TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
SPECIAL PRESENTATION
October 20, 2020
10:20 a.m.

## JOSEPH SALADINO

RICHARD LaMARCA

SUPERVISOR

TOWN CLERK

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

RICHARD LaMARCA, TOWN CLERK
JEFFREY P. PRAVATO, RECEIVER OF TAXES

Minutes of the meeting taken by:

HOLLY DALOIA OSTEEN Reporter/Notary Public

ON TIME COURT REPORTING 516-535-3939

2 1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good morning, 2 ladies and gentlemen. Good morning. 3 Thank you very much for joining us here 4 in Oyster Bay Town Hall on the morning of Tuesday, October 20, 2020. 5 We welcome you all to Town Hall. 6 7 lead us in prayer as we begin every Town Board 8 meeting and also to lead us in the Pledge, we 9 welcome North Massapequa Fire Department Company One Chaplain Bill Gruener, a 60-year member of the 10 11 volunteer fire service. Bill also serves as the 12 Chaplain of the Nassau County Fire Police 13 Association and is a member of the Chaplains 14 Association of New York State. 15 Bill, we thank you for your decades of 16 service. We thank you for saving lives and 17 property and protecting our way of life here in the 18 Town of Oyster Bay. And now let's all rise. 19 20 (Whereupon, a prayer was recited; then 2.1 the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a 22 moment of silence.) 23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Bill, I want to 24 take a moment to say a special thank you to you. 25 You wear many hats when you're leading

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us in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. You're a proud Korean War Veteran, my father was as well, and so many residents having served in the United States Army. You served from February of 1953 to February of 1955.

We thank you for your dedication, and we certainly recognize the fact that you bring that dedication back to America, and you have continued 60 years with the fire service in North Massapequa, but you've been an inspiration to firefighters throughout this county and quite frankly, this country.

We really appreciate you. You look great. I know you started the year with a tough situation and you've overcome it and it just speaks to your strength. We know people with tremendous inner strength. Some with us here today; some not. You continue to show us what it means to be a loyal and true American, and on behalf of all of us here in Town Government, we say God bless you.

MR. GRUENER: Thank you.

God bless you and everyone here. Get

home safe. Thank you again.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Let's hear it for

25 Bill.

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(Applause.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: As many of you know, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and we take this opportunity to pause to remember our loved ones, unfortunately, those we lost and those who continue to battle this terrible disease.

It's important for everyone to join in working toward protecting our loved ones and protecting one another. October is one of those opportunities where we remind the public to call or speak to a loved one and encourage them to get a mammogram.

It is a simple and effective way to make such a difference in the health and, unfortunately, the life of our loved ones. I guess, fortunately, but those we've lost and we feel for. And in an effort to continue to recognize those fighting this disease or who have had a battle with this terrible disease, Town Hall will be illuminated this evening with pink light, pink, what we call in the Glow of Hope.

We use this to remind everyone -- I'm wearing some pink myself, some of our members are and some of the public, but this is that opportunity to please reach out to a loved one and

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encourage them to have a mammogram.

I also -- we can single out so many people who we look up to for their bravery. One of those people is someone who has been part of the Town of Oyster Bay family and that's Mary Diglio.

I know that the members of the Town

Board office are watching this and it is through

their hearts that we remember. Mary will be here

this evening when the Glow of Hope illuminates Town

Hall, and we all ask you to please follow up our

lead and talk about mammograms, talk about them

with people of all ages.

Let's encourage our loved ones to get a mammogram because that one act makes such a difference in survival rates. So, God bless all of those who have fought with this issue and let's hope that science continues to bring the cure.

October is also Domestic Violence

Awareness Month. Before we begin our regular

business, I proudly call upon Keith Scott who is

the Director of Education at the Safe Center to

speak about this difficult issue in our community

and that's the issue of domestic violence

awareness.

The Safe Center is located in Bethpage.

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It's mission is protect and assist and empower victims of family violence and sexual assault, while challenging and changing the social systems that tolerate and perpetuate abuse.

My colleagues and I on the Oyster Bay
Town Board are proud to join with the Safe Center
to address the important matters like domestic
violence awareness and provide needed information
to those who need that help.

You're really doing God's work, Keith, you and the other professionals at the Safe Center of Long Island.

And this is something that hits home.

As a member of the New York State Assembly, I

worked diligently to change laws to better protect

women and children, especially from sexual violence

and from sexual abuse, and I was following the lead

set forth by my predecessor, now Councilman Steve

Labriola.

We all work together to create a number of laws that we feel were very, very important and we hope that they are continued help. But you're where the rubber meets the road. You're there dealing with the victims, dealing with the services they so desperately need. And we're all working

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together to better protect, especially women and children in the Town of Oyster Bay.

So we thank you very much for taking the time to shine a light on this very serious issue, and to let everyone know that the Safe Center is a vital resource in our community. It's based in Bethpage, but you have consumers from all over Nassau County. And we would like to give you the floor as a means of educating people about the Safe Center of Long Island.

MR. SCOTT: Thank you, Supervisor and good morning. Thank you for taking the time for us to speak on domestic violence.

This is an issue that impacts many, many of us in many different ways. One out of three women will be victims of domestic abuse at some point in their life, whether it's physical, verbal, sexual, financial and one out of seven men will be victims of abuse at some point in their life as well.

It's really inspiring to see an entire

Town come together and be able to speak about this

and raise awareness about this. October is

Domestic Violence Awareness Month but every month

is Domestic Awareness month. People are suffering

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day in and day out. The Safe Center is there for all Nassau County residents. All of our services are 100 percent free of charge. We don't take insurance. We don't take copays. Everything is completely free covered by grants that you helped get and passed. Thank you for your support.

In addition to that, we provide advocacy services. We provide 24/7 hotline which is 516-542-0404. Again, that's 516-542-0404.

People can call that 24/7. We are there. We're there for children that have been abused. Adults that have been abused. Whether the abuse happened 60 years ago or this morning, someone can call the hotline and get services. We are there for everyone.

You know, it's really important that -especially during the time of COVID and all of us
are isolated more than ever. Isolation is a tactic
an abuser uses to gain and maintain power and
control over someone else. Maybe we should be
checking in on our neighbors. Checking on what's
going on in our communities.

Somewhere along the way, I think communities, in general, have lost that human touch where if there is something going on in our

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neighbor's house, we kind of look the other way and say that's their problem, that's their house. I'm not getting involved.

But it's all our community because that child, that person living in that house is in our community. They're going to grow up in our community. It's important that we step in, step out, speak up, call the police, call the Safe Center and get help.

I don't want to take up too much of your time, but thank you again for your support. We greatly appreciate it.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: You're not taking up our time. You're assisting and educating people and, Keith Scott, you and the staff at the Safe Center have played, quite frankly, a life changing role and so many people appreciate.

I'm a little frustrated that it's so difficult to get bills passed in Albany to strengthen the law to keep sex offenders behind bars longer to make it easier to get convictions, to bring about more issues even after they are released from prison.

One of the big national statistics that I recall and I know Steve recalls too from his work

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in Albany is the issue of recidivism. We learned that sex offenders have the highest level of recidivism of any crime. It's more likely for someone to go back to these crimes than even a heroin user to go back to heroin which is mind blowing, but something we have to keep in mind.

I just would love to give Steve

Labriola an opportunity to be heard on this issue,

because I want to thank you, Steve. The

cornerstones of my work in Albany were good

government and protecting folks from sex offenders

and working to clean up the Grumman Navy Plume, but

the sex offender issue came from your work that I

followed in the State Legislature.

much, Supervisor. Keith, thank you for your presentation. It's true that we did work together. Actually, it was the Supervisor during his term when he saw it adopted into law where we were able to confine the most egregious and worst sex offenders amongst our prison population. We can confine them to these secure mental health facilities for further treatment before they're released back into the general population. So that was a lot of work. It was a tough -- it was a

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tough road. I know you saw it through, Supervisor, and I congratulate you.

Keith, I want to ask you a question.

It's an important topic. And you're not taking up our time. It's an important thing to educate our listening public out there tonight -- today.

We've been hearing an awful lot about an uptick in domestic violence because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the inability for people to get out, et cetera.

Can you attest to the fact -- you know some of the things we've read in the newspaper that there's been an increase, and you at the Safe Center would know firsthand if, in fact, these cases of domestic violence have actually been on the rise?

MR. SCOTT: Thank you for your question.

We know there has been an increase. However, we are not seeing that on the data side, because people can't call the hotline as much. They can't call the police as much, because they're confined with their abuser 24/7 in a very sometimes small environment. That abuser controls the phone call, controls what they do, controls where they

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go. We know -- we've heard reports from victims of abuse -- that abuse has escalated in their home, but we are not -- not everyone can call because what can you do when your abuser is breathing down your throat every second.

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: I don't know if I missed it or not, did you mention your website so people can contact you quietly through the internet?

MR. SCOTT: The website is WWWTSCLI.ORG. Again, that's TSCLI.ORG.

Just to touch on the sex offense piece as well, thank you for your support with that. So, the sad reality is that out of every 100 sex offenses, only 4.6 of those offenders wind up in prison. Out of 100 that occurs, only 4.6 wind up in prison through a variety of means I can spend all day talking about, but something else that we need to make sure that we're a place that victims can come forward. We're a site -- many times -- blame victims sometimes ask them how come you went out with him or her on a date or how come you wore that or whatever it is. It's really important that we're there for the victim and they know they have a voice with us.

13 Thank you. 1 2 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Thank you. 3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, again. 4 And that website one more time please 5 is -- great question, Steve. 6 MR. SCOTT: TSC. 7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: As in the Safe 8 Center. 9 MR. SCOTT: LI.ORG. SUPERVISOR SALADINO: TSCLI.ORG. 10 11 Thank you, Keith. 12 I'm going to ask you to stand out in 13 front here and if Councilman Labriola and the 14 entire Town Board and our elected officials would 15 like to join us up front. We have a presentation 16 to thank you and the Safe Center for your life 17 saving work. God bless you. 18 Please, let's here it for Keith Scott 19 and Long Island Safe Center. 20 (Applause.) 21 (TIME NOTED: 10:35 A.M.) 22 23 2.4 25

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
REGULAR MEETING
October 20, 2020
10:36 a.m.

## HEARING - BUDGET

To consider the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Oyster Bay for the Year 2021 (M.D. 9/22/20 #24).

## JOSEPH SALADINO

RICHARD LaMARCA

SUPERVISOR

TOWN CLERK

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

So, we have a very special double your fun day of two Town of Oyster Bay hearings in one -- on the same day. I know everyone is excited about that. We are here to -- among the other reasons of the business of the day, we are holding a budget hearing, and we'll hold that as part of today's process as well as this evening's meeting. We will reconvene at 7:00 p.m.

If folks are watching at home and want to join us this evening at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall North, we will reconvene for a second Town 2021 Budget. This way we can get input from the public and explain what the budget does and have an opportunity for everyone to be a part of this process.

Once again, we are very, very proud that the Town of Oyster Bay has proposed and planned a budget for 2021 that does not raise taxes. This is the fourth in a row. The first one that we did in 2018 cut taxes. Then we held the line in 2019, 2020 and now for 2021 so we are very proud of that.

We are going to start off with roll call and then our budget hearing and then we will

3 1 be breaking for Executive Session to let you all 2 know what the plan is for this morning, and then 3 when we come back, we will deal with the 4 Resolutions for the day. 5 So, with that, I'd like to ask Rich LaMarca to please take the roll. 6 7 MR. LaMARCA: Supervisor Saladino? SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Present. 8 9 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Johnson? COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Present. 10 11 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Imbroto? 12 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Present. 13 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Hand? 14 COUNCILMAN HAND: Present. 15 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Labriola? 16 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Present. 17 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Maier? 18 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Present. 19 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Walsh? 20 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Present. 2.1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please call the 22 first hearing. 23 MR. LaMARCA: Supervisor, today's 24 hearing is to consider the preliminary budget for 25 Town of Oyster Bay for the year 2021.

## ON TIME COURT REPORTING 516-535-3939

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: May we have Rob 2 Darienzo, our Director of Finance please step 3 forward. 4 Good morning, Rob. Thank you for 5 wearing pink as we remind everyone about Breast Cancer Awareness Month and what an important issue 6 7 this is. 8 MR. DARIENZO: I try to wear pink all 9 year round. Good morning, Supervisor, Town Board 10 11 Members. 12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good morning. MR. DARIENZO: I'm here to discuss the 13 14 2021 Budget and provide some highlights. 15 On the whole, the budget is not very 16 exciting and the 2021 Budget is no exception to that rule. 17 18 As you mentioned, we already proposed 19 to freeze taxes for the fourth year now. We cut 20 them in 2018 and maintained that freeze in 2019, 2.1 '20, '21. \$5.2 million back in the pockets of our 22 residents. 23 With regards to the spending plan, we 24 are proposing total expenses of 311.7 million in 25

2021. That's up 1.7 percent when compared to 2020.

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I consider that to be a very modest increase. Salaries are up in the 2021 Budget largely due to contractual expenses, due to State mandated increase to minimum wage and also due to an increase -- an increase reliance on part-time employees.

We feel that part-time employees give us a better bang for the buck. As we have had employees -- full-time employees retire, we have maintained a lower level of full-time employees while replacing them largely with part-timers that can do the job at a low hourly rates without having to -- we don't have to pay for their benefits and we can employ them on an as-needed basis rather than having them here for 40 hours a week.

Recently, the Town Board approved a retirement incentive where 75 employees took a deal where they will leave the Town's payroll by

January 31st of 2021. Those 75 employees equate to roughly \$7 million in salary and their attendant benefits equate to roughly \$3 million. So while we have budgeted for everyone's full salary in 2021, their benefits — their salaries and benefits, those people will come off the payroll in 2021.

They'll receive a one-time payout. Then we're

6 pledging to hire an amount lower than that 75 at 1 2 starting salaries rather than the salaries for 3 someone who has been here for 30, 30-plus years. 4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And not every 5 position will be filled. MR. DARIENZO: Not every position will 6 7 be filled. You know, there will be some parttimers that are hired instead of full-timers and 8 9 those full-timers that are hired, again, will be at 10 starting salaries rather than those employees who 11 have been here for their entire career. 12 So that incentive should save the Town 13 more than \$5 million annually moving forward. 14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Rob, just another 15 point on that. We will see a lower total number of 16 full-time employees, but you mentioned that they 17 will retire as of December 31, 2021. But many of 18 those employees will be retiring prior to that. 19 MR. DARIENZO: They retire -- retire as 20 of -- up to January 31, 2021. So three months from 2.1 now. The vast majority, I believe, 70 of 75 are 22 retiring in January of 2021. 23 (Whereupon, a discussion was held off 24 the record.) 25 MR. DARIENZO: Thank you. That's

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correct, 70 of the 75 employees who took the incentive are leaving in January.

So, again, they'll be on our books in 2021 and then they will fall off the budget in 2022.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So we are conservatively budgeting for them even though they'll only be here for the early part of 2021.

MR. DARIENZO: Correct. They will be budgeted for their entire year salary in the 2021 Budget.

Debt service costs in this Budget are down. It's a quite -- it's a simple formula really. We have issued so much less debt in the past three years that the older payments are starting to fall off our books. So, therefore, the costs in 2021 are going to be lower than they were in 2020 and lower than they were in 2019. We will continue down that path for the next several years.

A key area where fees are down in 2021 is present in the Town Attorney's office. For the past three or four years, we budgeted \$2.5 million in outside legal fees. In 2021, the estimate came to us at \$1.5 million. As we continue to have these lawsuits go away, we have to rely on outside

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counsel less. So we project to save a million dollars in that area in 2021.

Obviously, you see the Plexiglass and we're all far apart. The world has changed in 2020 due to this pandemic and that has affected our budget as well.

On the expense side, we've seen increases in several departments, most notably General Services, where they are in charge of purchasing PPE. They're in charge of purchasing materials such as the Plexiglass so we can retrofit everybody's work space so they can feel safe in their work areas.

Part-time and seasonal costs increased this past summer due to the need for us to have employees enforce social distancing rules at our parks, at our beaches, et cetera. We expect that continue to 2021 conservatively. If we don't need that in 2021, yay for all of us, but we've been very conservative and we put it in the Budget.

The largest expense increase that we've seen since the pandemic is the hauling away of garbage generated by residents because people were home for months on end. They took advantage of that and they cleaned out their homes, did home

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improvements. Generally, just being home means you're going to generate more garbage from home and put it out to your curb. So that extra tonnage at the curbs resulted in an extra fee for it to be carted away. So, in 2021, we're estimating a \$1.5 million increase just for our garbage to be hauled away.

Now, some of these costs, not the garbage hauling, but some of these costs we expect to get a 75 percent reimbursement from FEMA for things like PPE and for the materials. That's all being tabulated -- that's all -- that has been tabulated on an ongoing basis by various departments and reported to -- hasn't been --

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: But we're not --we're taking a very conservative approach in terms of budgeting on that.

MR. DARIENZO: Correct. We've tracked all the expenses and they will be submitted to the Federal Government for a 75 percent reimbursement, but while we have charged all those expenses and we allocated all those expenses again in 2021, we have not allocated a penny towards reimbursement in 2020 or 2021.

So while we do expect to be reimbursed,

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we have not accounted for being reimbursed. So any dollar we get above zero will go towards our surplus. Again, just the idea of conservative -- the conservative nature of budgeting practices.

To be quite honest, other than that, on the expense side, things are relatively status quo. The departments were given a mandate to keep expenses inline with where they've been in past years wherever possible and in some places they're just not possible, but in those where they were, every department heeded our call and made sure they sharpened their pencil and got their numbers where they need to be to ensure that we had a balanced budget.

On the revenue side, we've already talked about the idea that we're holding the line on taxes. I mentioned that the Operating Budget was up \$5 million. So to a layperson, they might ask how can you have \$5 million more in expenses and not have any, you know, additional taxes. And that is also due to the conservative nature of our budget on the revenue side.

There are certain nontax revenue items that we have purposely conservatively kept lower than necessary in the past years budgets. So we

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were able to increase those revenue lines in 2021 while still maintaining the tax levy at the exact number that it has been for these past couple of years which is \$233 million.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So you're saying that not only have we continued to move forward in terms of improving our services, but we have not budgeted for more revenue. There's no tricks.

There's no gimmicks. It's 100 percent balanced.

There's no one-shots in this budget?

MR. DARIENZO: There hasn't been a trick, a gimmick, or a one-shot in your time here at all in our budgets. Our budgets have all been very sound, very conservative in nature. More than structurally balanced every year. We have generated surpluses north of \$10 million four years in a row now. And while 2020 is not yet complete, we do expect to generate a modest surplus as a result of operations at the end of 2020 which is an other worldly feat in the middle of a pandemic when we can expect to, you know, lose anywhere from 7 to \$10 million in revenues.

There were five funds that were in a deficit when you took office of the 13 major funds that the Town has. We made it a priority to fix

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certain funds in a certain order. Our General Fund got most of our attention. We've talked about a accumulative deficit of \$44 million when you came here. It's now a \$27 million surplus. When you say cumulative, that's the addition of all of our 13 funds. There are, in fact, two of them that stand-alone and have a negative right now.

So if you look at our tax levies in the budget, you'll see there's some ups, there's some downs. The bottom line, we collected 233 million last year. We're going to collect 233 million this year, and we're going to collect 233 million next year. It's been the same for years now, but within the funds, you might see some fluctuation in an effort for us to get our fund balances where they need to be.

I expect that the two funds that are currently in deficit will be in the black by the time we release our audit -- our 2021 Audit in the middle of 2022. It's not something you can just snap your fingers and fix in one day. A lot of work needed to be done. A lot of funds were in very large negative positions.

And so, again, the General Fund now has been rectified. It result in us being removed from

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the office of the State Comptroller's Fiscal Stress
Monitoring list for the first time since the
program started in 2013. So, you know, we're very
proud of that.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Just repeat that again for folks who might have missed it. That is so important, please.

MR. DARIENZO: Sure.

The State Comptroller's Office initiated a program in 2013. They call it their Fiscal Stress Monitoring SYSTEM. They are -- it's a series of metrics and every municipality in the Town -- every municipality in the State generates a certain score based on these metrics, and here at the Town of Oyster Bay, I was here the whole time, I'm not happy to say that from 2013 to 2018, the Town was basically on their highest level of stress. They have significant stress, moderate stress and susceptible to stress or not being on the list at all.

We were on their significant stress

level, they're highest list for each of the years

that we were on a list at all. Some years we

weren't on the list because our financial documents

were not submitted on time, because we had

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accounting issues due to financial software that was put in place in 2014. But just because our documents were late does not mean that we wouldn't have been on the list if, in fact, our documents were on time. Once our documents were processed and we generated our score, they were higher than they have ever been.

But now as a result of 2019 audit, we left their significant. We're not on moderate. We're not on susceptible. We're not on any list at all and that is largely due to the turnaround -- that's entirely due to the turnaround to the General Fund and the lack of cash flow borrowings, you know, under this administration.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: You talked about savings because your statement leads everyone to ask the question, well, how did you do that, and how is it that there'll be no tax increase in 2021 in the Town of Oyster Bay? We talked about savings.

For instance, some costs go up, whether it's garbage hauling or other issues, but there are savings. You described how between 5 and \$10 million of ongoing savings will be seen through the early retirement incentive. You spoke about debt,

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but could you please tell us how much we'll be saving in 2021 by reorganizing our debt at a lower interest rate just like when someone has a mortgage at a higher interest rate and they go out and they get a new mortgage and then end up saving significant money through the lower interest rate.

MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely, I would be happy to.

So, not only are we reducing our outstanding debt just by simply paying down more than we are issuing, but we've also been able to take advantage of refinancing/refunding opportunities out there in the market due to historically low interest rates coupled with our improved bond rating.

So our bond rating has gone up, thanks to all the good things that we've done. Interest rates are at an all-time low and debt that we issued 8 to 12 to 15 years ago that have high rates of interest, we've been notified of potential savings opportunities. We actually had one in August of this year. We received over \$5 million simply by refinancing a loan. In February of 2021, we have another opportunity that under current market conditions will save us another \$7 million.

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And in 2022 there's a call date out there for us that, again, at current market conditions will save us an additional \$10 million.

So by doing nothing other than improving our finances and taking advantage of historically low rates, we're able to save the taxpayers -- through those three issuances -- \$22 million in principal and interest just by refinancing the debt, the same way a homeowner might refinance their mortgage.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And while you said by doing nothing else, we're doing so many other things in addition to that.

MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

Overall, in your first three years here, we cut debt by \$160 million. By the end of 2020, that will rise to \$165 million. While the Capital Program is not part of this operating budget that we're discussing today, the Town Board will be receiving Bond Authorization Resolutions later this year for the 2021 Capital Program. And right now we project the Capital Program to be set at \$55 million in 2021, while we are going to pay down the \$65 million in debt in 2021.

So, we have an informal policy, if you

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will, to issue less debt than we pay down. So we cut debt by \$85 million your first year, could be -- issue a pending [sic] debt and we issued -- we cut debt by \$53 million in your second year and over \$20 million in your third year.

So we shocked the system by -- in those years, but now it's more of a maintenance level where we an still do all the things we need to do. We can improve our roads. We can improve our parks. We can update our fleets while still cutting debt, while still getting bond rating upgrades, while still maintaining a tax freeze.

So we are going to pay down \$65 million in debt for the Town purposes in 2021. We plan to issue \$55 million in debt, so we'll save \$10 million right there. When you couple that with the \$7 million refinancing opportunity that I mentioned, we expect to cut debt by \$17 million in 2021, which makes the grand total during your time here over \$180 million.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: It's important to point out that we have been borrowing to repave our roads. We have been protecting the infrastructure of the Town. It's not just like we stopped the functions of the Town. The taxpayers, the

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residents made it very clear they wanted their roads repaved. And we've now repaved over 100 roads.

We've had to continue to buy new garbage trucks and vac trucks to maintain and help with eliminate flooding in communities. The garbage trucks, obviously, are very expensive, but we've continued to do that and managed the finances properly. So it hasn't been like we haven't done anything on the capital side. We have and still we're reducing that capital debt.

MR. DARIENZO: Correct. We've -- I would say done more than ever. We're doing it more efficiently now.

mentioned bond rating increases and that's certainly a very good indicator on how well the Town is doing financially, and it doesn't even show how great we are doing right now because before Wall Street gives a bond rating, they actually look at our finances, which come out six months after the close of the books. So we wait until June to get our independent audit from the year before and then send that to Wall Street.

How many bond rating increase have we

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seen? I'm sure nobody gets a bond rating increase during COVID because of all the financial pain. I can't imagine -- you'd have to be a superstar to get a bond rating increase during a COVID pandemic.

MR. DARIENZO: Supervisor, you're being coy. You know, this answer already very well.

In July, we received two bond rating increases. One from Moody's and one from Standard & Poor's. And from Standard & Poor's, we received a two-notch upgrade.

So forget about just getting an upgrade during a pandemic. They pretty much warned us on phone calls, nobody gets an upgrade during the pandemic. You know, temper you expectations. So to get a two-notch upgrade from Standard & Poor's -- while I feel like it was well deserved, it was still a bit unexpected because they tend to be temperate with their increases. They are -- they want to see a period of time where you're doing the right thing. We've given them now a cycle of four years in a row of doing the right thing.

So, if you took a snapshot of our finances right now, I would -- I would argue that our bond rating should be even higher, but they still want to see more and more years of us doing

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the right thing. Four years is a lot, but they like to see even more.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And I know we will.

MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So we've reduced debt by record amounts. We've, in total, reduced \$165 million of our debt which adds to the financial strength of the Town while paving roads, while buying the large pieces of equipment, while rehabbing our infrastructure.

You've talked about turning the deficit into a surplus. How difficult was that? We've had many strategy sessions on that. Turning around the operating -- the operating budget, but also important the operational procedures of the Town have greatly been turned around with the help of our Town Board members and our officials. Let's talk a little bit about what that means to Wall Street to see us go from a \$44 million deficit to a \$27.4 million surplus in just -- in just a little over three years.

MR. DARIENZO: Yet it's almost -- I almost don't know what to say. It's unbelievable what we've done during these past four audits to

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turn our cumulative deficit into a cumulative surplus to the tune of a \$71 million turnaround between negative 44 to positive 27. And quite frankly, it's due to a restraint on the part of this administration to issue debt and the restraints to hire to the levels that we've seen in the past. We reached a high of 1,250 full-time employees back in 2012 and that number certainly has been reduced during some retirement incentives, but during my time prior to 2017, there would be hires that replaced, you know, all those people. Sometimes we would hire two for one. But now we've gotten our employees -- our master employee list down to roughly 1,000 employees and our employees are doing more and taking on additional responsibilities, but we're getting the job done still. The residents are still getting all the services they received in the past and more.

of the work of our employees, Rob. They have been phenomenal in stepping up in our pools, our parks, and beaches. Whether it's Highway, Sanitation and on top of all of that, not only have they done a phenomenal Yeoman's effort to improve the Town, then COVID hit, and they've been dedicated,

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committed to our residents. And in this Town, the services did not end during COVID.

We're so proud of the work they've done and the leadership we've seen in the administrative teams throughout the Town in every different department.

From the Receiver's office to the Town Clerk's office to Sanitation, Parks. We all enjoyed an incredible Summer at our beaches, at our marinas, at out parks and that played such an important role in the psychological wellbeing of our Township to come out of COVID.

I've been using this expression, the Town of Oyster Bay wrote the book on how to come out of a pandemic, and I'm exceptionally proud of our workforce, including you.

MR. DARIENZO: Thank you very much.

Yes, our workforce takes pride in doing their jobs to the best of their abilities. A pandemic isn't going to stop that. If anything, the pandemic made us stronger and showed us what we're capable of.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We're capable of quite a bit, including the strategies, the financial strategies.

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Can you tell us a little bit about cash flow, borrowing and things of this nature?

MR. DARIENZO: Sure.

Our -- we were in a very bad state back in 2016, 2017. We needed to borrow money to keep ourselves afloat on the operating side. At its high, there was \$32 million in cash flow borrowings outstanding. That is we needed \$32 million on hand to make sure that we were still afloat.

Now, that's not to say that we just needed \$32 million -- how do I say this? It's not as simple as saying we need \$32 million to make payroll or anything like that. The fact of the matter is we've always prided ourselves -- even when we were low on cash, we always pride ourselves in paying our debt on time.

If we received a claim from a vendor for work they did, we have it processed within a week. We don't sit on claims for months at a time. While on the opposite side, we do wait for months at a time for us to receive certain revenues due to us from certain other entities that shall remain unnamed.

But the fact of matter is we weren't going to keep any of our vendors waiting. We

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weren't going to keep any of our -- those who, you know, we loaned money from, we weren't going to keep them waiting. So we borrowed up to \$32 million at one point for those purposes.

Now, for the second year in a row, we have that down to zero, not a penny. We're standing up on our own two feet. We're still paying our bills as soon as we get them. The Comptroller's officer under Steve Ballas, if something comes into the system, they have it paid that week. There's nothing that waits for any reason.

With that being said, there are still on the other side, on the revenue side, we are still waiting for very large sums of money that are due to us from, again, certain unnamed entities.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: You know, you spoke about salaries earlier and I just want to get this point across. One of the best illustrations is how much the Town spent on salaries of its employees in 2016 and how much we propose to spend on the salaries of our employees in 2021.

Can you give us that information for comparison purposes.

MR. DARIENZO: Yes.

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We talked about how due to the contract, due to increases in minimum wage -- which I believe that happened for each of the past three years or so. Increase relies on part-timers. Even with all these things factored in contractual raises, minimum wage increase, part-time wage increase, our projected salaries in 2021 will still be over \$2 million less than they were in 2016.

Again, with the same -- by showing the same restraint this Town Board has shown over the past couple of years by not hiring on a one-for-one basis when the 75 employees leave in the next three months, we can expect to see that number go down in 2022.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Without hurting services.

MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely not.

So, we talked a little bit about conservative budgeting. I want to talk about a couple of other conservative revenues -- conservative budgeting for revenues.

Recently, the Town Board approved a contract I think with VIP for them to park cars at our DPW complex. I've been told that we can expect to receive roughly \$840,000 in the first year of a

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ten-year contract. It should bring in roughly \$9 million over the course of those ten years, but we've been burnt in the past by budgeting items that have not yet been put into place.

zero dollars for that revenue. So assuming that contract goes into place and goes well, that \$840,000 is just extra money that we can put towards our surplus or put it towards some sort of, you know, emergency expense if we have some kind of major storm. It's the idea that while we are relatively confident that we're going to get that money, we are not counting on it.

The same goes for interest earnings.

We budgeted \$100,000 for interest earnings in 2021

and that's quite simply the interest we earn from

money that's in our bank accounts.

Bank account interest rates are clearly at very low figures right now, but we still have enough money where we can generate a sizable amount of interest.

Typically, it's more than a million dollars a year. We've only budgeted 100,000 and that's because, for all we know, interest rates can go down to almost zero. Right now, we're getting

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half a percent and our cash levels are high, so we are generating large amounts of interest, but, again, to be conservative, we budget almost nothing.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Now, the State Comptroller, one of the ways in we've gotten off that fiscal stress list is by building up that surplus, that rainy day fund. What happens if there is an emergency. What happens if there is a major snowstorms, hurricanes and so forth.

How close are we to building up the full amount or the target that the State

Comptroller has recommended?

MR. DARIENZO: Yes.

Just so we're all on the same page and just so the Town Board and the residents understand, the Office of the State Comptroller does not put an exact number or percentage on what they expect you to have in the form of surplus or reserves. They would like you to have a reasonable amount.

So in my discussions with them, I said okay, is 10 percent a reasonable amount? And they said yes. So our budget is roughly 300 million, 311 this year. So to have 10 percent of that will

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be 31 million. We've expressed a stated goal of getting our surplus to 30 million when you first got here. So we started at negative 44 and now we're at positive 27 in just four short years. So we've gotten right on the precipice of hitting that \$30 million figure.

Now, I don't want to mislead anybody, we had, again, four years where there was a 20 million, a 15 million, a 17 million, and a \$19 million surplus. We're not going to run surpluses north of \$10 million every year, especially while we're holding the line on taxes for our taxpayers.

The pandemic is going to put a large dent in what we expected to have in the form of surplus this year, but we're still going to turn a surplus in my estimation as of right now, today, on October 20th, I expect there will be a moderate surplus in 2020 that could take us close to that \$30 million figure.

And then from there, again, the plan that we talked about, it's not going -- we're not going to shock people with a surplus on a yearly basis north of \$10 million. The idea is to maintain and slowly build that 30 million maybe up to say 40 million to make sure that we have enough

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money in reserve to meet any kind of emergency that arises.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Rob, at first blush, people are watching this at home saying, wait, there's a COVID pandemic, there's additional expenses and there's a loss of sales tax, an there must be so many losses -- you turn on the television, you open the paper, you hear about Nassau County's fiscal problems, New York State's fiscal problems, all accentuated by a COVID pandemic and yet the proposal -- the projection for 2021, even if there is no vaccine, if the pandemic continues straight through the entire year, we will still be raising our surplus. Why? How?

MR. DARIENZO: That's all true. The reason is, again, I'll operate with the idea of a \$300 million budget. In our \$300 million budget roughly \$233 million comes in the form of taxes.

We're going to get that tax money whether there is a pandemic or not. Sales tax, mortgage tax, those items are affected by a pandemic. And we have seen decreases in those areas, or I should say we expect to see decreases in those areas.

We get sales tax and mortgage tax on a quarterly basis, but as of today October 20th,

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we're now 20 days into the fourth quarter of the year. We've only received our first quarter payments for sales tax and mortgage tax. So there are some cash strapped municipalities that I believe are holding onto our money a little bit longer than they have in the past, but the truth of the matter is, I don't have an indication exactly yet what we can expect for the second and third quarters in sales tax and mortgage tax other than what I read online or in the newspapers.

So we are estimating that we will lose roughly 20 percent in the form of sales tax and mortgage tax and we think that's a conservative estimate. On the mortgage tax side, anecdotally, homes are having bidding wars. There are a lot of people that lived out in Manhattan that have come out to the suburbs and bought homes. So we're not exactly sure what to expect.

Again, we are conservatively estimating a drop in 20 percent, which for us is only a couple of million dollars in mortgage tax, and with the last 20 percent in sales tax, that would be roughly \$3 million.

And there's two other major revenue items where we have seen a decrease; number one is

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in the permit fees for building permits, and the second is in Parks and Recreation fees. We had a lot of refunds we had to give this year due to the pandemic.

The Building Department has always done a tremendous job in terms of generating revenue and their surplus is so large, that they can withstand a shortfall this year, and they're going to be just fine, but the 2021 Budget projects a 10 percent decrease in sales tax, a 10 percent decrease in mortgage tax. We feel that's going to be a conservative figure that we can hit in 2021.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: By the way, just to add to that, you spoke to the issue with the Building Department has done a fabulous job and continued to work hard and more quickly to generate those moneys, the Parks Department has as well -- where even with the downturn, so we do have refunds for hockey programs that couldn't go forward or different sports programs. The turnaround in the Parks Department in the last three years has been so phenomenal. The increases in revenue -- I don't have the percentage number that they are up by, but it's phenomenal, and it really has helped as we go forward in -- during a pandemic.

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MR. DARIENZO: Yes. I didn't mean to

-- by singling out Planning and Development, I

didn't mean to denigrate the Parks Department.

They've obviously done a great job also and it only
took a pandemic and mass refunds to bring them
down. Other than that, they would have been on
track for a record year.

Councilwoman Maier, I know you had a question.

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: I'm sorry, Rob, I know you touched upon sales tax and a few weeks ago we had a very fruitful conversation about sales tax recovery. Being a business owner myself that's obviously a piece that I was very curious about.

To our residents that are listening, what percentage do we get for sales tax? And I think for most people, I think it's just sales tax people doing into a store, going into a restaurant that we collect that upon but it's greater than that. Also stuff that is done online and what we've seen with this pandemic which is interesting is the generation of online sales that we haven't seen in the past, more of historical portions, do we think that's going to have an impact.

I know you said we only got our first

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quarter recovery which only comes as probably a week of pandemic.

MR. DARIENZO: Yes.

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: It's my

understanding that the County does not tell us what funds we're going to be receiving, right, so we have no idea what we're going to be collecting for O2 and O3.

MR. DARIENZO: We did receive a voucher for Q2. It is down roughly 25 percent from Q2 last year. Q2 obviously being the worst quarter of this pandemic. We expect Quarter 3 to rebound somewhat.

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Do we have -- do they provide us with a breakdown of what we received, I guess, from online transaction versus in store transactions?

MR. DARIENZO: Not that I've ever seen.

They give us -- they say, here's your 4 million or here's your 3.5 million. The voucher is not detailed at all from what I've ever seen.

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Thank you.

MR. DARIENZO: Yes.

We do expect online sales to greatly replace what has been lost from businesses that have been closed but, again, it's just too early to

tell the exact impact.

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Again, the really good news is that our budget for 2020 specifically was built to withstand -- we didn't know this was going to happen, and if it didn't happen, we wouldn't had a surplus probably close to 8 to \$10 million, but because the pandemic did hit, we're now looking at a surplus much lower than that because of these decreases. And we hold out a very, very small hope that Federal Stimulus Plan could include historical revenue replacement for municipalities of our size.

We all have heard that the Town of
Hempstead got 133 million and Nassau County got a
102 million. Don't misunderstand that was not
meant to be put towards revenues but, again, talks
are still ongoing for possibility for towns of our
size to receive funds. Again, we're not holding
out for it. We're not budgeted for it, but the
important part is the 2020 Budget was strong enough
to withstand the impact of the pandemic to the Town
of Oyster Bay.

You mentioned municipalities. The County, I don't have that number memorized, I try to focus on the Town of Oyster Bay's budget. But they have a budget, I think, of roughly \$3 million

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work.

of which one million -- \$3 billion, is that right?

They have a \$3 billion budget. Roughly one billion of that they receive in the form of sales -- property taxes and roughly one billion of that they get in the form of sales tax. So they rely on sales tax much more than the Town does. Our sales tax is roughly \$15 million or \$16 million on a \$300 million budget.

So they count on roughly one-third of their overall budget for sale tax and I know,

Councilman Labriola, you were at the County, you can attest roughly to those figures, but we do not rely much at all on sales tax, mortgage tax and while we love when the Building Department generates those building fees, we're not -- we're going to be able to withstand without an issue.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's fabulous

You know, you talked about some of these costs, but people don't realize all of the unfunded mandates that come from the State.

How much do we spend on the MTA payroll tax alone in this Town?

MR. DARIENZO: Somewhere between 350 and \$400,000 a year. It's .034 percent of your

36 1 payroll I believe for an item that has nothing to 2 do with our employees at all, to be quite honest. 3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Do our health 4 care -- mandated health care costs and our mandated 5 pension costs, do they continue to rise? MR. DARIENZO: I've been here 6 7 twenty-plus years. I've never seen health care 8 costs go down, no. 9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Have you ever 10 seen them flat or do they rise every single year, 11 virtually? 12 MR. DARIENZO: Yes. I would say 13 virtually every year they go up a certain 14 percentage. They go up a higher percentage than 15 this budget's going up. 16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So I bring these 17 things up because you mentioned conservative 18 budgeting, but that really means strategic 19 planning, to underestimate revenues, to 20 overestimate our expenses, to make sure no matter 2.1 what happens, we're always acting to protect our 22 taxpayers, and have a rock solid budget that has 23 been part of the plans. 2.4 You and I sat down my first day on the

job; we began the process.

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it.

MR. DARIENZO: Three hours.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes. Now we have business people on our Town Board on our -- among our administrative team. They've also been a tremendous help, all the Town Board members in terms of their experience.

It's really strategic planning, isn't

MR. DARIENZO: A 100 percent. And before you got here, we were behind the eight ball and creating the budget was a more strenuous task than it is now. There was a, you know, the budgets were not structurally balanced then, the way they are now. To put a budget together is something that, you know, I'm very proud to do. I've been doing it for many years now and it's almost -- not that it's easy for me to do it, but I know what it's like to put together a bad budget. I know what it's like to put together a good budget. And it's nothing but good budgets but since you've been here.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

Let's open up things to questions from

our Board.

Councilman Labriola.

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Thank you,

Supervisor.

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Mr. Darienzo, thank you for your presentation. I know that this one-hour presentation of our budget is an accumulation of -- is a cumulative presentation of, I guess, months of work that you've been working with all of our various department heads. I know this process begins in the Summer, and many of us, I know, in the Town Council have inquired as we've gone along and I know we've buttoned up a few things yesterday I wanted to speak to you about. I don't have that many questions, but I do want -- want you to have the opportunity to elaborate on some of the things that I think the taxpayers are most concerned with.

And, obviously, having a no-tax increase budget is, I guess, first and foremost on a lot of peoples' minds. It's a very difficult thing to raise taxes in a -- in a period of time where we have an economic downturn due to this pandemic. And I know that other municipalities around us are raising taxes.

I know the City of Glen Cove has just announced that they are going to raise taxes close to 9 percent this year. I think the City of

39 Long Beach will probably follow suit. I'm not sure 1 2 how the other townships are doing around us. We'll 3 know that shortly. 4 I know how difficult it is to try to 5 maintain or hold the line on property taxes when expenses continue to rise, as we've seen in this 6 7 budget. And although our -- your work is obviously 8 paying off. 9 I wanted to ask you about the credit 10 rating. Now, you had said that we received these 11 increases -- these credit rate increases from 12 Standard & Poor's and Moody's. 13 Just for the benefit of the public, can 14 you tell us what that rating is exactly at this 15 point in time, the credit rating from Standard & Poor's? 16 17 I don't mean to put you on the spot, if 18 you don't know. 19 MR. DARIENZO: But I am on the spot 20 now. 2.1 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: I figured you had 22 this right off the top of your head. 23 MR. DARIENZO: I should. I apologize. 24 I want to say we went from BB+ to BBB+ 25 with Standard & Poor's. That's since 2017. We got

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one notch -- they have As, they have AAs and AAAs and As. Then they have BBB, BB. They've got pluses and minuses. So the scale eludes to me right now, but we received a two-notch upgrade from Standard & Poor's in July. We received a one-notch upgrade from Moody's in July. And back in February, we received a one-notch upgrade from -- we got two upgrades during the year from Moody's.

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: You know, I heard you said that. I didn't mean do that to you.

I just wanted the public to understand how does that impact them in their pocketbook, and I think that it shows in this budget, and I wanted you to elaborate on that, that we're actually -- our debit service has been reduced this year, and at the same time, we're reducing debt.

So could you just clarify that for people, how do we reduce debt and also reduce your debt service.

MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

The easiest way to reduce debt is -it's going to sound like common sense, is to pay
down more debt than you issue. So we've been doing
that in spades, and then when you couple that with
our improved bond rating, and you couple that with

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all-time low interest rates, you're able to borrow money for less. It's not funny -- it's almost funny. If we were borrowing money at the rates we were in the past, it would be -- it would almost be preferable because the cost of borrowing money right now -- it's so cheap to borrow money, you should almost borrow as much money as you can right now but, obviously, we don't want to borrow more than we have to.

So we're borrowing smaller amounts -we were borrowing more at a higher interest. Now,
we're borrowing less at a lower interest rate. So
that means that correspondingly in the operating
budget, principal overall would be going down,
interest will be going down and we can expect to
continue to see those rates go down as our bond
rating improves.

As a matter of fact, even though our bond rating is at a certain level, when we issued bonds last year, our underwriter sent me a comparison the same day they issued debt for the University of Connecticut on a similar size as ours and the University of Connecticut had a bond rating that was five notches higher than ours, but our effective interest rate was within one-one

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hundredth of a percentage point.

We have the same rates as an entity with a rating five notches higher than ours, because the investors look beyond what Standard & Poor's and what Moody's says. The investors sees the underlying statistics. They know that our actual rating is lower than what our rating should be, and they rewarded us with lower interest rates because of it.

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: In terms of -- I heard the Supervisor use the analogy of a mortgage -- for us this year -- if I read this correctly, our mortgage payment goes down \$2.6 million.

Is that accurate?

MR. DARIENZO: In 2021, we're going to pay \$2 million in change less than debt service costs, absolutely.

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: So that I wanted people to understand. That's what debt service is like. That is our mortgage payment that we're responsible for.

The other thing I wanted to mention about was -- I don't want you to rest on your laurels because I want to see our Town return to an A-rated -- an A-rated municipality again.

supporting this document.

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I know that we're heading in that direction. I know that's the goal of the Supervisor and most of us on this Town Board really want to see us drive that point and I know it doesn't happen overnight --

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: All of us --

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: -- from where we were -- all of us, excuse me. All of us want to see that. I know it's not an easy task to accomplish. I know it doesn't happen overnight, but we are moving in that right direction and, obviously, that's the reason why I'm going to be

But I did want to -- also in terms of transparency and informing the public more, I wanted you to consider maybe working with our Comptroller Steve Ballas to look into some of the -- some of the software that's out there today that municipalities are using to open our process so it's more transparent for the public to see. I'm not sure if you've been looking into opengov.org. That's just one example of what some municipalities are using where -- so the homeowners who are actually interested in seeing where our revenues come from, where they get spent and they can drill

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down into the budget lines.

That's something that I'd like to see us to consider, and I hope you're starting to look into this. It's becoming more and more common amongst municipalities. It's really not a great deal of extra work to send that data into this software program that allows the common man and women at home to be able to look at it from the comfort of their home and understand exactly what's happening with their tax dollars. You know, the pie charts, the grafts, et cetera.

MR. DARIENZO: No, I understand.

I think I've seen that before and we certainly haven't had a lot of internal discussion about that, but we certainly can.

As far as our bond rating goes, we had Triple-A rating as recently as 2011, and we were running deficits in 2011, and so the same way that the rate agencies are slow to lower their rating, they're slow to raise the rating.

So, while, again, while we deserve a rating higher than it is right now, in my estimation, don't be mad at me if you're listening Standard & Poor's and Moody's, we expect to see further increases as the years pass. It tends to

45 lag a couple of years behind the actual work that 1 2 you're doing. 3 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: I appreciate that 4 and I hope Standard & Poor's and Moody's is, in 5 fact, listening and that they are going to bring us up to that status once again so that we can borrow 6 7 at even a lower rate. 8 Thank you very much for your 9 presentation, Mr. Darienzo. 10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Councilman 11 Labriola, we have another hearing tonight on the 12 budget and perhaps you'd be kind enough to ask our 13 Director of Finance the same question this evening 14 about what our exact bond rating is so he has an 15 opportunity to regroup and give you those -- all of 16 those statistics and ratings. 17 MR. DARIENZO: I will certainly have 18 those ratings tonight. 19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Board Members, 20 other questions as it relates to this budget 2.1 hearing? 22 (No verbal response.) 23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So just to 24 summarize what you presented to us in three, now 25 four short years, if you include 2021, we've turned

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the deficit into a growing surplus that is closing in on the suggestion of the State Comptroller at 10 percent. We are -- even in a COVID pandemic, we are still adding to the surplus of the Town as projected in this budget. We've generated large surpluses every year you said at the height \$53 million in one year?

What did you tell us, I'm sorry, what was the height of our sur -- of our generation of revenue increasing the operating budget revenues.

MR. DARIENZO: The surpluses in the years that you've been here have been 15, 17, and \$19 million yearly.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

We're now down a net of 165 million total in our capital budget.

And when I say "net," it really is something to think about because we weren't just writing checks and paying that down, we were still repaving the roads, continuing to fix our infrastructure, continuing to buy these large vehicles. Every year you need to buy a certain amount of garbage trucks to keep that going and thank goodness for Sanitation and Sort. What an

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amazing job they did throughout the COVID pandemic.

We've eliminated cash borrowing across the board. No more borrowing cash flow purposes.

We stopped -- and that's a big deal.

What's the savings on that alone?

MR. DARIENZO: Well, the savings is not -- it's hard to quantify. The fact we have no cash flow borrowing is just as important as fixing our fund balance in the eyes of the rating agencies.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So there's no need to pay interest because we're not borrowing to do that?

MR. DARIENZO: Yes.

We're certainly not paying the interest and then we're not paying the additional interest costs for the fact that anybody who's lending money to an entity that needs money to borrow for operations is going to charge you a very high interest rate.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We've stopped amortizing our retirement system costs that are mandated by Albany. The State mandates that we have to pay retirement costs for every employee -- every full-time employee and now we are no longer borrowing for that.

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MR. DARIENZO: Correct.

For roughly seven years in a row, there was too much budgetary pressure. We amortized the allowable portion of our bill.

Our retirement system bill was roughly \$15 million a year and there was a period of time where we were taking advantage of the ability to pay a lower amount while amortizing a certain portion and they were charging us anywhere from 3 to 6 percent interest on that extra part. So we're no longer taking loans to pay off our employee retirement system bill.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We've been very cautious about hiring and managing the labor costs in this town. We have an credible workforce who stepped up so much over these past four years.

Then additionally showed us what they were made of during the pandemic and yet we're spending less on labor than we did in 2017, for instance.

MR. DARIENZO: Correct.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We're planning to retire some 75 employees throughout 2021. So there's additional savings that are ongoing, and as the years go by, we'll see that savings more and more.

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We've kept our budget expenses in line. Just to reiterate, there were 5 of the 13 sectors of the budget that were not balanced. Now, we've got it down to 2. So, we solved the problem and it takes some time. This is operational issue of how to save money on those lines, but you spoke to fact that now there we down to two working on those as well.

MR. DARIENZO: Three down, two to go and they're going to go.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Three down and two to go and they're going to go. That's great news.

We've reduced our costs on energy by changing out bulbs to LED and Smart technology. We saved money on heating fuels and the list goes on and on the operational side.

I just want the public to understand all of the efforts we've put in, in these four years, and now -- three, and now we're see the fruits of those labors and tremendous savings that also help to keep taxes flat, but how much less is in Town coffers? How much more in the checking accounts of our taxpayer are due to our cut of taxes in 2018 and then these three budgets -- these

2.1

three consecutive budgets with no tax increase?

2 MR. DARIENZO: It will be over \$5

million back in the pockets of our taxpayers.

Roughly \$5.2 million over the course of those four years back in their pockets, not in our pockets. While at the same time, we receive bond rating upgrades, we've reduced debt by record amounts. We take our cumulative deficit and turn it into a large surplus. So it's -- you hear about a win/win. I don't know how many wins there are here. It's win, win, win, win, win, win, win, win.

appreciate that, and I want to say thank you on behalf of our Town Board and our administration and our officials for all of your efforts the great job you've been doing. It's very much appreciated at a time when other municipal budgets are going into -- out onto thin ice, the Town of Oyster Bay continues to get stronger and stronger with another year of no tax increase.

Thank you, Rob.

Are there any other questions.

(No verbal response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very,

very much.

51 1 MR. DARIENZO: No problem. See you 2 tonight. 3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay, and we will be repeating this hearing at 7:00 p.m. this 4 5 evening. MR. DARIENZO: Did anybody record this, 6 7 so I can play it again? 8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Rob. 9 At this time, as I said, we need to break for an Executive Session to meet with our 10 11 counsel, but yes, Town Clerk? 12 MR. LaMARCA: I just wanted to mention 13 that we have affidavits of posting and publication. 14 There is no other correspondence. 15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: As it relates to our budget hearing? 16 17 MR. LaMARCA: Correct. 18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Rich 19 LaMarca. 20 Councilwoman. 2.1 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor, I 22 make a motion that this Board move into Executive 23 Session for the purpose of discussion -- discussing 24 current and pending litigation. 25 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I second that

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      motion.
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2
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor,
3
      please signify by saying, "Aye."
                  ALL: "Aye."
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5
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
6
      "Nay."
7
                   (No verbal response.)
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes" have
8
9
      it.
                  Thank you.
10
11
                  We will make this as quick as possible,
12
      and then come back to further our work today on our
13
      Resolutions. We appreciate your patience.
14
                   (Whereupon, the Executive Session began
15
      at 11:35 a.m. and ended at 12:353 p.m. and the
16
      proceedings resumed as follows:)
17
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you
18
      everyone for your patience during our Executive
19
      Session.
20
                  Councilwoman, may we have a motion,
21
      please.
22
                  COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor, I
23
      make a motion to close the Executive Session.
24
                  No action has been taken.
25
                  COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second the motion.
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1	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor,
2	please signify by saying, "Aye."
3	ALL: "Aye."
4	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
5	"Nay."
6	(No verbal response.)
7	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes" have
8	it.
9	Thank you.
10	Councilwoman, may before we close
11	our rather adjourn our budget hearing for this
12	evening, we have one speaker on the budget,
13	Mr. McKenna.
14	Is the speaking just on the budget
15	or
16	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Only on the
17	budget.
18	MR. McKENNA: What about the
19	Resolutions?
20	COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Not yet.
21	COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Didn't we already
22	adjourn the budget meeting?
23	MR. McKENNA: I have no comments on the
24	budget.
25	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

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1
                   With no other slips in, may I have a
      motion to adjourn the budget meeting until this
2
3
      evening?
                   COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.
 4
5
                   COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.
 6
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor,
7
      please signify by saying, "Aye."
8
                   ALL: "Aye."
 9
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
10
      "Nay."
11
                   (No verbal response.)
12
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes" have
13
      it.
14
                   (TIME NOTED: 12:31 P.M.)
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TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
ACTION CALENDAR
October 20, 2020
12:32 p.m.

## JOSEPH SALADINO

RICHARD LaMARCA

SUPERVISOR

TOWN CLERK

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

RICHARD LaMARCA, TOWN CLERK
JEFFREY P. PRAVATO, RECEIVER OF TAXES

Minutes of the meeting taken by:

HOLLY DALOIA OSTEEN Reporter/Notary Public

	2
1	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Clerk, would you
2	please call our regular Action Calendar?
3	MR. LaMARCA: Yes, Supervisor.
4	We have one Resolution that we're going
5	to remove from the calendar.
6	May I have a motion please to table
7	Resolution No. 570-2020?
8	RESOLUTION NO. 570-2020; Resolution
9	pertaining to Contract No. PWC07-20, On-Call
10	Consultant Service Request for Civil Engineering
11	for the replacement of three synthetic turf fields
12	at Field of Dreams Park, Massapequa. Account No.
13	PKS H 7197 20000 000 2002 001. (M.D. 9/29/20 #11).
14	On the motion?
15	COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.
16	COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.
17	MR. LaMARCA: A motion was made by
18	Councilwoman Johnson; seconded by Councilman
19	Imbroto.
20	On the vote:
21	Supervisor Saldino?
22	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: "Aye."
23	MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Johnson?
24	COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: "Aye."
25	MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Imbroto?

3 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: "Aye." 1 2 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Hand? 3 COUNCILMAN HAND: "Aye." MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Labriola? 4 5 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: "Aye." 6 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Maier? 7 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: "Aye." MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Walsh? 8 9 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: "Aye." MR. LaMARCA: Motion to table 10 11 Resolution 570-2020 passes with seven "Ayes." 12 May I have a motion to suspend the 13 rules and add Resolution Nos. 591, 592 and 14 593-2020. RESOLUTION NO. 591-2020; Resolution 15 16 amending Resolution No. 432-2020 to effectuate 17 payment of additional funds to satisfy outstanding 18 invoices and to provide funding for anticipated 19 future costs in connection with Town of Oyster Bay 20 v. 120 Westend, LLC., Account No. OTA A 1420 44110 000 0000. (M.D. 10/13/20 #16). 2.1 22 RESOLUTION NO. 592-2020; Resolution 23 authorizing agreements with various Auxiliary 2.4 Police Units to assist the units to recruit, equip 25 and train their members, and for the Supervisor, or

his designee to execute said agreements. Account 1 2 No. TWN A 1989 47900 000 0000. (M.D. 10/13/20 #17). 3 RESOLUTION NO. 593-2020; Resolution 4 authorizing an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the 5 Village of Mill Neck for the use of a wood chipper, 6 through December 31, 2020, to clear debris on roads 7 within the Village and for the Supervisor, or his 8 designee, to execute said agreement. (M.D. 10/13/20 9 #18). On the motion. 10 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved. 11 12 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second. 13 MR. LaMARCA: A motion made by 14 Councilwoman Johnson; seconded by Councilman 15 Imbroto. 16 On the vote: 17 Supervisor Saladino? 18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: "Aye." 19 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Johnson? 20 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: "Aye." 2.1 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Imbroto? 22 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: "Aye." 23 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Hand? 24 COUNCILMAN HAND: "Aye." 25 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Labriola?

5 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Just one second. 1 2 I vote "Aye" on all three. 3 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Maier? 4 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: "Ave." 5 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Walsh? COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: "Aye." 6 7 MR. LaMARCA: Motion to suspend the rules and add Resolutions 591, 592 and 593-2020 8 9 passes with seven "Ayes." 10 May I have a motion please to adopt 11 Resolution Nos. P-15-20 through 593-2020 noting 12 that Resolution 570-2020 has been tabled. PERSONNEL RESOLUTION NO. P-16-20 and 13 14 PA-10-20; Resolution pertaining to personnel of 15 various departments within the Town of Oyster Bay. TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION NO. 16 17 TF-15-20; Resolution pertaining to Transfer of 18 Funds within various departments accounts for the 19 Year 2019. 20 RESOLUTION NO. 568-2020; Resolution 2.1 authorizing the issuance of a refund for the Spring 22 Ice Hockey Program to J. McCotter, due to the 23 COVID-19 pandemic. Account No. PKS A 0001 02001 510 2.4 0000. (M.D. 9/29/20 #5). 25 RESOLUTION NO. 569-2020; Resolution

authorizing an increase to the working bank funds for the Receiver of Taxes Office at Town Hall North and South locations. (M.D. 9/29/20 #10).

RESOLUTION NO. 571-2020; Resolution authorizing the issuance of a refund for the Summer Recreation Program to D. Peng, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Account No. PKS A 0001 02001 510 0000.

(M.D. 10/6/20 #8).

RESOLUTION NO. 572-2020; Resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of a plaque and bench from K. Tudor, to be placed in Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park and Beach in memory of Eric Bryant LiPuma. (M.D. 10/6/20 #9).

RESOLUTION NO. 573-2020; Resolution authorizing a one-year extension of time in connection with Resolution No. 724-2019, Petition of KRE Broadway Owner LLC, Avis, Hicksville, New York for a Special Use Permit and Site Plan Approval. (M.D. 10/6/20 #10).

RESOLUTION NO. 574-2020; Resolution authorizing a one-year extension of time in connection with Resolution No. 725-2019, Petition of KRE Broadway Owner LLC, Round 1, Hicksville, New York for a Special Use Permit and Site Plan Approval. (M.D. 10/6/20 #11).

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RESOLUTION NO. 575-2020; Resolution authorizing a one-year extension of time in connection with Resolution No. 726-2019, Petition of KRE Broadway Owner, LLC, Orange Theory, Hicksville, New York for a Special Use Permit and Site Plan Approval. (M.D. 10/6/20 #12).

RESOLUTION NO. 576-2020; Resolution pertaining to expenditures for outside counsel for the Zoning Board of Appeals Legal Services for Zoning and Land Use litigation. Account No. PAD B 8010 44800 000 0000. (M.D. 10/6/20 #13).

**RESOLUTION NO. 577-2020;** Resolution pertaining to the Delinquent Water Rentals for 2020 for the various Water Districts in the Town of Oyster Bay. (M.D. 10/6/20 #14).

RESOLUTION NO. 578-2020; Resolution authorizing the property/securement assessment of 11 Shannon Drive, Woodbury, New York, performed on June 5, 2020, be referred to the County of Nassau for placement on the Nassau County Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D. 10/6/20 #15).

RESOLUTION NO. 579-2020; Resolution authorizing the property cleanup assessment of 18 Melissa Lane, Old Bethpage, New York, performed on June 22, 2020, be referred to the County of

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Nassau for placement on the Nassau County Tax Assessment Rolls.  $(M.D.\ 10/6/20\ \#16)$ .

authorizing the property cleanup assessment of
28 High Street, Farmingdale, New York, performed on
July 21, 2020, be referred to the County of Nassau
for placement on the Nassau County Tax Assessment
Rolls. (M.D. 10/6/20 #17).

RESOLUTION NO. 581-2020; Resolution authorizing the property cleanup assessment of 49 Allen Drive, East Norwich, New York, performed on June 10, 2020, be referred to the County of Nassau for placement on the Nassau County Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D. 10/6/20 #18).

RESOLUTION NO. 582-2020; Resolution authorizing the property cleanup assessment of 90 Cold Spring Road, Syosset, New York, performed on July 1, 2020, be referred to the County of Nassau for placement on the Nassau County Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D. 10/6/20 #19).

authorizing the property cleanup assessment of

144 Arlyn Drive West, Massapequa, New York,

performed on July 17, 2020, be referred to the

County of Nassau for placement on the Nassau County

Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D. 10/6/20 #20).

RESOLUTION NO. 584-2020; Resolution authorizing the property cleanup assessment of 638 Central Avenue, Massapequa, New York, performed on June 12, 2020, be referred to the County of Nassau for placement on the Nassau County Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D. 10/6/20 #21).

RESOLUTION NO. 585-2020; Resolution authorizing the property cleanup assessment of Newbridge Road, Hicksville, New York, performed on August 27, 2020, be referred to the County of Nassau for placement on the Nassau County Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D. 10/6/20 #22).

RESOLUTION NO. 586-2020; Resolution

pertaining to Contract No. PWC07-20, On-Call

Engineering Service Request Relative to Civil

Engineering for Highway Improvements to the William

Street Area in Glen Head; Account No. HWY H 5197

20000 000 1903 008. (M.D. 10/6/20 #25).

RESOLUTION NO. 587-2020; Resolution granting request from Raymond J. Lockhart PTA, for Town assistance in conducting their Trunk or Treat event, to be held on October 23, 2020, and for use of Municipal Parking Field M-3 for the event. (M.D. 10/6/20 #26).

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RESOLUTION NO. 588-2020; Resolution granting request from Trinity Lutheran Church and School, for Town assistance in conducting their Confirmation and Early Childhood Center Anniversary programs on October 4, 2020 and October 18, 2020 and for use of Municipal Parking Field H-15 for the events. (M.D. 10/6/20 #27).

RESOLUTION NO. 589-2020; Resolution pertaining to a settlement of a negligence claim; Claimant: Herzog, Claim No. 2018-6819. Account No. TWN AMS 1910 43010 602 0000 000. (M.D. 10/6/20#28).

RESOLUTION NO. 590-2020; Resolution pertaining to the decision on a Local Law entitled, "A Local Law to Amend Chapter 184 Public Nuisance, of the Code of the Town of Oyster Bay." Hearing held: October 6, 2020. (M.D. 10/6/20 #4).

RESOLUTION NO. 591-2020; Resolution amending Resolution No. 432-2020 to effectuate payment of additional funds to satisfy outstanding invoices and to provide funding for anticipated future costs in connection with Town of Oyster Bay v. 120 Westend, LLC., Account No. OTA A 1420 44110 000 0000. (M.D. 10/13/20 #16).

RESOLUTION NO. 592-2020; Resolution

11 1 authorizing agreements with various Auxiliary 2 Police Units to assist the units to recruit, equip 3 and train their members, and for the Supervisor, or 4 his designee to execute said agreements. Account 5 No. TWN A 1989 47900 000 0000. (M.D. 10/13/20 #17). 6 RESOLUTION NO. 593-2020; Resolution 7 authorizing an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the 8 Village of Mill Neck for the use of a wood chipper, 9 through December 31, 2020, to clear debris on roads 10 within the Village and for the Supervisor, or his 11 designee, to execute said agreement. (M.D. 10/13/20 12 #18). 13 On the motion. 14 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved. 15 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second. 16 MR. LaMARCA: A motion was made by 17 Councilwoman Johnson; seconded by Councilman 18 Imbroto. 19 On the vote -- I think we have some 20 speakers. 2.1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our first speaker 22 today will be Joel Berse. 23 MS. FAUGHNAN: Supervisor, how many 2.4 Resolutions? 25 MR. LaMARCA: For Joel?

	12
1	MS. FAUGHNAN: How many Resolutions?
2	I'm sorry.
3	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Oh, goodness.
4	One, two, three looks like four.
5	MS. FAUGHNAN: Thank you, Supervisor.
6	MR. BERSE: I have a card if you want
7	for the court reporter.
8	Let me put on my cheetahs.
9	Good morning, everybody.
10	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good afternoon,
11	Joel.
12	MR. BERSE: Oh, yeah. It is afternoon.
13	How about that?
14	First a quick commercial. It was nice
15	to see the Safe Center of Long Island here today
16	because of the fact that the last two years the
17	Town has worked with me and my train (inaudible)
18	depot to do fundraising train shows with them.
19	Unfortunately, this year for November has been
20	postponed into March, and I'm hoping when we get to
21	March that we're able to have it at the Hicksville
22	Community Center being open and all of you will
23	join us. It's always a lot of fun.
24	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.
25	MR. BERSE: Commissioner Gordon is

13 1 calling me because he knows I'm meeting with 2 Commissioner Ryder tonight. 3 On 574 and 575, the KRE -- I thought I 4 muted this. Okay. Here we go. 5 574 and 575, the KRE extension of the special use permits for Round One and for Orange 6 7 Fitness, our Civic has had them as very good 8 neighbors. 9 The two entities within the mall has 10 been part of the mall's improvement despite, the 11 economic downturn they are hitting right now. 12 we feel that the application that they are making 13 for an extension should be approved. It's nice to 14 be in favor of something for a change, right. 15 On -- I have a question on 585 which 16 was talking about cleanups on Newbridge Road. 17 Does anybody know what section of 18 Newbridge Road that was? 19 When I ask a question, doesn't the 20 clock stop. 2.1 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Joel, I don't know 22 what section it is, but it's a property cleanup. 23 It's typical, you know, when we go in and do anything on a certain property put on the tax 24 25 rolls, it's probably a home that was not being

14 maintained. 1 2 MR. BERSE: Usually the address is 3 identified. That's why I was asking that. All the 4 other ones that you have around -- on the sheet 5 have addresses. So that's why, you know -- do you have anything in the backup? 6 7 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Yes. It says Section 45, Block 70, Lot 49. 8 9 Does that help you? 10 MR. BERSE: Not really. Nice try, Lou. 11 Thank you. 12 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: We can look it up 13 and get you the information. 14 MR. BERSE: Can somebody get that to me 15 just so we know what we're talking about, you know, to know that. 16 17 On 592, that you just added --18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Joel, just to bring some clarity, this isn't voting whether or 19 20 not to do a cleanup. This is voting --2.1 MR. BERSE: I know to put it on the tax 22 roll. 23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: It refers to the 24 tax roll. 25 MR. BERSE: I just wanted to know, you

15 1 know, where it was. 2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We will get you 3 that that. No problem. 4 MR. BERSE: No problem putting it back 5 on the rolls. It's a question of where it was. That's all. 6 7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: But you're in 8 favor of these cleanups? 9 MR. BERSE: Yes. 10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you. 11 MR. BERSE: 592 where the Town is 12 talking about helping the Auxiliary Police in 13 publicizing in recruiting and whatever. I was a 14 member of the Jericho Auxiliary Police Unit from 15 1981 to '86, in the beginning of my activities with 16 the Nassau County Police Department and I think a 17 lot of people don't realize how much of 18 contribution Auxiliary Police do actually make, 19 even though their powers have been cut down since 20 the days I was there. They still could serve with 2.1 excellent function to supplement things that the 22 Police Department have to do, like when there are 23 gatherings or parades or whatever of that nature, 24 to not take a cop off the street and make him to 25 sit and do a job that's easy enough for Auxiliary

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to do. And this way it's not depleting our protections and all the other functions of the Police Department.

A final will commercial, I know you said this month of October is Breast Cancer

Awareness month. Back in the late '90s, early

2000s, I did many, many functions along with

109 and Jerry Barris which I'm sure you're

acquainted with Jerry and Steve must be from her

work this State Government, and also to the days

where I was working also together with Tom DiNapoli

when he was an assemblyman.

I ran softball game charity things, bowlathons and some other activities that it was really great and I met a lot of women survivors at the time. Some who -- since it's so long ago are no longer with us. But raising the awareness like you did, I want to thank you for also because in these trying times, people are forgetting about other things. We still have that every October and we -- and I came on board with the Safe Center just a couple of years ago to help them.

I can't, in my condition, help everybody do everything, but it keeps me going trying to do these different various projects and,

2.1

again, I thank the Town for when we do the train show at the Community Center that, hopefully, we'll still be able to hook up with the Safe Center or possibly, I was talking to Brian Nevin about the Railroad Museum here in Oyster Bay because they lost all their fundraisers due the pandemic this year.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Joel, we appreciate everything you do.

Just for clarity on 585, it's the vacant property on the corner Elm Avenue and Newbridge Road.

MR. BERSE: That's south of Old Country and it wouldn't have anything to do with our civic.

Terrific. Nothing to be concerned about for us.

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Joel, just on

Auxiliary, that's an important one I feel for me,

the last year or two I got to know you along with

Nassau County Police Department and our Public

Safety and met a few of you and I think you're an

important presence.

Our residents are happy seeing -- we have Michael who has been walking up and down Audrey Avenue in the daytime and night checking on things, and I feel like the connection is very

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important between -- just pairing up you with
Public Safety and our Police Department. We're
lucky to have you all and thank you.

MR. BERSE: The longing to the Commissioner's Community Council has probably been the threshold of different things that I've done all these years supporting the Nassau County Police Department, and when they've been talking about defunding the police or yelling about their training, I noted to quite a few people that unfortunately any incident that happened on Long Island was not within the Nassau County Police Department. It may have been a village, it may have been in the city, it may have been in Suffolk, but Nassau County Police Department has more training that's forward thinking, that's sooner than it's required, and they haven't had any of these unfortunate incidents, and they supported the crowds when they've marched and been places.

And I'm very proud of this Police

Department we have. Our current Commissioner is

extremely proactive, and, forward thinking, and he

was one of my instructors when I took the Citizen's

Police Academy class. So I got to know him back

then. My class was in 2014. So before he was -- I

2.1

think he might have been only a Lieutenant at that time. I got to know him then because he was in charge of the Intelligence Section and the Asset Forfeitures.

He did some great things to bolster the Police Department to bring in positives out of the drug dealers when they prosecuted them and they forfeited their property. There were some great cars and some great houses that the County got and was able to either sell or auction off, whatever it was, that benefitted the community out of people that were hurting the community. That was his doing back then.

Now, as the Commissioner, everybody sees a lot more of what he's doing because he's more in the public eye.

And this community council has really done some great things bringing police messages to the community or bringing problems in the community all the way to the Commissioner's office, so...

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Joel, our Supervisor, we've been talking about this a lot lately along with our Board that public safety is most important here. So we are on board with everything.

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MR. BERSE: Justin McCaffrey and I have been friends in his term as being Commissioner over there. If you ever need anything from a person like me, don't hesitate to pick up the telephone. All right. Because if you need advice police-wise from citizenry, that's what I'll be happy to do.

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Thank you.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We do need something from you and you mentioned it earlier among your participation in our Resolutions, we would appreciate you and everyone else reaching out to a loved one to motivate them to get a mammogram. So thank you for bringing that up. It's so critical all year round, and we use October as one of those times to remind our loved ones and remember people like Mary who worked here at the Town Board office.

MR. BERSE: I remember Mary well. She worked for Tony. I dealt with her quite a lot and at one point when somebody was talking about taking a trip to Hawaii, she was the expert on Hawaii, and I put the two of them together. She was a wonderful person.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you for being with us here today.

	21
1	MR. BERSE: Thank you.
2	Everybody stay safe and healthy.
3	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: You, too.
4	COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Thank you.
5	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our next speaker
6	is Mr. McKenna.
7	MS. FAUGHNAN: Supervisor, how many
8	Resolutions.
9	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Two, three, four
10	five. It looks like six.
11	MS. FAUGHNAN: Thank you, Supervisor.
12	MR. McKENNA: Good afternoon, Kevin
13	McKenna.
14	I'd also like to hand my business card
15	over to the stenographer (handing).
16	SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Would you kindly
17	tell us what that business card says?
18	THE STENOGRAPHER: His name and his
19	address.
20	COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Thank you,
21	Mr. McKenna.
22	MR. McKENNA: Kevin McKenna, Syosset,
23	New York.
24	I also just want to latch on to what
25	Mr. Joel Berse just said, if any of you ever need

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anything from me, don't hesitate -- don't hesitate to reach out.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Thank you for the offer, Mr. McKenna.

MR. McKENNA: First, I'd like to speak on the personnel Resolution P-16-20 as well as PA-10-20.

Just for the record, as of -- as of yesterday, the names, the positions, the salary increases, as per New York State Open Meetings Law, you are obligated under the law and I'm sure, Mr. Supervisor, you appreciate New York State Law, being in that you were in the New York State Assembly, as of yesterday, as I just said, all that information was not published on the Town's website.

So since you still have not voted on these Resolutions, you can still adhere to the New York State Law right now and provide us with the names, the salaries, the position increases, of any and all individuals that you will be voting on in this meeting.

So I ask for your response to that request. I have eight minutes. I will await your response.

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COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Are your comments finished, Mr. McKenna? Do you have any other comments.

MR. McKENNA: Yes, I do.

But first I -- I'm awaiting the Supervisor's response to my request. He is the Supervisor and he has an obligation to the residents and taxpayers of the Town of Oyster Bay to tell us all where our taxpayer money is going to -- on Resolutions P-14-20 and PA-10-20.

And by the way, I might add, I will take this opportunity, since it does have to do with, this I sent in two FOIL requests on October 7th to the Town Clerk Richard LaMarca, and as per the New York State Open Meetings Law the Town Clerk has the obligation of acknowledging those FOIL requests within five days of being received, and today is -- what is today, October 20th? Today would have been my father's birthday.

As of October 20, I still have not received an acknowledgement of the two FOIL requests that were for the information on prior meeting Personnel Resolutions. I have not even gotten an acknowledgement from your office and I

2.4 sent three different e-mails on the same thing and 1 2 I still have no acknowledgement. 3 So once again with my six minutes 4 left --5 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Why don't you go through all of your comments and then --6 7 MR. McKENNA: I'd rather first get an 8 answer on my request, which is what the names and 9 salaries --10 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: That's not --11 that's not really the purpose of --12 MR. McKENNA: To provide --13 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: The purpose of 14 this --MR. McKENNA: -- as per New York Sate 15 16 Law --17 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Your comment about 18 the Resolutions and if you don's have any more 19 comments on the Resolutions, we're not going to run 20 out the clock while you wait for an answer on 2.1 something. That's not part of your time. 22 So if you can just go through all the 23 things that you want to tell us with the remaining 24 time you have, we'd appreciate it. 25 MR. McKENNA: Councilman Imbroto, are

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you refusing to provide the names, salaries and position increases I requested?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Mr. McKenna, that's not part of this meeting where you demand information from us and we have to provide it.

This isn't a question-and-answer session.

You give us your comment about the Resolution with the time you have, but standing there and running the clock out, that's not commenting on the Resolutions.

So, if you have other comments, we'd appreciate it if you tell them to us now rather than standing in silence.

MR. McKENNA: Mr. Councilman, I do have other comments, but I'm not finished with my comments on this Resolution.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Okay.

MR. McKENNA: I would appreciate it and so would the public -- the vast public that's watching right now, we would like to know where our taxpayer dollars going, since yesterday in Newsday -- in case you didn't see it, yesterday -- COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I don't get

Newsday. I didn't see it.

MR. McKENNA: You don't read Newsday.

26 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I don't get it, 1 2 no. 3 MR. McKENNA: Yesterday it was reported 4 that over 151 pay increases were given out over the 5 past few meetings totaling over \$660,000 during COVID-19, a crisis where people are getting laid 6 7 off, furloughed, people are struggling to pay their 8 bills. 9 So you have an opportunity right now to 10 tell us, as per New York State Law, the names, the 11 positions, the salary increases as per Resolution 12 P-16-20 and PA-10-20, and I would also like a 13 response as to why I still have not gotten an 14 acknowledgement of my FOIL request sent in to Town 15 Clerk Rich LaMarca on October 7, 2020. 16 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Okay. 17 You have an opportunity in the 18 remaining 3 minutes and 45 seconds to address the 19 Resolutions that you want to speak about. 20 So that opportunity is going to be 2.1 fleeting if you have other things you want to speak 22 I suggest you do it. 23 MR. McKENNA: Mr. Councilman, I 24 absolutely do have other things I want to speak 25 about, but I would respect appreciate it and I'm

2.7 1 sure since Mr. Supervisor said when he took office 2 that he was going to be open and transparent to the 3 public, he said those words, day in and day out, 4 but yet we have not heard those words as of 5 recently, and I would appreciate a response as to the names, the salary increases and the positions 6 7 in Resolutions P-16-20 and PA-10-20. 8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Allow me to bring 9 this to a resolution. 10 You're currently in litigation with the 11 Town of Oyster Bay, So we are going to limit what 12 we say to someone who is suing the Town and trying 13 to raise costs to our taxpayers. 14 MR. McKENNA: Unfortunately --15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We just proposed 16 a budget with a zero tax increase. This will be the fourth one in a row that either lowers taxes or 17 18 freezes taxes. 19 We currently have provided the 20 information that you speak of to the media. 2.1 You're here as a member of the media or 22 as a private citizen today. 23 MR. McKENNA: This is not a question-24 and-answer period.

That's fine then.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO:

28 We provided this information to the 1 2 media and we will continue to do that, and we thank you for your participation today. 3 4 MR. McKENNA: I'm glad you touched on 5 -- so you're refusing to provide us the names and positions --6 7 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Mr. McKenna, I'm 8 going to make this real easy. 9 MR. McKENNA: I'm glad you touched o 10 the budget. 11 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: You got extra --12 you came -- you got extra time because you said you 13 were going to talk about the other Resolutions. 14 You haven't mentioned any except the 15 one Resolution, so if that's all you have to talk 16 about, you're time is up. MR. McKENNA: No, it's not. I have a 17 18 minute and 52 seconds left. COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Please use that to 19 20 discuss the other Resolutions. 2.1 MR. McKENNA: Okay. I'll use my minute 22 and 45 seconds since you're -- you can't wait to 23 hear what I have to say. 24 On Resolutions 576, I would like to 25 know, and the public would like to know, you are

29 designated it appears a new outside counsel for the 1 2 Zoning Board of Appeals. 3 Could you please tell the public who 4 the current law firm is that has been representing 5 the Zoning Board of Appeals? COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Do you have any 6 7 other questions, Mr. McKenna? 8 MR. McKENNA: Yes, I do. 9 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Why don't we go through them all? 10 11 MR. McKENNA: You know, it's very 12 interesting that when you go to the Town of 13 Hempstead Board Meetings, that they answer the 14 questions. You guys should take some lessons from 15 the Town Hempstead. 16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Mr. McKenna, 17 you're currently suing the Town of Oyster Bay, and 18 we are going to limit conversations with someone 19 who is bringing action --20 MR. McKENNA: Unfortunately -- you're 2.1 absolutely right. 22 I am personally and I did in case the 23 Council members are not aware of it, the Town was 24 served yesterday with the brief 19, 20-page brief.

If you need a copy of it, I'll be happy

30 to provide it to you, but that was provided on the 1 2 behalf of Kevin McKenna. 3 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: There's 15 seconds. 4 5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Who is before us 6 today? 7 MR. McKENNA: It's not a question and 8 answer period. 9 Thank you very much. 10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you. 11 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Thank you, 12 Mr. McKenna. 13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I have no other 14 slips. 15 Are there mailings and postings, correspondence? 16 17 MR. LaMARCA: There's no other 18 correspondence. 19 No further correspondence, Supervisor. 20 So we can go to vote. 21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes. If there is 22 no one else who would like to speak, let us take a 23 vote. 24 MR. LaMARCA: Supervisor Saladino? 25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: "Aye."

## ON TIME COURT REPORTING 516-535-3939

	31
1	MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Johnson?
2	COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: "Recusing" on
3	586.
4	"Aye" on the rest.
5	MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Imbroto?
6	COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I "abstain" on
7	576.
8	I vote "Aye" on the rest.
9	MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Hand?
10	COUNCILMAN HAND: "Aye" on all.
11	MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Labriola?
12	COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: I vote "Aye" on
13	all.
14	I just want to take a moment to
15	congratulate Councilwoman Walsh for Resolution 592.
16	I know you drove the bus on this one.
17	COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Thank you.
18	COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: I think it is
19	for all the things Joel Berse mentioned and I also
20	would agree with the fact that in these times in
21	civil unrest, we see it's important that we're
22	supplementing our Police Department in any way we
23	can.
24	I know the Auxiliary Police Department
25	are affiliated with Nassau County but the Town of

32 Oyster Bay is stepping up to do its part in our 1 contribution to help them recruit more members to 2 3 the Auxiliary Police. I think it's a great effort. 4 I congratulate you. 5 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Thank you. COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: I happily vote 6 7 yes. MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Maier? 8 9 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: "Aye" on all. MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Walsh? 10 11 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: "Aye" on all. 12 MR. LaMARCA: Motion to adopt Resolutions P-16-20 through 569-2020 passes with 13 14 seven "Ayes." Resolutions 570-2020 has been tabled. 15 Resolutions 571 through 575 passes with 16 17 seven "Ayes." 18 Resolutions 576 passes with six "Ayes" 19 and one "abstention." 20 Resolutions 577 through 585 passes with 2.1 seven "Ayes." 22 Resolutions 586 passes with six "Ayes" 23 and one "recusal." 24 Resolutions 587 through 593 passes with 25 seven "Ayes."

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1
                   The calendar is complete, Supervisor.
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.
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3
                   May I have a motion, please.
                   COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor, I
4
5
      make a motion to adjourn this meeting until
6
      7:00 p.m. this evening.
7
                   COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor,
8
9
      please signify by saying, "Aye."
10
                   ALL: "Aye."
11
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
      "Nay."
12
13
                   (No verbal response.)
14
                   SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes" have
15
      it.
16
                   Thank you very much.
17
                   (TIME NOTED: 1:00 P.M.)
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