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| 6 | NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE |
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| 8 | RICHARD NICOLELLO |
| 9 | PRESIDING OFFICER |
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| 11 | RULES COMMITTEE |
| 12 | |
| 13 | LEGISLATOR RICHARD NICOLELLO |
| 14 | CHAIR |
| 15 | |
| 16 | |
| 17 | Theodore Roosevelt Building |
| 18 | 1550 Franklin Avenue |
| 19 | Mineola, New York |
| 20 | |
| 21 | |
| 22 | March 9, 2020 |
| 23 | 1:40 P.M. |
| 24 | |
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| 2 | APPEARANCES: |
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| 4 | LEGISLATOR RICHARD NICOLELLO |
| 5 | Chair |
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| 7 | LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL |
| 8 | Vice Chair |
| 9 | |
| 10 | LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS |
| 11 | |
| 12 | LEGISLATOR LAURA SCHAEFER |
| 13 | |
| 14 | LEGISLATOR KEVAN ABRAHAMS |
| 15 | Ranking member |
| 16 | |
| 17 | LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON |
| 18 | |
| 19 | LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE |
| 20 | |
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- 2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Call the
- 3 Rules Committee to order. Ask that Legislator
- 4 Rhoads lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 5 Michael, will you call the roll.
- 6 MR. PULITZER: Thank you
- 7 Presiding Officer. The roll call for the
- 8 Rules Committee. Legislator Siela Bynoe. She
- 9 is here, correct? Yes. Legislator Delia
- 10 DeRiggi-Whitton.
- 11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 12 Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Ranking member
- 14 Kevan Abrahams.
- 15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: He's here.
- MR. PULITZER: Laura Schaefer.
- 17 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Legislator Steven
- 19 Rhoads.
- 20 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.
- 21 MR. PULITZER: Vice Chairman
- 22 Howard Kopel.
- LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Chairman Richard
- 25 Nicolello.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: We have a quorum
- 4 sir.
- 5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We will do
- 6 the contract portion of the Rules Committee.
- 7 First I need a motion to suspend the rules.
- 8 Moved by Legislator Rhoads. Seconded by
- 9 Legislator Schaefer. All in favor of
- suspending the rules say aye. Those opposed?
- 11 Carries unanimously.
- 12 Contracts. A-6, A-7, A-10 of 2020
- are resolutions authorizing the commissioner
- of Shared Services to award and execute
- 15 purchase orders or blanket purchase orders
- 16 between the county of Nassau and Commercial
- 17 Clearwater Company, Inc., LDV, Inc., Seaford
- 18 Avenue Corp.
- 19 B-7, B-10 and B-5 of 2020 are
- 20 resolutions authorizing the county executive
- 21 to award and execute contracts between the
- 22 county of Nassau and Seaford Avenue Corp.,
- 23 Hinck Electrical Contractors, Inc. and EA
- 24 Restorations.
- 25 E contracts. E-33, E-34, E-35,

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 E-36, E-38, E-39, E-40, E-41, E-42, E-43,
- 3 E-44, E-45, E-46, E-47, E-48, E-49. U-3 of
- 4 2020. Need a motion to put all those
- 5 contracts before us. Moved by Deputy
- 6 Presiding Officer Kopel. Seconded by Minority
- 7 Leader Abrahams. All of these contracts are
- 8 before us.
- 9 Two of the contracts the IG is
- 10 still looking at. Those are B-7, 2020, it's a
- 11 contract with Seaford Avenue Corp., and E-30
- of 2020 with Bershire Farm Center and Services
- for Youth. Since the IG is still
- 14 investigating we're going to need to table
- 15 those contracts. Proposed contracts. Motion
- 16 to table moved Legislator Rhoads. Seconded by
- 17 Legislator Schaefer. All in favor of tabling
- 18 those two signify by saying aye. Those
- 19 opposed? That carries unanimously.
- Now we will consider the contracts
- 21 individually and start with Parks contracts
- 22 which include A-6, Commercial Clearwater
- 23 Company, Inc.
- MS. CASO: Tori Caso with the
- 25 Parks Department. A-6 is a blanket purchase

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- order with Commercial Clearwater Co., Inc. for
- a maximum of \$1,550,000 for chlorine tablets
- 4 for the swimming pools.
- 5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 6 questions on this contract? Hearing none, we
- 7 will move on to the next one with Parks, which
- 8 is E-38, Discover Long Island, Inc.
- 9 MS. CASO: E-38 is an amendment
- 10 to the existing agreement with Discover Long
- 11 Island who promotes tourism for the county.
- 12 Extending the term through December 31st of
- this year for an amount of up to \$800,000.
- 14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 15 questions about this contract? I know that
- 16 Discover Long Island has been doing this for
- us for quite a while. We met with some of the
- 18 principals and they're actively promoting
- 19 tourism and all the economic benefits that
- 20 flow from that.
- 21 Any questions? Thank you very
- 22 much. Move on to the Office of Emergency
- 23 Management which will be A-7 2020 LDV, Inc.
- MR. DELANEY: Thomas Delaney,
- Office of Emergency Management. A-7-20 is for

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 \$214,333 to allow OEM to purchase another
- 3 command vehicle. This is a smaller command
- 4 vehicle from the same manufacturer as the
- 5 current command vehicle. But smaller is going
- 6 to help us out. Sometimes it's difficult to
- 7 roll out the large one that we have. This is
- 8 pretty much the same functionality just
- 9 doesn't have a conference room in the back but
- 10 it will allow for interoperatable
- 11 communications and other meetings to take
- 12 place.
- 13 LDV was selected for this
- 14 because -- let me put it this way, not
- 15 selected. We sought them out initially
- 16 because of our current command vehicle being
- 17 bought from them. We used GSA e-bid for the
- 18 procurement process on this. They were the
- only bidder on this but we definitely deemed
- this to be cost reasonable. 100 percent grant
- 21 funded.
- 22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So there
- is a larger command vehicle that we currently
- 24 have?
- MR. DELANEY: We do. It was

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 purchased in 2007.
- 3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: How often
- 4 is that used?
- 5 MR. DELANEY: Pretty often.
- 6 Today it was out at the request of the
- 7 administration to an event in Malverne. We
- 8 use it for fires. We used it for the rescue
- 9 operation in Old Brookville for the collapse.
- 10 Probably at least on the average of twice,
- 11 sometimes three times a month.
- 12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Then the
- smaller one is necessary for what? Could you
- just repeat that? Because it's more?
- MR. DELANEY: It's easier to fit
- into hard to get into places. It will also
- allow our staff, some of whom, most of whom do
- 18 not have CDLs to safely operate this vehicle.
- 19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: These
- vehicles are operated, they could be operated
- 21 by the vehicles themselves as opposed to being
- towed to someplace? They're capable of being
- operated in and of themselves as opposed to
- being towed to different locations?
- MR. DELANEY: Correct. They're

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 not a trailer. They are self-contained units.
- 3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator
- 4 Schaefer and then Legislator Rhoads.
- 5 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Hi. How
- 6 are you? You just mentioned CDLs. How many
- 7 of your employees have CDLs?
- 8 MR. DELANEY: Right now two of
- 9 them. We are looking at expanding that
- 10 though. We got to bring in training for
- 11 CDLs. Even though the expense for maintaining
- the CDL is going to be sustained by the
- individual, the cost of the training we're
- 14 going to be able to fund that.
- 15 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: What is the
- 16 expense, if you mind me asking? What is the
- expense of maintaining the license?
- MR. DELANEY: You got to pay for
- 19 your license every year.
- 20 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Every year
- 21 they have to renew it?
- MR. DELANEY: Exactly. Instead
- of paying whatever it is when you get your
- license renewed, let's say it's \$100 every
- couple of years, with a CDL it's probably

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 about three times that.
- 3 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Those are
- 4 the only two employees that can operate the
- 5 vehicle you now have?
- 6 MR. DELANEY: Yes. We are
- 7 looking at that. There are some questions
- 8 whether or not a CDL is really required. But
- 9 for right now we're just letting the people
- who have CDLs operate those vehicles.
- 11 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Is that
- 12 based on size why it would or wouldn't be
- 13 required?
- MR. DELANEY: Weight more than
- 15 anything.
- 16 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: You're
- thinking the smaller vehicle will not need
- 18 somebody with that type of license?
- MR. DELANEY: Correct. It's
- 20 going to be below that weight limit.
- 21 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: When are
- you looking to increase the number of people
- who have the CDL for the larger one?
- MR. DELANEY: Looking to doing
- 25 that like immediately.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Thank you.
- 3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator
- 4 Rhoads was next and then Legislator
- 5 DeRiggi-Whitton.
- 6 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you Mr.
- 7 Chairman.
- 8 Couple of quick follow-ups
- 9 questions. First, with respect to the vehicle
- that you have now, correct me if I'm wrong, my
- 11 understanding is that that vehicle is also
- 12 available for individual fire departments and
- other jurisdictions to use if they're at the
- 14 scene of a larger incident?
- MR. DELANEY: If they request us
- 16 to bring that vehicle out we're going to make
- our best effort to get it to them.
- 18 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: With the use
- of the present vehicle has there ever been a
- 20 situation where we've ever had to say no
- 21 because that vehicle was being used by someone
- 22 else for some other purpose?
- MR. DELANEY: Not to my
- 24 knowledge. But you're right, there could be
- 25 contention should you have two events going on

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 simultaneously.
- 3 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I'm trying to
- 4 establish whether or not there's a need for an
- 5 additional vehicle. Has there ever been a
- 6 situation where somebody's called up for our
- 7 vehicle and we've had to say no or that
- 8 vehicle was too large to be able to fit in
- 9 someplace else?
- MR. DELANEY: We've had the
- vehicle placed on standby for a planned event
- 12 and it was rolled out to an emergency. This
- happened last summer in fact when we were at
- one of the fests over at the Old Bethpage
- 15 Village Restoration and we were called upon to
- 16 bring it out.
- 17 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: It's not a
- 18 regular occurrence that there's a conflict?
- 19 MR. DELANEY: It's not. But
- 20 again, it's an older vehicle. There was
- 21 damage sustained when the vehicle was brought
- 22 up to Bayville during Sandy. Again, it's
- 23 getting to the point where having a second
- vehicle will help our capabilities in the
- 25 office.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Is it the
- 3 intention that it's going to replace the
- 4 original vehicle at some point in time?
- 5 MR. DELANEY: No. If we replace
- 6 the vehicle we're going to replace it with a
- 7 full sized one.
- 8 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: My
- 9 understanding is it's fully grant funded based
- on your testimony. The grant that's funding
- 11 this is that grant -- what is the grant
- 12 actually?
- MR. DELANEY: We're using one of
- our homeland security grants to procure this.
- 15 In this case we had specified it was our I
- 16 believe UWASI grant.
- 17 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Could the
- grant be used for other purposes?
- MR. DELANEY: Of course. Yes.
- 20 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Okay. Thank
- 21 you.
- 22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We have
- 23 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton and Legislator
- Bynoe.
- 25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 Basically that's what I wanted to point out.
- 3 It's paid for 100 percent with the grant,
- 4 correct, and that's what you feel you need?
- 5 This is your choice of what you feel the
- 6 department needs?
- 7 MR. DELANEY: Yes. This is one
- 8 of the priorities that the department has been
- 9 looking at now for a few years to get this
- 10 done. I started this procurement well over a
- 11 year ago in fact.
- 12 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- have a quick question. I know you handle the
- 14 procurement for OEM for the most part?
- MR. DELANEY: We do. I do.
- 16 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Can
- 17 I ask you something a little digressing
- 18 slightly. In a situation that we are faced
- with right now where, for instance, hand
- 20 sanitizers are very necessary. I was told
- through the grapevine that there was a problem
- 22 with the procurement and we had lost out on a
- 23 big order of them.
- MR. DELANEY: It's not so much
- that we lost out on a big order. OEM is about

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 95 percent grant funded as far as salary. The
- 3 state said that this is not related to
- 4 terrorism. Everything that we do has to have
- 5 a nexus to terrorism as far as our grant spend
- 6 down. So when I called up and spoke to the
- 7 state last week the answer was you can't use
- 8 grant funds to buy hand sanitizers.
- 9 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 10 That's interesting. I would think it would be
- any emergency not just terrorism.
- MR. DELANEY: If we requested
- 13 funding from the county general fund to be
- 14 able to do that yeah. But unfortunately,
- 15 again, the FEMA grants, the Homeland Security
- 16 grants all have to have a nexus to terrorism
- for everything we do.
- 18 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- was thinking if it's something like a health
- 20 issue and we need hand sanitizer in an
- 21 emergency should it be in the future couldn't
- we have something lined up so we wouldn't have
- to go through the procurement? But it wasn't
- really the procurement that's the problem it's
- 25 the usage of your grants?

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- MR. DELANEY: Correct. It's the
- 3 funding source. We don't have general funds
- 4 available.
- 5 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 6 Okay. Thank you.
- 7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator
- 8 Bynoe.
- 9 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you
- 10 Presiding Officer. Good afternoon. So as my
- 11 colleague, I believe both colleagues, pointed
- out this is 100 percent grant funded?
- MR. DELANEY: Correct.
- 14 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I know in a
- 15 lot of cases we are looking at shared services
- and reducing expenses, but I think in the area
- of the Office of Emergency Management there
- should be some level of redundancy in place.
- 19 So having two of these types of trucks would
- 20 be I think beneficial to a county that serves
- 21 1.4 million people.
- 22 MR. DELANEY: That's correct to
- 23 recognize that. The vehicle now that we have
- 24 is getting older. If it did have to go out
- 25 for extended repairs we would be without that

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- vehicle. No different than we are right now
- with the medical emergency response vehicle.
- 4 The MERV that we have that we roll out to
- 5 various incidents. We only have one of
- 6 those. But the one thing that does help us
- out is the regional asset and if our was down
- 8 no different than what Suffolk County does
- 9 right now they ask us to bring our's out. We
- 10 could ask Suffolk to roll theirs out.
- 11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: In the event
- that the current vehicle ages out and is no
- longer available we would then replace it with
- 14 a light vehicle. This would not be in
- 15 substitution because it is limited because it
- does not have the same capacity, am I
- 17 accurate?
- MR. DELANEY: By design we didn't
- want it to have the same capacity because we
- 20 didn't want to have the same size. Something
- 21 smaller, easier to get into incidents with.
- 22 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Certain areas
- and events, correct? It would be easier in
- some instances to get into certain events and
- 25 access?

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 MR. DELANEY: Right. If anyone
- 3 went up to the incident in Upper Brookville
- 4 with the collapse you saw what the road looked
- 5 like. It was very similar to what Avianca was
- 6 like. The road was filled with emergency
- 7 response vehicles.
- 8 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you.
- 9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Anyone
- 10 else? Hearing none, thank you very much.
- 11 The next two contracts are from the
- 12 police department. A-10 of 2020 is with
- 13 Motorola Solutions, Inc.
- MR. STEPHANOFF: Good afternoon.
- 15 Deputy Inspector Stephanoff from the police
- department. A-10 of 2020 is to authorize and
- award a blanket purchase order for the radio
- 18 maintenance and repair for the Nassau County
- 19 Police Department. This is a renewal of a
- 20 blanket order we had. This maintains our main
- 21 radio system that the cops use. It maintains
- the equipment and CB, all the station houses
- and the buildings that have radios, every
- 24 police car and every hand-held portable
- 25 radio. We 24-7 support. You know, 24 hours a

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 day, seven days a week, 365 days a year and
- 3 they help us that we don't lose radio coverage
- 4 for the cops. This was advertised. This was
- 5 put out as a bid advertised in Newsday.
- 6 Purchasing recommends to award Motorola for
- 7 the contract.
- 8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Are these
- 9 Motorola products that we're using?
- 10 MR. STEPHANOFF: Yes. Motorola
- 11 helped build the radio system. It's their
- 12 products and we did bid it out to see if
- anyone else can maintain it. We only got one
- 14 bidder back from all the companies. And they
- 15 successfully, in the last blanket order,
- 16 helped us maintain the radio system.
- 17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So it's
- almost equivalent to a sole source provider?
- 19 MR. STEPHANOFF: Yes. It's
- 20 maintenance.
- 21 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: It is
- 22 conceivable that somebody else could maintain
- 23 it but Motorola is obviously the most likely
- 24 recommended to do this.
- One of the things I would like is

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- that periodically we get updates and contracts
- 3 that come before us with respect to the status
- 4 of the radio equipment and similar
- 5 communication equipment the police have. I
- 6 was wondering if you could provide more of a
- memo indicating exactly what the resources
- 8 that are being used and the status of what
- 9 those resources are.
- 10 MR. STEPHANOFF: I can reach
- 11 out. Chief of support oversees the radio
- 12 system. I can reach out to them to be in
- 13 contact with you.
- 14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We would
- 15 appreciate that. Any other questions? Let's
- 16 go to the next one which is E-44, Crime
- 17 Victims, Inc.
- MR. STEPHANOFF: E-44 of '20.
- 19 This is to award a contract between the police
- department and Crime Victims, Inc., Megan's
- 21 Law. This is a service that we use. The
- 22 contractor supplies the police department -- I
- 23 apologize -- with helpline access to victims,
- 24 sex offender victims, literature outreach and
- 25 also counseling referrals. We don't pay on a

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 case-by-case basis. We give them \$180,000 a
- 3 year to help them offset their expenses and we
- 4 can utilize them throughout the year. They're
- 5 a very good outreach that our Special Victims
- 6 Unit uses and they helped the police
- 7 department.
- 8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: They've
- 9 worked with us throughout the years as well.
- MR. STEPHANOFF: Yes. We renew
- 11 this contract for quite some time now.
- 12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Only
- 13 question I have is it looks like the contract
- 14 expired in August of 2019.
- MR. STEPHANOFF: We had trouble
- 16 with the disclosure forms from them. So we
- finally got them back and we were able to put
- 18 the contract forward.
- 19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any other
- 20 questions? Hearing none, thank you
- 21 inspector. Next contracts are with public
- 22 works B-10 of 2020 with Hinck Electrical
- 23 Contractors, Inc.
- MR. ARNOLD: Ken Arnold, Public
- Works. The Hinck contract, B-10, is for the

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 improvement and repair of the hardwood ejector
- 3 station in the Franklin dry pump stations in
- 4 Glen Cove. We received a total of five bids
- 5 and Hinck was the most responsible bidder.
- 6 It's ten percent WBE on the contract.
- 7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 8 questions? Hearing none, why don't we move on
- 9 to E-33, LiRo program and construction
- 10 management.
- 11 MR. ARNOLD: E-33 is construction
- management services for the Glen Cove sludge
- dewatering project. That sludge dewatering
- 14 project is to replace equipment. This is the
- oversite of the construction management. We
- 16 received a total of six proposals. LiRo was
- the most technical best value proposal. They
- 18 have a 12 percent WBE on their contract.
- 19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Backup
- indicates the RFP was issued in July 2017?
- MR. ARNOLD: Yes.
- 22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: What was
- 23 the delay in getting this to us?
- MR. ARNOLD: Getting both the bid
- 25 project and see the project lined up

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 together. I believe there was a delay in the
- 3 bid contract due to I think something with the
- 4 bonding. But then also with the submittals.
- 5 So we lined them all up to make sure they went
- 6 together. I think you've already seen the
- 7 other contract.
- 8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 9 questions? Let's go to E-48 of 2020.
- MR. ARNOLD: E-48 is our traffic
- on-call contract. Nelson and Pope is the last
- of I believe a total of five firms we
- 13 selected. They were behind because of
- 14 disclosure issues. They will be part of our
- 15 pool engineering services on our traffic
- on-call.
- 17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 18 questions about this one? Hearing none, are
- 19 you the point person for the EA Restoration
- 20 contract as well?
- MR. ARNOLD: Myself and Robert
- 22 Cleary yes. Technical side I can handle. Any
- questions on the IG report the administration
- 24 dealt with that.
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Since you

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 have a role to play why don't we cover that as
- 3 well right now. That's B-5 of 2020 the
- 4 contract with EA Restoration, Inc.
- 5 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. So, B-5 is
- 6 phase two of the family mat court construction
- 7 project. This is the interior fit-out of the
- 8 facility. It was bid back at the end of the
- 9 year. It's an 18-month project. We had seven
- 10 bidders and E and A was the lowest bidder that
- 11 was determined.
- 12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Do we have
- a completion date in sight on this contract?
- 14 On this project?
- MR. ARNOLD: From notice to
- 16 proceed 18 months will be the completion
- date. Once we get approval from this body and
- 18 the comptroller and NIFA we will issue a
- 19 notice to proceed. This will require a full
- NIFA board meeting. So, assuming that happens
- in May, I would think notice to proceed would
- 22 be June 1st. So 18 months from June 1st.
- 23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Is that
- the last phase? Once they complete their work
- 25 are we done with --

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 MR. ARNOLD: For the building
- 3 yes. We have the family justice center.
- 4 That's a separate bid contract. That's going
- out currently. That is going to be lined up
- 6 to be done in the same time frame as this
- 7 phase two project. We don't want any
- 8 construction after we are done with phase
- 9 two. Right now we are on schedule to have
- 10 both of these done at the same time.
- We're also contemplating a project
- 12 for the court area sidewalks, parking lots and
- 13 lighting. It's not contingent on the building
- 14 being done. But it's the administration and
- my thought is to have that whole complex
- 16 completed at one time and not to have anymore
- 17 construction there.
- 18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The Family
- 19 Justice Center is that going to be within this
- 20 building?
- MR. ARNOLD: Yes. It's in the
- 22 unfinished gray space. There's a little bit
- of work that phase two will do to get the gray
- 24 space ready but all the interior fit-out was a
- separately bid contract. We did not want to

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- issue a change order for that. We thought it
- 3 was more effective to do another bid.
- 4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: It's being
- 5 done at the same time as some of the work
- 6 that's --
- 7 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. Same project
- 8 labor agreement will be utilized for this call
- 9 it phase three or just the family justice --
- 10 I'd rather call it the Family Justice Center
- 11 project, it will be done under the same
- 12 project labor agreement.
- 13 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Family
- 14 court building, Family Justice Center and the
- 15 parking lot area?
- MR. ARNOLD: We are hoping to get
- the parking lot done so we can have one
- 18 completed facility and not having anything
- 19 else that needs to be done at a later date.
- 20 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: My
- 21 question would be, realistically, when do we
- think all of that is going to be done and this
- building will be open?
- MR. ARNOLD: Should be 18 months
- from June 1st if that's when we issue notice

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 to proceed.
- 3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Basically
- 4 January 1 of 2022?
- 5 MR. ARNOLD: I think that's about
- 6 right.
- 7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We can
- 8 hold you to that?
- 9 MR. ARNOLD: We're pushing very
- 10 hard. The police academy is right now on time
- on budget. We are pushing that just as hard.
- 12 We want to use the same model as we did for
- 13 that project.
- 14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We urge
- 15 you in the strongest terms to push equally
- 16 hard for this. The family court building now
- was not designed for the number of litigants,
- 18 the number of courts. People are stuffed in
- 19 there. It really is not appropriate that our
- 20 residents continued to be forced to go into
- 21 that building.
- MR. ARNOLD: It was originally a
- 23 24 month construction schedule. We actually
- reduced it because of those thoughts.
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Before I

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 bring Mr. Cleary up, does anyone have any
- 3 questions for Mr. Arnold? We're good?
- 4 Mr. Cleary.
- 5 MR. CLEARY: Robert Cleary, chief
- 6 procurement officer.
- 7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: There were
- 8 some questions obviously raised by the IG's
- 9 investigation. I want to ask you about the
- 10 status of those questions and whether they
- 11 have been resolved?
- MR. CLEARY: We appreciate the
- information that the IG brought to our
- 14 attention. It did shed some additional light
- on the operations of the vendor that we were
- 16 not aware of. We reviewed that thoroughly.
- We reviewed that with the department, reviewed
- that with the vendor. The vendor submitted
- 19 additional disclosures. We reviewed the
- 20 information that was submitted on those
- 21 disclosures and everything does seem to have
- been satisfactorily answered in our opinion.
- 23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Have you
- 24 had any direct communications with the IG that
- 25 represented it's been resolved to their

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 satisfaction as well?
- MR. CLEARY: I can't speak for
- 4 the inspector general obviously. We have had
- 5 some communication with them regarding this
- 6 matter.
- 7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: My counsel
- 8 indicates that he has actually spoken with the
- 9 IG and she believes with the updated
- 10 disclosures and the additional information
- 11 that was provided by E and A that she is
- 12 satisfied.
- Any questions for Mr. Cleary?
- 14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may
- 15 Mr. Presiding Officer? I appreciate Mr.
- 16 Cleary being here and obviously Mr. Arnold to
- 17 talk about the construction component. But
- 18 all due respect, the report was generated by
- the IG and I know we haven't had the IG down
- 20 here to formally present, but I would think
- 21 based on the commentary of Mr. Cleary as well
- 22 as the back and forth to make sure that this
- 23 legislature is proceeding in the correct
- 24 direction. We should make sure that the IG is
- 25 comfortable with the responses that Mr. Cleary

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 has presented to the legislature. I would
- 3 request that the IG come down to make that
- 4 case to the legislature before we proceed.
- 5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: All
- 6 right. What we can do is table this for now
- 7 and then either she can get down here while
- 8 we're still doing the contracts or when Rules
- 9 reconvenes later on. A motion to table by the
- 10 minority leader. Seconded by Legislator
- 11 Schaefer. All in favor of tabling signify by
- 12 saying aye. I think we're good for now but
- we're going to hear from the IG on this
- 14 contract.
- MR. ARNOLD: Thank you.
- 16 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Next two
- 17 contracts are with Traffic and Parking
- 18 Violations Agency. E-34 2020 is a contract
- 19 with Top Key Court Reporting, Inc.
- MS. CLAUDEFELDER: Christin
- 21 Claudefelder, counsel to Traffic and Parking.
- 22 Item E-34-20 is for stenography
- 23 services at Traffic and Parking. It's the
- 24 first of two one-year extensions with our
- existing stenographic agent. We did have an

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 RFP back in October 19th of 2015. We had two
- 3 responses and this was the lowest bid. It is
- 4 a woman-owned business enterprise. Anybody
- 5 has any questions I will take questions.
- 6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 7 questions?
- 8 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Why are you
- 9 extending it and not rebidding it?
- 10 MS. CLAUDEFELDER: It's not time
- 11 yet. Within the original contract we have two
- one-year extensions that are permitted. So,
- 13 based on our calculations we think we will
- 14 have to go out to an RFP I think before
- 15 December 31st of 2021.
- 16 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: You don't have
- to I understand, but you also don't think that
- 18 you'll necessarily get anything better out
- 19 there if you did it now?
- MS. CLAUDEFELDER: I don't think
- there's any reason to believe that, that's
- 22 correct.
- 23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any other
- questions? Let's go on to the next one which
- is E-43, Quest Computer Products L.L.C.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- MS. CLAUDEFELDER: E-43 of '20 is
- our character-based ticket processing system.
- 4 This is a sole source provider. It's
- 5 proprietary software. This is an annual
- 6 amendment that we have been doing since we
- 7 went out for the original RFP with that
- 8 vendor. This is amendment 18, which is just
- 9 an extension. If anybody has any questions
- 10 I'm happy to answer them.
- 11 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Does TIPVA
- 12 regularly evaluate whether it makes sense to
- 13 stay with the sole source or whether it makes
- sense at some point to do an RFP?
- MS. CLAUDEFELDER: Absolutely.
- 16 We actually -- you have already approved the
- 17 contract for the new software that's going to
- 18 replace this system. That contract's already
- been executed and we are already in the
- 20 process, the design process of coming up with
- a new system that we believe is going to be a
- 22 much better fit for where we are right now. I
- think the projection for when that's going to
- finally be online is fourth quarter of 2020.
- 25 Latest maybe early 2021. So this is just

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 either the last or second to last of the
- 3 enhancement contracts to get us through to
- 4 that point.
- 5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: That's
- 6 good. Any questions? Thank you very much.
- 7 Next two are with Human Services and Social
- 8 Services. E-45 of 2020 is an agreement with
- 9 Cornell Cooperative Extension.
- 10 MS. HORST: Katy Horst from the
- 11 administration. This is a three-year contract
- with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau
- 13 County. This contract will allow for the
- 14 creation, expansion of the 4H Youth
- 15 Development Program such as the Master
- 16 Gardener Program, increased East Meadow farm
- visits and programing, expanded marine camp
- 18 among other programs and activities. The
- contract is \$150,000 for three years.
- 20 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 21 questions? We're good. Let's move to the
- 22 next one which is U-3, which is an agreement
- with Long Island Marriott.
- MS. HORST: This is to execute a
- 25 contract with the Long Island Marriott for the

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- annual senior luncheon. This is \$13,200 for
- 3 our annual senior luncheon event.
- 4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We have
- 5 been having it there for a while, correct?
- 6 MS. HORST: Yes. At least the
- 7 last three years.
- 8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 9 questions on this one? Thank you Katy.
- 10 Health Department E-36 2020, James
- 11 McGuinness and Associates. Double duty today.
- MS. LAURAIN: Mary Ellen
- 13 Laurain. Thank you. Item E-36-20 is a
- 14 contract with James McGuinness and Associates
- in the amount of \$929,700. This program
- 16 provides Medicaid billing for our children
- with preschool special education program.
- 18 This vendor determines medical eligibility for
- 19 Medicaid rather and reimbursement. The
- 20 contract is about ten weeks late. The vendor
- 21 had a critical family emergency.
- 22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 23 questions on this contract? Legislator
- 24 DeRiggi-Whitton.
- 25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 Thank you. My counsel wanted to get copies of
- 3 any updates from the years through 2019 as far
- 4 as their records and all.
- 5 MS. LAURAIN: I don't understand
- 6 the question.
- 7 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Do
- 8 you know if we have any updated data on the
- 9 reimbursements that we have been receiving for
- 10 this program?
- MS. LAURAIN: I would have to ask
- 12 our fiscal unit. How much Medicaid
- 13 reimbursement we get?
- 14 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 15 Yeah. Through 2019.
- MS. LAURAIN: I actually have
- 17 that. Approximately \$5.4 million last year.
- 18 That's after claims are submitted to insurance
- 19 and they determine Medicaid eligibility. Just
- 20 double check that. They identify the children
- 21 and the services and then they determine
- 22 Medicaid eligibility.
- 23 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 24 Thank you very much.
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Anyone

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 else? I think we're good. Thanks.
- District attorney E-39 of 2020, the
- 4 Safe Center of LI, Inc.
- 5 MR. MCMANUS: Bob McManus,
- 6 district attorney's office. The item before
- you is an agreement between the district
- 8 attorney's office and the Safe Center of Long
- 9 Island for a 24-hour hotline for victims of
- 10 sexual assault and domestic violence. While
- 11 the district attorney's office has provided
- 12 funding for the hotline for the previous four
- 13 years, this year's agreement had to be
- 14 approved in advance by the state comptroller's
- office to ensure that this was an appropriate
- 16 use of forfeiture funds in accordance with
- 17 stricter guidelines instituted in 2019
- 18 governing the use of such funds.
- 19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 20 questions? We're good. Thank you. We are in
- 21 the process of going through the contracts.
- 22 After the contracts have been called there
- will be a public comment period.
- 24 County attorney, E-40 of 2020.
- These next four, five contracts are with the

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 county attorney's office.
- 3 MR. LIBERT: Brian Libert from
- 4 the county attorney's office. Do you want me
- 5 to cover them all at once or just these two?
- 6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Let's
- 7 cover the first two together since they're
- 8 both lobbyists and we will move on.
- 9 MR. LIBERT: That's what I was
- thinking as well. E-40-20 and E-41-20 are
- 11 contracts for the county's two lobbying
- 12 firms. These firms represent the county in
- 13 Albany and other places for the county's
- 14 lobbying efforts.
- 15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Aren't
- these a little late? Obviously the session is
- more than two months old at this point.
- 18 MR. LIBERT: These contracts have
- been in place previously. So these firms have
- 20 been doing work on behalf of the county. So I
- would hesitate to say that they were late.
- They may be relative to the Albany session,
- but they have been doing work and the work is
- 24 ongoing.
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 amendments will go through February 28, 2021?
- 3 MR. LIBERT: That's my
- 4 understanding.
- 5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: That's
- 6 kind of an odd date. I think we are going to
- 7 approve these but that will be in the middle
- 8 of the next session. I would have thought
- 9 maybe June 30, 2021 might have been a better
- 10 choice. But we have what we have. Any
- questions about these two? Let's go to the
- 12 next ones. Actually next two, which are
- contracts with Goldberg and Segalla.
- MR. LIBERT: E-46-20 and E-47-20
- 15 are contracts with the outside counsel firm of
- 16 Goldberg Segalla. E-46 is a contract which is
- 17 closing out several, basically closing out the
- 18 old contract. I believe they had four or five
- 19 cases under that. Several of them have
- 20 ended. All of those cases which are
- 21 continuing are covered under the new contract
- which is case specific in nature.
- 23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- questions about these two? Hearing none,
- 25 Sokoloff Stern, which is the next one, we

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 actually had requested a month or two ago that
- 3 when there is a new case being assigned to a
- 4 law firm that it be broken out into a separate
- 5 contract. The reason for that is we don't
- 6 want to see the approval of an initial
- 7 contract to go on in perpetuity. In other
- 8 words, we approve a law firm to handle a case
- 9 and then later on we offer them another case
- 10 under the same contract. And again, a single
- 11 approval can continue theoretically in
- 12 perpetuity. We've ask that the new cases be
- broken out separately from the existing
- 14 cases.
- So we would request that they do
- 16 that with Goldberg Segalla. We have no
- 17 problem, speaking for the majority, with this
- 18 firm. Obviously they're very qualified. But
- we just with handling these we would request
- that new cases be separated and put into a
- 21 separate contract.
- 22 MR. LIBERT: We are aware of that
- 23 instruction. It's conceivable that this was
- 24 actually drafted before we had that
- 25 conversation on the record. But I would say

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 also, just as a note, I think your point is
- 3 well taken. In this case Sokoloff Stern was
- 4 handling one matter called Rodriguez and they
- 5 were only handling one part of Rodriguez. One
- 6 particular conflicted individual. That case
- 7 settled and there was still significant
- 8 funding left on the contract. So there was
- 9 some practical value in that. But of course
- 10 your point is well taken legislator and we
- 11 will take that under advisement for the
- 12 future.
- 13 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: But that's
- 14 exactly why we would want to do that because
- obviously there was an initial grant of
- 16 monetary approval for this firm to handle that
- one case and rather than roll it over into a
- 18 second case I think it's easier to see how
- much these cases are costing the county to do
- 20 it separately.
- MR. LIBERT: Understood.
- 22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We are
- going to table this for now and hopefully you
- 24 can get Sokoloff Stern to execute that
- 25 contract, turn it around and we can do this in

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 two weeks.
- MR. LIBERT: Very well.
- 4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Motion to
- 5 table by Legislator Rhoads. Seconded by
- 6 Legislator Schaefer. All in favor signify by
- 7 saying aye. Those opposed? The matter is
- 8 tabled.
- 9 MR. LIBERT: Thank you.
- 10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Medical
- examiner, E-42 of 2020, a contract with Peter
- 12 Farmer.
- MS. KELLY: My name is Carolyn
- 14 Kelly. I'm the deputy medical examiner for
- laboratories and I'm appearing on these two
- 16 matters. Dr. Farmer first or the other
- 17 first?
- 18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: What was
- 19 the second one that you have.
- 20 MS. KELLY: It's item 75-20, a
- 21 board transfer of funds about \$13,000. It's a
- 22 reallocation of funding.
- 23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We're not
- handling that part of the calendar now.
- 25 Basically that will go before Finance first

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- and in all likelihood once it passes Finance
- 3 it will on consent to the Rules Committee.
- 4 MS. KELLY: Just Dr. Farmer
- 5 then. This is an amendment that is long over
- 6 due. It covers the term from 2018 to 2019 of
- 7 June. The maximum amount of the contract was
- 8 \$35,000 for the term of this amendment
- 9 period. Dr. Farmer is a forensic
- 10 neuropathologist. He performs examinations of
- brain samples from remains and we're trying to
- 12 get this through because it's overdue as you
- 13 can see.
- 14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any
- 15 questions? Thank you very much. I'm going to
- 16 make a motion to untable the contract with EA
- 17 Restorations. Seconded by Minority Leader
- 18 Abrahams. All in favor of untabling E-5 of
- 19 2020 signify by saying aye. Matter is
- 20 untabled. I believe our inspector general is
- 21 here.
- 22 MS. FRANZESE: It's been a while
- 23 Presiding Officer. How are you? Thank you
- for inviting me. I don't really get to come
- down here often.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I think
- you're the only person that says that.
- 4 MS. FRANZESE: It's a pleasure to
- 5 be here. I believe the legislature had
- 6 questions or a question.
- 7 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: How are
- 8 you? So, obviously since your report was
- 9 issued on February 7th it has generated much
- 10 concern regarding the EA contract. Then
- obviously we just had the department come up
- 12 and speak on the contract as it pertains to
- the construction and Mr. Cleary then, is he
- 14 still here? I don't see him but I'm sure he's
- 15 somewhere in the building. Then Mr. Cleary
- 16 got up and appreciated your comments from your
- office and at the same time talked about some
- of the changes. Then obviously he referenced
- 19 I believe the letter from E and A Restoration
- 20 as well in regard to some of the changes.
- Now, what I was going to do was go
- 22 point by point through your report to make
- sure each of the items that you identified in
- your report were met to your satisfaction or I
- 25 guess we can cut it short and you can tell me

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- what you believe, based on the E and A letter,
- 3 Mr. Cleary's statement, based off of what you
- 4 wrote which was issued on February 7th where
- 5 you are or we can go point by point.
- 6 MS. FRANZESE: I'm happy to talk
- 7 about and if you have any other questions I
- 8 will be happy to answer them.
- 9 I can tell you that the vendor and
- 10 their attorneys cooperated fully with my
- 11 office. They provided all the documents.
- 12 They made their clients available for
- interviews and we were able to get what we
- 14 needed in order to draft the report that you
- 15 have.
- It's my understanding and I've read
- the amended or amended disclosure forms. It
- 18 looks as if they did that promptly and it
- 19 looks like that is -- that the new disclosure
- 20 forms are reflecting what my office saw in its
- 21 investigation. I can also tell you that we
- 22 received a letter, which I guess you have as
- well, and a supplemental letter in response to
- our report. And at this point, based on
- everything, the totality of the circumstances,

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- we are satisfied with what we have.
- 3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Legislator
- 4 DeRiggi-Whitton has questions at some point.
- 5 I guess based on the documentation that was
- 6 missing initially it has now been furnished
- 7 and your office is satisfied with that
- 8 documentation. However, there are underlying
- 9 issues where this legislature will have to
- determine whether or not there was some level
- of perceived, I'm using the word perceived,
- deception that was potentially going to
- occur.
- I guess I really want to ask you
- specifically not really about the disclosures
- but more about the commentary between your
- office and some of the officers that are
- 18 actually on E and A. Let me bring up an
- 19 example.
- In 2017 I believe, if I'm
- 21 pronouncing his name wrong correct me,
- 22 Antonios. According to the passport system
- submitted to New York City's passport system
- 24 he identified himself as an officer at that
- 25 time in 2017 if I'm understanding this

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 correctly.
- 3 However, is the terminology used on
- 4 the county's disclosure, principal disclosure
- 5 questionnaire different than the terminology
- 6 that's used in passport? Why would the chief
- 7 executive officer be misinterpreting to think
- 8 that we weren't asking for the same level of
- 9 information that Passport uses? I don't know
- 10 if that came out in your interview that I
- 11 didn't see in your report.
- MS. FRANZESE: In New York City
- 13 they have -- they ask for three officers.
- 14 It's my understanding that you can't continue
- on into the form unless you provide three
- officers. So I believe that the vendor's
- thought was that they were going to provide
- three officers just to move on with the form.
- 19 At least that's seems to be their position.
- As far as our forms, we indicate,
- 21 obviously you know, principal owner. I think
- 22 it's owners and/or officers. On that
- 23 disclosure they chose to put down the one
- 24 officer. Sole owner and officer.
- It's unclear to me why the two, it

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- was unclear to me why the two disclosures, one
- 3 from the city one from Nassau County, why they
- 4 were different in that respect. I believe in
- 5 the first response from the vendor, I do not
- 6 believe it was sufficiently spoken to.
- 7 However, in the supplemental response, which I
- 8 hope you have, it seemed to be a little
- 9 clearer that they seem to make clearer their
- 10 position.
- 11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: In your
- 12 interview of Antonios was there any concern
- with him with E and A not disclosing him as an
- 14 officer because there was some issue with his
- 15 political campaign contribution disclosure
- 16 form or the fact that he wouldn't have to do
- one since he wasn't technically listed as an
- officer? I highlight that because I'm looking
- 19 at your report, because one of the things
- 20 about our disclosure process it also requires
- 21 that political campaign contributions be
- 22 disclosed and there was a \$5,000 campaign
- contribution made on October 23, 2017. So, to
- me, that's a very significant number. As well
- 25 as it wasn't disclosed initially. I'm

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 quessing it has been now?
- MS. FRANZESE: Yes. As a matter
- 4 of fact, I believe that when we spoke with the
- 5 attorneys that actually they disclosed I think
- 6 even more than our disclosures actually
- 7 required. But it's hard to tell. When people
- 8 are filling out forms and leave something off
- 9 or if they decide that a certain individual is
- 10 not an officer, it's hard to determine whether
- they're doing that in order to make things
- 12 easier and move quickly and I'm going to
- disclose one officer to almost kind of take a
- 14 shortcut. Or are they doing it to not reveal
- 15 certain, as you mentioned, campaign
- 16 contributions or affiliated companies or
- things of that nature.
- 18 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Let me ask
- 19 you Inspector General, there was another
- incident as well for a contract in 2017 for \$5
- 21 million for general construction where in that
- 22 case, if I'm understanding your report
- correctly, while E and A did disclose certain
- 24 campaign contribution, it did not disclose
- again Antonio's \$10,000 contribution this time

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 that was made October 7, 2017. This is the
- 3 same type of incident that happened in '16 and
- 4 in '17?
- 5 MS. FRANZESE: It looks like the
- 6 company's stance at the time saying that
- 7 Antonio wasn't or isn't an officer it seems
- 8 like that caused them to interpret this as
- 9 they didn't need to disclose it. Again, I'm
- 10 not certain -- we weren't able to really
- 11 ascribe any motive to it but certainly that
- 12 was the result. That certain campaign
- 13 contributions and other disclosures were not
- 14 made public. And from my office we want just
- want to make sure you have all the information
- before you vote on contracts.
- 17 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: First let
- 18 me take a pause to say that. I think your
- 19 report, as well as your reports, have been a
- 20 breath of fresh air. I'm glad to see that we
- 21 have an inspector general of the likes of your
- office and commend your office on the great
- work that you have been doing. It's much
- 24 appreciated. I have one more question that I
- 25 wanted to dive into.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 I'm just looking through your
- 3 report to make sure I find it. I may have to
- 4 pass the floor until the next person while I
- 5 look for it. There was a question -- you had
- 6 interviewed Antonio and there was some back
- 7 and forth that I saw where he identified
- 8 himself as a principal officer. I guess maybe
- 9 I was reading through the passport system or
- 10 maybe he identified himself as an officer
- 11 maybe at a bidding process. I'm not too
- 12 sure. I'm trying to find it in your report.
- Can you shed some light on that or
- do you need me to find it in the report and
- identify it to be able to answer the question
- 16 properly?
- 17 MS. FRANZESE: I will tell you
- initially when we visited the location we
- 19 asked for the boss and they brought out
- 20 actually the other officer that now files a
- 21 disclosure, which is the daughter of the
- vendor. She actually identified herself as an
- officer. Then after some digging obviously
- there were things that supported that. That
- 25 she was in fact an officer and she actually

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 had the title that she told us she had.
- 3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: CFO?
- 4 MS. FRANZESE: Yes. Minority
- 5 Leader, I can also note that the county as of
- for right now doesn't have a definition, doesn't
- define officer, which may cause some issues.
- 8 With people deciding whether they need to
- 9 disclose certain things.
- 10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator
- 11 DeRiggi-Whitton.
- 12 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- think that would be a good change. I concur
- 14 that we really appreciate having you and your
- office. But when we get the backup, when it
- 16 comes to contributions, and again, not even
- just pertaining to this but just in all of
- them, sometimes it doesn't mention the person
- 19 who contributed and the amount. I think that
- that should be something we should require as
- 21 well. It would just be easier for us to have
- 22 an idea. Obviously there's nothing wrong with
- 23 contributing. But if it seems to be an
- 24 excessive amount it makes it easier for us to
- 25 be aware of that. Do you think you would

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 consider changing that possibly policy with
- 3 the procurement forms, just requiring the
- 4 names and amounts?
- 5 MS. FRANZESE: I know for sure
- 6 the administration is looking at the forms to
- 7 see how they can improve the forms. Since you
- 8 said that, and I'm sure they're listening, I'm
- 9 sure they would note that as something that
- 10 should be taken into consideration. I think
- truly as you said, it's not even necessarily
- what's in the disclosure just the fact that
- people are disclosing. It's about
- 14 accountability. It's about transparency.
- 15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 16 Correct. There's nothing necessarily wrong
- just to know about it. There's been a couple
- of things we recommended. I don't know when
- they're going to be coming out with the new
- 20 forms but I think it would be helpful to show
- 21 them to all of us. I remember we wanted to
- 22 mention if there was a problem or if there was
- 23 a lawsuit with a municipality, things like
- that. So, I have a couple that aren't coming
- to me right now. Maybe we can go over that

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 before they're put in place.
- MS. FRANZESE: I think the more
- 4 input certainly the better. In our reports I
- 5 hope that everyone agrees we are trying to get
- 6 you as much as we can so that you can be as
- 7 informed as possible. Everything we know we
- 8 feel you should know so that you can decide.
- 9 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- 10 know the Minority Leader is asking the
- 11 questions but basically do you feel
- 12 comfortable with this contract?
- MS. FRANZESE: As far as the
- 14 vendor, I think that the fact that they
- 15 responded promptly and the fact that they
- 16 cooperated certainly is something that makes
- 17 you feel a little more confident in the
- 18 process. I was glad that the attorneys were
- 19 as forthcoming and that the vendors -- the
- officers were so forthcoming. I was glad they
- 21 responded. I was glad that they responded and
- 22 I'm glad that they actually clarified their
- response. The supplemental response even made
- us feel better. At this point we wanted to
- obviously tell you what we've learned and then

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 at this point you guys make the decision
- 3 because everybody voted for you and not for
- 4 me.
- 5 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 6 Speaking with my colleague to my left,
- 7 Legislator Siela Bynoe, again, not for
- 8 anything other than to clarify and make things
- 9 easier for us up here, maybe if you do such a
- 10 thorough review, which you did, maybe you
- 11 could just at the end summarize it with a
- 12 recommendation as to whether or not you feel
- comfortable or should it go for further
- 14 information.
- 15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator
- 16 Bynoe.
- 17 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So yes, a
- wonderful job. Just very thorough in your
- 19 communication to us. I appreciate it. Based
- on that, I was weighing my decision on it.
- 21 Then there was a response that came in from E
- 22 and A and then we didn't hear back from you.
- 23 My request is that when there is some level of
- a response provided to us if you could then
- weigh in and tell us whether you feel that

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 it's adequate so we don't have to drag you
- 3 back from One West. Today is great day. The
- 4 weather is great and you probably didn't mind
- 5 it much.
- 6 MS. FRANZESE: I don't get out
- 7 much.
- 8 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Just so we can
- 9 close the loop on these tissues it would be
- 10 helpful once you review whatever the response
- is in some way communicate with us.
- MS. FRANZESE: I'm happy to be as
- 13 responsive to the legislature as you need me
- 14 to be. But certainly I would have certainly
- 15 reached out. If somebody reached out I'm
- 16 happy to talk to you. We want to be as open
- with you as we are asking people to be with
- 18 us.
- 19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Again, thank
- you for a great job.
- MS. FRANZESE: We appreciate the
- 22 support from the legislature. It's been a
- 23 great year and a few months.
- 24 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: This
- vendor has a history of doing business with

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 the county, correct?
- MS. FRANZESE: This particular
- 4 vendor it's my understanding they do.
- 5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I think
- 6 you hit the nail on the head before when you
- 7 said the issue has to do with the use of the
- 8 term officer. Certainly in terms of
- 9 principals, in terms of officers of the
- 10 corporation they indicated that the mother I
- 11 guess is in fact the sole owner and president
- 12 and 100 percent shareholder of the
- 13 corporation. And if you look at it as a
- 14 corporate term there is only one officer. The
- others were throwing around that term. But in
- 16 terms of the corporate structure the only
- officer is the president. Whether they gave a
- different answer to the city for whatever
- 19 reason, I can see how they could define how
- they're answering this disclosure as who are
- 21 the officers, who is the principal. It is the
- 22 mother because she is the sole shareholder and
- 23 president.
- I think the county has to clarify
- 25 going forward what information we are actually

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 seeking. I agree with my colleagues that we
- 3 may need to update these disclosure forms to
- 4 make sure that our vendors are getting
- 5 specific directions on what information they
- 6 have to provide.
- 7 MS. FRANZESE: I think
- 8 improvements can be made as well.
- 9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Minority
- 10 Leader Abrahams.
- 11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Quick thing
- 12 Madam IG. As I'm reading through -- this is
- 13 from county 2019 procurement policy,
- 14 definition of officer says any individual who
- 15 serves as chief executive officer, chief
- operating officer of the contractor by
- 17 whatever title is known.
- 18 If Antonios indicated that he
- 19 identified himself to the New York City
- 20 Passport System as an officer it's pretty
- 21 clear. If he gave himself that title as an
- 22 officer in 2017 then it fits into what we have
- in 2019. I'm not too sure where the confusion
- 24 came but we should clarify our forms if we
- 25 feel --

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- MS. FRANZESE: I'm sorry Minority
- 3 Leader. I wanted to mention yes, it certainly
- 4 does in our procurement policy have that.
- 5 However, our forms don't reflect it, so I
- 6 don't know that the vendors are reading the
- 7 procurement policy very clearly.
- 8 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I do want
- 9 to ask you one final thing and then I want to
- 10 point something to Mr. Chiara. There is
- 11 \$150,000 provision in the contract that
- 12 requires monitoring. I'm not professing nor
- am I alleging anything in terms of any level
- 14 of deception by the vendor. However, some of
- 15 the concerns that are identified in your
- 16 report and obviously looking at the responses
- by the CEO, it looks like they tried to
- 18 address that. They submitted some of the
- 19 disclosures.
- But there is a \$150,000 provision
- in the contract that requires -- that could
- 22 impose monitoring. I believe that is
- 23 something in this case we would like to see
- 24 get done. This is a contract that's millions
- 25 and millions of dollars. I just wanted to get

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 your thoughts on that provision of the
- 3 contract as well and then I want to bring up
- 4 Mr. Chiara to talk about how will that be
- 5 imposed.
- 6 MS. FRANZESE: Thank you for that
- question. It's a large project. It's a lot
- 8 of our money that's going to be going to the
- 9 vendor. I may be biased but I'm very pro
- oversight when it comes to things like this.
- 11 In this circumstance, with the large amount of
- money that this contract is, that's in this
- 13 contract, I don't know that -- I can't see a
- 14 downside for an integrity monitor. But again,
- it would have to be somebody independent. It
- 16 would have to be somebody that the county
- 17 chooses instead of maybe the vendor. But, I
- 18 mean, integrity monitors are great. Oversight
- 19 is great. I'm very pro that. Maybe I'm
- 20 biased because of my job but I think it would
- 21 be something to consider.
- 22 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I think
- it's something that we need to consider on a
- 24 greater expansion of contracts. As the budget
- season begins to rile up, obviously it's

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 something that we would like to talk to your
- 3 office a little bit more. Potentially
- 4 empowering your office more. Because I know
- 5 obviously you cannot do the integrity
- 6 monitoring from your office and your staff
- 7 that you have now. But potentially looking to
- 8 expand your role to be able to do that as
- 9 well.
- 10 MS. FRANZESE: The large portion
- of my office is very familiar with integrity
- monitors and what they do and we are capable
- of that. I just want to say, it doesn't have
- 14 to happen for every contract. But the larger
- 15 contracts certainly should have some level of
- 16 scrutiny. At least from my opinion.
- 17 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS:
- 18 Mr. Chiara. Jodi hang around. We have a
- 19 follow-up as well.
- MR. CHIARA: Minority Leader, you
- 21 have a question?
- 22 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Yes. We
- were talking a little bit about the integrity
- 24 monitor. That provision being imposed in the
- 25 contract. I just have a quick question. In

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 my reading of the contract is that monitor
- 3 selected by your office or by the county or
- 4 selected by the vendor?
- 5 MR. CHIARA: It's an allowance if
- 6 it's needed. Under the allowance section it
- 7 would be selected by the vendor with the
- 8 county's approval.
- 9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: By the
- vendor with the county's approval.
- 11 MR. CHIARA: When I say the
- 12 county I also mean the inspector general's
- 13 approval as well.
- 14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I'm sorry
- to put you on the spot Madame IG. How do you
- 16 feel about the fact that the vendor's able to
- pick their own integrity monitor? It sounds
- 18 unusual but I'd rather defer to someone like
- 19 yourself.
- MS. FRANZESE: Again, I have a
- 21 little skin in the game. My thought is if our
- office is able to be a part of it we
- 23 certainly -- I would be more comfortable. I
- do think the county should have more of a say
- 25 than the vendor.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Say for
- 3 example, Mr. Chiara, the vendor comes up with
- 4 A, B, C. You say no way. Then what's the
- 5 recourse? Do they have to go find somebody
- 6 else? Does the work not start until they have
- 7 an integrity monitor in place? Like what
- 8 happens next?
- 9 MR. CHIARA: The allowance wasn't
- 10 written for the term of a contract. The
- 11 allowance was written if a specific instance
- 12 came up where it was necessary.
- 13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: So it's not
- 14 even required?
- MR. CHIARA: It's an allowance.
- 16 It's not required.
- 17 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I quess
- what I'm driving is, when I saw integrity
- monitor I'm thinking that this would start,
- 20 regardless of whether or not we thought it was
- required, that they're monitoring how the
- 22 contract is being executed and how the
- services to the county are being attributed.
- That's what I thought. That's not the case?
- MR. CHIARA: That's not how it

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 would be. It's an allowance. If it's needed
- 3 for some specific instance that came up during
- 4 the project the county could request that one
- 5 be put in place for a specific instance or
- 6 task. It's not for the contract.
- 7 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I can't
- 8 speak for the Majority but I will speak for
- 9 the Minority. It's needed. Let's just put it
- 10 that way. There's been some concerns that
- 11 have been identified by the inspector
- 12 general. I'm not saying there's anything here
- that anyone -- I'm not accusing anyone of any
- level of deception, but there are some things
- 15 that are questionable. And from that
- standpoint, I think it's needed. So explain
- to me the process to be able to impose an
- integrity monitor since we believe that it's
- 19 needed.
- MR. CHIARA: Just to sort of just
- 21 to talk, and not to put the inspector general
- on the spot, she's standing right next to me,
- walking away, is that the inspector general
- 24 did a review, acted in what a monitor would
- 25 do. They did an investigation. They did a

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 report. They turned up a report. On that
- 3 specific instance you can ask them their
- 4 opinion. But I think the issue was raised.
- 5 The vendor responded to the issue. I think
- from the county's point of view the vendor is
- 7 responsible and that, for me, that specific
- 8 instance has been closed. If something else
- 9 came up along the project -- and also we are,
- 10 the county is closely monitoring E and A
- 11 performance at the academy and they're doing a
- 12 great job.
- 13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: How would
- 14 you know if something else came up if you
- don't have somebody that's watching it? The
- inspector general doesn't have the resources
- to be on the job, to see the site, to report
- anything they may see there. Who's going to
- 19 be able to do the research to determine if
- 20 anything -- this kind of fell into her
- 21 domain. It's a contract that she's required
- 22 to review. But as this project expands over a
- period of time who is that person that's going
- to do that monitoring?
- MR. CHIARA: Just like every

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 major, every construction project, DPW
- 3 monitors their contracts with the assistance
- 4 of usually a construction monitor. That's the
- 5 sort of same formula that the county has
- 6 followed for many years. Currently E and A is
- 7 under construction for the police academy. We
- 8 get monthly reports from our monitor. I've
- 9 been reviewing the reports. I don't know if
- 10 the inspector general has them. I'm sure they
- 11 review some reports. The project is
- 12 monitored.
- 13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Who is
- 14 monitoring that contract? You said the police
- academy is being built. Who is monitoring?
- 16 You said there's a monitor for that one.
- MR. CHIARA: DPW monitoring, not
- 18 monitor. DPW is responsible for the project
- 19 and they also have several consultants that
- 20 also supervise the work.
- 21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: This is
- where we are, and I don't know if it's going
- to change anything. It's three o'clock now.
- 24 We have concerns based off of the IG's
- 25 report. If the administration cannot tell us

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 that there will be a monitor in place,
- 3 independent monitor that will be in place, we
- 4 have to express those concerns in a vote. I'm
- 5 trying to be as clear as I can. So, if you're
- 6 telling me today that there will not be an
- 7 independent monitor or it will be there based
- 8 off of there's a need then that's not good
- 9 enough.
- 10 MR. CHIARA: I can only tell you
- 11 what the terms of the contract that the county
- 12 agreed to which I relayed to your staff.
- 13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I
- 14 understand. We need more meat on the bone.
- 15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO:
- 16 Mr. Chiara, is there any sort of written
- quidelines that you have in terms of when an
- integrity monitor is appointed or not?
- MR. CHIARA: In the procurement
- 20 compliance policy there are general guidelines
- 21 regarding how a monitor can be awarded. In
- this specific instance, this isn't us, the
- 23 county, putting a monitor in place. It would
- just simply be an allowance Mr. Presiding
- 25 Officer.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The county
- 3 has put integrity monitors in place on other
- 4 contracts?
- 5 MR. CHIARA: Yes.
- 6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We want to
- 7 know what the guideline is. We want to know
- 8 what the standard is.
- 9 MR. CHIARA: If you go to the
- 10 procurement and compliance policy I believe
- it's in the appendix regarding, appendix E
- maybe, where the general guidelines on that
- 13 are.
- 14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: General
- 15 quidelines. That will tell me what the
- 16 standards are for when the county is going to
- decide when to apply an integrity monitor or
- 18 not if I look at what you are referring to?
- 19 It will tell me this is what the standard is
- 20 for when we are going to apply an integrity
- 21 monitor, correct?
- MR. CHIARA: Yes. It's the
- county's guidelines. It's based on the city's
- 24 quidelines.
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Just a

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 question for the Minority and then I want to
- 3 make another point. E and A Restorations is
- 4 doing the Nassau County Police Academy. Are
- 5 you proposing that there be an integrity
- 6 monitor for both?
- 7 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Honestly, I
- 8 don't know if it's the worst idea in the
- 9 world. I mean, many of these things were
- 10 uncovered by the IG in her February 7th report
- and we were not aware of some of these issues
- when the police academy was voted on. I don't
- think it's a bad idea to have that. I think
- some of these issues that are identified in
- this report are universal. They're not just
- 16 germane to this particular contract. They're
- all tied in to disclosures, which, I mean, the
- 18 very same issues that she identified in the
- 19 report that were there as well. I don't think
- that's a bad idea. But it doesn't sound like
- there's an identified need to do it. If
- that's the case, then it is what it is. We
- 23 think there is an identified need.
- 24 Again, I'm not going to say that
- 25 anything was done with any intent to deceive

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 the county. But there are some concerns here
- 3 that surfaced about this particular form not
- 4 being filled out. I'm glad to see that E and
- 5 A chose to fill this stuff out in -- since
- 6 that point decided to fill this stuff out. If
- 7 we didn't have the inspector general put
- 8 together their report which identified many
- 9 issues would they have even done that? It
- 10 seems like, unfortunately, this got past the
- 11 administration as well on two fronts.
- So again, I'm not saying anything
- was done with any particular intent. I'm glad
- 14 we have the inspector general that is able to
- uncover some of the things that occasionally
- do slip by. I would say it's prudent that we
- have an independent monitor that's there.
- 18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: But should
- 19 it be for both?
- 20 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Yes, to
- answer your question. I thought I answered it
- 22 when I said it wouldn't be the worst idea.
- 23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I quess
- that's prompted by their responses to the
- 25 disclosures. Over the course of this project

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- I think what we needed more was a construction
- 3 manager than an integrity monitor. So that's
- 4 prompted by the concerns with their
- 5 responses.
- 6 Mr. Arnold, if we choose to reject
- 7 the bid and the county has to rebid or go
- 8 through the process what's the time frame?
- 9 MR. ARNOLD: Reject the bid would
- 10 probably take us a month to recommend the
- second bidder if possible if he would hold his
- 12 bid. If not, to reprocure you're probably
- 13 talking we'll be back here in about six
- 14 months. Four to six months.
- 15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: That's the
- 16 issue that we're facing right now. We can
- vote this down. I mean, the crunch that we're
- under is this project has taken so long. So
- many years. It's not a large project. It's
- 20 not a particularly complex project and so much
- 21 rides upon it. As I said, the residents who
- 22 are dealing with the family court matters are
- very, very sensitive. Sometimes doing
- conferences in hallways. The judges have no
- space. It is a mess. To delay this further

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- is on the one hand is something we don't want
- 3 to impose on our residents. On the other
- 4 hand, we have these issues now with respect to
- 5 this particular contract.
- 6 MR. ARNOLD: This does not
- 7 preclude E and A from rebidding again. Again,
- 8 they would be able to bid on anything that we
- 9 would redo. And I believe they would probably
- take us to court if we reject the bid.
- 11 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator
- 12 Bynoe. Then Deputy Presiding Officer. Then
- 13 the Minority Leader.
- 14 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you
- 15 Presiding Officer. So, hi Mr. Arnold.
- 16 Commissioner Arnold. So my concern at this
- point regarding a monitor is that number one,
- 18 I think it should be independent from the
- 19 contractor having any opportunity to weigh in
- on who the monitor is. I think it's an
- 21 inherent conflict if we allow for the
- 22 contractor to decide who's going to monitor
- their activities. The objective is to make
- sure that they're in compliance with all of
- 25 the components or provisions within the

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 contract.
- I would argue that delaying that
- 4 and only then bringing them into play or
- 5 engaging them when there is a problem, when we
- 6 identify a problem, actually reduces the real
- 7 benefit. I think that if they're there at the
- 8 very start and able to monitor the activities
- 9 from the very start we minimize any
- opportunity for them to not be in compliance.
- 11 I think what keeps people in compliance,
- 12 right? The idea of somebody being a watchdog.
- MR. ARNOLD: We have our
- 14 construction management team and our county
- people on the project.
- 16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I understand
- that. I have long been, and no disrespect to
- 18 your county folks, I have long been a
- 19 proponent for this type of oversight for
- 20 county contracts. Whether it be a DPW
- 21 contract or whether we are providing health
- 22 care services at the jail. I just think that
- far too many times we sign these contracts,
- 24 and no disrespect to our departments, but then
- we rely on the folks within the department to

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 be the watchdog over those contracts. And in
- 3 many cases there are other charges that they
- 4 have. There are other responsibilities that
- 5 they have that does not allow them to give it
- 6 the level of scrutiny that it requires.
- 7 Someone who would be tasked with
- 9 just looking at that job day and in day out,
- 9 doing the polling on intervals, going in and
- 10 looking at this job on a regular basis I think
- is a lot different than having someone from
- 12 within the DPW framework.
- MR. ARNOLD: All county contracts
- 14 have a construction manager that's on the
- 15 project day to day. Overseen by a county
- 16 employee. And remember also, the county
- 17 comptroller reviews all the claims.
- 18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: From what I
- understanding, this integrity monitor would
- 20 also look at MWBE activities, it would look at
- 21 a host of different activities which relates
- 22 to contract.
- MR. ARNOLD: Which is done by the
- 24 county construction manager.
- 25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So then why

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- wasn't earlier on that an integrity monitor
- 3 contract was brought to this body. Why was it
- 4 earlier on last year that we had an integrity
- 5 monitor?
- 6 MR. ARNOLD: That was the police
- 7 academy.
- 8 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: It doesn't
- 9 matter. We just said we think it's important
- 10 for both contracts. So why last year we
- 11 needed an integrity monitor and now --
- MR. ARNOLD: We brought it on for
- the police academy because we thought an extra
- level would be good because we didn't have a
- 15 project program manager. The family court, in
- addition to county, it has a construction
- manager and also a program manager. We have
- 18 three levels of people watching that job. The
- 19 academy was only going to have county
- 20 construction manager on it. We thought that
- 21 size job another level would not hurt on that
- 22 oversight.
- 23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Even if I was
- to acquiesce and say listen, I hear you, I
- agree with you, we have people on the job

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 site, the contract then says that if in fact
- 3 we believe we need one that we are going to in
- 4 some way confer with them to determine who
- 5 they're going -- and we will then weigh in as
- 6 to who we think is best. I think that there's
- 7 some level of -- there would be an inherent
- 8 conflict and they would be beholding to
- 9 potentially the contractor more so than the
- 10 county.
- MR. ARNOLD: Just remember the
- 12 allowance item it was a lump sum. Once it was
- expended there would be no more money in the
- 14 contract. So it would be for a task to expend
- on a lump sum on the allowance.
- 16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: To be paid by
- 17 change order?
- 18 MR. ARNOLD: No. It's an
- 19 allowance within the contract. If it was
- 20 exhausted, then the decision would have to be
- 21 made whether you have to do a change order to
- the project or not to make the allowance
- 23 larger. It was only to deal with specific
- issues in this case if something came up.
- 25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: But there's

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 been discussion up here that we believe that
- 3 it should be on all of these very large scale
- 4 construction items and you're saying that we
- 5 don't need them, your staff can handle it.
- 6 That's great. But the contract does say --
- 7 for some reason it was built in there.
- MR. ARNOLD: We ran across an
- 9 issue that we needed a monitor to look at. We
- 10 had the ability to do it.
- 11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So the county
- 12 should procure somebody so that person is
- 13 strictly beholding to the county. That's
- 14 there's no confusion. There's no inherent
- 15 conflict as to who that person is beholding
- 16 to.
- 17 MR. ARNOLD: We did that --
- 18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I mean, come
- on. I think common sense has to prevail here
- today that that just doesn't make any sense.
- 21 That we would be engaged in getting a monitor
- that the contractor has to be a part of the
- decision making as to who it is. Let the
- 24 county procure for its own integrity monitor
- as they were doing before and let them have

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 some oversight over both of these contracts.
- 3 Let it be an on-call. It doesn't have to be
- 4 that -- let it be on-call. As you state, your
- 5 folks can do the job. Then let it be
- 6 on-call. But I just think we should have a
- 7 separate procurement process. It defies logic
- 8 to me that we're even having this conversation
- 9 that it should be grouped together like this.
- 10 It just does. Sorry.
- 11 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Mr. Arnold, if
- this contract were to be rebid or anything
- 13 like that what would be the effect on the
- 14 entire project?
- MR. ARNOLD: We would have a gap
- 16 between phase one and phase two where the
- 17 county would have to expend funding to protect
- the building during the period of no work. I
- would assume that E and A would probably
- 20 challenge in nonresponsibility determination
- 21 that would have to be required to have
- 22 happened for them not to have received the bid
- and we would end up in the court to resolve it
- in that case. And we would have a delay
- during the rebid if that's where we went and

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 they didn't challenge.
- 3 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So you're
- 4 talking potentially of a very extensive delay
- on the entire project and a very considerable
- 6 amount of money in expense as a best
- 7 scenario?
- 8 MR. ARNOLD: Yes.
- 9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: At this point
- 10 you feel like we've got this thing under
- 11 control in terms of the issues of this
- 12 specific contract?
- MR. ARNOLD: It's my opinion if
- 14 the IG would have called my compliance person
- and we had a discussion we probably could have
- 16 resolved this without finding it in a report
- that led to this discussion today.
- 18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Okay. I think
- 19 that kind of tells the story for me. Thank
- 20 you.
- 21 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The
- 22 Minority Leader and myself and a bunch of us
- 23 up here have discussed this and based on the
- testimony and the discussion we've had with
- 25 the administration, with the IG, we believe

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 that we would like to table this. We are
- 3 going to table this. And that over the next
- 4 two weeks we will have to continue those
- 5 discussions specifically with respect to the
- 6 need for an integrity monitor for this
- 7 contract.
- 8 So, I will entertain a motion to
- 9 table. Moved by the Minority Leader.
- 10 Seconded by Legislator Rhoads. All in favor
- of tabling signify by saying aye. Those
- opposed? Carries unanimously. That item is
- 13 tabled.
- 14 All the rest of the contracts are
- 15 before us. Is there any public comment on the
- 16 contracts? Mr. Budnick.
- 17 MR. BUDNICK: Mr. Chairman
- 18 Nicolello, honorable members of the
- 19 legislature, John J. Budnick 122 Von Huenfeld
- 20 Street.
- Number one, I want to commend you
- for holding this past immediate item for as
- 23 short a period as possible. I worry every day
- about the physical situation that our current
- family court in Westbury, which I consider to

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 be a tragedy about to happen.
- 3 Speaking about tragedies, the
- 4 comment I wanted to make about the district
- 5 attorney's office, the funding for the crime
- 6 victims, I am very seriously concerned we're
- 7 having witnesses murdered because their
- 8 existence and their identities and the places
- 9 they reside are being necessarily disclosed by
- 10 the district attorney's office. There are
- some argument as to whether it was necessary
- or whatever. But I believe that the district
- attorney's office in conjunction with the
- 14 other agencies of the county have to in this
- 15 disgusting situation that the current
- 16 leadership of our New York State Assembly,
- 17 leadership of our state senate, our governor
- have given us with regard to disclosure of
- 19 witnesses provide protections now. Provide
- 20 numbers that witnesses and victims, informants
- 21 and complainants in criminal cases can contact
- 22 24-7 for aid to them if they are being
- threatened or coerced or are having violence
- 24 perpetrated against them.
- 25 I just ask that the district

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 attorney's office and the other agencies of
- 3 the county be alerted to this problem and
- 4 start to try and respond to it. Thank you
- 5 very much. God bless you one and all. Thanks
- 6 for putting up with me.
- 7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you
- 8 Mr. Budnick. Now for the vote on the
- 9 contracts that were not tabled but were
- 10 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.
- 11 Those opposed? They carry unanimously.
- 12 I'm going to put the Rules
- 13 Committee in recess. The Public Safety
- 14 Committee will go next.
- 15 (Committee was recessed at 3:13
- 16 p.m.)
- 17 (Committee reconvened at 4:22 p.m.)
- 18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Call Rules
- 19 Committee back into session. Almost all of
- our items went through earlier committees and
- it's been agreed by the Majority and Minority
- that there is no further debate or discussion
- 23 necessary on these consent items at this
- 24 point. They will all be heard in the full
- legislature in two weeks.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- I'm just going to call the clerk
- 3 item numbers. Item 40, 41, 55, 56, 58, 59,
- 4 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 68, 70, 71, 2020. The
- 5 items on the addendum. 72, 73, 74, 75.
- 6 That's it.
- 7 Motion by Legislator Bynoe.
- 8 Seconded by Legislator Schaefer. Any debate
- 9 or discussion? Hearing none, Mr. Budnick has
- 10 a comment.
- MR. BUDNICK: Mr. Chairman,
- 12 Mr. Nicolello, I am curious as to whether this
- motion includes number 66-20, the alienation
- 14 by the county of some property in Woodbury.
- 15 And there's another alienation of county
- 16 property which is an add-on. I don't have the
- 17 number available to me. Are those going to be
- 18 called or are those included in the motion to
- 19 approve?
- 20 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Item 66,
- the property Woodbury, is not being called.
- 22 And I don't have any other item that is added
- 23 on.
- MR. BUDNICK: There is supposedly
- 25 an add-on item that I received about

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 alienation of some property in Island Park
- 3 that was listed as an add-on.
- 4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: It's not
- 5 before us.
- 6 MR. BUDNICK: Then you have
- 7 answered my question and I thank you very
- 8 much. My compliments as always.
- 9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank
- 10 you. Any debate or discussion? All in favor
- 11 signify by saying aye. Those opposed?
- 12 Carries unanimously.
- Last item is 21 of 2020. A local
- 14 law to amend Title A of Chapter 6 of the
- 15 Nassau County Administrative Code in relation
- 16 to the New York State Real Property Tax Law.
- Moved by Legislator
- 18 DeRiggi-Whitton. Seconded by Legislator
- 19 Rhoads. That is before us. There is an
- amendment in the nature of a substitution that
- 21 replaces the title Taxpayer Protection Act
- 22 with a title which is more accurate as to what
- it is, The Reassessment Phase-In Act of 2020.
- I will make a motion to make the
- amendment. Seconded by Legislator Rhoads.

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 Any debate or discussion on the amendment?
- 3 Hearing none, all in favor of the amendment
- 4 signify by saying aye. Those opposed? Any
- 5 abstentions? All in favor. Passes seven to
- 6 zero. So, now it's an amended item so we are
- 7 going to call the amended item.
- 8 It is the intention of all of us
- 9 not to have the full debate and discussion on
- 10 this item. It will be before the full
- 11 legislature on the 23rd. We are teeing it up
- so to speak so that we can consider this on
- the 23rd before the full legislature.
- 14 Anyone have any discussion on
- 15 this? Hearing none, all in favor signify by
- 16 saying aye. Those opposed? Carries
- 17 unanimously.
- One last item of business. Deputy
- 19 Inspector Stephanoff would like to
- introduce -- actually he's not going to be
- 21 presenting to us anymore unfortunately for
- us. He would like to introduce a person who
- will be.
- MR. STEPHANOFF: Good afternoon.
- 25 I'm going from headquarters to the Eighth

- 1 Rules 3-9-20
- 2 Precinct to be the deputy CO there. Deputy
- 3 Inspector William Field is coming. He ran our
- 4 Applicant Investigation Unit and he is highly
- 5 qualified. He's going to come over and take
- 6 my place. And I believe he is also going to
- 7 do the leg as well. So he will be presenting
- 8 from this point forward.
- 9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: You've
- warned him and told him what to expect?
- MR. FIELD: Thank you very much
- 12 Greg, and I look forward to our meetings in
- 13 the future.
- 14 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: You look
- very young now but that's going to change.
- MR. STEPHANOFF: He's very
- qualified and he'll do a great job here.
- 18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Best of
- 19 luck to you and I'm sure you will do extremely
- well in your new position in the leadership in
- 21 the Eighth.
- MR. STEPHANOFF: Thank you. It's
- been great working with everybody.
- 24 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: It's been
- 25 great to have you here and we really

| Τ | Rules - 3-9-20 |
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| 2 | appreciate all the presentations over the |
| 3 | years. All the information. |
| 4 | LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I just want |
| 5 | to concur with the presiding officer. I was |
| 6 | saying to myself I don't know how much time |
| 7 | you've been presenting to the legislature but |
| 8 | it's been a while. I can tell you many have |
| 9 | come before us and there are very few that 100 |
| 10 | percent of the time we feel confident in their |
| 11 | responses and your responses have always |
| 12 | exuded confidence and trustworthy and that's |
| 13 | all we can ask. I wish you the best in the |
| 14 | Eighth Precinct as well. Thank you. |
| 15 | LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thanks |
| 16 | again. So now we will take a motion to |
| 17 | adjourn. Moved by Legislator Rhoads. |
| 18 | Seconded by Legislator Bynoe. All in favor of |
| 19 | adjourning signify by saying aye. Those |
| 20 | opposed? We are adjourned. |
| 21 | (Committee adjourned at 4:30 p.m.) |
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| 3 | CERTIFICATION |
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| 6 | I, FRANK GRAY, a Notary |
| 7 | Public in and for the State of New |
| 8 | York, do hereby certify: |
| 9 | THAT the foregoing is a true and |
| 10 | accurate transcript of my stenographic |
| 11 | notes. |
| 12 | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have |
| 13 | hereunto set my hand this 18th day of |
| 14 | March 2020 |
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| 18 | FRANK GRAY |
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