

In The Matter Of:

In RE: Nutley Board of Commissioners

Transcript of Proceedings

April 7, 2020

Conference Session



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Min-U-Script®

Conference Session

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TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ONE KENNEDY DRIVE
3RD FLOOR COMMISSION CHAMBERS
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

*** CONFERENCE SESSION ***

DATE: April 7, 2020

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

- JOSEPH P. SCARPELLI, MAYOR
- STEVEN L. ROGERS, COMMISSIONER
- MAURO G. TUCCI, COMMISSIONER
- THOMAS J. EVANS, COMMISSIONER
- ALPHONSE PETRACCO, COMMISSIONER

Also Present:

- ALAN GENITEMPO, TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY

1 (Recording begins)

2 MAYOR SCARPELLI: We're all there? Is it
3 seven o'clock?

4 THE CLERK: Yes, Mayor. It's 7:02.

5 MAYOR SCARPELLI: All right. Can everybody
6 please stand for the flag salute?

7 (Pledge of Allegiance)

8 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Sorry to ask, but if you --
9 if you could put your phones until you're ready to
10 talk, if that works, this way we have less background
11 talk. Madam Clerk, Sunshine Notice?

12 THE CLERK: Thank you. Thank you, Mayor.
13 Board of Commissioners public meeting Tuesday,
14 April 7th, 2020. The time is now 7:03.

15 Pursuant to the requirement of the Open
16 Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975,
17 notice of this meeting was published in the
18 November 28th, 2019 issues of the Nutley Sun, the
19 Herald-News, and the Star Ledger. Due to the COVID
20 pandemic, the public meetings for the remainder of the
21 year, 2020 have been changed to teleconference meetings
22 until further notice. The public will be able to
23 listen to the Board of Commissioners meetings and
24 participate during the designated public comment
25 portions of the meeting by utilizing the dial-in number

1 and access code that is listed on the website.

2 A copy of this notice has been posted on the
3 Nutley Town Hall bulletin board, and a copy is on file
4 in the municipal clerk's office.

5 Commissioner Rogers?

6 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Here.

7 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

8 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Here.

9 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

10 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Here.

11 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

12 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Here.

13 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli.

14 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Here.

15 THE CLERK: All present, Mayor --

16 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Madam Clerk.

17 THE CLERK: You're welcome.

18 MAYOR SCARPELLI: The -- if we could just

19 have a moment of silence for the individuals due to

20 this scourge virus that we are experiencing throughout

21 the country. Special thoughts to Joe Reilly, our

22 former tax assessor, and Maria LaBadia, who was our

23 library director. Please have a moment of silence.

24 Thank you.

25 (Pause)

Conference Session

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1 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Okay. We will defeat this.
2 I can guarantee you that we're gonna come out of the
3 end of the tunnel. Minutes, Madam Clerk?

4 THE CLERK: Thank you, Mayor. We have
5 regular meeting minutes for March 3rd, 2020. I need a
6 motion.

7 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move it.

8 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

9 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

10 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

11 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

12 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

13 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

14 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

15 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

16 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

17 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

18 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

19 THE CLERK: Executive session minutes for
20 February 18th, 2020. I need a motion.

21 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move it.

22 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

23 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

24 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

25 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

Conference Session

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1 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

2 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

3 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

4 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

5 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

6 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

7 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

8 THE CLERK: And that's it for minutes.

9 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Any other communications,
10 Madam Clerk, or anything you want to add? I know we
11 didn't have a conference session, so anything you want
12 to add?

13 THE CLERK: No, Mayor. The -- an alert went
14 out regarding the municipal election, that there will
15 only be vote by mail ballots only. According to --

16 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Mr. Genitempo, anything
17 that you want to add before we go to reports?

18 MR. GENITEMPO: Nothing to add, Mr. Mayor.
19 Thank you.

20 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Reports,
21 Commissioner Tucci?

22 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Yes, thank you, Mayor.
23 I have a Shade Tree report for the month of March,
24 2020.

25 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.

1 Bills, Madam Clerk.

2 THE CLERK: Thank you, Mayor. Bill list for
3 April 7th, 2020. Public Affairs, \$77,541.47; Revenue
4 and Finance, \$5,753,635.14; Public Safety, \$85,800.04;
5 Public Works, \$125,097.09; Parks and Public Property,
6 \$579,256.41; Water Utility, \$104,757.66; Overtime
7 Payroll, \$31,668.17; Total Payroll, \$848,719.82, for a
8 grand total of \$7,574,807.63.

9 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move the bills.

10 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

11 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

12 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

13 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

14 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

15 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

16 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

18 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

19 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

20 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

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

22 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Public comment on agenda
23 items only. Madam Clerk?

24 THE CLERK: Yes, Mayor. Do you want to read
25 the public statement?

1 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Yes.

2 THE CLERK: All persons addressing the Board
3 of Commissioners regarding community concerns should
4 say their name and provide their address -- and provide
5 their address. Unless further time is granted by the
6 board, each person shall limit their address to three
7 minutes. All remarks to the board and its individual
8 members must be addressed to the mayor. The mayor may
9 defer citizens' comments to the appropriate member of
10 the board. Dialogue between citizens and others
11 addressing the board shall be allowed, unless the mayor
12 or presiding officer, or the majority of the membership
13 of the board shall determine that the interests of the
14 quorum, and/or the expeditious conduct of municipal
15 business are being adversely affected by such dialogue.

16 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Does anybody wish to
17 address the Board of Commissioners on the agenda items
18 only? Seeing none, let's move to Board of Commissioner
19 announcements.

20 Commissioner Tucci, do you have any
21 announcements?

22 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Just -- I'd just like to
23 reiterate, Mayor, that, as I'm sure everyone is aware,
24 all of our playgrounds, all of our fields, and all of
25 our facilities are closed. All of our events have been

1 canceled. The only thing remaining are parks, and
2 that's so people can get out and not go cabin crazy,
3 but I would please ask everyone to respect the social
4 distancing, and please, no more than ten people
5 together at any one time, keeping at least a distance
6 of six feet apart. All right? It's for everyone's
7 betterment, it's for everyone's health, so please
8 everyone, adhere to the rules. Thank you, Mayor.

9 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.
10 Commissioner Evans?

11 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Thank you, Mayor. I
12 will just echo Commissioner Tucci's comments regarding
13 handling ourselves and good behavior during this health
14 crisis. I just want to reiterate as well that we've
15 been able to maximize the services available to the
16 public through Town Hall. Even though the building is
17 closed to the public, we are making very effective use
18 of emails and telephone, telephone messaging, and
19 actually been doing pretty well with our response time.
20 So we're continuing to provide services through the
21 Code Office, each of the departments of Town Hall,
22 while practicing good social distancing and rotations,
23 to ensure that our people remain safe.

24 And on that note, just a quick note. There's
25 two things that I would share. One is, we did hold our

1 bond sale for our temporary notes. We were very
2 successful. We were able to roll over our note
3 structure for a year at 1.43 percent interest, which is
4 down four-tenths of a percent from last year, so we had
5 a very good response from that.

6 The second is, is that we've been tracking
7 this very closely, in that Assembly Bill 3902, which
8 includes statutory amendments to the window in the
9 grace period for second quarter property tax payments,
10 was unanimously approved in the House this week, and
11 it's ready for vote before the Senate on Thursday, so I
12 hope to be able to share some good news about changes
13 in the due dates for second quarter property taxes.
14 Thank you, Mayor.

15 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.
16 Commissioner Petracco?

17 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Yes, thank you,
18 Mayor. First of all, I want to say, really -- excuse
19 me? Okay. First of all, I want to say it's really
20 good to hear everybody's healthy voices on the phone.
21 That's number one, so congratulations to everybody.
22 Number two, I have been in contact with a million
23 people in the store, and some residents, Tom, and a lot
24 of landlords that aren't getting paid their rent, and
25 if there is a -- I know you said statutory with the

1 passage, but if there's any way we could give some of
2 these businesses, or residents, you know, something
3 with these taxes, because a lot of the landlords aren't
4 getting paid, a lot of the people aren't working.
5 That's been the biggest, you know, thing that I've been
6 hearing out here, is how am I going to pay my taxes?
7 I'm not working, or how am I going to pay my taxes, you
8 know, nobody's paying me my rent, so I guess we're
9 going to keep our eye on that, you know, through the
10 state. But if there's anything we could do as a
11 municipality to give these people some brace time or
12 whatever we could do in-house, you know, it -- if we
13 can, I think it's advantageous that we do it, because
14 people are struggling out there.

15 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Al, that's a good --

16 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Because --

17 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Oh, I'm sorry, go ahead.

18 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: No, go ahead.

19 COMMISSIONER EVANS: No, it's just that I
20 wanted to echo that. You know, we're -- all of us, I
21 know all of us, are quite concerned about, you know,
22 what the impact on businesses and families -- I have
23 been, you know, pursuing this with the state for weeks.
24 Unfortunately, under state law, there's -- we're
25 limited as to what we can do at a local level. That's

1 why with this bill that's processing through the
2 legislature right now is so important. I do believe
3 that it's going to provide the relief that we're
4 looking for, so stay tuned.

5 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Okay, that's good to
6 hear. But Tom, as far as our municipality, there -- we
7 can't take on something else besides what the state is
8 offering?

9 COMMISSIONER EVANS: No. I have pursued this
10 with the Division of Local Governmental Services,
11 Treasury, our legislators, and it's very clear, I've
12 been told very directly that we do not have local
13 authority, for example, to on our own, extend the
14 ten-day grace period. It must be done by state statute
15 and executive order. So that's why we haven't been
16 saying much about it, because we've been told very
17 clearly, that that's just not possible at the local
18 level. We don't have that flexibility.

19 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Okay. And the third
20 thing, is, on these blasts, if we could start telling
21 people, and I know we have, but really in bold, loud
22 voices, to please, don't throw your gloves in the
23 street. I mean, it's causing, you know, not only a
24 litter problem, but, you know, nobody wants to bend
25 down and pick them up. I been picking them up in front

1 of my store, with, you know, with my gloves on and
2 stuff like that, but it's -- I've been going all over
3 town, man, they're all over the place. So however we
4 can combat that, I think that would be great. And
5 that's all I have, Mayor.

6 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.
7 Commissioner Rogers?

8 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Nothing to report,
9 Mayor, thank you.

10 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Your department's doing a
11 great job, Commissioner.

12 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Well, thank you. I'll
13 give you a little report on that, if you'd like to have
14 an update, Mayor, if you want me to do that now.

15 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Sure.

16 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Okay. Well, to begin
17 with, not enough can be said about all five of the
18 departments in this township working together. I can
19 tell you, with OEM taking the lead -- what I think is
20 most important, what I'm hearing from people, is that
21 the Township of Nutley is delivering to the people
22 timely and accurate information, and helpful
23 information, and that's something that not many towns
24 are able to do, with regard to the sharing of
25 information. So it's certainly a teamwork effort that

1 the system that we put together is working.

2 Secondly, my entire staff has been working
3 from home, 24/7, and when I say 24/7, I mean 24/7.
4 Just to give you a glimpse of how critical and how
5 efficient the department is, our nursing staff is fully
6 up to speed. We brought some school nurses in, some
7 volunteers are helping, but to give an example, it
8 takes, maybe, I think, seven hours to investigate one
9 case. Now, we have 208 cases that we're dealing with.
10 So to deal with one case, it ties up two, maybe three
11 nurses. There's a very long process in order to make
12 sure that someone who goes for testing does not have
13 any other ailments, et cetera, so 24/7, and every
14 person who makes a phone call to the department,
15 whether it's two in the afternoon or two in the
16 morning, they do get a call back.

17 I was able to transfer \$25,000 from our
18 department to the Nutley Family Service Bureau, in
19 order to help them feed some of the residents in our
20 community, and I'm talking about the elderly residents,
21 who simply did not have food on their table. And that
22 \$25,000 may come from my department, but it comes from
23 all five commissioners, who certainly have endorsed
24 that effort, and are working with me in order to
25 provide the most vulnerable residents that the -- the

1 things they need.

2 Secondly -- or I should say, actually,
3 fourthly -- I did in fact last week create and
4 broadcast a public service announcement. It was a
5 national announcement, but I used Nutley as an example
6 of a model community that is working together, its
7 government, the whole government, if you will,
8 including the people in our volunteer organizations. I
9 did broadcast that, and I did target Nutley over our
10 social media networks, and it was sent to thousands of
11 people in this town. And so far, as of tonight, we
12 have about four -- 4,900 views on that particular
13 public service announcement.

14 Now, I would venture to say most of them are
15 from Nutley, because we sought the demographics to get
16 to the people of Nutley, but what I think is more
17 important, and why I share this with you, are the
18 responses that I received. And the responses I
19 received were very positive towards the way that the
20 government here in Nutley has structured its response,
21 and there were some people who had a lot of questions.
22 I did forward these questions to some of the
23 commissioners, and, you know, I always ask people, you
24 know, let me know how you made out. And I've got to
25 tell you, it's very encouraging to hear how our

1 commissioners, and how the people who are working in
2 each of our departments are responding to the public.
3 And I think that's important with regard to information
4 sharing.

5 And let's find it. You know, you always find
6 something that you never expect. You always find
7 something, or a need, if you will, that you didn't
8 think would pop up. Well, we had a need in our town,
9 and the need was this; I received calls from
10 individuals whose family members are veterans. We're
11 talking about World War II vets, Vietnam vets, we're
12 talking about a lot of veterans who were in their 80s
13 and 90s. And many of them have died over the past
14 several weeks where we have had this crisis. Not
15 necessarily from the infection, all right, from the
16 virus, but their time was up, and it was just during
17 this time that they passed away.

18 But here's what happened. They did not, or
19 were not able, many of them, to get their military
20 honors, to get a military funeral. Now usually when a
21 military person dies, when a veteran dies, a military
22 officer calls and talks to the family, and just
23 comforts them and let them know that the sacrifices
24 have not been forgotten. In addition to that, you
25 know, we welcome those who have veterans who are

1 elderly to certainly give us their numbers, and we
2 would give them a call.

3 So I got a few Naval officers together, I got
4 a couple of Marine officers together, people I know, by
5 the way, one, two, I would think who are chaplains, and
6 we did receive calls, based on putting that information
7 out to the people of our community, that, lookit, we're
8 going to make sure that they get their military honors.
9 If not physically, but through the virtual telephone
10 calls and the internet.

11 So there was a need that popped up as a
12 result of this community reaching out and saying, look,
13 if we can't get -- if you can't get to us, we'll get to
14 you, and I think that's a great story. We need to hear
15 good stories, and we have. But I wanted to share that
16 with you, that this is what Nutley's all about, isn't
17 it? So that's my report, Mayor, and thanks so much for
18 giving me the opportunity to share this.

19 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner. I
20 just wanted to commend all the departments on
21 everything they've done over the last month in response
22 to the virus, and what's going on with this pandemic.
23 I've been on conference calls for -- almost every day
24 whether with the County or with the governor, or with
25 Congressman Sherrill, and I've tried to take those

1 conference calls and get them bounced to my colleagues,
2 and where appropriate, we've included any pertinent
3 information on our alert system. So we're keeping
4 everybody up to date. DPW, for the most part, none of
5 our services have changed, except we've suspended the
6 cleanout of sewer laterals, and that was done because
7 there's a possibility of the virus in the sewage in the
8 feces, and we are not going to put our men in that kind
9 of danger.

10 We've also limited to one man in the truck
11 where appropriate, where we could do that, and we've
12 distributed masks and gloves to counteract any kind of
13 where social distancing can't be performed because of
14 the work that must be done. Our recycling continues to
15 be picked up, and we are doing things a little
16 differently to make sure that the social distancing
17 does take place.

18 Some of our upcoming events, and I apologize
19 because our recycling calendar went out, it was printed
20 before any of this happened, so some of those events
21 that are coming up will be canceled. Shredding day on
22 April 11th, compost day on April 18th, the street
23 farmer's market on April 19th, and the electronics
24 recycling on April 25th, and just for my commissioners,
25 if you would just keep in mind that we have a scheduled

1 Memorial Day Parade for the end of May, and we don't
2 have to make that decision tonight, but let's start
3 thinking about how we're going to handle that, because
4 I think we're still going to be in the midst of some
5 sort of response to the virus. So just food for
6 thought.

7 Our street sweeping is going on -- from what
8 Commissioner Petracco said, our street sweeping has
9 increased, especially in the area of the Shop-Rite,
10 heavy with debris of gloves and masks that people have
11 thrown on the ground, which is not only rude, it's
12 littering, it's helping to spread the virus, and
13 people, just throw the gloves and masks in the trash
14 receptacle, or put them somewhere in your car and take
15 them home and dispose of them. So please do that.

16 Our engineering department continues to
17 process our parking permits via phone and mail. Let's
18 see -- where did the town hall business go -- and any
19 other permits we're doing by phone and email.

20 So again, I want to commend everybody on the
21 job that they've done, and I -- like I said at the
22 beginning, we're going to get through this because of
23 the strength of us working together as a township, as a
24 board of commissioners, and our people are resilient.
25 So that's all I have. Unless anybody has anything

1 else, Commissioners?

2 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Mayor, this is
3 Commissioner Tucci. I'm sorry. I've been a little
4 under the weather, so -- I -- there are a few things
5 that I forgot to say, if I could have another moment.
6 I'd like to thank the --

7 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Certainly.

8 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: -- men and women -- thank
9 you -- of the Parks Department, for picking up food and
10 bringing it to the Family Service Bureau to be
11 distributed, all right, to those families and those in
12 need. I'd also like to commend them for making sure
13 that our Senior Meal Program continues, and lastly,
14 Mayor, if I might, this Sunday, April 12th, the entire
15 Nutley Board of Commissioners are sponsoring an Easter
16 Bunny drive-by at 44 Park Avenue. Now no one's allowed
17 to get out of the car, but I think it would be good for
18 the families and the youngsters to pass by and wave to
19 the Easter Bunny. Thank you so much, Mayor.

20 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.
21 Any other commissioner think of something while we're
22 going around that they wanted to announce?

23 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: The only thing, Joe,
24 I'd like to -- it's Al Petracco, and the only thing I'd
25 like to announce is Carmen Bucco did reach out to me

1 about doing something, a Saturday drive through the
2 town with the Easter Bunny. He's gonna get up and be
3 the Easter Bunny on the fire truck or something. So
4 just to let you guys know, me personally, I can't get
5 out of the store right now, so they were kind of doing
6 it together.

7 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Al, just for clarification, I
8 got a call earlier today, because I asked Carmen about
9 that, he said in light of the fact that the Board of
10 Commissioners is doing the Easter Bunny drive-by, he's
11 canceling his plans. Not to (indiscernible).

12 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Oh, he's not doing
13 it?

14 MR. GENITEMPO: He's not doing it.

15 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Okay. I didn't hear
16 that yet. Okay, that's fine.

17 MAYOR SCARPELLI: All right. Let's move on
18 to ordinances -- and not ordinances, but actually
19 public hearings. I have Ordinance Number 3440, an
20 ordinance providing for the reconstruction on Grant
21 Avenue, Section 2, in the Township of Nutley, in the
22 County of Essex, New Jersey, appropriating \$406,964
23 from grant monies received from the New Jersey
24 Department of Transportation and parts thereof. Does
25 anybody in the public want to be heard on Ordinance

1 Number 3440? Seeing none, I move to close the public
2 hearing.

3 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

4 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

5 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

6 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

7 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

8 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

9 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

10 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

11 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

12 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

13 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye. I move the ordinance.

14 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

15 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

16 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

18 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

20 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

21 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

22 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

23 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

24 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

25 Let's move on to resolutions. Commissioner

1 Tucci?

2 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Yes, thank you Mayor.

3 Whereas, the Township of Nutley entered into a contract
4 with Viridian Environmental Consultants, P.O. Box 3009,
5 Upper Montclair, New Jersey, for preliminary assessment
6 for Father Glotzbach Park; and

7 Whereas, the director of Parks and Public
8 Property has recommended the following change order
9 from said contract;

10 Change Order Number 2, Preliminary Assessment
11 for Father Glotzbach in the amount of \$13,095.98. The
12 money is available from Capital Ordinance 34083, it --

13 RECORDING: The recording has started. This
14 session is no longer being recorded.)

15 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Shall I just continue
16 here?

17 THE CLERK: Yes, continue. We're being
18 recorded.

19 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Okay. Okay. It has
20 been certified by the Chief Financial Officer, said
21 certification being attached to this resolution.

22 Now therefore be it resolved by the Board of
23 Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of
24 Essex, State of New Jersey, that Change Order Number 2
25 in the amount of \$13,095.98 be and is hereby approved.

1 I move the resolution.

2 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

3 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

4 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

5 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

6 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

7 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

8 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

9 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

10 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

11 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

12 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

13 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: That's all I have,

14 Mayor.

15 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.

16 Commissioner Evans?

17 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Thank you, Mayor. I
18 have two resolutions. Both of them are being read on
19 behalf of the entire Board of Commissioners. One's
20 labeled, one isn't. I just wanted to have that
21 clarification.

22 7520. Whereas, the Governor of New Jersey
23 has declared a state of emergency via Executive Order
24 103 on March 9th, 2019, due to COVID-19; and

25 Whereas, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6, a

1 contract may be awarded without public bidding
2 regardless of the bid threshold in circumstances where
3 an emergency affecting the public health, safety, or
4 welfare of citizens requires the immediate delivery of
5 goods or the performance of services; and

6 Whereas, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.12,
7 emergency contracts awarded for purposes of Coronavirus
8 response are excepted, which means exempt, from pay to
9 play rules due to public emergency;

10 Whereas, manpower and supplies will need to
11 be expended to respond to this emergency, and will need
12 to be replenished.

13 Now therefore be it resolved by the Board of
14 Commissioners of the Township of Nutley in the County
15 of Essex that an emergency is hereby declared to exist
16 which will not permit for the advertisement of bids
17 subject to the verification of funds by the Chief
18 Financial Officer of the Township of Nutley. So moved.

19 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

20 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

21 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

22 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

23 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

24 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

25 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

1 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

2 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

3 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

4 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

5 COMMISSIONER EVANS: My second ordinance,
6 Community Protective Resolution 7820 actually is more
7 focused on the aspects of the fact that while we are
8 expending resources for Covid related expenses, they
9 are reimbursable to a great extent through FEMA and the
10 other emergency appropriations that are being set up
11 through the federal government and through the state.
12 This resolution allows us to have Millennium Strategies
13 help us go -- actually ensure that we're capturing
14 every possible recoverable cost, and submitting that
15 for potential reimbursement.

16 I just want to acknowledge as well that
17 Commissioner Petracco and I have coordinated on this,
18 and -- to make sure that we have the right resources in
19 place to assist Will Cassidy, who's our OEM leader.
20 And I just want to add, you know, Will is in the middle
21 of the firefight, and he's doing a heck of a job. So
22 with that, I'll read the resolution.

23 Whereas, the Governor of the State of New
24 Jersey has declared a state of emergency via Executive
25 Order 103 on March 9th, 2019 [sic] due to COVID-19;

1 Whereas, pursuant to 40A:11-6, a contract may
2 be awarded without public bidding, regardless of the
3 bid threshold in circumstances where an emergency
4 affecting the health, safety, welfare of our citizens
5 requires the immediate delivery of goods for this
6 performance of services, pursuant to N.J.S.A.
7 19:44A20-12, emergency contracts awarded for purposes
8 of coronavirus are excepted from the pay to play rules
9 due to public emergency;

10 Whereas, consultants will need to be retained
11 to respond to this emergency;

12 Whereas, the Township of Nutley may be
13 entitled to a reimbursement of funds from FEMA or from
14 any FEMA programs as a result of the coronavirus and
15 Covid-19;

16 Whereas, the firm of Millennium Strategies,
17 located at 60 Columbia Avenue, Building B, Suite 230,
18 Morristown, New Jersey, has the necessary experience
19 and expertise as a consultant to obtain FEMA grants and
20 management and administrative professional services in
21 seeking appropriation from FEMA;

22 Whereas, the Township seeks to enter into a
23 contract with Millennium Strategies, to act as their
24 consultant at a blended rate of \$180 an hour.

25 There's no minimum amount here. It's just

1 direct, the hours worked will be reimbursed at 80 --
2 \$180 per hour.

3 Now therefore be it resolved by the Township
4 of Nutley of the County of Essex, State of New Jersey,
5 that an emergency is hereby declared to exist, which
6 will not permit to the advertisement of public, be it
7 subject to the verification of the Chief Financial
8 Officer of the Township of Nutley, that the Township of
9 Nutley hereby enters into a contract with Millennium
10 Strategies at an hourly rate of \$180. The Commissioner
11 is -- excuse me. It should read Mayor and Clerk are
12 hereby authorized to execute a contract, the form of
13 which is attached hereto. So move.

14 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

15 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

16 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

18 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

20 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

21 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

22 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

23 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

24 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye.

25 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Thank you, Mayor.

1 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Commissioner.
2 Commissioner Petracco?

3 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I don't think I have
4 any. I know I had a couple of leaves of absences, but
5 there's really no reason to read them at this point.

6 MAYOR SCARPELLI: All right, so you're
7 pulling those two resolutions, Commissioner?

8 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Yes, I am.

9 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Okay. I have no
10 resolutions on tonight, so we're opening it up to the
11 public. Madam Clerk, could you read the notice?

12 THE CLERK: Sure, Mayor.

13 All persons addressing the board, please
14 provide your name and address. Unless further time is
15 granted by the board, each person shall limit their
16 address to five minutes. All remarks to the board and
17 its individual members must be addressed to the mayor.
18 The mayor may defer citizens' comments to the
19 appropriate member of the board. Dialogue between
20 citizens and others addressing the board shall be
21 allowed, unless the mayor or presiding officer, or the
22 majority of the membership of the board shall determine
23 that the interests of the quorum, and/or the
24 expeditious conduct of municipal business are being
25 adversely affected by such dialogue.

1 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Does anybody wish to
2 address the Board of Commissioners this evening?

3 MS. SALENTO: Hi, this is Amy Salento,
4 70 Newman Avenue, Nutley. I do have a couple of things
5 I wanted to ask about. And actually, just a comment, I
6 appreciate the daily updates. I will just note that
7 many people are reading them on their phone, and it's a
8 lot of very small type, and I feel strongly that the
9 information about the election should possibly come on
10 a PDF, like a flyer attached, because it's so critical.
11 Like, could somebody make up, you know, sort of like,
12 here, we're posting it as this thing?

13 So it's just a thought, just a suggestion, an
14 idea, to possibly make it stand out. Because, you
15 know, some people aren't even opening their mail.
16 People are putting their mail in the oven, there's all
17 kinds of things happening. People are letting their
18 mail sit for days, because they're worried that it has
19 virus on it. So, you know, there could be an
20 opportunity for people to vote that they completely
21 missed. So that's one thing.

22 The other thing, Mayor Scarpelli, and, you
23 know, I'm not sure, it just sort of applies to I think
24 Mayor -- Commissioner Evans, you know, there was an
25 Economic Development Advisory Committee, and I know

1 that, you know, a couple of people asked about this
2 when I was coming to the meetings regularly in 2018
3 into early 2019. And I was just wondering if that can
4 be reconvened, if it -- can it -- can there be a call
5 out to businesses? Can there be Zoom calls? It seems
6 like now is the time for the businesses to start
7 possibly pulling together, and for there to be some
8 interaction between, you know, the commissioners and
9 the township and the businesses that would be, you
10 know, a little bit more than what's being done, just
11 encouraging people to order takeout and to shop small
12 on Saturdays for businesses that are open. So that's
13 something that I wanted to bring up.

14 And then a lot of people online are saying,
15 how come we're not being told how many people recover?
16 And I know that that's not a number that's being
17 reported in that State of New Jersey spreadsheet every
18 day, but, you know, it is something that in New York,
19 they're really tracking, they're starting to speak to
20 it quite often, and, you know, without getting into
21 people's personal business, is there a way that, with
22 the cases that are being tracked, which, you know,
23 Commissioner Rogers, to your point, at great amount of
24 effort by your department. You know, could there be
25 something that indicates how many people have recovered

1 already of the diagnosed cases?

2 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: I'll -- Mayor, if I
3 may, I'll pass that on, Amy. I think it's a good
4 thing. It certainly could bring a little bit more
5 clearer picture as to what's going on. But I'll pass
6 that on, all right, and let's see what we can do. I
7 can't promise anything, but it's certainly worthwhile
8 looking into.

9 MS. SALENTO: Yeah, thank you. And again,
10 it's just something I'm seeing people comment and say,
11 they're like, how come we can't know? And I don't
12 think it's a question of, you know, because -- it has
13 to be protected information, it just doesn't seem to be
14 a number that New Jersey has been focusing on yet,
15 because there are so many new cases, and obviously, the
16 hospitalizations are escalating in New Jersey. So.

17 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Commissioner Rogers and
18 Amy, that was brought up today on the call in the
19 county, and they asked us if we were tracking it
20 countywide, and we're being told that it's not being
21 tracked countywide, and that the state is starting to
22 track that. Obviously, that wasn't their priority at
23 the beginning, but that is something they're going to
24 look into tracking to get that number out there,
25 because certainly we do have enough bad news. It would

1 be nice to have some good news, and people to look to
2 what people who are recovered, and who have gone
3 through this, and feeling better.

4 As far as the election alert, I think we sent
5 out another -- a second alert today, on just the
6 election. If not, it will be going out, and that will
7 be ongoing, I think, as we get closer to the Clerk's
8 Office. So Madam Clerk, do you want to comment on that
9 at all?

10 THE CLERK: I will send out a separate alert,
11 and we will send it out several times, so everybody
12 will be able -- everybody's going to get out. Probably
13 -- it went out today at three o'clock as well, and it
14 had -- there was a video clip attached today. I don't
15 know if you saw that, Amy?

16 MS. SALERNO: You know what, I'll look. I
17 don't think I saw the video yet. Thank you.

18 THE CLERK: Yeah. It went out at three
19 o'clock by itself, but we will send it out again
20 separately. Thank you.

21 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Any other comments --

22 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Yeah, Mayor. Mayor.
23 Mayor. I have a question about this. It's
24 Commissioner Petracco again. Being Amy brought it up,
25 I wasn't going to say anything, but a lot of residents

1 are coming up to me, saying, about this election
2 through mail and all that stuff, and, you know, how are
3 we going to get a turnout, there is not -- as a Board
4 of Commissioners, we cannot postpone this election in
5 any way to give everybody the ability to get out and
6 vote?

7 THE CLERK: Mayor?

8 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Madam Clerk, I'll answer,
9 but you could put the statutes to it. Commissioner,
10 this was by executive order of the governor. The
11 governor said that all the municipal elections, and he
12 moved the April elections to May, and that they would
13 be conducted solely by vote by mail.

14 THE CLERK: Correct.

15 MAYOR SCARPELLI: I don't think any of us are
16 happy with that. You know, but -- it's certain -- it's
17 not the optimal way to conduct an election, but we
18 don't have any input on that. I think any input we had
19 previous through the County Clerk in trying to get our
20 voice heard about, you know, maybe, postponing the
21 election or extending it, either fell on deaf ears, or,
22 you know, there's other reasons out there that are
23 beyond our control. So Madam Clerk, if you have
24 anything to add, I'll be -- I'll listen.

25 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Okay, I mean, but, so

1 -- have we -- I mean, so the answer is, legally, we
2 can't postpone it as the Board of Commissioners?

3 THE CLERK: That's correct.

4 MAYOR SCARPELLI: No, we cannot.

5 THE CLERK: That's correct.

6 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Okay. I just want to
7 go on the record and say, I gotta tell you, I mean,
8 there's been many people I've talked to -- it's -- I
9 have to say, I cannot believe the governor is doing
10 that. I mean, it's -- if the world is on hold, and
11 like Amy said, people don't even want to touch their
12 mail. My father's a senior citizen, he won't even go
13 by the mailbox right now, because he's so afraid of,
14 you know, catching something like that. So, it's just
15 a thought, and I think that we should make a call down
16 there, you know, at the very least, and just say what
17 the pulse of our residents are.

18 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Duly noted.

19 COMMISSIONER EVANS: I just want to -- Mayor,
20 may I respond to Amy in regard to the Economic Advisory
21 Committee?

22 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Sure, Commissioner.

23 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Amy, there -- I wanted
24 to make sure we didn't miss your question, because your
25 questions, all of them are very thoughtful.

1 Yeah, so we as a Board of Commissioners are
2 looking at, you know, what we can do for the local
3 businesses. Right now, a big push has been to make
4 sure that the businesses are aware of the programs that
5 are available through the NJEDA, which has launched a
6 grant program, as well as a loan program for the
7 businesses. You know, the demand for those programs is
8 very high. In fact, the grant program, which opened up
9 last week, was actually closed within an hour, because
10 it was flooded with applications.

11 We are sending out a special release tomorrow
12 for businesses, to make them aware of the fact that the
13 loan program is going to open for applications on April
14 13th, and we're providing some very good information
15 for businesses, so they can actually look at the
16 application, they can prepare a draft beforehand, so
17 they're ready to go on the first thing. Those programs
18 are very significant in supporting local businesses,
19 and right now, our goal has been to encourage people to
20 support our local businesses as best they can, and as
21 well to make the business owners aware of these
22 valuable programs that are becoming available.

23 We are looking at what we can -- what else we
24 can do. The old EDA board look at -- at things around
25 ordinances, look at the walkability of Franklin Avenue,

1 recognizing that there are also -- from based upon the
2 outside advisors, there were in effect, structural
3 things that needed to be done. This is a completely
4 different animal, so to speak, so we as a board are
5 going to continue to talk about what we can do and
6 coordinate with businesses, and make sure they're
7 getting the information that they need.

8 MS. SALENTO: Great. Thank you.

9 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Thank you, Amy. Thank you,
10 Commissioner. Anybody else want to address the Board
11 of Commissioners this evening? Seeing none,
12 Commissioners, do you have any other comments before we
13 close? I'd like to take a motion to adjourn.

14 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: So moved.

15 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rogers?

16 COMMISSIONER ROGERS: Aye.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?

18 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans?

20 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

21 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco?

22 Commissioner Petracco?

23 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

24 THE CLERK: Mayor Scarpelli?

25 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Aye. Please stay safe,

1 everybody.

2 THE CLERK: Thank you. And the time is 7:46.

3 Good night, everybody.

4 MS. SALERNO: Good night.

5 MAYOR SCARPELLI: Good night.

6 (End of recording)

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