

TOWN BOARD

Town of Oyster Bay

REGULAR MEETING

October 3, 2023

10:15 a.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

JOSEPH SALADINO

SUPERVISOR

**

RICHARD LaMARCA

TOWN CLERK

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER

A P P E A R A N C E S

P R E S E N T:

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

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

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

PRAYER:

Vicar Christian Cederstrom

Faith Lutheran

PLEDGE:

American Legion Post 1285 Bayville

Corp E-4, Joseph Hill

Lance Corp. E-3, Tony Congero

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

The Safe Center

Alexis Reice

Debbie Lyons

Take Me Out to the Ball Game Foundation

Rich Genovese

1
2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good morning,
3 ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the
4 Oyster Bay Town Board meeting for
5 Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023. Thank you for
6 joining us. Please know you have the
7 opportunity to be heard on all matters
8 brought before the Town Board as well as
9 during public comments at the end of the
10 meeting.

11 As always, we're live streaming the
12 meeting on OysterBaytown.com. These
13 proceedings are recorded and later
14 professionally transcribed. Once again,
15 your voice is important. We are here to
16 help and to listen. And if you're not
17 able to be here, perhaps you're watching
18 online. You can e-mail comments to
19 publiccomment@OysterBay-ny.gov. That's
20 publiccomment@OysterBay-ny.gov or mail us
21 at the office of the Town Attorney, 54
22 Audrey Avenue, Oyster Bay, New York
23 11771.

24 I'd like to ask everyone to stand
25 today, but before prayer, I'm going to

1
2 ask for a moment of silence for those we
3 lost in that horrific bus accident. May
4 they rest in peace, made their families
5 heal. And we especially pray and think of
6 all of the families who are impacted and
7 the children injured. May they get well
8 very quickly and have a full recovery.
9 Let's think about them in our prayers,
10 please.

11 (Whereupon, a moment of
12 silence is observed by all.)

13 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Amen.

14 Leading us in prayer is a very
15 wonderful friend, Vicar Christian
16 Cederstrom, the pastor in training at the
17 Faith Lutheran Church in Syosset.
18 Welcome. The floor is yours.

19 VICAR CEDERSTROM: Thank you so
20 Much.

21 Let us pray:

22 Dear God, source of all wisdom and
23 justice, thank you for bringing us
24 together today. As we begin our
25 discussions, bring in the spirit of

1
2 fairness and love for our community and
3 help us lead with integrity for all
4 peoples. Open our hearts to the
5 understanding of others and gather our
6 strength to assist those who need it
7 most.

8 Bless this assembly and all who are
9 affected by it. In your name, we pray.

10 Amen.

11 (Whereupon, all, "Amen".)

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you so
13 much for all of your work. Please know
14 we gather with your congregation as one
15 family in the Town of Oyster Bay.

16 VICAR CEDERSTROM: Thank you so
17 much.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Leading us in
19 the Pledge of Allegiance is Vietnam War
20 era veterans from our Bayville American
21 Legion. Very happy to have here today the
22 United States Marine Joseph Hili and
23 Anthony Congero.

24 Gentlemen, if you kindly lead us at
25 this time.

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2 CORP. HILI: Good morning, brothers
3 and sisters. I take this pleasure in
4 leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5 (Whereupon, the Pledge of
6 Allegiance is said.)

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very
8 much, gentlemen. And thank you, you
9 represent the best of the best. You
10 represent all that our hopes and prayers
11 and thoughts go out to. Those defending
12 us in the United States armed forces
13 serving here in the homeland and abroad,
14 and to the men and women in law
15 enforcement, all of our first responders
16 and, of course, those who are our
17 hospital heroes.

18 God bless them all. God bless and
19 keep them safe.

20 Please be seated, everyone.

21 (Whereupon, all are seated.)
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2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We started
3 this morning's meeting with a moment of
4 silence and thoughts and prayers for all
5 in Farmingdale. The Town of Oyster Bay
6 family extends its deepest condolences
7 and sorrow for the Farmingdale community.
8 Last week, we illuminated Town Hall in
9 "Daler" Green to honor the memories of
10 band director Gina Pellettieri and
11 retired social studies teacher Beatrice
12 Ferrari.

13 We lost these two incredible leaders
14 who meant so much not only to the
15 Farmingdale community, but to young
16 people, musicians, people looking for
17 guidance as they make their way in life
18 in high school. They have been
19 phenomenal. But what's also been
20 phenomenal is the way the Daler Community
21 has circled around everyone affected.
22 They have come together in prayer and
23 worked amazingly. I see folks in other
24 communities wearing their green and
25 showing their support. We in the Town of

1
2 Oyster Bay put all of our flags at half
3 mast in a tribute to these two
4 exceptional educators: One, the current
5 band director; and the other, the retired
6 band director. And it just was so
7 important to see everyone come together.

8 Over time, we've seen so many acts,
9 whether it was 9-11 and so on and so
10 forth, where Americans come together and
11 now in this case, Town of Oyster Bay,
12 residents coming together to honor
13 everyone in Farmingdale to show them
14 support at this very difficult time.

15 Of course, there will be more
16 functions happening. I believe there's
17 something coming up at Mulcahy's on
18 Thursday night to provide support for the
19 families. Is there a website people can
20 go to and form a deal to get all of the
21 information about?

22 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: It's on
23 Wednesday night.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Wednesday
25 night at Mulcahy's. We'll continue to

pray and be a part of efforts to assist
these families as they heal.

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2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: October is
3 Breast Cancer Awareness Month. And this
4 is the time we remind our residents to
5 get their screenings, the fact that far
6 too many residents face the overwhelming
7 shock of a breast cancer diagnosis. They
8 are flooded with new information, worried
9 about loved ones at times as some of the
10 treatments are very unaffordable. It
11 reaches life's toughest decisions for
12 people affected.

13 During the month of October, we
14 rededicate ourselves to supporting
15 patients and their families and raising
16 awareness about the life saving
17 importance of early screenings, working
18 for detection.

19 We honor all of those who have lost
20 their lives to this terrible disease. We
21 celebrate the courageous survivors and
22 their strength and the advocates fighting
23 to beat this disease and to help
24 everyone.

25 And as we've said over and over and

1
2 we'll continue to say it, nothing is more
3 important than getting those screenings.
4 Something that should be the case all
5 year round, but we utilize the month of
6 October to especially remind our loved
7 ones to get those screenings.

8 So please turn to your loved one and
9 remind them, drive them, whatever it
10 takes. Those screenings are critical and
11 save lives.

12 So we'll ask that everyone continue
13 in that effort.

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2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: One of the
3 things that we're moving forward with
4 today's business is to welcome the "Take
5 Me Out to the Ball Game Foundation", an
6 incredible Massapequa-based organization
7 that seeks to improve the quality of life
8 for children in need through interactive
9 family activities and by providing the
10 tools they need to thrive at home, at
11 school, at all times.

12 The organization's founder and
13 president is with us today, Richard
14 Genovese, who created "Take Me Out to the
15 Ball Game Foundation" -- Does everybody
16 get peanuts and crackerjack at this
17 event?

18 MR. GENOVESE: Absolutely.
19 Absolutely.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We kid because
21 we love you, but we really, really
22 appreciate you and your organization from
23 the bottom of our hearts.

24 In 2007, they first partnered with
25 the "YES Community Counseling Center" in

1
2 Massapequa with Vision to create and fund
3 events for children affected by alcohol
4 and drug abuse helping them, especially
5 as they struggle. Perhaps it's a parent,
6 a loved one, a family member.

7 "Take Me Out to the Ball Game"
8 sponsors events for these kids and
9 includes visits to Adventureland, fishing
10 trips, various sporting events and an
11 annual holiday party.

12 Recently, with the help and
13 generosity and support of friends and
14 family, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game"
15 began partnering with other nonprofits to
16 aid even more vulnerable families through
17 food pantries working with houses of
18 worship. So their outreach is a testament
19 to their love for others and the template
20 for all successful organizations to
21 follow. So we commend you for that very
22 much.

23 Now it is our great pleasure for our
24 Town Board to present this Citation, to
25 "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" Foundation

1
2 and a very, very good friend, Rich
3 Genovese. Councilwoman Laura Maier, if
4 you would assist with this presentation
5 and if everyone would join us at the
6 front rail as we honor Richard Genovese
7 and the very important work of the "Take
8 Me Out to the Ball Game" Foundation.

9 (Whereupon, photographs
10 taken, Citation presented.)

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We started the
12 day talking about our veterans and what
13 they do for us on the global scale. But
14 when it comes to the to the hometown
15 scale, you do so, so much that we will
16 "root, root, root for the home team", as
17 you help us.

18 Rich, would you like to say anything
19 about the organization and a website,
20 perhaps, how people can get involved?

21 MR. GENOVESE: Sure. We started back
22 in 2007, my wife and I wanted to make a
23 difference in kids and families. That has
24 blossomed now into seven food pantries
25 that we stocked 3 or 4 times a year. It's

1
2 escalated post Covid, obviously.

3 We do a Christmas party for 100
4 kids, Santa Claus, toys, winter clothing.
5 We give out socks, jackets, coats and
6 what people don't have.

7 The first year we had five turkeys
8 in my truck and now we have a truckload
9 with over 300 turkeys we deliver. It's
10 one of the guys I went to high school
11 with from Massapequa. We grew up
12 together. So we all came back together
13 and we're just trying to make a little
14 difference day by day. Joe's been a great
15 supporter of everything that we've done.
16 And Esther, thank you very much.

17 This is very, very overwhelming.
18 Thank you very much.

19 (Whereupon, applause.)
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2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Folks. October
3 is also Domestic Violence Awareness
4 Month. And for our next presentation, we
5 welcome The Safe Center, Long Island,
6 Debbie Lyons and Alexis Reice. Thank you
7 very much for being with us.

8 The Town is very proud to support
9 The Safe Center, as we have been for
10 years, to help spread awareness about
11 domestic abuse and, most importantly, the
12 services available by stellar
13 organizations like The Safe Center to
14 those affected.

15 So, Debbie, we appreciate what
16 you're doing and you have information for
17 us and we have something for you, too. So
18 please proceed.

19 MS. LYONS: Great. Thank you and
20 good morning.

21 As you stated, my name is Debbie
22 Lyons. I'm the Associate Executive
23 Director at the Safe Center. I would like
24 to thank Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor,
25 Joseph Saladino, Town Board members, and

1
2 Esther Alter of the Public Information
3 Office, for inviting me to speak here
4 today.

5 The Safe Center is Long Island's
6 leading provider of services to victims
7 and survivors of interpersonal violence,
8 including domestic and intimate partner
9 violence, sexual assault, human
10 trafficking and child abuse. We're the
11 only agency in New York and one of only a
12 few in the country that addresses all of
13 these issues and provides comprehensive
14 services for victims and survivors in one
15 setting.

16 The Safe Center was created with a
17 mission to protect, assist and empower
18 victims of family violence and sexual
19 assault, while challenging and changing
20 social systems that tolerate and
21 perpetuate abuse. Our services are
22 designed to create a one stop shop for
23 victims and survivors of interpersonal
24 violence.

25 Some of our services include a 24/7

1
2 hotline; advocacy and case management,
3 including hospital and court
4 accompaniment; legal advocacy and
5 representation; counseling services;
6 housing, including the only safe home for
7 those fleeing domestic violence in Nassau
8 County; and community education.

9 It is important to us that victims
10 and survivors know that our services are
11 inclusive and affirming. Agencies like
12 The Safe Center often are viewed as
13 women's centers. While the majority of
14 interpersonal violence victims and
15 survivors are female, we are also
16 available to men the LGBTQIA community,
17 the elderly, the disabled. Ultimately,
18 anyone who is in need of help is welcomed
19 by our team.

20 October is Domestic Violence
21 Awareness Month. Domestic and intimate
22 partner violence is a pattern of abusive
23 behavior in any intimate relationship
24 that is used by one partner to gain or
25 maintain power and control over another

1
2 intimate partner. When you hear domestic
3 violence, we often think of black eyes
4 and physical assaults. However, domestic
5 and intimate partner violence can take
6 many forms, including physical, sexual,
7 emotional, financial, psychological or
8 other patterns of coercive behavior that
9 influence another person with an intimate
10 partner relationship. We're here today
11 recognizing domestic Violence Awareness
12 Month because intimate partner violence
13 is common and it's occurring at alarming
14 rates in our own community.

15 According to the National Coalition
16 Against Domestic Violence Statistics, 1
17 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men will have been
18 victims of severe physical violence by an
19 intimate partner in their lifetime.

20 The annual cost of domestic violence
21 to the US economy is more than \$8.3
22 billion. This cost includes medical care,
23 mental health services and lost
24 productivity, such as time away from
25 work.

1
2 One in 15 children are exposed to
3 domestic and intimate partner violence
4 each year, and 90% of these children are
5 eyewitnesses to this violence. Studies
6 have shown that when there is domestic
7 violence in the home, the risk of child
8 abuse increases. At our own Nassau County
9 Child Advocacy Center, House of the Safe
10 Center, we have seen the increase in
11 child sex abuse cases that also have a
12 history of exposure to domestic violence.

13 In 2022, The Safe Center received
14 2,551 calls for domestic and intimate
15 partner violence to our 24/7 hotline.
16 Nassau County PD reports that 2,423
17 arrests were made in 2022 for domestic
18 violence and 4,850 children were present
19 at those scenes.

20 These statistics help paint the
21 picture of how prevalent and serious this
22 issue is, but there is also a lot of hope
23 and resiliency. Each person will have a
24 different path to healing, and The Safe
25 Center's client centered model allows us

1
2 the flexibility to customize our services
3 to best meet their needs. It is an honor
4 to work with a survivor as they begin to
5 realize they are not defined by the worst
6 moments of their life, but instead have a
7 bright future ahead in which they can
8 have a positive impact on those around
9 them.

10 A member of our staff shared the
11 story of a mother of three who had left a
12 domestic violence relationship after 13
13 years. She had not been allowed to work
14 while with her abuser and focus her
15 attention on raising her children. When
16 she spoke with our vocational
17 specialists, she had never written a
18 resume and didn't think she could because
19 she had never worked before. Our skilled
20 staff worked with her to highlight the
21 many skills she had, such as conflict
22 management and budget planning after
23 years of running her household and
24 raising children.

25 This step of having a written resume

1
2 gave value to the skills she possessed
3 and was a huge part of her healing
4 journey. Here it was that someone saw her
5 as skilled rather than putting her down
6 and holding her back. That confidence,
7 along with the support, was a huge
8 turning point for her to move forward and
9 find stable employment to support herself
10 and her children. This ultimately allowed
11 her to leave abusive situations. She told
12 our staff that they gave her the hope
13 that she hadn't had for a long time.

14 It's stories like this one and many
15 others like it that inspire us to
16 continue doing this work and advocate to
17 make change, to keep our community and
18 our home safer.

19 Thank you for your time and
20 recognition of Domestic Violence
21 Awareness Month. We are thrilled to hear
22 that survivors will be acknowledged as
23 the Town of Oyster Bay building will be
24 illuminated purple from October 1st
25 through the 15th.

1
2 Thank you to the Town of Oyster
3 Bay's Town Board and all the residents
4 that continue to support The Safe Center
5 and the work to promote healthy and safe
6 homes.

7 We also have some purple ribbons and
8 some information here, if anyone's
9 interested.

10 Thank you.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you so
12 much for your work. It is so important
13 for us to recognize and help people who
14 are suffering from domestic violence or
15 need the education to avoid being a
16 victim of domestic violence and of
17 course, the services you provide.

18 We're happy to help out in so many
19 ways. The illumination of the Building
20 for Domestic Violence Awareness Month is
21 one of just so many different ways that
22 we partner with you. And we're proud and
23 privileged to partner with an
24 organization that, quite frankly, does
25 God's work.

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RECEIVER OF TAXES: Supervisor, may

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I?

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SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Certainly.

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RECEIVER OF TAXES: I don't know if

6

it was your organization or another one,

7

but about 20 years ago, my wife and I, we

8

had redone our kitchen and we had

9

furniture we wanted to donate. Someone

10

told us to reach out. I don't know if it

11

was yours or another organization.

12

Delivering it to a woman's house who had

13

just escaped from domestic violence, had

14

nothing. We gave her a table chair, a

15

microwave, a toaster. And the thanks --

16

she was like, no one's ever done that for

17

me before.

18

MS. LYONS: It's life changing.

19

RECEIVER OF TAXES: Life changing.

20

You know, something that was minuscule to

21

us, giving away furniture and other

22

goods, meant the world to her.

23

What you and your organization does

24

goes beyond any kind of thanks that we

25

can give here. But it's just the thanks

1
2 that you get from the people that you
3 help, it's got to be just heartwarming
4 and, it's a loss of words of what to
5 actually say. But it's just amazing what
6 your group does. So I want to thank you,
7 personally.

8 MS. LYONS: Thank you for keeping it
9 and making an impact in your own way,
10 too.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yeah. And once
12 again, Jeff Pravato, what a great idea to
13 suggest to the community to reach out.
14 You're going to need a new building for
15 all the furniture.

16 But to help out in so many ways,
17 like getting people started when they
18 have to flee to a safe spot. So we thank
19 you very much. We appreciate that very,
20 very much. And I'm going to ask our Town
21 Clerk, Rich LaMarca, to assist us in the
22 presentation of this Proclamation to not
23 only thank you for your efforts, but to
24 announce that October is Domestic
25 Violence Awareness Month and the

awareness that comes with this.

Thank you.

(Whereupon, photographs
taken and Citation presented.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,
ladies. And thank you to your wonderful
organization. Let's give them a hand.

(Whereupon, applause.)

1
2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: A few quick
3 reminders before we begin our town board
4 meeting and get to the business of the
5 day. One of them is that on Saturday,
6 October 7th at 2:45 p.m., that's this
7 coming Saturday, October 7th, 2:45 p.m.,
8 the Town will host a free skate session
9 at the Bethpage Rink to "Put Bullying on
10 Ice"; that's our message.

11 In an effort to stop bullying and
12 bring awareness, we're going to "Put
13 Bullying on Ice" is the name of the
14 program. And this is in coordination with
15 National Bullying Prevention Month.

16 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: It's also
17 Italian Heritage Month.

18 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Yes, that's
19 right. It's Italian American Heritage
20 Month. And that was celebrated in many
21 places, including this past Sunday on
22 North Broadway in Massapequa, when the
23 Sons of Italy Columbus Lodge held holds
24 their annual Columbus Festival and
25 Italian feast on Broadway. There was

1
2 some 10,000 people at this event. It was
3 enormously successful. And I know so many
4 volunteers and people came to the aid. We
5 appreciate all that they have done to
6 make this a very successful festival. And
7 it was really a wonderful, beautiful day.
8 It was very, very special.

9 It was postponed from the week
10 before, as was our Town of Oyster Bay,
11 Fall Classic Car Show. And that also took
12 place on the rescheduled date, which was
13 this past Sunday. What a phenomenal job.
14 Thank you very much to the Parks
15 Department, Public Safety, everyone, all
16 of the employees, everyone who took part
17 in this. It was amazing. It's now the
18 largest car show on Long Island and one
19 of the largest in the northeast of the
20 United States. So it was fun for people
21 of all ages. The music, Vinyl Revival
22 played. They were fabulous. There was so
23 much to it. And it's one of the many
24 events that puts the Town of Oyster Bay
25 on the map that we're all very, very

1
2 proud of. People love their cars, and it
3 was very festive and the weather was
4 beautiful. So thank you for that, too.

5 There were a plethora of events that
6 the Town of Oyster Bay has played a role
7 in the recent weeks. And there's more to
8 come. We mentioned on Wednesday night at
9 Mulcahy's in Wantagh is a fundraiser to
10 assist the families affected by that
11 horrible and tragic bus accident that has
12 so impacted our Farmingdale students and
13 community.

14 This coming weekend, on Saturday and
15 Sunday, Farmingdale's Downtown does a
16 Columbus festival where that's a craft
17 fair and event that helps the community.
18 And there will be a lot going on there to
19 assist those families. So we want to help
20 to promote that event this coming
21 weekend, Saturday and Sunday in Downtown
22 Farmingdale.

23 These are just some of the many,
24 many successful events going on
25 throughout the Town of Oyster Bay. And so

1
2 many of our events have the information
3 you can check on, and that's on our
4 website, which is OysterBayTown.com.

5 OysterBayTown.com has quite a bit of
6 that. You can follow us on Facebook to
7 find out more about all the many events
8 we're involved in. So kudos to the team.
9 We're very, very proud of it. And I know
10 we're going to make an announcement to
11 keep the public informed on things they
12 want to do and even some things they'd
13 rather not do.

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2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: On that note,
3 we will pass the floor to Jeff Pravato,
4 our Receiver, who has an announcement to
5 make.

6 RECEIVER OF TAXES: Just quickly,
7 Supervisor. The school tax bills did go
8 out last week.

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Congratulations.

10 RECEIVER OF TAXES: They hit early
11 and you couldn't take payment until
12 Monday. But we did take payment for some
13 people, gave out receipts and ran
14 everything on Monday, but they are due
15 without penalty through November;
16 Wednesday, November 13th. The 10th is a
17 holiday. Even though we are going to keep
18 our office open on the 10th, the rest of
19 the Town will be closed because people
20 will come and I don't want people make
21 two trips. Any questions, call my office:
22 516-624-6400. You can e-mail us at
23 Receiveroftaxes@OysterBay-ny.gov.

24 I just want to congratulate my
25 staff. They're doing a great job out

1
2 there. Any questions you have, we can
3 help you a lot of stuff. And if we can't,
4 we will direct you in the right
5 direction.

6 Thank you, Supervisor.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you,
8 Jeff Pravato. You have done phenomenal
9 job, if I don't mind saying on behalf of
10 the board members, because your office
11 has worked hard to establish many new
12 ways to pay in addition for the tried and
13 true typical ways to come down in person
14 with a check. But there's so many
15 different opportunities now that you and
16 your office have created for the
17 convenience of the public, and that's
18 something that's greatly appreciated.
19 Kudos to you and your team for the hard
20 work they've done.

21 RECEIVER OF TAXES: Yeah. We've
22 kept the walk up windows. They have
23 become really popular in both Town Halls
24 North and South if people still don't
25 feel comfortable coming inside. And also

1
2 it gives another window where people can
3 get service.

4 Down in the Town Hall South, as we
5 said, the last couple of years it is full
6 service: Cash, credit card, everything.
7 We even put kiosks in so people don't
8 have to wait on line. You walk right up
9 to the kiosk and pay by credit card or
10 debit card. The fees on that do not go
11 to the Town, it goes to the providers.

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: On that note,
13 when it comes to the Town and its
14 coffers, we'll be talking a little bit
15 about our proposed budget for 2024. But
16 one of the pieces financially is that
17 you've worked very hard to get more money
18 for our taxpayers through interest by
19 putting money in high interest rate
20 varying accounts. So this is a real
21 positive. Nobody wants higher interest
22 rates when you're borrowing, but when
23 you're investing, to see those high
24 interest rates and how much your office
25 has brought our taxpayers through

1
2 interest on those accounts ever more and
3 more is part of our financial success.

4 So all of us on the Town Board.
5 Thank you, Jeff Pravato and the
6 Receiver's Office. Great work.

7 RECEIVER OF TAXES: Thank you.

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11 (Whereupon, above matter
12 concludes, 10:46 a.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 3rd day of October, 2023.

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

10.03.2023 TOBAY TOWN BOARD SPECIAL PRESENTATION

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TOWN BOARD

TOWN OF OYSTER BAY

REGULAR MEETING

October 3, 2023

10:46 a.m.

Hearing 1

Glenwood-Glen Head Fire Protection District
and Liberty Utilities (New York Water) Corp
for the year 2023.

JOSEPH SALADINO

SUPERVISOR

**

RICHARD LaMARCA

TOWN CLERK

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER

A P P E A R A N C E S

P R E S E N T:

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

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

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

1
2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Mr. LaMarca,
3 would you please poll the Board?

4 TOWN CLERK: Absolutely.

5 Supervisor Saladino?

6 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Present.

7 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

8 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Present.

9 TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

10 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Also here.

11 TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

12 COUNCILMAN HAND: Present.

13 Councilman Labriola?

14 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Present.

15 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

16 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Present.

17 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

18 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Present.

19 TOWN CLERK: We have a quorum.

20 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We have one
21 hearing on for today, will you please
22 call it?

23 TOWN CLERK: Today's hearing is to
24 consider Hydrant Rental for the Glenwood-
25 Glen Head Fire Protection District and

1
2 Liberty Utilities (New York Water) Corp.
3 for the year 2023.

4 DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: Good morning,
5 Supervisor, Members of the Town Board.
6 Elizabeth Faughnan, Deputy Town Attorney,
7 Office of the Town Attorney.

8 I come to you this morning to
9 request approval of a contract of payment
10 to Liberty Utilities, formerly New York
11 Water Corp. for the rental of Fire
12 Hydrants in the Glen Head-Glenwood (sic)
13 Fire Protection District.

14 For purposes of the record, I'm
15 going to go through the reason why we're
16 here. But I know that you are all very
17 familiar with the reasoning as this is an
18 annual request that we do not only for
19 the Glenwood-Glen Head Fire Protection
20 District, but also for the Plainview
21 Fire Protection District, and also for
22 the Oyster Bay Fire Protection District.
23 Having said that, I will try to be brief.

24 As you all know, the New York State
25 town law says that in an area where there

1
2 is no fire district with elected
3 commissioners, there is instead a fire
4 protection district. And the Town Board
5 sits as the commissioners for purposes of
6 that fire protection district. That would
7 be under Article 11 of New York State
8 town law. The New York State town law
9 also requires that the fire district or
10 the fire protection district rent
11 hydrants from the local water provider
12 because hydrants are needed for fire
13 protection purposes, not necessarily for
14 providing water to residents and
15 businesses in that water district.

16 Any questions?

17 (Whereupon, no questions
18 from the Board.)

19 DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: I'm trying to
20 be really brief on that because you all
21 know, but for purposes of the record.

22 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: We are aware
23 and hopefully the public is aware that
24 this is something by law from the State
25 we have to do each and every year and

1
2 that any time it involves money, the
3 public has to have an opportunity to be
4 heard. This would come out of the
5 taxpayers within the district that
6 receives the fire protection and not paid
7 for by Town of Oyster Bay taxpayers at
8 large?

9 DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: Absolutely
10 correct, Supervisor.

11 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay.

12 DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: Pretty soon
13 we're going to have you do the hearing
14 (laughter).

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: With that, as
16 always, We always want to hear from the
17 public. Is there anyone here who would
18 like to be heard on this hearing?

19 (Whereupon, no verbal
20 response.)

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

24 May I please have a motion?

25 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor,

1
2 I'll make the motion that this hearing be
3 closed and the decision be voted on
4 today.

5 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

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

8 (Whereupon, all members of
9 the Town of Oyster Bay Town
10 Board respond in favor with,
11 "Aye.")

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
13 "Nay".

14 (Whereupon, no verbal
15 response.)

16 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The "Ayes"
17 have it. Thank you very much.

18 DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY: Thank you.

19
20 (Whereupon, above matter
21 concludes, 10:49 a.m.)
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 3rd day of October, 2023.

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

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TOWN BOARD

TOWN OF OYSTER BAY

REGULAR MEETING

October 3, 2023

10:49 a.m.

ACTION CALENDAR

JOSEPH SALADINO

SUPERVISOR

**

RICHARD LaMARCA

TOWN CLERK

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER

A P P E A R A N C E S

P R E S E N T:

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

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

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

1
2 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: With that, we
3 will go right to our Regular Action
4 Calendar.

5 TOWN CLERK: May I have a motion to
6 table Resolution 709-23?

7 On the motion?

8 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

9 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

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

13 On the vote. Supervisor Saladino?

14 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Aye.

15 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

16 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

17 TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

18 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Aye.

19 TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

20 COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.

21 TOWN CLERK: Councilman Labriola?

22 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Aye.

23 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

24 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Aye.

25 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Motion to table
709-2023 passes with seven ayes.

TOWN CLERK: May I have a motion to remove and withdraw Resolution 353-2023 from the table? This Resolution was tabled on May 23, 2023.

On the motion?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

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

On the vote. Supervisor Saladino?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Labriola?

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Motion to remove and
withdraw Resolution 353-2023 from the
table passes with seven ayes.

1
2 TOWN CLERK: May I have to suspend
3 the Rules and add Resolution
4 732-737-2023?

5 On the motion?

6 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

7 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

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

11 On the vote. Supervisor Saladino?

12 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Aye.

13 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

14 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

15 TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

16 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Aye.

17 TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

18 COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.

19 TOWN CLERK: Councilman Labriola?

20 COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Aye.

21 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

22 COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Aye.

23 TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

24 COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Aye.

25 TOWN CLERK: Motion to suspend the

Rules and add Resolution 732-737-2023
passes with seven ayes.

May I have a motion to resuspend the
Rules and add the following on walk on
Resolution: 738-2023, which is a
Resolution authorizing the Commissioner
of Public Works to execute permits
obtained from the United States Army
Corp. of Engineers.

On the motion?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

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

On the vote. Supervisor Saladino?

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Labriola?

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Motion to resuspend the
Rules of Procedure and add walk on
Resolution 738-2023 passes with seven
ayes.

1
2 TOWN CLERK: May I have a motion to
3 adopt Resolution TF-12-23 through
4 738-2023 and Resolution 353-2023, which
5 has been removed from the table, noting
6 that Resolution 709-2023 has been tabled.

7 On the motion?

8 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: So moved.

9 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

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

13 I don't believe we have any speakers
14 on any of the Resos (sic).

15 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: No one has
16 indicated that they would like to be
17 heard on any of the matters on today's
18 Regular Action Calendar or Resolutions,
19 but I will ask if anyone would like to be
20 heard on our regular Action Calendar, the
21 Resolutions we're about to vote on.

22 (Whereupon, no verbal
23 response.)

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please let the
25 record reflect that no one has indicated

1
2 that they would like to be heard and we
3 do not have any slips filled out from
4 anyone stating they would like to be
5 heard.

6 So with that, I would like to call
7 on the vote.

8 TOWN CLERK: Supervisor Saladino?

9 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: I want to
10 indicate something very, very important
11 that we're very proud of and on behalf of
12 the entire Town Board. One of the many
13 resolutions we're about to vote on today
14 is to accept the Proposed Budget For 2024
15 so that it may be considered at public
16 budget hearings, one in the morning, one
17 in the evening, scheduled for this
18 October 17th. This doesn't mean that we
19 are voting to pass the budget. It is part
20 of the many step process to alert the
21 public to what our budget represents. And
22 that's why we take this vote today to
23 accept it for the purposes of setting the
24 hearing date.

25 Despite the nation experiencing such

1
2 economic devastation, the highest
3 inflation rate in decades, here in the
4 Town of Oyster Bay. This is the sixth
5 consecutive Tax Freeze Budget proposed by
6 our administration. The budget continues
7 to sustain the \$1.3 million property tax
8 cut approved by the Town Board back in
9 2018.

10 So when you take each year of
11 savings and total it, it means that \$9.3
12 million are back in the pockets of
13 taxpayers rather than the coffers of
14 government, \$9.3 million less collected
15 by our taxpayers with all the addition of
16 all these years of this savings, the
17 first tax cut and then freezing each and
18 every year.

19 By the way, as we're saving money,
20 we've been building up the surplus in our
21 town to take away the need as best as
22 possible, and we continue to prove it,
23 the need to raise taxes. We are entirely
24 against that. We hear the taxpayers of
25 our town and we are responding to them.

1
2 So this tax freeze is once again
3 possible to spending restraints, to
4 efficiencies, debt reduction initiative.
5 We mentioned earlier the money coming in
6 now because of wise investment, investing
7 in the short term from our Receiver's
8 Office. When interest rates were lowered
9 during the past years before the big
10 inflation and the interest rates going up
11 nationally, we were reissuing our debt at
12 much lower interest rates, saving, in
13 fact, tens of millions of dollars that
14 repeat that savings year after year.

15 So this proposed budget set for 2024
16 continues to pay down the Town debt while
17 enhancing the delivery of quality Town
18 services. And when we say quality, we
19 mean ever improving and we're very, very
20 proud of that.

21 Since my beginning here with with
22 some of the board members in 2017 and
23 then our new board members coming on
24 board, we've had quite a few successes.
25 We successfully reduced the Town's

1
2 overall debt, the net debt by \$187
3 Million lower, while also eliminating the
4 \$44 Million multi year budget deficit on
5 the operating side of the budget which
6 existed. And that's a big deal due to the
7 fiscally conservative budget practices
8 and all that we've done with our
9 financial strategies. We've produced six
10 consecutive budget surpluses and now we
11 have the highest reserve fund ever, which
12 totals over \$88 Million while cutting
13 taxes.

14 So on the capital budget, the big
15 road paving, the big purchase of trucks,
16 the protecting of our facilities and
17 upgrades, we have reduced the Town's
18 total capital debt by a net of \$187
19 Million, while getting a third of the
20 roads paved, resurfacing our fields,
21 protecting our facilities.

22 And as we said, we went from a \$44
23 Million deficit before this Board came to
24 support and help the Town of Oyster Bay,
25 and now we have over an \$88 million

1
2 budget surplus.

3 What does that do? It allows Wall
4 Street to say, you're doing a great job
5 and we'll keep increasing your Wall
6 Street credit rating. As the credit
7 rating goes up and up and up, it reduces
8 the cost of borrowing money for the
9 projects that we have created in our
10 town. So that credit rating now went from
11 A+ to AA-. You don't think you could do
12 better than A+, well, we have. And we're
13 working toward the AAA perfect bond
14 rating. We continue to do that while
15 cutting taxes.

16 So we really appreciate the
17 collaborative effort from the experts on
18 this Town Board, our Director of Finance,
19 all of the people involved in this town.
20 And when I see our former town
21 supervisor, Angelo Delligati with that
22 ear to ear grin, we know we're doing a
23 good job. He's got a great smile, by the
24 way. We know we're doing a great job.
25 We're just very, very proud of this.

1
2 And now, as one of our votes, we
3 will be setting our dates for the budget
4 hearing, where the public can come in and
5 learn about the budget and we're proud of
6 that we continue to improve services, cut
7 taxes, cut our debt significantly, and
8 take a huge swing in the financial
9 strength of this town.

10 It is important to point out
11 something that we're also proud of. The
12 Town was in tough shape. Anybody who had
13 a television or read a paper knew the
14 Town was in tough shape seven, eight,
15 nine years ago. And the New York State
16 Comptroller put the Town of Oyster Bay on
17 the Fiscal Stress List. That Fiscal
18 Stress List has three layers of stress:
19 1, being the worst, which the Town was
20 on. Then we corrected a lot of the
21 financial issues and we would downgrade
22 it to a less stress point. And then we
23 continue to the lowest stress point. The
24 State Comptroller and their audit team
25 took us off the Stress List all together.

1
2 No more stress in the Town.

3 But something else just happened
4 recently that we're very, very proud of
5 this New York State auditors who look at
6 every municipality and look at their
7 finances and look at the independent
8 professional audits that look at
9 everything in our town has not only
10 confirmed that, yes, we don't belong on
11 the Stress List, there is a rating that
12 they give from 0 to 100 with 100 being
13 the most stressed, I think the highest we
14 ever were, we got a rating of 91, which
15 is a lot of stress. Well, the new number
16 came out for the Town of Oyster Bay on
17 that stress list. And I know you all want
18 to know what that number is. The Town of
19 Oyster Bay on the State Comptroller Tom
20 DiNapoli Stress List is zero; zero. No
21 fiscal stress at all. And to go from
22 where we were to where we are today, I
23 can't thank enough, all of you who worked
24 so hard to protect our town and its
25 finances. We have zero fiscal stress

1
2 while we're spending the monies to
3 improve this town in each and every way.

4 RECEIVER OF TAXES: Supervisor, I
5 think you looked over -- I don't mean to
6 interrupt.

7 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please, go
8 ahead, Jeff.

9 RECEIVER OF TAXES: Over the past
10 years, this board has refinance debt that
11 was higher interest rates to lower. We
12 took advantage of the lower interest
13 rates over the years when they were low.
14 So you did right to finance those rates,
15 those bonds, saving the taxpayers
16 millions of dollars there also.

17 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: So that's what
18 we're doing today. We not passing the
19 budget but accepting it.

20 We will pass a budget, as has been
21 our commitment in the month of October,
22 which is more about transparency. But
23 first, today, we'll be taking a vote
24 right now, among the other items on our
25 list, to set the hearing dates. And

there's two hearings a morning and an evening hearing, both on October 17th. And for that and all of the items on today's Agenda, I vote aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Johnson?

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: I vote aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Imbroto?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hand?

COUNCILMAN HAND: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Labriola?

COUNCILMAN LABRIOLA: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Maier?

COUNCILWOMAN MAIER: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Walsh?

COUNCILWOMAN WALSH: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Motion to adopt resolution TF-12-23 through 708-2023 passes with seven ayes;

Resolution 709-2023 has been tabled;

Resolution number 710-2023 through 738-2023 passes with seven ayes;

And the Resolution number 353-2023 passes with seven ayes. The Calendar's

1
2 complete, Supervisor.

3 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you
4 very, very much. We really appreciate
5 that.

6 Before we close our meeting and go
7 to the public comment portion, once
8 again, Jeff Pravato, you have the floor
9 to make that quick announcement in a
10 condensed form. We want to make sure we
11 always provide the information for our
12 public.

13 RECEIVER OF TAXES: Okay. The the
14 school tax bills are out, the first half
15 of do by November 13th. The Town is
16 closed on November 10th. We're keeping
17 our office open on November 10th. The
18 number to call if you have any questions.
19 624-6400. E-mail us at
20 ReceiverofTaxes@OysterBay-ny.gov. We will
21 help you out. We have a crack staff over
22 there that's willing and waiting for your
23 phone calls.

24 SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you very
25 much. We appreciate that.

1
2 And just to provide a little more
3 information, the Farmingdale School
4 District Superintendent Paul Defendini
5 would like us to inform everyone that
6 there are a variety of different ways to
7 be of assistance to the families affected
8 by this tragic bus accident. People can
9 call the Assistant Superintendent for
10 business, Michael Motisi, and his number
11 at work is (516) 434-5120, and they can
12 find out the different ways in which they
13 can help the Farmingdale community. Our
14 hearts and minds and prayers go out to
15 them.

16 With that, I have no slips of
17 anybody. So we'll close the meeting.
18 We'll go to public comment immediately.

19 May I have a motion?

20 COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Supervisor, I
21 make a motion this meeting be closed.

22 COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Second.

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

25 (Whereupon, all members of

the Town Board respond with,

"Aye".)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Those opposed,
"Nay".

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The ayes have
it. Thank you very much.

(Whereupon, above matter
concludes, 11:06 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 3rd day of October, 2023.

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

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