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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RULES COMMITTEE

NORMA GONSALVES, Chairwoman

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Monday, March 27, 2017
4:30 P.M

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

NORMA GONSALVES,
Chairwoman

RICHARD NICOLELLO,
Vice Chairman

HOWARD KOPEL
Alternate Deputy Presiding Officer
(Substituted by Legislator Rhoads)

DENNIS DUNNE

KEVAN ABRAHAMS,
Ranking

DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

CARRIE SOLAGES

MICHAEL C. PULITZER,
Clerk of the Legislature

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2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Let's move
3 on. The Rules Committee is now in session.
4 Please call the roll.

5 CLERK PULITZER: Roll for the
6 Rules Committee:

7 Legislator Carrie Solages?

8 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.

9 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Delia
10 DeRiggi-Whitton?

11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
12 Here.

13 CLERK PULITZER: Ranking Member
14 Kevan Abrahams?

15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

16 CLERK PULITZER: Substituting for
17 Alternate Deputy Presiding Officer Howard
18 Kopel is Legislator Steve Rhoads.

19 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.

20 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator
21 Dennis Dunne?

22 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Here.

23 CLERK PULITZER: Vice Chairman
24 Richard Nicoletello?

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.

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2 CLERK PULITZER: Chairwoman Norma
3 Gonsalves?

4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Present.

5 CLERK PULITZER: We have a
6 quorum, ma'am.

7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you
8 very much, Mr. Pulitzer. Let's begin with
9 the first item on the agenda, A-7, a
10 resolution authorizing the director of
11 Nassau County Office of Purchasing to award
12 and execute a contract between the County of
13 Nassau acting on behalf of the Nassau County
14 Police Department and Intergraph Corporation
15 d/b/a Hexagon Safety and Infrastructure.

16 Motion, please.

17 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
20 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
21 Nicolello.

22 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: Item A-7
23 is to authorize and award a purchase order
24 for Hexagon maintenance for the Nassau
25 County Police Department.

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2 Hexagon Maintenance is our
3 computer aided dispatch and our records
4 management system software. The request is
5 for a sole source purchase Intergraph
6 Hexagon Safety and Infrastructure is the
7 creator and owner of the Hexagon software
8 that's copyrighted software. Because the
9 software is proprietary and copyrighted an
10 in accordance with the license agreement,
11 Intergraph is the only vendor legally
12 authorized to provide maintenance.

13 The purchase order is for
14 \$1,184,608 and this takes us to the --
15 maintenance expires July 31st of 2018.

16 This contract is going to supply
17 maintenance. We are going to get a software
18 upgrade and we're also going to integrate
19 the record management software into our new
20 program when we roll it out.

21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
22 questions of the lieutenant in regard to
23 this item?

24 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may,
25 Madam Presiding Officer. I have questions

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2 directly for the Lieutenant on this
3 particular item that said -- I wanted to get
4 a chance to speak before we actually opened
5 up the meeting. It seems like we are
6 holding Rules Committee meetings every
7 Monday this Legislative body meets.

8 To me, in light of the fact that
9 outside forces, whether it be Newsday or
10 editorial boards, independent authorities
11 are calling for more transparency and more
12 contract reform in this county, it seems
13 like we are going in the wrong direction by
14 accelerating some of these contracts
15 through.

16 This is not a direct knock on
17 your contract, Lieutenant, it just seems
18 when we should be reigning in contract
19 spending and taking a look at reforming our
20 procurement process, it looks like we're
21 going even faster, like this is the
22 Enterprise.

23 So I just want to make sure that
24 we're cognizant that we still do not have
25 the proper reforms in place to protect us

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2 from an AbTech or any other situation that's
3 happening in this county.

4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
5 Solages.

6 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Thank you
7 very much. I would like to join in on the
8 concerns of my colleague from the First
9 District. I took time this weekend just to
10 appreciate the editorial by Newsday.

11 It's exactly what my colleagues
12 and I have been fighting for since April
13 2015 when the AbTech scandal broke out which
14 led to the conviction of a New York State
15 senator involving an unsolicited contract
16 that came out of this body.

17 I'm concerned that we are just
18 going forward with the same process. I know
19 that, from what I have heard as well, you
20 can appreciate these concerns.

21 I have seen over the past couple
22 of months Legislator Nicoletto raise
23 concerns before that we had been raising
24 them for quite a long time and I thank him
25 for that.

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2 But I think that the time is due
3 now for us to come to some kind of consensus
4 as to how much reform, if any, we will
5 engage in to at least show some respect to
6 the voters and the residents of this great
7 county who are concerned with the constant
8 turning out of contracts from this body.

9 People want to see work done in
10 their community but the excessive rate of us
11 granting these contracts left and right to
12 politically connected firms is quite
13 concerning.

14 The editorial states in part that
15 Nassau needs a clean contracting process.
16 It goes in great detail.

17 One suggestion is to put a \$2,000
18 cap on vendor donations to candidate for
19 county political offices and political
20 committees.

21 Instead, the county put it in a
22 tougher disclosure rule for vendor
23 contributions to candidates but did nothing
24 about vendor contributions to the party
25 committees that provide so much money to

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2 campaigns.

3 Again, these are concerns.

4 Nothing against this specific contract.

5 But, again, I want to thank my colleague

6 Kevan Abrahams for raising this and I think

7 that it's time for us to come together. We

8 have been coming in the same direction but

9 the time is now for reform. Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Hold on.

11 Hold on. Legislator Nicoletto.

12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We tend to

13 speak in absolutes and I think that's what

14 the members of the minority are doing right

15 now, you have done nothing, yada yada, yada.

16 The truth of the matter is,

17 there's been a number of reforms that have

18 been put in place. The truth of the matter

19 is, this is a work in progress. There are

20 additional reforms that may be necessary,

21 additional changes to the procedures of the

22 county that are underway.

23 So, yes, there's been an

24 tremendous amount of reforms and in many

25 respects ours is now the most transparent in

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2 the state.

3 You look at reforms that other
4 counties have, and they have some of what we
5 have, but what we have now in effect is, as
6 I said, probably one of the most transparent
7 in the state.

8 The one thing -- I kind of agree
9 that we should not be having Rules
10 Committees unless there is something that
11 has to go through on a time sensitive basis.
12 We should not be having them on the same day
13 as Legislative meetings.

14 But, again, unless there is a
15 time sensitive issue that should go forward.

16 However, I would also note that
17 the more reforms that we put in place and,
18 again, there were good reforms that we put
19 in place to date, that the process gets
20 slower and you have some 12 departments that
21 look at these contracts as well as the
22 Comptroller and NIFA and these contracts are
23 taking an incredibly long time to get
24 through and, in some respect, that's not in
25 the interest of taxpayers either.

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2 It's a work in progress. We made
3 a lot of reforms. We are open to additional
4 reforms where we see fit and that's my
5 spiel.

6 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Madam Chair?

7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
8 Dunne.

9 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: On the item, I
10 just wanted to weigh in on it. Yes, we are
11 the most transparent in the State of New
12 York with our contracts. Nobody does more
13 than we do in Nassau County. Nobody in the
14 State of New York.

15 So to say that we're doing a bad
16 job, no, I think we are doing a damn good
17 job, putting a lot of reforms in, as
18 Legislator Nicoletto had said.

19 This sole provider software for
20 the police department I don't think is
21 something that is a friendly thing we are
22 doing for somebody, and to paint it that
23 way, that's the way it came out, and I'm
24 sorry if I read it wrong.

25 I know you don't mean to throw

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2 stones, but this is something that the
3 police department -- you need it, right, you
4 can't operate without it, right? We need
5 it. This is something that we have to do.

6 There was something earlier that
7 didn't have to be on there and it was taken
8 off. Where it's necessary, we're putting it
9 on the Rules, we're going to be doing the
10 contracts with it.

11 I would love to say that we've
12 gotten money from the state to take care of
13 contracts because we have a state board that
14 is suing contracts, spending our taxpayer's
15 dollars, it's crazy, to do the job they're
16 supposed to be doing.

17 So there's so much that can be
18 thrown back and forth and we're not going to
19 be do that.

20 All I'm saying is, this is
21 necessary, this is something that I'm glad
22 Madam Chair put on because if we waited then
23 it would be two or three months down the
24 line and we would say why did it take so
25 long to put before us?

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2 So damned if they do, damned if
3 they don't. We have to get it done for
4 them. So I'm going to vote for this, Madam
5 Chair.

6 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: One
7 statement.

8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
9 DeRiggi-Whitton.

10 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
11 Thank you. Getting back to what Legislator
12 Nicolello just mentioned, it is every Monday
13 and today we have 12 contracts on for Rules
14 and, out of the 12, I believe 11 are late.
15 One is on time. Two they're actually trying
16 to backdate, I haven't really seen before.

17 Just to go back to one more thing
18 that Legislator Dunne mentioned, while I
19 agree we have made some improvements, I'm
20 happy to see that, we are in a very unusual
21 situation having a black cloud of an
22 indictment hanging over us.

23 Honestly, unless we have an
24 independent inspector that has their own
25 office, their own budget and subpoena power,

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2 which I would really love to see, we are
3 really not doing anything to stop another
4 AbTech from happening.

5 So although a few minor
6 improvements have been made rightfully so
7 under this situation, I still think we have
8 a long way to go before any of us feel that
9 we are 100 percent confident in this
10 process.

11 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: If I may,
12 please.

13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
14 Solages.

15 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Hi. Thank
16 you. Let the record reflect, before
17 Mr. Sullivan, with the Correctional Officer
18 Union, at the jail provided a pamphlet
19 packet with many pictures describing and
20 showing conditions at the county jail,
21 significant disrepair in terms of entry
22 ways, elevators, hallways mold, this is the
23 point.

24 The people in this county pay
25 some of the highest taxes and none of these

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2 taxes are going to fix things like this, but
3 they're going to fix and help politically
4 connected law firms like Rivkin Radler or
5 politically connected organizations like
6 LamTech, which sounds similar to AbTech, and
7 politically connected organizations that
8 truly people don't want to really see this
9 county money go to these areas but where
10 they deserve. So we are asking things to
11 get on the right track here.

12 So, please, Legislator Dunne, I
13 know you didn't mean it to manipulate what I
14 said to distract people. It wasn't about
15 the first contract. We just brought it up
16 now because it's the beginning of the Rules
17 Committee.

18 This is about, in general, the
19 type of contracts are not necessary, rushed
20 through without true oversight, and, as a
21 result, money, there are certain projects
22 where really money needs to be devoted on,
23 they're not getting the attention they
24 deserve.

25 So if we can come a consensus to

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2 create more oversight to allow this leaking
3 sieve to just limit in its flow so we can
4 truly save to the people's money and get
5 projects done that really need to get done.

6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
7 Dunne.

8 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Thank you,
9 Madam Chair. You know, the state gives us
10 mandates and does not fund them. There are
11 so many unfunded mandates from the state
12 that comes to us. \$242 million in Medicaid
13 alone. \$242 million.

14 Now, when we have a contract
15 that's necessary for the safety of our
16 residents, the sewers, the roads, those
17 contracts I think are important too, not
18 just the police contracts but the sewers and
19 the roads.

20 And we are as transparent more
21 than we've ever been and more than any
22 county in the State of New York. We are
23 doing the very, very best we can right now
24 and we can't get, right now nobody is more
25 transparent than we are.

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2 We've got to get moving forward.
3 There's holes, pot holes, everywhere, road
4 construction that needs to be done. Those
5 contracts are being held up for ransom for
6 the apparatus you want involved and we want
7 to get the county back into shape.

8 We want infrastructure done and
9 the infrastructure is the sewer system.
10 That starts falling apart, it's not going to
11 be shame on us, it's going to be shame on
12 you because you are not bonding the stuff.

13 People are complaining about the
14 roads in Nassau County. You know what,
15 somebody gets hurt, there's an accident
16 because the roads aren't done because you
17 didn't bond the money for the contracts that
18 we're trying to get done, you know what? You
19 have to live with yourself on that one. I'm
20 amazed. I'm stopping right there. Let's
21 just stop.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Let's go.
23 Any public comment on this? Any public
24 comment on this?

25 MR. BECKER: Madam Chair, you

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2 have to give me a moment. Maybe give me 30
3 seconds.

4 I want to add, number one, the
5 minority seems to be bent on indicating the
6 reforms that were made were minor and that's
7 hardly the fact. As you well know and
8 actually stated, Deputy Presiding Officer
9 Nicoletto, you stated it clearly.

10 We know it's the silly season so
11 they're going to make everything that the
12 majority does and the County Executive
13 shaded.

14 Legislator Dunne, when the
15 Legislator Solages said everything
16 politically connected, you were right in
17 insinuating that he's trying to make
18 everything any contract that comes before
19 this body to be shaded, that it's somehow
20 politically connected, which, again, is
21 absolutely false. We understand what you're
22 trying to do at this time of year.

23 And, of course, as far as doing
24 the Rules Committee today, we are in fact
25 have a budget of \$3 billion in this county.

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2 The majority has the right to call Rules
3 meetings. All of these items before you
4 today were submitted seven days prior as is
5 required by the rules of this body. The
6 majority has the right to call these
7 meetings or not.

8 Wisely, I think they did. There
9 are some very important things on here.
10 Maybe we need to have more Rules meetings.
11 That is my big part of the solution. I was
12 never on Rules, so that was okay.

13 Madam Chair, Mr. Cleary wanted to
14 give a brief presentation before you on the
15 advances and the work he's doing in regards
16 to getting these contracts in time and some
17 of the procurement policies that are now in
18 place. Some of them are brilliant and
19 wonderful. But I told him that today would
20 be a bad day only because of all the
21 presentations that were made today.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Guess
23 what? It's never a bad day. To hear from
24 the procurement director, then it is a good
25 day.

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2 MR. BECKER: But he will be
3 making a presentation with your permission
4 next meeting.

5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Hold on
6 one minute. Is he ready today? Next week
7 we're meeting at 3:30, 4:00.

8 I'm a good listener, I don't know
9 about some of my colleagues but I'm a good
10 listener. That goes for both sides of the
11 aisle. I'm not picking on anybody.

12 If there is no public comment
13 regarding this item, I'm going to call for a
14 vote.

15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I have a
16 question.

17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: On this
18 item? Go ahead Minority Leader.

19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Lieutenant,
20 we just wanted to clarify based on your
21 comments, Motorola is developing and
22 installing the new Rems?

23 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: Yes.

24 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And it will
25 be rolling out later this year?

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2 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: Yes.

3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: We had
4 heard through back channels or commentary
5 that some police officers were unsatisfied
6 with Armor software, have you heard the same
7 thing?

8 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: Not
9 directly but I heard it through other
10 people, yes.

11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Do you
12 have any idea of what those objections or
13 concerns are?

14 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: I think
15 the system was cumbersome to use and took a
16 lot of time to process an arrest. So the
17 new system is going to streamline that and
18 it will be more user friendly and it will
19 process arrests quicker.

20 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Will the
21 contract cover maintenance as well?

22 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: Yes.

23 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Okay. I'm
24 good.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: One more

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2 question, Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton.

3 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

4 Would you consider this contract a sole
5 source?

6 MR. STEPHANOFF: The one
7 currently in front of you?

8 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Yes,
9 that's the one we're talking about.

10 MR. STEPHANOFF: Yes.

11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: It's
12 a sole source?

13 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: Yes.

14 Because originally we bid this out
15 originally when we bought the system and
16 this is a maintenance contract. They have
17 copyrighted software so no one else can
18 maintain this.

19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
20 DeRiggi-Whitton, did you get the answer to
21 your question?

22 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Yes.

23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Fine. Any
24 public comment on this item?

25 (No verbal response.)

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2 There being none, all those in
3 favor of Contract A-7, signify by saying
4 aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 Any opposed?

7 (Nay.)

8 The item passes four to three.

9 The next item is E-48, a personal
10 services agreement between the County of
11 Nassau acting on behalf of the Traffic and
12 Parking Violations Agency and Anthony D.
13 Perry.

14 Motion, please.

15 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

16 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
18 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
19 Nicolello.

20 MR. RICH: Dave Rich, Deputy
21 Director of Nassau County Traffic and
22 Parking Violations Agency.

23 This is an extension of an
24 existing contract for one of our judicial
25 hearing officers, Judge Perry.

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2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
3 questions?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 Is there any public comment?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 There being none, all those in
8 favor of E-48 signify by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 Any opposed?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 It's unanimous.

13 E-61, a personal services
14 agreement between the County of Nassau
15 acting on behalf of the Nassau County
16 Department of Public Works and Nelson & Pope
17 Engineers and Surveyors.

18 Motion, please.

19 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

20 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Second.

21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
22 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
23 Rhoads.

24 MR. ARNOLD: Ken Arnold, Public
25 Works. E-61 is a contract amendment

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2 associated with the design services of the
3 extension of Motor Parkway Trail. The
4 amendment is necessary to have a
5 commencement date as of May 2nd instead of
6 the August that was initially approved when
7 the contract was signed.

8 This is necessary because the
9 county is receiving state funding and to
10 meet the deadlines we had to start the
11 contract earlier than the commencement date
12 came in.

13 If you any questions, I can
14 answer them.

15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
16 Dunne.

17 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: The failure to
18 approve this would result in a loss of
19 federal aid for this project, correct?

20 MR. ARNOLD: The contractor has
21 done some work at the early commencement
22 date because we did not want to lose the
23 money. Failure to prove this would have the
24 vendor not get paid.

25 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: I just want to

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2 make sure of one thing.

3 This path that we're talking
4 about, it appears it's going to be -- used
5 to have in the plans, it would go behind
6 some houses in Levittown. A lot of houses
7 in Levittown.

8 I asked that that be diverted
9 around so it goes around the business area
10 rather than through the back of many many
11 houses in my district and people would be
12 really upset, people riding by their
13 backyard while they're sunbathing or having
14 their breakfast or even barbecuing and
15 having all sorts of traffic there where
16 there never was before. Has that been part
17 of the --

18 MR. ARNOLD: I know that's a
19 consideration for future phases.

20 This phase that we're talking
21 about today, is from the existing ending of
22 the bike trail by the dog run in Eisenhower
23 Park. And it will run to the Merrick Avenue
24 multi-use trail that runs along Merrick
25 Avenue so it's connecting two existing bike

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2 trails that we already have through the old
3 Motor Parkway right of ways.

4 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Thank you. In
5 that case, I'm voting for this. Thank you.

6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Minority
7 Leader.

8 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you,
9 Madam Presiding Officer.

10 Ken, my questions, I'm sure what
11 this is being designed for is worthy to what
12 Legislator Dunne was talking about, but our
13 understanding of some of the backup
14 documents is a little troubling.

15 It seems like this contract was
16 commenced on August 8, 2016 and whether or
17 not this Legislature took action prior to
18 August 8th is another issue. I don't have
19 that information in front of me.

20 That said, it seems like we are
21 amending the start date today to reflect May
22 2nd, 2016, and now we are in March 27 of
23 2017.

24 Why would we ten months later be
25 looking to push the start date back on a

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2 contract?

3 MR. ARNOLD: In the past we have
4 amended for commencement dates on some
5 contracts. So this is not unusual that
6 we've done this.

7 I believe if my memory corrects
8 me, I can look it up, that the original
9 contract came through your body just before
10 the May 8th change of the date.

11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: No. It was
12 fully executed on 8-8-16.

13 MR. ARNOLD: Right, but I believe
14 the vote for the initial contract was, and I
15 can look it up here, I think in April of
16 '16, execution date follows after the NIFA
17 and Comptroller approval. So usually it's
18 two or three months after you guys have seen
19 it on this level.

20 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Again,
21 today for consideration is an amendment to
22 push it back three months from the August
23 date to the May date; is that correct?

24 MR. ARNOLD: That's correct.

25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: So why

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2 would we be considering that now moving from
3 August which was seven months ago to push it
4 back to now, the contract goes back ten
5 months? Is there some type of work they
6 were doing between May and August that we're
7 not aware of?

8 MR. ARNOLD: Yes, as I stated
9 previously, there was some work they had to
10 do because we had some deadlines that were
11 approaching us, and if we would have waited
12 for the August commencement date, we would
13 not have made those deadlines and could have
14 risked losing the funding.

15 So the department directed Nelson
16 & Pope at risk to start some aspects of the
17 work so we would make all our deadlines.

18 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And you're
19 saying we would have lost some type of
20 reimbursement funding?

21 MR. ARNOLD: Yes, the state has
22 deadlines for design reports and different
23 parts of the project. We have to get to
24 them on time to meet the obligation date to
25 build it.

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2 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: So if I
3 understand, the state accepts the practice
4 that even though the contract has not been
5 approved -- I mean, this whole thing with
6 backdating the contract now --

7 MR. ARNOLD: More importantly, we
8 are changing the commencement date for the
9 Comptroller to pay the vendor. This is the
10 practice that we have talked to them in the
11 past on and they accept this as a practice.

12 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: My counsel
13 is telling us we don't see many of these.

14 MR. ARNOLD: We have a handful.
15 On occasion we have done this.

16 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Sounds
17 extremely troubling that a contract that's
18 already in the middle of being done
19 obviously with Nelson & Pope, it just seems
20 like now we're saying, oh, seven months
21 later, we have to go back.

22 I would have to see the fact that
23 -- you know what, let's request it. I would
24 like to see what work they did between May
25 and August of 2016. Because it will be

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2 extremely troubling if I see or our caucus
3 or this legislative body see something that
4 comes back that is significantly billing the
5 county during that period that could not be
6 billed before.

7 MR. ARNOLD: You want to see what
8 was billed?

9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I would
10 like to see what work as well as what bills
11 they will submit between May and August from
12 2016 because here we are backdating the
13 contract. They started the work. Granted,
14 they did not have a contract in place to
15 start the work.

16 They got their contract in
17 August. They started work in May and here
18 we are in March of the following year and
19 now we are approving a backdate? It seems
20 like to me that -- it sounds like to me that
21 that backdate is going to include a big
22 bill. Why are we even going through this
23 exercise of amending a contract seven months
24 after it commenced to -- if it's not going
25 to have a big portion of May to August

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2 that's not going to have a big bill?

3 MR. ARNOLD: Well, regardless of
4 the size of the bill, in order for the
5 Comptroller to pay it, we have to backdate
6 the contract because they did do some work
7 in that time frame.

8 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Ken, I
9 totally get why the Comptroller needs to see
10 it in place for him to pay it.

11 What I'm asking is, suddenly it
12 dawned on us seven months later, oh yeah, we
13 have to backdate this contract three months?
14 This should have come to us -- they did the
15 work. We knew they did the work in August.
16 This is before us in March. This should
17 have come before us in September, October.

18 MR. ARNOLD: I don't disagree
19 with your argument, and we've directed all
20 our project managers of this issue, moving
21 forward, they need to let the commissioner's
22 office know as soon as they have an issue to
23 get the information to us so we can act on
24 it.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Now, Mr.

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2 Arnold, I'm going to have a motion to table
3 this until next week.

4 MR. ARNOLD: Okay.

5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.

6 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Second.

7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
8 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
9 Dunne. All those in favor of tabling this
10 item signify by saying aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 Any opposed?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 It is tabled.

15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Ken, you
16 should try to get us that information before
17 next week.

18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: The next
19 item is E-62, a personal services agreement
20 between the County of Nassau acting on
21 behalf of the Nassau County Traffic and
22 Parking Violations Agency and RTR Financial
23 Services, Inc.

24 Motion, please.

25 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

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2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
4 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
5 Nicolello.

6 MR. RICH: Dave Rich, Deputy
7 Director of Nassau County Traffic and
8 Parking Violations Agency.

9 This is a contract amendment. In
10 general, it's going to allow us to reimburse
11 the certified mailing costs for certified
12 mailings for default judgment.

13 Last year, I think it was about
14 April or May, the FDCPA came and stated that
15 we can no longer report traffic tickets and
16 parking tickets to a person's credit report.
17 This allows us now to file a default
18 judgement which is filed with the County
19 Clerk which now it acts as a record on the
20 credit reporting as well as allows us to
21 take additional execution efforts on it.

22 Back in September or October we
23 did a proof of concept where we mailed out
24 roughly 1,691 letters, certified mailings.

25 Of that, we would have spent

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2 about \$21,000 in mailing costs but we would
3 have been recouped about \$180,000 which
4 would have been about a net of about
5 \$100,000 to the county.

6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
7 questions for Mr. Rich? Legislator
8 DeRiggi-Whitton.

9 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Is
10 this also pertaining to the red light camera
11 that go on the credit?

12 MR. RICH: No. This specific
13 vendor, no, is just for our traffic moving
14 violations. We have a different vendor that
15 does photo enforcement as well as parking
16 violations.

17 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So,
18 the photo enforcement, do they still go on
19 the credit rating record?

20 MR. RICH: Yes, they would. They
21 don't currently because of the FDCPA ruling,
22 but we have another contract amendment
23 coming up with a different vendor that we
24 anticipate doing the same exact thing.

25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Are

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2 you going to have the same issue with the
3 certified letter or no?

4 MR. RICH: Yes. No. I take that
5 back. We thought we did but in the enabling
6 legislation, basically, for failure to
7 resolve, I'm using layman's terms, so to
8 speak, failure to resolve allows us to do a
9 default judgement without doing a certified
10 mailing.

11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Just
12 one last quick question. Wouldn't the
13 contractor, wouldn't they be responsible for
14 the cost of the certified letter not the
15 county?

16 MR. RICH: Usually we do that but
17 we found that this vendor, this specific
18 vendor actually came in at seven percent.
19 We issued the RFP back in 2012 and what we
20 did, May 25th, 2012, we issued the RFP. We
21 received 18 responses at that time.

22 This vendor actually came in the
23 lowest at seven percent. But, what we did
24 with the RFP, we said the default judgments
25 at that time was an optional component. We

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2 looked at the pricing on that as well as we
3 decided whether or not we were going to
4 allow that vendor to do it.

5 In the original contract, we did
6 not contract with them for default
7 judgement. But, being that it was in the
8 original RFP, and in their response, we
9 looked at it, I think it would have come out
10 to seven percent to do the collection fee,
11 and then an additional seven percent for the
12 default judgement, plus they also talked
13 about doing a recruitment if they had to do
14 an income execution. So we basically agreed
15 that it's just going to be a flat seven
16 percent so we actually saved money by
17 sticking with this vendor to do a default
18 judgement.

19 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So
20 by only paying the seven percent and paying
21 for the certified mailing, it's still less
22 than any of the other people that responded
23 to the RFP?

24 MR. RICH: Yes. You're not going
25 to find anyone else there that's going to do

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2 seven percent collection fee.

3 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
6 Dunne.

7 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: And their
8 license in Buffalo and license in Yonkers,
9 and you are satisfied with the work they
10 provide?

11 MR. RICH: Very satisfied.

12 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Thank you.

13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any public
14 comment?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 There being none, all those in
17 favor of E-62 signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 Any opposed?

20 (Nay)

21 The item passes four to two.

22 The next item is E-63, a personal
23 services agreement between the County of
24 Nassau acting on behalf of the Nassau County
25 District Attorney and ACISS Systems, Inc.

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2 Motion, please.

3 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

4 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Second.

5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
6 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
7 Rhoads.

8 MR. MCMANUS: Bob McManus,
9 District Attorney's Office.

10 This is the fourth one year
11 extension of an agreement with ACISS Systems
12 Incorporated for support and maintenance of
13 the District Attorney's legacy case
14 management system.

15 The system assists the District
16 Attorney's Office in collecting, sharing and
17 analyzing data regarding violent and gun
18 related crimes.

19 We introduced a new case
20 management system called Justware in
21 December 2015.

22 However, for the time being, we
23 are still maintaining our previous system
24 until Justware is fully integrated.

25 I think it would be disrespectful

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2 of me to seek approval of this item without
3 explaining or briefly addressing the issue
4 of contracts in general.

5 The reason for the delay in this
6 case is due to a misunderstanding in our
7 agency.

8 In December of 2015, as I
9 previously mentioned, we introduced a new
10 case management system in our office called
11 Justware. Justware is a major upgrade from
12 our previous system.

13 Staff members in our office
14 mistakenly assumed we would not be renewing
15 with ACISS due to the introduction of
16 Justware.

17 However, our IT staff started
18 getting inquiries from ACISS and they
19 notified us that ACISS was continuing to
20 perform services as part of the transition
21 from the previous system to Justware. We
22 apologize for the late submission of this
23 extension.

24 More generally, in some cases we
25 have to wait until grant funds are in place

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2 before we can proceed with contracts.

3 However, in many cases, or in
4 some cases, we submit contracts close to or
5 past the beginning of a contract term for
6 reasons unrelated to funding.

7 In recent days, we have devoted
8 many staff hours to completing contracts to
9 address the legislature's concerns about the
10 issue of timely submission. This is
11 currently a top priority in our office.

12 Moving forward we are
13 transferring an additional staff member from
14 our district court office to our
15 administrative offices in Mineola within the
16 next two or three weeks and this individual
17 will be assigned to working with vendors to
18 writing contracts, assembling the required
19 disclosure forms, and working with the
20 various county agencies to expedite
21 contracts in a timely fashion in the future.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
23 Dunne.

24 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: In putting the
25 contracts forth on time, if it does work,

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2 will you share that with us, the process and
3 then we'll try to get it county wide.

4 Because, if it does work, let's make it
5 global in Nassau County.

6 This is a sole source vendor; is
7 that correct?

8 MR. MCMANUS: That's correct.
9 ACISS, it's their software. The system
10 provides the office with investigative case
11 management program management programs,
12 software, which uniquely integrates with the
13 case management system that we're gradually
14 phasing out.

15 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: It's only
16 \$24,000 that we're talking about, so it's
17 not -- even though it's a little late, it's
18 a small contract. Thank you.

19 MR. MCMANUS: Thank you.

20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any other
21 comments?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Is there any public comment?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 There being none, all those in

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2 favor of E-63 signify by saying aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 Any opposed?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 The item passes six to zero

7 correct.

8 MR. MCMANUS: Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: The next
10 item is E-70, a personal services agreement
11 between the County of Nassau acting on
12 behalf of the Office of the Nassau County
13 Clerk and Word Power Unlimited.

14 Motion, please.

15 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So moved.

16 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Second.

17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
18 Legislator Rhoads, seconded by Legislator
19 Dunne.

20 MR. BUTLER: Good afternoon.

21 John Butler, fiscal officer, Nassau County
22 Clerk, Maureen O'Connell's Office.

23 The item before you today is an
24 amendment to extend time and add dollars to
25 a bulk mail processing contract with Word

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2 Power.

3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
4 questions? Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton.

5 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
6 would just like to put on the record that
7 this contract expired on May 31st, 2015,
8 almost two years, which is one of our
9 records.

10 MR. MCMANUS: Within the contract
11 itself, we did have the right to extend for
12 four single year terms. We did attempt to
13 extend back in 2015 but somewhere along the
14 process the paperwork was lost. We believe
15 the County Attorney's Office when we go back
16 and look at the entry screens it seems like
17 we hit a road bump there.

18 I understand that our procurement
19 officer, Mr. Cleary, is currently working on
20 software that will prevent an oversight like
21 that from happening again. So we are
22 looking forward to implementing the CRS
23 system in our department but it was just a
24 simple oversight.

25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: All

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2 right, but just to reiterate what everyone
3 has been saying, both sides of the aisle, we
4 have really kind of reached our maximum
5 point of patience with this. As you see,
6 NIFA is also. It really is an important
7 thing. We can't have oversight if we don't
8 even know that the contracts are going. But
9 thank you.

10 MR. MCMANUS: I understand.

11 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Madam Chair,
12 real quick?

13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
14 Dunne.

15 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: I appreciate
16 the work that has to be done by your office
17 and this is extremely important to get this
18 kind of mailing done.

19 Now the tracking system that
20 they're trying to put in place, is that what
21 you're talking about?

22 MR. MCMANUS: That's it, yes.

23 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: That will show
24 us exactly where it is and why it's late, if
25 it's late, who's to blame?

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2 MR. MCMANUS: Right. Just so we
3 can better track where it is. We can better
4 implement technology to help.

5 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Give us the
6 reasoning why it's being delayed and stuff
7 so it if does come to us like this, like
8 even you agree, it's not acceptable it comes
9 so darn late.

10 So we try to do it the right way.
11 Let's fix this.

12 MR. MCMANUS: I would like to
13 prevent something like this from happening
14 as I'm sure everybody up here does.
15 Technology can obviously help us. On a
16 going forward basis, you know --

17 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: And this is a
18 \$50,000, we're not going to handcuff the
19 County Clerk's Office, I'm going to vote for
20 this.

21 MR. MCMANUS: Appreciate it.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any public
23 comment?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 There being none, all those in

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2 favor of E-70 signify by saying aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 Any opposed?

5 (Nay.)

6 The item passes four to two.

7 The next item is E-78, a personal
8 services agreement between the County of
9 Nassau acting on behalf of the Office of the
10 Nassau County Attorney and Bee Reporting
11 Agency, Inc.

12 Motion, please.

13 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

14 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Second.

15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
16 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
17 Rhoads. Okay, Mr. Littman, how are you?

18 MR. LITTMAN: How are you? Sam
19 Littman, County Attorney's Office.

20 This is an amendment to an
21 existing contract with Bee Court Reporting.
22 It seeks to add time and money into the
23 contract. The existing contract was
24 approved by this body in May of 2015, I
25 believe. Any questions?

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2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
3 questions of Mr. Littman?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 Is there any public comment?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 There being none, all those in
8 favor of E-78 signify by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 Any opposed?

11 (Nay.)

12 The item passes four to two.

13 The next item is E-79, a personal
14 services agreement between the County of
15 Nassau acting on behalf of the Department of
16 Social Services and Anthony V. Santoro,
17 Psy.d

18 Motion, please.

19 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

20 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
22 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
23 Nicolello. Mr. Broderick.

24 MR. BRODERICK: Good afternoon.
25 Paul Broderick, Deputy Commissioner,

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2 Department of Social Services.

3 The item before you is a contract
4 between the Department of Social Services
5 and Dr. Anthony Santoro to provide
6 evaluation services as mandated by family
7 court. Do you have any questions?

8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
9 questions or comments for Mr. Broderick?

10 (No verbal response.)

11 Is there any public comment?

12 (No verbal response.)

13 There being none, all those in
14 favor of E-79 signify by saying aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 Any opposed?

17 (Nay.)

18 The item passes four to two.

19 Thank you.

20 The next item is E-80 personal
21 services agreement between the County of
22 Nassau acting on behalf of the Nassau County
23 Parking and Traffic Violations Agency and
24 Joseph C. Calabrese.

25 Motion, please.

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2 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
5 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
6 Nicolello.

7 MR. RICH: Dave Rich, Deputy
8 Director of Nassau County Traffic and
9 Parking Violations Agency.

10 This is a contract extension for
11 an existing JHO contract for Judge
12 Calabrese.

13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
14 questions or comments?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 Is there any public comment?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 There being none, all those in
19 favor of E-80 signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 Any opposed?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Six to zero.

24 Next is E-81, a personal services
25 agreement between the County of Nassau

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2 acting on behalf of the Department of Social
3 Services and American Records Management
4 Systems, Inc.

5 Motion, please.

6 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
9 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
10 Nicolello.

11 MR. BRODERICK: Good afternoon.
12 Paul Broderick, Deputy Commissioner,
13 Department of Social Services.

14 The item before you is a contract
15 between the Department of Social Services
16 and American Records Management.

17 Per New York State Law, we're
18 mandated to maintain records and case files
19 regarding client history. Any questions?

20 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: This starts
21 April 1st of this year so you are ahead of
22 the game and your department is such a major
23 department and how you can do this and other
24 departments can't, I don't know. God bless
25 you. Keep up the good work.

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2 MR. BRODERICK: Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Are there
4 any other comments or questions from the
5 legislators?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 Is there any public comment?

8 (No verbal response.)

9 There being none, all those in
10 favor signify by saying aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 Any opposed?

13 (Nay.)

14 Passes four to two.

15 The next item is E-82, a personal
16 services agreement between the County of
17 Nassau acting on behalf of the Department of
18 Health and James McGuinness & Associates,
19 Inc.

20 Motion, please.

21 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

22 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Second.

23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
24 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
25 Rhoads.

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2 MS. LAURAIN: Good afternoon.

3 MaryEllen Laurain, Department of Health.

4 Item E-82-17 is a renewal to a contract with
5 James McGuinness & Associates in the amount
6 of \$97,500.

7 This contractor processes claims
8 for Medicaid reimbursement for services in
9 our mandated preschool special education
10 program. Work has not started and will not
11 start until this contract is fully approved.

12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
13 questions or comments? Legislator
14 DeRiggi-Whitton.

15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Just
16 one quick question. Is there any other
17 contractor providing this service to the
18 county?

19 MS. LAURAIN: In the county any
20 other contractor? I'm not aware of any
21 other contractor.

22 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: For
23 the Medicaid reimbursement services.

24 MS. LAURAIN: For the Health
25 Department this is the only contractor that

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2 we use.

3 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Has
4 the county performed any due diligence to
5 purchase software that could be used?

6 MS. LAURAIN: We do utilize the
7 McGuinness software as part of the children
8 who are receiving services. So this
9 contractor, the software is married to one
10 another.

11 This is very labor intensive and
12 Medicaid is audited every year. It's a very
13 strict audit. So it could really affect the
14 universe of the department if there were
15 errors in that.

16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any public
17 comment?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 There being none, all those in
20 favor of E-82 signify by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 Any opposed?

23 (Nay.)

24 The item passes four to two.

25 I have four items, four contracts

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2 that are going to be untabled if I have a
3 motion to untable. E-281, A-2, E-23 and
4 E-35.

5 Motion, please.

6 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
9 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
10 Nicolello. All those in favor signify by
11 saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 Any opposed?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 They are untabled. And we will
16 begin with E-281, a personal services
17 agreement between the County of Nassau
18 acting on behalf of the Office of the Nassau
19 County Treasurer and Capital Resource
20 Management, Inc.

21 Motion, please.

22 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
25 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator

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2 Nicolello.

3 MR. JEFFERSON: Good evening.

4 Beaumont Jefferson, County Treasurer. The
5 item before you is a contract to provide
6 collection services of emergency ambulance
7 billing.

8 The vendor Capital Resource
9 Management, CRM, is a local MWBE firm that
10 specializes in medical billing collections.

11 Currently we have approximately
12 \$777,000 in insurance checks that were
13 received by individuals who were transported
14 by ambulance services.

15 They received checks from their
16 insurance companies and those checks were
17 not remitted to the county.

18 We also have approximately \$1.2
19 million that we cannot determine the
20 addresses so we actually need to skip search
21 and find these individuals so they can remit
22 those checks if they do have them.

23 This is a collection for billing
24 and I have Greg Stephanoff from PD who can
25 speak to the billing contract, but I don't

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2 want this to be confused with the actual
3 ambulance billing. This actually comes
4 after the billing, after the ambulance
5 billing company attempts to collect from
6 anyone who takes an ambulance.

7 Then you have the service where
8 we try to collect anything that was remitted
9 to the insurer or any addresses that are
10 bad.

11 So I think the last time we were
12 hearing this was tabled, I think there was
13 some confusion on, what is this.

14 I want to separate, this is
15 collections for our people who we know
16 received checks and we want to collect
17 those. Also there is a component where we
18 have bad addresses.

19 So this company, which is a local
20 company will actually try to track these
21 individuals and have these individual remit
22 these checks for us.

23 There is another component, if
24 there is another component, we would have to
25 speak to the billing side of it, but this is

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2 really a collection contract that we are
3 interested in collecting money which is low
4 hanging fruit from folks who receive money
5 and cash the checks and they owe the county
6 the money.

7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
8 Nicolello.

9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you,
10 Mr. Jefferson. You have explained that very
11 well. I do have a question to the initial
12 component, the billing side of this, before
13 it gets to collections.

14 It's always been my understanding
15 that the county goes after just the
16 insurance and does not go after people --
17 doesn't attempt to collect on resources from
18 people who are uninsured; is that correct,
19 lieutenant?

20 MR. JEFFERSON: That's my
21 understanding but I will let the lieutenant
22 speak to it.

23 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: Everyone
24 who gets driven in an ambulance who does get
25 billed, and what we do is, anyone who asks

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2 for relief, we coordinate with the billing
3 company. We look at the situation. If
4 there is no ability to pay, then we would
5 offer relief. No ability meaning that there
6 is no insurance that can be reimbursed and
7 then we do offer relief to them.

8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Okay. I
9 thought more in particular, I thought it was
10 more definite that if someone did not have
11 insurance, the county would not go after
12 their assets or their payments. That's been
13 my understanding.

14 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: In that
15 case we would offer relief, because they
16 wouldn't have a mechanism of getting
17 reimbursed for it.

18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here is my
19 concern. I always thought that the bills
20 had that spelled out clearly.

21 We all get bills in our home.
22 Much of the time it's elderly people. Our
23 staff had gotten a copy of one of the bills
24 and this is what it says, it indicates how
25 you can pay, different types of insurance.

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2 It says, self pay, if you do not have
3 insurance, please remit your payment. If
4 you have any questions please call the
5 number listed on the front of this
6 statement.

7 So it just says self pay. If you
8 do not have insurance, please remit.

9 So if I'm looking at this, I have
10 no idea that I don't have to pay. I'm
11 saying, I don't have insurance, I have to
12 pay. I send the check in.

13 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: It's not
14 always the case that you don't have to pay.
15 There are people with means that can easily
16 pay.

17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Then how
18 do we know that?

19 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: To the
20 best of our ability, we coordinate with the
21 billing company who deals with the person
22 that we're billing, and we try to make an
23 assessment. If there is no insurance we do
24 offer relief from the bill.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I have

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2 difficulty with that because the people with
3 means have a way to have mechanisms and
4 resources to I guess fight this.

5 But I think what you're dealing
6 with is the people that don't have means.
7 People are probably -- who don't have
8 insurance are probably on the lower
9 socioeconomic scale. So those are the
10 people who are going to start sending in
11 money.

12 That's exactly opposite of what
13 we always wanted to do here is simply this:
14 You have insurance, we're going to go after
15 your insurance to pay us for this service.

16 If you don't have insurance,
17 we're not. Because your tax dollars pay for
18 it anyway.

19 So, I think this clearly say to
20 anyone who receives a bill for using a
21 Nassau County Police Ambulance, if you do
22 not have the ability to pay or do not have
23 insurance, please contact this number.

24 Basically, we can work on the
25 details, but people who don't have insurance

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2 should know that they don't have to pay for
3 this.

4 MR. BECKER: Legislator
5 Nicolello, I want to do add one thing. I
6 did some research on this on my own. I, in
7 fact, called the agencies that are involved
8 here as to why it wasn't absolutely clear
9 that if you didn't have insurance you didn't
10 have to pay.

11 Their concern basically is, if
12 you say call this number if you have no
13 insurance. They're thinking that people
14 aren't going to pay, whether they have
15 insurance or not.

16 By having a phone there, if you
17 have no insurance, once the people call and
18 they're asking for relief because they
19 really can't pay and do need the relief, at
20 that particular point they tell them they
21 don't have to pay once they make that phone
22 call.

23 Sitting where you are sitting at
24 one point, just being conflicted about that,
25 whether you should actually have on that, if

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2 you have no insurance, and people just say,
3 I have no insurance and they're really not
4 telling you the truth. That's a problem.

5 In fact, it's an even greater
6 problem that people who do have insurance
7 aren't paying. They get the check and never
8 send it in. It's a big problem.

9 The agencies are trying to work
10 together or work towards trying to find a
11 better method of getting paid by people who
12 actually have the insurance.

13 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: That's a
14 legitimate point. I would say that with
15 respect to that, then maybe we should have a
16 form that they fill out and return which
17 states basically that they are submitting
18 this information that have no insurance
19 under penalty of perjury and have them go to
20 a notary public or something like that.

21 Again, the point here is this,
22 it's always been our concept up here, and I
23 think most people in the county. If you
24 have insurance, the county is going to go
25 after it to get reimbursed for the service.

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2 If you don't have insurance, your
3 tax money paid for this already, we're not
4 going to go after it.

5 The way we're doing it now, I
6 guarantee there are thousands of people who
7 paid because they didn't understand that the
8 county makes an exception.

9 MR. BECKER: I would like to say
10 that we tabled this many months ago and it's
11 creating problems.

12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I don't
13 want to table this item because it has to
14 deal with collections, but I think this is a
15 problem we have to explore on the billing
16 end of it.

17 MR. BECKER: All I'm saying to
18 you is, the companies that I spoke to, the
19 two of them who are doing the collection,
20 they'll do anything we want. It's simply is
21 the treasurer advising them to change the
22 form.

23 I think -- I actually had a long
24 conversation with counsel, I had long
25 discussions about this, and we were

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2 supposed to come up with some kind of
3 solution. We can still come up with some
4 kind of solution. This is the reason why it
5 was tabled the first go around.

6 I'm just saying to you, whatever
7 we want, whatever this body decides to do,
8 you just advise the treasurer and the
9 company itself that does the collection has
10 no problem doing whatever we ask to do.

11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
12 Dunne.

13 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Thank you.
14 Mr. Jefferson, we're going to give you all
15 the tools you need to do your job. I
16 appreciate the way you do your job. My
17 legion was very, very thoughtful for your
18 immediate response to our request so I'm
19 here for you and we're going to pass this.

20 But, Frannie, the wording has got
21 to be -- we have World War II people, and we
22 got Korean war guys, senior citizens look at
23 it and say, if you can't pay, it says if you
24 don't have insurance.

25 MR. BECKER: Anything that

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2 counsel agrees to and you advise the
3 treasurer they will abide by it.

4 Just keeping in mind that if you
5 give people a quick out they're going to
6 take it and they're not going to pay, and as
7 I said, our biggest problem are people who
8 are currently getting checks from the
9 insurance company, that's our biggest
10 problem right now is getting money from
11 people who actually got a check -- you're
12 talking hundreds of thousands of dollars.
13 Our treasurer is working very hard to
14 collect that money.

15 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: We are going
16 to give him the tools to do that. Thank
17 you.

18 MR. JEFFERSON: I just want to
19 say that we can identify the people who
20 receive checks, and we can actually go after
21 and try to collect on those.

22 We can also identify folks who
23 have a bad address, so we can identify those
24 people and try to track them to see if they
25 have insurance.

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2 We can also identify through PD
3 but we have to do it upfront when they
4 receive the initial bill to be able to
5 actually call up and say, I do not have
6 insurance or there's a mechanism in place.

7 But that mechanism has to be in
8 place when the bill is received and not
9 after the collection process.

10 So when it comes to my office, at
11 that point, we can identify the different
12 buckets that these claims fall into and ask
13 the collection agency to go after the people
14 who received checks and those will be the
15 first people you would actually try to
16 retrieve that money from and then also try
17 to identify folks who have a bad address.

18 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: You are doing
19 the right thing, but on that form it should
20 say in big block letters, if you are unable
21 to pay, please call this number. Then they
22 call up and say, listen, I don't have the
23 income, I'm on social services. Okay, just
24 send me you're on proof you're on social
25 services and you're clear. Don't worry

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2 about it. That's how simple as it is.
3 That's what we're asking for. That's not
4 your part.

5 MR. JEFFERSON: Right. I just
6 wanted to make that clear.

7 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Thank you so
8 much. God bless you.

9 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Is
10 there some way we can possibly while the
11 patient is still in the ambulance, or
12 someone that's there for them to sign the
13 forms, where they can assign the payment to
14 the county? Because what's happening now,
15 is the payment goes to the insured, but
16 there is a way to assign payment.

17 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: I think
18 for some reason that's the way that the
19 payment works from the insurance company.

20 Personally I get the same thing,
21 where I have to remit to a doctor. It
22 happens often in emergency rooms.

23 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: But
24 a lot of times you can have the assignment
25 signed and the insurance company can be

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2 directed to pay -- I mean, the insurer would
3 have to sign it.

4 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: I can
5 tell you it happened to me -- not in an
6 ambulance, but at the emergency room where
7 the doctor, I would have to pay him
8 afterwards. I think it's just the way.
9 Meanwhile, you're signing everything, all
10 the papers in the emergency room. There's
11 no shortage of signatures that you have to
12 make.

13 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
14 understand but I think we should look into
15 that, seeing, Fran, maybe you would know, to
16 see if there's a way we can, maybe not on
17 every occasion, but try to get as many times
18 as we can to have it --

19 MR. BECKER: That a great idea and
20 we'll look into that.

21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You have
22 to also remember, there may be many people
23 in that ambulance who are not of sound body
24 and mind.

25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

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2 Well, someone signing the papers, if they're
3 being signed, and they're not going to
4 happen every time.

5 MR. BECKER: I will reach out.
6 We will talk about it.

7 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Can
8 I have one more quick question.

9 If the people that don't have
10 insurance don't have to pay, which I'm all
11 for, I think that might cause a problem with
12 the insurance company because they only
13 reimburse what has to be. It wouldn't be a
14 debt. So we have to just be careful.
15 Someone has to look into that.

16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: That was
17 E-281, no further comment?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 Is there any public comment?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 There being none, all those in
22 favor of E-281 signify by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 Any opposed?

25 (Nay.)

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2 The item passes four to two.

3 Next is A-2, a resolution
4 authorizing the director of Nassau County
5 Office of Purchasing to award and execute a
6 contract between the County of Nassau acting
7 on behalf of the Nassau County Department of
8 Information Technology and Tyler
9 Technologies.

10 MR. BECKER: Madam Chair, we ask
11 that this remain tabled.

12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Motion to
13 table.

14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.

15 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Second.

16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
17 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
18 Dunne. All those in favor of tabling A-2
19 signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 Any opposed?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 It is now tabled again.

24 The next one is E-23, a personal
25 services agreement between the County of

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2 Nassau acting on behalf of the Department of
3 Social Services and One World Judicial
4 Services, Inc.

5 Motion, please.

6 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

7 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
9 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
10 Rhoads.

11 MR. BRODERICK: Good afternoon.
12 Paul Broderick, Deputy Commissioner,
13 Department of Social Services.

14 The item before you is a contract
15 between the Department of Social Services
16 and One World Judicial Services who are
17 process servers.

18 Per New York State law, we need
19 people to deliver summonses, personal
20 service of summonses and complaints in
21 connection with proceedings in Supreme Court
22 and Surrogate's Court. Do you have any
23 questions?

24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Are there
25 any questions of Mr. Broderick from the

1 Rules Committee/3-27-17

2 legislators?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 Is there any public comment?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 There being none, all those in
7 favor of E-23 signify by saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 Any opposed?

10 (Nay.)

11 The item passes.

12 Next is E-35, a personal services
13 agreement between the County of Nassau
14 acting on behalf of the Department of Social
15 Services and CareerArc Group, L.L.C. d/b/a
16 tweetmyjobs.com.

17 Motion, please.

18 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

19 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Second.

20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
21 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
22 Rhoads.

23 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Just a
24 question, the item passed four to one.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I wasn't

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2 looking, four to one. Okay.

3 MR. BRODERICK: Good afternoon.

4 Paul Broderick, Deputy Commissioner,

5 Department of Social Services.

6 The contract before you is

7 between the Department of Social Services

8 and Tweet My Jobs. It is for this

9 corporation to maintain a job portal for the

10 County of Nassau. Do you have any

11 questions?

12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator

13 DeRiggi-Whitton.

14 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: She

15 said one quick question. Isn't there like

16 free entities out there like Monster.com or

17 all these other programs that are offered to

18 the public that we can use rather than

19 paying \$100,000?

20 MR. BRODERICK: That's a good

21 question, but, however, to answer your

22 question, no, it's usually free to the job

23 seeker, but not the people who are employing

24 people.

25 So in lieu of spending, on

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2 average we did a cost analysis --

3 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: And
4 this is cheaper?

5 MR. BRODERICK: No. Actually, if
6 you want to post a job, if you're an
7 employer, they usually charge anywhere from
8 250 to \$350 for anyone seeking a job. So
9 this comes at no cost to either small
10 businesses, large corporations.

11 In our employment unit, we have
12 relationships with various firms in Nassau
13 County. For example, we have a relationship
14 with Home Depot. We point them, we'll try
15 to work with Home Depot to take DSS clients
16 and get them job ready for positions at Home
17 Depot in some cases. We'll also have Home
18 Depot post their jobs out on this free
19 portal for our residents.

20 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any public
23 comment?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 There being none, all those in

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2 favor of E-35 signify by saying aye.
3 (Aye.)
4 Any opposed?
5 (Nay.)
6 The item passes four to one.
7 MR. BRODERICK: Thank you.
8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Left
9 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton all by herself.
10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Motion to
11 adjourn.
12 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.
13 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.
14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
15 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator
16 Nicolello. All those in favor of adjourning,
17 signify by saying aye.
18 (Aye.)
19 Any opposed?
20 (No verbal response.)
21 The Rules Committee is now
22 adjourned.
23 (Whereupon, the Rules Committee
24 adjourned at 5:40 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

THAT I attended at the time and place
above mentioned and took stenographic record
of the proceedings in the above-entitled
matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true
and accurate transcript of the same and the
whole thereof, according to the best of my
ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 13th day of April, 2017.

FRANK GRAY