

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
STATE OF THE TOWN ADDRESS
November 17, 2020
10:28 a.m.

JOSEPH SALADINO
SUPERVISOR

RICHARD LaMARCA
TOWN CLERK

P R E S E N T:

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

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

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

Minutes of the meeting
taken by:

HOLLY DALOIA OSTEEN
Reporter/Notary Public

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good morning,
2 ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the Town of
3 Oyster Bay. This is our Town Board meeting for
4 November 17, 2020.

5 To lead us in prayer please welcome a
6 dear friend and a great man, Rabbi Jason
7 Fruithandler of the Woodbury Jewish Center.

8 Rabbi, the floor is yours. Please
9 rise. Thank you.

10 (Whereupon, a prayer was recited; the
11 Pledge of Allegiance was then recited, followed by
12 a moment of silence.)

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

14 If everyone will kindly be seated.

15 At this time, we are here to present to
16 you -- take this opportunity to present to you the
17 current status of the Town of Oyster Bay with our
18 State of the Town Address.

19 Thank you for being here with us,
20 ladies and gentlemen, as we talk about the State of
21 the Town of Oyster Bay.

22 For nearly four years, this
23 administration, the Town Board, all of our elected
24 officials and our employees have worked tirelessly
25 to advance the Town of Oyster Bay, from returning

1 fiscal stability and accountability to restoring
2 trust, delivering the highest level of services our
3 residents have received and improving our quality
4 of life. We have moved Oyster Bay forward from its
5 darkest days to a much brighter future.

6 Just four years ago, this Town faced
7 financial ruin. Yet in that short time, we have
8 achieved an amazing turnaround. Wall Street has
9 repeatedly awarded our Town for successfully
10 restoring financial health. While balancing the
11 checkbook, we've improved services and we're making
12 necessary upgrades which were long ignored.

13 Four years ago, our Town faced a
14 crumbling infrastructure. We've invested in our
15 roadways, our parks, pools, beaches and other
16 important designations that were so critical to our
17 residents before the pandemic and essential since.

18 We took on the Quality of Life issues
19 that were dragging us down and created policies to
20 successfully address them, from combatting zombie
21 homes to jump starting the environmental
22 remediation in Bethpage. We're getting it done.

23 From constructing a new shellfish
24 hatchery and strengthening the quality of our
25 water, from opening new dog parks, we're responding

1 to our environment and the needs of our residents.
2 Just as things were getting to the best they've
3 ever been, the COVID-19 pandemic came along.

4 Our employees have risen to every
5 challenge, especially when it comes to protecting
6 and providing for the public during this pandemic.
7 We haven't missed a beat. Our antitax policies
8 have laid the foundation for the return of jobs at
9 a time when our economy, our downtowns and our
10 residents need it most.

11 Fiscal responsibility in government is
12 essential to creating a better, stronger, and more
13 prosperous community for this generation and for
14 generations to come. That's why this
15 administration and this Town Board have been
16 steadfast in our mission to bring positive
17 outcomes, turning around the problems of the past.

18 For over -- for the past four years, we
19 successfully eliminated a long-term budget deficit.
20 Yes. Yes, we have. The Town went from a \$44
21 million deficit to a \$27.4 million surplus. That's
22 right. We went from \$44 million in the red to more
23 than \$27 million of surplus in our operating budget
24 and that was as of the end of 2019. We also
25 substantially reduced the Town's long-term debt.

1 Before I came here and entered office,
2 the Town debt reached a high of \$763 million. And
3 we have reduced that by over 20 percent net.

4 Imagine reducing your mortgage but by just 20
5 percent in four years? We did just that. We
6 reduced the debt by a grand total of \$160 million
7 in just three years, and we did it without raising
8 taxes. Instead we cut taxes in 2018, and since
9 then, we've frozen taxes every single year.

10 Does everyone in the room hear that?
11 We have frozen taxes every single year. We're very
12 proud of that. The 2019 Budget, 2020 Budget and
13 now the 2021 Budget freezes your Town property
14 taxes.

15 (Applause.)

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: As a result,
17 there's over \$5 million more in the pockets of the
18 taxpayers rather than in the coffers of government.

19 Now, you don't have to take my word for
20 it. You can look to Wall Street see what they
21 said.

22 This year alone we scored a three peat
23 from Wall Street as the Town received a credit
24 upgrade in February, and then two more in July of
25 2020.

1 Moody's and Standard & Poor's both said
2 we're on the road to healthier finances. They
3 touted our successes and cost cutting, eliminating
4 the need for cash flow borrowing, which we no
5 longer do, and successful resolutions of
6 litigation.

7 The Town's taxpayers are no longer on
8 the hook for any of the loans associated with the
9 problems of the past. The Town's taxpayers, due to
10 our success in court, will not be paying any of the
11 fraudulent loans we read about so many times.

12 So, in essence, we went to court and we
13 won big. The rating agencies also stated that the
14 ongoing pandemic has only been a small speed bump
15 in the Town's progress. Unlike other
16 municipalities that are struggling and raising
17 taxes, the pandemic has not created a credit risk
18 in the Town of Oyster Bay.

19 So, if you look at other municipalities
20 across the State, across Long Island, they're
21 struggling. They're raising their taxes, but we've
22 have done it right in the Town and the proof of
23 that is the first year cutting taxes, and then now
24 three budgets that freeze taxes, that hold the line
25 on taxes during a pandemic.

1 So in just three short years, we've
2 received four credit rating upgrades, an increased
3 outlook from Wall Street and so much more. These
4 upgrades recognize that many positive steps we have
5 taken to repair the financial problems of the past
6 have brought fiscal stability for our taxpayers.

7 Most recently, the New York State
8 Comptroller Tom Dinapoli recognized this success
9 and removed the Town of Oyster Bay from his fiscal
10 stress monitoring list for the first time since the
11 program's inception in 2013. The State Comptroller
12 didn't just move us down a notch on the list, he
13 removed us altogether. This is great news, and
14 it's another sign of how we kept our promise to
15 restore the Town's financial wellbeing.

16 Friends, we continue to achieve savings
17 by relying less on outside contractors and more on
18 our amazing Town employees. From cutting down
19 trees, repaving basketball and tennis courts,
20 renovating bathrooms, restoring athletic fields,
21 Town employees have saved taxpayers millions of
22 dollars.

23 We've achieve savings from LED energy
24 efficiencies, green technologies and equipment
25 upgrades. We obtained success by enhancing

1 internal financial controls and instituting
2 fiscally aggressive monitoring practices.

3 With the help of Councilman Steve
4 Labriola, we reformed the contracting process to
5 enhance oversight and safeguard your checkbook.

6 We've been successful in restricting
7 new spending, an important part of our strategy.
8 We've successfully paid down debt and have
9 maintained a multimillion dollar tax cut for our
10 residents simultaneously and the best part is we're
11 just getting started.

12 (Applause.)

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We're just
14 getting started.

15 (Applause.)

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We will continue
17 to keep our promises to our taxpayers by protecting
18 your wallet while sustaining and improving the
19 services you depend upon. At a time when other
20 governments are struggling financially, we've
21 gotten it right.

22 We've reduced out Town taxes and
23 delivering the best services our residents have
24 seen in years. In the past, road reconstruction
25 wasn't a priority. When entering office, we

1 realized that the many residents have been
2 expressing their frustration over the condition of
3 the streets. For that reason, the Town Board and I
4 made smart investments in our roadways while
5 continuing to strike the right balance for our
6 taxpayers. We've repaved more than 400 streets and
7 100 more will be completed over the next twelve
8 months. I know folks at home are applauding that.

9 We've also completed drainage projects
10 and flood-prone areas throughout the Town of Oyster
11 Bay, and it's expensive, but it's the right thing
12 to do.

13 While it's easier for government, it
14 hasn't always been easy for homeowners and
15 businesses to get their projects moving forward.
16 We changed all that when we instituted same-day
17 permits. That's right. We eliminated red tape and
18 sped up the process and that's how you make the
19 economy rebound.

20 Let's face it, COVID-19 has taken a
21 devastating toll on local families and on the
22 economy. While the pandemic has been overwhelming
23 for so many, I'm confident that our actions will
24 help overcome and put more people to work. Why?
25 Because we are Long Islanders and we are Americans

1 and we are TOB strong. We can and will emerge
2 stronger and better, just as we always have.

3 We've already seen great successes.
4 We're achieving our goals and leading the charge to
5 get people back to work and return to a sense of
6 normalcy in these unprecedented times.

7 In the Town of Oyster Bay, our council
8 members and I have been working diligently to
9 attract new businesses, all to restore jobs and
10 bring economic security to your family and to your
11 community.

12 Recent successes include the
13 announcement of the 1-800 Flowers company. They're
14 moving their corporate headquarters to Jericho and
15 bringing 400 jobs. You can applaud that.

16 (Applause.)

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: But that's not
18 all. Home Depot is opening a new distribution
19 facility in Hicksville, along with more new jobs.
20 GEICO is adding over 100 jobs in their offices in
21 Woodbury, and London Jewelers chose Glen Head for
22 new corporate headquarters.

23 These examples are among just a few but
24 demonstrate our efforts and our successes in
25 bringing you new jobs at a time when our

1 communities need them the most. These efforts not
2 only make our economy thrive, they bring great
3 opportunities for our residents and businesses
4 throughout our township.

5 Over the Summer, I was excited to
6 announce that Amazon plans to create hundreds of
7 new jobs and build a new warehouse and distribution
8 facility at the former Cerro Wire site just off the
9 LIE in Syosset. The Amazon facility will be
10 architecturally attractive and bring
11 environmentally friendly, progressive green
12 technology.

13 New York City's politicians wrongly
14 thwarted Amazon's plans to bring those new jobs to
15 New York, but this Town Board and I, by contrast,
16 reached out and secured Amazon for the Town of
17 Oyster Bay.

18 We know that Amazon and Syosset will be
19 a significant benefit for our region. Amazon will
20 generate millions in reoccurring economic activity
21 and bring environmental cleanup to a site that has
22 sat vacant and polluted for more than three
23 decades. Make no mistake, Amazon will create 650
24 permanent jobs and employ thousands of construction
25 workers as they build a 200,000 square foot

1 warehouse.

2 Everyone who drives on the Long Island
3 Expressway will witness progress as an eyesore is
4 converted into an economic hub. Amazon's project
5 serves as the foundation needed for a economic
6 renaissance in the Town of Oyster Bay. We are open
7 for business.

8 (Applause.)

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Open for business
10 is the same message we sent in Hicksville where
11 New York State and the Town engaged community
12 stakeholders. We listened to our residents.
13 Informed a vision for the Downtown that maintains
14 our suburban lifestyle while creating new jobs and
15 housing opportunities that are a fine example of
16 transit-oriented development.

17 Our residents seek new buildings, not
18 hi-rises. Buildings that fit the current skyline
19 and transform sites that sat vacant while keeping
20 in mind the lessons we learned during this
21 pandemic.

22 Earlier this year, we celebrated the
23 revival of a vacant office building in Hicksville
24 that now offers new housing opportunities near the
25 train station with an innovative workspace, the

1 first of its kind on Long Island.

2 And just a few weeks ago we listened to
3 the public at a hearing to determine the future of
4 the former Sears site. We have and we will
5 continue to engage companies who want to invest in
6 improving our downtowns while embracing our
7 communities vision. You, embracing your vision for
8 the Town of Oyster Bay because here we put our
9 residents first.

10 Responsible growth means supporting new
11 developments while also providing the resources
12 needed, needed for existing neighborhoods. The
13 Town will continue to push the MTA to fulfill their
14 pledge to provide commuters with parking at a new
15 \$132 million train station in Hicksville.

16 With the State's financial support,
17 Hicksville is becoming a new hot spot on Long Island without
18 sacrificing our suburban character and our beloved
19 historic community. That works for today's
20 economic needs and the needs of future generations.

21 No matter where you live, you can be
22 assured that this Town Board and I, along with the
23 best workforce in the State of New York, are doing
24 our part when it comes to countering the economic
25 crisis brought on by COVID-19, and for that, I

1 thank each and every one of you from the bottom of
2 my heart.

3 I also want to thank the public and the
4 volunteers, who, like our employees, have continued
5 to work so hard to serve the public at this time of
6 need. You've been assisting residents with grocery
7 deliveries. You've helped random strangers in need
8 with food assistance and your donations. You've
9 donated blood. You've donated PPE and you've given
10 so much more.

11 We've stood together as one nation and
12 one town, combatting an invisible enemy and saving
13 lives. And what means more than that, we've really
14 been doing that together.

15 From the height of the pandemic to
16 today, the Town of Oyster Bay government has
17 continued to be fully operational as we deliver
18 every available service. We never closed down.

19 (Applause.)

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We got innovative
21 in so many different ways. Our Receiver of Taxes
22 Jeff Pravato opened walk-up windows and expanded
23 office hours to better serve our residents in the
24 safety of the open air. He negotiated lower rates
25 for paying online to save residents money and to

1 make it easier to do it more safely.

2 We continue to help our residents
3 grieve their assessments from Nassau County. Our
4 Town Clerk Rich LaMarca found creative ways to
5 continue his delivery of services, opening walk-up
6 windows as well. Clerk Rich LaMarca continued to
7 perform socially distance ceremonies including
8 marriage vows for frontline workers, for our
9 military members, for health care heros who are
10 concerned for their personal safety and the health
11 benefits of their loved ones. You got it done with
12 your team, once again proving that we continue to
13 fight for and work for you, our residents.

14 From the nonstop collection of
15 sanitation to paving roadways and approving
16 building permits, many of them on the same day,
17 Commissioner. Our workforce never stopped.

18 With the help of Councilwoman Vickie
19 Walsh, we expanded our operations to help residents
20 in need of food assistance. Also in partnership
21 with Island Harvest and Long Island Cares, our Town
22 of Oyster Bay and you, our residents, collected
23 over 20,000 tons of food to prevent hunger at this
24 difficult time. We are so proud because it was the
25 largest one-day food collection they've ever seen.

1 We were there. I remember the smiles on peoples'
2 faces. Jeff, you were there. Laura, you were
3 there. So many of us collecting food through the
4 windows of the cars as they drove up. It was
5 innovative and tremendously successful; actually,
6 record setting.

7 So once again, in the Town of Oyster
8 Bay, we set the tone for the rest of Long Island.

9 You know we've also done so many other
10 things, expanding constituent services, helping
11 hundreds of people with their unemployment claims
12 and difficulty reaching the New York State
13 Department of Labor.

14 With a reduction in the blood supply at
15 local hospitals, we converted the Hicksville
16 Athletic Center into a sterile facility for Long
17 Island Blood Services to collect desperately-need
18 donations and they saved lives.

19 To help families, we kept our Summer
20 Camps open, we kept our parks open and we limited
21 beach access to residents only. As local
22 businesses struggled to survive, we forced New York
23 State to open sooner with less financial hurdles.

24 We were a beacon guiding businesses
25 through the fog when it came to best practices for

1 safe reopenings. We eliminated red tape so our
2 restaurants can open, outdoor dining more
3 immediately without the cost of permits. Another
4 thing that we can be very proud of. We extended
5 outdoor dining opportunities through next year, and
6 we launched programs like "Foodie Week" and "Shop
7 Locally" to draw the public out to support our
8 local restaurants. And that's something we're
9 going to continue to do.

10 These are just some of the ways that
11 we've been helping businesses recover from the
12 months of closures. To help the construction
13 industry, we reprioritized our workforce and now
14 process building applications at a much faster pace
15 putting people back to work.

16 Did I mention same-day permits yet?

17 At the Town's award winning career
18 center, we offered and continue to offer free
19 online resume services and skilled training because
20 we understand the needs our residents have as they
21 prepare for workforce reentry and the new skills
22 they'll need.

23 We put together a team of professional
24 experts to provide free startup advice to
25 entrepreneurs. We are committed to helping

1 residents find meaningful employment opportunities
2 while connecting them with local business looking
3 to provide jobs.

4 This is an important one that everyone
5 can identify with. Because in an effort to save
6 the sanity and quality of life of our residents
7 during the pandemic, we provided free entertainment
8 opportunities and we were the first to offer
9 drive-in concerts. Yes. We offered drive-in
10 concerts which complimented our drive-in movies
11 held at our parks and beaches, important venues
12 that never closed.

13 Our residents, the Town Board and I
14 thank the Town of Oyster Bay's dedicated workforce
15 that kept it going each and every day. I said it
16 before I will say it again, in the Town of Oyster
17 Bay during the worst pandemic we've seen in our
18 lifetime, we never closed.

19 (Applause.)

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And we kept
21 families and students from missing out on important
22 milestone by hosting safe drive-in graduations.

23 In another first, back in September, we
24 created a drive-in tribute to honor the victims of
25 9/11 attacks on America and the First Responders

1 who continue to perish from the World Trade Center
2 disease. We read their names aloud and shined
3 towers of light into the sky. We never let
4 COVID-19 or any other emergency break our American
5 spirit. Instead, we have continued and we will
6 continue to show Long Island and every municipality
7 in New York State how to lead in a time of need.
8 And the way to lead in a time of need is to
9 motivate and rely on the best workforce you can
10 find anywhere in the State, our Town of Oyster Bay
11 workforce and the department heads who lead them.

12 Thank you from the bottom of our hearts
13 to each and every one of you.

14 (Applause.)

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So many of them
16 did an amazing job on the concerts and drive-ins.
17 I thank Community and Youth Services, Public and
18 Safety. The day-to-day heroes, Sanitation picking
19 up, Recycling picking up every day. All of you are
20 the pearls in our oyster, but make no mistake, we
21 have and we will face each challenge ahead and take
22 it on, head on and we will deliver to our residents
23 of Town of Oyster Bay the best of the best. We
24 hear you and we will do everything to preserve a
25 quality of life and to protect the safety of your

1 family.

2 After all, the pursuit of a better life
3 is what brought people here to the Town of Oyster
4 Bay for centuries, including when we were
5 incorporated in 1653. And that's also what
6 attracts people from New York City to the Town of
7 Oyster Bay these days. From great schools to great
8 neighborhoods, low crime and access to the wonders
9 of nature, we have it all.

10 In fact, we are united in our love for
11 this community and to each other, and by the
12 community, we mean every single resident of the
13 Town of Oyster Bay from every walk of life.

14 We also must be universally united in
15 the pursuit of peace, equality and acceptance of
16 all. Injustice based on race or any other reason
17 will not be tolerated. In Oyster Bay, we recognize
18 the importance of safety and thank the men and
19 women of the Nassau County Police Department, the
20 men and women of the Town Department of Public
21 Safety and all of our professionals for their
22 dedication for the protection of all.

23 "Back the Blue," Councilwomen Laura
24 Maier along with County Legislator Rose Walker and
25 myself launched a blue ribbon campaign to show our

1 support for their dedication in keeping our
2 communities safe.

3 The Town of Oyster Bay is the place you
4 want to raise a family and that's why we continue
5 to combat threats to our quality of life. We have
6 aggressively removed zombie homes from our
7 neighborhoods through code enforcement and our
8 demolition program. We also ban the use of plywood
9 for boarding of up doors and windows. And we will
10 continue our rigorous efforts to protect our
11 communities and do what's right by our residents.

12 Through the leadership of Councilman
13 Lou Imbroto and the Quality Life Task Force, we
14 have demolished 15 houses and made way for new
15 homes and new families. We all read about the
16 problems in our papers, on television, the problems
17 of zombie homes. We addressed this issue. We
18 changed our code, and we tackled the issue. Just
19 yesterday, we knock down the fifteenth home.

20 Right, Lou?

21 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: That's right, sir.

22 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And we're very
23 proud of it. Living in the Town of Oyster Bay,
24 we're fortunate to have the Atlantic Ocean to our
25 south and the Long Island Sound to our north.

1 These waters provide recreation and
2 economic opportunities; one of many reasons we kept
3 them open every single day during the pandemic.

4 Councilwoman Michele Johnson and I are
5 very proud to lead many of environmental
6 initiatives that help preserve the quality,
7 resiliency and national beauty of our local waters,
8 not only now, but for generations to come.

9 In the past year, we opened a new
10 shellfish hatchery in partnership with the Bayman's
11 Association. This hatchery helps populate our
12 waterways with millions of additional clams and
13 oysters. Believe it or not, each and every
14 shellfish is capable of filtering up to 50 gallons
15 of water a day.

16 Our continued efforts are the reason
17 Oyster Bay Harbor boasts some of the cleanest water
18 on Long Island, but our environmental commitment
19 doesn't end there.

20 For nearly fourteen years as a State
21 Assemblyman, I was known as a strong environmental
22 advocate focused on remediation of the Grumman Navy
23 Plume and passing landmark legislation that opened
24 the door to cleaning up this environmental
25 nightmare.

1 I bring the same passion to the Town of
2 Oyster Bay where, as Supervisor, I proudly joined
3 with our elected officials and New York State
4 officials in developing a full remediation plan.

5 As a result, New York State has
6 committed \$585 million for the construction of a
7 new State of the Art system to fully remediate this
8 plume.

9 I have heard your calls, Bethpage.
10 Please know you have a leader in me and our Board
11 members who care. Proof of this care is major
12 environmental cleanup initiative that began at the
13 contaminated ball field in Bethpage Community Park
14 recently.

15 After sitting idle and serving as an
16 eyesore for years, we pushed Grumman to get the
17 remediation infrastructure built and underway.

18 With the assistance of former Water
19 Commissioner and current Town Councilman Tom Hand,
20 we fast tracked approvals for the remediation
21 infrastructure, we got it built and we got it
22 turned on early. It is now operational.

23 (Applause.)

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: It is now
25 operational and cleaning the ground of its

1 contaminations. While the remediation will take
2 some time, we look forward to returning this field
3 to the residents of Bethpage with the assurance of
4 safety for this beautiful community.

5 As I just said, we heard you, Bethpage,
6 and the other surrounding communities, and we will
7 see the largest plume in a sole source Aquaphor
8 anywhere in the nation cleaned up and will be a
9 shining example of this environmental turnaround.

10 We're committed to our environment and
11 our dedication Town wide was recognized by New York
12 State when we earned the designation of a climate
13 smart community. We've also earned so many
14 recognitions over the past four years for our
15 residents.

16 We've earned Wall Street credit
17 upgrades. We've been named the leader by Reclaim
18 New York, and we received an A, their highest
19 grade, from the Empire Center For Online
20 Transparency and Accessibility, earning a statewide
21 award for supporting Veterans with career services
22 and winning a Civil Engineers Quality of Life Award
23 for our work with expanding Alan Park in
24 Farmingdale.

25 Also, we won the Smart Growth Award for

1 office sharing space and transit-oriented
2 development in Hicksville.

3 NYSER named us a statewide leader for
4 residential solar installations facilitated by our
5 same-day permit process. And this list goes on and
6 on and on and we are not stopping there. There is
7 so much more we can point to when it comes to
8 enhancing governments, this government for the
9 benefit of our residents.

10 Dog-friendly parklets are now open
11 throughout our Town and a new dog park was opened
12 on the North Shore and there will be more to come.

13 We've installed dozens of new
14 playgrounds, replaced worn out athletic fields,
15 renovated tennis courts, installed new pickleball
16 courts and resurfaced basketball courts, and that's
17 just to name a few.

18 We also expanded Allan Park in
19 Farmingdale transforming a former super fun site
20 into a sports facility with new baseball, softball,
21 T-ball, a multipurpose field. Our ice rinks were
22 upgraded with new scoreboards and WiFi service.
23 Our Town Board enhanced pools with free sunscreen,
24 new tables, lounge chairs, umbrellas, sunshades and
25 renovated bathrooms which, by the way, were the

1 cleanest bathrooms found anywhere, every single day
2 during this pandemic.

3 And in Tobay Beach, the jewel of the
4 Town of Oyster Bay, we faced an erosion nightmare
5 from Mother Nature that would have shut the beach
6 down, and we would have lost the season, but not
7 with this team of experts. We found a way to move
8 the sand that restored our beach 100 percent and
9 saved the season for all of our residents.

10 (Applause.)

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Tobay now offers
12 that beautiful beach along with new restaurants,
13 live music, a new spray park and even free WiFi.
14 We've been doing all these different things while
15 cutting taxes. Show us another town that's been
16 able to accomplish this. Whether it's our North
17 Shore, our South Shore or everywhere in between,
18 and by the way, guarding those beaches on the North
19 Shore and South Shore are our incredible Town
20 employees. Lifeguards have literally saved the
21 lives while watching over our families this year
22 and in the years prior. And we have thank you the
23 lifeguards for their life-saving efforts in our
24 Town.

25 (Applause.)

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We've enhanced
2 downtowns with increased commuter spots and added
3 parking to support small businesses. We continue
4 to work on walkability enhancements to ensure
5 safety of our pedestrians and our bicyclists. The
6 Town Board, our employees and our administration
7 focus on these initiatives each and every day. We
8 are laser focused on delivering an effective and
9 honest government that cuts your taxes while
10 protecting the highest quality of services that you
11 rely on. We've come a long, long way from the dark
12 days of the past, and I'm so incredibly proud of
13 our record. Thank you to our workforce. Thank you
14 to the elected officials of the Town of Oyster Bay
15 and thank you for the public for working with us
16 every step of the way.

17 (Applause.)

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: From independent
19 Board of Ethics to an Inspector General who
20 previously worked as a federal agent, we are
21 protecting the taxpayers' money from in-depth
22 disclosure requirements for contractors, vendors,
23 employees to the implementation of forensic
24 software, we are doing everything to protect your
25 pocketbook. We are moving the Town forward

1 financially, ethically, and we're delivering
2 quality services that residents expect and deserve.

3 Friends, we're moving the Town of
4 Oyster Bay forward from every corner of this great
5 Town and we're doing it for just 13 percent of your
6 property tax bill while cutting taxes.

7 (Applause.)

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

9 We've delivered all these services and
10 improvements I've spoken of and so many more at the
11 cost of only \$144 per month for the average
12 homeowner in the Town of Oyster Bay, considerably
13 less than your television cable bill.

14 Why? Because we keep taxpayers as our
15 first and foremost priority, and we find ways to
16 cut costs each and every day.

17 We said we would bring about a new day
18 in the Town of Oyster Bay and we have. But most
19 importantly, we continue to move Oyster Bay
20 forward. This Town Board and elected officials of
21 this Town are delivering on a promise and setting
22 the tone, how to recover from a pandemic. That's
23 why we've been that beacon of light to our
24 residents, navigating COVID-19 storm and weathering
25 its economic impact.

1 Friends, neighbors, colleagues, I thank
2 you for providing me this opportunity to share with
3 you the many evidence-based achievements that we've
4 made in the Town of Oyster Bay.

5 We are more optimistic than every
6 before about our future. As Town of Oyster Bay
7 residents, we always stay optimistic. We always
8 look forward to success. We are proud of our
9 history of doing just that.

10 From helping George Washington overcome
11 the hurdles and winning the America Revolution in
12 part right here in Town of Oyster Bay to the
13 National Conservation movements created by our own
14 Oyster Bay resident President Theodore Roosevelt.
15 From Jericho Quakers helping slaves achieve freedom
16 through the Underground Railroad to Bethpage
17 workers landing Americans on the moon. Our history
18 continues to motivate us and we set the bar for our
19 future.

20 The greatest times in the Town of
21 Oyster Bay were not behind us. They are ahead of
22 us, and we will continue to lead in that direction,
23 and we will continue to work with our residents to
24 achieve the greatness of the accomplishments and so
25 many more accomplishments for decades to come.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

You know, as I say God Bless you to each and everyone of you as I wish you and your loved ones health and happiness through the holiday season and through each day of these challenging times, I think in my heart that my faith continues to lead me and lead us forward. Faith and hope is so important.

We will achieve everything we set out to do and so much more because we will be dedicated. We will keep our residents first and foremost and we will continue to be TOB Strong.

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

God bless you all.

(Applause.)

(TIME NOTED: 11:14 A.M.)

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
REGULAR MEETING
November 17, 2020
11:15 a.m.

HEARING - P-10-20

To consider the application of Ravinder Singh for a Special Use Permit to allow for a gasoline service station and retail food mart at premises located At 297 Robbins Lane, Syosset, New York. (M.D. 10/13/20 #20).

JOSEPH SALADINO
SUPERVISOR

RICHARD LaMARCA
TOWN CLERK

P R E S E N T:

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

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

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

Minutes of the meeting
taken by:

HOLLY DALOIA OSTEEN
Reporter/Notary Public

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: At this time, I
2 ask Clerk Rich LaMarca to please poll the Board.

3 MR. LaMARCA: Supervisor Saladino?

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Present.

5 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Johnson?

6 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Present.

7 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Imbroto?

8 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Present.

9 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Hand?

10 COUNCILMAN HAND: Present.

11 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Labriola?

12 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Present.

13 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Maier?

14 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Present.

15 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Walsh?

16 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Present.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Will you please
18 call our first hearing?

19 MR. LaMARCA: Supervisor, today's
20 hearing is to consider the application of Ravinder
21 Singh for a Special Use Permit to allow for a
22 gasoline service station and retail food mart at
23 premises located at 297 Robbins Lane, Syosset,
24 New York.

25 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: (Inaudible.)

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes, please.

2 Thanks, Steve.

3 Good morning, Counselor.

4 How are you?

5 MR. O'BRIEN: I'm very good,

6 Supervisor, Honorable Members of the Board.

7 Before I get going I just want to
8 thank, Supervisor Saladino. Nice speech. Nice
9 job. Very, very good.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I hope you feel
11 slightly more inspired than you did walking in the
12 door.

13 MR. O'BRIEN: I've got to be honest
14 with you, I'm a lifelong Long Islander. Grew up in
15 the borderline of Bethpage and Plainview. Went to
16 Bethpage High School. Parents are here. I like it
17 here. I want to stay here. And it's good to see
18 people like you guys making it, you know, people --
19 for the people like us to be able to stay here.

20 So what you're doing with the taxes and
21 everything like that, greatly appreciate it. So,
22 as one Long Islander to another, thanks for a great
23 job.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you for
25 those comments. We all appreciate it. This entire

1 Town Board and all our workforce has worked as a
2 team. It's no one person. It's everyone working
3 together. I'm so proud of them.

4 MR. O'BRIEN: Nice job.

5 Kevin O'Brien from O'Brien Law, P.C.,
6 462 Sagamore Avenue, East Williston, New York, here
7 on behalf of Ravinder Singh in connection this
8 application for a Special Use Permit.

9 I also have here with me this morning
10 to assist Mr. Jim Galella. He is a licensed
11 professional engineer with Catapano Engineering.
12 They're the licensed professional engineers and
13 design professionals that prepared all the plans
14 that are here and before the Board. If Jim needs
15 to holds these up or show them to the public, by
16 all means, he can certainly do so.

17 This property which is the subject of
18 this application is located at 297 Robbins Lane in
19 Syosset. The corner of Robbins Lane and Aerial
20 Way. It's an application to raise and rebuild an
21 existing gasoline service station and a Special Use
22 Permit is required from this Board in order to do
23 so.

24 Prior to actually filing any
25 applications for the proposed improvements, the

1 applicant and owner had met with various
2 representatives from the Town. Sometimes what
3 happens is their eyes are bigger than their
4 stomachs.

5 So, Planning had looked at what they
6 were proposing and initially wanted six pump
7 islands. They wanted a larger building, thought
8 that what they're proposing might not be able to be
9 accommodated on this site. So as a result, they
10 modified their plans. Worked with Planning on
11 plans which are currently before the Board today.

12 The property as noticed 297 Robbins
13 Lane, Section 15, Block 161, Lots 33 and 37 on the
14 Nassau County Land and Tax Map.

15 I'm sure the Board's familiar with it.
16 I'll just kind of take you through a little mini
17 walking tour of the area.

18 The site is on Robbins Lane just north
19 of the LIE and the LIE service road. So, if you
20 came down the LIE service road and made a right,
21 you would pass by the Cerro Wire site that the
22 Supervisor had just mentioned earlier and you would
23 come -- on the left-hand side, as you're going in
24 that direction, you see New York State DOT salt and
25 storage yard. Then you cross over the tracks and

1 the world changes a little bit. You notice a
2 difference.

3 So you see on the left-hand side over
4 there, the Town built one of its new parks on
5 Robbins Lane. Just behind that is Lifetime
6 Fitness. This area is all zoned LI, Light
7 Industrial District. You have Lifetime Fitness and
8 I think Bloomingfeld Development did a wonderful
9 job over there. They have some of their offices.
10 You can even see landscaping. They've got beach
11 grasses and the like. Lifetime Fitness, Bicycle
12 Planet and the like. You go a little bit further
13 is 200 Robbins Lane, a little more industrial, but
14 it's tucked in the back. It's sort of like we call
15 panhandle for houses, where you have a long
16 roadway, then if you go in the back it's a huge
17 industrial building with a variety of different
18 uses. On the right-hand side, there is Ally
19 Building Supply and then there is our service
20 station which is currently improved with three
21 service bays, an 1,800 square foot building. Three
22 underground gasoline storage tanks. Pump islands
23 and the like.

24 Behind us is Glass Works and behind us
25 -- while we're in an industrial zone over there, it

1 is kind of interesting because you'll see that
2 there's like gymnastics in the back. While it's
3 industrial, there's also offices. You've got
4 Lockwood Kessler back over there. You've got the
5 LiRo Group. You've got Tesla.

6 So while light industrial, light
7 industrial office, commercial is sort of the nature
8 of the uses. If you go a little bit further on
9 Robbins Lane, you'll see it kind of develops more
10 towards retail and the like. Right next to us is
11 Pooch Dog Grooming place. Syosset Seafood which
12 has been there. It's sort of a little bit of a
13 landmark. It's been there forever. A lot of
14 retail type of uses. As you approach Jericho
15 Turnpike on the left-hand side, you see parts of
16 Birchwood, backs of residential houses.

17 The site itself has been operating as a
18 gasoline service station for over sixty years.
19 Originally received permits and approvals from the
20 Zoning Board of Appeals because that's how things
21 had been done at one time. Then it went to the
22 Town Board. In or about April of 1958, the Town
23 Board granted permission. The Zoning Board
24 previously granted permission, but the Town Board
25 also granted permission to operate a service

1 station.

2 There were some conditions and
3 covenants that the Town had imposed at that time,
4 typical for the time period, like no outdoor
5 storage, no working on motor vehicles and the like.
6 Those type of restricted covenants.

7 What we are proposing at this location
8 is to completely raise and rebuild -- actually,
9 typically, we say from the ground up and it's going
10 to be actually from the underground up.

11 We have the underground gasoline
12 storage tanks, as I'm sure the Board is familiar.
13 Nassau County -- it used to be the Fire Marshal's
14 office, now Department of Health under the auspices
15 of the DEC has required that service stations no
16 longer utilize single or fiberglass underground
17 storage tanks.

18 So it's being proposed to remove the
19 single wall fiberglass storage tanks and install
20 two new double-wall underground gasoline storage
21 tanks, two 12,000-gallon tanks, double-wall, one of
22 which would be solely for premium 12,000 gallons.
23 The other one would be compartmentalized which is
24 what they've been doing these days to put a variety
25 of products such as premium and diesel in the

1 compartmentalized tank. So from the underground,
2 that's where we start that meets all the County,
3 Local, Federal -- State and Federal requirements.

4 From there, you go to the pump islands,
5 and if I may, perhaps for the Board and for the
6 public attending if you can hear me, if you can't,
7 I'll try to speak as close as I can, but the
8 proposed improvements -- so you get a rough idea --
9 the existing -- we have the existing three-bay
10 service station with the pump islands in the front
11 and the underground gasoline storage tanks. There
12 are two curb cuts on Robbins Lane and there are two
13 curb cuts over on Aerial Way.

14 What is being proposed is, like I said,
15 the underground improvements. Then from there you
16 have to do the piping and the piping will go to the
17 new pump islands. As I said, we reduced the scope
18 from what we originally were thinking, but you have
19 a total of four pump islands with a canopy over
20 those four pump islands.

21 We pushed the curb cut further from the
22 intersection. There are two curb cuts; one on
23 Robbins, one on Aerial Way. It is a signalized
24 intersection but we have push the curb cuts further
25 away. These are the underground storage tanks I

1 was referring to before. We would be removing --
2 completely removing the building, eliminating the
3 use of repairing automobiles. Then installing
4 approximately 22,175 square foot building which
5 would act as a sales transaction area and a
6 convenience store.

7 The setback of the building was
8 designed in such a way to match -- if you're
9 heading down Robbins Lane, you'll see the retail
10 stores just as you start to approach. So we're
11 matched up exactly with the setback that you have
12 on the retail stores right next door.

13 I should submit -- should have done
14 this a little earlier. Forgive me.

15 I do have sort of -- to make it easier
16 to follow along (handing), this is a copy of the
17 site plan, the survey, elevation drawings to show
18 what it would look like. I do have a photograph of
19 a similar location that Mr. Singh operates. So,
20 this way you can actually see a photograph versus
21 -- sometimes renderings, you know, try to have it
22 accurately depict as much as you can. So this will
23 reflect the brand of motor fuel I think currently
24 the brand of motor fuel that they would be looking
25 for -- sorry about that. The brand of motor fuel

1 that they would be looking to sell would be Mobil
2 at this location.

3 So, the sum and substance would be
4 eliminating the repair of motor vehicles, having
5 motor fuel sales and retail product sales. If you
6 look at the plans, we are currently -- there's
7 virtually no landscaping on the site. We've
8 substantially increased the landscaping where we
9 possibly can.

10 As I indicated before, if you look
11 across street, they did a beautiful job. The park
12 looks great that you have over there. Where
13 Lifetime is and where Bloomingfeld is they've done
14 a terrific job. So, I think this would really
15 nicely complements the improvements that you see
16 over there as well.

17 Like I said, while it's a light
18 industrial area, it's a combination -- it's a
19 combination of light industry and commercial and
20 retail. Almost a transitional way onto, you know,
21 as you approach Jericho Turnpike.

22 I think that this will be a tremendous
23 upgrade to the area. It's a Type II action, so
24 environmentally, if anything, it's an upgrade. We
25 are not repairing motor vehicles over there. We

1 are going to have the latest and greatest state of
2 the art equipment. And we think that there is a
3 need in the area and, hopefully, if Amazon is there
4 as well, we can service that also, so we think all
5 around, it's a great improvement. And we would
6 look for the Board's favorable discretion on this.

7 I would be happy to answer any
8 questions that the Board or any interested
9 observers may have for Mr. Galella. If there's
10 something of a technical nature, which if over my
11 head, I'll give it right to him.

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Do any Board
13 members have questions?

14 COUNCILMAN HAND: Mr. O'Brien, a quick
15 question in regards to the number of parking space
16 allocated.

17 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure.

18 COUNCILMAN HAND: The rendering shows
19 eight in my packet, but I don't see eight spots or
20 a handicap spot there, but that being said, I'm
21 just wondering about the traffic flow and the
22 expectations for the number of stops per hour into
23 the convenience area as opposed to coming in for
24 fuel.

25 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure. Well, I think if

1 you don't mind, if we can hold up to plan, so the
2 beauty of something like this and I'm probably one
3 of the few people that find beauty in a gas
4 stations, but I do, is that -- okay, so what we're
5 able to do is -- we've got four pump islands and
6 you've got four multiproduct dispensers.

7 So, therefore, you would be able to
8 fuel, okay, at any given moment eight vehicles at
9 any given time. We are presently -- you can only
10 do four. So by doing that, you're keeping the
11 vehicles off the roadway, which is exactly what --
12 is what you would ideally like to do.

13 With respect to the parking, the Town
14 of Oyster Bay has a unique feature, shall we say,
15 in their parking requirements, and that is -- so,
16 technically, we are underparked. Okay, technically
17 we are deficient in our parking. We probably have
18 to go to the Zoning Board of Appeals relative to
19 that, but part of the demand by the Town's code,
20 and I respectfully, and I emphasize respectfully,
21 disagree with the requirement, but we can all
22 disagree on certain -- on that particular
23 regulation is that the Town will require one
24 parking space for each pump island. I just can't
25 wrap my head around it, quite frankly, in the sense

1 that I don't see where a pump island is actually
2 going to demand a parking space unless you have an
3 attendant at each parking space and they would need
4 to park their car.

5 But be that as it may, typically what
6 is the tendency to happen, though we don't receive
7 credit for, is that each pump island -- you know,
8 cars will pump and fuel their vehicles -- inasmuch
9 as it is a quick mart retail store, sometimes
10 people will run into the store to, you know, grab a
11 newspaper or whatever, cup of coffee, whatever the
12 item might be, that has a tendency to act as a
13 parking space as do the actual park spaces in the
14 front.

15 So I think at the end of the day, we
16 have eight spaces. If you counted those as actual
17 spaces, you know, you'd have more than enough
18 parking but, technically, it doesn't, you know, by
19 the book work that way, but I think operationally
20 it works very well.

21 COUNCILMAN HAND: Thank you.

22 You don't anticipate any overnight
23 parking; do you?

24 MR. O'BRIEN: No, absolutely not.

25 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: I have a couple of

1 questions on the parking.

2 How many employees do you plan on
3 having per shift? Where do they plan on parking?

4 MR. O'BRIEN: Typically, we have one
5 with a rotating manager that comes in. So that one
6 person would be parking -- that one person would be
7 there either would be parking there or using some
8 other means of transportation.

9 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: I'm assuming it's
10 going to be self-service as opposed to full-service
11 station?

12 MR. O'BRIEN: Well, the Town
13 requirements -- yes, it would be self-service, but
14 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., you
15 now, full service would be provided. Then
16 typically what we do at a location like this is
17 usually you'll see -- sometimes they have a button
18 or a blue thing, so that if there is a handicapped
19 person or something like that needs assistance --

20 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Notify --

21 MR. O'BRIEN: Somebody can come out and
22 do that.

23 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: The egress onto
24 Robbins Lane, I'm familiar with the area, just not
25 sure what the capabilities are.

1 Are they able to turn south onto
2 Robbins Lane or is it just right turn only north?

3 MR. O'BRIEN: I believe they can turn
4 south; however, I guess maybe as I get older, I
5 become more cautious driver, and you do have the
6 benefit of the signalized intersection over there.
7 So, the smart money, quite frankly, is to go and
8 utilize the benefit of the signalized intersection,
9 come out on Aerial and make a left-hand turn. I
10 believe -- I don't believe there's a prohibition
11 shall we say from doing that.

12 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Making that left?

13 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes.

14 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Last question,
15 hours of operation.

16 What are you proposing for hours?

17 MR. O'BRIEN: Ideally, invisible hand
18 of Adam Smith kind of person, I'd ideally like the
19 ability to operate 24 hours and see what the market
20 does. I think the Town might have certain code
21 requirements, which I think we would have to abide
22 by. If those code requirements ever change, we'd
23 certainly like the ability -- because as a
24 practical matter, the world starts earlier.

25 Even the Lifetime Fitness across the

1 street I believe opens at 4:00 in the morning and
2 ends at I believe 12:00.

3 Now with COVID, I'm not 100 percent
4 sure the way everything is working these days. I
5 think that's the way it's been operating.

6 So we ideally would like the ability
7 but we certainly, you know, respect the Town's, you
8 know, ordinances.

9 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Do you know of any
10 other 24-hour operations within this vicinity?

11 MR. O'BRIEN: I would suspect because I
12 know I have gassed up there late at night, but I'm
13 guessing that on the corner of South Oyster Bay
14 Road -- I'm trying to think the transition. I
15 think it's BP these days. So I think they would be
16 on the north side of South Oyster Bay Road and the
17 North Service Road, not too far from Miller Place
18 where the Town's DPW facility is. I think that's a
19 24-hour operation. Then I guess if you go up to
20 Jericho Turnpike -- I'm trying to think.

21 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: That's okay. I
22 was just wondering if you knew offhand because you
23 mentioned earlier the demands of this area why
24 you're proposing to put in a convenience store as
25 well and why you're proposing to go 24 hours

1 because I'm very familiar with this area as I think
2 most people are. There is a lot of residential in
3 this area. I have some concern if you have, you
4 know, a convenience store 24 hours a day.

5 MR. O'BRIEN: Understood. Like I said
6 we plan to respect the Town's requirements.

7 On the other hand -- I mean, I can say
8 having been in the business for quite some time, I
9 mean the ideal between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and
10 let's say 4:00 a.m., 5:00 a.m., let's face it, it's
11 quite. It's relatively quite at particular time,
12 but what it has a tendency to do if you are open,
13 you do have random people that need something.
14 They know that they can go to, you know, a service
15 center. So there's a certain comfort and knowledge
16 in knowing you have the ability that this place
17 will be open and I can get whatever thing it is
18 that I might need.

19 On the other hand, in those off hours,
20 it's a great time for us to clean. It's a great
21 time for us to restock, and also, there's less of a
22 tendency to have any sort of break-ins and stuff
23 like that when the premises is occupied as opposed
24 to when it is not. So, there are advantages to
25 have it. I understand in terms, you know, of

1 concerns that people might have. Like I said, we
2 certainly wish to work with the Town in connection
3 with this.

4 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Last question.

5 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure.

6 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Food deliveries,
7 gas deliveries, hours of when you propose those
8 occurring and where those are going to occur. I
9 know it's a small site, so oil tank is typically
10 large.

11 MR. O'BRIEN: Typically, what you try
12 to do is you try to do it at off-peak hours;
13 meaning, you don't want to -- sometimes you have to
14 feel your neighborhood. You have to feel what kind
15 of business and that stuff you have.

16 While each place is unique, there are
17 certain similarities. I would say typically we are
18 not going to unload fuel between 4:00 p.m. and
19 6:00 p.m. when it might be rush hour.

20 Similarly, we might not be doing it
21 between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. when it's going to
22 be rush hour also.

23 So, we try to schedule it at times
24 off-peak and, quite frankly, where we are here, the
25 closest residence is quite some distance away. So

1 you wouldn't even -- you are in an industrial area.
2 So I would say that even if they did unload in the
3 late night or early evening matters, timeframes,
4 there is like right immediately contiguous behind
5 us -- I mean, you know, take the service station on
6 Old Country Road or something where you might have
7 a residence right behind you. You might be
8 concerned about somebody offloading at 2 o'clock in
9 morning because you might here clanging of some of
10 the pipes or something like that. I don't think
11 you have that same situation over here because we
12 do have this sort of blanket of industrial right
13 around here.

14 So I think what would be driving it
15 would be the sort of traffic in the area and try to
16 do it in such a way that would be least disruptive
17 as possible.

18 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Okay. Thank you.

19 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: I have one quick
20 question.

21 MR. O'BRIEN: Certainly.

22 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: You might have
23 said this on Aerial Way.

24 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes.

25 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: On the corner of

1 Robbins and Aerial, I can't remember, you said, is
2 it signaled or is it right on red; is it right on
3 red, to your knowledge?

4 MR. O'BRIEN: Let me see.

5 On egressing, I believe it is a right
6 on red, so what's interesting about this particular
7 area -- it's a little confusing I guess when I
8 first -- there are two Robbins and Aerial Way
9 because Aerial Way kind of loops around. You go
10 from wherever you are, you go straight down is
11 Tesla and comes out the other side. So this
12 Robbins and Aerial Way, just so we're particularly
13 clear and I probably should have, forgive me,
14 mentioned that earlier on, this is Robbins and
15 Aerial Way which is closest to the LIE.

16 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: I've been here, so
17 when I make a left into that station which I have
18 gone to --

19 MR. O'BRIEN: Yeah, yup.

20 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: -- I'm glad you
21 pulled the curb cut back --

22 MR. O'BRIEN: Yeah.

23 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: -- because you're
24 normally speeding into it because the cars are
25 coming around that way.

1 MR. O'BRIEN: Understood.

2 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: That would be
3 great if that was more signal right turn than a
4 right on red, obviously.

5 MR. O'BRIEN: Right.

6 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Because you're
7 going to have a lot of traffic going to this. It's
8 really the only convenience store in the area to
9 get coffee, that I know of anyway, coming in that
10 area. So that's great if you went as far back as
11 you could, but that would be even better if that
12 wasn't a right on red, because I had a tough time
13 getting into that during rush hour.

14 MR. O'BRIEN: Yup. I understand.

15 I think it's a Town roadway, so I guess
16 that's something we can probably address because I
17 don't think that we can actually control the
18 signalized devices there, but it's something we can
19 certainly talk with at the final site plan stage if
20 the Town wished to prohibit right-hand turns on red
21 if they think that that's warranted. We can
22 certainly could communicate, you know, with the
23 Town on that.

24 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Thank you.

25 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes, absolutely.

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Steve, please.

2 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Thank you.

3 Counselor, just a few questions.

4 Can you hear me with my mic on?

5 MR. O'BRIEN: Yeah.

6 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: First, would you
7 clarify on the record the disclosure of the client?
8 Is he filing as a corporation?

9 MR. O'BRIEN: I'm glad you mentioned
10 that.

11 It was brought to my attention a little
12 earlier. My apologies on that end. When he
13 purchased the location, when we were preparing the
14 application, we wanted to proceed as quickly as we
15 possibly could. We were anticipating that it might
16 be a corporation, but it's actually in his
17 individual name and not a corporation name, so the
18 disclosure is actually an individual disclosure.

19 As a matter of fact, I had just reached
20 out to my office to prepare an individual
21 disclosure rather than a corporate disclosure to
22 submit, but I can assure you because I met with him
23 on several occasions, but we will submit the
24 appropriate documentation that he is not related to
25 any Town employees or public officials.

1 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Thank you,
2 Counselor.

3 Now, some questions with regards to the
4 operation itself.

5 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure.

6 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Does the
7 petitioner intend to sell alcohol?

8 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes.

9 Whatever beverages are permitted or
10 whatever products are permitted at this or similar
11 type of locations throughout the Town of Oyster
12 Bay, throughout Long Island so -- but with all the
13 appropriate bells and whistles that we do have
14 these days, which I'm amazed and thank goodness the
15 way technology is working where now somebody can
16 just take your driver's license and, you know, put
17 it underneath the card reader and it will flash
18 either red or green and you can say no, you can't
19 buy something or yes, you can. You don't even have
20 to do the math anymore, which is probably a good
21 thing.

22 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: That's where the
23 hours of operation, I think, would be a concern for
24 me personally. You're right off the major
25 expressway selling alcohol late in the night.

1 Would your client object to restrictive
2 covenants of sale of alcohol limiting the hours of
3 operation or the limiting of the hours of selling
4 alcohol products?

5 MR. O'BRIEN: Well, my preference,
6 quite frankly, you know, would be that, you know,
7 we would abide by all the rules and regulations.
8 Not necessarily put it in the form of a covenant,
9 but, you know, once again, we would abide by
10 whatever the regulations are, whether it be the
11 Town or whether it be the State or whether it be
12 the Feds that so we are in full compliance. And I
13 think, quite frankly to be fair, I don't want to
14 get into a whole side issue, but, you know, one can
15 go to Walgreen's at 2:00 in the morning and they
16 would drive or one could go to CVS or Stop & Shop.
17 One can go to a variety of different places that
18 are open 24 hours if one was so inclined.

19 So I think that this is one of several
20 products that places of this operate as do whether
21 they be grocery stores. You go to your CVS. Your
22 CVS probably has got more ancillary products than
23 they do the products that I would typically
24 associate going to CVS for, but, you know, I like
25 to see the CVS there. I want the CVS to be there

1 and at 2:00 in the morning, I want to be able go to
2 CVS.

3 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Thank you for
4 your answer.

5 In the site itself, it's been operating
6 you said as a gasoline repair shop for fifty-plus
7 years?

8 MR. O'BRIEN: Yeah. I think since
9 about 1958 if my review of the records is correct.

10 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: And you're
11 removing the older tanks and you're replacing them
12 with more modern tanks --

13 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes.

14 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: -- that have a
15 much greater life span in terms of their ability to
16 contain the gasoline?

17 Did they do a Phase I of the property
18 yet or is there any soil contamination indicated?

19 MR. O'BRIEN: I'm unaware of any soil
20 contamination. What is interesting quite frankly,
21 like I said I don't want to go too far afield, the
22 County came up with at regulation that there should
23 be double-wall tanks as opposed to single wall.

24 We are a voting community, Oyster Bay.
25 We're surrounded -- we live on an island. What's

1 interesting is that the fiberglass, quite frankly,
2 used to be -- all the way back in the industry it
3 used to be smaller tanks, 2,000, 4,000, 6,000
4 single-wall steel tanks. Steel corroded.
5 Fiberglass doesn't corrode.

6 So all you to have to do is go down to
7 any harbors and take a look at boats that might
8 have been there from the '50s, '60s, '70s,
9 typically don't corrode or leak.

10 But the County what they did was -- and
11 Suffolk County did the same thing -- they changed
12 the regulations to require -- to require
13 double-wall tank under the belief that it would be
14 much more protection over there. And I think it
15 was the insurance companies as well. Because some
16 of the insurance ran for thirty years.

17 What Suffolk County did, they said if
18 the tank is twenty years old, it's got to be
19 removed, and Nassau County did the same thing.

20 But what these tanks do have that some
21 of the other things didn't have, they've got this
22 what they call superficial compartments so that in
23 between the two walls of the tanks there are
24 sensors. So if there is even the slightest smell
25 of something, it sets off all kinds of alarms and

1 shuts everything down. So the equipment, like
2 anything, you know, like we have here, like our
3 phones. I mean, it's progressed incredibly, so
4 what you're going to have is the latest and
5 greatest and everything. So it's the double-wall
6 tanks. It's the double-wall piping. Everything
7 has the latest and greatest equipment with all
8 those sort of alarms systems as well.

9 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: That's good to
10 know.

11 What my concern is it's been in
12 operation for half a century. And I know our
13 departments -- our Environmental Department,
14 et cetera, Nassau County, New York State DEC, my
15 concern would be with regards to the soil
16 contamination, if there is a proper remediation.

17 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure.

18 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: And if your
19 client's well aware of the risks involved in terms
20 of, you know, when that happens. A lot of these
21 sites become abandoned sites --

22 MR. O'BRIEN: Yeah, yeah.

23 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: -- because of
24 their long history. So I'm just curious about this
25 particular site.

1 MR. O'BRIEN: I'm glad you asked the
2 question.

3 So, the tanks that are there, have not
4 been there since the 1960s or 1950s. So,
5 typically, they've been rotated out. They started
6 off with steel. You've got single-wall glass in
7 the ground right now. I believe they did conduct,
8 you know, a Phase I when, you know, they were
9 acquiring the property to make sure that, you know,
10 you didn't have a problem.

11 This is going to sound a little odd,
12 but petroleum is not really bad in the sense that,
13 you know, if there was a situation and I'm not
14 saying there was, it's easy to clean up. You know,
15 unlike Grumman and, you know, certain other type of
16 heavy metals and the like, you know, which were
17 much more complicated. Here the best thing that
18 you can actually do is remove the tanks, and it's
19 very simple. If you remove the tanks -- in order
20 to remove the tanks, you've got to get someone from
21 the County out there. So the County -- it's all
22 monitored from the County and the State when you're
23 doing it.

24 And if there is a problem, you smell it
25 immediately. It's pretty simple and what they do

1 is if there was an issue, they dig down until
2 there's no more issue and take care of it.

3 But as part of in buying the station,
4 he purchased the station, you know, conducting
5 tests and unaware of any problem, but just God
6 forbid there was an issue, we are prepared to
7 handle it as part of redevelopment of the site.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Counselor, just
9 to dovetail what Councilman Labriola is addressing,
10 for the purposes of our residents who are concerned
11 with this application or who are here listening to
12 this application or may be listening or watching at
13 home, can you give the Town Board and the public
14 the assurance that if this is granted, you will be
15 replacing the tanks and you'll be doing full
16 testing of the soil in the area of the tanks?

17 MR. O'BRIEN: Absolutely. 100 percent.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

19 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Thank you.

20 MR. O'BRIEN: Anything further,
21 Councilmen?

22 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: I have nothing
23 further.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Do any other
25 Board members have any questions?

1 (No verbal response.)

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Counselor, just a
3 quick of couple quick questions.

4 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure.

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: As it relates to
6 your proposed site plan, we see the proposed
7 convenience store and you have told us that you
8 would like it to line up with the front of the
9 stores that are currently there.

10 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: After our team
12 continues to look at this, if the community had any
13 concern and wanted the front yard setback to be
14 larger, would the applicant consider that?

15 MR. O'BRIEN: I don't see that.

16 I guess just the one concern would be
17 just to make sure we do have the trash enclosure
18 located towards the rear of the property. So I
19 mean if you want it to go back a little bit, we
20 could certainly do so. It doesn't seem that much
21 room to do it that much further; otherwise, you'll
22 be relocating the trash enclosure which we
23 certainly can do, but it does seem to be the best
24 spot behind the building and outside of the public
25 view.

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I know we have
2 some residents here to ask questions about this, so
3 we'll see what their questions are related to.

4 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure.

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Will the
6 applicant provide the data analysis on the
7 environmental testing to the Town?

8 MR. O'BRIEN: Certainly.

9 Like I said, the County comes out, but
10 we would be happy to share any information, you
11 know, either during the construction or after.
12 Absolutely, absolutely.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: As you probably
14 know, and you certainly heard it during our State
15 of the Town presentation, we are a very
16 environmentally conscious government in the Town of
17 Oyster Bay. So ensure to -- obviously, as you
18 stated, the best thing that can happen is change
19 that brings about double-wall tanks with the
20 petroleum sensors. I know Xerxes is one of the top
21 brands of those products, but there are a number of
22 products. The double-wall tanks have been around
23 since -- the fiberglass have been around since the
24 1970s.

25 MR. O'BRIEN: You're 100 percent. I

1 think there are only two manufacturers left and
2 Xerxes is certainly tops.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good to hear.

4 So that's obviously a concern.

5 Secondly, have your designers created
6 turning radiuses to these pumps that would allow
7 for more than cars; meaning, trucks, truck and
8 trailer for a landscape vehicle, for someone towing
9 a boat, have these turns -- radiuses been designed
10 in a way to safely and efficiently navigate
11 throughout your site to get that boat, to get that
12 landscape trailer, to get that truck in, in a
13 manner that is safe for their vehicles as well as
14 for other vehicles simultaneously on the site?

15 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes, they have.

16 I hold that one near and dear to my
17 heart because I do have a 17-foot center console,
18 and forgive me, because sometimes it's too
19 expensive to gas up down at the marina, so I do
20 utilize these myself. And I like to have that
21 ability to be able to get my little boat in and
22 out, as well as they have designed and they use
23 templates. I speak to the people out in the field
24 to make sure the vehicles that are loading and
25 unloading over there can get safely in and out. So

1 Mr. Gallela is a professional at that. And we have
2 taken that into account when we do our design
3 features.

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So you're
5 assuring us the design of these tanks allows for
6 that safely --

7 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: -- and while your
9 boat is 17, we have residents perhaps a 21 or
10 larger foot boat, they may want to also negotiate
11 around these tanks and you're assuring us that it's
12 designed in a way that they can accomplish that
13 filling up those vehicles as well as the safety of
14 the other vehicles that are on site simultaneously?

15 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes, we have.

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

17 I have no other questions at this time
18 before we bring the public up.

19 Does anyone else have questions?

20 (Audience member speaks.)

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Counsel, yes.
22 You can come forward now.

23 Why don't you do us a favor? Please
24 step up to the podium. It's being cleaned right
25 now for you. And if you can begin by giving us

1 your full name and address.

2 MR. MAVRIDIS: Sure.

3 My name is James Mavridis, and my
4 address is 297 Robbins Lane currently.

5 This is the site we're actually
6 speaking about. I'm the old operator. I'm
7 currently operating for a short period of time.
8 I'm the old operator there.

9 Just to clarify, the site does have an
10 approved Phase 2. It was drilled 20 feet and maybe
11 6 points of the area. We do have proof of that, so
12 just to clarify for the Board that that was done.
13 I know you guys with the environmental and stuff
14 like that.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very
16 much.

17 MR. MAVRIDIS: That was very already
18 done, I would say, about three, four months ago.
19 Right before COVID. It was done when the transfer
20 of the property occurred.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That begs the
22 question, James, did they find anything?

23 MR. MAVRIDIS: No, they did not.

24 Everything -- the site is clean and
25 also --

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Not only
2 petroleum or any other contaminates?

3 MR. MAVRIDIS: Exactly.

4 I don't know -- there was one dry well
5 that was -- that did come up. It was required to
6 be cleaned before the transfer of sale happened.
7 Then also, the site by the Health Department
8 because the tanks are going to be removed, and they
9 are aged, so they need to be removed. The Health
10 Department makes us test the tanks every few months
11 for pressure, like tightness test.

12 I just wanted, you know, to clarify.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: James, we
14 appreciate that.

15 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: A question before
16 you leave, the Phase 1, Phase 2, so remediation has
17 taken place, that well has been cleaned?

18 MR. MAVRIDIS: Correct. We have proof
19 of that as well.

20 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: You have a letter
21 from Nassau County and then DEC?

22 MR. MAVRIDIS: That, I'm not 100
23 percent of -- from the new owner. I know it was
24 done prior to bank loans and things like that.

25 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: I was going to

1 say. Process -- bank loan, they're going to need
2 that documentation.

3 MR. MAVRIDIS: Correct.

4 THE STENOGRAPHER: James, can you spell
5 your last name?

6 MR. MAVRIDIS: M-A-V, as in Victor,
7 R-I-D, as in David, I-S.

8 Thank you, guys.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So you'll provide
10 to us any and all information that you have on the
11 result of that test?

12 MR. MAVRIDIS: Correct. Any of that
13 stuff that you need, we'll be happy to give it to
14 you.

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We appreciate
16 that very much.

17 As I stated, we are quite
18 environmentally conscious in this Town and we are
19 going to continue to keep our ground clean.

20 MR. MAVRIDIS: Thank you very much.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

22 Our -- we have a speaker on the record,
23 Mr. Arthur Adelman.

24 Would you please step forward?

25 MR. ADELMAN: Arthur Adelman,

1 Sea Cliff, New York.

2 My first question would be -- I'm
3 curious to know if the Special Use Permit flows
4 with the property or flows with the owner. If it's
5 sold, Special Use Permit would go with the new
6 owner?

7 I'm asking because right now the
8 applicant is an individual as opposed to a
9 corporation, correct?

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Right.

11 So the answer to your question is that
12 that Special Use Permit continues with the
13 property.

14 MR. ADELMAN: The next question I guess
15 would be to Mr. O'Brien is, does Mr. Ravinder have
16 any relationship to -- Mr. Ravinder Singh have any
17 relationship to Harvinder Singh of Old Westbury,
18 the principal of Bolla Management Corp.?

19 MR. O'BRIEN: I do not believe so. I
20 do not believe so. I can give you --

21 MR. ADELMAN: They might be cousins,
22 but they're not father/son.

23 MR. O'BRIEN: I'm going to give you 90
24 percent on that one. I could further clarify, but
25 I met with him several times. I know Singh from

1 Westbury as well. I worked with him. I worked
2 with Mr. Singh. I never heard them mention any
3 familial relationship other than being in the same
4 business.

5 MR. ADELMAN: This is called Jas --
6 Joe's Express?

7 MR. O'BRIEN: J-A-S.

8 MR. ADELMAN: J-A-S Express.

9 And the market itself is a corporation,
10 correct; so they will be renting from Mr. Singh; is
11 that the --

12 MR. O'BRIEN: I would suspect -- it's
13 his business, so I believe what will happen is the
14 corporation -- I wasn't involved in that aspect
15 when it was purchased individually, the application
16 was individually.

17 It's just -- typically what attorneys
18 do is they recommend to their client that they
19 don't operate as an individual, operate as a
20 business.

21 So with one other location I know he
22 works, he is the principal of that corporation that
23 operates it. I would suspect -- he's going to
24 operate it, but through -- whether it be LLC or
25 some sort of corporate entity, I believe. It's not

1 established yet, to my knowledge. I know he has
2 other counsel that handles sort of his corporate
3 affairs, but it certainly would be my
4 recommendation that he be a principal of an entity,
5 whether it be a limited liability company or a
6 corporation that operates it.

7 MR. ADELMAN: My last question refers
8 to the fact that currently there are three bays in
9 the garage that's there. I might assume that the
10 gentleman that just spoke owned that operation,
11 that auto repair shop, so there is no surprise to
12 any individual's code employed by the gas station
13 that they're going to be out of work in about six
14 months when this goes through.

15 MR. O'BRIEN: No. And actually
16 interesting that you mention that, inasmuch as I
17 kind of mentioned before --

18 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: We can't hear
19 you.

20 Can you speak into the microphone?

21 MR. O'BRIEN: Sorry about that.

22 He is going to be -- so I mentioned
23 earlier about Aerial Way, the way it kind of loops
24 around and there's another gas station also on the
25 corner of Aerial Way. It is really about a block

1 away. It's my understanding that -- and that is a
2 repair-oriented facility which used to have gas. I
3 think has eliminated the sale of gas and is just
4 going to be a repair facility.

5 So, it is my understanding is he's
6 moving his repair operation basically one block
7 over to that location.

8 As a matter of fact, I was there
9 yesterday and I saw that they are in process of --
10 there was a container there. And it looked like
11 they were doing some improvements to the outside.
12 Looks like were peeling the outside of the facade
13 of the wall, but -- I'm sorry, it might be a long
14 answer to a short question.

15 The short answer is my understanding is
16 he's moving his repair operation one block over to
17 that location.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay, Arthur?

19 Are all your questions answered?

20 MR. ADELMAN: Yes. All my questions
21 are answered. I have no objection to this.

22 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Arthur, just as a
23 point of religious sensitivity and then there's a
24 point of information, there's nothing wrong with
25 any of your questions including the one I'm

1 referring, but as a point of information, virtually
2 every male who is of the Sikh religion has the name
3 Singh as one of their names. So, obviously, it
4 will -- it's --

5 MR. ADELMAN: It comes up often.

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: It will come up
7 often.

8 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: It's also totally
9 irrelevant to this land use application.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our next speaker
11 will be Mr. McKenna. Kevin?

12 MR. MCKENNA: Good morning.

13 Kevin McKenna, 3 Edna Drive, Syosset.

14 I happened to stop by the service
15 center last night, and I spoke to the gentleman
16 who's running the office there, and he told me --
17 and I'm just providing this to the Board for
18 information -- he told me that the former owner is
19 going on the continue to run the three bays at the
20 site, so I mean that's what he told me. So now
21 we're hearing that the owner -- that the former
22 owner is taking the three bays somewhere else.

23 So, I don't know, you might want to
24 clarify that, but, more importantly, I'm glad the
25 Supervisor brought up Amazon -- you know, the

1 Amazon site, if it were to go through, is right
2 next door and that Amazon site, as the Supervisor
3 mentioned, could bring hundreds of new employees
4 which, those people they need to have lunch, they
5 need to have dinner, and as a resident who lives
6 not too far from there, you might want to keep this
7 in mind. They are right next door. There are two
8 delicatessens that are just north of this site that
9 have been there forever. And it appears that this
10 site very well could have some type of delicatessen
11 food-type of service, and if I was the owner,
12 that's -- one of those delis that are right next
13 door, that are very well-known delis, I've been
14 waiting forever maybe for somebody to move into the
15 neighborhood that can bring me more business. I
16 would be very, very upset that all of sudden a new
17 food delicatessen opened up right next door to
18 Amazon. So, I don't know if you guys are aware of
19 the fact that there's two other delicatessens
20 there, and I know that some of you had stated in
21 your photo opportunities that you like to see
22 business stay local, with, you know, long-time
23 businesses. So this could have an effect on those
24 two very well-known delicatessens.

25 Lastly, I'm wondering if maybe the

1 attorney could answer this question.

2 There happens to be a very active civic
3 organization right across the street called the
4 Birchwood Civic Association, and there is a whole
5 community right across the street.

6 And I'm wondering if you had contacted
7 or have contacted the Birchwood Civic Association
8 and what their feelings are towards this project.

9 And by the way, I happen -- with
10 everything that I just said, I happen to think it's
11 a perfect location for what you want to do, but I
12 just think it's going to affect two long-standing
13 businesses right next door.

14 And I'm also wondering if you talked to
15 the hardware operation right next door because that
16 is a heavily trafficked spot where you're going to
17 build this.

18 Thank you very much.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Counselor, a
20 question for you, please, if you don't mind
21 stepping forward.

22 Counselor, does the applicant intend to
23 have deli-slicing machines and prepare and sell
24 fresh sandwiches that are cut from a deli type of
25 process or would it be the prepackaged types of

1 sandwiches that we would see at other quick food
2 locations?

3 MR. O'BRIEN: I don't believe that
4 there is any intention, you know. Given the size
5 of the location, I don't believe there is any
6 intention of being a delicatessen. Though, I don't
7 recall that being, you know, sort of a criteria
8 inasmuch as the sense that if -- if there are three
9 pizza places on the block and I think O'Brien's
10 Pizza is going to be the best pizza around and put
11 out all these other --

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's because
13 you haven't tried Saladino's pizza.

14 MR. O'BRIEN: But I think --

15 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Or Labriola's
16 pizza.

17 MR. O'BRIEN: But I think, I don't
18 know, shouldn't I have the right to try O'Brien's
19 pizza to sit there and say hopefully all three of
20 us can get along together?

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Counsel, just so
22 it's clear, we're not challenging that in any way,
23 shape or form. We're trying to address a
24 resident's question. And I realize that different
25 types of food -- people go to different

1 establishments for different types of food.

2 MR. O'BRIEN: Right.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: If I want a great
4 sandwich, I might go to a Jersey Mike's. But I
5 wouldn't go there if I wanted a delicious ice
6 cream --

7 MR. O'BRIEN: Right.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: -- for instance.

9 MR. O'BRIEN: I think what we're
10 talking about here is that -- what you would
11 typically expect to find at -- at these type of
12 locals. Prepack packaged type of food items.
13 There might be a donut that's not prepackaged, but
14 for the most part, I think that's what we're
15 talking about.

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So you're telling
17 us that they're not focusing on the intensity of a
18 deli-sliced fresh made sandwich --

19 MR. O'BRIEN: Correct.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: -- that someone
21 could get elsewhere?

22 MR. O'BRIEN: That is correct.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay. I just ask
24 this to bring clarity to the question brought
25 forth.

1 MR. O'BRIEN: Absolutely fine.

2 I do have a consent form from -- I
3 think they mentioned the building supply across the
4 way, so if I can submit that (handing) where they
5 had sent it to the application.

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

7 Thank you, Counselor.

8 Are there any other questions from the
9 Board? Is there anyone else in the public --

10 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Actually, one more
11 question.

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Certainly.

13 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Just to address
14 Mr. McKenna's question.

15 Have you spoken with the Birchwood
16 Civic Association?

17 MR. O'BRIEN: I know -- Counsel, I sent
18 a letter out to everyone in the area. No one --
19 actually, the only response I actually received was
20 from Bloomingfeld, as a matter of fact, because I
21 think they own the property that Lifetime is on,
22 and they have -- so I did speak with one of reps
23 over there, sent them a copy of the site plan and
24 that was about the extent of it. I hadn't heard --
25 like I said, sent invitations out to all the

1 property owners, with a personal letter seeing if
2 anybody wanted to meet or anything along those
3 lines. Nobody did, so we were fine.

4 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Specific to the
5 civic association.

6 MR. O'BRIEN: Not specific -- not
7 specifically to the association itself, just the
8 residents in the area.

9 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Okay.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Do you have
11 anything to else to present to us today?

12 MR. O'BRIEN: No. Just I think it's a
13 good application. I think it would be a great
14 improvement to the area. I think it meets with all
15 the ideals that the Supervisor spoke about earlier
16 today.

17 We worked with Planning in connection
18 with this to bring it to level that it is. We
19 would just look for the Board's favorable
20 discretion on this application.

21 Thank you for putting up with me and
22 listening to me for this period of time.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,
24 Counselor.

25 I just want to make sure, I have the

1 screen in my way, is there any other resident who
2 would like to be heard on this application?

3 (No response.)

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please let the
5 record reflect I see no one showing that they have
6 interest in that.

7 Counselor, thank you for doing a fine
8 job. You're very well prepared. You're very
9 professional. You're very thorough, so much so
10 that we like to consider you the Wayne Edwards of
11 the Town of Oyster Bay.

12 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: See that's a
13 high praise.

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes, it is.

15 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: But thank you.
16 And great job to you guys.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

18 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: We want to stay
19 here and you guys might be able to make us do that.

20 Thank you.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Counselor,
22 Councilman Labriola makes a great wood burning
23 stove pizza.

24 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Thank you,
25 Supervisor.

1 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: I'd love to get
2 an invitation.

3 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I'm still waiting
4 for mine.

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We're all still
6 waiting for ours.

7 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: I'll share some
8 O'Brien's pizza.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Is there any
10 correspondence, Clerk?

11 MR. LaMARCA: Attorney for the
12 applicant has filed his Affidavit of Service and
13 Disclosure.

14 The communications are as follows: We
15 have memos from the Department Planning and
16 Development, including a review of the required
17 off-street parking.

18 The Nassau County Land and Tax Map
19 indicates the property is Section 15, Block 161,
20 Lots 33 and 37.

21 According to the Town of Oyster Bay
22 Zoning Maps, the property is located within a light
23 industry zone. There are no variances or open
24 prior Code Enforcement Bureau cases; however, there
25 is a Town Board resolution on file. There is no

1 further correspondence.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: May I please have
3 a motion?

4 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor, I'll
5 make a motion to adjourn the hearing and the record
6 be kept open for 30 days.

7 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second that
8 motion.

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

11 ALL: "Aye."

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Against, "Nay."

13 (No verbal response.)

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes" have
15 it.

16 Thank you, Counselor.

17 Will the Town Clerk -- (inaudible) yes,
18 that's actually a great idea.

19 Do you need a break, a little a
20 five-minute break? I think I need a break. So
21 that was a polite way of saying let's take a quick
22 five-minute recess to potentially give our
23 stenographer a break.

24 (TIME NOTED: 12:15 P.M.)

25

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OYSTER BAY
ACTION CALENDAR
November 17, 2020
12:26 P.M.

JOSEPH SALADINO
SUPERVISOR

RICHARD LaMARCA
TOWN CLERK

P R E S E N T:

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

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

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

Minutes of the meeting
taken by:

HOLLY DALOIA OSTEEN
Reporter/Notary Public

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Will the Town
2 Clerk now call the regular Action Calendar, please?

3 MR. LaMARCA: Supervisor, we have a --
4 we have two Resolutions that have been added to the
5 calendar.

6 So may I have a motion, please, to
7 suspend the rules and add Resolutions 630 and
8 631-2020?

9 **RESOLUTION NO. 630-2020;** Resolution
10 authorizing and directing the Comptroller to
11 satisfy outstanding real property taxes due on
12 8 Washington Street, Bethpage, New York, calculated
13 to November 30, 2020. Account No. TWN A 1989 47900
14 000 0000. (M.D. 11/10/20 #31).

15 **RESOLUTION NO. 631-2020;** Resolution
16 amending Resolution No. 592-2020 to reflect and
17 clarify that payment to each Auxiliary Police Unit
18 be for the term December 1, 2020 to November 30,
19 2021; Account No. TWN A 1989 47900 000 000. (M.D.
20 11/20/20 #32).

21 COUNCILMAN HAND: So moved.

22 MR. LaMARCA: Motion made by Councilman
23 Hand.

24 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Second.

25 MR. LaMARCA: Seconded by Councilwoman

1 Johnson.

2 On the vote, please:

3 Supervisor Saladino?

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: "Aye."

5 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Johnson?

6 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: "Aye."

7 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Imbroto?

8 Not here?

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Suspend the rules
10 and add 630 and 631?

11 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Let's do it.

12 "Aye."

13 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Hand?

14 COUNCILMAN HAND: "Aye."

15 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Labriola?

16 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: "Aye."

17 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Maier?

18 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: "Aye."

19 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Walsh?

20 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: "Aye."

21 MR. LaMARCA: Motion to suspend the
22 rules and add Resolution No. 630 and 631-2020
23 passes with seven "Ayes."

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We have speakers
25 on this calendar.

1 The first will be Arthur Adelman.

2 MR. LaMARCA: Supervisor, I'm just
3 going to call the calendar first.

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Oh, sorry.

5 MR. LaMARCA: If I may.

6 May I have a motion, please, to adopt
7 Resolution Nos. P-17-20 through 631-2020.

8 **PERSONNEL RESOLUTION NO. P-17-20 and**
9 **PA-11-20;** Resolution pertaining to personnel of
10 various departments within the Town of Oyster Bay.

11 **TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION NO.**
12 **TF-17-20;** Resolution pertaining to transfer of
13 funds within various departments' accounts for the
14 Year 2020.

15 **RESOLUTION NO. 605-2020;** Resolution
16 authorizing the 2021 Meeting Schedule for the
17 Zoning Board of Appeals. (M.D. 10/20/20 #9).

18 **RESOLUTION NO. 606-2020;** Resolution
19 authorizing the 2020 Drive-In Holiday Experience at
20 Marjorie R. Post Community Park, Massapequa, on
21 December 4, 2020 through December 6, 2020, to be
22 held in lieu of the Annual Holiday Concert due to
23 current NYS social distancing mandates. Account
24 Nos. CYS A 7020 47660 000 0000, CYS A 7020 45100
25 000 0000 and CYS A 7020 41800 000 0000. (M.D.

1 10/27/20 #4).

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 607-2020;** Resolution
3 authorizing the employment of performers for the
4 2020 Drive-In Holiday Experience, to be held at
5 Marjorie R. Post Community Park on December 4, 2020
6 through December 6, 2020, and authorizing the
7 Supervisor and/or his designee, or the Commissioner
8 of Community and Youth Services, to execute said
9 Agreement. Account No. CYS A 7020 47660 000 0000.
10 (M.D. 10/27/20 #5).

11 **RESOLUTION NO. 608-2020;** Resolution
12 amending Resolution No. 695-2019, in connection
13 with editing services for a montage of past holiday
14 concerts to be featured at the Drive-in Holiday
15 Experience. Account No. CYS 7020 47660 000 0000.
16 (M.D. 10/27/20 #6).

17 **RESOLUTION NO. 609-2020;** Resolution
18 authorizing acceptance of a donation of two
19 memorial plaques, a bench and a tree from K. Botta,
20 to be placed in Marjorie R. Post Community Park in
21 memory of Suzanne Scanio. (M.D. 10/27/20 #7).

22 **RESOLUTION NO. 610-2020;** Resolution
23 authorizing acceptance of a donation of a memorial
24 plaque and bench from C. Lathuras, to be placed at
25 TOBAY Beach in memory of Mary Lathuras. (M.D.

1 10/27/20 #8).

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 611-2020;** Resolution
3 authorizing the Nassau County Police Marine Bureau
4 to berth one marine enforcement boat at both Harry
5 Tappen Marina and Theodore Roosevelt Marina for the
6 2020-2021 winter season with fees waived. (M.D.

7 10/27/20 #9).

8 **RESOLUTION NO. 612-2020;** Resolution
9 implementing the Harry Tappen/Theodore Roosevelt
10 Marinas Spring, Summer and Fall Fee Schedule for
11 the 2021 season, with no increases in fees from the
12 prior year. (M.D. 10/27/20 #10).

13 **RESOLUTION NO. 613-2020;** Resolution
14 pertaining to Contract No. PWC09-20, On-Call
15 Technical Assistance Relative to Site Development
16 in connection with damage assessment and
17 restoration inspection services for various
18 locations throughout the Town of Oyster Bay due to
19 Tropical Storm Isaias. Account No. HWY H5197 20000
20 000 2003 008. (M.D. 10/27/20 #16).

21 **RESOLUTION NO. 614-2020;** Resolution
22 pertaining to Contract No. PWC09-20, On-Call
23 Technical Assistance Relative to Site Development
24 in connection with drafting of conceptual designs
25 and the initial coordination with the NYSDOT

1 regarding the proposed streetscape improvements to
2 Broadway in Hicksville. Account No. IGA CD 8662
3 28800 721 CD18. (M.D. 10/27/20 #17).

4 **RESOLUTION NO. 615-2020;** Resolution
5 authorizing acceptance of a memorial plaque from
6 C. Nullet, to be placed under an existing tree in
7 Marjorie R. Post Community Park in memory of
8 Ann and John Maini. (M.D. 11/3/20 #4).

9 **RESOLUTION NO. 616-2020;** Resolution
10 authorizing acceptance of a donation of a memorial
11 plaque and bench from R. Herrera, to be placed in
12 Ellsworth W. Allen Park in memory of Jaydien John
13 Massett. (M.D. 11/3/20 #5).

14 **RESOLUTION NO. 617-2020;** Resolution
15 authorizing issuance of a refund to Jennifer
16 Rubinfeld, for the TOBAY Summer Recreation Program,
17 due to COVID-19. Account No. PKS A 0001 02001 510
18 0000. (M.D. 11/3/20 #6).

19 **RESOLUTION NO. 618-2020;** Resolution
20 authorizing two Town of Oyster Bay Car Show Long
21 Island events, to be held at Tobay Beach on
22 April 24, 2021 and October 3, 2021, for a waiver of
23 the provisions of Chapter 173 - Peddlers, for the
24 addition of sponsors, vendors and/or exhibitors to
25 said event, and employment of the services of a

1 dedicated judging staff and for the Department of
2 Parks to produce commemorative merchandise for the
3 event. Account Nos. TWN A 0001 02770 590 0000 and
4 TWN TA 0000 00085 438 0000. (M.D. 11/3/20 #7).

5 **RESOLUTION NO. 619-2020;** Resolution
6 authorizing a first one-year extension of On-Call
7 Accounting Services under PWC 035-19, for the
8 purpose of providing accounting services for the
9 2020 financial period, commencing December 1, 2020.
10 Account No. CMP A 1315 44800 000 0000. (M.D.
11 11/3/20 #15).

12 **RESOLUTION NO. 620-2020;** Resolution
13 authorizing a first one-year extension of On-Call
14 Professional Auditing Services under PWC 036-19,
15 for the purpose of providing professional auditing
16 services for the 2020 financial period, commencing
17 December 1, 2020. Account No. TWN A 1989 44810 000
18 0000. (M.D. 11/3/20 #16).

19 **RESOLUTION NO. 621-2020;** Resolution to
20 schedule the 2021 Town Board Meeting Dates. (M.D.
21 11/3/20 #17).

22 **RESOLUTION NO. 622-2020;** Resolution
23 directing the Town Clerk to advertise a Public
24 Notice in connection with a proposed Local Law
25 entitled: "A Local Law to Amend Chapter 246

1 Zoning, of the Code of the Town of Oyster Bay, to
2 Remove Central Business Zoning District and Create
3 Hicksville Downtown Zoning District and
4 Subdistricts." Hearing Date: December 8, 2020 at
5 7:00 p.m. at the Hicksville Athletic Center. (M.D.
6 11/3/20 #20).

7 **RESOLUTION NO. 623-2020;** Resolution
8 directing the Town Clerk to advertise a Public
9 Notice in connection with a proposed Local Law
10 entitled: "A Local Law to Amend Chapter 242
11 Wireless Communication Facilities, Section 242-6,
12 Locations Subject to Special Use Permit
13 Requirement, of the Code of the Town of Oyster Bay,
14 to Remove Central Business Zoning District and
15 insert Hicksville Downtown Zoning District and
16 Subdistricts." Hearing Date: December 8, 2020 at
17 7:00 p.m. at the Hicksville Athletic Center. (M.D.
18 11/3/20 #21).

19 **RESOLUTION NO. 624-2020;** Resolution
20 directing the Town Clerk to publish a Notice of
21 Hearing in connection with the application of
22 Zapgrande, LLC, Fee Owner, for a Change of Zone at
23 premises located at 770 Cedar Street, Syosset,
24 New York. Hearing Date: December 8, 2020 10:00 a.m.
25 at Town Hall, Oyster Bay. (M.D. 11/3/20 #22).

1 **RESOLUTION NO. 625-2020;** Resolution
2 authorizing a second one-year extension of Contract
3 No. HVR17-156, Cleaning and Inspection of Storm
4 Drainage Systems through the Town of Oyster Bay, at
5 the same prices, conditions and terms provided for
6 in the present contract, commencing November 14,
7 2020 through November 13, 2021. (M.D. 11/3/20 #26).

8 **RESOLUTION NO. 626-2020;** Resolution
9 authorizing acceptance of the Design and entrance
10 into Bid & Construction Phases for Contract No.
11 DER20-207, Truck Scale Replacement at the Old
12 Bethpage Solid Waste Disposal Complex. (M.D.
13 11/3/20 #27).

14 **RESOLUTION NO. 627-2020;** Resolution
15 authorizing the sidewalk repair assessments be
16 referred to the County of Nassau for placement on
17 the Nassau County Tax Assessment Rolls. (M.D.
18 11/3/20 #28).

19 **RESOLUTION NO. 628-2020;** Resolution to
20 call for a public hearing in connection with
21 issuance of Hicksville Water District bonds for the
22 District's 2020 Capital Improvement Program.
23 Hearing Date: December 8, 2020 10:00 a.m. at Town
24 Hall, Oyster Bay. (M.D. 11/3/20 #30).

25 **RESOLUTION NO. 629-2020;** Resolution

1 pertaining to the decision on the application of
2 Nassau Steel, LLC d/b/a Gold Coast Studios, for a
3 Special Use Permit on premises located at
4 999 S. Oyster Bay Road, Bethpage, New York.

5 Hearing held: September 15, 2020. (M.D. 8/11/20
6 #24).

7 **RESOLUTION NO. 630-2020;** Resolution
8 authorizing and directing the Comptroller to
9 satisfy outstanding real property taxes due on 8
10 Washington Street, Bethpage, New York, calculated
11 to November 30, 2020. Account No. TWN A 1989 47900
12 000 0000. (M.D. 11/10/20 #31).

13 **RESOLUTION NO. 631-2020;** Resolution
14 amending Resolution No. 592-2020 to reflect and
15 clarify that payment to each Auxiliary Police Unit
16 be for the term December 1, 2020 to November 30,
17 2021; Account No. TWN A 1989 47900 000 000. (M.D.
18 11/20/20 #32).

19 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

20 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

21 MR. LaMARCA: A motion was made by
22 Councilwoman Johnson; seconded by Councilman
23 Imbroto.

24 Supervisor?

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Arthur?

1 MR. ADELMAN: Arthur Adelman,
2 110 Dubois Avenue, Sea Cliff, New York.

3 I have about four Resolutions to talk.
4 I will get through them nice and quick.

5 The first is Personnel Resolution
6 P-17-2020. The Resolution states, and I can't
7 quote it exactly, but it says something like now
8 therefore be resolved that the 2020 Budget as
9 adopted be hereby -- be and hereby is amended to
10 reflect the approved addition and deletions as
11 indicated by the attached.

12 I've been looking all over for the
13 attached, yet I cannot find it. I would like to
14 request in all aspects of transparency, et cetera,
15 et cetera, to be able to review these additions
16 and/or deletions. That's Number 1.

17 Number 2, Resolution 608, we are
18 increasing expense for DVDs or I really couldn't
19 grasp the entire reason why we're increasing a
20 budget that was not supposed to be more than \$3,100
21 up to not more than 5,000. Who gets these DVDs
22 that are referred to in the original Resolution
23 from back in 2019? And we're going pay \$19 to make
24 a montage, I assume?

25 Next one, Resolution No. 613. I

1 request a clarification of why Phase 2 of the job
2 is not subject to the bid process or RFP process.
3 We seem to be getting ready to pay a company called
4 Looks Great Service. Pay their employees or pay
5 the company to pay their employees \$1,200 a day per
6 employee to grind up wood that is sitting at the
7 Bethpage transfer station presently. We're paying
8 a company called Pratt Brothers, paying their
9 employees \$1,000 a day and we're estimated it to
10 need \$180,000 worth of work to do the repair of
11 sidewalks concrete, et cetera.

12 I always thought we did sidewalk work
13 inhouse. In fact, another Resolution we have today
14 talks about the Town trying to collect money from
15 residents who haven't paid for their sidewalks to
16 be repaired and none of those collections are more
17 than \$1,800.

18 Next Resolution was -- I have a
19 question of why if we're running the Town like a
20 business, someone was not aware that when we
21 purchased property in Bethpage, that the parking
22 lot last year or 2019, that we should right away
23 ask Nassau County for relief on the school and
24 County taxes on that property. To now have to pay
25 \$37,000 of which almost \$6,400 is for penalty,

1 interest and fees is negligent by somebody. I
2 can't believe someone was not wise enough to say,
3 okay, we got the property. We're going to have
4 taxes to pay. Pay taxes or ask for relief from the
5 County back in May of 2019.

6 Those are the questions I have today.
7 I would like to not take a seat and be able to
8 converse with you when you do respond.

9 Thank you.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our process is
11 for you to please take a seat. I will bring
12 especially now more than any other time among other
13 reasons to have social distancing but the process
14 we've embraced in this Town is to ask you to take a
15 seat and we'll bring up the experts so we don't
16 have the back and forth.

17 MR. ADELMAN: If I have a question
18 regarding the --

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: As always. We'll
20 treat you as we always have, equally and
21 respectfully.

22 MR. ADELMAN: Okay. Let's stop the
23 clock.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Frank Scalera,
25 would you please come forward and address the issue

1 of this tax payment on the property?

2 MR. SCALERA: Good afternoon, guys.

3 Frank Scalera, Town Attorney.

4 On the property purchase, I've done
5 many over the years, what invariably happens is
6 when you buy a property let's say in 2019, the
7 assessment roll is already set for the following
8 year. It comes out in '19 for 2020, which means
9 the taxes are still taxed on the property.

10 So, in this particular case, we, of
11 course, we always make an application for property
12 exemption to Nassau County, but they take time
13 before they approve it. But you're never going to
14 have that year of 2020 exempted. They'll exempt
15 forward because they already did the final roll for
16 2020 when we purchased the property.

17 So we what we then do is then we would
18 do a Chapter -- we do a Chapter Bill to New York
19 State Legislature and ask for the refund of the
20 money which we've done before.

21 Ralph Healy Department Town Attorney in
22 my office handles this kind of stuff. However,
23 what happened here is that you still have to -- you
24 still have to pay the taxes because they're due and
25 they end up putting a lien on it.

1 So not to get caught in a quagmire with
2 the County Treasurer and the County Assessor, we
3 pay it and then we go to the State Legislature.
4 You go to an assembly person and a State Senator
5 and then you ask for it retroactively which we have
6 done in the past.

7 That's basically how it works. You're
8 never going to time it in such a way that you're
9 going to beat the assessment roll. You just don't.
10 So, we bought it in '19 but as you know, they
11 already sent out the letters for assessment for
12 2020. That means it's already assessed to be taxed
13 in 2020, which we're in, and the tax bill goes to
14 the current owner, which is now the Town of Oyster
15 Bay.

16 So we pay it. We do do a property tax
17 exemption to go forward in the future, and then we
18 also go to the State Legislature to go backwards to
19 get this money that we're going to pay today.
20 That's what we've done and we've done it several
21 times. I've done it personally several times.

22 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,
23 Mr. Scalera.

24 And Arthur, so you understand, we are
25 also at the whim of the State Legislature, two

1 separate houses where the Speaker of the Assembly
2 and the President of the Senate will call them in
3 at a time that's of their choosing, not ours.

4 So we must wait until they are in
5 session, which could be before the end of year.
6 More likely, it will not be before the end of year,
7 but we're still waiting to see what their decision
8 is, and then we wait for their decision to bring
9 that bill to the floor which could happen sooner or
10 later.

11 Again, it's at their discretion, not
12 ours, in Albany. So we'll wait on that too, but we
13 will be lobbying to get this bill to the floor and
14 get it passed, so that is it their -- they are the
15 ones in power in Albany in the State Legislature as
16 my colleague and my predecessor of the State
17 Assembly Councilman Labriola will confirm. It's up
18 to the State Assembly and the Senate separately to
19 both bring -- to address the bill and then,
20 obviously, to vote on it at -- at their calling.

21 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: We will be able
22 to get return of the penalties interest and fees as
23 well?

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Frank, will we be
25 able to get a return on all that?

1 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: I'm going to
2 have to check. I don't remember.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So, we will
4 check. We will check with Nassau County to
5 determine whether or not they will return us those
6 moneys.

7 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: Okay.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

9 In terms of the -- of the on-call
10 contract, that means that companies have already
11 been preapproved. The Town of Oyster Bay has a
12 limited amount of time by which to get in the
13 paperwork and get a 75 percent reimbursement.

14 You had asked about 613. We received a
15 75 percent reimbursement. I think I see
16 Commissioner Rich Lenz in the back who can confirm
17 this.

18 Commissioner Lenz, why don't you step
19 forward, please and we'll just confirm this
20 information for you?

21 In this way with have the paperwork
22 processed properly and on time; otherwise, if we
23 pass that deadline we won't get our reimbursements
24 that we are attempting to receive here.

25 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Good morning.

1 Rich Lenz, Commissioner of Town of
2 Oyster Bay.

3 Hello, everybody.

4 How are you doing?

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Department of
6 Public Works.

7 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Department of
8 Public Works, sorry.

9 On 613 what had happened is -- as
10 everybody knows, the storm -- I always mispronounce
11 it -- Aisha, am I close at all? Thank you.

12 Anyway, what had happened is we were
13 informed that by -- excuse me, by State, New York
14 State that we have to fill out these forms and in
15 that very short period of time, so what we needed
16 to do was we needed to assess -- we needed to GPS
17 locations of every site; meaning, trees that were
18 down. We had over 860 trees that came down. We
19 also had sidewalks that were pulled up. Things
20 like that. So, that was all needed to be assessed,
21 of course, estimated and things like that.

22 In order to do that, we tried to start
23 to do it inhouse and it just got unbelievable. So
24 what we did is we hired as an on-call consultant
25 with us Nassau Suffolk Engineers.

1 So what you're seeing on 613 is a
2 breakdown of where their costs are coming from, not
3 the cost of any contractor. This project is going
4 to be over a million dollars in sidewalk and
5 700,000 in tree removable and tree disposal. So
6 we're talking over \$2 million.

7 So, to supervise that, we thought it
8 was best -- because every time you take the tree
9 down or repair the sidewalk, you also have to take
10 photographs and images before and after, things
11 like that. So that's why this got over cumbersome
12 for us.

13 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Just so we --
14 because we had spoken about this because I had some
15 questions myself.

16 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes, absolutely.

17 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Just to clarify,
18 so the \$1 million in sidewalk damages, \$700,000 in
19 tree removable, those are all the things they have
20 to capture to put in the documentation to FEMA so
21 we can receive the funds, right.

22 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

23 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: 75 percent of the
24 other damages?

25 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

1 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Upwards of
2 \$2 million?

3 COMMISSIONER LENZ: For this grant
4 fund, yes, absolutely.

5 Then also we will get paid for the
6 engineer for his services also through this grant.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Commissioner,
8 these companies that were we are using, is it
9 correct that they have been preapproved -- the list
10 has been preapproved by the Town Board in a public
11 meeting, as well as they've been investigated by
12 our Inspector General?

13 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

14 For the tree it would be Looks Great.
15 That would be for the tree removal and also the
16 chipping and grinding.

17 Also Pratt for the concrete removal and
18 replacement. They're already preapproved.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And the Inspector
20 General has done his investigations on these
21 companies as he does with every company we do
22 business with?

23 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes, he has.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And he's approved
25 them?

1 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very,
3 very much, Commissioner.

4 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: A quick question,
5 Commissioner.

6 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Sure.

7 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: On the fees for
8 Looks Great Services, the hours that our resident
9 Arthur Adelman was speaking about, are those for
10 the engineers.

11 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

12 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: That are
13 monitoring those or is that for Looks Great actual
14 service --

15 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Good question.

16 That's what I was trying to explain. I
17 didn't explain myself well enough.

18 What it is, is it's a breakdown of what
19 the engineer is proposing that his fees will be for
20 each and every line. For the wood chipping. For
21 overseeing Looks Great. This is what he's looking
22 to charge; meaning, 50-man days for 8 hours a day.

23 Now, this does not mean that he gets
24 paid automatically \$18,000. What it means is what
25 I call time card. Everybody has different

1 terminology for it. I call it time card; meaning,
2 he has to submit the number of hours, where he was
3 and things like that, so I -- he doesn't just get
4 18,000. He has to submit a claim to me. I have
5 oversight of those claim, then I sign off of them.
6 That mean Pratt, that's for the oversight of Pratt
7 doing this work, in all these different areas.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Commissioner, to
9 put this in perspective, this storm we've been
10 referring to that relates to this, Commissioner.

11 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes, sir.

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I have been
13 informed by members of your department, Highway,
14 all parts of DPW, that the volume of trees that
15 came down and needed to be addressed by our teams
16 here in the Town of Oyster Bay was equal to the
17 volume of tree debris that came down during
18 Hurricane Sandy.

19 COMMISSIONER LENZ: That's a very good
20 question, Supervisor. It actually was more.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: More?

22 COMMISSIONER LENZ: More trees came
23 down under this. Now, don't misunderstand. What
24 I'm trying say is during this Hurricane Sandy,
25 there was a lot of other debris --

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes.

2 COMMISSIONER LENZ: -- meaning wood
3 and --

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Broken docks,
5 houses, decks.

6 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

7 Which this is more -- more tree debris
8 than we've ever seen in any time that I've worked
9 for or have known the Town of Oyster Bay working
10 under these circumstances.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So you're telling
12 us this is an anomaly?

13 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes, it is.

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: It wouldn't
15 happen every year?

16 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Absolutely not.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: This whatever
18 they are calling this a 50-year storm, a 100-year
19 storm?

20 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: It's an anomaly.

22 It's a tremendous amount and I would
23 also believe and please concur if it's the case --
24 if it is indeed the case, that for trees that come
25 down within the Asian beetle zone that the State

1 has identified, and it's a large growing area, is a
2 much more regulated and a far more expensive
3 process to dispose of that wood and tree debris
4 than it is from other trees.

5 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes. That wood has
6 to be double ground.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Inspected?

8 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Inspected.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Kept in an
10 isolated tub?

11 COMMISSIONER LENZ: A completely
12 separate area. It's got to be isolated and double
13 ground.

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's a New York
15 State Mandate?

16 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Years ago -- that's
17 a New York State Mandate. Years ago it used to be
18 south of Southern State. Believe it or not, we're
19 as far north as up to Jericho Turnpike now on
20 some --

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: From the South
22 Shore?

23 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes, from the South
24 Shore.

25 So what I'm saying is now you have to

1 do more work, more costly than in the past. Just
2 to make sure that we're not expanding the -- we
3 certainly have been -- we've been very diligent.
4 We, the Town of Oyster Bay, has been very diligent.
5 It's not because of the Town of Oyster Bay doing
6 something wrong. It's just that the beetles have
7 exceeded, you know, their area.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And the State has
9 followed through with a mandate that dictates that
10 the Town must follow their law and do this. So, we
11 have a situation where you have one of the largest
12 tree falls or tree disasters that we have seen in
13 modern history and now you're telling us now it
14 even exceeds the number of trees that came down or
15 volume of tree debris that came down in even
16 Superstorm Sandy.

17 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes, it did.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That the area of
19 the Asian beetle zone which is a far more expensive
20 and intensive process, now that area has grown from
21 the far South Shore all the way up to Jericho
22 Turnpike.

23 So I would I guess that the majority of
24 the wood that your department is dealing with has a
25 far more intense and expensive process that we have

1 to go through by law and that we are dealing with a
2 time limit in order the get that 75 percent FEMA
3 reimbursement. It's got to be done quickly and
4 correctly.

5 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And in addition
7 to that, you and our Inspector General are
8 overseeing every step of the way to ensure that the
9 Town is not being overbilled.

10 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Yes.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you for
12 your responses and your time.

13 COMMISSIONER LENZ: Thank you.

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Arthur, I believe
15 that fully answers that question that you have and
16 in terms of expenditure of some, I believe it's
17 \$1,900 because of COVID, the Town can't hold many
18 of its normal holiday experiences and holiday
19 celebrations. And we have cancelled many of them,
20 saving the taxpayers money including the very, very
21 successful and very, very popular holiday show that
22 community youth services puts on every year. We
23 have a waiting line for tickets for that free show.
24 So, we are not doing those shows.

25 What we are doing for our residents is

1 a drive-thru safe holiday experience from their
2 cars where video will be utilized in order to
3 enlighten the experience for our residents. That's
4 where this comes in.

5 But I think what you'd be most
6 interested in hearing is the total expenditure we
7 spent on this presentation is less than we would
8 spend during a normal year without COVID. This is
9 our COVID-related expenses.

10 I'm looking for the Commissioner to see
11 if we get any reimbursements on this drive-thru
12 holiday experience. We maybe eligible for some
13 reimbursement. We will check on that, but it was
14 put together, and we're doing it -- we will do it
15 Town of Oyster Bay well, which tells you that we
16 will lead Long Island on this and you will see
17 other municipalities following our example. But we
18 are moving quickly to put together a quality show.
19 The end net result is we will be saving money
20 versus -- a considerable amount -- versus what we
21 normally spend for our holiday and seasonal
22 expenses.

23 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: And the DVDs
24 are distributed to --

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We will get that

1 answer. I don't see the Commissioner or Deputy
2 Commissioner in the room. If Public Information
3 would find out how those DVDs are distributed. I
4 also want to make it very clear that we are -- this
5 is also for editing services to create the film or
6 video presentation that the families will view and
7 this is a great way to promote this.

8 I hope everyone goes to
9 oysterbaytown.com, looks at the location and the
10 times of the shows and visits this. It will be
11 residents only and it will be free.

12 Once again, at a dangerous time to have
13 crowds, the Town of Oyster Bay is coming up with an
14 alternative solution that is far more safe, but
15 still embraces the holiday spirit that everyone is
16 looking forward to and certainly needs perhaps more
17 than ever before.

18 MR. ADELMAN: May I suggest the Town
19 make available the montage as a link to the Town
20 website during the holiday season? I'm sure a lot
21 of us would like to see what was done.

22 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Sure. That's a
23 great idea.

24 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: Thank you.

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And if they don't

1 have that planned already, we will ask our Public
2 Information office to arrange for that. Perhaps
3 they can put than on the website.

4 But we concur with you that this is
5 something important to do and that we are
6 encouraging all of our residents to take time, put
7 their family in the car and come and view the
8 holiday extravaganza, and I'm hoping and trust
9 they'll enjoy every bit as much as they've enjoyed
10 our drive-in concerts, drive-in movies, all of the
11 many ways that we're keeping some feeling of
12 normalcy during this pandemic.

13 So, thank you, Arthur, for your
14 participation.

15 MR. ADELMAN: There was one other -- I
16 requested the additional deletions as indicated by
17 the attached on the P-17-2020.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: P-17-2020.

19 Frank Scalera, would you please come
20 forward?

21 MR. SCALERA: I believe Mr. Adelman is
22 asking for, I guess, a backup list on the add and
23 deletes.

24 So, right after this after meeting, I
25 have a copy upstairs if you would like.

1 MR. ADELMAN: The public wants to see
2 it also.

3 MR. SCALERA: I have a copy upstairs.

4 MR. ADELMAN: In other words, the full
5 Board has viewed this already though, right?

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes.

7 MR. ADELMAN: I can have it -- I can
8 keep it and make it public, if I so desire?

9 MR. SCALERA: Once I give it to you,
10 you can do whatever you want with it.

11 MR. ADELMAN: That's the best we can
12 do, I'd like to see it before.

13 MR. SCALERA: Come upstairs.

14 MR. ADELMAN: After the meeting, like
15 you said.

16 MR. SCALERA: Very well.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our next speaker
18 is Ms. Reinhardt.

19 MS. REINHARDT: Good afternoon,
20 everyone.

21 Lisa Reinhardt, 65 Elm Street,
22 Hicksville.

23 How are you?

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good afternoon.

25 Doing well.

1 MS. REINHARDT: Okay. I just had a
2 question on Resolutions 621.

3 The -- I saw the memo giving the
4 proposed dates, and I'm just curious, again, and I
5 think I've said this probably every year that I've
6 been here, last couple of years -- if there's one
7 meeting given a month, why cannot we not make a
8 7:00 p.m. meeting? If there are two meetings in a
9 given month, why could we not do one at 10:00 and
10 one at 7:00, regardless of how many people from the
11 public actually attend? Right now with COVID,
12 we've got people, hopefully, watching either live
13 from home or remote later on replay.

14 And I just think if we had the
15 availability at 7:00 p.m., like I've said every
16 time, it just gives the public more time, you know,
17 I mean, some people are not working right now, but
18 in a normal year, it gives you more opportunity to
19 participate in the Town.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So, in answering
21 your question, you've said you asked this every
22 time, but this is your second time asking that.

23 MS. REINHARDT: Third.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

25 I sat with our team and administration

1 and we went over our background on this, and we
2 determined that we are getting the largest
3 participation with the morning meetings.

4 We also have, case in point, I don't
5 know were you here for the budget presentations
6 this year?

7 MS. REINHARDT: I was not.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay. We had
9 budget presentations in the morning. We had budget
10 presentations in the evening.

11 Last year, zero people attended for the
12 evening presentation to ask questions about the
13 budget, so this year it might have been one person.

14 We realize that during the morning
15 hours, there are a number of people who can -- who
16 can watch that, but during the evening hours people
17 are getting their families -- dealing with their
18 families, whether it's their dinner, their
19 schoolwork and so forth, we have found we get more
20 participation.

21 Having said that we do have day
22 meetings and evening meetings. We have taken into
23 consideration COVID issues and what that means to
24 our Town and we've determined that this schedule
25 seems to work best for highest level of

1 participation and taking into consideration whether
2 it's COVID constraints and other factors to have
3 the best participation possible.

4 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: And Ms. Reinhardt,
5 if there's a controversial issue that comes up or a
6 major project, we can always add a night meeting
7 and we've have done in the past.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes. We have
9 done that just this year as a matter of fact.

10 MS. REINHARDT: Yes.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We've done that
12 on the larger projects. So this doesn't mean that
13 that limits the number of night meetings. So,
14 we've done it both. We had the larger meetings
15 where the public has asked, and we have continued
16 to gauge this carefully to make sure we have the
17 largest amount of participation.

18 MS. REINHARDT: All right. Thanks.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

20 Our next resident is Mr. McKenna.

21 Kevin.

22 MR. McKENNA: Before my time starts,
23 could I ask for you to tell the public what the two
24 walk-on Resolutions are about, so I then have an
25 opportunity to decide whether I want to comment?

1 You added Resolutions 630 and, 631.
2 Also I'd like to know, respectfully, if I can
3 comment on the State of the Union on the record
4 since you didn't put that --

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That you can do
6 during your time on public comment.

7 MR. McKENNA: Well, I'm asking you if I
8 can do it on the record because it kind is part of
9 the Resolutions.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I will ask our
11 legal staff, but I'm at this point making the
12 decision that we can give you the information. I'm
13 going to ask Mr. Scalera to come forth.

14 MR. McKENNA: It's fine. I'll make it
15 in public comment. That's fine. But if you can
16 tell us what the two Resolutions specifically are
17 about before my time starts, I'd appreciate it.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Fine. If you'd
19 kindly take your seat, we're going to clean the
20 microphone and podium.

21 We're going to ask Mr. Scalera to
22 please step forward to a freshly cleaned podium and
23 can speak to these issues.

24 MR. SCALERA: Good afternoon.

25 Frank Scalera, Town Attorney.

1 Resolutions 630-2020 and 631-2020.

2 630 is the payment of the property
3 taxes on that piece of property 8 Washington
4 Street, Bethpage and Mr. Adelman brought up before
5 which I addressed --

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We had a long
7 discussion and addressed it.

8 MR. SCALERA: Correct.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We addressed it.

10 MR. SCALERA: That's 630.

11 And 631 is a Resolution to fund the
12 individual auxiliary police units. This already
13 came up once before sponsored by Councilwoman
14 Walsh. There was a -- the term was missing, so
15 it's simply a correction to just set forth the term
16 of the agreement for a year. Everything else is
17 exactly the same.

18 So, and these two things, according to
19 Ms. Tarnowski, were already, Director of
20 Legislative Affairs, these were uploaded and posted
21 on the --

22 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: They're not
23 walk-ons.

24 MR. SCALERA: Okay. These are not
25 walk-ons. They're suspends. So that means they

1 were post yesterday, Monday. And we uploaded them
2 to our website.

3 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: Friday.

4 MR. SCALERA: I'm sorry, Friday. I
5 apologize. Friday, not Monday.

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,
7 Mr. Scalera.

8 Mr. McKenna, after it's been cleaned,
9 please.

10 Thank you.

11 MR. McKENNA: Thank you very much.

12 Kevin McKenna, Edna Drive, Syosset,
13 New York.

14 On the Personnel Resolutions P-17-20
15 and PA-11-20, as per Open Meetings Law, you are
16 responsible to the public to provide -- to tell us
17 right now whatever backup information that the Town
18 Board has, the public deserves to know the names of
19 individuals, any pay increases, any promotions. As
20 per Open Meetings Law, we have the right to know
21 exactly what it is that the Town Board will be
22 voting on.

23 If you'd like, I can stop right now and
24 give you an opportunity to ask that since I do -- I
25 am speaking on numerous Resolutions. It might be

1 easier for you to answer it one at a time.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: My suggestion to
3 you would be to use your time. Ask all your
4 questions. Then if you need to speak --

5 MR. McKENNA: That's fine. That's
6 fine.

7 I just want to reiterate that I, as a
8 member of the public, I take my time to come here,
9 to ask legitimate questions. And I do deserve and
10 anyone that comes here and takes the time deserves
11 to get answers one way or another, even if you have
12 to say you can't answer that question or whatever
13 it is; but you do, with all due respect,
14 Mr. Supervisor, you do have a habit of not
15 answering all the questions. So, I just wanted to
16 make that point.

17 So, again, on this Personnel
18 Resolution, it is New York State Law, it's New York
19 State Open Meetings Law that you have an obligation
20 right now before the Town Board votes to tell us
21 and you should be able to read to us -- not you
22 should be able to, you should read to us the backup
23 information that has been provided to every Town
24 Board member about this Resolution.

25 So when I get finished, I hope that --

1 I hope that you adhere to New York State Open
2 Meetings Law in order to save the taxpayers money
3 in any potential litigation that might be necessary
4 to be brought forth because you have continued to
5 violate New York State Open Meetings Law in regards
6 to what I just talked about. So I'm going to move
7 on to the next Resolution which is 605.

8 Resolution 605 is the proposed meeting
9 schedule for the Zoning Board of Appeals. I
10 respectfully request that you remove this off the
11 calendar because it states on the Town Board's
12 website that the Zoning Board of Appeals is an
13 autonomous body which has its own chairperson and
14 it also has its own Town Board. And it's very
15 confusing as to why the Commissioner of Planning
16 and Development, Ms. Maccarone, has been the one
17 that submitted to you the recommended meeting
18 schedule for the Zoning Board of Appeals. The
19 recommended meeting schedule for the Zoning Board
20 of Appeals, it should come from the Commissioner of
21 the Zoning Board of Appeals who is I believe is
22 Ms. Van Loan, if my memory serves me correctly.

23 Moving right on, Resolution 619. 619
24 has to do with accounting services in the Town. I
25 believe what I'm going to bring up ties into this

1 Resolution.

2 I have in the past, over the last four
3 years, I have made a suggestion to the Town Board
4 to the prior Supervisor, to the prior people on the
5 Board, as well as to this Town Board that we are in
6 the year of 2020, and it's to my knowledge that the
7 Town still does not utilize an electronic time
8 clocking system for employees to clock in and clock
9 out. And if the Town does do that, it could save
10 the money -- it could save the Town money in how
11 they pay for accounting services. How we don't
12 have a time clock -- electronic clocking in and we
13 use manual time sheets in the Town of Oyster Bay is
14 just mind boggling.

15 Resolution 620. I would like you to
16 tell us the name of the company -- the company that
17 you're awarding this auditing service contract to
18 and whether or not you went out to bid and who the
19 bidders were on this Resolution before you selected
20 the company that hopefully you'll will able to tell
21 us when I finish.

22 Resolution 621. You know, after I
23 heard you, Mr. Supervisor, a few meetings ago talk
24 about -- you stated that the reason that people
25 don't come to Town Board meetings is because they

1 are ecstatic and satisfied with the job that you
2 and the Town Board is doing. That might very well
3 be the case in some cases but, you know, after I
4 heard you say that, I stood in front of CVS
5 drugstore in Syosset, I stood in front of Best
6 Market in Syosset which is now closed and I
7 honestly asked about 24 different people randomly.
8 First I asked if I can do it on camera on Town of
9 Oyster Bay news and they didn't want to do that,
10 but I was able to go ahead and my first question
11 honestly was, "Why don't you attend Town of Oyster
12 Bay Board meetings?" and I can tell you that seven,
13 eight out of ten, the first answer of every one of
14 those individuals was, "I don't know when they
15 are." Then they go on to say that they don't even
16 know where they are.

17 I would make a recommendation that with
18 all the mailings that the Town does that -- and you
19 actually talked about this once about seniors.
20 That it's important to advice seniors because
21 they're not on the internet in mailings.

22 So, I would guarantee you that if you
23 did a mailing a month before the meeting and you
24 announced in the mailing when the next two Town
25 Board meetings were for the following month, I

1 would really -- I would really bet to say you would
2 actually get a good turnout at the Town Board
3 meetings, whether they are a.m. or p.m. The fact
4 that the Town of Oyster Bay only had three evening
5 meetings this past year compared to the Town of
6 Hempstead's five evening meetings is -- it just
7 flies in the face of not having concerns for the
8 public.

9 And I would ask that -- I'd love to
10 know if the Town Board -- you know, you made a
11 statement a little while ago you met with your -- I
12 forget exactly what you said your team -- but you
13 didn't say that you met with the Town Board. You
14 didn't specifically say that you got the Town Board
15 members input about this meeting schedule for 2021.

16 And, you know, I wonder if you make
17 these meetings during the day for the convenience
18 of the Town Board or for the public. If you --
19 there's no reason why half the meetings in 2021
20 shouldn't be in the evening. You know, you should
21 really look at it as -- you shouldn't worry about
22 residents coming up to the microphone like myself.
23 You should really look at it and appreciate the
24 input that is provided and you should do everything
25 possible to get more residents to come to the

1 meeting in order for you to get more input and run
2 it like a business.

3 Again, I reiterate, with all the
4 mailings that you do, why can't you do a mailing
5 every month? Do a mailing and announce the two
6 meetings that are taking place the following month
7 so that we get attendance at these meetings so it's
8 not just the select few that you mentioned in the
9 Long Island Herald, which I'm really glad you did
10 make that statement in Long Island Herald.

11 Resolution 630, actually, we already
12 covered that. Thank you very much.

13 I'd love to hear the answer to all
14 those questions. I'm sure all the people listening
15 on line would as well.

16 Thank you.

17 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: I just have a
18 quick question or to your point regarding the
19 meetings.

20 You're the first person to really
21 criticize when we sent out those mailings, correct?

22 MR. McKENNA: No.

23 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Spent so much
24 money on mailings.

25 MR. McKENNA: Actually I'm not the one.

1 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: You have 10,000
2 followers, right, and you post our Board meetings?

3 MR. McKENNA: Sorry.

4 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: You have 10,000
5 followers on your page?

6 MR. McKENNA: No. I have 12,300.

7 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: So you have more.
8 So you have 12,000-plus followers.

9 So, you post our Board meetings on
10 that, free advertising for us, thank you.

11 How come we don't get more people here?

12 MR. McKENNA: I'm sorry?

13 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: I said, so you
14 have over 12,000 followers on your page, correct?
15 You post our Board meetings every time and
16 encouraging people to come. Thank you for the free
17 advertising.

18 Again, you know, time and time again
19 after every Board meeting, we have the same people.
20 So why is that? That's my question.

21 MR. McKENNA: I get a lot -- I get a
22 lot of private e-mails telling me that they wish
23 the Board meetings were at night.

24 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: You have?

25 MR. McKENNA: Councilwoman --

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We have Board
2 meetings at night.

3 MR. McKENNA: Councilwoman, just like I
4 did, stand in front your food store and --

5 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Kevin, why don't
6 you go behind the shield.

7 MR. McKENNA: They'll tell you they
8 don't know even when they are. That's number one.
9 It's not about a.m. or p.m. They don't even know
10 when the Board meetings are. It's not because
11 everybody thinks that everybody's doing a great
12 job.

13 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: The schedule of
14 Town Board meetings is in the Town calendar that's
15 mailed to every resident.

16 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: The meetings on
17 your Facebook page with 12,000 followers, an
18 audience of 12,000 people --

19 MR. McKENNA: Half of my followers are
20 on the South Shore and I get e-mails saying that
21 they wish a lot of the meetings were held at Town
22 Hall South.

23 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: The schedule of
24 meetings is in the Town calendar.

25 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And on the

1 website.

2 MR. McKENNA: I am -- I am not one of
3 people who complained about the mailings. That
4 wasn't something I was focused on. I might have
5 said it one or twice. That's not me. I wasn't
6 focused on that.

7 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Okay.

8 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: You just did.

9 MR. McKENNA: Actually, I think that
10 was Arthur -- no. It wasn't Arthur. It was the
11 other guy.

12 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: I never
13 complain.

14 MR. McKENNA: Why don't you -- why
15 don't you try send sending out a mailing like you
16 do with everything else about the two meetings for
17 the next month and see what happens? Why don't you
18 try that?

19 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Don't we send out
20 something for --

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Just to be --

22 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: -- for our budget.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: -- more
24 informative, yes.

25 SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: I have a lot of

1 other questions.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our information
3 of our Town meetings schedule is printed on the
4 calendar which is mailed out to every household in
5 the Town of Oyster Bay. It also appears on our
6 website.

7 I encourage everyone to visit
8 oysterbay.com, and, in addition, we give this
9 information to anyone who calls and asks for this
10 information.

11 We thank you for your comments today,
12 but I would like to state that the comments and
13 assertion made by our previous speaker are not
14 credible and are misleading, just like the website
15 that he touts from.

16 I thank you very much.

17 MR. McKENNA: With all due respect, I'd
18 like to know what's not credible.

19 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Our next speaker
20 is Michael Margolis.

21 MR. McKENNA: Mr. Supervisor, what's
22 not credible?

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Mr. Margolis,
24 would you like to step forward, please?

25 MR. McKENNA: Thank you very much.

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good afternoon,
2 Mr. Margolis.

3 MR. MARGOLIS: Good afternoon,
4 everyone.

5 Nice to see everyone. Hope everyone
6 has been staying safe.

7 Most of my Resolutions that I was going
8 to speak on have already been addressed in some
9 form.

10 I'll start off with 621 which is the
11 time of the Town meetings and I've listened and
12 I've sat here. I didn't jump up. I didn't scream.
13 I didn't say anything, but I do think that, you
14 know, it doesn't -- I disagree with Kevin.

15 I'll say it doesn't matter when we have
16 these meetings. If we had even at the beach, you
17 know, it'd probably would be just me, Kevin and
18 Arthur. But I do think that the meetings in a
19 certain way have to change in order to get more
20 people involved. People are not coming to the
21 meetings because, you know, no one wants to sit
22 through, you know, an hour and a half of -- I
23 forgot the guy who makes -- said he makes pizza
24 that spoke this morning. No one wants to sit
25 through that and, you know, something that really

1 doesn't affect them more than a gas station going
2 in and then there's a break taken.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: But, you know,
4 that this is the venue for a public hearing.
5 Whether someone wants to sit through it or not,
6 this is the venue set out in law. You're an
7 attorney. You know these things. So this is the
8 venue set out in law for the Town to do its
9 business in front of the public.

10 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: That's what the
11 Town Board meeting is.

12 That's --

13 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm not --

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That's what --

15 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm not -- I --

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We realize that
17 not everybody's is here for every issue and the
18 public might not realize that it seems as though it
19 is the same three people coming to the meetings,
20 and that's fine, that's legal and they're allowed
21 to come and ask questions. They're allowed to come
22 and make comments.

23 We have encouraged the public but, sir,
24 sir, the important point whether the meetings are
25 during the day or during the evening, whether

1 they're on the budget, the public knows we've cut
2 their taxes and they know the services have greatly
3 improved. People still come. I'll be calling on
4 someone about a community issue during the public
5 comment portion.

6 So people still come and they use this
7 -- but today with the advent of the computer, the
8 internet, texting, the phone, writing letters,
9 there are so many different ways.

10 If you're asserting that the only way
11 for the public to come and ask about something, get
12 information or get a service is by coming to a
13 Board meeting, sir, you are greatly mistaken.

14 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm not asserting
15 anything.

16 I'm saying from what I've seen by
17 coming here over the last two years is that we
18 would be better served if we had a morning meeting
19 maybe that dealt with the, you know, these changes
20 in zoning or whatever, those hearings, and dealt
21 with maybe some other things, the awards ceremony
22 and stuff like that, and then at night, dealt with
23 the Resolution calendar and public portion comment.

24 Look, anybody -- anybody that's in, you
25 know, except for a senior citizen that goes to work

1 every day --

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I still don't
3 understand.

4 MR. MARGOLIS: I've been able to come
5 to the meeting --

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: -- need a
7 service, we have a wide variety of methods to get
8 hold of us. Each Town Board member has a phone
9 number for their office. My office 624-6350. We
10 have e-mail. We've been doing more meetings in
11 Zooms than ever before. Conference calls than ever
12 before.

13 There are so many new ways, and many of
14 them aren't new, but there is a plethora of avenues
15 by which to communicate. If you're just referring
16 to people communicating to us, but being heard by
17 the public, that's a different story. But in terms
18 of the residents who want a service, who want to
19 alert us to an issue, who want --

20 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm not speaking about
21 that. I understand your guys are available. I'm
22 sure -- I know --

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: And respond --

24 MR. MARGOLIS: -- that any one of you
25 would respond --

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: -- and are more
2 responsive than ever before --

3 MR. MARGOLIS: I think --

4 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So why is the
5 necessity to do it while being heard by the public
6 is more important than getting the service done for
7 the residents?

8 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: What he seems to
9 be saying is the part of the meeting that you're
10 interested in should be separate from the parts
11 that you're not interested in, but the Board
12 meeting is not just about Mike Margolis or Arthur
13 Adelman. It's about doing the public's business
14 and that includes giving the residents an
15 opportunity to be heard on a hearing, on a land use
16 application that's going to affect their
17 neighborhood or any other issue. It's not just
18 about this part of the meeting. This is just one
19 small part.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Exactly. And any
21 time there's been an issue of wide appeal, we hold
22 extra hours. We change the venue to a larger space
23 as we have done with Seritage. We held a meeting
24 in three locations simultaneously. We -- the
25 perfect example is the budget meeting.

1 We hold a morning budget meeting. We
2 hold an evening budget meeting on the same day. We
3 get less people coming down to the evening budget
4 meeting than the morning budget, and even that, we
5 can look at the numbers. I think it was three
6 people commenting on the budget. We listened. We
7 took their advice. This is an open forum where
8 everyone gets respect and everyone is heard.

9 MR. MARGOLIS: I --

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: But we don't have
11 an outpouring of the public who are complaining
12 that we are not holding meeting at the ideal time
13 for their participation, and considering that we
14 are in the middle of a pandemic with the proximity
15 between people is of concern, the State has made
16 that very clear, we are utilizing all the many ways
17 and we're still finding ways to hold public
18 meetings, which I don't believe we have to hold
19 public meetings at this time, but we're doing it
20 anyway.

21 We were the first municipality that I
22 know of to reopen our doors after the height of the
23 pandemic passed to engage personally with the
24 public when we could have done it virtually, but we
25 chose to do it publically in an open forum. We

1 went ahead of -- check on other municipalities.

2 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm not -- I'm getting
3 to my point is that, look, when you read, you know,
4 you read all the Resolutions that are here today.
5 The one that jumps out to me the most and not
6 because, you know, great job might not been done
7 with the storm and how the Town reacted, I'm not
8 saying that, but to me, you know, if I'm turning
9 around and I'm sitting up there as a council
10 person, this is something, 613, which shouldn't be,
11 you know, lets just pay \$250,000 to this service.
12 There's about five bazillion questions that come
13 out of this. Not necessarily even about this
14 service; about -- that I would like to hear as
15 being -- you know, someone that is from the Town, I
16 would like to hear seven different opinions and
17 what went on. How can we -- this is not going to
18 be the last storm. How do we improve? How do we
19 protect people in the next storm? What did we
20 learn from this storm.

21 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We did some of
22 that during the State of the Town Address where we
23 spoke of the improvements we put in place in this
24 town. We're very proud of that. We're not done
25 yet. We continue to improve. We cut the taxes

1 down.

2 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm not talking --

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: No more deficit
4 in this own.

5 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm simply speaking in
6 -- in response to, you know, a Winter storm of this
7 kind. It's not going to be the last one. What did
8 we do well? What can we improve on?

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: That can also --
10 Mr. Margolis, that can also be achieved when the
11 resident chooses to call the department. Each
12 department is very responsive.

13 In addition to that, the public can
14 call the Public Information office and the phone
15 number is -- I believe -- I know you can get
16 through it through my office 624-6350. You can
17 call Town Board members, but we'll put you directly
18 in touch with department heads and people
19 responsible for services.

20 We want people to know that the
21 services are getting better and why. The perfect
22 example is the road paving. For years and years,
23 no road paving went on. We took over in 2017 and
24 my colleagues and I made it a point to put in a new
25 system.

1 People keep asking where is the rating
2 on my road? When can I expect my road to be
3 repaved.

4 We've done 400 roads so far. We expect
5 another 100 roads in the next twelve months.
6 People do ask about that. We've provided them
7 information. Commissioner Lenz is here. Someone
8 doesn't even have to come up to the podium to
9 speak. They can come to a Town Board meeting and
10 meet and ask questions of department heads and
11 responsible parties right here in the room or out
12 in the foyer.

13 So, there are so many ways for people
14 to get information. And it was mentioned of
15 mailings before. Yes, the public relies on those
16 mailings to get information that they might not be
17 able to read in the paper.

18 I mentioned the three lawsuits that the
19 Town won. That was front page news, front page
20 news, but when it is resolved and the Town wins
21 every case, have you read it yet in the paper.

22 MR. MARGOLIS: No.

23 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So you can
24 understand the public's frustration.

25 MR. MARGOLIS: I do -- that's not what

1 I'm getting -- the point -- for instance, were all
2 these sidewalks that got damaged because the trees
3 came out and uplifted? Are all them repaired from
4 the storm?

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All of that is
6 getting documented. They are not all been repaired
7 yet.

8 MR. MARGOLIS: Because once we take
9 photos and aware of this damage, right, it puts the
10 Town on -- and if it's not been repaired and
11 someone slips and falls well, now the Town had
12 actual notice that these weren't done and we have
13 pictures before, right, that we took.

14 I'm just saying for liability issues,
15 this is what I'm saying is it would be nice to hear
16 from seven people what their different incites so
17 -- for the future -- you can -- you can be the
18 best, but you can always be better. That's all I'm
19 getting at.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We agree. We are
21 the best. We are continuing to get better. We are
22 all pushing and working with our workforce and
23 working with our public to get better and better.
24 And there won't ever be a day under this
25 administration where we are arrived at that and we

1 say we're done.

2 We will continue to strive to be
3 better. We have tremendously talented Board
4 members here, for instance, who bring
5 specialization and expertise to the job each and
6 every day. We all work together with an
7 extraordinary staff that continues to be trained
8 and uplifted to make our services better, and one
9 of the reasons that the room is not filled with
10 residents is because they are happy with the
11 services, but we are committed to making them
12 better and better.

13 I encourage you to talk to a department
14 head on an issue you're interested in finding out
15 about. We did a public representation at a Board
16 meeting of our road rating system or right after a
17 Board meeting. So, we continue to find ways to
18 make services better while cutting taxes in this
19 Town, while fixing the finances that were left a
20 lot to be desired. We've turned that around.
21 That's why the public is happy with the job we are
22 doing.

23 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm just going to
24 reiterate it again because I'm talking on these
25 specific Resolutions and how, you know, the

1 calender is set -- what I'm saying is and I think
2 -- like Kevin said, maybe give something a try,
3 right. And maybe if it doesn't work, okay, you go
4 back. But I think what I happen to be able to see
5 which, you know, I had never been privy to before
6 because of COVID and they were doing it online was
7 that, you know, in New York, the council which is
8 like the Town Board, okay --

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Mr. Margolis --

10 MR. MARGOLIS: -- they each got a
11 chance to speak on each topic.

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: When you quote
13 Kevin, you lose credibility. There is so much
14 inform -- so misinformation on that man's website.

15 MR. MARGOLIS: I'm not talking about
16 his website.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I suggest a
18 different direction would bring you far more
19 credibility, sir.

20 MR. MARGOLIS: No. What I'm saying is
21 what his suggestion was to try something, okay. To
22 try something different in terms of how the meeting
23 is done.

24 I am recommending that we try to do the
25 meeting in a different way which might get people,

1 you know, more people involved. That's it.

2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

3 MR. MARGOLIS: It's not about
4 credibility.

5 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We are --

6 MR. MARGOLIS: It's a recommendation.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: -- very open
8 minded to considering every suggestion.

9 MR. MARGOLIS: I appreciate that.

10 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Every simple
11 suggestion.

12 MR. MARGOLIS: Thank you.

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very
14 much.

15 Ms. Eaton, you're here for public
16 comment, correct? Okay. Thank you.

17 I don't see other slips on our Action
18 Calendar.

19 So, I may now call for the vote at this
20 time.

21 Is there any -- do we have our proof of
22 mailings?

23 MR. LaMARCA: Yes, we do, Supervisor.

24 On the vote:

25 Supervisor Saladino?

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: "Aye."
2 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Johnson?
3 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: "Aye."
4 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Imbroto?
5 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Yes.
6 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Hand?
7 COUNCILMAN HAND: "Aye."
8 MR. LaMARCA: Councilman Labriola?
9 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: "Aye."
10 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Maier?
11 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: "Aye."
12 MR. LaMARCA: Councilwoman Walsh?
13 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: "Aye."
14 MR. LaMARCA: Motion to adopt
15 Resolutions Nos. P-17-20 through 631-2020 passes
16 with seven "Ayes."
17 The calendar is complete, Supervisor.
18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you, Clerk.
19 We appreciate your professionalism.
20 At this time, we will open the floor to
21 public comment to listen to the public on a wide
22 variety of issues that are important to them.
23 And our first speaker will be Danny
24 Arninos --
25 MR. LaMARCA: We have to close.

1 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Oh, I apologize.

2 May I have a motion?

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

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 Thank you very much for your
15 participation.

16 (TIME NOTED: 1:24 P.M.)

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25