In The Matter Of:

In RE: Nutley Board of Commissioners

Transcript of Proceedings
April 2, 2019
Conference Session

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TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

*** CONFERENCE SESSION ***

DATE: April 2, 2019

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

JOSEPH P. SCARPELLI, MAYOR

MAURO G. TUCCI, COMMISSIONER

THOMAS J. EVANS, COMMISSIONER

ALPHONSE PETRACCO, COMMISSIONER

STEVEN L. ROGERS, COMMISSIONER (Absent/Excused)

ALSO APPEARING:

ALAN GENITEMPO, TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY
Conference Session

(Recording begins)

THE CLERK: Board of Commissioners public meeting, Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019. The time is 7:05. Pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, notice of this meeting was published in the November 29th, 2018 issues of the Nutley Sun, the Herald News, and the Star Ledger. A copy of this notice has been posted on the Nutley Town Hall bulletin board, and a copy is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office.

Commissioner Rogers is absent, excused.

Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Here.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Here.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Here.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Here.

THE CLERK: All present, Mayor, except for Commissioner Rogers. He's absent, excused.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Commissioner Petracco, what do you have on the agenda today?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I have a resolution, accept bid for surplus equipment, and declare support
for distracted driving crackdown. That's all I have.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I have a couple things.

Tonight, we have to do the budget introductions, which we will --

THE CLERK: They're on the agenda.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: -- do a presentation on --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Oh, I'm sorry, I'll (indiscernible), Mayor.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Are you ready?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Yeah, I'm ready.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Tonight we have a -- as I said, we have to do the budgeting introduction, a presentation, that I'll do out in the general session. This ought to help people understand what's in the budget and what the changes are. It's hard to pick up the budget document and understand it (indiscernible).

So I have prepared some slides. But basically to summarize what the budget is and the trends of the budget that will be available on the website. But we'll walk through that before we go through the budget. Right now, this budget reflects a 3.85 percent increase, which translates to $175 and change to the
average taxpayer through the housing assessment of (indiscernible).

So we need to work -- continue to work on these new things (indiscernible) that budget. As it stands, we can't adopt until we know what our State aid is. As far as our conversations go, they have (indiscernible).

So tonight, my thing is to -- I think we have to work harder to reduce this budget. We need to find 600 grand between now and (indiscernible). That can get better. If we ignore it could get worse, if the aid is cut below the 3.6 million -- 3.5 million, anticipated in this budget. So just these variables that exist that we have to watch, in mind. So we'll do the public hearing on May 7th, as required, and we'll wait for adoption -- just like we did last year (indiscernible) State aid.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Hopefully, we don't get any bad news at the end of the year like last year.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yeah. The only other thing is that wherever we are, we've got to get to 2 percent. The rate increase last year was higher, 15 percent, it's been higher than anybody's for the last two years. And that's been joined by us knowing state aid, and that always stops. But we need to
understand that we've been trending above 2 percent for the last two years. And so now we just really have to keep a hard line.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: What percentage are we up this year?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: 3.85.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: 3.85? And that's equivalent to, to 600,000?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: To bring that down to 2 percent, we need to find 600 grand. And if we do find it and get it down to 2 percent, then the increase to the taxes is still an increase to the taxpayer, but instead of (indiscernible) it's 82. So (indiscernible) conversation (indiscernible) if we don't cut it, I can't support it. (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER Tucci: (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I also have an ordinance, the bank, the Cap Bank ordinance, which allows us to increase our budget appropriations from above 2 and a half percent, to 3 and a half percent. We're currently -- before we cut any appropriations, we're currently at 2.3 percent. So the bank is -- as you remember, is a paper entry. And if something catastrophic was to happen, we'd use the bank, and we'd be allowed to use that in a future year. We would just
simply renew it because the bank, itself, lasts for two years. So you just -- and you can -- one drops off, you add another one (indiscernible) for a rainy day (indiscernible). But we've never used it, and you know, I don't expect that we will, but it's just in case. It's good, sound financial advice. And that's why -- that's what we have (indiscernible).

It's confusing. If you have any, you know -- it suggests that it gives us the latitude to increase it if we wanted to, but there's so many constraints that would prevent us from just throwing money at this, as far as (indiscernible) clearly is as so many things (indiscernible).

And I also have two resolutions. One's over -- refund of overpayment of taxes, and then the -- there's the certification of compliance for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commissions "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Record in Employment Decisions."

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I have nothing. Other than -- I'm sorry, I do have -- I have a report.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Thank you. Thank you, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Here. I might support
the cause.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Would you read Commissioner Rogers's resolutions?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I will. I don't know how he's declaring all these different things in the same week and month, but he's got -- he's recognizing -- he's a good one for that. The week of April 1st through April 7th is National Public Health Week. We're recognizing the month of April as National Donate Life Month. I'm not sure what that means, but I'll read it.

THE CLERK: Organ donation.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: We're going to declare the month of April as Oral Cancer Awareness month, and I guess we're going to reappoint Meredith Blank as the Certified Municipal Registrar. He left one off here, though. He should have on here a resolution recognizing Autism Awareness Month, and today is actually Light It Up Blue. So I'll just mention that even though he missed it.

THE CLERK: Put it on for the next meeting?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: We'll put it on the next meeting.

THE CLERK: Okay.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you very much,

Commissioner. I have a resolution, doing the
re-certification of the Green Team. This is a resolution that's needed as we go for our sustainability certification, which we need to renew, and hopefully, we'll get -- we were bronze before this, hopefully we can get to silver. It does help us in going for our grants for DEP. It adds extra points to your grants, so that's -- the resolutions. We'll also approve some raffle applications. I'm rejecting the bids that we received from Ernest Street because there was a form missing from all the packets, so we had to reject those, and we're going out for a re-bid. That will (indiscernible). And I also have a --

Madam Clerk.

THE CLERK: We have Board of Commissioner meeting minutes from March 5th for approval, and we have several applications for approval. One is for Holy Family, for a Palm Sunday procession. Holy Family, every year, asks to utilize Yanticaw Park, so I got permission from the director, Daniel Salvante. He waived the permits, so he said he was okay to have that.

The Friends of the Nutley Library have submitted a social fair application, and the Knights of Columbus, Holy Family, also have submitted -- they want
to hold a raffle on Sunday, July 14th, 2019. And that's it.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Counselor?
MR. GENITEMPO: I have nothing.
MAYOR SCARPELLLI: Okay. Let's go out to the public.

(End of recording)

* * *
CERTIFICATION

I, Ilene Watson, court-approved transcriber, hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

________________________________________

ILENE WATSON, AAERT NO. 447 DATE: April 16, 2019
ACCESS TRANSCRIPTS, LLC
In The Matter Of:

In RE: Nutley Board of Commissioners

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*** PUBLIC SESSION ***

DATE: April 2, 2019

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

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ALSO APPEARING:

ALAN GENITEMPO, TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY
(Recording begins)

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Everybody, please stand for
the flag salute.

(Pledge of Allegiance)

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Madam Clerk?

THE CLERK: Thank you, Mayor. Board of
Commissioners Public Meeting, Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019.
The time is now 7:18. Pursuant to the requirements of
the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Law
1975, notice of this meeting was published in the
November 29th, 2018 issues of the Nutley Sun, the
Herald News, and the Star Ledger. A copy of this
notice has been posted on the Nutley Town Hall bulletin
board, and a copy is on filed in the Municipal Clerk's
office.

Commissioner Rogers is absent, excused.

Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Here.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Here.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Here.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?
MAYOR SCARPELLI: Here.

THE CLERK: All present, Mayor, except for Commissioner Rogers. He's absent, excused.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: I just want to take a moment of silence. We lost two members of our township employees who recently retired, Bob Rodriguez and Danny Westerlin. So we just have a little moment of silence for both of them.

(Pause)

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you.

Minutes, Madam Clerk?

THE CLERK: Thank you, Mayor. We have the Board of Commissioner meeting minutes for approval from March 5th, 2019. I need a motion.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Move it.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

THE CLERK: That's it for minutes.
MAYOR SCARPELLI: Communications?

THE CLERK: Thank you, Mayor. Holy Family Church has submitted an event application for a Palm Sunday procession on April 14th, 2019, from 11:15 a.m. to 11:50 a.m., starting at 174 Franklin Avenue and ending at 28 Brookline Avenue in Nutley. I need a motion.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Move it.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Holy Family Church has requested permission to utilize Yanticaw Park for community prayer, gathering for five consecutive Sundays, starting April 28th through May 26th, 2019, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Procession to utilize Yanticaw Park has been granted and permits have been waived by the County Parks Recreation Director, Daniel Salvante. I need a motion.
COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move it.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I just have a question. Why are we voting on this? It's a county park, and they're giving them permits, and they're waiving the fees. So why are we acting on this?

THE CLERK: We put it on every year, just this way that you -- it's okay with the governing body. It's on Sundays, and anything that's done on Sundays, we usually vote on. You don't -- it's not necessary?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I don't think so. I think it's just a point of information.

Alan?

MR. GENITEMPO: Yeah, I don't know, it's already been approved -- I'm sorry. It's already been approved --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Yeah, it's not under our jurisdiction.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Do we have to provide any police coverage or anything?

THE CLERK: Not as far as I'm aware.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: No.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Okay.

THE CLERK: Okay. So we could just --
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Public Session

1)

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Move to the next --

THE CLERK: -- go on to the next one.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Move to --

THE CLERK: Okay. The Friends of the

Nutley Library have submitted an application for a

social affair permit to hold their Evening Tea and Book

Signing event on Wednesday, May 15th, 2019 at the

Nutley Public Library. The hours are from 6:30 to

9 p.m.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I'll be happy to move

this one.

THE CLERK: Okay. I need a second.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

THE CLERK: The Knights of Columbus

Number 14712, Holy Family Council, have submitted a

letter requesting permission to hold a raffle drawing

on Sunday, July 14th, 2019, at 1:05 p.m. at Holy Family
Church, 20 Brookline Avenue. I need a motion.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Move it.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

THE CLERK: And that's it for communications.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Reports, I have the monthly reports from October, 2018 through February 2019.

Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Yes. I have a shade tree report for the month of March, 2019.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Bills, Madam Clerk?

THE CLERK: Thank you, Mayor. Bill list for April 2nd, 2019: Public Affairs, $181,103.65; Revenue and Finance, $6,381,046.03; Public Safety, $51,939.60; Public Works, $55,453.05; Parks and Public Property, $966,519.98; Water Utility, $159,767.59; total payroll, $833,296.41; for a grand total of $8,629,126.31.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move the bills.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

THE CLERK: And that's it for bills, Mayor.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Public comment on agenda items only.

Madam Clerk?

THE CLERK: Yes, Mayor. All persons addressing the Board of Commissioners regarding community concerns should approach the microphone and provide their name and address for the record. Unless further time is granted by the board, each person shall limit their address to three minutes. All remarks to the board and its individual members must be addressed to the mayor.

The mayor may defer citizens' comments to the appropriate member of the board. Dialogue between citizens and those addressing the board shall be allowed unless the mayor or presiding officer or the
majority of the membership of the board shall determine that the interests of the quorum and/or the expeditious conduct of municipal business are being adversely affected by such dialogue.

MR. MOORE: Rory Moore, 462 Chestnut Street.

Mr. Evans, I have two questions on the budget -- the bills. The Cede -- Cede and Company, what is that?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: It's a debt payment.

UNIDENTIFIED: Oh, C-E-D-E.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yeah.

MR. MOORE: C-E -- C-E-E --

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes. It's a --

MR. MOORE: What is that? There are two items.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes, it's where we -- because we have to pay our interest on our debt obligations, principal obligations.

MR. MOORE: (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER EVANS: And that's the clearing company. Yes.

MR. MOORE: All right. And I just have a -- Commissioner Petracco. Bills this month -- this meeting. Baltimore County Police Foundation? Is that a (indiscernible)? Oh, that's what it was?
And there was another one. Lindhurst Volunteer Fire Department? What was that for?

    COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: That's all the training for the fire department, we're reimbursing them.

    MR. MOORE: Okay. Thank you.

    MAYOR SCARPELLI: Anybody else wish to address the Board of Commissioners on the agenda items only? Seeing none, let's move to Board of Commissioner announcements.

    The announcements, Commissioners?

    COMMISSIONER TUCCI: The only announcement I'd like to make at this point, and we'll do a resolution at the next meeting, is today is Light It Up Blue in recognition of Autism Awareness Month. So we will be doing that resolution at our next meeting.

    COMMISSIONER EVANS: Mayor, I just have the -- it's -- April is dog and cat license renewal month, and so I just -- the Municipal Clerk's Office will be open until 8 p.m. three nights this month, April 24th, April 25th, and April 30th, to accommodate residents who need to come in in the evening for that. And Steve Rogers isn't here tonight, Commissioner Rogers isn't here tonight, but on April 8th and April 9th are the days scheduled for the free rabies clinics. The Clerk's Office will be participating in that so to help
with the license renewals on those dates, as well.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: There is an announcement I'd like to make, also. Unfortunately, we lost Lieutenant Paul Edwards a couple weeks ago, his passing. And I've been kind of holding off to make -- you know, to do a moment of silence for him. Also, because when I first got elected way back when, Paul Edwards, one of the kindest, gentlest, human beings you will ever meet in your life, he was always on me about putting something on the police cars that I talked to Chief Strumolo about, and those words were "To Protect and Serve."

You know, he really felt that was the duty of a police officer, to protect and serve his community. So I'd like to, you know, get that on the cars, painted, "Protect and Serve." I think that would look great, and I'd like to invite Mrs. Edwards here one night, you know, when we do that, maybe take a picture or something. So I'd just like to recognize that he did pass.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Let's just take a couple moments -- for Paul Edwards. Thank you.

Public Works is going to have their shredding day April 13th from 10 to 2 in parking lot 9, which is
next to Ciccolini's. Bring all your tax returns, it's always around tax day. Bring your old tax returns, your checkbooks, any of your important documents you don't want to throw in the trash. It's an opportunity to get rid of them in a safe and secure way.

Ordinance introductions. Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Thank you, Mayor. I have one introduction tonight. Each year, we introduce an ordinance that theoretically would allow the township to increase our appropriation cap from above the statutory 2 percent to 3 and a half percent. We've never had a need to do that, and the current budget actually shows an appropriation increase of 2.3 percent, so we're below the current cap. It's a -- an expiring bank. It exists for two years, and then it expires.

So we -- since we're below the cap and we have that range, if something catastrophic was to happen, it allows us to deal with that emergency and that appropriation. We've never had to use it, so it's just -- it's a good financial planning practice to continue to renew it. But there are multiple constraints that are in place that would never allow us to increase those -- that spending to that level. But it's just good planning. So we do that mostly -- and
in fact it exists, as a paper memo entry that we track each year.

So with that, an Ordinance Number 3418, an ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits, and to establish a cap bank, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14. I move that this ordinance be passed to a second reading, and advertised in the Nutley Sun, together with the notice required by law, and that further consideration of said ordinance for final passage by the Board of Commissioners be held at its second reading on May 7th, 2019. So move.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

Commissioner? Budget?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes. Tonight, we have to introduce our budget. We are at the statutory deadline required by the State for introduction. So we're at a point where we're still in the budget
process. We still have to continue -- more work to do to address the budget. So this budget is being presented for introduction purposes only. We are not able to adopt our budget until our transitional state aid is known. Last year, that became known on September 20th. So there is a window of time here.

So we will hold a public hearing on the -- on this budget, but we won't adopt it, on May 7th. I've prepared a brief presentation to go over the highlights of the budget. The budget document itself is available to the public. It'll be available tomorrow morning. These slides will be up on the website, as well, and it helps to make the budget itself more understandable. So let me just take a moment and go over there. (Pause)

We'll continue to go through this budget and the discussion in more detail at the public hearing phase, but it's, in part, to tee up the conversation. So we'll just go through it. The next slide.

So when you look at our budget, this is the entire budget on one page. It simply says that we have appropriations for a lot of things. It's the money that we need to spend each year, and for 2019, we need to spend $54.5 million, or $1,200,000 more roughly, than we spent the previous year. Included in our budget, people don't realize this, is that the library
gets a statutory appropriation, which is collected through the municipality and through the property tax. That's 1.6 million, which is this item here, 1 million-588. So I'm rounding for purposes, just for these purpose. That appropriation's going up $32,000.

As a statutory requirement, we can't assume that all taxpayers will pay us the tax that is due. So there's a reserve that is required by statute, and by accounting -- for accounting purposes, and required by the (indiscernible) that we have a reserve in our budget each year. The reserve that we have here is 4 million -- almost $500,000 -- $4,451,000.

What that says is that the total appropriation for 19 -- 2019, is $57 million, roughly $500,000. Not all of that money has to be collected from taxpayers. It comes from other sources. So, one of those sources, for example, would be construction fees. Anything -- marriage license fees, fines, that are out there, would be part of that. Any grants that we receive. So any changes in that, up or down, affect how much money we have to collect from the taxpayer. In this case, our revenues from other sources is going down by $294,000, and I will explain that in a minute.

So the total municipal revenue would be -- revenue meaning, what taxpayers have to pay, what we
need to raise in taxes, is a requirement for this year at $42,632,000, which is an increase over 2018 of 3.85 percent. What that means, when we look at the details of it, what that means is that the average taxpayer would see, based upon this introduction, an average increase of $175. So -- and that's tied to the houses. If your assessed value is at $319,000, the municipal portion would be $175. If your assessed value is either higher or lower, that number will either go up or go -- go lower based upon your individual property tax valuation. So -- next slide.

So when we say the budget's going up, and we had a need to spend more money, the question is, where's that money? Why do we need to spend it, and where is that money being spent? In total, as you can see laid out here, for each of the departments, including the mayor's office, we need to increase salaries by $1,045,000. The others, the other expenses that we incur, which one of those is we have an increase in our sewer charge of $172,000 and increase in our pensions of almost $300,000. This doesn't count as 350 --

(Audio malfunction)

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Okay. So when you break that down, while we look at these numbers, we start
to see then where we need and why our budget is increasing and the areas that are driving those increases. So, in total, appropriations are going up almost $1.3 million. We, as a Board of Commissioners, have to continue to work to understand what we can do to allay these increases before we adopt the budget. A lot of the things that you see in here as a benefit, is one, is we have a $529,000 decrease in our medical insurance.

And, Commissioner, do you want to clarify that?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Sure. We had a 3 percent increase for our active employees this year, but we were fortunate enough to have almost a 40 percent decrease for our retirees, and our breakdown is as follows.

We have 208 active employees who are on our health plan. We have 144 retirees, all right, that we're paying for. Overall, we had 46 people waive, which means they either had coverage with a spouse or a significant other, all right, or they received an -- a dollar incentive, which averaged about $3,880, and that equates to 25 percent of whatever premium was attached to the coverage that they had, or $5,000, whichever is less.
So we had a significant savings this year, and that, in conjunction with being very diligent in combing our lists and making sure that people who do not belong there are removed and we stay on top of any changes that we have, we realized a significant reduction this year. And depending on how we proceed, we may even have a further reduction, but that's to be seen.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Right. Thank you, Commissioner.

Mayor, do you want to comment on recycling?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Sure. Changes in the recycling industry are ongoing. There are no markets out there for the recycling material, and what we were once getting paid for, we are now paying to get rid of. So that's increased some of our recycling costs. Last year, we switched over to half of our recycling and outsourced that. We paid for that through our -- some of our tonnage grant last year, so that had to come into the budget. So between those two, that's the increase in the recycling disposal fees.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: What it -- --

MAYOR SCARPELLI: It's offset -- mostly offset by changes in the department, through decreased manpower, so it's kind of a wash.
COMMISSIONER EVANS: Do you want to comment on the water deficit?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Yeah. We're still working on the water deficit. At one of the meetings, I said that we were down a million dollars, which was not true. That was based on the information that I had in front of me, and the water rents looked like they were decreasing each year. But it was really an accounting error because what happened is, each year, the people who are paying online has been increasing. So it looked like we were down $900,000 in rents, but it was -- the 900,000 was in a different account.

But we're still down in our consumption and our billing, and we're working on that. We've made some changes already, and hopefully by the time we pass the budget, we'll take care of that water deficit.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Okay. So -- and again, this is where we stand today, and there is much more work that needs to be done to try and adjust these increases. We're going to revenue.

So the other thing that's happening that's causing the budget to go up, is that our revenues are lower this year than they were last year. But there's a -- there's a challenge with it because there's a statutory constraint.
While we got $4.1 million worth of transitional aid last year, by statute, we're only able to anticipate 85 percent of what we got the previous year. So as you can tell, you can see, we have 4.1 million, but we're only allowed by statute to anticipate roughly three and a half million, which is a $615,000 decline in our revenue.

That's partially offset by the fact that we've had an increase in grants that we had received. One of those was the Koch grant, and given that interest rates are starting to rise, interest earning is increasing a little bit, when we had an emergency, we filed to FEMA for reimbursement. That reimbursement when you compare year over year, is up to $92,000. And there is a list of very small items. $800 here, $3,000 there, that comprise the other revenues.

So if you -- you know, if you look at it, the net of that is $615,000 decrease offset by a $321,000 increase, the net revenue decline is roughly $294,000. So -- but we just walked through and an increase size is the overall budget, why appropriations are going up, and what's happening on the revenue side, which proves the impact of the amount of revenue that we have to raise from taxpayers.
So what does that mean? So last year, from taxpayers, we had to raise 41 million because of the increase in spending, and the decrease increase in revenue we need to raise $42.67 million this time around, for 2019, as I already showed --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: It was rough.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I'm working on it. So we had a -- we've already had a bunch of (indiscernible). So basically, what this explains again, and how I was saying, the budget is going up about 3.85 percent, or an average of $175 for the taxpayer. In order to get to 2 percent, we have to reduce this budget by $600,000, either by finding more revenue, or reducing our expenses. If our state aid is higher than the 3.5 million coming from the state, that'll help. Otherwise, we have to find ways to try and cut this budget and (indiscernible) achieve the 2 percent cap this year.

If we're able to do that, this $175 increase -- is now under $100. So we have to continue to work on the budget.

Okay. Just another point. So in addition to our operating budget, we actually do have capital investment bonds and other types of borrowing. So as a township, it has to have steady
forms of investments. So one of the things that we don't talk about very much is the fact that at the municipal level, if we needed to, we could borrow as much as $131 million. Today, our debt outstanding is $13.7 million, and when we look at that it's basically a mortgage that's at 10 years, annual percentage rate is 2 and a half percent. So we manage this very closely, and the commissioners are very cooperative and very (indiscernible) to figure out what we need to spend money on, we stay within our means, so that, two things:

One, this number doesn't get out of control, and the amount of debt service that we have to put into the budget stays safe. So -- let me do that. I put these schedules together because rather than trying to go through each department and (indiscernible), which is a challenge to understand, especially as it's presented in the budget document that goes to the state, I prepared this as a summary.

What this says is where -- 2019, it's spending, having a need to spend $55.3 million, where is that money going? And so the easiest way to do that is to explain is that, one, we're -- if we go all the way to the right, included in our budget is a library appropriation, not just the statutory piece, but the
part that the municipality contributes. That roughly is about 2.4 percent of our budget, or about $1.9 million, is given to the library for its services.

We manage our debt service, which is stable, at $2.8 million. That's the amount we have to pay each year in terms of interest and principal payments. We manage that stable and keep that stable. And Commissioner Rogers isn't here, but the areas like Health and Veteran's Services, as well as garbage collection, right, that's $3.7 million, or roughly 6.7 percent of the budget.

When we continue to move across, the administrative services, which includes all of the attorneys, both the ones that are on the payroll, plus the consultants, our IT operation, treasury operations, the municipal clerk's office, the construction office, that all totals to four and a half million dollars, or 8.2 percent.

When you continue -- when you think about our parks, our buildings, our -- the recreation activities that go on, as well as paying for the light bill, the heating the place, and looking at those types of things, that's another $4.7 million, or roughly 8.6 percent. We do have to pay for liability insurance, workman's compensation insurance, as well as
what I've mentioned earlier, including the reserve from collectibles, which is another 11.8 percent, or six and a half million dollars.

Roadways. Taking care of the roadways, taking care of our sewer system, street lighting, recycling, those activities that go on, that's another $7.9 million, or roughly 14 percent. And then public safety, so police and fire services, as well as the municipal court, overall, we spend $23.3 million, or -- and that represents 42 percent, almost -- 42 percent of our budget.

When you compare that to 2014, so (indiscernible) basically said, if we were to look back and say, where were we spending money roughly five years ago? How are we now, and as you can see, each -- in that five-year comparison, the numbers are very comparable in terms of percent relationships, but we are spending more money. (Indiscernible) roughly a $700,000 increase in the road and sewer department, a couple, you know, hundred thousand flip-flops for some of the other departments, and Public Safety is up $3.3 million, since 2014.

So this just gives you a sense on one slide that says, it's not about what each commissioner does in his department, but how the money that we collect,
how do we need to spend it? So that’s another
opportunity to take -- at a glance, understand where
the money goes, why we’re spending what we’re spending
it on.

Because the Water Utility is in the budget,
and it’s separate, I thought that it was important, and
I got some advice this afternoon about that.
(indiscernible) there is a contribution to the property
tax from this water department deficit right
(indiscernible), basically, again, does the same thing.
We collect from the water bills, and the service charge
that’s in there for 2019, $4.3 million, our
appropriations are $4.6 million. We have a shortfall of
$231,000, and as the Mayor has already said, they are
working on curing that before we adopt the budget. And
again, it shows, you know, money changed ’18 for ’14,
and the comparative change, and what you see is, these
are where all appropriations are going up 1.8 percent
for 2019 over ’18, and then compared to 2014, the
appropriations are up about 5.3 percent.

My last slide. So basically, again, what
we’ve been talking about is, one, we have to introduce
the budget tonight because we’re at the statutory
deadline. We’re going to host a public hearing on the
budget on May 7th. Like last year, we cannot actually
adopt a budget until we know what our state aid is, and that could be as late as September. While that's going on, the commissioners collectively are all committed to continuing to work our way through lowering this budget, or as -- and every way that we can, to achieve that $600,000 adjustment. A 3.8 percent increase is unacceptable, and I'm not advocating that we adopt this budget in its current form. We have time to work on that. And as I said earlier, the slides that I just brought to you will be up on the website before the end of the week.

Gentlemen? Any comments? Adds?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I'd like to add something. Number one, I'd like to thank Commissioner Evans for putting this together so people can understand where their tax dollars are going and where their water collection fees are going. All right. So he did an excellent job on that. And when you look at -- I believe it was the second slide, he highlights an increase in salaries. All right?

Everyone needs to understand, this is just a portion, and I can only speak for my department. While my salaries are up $122,009, overall, my department is down approximately $683,000, or 5.6 percent, and I'm sure that's the case in other departments also, and
that number may actually increase, all right, as far as what our savings are going to be. And I'd like to thank you, because I am the one that asked him about the Water Utility budget, because this is really part of the DPW operation, and I think that the mayor needs to make people aware of that. Although it's not in your taxes, it's still a fee that we pay. All right? So it's something that we also take a very good look at.

And I -- in one of our meetings, and Commissioner Evans and I spoke about this, as well as Commissioner Petracco and the Mayor, we spoke about zero-based budgeting. All right? So what we don't do is we don't take last year's number and just add a percentage onto that and move it into the budget. What we do is we go through each of our -- of the divisions, all right, in our departments, all right, and we start from the bottom up, all right, as if it was a brand new budget, to see exactly what it is that we need.

And one example of that, all right, are the costs for cell phones. What we did through our IT department, who does a very good job, we've secured service at unlimited cell phone service and data service for $39.99 a month, all right, and we are in discussions about making it a commission policy that
the standard issue telephone will be an iPhone 8, which we can purchase for $0.99. All right? So this is just one example of how we're taking a really close look at how we spend each and every dollar. And this doesn't amount to a whole heck of a lot of money, it's only $46,534, but you put enough of these together, and it turns into real money and it turns into real tax points.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Absolutely. Absolutely. Thank you. So in echoing that point, we continue to scrub the accounts. We -- in addition to looking at cell phones, we also looked at training. And when you look at the training costs that we incur, many of those are required. We need to train firemen and policemen. And that runs about 20 -- in total about $21,000 a year. We need to train people in the court, which is another roughly $1,300, a thousand bucks a year, to do that. And as well as anywhere else where we have certification requirements, we have to go through that. In my department, I spent last year $4,100 on training in total and about $1,300 in the Code office, primarily around roles that have a statutory requirement.

So we will continue to analyze the budget and continue to probe each of these areas to make sure that
we are putting together the right budget as we go forward. So again, as I said, May 7th will be the public hearing on the budget, and these slides will be available before the end of the week. I'd say in the morning, but the way my luck is going, something's going to happen, and they're not going to be up, but they'll certainly be up there tomorrow if we don't have any issues. Thank you.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Yes. I do have a couple comments. And I just want to start off with my first comment of thanking Commissioner Evans for putting this together and thanking the whole Board of Commissioners. I was hoping that Commissioner Rogers would be here, as well, because I'm well aware of the costs that are associated in Public Safety.

You know, and I'll continue to thank all the men and women that serve Public Safety. As everybody knows, we just got the award for being one of the safest communities in the state of New Jersey, and the cost of public safety has risen, but we are a 24/7-day a week operation. You know, we do this, you know, for three shifts, for the most part.

So again, it's -- you know, our budget is a work in progress. We've all gotten together, and it's
just that so many people showed up, I just wanted to thank the commissioners and all the people that serve Public Safety, and the rest of the municipal workers for doing a really great job. And I understand fully that we have to rein this in a little bit, and we have our commitment that will continue to provide the services that we do in Public Safety and, you know, do it efficiently as possible. So I know that's what we're looking for, and that's what we'll be looking to do in Public Safety. Thank you.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.

Thank you, Commissioner Evans, and I'm counting on all of my fellow commissioners to put our nose to the grindstone and figure out how we're going to get this budget down $600,000 over the next couple weeks or months. So that's our goal, and that's where we're going to get to. And I'm sure we will.

Let's move on to resolutions.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I need to read the budget.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Oh, you need to do that, huh?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: The notice. So just -- so -- so in summary, as I said, we need to adopt. So the language I need to read is, the municipal budget of
the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, for the fiscal
year of 2019.

   Be it resolved that the following statements
of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the
municipal budget for the year 2019.

   Be it resolved further that said budget be
published in the Nutley Sun in the issue of
April 18th, 2019.

   THE CLERK:  That's April 11th.

   COMMISSIONER EVANS:  Oh, excuse me, I'm
sorry. It's April 11th. Mine said 18th. So
April 11th.

   The governing body of the Township of Nutley
does hereby approve the following budget for the year
2019 for adoption purposes only. So move.

   COMMISSIONER TUCCI:  Second for adoption
purposes only.

   THE CLERK:  Commissioner Tucci?

   COMMISSIONER TUCCI:  Aye.

   THE CLERK:  Commissioner Evans?

   COMMISSIONER EVANS:  Aye.

   THE CLERK:  Commissioner Petracco?

   COMMISSIONER PETRACCO:  Aye.

   THE CLERK:  Mayor Scarpelli?

   MAYOR SCARPELLI:  Aye.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Can I correct that?
It's not adoption purposes. It's introduction.
COMMISSIONER EVANS: Introduction. Yes.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: We're not adopting, we still have a lot more work to do.
COMMISSIONER EVANS: Exactly. Thank you.
MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.
Commissioner Tucci, would you read Commissioner Rogers's resolutions?
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I will.
MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you very much.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I would love to, thank you, Mayor. Whereas -- I'm sorry?
COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I didn't hear you guys.
MAYOR SCARPELLI: Yeah, we all voted.
COMMISSIONER EVANS: You voted? Yes, he --
COMMISSIONER EVANS: On introduction.
COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Introduction, here, you're paying attention.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: All right. Am I up?
MAYOR SCARPELLI: You're up.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: All right. Thanks.
Whereas, public health is the practice of preventing disease and promoting good health within groups of people from small communities, entire countries;

And, whereas, rather than being a single discipline, public health includes professionals from many fields, with the common purpose of protecting the health of a population, these skills include emergency responders, restaurant inspectors, health educators, public policy makers, public health physicians, public health nurses, social workers, epidemiologists, nutritionists, medical and dental health practitioners;

And, whereas, public health prevention not only educates people about the effects of lifestyle choices on their health, it also reduces the impact of disasters by preparing people for the effects of catastrophe such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and terrorist attack;

And, whereas, healthy children become healthy adults, healthy kids attend school more often and perform better over all;

And, whereas, during each day of the National Public Health Week, focus is placed on a particular public health topic. These areas are critical to our future success, and creating the
healthiest nation, and everyone can do their part to help;

So on Monday we will have Healthy Communities. Tuesdays Violence Prevention, Wednesdays Rural Health. Thursdays Technology and Public Health. Friday, Climate Change, and Saturday and Sunday, Global Health;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, recognize April 1st to April 7th, 2019 as National Public Health Week.

Be it further resolved that the Nutley Health Department encourages all residents to utilize the many innovative, important, and pertinent health issues offered by the department to enhance and promote a healthy quality of life. I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Whereas, 115,000 people in the United States are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant, and nearly 4,000 are New Jersey residents; And, whereas, nearly 2 out of every 3 people on the waiting list are over the age of 50. There are also 2,000 children under the age of 18, and almost 70,000 people or 58 percent are ethnic minorities; And whereas in 2017, more New Jersey residents gave the gift of life than ever before, thanks to the selflessness of New Jersey organ donors and their families who said yes to donation last year, over 550 people are alive today; And, whereas, every ten minutes, another person is added to the waiting list, while 20 people die each day, waiting for a transplant; And, whereas, one organ donor has the ability to save up to 8 lives, and one tissue donor can restore health to over 75 people; And, whereas, people of all ages are considered potential organ and tissue donors; And, whereas, April 12th, 2019, has been designated as Blue and Green Day, at which time residents are encouraged to wear blue and green, to celebrate those who have been touched by the gift of life.
Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, recognize April as National Donate Life Month.

Be it further resolved that the Nutley Health Department encourages all citizens to consider becoming an organ and tissue donor by placing the organ donor designation on their driver's license or state identification card, or registering online at www.donatelifenj.org and sharing this decision with their family.

I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Whereas, close to 51,550 Americans will be diagnosed with oral cancer this year, it will cause over 9,750 deaths, killing roughly one person per hour, 24 hours per day -- this
is a depressing resolution.

And, whereas, oral cancer affects almost
twice as many men and women;

And, whereas, an estimated 25 percent of oral
cancer patients have no known risk factors;

And, whereas, alcohol and tobacco remain the
greatest risk factors, and using them in combination
increase the risk 15 times over the use of one or the
other;

And, whereas, historically oral cancer has
been a disease of those ages 40–plus, but its incidence
in those under 40 has been climbing and can now be
directly related to the increase of Human
Papillomavirus -- whatever -- and other factors;

Whereas, smokeless tobacco is not a safe
alternative to cigarettes, users face a 400,000 percent
greater chance of oral cancer than non-users;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the
Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley,
County of Essex, State of New Jersey, declare
April 2019 as Oral Cancer Awareness Month, and be it
further resolved that we urge all residents in the
Township of Nutley to seek assistance in obtaining the
facts and information about oral cancer and to be
diligent in performing self-examinations and regularly
visiting your oral surgeon or dentist for an oral examination.

I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, that Meredith Blank be reappointed Certified Municipal Registrar for the Township of Nutley for a three-year term effective June 5th, 2018 through June 5th, 2021.

I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?
COMMISSIONER PETRACCO:  Aye.
THE CLERK:  Mayor Scarpelli?
MAYOR SCARPELLI:  Aye.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI:  That's all I have for --
MAYOR SCARPELLI:  Thank you, Commissioner.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI:  Commissioner Rogers, Mayor. You're welcome.
MAYOR SCARPELLI:  Commissioner Evans?
COMMISSIONER EVANS:  Thank you. Be it 
resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the 
Township of Nutley, in the County of Essex, State 
of New Jersey, that the Treasurer be and she is hereby 
authorized to refund overpayments of tax charges in the 
amount of $2,318.58 for Block 7401 Lot 5. So move.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI:  Second.
THE CLERK:  Commissioner Tucci?
COMMISSIONER TUCCI:  Aye.
THE CLERK:  Commissioner Evans?
COMMISSIONER EVANS:  Aye.
THE CLERK:  Commissioner Petracco?
COMMISSIONER PETRACCO:  Aye.
THE CLERK:  Mayor Scarpelli?
MAYOR SCARPELLI:  Aye.
COMMISSIONER EVANS:  Whereas, N.J.S.A. 
40A:4-5, as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183,
requires the governing body of the -- each municipality and county to certify that their local unit's hiring practices comply with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's guidelines on enforcement on the consideration of arrest and conviction records in the employment decisions under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000e, which was amended on April 25th, 2012, before submitting its approved annual budget to the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Division of Community Affairs.

Whereas, members of the governing body have familiarized themselves with the content of the above referenced enforcement guidance and their local unit's hiring practices as they pertain to the consideration of an individual's criminal history as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, that they hereby states that it has complied with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5, as amended, by certifying that the local unit's hiring practices comply with the above-referenced enforcement guidance and hereby directs the Clerk to cause to be maintained and
available for inspection a certified copy of this resolution, and the required affidavit to show evidence of said compliance. So move.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Thank you, Mayor.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.

Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Whereas, the Township of Nutley received sealed bids for surplus equipment no longer in use by the Township on March 6th, 2019.

And, whereas, Marczaks, Inc., 247 Central Avenue, Metuchen, New Jersey, was sole bidder at a 2002 Chevrolet Impala, mileage 100,354, for $10, 2003 Honda Accord, mileage 120,901, and for a price of $325.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the
Board of Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, that the surplus items be sold to the sole bidder, Marczaks, Inc.

I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Whereas,
distracted driving is a serious, life-threatening practice that is preventable;

And, whereas, distracted driving can result in injuries and be -- deaths for all road users (motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists);

And, whereas, distracted driving occurs when drivers divert their attention away from the task of the driving to focus on another activity instead;

And, whereas, in 2016 alone, distracted driving related crashes resulted in 3,450 deaths and 391,000 injuries on our nation's roads;
And, whereas, in New Jersey, distracted driving was listed as a contributing circumstance in 53 percent of motor vehicles crashes in 2016;

Whereas, the State of New Jersey will participate in the nationwide Distracted Driving 2019 Crackdown from April 1st through the 21st, 2019, in an effort to raise awareness and decrease driver distraction through a combination of enforcement and education;

And, whereas, the national slogan for the campaign is "UDrive. UText. UPay." Again, I'll repeat that, U Drive. UText. UPay;

And, whereas, a reduction of distracted driving in New Jersey will save lives on our roadways;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, that the Township of Nutley declares its support for the Distracted Driving 2019 crackdown, both locally and nationally, from April 1st through 21st, 2019, and pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of distracted driving.

Before I move the resolution, a big problem in our country is distracted driving has gone through the roof. There's a commercial that sits in my head,
and we've worked so hard with the Nutley High School students through the years with this. But there's a commercial that stayed in my head when my kids started to drive a few years ago, the one that -- where the -- the woman received the text from her child right before she drove off a cliff and got killed.

So please, it might be not just your own life that you take away from yourself and your family, but somebody else's life. I think we're all guilty of glancing at our phones while we're driving. I know my 11-year-old son, Salvatore, whenever I'm in the car and my phone rings, the first thing he says to me is, don't pick it up, Dad. And I don't.

So if we could send this message out, you know, the life that you save by not doing it might be your own or one of your loved ones.

I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?
MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Thank you, that's all I have.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.

Whereas, the Township of Nutley adopted Resolution 169-09, creation of the Township of Nutley Green Team at a regular meeting conducted on June 9th, 2009;

And, whereas, the Township of Nutley resolved that the resolution that they would wish to pursue multiple initiatives and actions that would lead to Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification;

Whereas, the Township of Nutley further resolved in that resolution to create the Township of Nutley Green Team, to serve as the Township of Nutley's agent for Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification process;

Whereas, the Green Team was composed of individuals who are interested in advancing the efforts of the Township of Nutley, and the Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification Program, and that have been actively working as a Green Team for ten years.

And, whereas, that group has been creating and cataloging significant, sustainable actions that the Township of Nutley may pursue Sustainable Jersey
Re-certification at the Bronze level in 2019;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, reaffirms that:

one, the Green Team of the Township of Nutley is active in the community in advancing sustainable practices and actions, including Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification Program.

Two, the Green Team has been and shall continue to be composed of individuals who have demonstrated an interest in advancing the efforts of the Township of Nutley to pursue certification through the Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification Program.

And three, the role of the Green Team has been and shall continue to be to lead and coordinate their sustainable activities in the community.

I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?
MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

Whereas, raffle applications have been received from the Knights of Columbus, Holy Family Council, license number 2119, off-premise merchandise raffle, to be held Sunday, July 14th, 2019;

And, whereas, the applications have been reviewed and approved by the Municipal Clerk and the Police Department;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, that the aforementioned licenses are approved and the Municipal Clerk is authorized to issue the raffle license.

I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

Whereas, Resolution 55-19 was adopted at the Board of Commissioners meeting of February 19th, 2019,
Public Session

authorizing the Municipal Clerk to advertise for the receipt of sealed bids for the known project as CDBG Ernest Street Roadway Improvement Project;

And, whereas, the sealed bids were opened and read on Wednesday, March 13th, 2019 at 11 a.m.;

And, whereas, the project specifications did not contain the required forms as per New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, all bids are rejected pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2. I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

Be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, that the Township Clerk is hereby
authorized to advertise for sealed bids for the
CDBG Ernest Street Roadway Improvement Project in the
Township of Nutley, to be received on behalf of the
Board of Commissioners at Commission Chambers,
Township Hall, 1 Kennedy Drive, Nutley, New Jersey, on
Wednesday, April 24th, 2019, at 11 a.m. prevailing
time, at which time they will be opened and read.

I move the resolution.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI:  Second.

THE CLERK:  Commissioner Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI:  Aye.

THE CLERK:  Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS:  Aye.

THE CLERK:  Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO:  Aye.

THE CLERK:  Mayor Scarpelli?

MAYOR SCARPELLI:  Aye.  That concludes the
business portion of our meeting.

Madam Clerk?

THE CLERK:  Yes, Mayor.  All persons
addressing the Board of Commissioners regarding
community concerns should approach the microphone and
provide their name and address for the record.  Unless
further time is granted by the Board, each person shall
limit their address to five minutes.
All remarks to the Board and its individual members must be addressed to the Mayor. The Mayor may defer citizens' comments to the appropriate member of the board. Dialogue between citizens and others addressing the board shall be allowed, unless the Mayor or presiding officer, or the majority of the membership of the board shall determine that the interests of the quorum and/or the expeditious conduct of municipal business are being adversely affected by such dialogue.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Anybody wish to address the Board of Commissioners this evening?

MS. CHRISTMAN: Good evening. Amy Christman, 237 River Road. My question and concern has to do with the Parks and Rec Department, and I'm trying to find a valid answer for the concern I have about Nutley United. I know you've told me you're a little bit hands-off with that program, which I understand and I appreciate --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I don't think I ever said I was hands-off with the program.

MS. CHRISTMAN: Well, you're not as involved.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I don't --

MS. CHRISTMAN: You're not as involved.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- I don't handle it. Let's clarify it and state it correctly.
MS. CHRISTMAN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I don't handle the day
to day operations of that program or any of the
other --

MS. CHRISTMAN: I didn't mean to infer --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- and -- I'm not --
taking (indiscernible) I just want to clarify it.

MS. CHRISTMAN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: And that I give maximum
latitude, all right, to all of the folks that are
running the different programs for us. Please
continue.

MS. CHRISTMAN: Okay. So my concern and
question really has to do with field time in the spring
and how I became aware of a private entity that is
getting field time over some of the Nutley United
teams.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Correct.

MS. CHRISTMAN: And I'm curious as to how and
why, when the private -- they are a private entity.
They are not associated with Nutley, other than the
fact that they decided to take the Nutley name,
Nutley Elite Soccer Academy or -- what I believe it's
called. So I'm struggling with the fact that I know
one team in particular, one of my children's team, the
time that historically has been reserved for them was
Tuesday and Thursday night in the spring, and now
they're relegated to the rink, and there is -- the
private club is in that field time. So I'm just
curious as to why that's occurring.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Okay.

MS. CHRISTMAN: If you have an answer. I know
I emailed you about it, and I know I received a lengthy
e-mail back about working parents and kids in Nutley are
playing on that team, but that's not really the concern
of the Parks and Rec Department for a private club.
When you decide to put your child on a private club,
you're fully aware that there's going to be potentially
driving to different fields, and I guess I'm just
really frustrated with the lack of a valid answer as to
why Nutley teams are not getting priority on the field
space.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Okay. Well, number one,
there is a valid reason why, all right, and I believe
that reason was, in fact, relayed to you. And in the
interest of not misstating everything, Mr. DeMaio, all
right, who is my superintendent of Parks and Recreation
is here, and he will once again answer all of your
questions and explain in great detail about what you're
calling a private entity, okay, which absolutely
benefits all of our children of Nutley.

So if you would, Frank, would you please answer Ms. Christman's questions and concerns?

MR. DEMAIO: Absolutely. I'm going to put my back to you guys for a little bit, just for a second.

Frank DeMaio, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation.

I've explained in an email numerous times that the private entity -- I let you speak -- let me speak.

So the private entity that you're speaking of is the one who trains our Nutley United kids. You're aware of that, correct?

MS. CHRISTMAN: Fully aware.

MR. DEMAIO: So in exchange for the training, which would cost us -- I know Eric's here, he runs our Nutley United program. If we were not to help them out with some field space, it would cost in excess of $600 a person for Nutley United kids to play. In retrospect, we let our children play for 325. We use about a couple hours a week. It does not interfere with you guys.

MS. CHRISTMAN: Yes, it does.

MR. DEMAIO: I'm speaking, so when it's time, you can have the mic back and do what you wish. But what I'm going to tell you is that we have 300 kids in Nutley United. Every single one of them is saving $275
per child. I have explained it. We have Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Saturdays are lacrosse for high school, we have -- and our junior program, we have -- at Owens, we have baseball, softball, adult sports, so I have 300 families in Nutley United. I have about 400 adults who play in our adult leagues. Lacrosse has another 80 families, then we have the high school kids, which have approximately another 30 families or so in lacrosse, all vying for three fields. Three fields. Nutley United is given plenty of space.

In the spring, Nutley United is all week, every day. The hockey rink, Glotzbach, Owens, we're moving another field over to Booth Park back again, because we're fixing that one up as we speak. In the spring, soccer, as I've told you, is a secondary sport, so they get limited amount of times. But as for the private organization, it's our trainers, who cut us a -- almost a half-price deal in order to have a little bit of time on our fields.

I know you have one child in the program, you've had one or two more previous, so you are aware that this has happened in the past with TSF, as well. I have also told you that the time was changing for practices, the schedule is changing. Your coach has that change of schedule. I'm not sure if you've got it
already, but you will have -- your team will have time
on Glotzbach, but I told you that in an email a couple
days ago. So that has nothing to do with you being
here --

MS. CHRISTMAN: (Indiscernible).

MR. DEMAIO: That has nothing to do with you
being here because I didn't know you were coming here
up until I received an email that you were sending out
with some false information to your teams. But that's
it. It's not a private organization. It is our
trainers, who that Nutley Elite Soccer Academy has
80 percent of Nutley kids on it, as well.

MS. CHRISTMAN: That's irrelevant.

MR. DEMAIO: Thank you.

MS. CHRISTMAN: It's completely irrelevant if
there's 80 kids from Nutley and whether it's 80 percent
of the kids are from Nutley. It's completely
irrelevant if they're training. It's a choice of who
you pick to train. Historically, there weren't
trainers.

MR. DEMAIO: Historically?

MS. CHRISTMAN: Yeah.

MR. DEMAIO: There's been a trainer since
I've been here.

MS. CHRISTMAN: Excuse me, my children who --
my oldest son who's 18, you started with the trainers when Eric Hess came in.

MR. DEMAIO: That's not true.

MS. CHRISTMAN: That's when the trainers basically started in full time.

MR. DEMAIO: (Indiscernible).

MS. CHRISTMAN: Look -- okay --

MR. DEMAIO: (Indiscernible).

MS. CHRISTMAN: -- okay -- excuse me. I think I'm allowed the microphone now. Right?

MR. DEMAIO: (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Okay. Thank you.

Go ahead, Ms. Christman, please.

MS. CHRISTMAN: No, all I'm saying is that it is a private entity, and there is field space. And I get all the juggling act that has to occur to try to accommodate, but the fact is spring soccer is a serious sport. Just because it's not -- just because it occurs in the fall in the high school, there are thriving leagues all over the country, and spring soccer is not a secondary sport. This town may think of it as a secondary sport because that's sometimes the impression we all get, but it is not a secondary sport.

And whether you're cutting a deal, and whether you decide to only charge a certain amount of
price for Nutley United is on you. So throwing the
rate at me is a bunch of -- that's just not fair to do.
If you need to raise the price, then you raise the
price. But what can I tell you? But you have taken
away time -- you've given time to a private club.
Clear and simple. And you've taken that field time
away from a town-sanctioned activity. That's it. You
guys can think of it differently, but that's not how it
is. You can try to justify it any way you want, but
that's not how it is.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Okay. Now, let me tell
you how it is. And I respect your opinion, and I
respect your passion for soccer, all right. If you
recall, I was the person who actually constructed the
first soccer field here in Nutley. I think what
Mr. DeMaio was saying was that in the spring, soccer is
a secondary sport, and we are, in fact, victims of our
own success. Because our programs are so popular, all
right, we have limited field time. All right?

In our opinion, all right, and we all have
judgments to make, all right, it was in the best
interests of our people, our children, all right, to
give this training group, our training group, a couple
of hours a week for the major discount that folks will,
in fact, realize. And I'm happy to hear it, and I'm
going to assume, and I don't usually do that, that you would be willing to pay more money for that training, but unfortunately, there are many Nutley families who can't afford to pay more money for that training.

So what we did was we traded a few hours of field time for a discounted training program so that a maximum number of our Nutley children can benefit from the training. I'm sorry that you don't agree with this logic, and I respect your position, and first you were concerned about your child not being able to play because the program is, in fact, a feeder program for the high school, which it is, and I told you, we will never leave out any Nutley child, and we included your child, and -- I --

MS. CHRISTMAN: But that's a --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- no don't change it --

MS. CHRISTMAN: -- completely different --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- no, no, well, it's all related, now, let's not just pick and choose. You can't cherry-pick --

MS. CHRISTMAN: No, well, but I didn't even bring that up --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- what portions of the story you want to tell.

MS. CHRISTMAN: -- that's all.
COMMISSIONER TUCCI: So we did that. Then it was the field time and it was practicing on short-sided fields and where the soccer players, in fact, work on their footwork, so there was --

MS. CHRISTMAN: Yes, but --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- really no detriment there. Then it was a question of --

MS. CHRISTMAN: No, but you have to get --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- hello -- no, excuse me --

MS. CHRISTMAN: -- you have to get (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- one at a time, please. Let's respect each other.

MS. CHRISTMAN: Sorry. I apologize.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: All right? To play on a full-sized field, and we, in fact, accomplished that. We have some full field time that has been allocated. So there are --

MS. CHRISTMAN: Wonderful.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- tough choices sometimes that need to be made, but I believe we make the best choices for all of our children.

MS. CHRISTMAN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: And I'm sorry that you
don't agree with that right now --

MS. CHRISTMAN: No, I don't totally disagree.

I just wanted to bring it up because --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: But to characterize it just as a private entity to make people think that we are taking outsiders and allowing them to play on our Nutley fields instead of our own children is not correct and, quite frankly, it's not even fair to make that statement.

MS. CHRISTMAN: But it --

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: So I have nothing else to say --

MS. CHRISTMAN: -- it is fair because that's true.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- thank you. Okay. And I respect your opinion.

MS. CHRISTMAN: It is not -- it is not.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: So thank you for coming and sharing that with us.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Anybody else wish to address the Board of Commissioners this evening?

MR. CAFONE: Good evening, Commissioners.

During this budget year, the Fire Department looks forward to working with all the commissioners to make Nutley a safe place to live and raise a family. We
remain committed to our oath to faithfully,
impartially, and justly perform all the duties of
Firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain, and Deputy Chief. We
simply ask that you provide us with the necessary funds
to carry out our mission safely and effectively. Just
wanted to read that into the record, you know, and as I
look at the numbers, you know, and I have meetings with
my director, the National Fire Protection Association
gives us recommendations on how to safely man a fire
department, not only for our residents, but for the
safety of all of our firefighters.

You know, as the Township begins to evolve,
the fire department needs to evolve at the same rate,
so the Commissioner and I are working towards doing
that. I can tell you that the hazards within the town,
the National Fire Protection Association has three
types of hazards. It's low, medium, and high. Only
one particular hazard comes to mind. That's the ON3
property. Years ago, Hoffman LaRoche used to have
their own fire brigade, their own ambulance, they used
to have their own safety committee. That no longer
exists. That particular part of town is going from a
low hazard to a high hazard based on the school, based
on not having a safety committee, based on the
high-rise.
So my concern is that the Fire Department needs to evolve as the town evolves. And I thank you for listening to that -- to me tonight. Thank you.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Chief.

Anybody else wish to address the Board of Commissioners this evening?

MS. BOZZA: Hi. Maria Bozza, 209 Highfield Lane. I think this is where the Mayor, the department, the Water Department? I noticed that we have a $9 additional fee every month? Not every month, I'm sorry, every quarter, on our water bill. I called your department, I spoke to the gentleman, I forget his name, in charge of water, and he told me this is an insurance policy? To -- is this an insurance policy or is it a tax?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Well, it's not a tax, it's a maintenance fee, and some of the things that we've taken over as a Township is your supply line, which is the line from the main to the curb, where that was -- previous to this maintenance agreement, was the homeowner's responsibility. In addition, the meter was also the homeowner's responsibility. We've taken over that. And if you had had to replace the supply line, you're talking somewhere around $2,500 to $4,000, depending on the length of it.
So the $3 per month fee that we're charging for that maintenance fee, if you calculate it out, if you have a $3,000 bill, would take you --

MS. BOZZA: Yes, I appreciate that --

MAYOR SCARPELLI: -- that'd be a --

MS. BOZZA: -- but I've never known of --

MAYOR SCARPELLI: -- that'd be a thousand months.

MS. BOZZA: Yeah, but I've never known of my meter, for 74 years, was never broken.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Your meter was -- either your meter was replaced or the head was replaced in the last seven years.

MS. BOZZA: And how much does that bring into the town every year? For, you know, what, $36 per household?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: I'd have to figure it out for you, Ms. Bozza, but it's $36 per household.

MS. BOZZA: So it's quite a bit, a lot more than it would cost to put meters in.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: No, not necessarily, Ms. Bozza. And you haven't had a water rate increase -- you've had two in the last 12 years. So you haven't had a water rate increase. We still have increases from our purveyors, who supply us with the water. They
have increases every year. We have increases in salaries every year. We have increases in help -- in the pension costs, those are all by -- the Water Department has to pick those up. And so the only money we get is through the -- it's not paid through tax dollars, it's paid through your water bill. So we have to cover those increases.

In addition, as you've heard, consumption is down, all right, so if we continue to only get fees from just the water consumed, we have these fixed costs that need to be covered, and so that's why we initiated that $3 per month fee, and we took over some of the responsibility to take it away from the homeowner in exchange for that.

MS. BOZZA: So really, in essence, it's just an increase in taxes because we don't have a choice, so --

MAYOR SCARPELLI: You don't have a choice?
No, Ms. Bozza, you don't.

MS. BOZZA: I know, because if it was an insurance policy, I'll take my --

MAYOR SCARPELLI: You could not have water. That's -- I guess that's your choice, but --

MS. BOZZA: Yeah, right. I know.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Well.
MS. BOZZA: Okay. Thank you.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Anybody else wish to address the Board of Commissioners this evening?

MR. STRUMOLO: Yes, I just wanted to thank the Board of Commissioners for your continued support for the Police Department, Commissioner Petracco. I understand our budget continues to go up. We're the biggest part of the town budget, but what's needed is what we're presenting. We need to maintain our manpower at the current levels if we want to keep Nutley as safe as it is.

I know the Commissioner just mentioned how we received a safety award as one of the safest communities in the area, in the state of New Jersey, and we were one of the only ones in this area to receive that. And it's important that we keep our manpower at current levels for us to continue to remain proactive, and protect the town and keep our crime rate low.

Just looking at our crime stats over the last five to six years, we've been able to reduce overall crime in the town 31 percent, and by doing that, it's a great success, but we need to continue to keep our manpower at the current levels because we're seeing our calls for service continue to rise and we're seeing,
you know, our crime rate drop, that's due to the proactiveness of the officers that are out there with the extra time to be able to look for suspicious activity, rather than just running from call to call.

So I understand -- we're doing everything we can in the police department. I meet regularly with the commissioner to trim our budget as much as we can, but unfortunately, you know, manpower, you know, is an expense. But I just want to thank you over the years, over the last several years, we've increased our officers with the support of the entire Board, and I think that has attributed to the award that we just received in reduction of crime because without the additional officers, we're not going to be able to keep the crime rate as low as we're seeing right now.

Just looking at the Roche property being developed, real quickly, I just took a look at our calls for service in there, where, historically, we hardly ever went in there because it was a closed campus. This year, as opposed to last year, our calls in there went up 100 percent. We've been in there over 150 times already, and the development is only approximately, I believe, 10 percent developed. So that's going to continue to rise, and we need to prepare for that, and in the Police Department, we are
preparing for that. And as it develops and we receive additional corporations in there, or whatever infrastructure adds in there, our calls for service are going to continue to rise. And I don't want to see our calls for -- our time -- our response times increase.

In some of our neighboring towns, and we've all experienced this, calls for service -- the time has drastically increased. In the neighboring town, it might take you a half hour to get an officer to an accident scene. Our calls for -- our response times are minutes, and I want to keep it at that.

So it's important to, you know, keep our manpower where it is. I appreciate everything you guys do for us, Commissioner Petracco's been doing the best he can to keep it down. And I just ask that you continue to support us, and again, we'll try to do everything we can to keep our budget as low as possible, and we want to keep Nutley as safe as possible so everybody continues to enjoy and see a low crime rate. So thank you again.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Chief.

Anybody else wish to address the Board of Commissioners this evening? Seeing none --

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Move to adjourn?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Motion.
Public Session

1

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Second.

2

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

3

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

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THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

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COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

6

THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

7

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

8

THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

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MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

10

THE CLERK: The time is 8:33.

11

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Have a good night, everybody.

12

(End of recording)

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CERTIFICATION

I, Ilene Watson, court-approved transcriber, hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

______________________________
ILENE WATSON, AAERT NO. 447 DATE: April 16, 2019
ACCESS TRANSCRIPTS, LLC