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## **Public Notice**

**Documents:**

1-10-22 AND 1-24-22.pdf

2.

## **January 10, 2022 Legislative Committees**

**Documents:**

1-10-22R.pdf

1-10-22F.pdf

1-10-22V.pdf

3.

## **January 10, 2022 Legislative Committees Minutes**

**Documents:**

RULES COMMITTEE, 01-10-22.pdf

VETERANS COMMITTEE, 01-10-22.pdf

FINANCE COMMITTEE, 01-10-22.pdf

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE WILL HOLD COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE ON MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022 STARTING AT 2:00 PM AND WILL HOLD A FULL SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE ON MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2022 STARTING AT 1:00 PM IN THE PETER J. SCHMITT MEMORIAL LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, THEODORE ROOSEVELT EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, 1550 FRANKLIN AVENUE, MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501.

**FULL LEGISLATIVE SESSION.....1:00 PM**

COMMITTEES	TIME
RULES	2:00PM
PUBLIC SAFETY	2:00PM
PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & THE ENVIRONMENT	2:00PM
TOWNS, VILLAGES AND CITIES	2:00PM
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, LABOR AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE	2:00PM
PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS	2:00PM
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES	2:00PM
GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND OPERATIONS	2:00PM
MINORITY AFFAIRS	2:00PM
VETERANS	2:00PM
SENIOR AFFAIRS	2:00PM
AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT	2:00PM
ASSESSMENT	2:00PM
FINANCE	2:00PM

**MICHAEL C. PULITZER**  
Clerk of the Legislature

**Dated: JANUARY 3, 2022**  
**Mineola, NY**

As per the Nassau County Fire Marshal’s Office, the Peter J. Schmitt Memorial Legislative Chamber has a maximum occupancy of 100 people. Passes will be distributed on a first come first served basis beginning one half hour before the meeting begins and attendees will be given an opportunity to sign in to address the Legislature. On Committee Meeting days, Public comment will be limited to Agenda items. Public comment on any item may also be emailed to the Clerk of the Legislature at [LegPublicComment@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:LegPublicComment@nassaucountyny.gov) and will be made part of the formal record of this Legislative meeting.

The Nassau County Legislature is committed to making its public meetings accessible to individuals with disabilities and every reasonable accommodation will be made so that they can participate. Please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature at 571-4252, or the Nassau County Office for the Physically Challenged at 227-7101 or TDD Telephone No. 227-8989 if any assistance is needed. Every Legislative meeting is streamed live on <http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Legis/index.html>



**NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**14<sup>th</sup> TERM MEETING AGENDA**

**RULES COMMITTEE**

**JANUARY 10, 2022 2:00 PM**

**Michael C. Pulitzer, Clerk of the Legislature**

Clerk Item No.	Proposed By	Assigned To	<u>Summary</u>
3-22	LE	V, R	<p><b><u>ORDINANCE NO. – 2022</u></b>  AN ORDINANCE TO BE KNOWN AS THE “HIRING OUR HEROES ACT,” AMENDING SECTION SIX OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 180-2016 TO EXEMPT ACTIVE-DUTY AND MILITARY VETERANS FROM THE PAYMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION FEES. 3-22(LE)</p>
4-22	TR	F, R	<p><b><u>RESOLUTION NO. – 2022</u></b>  A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE TREASURER OF NASSAU COUNTY TO ASSIGN CERTAIN TAX LIEN CERTIFICATES IN CONNECTION WITH PROPERTY LOCATED IN SCHOOL DISTRICT 11, TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, SECTION 38, BLOCK 400, LOT 465 AND SECTION 38, BLOCK 400, LOT 476.  4-22(TR)</p>
6-22	LE	R	<p><b><u>RESOLUTION NO. – 2022</u></b>  A RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 119-2021 ESTABLISHING THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE TO COMBAT ANTISEMITISM. 6-22 (LE)</p>

**NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**14th TERM MEETING AGENDA**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**JANUARY 10, 2022 2:00 PM**

**Michael C. Pulitzer, Clerk of the Legislature**

Clerk Item No.	Proposed By	Assigned To	<u>Summary</u>
4-22	TR	F, R	<p><b><u>RESOLUTION NO. – 2022</u></b>  A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE TREASURER OF NASSAU COUNTY TO ASSIGN CERTAIN TAX LIEN CERTIFICATES IN CONNECTION WITH PROPERTY LOCATED IN SCHOOL DISTRICT 11, TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, SECTION 38, BLOCK 400, LOT 465 AND SECTION 38, BLOCK 400, LOT 476.  4-22(TR)</p>

**NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
14TH TERM MEETING AGENDA**

**VETERANS  
COMMITTEE**

**JANUARY 10, 2022 2:00PM**

**Michael C. Pulitzer, Clerk of the Legislature**



Clerk Item No.	Proposed By	Assigned To	<u>Summary</u>
3-22	LE	V, R	<p><b><u>ORDINANCE NO. – 2022</u></b>  AN ORDINANCE TO BE KNOWN AS THE “HIRING OUR HEROES ACT,” AMENDING SECTION SIX OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 180-2016 TO EXEMPT ACTIVE-DUTY AND MILITARY VETERANS FROM THE PAYMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION FEES.  3-22(LE)</p>

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6 NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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8 RICHARD NICOLELLO

9 PRESIDING OFFICER

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11 RULES COMMITTEE

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13 LEGISLATOR RICHARD NICOLELLO

14 CHAIR

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17 Theodore Roosevelt Building

18 1550 Franklin Avenue

19 Mineola, New York

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22 Monday, January 10, 2022

23 6:02 P.M.

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A P P E A R A N C E S :

LEGISLATOR RICHARD NICOLELLO  
Chair

LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL  
Vice Chair

LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS

LEGISLATOR LAURA SCHAEFER

LEGISLATOR KEVAN ABRAHAMS  
Ranking member

LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE

1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Calling  
3 the Rules Committee to order and I'll call the  
4 roll. Deputy Presiding Officer Kopel.

5 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator  
7 Rhoads.

8 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.

9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator  
10 Schaefer.

11 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.

12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Minority  
13 Leader Abrahams.

14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator  
16 DeRiggi-Whitton.

17 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
18 Here.

19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator  
20 Bynoe.

21 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank  
23 you. We are all here.

24 Item three of 2022 is an ordinance  
25 to be known as the Hiring Our Heroes Act

1 Rules - 1-10-22  
2 amending Section 6 of Ordinance 180-2016 to  
3 exempt active duty and military veterans from  
4 the payment of civil service examination  
5 fees.

6 That's moved by Legislator Bynoe.  
7 Seconded by Legislator Rhoads. Any debate or  
8 discussion? Hearing none, all in favor  
9 signify by saying aye.

10 Item four of 2022 is a resolution  
11 that's authorizing and directing the treasurer  
12 of Nassau County to assign certain tax lien  
13 certificates in connection with property  
14 located in School District 11, Town of  
15 Hempstead.

16 That item is moved by Legislator  
17 Schaefer. Seconded by Legislator Rhoads.  
18 It's before us. It just went through Finance  
19 a few moments ago. I'd asked that the minutes  
20 be incorporated by reference into this  
21 committee. Anyone have anything further to  
22 add on this item? Legislator Bynoe.

23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you  
24 Presiding Officer. I just want to make a note  
25 that to say that it's to the full extent and

1 Rules - 1-10-22  
2 best interest of the county I think is, in  
3 this moment, is premature to make that  
4 statement. Aside from all the other questions  
5 that are open on the floor and aside from the  
6 fact that our inspector general has stated  
7 that she has open issues, I think really can't  
8 make a determination if it's in the best  
9 interest of the county when we don't even know  
10 how many units would be developed. The  
11 granular details that would be necessary to  
12 really make an informed decision are lacking.

13 So, I would argue that we'd have to  
14 have to a lot more information as to how that  
15 property would be developed, how many units,  
16 how many affordable units, all of those things  
17 before it would be the right move for the  
18 county's residents for us to even consider  
19 something that appears to be against the ad  
20 code.

21 There's a lot of things here in  
22 play and I don't think that in any time that  
23 we would either discount land in sale or any  
24 of that we would do that without having full  
25 understanding of what type of project would be

1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 developed on that land.

3 So, in the interest of the county  
4 residents, I will be voting no on this item.

5 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
6 think it's been common practice of this body  
7 in the past whenever our inspector general had  
8 any outstanding questions or concerns we  
9 always respected that with tabling the item.  
10 I think this has been our -- what we've done  
11 in a bipartisan way and I would hope to see  
12 that continue in the future. I think this is  
13 the first time I can remember where the  
14 inspector general had a question and we didn't  
15 move to table it and we didn't table it.

16 So, look, I think at the end of the  
17 day, having the inspector general not only  
18 protects the county it protects us. And I  
19 really hope that we continue with that pattern  
20 of listening to her advice and acting  
21 accordingly.

22 I would like to make another motion  
23 to table when we're ready to do so and try to  
24 do that at least on the Rules Committee to try  
25 to stop -- it's bad practice to go against

1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 what the inspector general says.

3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I just  
4 want to make a statement before you make the  
5 motion. I would echo that I think there was a  
6 point made in the Finance Committee that the  
7 responses that we are seeking both legal and  
8 the details about the development have to be  
9 provided to the legislature before the full  
10 legislature. We're not looking to have  
11 someone come up and give us explanations on  
12 the 24th. We want that information before the  
13 24th.

14 Nick, I hope you take that back to  
15 your -- to the county attorney. Again, so  
16 that we're clear, we want the information  
17 before the meeting. Anyway, go ahead,  
18 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton, make the motion.

19 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: And  
20 again, more than just this item, just  
21 basically our common practice of abiding by  
22 the recommendations of the inspector general I  
23 now would like to make a motion to table this  
24 item.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second?



1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Second.

3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Seconded  
4 by Legislator Bynoe. All in favor of the  
5 motion to table signify by saying aye. Those  
6 opposed? The motion to table fails by a vote  
7 of four to three. Does anyone else have any  
8 other comment? Legislator Rhoads.

9 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: My  
10 recollection is that our common practice is  
11 actually to tee up items for the full  
12 legislature while we're waiting on additional  
13 information. I don't see this as being  
14 substantially different from that. I think  
15 that the committees, both Finance now and  
16 Rules have expressed their concerns about the  
17 lack of information that's been provided and  
18 have set forth very clear instructions that  
19 that information must be provided before it's  
20 considered before the full legislature with  
21 the understanding that if it's not obviously  
22 it will be tabled at that time.

23 So, I don't have a problem voting  
24 for the item now with the understanding that  
25 we'll get the information before the full

1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 legislature. If we don't receive it we will  
3 take appropriate action at that time.

4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Anyone  
5 else.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I don't want  
7 to get into a debate, but I can't recollect a  
8 time where we did not honor the advisement of  
9 our inspector general. She's our chief  
10 advisor in the role of making this body aware  
11 of any possible misconduct or anything that  
12 would be against the charter of this county  
13 government. She's who we rely on and we have  
14 never once bucked her authority or her role as  
15 our chief advisor to tell us that there's  
16 concerns about an issue and that she wouldn't  
17 even advise that it goes through committee.  
18 This is the first time.

19 I'm kind of saddened that we're  
20 taking this approach because I really felt  
21 that we worked in a very bipartisan way when  
22 it came to the county inspector general giving  
23 us advice as 19 legislators and responsible as  
24 the fiduciaries of this county.

25 So, for us to take a stance today

1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 that to we will just buck here advice I think  
3 we're setting a bad precedent and I think this  
4 is not the way to start off our first meeting  
5 of this term.

6 I really implore my colleagues on  
7 this committee to not keep this up because  
8 we've never teed these types of items up.

9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator  
10 Rhoads.

11 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you  
12 Mr. Chairman. I don't see us as bucking any  
13 authority of the inspector general. The  
14 inspector general indicated that she did not  
15 have sufficient information. We've set forth  
16 a pathway to obtain that information before we  
17 consider it as part of the full legislature.  
18 And I would anticipate that if we do not  
19 receive that information as indicated we'll  
20 take appropriate action at that time.

21 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I definitely  
22 want to change the language and I think I  
23 did. Not her authority but her advisement.  
24 Here consultation to this body.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: All

1                   Rules - 1-10-22  
2     right. Any other debate or discussion? Any  
3     public comments? All in favor signify by  
4     saying aye. Those opposed? It's a vote of  
5     four to three that this item moves on -- it's  
6     a vote of four to three we will be moving this  
7     on, potentially, go before the full  
8     legislature.

9                   Six of 2022 is a resolution to  
10    amend Resolution 112 of 2022 establishing the  
11    special legislative task force to combat  
12    anti-Semitism.

13                  Moved by Legislator Kopel and  
14    seconded by Minority Leader Abrahams. Before  
15    we do that, I need a motion to suspend the  
16    rules of the Rules Committee. Moved by Deputy  
17    Presiding Officer Kopel. Seconded by  
18    Legislator Schaefer all in favor of suspending  
19    the rules signify by saying aye. Those  
20    opposed? Carries unanimously.

21                  LEGISLATOR KOPEL:     At this time  
22    I'll talk about clerk item 6-22 which is a  
23    resolution to establish a special legislative  
24    task force to combat anti-Semitism. This was  
25    originally introduced last year and passed

1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 last year unanimously by the legislature. It  
3 was introduced by, if I recall, Legislators  
4 Lafazan and Drucker, for which I thank them.  
5 Somehow the task force never did formally get  
6 organized, so we would like to get that done.

7 This resolution simply provides  
8 dates upon which the task force A, will be  
9 constituted. Which would be International  
10 Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27th of  
11 this year. And will require the task force as  
12 constituted providing recommendations to the  
13 presiding officer and minority leader by Yom  
14 HaShoah, which is on April 28th. And I simply  
15 urge everybody to vote for this and we'll get  
16 it done.

17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any other  
18 discussion? Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton.

19 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
20 was just asked to make some type of  
21 clarification that Minority Leader Kevan  
22 Abrahams was one of the --

23 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: One of the  
24 original sponsors?

25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: On

1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 the task force, yes. He's a member you  
3 inadvertently omitted.

4 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: He was I'm  
5 sorry?

6 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
7 don't see his name on it. If we could add his  
8 name.

9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Was he a  
10 sponsor?

11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: He  
12 was on the task force along with Drucker and  
13 Lafazan.

14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I think  
15 she was noting for the record that they were  
16 appointed to the task force. You can do  
17 that. There's no relevance to this, to  
18 actually changing the date which obviously has  
19 to be done.

20 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
21 agree. I guess because we mentioned the other  
22 two I just wanted to make sure that minority  
23 leader --

24 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I mentioned  
25 them as the original sponsors. That's all I

1 Rules - 1-10-22

2 did. I didn't discuss who the members were at  
3 all.

4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any other  
5 debate or discussion. Any public comment?  
6 All in favor signify by saying aye. Those  
7 opposed? That carries unanimously.

8 Now we need a motion to adjourn by  
9 Legislator Rhoads. Seconded by Legislator  
10 Schaefer. All in favor of adjourning signify  
11 by saying aye. Those opposed? We're  
12 adjourned.

13 (Committee adjourned at 6:13 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATION

I, FRANK GRAY, a Notary  
Public in and for the State of New  
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing is a true and  
accurate transcript of my stenographic  
notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand this 11th day of  
January 2022.

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FRANK GRAY



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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RICHARD NICOLELLO  
PRESIDING OFFICER

VETERANS COMMITTEE

LEGISLATOR JAMES KENNEDY  
CHAIR

Theodore Roosevelt Building  
1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York

January 10, 2022  
5:29 P.M.

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2 A P P E A R A N C E S :

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4 LEGISLATOR JAMES KENNEDY

5 Chair

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7 LEGISLATOR C. WILLIAM GAYLOR III

8 Vice Chair

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10 LEGISLATOR ROSE MARIE WALKER

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12 LEGISLATOR MAZI MELESA PILIP

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14 LEGISLATOR DEBRA MULE

15 Ranking member

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17 LEGISLATOR JOSHUA LAFAZAN

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19 LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

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1 Veterans - 1-10-22

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Call the  
3 Veterans Committee to order and ask the clerk  
4 to call the roll.

5 MR. PULITZER: Thank you. Roll  
6 call. Legislator Joshua Lafazan.

7 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Here.

8 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Delia  
9 DeRiggi-Whitton.

10 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
11 Here.

12 MR. PULITZER: Ranking Member  
13 Debra Mule.

14 LEGISLATOR MULE: Here.

15 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Mazi  
16 Melesa Pilip.

17 LEGISLATOR PILIP: Here.

18 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Rose  
19 Marie Walker.

20 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

21 MR. PULITZER: Vice Chairman C.  
22 William Gaylor III.

23 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Present.

24 MR. PULITZER: Chairman James  
25 Kennedy.

1 Veterans - 1-10-22

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.

3 MR. PULITZER: We have a quorum.

4 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: May I have a  
5 motion to suspend the rules. Moved by  
6 Legislator Walker. Seconded by Legislator  
7 Lafazan. The rules have been suspended.

8 There is one item on the agenda  
9 today which is clerk item 3-22. Clerk item  
10 3-22 is an ordinance to be known as the Hiring  
11 Our Heroes Act amending Section 6 of Ordinance  
12 180-2016 to exempt active duty and military  
13 veterans from the payment of civil service  
14 examination fees.

15 May I have a motion. Moved by  
16 Legislator Walker. Seconded by Legislator  
17 DeRiggi-Whitton. Legislator Lafazan sorry.  
18 The item is before us.

19 Active duty military and veterans  
20 have selflessly served our nation by fighting  
21 for freedom and protecting all who live within  
22 its borders. These brave men and women, as  
23 well as their families, have made countless  
24 sacrifices so we can continue to live freely  
25 and peacefully within our great nation.

1 Veterans - 1-10-22

2 Further, active duty military and  
3 veterans receive exceptional training where  
4 discipline, leadership, grit and unparalleled  
5 work ethic have been instilled within its  
6 participants. As a result, active duty  
7 military and veterans utilize these skills in  
8 their respective careers outside the military.

9 Accordingly, it is within the best  
10 interests of Nassau County to encourage active  
11 duty military and veterans to pursue a career  
12 in public service. This ordinance exempts  
13 active duty military and veterans from paying  
14 the Nassau County civil service exam fees  
15 which provides such encouragement.

16 This ordinance was initially  
17 introduced by Legislator Lafazan and is now  
18 cosponsored by the remaining members of the  
19 Nassau County Legislature.

20 Is there any debate or discussion?  
21 Yes, Legislator Lafazan.

22 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Thank you  
23 Legislator Kennedy. I was proud to support  
24 this bill called the Hiring Our Heroes Act and  
25 I want to specifically thank my Republican

1                   Veterans - 1-10-22  
2       colleagues in the legislature. There has been  
3       a consistent bipartisan commitment in  
4       supporting our veterans. I know it will  
5       continue in the session, so thank you for your  
6       support. I know I have worked with Legislator  
7       Gaylor, who is a veteran himself, and I thank  
8       him as well.

9                   19 million Americans are veterans  
10       and 55,000 of those veterans live right here  
11       in Nassau County. Our veterans are truly  
12       amongst the greatest citizens of us and we owe  
13       them a debt of gratitude that we can never  
14       repay.

15                  Yet, our commitment to our veterans  
16       does not end when they take off their  
17       uniform. This commitment is lifelong, it's  
18       enduring and it's iron clad. And it's in this  
19       vein that we have to do better as a country,  
20       as a state and as a county in serving those  
21       veterans. 581,000 veterans were unemployed in  
22       the year 2020 and this number continues to  
23       rise as we deal with COVID-19.

24                  The Hiring Our Heroes Act will  
25       exempt veterans and active duty service

1                   Veterans - 1-10-22  
2   members from civil service examination fees.  
3   As we heard directly from veterans themselves,  
4   this will open the door to employment here in  
5   Nassau County, encourage more veterans to join  
6   our workforce. And as statistics show,  
7   veterans make some of the best employees in  
8   the workforce today.

9                   So, I thank my Republican  
10  colleagues for their support and I look  
11  forward to getting this bill signed into law.  
12  Thank you.

13                   LEGISLATOR KENNEDY:     Thank you  
14  Legislator Lafazan. Any public comment? All  
15  those in favor of passing this item please  
16  signify by saying aye. Opposed? The item  
17  passes unanimously.

18                   There is no other business in front  
19  of this committee. May I have a motion to  
20  adjourn. Moved by Legislator Walker.  
21  Seconded by Legislator Lafazan. All those in  
22  favor of adjourning? The committee is now  
23  adjourned.

24                   (Committee adjourned at 5:33 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATION

I, FRANK GRAY, a Notary  
Public in and for the State of New  
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing is a true and  
accurate transcript of my stenographic  
notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand this 11th day of  
January 2022.

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FRANK GRAY



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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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RICHARD NICOLELLO

9

PRESIDING OFFICER

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11

FINANCE COMMITTEE

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13

LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

14

CHAIR

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Theodore Roosevelt Building

18

1550 Franklin Avenue

19

Mineola, New York

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January 10, 2022

23

5:34 P.M.

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2 A P P E A R A N C E S :

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4 LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

5 Chair

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7 LEGISLATOR JOHN FERRETTI

8 Vice Chair

9

10 LEGISLATOR TOM MCKEVITT

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12 LEGISLATOR ROSE MARIE WALKER

13

14 LEGISLATOR ARNOLD DRUCKER

15 Ranking member

16

17 LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES

18

19 LEGISLATOR JOSHUA LAFAZAN

20

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1 Finance 1-10-22

2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Finance

3 Committee is called to order. Legislator

4 Drucker.

5 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.

6 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Legislator

7 Solages.

8 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.

9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Legislator

10 Lafazan.

11 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Here.

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Legislator

13 Ferretti.

14 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Here.

15 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Legislator

16 McKevitt.

17 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Here.

18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: And Legislator

19 Walker.

20 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

21 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: And I am here,

22 so we have a quorum. We have one item which

23 is number 4-22, which authorizes and directs

24 the treasurer of Nassau County to assign

25 certain tax lien certificates in connection

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 with property located in school district 11  
3 Town of Hempstead, Section 38, Block 400, Lot  
4 465 and Section 38, Block 400, Lot 476.

5 Motion on that is made by  
6 Mr. McKevitt. Seconded by Mr. Drucker.

7 Do we have anyone here from the  
8 administration to speak on this item?

9 MR. SERANDIS: Nicholas Serandis,  
10 deputy county attorney. This is an item  
11 involving the assignment of --

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: One second  
13 please. Go on. I'm sorry for the  
14 interruption.

15 MR. SERANDIS: This is an item  
16 involving the effective assignment of certain  
17 tax liens held by the county on property  
18 located in Oceanside. The taxes were overdue  
19 from a period of 2012 through 2018 due to  
20 nonpayment by the then owner of the property a  
21 Mr. Irving Grossman. Then property was then  
22 purchased by an organization Jaz Grand L.L.C.  
23 controlled by -- some of the disclosure had  
24 been submitted by Mr. Breslin and various  
25 entities of his.

1 Finance 1-10-22

2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Purchased from  
3 Mr. Grossman?

4 MR. SERANDIS: Excuse me?

5 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Mr. Grossman  
6 sold the property?

7 MR. SERANDIS: Yes. Mr. Breslin  
8 now owns the property under Jaz Grand L.L.C.

9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I'm sorry, who  
10 owns it?

11 MR. SERANDIS: Wilbur Breslin  
12 under the organization limited liability  
13 corporation called Jaz J-A-Z Grand L.L.C.

14 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Got it.

15 MR. SERANDIS: He had approached  
16 us a couple of years ago in order to try to  
17 purchase the tax liens so that he could  
18 redevelop the property as senior housing or  
19 assisted living or some similar activity.

20 An item that was presented prior to  
21 this year raised some issues concerning the  
22 ability to transfer the liens to him because  
23 he is the current owner of the property.

24 He wants to pay the outstanding  
25 taxes that were issued prior to his gaining

1 Finance 1-10-22  
 2 ownership on December 29, 2017 by paying just  
 3 the base amount of taxes. The base amount of  
 4 taxes are forever adjusted by tax certs that  
 5 were pending on the property for the period of  
 6 time.

7 At that point, when we presented it  
 8 last year, first to the legislature or filed  
 9 it, we did not consider the issue of the taxes  
 10 that may have been owed from December 29,  
 11 2017, when he purchased the property until  
 12 such time that the taxes began fully being  
 13 paid, whether he could get such a relief  
 14 without the payment of penalties and  
 15 interest.

16 Under 5-45 of the Administrative  
 17 Code, it authorizes the legislature to assign  
 18 tax liens without recovering for an amount in  
 19 the best interest of the county and not  
 20 necessarily to collect the interest and  
 21 penalties and that provided that this  
 22 assignment is not made to an owner who caused  
 23 the, under our interpretation, who caused the  
 24 delinquency to occur.

25 After that was submitted, we did

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 some further calculations with the treasurer's  
3 office and we got some information regarding  
4 tax cert assessment that would have been  
5 paid -- settlements that were made by the  
6 court -- which is in your package -- that  
7 would have required the county to pay off some  
8 refunds as well as interest on those refunds.

9 Based upon all the calculations  
10 calculated by the treasurer readjusting the  
11 base amounts and calculating the refunds and  
12 the interest as well as our interest and  
13 penalties, it was determined that the amount  
14 that would be payable, which would include  
15 payment from 2012 to 2017 taxes, at the  
16 adjusted base amount without interest and  
17 penalties and payments on the '17 and '18  
18 taxes on the adjusted base amount with 40  
19 percent interest, which is the maximum  
20 interest that is allowable under the  
21 administrative code on the sale of tax liens,  
22 which is ten percent for six months for a  
23 maximum of two years.

24 So, at that calculations that we've  
25 done, rough calculation, figuring the

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 assessment numbers and all of that and the  
3 interest rate, is that the county would  
4 receive approximately \$700,000 in taxes from  
5 the period from 2012 to 2017 plus the adjusted  
6 amount that were -- before he started paying  
7 taxes, which was in the '18-19 year, and there  
8 are no current taxes presently owed on the  
9 property having been paid in full by Mr.  
10 Breslin from the time he acquired the property  
11 to date.

12 The amount of savings to  
13 Mr. Breslin is approximately \$400,000. And we  
14 have evaluated the proposed use of the  
15 property and we have determined that it would  
16 be in the best interest of the county to have  
17 Mr. Breslin pay the amounts that are due of  
18 \$700,000 plus to continue to pay the taxes so  
19 that it would put the property back to  
20 productive use as either assisted living or  
21 senior housing or some similar development  
22 which is proposed at this time.

23 This has been done in the past like  
24 when we wanted to develop 100 Main Street in  
25 Hempstead. We took less than the amount that



1 Finance 1-10-22

2 we were owed taxes and sold it off to a  
3 private entity. We paid off the government  
4 housing loans that we owed to the federal  
5 government instead of our taxes.

6 We also have done many bulk sales  
7 of tax lien certificates in which we take a  
8 smaller amount. The idea is that we put the  
9 property to productive use. We get a tax  
10 revenue ensured to be paid rather than to have  
11 to sell tax liens on property that may or may  
12 be difficult to develop.

13 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: We got the  
14 picture. Let me ask you a few questions  
15 please. The amount that the county would be  
16 forgiving right now potentially is about  
17 \$400,000, correct?

18 MR. SERANDIS: Yes.

19 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Did you ever  
20 evaluate the fair market value of this  
21 property?

22 MR. SERANDIS: The --

23 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: In other  
24 words, let's say, did you figure out what did  
25 Mr. Breslin paid for it together with the

1 Finance 1-10-22

2 taxes that would be forgiven now?

3 MR. SERANDIS: I think I  
4 understand your question. Since this is a  
5 back taxes that are owed it is not a budget  
6 item.

7 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I'm not asking  
8 about that. I'm asking -- my questions aim  
9 rather at whether or not this is something  
10 that is necessary in order for this property  
11 to be developed. In other words, what is the  
12 fair market of the property? What did  
13 Mr. Breslin pay for it? And will this  
14 \$400,000 make much of a difference first of  
15 all?

16 MR. SERANDIS: The present  
17 assessed value of the property is about two  
18 and a half million dollars.

19 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: The assessed  
20 value. Which may or may not have any relation  
21 to reality. But go on please.

22 MR. SERANDIS: At the closing, we  
23 looked at the records of the county clerk and  
24 we believe he paid something in the  
25 neighborhood of two and a half million dollars

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 for the property. Since that time, he has  
3 also paid approximately half a million dollars  
4 of taxes from when he bought the property to  
5 date and he's willing to pay another 705,000,  
6 which did not result in any monetary reduction  
7 for the county who will be receiving the full  
8 amount of the taxes that were assessed at the  
9 time.

10 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So, the  
11 property, so far as you understand, is going  
12 to be -- the proposal is to develop it for  
13 senior citizen or assisted housing?

14 MR. SERANDIS: Yes.

15 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: How many units  
16 would that be?

17 MR. SERANDIS: I don't think he  
18 has really done a calculation or provided that  
19 information as to how many units it would be.

20 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Has the county  
21 done any impact study as to whether or not  
22 this is a real good idea for that  
23 neighborhood? It's a very, very congested  
24 area traffic-wise. The Atlantic I think at  
25 Lawson right over there is a disaster of an

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 intersection. Throwing a lot more traffic  
3 into it might not be a terrific idea.

4 MR. SERANDIS: What we have asked  
5 of the attorney for Mr. Breslin is to provide  
6 all of that information, and I'd be willing to  
7 at the full legislative meeting if this matter  
8 is proceeding to have them here to go over and  
9 see what additional information we can get.  
10 This was an issue that was raised when the  
11 matter was going to come before this body in  
12 December and we are attempting to get the  
13 information.

14 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Legislator  
15 Drucker has some questions but let me just say  
16 that I would like, personally, I would like to  
17 see that information before the meeting of the  
18 full leg. In other words, we can pass it  
19 through here just to tee it up for the full  
20 legislature. However, I haven't seen anything  
21 about this until right now and that's just not  
22 enough. As I said, we've got some questions.  
23 Legislator Drucker will have some more. I  
24 think we'd like to get the information that we  
25 need prior to the meeting not at the meeting.

1 Finance 1-10-22

2 MR. SERANDIS: It's my intention  
3 to give the legislature concrete amounts of  
4 both the savings for Mr. Breslin and the  
5 amounts there and to provide a detailed  
6 explanation as to what he is intending to do  
7 with the property prior to the next meeting  
8 and hopefully I will have that information by  
9 the end of this week.

10 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: And its impact  
11 on the neighborhood. The traffic study. I'd  
12 like to see the traffic study if he's done  
13 one. If he hasn't that's interesting as  
14 well. Okay?

15 MR. SERANDIS: That's fine with  
16 me.

17 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Thank you  
18 Legislator Drucker.

19 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you  
20 Chairman Kopel.

21 Nick, I have a couple of  
22 questions. There are some more dispositive  
23 questions than Legislator Chairman Kopel's  
24 concerns. For example, doesn't the  
25 administrative code by its term and language

1 Finance 1-10-22

2 preclude the assignment of liens to the owner  
3 of the property by the county?

4 MR. SERANDIS: Can you repeat the  
5 question please?

6 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Doesn't the  
7 administrative code by its language and its  
8 terms specifically preclude the assignment of  
9 the liens from the county to the owner?

10 MR. SERANDIS: Do you mean when  
11 the lien was first issued?

12 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Now.

13 MR. SERANDIS: You mean now?

14 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Yeah. You  
15 can't assign the lien. I'm saying is that  
16 something that can be done?

17 MR. SERANDIS: The lien that  
18 exists is from 2012 to 2017.

19 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Right. But  
20 the transfer of the property --

21 MR. SERANDIS: He's paid the  
22 taxes since then.

23 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I understand  
24 that. We have expressed even beforehand some  
25 concerns, and I understand -- are you aware

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 that the inspector general has opined on this  
3 issue with respect to the county waiving  
4 almost a half a million dollars in interest  
5 and penalties?

6 And I see that the inspector  
7 general has joined us today and she has  
8 expressed in writing to us that the staff  
9 summary doesn't explicitly advise the  
10 legislature that the administration made a  
11 determination of waiving the penalties and  
12 interest was in the best interest of the  
13 county. Chairman Kopel, maybe we can hear  
14 from the inspector general who has joined us?

15 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Absolutely.  
16 If she's ready to talk about it.

17 MS. FRANZESE: Good evening  
18 Chairman Kopel.

19 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: How are you.

20 MS. FRANZESE: I'm good. This is  
21 Jodi Franzese, inspector general from the  
22 Nassau County Office of the Inspector  
23 General.

24 Agenda item number 4-22 is  
25 essentially the matter that was filed last

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 year as item 431-21. Our office submitted a  
3 review statement regarding that item in  
4 December of 2021, and as of right now there  
5 has been no response at all to the three  
6 points that we raised in that instance.

7 The three points being in order  
8 to -- in the interest of transparency and  
9 fully informed decision making -- we wanted to  
10 know the total amount of funds that were  
11 proposed to be waived. And whether the  
12 administration is representing that this type  
13 of waiver is in the best interest of the  
14 county. And if so, what would be the rationale  
15 for that determination to waive approximately  
16 \$400,000 in interest and penalties. And we  
17 haven't received a response yet.

18 And at this point we submitted a  
19 statement this morning, sorry, an item review  
20 statement this morning indicating that our  
21 office was going to review this further.

22 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Legislator  
23 Drucker, I think can we agree that --

24 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Maybe we  
25 should be table this. I think it should be



1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 tabled. There's so little information here.  
3 And the inspector general has clearly  
4 expressed the lacking of information.

5 Nick, I'm going to read you the  
6 language from the administrative code. Nick,  
7 you there?

8 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Why don't you  
9 just go ahead, instead of belaboring the  
10 point, why don't you make your motion and  
11 let's see what everyone thinks.

12 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: At this time  
13 because of the lacking of information that  
14 we've all, this body needs in order to fully  
15 understand why we're waiving almost a half a  
16 million dollars in interest and penalties, how  
17 it serves the county's best interests. Until  
18 that is delineated to the satisfaction of  
19 ourselves and the inspector general, at this  
20 time I make a motion to table this item.

21 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Second the  
22 motion.

23 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Nick,  
24 hello. I'm over here. Has the county  
25 attorney -- we'd like to get an opinion from

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 the county attorney. Because the language,  
3 the specific language of Section 5-45 of the  
4 Administrative Code says that "No such  
5 assignment, sale or transfer for less than the  
6 full amount of such unpaid taxes, interest,  
7 penalties and expenses or for consideration  
8 other than cash shall be made to any owner of  
9 the affected property or any person having an  
10 interest therein or any related person."

11 That's what the ad code says.  
12 That's what the language says. It doesn't  
13 permit. I'd like an opinion, we would like an  
14 opinion from the county attorney's office as  
15 to how you reconcile that language.

16 MR. SERANDIS: We have discussed  
17 that with both the present county attorney as  
18 well as last year when the item was first  
19 submitted, and what we felt, because of other  
20 previous precedent that we had regarding  
21 places like other liens that have been sold,  
22 that because of the property not being in  
23 productive use for many years, because of the  
24 fact that we'd be getting future taxes and  
25 future benefits in terms of jobs, in terms of

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 housing, in terms of benefits to the various  
3 residents of our community, that this would be  
4 in the best interest of the county because the  
5 alternative would be that if Mr. Breslin and  
6 any other owner of the property would walk  
7 away from the property it would remain dormant  
8 for many years because we would never be able  
9 to assign these tax liens. And if we sought  
10 title ourselves to the property we would incur  
11 vast expenses in potential maintenance and  
12 other factors.

13 The future tax revenue as well as  
14 the business benefit to local businesses from  
15 that property being occupied and the fact that  
16 there would be other taxes paid and job  
17 created and housing were sufficient to cover  
18 that interest.

19 And the fact that we also said that  
20 during the period of time that he was not the  
21 owner of the property that is the only period  
22 of time he's getting such benefit and that  
23 while he is the owner of the property he is  
24 going to pay the full amount plus the interest  
25 for any of those taxes that were owed during

1 Finance 1-10-22

2 that period.

3 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: But, Nick,  
4 you're carving our exceptions that don't  
5 apply. That don't exist. You've made  
6 exceptions in the past with this argument but  
7 it's not allowed.

8 MR. SERANDIS: As I said earlier,  
9 when I go back to discuss this further with  
10 both Mr. Breslin and with Kevin Walsh from  
11 Bureau of Real Estate as well as the county  
12 attorney's office we will provide a full memo  
13 and legal opinion as to whether or not this is  
14 a proper item under the provisions and the  
15 interpretations of the path of these  
16 provisions of the code.

17 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you.  
18 I'd like that opinion.

19 MR. SERANDIS: And I cannot speak  
20 for the county attorney in that regard or for  
21 any other person, but we will endeavor to  
22 supply the legislature with all those items  
23 before there's a final vote on the matter.

24 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: As well as  
25 providing it to the inspector general too,

1 Finance 1-10-22

2 okay? Inspector general.

3 MR. SERANDIS: Yes. We  
4 understand that they had some issues as well  
5 and that's why we modified some of the  
6 provisions from the one that was filed prior  
7 in early December of 2021.

8 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So, we have a  
9 motion on the floor. Let's just vote on that  
10 motion if we may.

11 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I'm renewing  
12 my motion to table this.

13 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: There's a  
14 motion to table on the floor made by  
15 Legislator Drucker. Seconded by Legislator  
16 Lafazan. All those in favor of tabling please  
17 say aye. All those opposed? Nay.

18 Now, let me just say that having  
19 voted to pass this through, there's some very  
20 serious questions over here.

21 The motion to table has been  
22 defeated. All those in favor of passing this  
23 through please say aye. Any opposed? We have  
24 four to three.

25 Now, let me say again, and thank

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 you Mr. McKevitt. We've got a lot of serious  
3 questions here. I'm kind of skeptical that  
4 we're going to get all the answers, both from  
5 the attorney -- the inspector general, excuse  
6 me, -- as well as to the questions raised,  
7 that I've raised, I know that Legislator Ford,  
8 who is not on the committee, and I have a  
9 community to talk about this. So, the more  
10 information you get to us, the faster you get  
11 it to us, the more of a possibility there is  
12 of making a decision.

13 MR. SERANDIS: As I stated  
14 earlier, first thing when I get back to the  
15 office we will discuss this among our office  
16 staff including county attorneys, legal  
17 counsel and provide the necessary memos.

18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I recommend  
19 you get the transcript and make sure you get  
20 all the questions. Thank you Nick.

21 We have no other business. So  
22 there's a motion to adjourn made by Ms. Walker  
23 and seconded by Mr. Solages. All those in  
24 favor of adjourning please say aye. Any  
25 opposed? We are adjourned. Thank you.

1 Finance 1-10-22  
2 (Committee was adjourned at 6:01  
3 p.m.)  
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CERTIFICATION

I, FRANK GRAY, a Notary  
Public in and for the State of New  
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing is a true and  
accurate transcript of my stenographic  
notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand this 11th day of  
January 2022.

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FRANK GRAY