	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION —
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2	TOWN BOARD
3	TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
4	REGULAR MEETING
5	
6	October 17, 2023
7	10:17 a.m.
8	***
9	SPECIAL PRESENTATION
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12	JOSEPH SALADINO
13	SUPERVISOR
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17	RICHARD LaMARCA
18	TOWN CLERK
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22	TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER
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1	10 17 2023 TOBAY TO	WN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION
1	10.17.2023 10BM 100	WAY BORNED STEETINE TREBUNITATION
2	APPEARANCE	l S
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4	PRESENT:	
5	SUPERVISOR	JOSEPH S. SALADINO
6	COUNCILWOMAN	MICHELE M. JOHNSON
7	COUNCILMAN	LOUIS B. IMBROTO
8	COUNCILMAN	THOMAS P. HAND
9	COUNCILMAN	STEVE L. LABRIOLA
10	COUNCILWOMAN	LAURA L. MAIER
11	COUNCILWOMAN	VICKI WALSH
12		
13	ALSO PRESE	N T:
14	RICHARD LaMARCA	TOWN CLERK
15	JEFFREY P. PRAVATO	RECEIVER OF TAXES
16	FRANK SCALERA, ESQ.	TOWN ATTORNEY
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	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION
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2	PRAYER:
3	Rabbi Debbie Bravo
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5	PLEDGE:
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7	Frank Marcinek, Air Force E-4 Sgt, AMVETS Post 88
8	Loretta DiBrino, AMVETS Post 88
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10	SPECIAL PRESENTATION:
11	Tom Rogers, Superintendent Syosset School Dist
12	Emily Su
13	Riddhi Jain
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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen and welcome to our Town of Oyster Bay Town Board meeting for Tuesday, October 17, 2023. Welcome to Town Hall.

For those joining us this morning, you have an opportunity to be heard on matters that are specifically brought before the Town Board, as well as during the Public Comment period at the end of the meeting.

As always, the meeting is being live streamed on social media and on the Town's website, Oysterbaytown.com. These proceedings are recorded and later transcribed. Of course, your voice is important to us. Statements, comments and input from the public relative to the items on our Agenda are welcomed and respected as part of the record. And as always, we respect one another and all of the speakers.

To submit comments online, please e-mail publiccomment@OysterBay-ny.gov or

mail us at the Office of the Town
Attorney, Oyster Bay Town Hall, 54 Audrey
Avenue, Oyster Bay, New York 11771.

It's very important that we continue to pray for people across the world, especially those who are in horrendous conflicts. And that's why it's so important that today we have leading us in prayer Rabbi Debbie Bravo, who's the founder of MakomNY, where she beautifully fuses the progressive and traditional parts of Judaism to bring together many facets of Jewish life. We embrace and welcome wider community. We embrace our brothers and sisters, adults and children of the Jewish faith at all times, but especially at this very difficult time.

Rabbi, thank you so much for joining us. The floor is yours.

Would you please all rise.

(Whereupon, all rise.)

RABBI BRAVO: Thank you so much.

Avnu She-Ba-Shamayim, Adonai, our God in heaven above, please watch over

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all those who are ail in the land of Israel.

Watch over all civilians innocently trying to live their lives day to day.

Watch over the soldiers who are fighting for peace in a region that is so tense and difficult.

Watch over civilians in Gaza and other places where they have minimal power and no leadership.

Allow us in this world today to find a new path toward peace.

Allow us to be strengthened by the good we see around us.

Help us to understand one another through dialogue and conversation instead of through hatred.

I share these words written by someone living in Israel right now, for us to understand the power of what is happening there today:

"Nothing left but tears.

I must be made of water. I have nothing left but tears.

Daughters, mothers, my spirit aching. Sisters, brothers. A heart that's breaking. I must be made of water. I have nothing left but tears.

Blood and terror. Children dying.

Fear and anger. So much crying. I must be made of water. I have nothing left but tears.

Oh, this heart breaks. Silence howling. Oh this heartache. Terror prowling. I must be made of water. I have nothing left but tears.

Not just water. These tears they feed me. My bones are iron. My people need me. May we go in peace."

Amen.

(Whereupon, all, "Amen".)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: May God bless all of our brothers and sisters in Israel.

May God bless Americans who were there and are there and are continuing to fight for Israel.

May God bless all of those who have

	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION
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2	lost their lives in this horrific
3	situation that is beyond belief.
4	We are with our brothers and sisters
5	and we pray that God watch over them,
6	protect them, and soothe the pain of
7	those loved ones, of the people who were
8	lost.
9	God bless them all.
10	Amen.
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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: To lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, please welcome a distinguished veteran and member of AMVETS, some of our friends from the Armed Forces. Today we have with us United States Air Force E-4 Sergeant Frank Marcinek. He's joined by AMVETS Post 88 Commander Loretta DiBrino and

The floor is yours.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance is said.)

AMVETS Auxiliary member Pam Marcinek.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you for your brave service to our nation. We understand our freedoms come from those who have put their lives on the line and allow us to have this democracy in which we serve the Town of Oyster Bay. Thank you very much, all.

We ask for a moment of silence for all that we have lost. The Town of Oyster Bay stands in solidarity with Israel and all Jewish Americans. We stand together against hate, evil, and terror, and we

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1	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION
2	know that at this difficult time, it
3	makes us stronger as one family and one
4	body.
5	Thank you for your service and thank
6	you for everyone taking part in today's
7	meeting and today's gathering, so that we
8	can show solidarity and continue to be
9	one.
10	God bless all of our friends and God
11	bless the people of Israel.
12	RECEIVER OF TAXES: Supervisor, may
13	we also have a moment of silence for Omer
14	Neutra, a Plainview resident that's being
15	held hostage.
16	(Whereupon, a moment of
17	silence is observed by all.)
18	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you as
19	we pray for the safe return of our
20	Plainview brother, 21 year old, Omer
21	Neutra.
22	Thank you.
23	Please be seated.

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program with a few people we'd like to award and recognize for their exemplary service. People we'd like to thank. And after we're done with the ceremonial side, we have a very, very important Resolution which we will present to all of you, to the residents of our town, to

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We have a

the people of our community and the people of America, to stand with Israel in total solidarity. And we will take a vote on this Resolution after we're done

with the beginning of our business today.

With that, we are here to recognize the community contributions from Syosset High School seniors Riddhi Jain and Emily Su. They are joined here today by a dear and long time friend, the Syosset School Superintendent, Dr. Thomas Rogers, someone I consider a dear friend and someone whose activities, work and leadership in the education community is second to none. And Dr. Rogers, I'm very proud to call you my friend and seeing

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the leadership in the school district, it's no surprise that seniors like Riddhi Jain and Emily Su are so exceptional.

These students have made it their mission to help out our environment. They took the initiative by reaching out to the Town's Department of Environmental Resources, led by and staffed by incredibly talented people, and they formed a partnership to establish a backyard composting program involving 140 residents, primarily from Syosset. With the Department of Environmental Resources providing logistical and technical support, the program has been a resounding success.

Behind the enthusiasm and drive of these two amazing students, the program promoted and educated residents on backyard composting as a sustainable means to address part of Long Island's solid waste issue, something we have been collectively working on, this Town Board, not only for our town residents, but with

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an eye toward taking a regional approach and showing leadership by example on what everyone should be doing to solve the issues concerning municipal solid waste recycling and how to deal with this going forward. Things that you are doing as young adults in the Syosset School District.

So this is very meaningful given the high volume of compost waste currently incinerated and transported off the island. It also collects valuable information on composting habits as part of your research that will make the program even more effective in the future.

Congratulations to these two proactive students for daring to make a lasting difference in our community. So, on behalf of my colleagues on the Town Board and the town's nearly 300,000 residents, we are so proud to present the citations we have for you to Syosset High School seniors, Emily Su, why don't you

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please stand, Emily (standing) and Riddhi Jain, for greatly advancing the general welfare of the community.

(Whereupon, applause.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I'm going to ask. I'm going to ask Councilwoman Laura Maier and Councilwoman Vicki Walsh to assist all of us in presenting you with these very special town citations to thank you and award you for your proactive approach to ensuring that the world is safer, better, and that we protect our precious environment. Something all of us on the Town Board are very serious about.

I will add, we just put the last million of 12 million oyster seeds back into the harbor, and town board members Rich LaMarca assisted, Jeff Pravato assisted. And we've all been doing this, all of us and our plans to continue to support our environment were just spoken about on the broadcast that News12 this morning. Not only are we cleaning up

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issues in our groundwater and supporting the incredible, wonderful work of our water districts who provide us plentiful and pristine quality drinking water, but we're also continuing to work with our Shellfish Hatchery to grow our seeds so they reach a fully sustainable size, bigger than the predators can consume. And we're putting -- this year, we've been building up from half a million to 3million to 5 million, and now we're

And for those of you who are not aware, each crustacean, clam or oyster can filter 50 gallons of water each day, each day. So there are some of you better math than I am. But you do the math with 12 million oysters and what an enormous difference that makes in preserving and making sustainable our waterways in the marine environment.

putting 12 million back into the harbor.

So just like you and all of your colleagues, the students and the leadership and the families in the

1	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION
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2	Syosset School District, we too are
3	putting the environment as one of our
4	highest priorities.
5	So we'll ask you to come forward.
6	We're going to present these citations.
7	How about a hand for these two?
8	(Whereupon, applause.)
9	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I also again
10	want to thank Sarah and all of our
11	employees from the Department of
12	Environmental Resources, who did an
13	amazing job educating people at the
14	Oysterfest. Thank you, Sarah, and
15	everybody in your department.
16	(Whereupon, photos and
17	citation presentation.)
18	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We love
19	collaborating with our students. We love
20	collaborating with the Syosset School
21	District. And if you'll excuse the pun,
22	Roger that.
23	Let's give a hand to the families

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(Whereupon, applause.)

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Let's take a couple of moments to thank our staff. I mentioned Sarah, the Department of Environmental Resources, but a big thanks should go out to all of our staff members, Department of Public Safety, Department of Parks, and the list goes on, Department of Public Information. The list goes on and on.

We had an incredibly successful Oysterfest, one of the largest seafood festivals on the East Coast of the United States. Obviously, the weather was less than ideal on Saturday, but still people came out and there was still lines for seafood. And then Sunday hit, we had over 100,000 people very happily visiting our community, and we have the opportunity to shine, teach people about our environmental pursuits, teach people about the splendor of Oyster Bay. And oh, boy, the seafood was amazing.

So I want to thank everyone, especially the Oyster Bay Rotary, the

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leaders of planning the event with Harland and Monica, and everyone involved with the Oyster Bay Rotary. We're very happy to partner with them. It was just incredible. From the School of Rock to the sponsors like Catholic Health and Optimum, and the third one was -- help me here. Rally Motors --

TOWN CLERK: The Sands.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you. I was going to bet you'd remember The Sands.

And it was really an enormous success and we just like to thank everybody. It was a great opportunity to shine with all eyes on Oyster Bay. A lot of fun. People had a wonderful time and and we had an opportunity to celebrate the bounty of the Bay, all of our seafood here, and especially the delicious oysters. But all of it, the Baymen, the Mill River Rod and Gun Club, the list goes on and on of all the community organizations.

	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION
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2	And this is a very important event
3	because it is a fundraiser for the not
4	for profits, the organizations that we
5	hold so dear in the Oyster Bay community.
6	Very, very much appreciated.
7	So how about a big hand for
8	everybody involved in the 40th Annual
9	Oyster Bay Oysterfest.
10	(Whereupon, applause.)
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12	****
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14	(Whereupon, above matter
15	concludes, 10:36 a.m.)
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	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION
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2	CERTIFICATE
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4	STATE OF NEW YORK ) : SS.:
5	COUNTY OF NASSAU )
6	
7	I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and
8	within the State of New York, do hereby
9	certify:
10	That the above is a correct transcription
11	of my stenographic notes.
12	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
13	my hand this 17th day of October, 2023.
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15	Karen Lorenzo
16	KAREN LORENZO
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	TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL RESOLUTION 10.17.23
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2	TOWN BOARD
3	TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
4	REGULAR MEETING
5	
6	October 17, 2023
7	10:36 a.m.
8	***
9	SPECIAL RESOLUTION
10	***
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12	JOSEPH SALADINO
13	SUPERVISOR
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17	RICHARD LaMARCA
18	TOWN CLERK
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22	TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER
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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We have a lot of information to speak about the budget and we will get to that. But first, I think it's very, very important that we open the meeting and deal with the most important resolution of the day, something that's been on all of our minds.

So, Town Clerk Rich LaMarca, 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: Present.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Present.

Councilman Labriola?

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Present.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Present.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Present.

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TOWN CLERK: We have a quorum.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We now request that you bring our very special Resolution to the forefront for a vote.

TOWN CLERK: May I have a motion, please, to resuspend the Rules and add the following on Resolution 765-2023, which is a resolution addressing the attack upon Israel by HAMAS and the recognition of Israel's right of sovereignty and protection.

On the motion?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

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

On the vote, please.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Before we begin the vote, I'd like to first of all, thank Rabbi Debbie Bravo, founder of MakomNY, for being here. We'd like to thank Florence Roffman from AJC and all the members of AJC. We'd like to thank

our brothers and sisters in all of the synagogues within the Town of Oyster Bay, as we realize the tremendous importance of standing together in solidarity, standing against hate, evil, and terror. And that's exactly what's going on.

With all the atrocities that have occurred in Israel, we collectively pray for the victims of these horrific attacks. In Oyster Bay, we've illuminated town hall in Israeli blue.

Last month, I had the opportunity to visit Tel Aviv, the holy sites in

Jerusalem and the Holocaust Museum in

Israel, among other sites, and meeting

with other people, including the

president. We did this, myself, Jeff

Pravato, our County Executive and

Congressman Anthony D'Esposito, among

many others, to show people around the

world that we must take the opportunity

to understand and better educate all

Americans on the horrific history of

genocide against people of the Jewish

faith.

We can never return to the days of the Holocaust and must always defend the right of Israelis people to live in peace.

On our trip, I witnessed firsthand the bravery of IDF soldiers and learned of their ties to America and even our own hometown here, the Town of Oyster Bay. A 21-year-old Plainview man Omer Neutra, who serves in the IDF, is now being held captive in Gaza. His close ties to our town family and is a specifically close friend of the Pravato family. Today we pray for him and for his safe return, and we pray for all of the people in Israel.

It is so incredibly important that we stand tall, we stand strong, and we stand together for Israel at this extremely difficult and trying time.

Before we take the vote on this very important resolution, what I believe, what we believe is the most important resolution we take up this year, I ask my

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dear friend and brother, Jeffrey Pravato to expand on our thoughts and feelings.

RECEIVER OF TAXES: Mr. Supervisor, if I may, may I read the resolution?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes, please.

RECEIVER OF TAXES: Thank you.

WHEREAS, October 7th, 2023, HAMAS, an acronym for Harakah al-Muqawamah al-Islamiyyah Hakata, aka the Islamic Resolution of Islamic Resistance

Movement, conducted a coordinated and unprovoked attack within the State of Israel from the adjacent Gaza Strip; and

WHEREAS, the attack involved the firing of thousands of rockets into

Israel, including upon major population centers, deployment of militants invading Israeli communities, kidnapping approximately 200 men, women and children of various nationalities, and killing approximately 1400 people, including at least 30 American citizens and other Americans remaining unaccounted and the wounding of thousands more people,

resulting in the most significant expansive attack upon the State of Israel since 1973 Yom Kippur War; and

WHEREAS, contemporaneously with the declaration of war by Israel, more than 360,000 Israeli reservists were called into active duty to supplement the Israeli active military force so to defend the State of Israel;

WHEREAS, the Town of Oyster Bay
joins the civilized world in denouncing
these horrific acts of terror and demands
the safe return of all the hostages -And I'm going to add in this -- including
Omer Neutra of Plainview; and

THEREFORE, be It Resolved, that the town of voice debate unequivocally condemns HAMAS for the brutal and unprovoked attack upon the State of Israel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the

Town of Oyster Bay stands in solidarity

with the State of Israel in condemning

the brutal and unprovoked attack by HAMAS

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and and recognizing the State of Israel's right to defend itself, so to protect its citizens from such violence and terrorism; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Oyster Bay supports the right of Israel to exist as a sovereign nation with full recognition of its borders and territories.

(Whereupon, applause.)

RECEIVER OF TAXES: So we woke up Saturday morning on the 7th, a report comes over Fox News. All right. It's a couple of rockets flying over again. No problem. The Israelis can handle that. Then the news just kept getting worse and worse and worse.

The horrific videos we saw, men, women, children, babies in cages being adopted, taken by the HAMAS terrorists back into Gaza. What happened at the music festival, 260 children slaughtered, enjoying themselves. It was for peace, for peace between Palestinians and

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Israelis.

But HAMAS, what they did is not about the Palestinian civilians. This is HAMAS. They're a terrorist organization. People have to realize that. It's different than the civilians.

My daughter told me a story. Her friend's cousin was there. They heard the sirens go off, went to a shelter. Felt like it was all clear, opened the door. They heard gunfire, went back in the shelter and closed the door. There were two of them; her and her boyfriend were the first two in so they were in the back. HAMAS came, opened the door, gunned them down, threw grenades and tried to burn them alive. And they survived because they were in the back with the bodies of the dead on top of them. The men getting in front of the women to protect them. The stories they told, it was horrific.

One of our other friends, his brother, led the operation where they

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found the 40 dead babies. Horrible. This is something that he will never forget. His division, his battalion will never forget.

Another boy who's fighting over there, who is local, who will not name his name just for his safety. The stories we heard of them. They were getting set for a doing a real war exercise with the Israeli Navy Seal kind of division. They were the ones that were really prepared to go in, and they took back one of those bases under gunfire, coming in, under fire, getting hit. The helicopter gets hit with RVG. But taking back that position in a heroic effort.

But there was some good yesterday. If you saw on the news this morning of the Golani division, which one of our other friends who lives over there, supervisor met him when we were in Israel. The young men is two people in his division, they had a wedding yesterday in the Golani division, and

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there is some good in this world.

And his brother who got called up also, who was down in the South, he's medical and his wife just had a baby. He was able to get home for the wife to have the baby. So out of all this horror, a couple of good things have come out of it.

But I just want to say, you know, everybody on this board is united here in the Town of Oyster Bay. The County of Nassau, with our Executive, Bruce Blakeman, who is Jewish, lives in the Five Towns area, who has been 110,000% supportive. He saw soldiers go off at JFK airport last week. 160,000 dual citizens have returned to Israel to fight for what is right the survival the state of Israel from terrorist.

These are terrorists, cold-blooded murders. They didn't go over and challenge soldiers. They went slaughtered civilians, took Holocaust survivors, killed them.

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When we were at the Sid Jacobson Jewish Center last week, there was a Holocaust survivor there. With everything that was going on, she got triggered. The poor woman stuff she probably hasn't thought of in the last 75 years came back to reality, because this is not what humans do to each other. And we aren't even going to call them animals. Because animals don't do this. Cold-blooded, disgusting terrorists and that's all they are.

"Am Yisrael Chai" - means the people of Israel live and they will live forever.

Thank you.

(Whereupon, applause.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Jeff.

All of us stand united with Israel. All of us stand united with our Jewish brothers and sisters, men, women, children, people of all ages here in our town and throughout the United States.

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And we are proud and honored to make this move, to take on this resolution, to vote for this very important resolution so there is no question of where the Town of Oyster Bay stands with Israel and with everyone of the Jewish faith and everyone who understands the atrocities taking place.

So with that, I'd like to ask for ur Town Clerk to call for the vote.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Supervisor, I'm first going to call for a vote just to add the Resolution to the Calendar.

Supervisor Saladino?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Labriola?

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

Please call for the vote.

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AJC, to please stand with us. And, Jeff,

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if you come into the middle with the resolution that you just read from and let us gather for a photo that makes it 100% clear where the Town of Oyster Bay stands on this very important issue.

(Whereupon, photos taken.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I'd like to again thank everyone on this Town Board, Laura Maier, Tom hand, Michelle Johnson, Lou Imbroto, Steve Labriola, and Vicki Walsh. I'd like to thank Rich LaMarca for your assistance for bringing this resolution, and I'd like to thank Jeff Pravato, our brother in arms with the Jewish people. Thank you, all, for your assistance in making this possible.

God bless Israel and God bless our brothers and sisters across this town and across the world.

RECEIVER OF TAXES: Supervisor, Florence, from AJC, would like to say a few words.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please.

Florence, would you kindly go to the

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to the podium?

Thank you.

MS. ROFFMAN: My name is Florence Roffman and I'm a long time member of the American Jewish Committee, Long Island Board.

Thank you all so much. Thank you, Supervisor Saladino and the Town Board for your Resolution in support of the State of Israel.

I also want to mention our friend Jeff Pravato, Receiver of Taxes, whose daughter participates in our Leadership of Tomorrow Program. We know that the Supervisor and Jeff recently were in Israel as well. Thank you for condemning the vicious, unprovoked attack launched by HAMAS, the Iran backed terror group controlling Gaza against innocent Israeli citizens.

While Israel is doing everything it can to protect its citizens, HAMAS is seeking death and destruction for Israel and even has a disregard for its own

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people currently preventing them from moving from north to south Gaza to avoid an Israeli incursion.

Thank you for acknowledging that Israel has every right to defend itself. HAMAS and all those who support the terror group must be held accountable. We know that in the days and months ahead, when more counterterrorism operations occur, the media and some leaders may forget who started this war and who is right. We know the Town of Oyster Bay will stand by the Jewish community and all those who support Israel.

Thank you. Stay strong and pray for the peace of Israel and Jerusalem. Thank you.

Thank you all so much.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

(Whereupon, applause.)

(Whereupon, above matter concludes, 11:53 a.m.)

TO	_	IAL RESOLUTION 10.17	
1	acronym <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:9	7:13, 7:15, 8:3,	Board [4] - 15:24,
<b>100%</b> [1] - 17:5	active [2] - 8:8, 8:9	8:20, 8:25, 18:18	17:9, 18:7, 18:9
<b>10:36</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:7	acts <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:13	attacks <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:11	board <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:11,
<b>110,000%</b> [1] - 12:15	add [4] - 4:7, 8:15,	ATTORNEY[1] -	12:11
<b>11:53</b> [1] - 19:24	14:14, 15:6	2:16	bodies <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:20
<b>1400</b> [1] - 7:22	addressing [1] - 4:9	Aviv <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:14	body <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:4
<b>160,000</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:17	adjacent <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:14	avoid <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:3	borders <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:9
<b>17</b> [1] - 1:6	adopt <sub>[2]</sub> - 15:11,	<b>Aye</b> <sub>[14]</sub> - 14:16,	boy <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:6
<b>17th</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:14	16:18	14:18, 14:20,	boyfriend [1] -
<b>1973</b> [1] - 8:4	adopted <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:21	14:22, 14:24,	10:14
	ages <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:24	15:2, 15:4, 16:4,	bravery <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:8
2	ahead <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:9	16:6, 16:9, 16:11,	Bravo [2] - 4:22,
<b>200</b> [1] - 7:20	airport <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:17	16:13, 16:15,	16:23
<b>2023</b> [3] - 1:6, 7:8,	<b>AJC</b> <sub>[4]</sub> - 4:24, 4:25,	16:17	bring <sub>[1]</sub> - 4:4
20:14	16:25, 17:22	ayes <sub>[2]</sub> - 15:8,	<b>bringing</b> [1] - 17:13
21-year-old [1] -	<b>aka</b> [1] - 7:10	16:20	brother <sub>[4]</sub> - 7:2,
6:11	<b>al</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 7:9, 7:10	В	10:25, 12:3, 17:15
<b>260</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:23	al-Islamiyyah [1] -	h - h ' 0 00	<b>brothers</b> [4] - 5:2,
	7:10	<b>babies</b> [2] - 9:20,	13:23, 15:23,
3	al-Muqawamah [1] -	11:2	17:19
<b>30</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:23	7:9	baby <sub>[2]</sub> - 12:5, 12:7	Bruce [1] - 12:13
<b>360,000</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:7	alive <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:18	backed [1] - 18:19	<b>brutal</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 8:19,
	<b>America</b> [1] - 6:9	bases <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:14	8:25
4	<b>American</b> [2] - 7:23,	battalion <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:4	budget <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:3
<b>40</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:2	18:6	<b>Bay</b> <sub>[10]</sub> - 5:3, 5:11,	<b>burn</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:18
<b>40</b> [ii] 11.2	Americans [2] -	6:10, 8:11, 8:23,	<b>BY</b> [1] - 1:22
7	5:24, 7:24	9:7, 12:12, 14:6,	С
<b>75</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:7	animals <sub>[2]</sub> - 13:10,	17:5, 19:13	
<b>765-2023</b> <sub>[4]</sub> - 4:8,	13:11	BAY <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:3	cages [1] - 9:20
15:7, 15:11, 16:19	Anthony <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:20	<b>BE</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 8:22, 9:6	Calendar <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:14
<b>7th</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 7:8, 9:13	applause [5] - 9:11,	begin <sub>[1]</sub> - 4:21	captive <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:13
7111[2] - 7.0, 9.10	13:18, 15:9,	<b>better</b> [1] - 5:23	Center <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:3
Α	16:21, 19:21	<b>between</b> [1] - 9:25	centers <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:18
<b>a.m</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 1:7, 19:24	area <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:15	Blakeman [1] -	certify[1] - 20:10
able [1] - 12:6	arms <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:15	12:14	Chai <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:14
accountable [1] -	assistance <sub>[2]</sub> -	bless <sub>[2]</sub> - 17:18	challenge [1] -
19:8	17:13, 17:17	blooded [2] - 12:21,	12:23
acknowledging [1]	atrocities [2] - 5:8,	13:11	children [4] - 7:20,
- 19:5	14:8	blue <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:12	9:20, 9:23, 13:24
	attack <sub>[7]</sub> - 4:10,	<b>BOARD</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:2	
Ψ∩	P KEY COURT REPORTIN	NG, INC. (516) 414-3	516

TORAV	T/M	BUYBU	CDECTAL	RESOLUTION	1 0	17	23 -

citizens [5] - 7:23,	BAY TOWN BOARD SPECI 8:24, 18:17	12:12	10:13, 10:16
9:4, 12:17, 18:21,	condemns <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:19	<b>COUNTY</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:6	<b>down</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 10:17,
18:23	conducted [1] -	couple <sub>[2]</sub> - 9:15,	12:4
<b>civilians</b> [3] - 10:4,	7:12	12:8	dual <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:17
10:7, 12:24	Congressman <sub>[1]</sub> -	cousin <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:9	duty <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:8
civilized [1] - 8:12	5:20	COUSTINE TO:O	daty [ij 0.0
clear <sub>[2]</sub> - 10:11,	contemporaneou	D	E
17:5	<b>sly</b> [1] - 8:5	D'Esposito[1] -	educate <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:23
CLERK <sub>[28]</sub> - 1:18,	controlling [1] -	5:20	effort <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:17
2:14, 3:12, 3:14,	18:20	daughter <sub>[2]</sub> - 10:8,	elected [1] - 15:20
3:16, 3:18, 3:22,	coordinated [1] -	18:14	enjoying [1] - 9:24
3:24, 4:2, 4:6,	7:12	days <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:3, 19:9	entire <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:24
4:16, 14:17,	correct <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:11	dead <sub>[2]</sub> - 10:20,	<b>ESQ</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:16
14:19, 14:21,	Councilman [11] -	11:2	evil <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:6
14:23, 14:25,	3:16, 3:18, 3:20,	deal <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:6	exactly [1] - 5:7
15:3, 15:5, 15:10,	4:18, 14:19,	dear <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:2	Executive [2] - 5:19,
15:15, 16:2, 16:5,	14:21, 14:23,	death [1] - 18:24	12:13
16:7, 16:10,	15:17, 16:7,	debate <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:18	exercise <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:10
16:12, 16:14,	16:10, 16:12	<b>Debbie</b> [2] - 4:22,	exist <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:8
16:16, 16:18	COUNCILMAN [14] -	16:23	expand [1] - 7:3
Clerk <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:10,	2:7, 2:8, 2:9, 3:17,	declarationը - 8:6	expansive [1] - 8:3
14:11	3:19, 3:21, 4:15,	defend [4] - 6:4,	extremely <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:21
close <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:13,	14:20, 14:22,	8:10, 9:3, 19:6	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
6:14	14:24, 15:14,	demands <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:13	F
closed <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:13	16:8, 16:11, 16:13	denouncing [1] -	faith <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:2, 14:7
<b>cold</b> [2] - 12:21,	Councilwoman [11]	8:12	<b>family</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:14,
13:11	- 3:14, 3:22, 3:24,	deployment <sub>[1]</sub> -	6:15
cold-blooded [2] -	4:17, 14:17,	7:18	feelings [1] - 7:3
12:21, 13:11	14:25, 15:3,	destruction [1] -	Felt <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:10
collectively [1] - 5:9	15:16, 16:5,	18:24	festival <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:23
coming <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:14	16:14, 16:16	different [1] - 10:7	<b>few</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:23
Committee [1] -	COUNCILWOMAN	difficult <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:21	fight <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:18
18:6	[14] - 2:6, 2:10,	disgusting [1] -	<b>fighting</b> [1] - 11:6
communities [1] -	2:11, 3:15, 3:23,	13:12	<b>fire</b> [1] - 11:15
7:19	3:25, 4:14, 14:18,	disregard <sub>[1]</sub> -	firing <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:16
community [1] -	15:2, 15:4, 15:13,	18:25	<b>first</b> [4] - 3:4, 4:21,
19:14	16:6, 16:15, 16:17 counterterrorism	division <sub>[5]</sub> - 11:4,	10:15, 14:13
concludes [1] -	rg - 19:10	11:11, 11:20,	firsthand [1] - 6:7
19:24	County <sub>[2]</sub> - 5:19,	11:24, 11:25	Five [1] - 12:15
condemning [2] -		door <sub>[3]</sub> - 10:11,	
TO	P KEY COURT REPORTIN	G, INC. (516) 414-3	516

Florence [5] - 4:24, 16:24, 17:22, 17:25, 18:4 flying [1] - 9:15 **following** [1] - 4:8 **force**[1] - 8:9 **forefront**[1] - 4:5 **forever**[1] - 13:16 forget [3] - 11:3, 11:5, 19:12 founder [1] - 4:22 **Fox** [1] - 9:14 **FRANK**[1] - 2:16 friend [3] - 6:15, 7:2, 18:12 friend's [1] - 10:9 friends [2] - 10:24, 11:21 front [1] - 10:21 full [1] - 9:9 FURTHER [2] -8:22, 9:6

## G

gather [1] - 17:4

Gaza [5] - 6:13,
7:14, 9:22, 18:20,
19:3

genocide [1] - 5:25

God [2] - 17:18

Golani [2] - 11:20,
11:25

grenades [1] - 10:17

group [2] - 18:19,
19:8

gunfire [2] - 10:12,
11:14

gunned [1] - 10:16

#### Н

**Hakata**<sub>[1]</sub> - 7:10 **hall** [1] - 5:12 **HAMAS**[11] - 4:10, 7:8, 8:19, 8:25, 9:21, 10:3, 10:5, 10:16, 18:19, 18:23, 19:7 **HAND** [4] - 2:8, 3:19, 14:22, 16:11 hand [2] - 17:10, 20:14 Hand [3] - 3:18, 14:21, 16:10 **handle** [1] - 9:16 **Harakah** [1] - 7:9 hate [1] - 5:6 heard [3] - 10:9, 10:12, 11:9 held [2] - 6:12, 19:8 helicopter[1] -11:15 hereby [1] - 20:9 hereunto [1] - 20:13 heroic [1] - 11:17 **history** [1] - 5:24 hit<sub>[2]</sub> - 11:15, 11:16 Holocaust [4] -5:15, 6:4, 12:24, 13:4 holy<sub>[1]</sub> - 5:14 home [1] - 12:6 hometown [1] -6:10 honored<sub>[1]</sub> - 14:2 Horrible [1] - 11:2 **horrific** [5] - 5:10, 5:24, 8:13, 9:19,

10:23

horror<sub>[1]</sub> - 12:7 hostages<sub>[1]</sub> - 8:14 humans<sub>[1]</sub> - 13:9

**IDF** [2] - 6:8, 6:12

illuminated [1] -

5:11 Imbroto [6] - 3:16, 4:18, 14:19, 15:17, 16:7, 17:11 **IMBROTO** [6] - 2:7, 3:17, 4:15, 14:20, 15:14, 16:8 importance [1] - 5:4 important [7] - 3:5, 3:7, 6:18, 6:23, 6:24, 14:4, 17:6 **IN**<sub>[1]</sub> - 20:13 including [4] - 5:17, 7:17, 7:22, 8:15 incredibly [1] - 6:18 incursion [1] - 19:4 information [1] - 3:3 innocent<sub>[1]</sub> - 18:20 intensify [1] - 15:21 invading [1] - 7:18 involved [1] - 7:15 Iran [1] - 18:19 **Islamic** [2] - 7:10, 7:11 Islamiyyah [1] -7:10 **Island** [1] - 18:6 Israel [28] - 4:10, 5:9, 5:16, 6:17, 6:20, 7:14, 7:17, 8:3, 8:6, 8:10, 8:21, 8:24, 9:8, 11:23, 12:18,

12:19, 13:15, 13:21, 14:6, 16:9, 17:18, 18:11, 18:17, 18:22, 18:24, 19:6, 19:15, 19:17 Israel's [2] - 4:11, 9:2 Israeli [7] - 5:12, 7:19, 8:7, 8:9, 11:11, 18:20, 19:4 Israelis [3] - 6:5, 9:16, 10:2 issue [1] - 17:6 **IT**<sub>[2]</sub> - 8:22, 9:6 itself<sub>[2]</sub> - 9:3, 19:6

## J

**Jacobson** [1] - 13:2 **Jeff** [7] - 5:18, 13:20, 15:24, 16:25, 17:14, 18:13, 18:16 **JEFFREY**<sub>[1]</sub> - 2:15 **Jeffrey** [1] - 7:2 Jerusalem [2] -5:15, 19:17 Jewish [8] - 5:25, 12:14, 13:3, 13:22, 14:7, 17:16, 18:6, 19:14 **JFK**<sub>[1]</sub> - 12:16 Johnson [6] - 3:14, 4:17, 14:17, 15:16, 16:5, 17:10 **JOHNSON** [6] - 2:6, 3:15, 4:14, 14:18, 15:13, 16:6 **joins** [1] - 8:12 **JOSEPH**<sub>[2]</sub> - 1:12,

	BAY TOWN BOARD SPECI	`AI. RESOLHTTON 10 17	23	
2:5	local <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:7	11:19	News <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:14	
17	<b>Lorenzo</b> [1] - 20:17	<b>most</b> <sub>[3]</sub> - 3:6, 6:24,	north <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:3	
K	LORENZO [3] -	8:2	<b>Notary</b> [1] - 20:8	
Karen [1] - 20:17	1:22, 20:8, 20:18	motion [4] - 4:6,	notes <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:12	
<b>KAREN</b> [3] - 1:22,	Lou[1] - 17:11	4:13, 15:10, 15:12		
20:8, 20:18	<b>LOUIS</b> [1] - 2:7	<b>Motion</b> [4] - 4:16,	0	
kept <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:17	М	15:5, 15:15, 16:18	occur <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:11	
kidnapping [1] -		move <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:3	occurred [1] - 5:9	
7:19	<b>Maier</b> <sub>[4]</sub> - 3:22,	moved <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:14,	<b>October</b> [3] - 1:6,	
killed <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:25	14:25, 16:14,	15:13	7:8, 20:14	
killing [1] - 7:21	17:10	Movement [1] - 7:12	<b>OF</b> [8] - 1:3, 2:15,	
kind <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:11	<b>MAIER</b> [4] - 2:10,	<b>moving</b> [1] - 19:3	7:4, 7:7, 9:12,	
kindly <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:25	3:23, 15:2, 16:15	<b>MS</b> [1] - 18:4	17:21, 20:5, 20:6	
<b>Kippur</b> [1] - 8:4	major[1] - 7:17	Muqawamah [1] -	officials [1] - 15:20	
ı	<b>MakomNY</b> [1] - 4:23	7:9	Omer <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:11,	
	<b>man</b> [1] - 6:11	murders [1] - 12:22	8:16	
<b>Labriola</b> [4] - 3:20,	matter[1] - 19:23	Museum [1] - 5:15	One <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:24	
14:23, 16:12,	means [1] - 13:14	music <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:23	one [2] - 11:13,	
17:11	media <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:11	must <sub>[3]</sub> - 5:22, 6:4,	11:20	
<b>LABRIOLA</b> [4] - 2:9,	medical [1] - 12:5	19:8	ones [1] - 11:12	
3:21, 14:24, 16:13	<b>MEETING</b> [1] - 1:4	N	open [1] - 3:6	
<b>LaMarca</b> [5] - 1:17,	meeting [2] - 3:6,		opened <sub>[2]</sub> - 10:11,	
2:14, 3:10, 15:24,	5:16	name <sub>[3]</sub> - 11:7,	10:16	
17:12	<b>member</b> [1] - 18:5	11:8, 18:4	operation <sub>[1]</sub> -	
<b>Last</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:13	members <sub>[1]</sub> - 4:25	NASSAU <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:6	10:25	
last <sub>[3]</sub> - 12:17,	<b>men</b> [5] - 7:20, 9:19,	Nassau <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:13	operations [1] -	
13:3, 13:7	10:21, 11:23,	nation[1] - 9:8	19:10	
launched [1] - 18:18	13:23	nationalities [1] -	opportunity <sub>[2]</sub> -	
Laura <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:10	mention[1] - 18:12	7:21	5:13, 5:22	
LAURA <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:10	met <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:22	Navy <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:11	organization [1] -	
leaders [1] - 19:11	MICHELE <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:6	nays <sub>[2]</sub> - 15:8,	10:5	
Leadership [1] -	Michelle [1] - 17:10	16:20	own <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:9, 18:25	
18:14	middle <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:2	<b>Neutra</b> [2] - 6:11,	Oyster <sub>[10]</sub> - 5:3,	
learned [1] - 6:8	militants <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:18	8:16	5:11, 6:10, 8:11,	
least <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:23	military <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:9	<b>never</b> [3] - 6:3, 11:3,	8:23, 9:7, 12:12,	
led <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:25	minds <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:9	11:4	14:6, 17:5, 19:13	
live 3 - 6:5, 13:15	month <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:13	NEW <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:5	<b>OYSTER</b> [1] - 1:3	
lives <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:21,	months <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:9	New [1] - 20:9		
12:14	morning <sub>[2]</sub> - 9:13,	news <sub>[2]</sub> - 9:17,		
		11:19		

Р
Palestinian [1] -
10:4
Palestinians [1] -
9:25
participates [1] -
18:14
passes [2] - 15:7,
16:19
peace [4] - 6:6,
9:24, 9:25, 19:17
People [1] - 10:6
people [13] - 5:17,
5:21, 5:25, 6:5,
6:17, 7:22, 7:25, 11:23, 13:14,
13:24, 16:9,
17:16, 19:2
photo <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:4
photos <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:7
place <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:9
Plainview [2] - 6:11,
8:16
podium <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:2
poll <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:11
poor <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:6
population [1] -
7:17
position <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:17
possible <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:17
<b>Pravato</b> [6] - 5:19,
6:15, 7:2, 15:24,
17:15, 18:13
<b>PRAVATO</b> [1] - 2:15
<b>pray</b> [4] - 5:9, 6:16,
6:17, 19:16
prepared [1] - 11:12
present <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:13
<b>Present</b> [6] - 3:15,

3:17, 3:19, 3:21, 3:23, 3:25 president [1] - 5:18 preventing [1] -19:2 problem [1] - 9:16 Procedure [1] - 15:6 Program [1] - 18:15 protect [3] - 9:3, 10:22, 18:23 protection [1] - 4:12 proud [1] - 14:2 Proud [1] - 16:8 Public [1] - 20:8

### Q

**quorum** [1] - 4:2

#### R

Rabbi [2] - 4:22, 16:23 **read** [2] - 7:5, 17:3 **real**[1] - 11:10 reality [1] - 13:8 realize [2] - 5:4, 10:6 **really**[1] - 11:12 **Receiver** [1] - 18:13 RECEIVER [5] -2:15, 7:4, 7:7, 9:12, 17:21 recently[1] - 18:16 recognition [2] -4:11, 9:9 recognizing [1] -9:2 **REGULAR** [1] - 1:4 remaining [1] - 7:24

**report** [1] - 9:13

representing [1] -16:24 request [1] - 4:3 reservists [1] - 8:7 Resistance [1] -7:11 Resolution [8] - 4:5, 4:8, 7:11, 14:14, 15:7, 15:11, 16:19, 18:10 RESOLUTION [1] -1:9 resolution [9] - 3:7, 4:9, 6:23, 6:25, 7:5, 14:3, 14:4, 17:3, 17:14 **Resolved** [1] - 8:17 RESOLVED [2] -8:22, 9:6 resulting [1] - 8:2 resuspend [2] - 4:7, 15:5 return [3] - 6:3, 6:16, 8:14 returned [1] - 12:18 **Rich** [3] - 3:10, 15:24, 17:12 **RICHARD**<sub>[2]</sub> - 1:17, 2:14 rockets [2] - 7:16, 9:15 **ROFFMAN** [1] - 18:4 Roffman [3] - 4:24, 16:24, 18:5 **Rules** [2] - 4:7, 15:6 **RVG**<sub>[1]</sub> - 11:16

# S

**safe**<sub>[2]</sub> - 6:16, 8:14 **safety**<sub>[1]</sub> - 11:8

8:23

SALADINO [16] -1:12, 2:5, 3:2, 3:13, 4:3, 4:20, 7:6, 13:19, 14:12, 14:16, 15:19, 16:3, 16:22, 17:8, 17:24, 19:20 **Saladino** [5] - 3:12, 14:15, 15:18, 16:2, 18:9 **Saturday** [1] - 9:13 **saw** [3] - 9:19, 11:19, 12:16 **SCALERA**[1] - 2:16 Seal [1] - 11:11 Second [2] - 4:15, 15:14 seconded [2] - 4:17, 15:16 seeking [1] - 18:24 **serves** [1] - 6:12 **set**<sub>[2]</sub> - 11:9, 20:13 seven<sub>[2]</sub> - 15:7, 16:19 **shelter**<sub>[2]</sub> - 10:10, 10:13 **show** [1] - 5:21 **Sid**<sub>[1]</sub> - 13:2 significant [1] - 8:2 sirens[1] - 10:10 sisters [4] - 5:2, 13:23, 15:23, 17:19 sites [2] - 5:14, 5:16 slaughtered [2] -9:23, 12:23 soldiers [3] - 6:8, 12:16, 12:23 **solidarity** [2] - 5:5,

**terror**<sub>[4]</sub> - 5:6, 8:13,

18:19, 19:8

**soul**<sub>[1]</sub> - 16:4 **south** [1] - 19:3 **South** [1] - 12:4 sovereign [1] - 9:8 sovereignty m -4:12 **SPECIAL**<sub>[1]</sub> - 1:9 **special** [1] - 4:4 specifically [1] -6:14 **SS**<sub>[1]</sub> - 20:5 **stand** [9] - 6:19, 6:20, 13:21, 13:22, 15:21, 16:8, 16:25, 19:14 standing [2] - 5:5, 5:6 stands [3] - 8:23, 14:6, 17:6 started [1] - 19:12 **state** [1] - 12:19 **State** [8] - 7:13, 8:3, 8:10, 8:20, 8:24, 9:2, 18:11, 20:9 **STATE** [1] - 20:5 statement [1] -15:22 **States** [1] - 13:25 **Stay** [1] - 19:16 STENOGRAPHER [1] - 1:22 stenographic [1] -20:12 Steve [1] - 17:11 **STEVE** [1] - 2:9 stories<sub>[2]</sub> - 10:22, 11:8 **story**<sub>[1]</sub> - 10:8 **Strip** [1] - 7:14

strong [2] - 6:19,

19:16 stuff [1] - 13:6 SUPERVISOR [16] -1:13, 2:5, 3:2, 3:13, 4:3, 4:20, 7:6, 13:19, 14:12, 14:16, 15:19, 16:3, 16:22, 17:8, 17:24, 19:20 supervisor<sub>[2]</sub> - 7:4, 11:22 Supervisor 8 -3:12, 14:12, 14:15, 15:18, 16:2, 17:21, 18:9, 18:16 supplement [1] -8:8 **support** [3] - 18:10, 19:7, 19:15 supportive [1] -12:16 **supports**[1] - 9:7 **survival**[1] - 12:19 **survived** [1] - 10:18 **survivor**[1] - 13:4 survivors [1] -12:24 synagogues [1] -5:3

# T

TAKEN<sub>[1]</sub> - 1:22 tall<sub>[1]</sub> - 6:19 Taxes<sub>[1]</sub> - 18:13 TAXES<sub>[5]</sub> - 2:15, 7:4, 7:7, 9:12, 17:21 Tel<sub>[1]</sub> - 5:14 territories<sub>[1]</sub> - 9:10 **terrorism** [1] - 9:5 terrorist<sub>[2]</sub> - 10:5, 12:20 terrorists [3] - 9:21, 12:21, 13:12 themselves [1] -9:24 THEREFORE [1] -8:17 **THOMAS** [1] - 2:8 **thoughts** [1] - 7:3 thousands [2] -7:16, 7:25 threw [1] - 10:17 throughout [1] -13:25 ties [2] - 6:9, 6:13 **Today** [1] - 6:15 together<sub>[2]</sub> - 5:5, 6:20 **Tom** [1] - 17:10 Tomorrow [1] -18:15 took<sub>[2]</sub> - 11:13, 12:24 top<sub>[1]</sub> - 10:20 **TOWN** [31] - 1:2, 1:3, 1:18, 2:14, 2:16, 3:12, 3:14, 3:16, 3:18, 3:22, 3:24, 4:2, 4:6, 4:16, 14:17, 14:19, 14:21, 14:23, 14:25, 15:3, 15:5, 15:10, 15:15, 16:2, 16:5, 16:7, 16:10, 16:12,

16:18 town [5] - 5:12, 6:14, 8:18, 13:25, 17:19 Town [15] - 3:10, 5:3, 6:10, 8:11, 8:23, 9:7, 12:12, 14:5, 14:11, 15:21, 15:23, 17:5, 17:9, 18:9, 19:13 **Towns** [1] - 12:15 transcription [1] -20:11 tremendous [1] -5:4 tried [1] - 10:17 triggered [1] - 13:5 trip [1] - 6:7 trying [1] - 6:21 two [3] - 10:14, 10:15, 11:23

#### U

unaccounted [1] - 7:24 under [2] - 11:14 unequivocally [1] - 8:18 United [1] - 13:25 united [3] - 12:11, 13:21, 13:22 unprovoked [4] - 7:13, 8:20, 8:25, 18:18 up [3] - 6:25, 9:12, 12:3 ur [1] - 14:10

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16:14, 16:16,

TO	BAY TOWN BOARD SPECI
V various[1] - 7:21 vicious[1] - 18:18 VICKI[1] - 2:11 Vicki[1] - 17:11 victims[1] - 5:10 videos[1] - 9:19 violence[1] - 9:4 visit[1] - 5:14	woman <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:6 women <sub>[4]</sub> - 7:20, 9:20, 10:21, 13:23 words <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:23 world <sub>[4]</sub> - 5:22, 8:12, 12:2, 17:20 worse <sub>[3]</sub> - 9:17, 9:18 wounding <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:25
voice <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:18	Υ
vote [13] - 4:5, 4:19, 4:21, 6:22, 14:3, 14:11, 14:13, 15:18, 15:21, 15:25, 16:4, 16:6, 16:9	year <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:25 years <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:7 yesterday <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:18, 11:25 Yisrael <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:14 Yom <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:4
W	<b>YORK</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:5
<b>walk</b> <sub>[3]</sub> - 15:6, 15:11, 16:18	York <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:9 young <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:23
<b>WALSH</b> [4] - 2:11,	Z
3:25, 15:4, 16:17 <b>Walsh</b> <sub>[4]</sub> - 3:24, 15:3, 16:16, 17:12	<b>zero</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 15:8, 16:20
<b>War</b> [1] - 8:4	-
war্য - 8:6, 11:10, 19:12	<b>-</b> [1] - 13:14
wedding [1] - 11:24 week [2] - 12:17, 13:3 WHEREAS [4] - 7:8, 7:15, 8:5, 8:11 WHEREOF [1] - 20:13 wife [2] - 12:5, 12:6 WITNESS [1] - 20:13 witnessed [1] - 6:7 woke [1] - 9:12	

	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD HRG 1 (morning)
1	
2	TOWN BOARD
3	TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
4	REGULAR MEETING
5	
6	October 17, 2023
7	10:53 a.m.
8	***
9	BUDGET HEARING
10	To Consider the Preliminary Budget for the
11	Town of Oyster Bay for the Year 2024
12	
13	JOSEPH SALADINO
14	SUPERVISOR
15	
16	**
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18	RICHARD LaMARCA
19	TOWN CLERK
20	
21	
22	TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER
23	
24	
25	
	TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516) 414-35161

1	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD HRG 1 (morning)
1	
2	APPEARANCES
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4	PRESENT:
5	SUPERVISOR JOSEPH S. SALADINO
6	COUNCILWOMAN MICHELE M. JOHNSON
7	COUNCILMAN LOUIS B. IMBROTO
8	COUNCILMAN THOMAS P. HAND
9	COUNCILMAN STEVE L. LABRIOLA
10	COUNCILWOMAN LAURA L. MAIER
11	COUNCILWOMAN VICKI WALSH
12	
13	ALSO PRESENT:
14	RICHARD LaMARCA TOWN CLERK
15	JEFFREY P. PRAVATO RECEIVER OF TAXES
16	FRANK SCALERA, ESQ., TOWN ATTORNEY
17	ELIZABETH FAUGHNAN, ESQ., DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY
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\_\_\_\_TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516) 414-3516 \_\_\_\_\_2 \_\_

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All right, folks. Our first hearing is our budget hearing, where we present the 2024 budget for inspection.

Thank you again. God bless you all. God bless our troops. Let's hear it for our veterans.

(Whereupon, applause.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So today is the day we have gone through the process of the preliminary budget. And now we reached the point at which we present the Town's Proposed 2024 Budget to the public at this public hearing, to listen to any of the needs and concerns of the public. It is a very important process, and I'm just going to briefly go over what this budget actually does. And then we will call the hearing.

The Town's Proposed Budget for 2024 sustains the \$1.3 million in property tax cuts that were approved by the Town Board in 2018. That means, in total, \$9.1 million are back in the pockets of

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taxpayers rather than in the coffers of town government. This tax freeze, once again, is made possible because of spending restraints, efficiencies, debt reduction initiatives and all that we have done and put in place by this Town Board.

The Proposed Budget for 2024 continues to pay down town debt while enhancing the delivery of quality town services. Since first taking office, we have successfully reduced Town debt by \$187 million, while also eliminating the \$44 million multi-year budget deficit that previously existed.

Due to fiscally conservative budgeting practices and all of the efficiencies put in place, we produced six consecutive budget surpluses and now have the highest of reserve funds ever, totalling \$88 million. So let's say that again. So we absorb there's a lot of numbers here. We went from a \$44 million deficit to an \$88 million surplus, while

cutting taxes and improving all of the services in the Town of Oyster Bay. So the days of deficits are long gone. And this budget contains no gimmicks, no one shot revenues, no land sales. This proposed budget is fully balanced and does not rely on any borrowing for cash flow purposes. Something we stopped in this Town.

We're also happy to report that in
September, the State Comptroller reported
that the Town of Oyster Bay has zero
fiscal stress. Some know that the state
comptroller has a "Municipal Stress
List"; fiscal stress of municipalities.
The Town, unfortunately, was on that list
and was in one of the highest positions,
meaning the most stress. As the years
went by, we continue to drop in position
on that fiscal stress test. They give a
score to each municipality from 0 to 100,
with 100 being the worst and most
stressed you can be. The 2022 number came
out from the State Comptroller, Tom

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DiNapoli's assessment. And we, this Town Board, and I'm so proud to work with each and every one of you, our town's score for 2022 is zero a perfect score. There is no municipality in the state that has a better municipal score than the Town of Oyster Bay, all while cutting taxes.

With that, we've restricted new spending while also investing in our roadways and our infrastructure. In fact, 35% of the Town's streets have been repaved on our watch, with hundreds more that will be repaved. We're getting to each and every street. For the most part, it requires repaving. But there are so many more projects that are even more expensive: The drainage projects, the rebuilding of bridges and road infrastructure, and the list goes on and on. And we do this while we continue to invest in our parks, brand new turf fields, our pools, our beaches, and the many, many resources that are needed to provide for the best run town in America.

We've combated zombie homes and a long list of quality of life concerns.

With data suggesting the global economy is already in a moderate slowdown, this proposed budget ensures full funding for helping residents find meaningful employment opportunity through workshops, classes, partnerships and job fairs.

To keep our local economy moving forward, the Building Department, the Department of Planning and Development, will soon roll out online building permit applications, and that complements our same day permits that we have put in place and we've expanded upon. We continue to offer same day permits for a large number of different types of applications. We've eliminated red tape for businesses and residents, and we've kept outdoor dining open through 2024 at no cost, and it's not going to end at the end of 2024.

To keep our downtown's vibrant storefronts filled, this proposed budget

invests money in downtown revitalization initiatives while supporting small businesses and nonprofit organizations with our federal grant program, we call "TOB Forward". We provide \$5,000 grants, not loans that need to be paid back, but grants for small businesses, not for profits, and so many of the business community improving our economics.

Then we went further to provide \$50,000 grants to the Chambers of Commerce so they can expand their footprint and help the small businesses grow. In fact, we released millions of federal dollars to shop locally and continue to keep our businesses afloat.

Over the next 45 days, we will break ground in Hicksville for a 200 unit residential building with retail. That's one of a number of initiatives we're breaking ground on, as well as the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Project, which we won the state contest back in 2018, and we're very proud of

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that.

To be clear, this proposed budget continues to build on our overall operational and financial successes. Remember, our financial success has been recognized with eight credit rating bond upgrades from Wall Street. Among that eight, that equals 11 notches between between the Moody's upgrade and the global ratings, and between the two of them, 12 notches now have been increased. Our A1 and AA- credit ratings mean that all taxpayers save significant money each time we bond for any of our improvements. This keeps our roads safe. This continues to upgrade and protect and maintain all of the facilities that you own, not us, you own, the property of this town which we manage for you. It also continues to work toward keeping our water or drinking water safe, and making sure that our services are among the best in the nation.

The Town of oyster Bay is delivering

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better services than ever before, and we will continue to do this while keeping costs at, on average, \$144 a month for the average homeowner across the board. Remember, that's less than your cable television bill for all of the services you see and enjoy each and every day, and many things you may not even be aware of that we're doing. Across the board, the average tax bill, the town portion of your taxes, is \$144 a month. Compare that to what you get for your cable television and internet service and a home phone that nobody uses anymore.

So all of this is taking place at a time when the nation is seeing the highest inflation we have seen in 100 years. Think about that. With costs of fuel and building materials and labor and everything going up and up, we have cut taxes and we have frozen them every year and have restored the financial integrity and structure of this town. We are very, very proud to present this 2024

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preliminary budget for the review of our residents in a most transparent way, and we present it, we hold our hearing and we will finalize and vote on it, not after, but before November 7th to send a very strong message.

So with that, will you please call today's Budget Hearing.

TOWN CLERK: Today's hearing is to consider the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Oyster Bay for the year 2024.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Mr. Darienzo, would you please approach?

MR. DARIENZO: Good morning. Supervisor and town board members. My name is Rob Darienzo. I'm the Town's Director of Finance. Despite my boyish good looks, I have over 25 years of finance and accounting experience.

So I stand before you today to speak a little bit more about the 2024 Budget. Supervisor, you did a great job summarizing all the things that have taken place under your administration.

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And that reminds me that it was the first day of your administration. You were sworn in in this room. You went upstairs to our offices on the third floor. I was called in roughly a half hour later and we spent three hours together where the first half was probably you asking me, "what the heck has happened here?" There was no tears or anything, but you were fiercely scribbling notes about all the horrible things I was telling you about the state of the financial condition of the Town. And quickly we pivoted to how can we fix things? And you and I spoke about certain ideas and set a framework for how we could turn this ship around.

And here we are, six and a half years later, almost seven years later, and all of the things you said, it's amazing. The turnaround is amazing. If I didn't know any better, if I didn't live through it, it's almost unbelievable. But what is happening is unprecedented here in the town. Voice debate -44 to positive

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88. It's unbelievable. Cutting taxes.

So with that being said again, your framework that you put in place reducing debt by record amounts, holding the line on a number of employees, all of these things have gotten us to the place where we are today.

With that being said, we are seeing certain inflationary pressures in the 2024 budget, things that are out of our control. So the total budget in 2024 is going to rise from roughly \$320 million to \$338 million, an increase of \$18 million on the expense side. So to a layperson, you would think we're increasing expenses by \$18 million, we're probably going to need to increase taxes to make up that difference on the revenue side. But that's not the case here at the Town. Instead of raising taxes 6 or 7% to bridge that gulf on the expense side to the revenue side, because of the conservative budgeting, based on the framework you put in place all those

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years ago, we've budgeted so conservatively on the revenue side that we're able to increase certain revenues to get the revenue side in \$38 million without having to touch taxes.

Where are we increasing revenues? We're increasing revenues on interest earnings. The same way that interest rates are up on the expense side, causing us to have those pressures on the expense side. The positive to that is that we also earn more money in interest, on the money we have in the bank. So at the end of the day, we virtually borrow money for free. When we borrow money in the form of a bond anticipation note to pay for the repavement of roads or the improvement to our parks, if we pay 4 or 5% of interest while that money is in our bank, we're earning 4 to 5% in interest. So at the end of the day, the net result of that interest cost is zero. But it does have to be reflected on both the expense and the revenue side. That's why you see the

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increase on the expenses.

At the same time, because we're in such good financial shape, we're taking the opportunity in 2024 to pay down more principal than required on our debt. Every debt has a period of probable usefulness: For highway improvements, 15 years; for water repairs, 40 years and so on and so forth. And you're allowed to pay down your debt over the course of that number of years. So there are certain minimum thresholds that need to be met every year on the debt you have outstanding. We are actively choosing to pay down more than we have to in 2024, in a way to continue to reduce the debt while still holding the line on taxes.

Another pressure we have on the expense side is our health insurance. Health insurance we project to be up by \$5 million in 2024, from a total budget of 37 million to a total budget of 42million. We pride ourselves on being able to take care of the healthcare for

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our employees, and that's something that will continue in 2024. And that's one of those, "it is what it is" situations. We have no control over the cost of healthcare.

One positive sign in the expense side of things is that our proposed budget for litigation expenses is down one half million dollars in 2024. As the legal clouds continue to go away here at the Town, it means that we need to spend less money on outside attorneys to go to court for us. So that's a small positive on the expense side.

The other major revenue that is increasing in this budget because of, again, conservative budgeting, is our Local Government Assistance Program. Typically, we budget \$16 million a year in that revenue line. In 2024, we're going to budget \$21 million, which will be an accurate reflection. Again, because of all the conservative budgeting we've done in the past, we have the ability to

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increase the revenue projections in these lines while still producing a balanced budget.

So we've had six straight years of surpluses north of \$10 million, again going from -44, a \$44 million deficit, to a \$88 million surplus. I can't stand up here and tell you we're going to have \$20 million surpluses every year. Eventually, that is going to stop. But it isn't stopping in 2023, and it isn't going to stop in 2024. We continue to build this rainy day fund to avoid the idea of having to raise taxes in the coming years. We'll be able to draw on that fund if expenses continue to rise at this level. But we don't expect that to be the case. Interest rates seem to have somewhat leveled off. Inflation, while being as high as it's been in decades and decades, also seems to be stagnating a little bit. So we do not expect there to be an \$18 million increase on the expense side for 2025. So this should be good

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enough for us to get through this year, next year, and hopefully the year after.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you for an extraordinary job that you've done. It has been a collaborative effort. You and I and our elected officials in the Town, each and every one of them has contributed in every way from business owner Laura Maier to private sector specialist Tom Hand and another business owner and Michele Johnson, to someone with extraordinary government acumen in Lou Imbroto, my colleague and former state Assemblyman Steve Labriola, who has such tremendous experience, private sector government and was the Deputy Comptroller of Nassau County, and Vicki Walsh, who has spent years and years in private sector businesses bringing fresh ideas to the Town. Thanking Jeff Pravato in all he's done in the Comptroller's Office, including getting banks to give us more and more interest on the money that we hold to accomplish all of the

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tasks, and Rich LaMarca, who also has worked in finance and Wall Street for many, many years before coming to the Town. So I see this as a collaboration of all of us, and I'm so incredibly proud to work with each and every one of you to create not only this budget, but the turnaround. That's the story that we hope to read on page three of tomorrow's daily paper.

I will briefly just give a small sense of where we were and where we are, because in this executive summary or synopsis, we can hone in on just what we've accomplished in these years, since the Town had that junk bond status and was facing horrific times financially.

So let's just compare just a short list of items to wrap up this process. We'll compare where we were in January of 2017 when we began here in the town, and then folks soon came afterwards, Lou Imbroto, Tom Hand, and so forth, as we built our new team here.

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In terms of the Cumulative Fund Balance, in January of 2017, there was that \$44 million deficit. It's like writing checks from a checkbook where you already owed \$44 million in your checking account; today, a \$88 million surplus.

On the Individual Fund Balances, there are 13 individual funds including the General Fund that most people know about. But there are all of these individual funds. In January, 17 of the 13 funds, five were negative. Today, all of them are positive, meaning they are all balanced. And through that process we created that \$88 million Cumulative Fund balance. Very, very important; very proud of that.

In terms of Town Debt, in January of 2017, there was \$763 million of capital debt on the Capital Program. This town, even though it's very, very large, owed \$763 million for the borrowing. Like mortgaging a home, your home is worth \$500,000, but you owe \$1 million on it.

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That would be similar.

We have a net reduction while paving a third of the roads, more than a third of the roads, while buying all of the big trucks, the garbage trucks, the highway trucks, while investing in our properties, while putting turf fields that are top line, and all of the different programs to maintain and bring our facilities up to among the best in the nation. We have a net reduction in our capital side of our budget, net reduction by \$187 million while cutting taxes.

In terms of our Annual Debt Service, as you mentioned, we pay down far more debt than was required. You get a mortgage you have to make in payments every month, we've paid more than what we owed to speed up the process of reducing debt.

In January of 2017, the Annual Debt Service was \$92 million annually. Today, it's \$88 million, down \$4 million

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annually compared to 2017 despite the global increase in interest costs. Despite the tide of costs going up and up, interest rates going up and up, we not only met our obligation, but paid down more.

On the Annual New Debt Assurance, back then, 2017, it was over \$100 million a year of more borrowing. Today we cap it at \$65 million. And the main reason Annual Debt Service costs are down by so much: Again, conservative budgeting.

Standard and Poor's. We had a negative outlook at junk bond status. Today, a AA; we went from A+ to AA-. When I was in school, the best grade you could get was A+. And we're even better than that; AA-. We're up eight bond rating upgrades, including 12 notches in total. And I can tell you that Standard and Poor's and Moody's looks at us with a fine tooth comb, with a big magnifying glass. We had a B/AAA3 in 2017 and now A1 with a positive outlook from Moody's. So

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there you heard it from Standard Poor's and Moody's the two rating agencies that rate the municipalities.

I told you earlier and we're all very proud of this, that the New York State Comptroller has a stress monitoring list list and we were on the highest level of stress in 2017, and now we have a perfect score of zero stress. We went from the fourth worst score of any municipality in the state. So of all municipalities, school districts, towns, counties, villages, they rate all of them, we were the fourth worst in the state of New York. And now, some six years later, we have the best rating. There is no municipality in New York State that has a better rating than the Town of Oyster Bay, just amazing.

But the most important -- and I'll end off with what is most important to our residents: The property taxes. We collected a total in 2017, we collected a total of \$234 million in property taxes.

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Today, we collect \$233 million. That's a million less than we did in 2017. With all of the interest, with all of the inflation, we went through a worldwide pandemic -- remember, folks -- we're giving money to small businesses, we're reinvesting in all of your facilities. And yet, we went from collecting \$234 million to collecting \$233 million. We collect less property taxes than in 2017.

I am so proud of the men and women that you see before you up here on this rostrum, and I am so proud of the Town employees from you, Rob Darienzo, to our Comptroller, to the members of the Comptroller's Office, everyone who works with the finances and this administration, we prove that you can get it done.

So I thank you. And I ask, are there any questions from the board?

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Yes, Supervisor. I'd like to just emphasize some of the items that the listening

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public may not necessarily be aware of.

I also want to join with the Supervisor

in congratulating the Budget Committee

and all the people, the team members,

that worked throughout the summer,

through the fall, to produce this

document. It is really a document that we

can all be very proud of. I know I am as

a member of this board because of all of

the external pressures that are on the

Town of Oyster Bay, that the public needs

to understand that are beyond our

control.

For instance, the cost of fuel and electricity, it takes a tremendous burden upon our budget that's beyond our control. That's again, something that caused by the federal government's war on

energy. In addition, the highest inflation

rates we've seen in decades, costing us

more money in borrowing, more money in

just about every goods and services. When

we're building, when we're doing

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construction in public works, a constant theme throughout the town is the cost of suppliers, the cost of labor, etcetera, all because of things beyond our control. And that's the federal government.

Of course, the state government's unfunded mandates, the MTA payroll tax, \$400,000 that we have to pay for, really essentially nothing. They're just collecting money from all the municipalities to pay for the mismanagement of the MTA.

These are the external pressures that are put upon the Town and our only source of funding, as was stated, is mostly property taxes, whereas the state and federal government has the unlimited resource of income taxes that they continue to increase.

We also see that the federal government experienced the first time in history a bond downgrade. The United States bond downgrade happened this year. That's historic. It's extraordinary. And

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that's because of the mismanagement that have been taking place in the federal government and the pressures they've created on municipalities throughout the country.

In contrast, you see, our bond rating has been increased. We're at, as the Supervisor stated very proudly, we are at a AA rating from two rating agencies, Moody's and Standard and Poor's. This doesn't happen by accident. This is hard work by Supervisor's team that he has put together, this management team -- when you talk about being fiscally conservative, I think this is an example of how you do that. I think we're prepared for what might come in the future. We don't know what Bidenomics is going to do to our economy. So far, we've seen recession and inflation together. We don't know what next year brings necessarily, especially with the external pressures that are on our country right now. So we're prepared for that. And I

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think the public should rest easy knowing that we are prepared with a solid surplus, a reserve fund that prepares us for any kind of emergencies that might occur. And I just want the residents to understand that we've done our job here, holding the taxes flat for the sixth year in a row, in addition to maintaining the original tax cut that the Supervisor spoke of.

So I just wanted to make that statement. I wanted to congratulate the team that the Supervisor put together. And of course, I'm very proud to be voting in favor of this budget. Thank you very much.

MR. DARIENZO: Thank you. Very well said.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: If there are no other comments or questions from the Board, I'd like to entertain any -- we don't have a slip from anyone who would like to be heard at this Budget Hearing, so I may assume then that there is no one

	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD HRG 1 (morning)
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2	here to speak or ask questions on the
3	budget. And perhaps that quiet is the
4	strongest and loudest statement of all.
5	(Whereupon, no verbal
6	response.)
7	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So with that,
8	if there is no one who would like to be
9	heard on this Budget Hearing for our
10	amazing 2024 proposed budget, may I
11	please have a motion?
12	COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: I make a
13	motion that this hearing be adjourned
14	until this evening.
15	COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second the
16	motion.
17	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor,
18	please signify by saying, "Aye".
19	(Whereupon, all members of
20	the Town of Oyster Bay Town
21	Board respond in favor with,
22	"Aye.)
23	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
24	"Nay".
25	(Whereupon, no verbal

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay, folks, with that, we will reconvene.

We're going to move forward on the other resolutions on the Action Calendar. But I want to make it clear that we're giving the public an opportunity this morning and then again this evening to give us their comments on this budget, in case someone was not able to make it today during the morning session would like to come back in the evening and we will be here for them.

Once again, I thank our team and I thank everyone involved.

I'd also like to thank our water commissioners who are here today, Commissioner Pat Peterson of Locust Valley, Commissioner Robert McEvoy of the Oyster Bay Water District, for the phenomenal job they do keeping our drinking water plentiful and pure. We appreciate that very, very much.

Ī	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD HRG 1 (morning)
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2	Thank you, Mr. Darienzo. So greatly
3	appreciated.
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5	(Whereupon, above matter
6	concludes, 11:25 a.m.)
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	10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD HRG 1 (morning)
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2	CERTIFICATE
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4	STATE OF NEW YORK ) : SS.:
5	COUNTY OF NASSAU )
6	
7	I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and
8	within the State of New York, do hereby
9	certify:
10	That the above is a correct transcription
11	of my stenographic notes.
12	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
13	my hand this 17th day of October, 2023.
14	
15	Karen Lorenzo
16	KAREN LORENZO
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\_\_\_TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516) 414-3516 \_\_\_\_\_33 \_\_\_

1(	).17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	BOARD HRG 1 (morning	ng)
\$	<b>100</b> <sub>[3]</sub> - 5:22, 5:23,	4	accident[1] - 27:12
<b>\$10</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:6	10:18	<b>4</b> <sub>[3]</sub> - 14:19, 14:21,	accomplish [1] -
\$100 <sub>[1]</sub> - 17.0 \$100 <sub>[1]</sub> - 22:9	<b>10:53</b> [1] - 1:7	21:25	18:25
	<b>11</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:9		accomplished [1] -
<b>\$144</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 10:4,	<b>11:25</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 32:6	<b>40</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:9	19:16
10:12	<b>12</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 9:12, 22:20	<b>42</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:23	account <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:7
<b>\$16</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:20	<b>13</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 20:9, 20:13	<b>44</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 12:25, 17:7	accounting [1] -
\$18 <sub>[3]</sub> - 13:14,	<b>15</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:8	<b>45</b> [1] - 8:18	11:20
13:17, 17:24	<b>17</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 1:6, 20:12	5	accurate [1] - 16:23
<b>\$187</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:14,	<b>17th</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 33:13	-	<b>Action</b> [1] - 31:5
21:14		<b>5</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:22	actively [1] - 15:15
<b>\$20</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:9	2	<b>5%</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 14:19,	acumen <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:13
<b>\$21</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:22	<b>200</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:19	14:21	addition [2] - 25:21,
<b>\$233</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 24:2,	<b>2017</b> [11] - 19:22,	6	28:9
24:10	20:3, 20:20,	•	adjourned [1] -
<b>\$234</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 23:25,	21:23, 22:2, 22:9,	<b>6</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:21	29:13
24:9	22:24, 23:9,	7	administration [3] -
<b>\$320</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:13	23:24, 24:3, 24:11	,	11:25, 12:3, 24:19
<b>\$338</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:14	<b>2018</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:24, 8:25	<b>7%</b> [1] - 13:21	<b>afloat</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:17
<b>\$38</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:5	<b>2022</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 5:24, 6:5	<b>7th</b> [1] - 11:6	afterwards [1] -
<b>\$400,000</b> [1] - 26:9	<b>2023</b> <sub>[3]</sub> - 1:6, 17:12,	•	19:23
<b>\$44</b> <sub>[5]</sub> - 4:15, 4:24,	33:13	8	agencies [2] - 23:3,
17:7, 20:4, 20:6	<b>2024</b> <sub>[20]</sub> - 1:12, 3:4,	<b>88</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:2	27:11
<b>\$5,000</b> [1] - 8:6	3:14, 3:21, 4:9,		ago[1] - 14:2
\$ <b>50,000</b> [1] - 8:12	7:21, 7:23, 10:25,	9	allowed <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:10
\$ <b>500,000</b> [1] - 20:25	11:12, 11:22,	<b>9.1</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:24	almost <sub>[2]</sub> - 12:19,
<b>\$65</b> [1] - 22:11	13:11, 13:12,		12·23
<b>\$763</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 20:20,	15:5, 15:16,	Α	amazing <sub>[4]</sub> - 12:21,
20:23	15:22, 16:3,	<b>A+</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 22:18	23:20, 29:10
<b>\$88</b> <sub>[6]</sub> - 4:22, 4:25,	16:10, 16:21,	<b>a.m</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 1:7, 32:6	<b>America</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:25
17:8, 20:7, 20:16,	17:13, 29:10	<b>A1</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 9:13, 22:24	amounts <sub>[1]</sub> - 0.25
21:25	<b>2025</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:25	<b>AA</b> <sub>[3]</sub> - 9:13, 22:16,	<b>Annual</b> [4] - 21:16,
<b>\$92</b> [1] - 21:24	<b>25</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:19	27:10	21:23, 22:8, 22:12
	<b>23</b> [1] - 11.18	<b>AA-</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 22:16,	
0	3	22:19	annually [2] - 21:24, 22:2
<b>0</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:22	<b>350</b> / 6:10	<b>ability</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:25	
	<b>35%</b> [1] - 6:12	able [4] - 14:4,	anticipation [1] - 14:17
1	<b>37</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:23	15:25, 17:16,	
<b>1</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 1:9, 20:25		31:10	applause [1] - 3:9
<b>1.3</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:22		<b>absorb</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 4:23	applications 2 -
			7:14, 7:19
TO	P KEY COURT REPORTIN	NG, INC. (516) 414-3	516

10	0.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	_BOARD HRG 1 (mornir	ıg) =
appreciate [1] -	<b>Bay</b> [10] - 1:12, 5:3,	<b>brand</b> [1] - 6:22	bu
31:23	5:13, 6:8, 9:25,	<b>break</b> [1] - 8:18	7:
appreciated [1] -	11:12, 23:20,	breaking [1] - 8:22	8:
32:3	25:12, 29:20,	<b>bridge</b> [1] - 13:22	24
approach[1] -	31:20	<b>bridges</b> [1] - 6:19	bu
11:14	beaches [1] - 6:23	<b>briefly</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:18,	В١
approved [1] - 3:23	began <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:22	19:12	
Assemblyman [1] -	<b>best</b> [5] - 6:25, 9:23,	<b>bring</b> [1] - 21:10	
18:15	21:11, 22:17,	bringing [1] - 18:20	са
assessment <sub>[1]</sub> -	23:17	<b>brings</b> [1] - 27:22	10
6:2	better <sub>[5]</sub> - 6:7, 10:2,	Budget [10] - 1:11,	Ca
Assistance [1] -	12:22, 22:18,	3:14, 3:21, 4:9,	са
16:19	23:19	11:9, 11:11,	са
assume <sub>[1]</sub> - 28:25	between [3] - 9:9,	11:22, 25:4,	2
Assurance [1] -	9:10, 9:11	28:24, 29:9	Ca

28:24, 29:9 beyond [3] - 25:13, budget<sub>[28]</sub> - 3:3, 25:17, 26:5 3:4, 3:12, 3:19, Bidenomics [1] -4:15, 4:20, 5:5, 27:19 5:7, 7:6, 7:25, 9:3, **big**<sub>[2]</sub> - 21:5, 22:23 11:2, 13:11, **bill**<sub>[2]</sub> - 10:7, 10:11 13:12, 15:22, **bit**<sub>[2]</sub> - 11:22, 17:23 15:23, 16:9, **bless** [2] - 3:6, 3:7 16:17, 16:20, **BOARD**<sub>[1]</sub> - 1:2 16:22, 17:4, 19:8, 21:13, 25:17, **Board** [5] - 3:23, 28:16, 29:3, 4:8, 6:3, 28:22, 29:10, 31:9 29:21 budgeted [1] - 14:2 **board** [5] - 10:5, budgeting [5] -10:10, 11:16, 4:18, 13:24, 24:22, 25:10 16:18, 16:24, **bond** [9] - 9:7, 9:15, 14:17, 19:17, 22:13 **build** [2] - 9:4, 17:13 22:15, 22:19, **Building** [1] - 7:11 26:23, 26:24, 27:7 **building** [4] - 7:13, **borrow** [2] - 14:15, 8:20, 10:20, 25:25 14:16 **built** [1] - 19:25 **borrowing** [4] - 5:8, 20:23, 22:10, **burden** [1] - 25:16 25:23 business [3] - 8:9,

18:9, 18:11

**boyish** [1] - 11:18

businesses [7] -7:20, 8:4, 8:8, 8:14, 8:17, 18:20, 24:7 **buying** [1] - 21:5 **BY**<sub>[1]</sub> - 1:23 C cable [2] - 10:6, 10:13 **Calendar** [1] - 31:5 cap [1] - 22:10 capital [2] - 20:20, 21:13 Capital [1] - 20:21 care [1] - 15:25 case [3] - 13:20, 17:19, 31:10 cash [1] - 5:8 caused [1] - 25:19 causing [1] - 14:10 certain [4] - 12:16, 13:10, 14:4, 15:13 **certify**<sub>[1]</sub> - 33:9 **Chambers** [1] - 8:12 checkbook [1] -20:5 checking [1] - 20:6 checks [1] - 20:5 choosing [1] -15:15 **classes** [1] - 7:9 **clear**<sub>[2]</sub> - 9:3, 31:6 CLERK [3] - 1:20, 2:14, 11:10 **clouds** [1] - 16:11

22:8

16:13

ATTORNEY [2] -

2:16, 2:17

attorneys [1] -

10:5, 10:11

avoid [1] - 17:14

aware [2] - 10:9,

average [3] - 10:4,

10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD HRG 1 (morning)

1
collaborative [1] -
18:6
colleague [1] -
18:14
<b>collect</b> [2] - 24:2,
24:11
<b>collected</b> [2] - 23:24
collecting [3] - 24:9,
24:10, 26:11
comb <sub>[1]</sub> - 22:23
combated [1] - 7:2
coming <sub>[2]</sub> - 17:15,
19:4
comments [2] -
28:21, 31:9
Commerce [1] -
8:13
Commissioner [2] -
31:18, 31:19
commissioners [1]
- 31:17
Committee [1] -
25:4
community <sub>[1]</sub> -
8:10
compare [2] - 19:19, 19:21
Compare [1] - 10:12
compared [1] - 22:2
complements [1] - 7:14
Comptroller [5] -
5:12, 5:25, 18:18,
23:7, 24:16
comptroller <sub>[1]</sub> -
5:15
Comptroller's [2] -
18:22, 24:17
concerns [2] - 3:16,
7:3

.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN
concludes [1] - 32:6
condition [1] -
12:13
congratulate [1] -
28:13
congratulating [1] -
25:4
consecutive [1] -
4:20
conservative [6] -
4:17, 13:24,
16:18, 16:24,
22:13, 27:16
conservatively [1] -
14:3
Consider [1] - 1:11
consider <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:11
constant [1] - 26:2
construction [1] -
26:2
contains [1] - 5:5
contest <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:24
<b>continue</b> [11] - 5:20,
6:21, 7:17, 8:17,
10:3, 15:17, 16:3, 16:11, 17:13,
17:17, 26:20
continues [4] -
4:10, 9:4, 9:16,
9:20
contrast <sub>[1]</sub> - 27:7
contributed [1] -
18:9
<b>control</b> [5] - 13:12,
16:5, 25:14,
25:18, 26:5
<b>correct</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 33:10
cost <sub>[6]</sub> - 7:22,
14:23, 16:5,
25:15, 26:3, 26:4

```
costing [1] - 25:22
costs [5] - 10:4,
 10:19, 22:3, 22:4,
 22:12
COUNCILMAN [5] -
2:7, 2:8, 2:9,
24:23, 29:15
COUNCILWOMAN
[4] - 2:6, 2:10, 2:11,
29:12
counties [1] - 23:14
country [2] - 27:6,
27:24
County [1] - 18:18
COUNTY [1] - 33:5
course [3] - 15:11,
26:7, 28:15
court [1] - 16:14
create [1] - 19:8
created [2] - 20:16,
27:5
credit<sub>[2]</sub> - 9:7, 9:13
Cumulative [2] -
 20:2, 20:16
cut<sub>[2]</sub> - 10:21,
28:10
cuts[1] - 3:23
cutting [4] - 5:2,
6:8, 13:2, 21:14
          D
daily<sub>[1]</sub> - 19:10
```

## daily [1] - 19:10 Darienzo [4] 11:13, 11:17, 24:15, 32:2 DARIENZO [2] 11:15, 28:18

data<sub>[1]</sub> - 7:4 days<sub>[2]</sub> - 5:4, 8:18 debate<sub>[1]</sub> - 12:25 **Debt** [5] - 20:19, 21:16, 21:23, 22:8, 22:12 **debt**[12] - 4:5, 4:10, 4:13, 13:5, 15:6, 15:7, 15:11, 15:14, 15:17, 20:21, 21:18, 21:22 decades [3] - 17:21, 17:22, 25:22 deficit<sub>[4]</sub> - 4:15, 4:25, 17:7, 20:4 **deficits** [1] - 5:4 **delivering** [1] - 9:25 delivery [1] - 4:11 Department [2] -7:11, 7:12 **DEPUTY**<sub>[1]</sub> - 2:17 **Deputy** [1] - 18:17 despite [1] - 22:2 **Despite** [2] - 11:18, 22:4 Development [1] -7:12 difference [1] -13:19 different [2] - 7:18, 21:10 **DiNapoli's** [1] - 6:2 dining [1] - 7:21 **Director**[1] - 11:18 **District**<sub>[1]</sub> - 31:20 districts [1] - 23:13 **document**<sub>[2]</sub> - 25:8 dollars [2] - 8:16, 16:10

**done** [6] - 4:7, 16:25, 18:5,

18:22, 24:20, 28:7

1.0	).17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	DOADD IIDC 1 /manni	
down <sub>[9]</sub> - 4:10,	ELIZABETH [1] -	14:11, 14:24,	financial [5] - 9:5,
15:5, 15:11,	2:17	15:20, 16:7,	9:6, 10:23, 12:13,
15:16, 16:9,	emergencies <sub>[1]</sub> -	16:15, 17:24	15:4
21:17, 21:25,	28:5	expenses [4] -	financially <sub>[1]</sub> -
22:7, 22:12	emphasize <sub>[1]</sub> -	13:17, 15:2, 16:9,	19:18
downgrade [2] -	24:24	17:17	fine <sub>[1]</sub> - 22:23
26:23, 26:24	employees [3] -	<b>expensive</b> [1] - 6:18	<b>first</b> <sub>[5]</sub> - 3:3, 4:12,
Downtown [1] -	13:6, 16:2, 24:15	experience [2] -	12:2, 12:8, 26:22
8:23	employment <sub>[1]</sub> -	11:20, 18:16	<b>fiscal</b> [3] - 5:14,
downtown <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:2	7:8	experienced [1] -	5:16, 5:21
downtown's [1] -	end [5] - 7:22, 7:23,	26:22	fiscally <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:17,
7:24	14:14, 14:22,	external [3] - 25:11,	27:16
drainage [1] - 6:18	23:22	26:14, 27:23	<b>five</b> [1] - 20:13
draw [1] - 17:16	energy[1] - 25:20	extraordinary [3] -	<b>fix</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:15
drinking <sub>[2]</sub> - 9:21,	enhancing [1] -	18:5, 18:13, 26:25	flat <sub>[1]</sub> - 28:8
31:22	4:11		floor[1] - 12:5
<b>drop</b> [1] - 5:20	enjoy <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:8	F	<b>flow</b> [1] - 5:9
due[1] - 4:17	ensures <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:6	facilities [3] - 9:18,	folks <sub>[4]</sub> - 3:3,
during [1] - 31:11	entertain [1] - 28:22	21:11, 24:8	19:23, 24:6, 31:2
<del>-</del>	<b>equals</b> [1] - 9:9	facing [1] - 19:18	<b>footprint</b> [1] - 8:14
E	especially [1] -	<b>fact</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:11, 8:15	form[1] - 14:16
earn[1] - 14:13	27:23	<b>fairs</b> [1] - 7:9	former <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:14
earning [1] - 14:21	<b>ESQ</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 2:16, 2:17	fall [1] - 25:7	forth [2] - 15:10,
earnings <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:9	essentially[1] -	<b>far</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 21:17, 27:20	19:24
easy <sub>[1]</sub> - 28:2	26:10	FAUGHNAN [1] -	forward [2] - 7:11,
economics [1] -	etcetera[1] - 26:4	2:17	31:4
8:10	evening [3] - 29:14,	favor <sub>[3]</sub> - 28:16,	Forward" [1] - 8:6
economy <sub>[3]</sub> - 7:4,	31:8, 31:12	29:17, 29:21	<b>fourth</b> [2] - 23:11,
7:10, 27:20	Eventually [1] -	<b>federal</b> [7] - 8:5,	23:15
efficiencies [2] -	17:10	8:16, 25:19, 26:6,	framework [3] -
4:5, 4:19	example [1] - 27:17	26:18, 26:21, 27:3	12:16, 13:4, 13:25
<b>effort</b> [1] - 18:6	executive [1] -	fields [2] - 6:23,	<b>FRANK</b> [1] - 2:16
eight <sub>[3]</sub> - 9:7, 9:9,	19:14	21:8	free [1] - 14:16
22:19	existed <sub>[1]</sub> - 4:16	fiercely [1] - 12:11	freeze [1] - 4:3
elected <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:7	expand <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:13	filled [1] - 7:25	fresh <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:20
electricity [1] -	<b>expanded</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:16	finalize [1] - 11:5	frozen [1] - 10:22
25:16	expect <sub>[2]</sub> - 17:18,	Finance [1] - 11:18	fuel [2] - 10:20,
eliminated [1] - 7:19	17:23	finance [2] - 11:20,	25:15
	<b>expense</b> [9] - 13:15,	19:3	full <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:6
eliminating <sub>[1]</sub> - 4:14	13:22, 14:10,	finances [1] - 24:18	fully <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:7

10	.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	BOARD HRG 1 (morning	ng)
Fund [4] - 20:2,	I н	home <sub>[3]</sub> - 10:14,	27:8
20:8, 20:10, 20:16	1 15 400 400	20:24	increasing [4] -
fund <sub>[3]</sub> - 17:14,	half <sub>[4]</sub> - 12:6, 12:8,	homeowner <sub>[1]</sub> -	13:17, 14:7, 14:8,
17:16, 28:4	12:18, 16:10	10:5	16:17
funding [2] - 7:6,	HAND <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:8	homes <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:2	incredibly[1] - 19:6
26:16	Hand <sub>[2]</sub> - 18:11,	hone <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:15	Individual [1] - 20:8
funds <sub>[4]</sub> - 4:21,	19:24	hope <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:9	individual [2] - 20:9,
20:9, 20:12, 20:13	hand <sub>[1]</sub> - 33:13	hopefully [1] - 18:3	20:12
<b>future</b> [1] - 27:19	happy <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:11	horrible <sub>111</sub> - 12:12	inflation [4] - 10:18,
	hard <sub>[1]</sub> - 27:13	horrific <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:18	24:5, 25:21, 27:21
G	health[1] - 15:20	hour <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:6	Inflation [1] - 17:20
garbage [1] - 21:6	Health [1] - 15:21	hours <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:7	inflationary [1] -
<b>General</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 20:10	healthcare [2] -	hundreds [1] - 6:13	13:10
gimmicks [1] - 5:5	15:25, 16:6	1 11 214	infrastructure [2] -
glass <sub>[1]</sub> - 22:24	hear <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:7	l	6:11, 6:20
global <sub>[3]</sub> - 7:4,	heard [3] - 23:2,	idea[1] - 17:14	Initiative [1] - 8:23
9:11, 22:3	28:24, 29:9	ideas <sub>[2]</sub> - 12:16,	initiatives [3] - 4:6,
<b>God</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:6, 3:7	Hearing [4] - 1:9,	18:21	8:3, 8:21
goods <sub>[1]</sub> - 25:24	11:9, 28:24, 29:9	IMBROTO <sub>[2]</sub> - 2:7,	inspection[1] - 3:5
Government [1] -	hearing <sub>[7]</sub> - 3:3,	29:15	instance [1] - 25:15
16:19	3:4, 3:15, 3:20,	Imbroto <sub>[2]</sub> - 18:14,	Instead [1] - 13:21
government <sub>[7]</sub> -	11:4, 11:10, 29:13	19:24	insurance <sub>[2]</sub> -
4:3, 18:13, 18:17,	heck <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:9	important <sub>[4]</sub> - 3:17,	15:20, 15:21
26:6, 26:18,	help[1] - 8:14	20:17, 23:21,	integrity[1] - 10:23
26:22, 27:4	helping [1] - 7:7	23:22	Interest [1] - 17:19
government's [2] -	hereby <sub>[1]</sub> - 33:8	improvement [1] -	interest [10] - 14:8,
25:19, 26:7	hereunto [1] - 33:12	14:18	14:9, 14:13,
grade[1] - 22:17	Hicksville [1] - 8:19	improvements [2] -	14:19, 14:21,
grant <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:5	high <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:21	9:15, 15:8	14:23, 18:24,
grants <sub>[3]</sub> - 8:6, 8:8,	highest [5] - 4:21,	improving [2] - 5:2,	22:3, 22:5, 24:4
8:12	5:18, 10:18, 23:8,	8:10	internet <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:14
great [1] - 11:23	25:21	<b>IN</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 33:12	invest [1] - 6:22
greatly [1] - 32:2	highway <sub>[2]</sub> - 15:8,	including [3] -	investing [2] - 6:10,
ground <sub>[2]</sub> - 8:19,	21:6	18:23, 20:9, 22:20	21:7
8:22	historic [1] - 26:25	income <sub>[1]</sub> - 26:19	invests <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:2
<b>grow</b> [1] - 8:15	history <sub>[1]</sub> - 26:23	increase <sub>[8]</sub> - 13:14,	involved <sub>[1]</sub> - 31:15
gulf <sub>[1]</sub> - 13:22	hold [2] - 11:4,	13:18, 14:4, 15:2,	items [2] - 19:20,
	18:25	17:2, 17:24, 22:3,	24:25
	holding ្រ - 13:5,	26:20	
	15:18, 28:8	increased [2] - 9:12,	
ТО	■ P KEY COURT REPORTIN	NG, INC. (516) 414-3	516

10	.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	BOARD HRG 1 (mornin	
J	large <sub>[2]</sub> - 7:18,	M	3:25, 4:14, 4:15,
January [5] - 19:21,	20:22	magnifying [1] -	4:22, 4:24, 4:25,
20:3, 20:12,	<b>LAURA</b> [1] - 2:10	ունցություցը - 22:23	13:13, 13:14,
, , ,	<b>Laura</b> [1] - 18:10		13:15, 13:17,
20:19, 21:23	layperson [1] -	Maier <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:10	14:5, 15:22,
<b>Jeff</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:21	13:16	MAIER <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:10	15:23, 15:24,
<b>JEFFREY</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:15	legal <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:11	main <sub>[1]</sub> - 22:11	16:10, 16:20,
<b>job</b> [5] - 7:9, 11:23,	less <sub>[4]</sub> - 10:6,	<b>maintain</b> [2] - 9:17,	16:22, 17:6, 17:7,
18:5, 28:7, 31:21	16:13, 24:3, 24:11	21:10	17:8, 17:10,
<b>JOHNSON</b> [2] - 2:6,	level <sub>[2]</sub> - 17:18,	maintaining [1] -	17:24, 20:4, 20:6,
29:12	23:9	28:9	20:7, 20:16,
<b>Johnson</b> [1] - 18:12	leveled [1] - 17:20	<b>major</b> [1] - 16:16	20:20, 20:23,
join <sub>[1]</sub> - 25:3		manage <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:20	20:25, 21:14,
JOSEPH <sub>[2]</sub> - 1:14,	life <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:3	management <sub>[1]</sub> -	21:24, 21:25,
2:5	line [4] - 13:5,	27:14	22:9, 22:11,
junk <sub>[2]</sub> - 19:17,	15:18, 16:21, 21:9	mandates [1] - 26:8	23:25, 24:2, 24:3,
22:15	lines <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:3	materials <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:20	24:10
1.5	List [1] - 5:16	matter[1] - 32:5	millions <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:15
K	list <sub>[6]</sub> - 5:17, 6:20,	<b>McEvoy</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 31:19	minimum <sub>լոյ</sub> - 15:13
Karen <sub>[1]</sub> - 33:15	7:3, 19:20, 23:8	mean <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:13	• •
<b>KAREN</b> <sub>[3]</sub> - 1:23,	listen [1] - 3:15	meaning <sub>[2]</sub> - 5:19,	mismanagement
33:7, 33:16	listening [1] - 24:25	20:14	[2] - 26:13, 27:2
keep [3] - 7:10,	litigation [1] - 16:9	meaningful[1] - 7:7	moderate [1] - 7:5
7:24, 8:17	live[1] - 12:22	means [2] - 3:24,	money <sub>[13]</sub> - 8:2,
keeping [3] - 9:21,	loans [1] - 8:7	16:12	9:14, 14:13,
10:3, 31:21	Local [1] - 16:19	<b>MEETING</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:4	14:14, 14:15,
keeps <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:16	local [1] - 7:10	member <sub>[1]</sub> - 25:10	14:16, 14:20,
kept <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:21	locally <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:16	members [4] -	16:13, 18:24,
kind <sub>[1]</sub> - 28:5	Locust <sub>[1]</sub> - 31:18	11:16, 24:16,	24:7, 25:23, 26:11
knowing [1] - 28:2	looks <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:19,	25:5, 29:19	monitoring [1] -
Kilowiliy [1] - 20.2	22:22		23:7
L	<b>Lorenzo</b> [1] - 33:15	men <sub>[1]</sub> - 24:12	month <sub>[3]</sub> - 10:4,
Johan 40:00	LORENZO [3] -	mentioned [1] -	10:12, 21:20
labor <sub>[2]</sub> - 10:20,	1:23, 33:7, 33:16	21:17	<b>Moody's</b> [5] - 9:10,
26:4	Lou <sub>[2]</sub> - 18:14,	message <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:7	22:22, 22:25,
<b>LABRIOLA</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 2:9,	19:23	met <sub>[2]</sub> - 15:14, 22:6	23:3, 27:11
24:23	loudest <sub>[1]</sub> - 29:4	Michele [1] - 18:12	morning [3] - 11:15,
<b>Labriola</b> [1] - 18:15	<b>LOUIS</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:7	MICHELE <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:6	31:8, 31:11
<b>LaMarca</b> [3] - 1:19,		might <sub>[2]</sub> - 27:18,	mortgage [1] -
2:14, 19:2		28:5	21:19
land [1] - 5:6		million [41] - 3:22,	mortgaging [1] -
ТО	P KEY COURT REPORTIN	IG, INC. (516) 414-3	516

10	).17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	BOARD HRG 1 (morning	ng)
20:24	negative [2] - 20:13,	officials <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:7	P
<b>most</b> <sub>[7]</sub> - 5:19,	22:15	once <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:3, 31:14	20:10
5:23, 6:15, 11:3,	net <sub>[4]</sub> - 14:22, 21:3,	One <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:7	page [1] - 19:10
20:10, 23:21,	21:12, 21:13	<b>one</b> [10] - 5:5, 5:18,	paid <sub>[3]</sub> - 8:7, 21:20,
23:22	<b>NEW</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 33:4	6:4, 8:21, 16:3,	22:6
mostly[1] - 26:17	<b>New</b> [5] - 22:8, 23:6,	16:10, 18:8, 19:7,	pandemic <sub>[1]</sub> - 24:6
motion [3] - 29:11,	23:16, 23:18, 33:8	28:25, 29:8	paper <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:11
29:13, 29:16	<b>new</b> [3] - 6:9, 6:22,	online <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:13	parks [2] - 6:22,
move <sub>[1]</sub> - 31:4	19:25	open <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:21	14:19
moving <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:10	next <sub>[3]</sub> - 8:18, 18:3,	operational [1] - 9:5	part <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:15
<b>MR</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:15,	27:22	opportunity [3] -	partnerships[1] - 7:9
28:18	nobody <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:15	7:8, 15:5, 31:7	
<b>MTA</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 26:8,	nonprofit [1] - 8:4	opposed <sub>[1]</sub> - 29:23	past <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:25 Pat <sub>[1]</sub> - 31:18
26:13	north <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:6	organizations[1] -	paving [1] - 21:3
<b>multi</b> [1] - 4:15	Notary [1] - 33:7	8:4	paying ij - 2 1.3
multi-year <sub>[1]</sub> - 4:15	<b>notches</b> [3] - 9:9,	original <sub>[1]</sub> - 28:10	14:17, 14:19,
municipal [1] - 6:7	9:12, 22:20	ourselves [1] -	15:5, 15:11,
Municipal [1] - 5:15	note <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:17	15:24	15:16, 21:17,
municipalities [5] -	notes [2] - 12:11,	outdoor <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:21	26:9, 26:12
5:16, 23:4, 23:13,	33:11	outlook [2] - 22:15,	payments <sub>[1]</sub> -
26:12, 27:5	nothing [1] - 26:10	22:25	21:19
municipality [4] -	November <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:6	outside <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:13	payroll <sub>[1]</sub> - 26:8
5:22, 6:6, 23:12,	number [5] - 5:24,	outstanding [1] -	people <sub>[2]</sub> - 20:10,
23:18	7:18, 8:21, 13:6,	15:15	25:5
N	15:12	overall <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:4	perfect [2] - 6:5,
nome 11:17	numbers <sub>[1]</sub> - 4:24	owe [1] - 20:25	23:10
name <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:17	0	owed [3] - 20:6,	perhaps [1] - 29:3
NASSAU [1] - 33:5 Nassau [1] - 18:18	abligation 22.6	20:22, 21:21 <b>own</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 9:18, 9:19	period <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:7
nation [3] - 9:24,	obligation[1] - 22:6 occur[1] - 28:6	owner <sub>[2]</sub> - 18:10,	permit <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:13
10:17, 21:12	October <sub>[2]</sub> - 1:6,	18:12	permits [2] - 7:15,
Nay" <sub>[1]</sub> - 29:24	33:13	<b>OYSTER</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:3	7:17
necessarily [2] -	<b>OF</b> <sub>[4]</sub> - 1:3, 2:15,	oyster <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:25	Peterson [1] - 31:18
25:2, 27:23	33:4, 33:5	<b>Oyster</b> [9] - 1:12,	phenomenal [1] -
need [4] - 8:7,	offer <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:17	5:3, 5:13, 6:8,	31:21
13:18, 15:13,	office[1] - 4:12	11:12, 23:20,	phone [1] - 10:14
16:12	Office [2] - 18:23,	25:12, 29:20,	pivoted [1] - 12:14
needed [1] - 6:24	24:17	31:20	place [9] - 4:7, 4:19,
needs <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:16,	offices [1] - 12:5		7:16, 10:16,
25:12			11:25, 13:4, 13:7,

10	.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	BOARD HRG 1 (morning	ng)
13:25, 27:3	3:17, 19:20,	31:7	2:15
<b>Planning</b> [1] - 7:12	20:15, 21:21	<b>Public</b> [1] - 33:7	recession [1] -
plentiful [1] - 31:22	produce [1] - 25:7	pure [1] - 31:22	27:21
pockets <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:25	produced [1] - 4:19	purposes [1] - 5:9	recognized [1] - 9:7
point <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:13	producing [1] - 17:3	put <sub>[8]</sub> - 4:7, 4:19,	reconvene [1] - 31:3
pools <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:23	profits <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:9	7:15, 13:4, 13:25,	record [1] - 13:5
Poor's [4] - 22:14,	Program <sub>[2]</sub> - 16:19,	26:15, 27:14,	red [1] - 7:19
22:22, 23:2, 27:12	20:21	28:14	reduce[1] - 15:17
portion <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:11	program <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:5	putting [1] - 21:8	reduced [1] - 4:13
position [1] - 5:20	programs <sub>[1]</sub> -		reducing [2] - 13:4,
positions <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:18	21:10	Q	21:21
positive [6] - 12:25,	Project [1] - 8:24	quality <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:11,	reduction [4] - 4:6,
14:12, 16:7,	project [1] - 15:21	7:3	21:3, 21:12, 21:14
16:14, 20:14,	projections [1] -	questions [3] -	reflected [1] - 14:24
22:25	17:2	24:22, 28:21, 29:2	reflection[1] -
possible [1] - 4:4	projects [2] - 6:17,	quickly <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:14	16:23
practices [1] - 4:18	6:18	quiet[1] - 29:3	<b>REGULAR</b> [1] - 1:4
<b>PRAVATO</b> [1] - 2:15	properties [1] - 21:8	В	reinvesting [1] -
Pravato [1] - 18:21	<b>property</b> [6] - 3:22,	R	24:8
preliminary [2] -	9:19, 23:23,	rainy 🖽 - 17:14	released [1] - 8:15
3:12, 11:2	23:25, 24:11,	raise [1] - 17:15	<b>rely</b> [1] - 5:8
Preliminary [2] -	26:17	raising [1] - 13:21	<b>remember</b> [1] - 24:6
1:11, 11:11	proposed [6] - 5:7,	rate [2] - 23:4, 23:14	<b>Remember</b> [2] - 9:6,
prepared [3] -	7:6, 7:25, 9:3,	rates [4] - 14:10,	10:6
27:18, 27:25, 28:3	16:8, 29:10	17:19, 22:5, 25:22	reminds [1] - 12:2
prepares [1] - 28:4	<b>Proposed</b> [3] - 3:14,	rather [1] - 4:2	repairs [1] - 15:9
present [4] - 3:4,	3:21, 4:9	rating [8] - 9:7,	repaved [2] - 6:13,
3:13, 10:25, 11:4	protect <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:17	22:19, 23:3,	6:14
pressure [1] - 15:19	proud <sub>[10]</sub> - 6:3,	23:17, 23:19,	repavement [1] -
pressures [6] -	8:25, 10:25, 19:6,	27:8, 27:10	14:18
13:10, 14:11,	20:17, 23:6,	ratings [2] - 9:11,	repaving [1] - 6:16
25:11, 26:14,	24:12, 24:14,	9:13	report [1] - 5:11
27:4, 27:24	25:9, 28:15	reached [1] - 3:13	reported <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:12
previously[1] - 4:16	proudly [1] - 27:9	read <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:10	required [2] - 15:6,
pride <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:24	prove <sub>[1]</sub> - 24:19	really [2] - 25:8,	21:18
principal <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:6	provide 3 - 6:25,	26:9	requires [1] - 6:16
private [3] - 18:10,	8:6, 8:11	reason <sub>[1]</sub> - 22:11	reserve <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:21,
18:16, 18:20	public <sub>[8]</sub> - 3:14, 3:15, 3:16, 25:2,	rebuilding [1] - 6:19	28:4
probable <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:7	25:12, 26:2, 28:2,	RECEIVER [1] -	residential <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:20
process [5] - 3:11,		IO TNO (516) 414 0	516
ТО	P KEY COURT REPORTIN	NG, INC. (516) 414-3	210

■10.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD HRG 1 (mor	rning)	•
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10	.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	_BOARD HRG 1 (mornir _	ng)	
residents [5] - 7:7,	room <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:4	services [6] - 4:12,	<b>source</b> [1] - 26:16	
7:20, 11:3, 23:23,	rostrum <sub>[1]</sub> - 24:14	5:3, 9:23, 10:2,	specialist <sub>[1]</sub> -	
28:6	roughly [2] - 12:6,	10:7, 25:24	18:11	
resolutions [1] -	13:13	session <sub>[1]</sub> - 31:11	speed [1] - 21:21	
31:5	<b>row</b> [1] - 28:9	set <sub>[2]</sub> - 12:16,	<b>spend</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:12	
resource <sub>[1]</sub> - 26:19	run [1] - 6:25	33:12	spending <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:5,	
resources [1] - 6:24	S	<b>seven</b> [1] - 12:19	6:10	
respond [1] - 29:21		shape [1] - 15:4	<b>spent</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 12:7,	
response [2] - 29:6,	<b>safe</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 9:16, 9:22	ship[1] - 12:17	18:19	
30:2	SALADINO [11] -	<b>shop</b> [1] - 8:16	<b>SS</b> [1] - 33:4	
rest <sub>[1]</sub> - 28:2	1:14, 2:5, 3:2,	<b>short</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 19:19	stagnating [1] -	
restored <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:23	3:10, 11:13, 18:4,	<b>shot</b> [1] - 5:6	17:22	
restraints [1] - 4:5	28:20, 29:7,	<b>side</b> [14] - 13:15,	stand <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:21,	
restricted [1] - 6:9	29:17, 29:23, 31:2	13:20, 13:22,	17:8	
result <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:22	<b>sales</b> [1] - 5:6	13:23, 14:3, 14:5,	<b>standard</b> [1] - 22:14	
retail [1] - 8:20	<b>save</b> [1] - 9:14	14:10, 14:12,	Standard [3] -	
revenue <sub>[8]</sub> - 13:19,	<b>SCALERA</b> [1] - 2:16	14:25, 15:20,	22:21, 23:2, 27:11	
13:23, 14:3, 14:5,	school <sub>[2]</sub> - 22:17,	16:8, 16:15,	<b>State</b> 5:12,	
14:25, 16:16,	23:13	17:25, 21:13	5:25, 23:7, 23:19,	
16:21, 17:2	<b>score</b> [6] - 5:22, 6:4,	<b>sign</b> [1] - 16:7	33:8	
<b>revenues</b> [4] - 5:6,	6:5, 6:7, 23:10,	significant [1] -	<b>STATE</b> [1] - 33:4	
14:4, 14:7, 14:8	23:11	9:14	<b>state</b> [9] - 5:14, 6:6,	
review [1] - 11:2	scribbling [1] -	<b>signify</b> [1] - 29:18	8:24, 12:13,	
revitalization [1] -	12:11	similar <sub>[1]</sub> - 21:2	18:15, 23:12,	
8:2	<b>Second</b> [1] - 29:15	situations[1] - 16:4	23:16, 26:7, 26:17	
Revitalization [1] -	<b>sector</b> <sub>[3]</sub> - 18:10,	<b>six</b> [4] - 4:20, 12:18,	statement [2] -	
8:23	18:17, 18:20	17:5, 23:16	28:13, 29:4	
<b>Rich</b> [1] - 19:2	<b>see</b> [6] - 10:8, 14:25,	sixth[1] - 28:8	States [1] - 26:24	
<b>RICHARD</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 1:19,	19:5, 24:13,	<b>slip</b> [1] - 28:23	<b>status</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 19:17,	
2:14	26:21, 27:7	slowdown [1] - 7:5	22:15	
rise <sub>[2]</sub> - 13:13,	seeing [2] - 10:17,	<b>small</b> [6] - 8:3, 8:8,	STENOGRAPHER	
17:17	13:9	8:14, 16:14,	[1] - 1:23	
road <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:19	<b>seem</b> [1] - 17:19	19:12, 24:7	stenographic [1] -	
roads <sub>[4]</sub> - 9:16,	send <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:6	<b>solid</b> [1] - 28:3	33:11	
14:18, 21:4, 21:5	<b>sense</b> [1] - 19:13	someone <sub>[2]</sub> -	<b>STEVE</b> [1] - 2:9	
roadways <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:11	September <sub>[1]</sub> -	18:12, 31:10	<b>Steve</b> [1] - 18:15	
Rob <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:17,	5:12	somewhat <sub>[1]</sub> -	<b>still</b> [2] - 15:18, 17:3	
24:15	service [1] - 10:14	17:20	<b>stop</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 17:11,	
Robert [1] - 31:19	<b>Service</b> [3] - 21:16,	soon <sub>[2]</sub> - 7:13,	17:13	
roll [1] - 7:13	21:24, 22:12	19:23	<b>stopped</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:9	
ТО	I P KEY COURT REPORTIN	■ NG, INC. (516) 414-3	516	

<b>-</b> 10.17.2023	TOBAY	TOWN	BOARD	HRG	1	(morning)

stopping <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:12
storefronts[1] -
7:25
<b>story</b> [1] - 19:9
straight [1] - 17:5
<b>Street</b> [2] - 9:8, 19:3
<b>street</b> [1] - 6:15
<b>streets</b> [1] - 6:12
<b>stress</b> [7] - 5:14,
5:16, 5:19, 5:21,
23:7, 23:9, 23:10
<b>Stress</b> [1] - 5:15
stressed [1] - 5:24
strong <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:7
strongest <sub>[1]</sub> - 29:4
<b>structure</b> [1] - 10:24
<b>success</b> [1] - 9:6
<b>successes</b> [1] - 9:5
successfully[1] -
4:13
suggesting [1] - 7:4
summarizing [1] -
11:24
<b>summary</b> [1] - 19:14
<b>summer</b> [1] - 25:6
SUPERVISOR [11] -
1:15, 2:5, 3:2,
3:10, 11:13, 18:4,
28:20, 29:7,
29:17, 29:23, 31:2
Supervisor <sub>[7]</sub> -
11:16, 11:23,
24:24, 25:3, 27:9,
28:10, 28:14
Supervisor's [1] -
27:13
<b>suppliers</b> [1] - 26:4
supporting[1] - 8:3
<b>surplus</b> [4] - 4:25,
17:8, 20:7, 28:4
т

surpluses [3] - 4:20, 17:6, 17:10 sustains [1] - 3:22 sworn [1] - 12:4 synopsis [1] - 19:15

#### Т

**TAKEN**<sub>[1]</sub> - 1:23 tape [1] - 7:19 tasks<sub>[1]</sub> - 19:2 tax [5] - 3:22, 4:3, 10:11, 26:8, 28:10 taxes [17] - 5:2, 6:8, 10:12, 10:22, 13:2, 13:18, 13:21, 14:6, 15:18, 17:15, 21:15, 23:23, 23:25, 24:11, 26:17, 26:19, 28:8 **TAXES** [1] - 2:15 taxpayers [2] - 4:2, 9:14 team [6] - 19:25, 25:5, 27:13, 27:15, 28:14, 31:14 tears [1] - 12:10 television [2] - 10:7, 10:13 terms [3] - 20:2, 20:19, 21:16 test [1] - 5:21 Thanking [1] - 18:21 theme [1] - 26:3 they've [1] - 27:4 third [3] - 12:5, 21:4 **THOMAS** [1] - 2:8 three [2] - 12:7,

19:10

thresholds [1] -15:13 throughout [3] -25:6, 26:3, 27:5 tide [1] - 22:4 **TOB**<sub>[1]</sub> - 8:6 **Today** [4] - 20:13, 21:24, 22:10, 24:2 today [7] - 3:10, 11:21, 13:8, 20:7, 22:16, 31:11, 31:17 today's [1] - 11:9 **Today's** [1] - 11:10 together[4] - 12:7, 27:14, 27:21, 28:14 **Tom** [3] - 5:25, 18:11, 19:24 tomorrow's [1] -19:10 tooth [1] - 22:23 top<sub>[1]</sub> - 21:9 total [7] - 3:24, 13:12, 15:22, 15:23, 22:20, 23:24, 23:25 totalling [1] - 4:22 touch [1] - 14:6 toward [1] - 9:21 **TOWN** [7] - 1:2, 1:3, 1:20, 2:14, 2:16, 2:17, 11:10 town<sub>[12]</sub> - 4:3, 4:10, 4:11, 6:25, 9:19, 10:11, 10:24, 11:16, 12:25, 19:22, 20:21, 26:3 Town [26] - 1:12,

5:3, 5:10, 5:13, 5:17, 6:2, 6:7, 9:25, 11:12, 12:14, 13:21, 16:12, 18:7, 18:21, 19:5, 19:17, 20:19, 23:20, 24:14, 25:12, 26:15, 29:20 town's [1] - 6:4 Town's [4] - 3:14, 3:21, 6:12, 11:17 towns [1] - 23:13 transcription [1] -33:10 transparent [1] -11:3 tremendous [2] -18:16, 25:16 troops [1] - 3:7 trucks [3] - 21:6, 21:7 turf<sub>[2]</sub> - 6:22, 21:8 turn [1] - 12:17 turnaround [2] -12:21, 19:9 **two** [3] - 9:11, 23:3, 27:10 **types** [1] - 7:18 **Typically**[1] - 16:20

#### U

unbelievable [2] 12:23, 13:2
under [1] - 11:25
unfortunately [1] 5:17
unfunded [1] - 26:8
unit [1] - 8:19

3:23, 4:7, 4:13,

10	.17.2023 TOBAY TOWN	BOARD HRG 1 (morning)
United [1] - 26:23	<b>watch</b> [1] - 6:13	Z
unlimited [1] -	water <sub>[5]</sub> - 9:21,	<b>zero</b> [4] - 5:13, 6:5,
26:18	9:22, 15:9, 31:16,	, , ,
unprecedented [1] -	31:22	14:23, 23:10
12:24	<b>Water</b> [1] - 31:20	zombie <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:2
<b>up</b> [15] - 10:21,	whereas [1] - 26:17	
13:19, 14:10,	WHEREOF [1] -	
15:21, 17:8,	33:12	
19:20, 21:11,	WITNESS [1] -	
21:21, 22:4, 22:5,	33:12	
22:19, 24:13	women [1] - 24:12	
upgrade [2] - 9:10,	<b>won</b> [1] - 8:24	
9:17	works <sub>[2]</sub> - 24:17,	
upgrades [2] - 9:8,	26:2	
22:20	workshops[1] - 7:8	
upstairs [1] - 12:4	worldwide [1] - 24:5	
usefulness[1] -	worst [3] - 5:23,	
15:8	23:11, 23:15	
uses <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:15	worth [1] - 20:24	
V	<b>wrap</b> [1] - 19:20	
v	writing [1] - 20:5	
Valley [1] - 31:19	V	
<b>verbal</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 29:5,	Υ	
29:25	<b>year</b> <sub>[13]</sub> - 4:15,	
29:25 veterans [1] - 3:8	<b>year</b> <sub>[13]</sub> - 4:15, 10:22, 11:12,	
	,	
veterans [1] - 3:8	10:22, 11:12,	
veterans [1] - 3:8 vibrant [1] - 7:24	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20,	
veterans <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:8 vibrant <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:24 VICKI <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:11	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8	
veterans <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:8 vibrant <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:24 VICKI <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:11 Vicki <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:18	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 <b>Year</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:12	
veterans [1] - 3:8 vibrant [1] - 7:24 VICKI [1] - 2:11 Vicki [1] - 18:18 villages [1] - 23:14 virtually [1] - 14:15 Voice [1] - 12:25	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 Year <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:12 years <sub>[16]</sub> - 5:19,	
veterans <sub>[1]</sub> - 3:8 vibrant <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:24 VICKI <sub>[1]</sub> - 2:11 Vicki <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:18 villages <sub>[1]</sub> - 23:14 virtually <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:15 Voice <sub>[1]</sub> - 12:25 vote <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:5	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 Year <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:12 years <sub>[16]</sub> - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19,	
veterans [1] - 3:8 vibrant [1] - 7:24 VICKI [1] - 2:11 Vicki [1] - 18:18 villages [1] - 23:14 virtually [1] - 14:15 Voice [1] - 12:25	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 <b>Year</b> [1] - 1:12 <b>years</b> [16] - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19, 12:19, 14:2, 15:9,	
veterans [1] - 3:8 vibrant [1] - 7:24 VICKI [1] - 2:11 Vicki [1] - 18:18 villages [1] - 23:14 virtually [1] - 14:15 Voice [1] - 12:25 vote [1] - 11:5 voting [1] - 28:16	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 Year [1] - 1:12 years [16] - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19, 12:19, 14:2, 15:9, 15:12, 17:5,	
veterans [1] - 3:8 vibrant [1] - 7:24 VICKI [1] - 2:11 Vicki [1] - 18:18 villages [1] - 23:14 virtually [1] - 14:15 Voice [1] - 12:25 vote [1] - 11:5 voting [1] - 28:16  W	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 Year <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:12 years <sub>[16]</sub> - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19, 12:19, 14:2, 15:9, 15:12, 17:5, 17:16, 18:19,	
veterans [1] - 3:8 vibrant [1] - 7:24 VICKI [1] - 2:11 Vicki [1] - 18:18 villages [1] - 23:14 virtually [1] - 14:15 Voice [1] - 12:25 vote [1] - 11:5 voting [1] - 28:16  W Wall [2] - 9:8, 19:3	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 Year [1] - 1:12 years [16] - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19, 12:19, 14:2, 15:9, 15:12, 17:5, 17:16, 18:19, 19:4, 19:16, 23:17	
veterans[1] - 3:8 vibrant[1] - 7:24 VICKI[1] - 2:11 Vicki[1] - 18:18 villages[1] - 23:14 virtually[1] - 14:15 Voice[1] - 12:25 vote[1] - 11:5 voting[1] - 28:16  W Wall [2] - 9:8, 19:3 Walsh[1] - 18:19	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 Year [1] - 1:12 years [16] - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19, 12:19, 14:2, 15:9, 15:12, 17:5, 17:16, 18:19, 19:4, 19:16, 23:17 York [4] - 23:6,	
veterans [1] - 3:8 vibrant [1] - 7:24 VICKI [1] - 2:11 Vicki [1] - 18:18 villages [1] - 23:14 virtually [1] - 14:15 Voice [1] - 12:25 vote [1] - 11:5 voting [1] - 28:16  W Wall [2] - 9:8, 19:3 Walsh [1] - 18:19 WALSH [1] - 2:11	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8  Year [1] - 1:12  years [16] - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19, 12:19, 14:2, 15:9, 15:12, 17:5, 17:16, 18:19, 19:4, 19:16, 23:17  York [4] - 23:6, 23:16, 23:18, 33:8	
veterans[1] - 3:8 vibrant[1] - 7:24 VICKI[1] - 2:11 Vicki[1] - 18:18 villages[1] - 23:14 virtually[1] - 14:15 Voice[1] - 12:25 vote[1] - 11:5 voting[1] - 28:16  W Wall [2] - 9:8, 19:3 Walsh[1] - 18:19	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8 Year [1] - 1:12 years [16] - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19, 12:19, 14:2, 15:9, 15:12, 17:5, 17:16, 18:19, 19:4, 19:16, 23:17 York [4] - 23:6,	
veterans [1] - 3:8 vibrant [1] - 7:24 VICKI [1] - 2:11 Vicki [1] - 18:18 villages [1] - 23:14 virtually [1] - 14:15 Voice [1] - 12:25 vote [1] - 11:5 voting [1] - 28:16  W Wall [2] - 9:8, 19:3 Walsh [1] - 18:19 WALSH [1] - 2:11 war [1] - 25:19	10:22, 11:12, 15:14, 16:20, 17:10, 18:2, 18:3, 22:10, 26:24, 27:22, 28:8  Year [1] - 1:12  years [16] - 5:19, 10:19, 11:19, 12:19, 14:2, 15:9, 15:12, 17:5, 17:16, 18:19, 19:4, 19:16, 23:17  York [4] - 23:6, 23:16, 23:18, 33:8  YORK [1] - 33:4	IG, INC. (516) 414-3516

	TOBAY TOWN BOARD ACTION CALENDAR 10.17.23
1	
2	TOWN BOARD
3	TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
4	REGULAR MEETING
5	
6	October 17, 2023
7	11:25 a.m.
8	***
9	ACTION CALENDAR
10	***
11	
12	JOSEPH SALADINO
13	SUPERVISOR
14	
15	**
16	
17	RICHARD LaMARCA
18	TOWN CLERK
19	
20	
21	
22	TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER
23	
24	
25	
	TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516) 414-3516

\_\_\_\_\_TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516) 414-3516 \_\_\_\_\_

1	TOBAY TOWN BOARD ACTION CALENDAR 10.17.23
1	
2	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: With that, we
3	will go right to our Regular Action
4	Calendar.
5	TOWN CLERK: May I have to suspend
6	the Rules and add Resolution
7	761-764-2023?
8	On the motion?
9	COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.
10	COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.
11	TOWN CLERK: Motion made by
12	Councilwoman Johnson and seconded by
13	Councilman Imbroto.
14	On the vote. Supervisor Saladino?
15	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Aye.
16	TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?
17	COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
18	TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?
19	COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Aye.
20	TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?
21	COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.
22	TOWN CLERK: Councilman Labriola?
23	COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Aye.
24	TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?
25	COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Aye.

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MR. ADELMAN: Okay.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Did you get to the Oysterfest?

MR. ADELMAN: No.

Arthur Adelman, 110 Dubois Avenue, Seacliff.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Did you get to the Oysterfest?

MR. ADELMAN: No, because I had to go see my father in law in New Jersey. I go every Sunday. He's 95; he does great. He loves the visits.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: God bless him.

I want to start off with one question for you. What do you think of our 2024 proposed budget?

MR. ADELMAN: It was good; it was very good. And your presentation is awesome. But, you know, when I hear this presentation about the budget, it drives me crazy to think of that -- where was all the money going in 2010 through 2016? Wow. I mean, it was like someone -- where did all the money go? I'm just, you know,

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it's crazy. No one ever looked into that.

I'm just saying it had to be -- it's

strange that it was that much difference.

Not just \$100,000 and talking seven

figures, right? Millions.

But I got to congratulate you. You did good job. We won't get into the rest of it.

Very quickly. Two easy questions here. The Resolution 740 and 741 as regards to holiday parties for seniors. I questioned about 740 of where the venue selected is. With all the venues we have available in the Town of Oyster Bay, a site was selected in Suffolk County and I don't get it. And especially with an increase to the attendees of about a 25% increase in the cost for the attendees from \$52 to \$65, and we moved the venue from a spot here in the Town of Oyster Bay to a spot on the water in Babylon, I think. I don't understand it. I don't see any RFP or bids to get this agreement, the contract. And the contract itself is

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very vague, that was included with the paperwork, and it doesn't show what it includes. So to me, it's very sketchy.

And that brings us to 741, which is for entertainment that same day, two hours worth of entertainment. I don't know who negotiated with the entertainers. It says here that the vendor filled out the disclosure questionnaire received and satisfied the Town's procurement policy. From what I understand, our procurement policy is always: Bid, look at disclosures, accept the bid, and move on, and supply a contract. This whole format done on 740 and 741 is looks very amateurish from what I can read, and I really think it should be looked at. It's probably too late to book a venue within the town, but I think someone should go in and negotiate the price. A 25% increase, inflation or no inflation, I think that could be done for the seniors.

And the other resolution I wanted to

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mention was, I'm sorry, 765 that was voted on already, but I think it's a wonderful gesture and it had my full support. And I thank you. And I'm just sorry I didn't get to go with you to the Holy Land because it must have been a great trip. I don't know how extensive a visit you got, but it's amazing when you go see there, and especially if you had a chance to see a dig. Like someone's going to build a parking lot and they put a shovel in the ground and they find bones from 3000 years ago. It's amazing.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: In the City of David, King David's Palace, they actually found by that very process you described.

MR. ADELMAN: Yeah. It's amazing.

My heart lies there. And thank you very

much. I just can't say enough.

And I don't think it should be pushed back to page three, your budget. Put the budget on the front page or the sports page. The Jets are off, now you can be there.

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Anyway, thank you all very much. And again, I'm curious about the process on 740 and 741.

Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Arthur. Thank you so much.

I guess the real answer to this question goes back to what we've been talking about with the 2024 budget. We have used Town of Oyster Bay venues over and over, and we continue to use Town of Oyster Bay businesses for everywhere we can. But the reality of the situation is it takes cost savings in every manner to come up with a budget this good. And the Town made the decision to find a location where the costs are less and the quality is very high. So inflation is going on throughout every industry. And the Town also seeks a variety of places. And they continue to save money, save money in when you factor in the inflation and it's just hitting everywhere. So we continue to save money. And that's how we came up

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with a budget that continues to save so much for our residents. We're very, very proud of that.

MR. ADELMAN: But I'm curious about the process.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: What we do is have you sit with Frank Scalera, our town attorney, after the meeting, and he can walk you through all of the details. And I'm asking you, Frank, to stay as long as if it's three hours, whatever Arthur needs, if it's five hours, to please sit with him and answer all of these questions.

> (Whereupon, additional slip handed up to Supervisor.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So this is on the budget hearing. We have unfortunately closed that portion. If you were here on time, we would have had you -- but don't worry because we are continuing our budget hearing with a morning session and an evening session. So if you come back to this evening, Kevin, we will be happy

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to hear any comments that you might have as it relates to the budget, we're just not able to reopen it.

MR. MCKENNA: Okay, can I talk on the personnel issue then on the resolutions?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes. Would you like to speak on the resolutions of the Resolution Calendar? Sure.

MR. MCKENNA: I'm coming back tonight. I don't have a problem. I planned on coming back tonight. So if you think that you're inconveniencing me, you're not, because I'm coming back anyway.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Can you stand up and address us from the podium.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes. You may speak on the Resolution Calendar. Please start off with your name and address.

MR. MCKENNA: Hi, my name is Kevin McKenna. I live in Syosset at 3 Edna Drive.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON:

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2.4 25 Resolution are you referring to?

TOWN CLERK: Which Resolution?

MR. MCKENNA: I'm introducing myself first.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Well, which resolution you're speaking on?

MR. MCKENNA: My name is Kevin McKenna. I live at 3 Edna Drive, Syosset, New York.

Full disclosure I want everyone to know that I am now a write-in candidate for a Town of Oyster Bay supervisor, and it's only because the incumbent supervisor is not getting any competition from the Democratic candidate. So I just want to make that full disclosure.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: What's the Resolution?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Let's focus on the Resolution Calendar.

MR. MCKENNA: I want to talk on the personnel resolution.

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COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: There is no personnel resolution.

MR. MCKENNA: There is no personnel resolution. Okay. Thank you.

Just real quick on the budget.

TOWN CLERK: No.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: No.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Why don't you do this? At the end --

MR. MCKENNA: It might be an advantage to you to maybe elaborate on the budget this morning. Could you tell the public what effect --

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: The budget hearing --

MR. MCKENNA: Could you tell the public what effect the the Covid relief money -- the Covid relief money was was put into the budget, yet you didn't talk about the major influx of Covid relief money and how that affected the budget. And if you didn't get the Covid relief money, would the finances of the Town be as great as you say they are today, which

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I don't believe they're that great. I don't believe anything that you say.

Thank you very much.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Kevin.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Thank you, Kevin.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please come back this evening and speak on the budget when the hearing is reopened.

MR. MCKENNA: It'll give you some time to think about the answer to tonight.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I'm going to answer that just so there's no question about that because I think it's important. We're extremely proud. None of the ARPA money was used to backfill this budget. As a matter of fact, we have used millions of dollars to give back to businesses and not for profits. People who deal with domestic violence, people who feed the hungry, people who have small businesses that were impacted.

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We're very, very proud of the way in which we've used the ARPA money to protect our environment and to protect the businesses, and not for profits and Chambers of Commerce, to continue to help our business community and our town. It's out of order, but that's okay, because we're so proud of what we're doing in this town.

But thank you, Kevin, and I know you'll be back.

MR. MCKENNA: Always a pleasure, Mr. Supervisor. Always a pleasure to see you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So with that, if we have no other speakers, is there any correspondence?

TOWN CLERK: Supervisor, we have no further correspondence.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay, so let's take a vote at this time.

TOWN CLERK: Supervisor Saladino?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

motion.

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	TOBAY TOWN BOARD ACTION CALENDAR 10.17.23 ————————————————————————————————————
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3	CERTIFICATE
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5	STATE OF NEW YORK ) : SS.:
6	COUNTY OF NASSAU )
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8	I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and
9	within the State of New York, do hereby
10	certify:
11	That the above is a correct transcription
12	of my stenographic notes.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
14	my hand this 17th day of October, 2023.
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17	<u>Karen Lorenzo</u>
18	KAREN LORENZO
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\_\_\_\_\_TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516) 414-3516 \_\_\_\_\_

TOBAY	TOWN	BOARD	ACTION	CALENDAR	10	. 17.	2.3	

\$	robay town board act able[1] - 11:4	ion calendar 10.17.2 <b>6:19</b>	14:20
<u> </u>	acceptը - 7:14	ATTORNEY[1] -	<b>build</b> [1] - 8:12
<b>\$100,000</b> [1] - 6:5	<b>ACTION</b> [1] - 1:9	2:16	business լդ - 15:7
<b>\$52</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:20	Action [1] - 3:3	attorney <sub>[1]</sub> - 10:9	businesses <sub>[4]</sub> -
<b>\$65</b> [1] - 6:20	add <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:6, 4:5	available [1] - 6:15	9:13, 14:22,
1	additional <sub>[1]</sub> -	<b>Avenue</b> [1] - 5:6	14:25, 15:5
1	10:16	awesome [1] - 5:20	<b>BY</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:22
<b>110</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:6	address <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:18,	aye <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:23	<b>D1</b> [i] - 1.22
<b>11:25</b> [1] - 1:7	11:21	<b>Aye</b> <sub>[12]</sub> - 3:15, 3:17,	С
<b>11:38</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 17:15	Adelman <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:23,	3:19, 3:21, 3:23,	<b>CALENDAR</b> [1] - 1:9
<b>17</b> [1] - 1:6	5:6	3:25, 4:3, 15:25,	Calendar [5] - 3:4,
<b>17th</b> [1] - 18:14	<b>ADELMAN</b> [6] - 5:2,	16:5, 16:7, 16:9,	4:19, 11:10,
	5:5, 5:10, 5:18,	16:11	11:20, 12:23
2	8:18, 10:5	<b>Aye"</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 17:3, 17:6	Calendar's [1] -
<b>2010</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:23	adjourn <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:18	ayes [3] - 4:6, 16:14,	16:15
<b>2016</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:23	adjourned [1] -	17:11	candidate [2] -
<b>2023</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 1:6, 18:14	16:19	17.11	12:12, 12:16
<b>2024</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 5:17, 9:10	adopt <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:7,	В	<b>certify</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:10
<b>25%</b> [2] - 6:18, 7:22	16:12	<b>Babylon</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:22	<b>Chambers</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 15:6
	advantage[1] -	<b>backfill</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 14:19	<b>chance</b> 1 - 8:11
3	13:12	<b>BAY</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:3	City <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:15
<b>3</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:23, 12:9	affected [1] - 13:22	<b>Bay</b> <sub>[5]</sub> - 6:15, 6:22,	CLERK <sub>[23]</sub> - 1:18,
<b>3000</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:14	ago[1] - 8:14	9:11, 9:13, 12:13	2:14, 3:5, 3:11,
	agreement [1] -	<b>bid</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 7:14, 7:15	3:16, 3:18, 3:20,
7	6:24	bids <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:24	3:22, 3:24, 4:2,
<b>740</b> <sub>[5]</sub> - 4:16, 6:11,	amateurishը -	bless <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:14	4:4, 4:12, 12:3,
6:13, 7:16, 9:4	7:17	BOARD <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:2	13:7, 15:18,
<b>741</b> [5] - 4:16, 6:11,	amazing [3] - 8:9,	<b>Board</b> [2] - 16:21,	15:22, 15:24,
7:5, 7:17, 9:4	8:14, 8:18	17:5	16:2, 16:4, 16:6,
761-764-2023 <sub>[2]</sub> -	answer <sub>[4]</sub> - 9:8,	<b>bones</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:14	16:8, 16:10, 16:12
3:7, 4:5	10:14, 14:13,	book <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:20	<b>close</b> [1] - 16:17
<b>764-2023</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:8,	14:16	<b>brings</b> [1] - 7:5	closed <sub>[2]</sub> - 10:20,
16:13	anyway <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:16	Budget <sub>[1]</sub> - 16:19	16:23
<b>765</b> [1] - 8:2	<b>Anyway</b> [1] - 9:2	budget <sub>[17]</sub> - 5:17,	closing [1] - 16:20
	<b>ARPA</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 14:19,	5:21, 8:22, 8:23,	coming [3] - 11:11,
9	15:3	9:10, 9:16, 10:2,	11:13, 11:15
<b>95</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 5:12	<b>Arthur</b> [6] - 4:23,	10:19, 10:23,	comments <sub>[1]</sub> - 11:2
	4:24, 4:25, 5:6,	11:3, 13:6, 13:13,	Commerce [1] -
Α	9:7, 10:12	13:15, 13:20,	15:6
a.m <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:7	attendees [2] - 6:18,	13:22, 14:10,	community <sub>[1]</sub> -
ТО	■ P KEY COURT REPORTIN	■ NG, INC. (516) 414-3	516

13:18

15:7
competition [1] -
12:15
<b>complete</b> [1] - 16:15
concludes [1] -
17:15
congratulate [1] -
6:7
continue [4] - 9:12,
9:22, 9:24, 15:6
continues [1] - 10:2
continuing [1] -
10:22
contract [3] - 6:25,
7:16
correct [1] - 18:11
correspondence [2]
- 15:17, 15:19
<b>cost</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:19, 9:15
costs <sub>[1]</sub> - 9:18
COUNCILMAN [15] -
2:7, 2:8, 2:9, 3:10,
3:19, 3:21, 3:23,
4:11, 12:6, 12:18,
14:7, 16:3, 16:5,
16:7, 16:24
Councilman [8] -
3:13, 3:18, 3:20,
3:22, 4:14, 16:2,
16:4, 16:6
COUNCILWOMAN
[18] - 2:6, 2:10,
2:11, 3:9, 3:17,
3:25, 4:3, 4:10,
11:17, 11:25,
12:20, 13:2, 13:8,
13:15, 15:25,
16:9, 16:11, 16:22
Councilwoman B -
3:12, 3:16, 3:24,

OBAY TOWN BOARD A
4:2, 4:13, 15:24,
16:8, 16:10
<b>COUNTY</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 18:6
<b>County</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:16
Covid [4] - 13:18,
13:19, 13:21,
13:23
<b>crazy</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 5:22, 6:2
<b>curious</b> [2] - 9:3,
10:5
U
<b>David</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:16

**David's**[1] - 8:16 deal<sub>[1]</sub> - 14:23 decision [1] - 9:17 Democratic [1] -12:16 described [1] - 8:17 details [1] - 10:10 difference [1] - 6:4 dig<sub>[1]</sub> - 8:11 disclosure [3] -7:10, 12:11, 12:17 disclosures [1] -7:14 dollars [1] - 14:21 domestic [1] - 14:23 done [2] - 7:16, 7:24 **Drive** [2] - 11:24, 12:9 drives [1] - 5:21

# E easy[1] - 6:10 Edna[2] - 11:23, 12:9 effect[2] - 13:14,

**elaborate** [1] - 13:12 end [1] - 13:10 entertainers [1] -7:9 entertainment [2] -7:6, 7:7 environment [1] -15:4 especially [2] -6:17, 8:10 **ESQ**<sub>[1]</sub> - 2:16 evening [3] - 10:24, 10:25, 14:10 everywhere [2] -9:13, 9:24 extensive [1] - 8:8 extremely [1] -14:18

#### F **fact** [1] - 14:20 **factor**[1] - 9:23 far<sub>[2]</sub> - 4:17, 4:22 **father** [1] - 5:11 **favor** [1] - 17:2 feed [1] - 14:24 **figures** [1] - 6:6 fill [1] - 4:20 **filled** [1] - 7:10 finances [1] - 13:24 **first**<sub>[1]</sub> - 12:5 **five** [1] - 10:13 focus<sub>[1]</sub> - 12:22 **form** [1] - 4:20 **format**[1] - 7:16 **Frank** [2] - 10:8, 10:11

**FRANK**[1] - 2:16

front<sub>[1]</sub> - 8:23 Full<sub>[1]</sub> - 12:11 full<sub>[2]</sub> - 8:4, 12:17

gesture [1] - 8:4 God [1] - 5:14 great [4] - 5:12, 8:8, 13:25, 14:2 ground [1] - 8:13 guess [1] - 9:8

#### Н

**HAND** [3] - 2:8, 3:21, 16:5 Hand [2] - 3:20, 16:4 hand [1] - 18:14 handed [1] - 10:17 happy<sub>[1]</sub> - 10:25 hear<sub>[2]</sub> - 5:20, 11:2 **heard** [1] - 4:19 Hearing [1] - 16:19 hearing [4] - 10:19, 10:23, 13:16, 14:11 heart [1] - 8:19 help<sub>[1]</sub> - 15:6 hereby [1] - 18:9 **hereunto** [1] - 18:13 Hi<sub>[1]</sub> - 11:22 **high** [1] - 9:19 **hitting** [1] - 9:24 **holiday** [1] - 6:12 Holy 111 - 8:7 hours [3] - 7:7, 10:12, 10:13 hungry [1] - 14:24

**IMBROTO** [9] - 2:7, 3:10, 3:19, 4:11, 12:6, 12:18, 14:7, 16:3, 16:24 Imbroto [4] - 3:13, 3:18, 4:14, 16:2 impacted [1] - 14:25 important [1] -14:18 **IN**<sub>[1]</sub> - 18:13 included [1] - 7:2 includes [1] - 7:4 inconveniencing [1] - 11:14 increase [3] - 6:18, 6:19, 7:22 incumbent [1] -12:14 indicating) [1] -4:21 industry [1] - 9:20 **inflation** [4] - 7:23, 9:19, 9:23 influx[1] - 13:21 introducing [1] -

#### J

12:4

issue [1] - 11:6

**It'll**<sub>[1]</sub> - 14:12

itself [1] - 6:25

JEFFREY<sub>[1]</sub> - 2:15 Jersey<sub>[1]</sub> - 5:11 Jets<sub>[1]</sub> - 8:24 job<sub>[1]</sub> - 6:8 JOHNSON<sub>[12]</sub> - 2:6, 3:9, 3:17, 4:10, 11:17, 11:25, 12:20, 13:2, 13:8, 13:15, 15:25, 16:22 **Johnson** [4] - 3:12, 3:16, 4:13, 15:24 **JOSEPH** [2] - 1:12, 2:5

#### K

Karen [1] - 18:17 KAREN [3] - 1:22, 18:8, 18:18 Kevin [6] - 10:25, 11:22, 12:8, 14:6, 14:8, 15:11 kindly [1] - 4:20 King [1] - 8:16

#### L

**Labriola** [2] - 3:22, 16:6 **LABRIOLA**<sub>[3]</sub> - 2:9, 3:23, 16:7 LaMARCA[2] -1:17, 2:14 **Land** [1] - 8:7 late [1] - 7:20 **LAURA**[1] - 2:10 law [1] - 5:11 less<sub>[1]</sub> - 9:18 lies [1] - 8:19 live [2] - 11:23, 12:9 **location** [1] - 9:17 look [1] - 7:14 looked [2] - 6:2, 7:19 looks [1] - 7:17

**Looks** [1] - 4:15

LORENZO [3] -

1:22, 18:8, 18:18 **Lorenzo** [1] - 18:17 **LOUIS** [1] - 2:7 **loves** [1] - 5:13

#### M

**MAIER** [3] - 2:10, 3:25, 16:9 Maier<sub>[2]</sub> - 3:24, 16:8 major<sub>[1]</sub> - 13:21 manner [1] - 9:15 matter<sub>[2]</sub> - 14:20, 17:14 MCKENNA[11] -11:5, 11:11, 11:22, 12:4, 12:8, 12:24, 13:4, 13:11, 13:17, 14:12, 15:13 McKenna<sub>[2]</sub> -11:23, 12:9 mean [1] - 5:24 **MEETING** [1] - 1:4 meeting [5] - 10:9, 16:18, 16:20, 16:21, 16:23 members [1] - 17:4 mention [1] - 8:2 MICHELE [1] - 2:6 might<sub>[2]</sub> - 11:2, 13:11 millions [1] - 14:21 Millions [1] - 6:6 money<sub>[11]</sub> - 5:23, 5:25, 9:22, 9:25, 13:19, 13:22, 13:24, 14:19, 15:3 morning [2] - 10:23,

motion [7] - 3:8, 4:7, 4:9, 16:12, 16:17, 16:23, 16:25 Motion [3] - 3:11, 4:4, 4:12 move [1] - 7:15 moved [3] - 3:9, 4:10, 6:20 **MR**[17] - 5:2, 5:5, 5:10, 5:18, 8:18, 10:5, 11:5, 11:11, 11:22, 12:4, 12:8, 12:24, 13:4, 13:11, 13:17, 14:12, 15:13 must<sub>[1]</sub> - 8:7

#### Ν

name [3] - 11:21, 11:22, 12:8 NASSAU [1] - 18:6 Nay" [1] - 17:8 needs [1] - 10:13 negotiate [1] - 7:22 negotiated [1] - 7:8 NEW [1] - 18:5 New [3] - 5:11, 12:10, 18:9 None [1] - 14:18 Notary [1] - 18:8 notes [1] - 18:12

#### 0

October [2] - 1:6, 18:14 OF [4] - 1:3, 2:15, 18:5, 18:6 one [4] - 4:18, 4:22, 5:15, 6:2

TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516) 414-3516

13:13

opposed [1] - 17:7 order [1] - 15:8 OYSTER [1] - 1:3 Oyster [5] - 6:15, 6:21, 9:11, 9:13, 12:13 Oysterfest [2] - 5:4, 5:9

#### Ρ

**p.m**<sub>[1]</sub> - 17:15 page [3] - 8:22, 8:23, 8:24 **Palace** [1] - 8:16 **paperwork** [1] - 7:3 parking [1] - 8:12 parties [1] - 6:12 passes [2] - 4:6, 16:14 People [1] - 14:22 people [2] - 14:23, 14:24 personnel [4] -11:6, 12:25, 13:3, 13:4 places [1] - 9:21 **planned** [1] - 11:13 pleasure [2] - 15:13, 15:14 podium<sub>[1]</sub> - 11:18 policy [2] - 7:12, 7:13 portion [1] - 10:20 **PRAVATO** [1] - 2:15 presentation [2] -5:19, 5:21 price [1] - 7:22 problem<sub>[1]</sub> - 11:12 process [3] - 8:17,

9:3, 10:6

procurement<sub>[2]</sub> 
7:12, 7:13

profits<sub>[2]</sub> - 14:22,

15:5

proposed<sub>[1]</sub> - 5:17

protect<sub>[2]</sub> - 15:4

proud<sub>[4]</sub> - 10:4,

14:18, 15:2, 15:9

Public<sub>[1]</sub> - 18:8

public<sub>[2]</sub> - 13:14,

13:18

pushed<sub>[1]</sub> - 8:22

put<sub>[2]</sub> - 8:12, 13:20

Put<sub>[1]</sub> - 8:23

#### Q

quality[1] - 9:18 questioned[1] -6:13 questionnaire[1] -7:11 questions[2] -6:10, 10:15 quick[1] - 13:6 quickly[1] - 6:10

### R

read [1] - 7:18
real [2] - 9:8, 13:6
reality [1] - 9:14
really [1] - 7:18
received [1] - 7:11
RECEIVER [1] 2:15
referring [1] - 12:2
regards [1] - 6:12
REGULAR [1] - 1:4
Regular [1] - 3:3

relates [1] - 11:3 relief [4] - 13:18, 13:19, 13:21, 13:23 reopen [1] - 11:4 reopened [1] -14:11 residents [1] - 10:3 resolution [5] -7:25, 12:7, 12:25, 13:3, 13:5 Resolution [14] -3:6, 4:5, 4:8, 4:16, 4:19, 6:11, 11:10, 11:20, 12:2, 12:3, 12:21, 12:23, 16:13, 16:20 resolutions [2] -11:7, 11:9 respond [1] - 17:5 response [1] - 17:10 rest[1] - 6:8 **RFP**<sub>[1]</sub> - 6:24 **RICHARD**<sub>[2]</sub> - 1:17, 2:14

#### S

**Rules** [2] - 3:6, 4:5

Saladino [2] - 3:14, 15:22 SALADINO [26] -1:12, 2:5, 3:2, 3:15, 4:17, 5:3, 5:8, 5:14, 8:15, 9:6, 10:7, 10:18, 11:8, 11:19, 12:22, 13:9, 14:5, 14:9, 14:15, 15:15, 15:20, 15:23, 16:16,

17:2, 17:7, 17:11 satisfied [1] - 7:11 save [4] - 9:22, 9:25, 10:2 **savings** [1] - 9:15 **SCALERA**[1] - 2:16 **Scalera** 10:8 Seacliff [2] - 4:23, 5:7 **Second** [2] - 3:10, 4:11 second [1] - 16:24 seconded [2] - 3:12, 4:13 **see** [5] - 5:11, 6:23, 8:10, 8:11, 15:14 seeks [1] - 9:21 selected [2] - 6:14, 6:16 **seniors** [2] - 6:12, 7:24 session<sub>[2]</sub> - 10:23, 10:24 **set**[1] - 18:13 **seven** [3] - 4:6, 6:5, 16:14 **shovel** [1] - 8:13 **show** [1] - 7:3 **signify**<sub>[1]</sub> - 17:3 **sit**<sub>[2]</sub> - 10:8, 10:13 **site** [1] - 6:16 **situation** [1] - 9:14 **sketchy**[1] - 7:4 **slip**[1] - 10:16 **small** [1] - 14:25 someone [2] - 5:24, 7:21 **sorry** [3] - 8:2, 8:6, 16:18 **speaker** [3] - 4:15,

7	TOBAY TOWN BOARD ACT	ION CALENDAR 10.17.2	3 =
4:18, 4:22	<b>suspend</b> [2] - 3:5,	<b>two</b> [1] - 7:6	w
<b>speakers</b> [1] - 15:16	4:4		W
speaking [1] - 12:7	Syosset [2] - 11:23,	U	W
<b>sports</b> [1] - 8:24	12:9	unfortunately [1] -	W
<b>spot</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 6:21, 6:22	Т	10:19	
<b>SS</b> [1] - 18:5	!	<b>up</b> <sub>[5]</sub> - 4:24, 9:16,	
stand [1] - 11:17	<b>TAKEN</b> [1] - 1:22	9:25, 10:17, 11:18	уe
<b>start</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 5:15,	<b>TAXES</b> [1] - 2:15	V	Y
11:21	<b>TF-13-23</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:8,	V	1
<b>STATE</b> [1] - 18:5	16:13	vague <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:2	Y
<b>State</b> [1] - 18:9	<b>THOMAS</b> [1] - 2:8	variety[1] - 9:21	
<b>stay</b> [1] - 10:11	three [2] - 8:22,	vendor[1] - 7:10	
STENOGRAPHER	10:12	<b>venue</b> [3] - 6:13,	
[1] - 1:22	throughout[1] -	6:20, 7:20	
stenographic [1] -	9:20	venues [2] - 6:14,	
18:12	today <sub>[3]</sub> - 4:20,	9:11	
<b>STEVE</b> [1] - 2:9	4:25, 13:25	verbal [1] - 17:9	
strange <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:4	tonight [3] - 11:12,	<b>VICKI</b> [1] - 2:11	
<b>Suffolk</b> [1] - 6:16	11:13, 14:14	violence[1] - 14:23	
<b>Sunday</b> [1] - 5:12	<b>TOWN</b> [26] - 1:2, 1:3,	visit <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:9	
SUPERVISOR [26] -	1:18, 2:14, 2:16,	<b>visits</b> [1] - 5:13	
1:13, 2:5, 3:2,	3:5, 3:11, 3:16,	vote <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:14,	
3:15, 4:17, 5:3,	3:18, 3:20, 3:22,	15:21	
5:8, 5:14, 8:15,	3:24, 4:2, 4:4,	voted [1] - 8:3	
9:6, 10:7, 10:18,	4:12, 12:3, 13:7,	\ <u>\</u>	
11:8, 11:19,	15:18, 15:22,	W	
12:22, 13:9, 14:5,	15:24, 16:2, 16:4,	<b>walk</b> [1] - 10:10	
14:9, 14:15,	16:6, 16:8, 16:10,	<b>WALSH</b> [3] - 2:11,	
15:15, 15:20,	16:12	4:3, 16:11	
15:23, 16:16,	town <sub>[4]</sub> - 7:20,	Walsh <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:2,	
17:2, 17:7, 17:11	10:8, 15:7, 15:10	16:10	
Supervisor <sub>[7]</sub> -	<b>Town</b> [10] - 6:15,	water <sub>[1]</sub> - 6:22	
3:14, 10:17,	6:21, 9:11, 9:12,	WHEREOF [1] -	
15:14, 15:18,	9:17, 9:20, 12:13,	18:13	
15:22, 16:15,	13:24, 16:21, 17:5	<b>whole</b> [1] - 7:16	
16:22	Town's [1] - 7:12	WITNESS [1] -	
supervisor [2] -	transcription [1] -	18:13	
12:13, 12:15	18:11	wonderful <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:4	
<b>supply</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 7:15	trip <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:8	<b>worry</b> [1] - 10:22	
support <sub>[1]</sub> - 8:5	<b>Two</b> [1] - 6:10		
TO	P KEY COURT REPORTIN	NG, INC. (516) 414-3	516

obay town board act: suspend <sub>[2]</sub> - 3:5,		
4:4		
Syosset <sub>[2]</sub> - 11:23,		
12:9		
Т		
<b>TAKEN</b> <sub>[1]</sub> - 1:22		
<b>TAXES</b> [1] - 2:15		
<b>TF-13-23</b> <sub>[2]</sub> - 4:8,		
16:13		
<b>THOMAS</b> [1] - 2:8		
three [2] - 8:22,		
10:12		
throughout [1] -		
9:20		
today <sub>[3]</sub> - 4:20,		
4:25, 13:25		
tonight <sub>3</sub> - 11:12,		
11:13, 14:14		
<b>TOWN</b> [26] - 1:2, 1:3,		
1:18, 2:14, 2:16,		
3:5, 3:11, 3:16,		
3:18, 3:20, 3:22,		
3:24, 4:2, 4:4, 4:12, 12:3, 13:7,		
15:18, 15:22,		
15:24, 16:2, 16:4,		
16:6, 16:8, 16:10,		
16:12		
town <sub>[4]</sub> - 7:20,		
10:8, 15:7, 15:10		
<b>Town</b> <sub>[10]</sub> - 6:15,		
6:21, 9:11, 9:12,		
9:17, 9:20, 12:13,		
13:24, 16:21, 17:5		
Town's [1] - 7:12		
transcription [1] -		
18:11		
<b>trip</b> [1] - 8:8		
<b>Two</b> [1] - 6:10		

**two**[1] - 7:6 worth [1] - 7:7 **Wow**<sub>[1]</sub> - 5:24 U write [1] - 12:12 unfortunately [1] write-in [1] - 12:12 10:19 Y **up**<sub>[5]</sub> - 4:24, 9:16, 9:25, 10:17, 11:18 **years** [1] - 8:14 York [2] - 12:10, V 18:9 **vague** [1] - 7:2 **YORK**<sub>[1]</sub> - 18:5 variety [1] - 9:21 vendor[1] - 7:10 venue [3] - 6:13, 6:20, 7:20 venues [2] - 6:14, 9:11 **verbal**[1] - 17:9 **VICKI**[1] - 2:11 violence [1] - 14:23 **visit**[1] - 8:9 **visits**[1] - 5:13 vote [2] - 3:14, 15:21 voted [1] - 8:3 W **walk**<sub>[1]</sub> - 10:10 **WALSH** [3] - 2:11, 4:3, 16:11 Walsh [2] - 4:2, 16:10 water<sub>[1]</sub> - 6:22 WHEREOF [1] -18:13 **whole** [1] - 7:16 WITNESS [1] -18:13 wonderful [1] - 8:4 **worry**[1] - 10:22