In The Matter Of:

In RE: Nutley Board of Commissioners

Transcript of Proceedings
August 20, 2019
Conference Session

Min-U-Script®
TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ONE KENNEDY DRIVE

3RD FLOOR COMMISSION CHAMBERS

NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

*** CONFERENCE SESSION ***

DATE: August 20, 2019

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

JOSEPH P. SCARPELLI, MAYOR

STEVEN L. ROGERS, COMMISSIONER

THOMAS J. EVANS, COMMISSIONER

ALPHONSE PETRACCO, COMMISSIONER

Also Present:

ALAN GENITEMPO, TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY
Conference Session

    (Recording begins)

    MAYOR SCARPELLI: Madam Clerk?

    THE CLERK: Yes, Mayor?

    MAYOR SCARPELLI: Let's go.

    THE CLERK: Ready? Board of Commissioners Public Meeting, Tuesday, August 20, 2019. The time is 7:01. Pursuant to the requirement 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?

    COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Here.

    THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci's absent, excused.

    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 Tucci. He is absent, excused.
Conference Session

1   MAYOR SCARPELLI: Commissioner, what have you
got tonight?
2   COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I think I have a
3   report.
4   MAYOR SCARPELLI: All right, very good.
5   COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: And I think that's
6   all I have.
7   MAYOR SCARPELLI: Commissioner Evans?
8   COMMISSIONER EVANS: One resolution for an
9   overpayment of tax charges, $6,680.30. I have an
10  executive, need for executive.
11  MAYOR SCARPELLI: Commissioner Rogers?
12  COMMISSIONER ROGERS: No, nothing, no.
13  MAYOR SCARPELLI: And I -- Commissioner Tucci
14  and myself, we have nothing on the agenda.
15  Madam Clerk?
16  THE CLERK: Mayor, we have minutes for
17  approval for June and July, and that's it.
18  COMMISSIONER EVANS: My executive is for
19  contract negotiations.
20  MAYOR SCARPELLI: Do you have anything?
21  MR. GENITEMPO: I have nothing, Mr. Mayor.
22  MAYOR SCARPELLI: Well, I offer a motion to
23  go into executive for contract negotiations.
24  COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Second.
THE CLERK: Whereas, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from meeting in certain circumstances; and

Whereas, the public body is of the opinion that such circumstances exist;

Now whereas the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley in the County of Essex in the State of New Jersey decides to proceed to closed executive session; and

Now therefore be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley to move into closed executive session to discuss contract negotiations;

Be it further resolved that the time when such discussions may be disclosed to the public shall be when that such disclosures may be made without adversely affecting the Township of Nutley, pending and/or anticipated legal, personnel, contractual matters, and other matters within the exception provided for by statute.

Commissioner Rogers?

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Here. 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 time is 7:03.

(End of recording)

* * * * *
CERTIFICATION

I, Alicia Jarrett, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the electronic sound recording provided for transcription and prepared to the best of my professional skills and ability.

__________________________    September 5, 2019
Alicia Jarrett
AAERT Cert. No. 428
Certified Court Transcriptionist
In The Matter Of:

In RE: Nutley Board of Commissioners

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ALAN GENITEMPO, TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY
(Recording begins)

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Madam Clerk, are you good?
Let me know.

THE CLERK: Yes, Mayor. We're on.

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, August 20, 2019. The time is 7:28. 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?

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Here.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci is absent, excused.

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 Tucci. He is absent, excused.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Minutes, Madam Clerk?

THE CLERK: Thank you. We have meeting minutes for June 6th, 2019, June 21st, 2019 emergency meeting, July 16th, 2019, executive session minutes for July 2nd, 2019, and executive session minutes for July 16, 2019.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move the minutes.

THE CLERK: I need a second.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: 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 minutes.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Reports, Commissioner Petracco?
COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Yes, I have my Public Safety Report.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank --

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: That's all I have.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: -- thank you, Commissioner.

Bills, Madam Clerk?

THE CLERK: Yes, Mayor. Bill list for August 20th, 2019: Public Affairs, $107,649.40; Revenue and Finance, $2,982,421.29; Public Safety, $43,550.47; Public Works, $47,489.75; Parks and Public Property, $73,903.46; Water Utility, $9,345.74; Total Payroll, $846,169.34, for a grand total of $4,110,529.45.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move the bills.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: 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 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 on the agenda items only?

Seeing none, commissioner -- commissioner announcements? Commissioners, I just want to update everybody on the Newark water situation. It's been in the news, I actually got interviewed today by Fox News -- Fox 5 though, Commissioner. So just an update. There are 436 homes of our approximate 8,000 residents that receive Newark water. They are located on the
western portion of town, between Glenview Avenue and Center Street, above Ridge Road, and from Center Street to about Harrison Street, above Van Winkle.

The water we receive from Newark is lead-free. Lead is only introduced into the water supply by the internal plumbing, or through service lines. If you have not received a notice from the Township of Nutley, you are not affected and do not receive Newark water. The Nutley Water Department strongly encourages all residents, no matter where you live, as a matter of habit, to run your water for one to two minutes, especially in the morning, in order to introduce fresh water into your home.

Over the last week -- after the last week, we had meetings or conference calls to receive updates and voice our concerns with the governor's office, Senator Menendez's office, our legislative representatives, and I'd like to give Assemblyman Caputo a hand, because he has been in daily contact with me. The DEP, the EPA, the City of Newark, and our two partners, I would say, in this, because the -- we all receive Newark water, and we're not part of the City of Newark, and that's Mayor Venezia from Bloomfield and Mayor Melham from Belleville.

The anti-corrosive water treatment Newark was
using up until May was silicate. That is not state-of-the-art treatment. Since May, they have begun to introduce orthophosphate, which is state-of-the-art treatment. Newark is already seeing reduced lead levels in the homes, and the orthophosphate will have full effectiveness by the end of the year.

We encourage everybody in town, and especially the Newark area, to continue using their water, flushing toilets, running sinks and showers, so you fully introduce the new treatment into the internal plumbing. In addition, Nutley has had reportable levels of disinfection byproducts, namely, acetic acid.

In July, Newark began addressing the disinfection byproduct levels by introducing potassium permanganate, and moving their pre-chlorination location. These changes have already resulted in lowering of haloacetic acid to below allowable levels. We will update you as we receive further tests from Newark, and the results of our own township -- own testing within the township.

What is the Township of Nutley doing? We are expediting the testing of our pure water filters that we purchased and have distributed. We're starting the replacement of all known lead service lines as part of our long-term infrastructure upgrades. We initiated a
study to determine the steps needed to have the 436 homes currently receiving Newark water switched to a different water supply. We are offering free testing of tap water in any of the 436 homes that receive Newark water to see if they contain lead, and thanks to Commissioner Rogers and his department, we are also offering testing of children from zero to 18 years old for lead. Thank you, Commissioner, and your department.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Thank you, Mayor.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: What can you do if you are one of those 436 households receiving Newark water? Continue to introduce new corrosion control treatment into our water system by continuing to use all fixtures in your home. Run water for one to two minutes to introduce fresh water, as I stated previously. Always use cold water for cooking. Identify and replace any lead plumbing fixtures and lead pipes in your home. Do not boil water in effort to reduce lead. That does not work. Boiling water will not be -- boiling water will not reduce any potential lead. And out of the abundance of caution, until we have all testing complete, residents who are pregnant or have small children are advised to use bottled water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. So Commissioners,
if you have any questions, I'd certainly answer them.

    COMMISSIONER ROGERS: I'd just like to make a comment. When this news was given to us throughout the town, I've got to tell you, Mayor Scarpelli was way ahead of the game, right on top of this, and I want to thank you, because one of the things that we try to prevent are rumors, and, you know, bad information, but you got it out there quick, and I think you -- you know, you brought some comfort to people, knowing that you're on top of it. So I just want to thank you.

    MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.

I'll take any questions that are a little out of order from the public, if they have any questions on Newark water, so we stay specific to that. If not, we'll move on to resolutions. Commissioner Evans?

    COMMISSIONER EVANS: Thank you, Mayor, I have one. 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 overpayment of tax charges in the amount of $6,668.40, for the -- for Block 8102, Lot 15, and Lot -- Block 6502, Lot 2. And for the total amount for those two blocks, of $6,668.40. So move.

    COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Second.

    THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?
COMMISSIONER ROGERS: 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: That concludes the public portion of our meeting -- I mean, 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 should 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,
Public Session

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 only have one question this evening. I
did receive an OPRA response recently, and I'm still
looking at it. I'd like to reserve that for the next
meeting, if that's possible. And my question is,
somebody had posted on Facebook today that they called
the League of Municipalities to see if Nutley was in
the salary survey. Is Nutley going to participate in
that?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I'm not aware of being
asked to, but if -- we generally do, so -- and that's
through the league. I think they do it every few
years, so I don't -- I don't have any reason why we
wouldn't, but I'm not aware of that we've been asked.

MR. MOORE: Well, the only reason it was
asked, is because somebody did call, and they said
specifically that Nutley had not responded this year,
and I was just curious if you were.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I'm not aware of being
notified.

MR. MOORE: Okay. I'll take care of it.

Thank you.

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

   MS. RUBINO: Joan Rubino, 48 North Road.

Several months ago, a young lady presented a little bit of a -- her presentation was about single-use plastic bags, and getting rid of them in the town of Nutley. I commend her for her commitment to the environment, and I agree that plastic bags are a danger, but this young lady only told one part of the story.

   I myself have never used a recyclable grocery bag because I always felt they were unsanitary, so I decided to investigate to see if my opinion had any merit. And I discovered some very interesting facts. First of all, the bags themselves. Hundreds of millions of reusable bags are made in China and other countries, and some have been found to contain dangerous amounts of lead, sometimes several times the amount allowed by law.

   And according to the -- a joint Food and Safety report issued by the University of Arizona and Loma Linda University, reusable bags contain foodborne bacteria, such as e. coli, salmonella, and other bacterias. Mold and yeast were also present. Harmful bacteria can thrive in these bags, especially if they're stored in a hot trunk, or in the backseat of your car, and they actually grow ten times faster in
this kind of an environment.

And the thing is that we are using bags that can be dirtier than your toilet seat. If they are not properly sanitized, and this is very important, after each use, you're courting trouble. To sanitize them requires soapy water and a water temperature of at least 140 degrees. How many of you, if you use these bags, do this? It's amazing. Most people probably never use -- do that. In fact, there was a survey done in California and Arizona, and 97 percent of the people polled said they never washed them.

I'm sure all of you are aware of the warnings about contaminating your kitchen when you make chicken, that the countertops, the utensils, your hands, should be thoroughly cleaned because of that cross-contamination. Just think of all the cross-contamination these filthy bags. You're taking them to the store. Other people are put at risk, even if they don't use the bags themselves, because these bags are that crummy.

I can't provide an answer to this complex problem, but I can make you aware of some of the issues, which I've tried to do tonight. There's more that you can research. Many towns and entire states have banned the usage of these bags, and my question
is, is that a reasonable solution? And this board, I was wondering if you've taken any steps regarding this issue, to resolve it, because you all seemed so very enthused about the presentation made by the young girl, and I'm just wondering how you're following through.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Mayor, may I?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Sure, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Okay. So, Mrs. Rubino, yeah, I agree with you. I've been doing similar research, and making sure that a reusable bag is sanitary and safe is also a concern. The things -- other things I'm researching and finding is that the energy, the carbon -- carbon energy associated with actually manufacturing a reusable bag, a cotton bag or a paper bag, the amount of carbon energy that's required to actually produce that is actually greater than the --

MS. RUBINO: I agree. I also read that. I know.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: So there's were -- so I'm looking at, and I've been looking at what we need to do. The state is now starting to take up this question again, and I've reached out to them to better understand that if, if we were to institute a ban on single-use plastic bags I would include plastic straws
as well. Go to paper -- go to a single-use paper straw because of the -- that's safer itself. But understand what it is we need to do to educate the public on the safety standards that are required to do that, which is very difficult.

MS. RUBINO: It's impossible.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes.

MS. RUBINO: Because people, and the lifestyles we lead are so hectic, that people will disregard that, and they -- in fact, some of the people surveyed with these polls, they had no concern for the germs. They didn't think germs were an issue, and it's a very big issue, actually.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes.

MS. RUBINO: And there -- there's no way you're going to get people to sanitize those bags. In a perfect world, you say, okay, I'll throw it in with the laundry every week. It's never going to happen. So I'm just very curious as to, you know, what --

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I don't have an answer yet, but I'm trying to pursue it.

MS. RUBINO: It's like an impossible thing to --

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Absolutely.

MS. RUBINO: -- answer.
COMMISSIONER EVANS: It's trying to get the
-- right now, the -- I think the more educated we can
become about all of the issues, not just the single
focus of disposing the bag, maybe we can come up with a
better solution. But there's still going to be, in my
mind, a significant level of accountability on the part
of an individual to sanitize and keep them sanitized
for their purpose.

MS. RUBINO: It's not going to happen.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I appreciate that.

MS. RUBINO: It's not going to happen.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I appreciate that, I
have a similar concern.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I'd like to add
something, if you don't mind, only because I saw it I
think a couple nights ago on one of the TV shows about
pretty soon there's going to be more plastic in the
ocean than fish. If -- I don't know if you saw that, I
think it was on 60 Minutes?

MS. RUBINO: There's also a lot of
controversy about just how much is in the ocean. They
say the size of Texas or whatever --

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Right.

MS. RUBINO: -- and they say that's kind of
overstated. But I don't know. I'd have to do --
COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I just --

MS. RUBINO: -- more research on that.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: -- I have to say, though, you know, that it is really horrible how we're leaving this world for the next generations, with all, you know, this plastic, and I don't know how you get away from it, obviously, either --

MS. RUBINO: But my concern is are we trading one problem for another.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I agree.

MS. RUBINO: With the level of contamination, and there is no question that they -- those bags are very contaminated.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I mean, even if you drive by the Passaic River, on occasion you can see all the plastic on the shoreline, and --

MS. RUBINO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: -- then it gets into the ocean, and do that throughout our whole country. Imagine the world we're leaving for --

MS. RUBINO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: -- you know, these future generations.

MS. RUBINO: Uh-huh.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: And I don't -- I
don't know what the answer is, because it seems like plastic is everywhere.

MS. RUBINO: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: You know, wherever you touch --

MS. RUBINO: And even the cotton bags, you know, people say, instead of recyclable plastic -- the reusable ones, they are just as bad as the recyclable -- or the reusable plastic ones.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes. And they actually -- they require more carbon energy to be used, Ms. Rubino.

MS. RUBINO: I'm sorry, I didn't hear you.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: They require more carbon energy to be used to manufacture that --

MS. RUBINO: Yes, I know, I --

COMMISSIONER EVANS: -- and -- which basically offsets the benefit.

MS. RUBINO: Right. Right. And off the -- the water, the everything that's used to produce them, the fuel, then transporting them. There's -- it's very involved.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Mr. Mayor?

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Ms. Rubino.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: No, I just want to --
Ms. Rubino, I just want to weigh in on something. These are moments, issues like this, when I'm reminded what Ronald Reagan once said, if you get a knock at the door and you open it, and they say, I'm from the government, run like hell outside your back door.

I think a couple things. It's interesting you brought this up, because there were two senior citizens to -- the -- during the week who I ran into, and this issue came up. They're actually shopping out of town. This is going to be interesting to you, because you're a businessman.

They shared with me that first of all they're being charged a fee for the bags. Second of all, they're actually leaving Nutley, in certain stores, and they're going to Belleville, and they're going to Clifton because there's no plastic bag ban there.

MS. RUBINO: Right.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: And so we have to look at the -- you know, the economic --

MS. RUBINO: Well --

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: -- impact that could have on businesses. Now, following up with Commissioner Evans, and you bring up a good point. Education is important, but I'm looking at it from the other end. Education on the environment, what to do
with plastic bags, properly disposing of them. We have recycling where we're taking care of these, we're taking care of tires, we're taking care of everything imaginable through recycling, so education is important, and I think that's at least a start.

MS. RUBINO: Well, you know, another thing with banning plastic bags, people use them for multiple purposes. You know, take one home from the store, might use it two or three times to pick up dog waste, or to line their trash cans. Now they're not going to have these bags, but they will buy other plastic bags to do the job. So, you know, it's like a very difficult situation as far as I'm concerned.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Yes. Ms. Rubino, this is one of those decisions I think that we're going to have to really look at and study all sides of it before we make any decisions.

MS. RUBINO: Right. Well, if they --

MAYOR SCARPELLI: I think we're all in agreement on that.

MS. RUBINO: -- ban them, I will never use the recyclable ones. Never.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Anybody else wish to address the Board of Commissioners this evening? Before we adjourn, we lost one of our outstanding
citizens this past week, Mrs. Ruth Bedford.
Mrs. Bedford gave her time, energy, money, to a wide
variety of causes and organizations. She lived to the
nice age of 101, and I think she's going to be missed
in this town, and I think if we could just have a
little moment of silence to remember Ruth.

(Pause)

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Mr. Mayor, regarding
Mrs. Bedford. You know, when a person passes, you
think of perhaps one of the times that that individual
has impact on you. I know my wife and I were over at
Ruth Bedford's house, and we were talking about
politics, and what I was amazed over is when she began
to speak to my wife and I about the time she had worked
at the White House with President Dwight Eisenhower. I
think -- I mean, the history that this woman had was
fascinating, and to hear her go through the time from
Eisenhower all the way up to now, I tell you what,
probably one of the most consistent, dedicated
individuals to this country that I've ever met. So
certainly always a role model, and a very pleasant,
pleasant, kind human being, and she's going to be
missed. Thank you, Mayor.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Thank you, Mayor. I
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"When every word counts"

Public Session

have to tell you one of my fondest stories of Ruth Bedford, and I have to tell you, it's -- what a charmed life, and what a woman. I can remember her coming to my bar/restaurant at the time, in Lyndhurst, and the first thing she ordered was a Scotch, you know, and everybody that knew her -- and I think she was coming from the place -- the bar from Route 3, the motorcycle bar, because I know she was in there, also. So I have to tell you, you know, a woman that opened her pocketbook, you know, for anybody and anything, and somebody that really is -- when you think about Nutley, you think of, you know, being in her house, and no matter what side of the aisle you were on, who you were friends with, she always greeted you with that warm, fuzzy welcome. So, you know, I have to tell you, God blessed her to live to 101, and if you're looking, Ruth, it's water, but someday, I'd like to have a Scotch with you up there, too. God bless you.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Mayor, thank you. This week, I lost a dear friend. She's always been an adviser. She is a lady who I have said publicly, she was the grande dame of Nutley. She -- if we ever had a sense of somebody who was royalty, it was Ruth Bedford. But she cared about everyone equally. She -- I think
she was -- I would characterize her as being -- she was blind to color, she was blind to gender, she was blind to orientation. She was such -- had such a zest for wanting to be with people, and whenever she was around here, she would light up when she was meeting, talking to young people, and it was a new friendship that she was creating. Even at a hundred, she was there.

I used to visit her, and we would talk about different things, about what was going on in Nutley, the difficult times. She -- you would mention something about so and so's having a little bit of a problem, and then all of a sudden, you know, out of nowhere, quietly, a check would show up. And Ruth -- and that was Ruth's style. She had a back room that was filled with papers that probably go back to the turn of the century, the 20th century, because she had everything organized in piles, and that was her filing system. And we used to joke about those things a lot. But -- I'll just leave it at -- I just -- I lost a very dear friend this week.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: We all did. And Nutley lost a friend.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: A motion to adjourn, gentlemen?
COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

COMMISSIONER ROGERS: 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 time is 7:54.

MAYOR SCARPELLI: Good night, everybody.

(End of recording)

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Rizman Rappaport (973)992-7650
"When every word counts"
CERTIFICATION

I, Alicia Jarrett, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the electronic sound recording provided for transcription and prepared to the best of my professional skills and ability.

____________________________          September 5, 2019
Alicia Jarrett
AAERT Cert. No. 428
Certified Court Transcriptionist