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TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
REGULAR MEETING

October 1, 2024
10:23 a.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

JOSEPH SALADINO
SUPERVISOR

**

RICHARD LaMARCA
TOWN CLERK

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER

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A P P E A R A N C E S

P R E S E N T:

SUPERVISOR JOSEPH S. SALADINO
COUNCILWOMAN MICHELE M. JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN LOUIS B. IMBROTO
COUNCILMAN THOMAS P. HAND
COUNCILMAN STEVE L. LABRIOLA
COUNCILWOMAN LAURA L. MAIER
COUNCILWOMAN VICKI WALSH

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

RICHARD LaMARCA TOWN CLERK
JEFFREY P. PRAVATO RECEIVER OF TAXES
FRANK SCALERA, ESQ. TOWN ATTORNEY

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PRAYER:

Rabbi Dr. Ron Csillag of Syosset

PLEDGE:

Bayville American Legion Post 1285

- United States Marine Corps,

Corporal Joseph Hili

- United States Marine Corps,

Sergeant Joseph DiLorenzo

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Rabbi Dr. Ron Csillag

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to our Oyster Bay Town Board meeting of Tuesday, October 1, 2024.

Those joining us this morning, you have an opportunity to be heard on all matters brought before the Town board as well as matters that we are not discussing today. If you'd be kind enough to fill out a sheet for public comment, which happens at the very end of the meeting.

As always, this meeting is being live streamed on social media and on the Town's website, which is OysterBaytown.com.

These meetings are professionally recorded and transcribed. And all of your voices are very important to us. Statements, comments, input from the public relative to our meetings are always welcomed and respected as part of the record. And of course, we respect one another when somebody's speaking to make

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sure that they can be heard by everyone.

To submit comments online, please email publiccomment@OysterBay-ny.gov. That's publiccomment@OysterBay-NY.gov. Or those of you who would like to use traditional mail can mail us at the Office of the Town Attorney, 54 Audrey Avenue, Oyster Bay, New York 11771.

Leading us in prayer during this very important month is a dear friend who is a pillar of our community. We're proud to introduce him, and that is Rabbi Dr. Ron Csillag of Syosset. Welcome to Town Hall.

Would everyone please rise?

(Whereupon, all rise.)

RABBI RON: Thank you, Supervisor Saladino.

Dear Hashem, God of heaven and earth. As this town board comes before you today to discuss important matters. We ask for your guidance and wisdom.

As it says in Proverbs Chapter three, verses five and six, trust in the

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Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding in all your ways, submit to him and he will make your path straight. Help our righteous elected officials and all of those participating this morning, to listen attentively to one another with open hearts and minds. May they not be quick to judge or criticize, but instead seek to understand different perspectives. We pray that the decisions made here, today and in the future, are for the greater good of this community, and we ask for a blessing for the Town of Oyster Bay and its residents.

Dear God, we trust that you will guide these individuals on a path that leads to a consensus that reflects your will. May their words and actions be guided by your love and grace. And let us say Amen.

(Whereupon, all, "Amen".)

RABBI RON: As we approach October 7th, which is one year since Israel was attacked by HAMAS, let us keep our hearts

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and prayers with Israel and the 101
hostages still being held, including our
Town of Oyster Bay resident from
Plainview, Omer Neutra.

May he bless our ancestors Abraham,
Isaac and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel
and Leah, bless, preserve and protect the
captives and missing soldiers of the
citizens of Israel and the Israel Defense
Forces. May God rescue them from
captivity and speedily restore them in
peace in the merit of the prayers of this
Town Board, who pray for them. May the
Holy One, blessed be God, showed them
mercy, increased their strength, remove
their pain, and send them recovery of
body and spirit.

God, return them to the bosom of
their families swiftly and soon. And let
us all say, Amen.

(Whereupon, all, "Amen".)

RABBI RON: Supervisor Saladino, I
would like to present you with something
very special this morning. This is a

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custom made kippah, or called yarmulke.
It has the Town of Oyster Bay logo on it
and your name. May you wear it proudly at
many Israeli and Jewish functions in the
future. We thank you for all you do.

(Whereupon, applause.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We'll speak
more about October 7th and our plans and
what we'll be doing in just a moment. But
before that, again, thank you very much,
Rabbi. Greatly appreciate it. It's very,
very important for us to have you here
and to continue to remember and call on
bringing home the release and the return
of all of the hostages, especially Omar,
who we pray for each and every day.

With that said, I'm going to ask you
to rise again, please. This morning, we
have two distinguished Vietnam War era
veterans to lead us in the Pledge we're
blessed to have from the Bayville
American Legion Post 1285, please welcome
the United States Marine Corps, Corporal
Joseph Hili and the United States Marine

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Corps Sergeant Joseph DiLorenzo. Semper
fi, gentlemen. Please proceed.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of
Allegiance is said.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,
gentlemen, and I hope everyone will
please keep in mind the men and women in
the United States Armed Forces, all of
those in law enforcement, all of our
first responders, our healthcare heroes.
And of course, please keep in mind,
continue to pray for the hostages. Thank
you very much. Everyone, please be
seated.

Before we get started with our
regular Town Board meeting, and I hope
everyone that would like to be heard is
taking the opportunity. I have some slips
that have been filled out. Before we get
started in our meeting, I'd like to state
that in just a few days from now, on
October 7th, we will acknowledge the one
year mark since Israel was brutally
attacked and so many innocent civilians

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were killed and taken hostage. Plainview resident Omer Neutra was taken into captivity by HAMAS. We have consistently prayed for him as one of our favorite sons and for all of the hostages for the past year. We will continue to pray for the 101 hostages every day until they are all brought home.

And Jeff, as you know, we promised the parade to the family when Omer is safely returned. God, please help us to bring him home and bring them all home.

From today through October 7th, we will illuminate Town Hall in blue as a sign of solidarity with Israel, with our Jewish brothers and sisters here in the Town of Oyster Bay and throughout the world, and with everyone. We are one family in this town. I know I say that a lot, but I really mean it. I really mean that in the bottom of my heart and we all feel this way. So when one hurts, we all hurt. And we are all here together as one

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family. It was outrageous what took place. And it is so important that we continue to tell this story, to recite the names, to call on our federal government, to do everything possible to work to bring them home and to bring a peace, a peace that protects Israel for many, many decades to come.

So not only are we illuminating Town Hall in blue, but we're doing so much more. We, the Town of Oyster Bay, will, together with Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, work collaboratively to host Long Island's largest remembrance ceremony on October 7th at 6 p.m. at Eisenhower Park. This will take place right there at the Chapin theater at Eisenhower, and we hope to see you all there.

It's very fitting to have Rabbi Ron with us here today. He has been an outspoken advocate for the hostages in the wake of the terror attacks that took place on October 7th. During these

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troubling times here in our community, we have the respect and unwavering support and leadership on this issue as we've all come together. People know we've brought thousands of people together at Plainview Park. We've named the Tree of Life. We have erected a plaque there recognizing what we, meaning as a community, we've all done. And quite frankly, in doing so, we sent the message of how to protest and how to come together as one family for the rest of the United States. It's done with passion, but peacefully. We've asserted our very strong feelings with no damage and no trampling on the rights of others. So very proud of our residents for joining with us over and over. And we're so proud of you, Rabbi Ron. And you're a loving husband to wife Cheryl. Thank you, Cheryl, for being with us. Proud father of Matt and Brooke. And we know you've dedicated your entire life to helping others, and that is very, very important.

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Just a little more information on Rabbi Ron, because when you get to know him, you'll find out how special he is. A successful chiropractor in our area for over 40 years -- Rabbi, you don't look old enough to have been a professional chiropractor for 40 years -- Rabbi Ron was a first responder on 9/11. He performed chiropractic services at Ground zero -- unfortunately, breathing that air -- typically working up to ten hour shifts 2 or 3 times each month until the cleanup was complete. He also has been called to the front lines of spiritual leadership, consoling many at funerals, unveilings, and the like. He also regularly serves as an efficient at weddings, baby namings, bar mitzvahs, bar mitzvahs and the like.

After October 7th, Rabbi Ron's focus changed entirely, and he has spoken at the New York state capital in Albany. He spoke in locally at various events and in Herald Square in New York City.

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Rabbi Ron's mission never changes. It's very clear, we need to have the hostages released now. He vows not to rest until they are home. And that's been the case with so many of us.

So we all thank you as a town, as a community, as a family, for everything, for your commitment to making this your personal mission, and we recognize your tireless efforts here and always. And if you would like to come to the front of the room and say few words, would love to have you back at the podium to address this issue. Ladies and gentlemen, Rabbi Ron.

RABBI RON: Thank you again, Supervisor Saladino and the Town Board members who are here today.

I thank you for standing so strongly with Israel and your ongoing support. I would especially like to thank the town supervisor, his continual support to Israel and the Jewish community. He has, among other things, illuminated Town Hall

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for Israel, dedicated the Tree of life at the Plainview Old Bethpage Community Park, recognize May as Jewish Heritage Month. And most significantly, on September the 3rd, following the brutal murder of six of the hostages, including an American, Hirsh Goldberg-Polin, ordered all town flags to fly at half staff in their honor. At that time, he said, and I quote, "pray for the safe return of our Plainview son Omer Neutra".

As I stand before you today, on October 1st, we were at very significant times in the Jewish community. Tomorrow evening at sundown begins the start of a new Jewish new year, 5785. In Judaism, a new year is not marked by big parties and revelry, but by prayer and reflection. We ask ourselves, what have I accomplished in the past year? Have I been a better person? Was I a better spouse, parent, child and family member. Was I a better member of my community? Did I do as much as I could to help my friends, neighbors,

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and strangers? Was I as charitable and helpful as I could have been when approached by those in need? Following an introspective review of the past and prayers of repentance, we seek out ways in which we could improve ourselves and make the world a better place.

While I do not know if any of our council members or members of the audience today are Jewish, with three months left on the civil calendar, this is a good time of the year, and certainly not too soon for all of us to start thinking about the above and as to how we can improve ourselves and our community and the world in the year 2025.

The other very significant date, as Supervisor Saladino mentioned, is October 7th, which is one full year since Israel was viciously attacked. As of today, HAMAS still holds 101 hostages, including seven Americans and our local young man from the Town of Oyster Bay, Omer Neutra. He is a 22 year old young man from

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Plainview. While there are hostages from many countries and various religions, the fact that a Plainview resident was kidnapped and is still being held against his will makes this a very personal issue for our community. I urge you all to do everything in your power and to raise your voices and make your presence felt to increase awareness and place pressure wherever possible, on those who can secure the return of our hostages.

May the future hold peace, success, health, happiness and prosperity for our community, our nation and our world. I thank you for the opportunity to be here with you today. God bless our Town of Oyster Bay and God bless America.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Rabbi, for your poignant words. Among the things you said, you asked a question about if any of the members are Jewish. Quiet frankly, we all in our hearts have enormous sensitivity to the Jewish population in this town, to the people of

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Israel, and to stopping violence or threats or harassment to people who are Jewish. We think that is outrageous.

But one of us practices his Judaism on a very regular basis, and that is Jeff Pravato, he and his family are Jewish. So I'm going to ask Jeff if he would also make a comment about you and about what our focus has been, and then assist us by presenting you with the Town's highest honor, this Town of Oyster Bay citation.

Jeffrey Pravato.

RECEIVER OF TAXES: Thank you, Supervisor.

Now, the supervisor and myself and Bruce Blakeman, Congressman D'Esposito, many others, we joined together on a diplomatic mission in Israel a few weeks before the October 7th attacks.

When it happened, Omer, a friend of ours, the family is friends of ours. Speak to them regularly. They will speak to anybody. Anybody who would help get their son home. I spoke to Ronen

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yesterday. They're on their way to the city, to a U.N. event, looking to, again, work with anybody.

Omer is going to spend his second birthday in captivity, October 14th. Hopefully we'll have him back by then. We keep saying that, but October 14th is his birthday.

We also have Ira Kohler is from Plainview. Also, again, friends with the Neutras. He was fighting in Gaza. He was supposed to be out in January. Ira has been here, we've honored him as a lone soldier. He told the story of the morning of. They're up north, command gets them together, "we're going to go fight. We got to go fight. South." Fifty guys piled into a 25, 30 person helicopter. Takes a hit. They go down by Kibbutz Beerli. Ended up Hashem made them go down there and all get out safely. And they're protected. That Kibbutz. Got rid of all the terrorists that were there. It took about 48 hours. And then they were the one unit

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at that time that had served the North's
Central and Southern Gaza, rooting out
the HAMAS terrorists.

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But this Town -- and I love this
group that we have here, supervisor and
our council people, because they're not
afraid to stand with Israel. Always.
We've had rallies and we will never
forget and we will always be there. And
we tell everybody that this Town Board is
lock step behind Israel. We passed the
resolution backing Israel and condemning
HAMAS and the terrorist attacks. And we
passed Anti-bds resolution that if you're
not doing business with Israel, you're
not doing business with the Town of
Oyster Bay, either.

Supervisor, council people, my
friends, thank you so much for everything
you've done. God bless our IDF soldiers
because now they're in southern Lebanon,
rooting out Hezbollah, pushing them back
north of the Litani River. And the alert
just came over my phone before we walked

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in here that they're expecting an imminent Iranian missile attack at any time. So we really need to pray for the people of Israel as we come into the new year of Rosh Hashanah.

And I just want to say, Shana Tova, good New Year, and hopefully we have a better year and we get all hostages home. We need Omer home. We're gonna have a big parade when he comes home. And his father and mother, Ronen and Orna had a big smile on their face when we told them that. I want to put that smile on their face for them to get them back soon so we can put a big smile on their face. So God bless. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: God bless. We're wishing everyone all the blessings as you and your families head into this important, very spiritual time of the New Year and the Day of Atonement. So to you and your congregation, we're so lucky to have the two of you. We say to you L'Chaim, and thank you for all of your

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efforts. If you would like to join in,
I'm going to ask everyone to join me in
saying "bring them home". If you would
like to on three.

(Whereupon, all join in.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you. We
appreciate.

(Whereupon, photos and
citation presented.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And, Rabbi, in
government and I might have learned this
in political science, we have a very
special word to describe someone who
gives of themselves to the community, and
is always such a good soul. You call them
a mensch. God bless.

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All right, folks. A few messages that are very important. And then we'll get started with our hearings and our meeting. We're going to have two hearings, and then we will go into our Regular Action Calendar. Then we will break to meet with our counsel for executive session, and then we'll come out for any public comment. Please fill out a slip, you can speak on a hearing, you could speak on the Regular Action Calendar, and you can speak on the public comment if you choose to. But please, we ask that you to fill out a slip so we make sure we call on you.

So I'm proud to announce the Town of Oyster Bay in partnership with AM Vets Post 88, Massapequa is conducting a Veteran Food Collection Drive throughout the month of October. There's food insecurity out there that impacts many veterans in our community meeting throughout the town, but together we can make a powerful difference. This

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2 initiative is a fantastic way to provide
3 veterans with nutritious food and raise
4 awareness about food insecurity. I thank
5 our residents in advance for supporting
6 this great cause that means so much to
7 all of us. The drop-off locations will be
8 set up here at Town Hall North in Oyster
9 Bay, and also at Town Hall South in
10 Massapequa. Residents who would like to
11 support this important initiative can
12 drop off non-perishable food items on
13 weekdays between the hours of 9 a.m. and
14 4:45 p.m.. So let's join together and
15 support our veterans and all of our
16 drives, toy drives, food drives of the
17 Thanksgiving Drive. They've been
18 incredibly successful and some of them
19 record breaking across Long Island, so
20 we'd like to thank everyone involved with
21 your generosity. It's much appreciated.

22 The Town of Oyster Bay will also
23 partner with the Massapequa Farmingdale
24 Men's Club to host a peanut butter
25 collection drive -- very specific.

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Beginning on October 15th and running through November 15th, residents are invited to donate new, unopened peanut butter to help local food pantries support families in need. Drop-off containers are located at Town Halls North and South, as well as at the Town Ice Skating Center in Bethpage. Alternative peanut butters, including sun butters, almond butters, cookie butters, as well as jelly are all appreciated in a program we call "Spread the Love". And my kids tell me I tell dad jokes all the time, that didn't even get a smile. I'm slipping I guess (laughter). Peanut butter obviously has a long shelf life, many nutrients and protein, of course. So that's one of the most highly requested items at the food bank. That's why the Massapequa Farmingdale Men's Club chose this initiative and we thank them very, very much.

For more information about the peanut butter and of course jelly

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collection drive, visit the Town's website at OysterBaytown.com or call (516) 624-6380.

Oyster Fest is coming up quick, very soon, October 19th and 20th. We have redesigned so many aspects of it to make it more collaborative with the local businesses, the stores, local organizations, our local residents, making parking better, shuttles to move people with more efficiency. That's October 19th and 20th, right down the street here in Audrey Avenue and including all of Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park. It's going to be, I think, the best one yet. And we're working on ever improving the Oyster Fest. It's a very special event, and we all encourage folks in our town to come and visit the Oyster Fest on October 19th and October 20th.

This year we're going to have non-stop live music, which I'm certainly looking forward to and so many other

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music lovers are, but there's so many wonderful things to do, and I want to thank all of my colleagues from the North shore --

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Are you performing?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That might happen if somebody twisted my arm, but I don't know yet. No one has asked yet. We'll see.

We just want to make sure everybody knows about it. It's a very big deal. It helps all of the local charities and many of the businesses. And it's just a signature event. It happens to be one of the very largest seafood festivals in the United States. Just like our car show, a week ago Sunday, was the largest car show in the northeast, so I also want to thank all of our teams, Public Safety, the Parks Department, Community Services, all the many employees who have worked diligently to put on all of these events and festivals. They're highly successful.

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And you know what, folks, what they all have in common? They're all done for you, for our residents. So we hope you're enjoying them and continue to enjoy them.

Information about all the many events that we put on for you. It's all available on our website, Oysterbaytown.com or you can follow me, Supervisor Joseph Saladino, on Facebook.

So with that, again, thank you to the board for your cooperation and all the many events that we do, but especially in the recognition and support of Israel and our brothers and sisters in Israel and our Jewish brothers and sisters here in America.

(Whereupon, above matter concludes, 10:53 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : SS.:
COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and
within the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the above is a correct transcription
of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 1st day of October, 2024.

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

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101 ^[3] - 7:2, 10:8, 16:22	54 ^[1] - 5:8	afraid ^[1] - 20:8	area ^[1] - 13:5
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TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
REGULAR MEETING

October 1, 2024
10:53 a.m.

Hearing 1

**To consider a Local Law entitled "A LOCAL LAW
TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN
OF OYSTER BAY, NEW YORK, AMENDING CHAPTER 241
- WATERWAYS, TO SET FORTH
PENALTIES ALLOWED TO BE ASSESSED BY THE BUREAU
OF ADMINISTRATIVE
ADJUDICATION" (M.D. 9/3/24 #12)**

JOSEPH SALADINO
SUPERVISOR

**

RICHARD LaMARCA
TOWN CLERK

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER

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A P P E A R A N C E S

P R E S E N T:

SUPERVISOR JOSEPH S. SALADINO
COUNCILWOMAN MICHELE M. JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN LOUIS B. IMBROTO
COUNCILMAN THOMAS P. HAND
COUNCILMAN STEVE L. LABRIOLA (Absent)
COUNCILWOMAN LAURA L. MAIER
COUNCILWOMAN VICKI WALSH

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

RICHARD LaMARCA TOWN CLERK
JEFFREY P. PRAVATO RECEIVER OF TAXES
FRANK SCALERA, ESQ., TOWN ATTORNEY
WILLIAM MCCABE, ESQ., ASSISTANT TOWN ATTORNEY

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Rich LaMarca,
our Clerk, would you please poll the
Board?

TOWN CLERK: Supervisor Saladino?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Present.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Present.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I'm here.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Present.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Labriola is
absent.

Councilwoman Maier?

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Present.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Present.

TOWN CLERK: We have a quorum,
Supervisor.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Rich LaMarca,
would you kindly call our first hearing?

TOWN CLERK: Today's first hearing
is to consider a Local Law entitled "A
LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN

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OF OYSTER BAY, NEW YORK, AMENDING CHAPTER
241 - WATERWAYS, TO SET FORTH PENALTIES
ALLOWED TO BE ASSESSED BY THE BUREAU OF
ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION".

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good morning,
Counselor.

ASSISTANT TOWN ATTORNEY: Good
morning, Supervisor, Town Board. My name
is William McCabe. I'm an Assistant Town
Attorney here at the Town of Oyster Bay.

This current hearing involves a
proposed local law to amend the code of
the Town of Oyster Bay, chapter 241,
which is waterways, to set forth the
penalties allowed to be assessed by the
Bureau of Administrative Adjudication.

The Bureau of Administrative
Adjudication was established by Chapter
14 of the Town Code to enable the Town
Attorney's Office to adjudicate Town Code
violations.

Chapter 241 of the Oyster Bay Town
code, titled Waterways, regulates
watersports and registration, mooring,

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docking and operation of vessels in the waters and waterways of the Town. This amendment gives the Bureau of Administrative Adjudication jurisdiction concurrent with the Nassau District Court, for anyone in violation or charged with an offense of Chapter 241 regarding Waterways.

In other words, this is a housekeeping type of change, as the Waterways Law section remains intact, the same, but violations of said law may be heard by the Town Bureau of Administrative Adjudication as well as Nassau District Court. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Counselor.

We've discussed this many times. So I appreciate the patience of my colleagues on the board, but we've already held a hearing on creating an adjudication bureau in the past, since we did not have this type of court situation here. If someone received a ticket or

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notice a violation, they would have to go to District Court -- it's answerable in District Court in Hempstead -- park and hopefully you get it done in time before you come outside and find a parking ticket on your car. Many times if it was involved with some kind of documentation and permit process, have to take another day off of work, come back here to the appropriate office and deal with it. By having an adjudication bureau set up right here in this room, someone could come address the violation and then go and get it resolved all in one stop shopping. We have been adding more items to this because we realize there's many sections of the town code. And we also want to give people the opportunity to be heard on the issue of the adjudication in general, and anything specific they'd like to be heard on. In this case, if someone didn't have a clamming license, for instance, and they were clamming, we're not about punishment. We're about

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bringing them in to correct the situation. And in that case, they would come in, they would deal with their situation, their ticket, if you will, with the Adjudication Bureau, and then they could walk right over to the Town Clerk's Office and get their clamming license all done.

So we're not about the penalties. The importance of this is bringing people into compliance, respecting the environment, respecting the other neighbors, all the other aspects.

Would you describe that statement as accurate in terms of motivation and our resolve?

ASSISTANT TOWN ATTORNEY: I think it's quite accurate, yes. We just want we just want everything to go smoothly. Keep everybody right here in the town. There's no reason to go to Hempstead.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Counselor.

With that, are there any questions?

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(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Is there anyone in the audience that would like to be heard on this hearing?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please let the record reflect that no one has indicated they'd like to be heard on this.

Are there any correspondence or postings?

TOWN CLERK: Supervisor, we have affidavits of posting and publication. There's no further correspondence.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: May I have a motion?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor, I make a motion that this hearing be closed and the record be kept open for ten days.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I'll second that motion.

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

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(Whereupon, all members of
the Town of Oyster Bay Town
Board present respond in favor
with, "Aye.")

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
"Nay".

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes"
have it. Thank you.

(Whereupon, above matter
concludes, 10:59 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : SS.:
COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and
within the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the above is a correct transcription
of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 1st day of October, 2024.

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

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TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY

REGULAR MEETING

October 1, 2024

10:59 a.m.

HEARING 2

**To consider a Local Law for a six (6) month
extension of the Town's Battery
Energy Storage System ("BESS") Moratorium.
(M.D. 9/3/24 #15)**

JOSEPH SALADINO

SUPERVISOR

**

RICHARD LaMARCA

TOWN CLERK

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER

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A P P E A R A N C E S

P R E S E N T:

SUPERVISOR JOSEPH S. SALADINO
COUNCILWOMAN MICHELE M. JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN LOUIS B. IMBROTO
COUNCILMAN THOMAS P. HAND
COUNCILMAN STEVE L. LABRIOLA (Absent)
COUNCILWOMAN LAURA L. MAIER
COUNCILWOMAN VICKI WALSH

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

RICHARD LaMARCA TOWN CLERK
JEFFREY P. PRAVATO RECEIVER OF TAXES
FRANK SCALERA, ESQ., TOWN ATTORNEY
ELIZABETH FAUGHNAN, ESQ. DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY

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APPEARED:

Weber Law Group

Garret Gray, Esq.

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Would you please call the next hearing?

TOWN CLERK: Today's second hearing is to consider a local law for a six month extension of the Town's Battery Energy Storage System, BESS, Moratorium.

DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: Good morning. Supervisor and members of the town board, Elizabeth Faughnan, Deputy Town Attorney, Office of the Attorney.

As the Board knows, there is currently a moratorium in place regarding regarding Battery Energy Storage Systems in the Town of Oyster Bay. That moratorium was adopted by Local Law 302 of 2024 on April 9th of 2024, as a result of a hearing that was held on February 27th of 2024. That local law included a provision that the moratorium could be extended by action of the Town Board. That moratorium is set to expire on October 15th.

Later today, we are asking the Town Board to adopt a Resolution 772 to

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advertise a public hearing on a new local law to extend that moratorium for a period of six months.

Because it's a land use matter, it's subject to the review and recommendation of the Nassau County Planning Commission. Due to a scheduling conflict, the Planning Commission could not hear the matter at the earliest on October 22nd. Rather than to have a lapse in the moratorium period, we are here today holding this hearing to consider an extension to that moratorium for a period beginning October 15th, until such time as the public hearing can be held on the 15th, the Planning Commission can make their recommendation and the Town can adopt the new local law.

So very simply, we're here just to extend belts and suspenders till we can get to the next local law and adopt that new moratorium. In order to save time for the Board, I am going to hand up to the Town Clerk a certified copy of the

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minutes from the original hearing held on February 27th, as well as the minutes regarding the Calpine request for an extension for for a exemption from that moratorium. That hearing was held on July 23rd (handing).

By handing up these minutes and making them part of the record. Everything, for all the reasons that were stated pro and con at both of those hearings, are now part of the record today. I know you were all very well aware of the issues here and the importance, and to save the Board's time, we are going then to submit these certified minutes so that they are part of today's record.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Counselor. Anything else?

DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: No, I would simply ask that after you hear public comment regarding today's proposed extension, that you close the record today and that the decision be made later

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in today's meeting.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And just for clarity, for our residents, we held the hearing. We approved the moratorium the first time. For how long a period?

DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: For a period of six months, with a provision that it could be extended by the Town Board.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And now we're back for the appropriate process of hearing from the public for a moratorium extension of how long?

DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: From October 15th, when the six month period expires, until such time as the Board can hold the next local law hearing on October 15th, received the Planning Commission's recommendation -- that meeting will be held on October 22nd -- then the Town Board can adopt its decision regarding the new local law. The hearing for that will be held on October 15th, and then there will be a new six month moratorium period for another six months.

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I have heard from residents, well, why don't you just make it permanent? But I tried to explain -- I'm asking you to confirm -- that that wouldn't be constitutional. That wouldn't be appropriate because we need to do this in a way where the public, we continue to listen to the public, we continue to garner more information on technologies and so forth. Correct?

DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: That's exactly correct, Supervisor.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: If there is nothing else, let's bring up the public.

Does anyone have any questions for counsel?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: No. Okay. Thank you, Beth.

DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: Thank you, Supervisor.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our first speaker will be Chris Panzeca.

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MS. PANZECA: I come here today with fellow residents saying we appreciate what you all are doing, ensuring our rights, safety and health are not infringed upon.

We oppose the BESS systems within the township and expect you all to extend the current BESS moratorium, preventing a rush to development and hasty decision making that puts the public's health and safety at risk.

Infancy BESS technology offering renewable promises pose a significant risk that can't be overlooked. It's imperative to ensure that said, promises do not come at the expense of our public health, safety or environmental integrity.

No long term residential studies exist, proving regular operations or the impact of disasters are safe for residents or sole source Long Island aquifers, communities or the environment. In fact, studies are just commencing on

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the impact of lithium to drinking water, and we all know the harmful effects and environmental impacts of mining, bringing for battery metals, the toxic plumes from fires, explosions and thermal runways, along with their forever chemicals and the landfills will have at the end of life for these facilities will be hazardous waste.

We've discussed previously the instability of the batteries, catalysts for ignition, realities of fires and explosions and thermal runways, and the toxins that are emitted, such as hydrogen fluoride, that are detrimental to our health. All of this remains unchanged.

We are actually seeing more lithium events. We saw Escondido with 30 megawatt BESS last summer. Containers full of these things igniting, lasting for days with toxic fumes, evacuating schools, residences, businesses and closing roads.

Recent weather events have also

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shown water and lithium don't mix. Houses are burning and cars are exploding. Yet Jupiter is pushing a 275 megawatt BESS into our community on a road we all know floods next to our harbor.

Saltwater is an electrolyte for these fires. It's beyond understanding these ticking time bombs and their known dangers are being pushed into or near residential communities and schools, putting lives at risk. We've suffered enough on Long Island and don't want to be the next class action community.

You value good neighbors? Well, I want you to know, Propel and Jupiter refused to attend a community town hall meeting last week. This speaks volumes to how they address us as residents when they don't want to show up, meet with us, answer our questions, or discuss the risk they're pushing on our community. If they can't address this now, imagine what will happen if there's ever an event in our community. Where will they be?

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Residents still don't know about these projects. The 500 foot notification rule prevented people widely knowing of their disingenuous meetings, and many were left out. Regardless, they evaded questions. They left questions unanswered at multiple meetings. Responses didn't address the questions that we asked, requiring multiple follow ups to get answers we already knew the answers to and they didn't want to admit. We're just dots on a map and a box on a required checklist for them on their path to making substantial profits, regardless of the cost to our community, human health and safety.

Local fire and Nassau County fire marshals are not endorsing these projects as they say. I checked. And both organizations said that they will respond to events protecting public safety. Jupiter actually has cease and desist order from our local fire department for making these statements. There's no

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standard facility or battery chemistry, so training is a requirement, not an accolade.

Regulations to date have not addressed lithium battery instability or prevented over 70 fires, explosions or thermal runways that have taken place since 2018. These toxic things are in their infancy, wetting the bed until they learn how not to.

Fire codes or years behind this technology and newly proposed codes are reactive, not addressing the root cause that these lithium batteries are unstable and they don't go far enough addressing the safety concerns and risks. It's still a let it burn methodology. We don't have 8 million gallons of water like Otay Mesa, and our fire companies would be stressed around the clock from all over the county.

Facilities built now would become preexisting, non-conforming and not be required to upgrade as lessons are

1
2 learned and standards are further
3 developed. These projects will
4 industrialize our community, divert
5 resources, and reduce values while
6 imposing significant risks onto us.

7 Once they make us high risk
8 communities, insurance rates will go up,
9 home values will decline, and we as
10 residents will be left bearing the cost
11 for at all. Exorbitant cost of borrowing
12 by taxpayers for these projects
13 subsidizes their incentives and
14 abatements along with the rates we'll pay
15 as ratepayers. We currently pay \$36 per
16 megawatt hour, but will pay \$155 per
17 megawatt hour for offshore wind, plus the
18 \$3.3 billion Propel project and the cost
19 of battery storage.

20 BESS will buy energy cheaply in the
21 middle of the night, then sell it back to
22 us when we need it at huge markups
23 covering their costs to kick up profits
24 for carried interest at their private
25 equity owners. Articles quoted by the PSC

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indicate we will be paying 6% of household income for utilities. How much energy will BESS use to charge power cooling stations in AI versus the negligible amount that they will provide us, never satisfying AI, data mining or chip manufacturing consumption?

Let's not forget the impact of foreign batteries, introducing malware into our infrastructure and grid, exposing us to terrorism, or the fact that BESS are dependent on communications as they're run remotely from the other side of the country.

Will we evacuate or will we be left to shelter in place when event happens given our dense populations and limited exits. Can we airtight our homes and schools from toxins and clean up our communities from contamination? Who will address the cost or the impact to our homes? Will there be substantial bonds paid upfront to the Town and held for individual, resident and property impacts

1
2 for every resident in a five mile
3 exposure radius, as well as every
4 resident that draws water from Long
5 Island's sole source aquifers for at
6 least 30 years? Will asset managers like
7 Blackrock, the owner of Jupiter, be held
8 to financial responsibility? LLCs are
9 typically formed for a reason and they
10 fold for reason, they limit their
11 liability.

12 New York State is the 12th largest
13 economy with 0.4% greenhouse gases
14 worldwide. The State has done a great job
15 and should do better. But this rush to
16 development with all these unprecedented,
17 interconnected projects industrializing
18 our oceans, surrounding our homes and
19 communities with high voltage EMF
20 emitting cables and unstable, toxic BESS
21 should cause everyone pause.

22 It doesn't seem anyone has learned
23 lessons from the past thinking about the
24 impacts of this technology from cradle to
25 grave, as well as the long term

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consequences in years to come. There are no long term residential health or environmental studies proving any of this to save for our health. And for what? A negligible impact on a global situation, the trade off of one environmental issue for yet another in coming years, or helping mitigated after the fact, for which there is no amount of money to solve those problems or worse.

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We are human beings and it should be our say is what comes into our community. Private equity, big business and the lobbyists they fund should not be the ones deciding what is okay for our community.

We urge the Board to uphold and extend the moratorium, and not change the zoning rules to allow for these New York residential areas, home, schools and waterways. We also urge you to take action against Propel and oppose the Rapid Act so Home Rule isn't eroded and eminent domain is not taken for these

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renewable projects. Let's wait before
it's too late and let's pause for a good
cause: Our health and safety.

Thank you all so much for listening
today.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you. We
greatly appreciate all you've done, all
the leadership, and I hope that our
actions have proven that we work for the
residents and we care deeply about the
environment.

MS. PANZECA: And we thank you for
the letter that you sent to our
community.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: You're
welcome.

Our next speaker is Christina
Kramer.

I have eight slips in total. If
there is someone else who would like to
be heard and hasn't filled out a slip yet
to be called on, we greatly appreciate if
you do that now.

MS. KRAMER: I just want to submit

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this for the record (handing).

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Would you kindly begin by giving us your full name and address for the record?

MS. KRAMER: My name is Christina Kramer. I live at 361 East Broadway, Long Beach, New York. I have been here before.

I am the president of Protect Our Coast, Long Island, New York. And our goal is to protect the environment and the rights of nature throughout Long Island. I came here to support the moratorium extension, but clearly my help isn't needed. She covered everything. So I'm just going to read my written statement.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak on the record. Battery storage units are not safe. They're experimental. I heard numerous lobbying groups, such as Citizens Campaign for the Environment, Transition Town of Port Washington, and the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor,

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trying to overshadow residents with their opinions on how we stop global warming, and trying to dismiss valid concerns regarding the battery storage and the high voltage EMF cables.

I think we can all agree that we need renewable energy, but the only renewable energy currently before us is not safe or clean energy. Not one lobbyist committee says anything about our health or safety being paramount. The New York State Public Service wrote a letter dated December 14th to the Public Service Commission and provided an analysis of the proposed action -- I can email that to you -- which is battery storage.

Public health and safety standard impacts are directly attributable to battery storage, including toxicity and fire risks. Hazards associated with large scale lithium ion batteries can be categorized into electrical, thermal, and mechanical types. The battery storage

1
2 technologies contain toxic and hazardous
3 chemicals that cause damage to humans
4 when exposure occurs. Key risks from
5 exposure include irritation to skin and
6 eyes, damage to the respiratory system
7 from inhalation of dangerous vapors,
8 damage to the digestive tract from
9 swallowing, and severe burns and
10 blindness.

11 Exposures generally occur when the
12 battery has been damaged or tampered
13 with. These battery storage systems will
14 be monitored remotely. There is a four
15 hour response time for emergencies.

16 The Department of Public Service
17 notes that there needs to be years to
18 implement safety guidelines. And yet the
19 governor imposed the Rapid Act, which
20 means let's do it faster and let's
21 circumvent municipalities, local laws,
22 ordinances and resident input. These
23 battery storage components are being
24 propagated as individual projects when
25 nothing could be further from the truth.

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The turbines are intermittent, so they need battery storage. Battery storage can only hold four hours of electricity.

Calpine, the battery storage company that wants to build on the Grumman's site, stated this at the recent meeting here. Propel is installing the infrastructure for offshore wind, proposing an additional 345 kilovolt cables from Oceanside, New York, to Westchester County to New York City to bring the offshore wind.

We urge you to stop the narrative of "Plan don't ban". Why are we looking at guidelines and legislation being given by bureaucrats in Albany who are imposing this on our communities for our health and safety, to be monitored after the fact?

We keep hearing the narrative "for the greater good". When you say that, you know you are imposing harm on one group for the benefit of others. Who gets to decide which group benefits and which

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group of residents are harmed as a result of those benefits? Learn before you burn.

Finally, I would like to mention the tragic weather events in Florida and North Carolina. They have learned firsthand that when water reaches the batteries, they spontaneously explode and are unable to be put out by fire fighters by any conventional means. Why would we dare to bring lithium ion batteries into residential communities? This is an accident waiting to happen. It's not a matter of if they will explode, it's a matter of when. Please don't put our residents at risk. And thank you for your time.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you. Christina. You brought up a very important issue. I won't delve deeply into it, but I am so passionate about this -- we are. And that is Albany taking away our zoning rights. Three years in a row, Albany has been trying to take away

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2 our zoning rights in a major way. And
3 when they take away our zoning rights,
4 that is your rights to be heard and
5 control what is in your communities. We
6 have been consistently and successfully
7 fighting back on their desire to remove
8 all of the rights of zoning, deciding
9 what's in communities. And quite frankly,
10 I'm more than frustrated over that
11 process because for years we've been
12 enforcing their New York State building
13 codes, and then that all goes out the
14 window to pack people in to communities
15 to do just as you describe, in helping
16 some. It greatly depreciates values and
17 depreciates the life for others,
18 including when it comes to safety.

19 So we have all been stewards of
20 fighting back on the leadership in
21 Albany. Not talking about our local
22 Assembly members and senators. They stood
23 with us. But I, for one, am outraged at
24 the fact that we have to continue to
25 fight back when they're trying to force

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what they want rather than what you want.
And democracy means we listen to the public, and our job is to give you a voice. So please know we are very passionate when it comes to that specific issue that you mentioned about removal of our zoning rights.

With that, Robert is our next Mazella. Robert, would you kindly start off with giving us your full name and address for the record?

MR. MAZELLA: Robert Mazella, 36 Beachwood Drive, Glenhead, New York. Start.

My name is Rob Mazella, as I stated, and I'm not a paid lobbyist. I am a lifelong member of Long Island volunteering for the Glen head Glenwood Landing Civic Council.

While I believe that we should all be working together to figure out how to safely reduce greenhouse gas emissions while creating a reliable energy grid, I'm here to reiterate that our civic

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organizations strongly support an extension of the Town's moratorium on BESS facilities.

We strongly believe that lithium battery facilities should not be placed in any community until local towns have the time to review long term studies that show these facilities are not jeopardizing the health and safety of our neighbors, children, volunteer firefighters and the environment.

A Navy Seal I know says, "hope is not a plan". The proponents of BESS facilities are saying we should blindly leap ahead without any data and then:

Hope they don't catch fire.

Hope none of our volunteer firefighters get seriously injured or killed trying to contain a fire until it burns out.

Hope the toxic fumes from a weekslong fire and off gassing during normal operations don't cause 9/11 like cancers.

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Hope young children at a local elementary school, which is within the mandatory evacuation zone of a proposed facility, don't experience an uptick in childhood cancer rates.

Hope the toxic runoff from fire containment procedures don't turn the island into a barren wasteland by permanently contaminating the Long Island Sound and our aquifers.

Hope children are not forced to work in inhumane conditions while mining in foreign countries for the toxic components of lithium batteries.

Hope routine flooding in the location that is across the street from the saltwater harbor doesn't result in a thermal runaway catastrophe.

Hope local firefighters will have access to over 8 million gallons of fresh water to be able to prevent the fire from spreading to residential homes.

Hope our utility bills don't skyrocket. The price of water has

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skyrocketed when rates are placed at the mercy of for profit private equity firms.

Hope we don't create landfills filled with toxic waste from spent lithium batteries.

This is an awful lot of hope.

Let's remember that as children, all of our parents told us to look before you leap. So I think we should wait before it's too late.

In an interview on ABC news, a member of the Governance and Safety Response group is also working with BESS facility owners was asked, what do you do when these facilities goes on fire? His response was, "let it burn". Don't we deserve a better answer to that question before we start building these massive toxic structures next to our homes and schools?

Regarding energy costs, a senior fellow from the National Center for Energy Analytics wrote the following in the *Wall Street Journal*:

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"New York made a drastic mistake in agreeing to the offtake price of \$155 per megawatt hour. Meanwhile, the average wholesale value of power in New York was \$36 per megawatt hour. Equinor received a total subsidy of more than \$3 billion, courtesy of US taxpayers. Are American taxpayers funding an extraordinarily expensive form of electricity generation? Did New York sign an agreement that allows large wind farm operators to earn unreasonably high after tax profits at the expense of its residents? Or both? Either way, New Yorkers are the big losers." That was a quote from that energy expert.

As you consider the implementation of a moratorium, consider that Norway has a four year moratorium on offshore wind projects and note that Equinor is a Norwegian company. This begs the question is Norway viewing Long island as a human and environmental testing ground before risking the health and safety of their

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citizens and environment?

Please also consider that according to environmental impact information submitted to the state, there will be a net zero impact on climate change from offshore wind projects. And according to an article published by the Heartland Institute's Research Center at the end of 2022, US turbines were killing roughly 2.8 quadrillion insects per year, 1.5 million bats, 800,000 birds. They concluded by saying, "overall, ecosystems are incredibly complex, but insects have always provided the basis of the food chain. Without them, everything collapses."

Also, according to offshore wind company documents, turbines are harming whales. In fact, the Rutgers professor emeritus of computer science, who co-created the search engine that powers Ask.com, conducted a comprehensive study on the whale deaths announced as, "absolutely 100%, offshore wind kills

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whales."

In short, anyone who is actually looking before they leap should realize that these BESS facilities and related projects are not green, not clean, not safe, not reliable, and will not lower utility costs.

Thank you for considering the viewpoint of your constituents in the Town of Oyster Bay over people and organizations with self-serving financial and political motivations.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Robert.

Next speaker, Darlene Gullotti.

MS. GULLOTTI: Darlene Gullotti, 5 Glen Avenue, Glen head.

I would just like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak this morning. From personal standpoint, I also agree with the moratorium.

I want to publicly thank Christine, Cecilia McCann, George, Rob and anybody else that I forgot for taking their time

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on a voluntary basis to let the community know about this process. I feel like my husband and I are pretty well informed citizens. We were very surprised to hear how quickly this proposal was coming to fruition.

So once again, I really just want to take this opportunity to say we are totally in support of the moratorium. And we thank all those volunteers that are taking their time, taking time away from work and family, to emphasize how serious this is to our community. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

The next speaker will be Beth Costello.

MS. COSTELLO: Good afternoon, Town Board, Supervisor Saladino.

Thank you again for the moratorium. I think this is a great win for us and that our voices are being heard, which is always a concern. So I am grateful for this.

So why not, in the meantime, ask

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what --I don't want to quote JFK when he said, "ask not what your country can do for you, but what you could do for your country". What can we, as citizens of Long Island do for Long Island to forward a climate change goal on our own and gather the support of all Long Island separate from New York? What can we do as Long Islanders? Because this is really an environment that is not like any other part of New York state. And we have all of these assets going for us. But why not think about what we can do as individuals and as citizens to support climate change a little bit faster. Whether it's in again -- all of my life I have been driving cars that have good gas mileage, driving on the HOV lanes. Why not expand bicycle lanes? Why not give more public walkways to the communities so they don't get run over by the traffic that is out there? Why not give free public transportation so people can take the train into the city without driving in.

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I mean, they sound like lofty goals, but why not do something on our own and become the leaders in something that doesn't bring outside building into our community that is not good for our safety? So I think that's something that we should consider on a larger basis.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you. Would you kindly just give us your name and address for the record?

MS. COSTELLO: Beth Costello, 58 Grove Street, Glenwood Landing, New York.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Ms. Costello, I think you'd be very happy to hear that this Town Board, this Administration and our Town Departments are very focused on environmental protection. We have consistently taken actions that protect our air, a water, our bays. We fought the bridge or tunnel successfully that would have wreaked havoc on our environment in so many ways. And a very long list of initiatives ensuring that cars here are very fuel efficient, and so many

1
2 different initiatives. We changed out all
3 the lights in the town, all the
4 streetlights to LED, lights in our
5 buildings to LED, which cuts down on
6 energy, cuts down the cost to but reduces
7 the effect. So there's a very, very long
8 list of initiatives that we embrace and
9 we continue to embrace. We are
10 environmentalists, and we're
11 exceptionally proud of that here in the
12 Town of Oyster Bay.

13 And if I may, you ask the question,
14 so if you don't mind, I'd be happy to
15 give you my opinion of one of the
16 answers. You said, how can we get a
17 movement going? And my suggestion, as
18 you've heard from the residents, some of
19 these initiatives are being foisted upon
20 us by Albany. So letters to the Governor,
21 letters to the Speaker of the Assembly,
22 letters to the President of the New York
23 State Senate. Great place to start. Write
24 your local representative in the Assembly
25 and Senate. You'll find that many of them

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here that represent the Town of Oyster Bay are already working with us hand in hand. And these are just some of the ways that our voices can be heard.

MS. COSTELLO: I just wish that politicians would say, hey, look, we stand with you, not stay silent. Not all of them, but many of them. And wait till it goes away. Or wait till the elections are over, or wait till the budget votes are in and then they talk. But they need to stand up for us. And they really need to voice that. Stand up for us, they don't.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Well, some do, some do. People in this room, you could be assured of.

One of the ways we do that is we have changed our budget process. So we present our budget before election day, and we vote on our budget before election day. There are so many ways which we've been doing exactly what you've suggested. We're not going to comment on how we're

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going to vote until the process is all over it, because that's the appropriate way to handle this situation. I know some people in the room would like us making strong comments before we vote, but that's not the way we run government here. But rest assured, said it many times, we work for the residents and we prove that in so many ways.

MS. COSTELLO: Yes, you do.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you so much. Thank you for coming.

Arthur Miller.

MR. MILLER: Thank you for your continued work for our community.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Can you start off start off with your name and address?

MR. MILLER: My name is Arthur Miller. My wife and I have been living in Sea Cliff at 162 Dubois Avenue for 43 years, in the same home. And I'm here today -- I don't want to be redundant because the speakers that came before me were excellent. I just had some views on

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this potential project with the batteries.

I recall, as they used to say in Brooklyn, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Leave things alone. I'm happy with what we have. The services are fine. The harbor has been cleaned up successfully. I remember when we first moved to town, it was polluted. And through the work of the Town and various supervisors, the harbor has cleaned up nicely. Marine life is back. We can swim without fear. That was a great step.

Having a battery down there, especially in this location, I don't know if anybody knows where it is, it's down by the where they built these \$2 million condo apartments. And if there is an emergency, there is no escape route. You're trapped.

Now as as they also mentioned, if there's a fire with the batteries, you can't put them out. So why do we have to go through that risk? For what? I'm happy

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with the gas that we get. All of our services are great. We never had a blackout. I think that people now are environmentally conscious. People are cleaning up. As I said, the proof is the harbor. The sea life is back. I don't want to see added problems.

I also recall about 45 years ago, in Shoreham, they decided they wanted to have a nuclear plant. And at that time Mario Cuomo was the governor, and he assured everyone, don't worry. We have escape routes. Everything's fine. It wasn't fine. They had to close down the project. It cost us millions of dollars in our tax money. That was one.

Some years ago, I'd say about 20 years, 25 years ago, in the harbor, they were going to build these large incinerator plants. And people didn't want that. Successfully, the people with influence got together and they stopped that project. So I'm saying this project is very scary. I'm frightened to have

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this in our neighborhood.

Also, if you wanted to do this with the batteries, there's so much land on Long Island that we travel, South Shore, anywhere where you can set up these areas without affecting people's residences and people's health.

So I don't see the point with the whole thing. And I hope you guys are successful in fighting the governor. And I hope that we come out of this with success.

Thanks for your time, man.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Mr. Miller. Thank you for joining us here today. Thank you for the wonderful plays you've written. I've enjoyed them greatly.

MR. MILLER: Oh, yes.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our next speaker is Karen Carrero.

Could you kindly start off by giving us your name again?

MS. CARRERO: Karen Carrero, 2 Ellen

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Place in Glen Head.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

MS. CARRERO: I'm new to all this. I admit, I have not been that informed. I've been seeing a couple of signs around. I'm involved with some library groups. I'm feeling this real sense of fear that I don't feel like it's been advertised enough. I feel like I need to see from our Town, a sense of urgency. Not like, oh, there's a moratorium now for six months. I feel this is such an extreme thing that we are looking at. Considering all the disasters that have been happening around the country and we've seen, the responses haven't been great. And this is such an unknown.

I don't want to shut down to new opportunities and new ideas, but I just feel I would love to see -- I'm not sure what you're able to do or not do -- I would love to see the Town of Oyster Bay be more forthcoming with more energy about what's going on so more people are

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informed. Because I'm not living in my house and not getting out there. I'm around. I'm just amazed that I was not as aware of it as I felt I really should have been, considering how much I go about town.

So I'm imploring all of you, again, I think a lot of people feel this sense of, why am I living in fear now that a town that I've been in forever is going to be in danger of real toxic -- I'm a cancer survivor. I don't need any more toxins near me at this point.

I just would hope that you will all consider -- and I don't know if that's within your ability to do this or not, so I'm certainly not making any accusations -- but if you can, can you please advertise more what's coming so people are ahead of the game and not trying to just say, oh, let's just scramble at the last second. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

Just to inform you, because

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transparency is very important to us, and

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we've worked hard to be transparent about

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all of the issues that we deal with, but

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I also ask you go to our website:

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Oysterbaytown.com; it's one of the many

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places we have worked with the people in

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the media, reporters. We make sure we

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work with them. We've sent out mailings.

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We have to, by law, send out mailings to

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inform the public and to advertise in the

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papers to report to the public what the

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subject of the hearing will be,

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especially within the radius or the

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community that it's taking place. And we

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do that with all of our hearings.

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But your suggestions don't fall on

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deaf ears, and we will continue to

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ratchet up our many different sources of

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communication. We all believe that that's

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extremely important.

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In terms of your specific questions,

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we are limited by law and will always

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follow the law, but we're always going to

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work with our residents.

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MS. CARRERO: Thank you. And I hope I -- I was not implying that you were not being transparent. That was not my intent at all. And I understand that they are on the website and that you are in touch with certain communications. I'm saying if there's any way for you to even make that effort stronger for the many people who are really not aware of what's going on -- and at fault of themselves. I'm coming up here saying I should have known better. I should have known more. I should have been more active. But I feel like if I'm reflecting on my own behavior, I just think there's a lot more people like me out there, unfortunately. I'm just asking if there's any way to ramp up the effort and get it out there. But I was not saying that you were not being transparent.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And please know our communications are very important to us. We're consistently looking for ways to, as you said, ramp up

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the effort to communicate with our residents in a variety of different ways, and we take that seriously and we're proud of our communication. So I greatly appreciate you bringing that up and qualifying those statements. And please, rest assured that that's something very important to us.

MS. CARRERO: Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thanks for your time and coming in today.

Christopher Giovanis.

MR. GIOVANIS: Hello, everyone. My name is Christopher Giovanis. I reside at 28 Garfield Avenue in Glen head.

I just wanted to thank the Board for their time today. I recently moved to the Glen head area about three years ago. This specific news about the BESS battery plant and the Propel cable system -- that I frankly haven't heard a single reference to during this meeting -- came to my attention last week. I attended a meeting at the North Shore High School

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2 where a couple of hundred people showed
3 up from the local civic communities in
4 the surrounding area and listened to many
5 intelligent individuals, some of them
6 here. They obviously spoke profoundly
7 about the risks that come with these
8 types of uses.

9 My question to the Board and the
10 Town of Oyster Bay is can the zoning for
11 that specific area be changed to avert
12 this type of use going forward? The
13 power plant is no longer there. The there
14 is a gas turbine plant there, but that is
15 just basically an offspring of that
16 larger plant being there. The grid is
17 there, so the substation is there. It's
18 obvious that it's easy for any kind of
19 energy production-related use can operate
20 there. But at the end of the day, that
21 area what it was -- I don't know when
22 that plant was built in the 20s, 30s --
23 it is no longer that type of area. The
24 amount of homes that have been built are
25 encroaching closer and closer to the

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global fuel storage facility, to the gas turbine plant. It's quite obvious that those types of uses are no longer conforming. What that area is, is a community. It's an area where people go, live, sleep, raise their family, send their kids to school and live. The risks here are severe.

That's all I have to say. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

Mr. McCabe, before you leave the room.

Before you leave the room, sir, you asked a very specific and pointed question. And in essence, in my opinion, you ask for my legal opinion. In an effort to protect the residents, rather than me giving you a legal opinion, I'm going to ask you to speak to both Mr. McCabe and Mr. Frank Scalera, our town attorney, who can give you more information about that specific question that you had, which in essence could be taken as targeted zoning. So the legal

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rights of the residents are very important for us to protect. So if you don't mind, it would be better for the attorneys to just to answer your question.

MR. GIOVANIS: Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.
Dawn Costello.

MS. COSTELLO: Hi. I'm Dawn Costello, 31 Woodridge Lane, Sea Cliff.

There are at least three concerns that I wanted to adjust with the Town Council.

The first is evacuation routes. On a good day, getting out from the North Shore down to anywhere near the LIE, especially at rush hour, is a hassle. It could take you 30 minutes to an hour to get down there some days, depending on what's going on on the roads. But there's not that many roads heading south. And I think the fact of where we're located in the North Shore area, it just is a very great concern.

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The second concern I have is what this can do to disrupt businesses. With the high voltage wires going up and down Glenwood Road, it's not just homes. There's tons of residences there, but also a lot of businesses that are already struggling that are going to struggle even more when the streets are ripped up and there's people can't get in and out of their businesses.

And the last and I think is the most important thing is children. Where they're supposed to be locating these battery storage units right next to the bus depot where all these kids -- the buses. If they're going to have any kind of contaminants in it, they're going to be right in the buses that take our children to and from school every day. Not to mention, two of our elementary schools, Glenwood and Glenwood Elementary are within a block of where these high voltage wires are supposed to be laid down.

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I love our district. We pay a lot of taxes, send our kids to that district. And it just makes me very, very, very nervous to picture our kids playing in the playground and doing their sports. High school's also not too far from where these voltage wires are and are potentially exposed to these hazards. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Next speaker Kathleen Beher.

MS. BEHER: I am going to be very short and sweet. Kathleen Beher from Glen Head, 11 Union Avenue. I've been living there over 50 years.

I want to say that I am so disappointed that the adage, "money is the root of all evil" is true. When this first battery came to be, everybody jumped on the bandwagon and nobody cared what the results were going to be instead of waiting for something else to be made or invented, however you want to call it. It saddens me.

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But I guess what I really want to say to you guys is history is written by those in authority. I hope you have a favorable history. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: George Pombar.

MR. POMBAR: Good morning. George Pombar, 38 Roosevelt Street, Glen Head.

First of all, I want to thank all of you, including the supervisor, for your leadership in the Town of Oyster Bay. We really appreciate that.

I had a group of nine civics in the area including Glen Head, Glenwood Landing and now Greenvale as well. We represent over 4000 homes. This past week we held a Town Hall meeting with over 500 residents attended to hear many of the comments that you heard today and probably in more detail about the risks on these proposal being planned to install in our area.

We live in a high density neighborhood, as most of Long Island is.

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We find it actually insulting that private equity companies like Jupiter or Propel backed by Albany want to come to our area to decide for us what the risks are going to be without really paying attention to what the risks are going to be. We have clear evidence, clear evidence from the Nassau County fire marshal and others in our local fire departments that they're unable to put these fires out. And this BESS batteries -- talking about the Jupiter proposal -- - once they overheat, they have a tendency to go on fire.

I wanted to quote a comment from the newly appointed New York City fire commissioner, who just got appointed three weeks ago. He was interviewed and was listening to the interview, and they asked him what the biggest challenge was for him and his people, he said the biggest challenge right now is for us to understand how to put out lithium battery fires. He's not talking about bicycle

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lithium batteries. He's talking about big commercial batteries. They haven't figured that out.

Just want to jump in a little bit. For our meeting, we invited Jupiter and Propel representatives to come and talk and explain their side and why they're selecting our area. They both declined. They did not want to face the music in front of the people, so we held our own. And as you heard before, many of our experts from the community explained the high risks that we're facing.

A couple of key factors that create the highest risk for our community: One of them is the propensity of the commercial lithium batteries to go on fire. They haven't figured their solutions out. The inability of the fire department to put this fires out is clearly there. They have not figured that out yet.

The fact that the evacuations often required our communities to leave the

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area for about a mile, they're extremely difficult in our areas. We're completely congested. We are a peninsula. We can't get out. We're having difficulties right now dealing with traffic. If this was to happen, we have a school right next to it. We have school bus depot next to it. And we have many, many, many residents all around.

We have been discussing this issue with other communities on Long Island, and we're joining together because we are all opposing this. We don't want Albany to decide for us and the local communities, or any private equity company to come in and decide what's good for us. We will oppose that.

Please, we are counting on you to help us. I know you will. We are really counting on you to do that. We're passionate about it. We're going to kick butt if it goes any further. And you know that. And we will do that. Thank you again. I appreciate it.

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.
George, we just want to publicly thank you for your leadership and your commitment on so many different issues. Not just this. There have been many, many ways in which you serve the community, and it's greatly appreciated. You're professional, you're kind. You are open minded, your ears are always open and you're always there with leadership. Thank you, George.

MR. POMBAR: Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay. We have no other slips. So to close, Garret Gray.

Mr. Gray?

MR. GRAY: Good morning, Mr. Supervisor, members of the board, Garret Gray, Weber law Group, 290 Broad Hollow Road, Melville, New York.

You may recall I represent Calpine, a company that's proposing to put a 44 megawatt BESS storage facility on a one acre, completely industrial parcel of land. Again, I represent Calpine. We are

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not Jupiter. We are not Propel. We are not Long Beach. We are not a wind farm.

I understand that the short term nature of what the Board seeks to do today with respect to the sort of a gap moratorium, if you will, to cover until the Planning Commission can hear it; we have no objection to the Board granting that short term moratorium. There are some points I would like to point out for information purposes, and I'm going to speak primarily about the moratorium today with Calpine.

The decision that this board is going to make on Calpine exemption application is not on the agenda today, I'm assuming it's going to be on the 15th. But let me just address the moratorium itself. As this Board knows, in the late spring, early summer, the New York Fire Working Group issued its final draft recommendation report. It was open for public comment and the public comment period expired on September 24th. Because

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2 they issued a final draft recommendation
3 for it on August 7, 2024, the Suffolk
4 County Planning Commission -- and by no
5 means am I implying that the Suffolk
6 County Planning Commission determination
7 is binding on this Board, different
8 county; however, it's instructive -- in
9 response to a recent application by the
10 Town of Islip to extend its best
11 moratorium by six months, the Suffolk
12 County Planning Commission, relying on
13 the issuance of the New York Fire Safety
14 Working Group report, stated that "no
15 town's BESS moratorium should be extended
16 beyond the Fall of 2024", believing that
17 that gave them sufficient time to update
18 their code based on the Working Group
19 report.

20 As a matter of fact, it was only
21 last Thursday that *Newsday* -- and I have
22 a copy of the article, which I will hand
23 up (handing) -- *Newsday* reported that the
24 Town of Smithtown sought to impose a six
25 month BESS moratorium, but for the

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reasons they just stated, the Suffolk County Planning Commission rejected that and limited it to a period of only three months.

Quite interestingly, at the August 7, 2024, Suffolk County Planning Commission, the Town of Islip, which I indicated had previously issued a blanket moratorium on all BESS applications, sought to remove tier one BESS operators from their BESS moratorium. A tier one operators is defined as a BESS system of 80MW or less. Calpine proposed project is only 44MW, or slightly more than half of 80MW. The reason given by Islip is they did not believe that the risks associated with a BESS facility of less than 80MW rose to the level of needing moratorium protection.

Finally, and again, I will speak more on this on the 15th, but again, you've heard a lot of residents speak who live in the Glen Head area and will be affected by Jupiter. Jupiter is a 275

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watt massive BESS facility covering many acres. And again, Calpine is a one acre BESS facility with 44MW completely surrounded by industrial.

I look forward to seeing you on the 15th. If anybody has any questions, I'm happy to answer.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

Are there any questions from the Board?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay. Thank, you. Counselor.

MR. GARRET: Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Could you please come forward? I didn't see your name on the on the slips. Would you kindly begin by giving us your full name and address? For the record?

MS. PETERSON: My name is Susan Peterson. I live at 6 Maiden Lane, Glen Head. Been a resident of Glen Head for 45 years and Glen Cove my entire life.

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I oppose these BESS facilities in our community. I would ask for an extension of the moratorium and more. There are no long term health studies showing these projects are safe and the toxic time bombs do not belong in a residential community. No resident wants to be part of a possible next class action suit.

Safety standards to date don't address their instability. Thermal runaway, there's nothing preventing multitudes of BESS fires, explosions on thermal runways.

Arizona in 2019 exploded throwing fire safety workers 70ft, resulting in chemical burns and debris.

In 2023, New York facilities such as Warwick and East Hampton burned for days, emitting toxic fumes, resulting in evacuations, shelter in place, transportation shutdowns.

May 2024 Otay Mesa thermal runaway. Lithium batteries are unstable due to

1
2 environmental factors of heat, floods and
3 sea fog, and seismic defects in
4 manufacturing. It took one bad battery
5 cell to ignite over a thousand in a
6 matter of minutes.

7 Thermal runaway as a primary risk is
8 a phenomena in which one ion cell enters
9 an uncontrollable self-healing state
10 that continues to propagate to other
11 batteries. Normal operations pose
12 concerns, as one bad battery cell
13 necessitates off gassing to event an
14 ignition.

15 Lithium batteries are made of heavy
16 metals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel,
17 iron phosphate, and some which are known
18 carcinogens. The toxicity may have had
19 dire effect to air, land, water, and
20 human body.

21 These BESS are too close to homes,
22 schools and parks. Jupiter's, a 275
23 megawatt, is also on top of our town
24 beaches and harbor, right across from our
25 our harbor. We will all be strained from

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health, safety and cost perspectives, monitoring for impacts of off gassing and dealing with potential events where toxins are released into our air, land and water. The toxic plumes and contamination will travel more than 500ft or an acre, and runoff contamination will be an issue.

Furthermore, our densely populated and congested areas lack adequate evacuation routes for their potential disasters.

Just as a personal note, I'm a retired teacher, and I think of the school children being possibly sheltered in place in their buildings, not being able to be contacted by their parents or their family members or caregivers because they cannot get to their children. Many of our children walk to school, and that would be within this area of this facility.

I ask that you extend the current moratorium and prevent these things from

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being on top of our homes, our schools,
our beaches and our parks. And I thank
you for your attention and any future
guidance. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very
much.

Is there any other person here who
would like to be heard on this hearing.

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please let the
record reflect that no one said they
would like to be heard.

With that, may I have a motion,
please?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor,
I'll make the motion that this hearing be
closed and decision be voted on today.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I will second
that.

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

(Whereupon, all members of
the Town of Oyster Bay Town

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Board present respond in favor
with, "Aye.")

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
"Nay".

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes"
have it.

Folks, at this time we're done with
our hearings and we are going to take a
quick break, but we will be coming back
voting on the entire calendar, including
today's motion to extend out the
moratorium. If you'd like to stay, you'll
find out today. We will be back soon.
We're going to take a brief recess. Thank
you.

(Whereupon, above matter
concludes)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : SS.:
COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and
within the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the above is a correct transcription
of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 1st day of October, 2024.

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

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TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY

REGULAR MEETING

October 1, 2024

12:30 p.m.

ACTION CALENDAR

JOSEPH SALADINO

SUPERVISOR

**

RICHARD LaMARCA

TOWN CLERK

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER

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A P P E A R A N C E S

P R E S E N T:

SUPERVISOR	JOSEPH S. SALADINO
COUNCILWOMAN	MICHELE M. JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN	LOUIS B. IMBROTO
COUNCILMAN	THOMAS P. HAND
COUNCILMAN	STEVE L. LABRIOLA (Absent)
COUNCILWOMAN	LAURA L. MAIER
COUNCILWOMAN	VICKI WALSH

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

RICHARD LaMARCA	TOWN CLERK
JEFFREY P. PRAVATO	RECEIVER OF TAXES
FRANK SCALERA, ESQ.,	TOWN ATTORNEY

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: This was not Executive Session so no need for a vote. Rich LaMarca, will you please present out Regular Action Calendar.

TOWN CLERK: May I have a motion to suspend the Rules and add Resolution 765 through 772-2024?

On the motion?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

COUNCILMAN HAND: Second.

TOWN CLERK: Motion made by Councilwoman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Hand.

On the vote, Supervisor Saladino?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto, we are voting suspending the Rules and adding Resolution 765 through 772.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Happy to do it.
Aye.

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TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier.

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Motion to suspend the Rules and add Resolution 765 through 772-2024 passes with six ayes.

May I have a motion to resuspend the Rules and add the following Resolution 773-2024, which is a resolution authorizing the proposed extension of the current moratorium on the establishment of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) for the period beginning October 15th, 2024, until such time as a hearing can be held on a local law to extend the moratorium the decision is made.

On the motion?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

TOWN CLERK: Motion made by Councilwoman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Imbroto.

On the vote, Supervisor Saladino?

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I proudly vote
Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I vote Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Motion to resuspend the
Rules and add walk on Resolution 773-2024
passes with six ayes and zero nays.

May I have a motion to adopt
Resolution P-15-2024 through 773-2024?
On the motion?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

TOWN CLERK: Motion made by
Councilwoman Johnson, seconded by
Councilman Imbroto.

I don't believe we have any

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speakers.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I have no slips for any speakers on the Regular Action Calendar. Would anyone like to be heard on the Regular Action Calendar we're voting on today?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please let the record reflect that no one has indicated they would like to be heard.

Let's go to the vote. Supervisor Saladino?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you for your patience. It was just asked for more transparency, and what I'm about to say does just that.

Today as part of the vote coming up, the Town Board will vote to accept my proposed budget for 2025 and consider it at budget hearings -- we do two, one in the day and one in the evening -- scheduled for October 15th. When I say my budget, the legal process is for myself,

1
2 the Administration of this Town, to
3 present the proposed budget to the Town
4 Board, who then votes to accept it. But
5 that's not the vote to to pass the
6 budget, that is to accept it. And we do
7 this in many steps to provide many
8 opportunities for the public to hear what
9 the budget is about and to ask their
10 questions. So today, I present the
11 proposed budget to the Town Board, and
12 they have the opportunity to accept it.
13 And that sets up a hearing to hear from
14 all of you, and that hearing will be set
15 for October 15th.

16 Despite the national economy
17 experiencing the highest inflation rate,
18 with prices the highest they've ever been
19 in the history of America, this is the
20 seventh consecutive tax freeze budget
21 proposed by my administration. Seven
22 years in a row (applause).

23 This budget continues to sustain the
24 \$1.3 million property tax cut approved by
25 the Oyster Bay Town Board for the 2018

1
2 budget. That means in total, \$10.4
3 million will be back in the pockets of
4 our taxpayers, rather than in the coffers
5 of government. This tax freeze is once
6 again possible thanks to the spending
7 restraints, efficiencies and debt
8 reduction initiatives put in place by
9 this Town Board over the course of those
10 years. The proposed budget for 2025
11 continues to pay down debt while
12 enhancing the delivery of quality town
13 services. And when I say enhancing, if
14 you are willing to listen, not today, but
15 I would be very happy to tell you the
16 hundreds of enhancements that we've made
17 without raising your town taxes.

18 Since first taking office, we have
19 successfully reduced Town debt by \$185
20 million net, and also eliminated the \$44
21 million multi-year deficit that
22 previously existed. There is no deficit
23 in the Town of Oyster Bay's budget.

24 Due to fiscally conservative budget
25 practices, we've produced seven

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consecutive budget surpluses and now have the highest reserve fund ever in the town's history. The days of deficits are long gone, and this budget contains no gimmicks, no one shot revenues, no borrowing to meet operational budget responsibilities.

This proposed budget is fully balanced and every sector within the budget is fully balanced. We do not rely on any borrowing at all for cash flow purposes. We will continue to restrict new spending while investing in our roadways. As a matter of fact, all of us are proud that 40% of our streets have been repaved on our watch and hundreds more will be repaved. We will also continue to invest in our parks, our pools, our beaches, our fields, and all of the resources of the Town. That includes a very long list, including combating zombie homes and many, many quality of life concerns.

I mentioned beaches. We're at a

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point now where each and every year we have to invest well over \$1 million just to provide you with a beach, because Mother Nature takes our beach away every single year now.

With the economy at the forefront of our minds and our responsibility to our taxpayers, this proposed budget ensures full funding for helping residents find meaningful employment opportunities through workshops, classes, partnerships and job fairs.

To keep our local economy moving forward, the Department of Planning and Development report prioritized the workforce process, and building applications are moving along at a much faster pace -- thank you very much, Your Honor.

We continue to offer many same day permits, and we increased the list of items that we provide the same day permit for. We have, for instance, kept outdoor dining opened again through 2025 at no

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cost to the applicants, with no end proposed insight for that.

To keep our downtowns vibrant and storefronts filled, we supported small businesses and not for profit organizations with federal grant money. We received that money from the pandemic money, the ARPA funds. We told the public exactly how we were going to split that money up and how we were going to spend it. And we stuck to our promises, with the largest portion going back to small businesses and not for profits. In fact, we released millions of federal dollars to small businesses and chambers of commerce to boost all of them.

Funded in this budget is an initiative known as Oyster Bay today, which aims to attract tourism, boost the local economy from dining and shopping to recreation and leisure, but most importantly, continues to inform the public of what we are doing; therefore, greatly and continually increasing

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transparency. It's called Oyster Bay today, check it out.

This budget that we are proposing continues to invest money in downtown revitalization initiatives. In Hicksville, nearly 190 new residential units, along with retail and restaurant space, are under construction at 99 New Bridge Road. This \$111 million investment not by the taxpayers of the Town, but by private investors at \$111 million, this one by Alpine Residential Development is just one of several projects going on in the downtown.

Future projects will support increased access to transportation, improve walkability, and 500 new housing opportunities. These projects, along with the MTA's \$132 million investment in the Hicksville railroad station, will continue to transform Hicksville into a vibrant downtown for downsizers empty nesters, senior citizens, young people. And it's what the millennials have asked

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for. Once again, we promised and we are delivering in this budget.

Nearby plans are being developed by the private sector to transform both Broadway Commons and the former Sears site into greater economic engines for our town.

To be clear, this proposed budget continues to build on our overall operational and financial successes. Remember, our financial success has been recognized with nine credit rating upgrades from two independent Wall Street firms, the latest of which, was awarded this past August.

When we came into office here, this administration, when I joined the Town of Oyster Bay in 2017, we had a junk bond status. Today, two rating agencies. The Town of Oyster Bay is a AA+++ and a AA- credit rating, which means that all taxpayers save significant money each time we bond for the roadway improvements, the infrastructure projects

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and all that we do, including helping to keep our drinking water safe.

The Town of Oyster Bay is delivering better services than ever before, with no disrespect to Commissioner Delligatti, and we continue to do that while keeping the cost to you, the taxpayer, the same as it was in 2017 -- and less actually. A little less than it was when we walked in the door in 2017. So the average homeowner in the entire Town of Oyster Bay, from Bayville to Massapequa, pays \$144 a month for all the services we provide. We ask you to compare that to your average cable bill, cable television, one service. They provide that service throughout all of Long Island, and, therefore, are able to lower the unit cost through volume. We're one down on Long Island and we have kept taxes down, Town of Oyster Bay taxes, what you pay us to provide all of the services, all of the improvements, rebuilding the beach, repaving the roads,

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keeping the lights on, putting the fuel in the in the vehicles for a highway, for snowplowing, all that we do for \$144 a month.

I am extremely proud to present this budget to my colleagues for their consideration. And today's vote is not to pass the budget, but it's to accept it so we can move to the next step. A hearing where I will present more specifically the budget and answer the public and the Town Board's questions.

So with that, I am proud to vote aye on all, including this budget I'm extremely proud of and including continuing the moratorium on this (applause).

TOWN CLERK: Thank you, Supervisor. Councilwoman Johnson?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: I vote aye on all.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I vote aye on all.

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TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye on all.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: I vote aye on
all.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Aye on all.

TOWN CLERK: Motion to adopt
Resolution P-15-2024 through 773-2024
passes with six ayes and zero nays.

The Calendar is complete

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.
May I have a motion, please?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor, I
make a motion that this meeting will be
closed.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All those in
favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of
the Town Board respond in favor
with, "Aye.")

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
"Nay".

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(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The ayes have
it.

Jeff, you have an announcement?

RECEIVER OF TAXES: Just to pray for
Israel tonight. The Iranians have just
launched missiles.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We all join
together as one family in the Town of
Oyster Bay to pray for the people of
Israel, to pray for our Jewish brothers
and sisters throughout the world, and to
especially pray for the safe release of
all the Hostages. God bless. May God
bless them all.

With that, we've concluded our.
Meeting.

(Whereupon, above matter
concludes.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : SS.:
COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and
within the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the above is a correct transcription
of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 1st day of October, 2024.

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

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