

Legislative Calendar
Nassau County Legislature
MINEOLA, NEW YORK
COMMITTEE MEETINGS
January 6, 2014 2:00 P.M.

1.

Calendar

Documents:

11-13-18 SPECIAL BUDGET.pdf

2.

Meeting Minutes

Documents:

LEGISLATIVE SESSION 11-13-18.pdf

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE ON MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014 STARTING AT 2:00 PM AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW IN THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER, 1st FLOOR, THE PETER J. SCHMITT MEMORIAL LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER THEODORE ROOSEVELT EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, 1550 FRANKLIN AVENUE, MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501.

THE SESSION WILL INCLUDE THE FULL LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION.....2:00 PM

COMMITTEE	TIME
RULES	2:00PM
PUBLIC SAFETY	2:00PM
PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & THE ENVIRONMENT	2:00PM
TOWNS, VILLAGES AND CITIES	2:00PM
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & LABOR	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 AND SENIOR AFFAIRS	2:00PM
FINANCE	2:00PM

William J. Muller III

Clerk of the Legislature

Nassau County, New York

DATED: December 30, 2013

Mineola, NY

As per the Nassau County Fire Marshall's Office, the Legislative Chamber has a maximum occupancy of 251 people and the outer chamber which will stream the meeting live, has a maximum occupancy of 72. 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.

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
SPECIAL MEETING
FIFTEENTH MEETING OF 2018

MINEOLA, NEW YORK
NOVEMBER 13, 2018 11:00 A.M.

THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE IS COMMITTED TO MAKING ITS PUBLIC MEETING ACCESSIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES. IF, DUE TO A DISABILITY, YOU NEED AN ACCOMMODATION OR ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC MEETING OR TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IN AN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, 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. AS PER THE NASSAU COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, THE PETER J. SCHMITT MEMORIAL LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER HAS A MAXIMUM OCCUPANCY OF 251 PEOPLE AND THE OUTER CHAMBER WHICH WILL STREAM THE MEETING LIVE, HAS A MAXIMUM OCCUPANCY OF 72. PASSES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS BEGINNING ONE HALF HOUR BEFORE MEETING TIME.

EVERY LEGISLATIVE MEETING IS STREAMED LIVE ON
<http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Legis/index.html>.

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 201-2018**

A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 305 OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT LAW OF NASSAU COUNTY TO RECONSIDER AND APPROVE ITEMS VETOED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE IN RELATION TO THE 2019 NASSAU COUNTY BUDGET. 604-18(LE)

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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RICHARD NICOLELLO
PRESIDING OFFICER

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

County Executive and Legislative Building
1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Tuesday, November 13, 2018
11:38 A.M.

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

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4 LEGISLATOR RICHARD J. NICOLELLO

5 Presiding Officer

6 9th Legislative District

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8 LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

9 Deputy Presiding Officer

10 7th Legislative District

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12 LEGISLATOR DENISE FORD

13 Alternate Presiding Officer

14 4th Legislative District

15

16 LEGISLATOR KEVAN ABRAHAMS

17 Minority Leader

18 1st Legislative District

19

20 LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE

21 2nd Legislative District

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23 LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES

24 3rd Legislative District

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2 LEGISLATOR DEBRA MULE

3 5th Legislative District

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5 LEGISLATOR C. WILLIAM GAYLOR III

6 6th Legislative District

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8 LEGISLATOR VINCENT T. MUSCARELLA

9 8th Legislative District

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11 LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

12 11th Legislative District

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14 LEGISLATOR JAMES KENNEDY

15 12th Legislative District

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17 LEGISLATOR THOMAS MCKEVITT

18 13th Legislative District

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20 LEGISLATOR LAURA SCHAEFER

21 14th Legislative District

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23 LEGISLATOR JOHN FERRETTI, JR.

24 15th Legislative District

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2 LEGISLATOR ROSE WALKER

3 17th Legislative District

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5 LEGISLATOR JOSHUA LAFAZAN

6 18th Legislative District

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8 LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS

9 19th Legislative District

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11 MICHAEL PULITZER

12 Clerk of the Legislature

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2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I'm going
3 to call this meeting to order and ask
4 Legislator Bill Gaylor to lead us in the
5 Pledge of Allegiance.

6 (Pledge was recited.)

7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you
8 Legislator Gaylor. This is the ledge meeting
9 for November 13. Mr. Clerk could you please
10 call the roll.

11 MR. PULITZER: Thank you. Deputy
12 Presiding Officer Howard Kopel.

13 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

14 MR. PULITZER: Alternate Deputy
15 Presiding Officer Denise Ford.

16 LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.

17 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.
18 Legislator Siela Bynoe.

19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.

20 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Carrie
21 Solages.

22 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.

23 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Debra
24 Mule.

25 LEGISLATOR MULE: Here.

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2 MR. PULITZER: Legislator William
3 C. Gaylor III.

4 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Present.

5 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Vincent
6 Muscarella.

7 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.

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

10 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
11 Here.

12 MR. PULITZER: Legislator James
13 Kennedy.

14 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.

15 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Thomas
16 McKevitt.

17 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Here.

18 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Laura
19 Schaefer.

20 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.

21 MR. PULITZER: Legislator John
22 Ferretti, Jr.

23 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Here.

24 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Arnold
25 Drucker. Legislator Rose Marie Walker.

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2 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

3 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Joshua
4 Lafazan.

5 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Here.

6 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Steven
7 Rhoads.

8 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.

9 MR. PULITZER: Minority Leader
10 Kevan Abrahams.

11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

12 MR. PULITZER: Presiding Officer
13 Richard Nicolello.

14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.

15 MR. PULITZER: We have a quorum
16 sir.

17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank
18 you. I have several slips for public comment,
19 which we will take first. First Mr. Brian
20 Sullivan, president of Nassau COBA.

21 MR. SULLIVAN: Good morning. I
22 will be short and sweet. I know there are --
23 not a lot of things but one main thing on the
24 agenda today, and I wanted to make sure that I
25 wave and make sure everybody still sees me on

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2 my end of the county.

3 I'm very happy that we are
4 reopening the precincts apparently. That's
5 the way this is going to work out. I'm in law
6 enforcement. I think it's a great idea to
7 open the precincts. I'm 100 percent for it.
8 I just want to remind everybody here that we
9 have new precincts in Nassau County. I've
10 said it before. I'm on the record many
11 times. We have new precincts in Nassau
12 County. We money to open new precincts.
13 Hopefully we will be getting a new police
14 academy. I'm all for it. I want to have our
15 department as part of that police academy.

16 But once again it's pouring rain
17 today and every building in Nassau County jail
18 is pouring rain. The officers and the inmates
19 are walking through puddles in the jail. Our
20 officers are driving inmates back and forth to
21 court and to upstate in Flintstone mobiles.
22 There's little to no surveillance equipment in
23 the jail to supervise the inmates. Motion
24 detection equipment isn't there. Body alarms
25 that we talked about before. Our training is

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2 abysmal. There's shoddy equipment. No CERT
3 team. Pulling teeth to hire people. I'm
4 hearing hopefully we'll have a class at the
5 end of this year after pulling teeth.

6 And I might as well start here
7 going forward that from our last budget
8 hearing and a lot of things that have been
9 going on, our new administration does not
10 appear to be pushing too hard to fix a lot of
11 these things. We're pushing to hire but a lot
12 of the infrastructure and everything else we
13 don't seem to have our new department
14 administration doing a lot of pushing for
15 these other issues. I only hear my voice. I
16 don't hear anybody else's voice. I've said my
17 peace. I will speak on to other people. I
18 will be back. Very happy police precincts are
19 opening but we're still here and there's
20 nothing going on. Thank you.

21 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you
22 Brian. Kevin Black, president of the Superior
23 Officers Association.

24 MR. BLACK: Good afternoon. I'd
25 like to take this moment to thank you for your

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2 time. I'd also like to thank John Ferretti
3 who was out in front of the press conference
4 yesterday. Although I know he pushed hard to
5 open the eighth as Legislator Birnbaum did to
6 open the sixth. I would like to once again
7 say thank you for opening the precincts.

8 However, the reason I'm here today
9 is to talk about the vetoes that the county
10 executive made. Two weeks ago it was a 19 to
11 nothing vote in this legislative chamber to
12 pass those amendments into the budget. Now
13 I'm being told that today there are not enough
14 votes to override those vetoes because the
15 minority has made a deal and chosen to let the
16 veto stand. They won't vote against them.

17 I have one question to start with.
18 What happened? I'll tell you how I see what
19 happened. What happened was that you got
20 every amendment that you wanted for your
21 special districts or whatever and you
22 basically told labor too bad. I would say I'm
23 disappointed but this happens a lot in this
24 county as far as labor is concerned. I have
25 no problem funding CASA, mental health,

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2 disabled veterans programs, NICE bus routes or
3 public safety officers. They all deserve
4 funding. I keep hearing there is only one pie
5 and it's got to be divided one way. I know
6 this is blasphemy, but maybe we ought to think
7 about making the pie a little bigger.

8 For 18 or 19 years now there's been
9 an oversight, slash, control board. What's
10 changed? My membership took a three year pay
11 cut. Every unionized county worker rather
12 took a three year pay freeze. What's better
13 now than before that? From where we stand
14 nothing. Nothing at all.

15 There are members in the minority
16 who at different times have made what I will
17 call political missteps and when those
18 missteps were made labor never backed away
19 from you. Labor endorsed you. Labor
20 supported you. You weren't allowed in your
21 own caucus and labor supported you. This is
22 when you find out who your friends are and who
23 your friends aren't. And we're finding that
24 out. No hard feelings, just a statement of
25 fact from where I stand.

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2 What I really don't understand is,
3 this was a contingency fund. The county
4 executive she has had one meeting with us over
5 contract negotiations and hasn't answered
6 multiple letters asking for dates and times
7 that we've offered. The contracts expired
8 last year. There's no money obviously in this
9 year's budget. Now there's no money in next
10 year's budget. If you had put the contingency
11 fund and we didn't settle you would have a \$12
12 million surplus. A real surplus. Thank you
13 for your time.

14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you
15 Kevin. Jerry Laricchuita, president of CSEA
16 Local 830.

17 MR. LARICCHUITA: Good morning
18 legislators. Thank you for giving us the time
19 to come up and address you. I guess my main
20 question will be, we spoke a few weeks ago
21 here and we did put forth some real severe,
22 serious issues that Nassau County faces.
23 Including most importantly the workforce. The
24 workforce in general. Doesn't matter what
25 union you're in, what department you're in, we

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2 are all working in severe, near crisis and
3 even in some areas crisis shape. It's a daily
4 problem that we cannot, as a workforce, any
5 longer sustain the services that we need to
6 get out to our residents that are paying some
7 of the highest taxes.

8 I will say this, we are paying some
9 of the highest taxes in the country and you
10 may all be a little shocked at this but I
11 don't blame Nassau County for that. You look
12 at your tax bill and you will easily see that
13 65 percent to 70 percent of our taxes go to
14 our schools. Maybe they should start
15 separating those tax bills.

16 The big problem, however, I will
17 say that the Nassau guarantee this is what has
18 angered me as a union leader. I've seen my
19 members get laid off in the past years, 2011
20 and '12, while school districts and special
21 districts not only collected overtaxed and
22 mistakes but refused to even cooperate and
23 hand back what the overcollected. Called the
24 Nassau guarantee. It's going to kill us if we
25 don't get that fixed.

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2 I know as a union up here people
3 are going to say what are you doing? You're
4 going to have a lot of unions coming. I don't
5 care anymore. I don't care if other unions
6 and other bargaining units have a problem with
7 what I'm saying because the Nassau County
8 resident is being completely fooled by this.
9 They think they're doing right by the
10 children, which they're not, because public
11 safety is now taking a tremendous hit between
12 the three law enforcement unions the CSEA and
13 COBA, we're all dying here. There is no money
14 left in this budget and they're paying their
15 taxes that they're paying. We are losing \$100
16 million a year because of the guarantee.
17 Imagine if we had that for the last ten
18 years. There would be no control board. We
19 would all be celebrating right now. This
20 would be a great little meeting, wouldn't it?

21 What we brought up last time was
22 that there's 28 funded vacant positions in
23 this budget, and we really need you to work
24 with us in 2019 to start getting them filled.
25 We cannot continue to operate at this low

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2 level of enrollment of workers. I can tell
3 you right now 911, the sheriff's department, I
4 told you last time, I wasn't kidding around,
5 we are down to really one locksmith in the
6 jail for Nassau County. That's insane. I
7 mean, we are the largest county in the state
8 budget-wise and we don't have a locksmith.

9 And the sheriff says she's going to
10 co-train us. That's impossible. You have to
11 go to a special school. It takes weeks to
12 learn that. There seems to be no forward
13 thinking in this county anymore. That's the
14 problem. We wait until it's a crisis and then
15 we meet here and try to fix it going
16 backwards.

17 So we are very happy about the
18 precincts opening. We love the fact that
19 we're going to have better public safety. We
20 stand together with our brothers and sisters
21 in the law enforcement union. But we also say
22 County Executive Curran, get to the table, get
23 some work done and let's start replenishing
24 the workforce before it's too late and we have
25 a serious crisis here. The residents of this,

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2 the employees of this county and even the
3 legislators of this county do not deserve that
4 kind of treatment because we all have to
5 answer for what we do wrong. Thank you so
6 much. I appreciate that.

7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Jerry, she
8 can come to the table all she wants but
9 there's no money in the budget for contractual
10 pay increases for 2019.

11 MR. LARICCHUITA: As we have been
12 told and that's unbelievable actually.
13 Because this January 1 we will be entering
14 year two of an expired contract. Quite
15 frankly, I didn't want to rain on the parade
16 of the fact that you guys, the legislators up
17 there, were able to at least get a victory,
18 half a victory, with the precincts, and I
19 think that goes a long way. We didn't want to
20 rain on that with the contract issue. You
21 know me. I tell it like it is. I'm being
22 right from my heart.

23 However, some day we will be
24 addressing that and without money she better
25 find it in 2019. We're not going to go

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2 another year like this I can tell you that
3 much. We are going to have big problems.

4 For today let's wait for the
5 amendments to go through that you put forth.
6 Majority Leader, Minority Leader and all
7 legislators I think you did a great job on
8 that at least and let's look forward to
9 getting a better 2019.

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you
11 Jerry. Last speaker is John Budnick.

12 MR. BUDNICK: Good morning
13 Honorable Majority Leader, Honorable Minority
14 Leader, honorable members of the legislature.
15 I'm speaking for myself. I am the former past
16 president of the Hicksville Community
17 Counsel. I am a former park ranger who relied
18 on the existence of the Sixth Precinct for my
19 safety when I was working at various Nassau
20 County parks in the northern part of Nassau
21 County.

22 I would say, speaking again
23 personally, that the people in the Sixth
24 Precinct and Eighth Precinct, unless this
25 budget goes through reopening those precincts,

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2 are being the victims of unequal protection of
3 the law. The people in the jails are in
4 serious need for the county to address the
5 issues there. There is a severe potential
6 liability set of issues that need to somehow
7 be addressed.

8 I strongly applaud the legislature
9 for the funds for CASA, the funds for the
10 mental health people. Especially the mental
11 health people that will help reduce so many
12 problems for the police and the surrounding
13 community. I also I have to highly commend
14 you about restoring the buses. That way I
15 won't have to provide transportation to people
16 who can't get to places like Sagamore Hill on
17 weekends because there's is no buses. But
18 they have to work.

19 To do other than to support these
20 budget amendments I feel is unconscionable. I
21 wish you all the very best.

22 And I hope everybody had a
23 wonderful Veterans Day. And let me take a
24 moment to commend Colonel Gaylor who was just
25 honored Friday night at the Hofstra basketball

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2 game where Hofstra won fortunately after a
3 long, hard battle. Thank you very much. I
4 commend you one and all.

5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO:

6 Congratulations Bill. First item is an
7 emergency. Ask the clerk to read the
8 emergency.

9 MR. PULITZER: Thank you
10 Presiding Officer. Emergency Resolution
11 18-2018. An emergency resolution declaring an
12 emergency for immediate action upon a
13 resolution pursuant to Section 305 of the
14 county government law of Nassau County, to
15 reconsider and approve items vetoed by the
16 county executive in relation to the 2019
17 Nassau County budget.

18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: That's
19 it. So we need a motion on the emergency.
20 Moved by Legislator Rhoads. Seconded by
21 Legislator Ford. Any discussion or public
22 comment? Hearing none, all in favor of the
23 emergency signify by saying aye. Those
24 opposed? The emergency passes.

25 So now we can consider the item

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2 which is a resolution pursuant to Section 305
3 of the county government law of Nassau County
4 to reconsider and approve items vetoed by the
5 county executive in relation to the 2019
6 Nassau County budget.

7 Moved again by Legislator Rhoads.
8 Seconded again by Legislator Ford. That item
9 is now before the legislature.

10 Is there anyone from the
11 administration who is here and authorized to
12 speak? Mr. Budnick?

13 MR. BUDNICK: I do want to take a
14 second to say it has been since 1996, actually
15 1995, when the new form of government of
16 Nassau County was proposed. It is my humble
17 and very strenuous belief that the county
18 executive of Nassau County should be a
19 sitting, nonvoting member of this body.
20 Because the county worked well, perhaps much
21 better than it currently does, when that
22 provision was part of our county charter I
23 would most respectfully submit to you all.
24 Thank you very much.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you

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2 Mr. Budnick. I was kidding by the way.

3 Since there is no one here from the
4 administration I have some comments that I
5 want to make just to start things off.

6 First, the county executive has
7 apparently made a deal with the minority to
8 provide funding for some of the initiatives in
9 the amendments passed by a vote of 19 nothing
10 in this legislature. These apparently include
11 funds for partial restoration of the sixth and
12 eighth precincts, funds for restoration of
13 some of the bus routes, funds for mental
14 health training, public safety officers, as
15 well as funds for salaries for staff for CASA
16 and for Minority Affairs. These are all very
17 worthwhile endeavors.

18 I say apparently made a commitment
19 to us because no one from the administration
20 has spoken to us about it. I've spoken to
21 Kevan and seen the Newsday story. But again,
22 no communication from the administration and
23 they didn't see fit to come here today.

24 When considering the apparent
25 commitment that the county executive has made

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2 it's important to review her statements as
3 recorded in the media about the amendments.
4 The county executive said that our actions in
5 providing for the funds for these purposes by
6 amendment was, quote, reckless, close quotes.
7 The county executive said that it was, quote,
8 irresponsible for lawmakers to start opening
9 the precincts, closed quote.

10 The county executive said it would
11 cost \$5 million to open the precincts. The
12 county executive said we could risk losing a
13 \$3 million state grant. The county executive
14 not only made these statements, and they
15 seemed pretty clear to me, but she also sued
16 us to stop from making these amendments.
17 While suing us the county executive said they,
18 the legislature, are spending taxpayer money
19 without transparency and without required
20 notice.

21 Now, apparently, the county
22 executive has decided to ahead and spend the
23 money with no notice as part of this deal. In
24 terms of the county executive's commitment, we
25 remind you that earlier this year the county

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2 executive committed to this body that she
3 would abide by the New York State cap on
4 assessment increases. And even put that into
5 the form of an executive order. Then later in
6 the year the county executive changed her mind
7 and rescinded that order.

8 So are we today supposed to rely on
9 these commitments that the county executive
10 has made? Are we to rely on these commitments
11 that she is actually going to spend these
12 monies that should be spent? I think not.
13 The only way to ensure that the partial
14 restoration of the precincts and the rest of
15 these changes actually happen is to override.

16 Now what was not in the deal with
17 the minority was the contingency fund for the
18 contractual pay increase. Let's briefly go
19 over those facts.

20 There's no money in the budget for
21 contractual pay increases. County
22 administration has represented that on
23 multiple occasions. 2019 will be the second
24 year in which all of our collective bargaining
25 units are without a contract. We have no

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2 representation from the county executive as to
3 how she intends to pay for a contract if it
4 happens or with the police unions if there's
5 an arbitrator's award. No one can argue that
6 it is good budgeting to make believe that a
7 major, foreseeable unfunded liability does not
8 exist.

9 Lastly, to my friends on the left,
10 by reaching this agreement with the county
11 executive you have unfortunately ceded all the
12 powers that you have over the county budget.
13 The only leverage that you have, whether we
14 have for that matter, is the threat of a veto
15 override. Going forward that threat will no
16 longer exist.

17 For a county executive who reacted
18 violently to changes in her budget, make up
19 .06 percent of her budget, and who for the
20 first time in the history of this body sued
21 the legislature to stop amendments, we will be
22 interested to see how open the administration
23 is in the future to changes to her budget that
24 she may propose.

25 That's my statement. Does anyone

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2 else have -- Minority Leader Abrahams.

3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you
4 Presiding Officer Nicoletto. I have a brief
5 response. One to talk about our thought
6 process in what has transpired in the last
7 couple of days and then to respond to a few of
8 the points that the presiding officer made.

9 First and foremost, we truly
10 believe that working with the county executive
11 on our amendments is the most prudent way to
12 proceed. Why do we believe that? Well, I
13 have been in the legislature for quite some
14 time and I've seen amendments be proposed to a
15 budget. I've seen county executives veto
16 amendments. I have even seen override
17 meetings not even called even though we had
18 agreement on amendments.

19 From that standpoint, the county
20 executive does not have to proceed with any of
21 the amendments. We can make amendments to
22 include bus routes. We can make amendments
23 for contingencies. We can make amendments for
24 including precincts. She does not have to
25 spend one nickel, not one. The legislature

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2 can only authorize the money going there but
3 we cannot authorize force nor force her to
4 spend one nickel.

5 By structuring an agreement like we
6 did yesterday, what that gets basically is we
7 are able to move forward with the
8 initiatives. But at the same time we are able
9 to move forward with the county executive's
10 ability to authorize to move forward. And we
11 anticipate when the precincts are reopened
12 taxpayers receive the benefits. We anticipate
13 that when the bus routes are implemented
14 taxpayers reap the benefits. We anticipate
15 all of our initiatives, whether it's the
16 public safety officer, they're being hired, is
17 the best way to go when you have the ability
18 to work with the county executive that's able
19 to proceed to implementing what you are trying
20 to authorize. We feel it's more prudent to be
21 able to proceed that way.

22 To respond to the issue of the
23 lawsuit, that was contingent based off of the
24 fact that we had an agreement yesterday. We
25 would only entertain the agreement if it meant

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2 that the lawsuit would be dropped. Which we
3 believe and received word yesterday that it
4 would be dropped. That is a complete waste of
5 taxpayer money to be able to go forward with
6 the lawsuit if there is an agreement on the
7 actual budget.

8 Then last but not least, as I said
9 before, it kind of applies not just to all of
10 our initiatives but to be specific on the
11 contingency, it is very ideal and hopeful that
12 we put money into the budget that is tied to
13 addressing the salary increases for next
14 year. I think everyone in this room, if they
15 were planning their 2019, they would plan out
16 to insure that they were budgeting enough
17 money to cover their expenses. By no stretch
18 of the imagination, if the unions and the
19 county executive all come to fair like-minded
20 structured deals this legislative body would
21 support them. By no stretch of the
22 imagination are we saying because the
23 contingency was not a part of the agreement
24 yesterday are we against labor or against
25 unions not going forward. To me, I don't see

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2 how that agreement erases, in my case, 16
3 years of supporting labor. If we are drawing
4 new lines in the sand so be it.

5 That being said, we cannot force
6 nor do anything to encourage the county
7 executive to negotiate in good faith. We hope
8 that she does that. We will hold her
9 accountable that she does to that. But the
10 bottom line is she has to engage in that
11 process. A contingency doesn't do that.
12 Contingency applies and ensures that the money
13 is there. Which, quite frankly, I have to
14 question whether or not the money would still
15 be there even if the contingency went
16 forward. Where it's coming from I mean.

17 That being said, the contingency
18 does not force negotiations. What forces
19 negotiations is by making sure all sides are
20 willing to agree and we continue to push the
21 county executive because it's in the county's
22 best interests to be able to pursue so. Not a
23 contingency fund. I've never seen a
24 contingency fund -- NIFA has required for
25 years that we budget for a reserve fund and

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2 not once have I seen that meant we had strong
3 fiscal practices. I mean, it doesn't make any
4 sense.

5 So, I think from our standpoint
6 it's become very clear that if folks want to
7 draw lines in the sand that's their
8 prerogative. That being said, I don't believe
9 it erases years and years of working for the
10 betterment of our working class unions in this
11 county.

12 I just once again want to stress
13 the fact that I thought it would be better and
14 more prudent to be able to accomplish more for
15 the taxpayers by working with the county
16 executive, and that is why we felt it was
17 necessary to structure an agreement with her
18 yesterday to ensure that our ideas and our
19 goals actually get implemented. Which we
20 believe that would not have been the case if
21 we went forward with an actual override veto
22 vote today. Thank you.

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I'm going
24 to turn this over to the legislators. I just
25 had a question posed to the administration

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2 because they are not here. In terms of the
3 bus restorations what did that encompass? Do
4 you know? Anyone? Kevan? What routes are we
5 restoring?

6 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Yes. Hold
7 on a second. Sorry Presiding Officer. It's
8 our understanding, based on our agreement,
9 that it's \$300,000 for the Port Washington
10 shuttle and \$100,000 for the Saturday-Sunday
11 weekend service for Plainview.

12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The
13 original amendment had lump sum actually for
14 both sides so routes in all areas of the
15 county could be restored. It's unfortunate
16 that the county executive has agreed to two
17 routes, as some of my colleagues can tell you,
18 I'm sure not just the majority but there were
19 many bus routes that were taken away and those
20 are very active bus routes that are very much
21 needed. Apparently she didn't consider it
22 important enough to include it in her
23 agreement.

24 Alternate Deputy Presiding Officer
25 Ford.

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2 LEGISLATOR FORD: I do appreciate
3 the comments made by our presiding officer and
4 minority leader. I just want to say though
5 for me and I'm going to be very brief, that I
6 think that while the agreement I can
7 understand why they made it but I firmly
8 believe that the override would have achieved
9 the same results. When we indicate that she
10 really doesn't have to spend the money. If
11 she wants to open the precinct she can.
12 She'll have the money, the ability to do it.

13 But I really believe that if we had
14 all stayed together, because we did work on a
15 bipartisan effort to show the residents that
16 we are willing to work together, join together
17 for the benefit of everybody who lives in
18 Nassau County, little saddened by it. But
19 grown up enough to understand.

20 I firmly believe by not having this
21 contingency plan does hurt labor. It's
22 indicating to them that, quite clearly, that
23 the door is closed to any type of
24 negotiations. They're putting labor at a
25 disadvantage at this point because we do not

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2 know if the funding will be there, if it will
3 be accessible in 2019. I think that by having
4 a contingency, and I agree by having that, it
5 at least opens up the door to say let's start
6 the discussion whether or not they come to any
7 agreement in 2019. But to me, clearly as a
8 labor person, it really is an indication that
9 the county executive is not willing to really
10 even meet them half way.

11 I also believe that the
12 contingency, the lack of it, by not having
13 this and to move labor negotiations forward
14 does hurt the hiring process because we don't
15 know how many people can be hired, people
16 don't know the salaries, what their future
17 will be. Will they then be faced with steps
18 that are being frozen in the future? There
19 are so many different issues I think that we
20 are sending a clear message to those that work
21 in this county and those that would like to
22 work in this county that, you know what, we
23 are not necessarily on your side. I believe
24 that we've left the workforce behind and we've
25 made our residents vulnerable.

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2 I just want to cite to specifically
3 then in this case issues of public safety,
4 Brian Sullivan did correctly talk about the
5 issues at the correctional facility. There
6 are many, many problems there. What are we
7 doing about it? We need sheriffs. We need
8 guards there. We have been very, very slow in
9 trying to pick up in hiring more.

10 Just take a look at over this
11 weekend. As I understand it, there was a
12 problem within the 911 bureau. Calls were
13 being delayed. We have put our residents at
14 risk. To them to say to residents instead of
15 dialing 911 for any type of emergency perhaps
16 you should started calling your precinct. To
17 me that is unacceptable and unfair.

18 When we look even our school
19 crossing guards. We don't have enough of
20 them. We have taken away the ability to make
21 a good living here. Those people, basically
22 women, that watch out for our children that
23 cross roads that are like by dangerous
24 intersections exposed to traffic. We do not
25 have enough school crossing guards. But

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2 instead of hiring more and, here it is, we
3 don't even know if we can hire more. We then
4 take police officers off their routes. We
5 take the cops. They can't leave it. To me
6 that doesn't make any sense.

7 We will look at our ambulances.
8 They're down. We don't have enough ambulance
9 operators. From what I understand they're
10 partnering with Northwell. We need to send a
11 clear message. For me, my message is that I'm
12 going to stand with labor. While I do
13 appreciate the efforts on the part of the
14 county executive to try to keep this county
15 going, I do take exception to the message that
16 has been sent to labor and I think it's time
17 that we all stand together. We did once
18 before. Let's do it again. Let's all say we
19 are here for the working men and women in this
20 county. They are suffering from moral
21 problems. There's not enough workers. I
22 think now is the time to say you know what,
23 let's go with the override. Let's give the
24 contingency plan so that we can say to labor
25 we are listening to you. We are here for

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2 you. Thank you.

3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator
4 Muscarella.

5 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Thank
6 you. It's nice to hear from my good friend,
7 the minority leader, that an agreement was
8 entered into by the minority caucus as to
9 certain expenditures that the county executive
10 would be making next year. How much nicer
11 would it have been if the county executive
12 reached out to the majority caucus also and
13 entered into an agreement or understanding or
14 information concerning those changes rather
15 than through the media, through Newsday. It
16 would have been much nicer. This
17 administration that is so concerned with
18 transparency would have been nice to enter
19 into an agreement with us.

20 That being said, in the interest of
21 transparency we haven't even seen that
22 agreement. It would be nice if someone turned
23 over that agreement to us or briefed us from
24 the county executive's office. But there's no
25 one here to do that.

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2 The majority leader spoke about the
3 assurance in the reassessment going forward
4 that the county executive, by executive order,
5 would abide by the 6-20 rule. That assurance
6 was revoked by the county executive. County
7 executive, months ago, also implored us to
8 borrow \$23 million because of the necessity to
9 borrow money to fund the \$23 million Restivo
10 judgement. We provided that. But the county
11 executive then did not use that money.

12 Years ago I can recall Ronald
13 Reagan in negotiating with the I guess Soviet
14 Union that entered into agreements and Reagan
15 said trust but verify. All we're asking in
16 this veto from the county executive is we want
17 to believe but we want to require her. And
18 apparently by the minority not overriding this
19 veto we are not going to get that requirement
20 by the county executive.

21 You know, in the event going
22 forward I would just say this. That if the
23 county executive doesn't live up to that
24 so-called agreement that she has with the
25 minority, do not come to the majority and

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2 complained that the county executive has not
3 opened the precincts. Do not come to the
4 majority and say that you are disappointed
5 that the bus routes have not been restored.
6 Do not come to the majority that she has not
7 funded the positions in CASA or the Minority
8 Affairs. You members of the minority would
9 have to go to your residents, to your
10 constituents, and say that it is because of
11 the inaction of the minority today that the
12 county executive has reneged on those
13 assurances that she apparently made you.
14 Thank you.

15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any other
16 legislators at this time have anything to
17 add? We are going to have a roll call vote
18 and you can explain your vote at that point.
19 Hearing none, any public comment? Hearing
20 none, I would ask the clerk to call the roll
21 please.

22 MR. PULITZER: Thank you
23 Presiding Officer. Roll call vote. Deputy
24 Presiding Officer Howard Kopel.

25 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I just want to

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2 say I'm going to vote for this bill because I
3 think it's the responsible thing to do. I
4 think what it does is that it recognizes
5 reality. In fact, we will have certain
6 obligations. In fact, there probably is some
7 money that's available for the budget to
8 provide for those anticipated actions that we
9 will have to take. We do need to deal with
10 the labor contracts. It's not realistic to
11 assume that nothing is going to happen there
12 indefinitely. I think that the vote against
13 this is to close your eyes to what is actually
14 happening and what is actually going to happen
15 in the real world. Because of that I vote
16 yes.

17 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.
18 Alternate Deputy Presiding Officer Denise
19 Ford.

20 LEGISLATOR FORD: Yes.

21 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.
22 Legislator Siela Bynoe.

23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: No.

24 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Carrie
25 Solages.

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2 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: No.

3 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.

4 Legislator Debra Mule.

5 LEGISLATOR MULE: No.

6 MR. PULITZER: Legislator C.

7 William Gaylor the Third.

8 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: The lines in
9 the sand have been drawn apparently. The
10 minority has entered into a back room deal.
11 Hasn't been shared with us. For their own
12 selfish purposes it appears. Rather than to
13 guarantee the restoration of funding for such
14 important things as precincts, labor, CASA,
15 Minority Affairs, many more bus routes than
16 the two that the Democrats worked out, is
17 solely for selfish purposes.

18 So I believe the minority has
19 entered into an era which consists of many
20 more future back room deals lacking any
21 transparency. Although they talk about
22 transparency. The county executive and the
23 minority clearly aren't transparent in their
24 action.

25 A vote to override the veto ensures

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2 that those programs that minority says are so
3 important to them are guaranteed. As well as
4 providing the additional funding for labor.
5 Which we have to address. By having a labor
6 contingency fund it forces the administration
7 to come to the table to negotiate a lot sooner
8 than letting this drag on indefinitely. The
9 lines have been drawn in the sand. It's clear
10 as the minority said. So I'm voting yes to
11 override the veto.

12 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.

13 Legislator Vincent Muscarella.

14 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Yes.

15 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Ellen
16 Birnbaum is absent. Legislator Delia
17 DeRiggi-Whitton.

18 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: No.

19 MR. PULITZER: Legislator James
20 Kennedy.

21 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: I'm voting
22 yes. I believe we have been taken completely
23 out of this. I feel like we are left in the
24 dark. I'm worried that the promise of
25 transparency is nowhere to be seen. I feel

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2 this is very necessary right now. I wish we
3 could all come together and work for what is
4 so important and that is the county residents
5 and those who work for the county and make the
6 county run. So I'm voting yes.

7 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.

8 Legislator Thomas McKeivitt.

9 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: You know,
10 except for five of the members up on this
11 dais, I have been through more budgets than
12 anyone else here can say. I have been through
13 good budgets, bad budgets. I went through
14 four governors. And so I came from a place
15 that is well known that when agreements were
16 made it happened with three men in a room. It
17 was done in a back room deal where no one knew
18 what was occurring. But at least at the very
19 end that deal had to come to the legislature
20 floor and you got to debate the good parts of
21 it, the bad parts of it. The details. You
22 got to see everything that was in it.

23 Today we come to a new depth in
24 this county. When I came down here, mostly so
25 I can be with my family full time, I was

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2 encouraged that there would be some
3 transparency, some openness for the people to
4 be a participant in their government and see
5 what would occur. And apparently that's not
6 what's happening here whatsoever. I've now
7 seen behavior that I thought I left behind in
8 Albany and now it's come right back down to
9 Mineola. This to me is a day that the people
10 of this county deserve better. I vote yes for
11 the override.

12 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.

13 Legislator Laura Schaefer.

14 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Thank you.

15 I also will be voting yes for the override. I
16 do want to say that with regard to what was
17 said by Legislator Muscarella and Minority
18 Leader Abrahams, I also agree that speaking to
19 the administration while we are making
20 negotiations, while we are dealing with the
21 budget is the right way to go. Unfortunately,
22 we were not approached or given that
23 opportunity to have that discussion. And that
24 to me speaks volumes. And I think that it's
25 clear that while we can see that the

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2 administration does not respect the majority
3 enough to have those conversations to even
4 reach out, I question how much respect they
5 have for the minority when they're not even
6 here. They left you hanging to be the only
7 ones to support whatever the deal is that we
8 were privy too. It's just a shame to see
9 that.

10 So I would just be careful because
11 I don't know that all those promises will be
12 fulfilled. I vote yes.

13 MR. PULITZER: Thank you ma'am.
14 Next John Ferretti, Jr.

15 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you
16 Mr. Clerk. I've learned quite a bit in the
17 almost one year since taking office and
18 hearing from the minority, hearing them
19 criticize the very contingency fund that they
20 just voted for, having a county executive
21 break a campaign promise advocate against
22 precincts, sue the legislature to stop the
23 precincts, call reopening the precincts
24 wreckless, irresponsible only to reverse
25 herself on a dime it's something certainly new

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2 to me.

3 We hear the minority say in the
4 event she does not fulfill these promises we
5 would hold her accountable. The time to hold
6 the county executive accountable is today.
7 She has already broken promises made to every
8 one of us going back to assessment. I don't
9 know about any of you but I field calls every
10 single day from residents in my district
11 scared that they are going to be taxed out of
12 this county. It's because of that
13 misrepresentation that was made to us about
14 six months ago. I implore the two remaining
15 legislators on the other side of the aisle who
16 have an opportunity here to end this madness
17 take that opportunity.

18 Now, I am happy that county
19 executive seems to have come to her senses
20 regarding the Eighth Precinct and Sixth
21 Precinct. But shame on any of us if we don't
22 make sure today that she keeps this promise.
23 For that reason I vote for the override.

24 MR. PULITZER: Thank you sir.

25 Next would be Legislator Arnold Drucker who is

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2 absent. Legislator Rose Marie Walker.

3 LEGISLATOR WALKER: When we voted
4 last week, 19 of us, what a proud day that we
5 worked together to put our amendments together
6 and vote unanimously to pass those
7 amendments. And I really thought to myself,
8 you know, we really are working together.
9 Working together for the benefit of labor, for
10 the benefits of our departments, for the
11 benefit in particular of all our residents.

12 And it saddens me today to think
13 that deals could be made with part of us
14 knowing nothing about it. Not being included
15 at all. Promises that you believe are going
16 to be kept I really tend to wonder because it
17 feels like a lot of promises that have already
18 been out there for all of us haven't been
19 kept. And because of those reasons I'm voting
20 yes for the override.

21 MR. PULITZER: Thank you. Next
22 Legislator Joshua Lafazan.

23 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: No.

24 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.
25 Legislator Steven Rhoads.

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2 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you
3 Mr. Clerk. I could not agree with Legislator
4 Walker more. Two weeks, by a 19 to nothing
5 vote, we worked in a partisan fashion to stand
6 up for what was right on behalf of the
7 taxpayers and residents of Nassau County. I
8 contrast that today, which I think is probably
9 now that the votes have been cast and the
10 override apparently will not occur, is perhaps
11 one of the most disappointing. There is an
12 old saying that says fool me once shame on
13 you, fool me twice shame on me.

14 With that, the minority has made
15 the decision that once again believe the
16 promises that are made by the county
17 executive. The reality is that we have a
18 county executive who is governing by fiat.
19 One who promised to be open and transparent.
20 One who agreed that she was going to work in a
21 bipartisan fashion with the legislature to
22 ensure that we had a government that would was
23 going to represent all of the people. What's
24 occurred is the exact opposite.

25 How many promises are going to be

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2 broken? How many times is she going to
3 attempt to bypass the legislature and do
4 whatever it is that she wants? It started
5 back in March with her deal to apparently
6 bypass the county legislature and seek a five
7 percent margin of error in assessment. Not
8 even consult with us and seek that directly
9 from the state legislature. She promised she
10 was going to abide by our bill for Little
11 League fees. Yet we find out that PALs are
12 still being charged those fees by the same
13 administration that promised to abide by it.

14 She promised to us back in March
15 with respect to assessment that she was going
16 to abide by the state assessment increase
17 cap. The 6-20 Rule that you've heard about.
18 Six months later when it's convenient and when
19 the legislature can do nothing to change it
20 she reverses her decision and has thrust the
21 assessment system in chaos causing fear that
22 Legislator Ferretti correctly alluded to.
23 Causing a great amount of fear among
24 homeowners as to what is going to happen with
25 their property taxes.

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2 Legislator Muscarella mentioned
3 another representation made by the
4 administration with respect to the Restivo
5 judgement. Implored us, begged us to provide
6 her \$23 million in borrowing so she can pay
7 that judgement. \$23 million that still sits
8 unused today.

9 She's promised the taxpayers a five
10 year phase-in with respect to her assessment
11 changes. In fact, from what we're hearing,
12 that five year phase-in, that transitional is
13 going to be included on the notices that we
14 are forcing her to send out to explain to
15 taxpayers the impact of her assessment
16 changes. Yet that transitional has never even
17 been filed in Albany. They don't need our
18 approval. They need approval from the state
19 legislature. Yet she's making the
20 representation to taxpayers that somehow this
21 is a done deal when it's anything but.

22 In fact, when we actually stood
23 together and passed budget amendments together
24 to fight for and defend things that we as a
25 legislature felt were important, she actually

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2 took the unprecedented, perhaps unprecedented,
3 but the bizarre step of not simply issuing a
4 veto and allowing this to play out in public,
5 a forum where every Nassau County resident
6 would have the opportunity to see it, but
7 instead took to the courts and wasted taxpayer
8 dollars in suing us.

9 So now we have the legislative
10 minority who has decided that after that track
11 record that they're going to put their faith
12 in the county executive's promises again. I
13 do not have that faith. And it pains me to
14 say it.

15 So now we have a promise that the
16 Sixth and Eighth Precincts are going to
17 reopen. A promise that has no timetable other
18 than generally saying that it's going to
19 happen some time next year. We have no
20 defined way as to how the county executive is
21 actually going to pay for it.

22 We have a promise that there will
23 be additional mental health training offered
24 by the police department. With again, no
25 mechanism to pay for it.

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2 We have a promise that some,
3 coincidentally, the routes in the minority
4 districts, bus routes, are going to be
5 restored leaving individuals who rely upon
6 public transportation in the majority
7 districts out in the cold. But again, a
8 promise that that's going to occur. Again
9 with no mechanism to pay for it.

10 A promise for additional security
11 in parks and county facilities with no
12 mechanism to pay for it. A promise to fund
13 CASA. A promise to fully staff Minority
14 Affairs. With no mechanism to pay for it.

15 Then to cap it off, the one
16 opportunity that we have in this budget to
17 restore some fiscal responsibility to the
18 county by creating a contingency fund to allow
19 for contract collective bargaining
20 negotiations that are supposed to be ongoing
21 but are not yet ongoing, so that we're not
22 facing a fiscal crisis if and when those
23 contracts are resolved, that's left out of the
24 agreement by the minority. What's going to
25 happen when there is a contract resolution and

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2 we don't have \$12 million or whatever the
3 figure is to pay for it? What is going to be
4 cut then?

5 We talk about fiscal
6 responsibility. We talk about planning. We
7 talk about responsible budgeting. Yet when
8 you have the single opportunity to actually
9 back up that talk with action it falls by the
10 wayside, along with every other promise that
11 the administration has made.

12 And the sad thing is instead of
13 standing together, we're allowing it to
14 happen. You are allowing it to happen my
15 colleagues in the minority.

16 So today is an extraordinarily
17 disappointing day. I'm disappointed for the
18 legislature. I'm disappointed for the
19 residents of Nassau County. And I think we
20 have seen two weeks after seeing the best of
21 governance we are seeing the worst of
22 governance. In a back room deal without any
23 light of transparency, we still have no idea
24 of what the actual details of these agreements
25 are. And it's interesting, as one of the

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2 legislators pointed out, I think Presiding
3 Officer Nicoletto, it's interesting that after
4 you have the county executive challenging the
5 legislature's actions based upon a lack of
6 transparency that we have a back room deal
7 that is made with the county executive and
8 minority in the legislature and we have
9 absolutely no idea what's in it. I'm not
10 entirely certain that the minority knows
11 what's in it.

12 We have managed today to clutch
13 defeat from the jaws of victory. It is indeed
14 a sad day for the residents of Nassau County.
15 And I will, even though it's moot at this
16 point, cast my vote in favor of overriding the
17 county executive's veto.

18 MR. PULITZER: Thank you
19 Legislator. Minority Leader Kevan Abrahams.

20 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: First and
21 foremost, I want to stand by what I said
22 earlier. But then I think in light of the
23 majority's comments prior to their vote I
24 would like to respond.

25 I will say that it's kind of

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2 bewildering the rhetoric regarding
3 transparency and back room deals. The
4 agreement that we reached with the county
5 executive, our amendments that were clocked in
6 on October 22nd, specify everything that's in
7 that agreement. Talks about the mental health
8 aids, talks about the bus routes, talks about
9 reopening of the precincts, talks about public
10 safety officers. Everything that was publicly
11 noticed on October 22nd is on that agreement.
12 The fact that folks are throwing out the words
13 transparency is a little astonishing.

14 Then to call the deal a back room
15 deal, back door deal, whatever you want to
16 call it. When I reached out to the presiding
17 officer to ensure that our amendments could be
18 one joint amendment that conversation wasn't
19 done in the public. It was done in the office
20 where I met with the presiding officer. Is
21 that anymore of a back room deal than what was
22 done with the county executive? No. Because
23 the presiding officer and I agreed that we
24 were working for the betterment of taxpayers
25 in this county and that's why we agreed to

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2 it. But that's no more than a back room deal.

3 If you are going to criticize what
4 the county executive and the minority have
5 come to agreement to then you better criticize
6 your presiding officer because he came to the
7 same agreement with me two weeks ago in that
8 back room. It's totally different. I
9 understand Laura. I didn't speak when you
10 spoke. You weren't there. I know. And
11 neither was the county executive as a part of
12 those amendments agreements either. She
13 wasn't there either. The bottom line is you
14 can't have it both ways.

15 It's funny. History has a way of
16 reminding us. I keep hearing the same
17 rhetoric about contingency. That the
18 contingency is not there. This is not a knock
19 on all of you, but when we approved the
20 agreement that was done before this agreement
21 we looked it up, there was no contingency that
22 was proposed by the county executive. Where
23 were your voices then? I would have loved to
24 have heard you then say where's the
25 contingency Mr. Executive? It's not part of

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2 this plan. But you know what? The county
3 executive then found the money. He found the
4 money to pay for it just like we believe the
5 county executive now will find the money.

6 But I hear a lot about contingency,
7 contingency, contingency, contingency. Okay.
8 Where were your voices when the agreement that
9 just expired had no contingency before the
10 agreement was approved? Had none. But here
11 you are, we're talking tough, we want
12 contingency.

13 Then, it's funny, we talk about the
14 bus. Well, the majority felt it was so
15 important to have the bus in their agreements
16 that it was absent from their original
17 amendment that was submitted on October 22nd.
18 It wasn't included until we had a joint
19 amendment where we had our \$400,000 and they
20 then proposed theirs. But they thought it was
21 so important to have the bus and they're
22 fighting for it today but they didn't even
23 have it in their original amendment.

24 The bottom line is very simple. We
25 may have a philosophical difference on how we

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2 get things done in this county. We believe
3 that it's better and more prudent to be able
4 to get things done with the county executive's
5 assurances. They believe that you're better
6 off and you talk tough and you show tough that
7 when you basically override a veto not getting
8 any assurances from the county executive that
9 she's going to implement anything that you've
10 overridden that adds money to the budget, they
11 think that's the way to go. We may disagree.

12 I think I can say this to my good
13 friends Vinnie Muscarella and to Rich
14 Nicoletto, who I've served with, the latter
15 never works. I've never seen a budget be
16 implemented after an override veto and the
17 county executive implement everything that has
18 to happen. The way things get done in this
19 county is by you rolling up your sleeves and
20 working with the county executive and working
21 out your differences. That's what we tried to
22 accomplish to do.

23 And could we fall short? Could she
24 fall short on some of the things that are
25 possible? Yes, it's absolutely possible. But

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2 we are going to fight to ensure that at least
3 we have an argument at the table to ensure
4 that we are able to get those things done.

5 But I stand by what I said
6 earlier. I just found it amazing to me and
7 astonishing that we are throwing out
8 references of transparency when the majority
9 knows we filed all of our amendments and
10 everything in the agreement is part of our
11 amendments. And then to throw out back room
12 deals is absurd. It's no more than a back
13 room deal when I reached out to the presiding
14 officer. The county executive wasn't there.

15 The bottom line is I vote no to the
16 override for everything that I have stated
17 before. Thank you.

18 MR. PULITZER: Thank you.
19 Presiding Officer Richard Nicolello.

20 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank
21 you. Just three quick points. The County
22 Executive Mangano actually did have a
23 contingency in his labor agreements.
24 Unfortunately it was red light cameras, which
25 was a disaster. Speed cameras you're

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2 correct. Speed cameras was tied directly to
3 the negotiated increases and it was
4 disastrous. And that is exactly what we are
5 trying to avoid by putting a contingency in
6 the budget because those types of gimmicks
7 don't work.

8 Secondly, in terms of how you want
9 to characterize our agreement, it's clearly
10 distinguishable after having discussions and
11 reaching agreement the minority, majority put
12 our agreements in writing, filed amendments,
13 which were on file for a week, then we voted
14 for it. It was all done in public. It wasn't
15 an agreement apparently that doesn't exist in
16 writing. It was an agreement that we reached,
17 filed, voted on.

18 Lastly, what is most offensive
19 about what has taken place is the exclusion of
20 monies for restoration of bus routes in
21 majority districts. I can understand the
22 minority fighting for their districts. We all
23 do that. I can understand them wanting
24 restoration of funds for their district.
25 Again, we all do that. We all fight for our

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2 districts. But the county executive doesn't
3 represent a particular party. She doesn't
4 represent a particular district. She
5 represents the entire county. The fact that
6 she has reached this agreement that
7 specifically removes the funding from majority
8 districts it's petty, it's directed, it's
9 political. And I'm going to remind her and we
10 will remind her to the residents who live in
11 those majority districts that she's supposed
12 to speak for them as well.

13 Having said that, I vote yes for
14 the override.

15 MR. PULITZER: Thank you. We
16 have a total vote out of 17 we have yes 11 no
17 six.

18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The item
19 fails. That is the conclusion of our business
20 today. I need a motion to adjourn. Moved by
21 Legislator Muscarella. Seconded by Legislator
22 Bynoe. All in favor of adjourning signify by
23 saying aye. Those opposed? Carries
24 unanimously. We are adjourned.

25 (TIME NOTED: 12:43 P.M.)

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 25th day of
October 2018

FRANK GRAY