

TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 16, 2018  
10:15 P.M.

**HEARING - BUDGET**

To consider the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Oyster Bay for the Year 2019. (M.D. 9/18/17 #24).

**JOSEPH SALADINO**  
SUPERVISOR

**JAMES ALTADONNA JR.**  
TOWN CLERK

P R E S E N T:

SUPERVISOR JOSEPH S. SALADINO  
COUNCILMAN JOSEPH D. MUSCARELLA  
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY D. MACAGNONE  
COUNCILWOMAN REBECCA M. ALESIA  
COUNCILWOMAN MICHELE M. JOHNSON  
COUNCILMAN LOUIS B. IMBROTO  
COUNCILMAN THOMAS HAND

A L S O P R E S E N T:

JAMES ALTADONNA JR., TOWN CLERK  
JAMES STEFANICH, RECEIVER OF TAXES

Minutes of the meeting  
taken by:

KRISTINA TRNKA  
Reporter/Notary Public

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good morning,  
2 everyone, and welcome to the Oyster Bay Town Board  
3 meeting of Tuesday, October 16, 2018.

4 We have a special member of our Town  
5 family who will lead us in prayer this morning, and  
6 I am very pleased and privileged to call on a dear  
7 friend, a great leader and all around just a  
8 fabulous human being, our Receiver of Taxes, Jim  
9 Stefanich.

10 Jim, would you lead us in prayer this  
11 morning, please? All rise.

12 (Whereupon, a prayer was recited by Jim  
13 Stefanich.)

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very  
15 much.

16 Now, while we are all still standing,  
17 please join us in welcoming some Vietnam veterans  
18 who are heroes, who are incredible residents, but  
19 very special to the United States of America.

20 People have given selflessly to make a  
21 difference to keep America free and proud and a  
22 very special place to raise our families, to work  
23 and to live.

24 With us this morning are United States  
25 Marine Corps Sergeant Joseph DeLorenzo and United

1 States Marine Corps Corporal E4 Joseph Hilly.

2 Gentleman, the podium is yours.

3 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance  
4 was recited by Joseph DeLorenzo and Joseph Hilly.)

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,  
6 gentleman.

7 I greatly appreciate your service to  
8 this nation.

9 Is there anything you'd like to say at  
10 this time?

11 MR. DeLORENZO: We're just grateful  
12 that we're here and glad to be a part of the  
13 assembly.

14 MR. HILLY: Thank you.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We're very  
16 grateful for you. Let's give them a big hand.

17 (Applause.)

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And while we are  
19 still standing, please join the Board for a moment  
20 of silence for our men and woman in the United  
21 States Armed Forces here in the homeland and  
22 abroad, and in recognition and thanks for all of  
23 the woman and the men in law enforcement and all of  
24 our first responders.

25 (Whereupon, a moment of silence was

1 observed.)

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

3 Ladies and gentlemen, today is a very  
4 special day in the Town of Oyster Bay. We welcome  
5 residents in both a daytime and evening Town Board  
6 meeting, two of the them that we host today on the  
7 same day to discuss and make public, the 2019  
8 Proposed Town Budget, which I recently submitted to  
9 the Town Board at our last meeting and they voted  
10 to accept it for consideration.

11 So the next step is to present it to  
12 you, the public, at this hearing so that everyone  
13 will see what our plan is, so questions may be  
14 asked so that we may be fully transparent on this  
15 budget. This budget reflects the success that we  
16 have achieved over the last twenty months.

17 We're proud of the milestones of this  
18 administration and our Town Board members who are  
19 very talented, involved, and someone I appreciate  
20 the opportunity to work with. I'm very lucky to  
21 work with each and every one of you.

22 We are working hard to return fiscal  
23 stability to the Town of Oyster Bay. Together, we  
24 have torn apart the old process by which the Town  
25 spent money and by which the Town budgeted, and we

1 have rebuilt a new process in this Town. We  
2 replaced that process, instilling fiscal discipline  
3 that has led to responsible budgeting practices for  
4 our future, for our financial stability and for the  
5 good of all of our residents and our taxpayers.

6 We are very proud of the fact that we  
7 have reduced the Town debt by a record, so far at  
8 this point, we've reduced it by a net of \$135  
9 million of reduced paid off capital debt while  
10 cutting property taxed \$1.3 million in the year  
11 2018.

12 This is the first Town property tax  
13 reduction in more than two decades. Our overall  
14 success was recognized by the Wall Street firm  
15 Standard and Poor's global ratings earlier this  
16 year when the Town received an upgrade in its bond  
17 rating to investment grade.

18 This proposed budget reflects our  
19 success and utilizes fiscally conservative  
20 budgeting practices, ones that are accepted across  
21 the financial industry and in essence, we are  
22 running the Town like a successful business while  
23 keeping in mind our commitment to our taxpayers and  
24 to the residents who enjoy our services.

25 In fact, I directed our Budget team to

1 draft a proposal that accomplished four major  
2 objectives.

3 One, to hold the line on property  
4 taxes. This proposed Budget has a -- so much  
5 stability and it does not raise property taxes. In  
6 2018, we cut property taxes by \$1.3 million and we  
7 continue on these successes.

8 Number two, we have greatly reduced  
9 savings and we'll hear more about how we have cut  
10 spending. This Budget cuts spending in the Town of  
11 Oyster Bay.

12 Number three, we continue the  
13 substantial debt reduction, and, again, this debt  
14 reduction through our administration and with the  
15 help of all of our Town Board members is the  
16 greatest debt reduction in the 365-year history of  
17 the Town of Oyster Bay.

18 And four, equally important, improving  
19 our services, utilizing capital to get our streets  
20 repaved, to rebuild the bathrooms and the other  
21 facilities in our parks, our beaches, and  
22 throughout the Town. We recognize what the public  
23 has asked of us and we have responded to the needs  
24 of our communities and our residents.

25 This proposed Budget spends less in

1 2019 than the Town of Oyster Bay anticipates  
2 spending this year in 2018. While other  
3 municipalities are planning to raise property  
4 taxes, this Budget for 2019 freezes property taxes.  
5 Tax relief for homeowners builds as we cut property  
6 taxes by \$1.3 million for 2018.

7 The proposed Budget saves millions in  
8 salary expenses while delivering an even greater  
9 level of services to our residents. Unfortunately,  
10 some Town operating costs continue to rise due to  
11 State-mandated expenses related to employee health  
12 care costs, pension contributions, the MTA payroll  
13 tax, which is so unfair to our Town and to our  
14 taxpayers, as well as other unfair funded mandates.

15 In short, the State deems it necessary  
16 to foist unfunded mandates on the Town, which we  
17 have no control over and we must pay, and those  
18 costs continue to rise year after year.

19 With that said, this Town Board will  
20 continue to constrain government spending that is  
21 under our control while delivering the important  
22 services to our residents that everyone has come to  
23 expect, and quite frankly, deserve.

24 While challenges always remain, we can  
25 and will continue to provide affordable government

1 for our taxpayers while working tirelessly to make  
2 the Town of Oyster Bay an even better place to  
3 live, to work, to have a business, to raise a  
4 family.

5 You can count on the Town of Oyster  
6 Bay, and this Budget, once again, proves that, and  
7 we are very much looking forward to this Budget  
8 hearing. We are looking forward to your questions  
9 and we're looking forward to transparency, so  
10 people will understand what the financial plan is  
11 and how we're sticking to our goals of reducing  
12 taxes, reducing spending and providing the most  
13 stellar services that you'll find in any  
14 municipality on Long Island.

15 With that said, will our Town Clerk  
16 please poll the Board?

17 MR. ALTADONNA: Yes.

18 Supervisor Saladino?

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Present.

20 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Muscarella?

21 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Here.

22 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Macagnone?

23 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Here, Clerk.

24 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilwoman Alesia?

25 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Here.



1 Good morning, Jim.

2 MR. ALTADONNA: Good morning.

3 Councilwoman Johnson?

4 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Here.

5 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Imbroto?

6 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Present.

7 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Hand?

8 COUNCILMAN HAND: Here.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All right.

10 At this time, let's call first hearing.

11 MR. ALTADONNA: Yes.

12 To consider the preliminary Budget for  
13 the Town of Oyster Bay for the year of 2019.

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And to present  
15 this Budget for our office is our Director of  
16 Finance, Rob Darienzo, but I'll ask you to present  
17 your presence.

18 MR. DARIENZO: Good morning, Supervisor  
19 and Town Board.

20 Rob Darienzo, Director of Finance.

21 You basically stole all of my thunder  
22 and mentioned all of the key points, but it should  
23 be important that I reiterate that, you know, you  
24 and I met in your office for several hours where  
25 you laid out your blueprint of what you wanted to

1 see happen, both last year and for this coming  
2 year.

3 You asked us to prepare a Budget that  
4 had no tax increase. Done. You asked us for a  
5 Budget that reduced expenses. Done. You asked us  
6 to continue to reduce debt in a responsible manner.  
7 Done.

8 What's happened here has been, you  
9 know, truly remarkable. We've made great strides in  
10 reducing our cumulative deficit. We've made  
11 historic strides in reducing our overall debt. You  
12 know, I'm proud to be part of the team that is  
13 putting together the budgets that are responsible  
14 in every way, conservative estimates for revenues,  
15 conservative estimates for expenses. It's a --  
16 it's a pleasure, and for me, it's -- for me, you  
17 know, I hate to say this, it's relatively easy for  
18 me to put together a Budget like this.

19 In the past, I needed to, you know,  
20 worry about being overoptimistic on certain  
21 revenues and undercut certain expenses.

22 Now, we can meet with all the  
23 departments, listen to their needs, give them the  
24 funds they need to do their jobs properly, while  
25 still having a, you know, more than a structurally

1 balanced Budget.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Well, thank you,  
3 and you're very gracious, but a lot of credit has  
4 to go to this administration.

5 We met with all the department heads to  
6 go over, with a fine tooth comb, each and every one  
7 of their expenditures, talking about how we can  
8 reduce costs, department after department, what our  
9 capital plan will be, how we can reduce costs  
10 there.

11 And I also want to thank the Town  
12 Board. Their input is a constant assistance, they  
13 are very intuitive, they're consummate  
14 professionals, and we couldn't be running this Town  
15 as well as we are without their cooperation,  
16 without their input and without their support.

17 MR. DARIENZO: One other thing I wanted  
18 to say was the only reason that we do not need to  
19 raise taxes as part of the 2019 Budget is because  
20 of this Board's decision not to issue any new debt  
21 for capital purposes in 2017. That reduction of  
22 \$85 million in debt, by paying off 85 and issuing  
23 none, is now bearing fruit in the 2019 Budget.

24 Our overall debt service payments due  
25 in 2019 are down over \$10 million. So because that

1 was down over \$10 million, we were able to fund a  
2 12 percent health insurance increase of \$4 million.  
3 We were able to fund an increase of \$1.1 million in  
4 health insurance -- in Workers' Compensation.

5 And as you mentioned, these mandates,  
6 these are things that we need to do and they -- and  
7 the price of an -- almost nothing goes down ever,  
8 but we were able to fit that all in a responsible  
9 Budget because we lowered our debt so much.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So the  
11 84-point-something, \$85 million debt reduction in  
12 2017 has netted us a \$10 million reduction in our  
13 payments on the capital?

14 MR. DARIENZO: For 2019, that's  
15 correct.

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's a big, big  
17 help.

18 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Well, let's turn  
20 the floor over to the Board for their questions and  
21 for introspection on this Budget.

22 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Rob, you  
23 mentioned Supervisor, in his opening comments  
24 mentioned running like a business. You mentioned  
25 that we met with all the department heads and

1 everything else. Businesses in America today are  
2 merging departments, combining duties.

3 I know Parks has their maintenance  
4 crew, DPW has theirs, General Service has theirs.

5 Have we thought about merging all of  
6 them together and working on it, maybe DPW, this  
7 way we don't have duplication of services,  
8 everything is going from one spot.

9 You know, have we looked at maybe -- I  
10 bring it up every year, the idea of having somebody  
11 professional that does it all time run the golf  
12 course and then we just take the profit off the  
13 top?

14 You know, other municipalities, Suffolk  
15 County, for instance, I know they have somebody  
16 that runs the golf courses, and they just get the  
17 profit. They don't take the losses.

18 I understand our rounds of golf have  
19 been down considerably the last five years, and if  
20 somebody came in, professional, that could maybe  
21 work it a little bit better, it might be better for  
22 us. We would have less exposure and just take more  
23 profit out of the deal.

24 Have we looked at all that stuff?

25 MR. DARIENZO: I'll take those one at a

1 time.

2 With regards to the consolidation of  
3 departments, it's been a goal of this  
4 administration to try to consolidate where  
5 possible. The idea of combining Parks, General  
6 Services under DPW, I can honestly say that's  
7 not -- that has not been contemplated.

8 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: No, no. Just  
9 the maintenance people, not the entire departments.  
10 I got other ideas of what we can do with General  
11 Services, how we can move them -- all the pieces  
12 around, but just -- we'll say just the maintenance  
13 people.

14 MR. DARIENZO: I can personally say I  
15 have never heard of the idea of combining the  
16 maintenance people, but we're happy to listen to  
17 any input you might have and try to do the best we  
18 can.

19 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I do know we've  
20 seen it all -- even in my business, we're seeing  
21 mergers come and get rid of duplication of  
22 services. Not getting rid of people, moving the  
23 people around to fill gaps.

24 I must commend the Supervisor and  
25 Commissioner Lenz here, the work they did on the

1 roads, taking the smaller projects and doing it  
2 inhouse. We've bought the equipment needed and the  
3 guys are doing a wonderful job.

4 Stuff like that, maybe we could free up  
5 some more people to do that.

6 MR. DARIENZO: While we have not  
7 contemplated the idea of permanently moving and  
8 merging maintenance people, I can tell you that all  
9 the departments speak on a weekly basis, and if  
10 there is a department in need for a heavy season,  
11 be it at Receiver of Taxes, collecting the taxes,  
12 departments pitch in temporarily with employees.

13 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: That's  
14 excellent. It's a really great idea.

15 MR. FREIER: The idea of cross training  
16 employees and have them be able to serve multiple  
17 purposes as needed has helped us to reduce our head  
18 count from a high of 1250 in 2012 or 1150 as  
19 recently as 2016 down to just under 1000 right now.

20 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: That's good news  
21 because if we don't start reducing our costs and  
22 reducing the way we do stuff and stopping  
23 duplication and having people, you know, forget  
24 which department you work for, you work for the  
25 Town, you work for our residents.

1 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

2 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Because in the  
3 long run, eventually the rainy day fund in these  
4 buildings is going to dry up and we're going to be  
5 back to where we were a few years ago where we have  
6 to have a big hit. So I'd rather see no tax  
7 increases and reduce the costs big time by being  
8 more like a business, as the Supervisor said.

9 MR. DARIENZO: And that's exactly  
10 what's happening. We were able to lower taxes by  
11 \$1.3 million this year and hold the line on them,  
12 and that's only because of the actions of this  
13 Board, mostly in the regards of reducing debt, but  
14 by being more efficient throughout our operation.

15 Again, we can't -- we can't account for  
16 our medical going up \$3 million one year, \$4  
17 million the next.

18 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: But every  
19 business is dealing with that.

20 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

21 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I know I sit on  
22 the health funds, and that's gone up 11 percent,  
23 and that's just the cost. Every business is seeing  
24 that and every business is adjusting and they are  
25 making the cuts they have to make from stopping,



1 you know --

2 MR. DARIENZO: We are, too.

3 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Excellent. I  
4 like to hear that.

5 MR. DARIENZO: What was your second  
6 question?

7 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: About the golf  
8 course. I know we do it at the skate rink. We  
9 don't run the skate rink, we have an outside vendor  
10 that runs the skate rink.

11 MR. DARIENZO: I can't speak with  
12 certainty as to whether or not that's likely to  
13 happen, but I know, again, we contemplate the idea  
14 of -- this idea has been contemplated.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We can bring  
16 Commissioner Pinto up when you're done to elaborate  
17 on this.

18 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Even with a  
19 pristine course like Bethpage, the rounds of golf  
20 are down tremendously, so I'm sure ours, which is  
21 not as pristine, is feeling the same effect.

22 MR. DARIENZO: It's my understanding  
23 that -- and I get an e-mail from Parks every month  
24 -- it's my understanding that in 2018, revenues  
25 and -- I don't know rounds specifically, but

1 revenues are up, basically across the board in all  
2 Parks activities, including golf.

3 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Okay.  
4 Excellent.

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We'll bring the  
6 Commissioner up for that.

7 This is a great opportunity to speak  
8 about the philosophy that Councilman Macagnone is  
9 eluding to, and we thank you, Councilman, for all  
10 of your input. It's very, very important. We're  
11 working together to make this the best Budget the  
12 Town has seen. These two years, very, very  
13 important.

14 One of the first things we did when we  
15 came in, and I thank you all again for the  
16 confidence you've had in me to put me in this  
17 position, thank you very, very much. One of the  
18 first things we did were major consolidations  
19 because we're in 100 percent agreement with you.

20 In DPW, for instance, we made DPW,  
21 Highway, Sanitation, Sort, Engineering and Central  
22 Vehicle Maintenance all one department with one  
23 commissioner, Commissioner Lenz. He's doing a  
24 fabulous job in running that, and we're going to  
25 continue to support that.

1           In terms of maintenance, one of the  
2 things you'll see in the capital side, some of our  
3 vehicles have to be replaced and now we're bringing  
4 you uniformity because of the cost. They're very,  
5 very expensive. It's also very expensive to stock  
6 the parts and the specialization. Central Vehicle  
7 Maintenance does a fabulous job with that.

8           So in an effort to reduce our costs,  
9 which as it turns out, I found out it's millions of  
10 dollars in parts that we have to stock, and you  
11 can't wait -- in the middle of a snowstorm, you  
12 can't wait two weeks to get a part sent in from  
13 Oklahoma or out West somewhere, so by bringing  
14 about a uniformity, more of the same type of  
15 vehicle, the same -- in this case, a lot of  
16 International vehicles, between our packers, our  
17 snowplow trucks, a uniformity greatly reduces the  
18 number of parts and the different brands, whether  
19 they're diagnostic tools or the different computer  
20 chips and the different pieces that you need, by  
21 having this uniformity, we are continuing to save  
22 money.

23           I do like Councilman Macagnone's idea  
24 about looking for ways to do more with less on  
25 terms of maintenance. I know Parks is doing that,

1 whether it's tree removal, and we'll have the  
2 Commissioner come up.

3 Would you like to do that now?

4 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: One second.

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes, of course.

6 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: You mentioned  
7 the vehicles.

8 Since we've eliminated having our  
9 employees take their vehicles home, have we saved  
10 tremendous fuel costs?

11 MR. DARIENZO: I did receive a memo a  
12 minute before I came down here.

13 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Okay. We'll get  
14 to it tonight.

15 MR. DARIENZO: I looked at it already,  
16 though.

17 In 2016, our total fuel costs were  
18 roughly a million dollars. In 2017, it was roughly  
19 \$1.1 million. And we're trending in 2018 to spend  
20 just over \$1.3 million.

21 So I would put that down to the gas  
22 prices going up, not the fact that a tremendous  
23 amount of vehicles were taken away.

24 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: All right.

25 Thank you.

1 MR. DARIENZO: No problem.

2 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Mr. Darienzo --  
3 oh, are you guys finished?

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I just wanted to  
5 add to that, that we now have a new policy because  
6 some of our employees have to respond to repairs  
7 and electrical repair, fixing a burst pipe,  
8 sometimes in the middle night, they're allowed to  
9 take their vehicles home, but we now charge  
10 employees who take their vehicles home a mileage  
11 fee. So there is an income from them. They get a  
12 benefit.

13 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: That's good. I  
14 understand they have to take it home, that it's  
15 necessary, but I think it's right that's they  
16 get -- that's what's done in outside businesses, so  
17 that's excellent.

18 Thank you.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,  
20 Councilman.

21 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I appreciate  
22 that.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Do you have any  
24 other questions or should we bring the Commissioner  
25 up?

1 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Not at this  
2 current time.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay. Let's  
4 bring Commissioner Pinto up to talk about --

5 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I like your tie,  
6 by the way.

7 MR. DARIENZO: Ditto.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Could you state  
9 your presence, Commissioner?

10 COMMISSIONER PINTO: Joe Pinto,  
11 Commissioner of Parks.

12 I'm very happy to address the Board.  
13 Many of you, I served with and still consider dear  
14 friends.

15 As for our Parks revenue, just to let  
16 you know, this year, the first seven months of  
17 2018, we are -- we've increased our revenue from  
18 2016, at the same time, by \$439,000. Last year at  
19 this time, we've increased it by \$219,000. So  
20 we're doing well with looking at the whole Parks  
21 Department in general.

22 With regards to the rink, we do have an  
23 organization that runs mostly the daytime hours of  
24 the rink. We still run the operations of the rink,  
25 most of the operation with the rink rentals to

1 outside groups and organizations, and we expect an  
2 increase in revenue this year because we've  
3 tightened that up somewhat. So I think next year,  
4 you'll see a major increase in rink rentals from in  
5 the past.

6 With regards to the golf course, you  
7 know, we've been looking at everything since March  
8 of '17 when I got there. We looked at every area  
9 of the Parks Department, and the golf course had  
10 been down on rounds, but this year, I'm proud to  
11 report that we're up in rounds and we've been  
12 making some strides with that.

13 We've been looking at and focusing on  
14 it, with me hiring a new greenskeeper soon, as --  
15 our past greenskeeper is going to be retiring  
16 November 6th -- and with the new greenskeeper, some  
17 new ideas, I think we'll be able to turn the golf  
18 course around. You know, so we're very happy about  
19 what way that's looking.

20 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Back to the  
21 pristine shape that it was many years ago.

22 COMMISSIONER PINTO: Some of that  
23 problem, just to let you know, after doing some  
24 research, is that some chemical Budget was cut and  
25 it kind of was difficult at times.

1 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I'm not pointing  
2 fingers.

3 COMMISSIONER PINTO: I'm just saying,  
4 we are bringing it up as time goes on and, you  
5 know, the Board understands the fact that we need  
6 to purchase some chemicals to keep our greens  
7 sharp. And I think we're doing a great job with  
8 that.

9 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Good.

10 COMMISSIONER PINTO: Good?

11 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Excellent,  
12 Commissioner.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

14 If you'd stand by, we'll call you back  
15 up.

16 I know the Councilman had some  
17 questions.

18 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Yeah,  
19 Mr. Darienzo, I know we spoke about this before,  
20 but for the benefit of the public, in the prior  
21 couple of Board meetings, we had contemplated the  
22 sale of several parcels of land. None of them  
23 actually came to fruition.

24 Is any of that accounted for in this  
25 Budget? Are we relying on land sales? Will we be



1 relying on land sales in the future or are we  
2 acknowledging that those are not on the horizon in  
3 the near future and we have to make it work without  
4 them?

5 MR. DARIENZO: Quite simply, in a word,  
6 no, there are no land sales as part of this Budget.  
7 There is no appropriation of fund balance as part  
8 of this Budget. There are no one-shots in this  
9 Budget. There are no gimmicks in this Budget at  
10 all.

11 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Okay.

12 On a similar note -- I'm sorry,  
13 Councilwoman, I know you're just itching to go  
14 here.

15 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Take your time.

16 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: But a similar  
17 note, we had made a big transition to single stream  
18 recycling last year, and with the expectation that  
19 we'd be realizing substantial revenues.

20 Circumstances have changed. That  
21 doesn't seem to be the case anymore.

22 How does this Budget account for the  
23 transition to single stream recycling and any  
24 potential transition that may have to take place in  
25 the future, including increased costs for hauling

1 the recyclables?

2 MR. DARIENZO: That's a great question.

3 And just to tell the whole story, in  
4 the 2018 Budget, despite the fact that we have a  
5 new contract that was going to pay us for our  
6 recyclables, we budgeted zero dollars for that  
7 purpose in terms of revenue, so the money that came  
8 in this year and that continues to come in, just  
9 goes towards surplus in that fund.

10 For 2019, because there is uncertainty,  
11 we don't know what's going to happen. We're going  
12 to go to bid and see what comes up. It might be  
13 single stream, might be dual stream. We don't  
14 know, but we continue to Budget zero dollars for  
15 revenues in 2019 and we restored a level of  
16 expenses in line with what we paid in 2017 for  
17 being charged for recyclables. So we put the  
18 expense back into the Budget and never included the  
19 revenue in the Budget.

20 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Now, with that,  
21 are we looking, as I mentioned a couple of meetings  
22 ago, to look with other municipalities that are  
23 probably have the same problems we're having? I  
24 see the Deputy Supervisor is nodding yes, thank  
25 you. Good. Thank you very much.

1 MR. DARIENZO: The answer is yes.

2 For Budget purposes, we're planning for  
3 the worst case scenario.

4 If we -- we're working towards getting  
5 better news and anything that is better than the  
6 worst case will be a positive. The Budget  
7 contemplates the worst and we're going to do better  
8 than that.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And if I can add  
10 a little bit to that because we've been working  
11 with ongoing discussions, that's an excellent  
12 question, Councilman Macagnone.

13 Councilman just leaned into me and  
14 said, yes, we know that those revenues will go up  
15 and down over time. It's a commodity.

16 People understand that the Chinese  
17 nation has stopped accepting America's recyclables,  
18 so this is a global issue, and here on Long Island,  
19 those of us who remember the garbage barge know  
20 that this -- the issue of garbage and recyclables  
21 is something that continues to be one that we're  
22 working on.

23 We believe a regional approach is the  
24 best method to work with other municipalities, and  
25 we've already had discussions -- begun the

1 discussions with the other municipalities and we're  
2 going to continue working with them. When I see  
3 the Supervisors of the other towns, this is one of  
4 the main issues that we talk about.

5 We -- it's very interesting because  
6 you're here talking about the finances, and last  
7 year when we entered into this contract and people  
8 actually came up to that very podium here at these  
9 Board members -- meetings and said, this is an  
10 amazing deal. It's actually too good to believe,  
11 but we really had the best deal in terms of the  
12 amount we were receiving for our recyclables.

13 It's important to point out, the vast,  
14 vast majority of the services that we provide, our  
15 taxpayers pay for. Here we have a service that not  
16 only paid for itself, but actually provided some  
17 revenue, and I'll ask you to confirm if that's the  
18 case.

19 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Absolutely.

21 So here we have a service where there's  
22 an income drawn by selling this commodity. It's  
23 the right thing to do for the environment, and as  
24 Councilman Macagnone pointed out, it's a commodity.  
25 This will ebb and flow. They'll be highs and lows,

1 but over the course of time, it's the right thing  
2 to do for the environment, it's the right thing to  
3 do for our communities, everyone wants to recycle,  
4 and it will show financials.

5 But even in the last -- in the 2018  
6 Budget, we didn't account for the revenue, correct?

7 MR. DARIENZO: That's correct.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So when you spoke  
9 earlier about having a real Budget with very  
10 conservative estimates, is it true that through our  
11 Budget process, this new process that we've been  
12 embracing in the Town of Oyster Bay, we're  
13 underestimating our revenues and overestimating our  
14 expenses to be very conservative in our approach?

15 MR. DARIENZO: Yeah, I'd say ultra  
16 conservative.

17 In all aspects throughout the Budget,  
18 underestimating revenues, overestimating expenses,  
19 that's the goal here, and the idea is to make sure  
20 that we have any kind of contingency accounted for  
21 because a Budget is just that, a snapshot in time.  
22 It's a living document.

23 All during the year, you guys  
24 contemplate transfer of funds every Town Board  
25 meeting, so it's not as though every number in this

1 book is going to come in exactly as we have it.  
2 Things happen. There's over a thousand accounts in  
3 this book. There's going to be some that go over  
4 budget, there's going to be some that go under  
5 budget. The idea here is to be as conservative as  
6 possibly on both revenues and expenses all  
7 throughout the book.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And that's by  
9 design?

10 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And we discussed  
12 that in our meetings in my office, and other  
13 meetings that we had in terms of our philosophy,  
14 our approach to this Budget?

15 MR. DARIENZO: That was the direction  
16 you gave me, and we carried it out.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Would you kindly  
18 expand on that a bit for our Board members and for  
19 the public so they understand what we're doing?

20 MR. DARIENZO: The Budget itself needs  
21 to be balanced, meaning quite simply, the revenues  
22 need to match the expenses. This Budget allows us  
23 to lower certain revenues knowing that the actual  
24 revenues might come in higher than what we're  
25 projecting.

1           We have also overestimated certain  
2           expenses; meaning, that we know that the expenses  
3           will come in lower than we believe. We have built  
4           in room for, again, contingencies. If some sort of  
5           emergency were to take place, we will have the --

6           SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Hurricane, for  
7           instance; although, I hate to use that word.

8           MR. DARIENZO: Depending on the size of  
9           the hurricane, we have funds to cover major issues,  
10          if they were to come up, but assuming all other  
11          things being equal and the year goes as planned  
12          without any major catastrophes, this Budget is more  
13          than balanced and is set up to help eliminate that  
14          cumulative deficit we speak about.

15          SUPERVISOR SALADINO: On that subject,  
16          we know the storms are getting bigger and bigger  
17          and more often in terms of snowstorms, are we  
18          financially prepared if we get hit with an  
19          unusually high number of snowstorms in 2019?

20          MR. DARIENZO: As far as snow goes, the  
21          theory behind snow budgeting is that we take the  
22          average of the past five year's expenses and then  
23          we round it up.

24          So, for snow purposes, if it's extreme,  
25          if it is out of line, it won't be in the Budget

1 right now, but we have the excess funds to take  
2 care of it if the need were to arise.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So there are  
4 contingencies here for any event?

5 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good.

7 MR. DARIENZO: Up to a certain degree.

8 You know, Hurricane Sandy was a \$30  
9 million problem. So we don't have enough to cover  
10 a \$30 million problem, we'll put it like that, but  
11 we have money to cover any normal contingency.

12 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: But as you  
13 stated, it's a moving document, that when we need  
14 the money, we can transfer it, move it around, do  
15 what we have to?

16 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

17 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: And use that  
18 rainy day fund that we are putting away, if we need  
19 it?

20 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely. Only as  
21 needed.

22 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: I have a simple  
23 question.

24 On the actual 2018 through June 30th,  
25 every department shows that we're about 20 percent



1 lower, which is good, on expenses.

2 Do foresee a surplus or deficit for  
3 this year?

4 MR. DARIENZO: Just so we are clear,  
5 the main reason for the expenses lagging behind as  
6 of a certain date would be because of our payroll  
7 being four weeks behind. So when you see six  
8 months worth of experience, and globally, a lot of  
9 it is accurate, but the fact of the matter is,  
10 payroll will be a month behind, so that's only five  
11 months worth of payroll.

12 And the truth of matter is, it's not as  
13 though -- that reflects entries that were done as  
14 of June 30th. Not every bill comes in for June on  
15 June 30th. It might come the next month so -- that  
16 was a lot of background -- but the truth is, yes,  
17 we will have a surplus in 2018, but it won't be  
18 20 percent.

19 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: All right.  
20 Good.

21 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Mr. Darienzo,  
22 could you discuss -- we talked about the debt  
23 reduction and we talked about the total debt  
24 reduction over the past two years.

25 What do you foresee the total net debt

1 reduction to be by the end of -- by the end of next  
2 year under this Budget?

3 MR. DARIENZO: Okay.

4 Just so -- we've reduced debt by \$85  
5 million in 2017.

6 We are on track to reduce debt by \$50  
7 million in 2018 for a total of \$135 million.

8 In 2019, we will pay down a hair under  
9 \$65 million in principal payments for Town  
10 purposes, and we anticipate issuing roughly \$50  
11 million in new debt next year, a net reduction next  
12 year in 2019 of \$15 million.

13 So 85, 50 and 15 would be a total  
14 reduction of \$150 million over three years. From  
15 roughly \$763 million to \$613 million, I believe,  
16 something -- yeah. That's it. I can do math.

17 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: So \$613 million is  
18 the number that you anticipate by the end of 2019?

19 MR. DARIENZO: As of this time.

20 Again, borrowings are fluid decisions.  
21 You know, just so everyone understands here, we are  
22 talking today about the Operating Budget.

23 When you vote in two weeks, you're  
24 going to vote on the Operating Budget. The  
25 capital --

1 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I understand  
2 Capital is separate.

3 MR. DARIENZO: Yes. There's a section  
4 in this Budget for a Contemplated Capital Program  
5 for 2019, but that is very unofficial and you'll be  
6 presented with separate bond resolutions either  
7 later this year or in January of 2019 to go over  
8 those.

9 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: One more thing  
10 before I interrupt the Councilwoman.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Again.

12 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: I said I didn't  
13 mind the first time.

14 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I'm kidding. Go  
15 for it.

16 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: No, no.  
17 Gentlemen, please.

18 It actually leads into my question,  
19 which is that I noted in the preamble of the  
20 Budget, that it addresses -- that this Budget funds  
21 are contemplates funding phase one into a highway  
22 improvement, and I know we spoke about that  
23 yesterday a little bit. That's generally under the  
24 Capital Program, so I was just wondering how this  
25 Budget -- first of all, I don't know what Phase One

1 and Phase Two of the highway improvements are.

2 The councilman was good enough to  
3 explain a little bit to me before the meeting  
4 started, but I had asked Highway, without throwing  
5 anyone under the bus, I had asked a while ago if I  
6 could have a list of the roadways that are planning  
7 to be rehabbed and I haven't received it, and it is  
8 probably the number one question that we get asked  
9 and called about, are people's road conditions.

10 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Without a doubt.

11 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: So I really would  
12 like to have a better understanding of what we're  
13 funding, how it's being funded in this Budget as  
14 opposed to the Capital Budget, what Phase One is,  
15 what Phase Two is.

16 I realize these are probably not  
17 questions for you, Rob.

18 MR. DARIENZO: I can answer almost none  
19 of those, but I can answer a couple --

20 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: It's good he's  
21 honest.

22 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: But because you  
23 brought up the Capital Program, I wanted to  
24 understand vis-à-vis the separation of the two  
25 budgets, why it's mentioned in this Budget.

1 MR. DARIENZO: Well, I think even  
2 though it's separate and yet it's all part and  
3 parcel with our overall plan, operating capital,  
4 they work -- they work together, they mesh  
5 together, so I don't disagree with the idea of the  
6 Supervisor's opening letter mentioning what will be  
7 happening in 2019.

8 But, yes, I can understand a little bit  
9 of confusion there, so I can't tell you what Phase  
10 One is and Phase Two is. I have not seen a list of  
11 roads. I understand the program. They rate the  
12 roads 1 to 10, and 1 being the worst and 1s and 2s  
13 and 3s, in that order, are getting done. That's as  
14 far as it goes for me.

15 I know how much money we intend to put  
16 aside in the 2019 Capital Program for Highway  
17 Improvements. The majority -- the vast majority of  
18 which will go towards road improvements.

19 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: What is that  
20 number, Rob?

21 MR. DARIENZO: It's just under  
22 \$20 million, \$19 million and change.

23 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: So that's about  
24 20 miles of road, ish?

25 MR. DARIENZO: Ish.

1           The Highway Department would be able to  
2 better tell you. I think we're doing -- you know,  
3 the old axiom of \$1 million per mile, and,  
4 hopefully, I'm not wrong, but I think it's lower  
5 than that now because we're doing more work in  
6 house.

7           COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I think that is  
8 for reconstruction of the road. It's significantly  
9 more, from my conversations than 20 miles.

10          COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Before we go to  
11 Highway, which I assume you're going to hand it off  
12 to momentarily, I just also wanted to ask you, is  
13 the issue of rent for the DPW facility addressed in  
14 this Budget?

15          MR. DARIENZO: There is no budgeting  
16 for the payment of rent in 2019. The same way  
17 there's no budgeting for the \$2.5, 2 million, 4  
18 million -- the \$2,475,000 payment that's due to us.  
19 I'm not involved in a lot of the meetings with  
20 this, but it's my understanding that we are in  
21 negotiations on that deal.

22          So I don't really want to say too much  
23 because I would be speaking out of turn and I don't  
24 really know all the answers, but I do know that the  
25 idea that we were having to start to pay rent on

1 September 4th, I haven't been presented with any  
2 kind of bill. We have an paid any rent now, so...

3 I know that when we start paying rent,  
4 we're also supposed to get money. So if, in fact,  
5 we do have to pay rent, as I said, the Budget is a  
6 living breathing document. If we decide to -- that  
7 we are going to pay rent in 2019, we'll do a  
8 transfer of funds, which would increase the rental  
9 of land and would increase the revenue  
10 correspondingly for the sale of land.

11 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: And -- so it will  
12 still balance?

13 MR. DARIENZO: For 2019, it would more  
14 than balance because we'd be getting \$2.5 million,  
15 and my understanding is that it's roughly \$800,000  
16 a year in rent. So if we even stay for the entire  
17 three year allowable portion, the \$2.5 million  
18 should cover it.

19 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: And I had also  
20 noticed, which I meant to ask you about yesterday  
21 when we spoke and I failed to, that the medical,  
22 dental, optical number has gone up about \$2 million  
23 from 2018. I was just wondering what that's about.

24 MR. DARIENZO: Is it \$2 million or is  
25 it \$4 million?

1 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: It went from 12.7  
2 to 14.6.

3 MR. DARIENZO: That's just the General  
4 Fund.

5 So if you have your budgets, you can  
6 skip to Page 43 and you'll see the entirety of  
7 medical for the entire Town and you'll see that we  
8 went from a Budget of \$35 million in 2018 to a  
9 Budget of \$39 million.

10 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Why is that?

11 MR. DARIENZO: Why is that?

12 Because it's out of our control.  
13 Medical costs skyrocket every single year, so we  
14 are contemplating a \$4 million increase. I'm very  
15 hopeful that it won't be a \$4 million increase,  
16 maybe it will be a \$3 million increase, but we want  
17 to get ahead of the medical.

18 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: It's roughly  
19 10 percent.

20 MR. DARIENZO: And we're budgeting like  
21 a 12 percent increase.

22 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: So this is due to  
23 the increased cost; it's not due to increased  
24 number of people that we're covering?

25 MR. DARIENZO: I'm sure it's a



1 combination of both, because when we have -- when  
2 an employee retires, their salary comes off the  
3 books, but we currently give our employees medical  
4 insurance for life.

5 So if we had 50 people retire and we  
6 hired 20 people, we'd still have our -- we'd still  
7 have 20 new people on the medical insurance because  
8 the 50 people didn't go away.

9 So this increase contemplates a -- the  
10 possibility of a small number of new hires in 2019  
11 as well as increased premiums charged on the  
12 insurance itself.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And just for  
14 purposes of information, that has been the practice  
15 of this Town for many, many years?

16 MR. DARIENZO: The practice of what?

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Paying the  
18 medical insurance for the retirees?

19 MR. DARIENZO: Oh, for the twenty years  
20 that I've been here, and I would imagine forever.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And, in addition,  
22 through the new contract, new employees are now  
23 paying into -- a portion of their medical  
24 insurance?

25 MR. DARIENZO: That's a very good

1 point.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I was the first  
3 one in the Town to do that.

4 MR. DARIENZO: Employees hired after  
5 January 1, 2017 are paying 15 percent of their  
6 health insurance premiums, that's correct.

7 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: That goes up  
8 every year as the premiums go up?

9 MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

10 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Thank you.

11 MR. DARIENZO: No problem.

12 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: If Highway could  
13 just speak a little bit on what the plans are, that  
14 would be great.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Sure. We will  
16 bring them up immediately.

17 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Thank you.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: But as many  
19 questions or if you think of more questions, this  
20 is that time to get it all out in the open, fully  
21 transparent and make sure are everyone has -- we're  
22 just going to bring up our Deputy Commissioner of  
23 Highway.

24 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: I do want to say,  
25 Supervisor, that I really appreciated the -- just

1 so everyone knows, the Supervisor reached out, I  
2 assume to all the Board members.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes.

4 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: But certainly to  
5 me individually and offered for me to come in and  
6 meet with him and go through the Budget and I  
7 really appreciated, it and I'm very pleased with  
8 the Budget. I think it seems terrific.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

10 In a phrase Councilwoman, it's a new  
11 day in Oyster Bay.

12 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: He didn't reach  
13 out to me.

14 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Most of the  
15 time, you don't pick up, Tony.

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Everyone was  
17 reached out to.

18 Can we ask -- thank you, we'll bring  
19 you back up, Rob.

20 Can we ask Deputy Commissioner Bishop  
21 to please come on up?

22 Could you state your presence, please?

23 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Good  
24 morning.

25 John Bishop, Deputy Commissioner, Town

1 of Oyster Bay, Highway Department.

2 Good morning, everybody.

3 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Deputy, how are  
4 you, sir?

5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Good.

6 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: I'm sorry to put  
7 you on the spot, Deputy Commissioner.

8 I just -- it's been sort of a pet peeve  
9 of mine that residents feel that they have no idea  
10 when their streets are getting done; particularly,  
11 in Plainview. I'm sure everybody feels that their  
12 community has the worst roads, but --

13 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: And Glen Head.

14 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: But really -- I  
15 know everybody feels that way, but really, ours are  
16 the worst.

17 It is difficult for people to, I think,  
18 pay their taxes and not see the money coming back  
19 into the community, and so I'm asking, and I know I  
20 made the same request last year, can we not  
21 consider giving people a list of when the roads are  
22 getting done and that people be able to see that  
23 and go online and see where their road falls, what  
24 it's rated, and when it's going to be fixed?

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Let's go over --

1 if we may, please, start by describing the process  
2 of the new rating system, why we went to that, what  
3 people can expect and then we'll get specifically  
4 into it.

5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

6 So the new rating system is our tool to  
7 guide from north to south throughout the whole Town  
8 of Oyster Bay as to what roads are the worst to the  
9 best. Some roads need total reconstruction, which  
10 is considered curb, gutters, drainage, aprons,  
11 handicap ramps. Others just need to asphalt  
12 repaving.

13 Once that's broken out and decided as  
14 to what would facilitate, when I prepared this  
15 Budget for the sixth year, it was a true actual six  
16 year because we had the tools from Engineering  
17 through DPW as to where the roads rated and what  
18 their numbered system was.

19 So, my job this year, I've been doing  
20 the Budget for, I think, 25 years of my career for  
21 Highway because DPW doesn't have a Budget, it has  
22 to come through the Highway Department, all the  
23 roads were looked at individually and then certain  
24 segments or sections were broken down.

25 The listing or nonlisting of streets is

1 because the expectation of getting to a road and  
2 then maybe possibly not getting to a road is  
3 something that's fearful because we don't know,  
4 depending on weather conditions, contractors,  
5 materials, equipment that's being used, that we're  
6 going to list on paper what our commitment is and  
7 then not be able to get to that road or that area.

8           Currently, Smith Street, which I  
9 believe the whole Board and is online as well, is  
10 being completed. There -- it was broken into three  
11 phases. Again, that was out of our control.  
12 National Grid went in there and decided to redo all  
13 the gas lines. Now, the road is taken off. We  
14 can't get in there.

15           So there are circumstances that are out  
16 of our control that would prevent us from getting  
17 to a road, and if we put that road in there and  
18 then we don't get to it because National Grid is  
19 putting in new services or a water line has to be  
20 put in or P&D has an application for house that's  
21 being built and we're going to break a moratorium  
22 and we have to have that road locked for three  
23 years, all of that has to be taken into  
24 consideration when we select a road.

25           COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: And, John, don't

1 the conditions of the roads themselves change over  
2 the course of a year or two years?

3 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes. Yes,  
4 they do.

5 So before we had started our program,  
6 the Highway Department, I have to say all employees  
7 in the Highway Department have been diligent with  
8 responding to the residents requests, making proper  
9 cutouts and patches, not just filling in potholes,  
10 which just eventually come back up.

11 We have hit many, many roads this year,  
12 which has stopped my phone from ringing greatly.

13 Thank --

14 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: You guys have  
15 done a tremendous job out there.

16 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP:  
17 Thankfully.

18 Additionally, in prior years, we would  
19 spend almost \$20 million in road surfacing or  
20 22 million. We're doing it all in-house with some  
21 of our own machine and equipment, so we've cut that  
22 cost down greatly. Some will be going directly to  
23 a contractor for milling and paving.

24 Some Highway will mill and pave and  
25 some, a contractor will mill and then the Town --

1 the Highway Department will pave.

2 That's where you have a little bit of a  
3 crossover, which Mr. Darienzo was explaining,  
4 between an operating expense, how I purchase  
5 asphalt and how you would do a capital expense for  
6 the timeline and the type of work that's being  
7 performed.

8 Additionally, with the requirements  
9 contract -- the general requirements, which would  
10 be base and strains structures, those projects,  
11 when you get deep into them, you don't know what's  
12 underneath the sub base, and we have got a lot of  
13 areas that need addressing and we are also looking  
14 at grants that are coming in such as New York  
15 Rising grant that we have now gotten hold of  
16 through the Town to handle the low-lying areas in  
17 Massapequa, which are of great concern, and the  
18 tideflex valves and basins that are not  
19 functioning, especially after the abuse of super --  
20 Superstorm Sandy.

21 So there is -- there's a lot out there  
22 that has to be taken into consideration. It isn't  
23 as easy as just putting a street name out there.

24 Are we aware of streets that would be  
25 next in line? Of course. That's how the Budget is



1 determined and that's how I broke it down.

2 A matter of fact, as you looked at --  
3 if you look at the six-year Budget, my Budget was  
4 lower this year than last year, and we accomplished  
5 more last year than we've ever accomplished because  
6 I've had our Highway Town employees doing the job  
7 with a piece of equipment that the Town owns and  
8 we're able to maintain. That there has helped us  
9 be able to spread the wealth to other streets that  
10 need more attention, such as the basins and the  
11 outfalls and alike that our failing.

12 So, at this time, that's how the plan  
13 is set up. It is scheduled to get through the  
14 whole Town. We looked at every single road, some  
15 that we have to jump around a little bit and I  
16 think that that's, you know, due to the conditions  
17 between utilities and services, but we're making  
18 our best to accommodate the worst areas and get to  
19 a lot of the petitions that have come in.

20 We've addressed a lot of failing  
21 streets and some have collapsed and caved in. Our  
22 own equipment, our own men, we've updated some of  
23 the required equipment that our men need to be able  
24 to go down into a manhole 50 feet with a harness  
25 and do their repairs, which is also cutting costs

1 because we're not utilizing our -- tied to a  
2 contractor to do that work. We're doing it  
3 in-house.

4 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Deputy, you  
5 mention that, but aren't our guys trained in  
6 confined space and everything else?

7 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: There are  
8 four that are.

9 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: That's a big  
10 expense.

11 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Correct.

12 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I notice our  
13 crews, this is one criticism, a lot of times,  
14 they're not wearing protective safety gear and  
15 there's not protection around the truck or the work  
16 area. I know they're trying to get a lot done, but  
17 safety has to be of optimal importance.

18 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Absolutely.

19 When we have shape up in the morning, I  
20 have made very clear that I want everybody to make  
21 sure that they have their gear. We went through  
22 our inventory because we were doing an audit, and  
23 through that audit, anything that was depleted or  
24 outdated had been cleared out and we've updated all  
25 those safety vests, the hats, the respirators,

1 flags.

2 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: We are not above  
3 a fine.

4 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: That's  
5 where, you know, I put a lot in my purchase orders,  
6 which is coming out of my operating, and you can  
7 see if the audit was done under my operating, you'd  
8 see that the costs were spent on making sure that  
9 there was the safety gear and the reflective gear  
10 and night -- and the lighting department and  
11 helmets and the proper gloves to touch the  
12 electrical wires, things that have rotted out that  
13 were on a shelf that you can no longer use.

14 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Good.  
15 Thank you.

16 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Thank you, John.  
17 I appreciate it.

18 I do think you and the staff are doing  
19 a terrific job. I just think if we could look into  
20 some type of software, even if it didn't show where  
21 we were going, if it showed where the work was  
22 being done, and that would be something that during  
23 snowstorms, I think people would appreciate as  
24 well, knowing what the Town workforce is up to. I  
25 think it increases consumer confidence, for lack of

1 a better word, and transparency. I know other  
2 municipalities are doing it.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I'd like to ask  
4 you to make yourself available to meet with any of  
5 the Town Board members that would like to get a  
6 briefing on where we're at and where we're headed  
7 and what's being scheduled in terms of road repair.

8 I do want to ask you a question to  
9 bring out a point because we've discussed this many  
10 times in formulating this rating system.

11 While we're looking at all of the  
12 roads, if all the worst of the worst roads are in  
13 Plainview, for instance, as was alluded to earlier,  
14 if the worst roads are all in one community, we are  
15 not putting all of our resources in one community,  
16 but we're spreading it out so every community is  
17 served.

18 So we're basing it -- I'd like you to  
19 expand on and explain that to the people that don't  
20 understand.

21 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: The first  
22 statement I said was that Town wide, from north to  
23 south, this is not going -- we are going to just  
24 stay in one area, Bethpage or Hicksville or -- if  
25 we are looking at every Town facility, whether it

1 be Glen Head, Locust Valley, Oyster Bay, and my  
2 position is, is that I'm a government employee and  
3 I have to be an extension and a voice for the  
4 people.

5 I speak to the people 24/7 and weekends  
6 and during the week and I call the residents back  
7 if I don't get to them during the week. I have to  
8 be their voice and make sure that everybody on this  
9 Board is aware of what they are looking for, what  
10 their expectations are. If I'm able to get that  
11 accomplished, I've reached out to many of you on  
12 weekends and texted you and told you where we were  
13 at and how far we've come.

14 The residents appreciate that they  
15 are -- they feel that that extension of their voice  
16 helps them have more pride and the security of  
17 knowing that there's somebody on the other end of  
18 the line that is making sure that we're not just  
19 saying we're doing it, we're doing it.

20 And I've proven that time and time  
21 again within the past year. I'm not, you know,  
22 patting myself on the back, I'm just explaining  
23 that it has gone from Massapequa to Plainview to  
24 Oyster Bay and the residents feel that they are  
25 being heard and appreciate the extra effort on the

1 Board's end and on the employees' end.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So to reiterate,  
3 all communities in the Town are getting some of  
4 that road repaving for 2018, as well as 2019?

5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Correct.

6 And the rest the six-year plan.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Any other  
8 questions for the Deputy Commissioner?

9 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: No.

10 Thank you. You really have been doing  
11 a tremendous job.

12 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Thank you.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I'd like to  
14 personally thank you and you had mentioned a moment  
15 ago about being available at all hours.

16 I'm looking at my phone record just to  
17 see, you and I were on the phone at 6:48 a.m. this  
18 morning, correct?

19 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes, we  
20 were.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I want to thank  
22 you for your diligence and the commitment of the  
23 entire team in Highway. We know that this is a  
24 problem, this is not an Oyster Bay problem, this is  
25 a problem across Long Island and across New York

1 State. The Winter storms are getting worse, the  
2 freezing temperatures are getting lower and road  
3 deterioration is happening all over.

4 But what we are doing in the Town of  
5 Oyster Bay, with your assistance and the assistance  
6 of our incredible teams, are making sure that we're  
7 getting to them as quickly as possible, spending  
8 the appropriate money to get those roads repaved,  
9 and will continue to do that going forward.

10 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Correct.

11 And I know that we're turned -- now  
12 going into our Winter season, so we have relief  
13 collection and that program will start to begin  
14 because street sweeping will end and we've already  
15 put the snow plan together, so that has already  
16 been formulated and we're fixing and filling in the  
17 spaces that need to be done, so we're forging ahead  
18 in the Highway Department.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And to be fair,  
20 while you and I were on the phone at 6:48 this  
21 morning, Councilman Macagnone had already been up  
22 for hours. That's about his lunch time.

23 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Well, and  
24 to be true, sometimes we do speak at 1:00 in the  
25 morning and 11:00 at night, depending on what

1 conditions are out there because Highway is a 24/7  
2 operation, and luckily, I'm an insomniac, so I'm  
3 awake.

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you for  
5 your help and be at the standby in case there are  
6 more questions for you.

7 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Thank you.

8 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Supervisor, what  
9 were you doing up that early?

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We were -- we  
11 were getting ready for something that is very  
12 important. I thank you for asking.

13 The issue of zombie homes has a big,  
14 big problem in our Town and we received another  
15 Court Order to remove a house, this one in East  
16 Massapequa, and I'm very proud to have joined with  
17 Councilman Lou Imbroto and we took that house down  
18 this morning very early. We got right to it.

19 The teams are just completing the  
20 removal of the debris and this was at the asking of  
21 the Civic Association and the community. This is  
22 the fifth one that I've been involved in and I  
23 was -- it was nice to get behind the controls and  
24 actually help out the teams to begin that  
25 demolition.



1                   This is a zombie home where there's  
2                   been drug use, it's been a mess, an eyesore, and a  
3                   problem with property values and the quality of  
4                   life.

5                   So, again, we've been very responsive.  
6                   The Civic Association was fabulous to work with.  
7                   They were here at a Town Board meeting and, at this  
8                   point, we're waiting for the photographs, but that  
9                   house is gone and we are looking forward to the  
10                  sale of that property to someone who will build a  
11                  new house and have a wonderful new family on Clarks  
12                  Boulevard in Massapequa.

13                  And we're just very lucky and -- that  
14                  we're progressing forward on the issue of zombie  
15                  homes and I want to thank you, Councilman, for all  
16                  of your assistance, not only this morning, but with  
17                  the assistance with the quality of life throughout  
18                  our Town.

19                  COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: And I didn't drive  
20                  the equipment. Supervisor actually, with his bare  
21                  hands, got up there and took that house down  
22                  himself, so it was really fine work.

23                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO: It's amazing what  
24                  you can do with determination.

25                  Who's next?

1 COUNCILMAN HAND: Question,  
2 Mr. Darienzo.

3 The Supervisor mentioned some of the  
4 mandated costs.

5 Could you speak directly to the MTA  
6 payroll taxes and quantify it for 2019 because I  
7 see our Budget going up 15 percent in that area?

8 MR. DARIENZO: That's correct.

9 The MTA payroll tax, I believe is  
10 .0034 percent of our payroll. Again, being  
11 conservative, I upped it to .004 this year, that's  
12 why you see an increase, because the truth is, our  
13 salary totals from 2018 and 2019 are relatively  
14 flat, down a couple hundred thousand dollars.

15 So if I kept it at .0034, MTA payroll  
16 tax would have been roughly the same. Because I  
17 budgeted a little bit of -- because I budgeted  
18 conservatively, I put a little bit extra in there,  
19 it should cover any eventualities that might up.

20 The total for the Town is \$315,000,  
21 \$330,000, and you mentioned it in your opening  
22 remarks. Obviously, we'll -- you know, it's  
23 absurd, but it's mandated and we pay it.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: If only they  
25 could get the trains to run on time with all the

1 money that the MTA is receiving.

2 MR. DARIENZO: That would be nice,  
3 right?

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Councilman,  
5 Councilwoman, who would like to go next?  
6 Councilman?

7 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: No. I'm fine.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good? Okay.  
9 Let's ask a few questions.

10 We've been talking a lot about property  
11 taxes from day one of coming here to the Town of  
12 Oyster Bay and our commitment to be more responsive  
13 to our residents and our taxpayers, and listen to  
14 them and respond to their wishes. We cut property  
15 taxes in 2018 and now we're holding the line in  
16 this proposed 2019 Budget.

17 Can you speak to the property tax  
18 level -- levy, rather, for 2019 and where we're  
19 going with this and why and how we're achieving  
20 this cut of property taxes in 2018 and holding the  
21 line in 2019?

22 MR. DARIENZO: Sure.

23 In 2018, I believe the total tax levy  
24 that goes on our tax cap form is \$234 million. And  
25 in round numbers, we cut it down to \$233 million

1 from 2017 and 2018.

2 The 2019 Budget keeps that figure at  
3 \$233 million.

4 And as we touched on earlier, the only  
5 reason that's possible, is because of our reduction  
6 in expenses. The priority is keeping the tax  
7 dollars in the taxpayers' pockets the best that we  
8 can, so by reducing debt to the levels that this  
9 Town Board did, and yourself at the head of the  
10 Board, it allowed us to cover for the health  
11 insurance, cover for the Workers' Comp, cover for  
12 the MTA payroll tax, cover for increases --  
13 covering for the dual -- going back to dual stream.

14 All those increased expenses because  
15 the cost of everything goes up, right? I mean, the  
16 cost of your groceries goes up. The cost of your  
17 cable bill goes up. The cost of your fuel goes up.  
18 The cost of your newspaper subscription goes up.  
19 Everything goes up.

20 Our expenses are going down, and that's  
21 because of the strides we've made with our debt,  
22 because if it wasn't for the debt reduction, our  
23 expenses would be going up like everything else is,  
24 and because we increased -- because we decreased  
25 debt as much as we did, we're able to hold the line

1 on taxes after reducing them last year.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

3 Now, the last time the taxpayers have  
4 seen a cut previous to this year, how many years  
5 have gone by?

6 MR. DARIENZO: I've worked here full  
7 time for just over twenty years. The tax decrease  
8 we had last year was the first one in my time here.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And of the twenty  
10 years you've been working here, how would you  
11 compare the 2018 Budget and 2019 Proposed Budget to  
12 the previous budgets over the course of that twenty  
13 years?

14 MR. DARIENZO: Well, there's been a lot  
15 of budgets over the past twenty years, but I'm  
16 especially proud for what we put together these  
17 past couple of years. They're -- again, they're  
18 more than structurally balanced, they're  
19 conservative on revenues, conservative on  
20 estimates. We're doing all the right things to get  
21 this Town back on the path where we need to be.

22 The cumulative deficit has been vastly  
23 reduced over the past couple of years where our  
24 trajectory to get it where it needs to -- where it  
25 needs to be financially and in every way here in

1 the Town.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Are you aware of  
3 any other municipality on Long Island that's cut  
4 taxes?

5 MR. DARIENZO: Not -- I try to focus on  
6 my job here at the Town, but no, there's no  
7 other -- there's no other municipality, that I know  
8 of, that has cut taxes last year or any time  
9 recently.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We deliver a  
11 great deal of services.

12 What is the average monthly property  
13 tax bill for the average homeowner in the Town of  
14 Oyster Bay?

15 MR. DARIENZO: Well, I won't get final  
16 assessed evaluations and adjusted base proportions  
17 from Nassau County until later this month, and that  
18 will be reflected in the Adopted Budget.

19 With that being said, I have no  
20 reason -- because the overall tax levy isn't going  
21 to change, I have no reason to believe that it will  
22 vastly change for the average homeowner compared to  
23 last year, and that comes in at just -- right  
24 around \$140 per month to the average homeowner.

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: \$140 a month to

1 the average homeowner, and because property taxes  
2 are based on the assessment, or the value of  
3 someone's home, for those homes south of the Long  
4 Island Expressway, for instance, that number would  
5 be even less?

6 MR. DARIENZO: I'm sure there are fine  
7 homes south of the --

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We are not  
9 judging how fine homes are, but --

10 MR. DARIENZO: I live south of the --

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So do I.

12 We are not judging that. We're just  
13 talking about on average, the value of homes north  
14 of the LIE or more than homes south of the LIE, so  
15 for the --

16 MR. DARIENZO: On average, I would  
17 agree with that.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So it is even  
19 less for the majority of homes in the Town?

20 MR. DARIENZO: That would be correct.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And then we  
22 compare this to another service, say, the utility  
23 of cable television and Internet, that comes as one  
24 bill to many of our -- most of our homes --

25 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I think it's the

1 same price north of the expressway.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: It is. It is.

3 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I think the point  
4 is that that average includes some homes that are  
5 much more expensive than other homes.

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Homes that are  
7 assessed at a very, very high rate. We take into  
8 account, everyone, to come up with this average.

9 You said it's approximately \$140 a  
10 month for all of the services the Town provides?

11 MR. DARIENZO: Yeah, I would say by  
12 definition, the average is going to include  
13 everyone, but, yes, it's fair to say that the homes  
14 around here of a higher value and there's less of  
15 them also.

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Right.

17 So that underscores my point even more.  
18 So compared to a service like cable television and  
19 Internet, which many people pay or they'll pay for  
20 telephone, home telephone, not a lot of people  
21 using that, but for the telephone service, their  
22 cable bill, and their Internet, I'm told by a lot  
23 of people it's approximately \$200 a month.

24 MR. DARIENZO: I can't speak for  
25 everyone, but my cable bill is like 230 a month,



1 so...

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: \$230 for just  
3 Internet, cable television, and phone when we're  
4 providing parks, beaches, roads, lighting, the  
5 Building Department, the Town Attorney's Office, on  
6 and on and on for less --

7 MR. DARIENZO: It's a bargain.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: -- than people  
9 pay for just their television and their cable  
10 alone?

11 MR. DARIENZO: Relatively speaking,  
12 it's a bargain.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Television and  
14 Internet, wow.

15 You know, when you really think about  
16 that value, we have so many different services, the  
17 entertainment services, our parks, our Community  
18 and Youth Services that provides senior services,  
19 concerts all Winter long, Music Under the Stars,  
20 the movies, then you get into the assistance of  
21 people looking for a job, people looking for --  
22 people looking to sue us, it's very, very expensive  
23 with all the legal fees, and yet, we are still able  
24 to provide all these services for less than the  
25 average bill for cable television and Internet.

1 MR. DARIENZO: Less than mine, that's  
2 for sure, a lot less.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's really  
4 stunning when you think about that.

5 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Is there any way  
6 of knowing if our bond rating will, again, go up?  
7 Can we anticipate something like that happening  
8 with our Budget for two years in a row now?

9 MR. DARIENZO: We met with -- we met in  
10 person with both Standard and Poor's and Moody's  
11 within the past couple of years. Councilman  
12 Muscarella participated in that. I think he was  
13 Acting Supervisor or whatever Supervisor you were  
14 at the time.

15 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Correct. Can't  
16 forget those days.

17 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: That was a good  
18 month.

19 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: It was a good 28  
20 days.

21 MR. DARIENZO: Then Councilman Pinto  
22 came along for those rides to the city to meet  
23 these people, and we listened intently to what they  
24 had to say, and they laid out a series of  
25 benchmarks for us.

1           Among them, reduce your cumulative  
2 deficit from the lowest of the low, negative \$44  
3 million. They wanted us to Budget more  
4 conservatively. Underestimate your revenues;  
5 overestimate your expenses.

6           They wanted us to -- another example  
7 is, they wanted us to find a way to stop amortizing  
8 a portion of our pension bill. So lowering our  
9 cumulative deficit, check, in a big way, from  
10 negative 44 at the start of 2016 to negative 24 at  
11 the start of 2017 to negative 9.5 million at the  
12 start of 2018, and we continue to trend towards  
13 turning that negative into a positive.

14           We amortized a portion of our pension  
15 bill for seven years in a row. Last year, we  
16 stopped that. In 2019, we're not doing it. In the  
17 foreseeable future, we're not doing it. That's a  
18 big plus.

19           They recognized our improved budgeting  
20 practices with the -- again, we said it before,  
21 underestimating revenues; overestimating expenses.  
22 We're hitting all the benchmarks.

23           With that being said, they do believe  
24 in trends. To do something for one year doesn't  
25 really impress them, but we did have a giant

1 surplus that was shown after our 2016 audit was  
2 released. We had another large \$15 million surplus  
3 for 2017. We anticipate having a large surplus  
4 when the 2018 audit is completed in the middle of  
5 2019. And if this Budget sticks to the plan, we'll  
6 have a significant surplus in the 20 -- as a result  
7 of the 2019 Budget in the middle of 2020.

8 So we already had two years in a row of  
9 surpluses. 2018 will be year three. 2019 will  
10 make year four. We're getting to the point of --  
11 those are trends.

12 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Have we met every  
13 benchmark that was set out by the ratings agencies?

14 MR. DARIENZO: I don't have a full list  
15 of them, but if we haven't met them already, they  
16 are in progress.

17 I strongly believe that based on the  
18 systematic changes we've made here at the Town, two  
19 years of surpluses already with two more on the  
20 way, that we better get a rate increase in the near  
21 future.

22 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: We've been  
23 trending in the right direction with respect to all  
24 of these benchmarks that you set out that --

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That Standard and

1 Poor sets out, Wall Street.

2 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Right.

3 -- that you've described as set by the  
4 ratings agencies, and by doing so, we did achieve  
5 one ratings increase, so there's no reason to think  
6 that we won't see other increases in the future if  
7 we continue to meet those benchmarks and if we  
8 continue to trend in this direction.

9 MR. DARIENZO: I would agree with all  
10 of that, yes.

11 I would be stunned if we did not get  
12 increases in the near future as long as we stay the  
13 course.

14 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Rob, one of the  
15 reasons we have such a good bank cash flow right  
16 now is because, unfortunately, two years ago, we  
17 did increase taxes tremendously, correct?

18 MR. DARIENZO: Yes.

19 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Okay.

20 Thank you.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Rob, we have  
22 talked about benchmarks and we've talked about the  
23 many changes, and you and I continue to have  
24 conversations quite often on building the momentum  
25 of these positive changes, heading in the right

1 direction financially.

2 So the public can see an example of  
3 this. One of the things that we talked about was  
4 doing in audit of -- of phones. We talked about  
5 reducing the workforce. There's a savings to that.  
6 There's a number we project in savings, but every  
7 employee needs to communicate and has phones. Talk  
8 to us about the audit that was conducted on the  
9 telephones and the savings.

10 MR. DARIENZO: I don't have a lot of  
11 details on the audit. I know that the telephone  
12 expense is handled through our Department of  
13 General Services, and it's my understanding that  
14 periodically, they audit all the phone lines that  
15 are out there and due to improve technologies and a  
16 decrease in the number of employees that we have,  
17 we expect to reduce our phone expense by \$50,000 in  
18 2019 from a budgeted number of \$450,000 in 2018 to  
19 \$400,000 in 2019.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's clearly  
21 moving in the right direction.

22 We've covered a lot of ground here,  
23 including the anticipated savings and LED lighting  
24 is another area where we've continued to save  
25 money.

1                   Can you describe to us -- I realize  
2                   that's a process of General Services, but let's  
3                   look at it on the numbers.

4                   MR. DARIENZO: We're going to have to  
5                   because a lot of people will tell you, I'm not  
6                   small enough to change a light bulb, so I can look  
7                   at my computer screen though and I can tell you  
8                   that our energy bills have been reduced year over  
9                   year.

10                  So I'm going to -- I do speak to the --  
11                  to the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of  
12                  Highway, and yes -- I made a joke -- but yes,  
13                  they're installing LED lights wherever possible and  
14                  the lower bills reflect that.

15                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And now we're  
16                  looking into solar energy for installations to  
17                  reduce our energy costs dramatically from where we  
18                  are now, from the savings we're already seeing?

19                  MR. DARIENZO: We have certainly had a  
20                  couple of meetings with regards to solar and we  
21                  continue to contemplate -- you know, going down  
22                  that path.

23                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Obviously, we  
24                  want to choose the best path and there's so many  
25                  different options.

1 Councilwoman, did you have a question?

2 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: I was saying we  
3 need a couple of light bulb changes.

4 MR. DARIENZO: You're looking at the  
5 wrong guy.

6 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Get your ladder,  
7 Rob.

8 MR. DARIENZO: I can't do it.

9 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I'll walk you  
10 through it.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Any other  
12 questions?

13 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Yeah, maybe this  
14 isn't a question for Mr. Darienzo, maybe this is  
15 for our Town Attorney, but can we discuss the  
16 anticipated legal costs going forward in this  
17 Budget, the cost for legal services and the reason  
18 for an apparent uptick?

19 MR. DARIENZO: Sure.

20 The 2018 Budget had a figure of  
21 \$1,950,000, I believe, for outside legal costs.

22 In 2019, in speaking with the Town  
23 Attorney's Office, we're upping that estimate to  
24 \$2,450,000, and I think the main reason for the  
25 increase would be the fact that during 2018, a lot



1 of the major cases that cost us money in 2017 and  
2 2016 were stayed due to criminal actions and  
3 criminal trials that were taking place and continue  
4 to take place.

5 The understanding is -- or the  
6 expectation is that those stays will be lifted at  
7 some point early in 2019, potentially, and so we  
8 wanted to conservatively Budget for those legals  
9 costs ramping back up in 2019. And the Town  
10 Attorney's Office can certainly correct me if I'm  
11 wrong.

12 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Does the Town  
13 Attorney's Office have anything to add to that?

14 MR. NOCELLA: No. I think Mr. Darienzo  
15 stated it correctly.

16 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Okay.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Any other  
18 questions for Mr. Darienzo?

19 (No verbal response given.)

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Why don't you  
21 take a seat close by?

22 I'm going to ask our Comptroller to  
23 step up as well at this time.

24 Steve, would you kindly start off by  
25 stating your presence?

1 MR. BALLAS: Good morning, Supervisor,  
2 and members of the Town Board.

3 My name is Steve Ballas. I'm the  
4 Comptroller of the Town of Oyster Bay.

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We've had many  
6 conversations about taking a new approach to  
7 greatly change the things that we're doing, the way  
8 things were done in the past so that we have a new  
9 approach in this -- in this -- with this new  
10 administration.

11 Councilman Macagnone mentioned a tax  
12 increase that took place before I came here. We  
13 are continuing to structurally change the way we do  
14 business here. One of the issues that we've been  
15 talking about is the importance of being very  
16 cautious about how each and every dollar is spent,  
17 and this is your wheelhouse, this is your area of  
18 expertise and you're doing an incredible job and  
19 all of your assistants, it really shows.

20 We have talked about and we have  
21 created a new system by which we reach a deadline  
22 for expenditures.

23 Can you describe to the Board and to  
24 the public about that new system?

25 MR. BALLAS: Absolutely.

1           As you know, one of the divisions in  
2           the Office of the Comptroller is the Accounts  
3           Payable Division.

4           Accounts Payable is responsible for  
5           paying all of the expenses and bills of the Town,  
6           including some of our component unit friends in the  
7           water districts for their capital spending.

8           When I came on board to the Town a  
9           little over a year ago, I made it my responsibility  
10          to personally electronically sign off on every  
11          single payment that the Town makes, with the  
12          exception of when there is a little bit too many, I  
13          can get some help.

14          That being said, I see everything that  
15          is going through and being paid. I ask a lot of  
16          questions.

17          When I first got here, I thought it was  
18          a great way to understand how the Town operated,  
19          what was important to the Town, and what was going  
20          on in the Town.

21          At this point in time, I feel it's a  
22          good way to control expenses. As I mentioned to  
23          you not too long ago, yesterday was the last day  
24          that anybody in the Town could actually process a  
25          new 2018 purchase order to buy anything.

1           After yesterday, any purchase orders  
2 going forward need my personal approval, after my  
3 review and a lot of questions, to be able to  
4 process it. So it's a way of making sure that  
5 people aren't spending up the Budget, not that they  
6 would, but it controls our expenditures when we're  
7 under Budget to make sure that we're only buying  
8 the things that are necessary.

9           I will tell you, throughout the year, I  
10 do sign off on -- electronically sign off on all  
11 POs, but now they can't even get into the system  
12 without me seeing it first.

13           SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So we have talked  
14 about it, if you will, I call it the belt and  
15 suspenders approach, that we have many, many  
16 safeguards to the way in which we spend money.  
17 Many new safety nets, and by creating this  
18 firewall, if you will, in October, so between  
19 October and the 31st of December, we will cut back  
20 on expenditures and this all helps to ensure that  
21 we're spending within our means, and quite frankly,  
22 spending less than was approved in the 2018 Budget?

23           MR. BALLAS: Absolutely.

24           And I might add that I get tremendous  
25 cooperation, and when I go out and ask a question

1 and say, why do we need this, what are we using it  
2 for, I get a lot of cooperation from my fellow  
3 Commissioners.

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Isn't it true  
5 that you are one of many, many layers of checks to  
6 ensure that we are spending wisely, that we are  
7 getting the full value for everything that the  
8 Board approves?

9 For the public purposes, the Board has  
10 to approve the expenditure. The Board approves the  
11 Budget, but then each individual expenditure, you  
12 come back again for our Resolutions on the calendar  
13 and this is a part of what we vote on each every  
14 one of our Board meetings.

15 MR. BALLAS: Absolutely.

16 There are many, many layers. You know,  
17 before I even get to see, electronically, an  
18 invoice, it's gone through procurement, it's gone  
19 through my accounts payable people, they work the  
20 claim, they call it working the claim. They make  
21 sure all documentation is there, make sure  
22 everything is appropriate, and then it gets to me,  
23 and then I ask my questions.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And then -- which  
25 is also very, very important, that we make sure, we

1 ensure that we actually have gotten the appropriate  
2 service that we're paying for. We make sure, and  
3 you have, at my direction, have instituted a new  
4 processes to better protect the taxpayer, to better  
5 ensure that every dollar is being spent wisely and  
6 appropriately.

7 MR. BALLAS: Absolutely.

8 I was asked when I first got here to  
9 help run this Town like a business, and that's what  
10 we're trying to do and that's what I know.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I'd say more than  
12 trying to do and this Budget certainly proves that  
13 we're succeeding at that.

14 MR. BALLAS: Absolutely.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We'd like to  
16 thank you for your expertise, your motivation and  
17 you working 24/7 on things here. And you come to  
18 the table with quite the resume. We greatly  
19 appreciate everything that you've been doing to  
20 help us in the savings to our Town and to our  
21 taxpayers.

22 MR. BALLAS: Thank you.

23 Happy to be here.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: If there are no  
25 questions, thank you very much.

1 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Thanks, Steve.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All right.

3 Does anyone else have any questions on  
4 this Budget proposal? I think we've been very,  
5 very thorough, but -- we talked about -- we talked  
6 about -- I have my list here of different items we  
7 wanted to bring to light and ask questions on, and  
8 I am going to just ask our Parks Commissioner, --  
9 Commissioner Pinto, is he still in the room? Okay.  
10 Thank you.

11 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Supervisor, if I  
12 may?

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Certainly.

14 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I see  
15 Commissioner Fitzgerald in the audience.

16 I just want to commend you. You're  
17 doing a lot more, you're putting on some great  
18 shows, maybe not the big names anymore, but thank  
19 you. You're doing a wonderful job with that.  
20 People still flock to the parks in the Summertime.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: On that note, I'm  
22 going to ask Commissioner -- if you'd hold off,  
23 Commissioner Pinto.

24 Commissioner Fitzgerald, hate to put  
25 you on the spot, but that's part of the job.

1                   Would you step forward, please, to the  
2 podium?

3                   You brought up something, Councilman  
4 Macagnone, that's so important and the public needs  
5 to know what our new direction is, the changes  
6 being made.

7                   Would you state your presence,  
8 Commissioner, please?

9                   COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: Commissioner  
10 Maureen Fitzgerald, Commissioner of Community and  
11 Youth Services.

12                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: When I came here  
13 at the will of the Town Board, and it's a real  
14 pleasure to work with them, we sat down and we  
15 talked about a new approach. And one of the many,  
16 many items was cutting back the amount that we  
17 spend on the services your department provides  
18 without affecting the service.

19                   Most people would say, that's not  
20 possible, you can't pay the money for a Volkswagen  
21 and expect to get a Cadillac, but that's indeed  
22 what we've done.

23                   Can we speak about -- let's take an  
24 example of one thing, Music Under the Stars, for  
25 instance. Let's talk about how much was cut and



1 the changes that that brought.

2 COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: Several years  
3 ago, our Budget was well over \$500,000, some years  
4 topping 700,000. I think last year on our  
5 performance, we spent roughly \$45,000, \$46,000.

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So we greatly cut  
7 that back. So, of course, we would have had to  
8 lose many of the nights of performances.

9 COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: We didn't  
10 lose the nights of performances. We just didn't go  
11 with many National acts. We had more tribute  
12 bands, which we find people do enjoy.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So we're  
14 providing the same amount of nights of  
15 entertainment, free concerts to our public, and  
16 they love them because the parks are packed, and  
17 what percentage savings have we been experiencing?

18 COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: Well, I would  
19 defer to the Budget director for percentages, but  
20 we've saved a heck of a lot.

21 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: By my math, it's  
22 more than a 90 percent reduction.

23 COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: Heck of a  
24 lot.

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's

1       tremendous.

2                   COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD:  And we also  
3       had -- we used to have four festivals during the  
4       year, we had two Spring and two Summer, both at  
5       Syosset and Massapequa.  A few years ago, we just  
6       limited it to a Spring festival in Syosset and a  
7       Fall festival in Massapequa.  So we've cut back,  
8       but I think it's been enjoyable because we're  
9       getting people from both north and south at each of  
10      the festivals.  They've been quite successful.

11                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO:  So we are  
12      spreading the wealth out throughout the Town.  And  
13      so people understand the popularity and desire to  
14      have these, I was at that festival in -- I was at  
15      both of them, but let's talk about the one in  
16      Marjorie Post Park for starters, do you have an  
17      estimate of the number of residents young and old,  
18      of all ages, that attended?

19                   COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD:  Our estimate  
20      is within the day, it's a three-hour period, but  
21      probably about 3,000 people have come.

22                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO:  It was packed.  
23      I'm thrilled at the great job you and the Deputy  
24      Commissioner and all of your employees are doing.

25                   We want to thank you for your attention

1 to the detail, your commitment to our residents,  
2 your professionalism in improving the services  
3 while cutting the costs. It's been absolutely  
4 wonderful working with you and you continue to do  
5 an amazing job.

6 COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: Thank you,  
7 and thank you to the Board.

8 You are the ones that give us the  
9 opportunity to present everything to the public, so  
10 we thank you and for your participation.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,  
12 Commissioner.

13 And I'm going to ask -- yes?

14 MR. DARIENZO: One thing, Commissioner,  
15 I think you said 45,000, 46,000, I think you meant  
16 450,000 for special events as opposed to the --

17 COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: Right, but on  
18 the performers.

19 MR. DARIENZO: Just so we're clear, the  
20 percentage drop went from a high of like \$750,000 a  
21 year down to roughly \$450,000 per year. It's like  
22 40 percent, 45 percent decrease.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: For all of the  
24 free shows that we provide?

25 MR. DARIENZO: Correct.

1                   COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: The special  
2 events is a Budget for the entire year, so if  
3 you're speaking just to Music Under the Stars, but  
4 special events Budget that Rob spoke of was that  
5 drop of 40 percent for the entire year for  
6 everything that we do.

7                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you so  
8 much.

9                   Commissioner Pinto? Commissioner,  
10 we're -- thank you for coming back up to join us,  
11 Commissioner Pinto.

12                   COMMISSIONER PINTO: My pleasure.

13                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: With the Parks  
14 Department.

15                   I just want to reiterate some of this  
16 information.

17                   Now, we had looked into old accounts to  
18 find monies to make the improvements that were made  
19 without capital expenditures.

20                   Could you speak to that a bit, and then  
21 talk to us about the upgrades in our bathrooms and  
22 in the parks?

23                   COMMISSIONER PINTO: Sure.

24                   We had -- when I first went to Parks,  
25 knowing what I knew from being on the Town Board,

1 there were many complaints about our pools and how  
2 the pools looked with regards to, you know, the  
3 chairs and the tables and the bathrooms, all that  
4 stuff. We went through our old monies on the  
5 capital side and found out there was monies there  
6 that haven't been spent yet.

7 So that's when I came to you and we  
8 collectively decided it was time to work on all the  
9 pools in the Town of Oyster Bay. We did all the  
10 shade structures and new chairs and new tables, and  
11 then this past year, we went after the bathrooms.

12 So every pool in the Town of Oyster  
13 Bay, with the exception of Tappen, we're going to  
14 do some work there this Summer -- this Winter, I'm  
15 sorry -- have all new, you know, bathrooms, shade  
16 structures, chairs, tables.

17 We've also improved the filtration  
18 systems, so we basically, after this year, will  
19 have, you know, brand-new pools at every one of our  
20 sites.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Without having to  
22 pay for brand-new pools.

23 COMMISSIONER PINTO: Without having to  
24 use any bond any new money for those projects.

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: No new money.

1 Amazing.

2 Now, the expectation is that when  
3 people use the restrooms, that the plumbing all  
4 works, the lighting all works. Let's talk a little  
5 bit about these improvements and what the overall  
6 plan is in terms of rehabbing our facilities --  
7 maintaining.

8 COMMISSIONER PINTO: What we've done is  
9 we have a six-year plan, that's what Rob wants us  
10 to do, and we are focusing on our playgrounds, on  
11 our bathrooms and also our turf fields. As time  
12 has gone on, we see which parks and parklets need  
13 new equipment.

14 We've gone out there and we've  
15 identified some. I think in the 18 months that  
16 we've been involved, we've already done about 12 or  
17 13 new playgrounds. You'll see new ones going in  
18 right now at Roosevelt, at Ransom, and at Town of  
19 Oyster Bay -- at Tobay, I'm sorry.

20 Next year, we have -- we had a meeting  
21 yesterday to identify some parklets and some parks  
22 that we're trying to go after for next year.  
23 Bethpage Park will be one of them. We get a lot of  
24 complaints about their playground.

25 With regards to the bathrooms, we've

1 identified some bathrooms in our parks. And the  
2 bathrooms are done by all of our personnel. I  
3 mean, we --

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All done  
5 in-house.

6 COMMISSIONER PINTO: We don't go  
7 outside to get -- we have staff that's fantastic.

8 You know, we combine -- when we need  
9 help, we do go to Highway for things and they come  
10 to us for things, but Highway has been great with  
11 us. Any time we need assistance, they'll help us  
12 out. So we are utilizing staff from one department  
13 to another.

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Which addresses  
15 what the Councilman brought to light, which is  
16 always an excellent suggestion.

17 COMMISSIONER PINTO: Yes, absolutely.

18 And with regards to the turf fields, as  
19 many of us know, you know, life on those fields go  
20 from anywhere from 12 to 15 years, so we're in the  
21 process of identifying. We did Syosset, Woodbury,  
22 and Allen Park this year. Next year, we have two  
23 more that we're looking to do, and in years to  
24 come, we will have two every year; hopefully, two  
25 every year to get done and to redo.

1                   What we have put into the Budget, which  
2                   is going to help the life of the turf fields, is we  
3                   do a grooming which hasn't been done. We had  
4                   neglected over the years to do a grooming of each  
5                   facility, a real deep grooming of each facility.

6                   We have that built into our Budget now,  
7                   that every turf field will have a deep grooming  
8                   every year and we hope to extend the use of life of  
9                   that field.

10                   COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: We do that  
11                   in-house?

12                   COMMISSIONER PINTO: No. That, we have  
13                   to hire a professional to do.

14                   COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: We have -- how  
15                   many fields, 20 roughly?

16                   COMMISSIONER PINTO: We have maybe 15  
17                   to 20.

18                   COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Right. It might  
19                   behoove us to think about training people to do  
20                   that in-house, such has Highway has done.

21                   COMMISSIONER PINTO: Yeah, we can look  
22                   into that. You know, the machinery that's involved  
23                   might be excessive. You know, when you compare  
24                   that to the cost of having somebody come in, but we  
25                   can look into that to see if there's a cost benefit



1 to that.

2 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: If we are going  
3 to keep doing these fields for the next thirty  
4 years, it might pay.

5 COMMISSIONER PINTO: The real reason  
6 we're doing it is because we feel like the use of  
7 the life can be extended if we do it properly.

8 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I think it's a  
9 great idea, but instead of contracting out, do it  
10 in-house, we might save us some money in the long  
11 run.

12 COMMISSIONER PINTO: It's a good thing  
13 to look into. I'm sure equipment that comes into  
14 that as well, but we'll look into it.

15 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Well, Highway  
16 has done a great job with the roads, so they're  
17 leading by example.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Come next season,  
19 people can expect all of commodes working, all of  
20 the sinks working, all of the warm water showers  
21 will be working in all of our facilities?

22 COMMISSIONER PINTO: Yes.

23 As far as the showers are concerned,  
24 those are mostly at Tobay, and we are looking to  
25 redo those as well this year.

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's on the  
2 list, too, that's fabulous.

3 And we've done all of this in 2018  
4 while cutting taxes?

5 COMMISSIONER PINTO: That's what I'm  
6 hearing, yes.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Well, we know  
8 we've cut taxes in 2018, and it's good to know that  
9 we're working with consummate professionals to get  
10 things done while reducing the tax burden and  
11 maintaining all of the property that we own, that's  
12 essential.

13 COMMISSIONER PINTO: It's working out  
14 well.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.  
16 Thank, Councilman.

17 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Commissioner.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Commissioner,  
19 thank you.

20 Any other questions from the Town  
21 Board? Okay. We have some members of the public  
22 who would like to be heard on this, and our first  
23 speaker is Paul Molinari.

24 MR. MOLINARI: I'm a little stiff from  
25 sitting.

1                   Good morning, Mr. Supervisor, Town  
2 Board members.

3                   Paul Molinari, 332 West Nicholai  
4 Street, Hicksville.

5                   I'd like to start off and say that I'm  
6 pleased that once again, the Budget identifies the  
7 priorities outlined where the Town is going.

8                   It's -- you did it last year, you've  
9 done it again this year, so I'm very happy to see  
10 that's in the Budget.

11                   Also, it's very pleasing to get it for  
12 the different Town departments. You have write-ups  
13 on the Town departments, what their priorities are,  
14 and what they're looking to achieve in the upcoming  
15 Budget.

16                   After all the discussions, several of  
17 my concerns have been addressed, especially on the  
18 one on legal fees, but there's two -- a couple  
19 other issues that I still would like to hear --  
20 have addressed.

21                   One is -- I think it's in the  
22 Comptroller's Office, it's the issue of \$2.2  
23 million every year for IT maintenance.

24                   I think in previous Budget discussions,  
25 I was told that this amount of money was needed

1 because the Town was going to new software for  
2 budgeting and everything else, but every year, it's  
3 2.2 million. It seems a lot to me, especially if  
4 it's just for maintenance.

5 On the projections for revenues, in  
6 Planning and Development -- Planning and  
7 Development, yes, in the past, their revenues were  
8 in -- around \$9 million, \$8 million range. This  
9 year, you're projecting -- for 2019, you're  
10 projecting like \$11 million in revenues. That  
11 seems a significant uptick to me.

12 I'm glad to see that you have a capital  
13 Budget. The Budget for 2019 is approximately  
14 35 million, 34/\$35 million. I've had issues -- you  
15 know, the questions and discussions have raised --  
16 you know, I had issues on the debt reduction, but  
17 this looks like you -- well, Mr. Darienzo said next  
18 year, you're projecting to reduce the deficit by  
19 \$15 million.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: No. I believe --  
21 oh, the debt, we're doing both.

22 We're reducing the capital debt of the  
23 Town and we're reducing the deficit on the  
24 ongoing -- the ongoing deficit on the operating  
25 Budget.

1 MR. MOLINARI: Yeah, okay, but the  
2 deficit, the overall deficit is going down  
3 \$15 million down to -- you're projecting it will be  
4 at -- the overall debt will be at \$613 million,  
5 correctly, if I remember.

6 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: I don't know if  
7 that's correct.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Rob, why don't  
9 you correct that statement?

10 MR. DARIENZO: Sorry, Paul.

11 You're just confusing two terms, the --  
12 a debt reduction is the paydown of our bonds or our  
13 short-term notes.

14 The cumulative deficit that we speak of  
15 has to do with our operating accounts. So your  
16 deficit has to do with operating; debt has to do  
17 with capital. So we're reducing -- we're  
18 projecting to reduce debt by \$15 million in 2019.

19 After reducing the \$85 million and \$15  
20 million the past two years, our cumulative deficit  
21 will be reduced due to the result of operations in  
22 2019, separate from debt.

23 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: And we have no  
24 deficit in this Budget.

25 MR. MOLINARI: I understand that.

1 I'm addressing the overall reduction in  
2 debt. And in the Budget, you show that you have  
3 approximately -- in your debt being paid down, you  
4 said \$65 million. It's 65 to 70 million in the  
5 capital portion and about 20-plus million on  
6 interest.

7 But if we only -- if we are reducing --  
8 basically, what I mean -- what I'm saying is we are  
9 only reducing the debt by \$15 million, where you  
10 have in the Budget 70 million being paid down.

11 And even if we go out and bond for \$35  
12 million for capital improvements, why are we now  
13 bonding for \$55 million? That's --

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's your  
15 question?

16 MR. MOLINARI: That's my bottom line,  
17 if my math is correct.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very  
19 much for coming up.

20 MR. DARIENZO: Let's handle the last  
21 one first.

22 And, Paul, please stay close because I  
23 forgot the first two.

24 In the Budget, it might show \$70  
25 million in principle paydowns. That includes the

1 water districts. When I said \$64.9 million, a hair  
2 under \$65 million, that's for Town purposes only.

3 And, yes, the Capital Program for 2019  
4 shows a program totaling just under \$35 million,  
5 but we said earlier, we're going to borrow \$50  
6 million of new money in 2019. It will be that \$35  
7 million in the 2019 Capital Program and \$15 million  
8 or so from old authorizations that we're still  
9 eligible to borrow against.

10 So in 2019, right now, we anticipate  
11 paying down 65 for Town purposes, issuing  
12 50 million for Town purposes, and thereby, a  
13 reduction of \$15 million of debt in 2019, separate  
14 from the deficit.

15 Does that make sense?

16 MR. MOLINARI: Makes sense.

17 So you're borrowing -- what's the other  
18 \$15 million for that you're going to borrow  
19 against? You said you're borrowing \$50 million.  
20 35 million is going for the capital improvements.

21 What's the 15 million going --

22 MR. DARIENZO: Paul's referring to the  
23 difference between the \$35 million in the 2019  
24 Capital Program and the \$50 million we intend to  
25 borrow in 2019.

1 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Mr. Darienzo, is  
2 it accurate that it's all for capital improvements,  
3 but some of them -- some of it is new  
4 authorizations and some of it is old  
5 authorizations?

6 MR. DARIENZO: That's exactly correct.

7 It will all be for capital, and while  
8 we won't borrow this money until March of 2019, so  
9 the exact borrowing schedule has not been finalized  
10 yet.

11 But, again, I anticipate roughly \$15  
12 million for old authorizations that have already  
13 been approved by this Town Board and \$35 million  
14 based on new authorizations that will contemplated  
15 by the Town Board later this year.

16 MR. MOLINARI: I understand.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay, Paul?

18 MR. MOLINARI: Yes.

19 You want the other two questions.

20 MR. DARIENZO: Yes, please.

21 MR. MOLINARI: One was on the IT  
22 maintenance for 2.2 every year.

23 MR. DARIENZO: Okay. For IT  
24 maintenance, you'll notice that in this year's  
25 Budget, we created a new page.



1 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Rob, what is meant  
2 by IT maintenance? It's a little bit more  
3 encompassing than what I think it sounds like to  
4 you.

5 MR. DARIENZO: IT maintenance is not as  
6 simple as someone making sure our computers work,  
7 if that's what you're intimating. I think that IT  
8 maintenance refers to mostly outside vendors who  
9 have a specific expertise in the programs that we  
10 run throughout the Town.

11 They provide day-to-day support for  
12 those programs, and so when those programs are  
13 first implemented, they are charged to capital, but  
14 once they are fully implemented, the cost needs to  
15 shift to operating. So while you see \$2.2 million  
16 in the operating Budget for this purpose, you'll be  
17 happy to know that means that the capital costs  
18 have been correspondingly reduced.

19 So it's a net. So it's a wash at the  
20 end of the day. So, again, with that being said,  
21 there's a new function in this year's Budget,  
22 it's -- I think it's A1680 for IT, we broke out the  
23 Comptroller's Office cost between their costs for  
24 non-IT items versus the cost for IT items.

25 So, again, it's boring State coded

1 accounts and accounting terms, but A1315 is for  
2 Comptroller, A1680 is for IT, and I think that  
3 you'll see that there's no -- there's no  
4 contemplation for new employees under the 1680.  
5 It's strictly a breakout of what was once in A1315  
6 being split between the A1315 and A1680.

7 So employees don't change. The manager  
8 doesn't change. Who reports to who doesn't change.  
9 It's still under the umbrella of the Comptroller's  
10 Office. The IT people still report to Steve Ballas  
11 and Christine Wiss.

12 But with that being said, the IT Budget  
13 should see, over the next couple of years, a shift  
14 from outside people handling certain things for us  
15 to us hiring own people at a lower rate to do it  
16 for us. We're not all the way there yet, but the  
17 process has begun.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

19 MR. DARIENZO: What was the second  
20 question?

21 MR. MOLINARI: It was on the projected  
22 revenues.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We should have  
24 the Commissioner come up for that, if you don't  
25 mind.

1 MR. DARIENZO: I should do that one.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

3 MR. DARIENZO: So here's the story  
4 there. Okay.

5 Yes, if you look at history, P&D has  
6 trended, I think it was 8.5 last year or 9 million  
7 last year. They are on pace for \$10 million for  
8 permit revenues for 2018. They are doing a  
9 tremendous job over there cranking out the permits,  
10 bringing in the cash. Okay.

11 Yes, for 2019, we have estimated  
12 11 million for permit fees. So here's the part  
13 where I get -- I talk about boring accounting.

14 I talked about the cumulative deficit,  
15 okay, the negative 44 to negative 24 to negative 9.  
16 Now, that cumulative deficit is made up of ten or  
17 twelve funds.

18 The General Fund, the Park Town Fund,  
19 the Highway Fund, the Drainage Fund, Lighting Fund,  
20 Parks Fund, Sanitation, Solid Waste, Public  
21 Parking, Debt Service, all of those funds have  
22 their own surplus or deficit.

23 Now, because Planning and Development  
24 has done such a great job, they don't have a  
25 accumulative deficit. They have accumulative

1 surplus in the range of roughly \$6 million. Okay.  
2 The General Fund, on the other hand, has a very,  
3 very large deficit.

4 Again, all things added up, it's  
5 negative 9 million, but at the start of 2018, the  
6 General Fund was negative 22 million, Park Town was  
7 positive 6 million, Highways minus -- there's  
8 pluses and minuses all over the place that make up  
9 that negative \$9 million.

10 The idea is to have all of our funds in  
11 a surplus. So if you look closely enough at the  
12 Budget, I did it in four places, I believe, in P&D,  
13 there's an overestimated revenue in that one case.  
14 In Parks, in Lighting, and I think Drainage, in  
15 four places, there was a total of roughly  
16 \$4 million of revenues that I overestimated,  
17 knowing that they would not reach those figures  
18 because those four funds had cumulative surpluses  
19 that could handle losing money for 2109 to  
20 increased -- by increasing those revenues in those  
21 four funds, I was able to decrease the taxes in  
22 those four funds and move those decreased taxes in  
23 those four funds to the General Fund.

24 So the General Fund got a boost at  
25 the -- at the expense of these other four funds.

1                   So in 2019, again, this is just  
2                   accounting ease here, we're taking existing  
3                   surpluses from various funds to help out the  
4                   General Fund with the idea that in the next couple  
5                   of years, every fund will have a positive fund  
6                   balance.

7                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: For the purposes  
8                   of the public here or listening in on this, these  
9                   are generally accepted accounting principals?

10                  MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

11                  As a matter of fact, the last time the  
12                  State Comptroller's Office was here, they  
13                  criticized us for trying to Budget a negative  
14                  surplus in order to create a surplus in a fund.

15                  They told us that we should -- if we  
16                  are looking to create a surplus in a certain fund,  
17                  we needed to overestimate our revenue. It sounds  
18                  counterintuitive and we certainly had a little back  
19                  and forth with them, but that was their  
20                  recommendation and so that's what we're doing here.

21                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So we're  
22                  following the recommendation of the auditors from  
23                  Comptroller DiNapoli's office?

24                  MR. DARIENZO: That's correct.

25                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

1 MR. DARIENZO: And by the way, I  
2 wouldn't put it past Commissioner MacCarone and  
3 Deputy Commissioner Tim Zike to hit that \$11  
4 million target.

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I think they  
6 will. They have been on fire over there.

7 I'm going to ask one question -- or two  
8 questions of the Commissioner.

9 If you don't mind, Commissioner  
10 MacCarone, come on up.

11 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Elizabeth  
12 MacCarone, Commissioner of Planning and  
13 Development.

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you for  
15 joining us, Commissioner.

16 We have spoken, since you came on board  
17 as part of our new administration, of the targets  
18 and the vision, and one of the things that we knew  
19 we had to create here was a very eased process for  
20 permits.

21 We created same-day permits. People  
22 come in through the cross training and the new  
23 procedures.

24 Can you talk to us about if the number  
25 of permits are up due to that and what the revenue

1 is from that increase in permits?

2 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Yes.

3 Well, in terms of same-day permits, we  
4 have implemented that beginning last year in April  
5 of 2017 and we continue to issue hundreds of  
6 permits every year, we're somewhere in the range of  
7 over 5,000 same-day permits issued within the last  
8 year and a half.

9 We also have upgraded our computer  
10 system, which I know the prior speaker spoke about  
11 IT maintenance.

12 All I can say is from a Department of  
13 Planning and Development, our computer system is  
14 critical in operating all day long, 365 days a  
15 week -- a year. We -- this year and last year, we  
16 did some upgrades to our system. After speaking  
17 with the staff and seeing what we could do to  
18 upgrade the system, we began an implementation with  
19 our IT department, as well as the company that we  
20 purchased the software from about ten years ago,  
21 and they were needed upgrades that had to be done,  
22 and I'm happy to say that we went live about a week  
23 and a half ago. We're up and running. All the  
24 departments are running. We've hit a few hiccups;  
25 however, if we did not have the support of the IT

1 department, as well as the outside vendors that  
2 work with us, we would not be able to issue these  
3 permits in a timely fashion.

4 All of our COs, CCs, permits,  
5 licensing, there's so much that goes into the back  
6 end that people just don't see.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And people need  
8 to understand so that we are expending monies on  
9 our IT in the maintenance of our program, but by  
10 doing that, they -- it actually increases revenue  
11 and your department is one of those departments  
12 that sees that increase?

13 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Absolutely.  
14 100 percent.

15 We've seen a great boom in the  
16 reconstruction in the Town, whether it's  
17 reconstruction of new homes, interior alterations  
18 of homes. You know, a lot of our housing stock was  
19 built in the 1950s and '60s. It's going on 70  
20 years old. People are purchasing these homes and  
21 they're renovating them.

22 We're seeing a lot of new homes being  
23 built in accordance with all our ordinances and the  
24 amount of construction is -- as well as commercial  
25 as well. All our malls have been renovated, a lot



1 of our big box stores have been renovated,  
2 companies are coming in. So are our revenue, we  
3 continue to, you know, cross train our employees.

4 One of the things that Councilman  
5 Macagnone spoke about, we also utilize people in  
6 other departments. We have some people in the  
7 Comptroller's Office that help out with typing. We  
8 watch our bins constantly. When I say our bins,  
9 for our permits and so forth. When we need help  
10 with typing --

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: This means you're  
12 increasing the volume of work?

13 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: As people come  
14 in to pay for their permits, if we see bins are  
15 becoming full, we'll bring them down to a staff  
16 member in the Comptroller's Office who will help in  
17 inputting those permits so we can get them out in a  
18 timely fashion.

19 We've worked with the Highway  
20 Department, the Engineering Division to constantly  
21 streamline the process to get these permits out.  
22 What we can do is process the permits in a timely  
23 quickly manner. I can't estimate when someone's  
24 going to pay for their permit.

25 So, like the Director of Finance had

1 indicated, we're in constant communication. We're  
2 watching our numbers. When we set the Budget this  
3 past August, or the Preliminary Budget, we see  
4 what's in our -- in the hopper as to the projects  
5 that are coming in.

6 Country Pointe, they came in a lot in  
7 2017 for permits. They then slowed down because  
8 they're in construction.

9 Next year, we expect an increase in  
10 applications from them as they start their Phase  
11 Two and Phase Three.

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: How much did that  
13 bring in, in 2017?

14 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Just  
15 specifically Country Pointe?

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: I don't have  
18 that exact number, but it was a significant amount  
19 of money.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Hundreds of  
21 thousands of dollars.

22 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Yes.  
23 Absolutely.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Over a million?

25 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Pretty close

1 to.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Pretty close to a  
3 million dollars.

4 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Between  
5 commercial and residential property?

6 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Yes. Yes.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Of revenue?

8 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Of revenue.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Of dollars of  
10 revenue to the taxpayers?

11 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: So we have a  
12 lot of applications that are currently waiting for  
13 payment, whether they pay -- here we are, the  
14 middle of October -- whether they pay in 2018 or  
15 2019, you know, it all depends on when that's  
16 coming in.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: They don't their  
18 paperwork until they've paid?

19 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Right.  
20 Exactly.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Like everyone.

22 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: I'm very  
23 confident about the numbers next year.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

25 So just to go over this, since we put

1 in place same-day permits, we have issued far more  
2 permits than in the past?

3 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Correct.

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That it also  
5 increases revenue because there's a fee that comes  
6 with the permit?

7 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Absolutely.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Since you and I  
9 have spoken, and I know you -- we have been meeting  
10 regularly, been meeting regularly, you and members  
11 of your staff with the Deputy Supervisor to  
12 continue to fine tune the department, other areas  
13 of permits have increased for the Town as well?

14 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Absolutely.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: In addition to  
16 the same-day permits?

17 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: That's  
18 correct.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And that also  
20 brings in more revenue?

21 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: Yes.

22 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And you are one  
23 of the departments that benefits by the  
24 expenditures made on IT?

25 COMMISSIONER MACCARONE: 100 percent,

1       yes.

2                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO:   And by keeping  
3       our computers up and running and main- -- properly  
4       maintained, that increases revenue because it can  
5       increase the output of work?

6                   COMMISSIONER MACCARONE:   Yes.

7                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO:   As well as speed  
8       up getting the permits to the residents?

9                   COMMISSIONER MACCARONE:   Yes.

10                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO:   That covers the  
11       questions I had.

12                  Thank you so much.

13                  COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE:   Excuse me,  
14       Commissioner, a good economy doesn't hurt our  
15       permits being up also?  People want to spend.

16                  COMMISSIONER MACCARONE:   Oh,  
17       absolutely.  Absolutely.

18                  And people want to be here in the Town  
19       of Oyster Bay.  We see, from businesses,  
20       homeowners, residents, you know, just small mom and  
21       pop companies that are coming in to fill our  
22       downtowns and so forth.

23                  COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE:   Thank you.

24                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO:   Thank you for a  
25       job well done in the department.

1                   Okay. We have -- our Town Clerk has  
2 asked to speak on the Budget, so, Jim, if you'd  
3 like to take the podium and --

4                   MR. ALTADONNA: Thank you.

5                   Oh, not to stay here?

6                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: No, because  
7 you're not representing the Town Clerk's Office  
8 when you speak.

9                   MR. ALTADONNA: I'm talking as an  
10 elected official. I'm not talking as a resident,  
11 as an elected official, if that's okay.

12                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Whatever you'd  
13 like, Jim.

14                   MR. ALTADONNA: Thank you.

15                   Hi, Mr. Darienzo.

16                   MR. DARIENZO: How are you?

17                   MR. ALTADONNA: I have a question.

18                   We talk about the retirement of debt  
19 and nowhere does it say, or I'm wondering, is that  
20 scheduled debt or is that additional debt being  
21 retired?

22                   MR. DARIENZO: Do you want to do them  
23 one at a time?

24                   MR. ALTADONNA: How would you like to do  
25 that?

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Councilman  
2 Macagnone has asked if you'd make your presence.

3 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Address for the  
4 record, please.

5 MR. ALTADONNA: James Altadonna, Town  
6 Clerk of Oyster Bay, 54 Abbey Street, Massapequa  
7 Park.

8 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Thank you.

9 MR. ALTADONNA: You're welcome.

10 My first question is under retirement  
11 of debt, I'd like to know if that is a scheduled  
12 debt payment or if there was something that was  
13 done over and above to retire that debt. That's  
14 number one.

15 Number two is, we keep talking about  
16 we're running this like a business, and I agree,  
17 it's a wonderful thing to run a municipality as a  
18 business, and one of the most important assets is  
19 our people.

20 And time and time again, I've seen  
21 Commissioners come up here, who do a tremendous  
22 job, brag and say how wonderful their people are,  
23 but yet, nowhere in this Budget do I see anything  
24 for the increase for our union staff.

25 We're four weeks behind in their

1 salaries. They have made tremendous sacrifices.  
2 Our union workers cannot afford to not have raises.  
3 Okay.

4 We gave three-quarters of a million  
5 dollars out to roughly 65 people. I ask that we  
6 open it up negotiations with our union and we try  
7 to make it right with the people that come to work  
8 every day, that pick up our garbage.

9 We were here, all of us, during  
10 Superstorm Sandy, and we saw what these people did.  
11 Just looking at what happened in Florida this week  
12 has brought back memories, and if it wasn't for the  
13 yellow trucks, remember the yellow trucks, both in  
14 Highway, both in Sanitation, and every department  
15 in this Town, people left their own families and  
16 they worked and they worked tirelessly day in and  
17 day out. Every Commissioner here worked day in and  
18 day out.

19 I think it's time that we recognize and  
20 we give back monies to the people that have been  
21 sacrificing and doing the work that makes us all  
22 look good.

23 Thank you.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thanks, Jim.

25 Rob, would you mind coming up, please?



1           So let's talk a little bit about the  
2 first issue so we can bring light and describe this  
3 to the public.

4           Let's --

5           MR. DARIENZO: The first one's easy.

6           For the first time in years, the 2019  
7 Budget will only include principal paydowns for  
8 long-term debt. Long-term debt is fully scheduled.

9           In 2018, 2017, 2016, in prior years, we  
10 paid down a combination of long-term bonds and  
11 short-term BANs, Bond Anticipation Notes, as you  
12 know, but for the record.

13           MR. ALTADONNA: I'm saying those are  
14 scheduled payments, so regardless, they would have  
15 been paid.

16           MR. DARIENZO: The bond payments in  
17 2019, and therefore, all debt payments in 2019 are  
18 going as scheduled.

19           MR. ALTADONNA: For the personnel out  
20 there, because they need to know, it's like a  
21 mortgage.

22           You pay down a scheduled payment and  
23 that reduces the debt, correct?

24           MR. DARIENZO: For bonds, yes. For  
25 BANs, we have ability to pay down what we choose.

1 MR. ALTADONNA: Correct.

2 MR. DARIENZO: There's a minimum and  
3 there's no maximum.

4 So, potentially, you could pay down  
5 BANs all in cash if you want to.

6 MR. ALTADONNA: Okay.

7 MR. DARIENZO: So for 2019, again, it's  
8 odd in that it's the first year in many years where  
9 because we had no BANs in 2017, there's no BAN  
10 principals coming due in 2019.

11 MR. ALTADONNA: I understand.

12 MR. DARIENZO: So, yes, if you just  
13 look with blinders at 2019, it's all scheduled.

14 For every other year prior to that,  
15 there's a combination of scheduled plus higher than  
16 the minimum payments on BANs.

17 MR. ALTADONNA: And we may be doing  
18 that again in December, correct, of this year for  
19 BANs?

20 MR. DARIENZO: No. Right now, we  
21 contemplate issuing --

22 MR. ALTADONNA: -- notes?

23 MR. DARIENZO: Correct. We'll probably  
24 issue RANs in the amount of -- RANs or TANs, we  
25 haven't figured it out yet.

1 MR. ALTADONNA: Okay.

2 MR. DARIENZO: RANs or TANs in the  
3 amount of roughly \$10 million in December of this  
4 year to come due in February or March of next year.

5 Now, I'm glad you brought that up  
6 because in the past, we went -- we had a high of  
7 \$32 million just in 2016 in the forms of combined  
8 TANs and RANs, and \$32 million became \$15 million,  
9 and now \$15 million is going to become \$10 million.

10 And not only is \$15 million becoming  
11 \$10 million, we used to borrow money from, say, May  
12 to the following March, a period of ten months.

13 MR. ALTADONNA: I always sign them.

14 MR. DARIENZO: Yes, you did. And now  
15 we're going to go --

16 MR. ALTADONNA: It was contentious.

17 MR. DARIENZO: I didn't want to say  
18 anything, but yes.

19 So we went -- now we're going to go --  
20 instead of doing ten months worth of borrowings for  
21 those cash flow borrowings, we're going to two and  
22 a half months.

23 So we're going to borrow less -- a  
24 lower amount of money for a shorter period of time,  
25 thereby saving as much as we can on interest. And

1 that's strictly because of what we're doing here at  
2 the Town, improving our cash flow position.

3 MR. ALTADONNA: Thank you.

4 MR. DARIENZO: No problem.

5 The second question with regards to the  
6 union employees, when the contract was first put  
7 into place, it was stated that the union employees,  
8 and all employees, would give back 2 percent for  
9 2017 and 2018.

10 MR. ALTADONNA: Right.

11 MR. DARIENZO: And they were supposed  
12 to get, I believe, the 2 percent back in 2019, and  
13 then get an additional 2 percent in 2020 and 2021.

14 This Town Board made the decision to  
15 give back that 2 percent six months early. They  
16 already gave the 2 percent back that was due in  
17 2019 in the middle of 2018, so this Budget reflects  
18 that 2 percent give-back.

19 MR. ALTADONNA: We are still behind  
20 four weeks in salary, though.

21 MR. DARIENZO: That's a cash flow.

22 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: If you could  
23 address the Board, it would be greatly appreciated.

24 Just so the people understand, the  
25 reason we were able to do this is because we got

1 the Town on a much more stable financial position  
2 to be able to afford to work with our employees.

3 Could you just talk a little bit about  
4 the improved stability and improved finances that  
5 allowed this to be done in a year while we were  
6 cutting taxes to our taxpayers?

7 MR. DARIENZO: Sure.

8 We have lowered our overall salary  
9 expenses by over, I think, \$12 million since to  
10 2016. We have lowered our debt tremendously. We  
11 have made cuts everywhere where it's possible.  
12 Some things, you know, we were mandated to have  
13 increases, but because we have, again, lowered that  
14 cumulative deficit and thereby improved our cash  
15 position from, again, I'll say again, the negative  
16 44 to the negative 24 to the negative 9, it allowed  
17 us to take what was not supposed to happen until  
18 2019 to make it happen six months earlier in 2018.

19 So that was a roughly one point -- the  
20 value of that 2 percent was roughly \$1.4 million,  
21 which went back on July 1st or July 5th, I think it  
22 was, as opposed to January 1, 2019. So if you  
23 consider that for a half a year, that was roughly a  
24 \$700,000 give-back to the union because of our  
25 improved standing.

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And still, we  
2 were able to cut taxes to our taxpayers  
3 simultaneously?

4 MR. DARIENZO: Yes.

5 And just so we clear up the lag  
6 question, again, boring accounting speak, we  
7 operate on the accrual basis of accounting, which  
8 means that our expenses for the year are what they  
9 are based on the services provided in that given  
10 year. Because we have what we call a double lag,  
11 that's more of a cash basis.

12 So when our books are audited and  
13 completed for any given year, it reflects the  
14 entire amount of salaries that was earned in that  
15 year, even if it wasn't paid in that year. The  
16 idea of the lag is really just a cash flow  
17 situation. It's not a -- it has no effect on our  
18 operating surplus or deficit.

19 MR. ALTADONNA: It has an --

20 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I think the  
21 question was pertaining to the lag payrolls.

22 MR. ALTADONNA: Right.

23 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: You and all of  
24 us that is you and all of us that work for the Town  
25 took --

1 MR. ALTADONNA: That's correct.

2 MR. DARIENZO: Right, but you still --  
3 what I'm trying to say is --

4 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I understand  
5 where you're coming from, but, Jim, I think was --  
6 I don't want to speak for you.

7 MR. ALTADONNA: No, you can speak for  
8 me. It's okay.

9 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: There was lag  
10 payroll that every Town worker took for two  
11 different lags.

12 MR. DARIENZO: Two of them.

13 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: So it's four  
14 weeks behind.

15 MR. DARIENZO: Right.

16 What's the question, though?

17 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: I think the  
18 Clerk would like to see that money given back to  
19 the workers.

20 MR. ALTADONNA: Yes, I would.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Well, if I, for  
22 one, can speak to that issue.

23 When I came to this Town, there were  
24 tremendous financial burdens, financial problems.  
25 Years of not running the Town with the accepted

1 principles that we're doing it now.

2 The number one priority of this  
3 administration is to get the Town back, to get rid  
4 of the deficit. We have a deficit in our ongoing  
5 operational funds. When I got here, we sat with  
6 the auditors and I was told that their number was a  
7 deficit of a negative \$44 million, so our highest  
8 priority is to deal with the deficit.

9 In addition to that, tremendous amounts  
10 of debt, over \$700 million in debt. So as we move  
11 forward, we will ensure that we get our Town back,  
12 financially stable first. You can't put a new wing  
13 on a house with a crumbling foundation.

14 So by making sure our foundation is  
15 strong and is appropriate, then we can move forward  
16 with all of the many wonderful initiatives going  
17 forward.

18 But first and foremost, our taxpayers  
19 realize the highest priority is to get our debt  
20 under control, and we're reducing debt, a net of  
21 \$150 million at the end of 2019, and do away with  
22 the deficit altogether, so that we can move toward  
23 a surplus as many other towns have.

24 MR. DARIENZO: And just so we're clear,  
25 the cumulative deficit or cumulus surplus, whatever



1 it may have you, that is unrelated to the cash  
2 position of the Town.

3 So while we have improved from cash  
4 flow borrowings of \$32 million down to \$15 million  
5 down to projected \$10 million this year, we still  
6 are, in fact, borrowing \$10 million for cash flow  
7 purposes, which means we've got to pay interest on  
8 that \$10 million that we borrow.

9 So while I will certainly not make the  
10 final decision on whether or not a lag is returned  
11 to the employees, we're still borrowing money for  
12 cash flow purposes. If we had to lay out -- if we  
13 had to give back one of the lags, that would be  
14 approximately another \$4 million, which would mean,  
15 at this time, a higher borrowing, meaning more  
16 interest as well.

17 MR. ALTADONNA: What would that be,  
18 what number, how much?

19 MR. DARIENZO: Our biweekly payrolls  
20 are roughly -- just under \$4 million when you  
21 factor in the taxes.

22 MR. ALTADONNA: \$4 million per?

23 MR. DARIENZO: Every two weeks.

24 MR. ALTADONNA: Every two weeks?

25 MR. DARIENZO: Correct.

1 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: It's 8 million a  
2 month.

3 MR. ALTADONNA: I would just like to  
4 reiterate, and I appreciate what you're saying, but  
5 if we can't give to everyone, then we shouldn't  
6 have given the 750 million -- thousand to a few.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Jim, rather  
8 than -- we are not going to create a debate. Okay.

9 MR. ALTADONNA: We don't need to debate  
10 it.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Because there is  
12 New York State Labor Law, as well as a contract  
13 with our employees, as we have -- we've had two  
14 early retirement incentives and we have reduced our  
15 workforce, so we have to bring people up to do the  
16 supervisory jobs.

17 And what's been happening, as we -- one  
18 of the methods by which we're bringing people up  
19 within the ranks from our own employees and giving  
20 them promotions that require far more  
21 responsibility, and with that, in accordance with  
22 New York State Labor Law, in accordance with our  
23 union contract, people have to be compensated for  
24 that higher responsibility.

25 If not, as many people, clearly our

1 Town Board all realize, if not, we'd be facing a  
2 lot of trouble with our union, which could end up  
3 in court, increase our legal fees, complaints, but  
4 we have been working very well with our union  
5 because we're working solidly with our staff and  
6 ensuring that we're adhering to the law. And we  
7 will continue to follow the law.

8 MR. DARIENZO: I know the Town Clerk  
9 already knows this, but just so it's clear,  
10 everyone did get money back.

11 Every single employee who lost their  
12 2 percent got it back for July of this year, a half  
13 year earlier than they're --

14 MR. ALTADONNA: For half year.

15 MR. DARIENZO: A half year earlier than  
16 was that stated in the contract.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Than was agreed  
18 upon in the contract because we put the Town in a  
19 much better financial position.

20 And I really thank you for coming up  
21 here, Mr. Darienzo. I thank you for all of your  
22 assistance.

23 MR. DARIENZO: No problem.

24 MR. ALTADONNA: Thank you.

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

1                   So I don't have any other slips, so I  
2                   don't believe anyone else is here to speak on the  
3                   Budget.

4                   And with that being said --

5                   COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Rob, good job.

6                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good job, Rob.

7                   Thank you.

8                   MR. DARIENZO: Thank you all.

9                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: With that being  
10                  said, I'll ask the Clerk to call for our regular  
11                  Action Calendar --

12                  COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Supervisor, I  
13                  make a motion to adjourn this public hearing until  
14                  tonight at 7:00 p.m.

15                  COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Second.

16                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor,  
17                  signify by saying "Aye."

18                  All: "Aye."

19                  MR. ALTADONNA: Hold on.

20                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,  
21                  "Nay."

22                  (No verbal response given.)

23                  MR. ALTADONNA: Hold on.

24                  I have to read.

25                  SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The motion has

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passed.

MR. ALTADONNA: Okay.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We will be  
continuing, so we can handle that tonight.

(TIME NOTED: 12:20 P.M.)

TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 16, 2018  
12:21 P.M.

**JOSEPH SALADINO**  
SUPERVISOR

**JAMES ALTADONNA JR.**  
TOWN CLERK

P R E S E N T:

SUPERVISOR JOSEPH S. SALADINO  
COUNCILMAN JOSEPH D. MUSCARELLA  
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY D. MACAGNONE  
COUNCILWOMAN REBECCA M. ALESIA  
COUNCILWOMAN MICHELE M. JOHNSON  
COUNCILMAN LOUIS B. IMBROTO  
COUNCILMAN THOMAS HAND

A L S O P R E S E N T:

JAMES ALTADONNA JR., TOWN CLERK  
JAMES STEFANICH, RECEIVER OF TAXES

Minutes of the meeting  
taken by:

KRISTINA TRNKA  
Reporter/Notary Public

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And now we're  
2 going to call on our regular Action Calendar.

3 MR. ALTADONNA: Okay. First, we are  
4 going table Resolution No. 655.

5 May I have motion to table Resolution  
6 No. 655?

7 **RESOLUTION NO. 655-2018;** Resolution  
8 authorizing Quantity Decrease, acceptance and final  
9 payment on Contract No. H16-142PH3, Construction of  
10 Highway Improvements to the Smith Street Area, Glen  
11 Head, New York. (M.D. 9/25/18 #15).

12 On the motion?

13 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: So moved.

14 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Second.

15 MR. ALTADONNA: Motion made by  
16 Councilman Muscarella, seconded by Councilman  
17 Macagnone.

18 On the vote:

19 Supervisor?

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: "Aye."

21 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Muscarella?

22 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: "Aye."

23 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Macagnone?

24 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Yes, Clerk.

25 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilwoman Alesia?

1 This is to table.

2 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: I understand.

3 Councilman next to me asked why we're  
4 tabling it. I was just wondering if anyone knew.

5 MR. ALTADONNA: I was just told that.

6 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Did someone  
7 request that it be tabled?

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes.

9 I requested this be tabled for further  
10 review.

11 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Okay.

12 "Aye."

13 MR. ALTADONNA: You vote?

14 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Yes, I did.

15 I said "Aye."

16 MR. ALTADONNA: I didn't hear. Okay.

17 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Sorry, "Aye."

18 MR. ALTADONNA: Thank you.

19 Councilwoman Johnson?

20 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: I vote "Aye."

21 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Imbroto?

22 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: In deference to  
23 the Supervisor's request for further review, I vote  
24 "Aye."

25 MR. ALTADONNA: Okay.



1 Councilman Hand?

2 COUNCILMAN HAND: "Aye."

3 MR. ALTADONNA: Okay.

4 Motion to table Resolution No. 655

5 passes with seven "Ayes."

6 May I have a motion to adopt  
7 Resolutions No. TF-17-18 through 677-2018, noting  
8 that Resolution 655 is tabled?

9 **TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION NO.**

10 **TF-17-18;** Resolution pertaining to Transfer of  
11 Funds within various departments accounts for the  
12 Year 2018.

13 **RESOLUTION NO. 648-2018;** Resolution  
14 authorizing a one-year extension of time to obtain  
15 a Certificate of Occupancy on the application of  
16 Hicksville Road, LLC from September 27, 2018 to  
17 September 27, 2019. (M.D. 9/25/18 #7).

18 **RESOLUTION NO. 649-2018;** Resolution  
19 authorizing the property cleanup assessment of  
20 116 Thorne Drive, Bethpage, New York, performed on  
21 August 1, 2018, be referred to the County of Nassau  
22 for placement of the Nassau County Tax Assessment  
23 Rolls. (M.D. 9/25/18 #9).

24 **RESOLUTION NO. 650-2018;** Resolution  
25 authorizing the property cleanup assessment of

1 43 Maxwell Drive, Westbury, New York, performed on  
2 August 2, 2018, be referred to the County of Nassau  
3 for placement of the Nassau County Tax Assessment  
4 Rolls. (M.D. 9/25/18 #10).

5 **RESOLUTION NO. 651-2018;** Resolution  
6 authorizing the property cleanup assessment of  
7 16 Cedar Place, Massapequa, New York, performed on  
8 July 19, 2018, be referred to the County of Nassau  
9 for placement of the Nassau County Tax Assessment  
10 Rolls. (M.D. 9/25/18 #11).

11 **RESOLUTION NO. 652-2018;** Resolution  
12 authorizing the property cleanup assessment of  
13 101 Clocks Boulevard, Massapequa, New York,  
14 performed on July 10, 2018, be referred to the  
15 County of Nassau for placement of the Nassau County  
16 Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D. 9/25/18 #12).

17 **RESOLUTION NO. 653-2018;** Resolution  
18 authorizing the property cleanup assessment of  
19 254 North Linden Street, Massapequa, New York,  
20 performed on June 25, 2018, be referred to the  
21 County of Nassau for placement of the Nassau County  
22 Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D. 9/25/18 #13).

23 **RESOLUTION NO. 654-2018;** Resolution  
24 authorizing the property cleanup assessment of  
25 2 Colonial Gate, Plainview, New York, performed on

1 July 11, 2018, be referred to the County of Nassau  
2 for placement of the Nassau County Tax Assessment  
3 Rolls. (M.D. 9/25/18 #14).

4 **RESOLUTION NO. 656-2018;** Resolution  
5 directing the Town Clerk to publish a notice of  
6 hearing on a proposed local law entitled: "A Local  
7 Law Amending Chapter 180 Plumbing, of the Town  
8 Code of the Town of Oyster Bay." Hearing date:  
9 October 30, 2018. (M.D. 10/2/18 #25).

10 **RESOLUTION NO. 657-2018;** Resolution  
11 authorizing changes to Municipal Parking Lot B-1 in  
12 Bethpage, New York. (M.D. 9/25/18 #18).

13 **RESOLUTION NO. 658-2018;** Resolution  
14 authorizing the renewal of a performance license  
15 with Broadcast Music, Incorporated for the period  
16 December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 to cover  
17 music performed through the Town's various  
18 programs. Account No. CYS A 7020 47660 000 0000.  
19 (M.D. 10/2/18 #6).

20 **RESOLUTION NO. 659-2018;** Resolution  
21 authorizing an agreement with the Long Island  
22 Developmental Disabilities Regional Office for a  
23 Program for Children with Autism, administered by  
24 the Group Activities Program (GAP), from January 1,  
25 2019 through December 31, 2019. (M.D. 10/2/18 #7).

1                   **RESOLUTION NO. 660-2018;** Resolution  
2           authorizing an agreement with the Long Island  
3           Developmental Disabilities Regional Office for  
4           Family Support Services rendered to the  
5           developmentally disabled persons through the GAP  
6           program from January 1, 2019 through December 31,  
7           2019. ((M.D. 10/2/18 #8).

8                   **RESOLUTION NO. 661-2018;** Resolution  
9           authorizing the administration of a proposed Eagle  
10          Scout Service Project, which will provide cosmetic  
11          changes to the William P. Bennett Community Center  
12          in Hicksville. (M.D. 10/2/18 #9).

13                   **RESOLUTION NO. 662-2018;** Resolution  
14          authorizing the acceptance of a donation of a  
15          memorial plaque, to be placed on an existing bench  
16          located at Parklet J-2 in Jericho in memory of  
17          F. Davis at the request of J. Simoncic. (M.D.  
18          10/2/18 #10).

19                   **RESOLUTION NO. 663-2018;** Resolution  
20          authorizing the acceptance of a donation of a  
21          memorial plaque, to be placed on an existing bench  
22          located at Marjorie R. Post Community Park from  
23          F. Cammarota in memory of R.D. Cammarota. (M.D.  
24          10/2/18 #11).

25                   **RESOLUTION NO. 664-2018;** Resolution

1 authorizing the acceptance of a donation of a  
2 memorial plaque, to be placed at Theodore Roosevelt  
3 Memorial Park and Beach from A. Roth in memory of  
4 J. Roth. (M.D. 10/2/18 #12).

5 **RESOLUTION NO. 665-2018;** Resolution  
6 authorizing the issuance of various Parks  
7 Department refunds. Account Nos. PKS A 0001 02025  
8 523 0000, PKS A 0001 02414 000 0000, PKS A 0001  
9 02001 510 0000 & PKS SP09 0001 02025 528 0000.  
10 (M.D. 10/2/18 #13).

11 **RESOLUTION NO. 666-2018;** Resolution  
12 pertaining to the Delinquent Water Rentals for 2018  
13 for the various Water Districts in the Town of  
14 Oyster Bay. (M.D. 10/2/18 #15).

15 **RESOLUTION NO. 667-2018;** Resolution  
16 pertaining to a settlement of negligence claim,  
17 Dougherty v. Town of Oyster Bay. Account No. TWN  
18 AMS 1910 43010 602 0000 000. (M.D. 10/2/18 #16).

19 **RESOLUTION NO. 668-2018;** Resolution  
20 granting request from the First Presbyterian Church  
21 in Oyster Bay for the use of one roll-off container  
22 from November 13 through November 20, 2018 for  
23 their fall cleanup. (M.D. 10/2/18 #17).

24 **RESOLUTION NO. 669-2018;** Resolution  
25 authorizing payment of EPA oversight fees relative

1 to Syosset Landfill Remediation, Contract No.  
2 DPW91-560A. Account No. HWY H 5197 20000 000 1803  
3 008. (M.D. 10/2/18 #18).

4 **RESOLUTION NO. 670-2018;** Resolution  
5 pertaining to Contract No. PWC28-18, Air Monitoring  
6 for the Old Bethpage Landfill. Account No. DER SR05  
7 8160 44800 000 0000. (M.D. 10/2/18 #19).

8 **RESOLUTION NO. 671-2018;** Resolution  
9 authorizing cancellation of contract and permission  
10 to re-bid Requirements Contract No. HCR17-160 for  
11 Concrete Restoration throughout the Town of Oyster  
12 Bay. (M.D. 10/2/18 #21).

13 **RESOLUTION NO. 672-2018;** Resolution  
14 authorizing to re-bid Contract No. HRZ18-178,  
15 Requirements Contract for the Demolition of Zombie  
16 Homes and Other Dangerous Structures in the Town of  
17 Oyster Bay. (M.D. 10/2/18 #23).

18 **RESOLUTION NO. 673-2018;** Resolution  
19 granting request from the Afghan Hindu Association,  
20 Inc., for Town assistance in holding their annual  
21 Dewali Mela in Hicksville on October 21, 2018 to  
22 utilize Municipal Parking Field H-11 October 20-21,  
23 2018, for the posting of temporary "No Parking"  
24 signs in said lot, and to use various Town  
25 equipment for the event. (M.D. 10/2/18 #24).

1                   **RESOLUTION NO. 674-2018;** Resolution  
2                   pertaining to site plan approval for the  
3                   application of the South Farmingdale Fire District,  
4                   6 Linden Avenue, Farmingdale, New York. (M.D.  
5                   10/2/18 #14 & 10/9/18 #7).

6                   **RESOLUTION NO. 675-2018;** Resolution  
7                   authorizing award of Contract No. H16-142-PH1 & 2,  
8                   Construction of Highway Improvements to the Smith  
9                   Street Area Phase 1 & 2 in Glen Head, New York.  
10                  (M.D. 10/2/18 #20 & 10/9/18 #21).

11                  **RESOLUTION NO. 676-2018;** Resolution  
12                  pertaining to the decision for the application of  
13                  MOM Realty II LLC, fee owner, for Modification of  
14                  Restrictive Covenants and/or Modification  
15                  of Conditions, for premises located at 150  
16                  Crossways Drive West, Woodbury, New York. Hearing  
17                  held: September 18, 2018. (M.D. 9/18/18 #5).

18                  **RESOLUTION NO. 677-2018;** Resolution  
19                  pertaining to the decision for the application of  
20                  Federated Associates, LLC and Mister Gold, Inc.,  
21                  d/b/a La Piazza Restaurant for a Special Use Permit  
22                  to operate a restaurant in a Neighborhood Business  
23                  District at 1137 Old Country Road, Plainview,  
24                  New York. Hearing held August 14, 2018. (M.D.  
25                  8/14/18 #4).

1 On the motion?

2 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: So moved.

3 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Second.

4 MR. ALTADONNA: Motion made by  
5 Councilman Muscarella, seconded by Councilman  
6 Macagnone.

7 Supervisor, you do have speakers.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our first speaker  
9 back to the podium for his second visit up here,  
10 Paul Molinari.

11 MR. MOLINARI: It's now afternoon, so  
12 good afternoon Mr. Supervisor and Town Board.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good afternoon.

14 Well, we had a very thorough hearing.  
15 Perhaps one of the most thorough budget hearings in  
16 the Town's history.

17 MR. MOLINARI: Yes. Yes, it was. A  
18 lot of information provided to the public and  
19 answered my questions.

20 I'm Paul Molinari, 332 West Nicholai  
21 Street, Hicksville.

22 I'm addressing Resolution 675. This is  
23 the award of a contract for paving.

24 The reason why I'm coming up before you  
25 is that when you look into the backup material, the



1 contract's being awarded to a paving company for  
2 \$434,000. Sounds great, but then when you look at  
3 the second low bidder, second low bidder is  
4 \$536,000, and the third low bidder was \$545,000.

5 The engineer's estimate was 591. To  
6 me, I like -- when I see something like that,  
7 \$434,000, \$100,000 less than the second lowest  
8 bidder and the second lowest and third bidder are  
9 only \$10,000 thousand apart, that raises a red flag  
10 to me.

11 Has this contractor been looked at on  
12 whether he can perform this work for that money and  
13 what is his past experience of bringing in -- you  
14 know, bidding a contract and bringing it in at a  
15 price that's so -- you know, that he's awarded at,  
16 and not going over substantially with overruns and  
17 change orders, so I would suggest, if it hasn't  
18 been done, that you really take a close look at the  
19 past history of this contractor bringing in the job  
20 on time and at the money stated.

21 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Mr. Molinari,  
22 Metro Paving just did a job in the Orchard section  
23 of Syosset that came in on time and on budget.

24 MR. MOLINARI: Okay.

25 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Believe me, I

1 live a couple of blocks away and the people are  
2 very happy with the project.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Let's get you the  
4 reassurance you came -- thank you, Councilman.

5 Let's get you the reassurance. If  
6 you'd kindly take your seat, I'm going to ask  
7 Deputy Commissioner Bishop to come on up from our  
8 Highway division, which was consolidated into  
9 Department of Public Works to talk a little bit  
10 more about this.

11 As was stated earlier, the issue of  
12 road paving is on everyone's mind. We're working  
13 diligently to get our roads paved.

14 Would you state your presence, please?

15 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: John  
16 Bishop, Deputy Commissioner, Highway Department.

17 These contracts are run through the  
18 Department of Public Works under Commissioner Lenz  
19 through the Engineering Division.

20 I know that when the bids had come in  
21 and looked at all of the items, Commissioner Lenz  
22 does take pride in not doing any quantity increases  
23 on the contract, so I do have confidence that he  
24 did go through it. And knowing how we're dealing  
25 with our road paving under Highway and the

1 performance of the contractor, that we would be on  
2 target with the budget.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So just so we  
4 have an assurance to people like Mr. Molinari and  
5 all of our residents, we are following the law in  
6 the bidding process?

7 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Correct.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And they have  
9 done work for us and many municipalities in the  
10 past?

11 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Correct.

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And do we fully  
13 vet these companies?

14 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And are there  
16 multiple people employed by the Town of Oyster Bay  
17 who oversee the -- in multiple departments that  
18 oversee the bid process, look into the backgrounds  
19 of each of the companies that bid, study carefully  
20 what the -- what the details of the bid entail?

21 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes. And  
22 in addition to not only going through the whole  
23 contracts, but also any of the financial reports or  
24 statements that are required by the contractor are  
25 supplied to the Engineering Division and then

1 reviewed by the Town Attorney's Office.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: In addition to  
3 you and Commissioner Richard Lenz, who is a  
4 professional engineer, how many other sets of eyes,  
5 how many other people are involved in this process  
6 to ensure that we're getting all that we pay for  
7 and make sure that we have the highest quality of  
8 work on our roads?

9 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: You  
10 probably have at least nine staff members.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: At least nine  
12 staff members from your office, and before this is  
13 paved, we have staff members from the Comptroller's  
14 Office who put their eyes on it, staff members from  
15 the Town Attorney's Office who oversee all of these  
16 contracts?

17 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Correct.  
18 Yes, that's part of my nine.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: How many years  
20 have you been working for the Town of Oyster Bay?

21 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Thirty  
22 years.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thirty years, all  
24 with the Highway Department?

25 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: All with

1 the Highway Department.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: In your  
3 professional opinion, has this contract been fully  
4 vetted?

5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And do you have  
7 the full confidence that they'll do the best job?

8 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: At the best  
10 price?

11 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Deputy  
13 Commissioner.

14 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Commissioner, we  
15 also have LKB act as a consultant.

16 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

17 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Who has done  
18 work all over New York region?

19 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

20 And the work that they're performing  
21 now for us currently, I've met with LKB many times  
22 on the work that's being performed under myself  
23 through the Highway Department and they are very  
24 thorough, accurate and supply all the proper backup  
25 so that the Comptroller's Office can pay out the

1 claims in a quick manner.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So we've spoken  
3 to -- between Highway and DPW, nine plus the two of  
4 you, that's eleven personnel from the Comptroller's  
5 Office, personnel from the Town Attorney's Office,  
6 but ultimately, the real judge of this work is  
7 someone we work for, the residents.

8 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Have the  
10 residents been happy with the job we're doing  
11 repaving our roads?

12 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Absolutely.

13 I have to say that I've seen many  
14 e-mails come through Public Information, many  
15 e-mails come through from the Town Board members  
16 that they've received, thank you for such a quick  
17 response, may have been a long wait, but well worth  
18 it. It's really been a positive and I can only see  
19 it just moving in a better direction.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Well, let's  
21 continue the momentum going and let's be very  
22 responsive to all our residents in every community  
23 and our Town Board members, as it was pointed out  
24 today, we will focus on all our communities, and in  
25 Plainview, there are many, many roads; although, I

1 heard myself from the residents in Plainview, they  
2 were very happy with the outcome on Hay Path.

3 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Correct.

4 Well, there were many roads that were  
5 addressed this year that were -- had resolutions  
6 that were passed prior years stating that when we  
7 had the workforce and the equipment and the  
8 manpower and the materials, that that would get  
9 completed during the year 2018. And I made sure  
10 that your statements made at this Town Board in  
11 2017 were fulfilled this year, so Hay Path was --

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: This Town Board  
13 is very focused on getting our roads repaved and  
14 making sure it's done at the highest quality at the  
15 lowest price.

16 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very  
18 much, Mr. Bishop.

19 And I want to thank Mr. Molinari for  
20 bringing that question so we could bring tremendous  
21 assurances to our residents that this is being done  
22 properly with the best and most professional firms  
23 to make sure that we get it done right at the best  
24 price.

25 Mr. Adelman, would you come on forward,

1 please? Come on up.

2 MR. ADELMAN: Good afternoon,  
3 Supervisor, Council people.

4 Arthur Adelman, 110 DuBois Avenue,  
5 Sea Cliff, New York.

6 My first question regards Resolution  
7 671. I was curious if this Resolution authorizing  
8 the cancellation of an existing contract is just  
9 the course of business, that the timeframe is  
10 almost up, the contract will not be renewed, and,  
11 therefore, needs to be rebid or we -- or are we  
12 cancelling as of today or the end of this week,  
13 that contract?

14 I'm curious if the Town's vendor, Laser  
15 Industries in this case, did fulfill all their  
16 obligations under the contract, including the  
17 apprentice training that they said they would do.

18 The second resolution I wanted to  
19 question was 669 regarding payments to the EPA for  
20 oversight fees relative to the Syosset landfill.

21 I'm curious if our Comptroller, who  
22 stated earlier that he signs off on all payments,  
23 did he do -- did he, in fact, audit the request for  
24 payments because most of it's for labor and the  
25 rates seem very, very high for -- I don't know what



1 we're paying for, but for the time put in, it seems  
2 like we're paying an extraordinary amount of money?

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: As compared to?

4 MR. ADELMAN: I don't know.

5 That's --

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I'm not clear on  
7 this.

8 If we're -- when you say we're paying  
9 an extraordinarily high compared to something --

10 MR. ADELMAN: From what I could read  
11 from the backup documents --

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

13 MR. ADELMAN: -- we paid payroll costs  
14 totaling almost \$11,000 for 134 hours of work.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Let's bring our  
16 Comptroller up so we can get that answered for you  
17 if you'd kindly take a seat, Mr. Adelman.

18 Thank you.

19 Would you kindly restate your presence  
20 for the record, please?

21 COMPTROLLER BALLAS: Absolutely.

22 Steve Ballas, Comptroller of the Town  
23 of Oyster Bay.

24 When these claims come in, one of the  
25 things -- when I earlier referred to the Board,

1 that I said my Accounts Payable team works the  
2 claim, one of the -- one of the procedures in  
3 working the claim is making sure that all of the  
4 numbers compare to either the RFP, whether it's  
5 procured through an RFP or through whatever  
6 contract that it's being procured through.

7 So, yes, we do confirm that the labor  
8 rates, the amounts paid for material, and  
9 everything is in compliance with that original bid.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And you assure  
11 that the amount of work done was actually -- the  
12 amount of work billed for was actually done?

13 COMPTROLLER BALLAS: That's actually  
14 confirmed by the department that the work is being  
15 done for, but we see that they signed off on it,  
16 absolutely.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So you can assure  
18 that they have done their due diligence to  
19 guarantee that?

20 COMPTROLLER BALLAS: That's correct.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

22 Thank you, Steve.

23 And we'll ask Mr. Bishop to come --

24 MR. ADELMAN: Regarding that was that  
25 from what I read, we're paying somebody \$80 an hour

1 for EPA work to -- I don't know understand what  
2 we're paying for, that we're paying someone, if  
3 they were working yearly, about \$150,000 a year.

4 But I understood we only pay a  
5 percentage of it or are we paying the whole fee for  
6 what the EPA did, or are we sharing the cost?

7 Are we paying the whole cost between  
8 the EPA or is it shared between the Town, the  
9 County, the State, Federal Government?

10 I couldn't understand -- I couldn't  
11 gather that from the backup.

12 COMPTROLLER BALLAS: I know in some  
13 cases, we actually get reimbursed for some of the  
14 EPA work that's done.

15 In this particular case, I'm not sure.

16 MR. ADELMAN: I think we're -- the way  
17 I read it, we're reimbursing the EPA for their time  
18 or the people that were paid, hourly employees.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Is Neil Bergen  
20 here? I saw him a moment ago. See if he's  
21 outside, please.

22 We'll get that answered for you. If  
23 he's not here, we'll get him in touch with you to  
24 get that answer for you.

25 MR. ADELMAN: How about if we just

1 table this Resolution?

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Because we do  
3 have -- we do have a process to follow.

4 We've spoke to how many different  
5 levels?

6 Is he out there?

7 John, would you step up?

8 Thank you, Steve.

9 And restate your presence, please.

10 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: John  
11 Bishop, Deputy Commissioner, Highway Department,  
12 Town of Oyster Bay.

13 To answer the question, not in  
14 references, but for the concrete contract that  
15 Mr. Adelman had -- for number --

16 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: 671.

17 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: Yes. 671.

18 That contract was never put into  
19 effect. It was a contract that went out. We  
20 accepted bids. There were lower bids, higher bids,  
21 but at the time, we did not require the use of the  
22 contract, and now that we're getting into a season  
23 where there's hurricane season and whatnot, I  
24 brought it to the attention to the Commissioner of  
25 Public Works that there should be contracts in

1 place for emergency services or situations the Town  
2 may fall into.

3 When we had a Superstorm Sandy, our  
4 forces are not able to remove every tree or fix  
5 every sidewalk, everything that's broken that's as  
6 an act of God, which is reimbursable through FEMA,  
7 so I made a point to state that we had these  
8 contracts in place. The same with the tree removal  
9 planting, trimming contract that was voted on on a  
10 prior Town Board resolution as well.

11 So because this contract had lapsed, we  
12 felt that we'd probably get better numbers if we  
13 were to just put the contracts back out again and  
14 have a rebid.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So the  
16 cancellation of the contract is the regular routine  
17 procedure in order to facilitate the rebid.

18 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BISHOP: And nobody  
19 has worked on this contract. This contract has  
20 never been -- it was never awarded to the lowest  
21 bidder. There was no information. There was no  
22 work given to that contractor or any contractor.

23 It's just a matter of having things in  
24 place for a state of emergency or any services that  
25 we need to provide the remedies.

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay. Thank you  
2 very much. Appreciate it.

3 Well, I have no other slips.

4 Are there any other speakers on these  
5 Resolutions?

6 (No verbal response given.)

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

8 May I have a motion?

9 MR. ALTADONNA: We had the motion.

10 Call for a vote.

11 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Yeah, call for  
12 a vote.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Is there any  
14 correspondence on any of these?

15 MR. ALTADONNA: Not on these, no.

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

17 MR. ALTADONNA: Motion made by  
18 Councilman Muscarella, seconded by Councilman  
19 Macagnone.

20 And just to recap, we are tabled on  
21 655.

22 On the vote:

23 Supervisor?

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: "Aye."

25 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Muscarella?

1 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: "Aye."

2 MR. ALTADONNA: Go slow.

3 Councilman Macagnone?

4 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Well, Clerk, I'm  
5 going to vote "Aye" on all, except 676. I'm going  
6 to vote "Nay."

7 MR. ALTADONNA: 676.

8 Councilwoman Alesia?

9 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: By continuing  
10 abstention, 670, 671 and 675.

11 "Aye" as to the rest.

12 MR. ALTADONNA: 670 is a "Nay"?

13 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: No. They're  
14 abstentions.

15 MR. ALTADONNA: Oh, abstain.

16 671 is abstain?

17 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: Correct.

18 MR. ALTADONNA: And what was the last  
19 one?

20 COUNCILWOMAN ALESIA: 675.

21 MR. ALTADONNA: 675 is abstain.

22 Councilwoman Johnson?

23 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: I vote "Aye."

24 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Imbroto?

25 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: "Aye" on all

1 Resolutions.

2 MR. ALTADONNA: Councilman Hand?

3 COUNCILMAN HAND: "Aye" on all.

4 MR. ALTADONNA: Thank you.

5 Resolutions TF-17-18 through 654 passes  
6 with seven "Ayes."

7 655 was tabled.

8 656 through 669 passes with seven  
9 "Ayes."

10 670 and 671 passes with six "Ayes" and  
11 one abstention.

12 672 through 674 passes with seven  
13 "Ayes."

14 675 is six "Ayes" and one "abstention."

15 676 is six "Ayes" and one "no."

16 The calendar is complete.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

18 With no other work at this time, may I  
19 ask for a motion to close our meeting?

20 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Supervisor, I  
21 make a motion to adjourn until 7:00 p.m. tonight.

22 COUNCILMAN MACAGNONE: Second.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor,  
24 signify by saying "Aye."

25 ALL: "Aye."



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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,  
"Nay."

(No verbal response given.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes" have  
it.

(TIME NOTED: 12:39 P.M.)