many occasions and the words
10 that always made me feel good, stop worrying
11 about it. We're going to take care of it. I
12 hope you stop worrying about anything that
13 goes on with you and you have the ability to
14 take care of everything you want to be able to
15 take care of. Enjoy these years ahead of you
16 and don't forget about Gateway Youth
17 Outreach. We always want you to pop in to say
18 hello.

19 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
20 Pat.

21 Matt Skolnick.

22 MR. SKOLNICK: Good afternoon.
23 My name is Matt Skolnick and I am a resident
24 of Westbury. I come before you today as a
25 licensed master social worker and as a

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2 disabled Nassau County resident. I'm here to
3 advocate for myself and for the thousands of
4 disabled and elderly residents who rely on the
5 Able Ride system.

6 As a social worker I'm trained to
7 identify systemic causes of injustice. As an
8 Able Ride passenger I and many others have
9 been on the receiving end of these systemic
10 issues. You've likely heard complaints of
11 missed pickups, being on buses for as long as
12 it would take to drive to New Jersey, long
13 hold times on the phone, lack of available
14 rides, rude drivers, late buses and old buses
15 that are terrible to ride. These issues are
16 not one off misunderstandings. Rather they
17 are the result of a company culture at Able
18 Ride that says the customer is rarely right.
19 Instead of working with the disabled community
20 to solve issues, Able Ride presents themselves
21 as the quintessential institution with a
22 that's just the way it is attitude. That at
23 times veers into contempt for its customers
24 akin to something from Oliver Twist.

25 In fact, I was recently told by Ken

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2 Woods, the person in charge of handling
3 complaints that I should, quote, be happy with
4 the crumbs I have with this service. When
5 Legislator Bynoe passed my concerns about his
6 attitude on to Able Ride I was informed by
7 Able Ride that Ken Woods would be the one to
8 handle my complaint. Think about that. That
9 would be like any of you single-handedly
10 deciding if you should be elected. This is
11 just one of the many examples of Able Ride's
12 disfunction for which are they are receiving
13 millions of dollars. It does not have to be
14 this way.

15 As a former 26 year resident of
16 Suffolk County I used Suffolk transportation's
17 Scat Service pretty regularly and rarely had
18 the same extent of problems or lack of
19 responsiveness to problems.

20 Just last week New York City
21 Access-A-Ride service rolled out an app for
22 passengers to see on their phone in real time
23 where their bus was and how long it would take
24 to arrive. While neighboring systems are
25 thriving and improving thanks to a receptive

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2 stance on community feedback, Able Ride seems
3 more interested in wasting tax dollars on
4 vigorously maintaining the status quo of
5 blaming its customers for its failings. If
6 other counties such as Suffolk with budgetary
7 issues can have more reliable and successful
8 transportation services why can't Nassau?

9 I urge all of you, including
10 county-elect Curran, to pressure Able Ride and
11 NICE Bus to make real systemic change in
12 leadership and company culture or lose future
13 contracts. Thank you very much.

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
15 Matt.

16 Siela Bynoe.

17 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you
18 Presiding Officer.

19 Mr. Skolnick, I just wanted to take
20 the opportunity to let you know that I
21 followed up with NICE Bus based on your second
22 outreach to the office and I did have a
23 conference call meeting with Mr. Setzer
24 specific to your issues. One of them being a
25 managerial concern and how they were dealing

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2 with your concerns and your complaint. So, he
3 agreed that the process should be
4 reengineered and that it should have a
5 different mechanism for response.

6 In addition to that, there were
7 concerns about the tie down on the bus and
8 they're going to make sure by way of routing
9 that you not experience that again. And in
10 addition to that, they're going to be looking
11 at future investments into the NICE Bus fleet
12 that will address your concerns and I'm going
13 to be following up on those things.

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Brian
15 Sullivan.

16 MR. SULLIVAN: Good afternoon
17 everybody. Brian Sullivan, president of
18 Nassau County Correction Officers Benevolent
19 Association. I will be brief. I wanted to
20 touch on couple of quick things as we close
21 out the year.

22 Legislator Gonsalves, I want to
23 wish you the best in your retirement. I have
24 known you for 15 years and we been through a
25 lot thick and thin, good and bad and

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2 everything else. I want to wish you the best
3 in the your retirement and happiness and
4 health always.

5 Legislator MacKenzie, thank you for
6 all your support for us. I wish you the
7 best.

8 Legislature Curran, I wish you the
9 best completely in your new role as the county
10 executive. I'm looking forward to working
11 with you. I certainly hope you have a
12 fruitful and successful tenure as the county
13 executive. I sincerely do.

14 I just wanted to touch base on a
15 couple of quick things here. At the budget
16 hearing we spoke about hiring at the jail.
17 That there were issues. It was spoken about
18 that there was going to be 30 to 40 correction
19 officers hired by the end of the year and two
20 classes of 25 next year. There's two weeks
21 left in the year we haven't hired anyone.
22 Maybe once we get started in the new
23 administration next year I'm hoping we can hit
24 the ground running with issues like that.
25 Definitely we need to hire bodies at the

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2 jail. Need to get the infrastructure
3 started.

4 I'm looking forward with baited
5 breath to see who the new sheriff is. I'm
6 certainly extremely hopeful it's someone who
7 has correctional experience and knows how to
8 run a correctional facility. We are a unique
9 situation. It's not just law enforcement.
10 Not just administrative. It's it's own bird.
11 I'm certainly looking forward to a new
12 administration and hopefully correcting a lot
13 of problems that we have that are well
14 documented. Especially in front of this
15 board.

16 Lastly, main thing I wanted to
17 touch on something I was pretty dismayed about
18 in the last few weeks and going forward I will
19 bring it up again. There was a bill that was
20 brought forward in front of this legislature,
21 it was a disability bill for correction
22 officers. We needed a home rule from this
23 legislature and it was voted in unanimously by
24 everybody on this panel. It was brought
25 forward to the state. It passed unanimously

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2 in the state and it passed almost unanimously
3 in the assembly. Two members of the assembly
4 voted against it. It went to the governor's
5 office and the governor vetoed it. It's kind
6 of an unclear reason why he vetoed it. It was
7 kind of lumped in with a bunch of other
8 bills. And I was very disheartened that this
9 bill was turned down because it was just
10 lumped in with what they governor calls
11 pension sweeteners.

12 This is not something that I would
13 refer to as a pension sweetener. This is
14 something that actually protects correction
15 officers when they're attacked by what are
16 potentially ex inmates that come back to the
17 jail. It was relatively minuscule in past
18 service cost. It was relatively minuscule in
19 the overall cost to the pension system. We
20 had one officer in the last ten years that
21 this would have pertained to.

22 I just want to let you know right
23 after the beginning of the year I'm going to
24 bring this back to this body and bring it to
25 your office Ms. Curran. I certainly hope we

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2 get the same support from this body and the
3 county executive's office that we did last
4 year and before it starts running through
5 everything in Albany maybe we can get into the
6 governor's ear and explain to him that this
7 isn't just some other bill. This is something
8 that actually protects their livelihoods,
9 protects their lives if they're not able to
10 provided for their families when they are
11 attacked by somebody. That's pretty much all
12 I have to say for now.

13 Like I said, everybody supported on
14 it legislator. I got full support in the
15 state and the governor turned it down. I'm
16 not very happy with the governor right now.
17 Going forward, like I said, I'm looking very
18 much forward to working with you Ms. Curran
19 and this body going forward. I certainly hope
20 we can put a lot of bipartisanship aside, work
21 bipartisan, however I'm trying to say this.
22 I'm looking very much forward. We need a new
23 day in Nassau County. We need a new day in
24 the correctional facility that's for sure. A
25 lot of things need to change and I'm hoping we

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2 can start it from day one.

3 Thank you very much, everybody have
4 a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and all
5 that. See you soon.

6 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Deputy
7 Presiding Officer Nicoletto.

8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I wanted
9 to say how dismayed and concerned we are to
10 learn that the class is apparently not going
11 through by the end of this year. We had
12 commitments from the sheriff. He sat right
13 there during the budget hearings. Told us
14 here is a schedule that we thought they would
15 proceed with. We are very concerned about it
16 and obviously we will be pursuing this matter
17 with the new county executive after the first
18 of the year.

19 With respect to the bill, I think
20 it was passed unanimously here. It just
21 closes a small loophole. It provides
22 protection to your members. It just doesn't
23 make sense that they get disability if they
24 are injured in an assault by an inmate. But
25 if a visitor assaults them they don't get

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2 disability. Makes no sense. It's very
3 limited impact to our budget. Negligible in
4 fact to the county's \$3 billion budget. I
5 have no idea why the governor vetoed it. If
6 you bring it back here we will certainly be
7 very supportive.

8 MR. SULLIVAN: I appreciate
9 that. Thank you. Have a good day.

10 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Ms.
11 Mereday. You have a number of items here.
12 Pick and choose which ones you are going to
13 talk about.

14 MS. MEREDAY: Good afternoon.
15 Meta Mereday, Baldwin resident. First and
16 foremost, I definitely want to thank you
17 presiding officer. You and I have had an
18 interesting relationship. Yes, don't worry,
19 you haven't gotten rid of me yet. I just
20 wanted to let you know that.

21 What I wanted to talk about right
22 now is I'm intrigued that these items are now
23 on this agenda and I do look forward to the
24 discussion because I have been hearing the
25 argument with regard to an inspector general

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2 and supporting it for the last ten months or
3 so. So that's something I am looking forward
4 to. And for those that feel that it is a
5 waste of money I think they might want to look
6 at how many lawsuits that Nassau County has
7 been involved with and the contracting
8 opportunities that had they been reviewed
9 thoroughly with regard to inclusion and
10 diversity early on we may not be in that
11 situation. So let's be open minded about
12 that.

13 Secondly, there are a number of
14 contracts that are listed on here, bonding
15 issues, and I can only hope that those bonding
16 issues are inclusive of projects that are
17 impacting South Shore communities like
18 Uniondale and Baldwin where I live that we can
19 get those opportunities and that those jobs
20 can be afforded to the residents in the area.

21 As you well know, yes, my focus has
22 largely been not only for underserved and
23 underrepresented taxpayers but for veterans.
24 And with the issues that were discussed early
25 on with transportation I concur that we do

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2 have a significant constituency base that the
3 needs are not being addressed by the current
4 transportation models and we need to address
5 that as well for our veterans.

6 Veterans as it pertains to housing,
7 we don't have enough housing. We do not have
8 enough resources for veterans and our student
9 veterans to stay here. I'm hoping that we can
10 look more collaboratively with regard to
11 them.

12 And for jobs and procurement
13 contracts, again, we're getting billions of
14 dollars in work here that percentages of
15 veterans are not getting represented. Looking
16 at the numbers from the census data I kind of
17 see why we are now in the paper more so than
18 ever. Long Island being a place that's going
19 to be hard to live in because the median
20 income listed on the census data is that it's
21 \$99,000, the median income for Nassau County.
22 United States is \$54,000. I kind of see why
23 folks outside of this area think we have a lot
24 money but we don't. We're getting a lot of
25 the zombie houses. We're getting a lot of

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2 people who are leaving from here and we need
3 to consider that.

4 My last point, because I do want to
5 stay on time, we need to review the funding
6 that goes through the Long Island regional
7 planning to be inclusive.

8 And this Bay Park issue, I still
9 have questions as do many residents. Thank
10 you. I will be back later.

11 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Job well
12 done.

13 Pearl Jacobs.

14 MS. JACOBS: Good afternoon. I
15 see that project B11-16, the Uniondale
16 streetscaping contract has been put on the
17 agenda. It is indeed of a good day for the
18 Uniondale community. The residents of
19 Uniondale have advocated tirelessly over the
20 past several years to bring the Uniondale
21 streetscaping project to fruition. I would
22 like to thank all of our Uniondale residents.
23 I would like to thank our friends and
24 neighbors in Hempstead and Baldwin who
25 advocated for Uniondale and joined us in our

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2 peaceful protest on June 19th of this year.

3 Thanks to Hofstra University, the
4 Long Island Association and the Nassau County
5 Chamber for their letters of support and
6 advocacy for the Uniondale streetscaping
7 project. Thank you Presiding Officer
8 Gonsalves for putting the Uniondale
9 streetscaping project on the agenda. I
10 sincerely wish you a long, happy and health
11 retirement.

12 Thank you Legislator Abrahams for
13 your continuous advocacy for this project
14 and thank you county executive-elect Curran
15 for your support and words of encouragement in
16 support of this project. Again, Uniondale
17 sincerely appreciates your many visits to our
18 community over the past several months.

19 I would like to thank all of the
20 legislators who supported and voted for
21 this -- and will hopefully vote for this
22 project. I'm encouraged that with the coming
23 in of the new administration Nassau County
24 will begin a transition to a more inclusive
25 and quality-oriented county. Communities like

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2 Uniondale will begin to share in Governor
3 Cuomo's vision of a vibrant and sustainable
4 Long Island. To quote Dr. Martin Luther King,
5 Jr., Our lives begin to end the day we become
6 silent about things that matter. Unquote.
7 Uniondale matters. Thank you.

8 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank
9 you.

10 Margo.

11 MS. CARGIL: Good morning. My
12 name is Margo Cargil. I'm a resident of
13 Rockville Centre, New York. I'm actually
14 speaking on behalf of the Uniondale Chamber of
15 Commerce as I'm president, and I would like to
16 thank you Legislator Gonsalves especially for
17 your leadership to your community and
18 obviously your dedication to Nassau County.

19 I know this has been a topic of
20 contention for quite some time and I
21 understand the kinds of limitations that the
22 legislature has and with the timing
23 especially. Really, as a representative of
24 the business community and obviously
25 representing our assets and our corporations

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2 as well as our Main Street's mom and pops,
3 this Main Street streetscaping project is
4 extremely important and we would really like
5 to see it go forward and for the funds to be
6 allocated appropriately obviously and for
7 there to be opportunities for minority and
8 women-owned businesses in our local areas.

9 Other than that, also I would like
10 the legislature to also consider some of our
11 corporate partnerships that can be explored
12 and matching funds that are offered by
13 organizations like PSE&G. I don't know if you
14 guys know that July of this past year they
15 actually implemented a Main Street
16 revitalization program, a pilot program, that
17 I'm hoping will be able to really capitalize
18 on and possibly, maybe with the second phase
19 of this project be able to really make this
20 something special and something that we can
21 all be proud that we were a part of.

22 I look forward to working with
23 everyone who is a part of that particular
24 project and obviously our county
25 executive-elect Legislator Curran. Thank you

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2 so much for your dedication and your
3 communication to our community and staying on
4 this. So thank you everyone.

5 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Margo, I
6 would like to thank you for your
7 correspondence from the chamber of commerce
8 regarding Uniondale and of course the
9 particular project in question today. And so
10 thank you for your support. I'm sure that the
11 community appreciates it and so do I. Thank
12 you so much.

13 To all of the public comment before
14 we go into the legislative calendar.

15 MS. SANFT: Good afternoon. My
16 name is Heidi Sanft. I'm the vice president
17 of the Nostrand Garden Association in
18 Uniondale and a member of the Greater
19 Uniondale Action Coalition.

20 What I first want to do is
21 Presiding Officer Gonsalves I want to wish you
22 only the best. You are a force to be
23 recognized with and whatever you do next I'm
24 sure it will make a big difference. I live
25 right next door to your neighborhood. I'm

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2 sure we will see each other in the
3 supermarket, on the street, at Stew Leonard's,
4 at the Chinese take out. So we will run into
5 each other. But all joking aside, you are a
6 tough cookie and I respect you and be proud of
7 yourself and carry on.

8 Now for the business part. Thank
9 you for putting the Uniondale Avenue
10 streetscaping contract B11-16 on your agenda.
11 After speaking here numerous times over the
12 past year and peacefully protesting as well it
13 is refreshing to see progress for Uniondale in
14 2017.

15 I would like to quote from the Long
16 Island Association's 2016 business fact book.
17 On page 47 titled Long Island Economic Outlook
18 Dr. John Rizzo, Long Island Association's
19 chief executive, states the following. Quote,
20 Long Island's economy has continued a steady
21 recovery from the great recession. Following
22 an up and down year the stock market headed to
23 new highs. But there remains important issues
24 to be addressed in the coming years. Further
25 economic development, especially around

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2 transportation hubs, is important for
3 attracting young workers. And despite having
4 high average incomes and education levels,
5 there is significant variation in these
6 dimensions on Long Island. It is thus
7 important to target investment at lower income
8 neighborhoods to address these disparities.
9 End quote.

10 Uniondale Avenue is the gateway to
11 the Hub. Concentrate investment in that area
12 and success will follow. Be inclusive and
13 forward thinking. Look away and progress for
14 what is being called, quote, the Nassau Hub
15 Innovation District, unquote, will stall at
16 every turn. Progress only happens if it
17 includes all people in its vision. We look
18 forward to continued action on moving all of
19 Uniondale forward to raise everyone up to a
20 better future.

21 Thank you. Merry Christmas, Happy
22 Hanukkah. Healthy happy new year to all.

23 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Jack
24 McCloy.

25 MR. MCCLOY: Members of the

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2 legislature, thank you for letting me address
3 you again today. And Ms. Gonsalves, good luck
4 in your future endeavors. My thoughts are
5 with you. Thank you. My thoughts are with
6 you too Laura and your new venture as county
7 executive coming up.

8 I want to bring up something that I
9 received. Laura and I both attend some of the
10 Baldwin Civic Association meetings and I got
11 something recently and I'd like to read it
12 quickly. The Nassau County Legislature has
13 the chance to move ahead with a project to
14 mitigate potential flooding damage to Silver
15 Lake and its environment. New York State has
16 set aside funds to study and begin work on the
17 project. The danger is that further delay may
18 kill killed the project known as Silver Lake
19 Drainage Improvement Study and Design
20 Contract. Item E219-17.

21 If the matter is not taken up at
22 the December 18th legislative meeting, the
23 last meeting of the legislative session, it
24 must be refiled in the new year. Meaning we
25 are back to square one. The governor's office

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2 of storm recovery has already expressed
3 concern with the county's lack of progress.
4 If the county does not move forward the state
5 has said that they may pull the funding and
6 reallocate it elsewhere. This is an essential
7 study to prevent similar flood damage in the
8 future and it must be advanced in order to
9 maintain about 1.8 million in state funds
10 headed to the county for construction costs
11 after the study is completed.

12 I wanted to read this to you. I
13 don't have all of the information about this
14 but this was given to me by Karen Montelbano,
15 the president of the Baldwin Civic
16 Association, and I just feel it would be a
17 shame if 1.8 million that is earmarked from
18 the state to benefit our community would go by
19 the wayside. I ask if any of you know more
20 about this to share it and if there's any way
21 it could be put on the calendar to the benefit
22 of the county by the state if it could be
23 addressed. I'm asking maybe Laura or Norma
24 you know more about this that you could share
25 over the next half a minute I still have.

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2 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I believe
3 it's an item for consideration today. How's
4 that? I believe it's an item for
5 consideration.

6 MR. MCCLOY: I saw it but did not
7 recognize it but thank you. Merry Christmas,
8 Happy Hanukkah, happy new year to all. Thank
9 you.

10 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Karen
11 Reid.

12 MS. REID: Good afternoon. My
13 name is Karen Reid. I'm a resident of Baldwin
14 community. I'm also on the school board
15 there. Thank you for allowing me to come here
16 to speak to you today. Presiding Officer
17 Gonsalves it sounds like we have similar
18 stories as to how we arise to leadership on
19 our respective boards. I was on the board one
20 month and they asked me can you be the
21 president? I was like I guess so. But it
22 wasn't what I asked for. But you do what you
23 need to do to step up to serve your
24 community.

25 The reason I'm here today if you

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2 remember last month I came here. I asked
3 respectfully if you would consider placing our
4 CPR, I think that's the acronym, CPR grant on
5 the agenda. At 12:37 I got a text saying that
6 it was on the agenda and in 20 minutes or less
7 I got dressed, called an Uber to get over here
8 really quick. I wanted to thank you for
9 putting it on the agenda for a vote.

10 To the rest of you, I would like to
11 ask for your support in voting in favor of
12 this item. I think you guys know it's item
13 256Q 2017. It will allow to us move forward
14 in securing grant money from the state to
15 finish the project in its totality. As you
16 guys know, money is becoming quite hard to
17 come by these days. So we would like to make
18 sure we get this project done before the grant
19 money disappears at the state level.

20 Again, I thank all of you. I thank
21 you very much presiding officer for putting
22 this on the agenda. I wish you well in your
23 next phase of service and a happy holidays and
24 congratulations to all of you and good luck
25 Laura as county exec.

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2 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Patty
3 Harris.

4 MS. HARRIS: Good afternoon. I'm
5 Patty Harris. I'm a Uniondale resident and
6 today I come to you to speak on a happy
7 occasion. The Uniondale streetscaping has
8 been finally put on the agenda. Not only I
9 speak for myself but for my late husband,
10 Melvin Harris Jr., who you would recognize him
11 as the late commissioner and also as the
12 former president of Nostrand Gardens, an
13 activist of many communities and
14 organizations. His biggest passion was not
15 only for his family but for our own community,
16 Uniondale, New York.

17 For so many years, and I do mean
18 years, Uniondale streetscaping has been an
19 ongoing process. To get to the next phase is
20 a great start for the new year. This is to
21 show Uniondale that the legislative body wants
22 to have Uniondale looking just as nice as our
23 neighboring communities.

24 My husband had a saying and I want
25 you to take this to your heart when dealing

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2 with the issues of our communities. If we
3 agree to put down the petty differences and
4 lift up the greatness of each other then
5 collectively we can change the direction of
6 the communities.

7 I would like to say from my family
8 to your families have a happy new year and
9 happy holidays and we're looking forward to
10 doing better things for the Uniondale
11 community for 2018.

12 Presiding Officer Gonsalves, I did
13 meet you with Melvin when everybody voted him
14 in and you did say you never did see anybody
15 get unanimous votes. I want to say you have
16 unanimous votes of having a wonderful life
17 after the legislature.

18 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
19 so much.

20 Will my colleagues take their
21 seats. We're ready to go on. Ladies and
22 gentleman in the chamber, we were just -- the
23 counsel and I were discussing those items that
24 are on the consent calendar. Which means that
25 the minority and the majority have agreed to

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2 the items and have been voted on unanimously
3 in committee. So we will call those items
4 first and then move on to the other items on
5 the calendar.

6 So beginning with -- hopefully
7 everybody is in their seat because we are
8 going to need to take a vote on those items.
9 Begin with item seven ordinance 164. Item
10 eight ordinance 165. Item nine ordinance
11 166. Item 10 ordinance 167. Item 18
12 resolution 220. Item 19 resolution 221. Item
13 20 resolution 222. Item 22 resolution 224.
14 Item 23 resolution 225. Item 24 resolution
15 226. Item 25 resolution 227. Item 26
16 resolution 228. Item -- hold on. Item 44
17 resolution 246. Item 45 resolution 247. Item
18 46 resolution 248. Item 47 resolution 249.
19 Item 48 resolution 250. Item 49 resolution
20 251. Item 50 resolution 252. Item 51
21 resolution 253. Item 52 resolution 254. Item
22 53 resolution 255. And item 54 resolution
23 256.

24 Motion by Legislator Nicoletto.
25 Second by Legislator Kopel. Any additional

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2 questions or comments? There being none, all
3 those in favor of the items I just called
4 signify by saying aye. Any opposed? The
5 items pass unanimously.

6 We move on. Very, very heavy
7 calendar today. The next group of items would
8 be the appointments to the various county
9 commissions and I'm going to begin with
10 calendar item 27, Rodney Mcrae executive
11 director to the Human Rights Commission. Item
12 28, Richard Shaper, Planning Commission. Item
13 29, Robin Lavemanas, chair Assessment Review
14 Commission. Item 30, Leon Campo, Correctional
15 Center Board of Visitors. Item 31, Alphonso
16 Albright, director of Correctional Board of
17 Visitors. Item 32, Anthony Battista, Nassau
18 County Board of Health. Item 33, Ellen
19 Braenstein, Nassau County Board of Health.
20 Item 34, Keria Blue, Nassau County Human
21 Rights Commission. Item 35, Arie Weissman,
22 Nassau County Commission on Human Rights.
23 Item 36, William Mahlan, Nassau County
24 Commission on Human Rights. Item 38, Immacula
25 Oligario, Nassau County Commission on Human

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2 Rights. 39, Angela Davis, Nassau County
3 Commission on Human Rights. Item 40, Shirley
4 Shing, Nassau County Commission on Human
5 Rights. Item 41, Frank Gatto, Assessment
6 Review Commission. And item 42, Carnell T.
7 Foskey, Nassau County Civil Service
8 Commission.

9 A motion please. Moved by
10 Legislator Walker. Second by Legislator
11 Nicoletto. Any comments or questions from the
12 legislators? Legislator county
13 executive-elect Laura Curran.

14 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Thank you
15 very much. I'm choosing to abstain today. We
16 have some fine individuals here and I'm happy
17 that you are here. I want you to know that
18 it's not about your service or about you
19 personally. I think it's important with the
20 new administration coming in for me and for
21 our caucus to abstain on these appointments.
22 I want you to understand that we are going to
23 have conversations going forward and this
24 abstention is not a reflection of how we are
25 going to go forward, but I think for the

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2 principle of it we are going to abstain today.

3 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any other
4 comments? Any public comment? There being
5 none, all those in favor of the individuals
6 that were appointed today signify by saying
7 aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? So we
8 have 11 zero five. Congratulations. I'm glad
9 this is official and the very best to you in
10 the year. I know that all good things are
11 going to happen because of you. Now the
12 pressure is on.

13 The next item is resolution 245. A
14 resolution to amend resolution 387 -- you
15 can't hear. I think that -- are we ready? I
16 would like to call item 43. Item 43 is
17 resolution 245. Resolution to amend
18 resolution 387-2008 as last amended by
19 resolution 13-2017 to designate newspapers to
20 publish and identify the real property listed
21 by school district number located wholly or
22 partly in the Town of Hempstead, Town of North
23 Hempstead, Town of Oyster Bay, City of Glen
24 Cove, and City of Long Beach on which real
25 estate tax liens are subject to sale by the

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2 county treasurer for unpaid taxes, pursuant to
3 the county government law of Nassau County and
4 the Nassau County administrative code.

5 Moved by Legislator Nicoletto.

6 Second by Legislator Muscarella.

7 MR. JEFFERSON: Beaumont
8 Jefferson county treasurer. The item before
9 you is a designation of newspapers for the
10 annual tax lien sale. I have some additional
11 information that was requested by Legislator
12 Kopel at the last meeting. That information
13 was the circulation of Newsday and also just
14 an explanation on the paper's circulation. So
15 there's two items.

16 Item number one is each newspaper
17 that we list in has to have a bonafide
18 circulation of at least 500. You also have to
19 advertise in a paper that is county wide or
20 New York City wide. That's general
21 circulation.

22 So I researched the numbers for
23 Newsday and Newsday's circulation is Monday to
24 Saturday 98,000. And this is 2016. So let me
25 break it up by 2016. 2016 Monday to Saturday

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2 the circulation is 98,771. And on Sunday the
3 circulation is 113,161 papers. 2017 year to
4 date circulation is 94,990. And the Sunday
5 circulation is 109,087. I provide those
6 numbers there was the question about which
7 newspaper we use to advertise county wide and
8 Newsday is the paper that we have listed as
9 the county wide paper.

10 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
11 Kopel.

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Thank you. So
13 good afternoon Beaumont. So what is the
14 circulation of the Times, the Post, Wall
15 Street Journal? All of those would seem to
16 qualify. And what is the minimum circulation
17 required?

18 MR. JEFFERSON: The minimum
19 circulation is 500 for the local papers and
20 then there's a circulation where you have to
21 advertise in a widely circulated in New York
22 City.

23 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: As I said, you
24 have the Post, the Daily News, the Times the
25 Wall Street Journal. Why are we not --

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2 MR. JEFFERSON: First, let me
3 give you Wall Street Journal is 1,064,000 is
4 the circulation. Remember that Wall Street
5 Journal is circulated throughout the country.

6 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I think they
7 have a larger circulation in the metropolitan
8 area than does Newsday.

9 MR. JEFFERSON: That's true.
10 However, we advertise in Newsday because it's
11 widely read by Nassau County residents.

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Wall Street
13 Journal is widely read by Nassau County
14 residents. All those others are widely read
15 by Nassau County residents.

16 MR. JEFFERSON: You can certainly
17 make that argument.

18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Have you
19 researched the others? Have you checked
20 rates? If not, why not?

21 MR. JEFFERSON: We researched all
22 the local papers and we look for a newspaper
23 that would reach out to the residents of the
24 county. In the event that they have their
25 home listed in the paper we are hoping that

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2 someone will see it and reach out to that
3 member to let them know that they have
4 delinquent taxes.

5 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I understand
6 that. With all due respect, you are not
7 answering the question. It seems to me that
8 we're just not doing our job over here. We
9 are just defaulting to the same paper every
10 year. I don't see why it is that we're not
11 looking at some others as well. Maybe switch
12 once in a while. Maybe we get better rates.
13 Maybe we get better circulation with some of
14 the others.

15 Madam Presiding Officer, I'm going
16 to move that we table this to get this
17 research done.

18 MR. JEFFERSON: Legislator Kopel,
19 I will let you know, one, I have all the
20 research on the other papers. Two, we have to
21 list these properties in the newspaper coming
22 up for our January, February sale. So.

23 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Move to
24 substitute, just pick one. When is the sale?

25 MR. JEFFERSON: In February.

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2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I move to
3 table this until our January meetings.

4 MR. JEFFERSON: Legislator Kopel,
5 we have to advertise in the newspapers several
6 weeks before.

7 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: When in
8 February?

9 MR. JEFFERSON: The sale is the
10 third week in February.

11 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: The third week
12 in February. And how many weeks before?

13 MR. JEFFERSON: We run at least
14 four weeks.

15 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So we have
16 ample time after our beginning meetings in
17 January.

18 MR. JEFFERSON: I disagree.

19 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I have made a
20 motion.

21 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: I second the
22 motion.

23 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I can remake
24 the motion after Legislator Rhoads has his
25 say.

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2 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Is it
3 possible in the next -- obviously we are going
4 to be meeting for a while. Obviously we want
5 to try to reach the largest number of
6 residents possible. I think we have been
7 recognizing over the course of several years
8 that Newsday's circulation has been going
9 down. As other have other print media. Is it
10 possible to do a little research in the next
11 hour or so and just see if we can compare what
12 the Nassau County circulation is for Wall
13 Street Journal, for New York Post, for other
14 major papers so we can make sure we are
15 getting the best bang for the buck, but two we
16 are reaching as many Nassau County residents
17 as possible.

18 MR. JEFFERSON: I don't believe
19 we can actually have that information in an
20 hour or so. We certainly can do it. I have
21 information on all the papers. We have them
22 rated here. I will tell that you Newsday has
23 the ninth largest circulation in the country
24 just to give you an idea. The only other
25 papers that have a larger circulation is the

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2 LA Times, the Washington Post, USA Today,
3 Chicago Tribune. And then you have the
4 New York Post and the New York Daily News that
5 are slightly ahead of Newsday.

6 But again, based on our research,
7 if you look at the Wall Street Journal we
8 wouldn't publish in the Wall Street Journal.
9 The likelihood of someone actually seeing
10 these homes listed in the Wall Street Journal
11 or the New York Times that's just not going to
12 reach the folks that we actually want to
13 reach. We actually want to advertise and want
14 people to see their property listed. Or if
15 you have someone who is sick or shut in and a
16 neighbor sees their property I know that
17 Newsday has a greater reach. The top nine
18 papers that I have listed here we're certainly
19 not going to advertise in the ones that are
20 not --

21 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: That's why
22 I'm asking if it's possible to find out what
23 the Nassau County circulation is. I don't
24 care if somebody in California sees the
25 listing. I care if somebody sitting here in

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2 Nassau County sees the listings.

3 MR. JEFFERSON: We certainly can
4 look into that. I'm not sure I can turn that
5 around in an hour. But I certainly will have
6 someone in my office take a look at it.

7 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: If you
8 wouldn't mind making the call. I think we
9 understand we have to move on this today but
10 we would like to find out that information
11 before we actually take a vote if that's
12 possible.

13 MR. JEFFERSON: I can certainly
14 look into it.

15 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you. I
16 appreciate it.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
18 Nicoletto.

19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Just a
20 real quick comment. I think part of the
21 problem here is the state requirements are an
22 acronym going back to a time when people
23 received their information via print media. I
24 think the state needs to change it so
25 localities can also advertise by digital

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2 media. It would saves us a fortune and
3 accomplish the same thing. Getting the state
4 to do that is another question.

5 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I'm going to
6 renew my motion but I would like to say that I
7 hope that the incoming administration does a
8 better job of preparing for this and finding
9 out what the circulation is because I for one
10 I'm totally not convinced that this is the
11 best bang for our buck or that it's indeed a
12 fair use of the county funds where we are
13 consistently favoring one paper. I move to
14 table until we get more information.

15 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I believe
16 there was a second by Legislator Gaylor. All
17 those in favor of tabling this item signify by
18 saying aye. Any opposed? How many of you?
19 All those who say nay raise your hands.
20 Voting against the motion to table.

21 We are not tabling. Kevan, you got
22 confused? Those who are in favor of tabling
23 signify by saying aye. Five. Guess what? It
24 failed. And all those who voted nay?
25 Everybody else. How many are we over here?

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2 12 to five against tabling. Five in favor 11
3 against. Fails.

4 Now for the item. Beaumont we got
5 you off the hook. Any additional comments?
6 There being none, all those in favor of item,
7 I think it's 43, signify by saying aye. Any
8 opposed? The item passes 13 to three.
9 They're confusing me at this point. I want to
10 get out of this seat you know. I need to move
11 a little bit. It's 13 three Frank. This is
12 what we call cleaning house.

13 The next item is item 21 resolution
14 223 authorizing the county executive to
15 execute an administrative consent agreement
16 and cooperative agreement with the New York
17 State Department of Environmental Conservation
18 in relation to the Bay Park Diversion Project
19 and additional work.

20 Moved by Legislator Nicoletto.
21 Second by Legislator Kopel. Who is going to
22 talk on this one? Who's here?

23 MS. HODAK: Jane Hodak,
24 Department of Public Works.

25 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Jane, what

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2 are you going to tell us?

3 MS. HODAK: Thank you again for
4 considering this item. As you heard in the
5 committee hearings two weeks ago that this
6 consent order, this agreement rather, is to
7 address nitrogen and other Bay Park related
8 issues, but primarily nitrogen, which is
9 causing problems in the western bays,
10 impairing the western bays to a point they
11 don't meet water quality standards.

12 As part of this agreement the DEC,
13 through state construction, will work with the
14 county and will take over the designing and
15 the building of a diversion from the Bay Park
16 to the Cedar Creek outfall so that the treated
17 effluent from Bay Park, which is treated to
18 meet secondary treatment standards as well as
19 nitrogen removal, will then be discharged,
20 connected and discharged through the ocean
21 outfall at Cedar Creek. It will be a savings
22 in -- proposed savings in both time and
23 money. There will be those two benefits to
24 the county residents. And unless you have
25 anymore questions that's a synopsis of the

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2 agreement.

3 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
4 Rhoads.

5 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you
6 Madam Presiding Officer. Initially I would
7 ask that the testimony from the committee
8 hearings be included in the record before the
9 full legislature so we don't have to repeat
10 many of the same questions we did during
11 committees.

12 My understanding, is obviously the
13 benefits of the project are obvious. However,
14 before the state became involved it was the
15 county's intention, as I indicated during
16 committee hearings, to hold the public
17 information sessions so that residents in the
18 area would have the opportunity to ask
19 questions before the county would commit to a
20 project. I understand that even with today's
21 vote that there will still be contracts that
22 have to be approved and obviously permits that
23 would have to be applied which would provide a
24 certain amount of review.

25 I did sense since the committee

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2 hearing to have the opportunity to have some
3 questions answered that I had anticipated
4 would have been asked at a public information
5 session and get those questions answered by
6 the New York State Department of Environmental
7 Conservation. And I would like to -- by James
8 Tierney, the deputy commissioner of the state
9 DEC. Those questions essentially were how the
10 viaduct was to be used. The project would
11 actually be using the 100 year old viaduct.
12 The answer to that question is that there
13 would be a slip liner put inside the viaduct.
14 So it would not actually be the original
15 viaduct being used but that it would run
16 through a brand new liner.

17 That the effluents being pumped
18 from Bay Park to Cedar Creek would actually
19 not be pumped to the plant, correct?

20 MS. HODAK: Correct.

21 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: But actually
22 would be pumped directly to the outfall pipe.
23 So all of the effluent that would be traveling
24 one has been completely treated before it even
25 hits the viaduct at the Bay Park sewage

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2 treatment plant but in fact would be going
3 directly to the outfall pipe. That the Cedar
4 Creek plant itself would not be receiving any
5 additional sewage for treatment.

6 Rather than going through the list,
7 what I will do is ask that we incorporate into
8 the record the response from the New York
9 State Department of Environmental
10 Conservation. And do we a representative from
11 the state here? Could you please come up.

12 MS. HODAK: Legislator Rhoads,
13 just to clarify, the agreements that are
14 before you today, the agreement and the
15 cooperative agreement, you will see in the
16 cooperative agreement it contemplates a more
17 formal agreement between the state and the
18 county regarding the actual design build and
19 how that will play out and what our respective
20 roles will be.

21 And as we have previously
22 discussed, the incorporation of public
23 sessions, the incorporation of public input
24 would be best suited to be spelled out in that
25 type of a formal agreement in an appendices

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2 that talked about how many meetings you would
3 have and who would be part it and what we
4 would do along the way to facilitate the
5 communication between your constituents and
6 the people that will be working on this
7 project.

8 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I appreciate
9 that. And it's importance because I think the
10 preference would have been to have the public
11 information sessions so that the community
12 has the opportunity to ask those questions.
13 And I appreciate the fact that the community
14 will have an opportunity to do it shortly. I
15 just would have preferred that it be before
16 today.

17 The one question -- if the state
18 representative could come up. Just please
19 state your name for the record.

20 MR. CRISAFULLI: My name is Scott
21 Crisafulli, Deputy counsel for the New York
22 State Department of Environmental
23 Conservation.

24 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I appreciate
25 the fact that you're here. You came down from

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2 Albany?

3 MR. CRISAFULLI: I did sir.

4 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you for
5 making the trip. The information that was
6 contained in the New York State Department of
7 Environmental Conservation letter to me dated
8 December 15th, did you have an opportunity to
9 review that letter?

10 MR. CRISAFULLI: I did.

11 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: In fact you
12 were cc'd on that I see on the bottom of the
13 letter on the 15th. You concur with the
14 responses that were given?

15 MR. CRISAFULLI: Yes, sir.

16 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: In that
17 December 15th, 2017 letter.

18 MR. CRISAFULLI: Yes.

19 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: One of the
20 issues that we have is timing. And I
21 understand there is some urgency to doing it
22 today. What would be the ramifications of us
23 not approving this today and waiting until the
24 January meeting to approve it so we can have
25 the public information session before we

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2 actually advance this?

3 MR. CRISAFULLI: Legislator
4 Rhoads, as we all know, the condition of the
5 bays right now is really, really bad. A bad
6 water body. The water quality standards have
7 been violated for a long time and there's a
8 concern about the condition of the water and
9 trying to address it as soon as we can.

10 With that in mind, we set ourselves
11 a pretty aggressive goal to actually use the
12 state's design build authority and get this
13 cleaned up and flows diverted over to Cedar
14 Creek. We're basically shooting for a three
15 to four year window. That's reflected in the
16 agreement. The first report due is January
17 2018. So waiting any longer would cause that
18 to slip. As we all know, dates slip, things
19 get more expensive, it takes more time, we'd
20 rather not start out with the date slipping
21 right at the beginning.

22 Kind of an ancillary point, the
23 agreement was announced about two months I
24 believe it was with a lot of great public
25 support, a lot of positive press, a lot of

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2 people very happy to see it happening. And
3 frankly it's been two months. We're starting
4 to hear questions like where is it? Why
5 aren't we moving? We would very much like to
6 move it forward as soon as possible.

7 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Is there any
8 threat of us losing any of the grant funding
9 that may be available?

10 MR. CRISAFULLI: Not that I'm
11 aware of but it certainly is a possibility and
12 the longer we wait more things can happen.
13 More opportunities to get additional funding
14 come and go. Having it placed sooner is
15 obviously better for those reasons.

16 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I understand
17 also we have a commitment from the state to
18 actually hold a public information session
19 next month?

20 MR. CRISAFULLI: Yes. We are
21 shooting for the week of January 22nd.

22 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Obviously
23 that's pending confirmation of a location we
24 are going to attempt to do that at Wantagh
25 High School if possible.

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2 MR. CRISAFULLI: We bring down
3 our engineers and everyone else to answer as
4 many questions as we could. We also hope to
5 have more information available by then to
6 give you better answers and more information
7 about the project.

8 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I appreciate
9 it. Again, we are going to ask that a copy of
10 the December 15th letter be included in the
11 letter. We will hand that down to the clerk's
12 office so that that information be available
13 to the public thank you.

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Do you
15 have a copy of the letter?

16 Legislator Ford.

17 LEGISLATOR FORD: Thank you very
18 much for coming down and I for one am rather
19 excited about this project moving forward and
20 I'm thankful that our fellow legislators are
21 looking to pass this. From having been part
22 of the Western Bays Coalition and going to the
23 forums that were given with the Western Bays
24 study New York State did put together a study
25 of the western bays. It took about eight

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2 years, six years. I remember the first
3 presentation when they started getting all
4 this information put together. When we looked
5 at how impaired the western bays were it was
6 just unbelievable. The fact that the normal
7 tide wasn't taking the effluents out in the
8 time frame it was supposed to and the scarfing
9 that has occurred at the base of the floor of
10 this waterway. It was something that was very
11 imperative that we get on outflow pipe to
12 start removing the effluents in that area.

13 I know that we were looking first
14 to put it out underneath the Long Beach Island
15 out into the Atlantic Ocean right from there
16 but the cost seemed to be very prohibitive.

17 I applaud everybody honestly who
18 worked on this, who's got to us to this point
19 taking a look at the viaduct, everything on
20 Sunrise Highway. I know it's going to be an
21 extensive job. A lot of effort has been put
22 into it and a lot more effort is going to have
23 to be put into it.

24 I thank everybody and I thank our
25 DPW. I thank our present administration. I'm

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2 thanking our future administration. I'm
3 thanking the governor for the foresight and
4 partnering with us to get this done. I think
5 it's going to bode well for everybody in that
6 area. Especially when we can clean up those
7 marshes so another storm can come by and maybe
8 it won't get so flooded on the north shore.
9 Thank you.

10 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Yes
11 Legislator Rhoads.

12 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you
13 very much Madam Presiding Officer. Sorry to
14 bring up one additional point. The condition
15 of Cedar Creek outfall pipe itself that's
16 something that wasn't included in the original
17 response but something I have had a couple of
18 telephone calls on with representatives of the
19 state. I just want to make sure that the
20 condition of the Cedar Creek outflow pipe
21 because the county does periodic inspections
22 of that pipe, I want to make sure there is
23 going to be a new inspection of the pipe and
24 that any obstructions or inclusions to that
25 pipe are being going to be addressed prior to

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2 anything flowing, any additional effluent
3 flowing through that pipe. Is that part of
4 the plan?

5 MR. CRISAFULLI: Yes. That's
6 called for in the engineering report.
7 Absolutely will be done before any flow is
8 diverted.

9 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Will the
10 periodic inspections then continue I'm
11 assuming with the county? I guess that's a
12 question for DPW.

13 MR. CRISAFULLI: My understanding
14 is that they die test about every five years.

15 MR. DAVENPORT: Joe Davenport
16 Nassau County Public Works. Yes, Legislator
17 Rhoads, we would continue with our normal
18 program of inspection and die test within each
19 five year permit cycle.

20 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: What is the
21 condition of the pipe? Just in terms of when
22 was the pipe installed? What's the useful
23 life of the pipe?

24 MR. DAVENPORT: The pipe was
25 installed approximately 1970, 1971 when it was

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2 constructed. A pipe of that type of
3 construction, the concrete reinforced pipe,
4 last 100 years. It's about 40 years old right
5 now. We still got another 55, 60 years of
6 life on that pipe. Installing liner in the
7 aqueduct under Sunrise Highway basically
8 restarts the clock on that pipe. That pipe's
9 is 100 years old as is. The inspection showed
10 it to be in very good structural condition.
11 But we're not going to rely on the condition
12 of the pipe. We're going to install the liner
13 as you mentioned. It's a stand alone
14 structural line. It doesn't rely on the
15 aqueduct itself. Then will be the new tunnels
16 connected. We will have a system that that
17 will be in place for a long time.

18 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: With respect
19 to that viaduct I guess there are pressure
20 monitors that are going to be installed as
21 part of the slip lining process before any
22 effluent is diverted through that pipe?

23 MR. DAVENPORT: Right. It would
24 be part of the slip lining process but it's
25 part of the pumping system that's put in

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2 place. Certainly there will be
3 instrumentation and control both at the Bay
4 Park and at the Cedar Creek end to make sure
5 yes, what is being introduced to the pipe is
6 actually reaching the Cedar Creek outfall and
7 being discharged into the Atlantic Ocean.

8 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: And the
9 importance of the pressure monitors my
10 understanding is it would also allow us to
11 detect in the unlikely circumstance that there
12 were ever a leak, a drop in the pressure
13 that's reaching the outflow pipe would
14 indicate a problem with the system?

15 MR. DAVENPORT: That's exactly
16 why you do it.

17 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: The existing
18 Bay Park outfall pipe will continue to exist?
19 That's not being dismantled, correct? It's
20 just simply being shut off?

21 MR. DAVENPORT: That's correct.
22 The Bay Park outfall will remain in place and
23 it will be there for use in the event if there
24 is a major issue, which we don't expect, with
25 the aqueduct or the tunnels. But for the

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2 first time we will actually have a back up to
3 an outfall.

4 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: The actual
5 outfall pipe at Cedar Creek that outfall pipe
6 extends about six and a half miles from the
7 plant?

8 MR. DAVENPORT: That's correct.

9 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: How far does
10 that extend into the ocean?

11 MR. DAVENPORT: Off of the shore
12 of Jones Beach approximately two and a half
13 miles.

14 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: At that two
15 and a half mile point is there any danger of
16 increased effluents through that pipe washing
17 back onto the beach?

18 MR. DAVENPORT: No, there is not.

19 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: What's the
20 reason for that?

21 MR. DAVENPORT: The scientific
22 studies that went into the construction of
23 that outfall originally. Placing the end
24 point of the diffuser two and a half miles off
25 of the shore, taking into consideration the

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2 ebb and flow of the ocean. It allows a large
3 area to disburse the flow and it doesn't
4 return back to land.

5 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: And the
6 design capacity outfall pipe is approximately
7 200 million gallons?

8 MR. DAVENPORT: Yes. It actually
9 exceeds that. It's probably 225 to 250
10 million gallons per day.

11 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: It's
12 operating approximately 50 today?

13 MR. DAVENPORT: Correct. Between
14 50 and 55 million gallons per day.

15 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Theoretically
16 with the diversion it would be operating about
17 110.

18 MR. DAVENPORT: Correct.

19 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Roughly
20 slightly over 50 percent of its capacity?

21 MR. DAVENPORT: Correct.

22 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I
23 appreciate. Thank you.

24 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any other
25 comments? Laura. Legislator Curran.

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2 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: I share
3 Legislator Ford's enthusiasm for this project
4 for environmental reasons and economic reasons
5 and also it's very cool we can do this. I
6 would also echo Legislator Rhoads' concern
7 that we reach out to the public as much as
8 possible. I have a copy of the letter. Point
9 four is property may need to be taken to
10 complete portions of the project. In most
11 instances it would involve a temporary
12 disruption or temporary occupation to place
13 piping underground to bring it to and from
14 aqueduct.

15 The more we can get the public
16 involved in this I think the more smooth that
17 part will go. I think we can commit to making
18 that happen when the work starts or actually
19 before it starts so people can be prepared for
20 it in the community that are affected so it
21 can go as smoothly as possible.

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
23 for that. Anyone else? Any public comment on
24 this item. Here we go. Who's up first?
25 First Mr. McCloy. You want Mereday to go

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2 first?

3 MR. MCCLOY: This has been a
4 topic of concern in Baldwin as one of the
5 communities that this pipeline will be
6 traveling through to the extent we dedicated
7 three of the last meetings of the Baldwin
8 Civic Association to this topic. I wanted to
9 bring out something.

10 First of all, I wanted to mention
11 to you I have been trying to get information
12 from both the advocates and the opponents of
13 this issue. I myself don't have a firm grasp
14 on how this will positively or negatively
15 affect the community. But I do want to
16 mention one thing that to you I don't think
17 you realize. There was a letter printed in
18 Newsday this past week by a former plant
19 director of Bay Park who is opposed to this
20 idea. I don't know if you realized that. I
21 don't know if you reached out to this person.
22 I don't know enough about why he does not
23 advocate that this go through. But I think
24 it's a very good idea for this to be tabled
25 for one session so we can have him come in and

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2 explain why he feels this is not a good idea.

3 I will tell you a couple of the
4 reasons that some of the people were concerned
5 about this proposition is because that if the
6 effluent was to be pumped through the
7 communities of Oceanside, Rockville Centre,
8 Baldwin, Freeport, Merrick, Wantagh and
9 Seaford if there was a rupture in this line it
10 would be an environmental disaster. I know
11 that a number of people said that no matter
12 what the assurances are with regards to the
13 effluent being discharged in the ocean at two
14 and a half miles off, the additional effluent
15 would be a concern to the pristine beaches we
16 have in Nassau County on the South Shore.

17 And also the fact that there is a
18 growing concern that our water supply, which
19 is currently aquifer driven right now, would
20 be something that could be affected in the
21 future. Not by this project but our need to
22 import water into Nassau County should our
23 aquifers become tainted in the future would be
24 something that this viaduct, which had been
25 handling fresh water, would be no longer

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2 possible to convey fresh water from other
3 western sources. I just wanted to let you
4 know that some of these concerns I think are
5 valid.

6 I would like to see that the former
7 plant director for Bay Park have an
8 opportunity to address you as to why he
9 doesn't feel it's a good idea. But the gist
10 of his article was instead of diverted one
11 effluent from one point to another the
12 pipeline should be extended from the Bay Park
13 situation further out into the ocean. Thank
14 you.

15 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Madam
16 Presiding Officer, would it be possible to
17 have either DPW or Mr. Crisafulli from the
18 state answer, if they can, those questions?

19 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I would
20 like Ms. Mereday to say what she has to say
21 first. How's that?

22 MS. MEREDAY: I concur with Jack
23 McCloy with regard to that and my concern, and
24 I do appreciate Legislator Rhoads bringing up
25 that point again because I was at that meeting

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2 two weeks ago and I brought it then that the
3 aspect of having community hearing, I didn't
4 hear hearings, I heard potentially one
5 hearing, on a date in January that folks may
6 not be able to attend. The one hearing to
7 have all their questions addressed at that
8 point it would seem like it was already a done
9 deal.

10 This initial agreement, yes, I
11 understand it's a start for the discussions,
12 but it just seems everything is already being
13 put in place and now we are being told because
14 there are environmental and structural hazards
15 when the residents, for the most part, don't
16 really know what happened to the millions of
17 dollars that were used for Bay Park following
18 super storm Sandy. The residents in Baldwin
19 Harbor were saying years ago that there was a
20 problem with Bay Park. There were residents
21 in Wantagh saying years ago that there were
22 some issues with regard to Cedar Creek. Now
23 all of a sudden we have to hurry up otherwise
24 the state is going to take over.

25 And I would like to know who those

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2 people were two months ago that were all
3 gung-ho about this project when I'm sure it's
4 not their streets that are going to be
5 disrupted. And I don't know how many times
6 we're going to have to keep paying for road
7 work along Sunrise Highway and various county
8 roads before gets it right. Somebody is
9 making money. So clearly, whoever is doing
10 the road work is actually making money because
11 they have been on the same street three
12 different times.

13 So, it requires our elected
14 officials to step up and to kind of say you
15 know what? Really need to, for a change, hear
16 the voices of the public and particularly
17 those residents who will have their roads
18 disrupted. We have a major school, our middle
19 school is not far from this area of impact.
20 Most of these children require buses to get to
21 and from. They have very few streets that can
22 get them to their residences because of the
23 design of the South Shore.

24 To be told again that this is going
25 to be an opportunity a lot of our residents

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2 work two and three jobs so they would not be
3 able to come to the hearing. They're not
4 getting the information.

5 So again, we are asking that all of
6 the questions finally be answered ahead of
7 time before we get the feeling that once again
8 it's going to be business as usual and things
9 are just going to move along and we are the
10 ones that will have to be impacted later
11 whether there is a rupture, a disruption in
12 their own services and their own access to
13 their own homes. To have this more details to
14 follow because we have to do something because
15 the state is taking over, the state was
16 already in the process from years ago. So why
17 is it all of a sudden we always have to rush
18 in an emergency? Thank you.

19 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: You have
20 it down to a science Meta. Any other comments
21 from the legislators? Any other public
22 comment?

23 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Madam
24 Presiding Officer, what I was going to do
25 because obviously we have the benefit of the

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2 response from the state DEC. The public
3 doesn't -- you want me to read the response
4 from the state DEC?

5 LEGISLATOR FORD: All due respect
6 to everybody here and to everybody out in the
7 public, this is a project, the Bay Park Sewage
8 Treatment Plant has been in great disrepair
9 and we ended up having a brown tide that
10 occurred in the western bays because of the
11 problems that we had there.

12 In regard to whoever wrote this in
13 Newsday urging us not to redirect the
14 effluents up to the viaduct over to Cedar
15 Creek, that it would be better for us to send
16 the effluents directly to our own outflow pipe
17 into the Atlantic Ocean, what did this person
18 do all the years he was working there at the
19 plant that let it go into such disrepair.

20 The residents in that western bay
21 area have been impacted by the nitrogen that
22 is in great abundance in the waterways there.
23 We had a summer at Point Lookout where the
24 nitrogen was so thick that it ended up end
25 taking the seaweed and the seaweed ended up

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2 getting whatever the nitrogen does to seaweed,
3 I'm sure some of my engineers would tell me
4 better how to explain it, the end result was
5 that the seaweed was trapped and with the
6 nitrogen based in that the stench and the
7 smell was so horrendous people could not even
8 go out of their houses during the summer
9 days. People were getting nauseous. They
10 were getting sick from the smell. It became
11 so bad and so thick that you could actually
12 walk out on this seaweed as if it was rock
13 itself.

14 So when we talk about this, New
15 York State did conduct a study on the western
16 bays and it was public. The public was
17 notified. Everybody was welcomed to join us
18 at these meetings. We made no secret about
19 the work that was being done. That waterway
20 is in bad, bad shape. Years ago we tried to
21 get an outflow pipe underneath the Long Beach
22 Barrier Island out to the Atlantic Beach Ocean
23 and that time it was a predecessor to Steve
24 Rhoads, Dave Denenberg, who was in full
25 support of this. We could not at that time

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2 the money was not -- we were not able to raise
3 the amount of money that we needed to do. We
4 looked to start improving the nitrogen.

5 It was after super storm Sandy that
6 when we got the additional money the county
7 had already started repairing the Bay Park
8 Sewage Treatment Plant. Ever since Sandy we
9 got close to \$900 million. A lot of work was
10 done there. The plant was repaired. They
11 made it hardened against storms and we've been
12 removing more and more of the nitrogen out of
13 the effluents to the point where we're not
14 making any violations.

15 I understand the public and I think
16 I can state on my own part and I know
17 Legislator Rhoads and I'm sure Presiding
18 Officer, every single one of us, we're not
19 voting on this because all of a sudden we have
20 to. There is an urgency in this and with New
21 York State we need them to partner with us on
22 something like this. This is a very, very key
23 thing. This is just step one. And for us
24 we're not going to have one meeting, we are
25 going to have multiple meetings. Everyone of

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2 us on the south shore has a stake in this
3 especially. Whether or not it's Steve Rhoads,
4 or Baldwin, whoever is taking Laura's place,
5 in my district. We are going to have
6 multiple. We're going to make sure the
7 residents truly understand what is being
8 done. What impact it's going to have on the
9 communities and also going to highlight the
10 benefits that everybody is going to receive.

11 With all due respect to the people
12 who are basically against this, you can be
13 here and talk to us about it now but if you
14 want to come visit us in our offices and I
15 will be more than happy to take the time that
16 I took today to explain to everybody why this
17 needs to be done and why I support and urge
18 each and every single one of us to join
19 together and join with New York State
20 government and pass this.

21 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: You want
22 us to submit this letter in its entirety?

23 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Yes. I think
24 I asked that it be incorporated into the
25 record. I think also the benefits of the

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2 project itself because those that are familiar
3 with it recognize the problem that it's going
4 to solve in the western bays. And it's a
5 solution to a long-standing problem that's
6 going to cost about half as much to solve.
7 And it doesn't mean we're not going to pursue,
8 as part of the consent order we are talking
9 about today, you also have additional
10 technology at the Bay Park plant that's going
11 to reduce the nitrogen level of what's being
12 put out in Bay Park by 50 percent. This is
13 one component of that consent order.

14 But each and every one of us is
15 committed to making sure that the information
16 is out there in the public. The letter that
17 we've received from the -- that I received
18 from the Department of Environmental
19 Conservation is going to be posted on my web
20 page. We're going to make sure that gets
21 shared out on Facebook. Unfortunately with
22 the state -- fortunately and unfortunately and
23 with the state committing, promising to commit
24 \$77 million towards the project this isn't
25 something that we entirely control the timing

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2 of anymore. It's important that the process
3 move forward. We just want to make sure and
4 one of the reasons I wanted this letter is to
5 try to get some of the questions that I
6 anticipated were going to be asked by the
7 community out into the public discourse.

8 And I can promise you that we will
9 follow-up not only with a meeting on the week
10 of the 22nd, which is just the first one we
11 have scheduled, there will be several public
12 information sessions throughout the course of
13 the process to make sure the public is fully
14 informed and advised of everything that's
15 transpiring and have an opportunity to have
16 input into the process.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any other
18 comment? There being no other comment, all
19 for the item, item 21 resolution 223, all
20 those in favor of item 21 resolution 223
21 signify by saying aye. Any opposed?
22 Unanimous? It passes unanimously.

23 Next item is item 11 ordinance
24 168. An ordinance amending ordinance 16-2011
25 as amended by ordinance 75-2014 as amended by

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2 ordinance 178-2015 in relation to imposing
3 fees to defray administrative costs related to
4 various processing activities at TPVA.

5 Moved by Legislator Muscarella.

6 Seconded by Legislator Kopel. I think we just
7 did this in Rules, correct?

8 MR. RICH: Yes.

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Repeat.

10 MR. RICH: Dave Rich, Deputy
11 Director of Traffic and Parking Violations
12 Agency. This is to amend an existing
13 ordinance that allows us to include those
14 folks who had a disposition in front of the
15 court so in the event they fail to pay their
16 obligation we will file a judgement against
17 them.

18 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any
19 additional questions for Mr. Rich? Any public
20 comment? There being none, all those in
21 favor -- Legislator Birnbaum.

22 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Could you
23 just clarify what is the fee being changed
24 to? From what?

25 MR. RICH: There's an existing

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2 legislation that allows \$75 for the filing of
3 what they call a default conviction. A
4 default conviction is allowed or we can issue
5 it in the event a motorist fails to respond.
6 In this case the motorist has responded but we
7 cannot file the default judgement. So we are
8 using the same fee but just expanding
9 definition for those folks that responded, saw
10 a judge, had a disposition but failed to pay
11 their obligation.

12 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: In the
13 committees there was something about a
14 typographic error could you elaborate?
15 Sorry. That's a different one than we are
16 voting for right now or it's the same item?

17 MR. RICH: If it's the same item
18 I can give you a little more clarification on
19 the \$50 chargeback fee. Basically it's for
20 folks that come in, pay by credit card and
21 then go home and tell their credit card
22 provider that they are cancelling the charge.
23 We incur overhead in trying to reverse the
24 charges. Notify DMV that we have to vacate
25 the plea and everything else because the

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2 motorist decided to pay by credit card, go
3 home and then reverse the charges on us.
4 That's what the \$50 fee per ticket is.

5 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
6 Muscarella.

7 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: I have a
8 question here. So we get a judgement and it
9 goes unpaid. You are now going to reduce that
10 judgement and file it in the clerk's office?

11 MR. RICH: I don't understand the
12 question. I'm sorry.

13 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: We're
14 getting judgements. We will be filing
15 judgements in the Nassau County Clerk's
16 office?

17 MR. RICH: Yes.

18 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Maybe
19 Arnie Drucker is concerned and I'm concerned.
20 In New York City when one buys real estate and
21 a title report is ordered it will show open
22 parking tickets and certain open tickets that
23 haven't been paid. In the future, we do this
24 now, if someone doesn't pay their ticket from
25 the parking violations bureau will that show

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2 up in the Nassau County Clerk's office if you
3 run a judgement against them?

4 MR. RICH: To step back and
5 hopefully this will provide an answer for you,
6 is that the Fair Debt Collection Practice Act,
7 FDCPA, I believe they issued a decision about
8 a year ago, that's stating that we cannot list
9 traffic tickets and unpaid parking tickets on
10 their collection credit report. So in order
11 to get them back onto the credit reporting we
12 are now filing judgments against these
13 individuals.

14 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: I'm not
15 concerned about the credit report. I'm
16 concerned about somebody runs a judgement
17 search in the Nassau County Clerk's Office
18 they will show unpaid tickets?

19 MR. RICH: In the future they
20 will, yes.

21 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So that
22 when someone sells a house then that will show
23 up as unpaid ticket and in order for someone
24 to sell the house to get clear title they
25 would have to pay that ticket?

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2 MR. RICH: Correct.

3 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
4 Drucker.

5 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you
6 Legislator Muscarella for the segue.

7 Correct me if I'm wrong but doesn't
8 Nassau County charge a fee to file a judgement
9 in the clerk's office?

10 MR. RICH: Being that we are a
11 government entity we are exempt from that fee.

12 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Up until now
13 if someone had 100 unpaid parking tickets and
14 they sold a house it never showed up?

15 MR. RICH: Previously it showed
16 up on their credit reporting but it did not
17 show up on if you ran a --

18 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: On a title
19 search?

20 MR. RICH: Correct.

21 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
22 Bynoe.

23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you
24 Presiding Officer.

25 You said that the target audience

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2 in this particular legislation are those that
3 came to court, paid by credit card and then
4 went home and cancelled the charge?

5 MR. RICH: Just so you know,
6 there are two different segments here. The
7 folks that came to court, received the
8 disposition in front of a judge and then left
9 without paying. Those are the ones that we
10 are amending the default judgement definition
11 of.

12 These other folks they came in,
13 they may not have even saw a judge but they
14 plead guilty to the violation, paid the whole
15 fine, then went home and contacted their
16 credit card provider saying no, sorry , I
17 didn't mean to do that, someone stole my
18 credit card or whatever it is and there's
19 overhead involved with doing that chargeback
20 unfortunately. It used to be \$50. Somehow in
21 2015 it went back to 25. We are asking it go
22 back to \$50 because we never requested it to
23 be reduced.

24 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: What is the
25 number of people that come to court, show up

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2 in court and pay the fine with the credit card
3 and go home and cancel it? Let me ask this
4 question. Are we sure they're cancelling it
5 or their credit card didn't have enough credit
6 on it to be able to allow the credit to go
7 through?

8 MR. RICH: We are positive they
9 are the ones contacting their credit card
10 provider and cancelling the charge or the
11 purchase.

12 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: How many
13 people on average annually are doing something
14 like that?

15 MR. RICH: Annually on average
16 about five to seven a month we were notified
17 by our credit card transaction processor. So
18 annually maybe 84, 80.

19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: The other
20 group of people are the ones actually showing
21 up in court and then not paying?

22 MR. RICH: Yes. That's for the
23 amendment to the definition of default
24 judgment filing or judgement filing.

25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: When the

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2 judge, administrative hearing officer or
3 whoever, assigns the penalty is there an
4 opportunity for a payment arrangement at that
5 time?

6 MR. RICH: In general, the judge,
7 from my experience, is that a motorist will
8 notify the judge if they can't pay and in most
9 cases the judge will extend it two weeks to a
10 month and allow the person about a month for
11 the fine to be paid.

12 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Because you
13 see where I'm going? This is not the average
14 scofflaw. This is someone that has shown up
15 in the court and is attempting to right their
16 wrong or remedy their situation. But
17 apparently fiscally is not able to do so.
18 What period of time would we be allowing these
19 individuals to come in before we start them
20 placing judgments? And for clarity, there was
21 some back and forth, are we saying this will
22 not only affect their real property owned in
23 Nassau County would it in addition affect
24 their credit?

25 MR. RICH: In general, just so

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2 you know, the actions that are taken by the
3 agency is if they come in, they receive a
4 disposition. They are then assigned to our
5 collection agency for contact. We require
6 that our collection agencies make a minimum of
7 two contacts. At the same time we also notify
8 DMV so DMV can take the action to suspend
9 their license. I would say there are six
10 months on average from the time that a ticket
11 is issued to the time that we will do a
12 default judgement -- I shouldn't say default.
13 A judgement filing.

14 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Not the ticket
15 issue meaning the disposition in court,
16 correct?

17 MR. RICH: Yes.

18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So when we do
19 the filing it's then going to affect their
20 credit report too under this current process
21 because at one point it was reported to their
22 credit and there was some later I guess
23 decision that wouldn't allow for that
24 anymore. But now by way of us putting the
25 real property lien that now it shows up again

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2 on the credit report; is that correct?

3 MR. RICH: Yes.

4 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: In between the
5 time that the individual comes to TPVA and
6 gets the disposition of the infractions and
7 traffic violations is there communication that
8 goes to those individuals thereafter? They
9 come, there's a disposition, they know they're
10 supposed to pay and they leave because they
11 don't have the money to pay. Is there any
12 communication that goes out to those
13 individuals thereafter encouraging them to
14 come in and pay or to set up a payment
15 arrangement?

16 MR. RICH: There will be two
17 additional channels. One will be from the New
18 York State DMV saying you need to respond to
19 this notice within 37 days or your license
20 will be suspended and they direct the
21 individual to us. As well as our collection
22 companies are sending them either a
23 correspondence or making a phone call. So
24 there is opportunity after they agree to the
25 disposition that there is contact made with

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2 them prior to us filing a judgement.

3 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: And the
4 communications are allowing them or giving
5 them opportunity to set up a payment
6 arrangement or is it asking for payment in
7 full?

8 MR. RICH: It's asking for
9 payment in full.

10 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: On average
11 what are those amounts? On average what is
12 the amount in terms of tickets that someone is
13 incurring? Should be an average or range.

14 MR. RICH: I don't have an
15 average or range. But the average moving
16 violation in Nassau County is about \$250 right
17 now.

18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Right. So
19 this is a group of people who come to court,
20 acknowledge that they have a ticket. They
21 acknowledge they have an infraction before our
22 court and then they are convicted and they
23 don't pay. So the only reason why they're not
24 paying is they don't have any money. So now
25 what we want to do is lien their real property

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2 and then attach a derogatory remark to their
3 credit report and then have unlicensed
4 motorist. Is there some way within the court
5 system there at TPVA that they can set up a
6 payment arrangement that allows for this to be
7 taken care of so we don't go this route?

8 I'm uncomfortable with it. I
9 understand why some would be more comfortable
10 with it but someone is showing up to court.
11 They're acknowledging it. It's not they're a
12 scofflaw and not showing up. Hitting them
13 with a \$250 fine I can only imagine those are
14 individuals who will find it very hard to come
15 up with \$250. And if we're not asserting
16 ourselves or positioning ourselves in some way
17 to work that through by making sure there is a
18 payment arrangement -- we keep going to
19 penalty. We need to look for an opportunity
20 for recourse to allow them to continue to have
21 a license and good credit or some semblance of
22 good credit to be able to be good citizens. I
23 feel like we're forcing them into a place with
24 their hands tied behind their back.

25 MR. RICH: To cite a

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2 clarification on my part, we authorize the
3 collection vendor to enter into a payment
4 arrangement with the debtor. TPVA doesn't
5 have that ability through it's current IT
6 solution.

7 Also, when an individual shows up
8 in court they are given time. If they don't
9 have time to pay they can request a trial
10 which usually buys them six months. Or an
11 adjournment for three months. So then they
12 can come back when they have the ability to
13 pay. It's not like we're pigeon holing
14 somebody you must pay right now.

15 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I suspect
16 someone coming in who is not able to pay a
17 \$250 fee may not have the level of support
18 that would allow them to understand those are
19 options to them. I think TPVA needs to step
20 up their game in terms of having IT solutions
21 to allow for payment solutions on the spot as
22 opposed to allowing some third party
23 collection agency to attempt to collect that
24 debt. Because more likely than not they don't
25 have good, accurate information to even reach

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2 that person. A person who is not paying a
3 \$250 ticket may not have the ability to be
4 communicated on a regular consistent basis by
5 way of phone. Those are my thoughts on the
6 issue. Thank you.

7 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
8 Nicoletto.

9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I think we
10 are assuming something that you haven't
11 indicated. We are assuming that the people
12 that are not paying simply don't have the
13 ability to pay. That's an assumption,
14 correct? Maybe there are some that don't have
15 the ability but I'm assuming that a large
16 part, maybe most, maybe a vast majority simply
17 don't want to pay.

18 MR. RICH: I would say that's a
19 correct assumption.

20 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: We think
21 people come to court, show up in court and
22 then have a fine levied against them by a
23 judge and just decide to walk out without
24 paying? That doesn't seem reasonable. That
25 doesn't seem like a reasonable decision for us

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2 to reach today. I think it's safer to assume
3 that those that come into court that have fees
4 levied against them for traffic and violations
5 and infractions aren't able to paid. I don't
6 think we get to the point of thinking that
7 they just walk out and decide they're not
8 going to pay.

9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Mr. Rich,
10 some of these are people going to court,
11 fighting and losing, correct?

12 MR. RICH: Yes.

13 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Some of
14 these people and probably all of us in this
15 category, don't want to pay the ticket, maybe
16 want to go to court and see what they can work
17 out and eventually plead guilty.
18 Disposition. Doesn't mean that we're dealing
19 with a mass of people who show up and simply
20 don't have the ability to pay. So that's
21 again an assumption. I think the better
22 assumption is that the vast majority people
23 have the ability to pay and they're not paying
24 and by doing that they're costing the county
25 taxpayers money.

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2 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I'm just
3 saying there should be another process.

4 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Hold on.
5 Legislator Gaylor.

6 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Thank you Mr.
7 Rich for your testimony. Would you say the
8 vast majority of defendants who appear at the
9 traffic agency resolve their issues by paying
10 their tickets?

11 MR. RICH: I would, yes.

12 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: This is a
13 small percentage of people we're talking
14 about?

15 MR. RICH: Yes.

16 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: I had the
17 pleasure of being a judge at the traffic
18 agency for years prior to being a legislator.
19 It is truly a pleasure because you deal with
20 hundreds of people a day, day after day and
21 probably I've been a judge for thousands of
22 cases at the traffic agency while I was
23 there.

24 So, it's been my experience that
25 most of the defendants as we call them pay

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2 their tickets. This is small number of people
3 we're talking about who don't. Who sometimes
4 game the system and purposely don't pay the
5 tickets. The judges, this is quasi judicial
6 kind of proceeding there at the traffic agency
7 and the judges have leniency and do listen to
8 each defendant's personal story when they make
9 that known and either mitigate the fines or do
10 provide for some payment opportunities to
11 resolve the issue.

12 I think that we're talking here
13 about passing a fee and implementing an
14 administrative judgement that's going to
15 affect fewer people than we realize because
16 the majority of most cases are resolved by the
17 judges to the satisfaction of the defendant in
18 terms of a payment plan or reduced fees based
19 on their personal hardships and whatnot. I
20 think that we have to be careful in
21 considering our assumptions today is really
22 what I wanted to say.

23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Can you tell
24 me the number of individuals affected on
25 annual that would be affected by this

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2 legislation?

3 MR. RICH: I don't have the
4 numbers in front of me. If I can offer one
5 more bit of information. For the Boot and Tow
6 Program, which is the vehicle mobilization
7 program that we run, when some vehicles were
8 boot and towed some folks came in asking for a
9 payment arrangement. I want to say over a six
10 month period upwards there was a 65 percent
11 default rate on those folks that failed to
12 abide by the payment plan offered to them.

13 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I'm sorry.

14 MR. RICH: 65 percent of the folks
15 defaulted on a payment plan.

16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: 65 percent of
17 the people defaulted on a payment plan?

18 MR. RICH: Yes.

19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Do we think
20 that those 65 people defaulted on the payment
21 plan because they just decided or do we think
22 it's an issue of economics?

23 MR. RICH: I could not give you
24 an answer on that.

25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: My little

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2 background prior to coming to this legislature
3 in continuance during my service as a
4 legislator is to provide public housing to
5 individuals who are low, the lower end of the
6 median income here in Nassau County. I know
7 how real it is day-to-day for these
8 individuals to have to pay those types of
9 tickets and fines and I know firsthand what it
10 is. So I'm speaking from my experience.

11 And so today I'm just saying that I
12 have a concern about that. Because nine times
13 out of ten, unless somebody can show me
14 legislation that proves differently, we are
15 talking about the working poor here today.
16 Thank you.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator
18 Drucker.

19 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Is the
20 theory behind the projected revenue of \$1
21 million the fact that you expect more people
22 to be compliant and pay these judgments rather
23 than risk it adversely affecting their
24 credit? Where is the projected revenue of \$1
25 million coming from?

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2 MR. RICH: What I recall, I
3 believe we have about \$38 million that's
4 eligible that we can do the judgments on and
5 we did a forecast based on one percent, five
6 percent, ten percent collection rate. We
7 actually did see call it positive response
8 when we were able to report it to their credit
9 reporting agencies. People are on the credit
10 alert. Oh wait. I had a debt on my credit
11 report. I need to come in and resolve it so I
12 can clear my credit report. So that's the
13 goal. Once it's reported on the credit
14 reporting agencies they will come in and help
15 resolve.

16 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Is also a
17 percentage of people who are convicted who
18 choose to appeal that judgement, that
19 conviction. So, I'm just asking if the period
20 of time before you enter judgement takes into
21 account those people who exercise their right
22 of appeal?

23 MR. RICH: I'm not sure what the
24 question is.

25 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: You're

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2 entering judgements for people who are not
3 paying the fines that are assessed. But there
4 are people who deliberately refuse to pay
5 because they want to exercise their right of
6 appeal. So, there has to be some delay and
7 time factor involved before a judgement is
8 entered and someone exhausts their appeal
9 right.

10 MR. RICH: We would receive
11 notification if they were filing an appeal or
12 motion. In the majority of these cases I
13 would say that we're -- we would put a stay on
14 the case if we received an intent to file an
15 appeal.

16 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: So there is
17 a portion of those people who don't pay
18 deliberately, even if they forget, are not
19 paying because they're exercising their right
20 of appeal; is that correct?

21 MR. RICH: I cannot answer that
22 question.

23 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: There has to
24 be some members of the community that are
25 convicted at TPVA who appeal that judge's

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2 decision. Legislator Gaylor might have issued
3 a decision that was appealed.

4 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: If I may.
5 The percentage of appeals is very, very low.
6 Less than probably half a percent of all cases
7 would be appealed. And there's a notice
8 requirement that Mr. Rich did say that within
9 30 days of being found guilty of a violation
10 they have to notice their intent to appeal and
11 that stays everything.

12 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: That's
13 correct. You have a 30 day period of time.
14 When would the additional fee be imposed after
15 that right of appeal is exercised or after the
16 judgement? How many days before you're
17 legally enabled or entitled to enter the
18 judgement?

19 MR. RICH: We would do it as soon
20 as we could.

21 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: What is as
22 soon as you could?

23 MR. RICH: Basically as soon as
24 the judgement is assessed with the county
25 clerk we would assess the \$75.

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2 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: But you
3 wouldn't be entering that judgement with the
4 county clerk until minimum at least until the
5 30 day right of appeal has exhausted or
6 expired, correct?

7 MR. RICH: Correct because the
8 case would be stayed.

9 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you.

10 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: There
11 being no other comments, I'm going to call the
12 question. All those in favor of item 11
13 ordinance 168 signify by saying aye. Any
14 opposed? 15 to one.

15 Mr. Pulitzer, we are going to item
16 one. Call the hearing on the proposed local
17 law.

18 MR. PULITZER: Thank you Madam.
19 A hearing on a proposed local law, clerk item
20 480-17. A local law to amend the county
21 government law of Nassau County to establish
22 an independent Office of Inspector General for
23 Nassau County.

24 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: A motion
25 to open the hearing by Legislator Nicoletto.

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2 Second by Legislator Kopel. All those in
3 favor of opening the hearing on the local law
4 480 signify by saying aye. Any opposed? The
5 hearing is now open.

6 The moment we've been waiting for.
7 The item before us today is an amended version
8 of the inspector general legislation we
9 considered in committees on December 4th. As
10 was discussed in committees, representatives
11 of both caucuses have met to discuss changes
12 to the competing proposals that may be
13 incorporated into a final product that can be
14 enacted into law today. Though we did not
15 agree on everything, the result of this
16 meeting is the item before us. Which contains
17 several noteworthy amendments that accomplish
18 the following.

19 We have included a four-year term
20 of office. The budget for the inspector
21 general will exist as a separate control
22 center in the county budget. For the
23 selection of the inspector general a committee
24 will be established similar to the Budget
25 Review Committee to evaluate candidates for

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2 the position and recommend an appointee for
3 the legislature. A super majority will be
4 required for an inspector general to be
5 approved. In other words, this individual
6 will be a bipartisan appointment.

7 Similarly, an inspector general may
8 only be removed for cause and also by a super
9 majority of the legislature. While it is our
10 intention to pass this legislation to create
11 this office today and has been pointed out by
12 the Office of Legislative Budget Review in
13 understanding how tight our 2018 budget will
14 be, we will still have to find the resources
15 to fund this new Office of the Inspector
16 General in the new year.

17 I believe now that's the end of my
18 comments. Any other comments? Anything that
19 you want to add to it?

20 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I will
21 say --

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Because we
23 did communicate.

24 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you
25 Madam Presiding Officer. I want to thank you

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2 for the opportunity to speak. We did say two
3 weeks ago that we felt the first measure was a
4 step in the right direction. Obviously the
5 measure today and the inclusive of some of the
6 things that we were looking for, some of the
7 components such as the super majority, we
8 truly believe will add independence. I think
9 it would be remiss if we didn't say obviously
10 we support this measure. I think it's also
11 going to loosen up some of the things we
12 talked about in regards to bonding because we
13 felt that the inspector general was tied to
14 some of the procurement in bonding. Some of
15 the bonding that leads to the procurement.

16 From our standpoint we plan to vote
17 in the affirmative. I want to thank you Madam
18 Presiding Officer as well as your legal
19 counsel, Chris Otsuni, who worked with our
20 counsel Peter Kleins.

21 This is good day for the Nassau
22 County residents. This is a good day that we
23 truly believe will add transparency and
24 oversight to this process. While doing so,
25 Nassau County taxpayers can feel more

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2 confident that their tax dollars are being
3 spent appropriately. Not that they weren't in
4 every case before but they have that added
5 confidence of independence that's going to be
6 there now.

7 I truly believe it will do that and
8 I'm encouraging my colleagues, as few as they
9 are today, missing a few, probably caucus in a
10 phone booth, that being said, I'm encouraging
11 them to vote in the affirmative for this bill
12 today. Thank you again for working with us to
13 give us a two week period to give input to the
14 bill.

15 Again, I want to thank my counsel
16 Pete Klein with his staff Siela Capers and
17 Sara Flemmer and Michele Darcy and many others
18 as well as your counsel, Chris Otsuni, for
19 working with us to get us to this point today.

20 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Minority
21 Leader you know there was a commitment in our
22 conversation, yours and mine, that we would
23 reach a compromise that would be favorable to
24 all of us on this body so this concept of an
25 inspector general could be moved forward. I

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2 think there are people in this audience right
3 now who have been sitting on pins and needles
4 hoping that this would happen. So here we
5 are. Any other comments? Any public
6 comment? Okay Mereday.

7 MS. MEREDAY: Yes. As one of
8 those who had been sitting on pins and needles
9 I am definitely in support of this. I do
10 appreciate again the input and at least the
11 representation that it is a bipartisan
12 initiative and look forward to working with
13 whomever as we try to incorporate the
14 underserved and according to the US census the
15 11,000 veteran-owned businesses, you didn't
16 know that figure either because we have no
17 directory, we have no guide, but I'm looking
18 forward to working with whomever so we can get
19 something on the table that will legitimately
20 be inclusive of, like I said, the 11,000
21 veteran-owned businesses. Again, according to
22 the census. The over 42,000 minority business
23 enterprises and the 40,000 women business
24 enterprises who really need to have their
25 voices heard and their input included on these

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2 contracts and opportunities because we are
3 losing a lot of the residents here.

4 And just quickly, I thought it
5 interesting that there was much discussion
6 about what newspaper to put homes that are on
7 the tax rolls but we need to focus on trying
8 to keep those residents in those homes so that
9 they do not end up in that situation whether
10 they are in Newsday, the Wall Street Journal
11 or the New York Times. Let's try to keep them
12 in their homes so they can go to Main Street,
13 go to a coffee shop and read those papers as
14 opposed to living in fear as many of our
15 veterans are in Nassau County. They are
16 living in fear in these homes. Many of those
17 names, where ever they are going to be posted,
18 whether it's digitally or hard copy, many of
19 them are our veterans that we salute on
20 selected holidays but they are suffering in
21 silence, living in fear in their homes that
22 are going on foreclosure in those tax rolls.

23 So yes, I am in support of this.
24 It would be a rare occasion, a welcomed
25 occasion that both sides vote unanimously.

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2 Let's look forward to new opportunities and
3 more diversity and inclusion in 2018. Thank
4 you.

5 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: You're
6 welcome Ms. Mereday.

7 Mr. Schlernoff, I think you did
8 speak on this item before.

9 MR. SCHLERNOFF: I would like to
10 address comments that were just made by the
11 previous speaker.

12 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I don't
13 know whether or not that's in order
14 Mr. Schlernoff.

15 MR. SCHLERNOFF: Three years ago
16 I proposed to this body that we change what
17 should be done as far as the ability of me to
18 make decisions according to what the
19 requirements of the state are and the motion
20 was tabled. And again, the only thing that I
21 can do as director is make approvals to the
22 lowest responsible bidder meeting requirements
23 of the bid. I cannot take into account
24 whether they are veteran owned, women owned or
25 minority owned. What I asked for three years

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2 ago was to give me the ability to do that, and
3 so that's my comment to the previous speaker.

4 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank
5 you. There being no other comments, all those
6 in favor of closing the hearing signify by
7 saying aye. Any opposed? The hearing is now
8 closed. Moving on, I believe there's another
9 hearing. Item 2. Mr. Pulitzer, please call
10 the item, item 2.

11 MR. PULITZER: Thank you. A
12 hearing on a proposed local law, clerk item
13 481-17, a local law to amend Article 2 and
14 Article 6 of the county government law of
15 Nassau County regarding legislative approval
16 of acting department heads.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Motion to
18 open the hearing by Legislator Muscarella.
19 Seconded by Legislator Kopel. All those in
20 favor of opening the hearing signify by saying
21 aye. Any opposed? The hearing is now open.

22 The item before us is the subject
23 of something we think is a positive step
24 forward regarding the legislative approval of
25 appointees to head county departments. It is

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2 a piece of legislation that many members of
3 the legislature took an interest in after it
4 was proposed by Legislator Birnbaum. Always
5 give credit where credit is due.

6 The purpose of this proposed law is
7 to ensure that the mandate of the legislature
8 with regard to the confirmation of appointees
9 to head county offices is upheld and timely
10 action is taken with regard to the approval or
11 disapproval by the legislature. We have
12 amended this item to include a second
13 six-month extension under the circumstances
14 where the legislature may not be able to
15 finally confirm an appointment within the
16 initial six month time frame so as to provide
17 a bit of flexibility to the legislature if
18 circumstances demand it.

19 Finally, it is the intent of this
20 legislation to be prospective. In other
21 words, the clock has not started ticking for
22 those that occupy these offices now. As was
23 stated in committees, as this is a legislative
24 item, there is no speaker from the
25 administration to discuss this item.

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2 I will now turn the floor over to
3 Legislator Abrahams for a statement and open
4 the floor to the legislators. Do you have a
5 comment? Since you have none, I go to
6 Legislator Birnbaum.

7 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Thank you
8 Norma. I really, truly believe that this law
9 will strengthen the individuals who are
10 appointed to these positions. And whether we
11 call them heads of departments or as I had
12 originally proposed commissioners because most
13 of them will be commissioners, such
14 commissioner of the police department,
15 commissioner of DPW, most of the departments
16 do have commissioners as their head.
17 Nevertheless, they are the heads of the
18 department and they have to meet certain
19 qualifications and these qualifications are
20 clearly laid out in the charter of the
21 county. I believe we will now find the county
22 steered by very qualified individuals, and I'm
23 optimistic that moving forward Nassau County
24 will be better for this. Thank you.

25 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator

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2 Nicoletello.

3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I agree
4 with that. I would say giving somebody up to
5 a year to serve as an acting commissioner is
6 ample time to find out whether they should
7 continue in that role. Thank you.

8 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any other
9 comments? Legislator Rhoads.

10 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you
11 Presiding Officer. I do want to congratulate
12 Legislator Birnbaum on spearheading this and
13 being the initial impetus for it. I think
14 it's an important piece of legislation because
15 I think it adds finality. We've had a number
16 of acting department heads, acting
17 commissioners for a period of time. I think
18 as a legislature we want to make sure that the
19 administration respects the legislature's role
20 in its oversight of appointments. And by
21 having indeterminate acting commissioners it
22 allows the administration to circumvent that
23 and we want to make sure that moving forward
24 that's addressed.

25 I think it's also important for the

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2 individuals who serve in the departments where
3 they serve to know that the person who is
4 running their department is the person who
5 will be running their department on an ongoing
6 basis. So by limiting the acting role I think
7 it's a benefit not only for the legislature
8 and for the county but for our county
9 employees as well to add some certainty to the
10 performance of their duties.

11 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any other
12 comments from the legislators? Any public
13 comment? There being none a motion to close
14 the hearing.

15 Okay Gina.

16 MS. BARBARA: Earlier today I
17 came and brought you public comments about the
18 transportation system. My question is, is
19 there anybody that is being considered to
20 either A, make some kind of committee for
21 transportation? More specifically on NICE
22 Bus? Or is there anybody being looked at to
23 try to form some kind of advocacy for the
24 people that utilize the transportation
25 system? Maybe that's something that should be

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2 considered before this legislature that
3 somebody is advocating on the transportation
4 behalf. While we are naming all these
5 committee heads I think there really should be
6 one for transportation.

7 LEGISLATOR FORD: That is an
8 excellent recommendation and I think that
9 basically since public transportation is very
10 key for economic development that we do have a
11 committee. So that maybe we can maybe add
12 that to the title of the committee and then
13 maybe Labor, Economic Development and
14 Transportation within Nassau County so that we
15 remain focused on this. I know that the
16 challenges that are faced for our bus riders
17 and especially for our able riders. I think
18 we really need to step it up.

19 MS. BARBARA: Thank you very
20 much.

21 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you
22 Gina.

23 Minority Leader.

24 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Just to be
25 clear, this is prospective when the county

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2 executive signs the bill. Meaning if there
3 were any individuals being held over from the
4 previous administration that basically they
5 wouldn't be removed from the position. It
6 would start beginning once the county
7 executive -- when this is passed. It doesn't
8 go retroback.

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: No.
10 January 1. Any other comments from the
11 legislators? Any public comment? There being
12 none, I believe motion to close the hearing.
13 Moved by Legislator Nicolello. Second by
14 Legislator Rhoads. All those in favor of
15 closing the hearing signify by saying aye.
16 Any opposed? The hearing is now closed.

17 We go to item three which is a vote
18 on proposed local law to establish the
19 independent Office of Inspector General for
20 Nassau County.

21 Moved by Legislator Nicolello.
22 Second by Legislator Kopel. I need a motion
23 for an amendment in the nature of a
24 substitution. Moved by Legislator Nicolello.
25 Second by Legislator Kopel. The amendment

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2 would require the appointment and removal of
3 the inspector general by 13 votes or what we
4 initially said, a super majority. All those
5 in favor of the amendment signify by saying
6 aye. Any opposed? The amendment passes
7 unanimously.

8 Now for the item as amended, am I
9 correct? Any other comments? There being
10 none, all those in favor of item three as
11 amended signify by saying aye. Any opposed?
12 The item passes unanimously.

13 You're thrilled to pieces because
14 you know what's coming. You're sitting there
15 very patiently. Hopefully we can get through
16 the rest of the calendar as quickly as
17 possible so we can go home before it's dark.
18 That item passed unanimously.

19 And now for item four. Item four
20 is a local law to amend Article 2 and Article
21 6 of the county government law of Nassau
22 County regarding legislative approval of
23 acting department heads.

24 Moved by Legislator Ford. Second
25 by Legislator Walker. Any comments or

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2 questions regarding -- I think I also have
3 another one. I need a motion for an amendment
4 in the nature of a substitution to this item
5 and that amendment is the fact that the
6 effective date is as of January 1, 2018. Move
7 the amendment in the nature of a
8 substitution. Moved by Legislator Birnbaum.
9 Seconded by Legislator Drucker. May as well
10 do this in a truly bipartisan.

11 By the way, this item has been
12 introduced by Ellen Birnbaum and myself and
13 it's cosponsored by the rest of us. I think
14 this is a happy day for Nassau County. All
15 those in favor of the amendment in the nature
16 of a substitution signify by saying aye. Any
17 opposed?

18 Now for the item as amended.
19 Number four. All those in favor of item four
20 signify by saying aye. Any opposed? It's
21 unanimous. Holy moly Frank. I know the
22 holiday spirit is upon us. There's no
23 grinch in the audience today. The item
24 passes unanimously. So congratulations Ellen
25 and my colleagues as well because today is a

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2 very, very momentous day with the inspector
3 general. Should make life a little easier and
4 of course there is the acting commissioners.

5 So now where are we going? Item
6 five is an ordinance amending an ordinance
7 allowing termination pay to be paid in a
8 single installment for certain officers and
9 employees.

10 Moved by Legislator Don MacKenzie
11 and seconded by Legislator -- this is for you,
12 give the county a present -- and second by
13 Legislator Kennedy. Who is going to talk
14 about this termination? I believe
15 Mr. Naughton is going to talk about it.

16 MR. NAUGHTON: Good afternoon.
17 Eric Naughton, Deputy County Executive for
18 Finance. The item before you provides
19 termination pay for those employees who left
20 the county during 2017 or are expected to
21 leave the county in the next couple of weeks.
22 In addition, it applies to people who may
23 leave in the first quarter of next year. We
24 feel that this is a win-win proposition in the
25 sense that it will save money in the 2018

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2 budget because anyone who actually leaves in
3 2017 and chooses to take the lump sum payment
4 that money will get accrued as an expense to
5 2017. Thereby freeing up money in the 2018
6 budget, which as everybody knows is extremely
7 tight. So it does provide a significant
8 savings to the county for 2018.

9 In terms of anyone who leaves in
10 2018 the new administration can set up a
11 reserve fund using excess 2017 money to be put
12 into a reserve for 2018 which will allow for
13 that payment.

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any
15 questions of Mr. Naughton? I have an
16 amendment in the nature of a substitution
17 which I did not put before the body, and so
18 I'm going to ask for an amendment in the
19 nature of a substitution for this item. Which
20 will include employees who separate from the
21 county prior to April 1, 2018, correct?

22 MR. NAUGHTON: That is correct.

23 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Moved by
24 Legislator Nicoletto. Second by Legislator
25 Kopel. All those in favor of the amendment in

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2 the nature of a substitution signify by saying
3 aye. Any opposed? Now you can ask your
4 question Legislature Nicoletto.

5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: How is
6 this going to be paid for?

7 MR. NAUGHTON: Anyone who leaves
8 the employment in 2017 and elects to get paid
9 in a lump sum that expense will get charged to
10 the 2017 budget as an accrual as per the
11 county comptroller's office.

12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: What about
13 people that leave in 2018 in the first
14 quarter?

15 MR. NAUGHTON: For those people
16 in 2018 the concept is that the new
17 administration, working with the legislature,
18 will set up a reserve fund probably in the
19 month of February or March transferring excess
20 money in 2017 into the reserve and those
21 people will get paid from that reserve.

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: 2017. I'm
23 sorry, but this is a little bit different than
24 what I thought it was. 2017 if they leave by
25 December 31st where is the money coming from?

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2 MR. NAUGHTON: That money will
3 get paid out of the 2017 budget. We feel that
4 we have a, not a large surplus but a small
5 surplus due to the growth in sales tax, that
6 was unexpected. In addition we found out last
7 week we have an extra \$5 million Medicaid
8 savings. So those two items alone will
9 provide sufficient funding to fund this item.

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Provides
11 sufficient to fund it for those that leave by
12 December 31st, correct?

13 MR. NAUGHTON: Correct. Then we
14 are still projecting that we have a budgetary
15 surplus of roughly \$4 million even paying this
16 expense and that surplus money can be used to
17 be applied to the 2018 expense.

18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: That will
19 not be determined until some time in the first
20 quarter of next year, March?

21 MR. NAUGHTON: That is correct.
22 But I think based off of the number of people
23 that received notices last week it should be a
24 minimum number of people next year.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Does this

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2 cover legislative staff?

3 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes. Any

4 ordinance employee.

5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: With what

6 you are describing occurring, your

7 projections, will the county end 2017 in a

8 surplus?

9 MR. NAUGHTON: On a budgetary

10 basis the answer is yes. That is a

11 projection. No guarantees but yes.

12 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Eric, this

13 amendment in the nature of a substitution is

14 amendment number one, correct?

15 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.

16 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Now

17 Legislator Kopel.

18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: On those who

19 leave in the 2018 calendar year you're saying

20 that you expect that there will be a reserve

21 fund set up from 2017 money?

22 MR. NAUGHTON: That is correct.

23 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: What do you

24 expect that NIFA will say about that because

25 so far they haven't let the county transfer

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2 any '17 money into '18. They've got this idea
3 that it's got to be set aside somewhere.

4 MR. NAUGHTON: I've had
5 conversations with the NIFA staff a few weeks
6 ago and they were in favor of this concept.
7 They felt that setting up the reserve was the
8 prudent thing to do.

9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Out of '17
10 money?

11 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: That's
13 actually much better than paying it out over
14 several years if that's the case.

15 MR. NAUGHTON: Correct. Everyone
16 realizes it's going to be tough to manage the
17 '18 budget so anything that can be done to --

18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: To the '17
19 budget is helpful. Okay. Good.

20 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any other
21 comments or questions from the legislators?
22 Any public comment? There being none, all
23 those in favor of ordinance number 162 item
24 five signify by saying aye. Any opposed? The
25 item passes unanimously.

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2 MR. NAUGHTON: While I'm here,
3 eight years ago I gave a speech saying
4 good-bye to everyone but I'm not going to make
5 a big speech now but Madam Presiding Officer I
6 want to say thank you for everything. That we
7 had a great friendship and you've helped me in
8 some personal matters.

9 And I just wish the incoming county
10 executive lots of luck next year.

11 And last thing I must do is, I've
12 been with the county over 20 years and seen
13 lots of budget directors. I even had that
14 role for a short time in my life. But I must
15 say I've never known another budget director
16 other than Rose D'Alleva who's as professional
17 as she is, very brilliant and very dedicated
18 to this county. I just want to thank her for
19 three and a half years I worked with her as
20 the DCE.

21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If you
22 don't mind. I apologize and obviously I wish
23 Eric and Roseanne good wishes. Unfortunately,
24 I have a child that's at school in aftercare
25 with a 102 fever. I apologize that I need to

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2 leave early. But I would be remiss if I did
3 not encourage, obviously I'm in support of the
4 Uniondale contract for the streetscape. I
5 know I have spoken to the presiding officer
6 and I feel confident it will pass. I wanted
7 to let the folks in Uniondale as well as the
8 entire public there's no level of disrespect
9 by me leaving early. I just have to pick up
10 my kid, who normally would be there much
11 later. I just feel awful that I'm here in the
12 building when he has 102 fever. I apologize
13 about having to leave a little early. But
14 you're in good hands and I feel very confident
15 that the contract will pass. Thank you. I
16 think I'm in favor of the contract.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Several
18 items together. I'm calling item 12 ordinance
19 169. Item 13 ordinance 170. Item 14
20 ordinance 171. Item 15 ordinance 172. Item
21 16 ordinance 173. Item 17 ordinance 174.
22 That's it.

23 Moved by Legislator Nicoletto.
24 Second by Legislator Kopel. Any questions or
25 comments regarding these items? Any public

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2 comment? There being none, all those in favor
3 of items 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 and 17 signify
4 by saying aye. Any opposed? The items pass
5 unanimously. Moving on.

6 We did all the appointments to the
7 commissions, correct? We have several items
8 to be untabled. Item 55 ordinance 17. Item
9 56 ordinance 51. Item 57 ordinance 59. Item
10 58 ordinance 60. Item 59 item ordinance 61.
11 Item 60 ordinance 62.

12 A motion to untable those items by
13 Legislator Nicoletto. Second by Legislator
14 Kopel. All those in favor of untabling those
15 items signify by saying aye. Any opposed?
16 The items are now untabled.

17 I think there is something
18 regarding item 55, am I correct? Item 55
19 ordinance 17 in the original form is for \$2
20 million. So that needs to be clarified. Any
21 questions on any of the others? None? All
22 those in favor of the items I just called
23 signify by saying aye. Any opposed? The
24 items pass unanimously.

25 This should have been all year

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2 long. All those in favor of the items just
3 called signify by saying aye. Any opposed?
4 The items pass unanimously.

5 Now where are we going?

6 Mr. Pulitzer we have three emergency items 18,
7 19 and 20. We need to establish the emergency
8 and I'm going to ask that we dispense with the
9 reading of the items.

10 MR. PULITZER: We have three
11 emergency resolutions. Resolution 18
12 declaring an emergency for immediate action
13 upon the following 12 ordinances.

14 We have an emergency resolution 19
15 declaring an emergency for immediate action
16 upon the following 22 ordinances.

17 And an emergency resolution 20
18 declaring an emergency for immediate action
19 upon the following five resolutions.

20 Do you wish that we waive the
21 reading of these ma'am?

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Yes. I
23 just said that. Now I need a motion to
24 establish the emergencies for 18, 19 and 20.
25 Moved by Legislator Walker. Second by

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2 Legislator Ford. All those in favor of
3 establishing the emergencies signify by saying
4 aye. Any opposed? The emergency is now
5 established.

6 I need a motion right now to
7 establish all of these several items under
8 this emergency I believe, correct? There are
9 several items on the agenda. A motion
10 please. Legislator Rhoads. Second by
11 Legislator Schaefer. All those in favor of --
12 we are now addressing all of these items under
13 the emergencies, correct? So now who is here
14 to speak about them all? Legislator Bynoe,
15 did you have a question? No? Legislator
16 Birnbaum.

17 Mr. Becker where are we going?

18 MR. BECKER: As best I know most
19 of these emergencies are generated from the
20 legislature. They're all your items.

21 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Aren't
22 they capital bond items?

23 MR. BECKER: All things held
24 back.

25 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: There's a

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2 whole slew of them.

3 MR. BECKER: Many of these items
4 have been held back and now they're moving
5 forward. As I said the legislature. You
6 yourself. You created the magic.

7 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Guess
8 what? We don't need any magic wands.
9 Everything is okay. We can go ahead and you
10 had a question? Go ahead.

11 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: The first
12 emergency 259-16, the capital expenditure,
13 could you just give us a summary of what that
14 one is?

15 MR. BECKER: Legislator, what
16 item was that again?

17 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: 259.

18 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Go ahead
19 Ken. That's the pump station.

20 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Just a
21 little synopsis.

22 MR. ARNOLD: Ken Arnold, Public
23 Works. The question is about 259, the bond
24 ordinance for the pump stations. This is the
25 bond ordinance required to rehabilitate the

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2 pump stations that were not Sandy affected.
3 There's a number of projects specifically up
4 in the Glen Cove area that these pump stations
5 need to be addressed both for instrumentation,
6 the pump systems themselves and the emergency
7 backup for power.

8 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: So the pump
9 stations that you're talking about where are
10 the others in addition to Glen Cove?

11 MR. ARNOLD: I believe Roslyn is
12 another pump station that's part of this and
13 there's going to be some in Cedar Creek and
14 Bay Park that were high elevations that were
15 not inundated with the Sandy storm surge.

16 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: These
17 couldn't get any federal funding? These were
18 waiting for the bonding?

19 MR. ARNOLD: That is correct.
20 These could not be funded under the Sandy
21 money that we received because they were not
22 damaged during the storm. But they do require
23 work to keep them in top working order.

24 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Is this
25 part of aging?

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2 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. Useful life.
3 The pump stations have useful life and this is
4 to replace equipment at the end of its useful
5 life, that's correct.

6 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: How many
7 pump stations would you say altogether this
8 is?

9 MR. ARNOLD: I believe this
10 addresses about a dozen pump stations.

11 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Are you
12 okay? She's okay, Ken. Legislator Birnbaum
13 is okay.

14 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Just one
15 last question. When was this first
16 submitted?

17 MR. ARNOLD: It passed rules May
18 8 of 2017 and was not called on the following
19 meeting. I think it had gone previously as
20 another item. This I think was the second
21 time it was called.

22 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Can I say
23 something real quick? I just want to thank
24 Fran for all his hard work the last few
25 years. You did a great job. And if you could

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2 just scream at me one more time before I leave
3 Fran.

4 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: No, no.
5 Absolutely not. Not today. There are several
6 items associated with these emergencies.

7 MR. BECKER: Don, you know what's
8 interesting? I carried the ball in everybody
9 getting a raise here and starting January I
10 lost my job. That's ironic, isn't it? You do
11 a good job, make sure everybody gets a raise
12 and I lose my job January 1. Amazing.

13 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Ellen, are
14 you okay? We have a number of items here that
15 were put through for these emergencies. There
16 were the clerk items and the IMAs as well
17 which were covered by emergency 18, 19 and 20,
18 am I correct? I think we're okay. Guess
19 what? All those in favor of these items 448,
20 449, 457, 458. All of them that were
21 established under emergency 18, 19 and 20.

22 All those in favor signify by saying aye. Any
23 opposed? It's unanimous. Now let's move on.

24 We have another emergency
25 resolution which is emergency 21, clerk item

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2 489. The resolution to authorize the assessor
3 of the County of Nassau to extend annual
4 assessment roll of the County of Nassau for
5 the year 2018 for the Town of Hempstead
6 amounts assessed by the town board of the Town
7 of Hempstead for construction or
8 reconstruction of sidewalks pursuant to the
9 town law and the county government law.

10 Mr. Pulitzer, I need you to call
11 emergency 21. There are several items
12 associated with it.

13 MR. PULITZER: Emergency
14 resolution 21 declaring emergency for
15 immediate action upon the following 11
16 resolutions.

17 And then there's emergency
18 resolution clerk item 23, an emergency
19 resolution declaring an emergency for
20 immediate action upon a bond ordinance
21 providing for a capital expenditure to finance
22 the capital projects identified herein within
23 the county of Nassau in authorizing
24 \$11,400,000 million of bonds of the County of
25 Nassau to finance such expenditures pursuant

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2 to the local finance law of New York and the
3 county government law of Nassau County.

4 Then madam we have emergency
5 resolution clerk item 24. Shall I read that
6 as well? Thank you. An emergency resolution
7 declaring an emergency for immediate action
8 upon an ordinance repealing ordinance 133-17
9 in fixing the tax rate and levying taxes for
10 the 12 month 2018 fiscal year beginning
11 January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018
12 upon taxable properties within the towns and
13 cities of the County of Nassau for county fire
14 prevention, safety, communications and
15 education fund, county police headquarters,
16 county police districts, Nassau Community
17 College, county New York State property tax
18 refund, county environmental bond fund, Nassau
19 County Sewer and Storm Water Resources
20 District, county disputed assessment fund and
21 for the aforementioned 2018 fiscal year for
22 town, town highways, town general funds, town
23 general fund fund part town, town special
24 district upon water district charges in
25 arrears, town sidewalks and curb assessments

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2 and other lawful purposes in allocating
3 revenues for certain sales taxes imposed
4 within the county of Nassau outside the city
5 of Long Beach and determining the equalization
6 rates in relation thereto in authorizing and
7 directing the county executive and the clerk
8 of the Nassau County Legislature to execute
9 separate tax warrants addressed to the
10 receiver of taxes of the towns and cities
11 within the County of Nassau for the collection
12 of the several sums mentioned therein --

13 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Can we
14 dispense with the rest of the reading?

15 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: We need to
16 establish the emergency resolutions 21, 23 and
17 24. Moved by Legislature Nicolello. Second
18 by Legislator Kopel. All those in favor of
19 establishing emergency resolutions 21, 23, and
20 24 signify by saying aye. Any opposed? They
21 are now established.

22 Now, rather than read all of the
23 items I'm going to ask that a motion be made
24 established by the emergency 21, 23, and 24
25 for all those items associated with those

1 Full Leg - 12-18-17

2 emergencies.

3 Moved by Legislature Nicoletto.

4 Second by Legislator Muscarella. Any

5 questions? Any comments? Any public

6 comment? There being none, all those in favor

7 of the emergencies established by 21, 23 and

8 24 signify by -- the items by the emergency

9 21, 23 and 24 signify by saying aye. Any

10 opposed? The items pass unanimously.

11 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Motion to

12 adjourn the legislature meeting.

13 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: December

14 18th meeting. Moved by Legislature

15 Nicoletto. Second by Legislator Kopel. The

16 meeting of December 18th is now adjourned.

17 Guess what? We need to reconvene

18 the meeting of May 22nd and I am reconvening

19 the meeting of May 22nd which was a full

20 legislative meeting. I need a motion to

21 adjourn that meeting. Moved by Legislator

22 Walker. Second by Legislator Schaefer. All

23 those in favor of adjourning the May 22nd full

24 legislative meeting signify by saying aye.

25 Now we have another one. We have

1 Full Leg - 12-18-17
2 an open meeting August 7th full legislative
3 meeting. Now we need a motion to adjourn the
4 August 7th meeting. Moved by Legislator
5 Kopel. Second by Legislator Muscarella. All
6 those in favor of adjourning the August 7th
7 full legislative meeting signify by saying
8 aye. Any opposed? All meetings have been
9 adjourned.

10 (TIME NOTED: 4:52 P.M.)

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CERTIFICATION

I, FRANK GRAY, a Notary
Public in and for the State of New
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcript of my stenographic
notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand this 25th day of
December 2017

FRANK GRAY