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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES  
PRESIDING OFFICER

LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
(Reconvened meeting of August 7, 2017)

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

August 23, 2017  
4:44 P.M.

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2     A P P E A R A N C E S:

3

4     LEGISLATOR NORMA L. GONSALVES

5             Presiding Officer

6

7     LEGISLATOR RICHARD J. NICOLELLO

8             Deputy Presiding Officer

9

10    LEGISLATOR KEVAN ABRAHAMS

11            Minority Leader

12

13    LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE

14

15    LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES

16

17    LEGISLATOR DENISE FORD

18

19    LEGISLATOR LAURA CURRAN

20

21    LEGISLATOR C. WILLIAM GAYLOR III

22

23    LEGISLATOR VINCENT T. MUSCARELLA

24

25    LEGISLATOR ARNOLD DRUCKER

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2     LEGISLATOR ELLEN BIRNBAUM

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4     LEGISLATOR LAURA SCHAEFER

5

6     LEGISLATOR ROSE WALKER

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8     LEGISLATOR DONALD MACKENZIE

9

10    LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS

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12    MICHAEL PULITZER

13           Clerk of the Legislature

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2 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Now we are  
3 going to go back to the full legislature  
4 meeting of August 7th. The full leg meeting  
5 of August 7th is now in session. Item 331, an  
6 ordinance extending a voluntary separation  
7 incentive to certain officers and employees  
8 represented by CSEA.

9 A motion please. Moved by  
10 Legislator Walker. Seconded by Legislator  
11 Ford.

12 Now, who is going to address this  
13 particular item?

14 MR. BECKER: Chief deputy county  
15 executive Rob Walker will speak on this.

16 MR. WALKER: This is I think the  
17 fourth incentive that was put forth in working  
18 with the CSEA. It's eligible for CSEA  
19 employees \$1,000 a year for service years that  
20 have been complete and I'm here to answer any  
21 questions.

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any  
23 questions? Legislator Curran.

24 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: In the budget  
25 review meeting we talked a lot about the

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2 reduced head count in a lot of departments  
3 there's a lot fewer people. I'm just  
4 concerned if a lot of people take this  
5 incentive how is the work going to get done?

6 MR. WALKER: We have the same  
7 similar concern. Pretty much in each  
8 incentive we have hired back roughly about 50  
9 percent to 60 percent based upon positions,  
10 and over the course of the time it's actually  
11 increased. Every position will be looked at.  
12 Some obviously much more critical than  
13 others. Obviously public safety is a concern  
14 to everybody. Snowplow operators. Things of  
15 that nature. We will take every single  
16 position into account. Utilizing also  
17 vacancies that exist. And in this agreement  
18 we have the ability -- it's a minimum rehiring  
19 of 50 percent by which we can go back to NIFA  
20 as well and ask for additional hiring to be  
21 made.

22 Some of the positions that people  
23 are leaving are positions that were former  
24 sewer employees that were put into positions  
25 throughout the county that although they are

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2 producing, they are doing some work, they're  
3 doing some work that's new to them and in some  
4 of those cases some those positions will not  
5 filled. They will not need to be filled.  
6 Other cases you'd have position by position.  
7 Crossing guards. Crossing guards are  
8 currently full time crossing guards. Those  
9 crossing guards now, by contract with CSEA all  
10 become part time crossing guards. Pretty much  
11 they will be replaced one for one. Where  
12 current full-time employees earn \$30,000 plus  
13 benefits plus a pension. The part-time guards  
14 average about \$10,000 and only work the hours  
15 that are needed.

16 Those employees that so be it they  
17 would wish they would come back in agreement  
18 with the union as part-time employees. We  
19 believe pretty much everybody with the  
20 exception of one or two would want to come  
21 back. And again the county has a great deal  
22 of savings in that regard because it's based  
23 upon their hourly salary and not on a yearly  
24 salary.

25 But they all will be looked at

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2 obviously to make sure we can provide  
3 service. I said it before about the equipment  
4 operators, we have already begun that  
5 process. We believe there's eight to ten that  
6 will be leaving. We already have eight to ten  
7 applications being processed because the last  
8 thing we want to do is not plow roads.

9 But again, each one will be looked  
10 at. Under the former VSIPS they have all  
11 worked. Service has continued to be delivered  
12 and in this case will continue to do so as  
13 well.

14 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: That's sounds  
15 like you got a plan especially for the sewer  
16 workers and the crossing guards and the  
17 equipment workers as well. But I am  
18 concerned. You did start with public safety.  
19 So with the medics and the 911 operators those  
20 are already quite low. So if we have people  
21 in those departments leaving how will we make  
22 sure we have enough people manning.

23 MR. WALKER: Specifically I'll  
24 touch on AMTs. Right now today we are pretty  
25 much right at head count. We just hired a new

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2 class of 14 people that just started.

3 Obviously they're not on the street.

4 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Sorry. Where  
5 was this one?

6 MR. WALKER: This is the police  
7 medics. So the police medics we are roughly  
8 within one or two of budgeted head count.  
9 Similar to where we were in 2016. Fourteen  
10 people were just hired and just started I  
11 think last Friday or the Friday before. So  
12 obviously they're going through training.  
13 Once that training is complete we have another  
14 22 heads that are currently being vested by  
15 the Civil Service Commission. Once that's  
16 complete, we will look to obviously recapture  
17 and put back if any are leaving. To date two  
18 people have signed up, two AMTs, have signed  
19 up for the separation incentive so again, we  
20 would look to replace where they need to be  
21 replaced.

22 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: It does take  
23 months to get them trained and up to speed for  
24 both the medics and the 911. So there will  
25 potentially be a gap.



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2 MR. WALKER: There potentially  
3 could be. We would not know that really until  
4 September 15th as to where that gap  
5 potentially is or not. Specifically with 911  
6 operators, to date not one has signed up.  
7 There may be some interest. We hear anywhere  
8 from six to ten potentially may take the  
9 incentive. And again, we have another class  
10 that started and we have 25 people that in  
11 this case they have already passed a lot of  
12 the civil service background checks. Now they  
13 just have to go for medical and  
14 psychological. Which is a much smaller  
15 process than starting from scratch.

16 We already know there are vacancies  
17 in those positions. So the good thing about  
18 it is we were hiring irregardless of the  
19 separation incentive. So that process is  
20 ongoing.

21 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Thanks.

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any other  
23 questions? Legislator Gaylor.

24 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Mr. Walker, a  
25 couple of quick questions if I may. Recently

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2 Malverne, which is one of the villages within  
3 my district, converted from the county  
4 ambulance service to private service. The  
5 ambulance coverage that was there was that  
6 reallocated somewhere else within the county  
7 or was that eliminated.

8 MR. WALKER: We have kept the  
9 ambulances allocated as they currently were.  
10 We have not decreased the number of  
11 ambulances. That's also throughout the county  
12 in some other areas as well where the service  
13 was a five day service or seven day service.  
14 That has remained. I would not want to  
15 mislead anyone. There are some days where not  
16 every ambulance is covered. If there is a  
17 tremendous amount of people that potentially  
18 have off or sick or something of that nature  
19 overtime is obviously offered in many  
20 regards. I would not want to mislead anyone  
21 and say every ambulance is filled every day  
22 because there's sometimes where it just is not  
23 going to happen. But we remain to have the  
24 posts in place. We have conversation now that  
25 Garden City has potentially elected to go to

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2 North Shore. Those ambulances we have no plan  
3 to take off the road either. We believe they  
4 should remain on the road and they will.

5 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Second  
6 question and last question. You had indicated  
7 that you would have the ability to hire back  
8 after they left government service if it was  
9 deemed mission critical. Would that include  
10 the ambulance, AMT operators?

11 MR. WALKER: Yes, that is  
12 correct. We have never gone the route of part  
13 time ambulance or police medics. It's  
14 something that we prefer not to do. We have  
15 had that dialogue with the union consistently  
16 that we do not want to go down that route.  
17 They prefer we don't go down that route.  
18 There were MOAs that were put in place before  
19 that enabled the county not to be able to do  
20 that. And again, I think more importantly we  
21 want to have full time -- it's a hard job to  
22 find -- but we want to have full time very  
23 qualified people and we will do everything to  
24 make sure that happens.

25 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Thank you.

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2 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator  
3 Ford.

4 LEGISLATOR FORD: As you can see  
5 we are all concerned about by allowing so many  
6 people the ability to retire, which is good,  
7 and to give them an incentive, we all know  
8 that our workforce is down. We don't have  
9 enough people right now to begin with. And to  
10 lose so many seasoned and well trained people  
11 will really cause I think a big hole in the  
12 services provided by the county.

13 So my concern is and I appreciate  
14 the fact that if so many people take it and  
15 you reach a certain level that you will be  
16 able to bring people back like 50 percent of  
17 the people and they would be the people that  
18 may be able to train the new people that are  
19 coming on. But I know we discussed this so I  
20 really would like to have it put on public  
21 record so we know.

22 If we come to September 15th, you  
23 had indicated that maybe there were just very  
24 few people if at all any 911 operators that  
25 have put in for this VSIP. If all of a sudden

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2    you find September 8th 100 have put in for  
3    this, what is the guarantee? Because I know  
4    it's one thing to allow them to leave and then  
5    say we're only going to bring back 50 percent,  
6    which still would not be enough, where is it  
7    that the guarantee that maybe instead of  
8    allowing them to leave September 15th we would  
9    be able to stagger their separation date?

10                   MR. WALKER:     I'll be very honest  
11    if all of a sudden we did have this mass  
12    exodus of a particular field, such as a police  
13    communication operator, if 100 left we would  
14    have to come back to this legislature and say  
15    we need to amend this MOA if the union  
16    agreed. Because obviously the last thing we  
17    want to do is not have any type of terminals  
18    manned at the public safety center. If that  
19    did actually occur, which we don't believe  
20    will occur just by the number of people that  
21    have talked about leaving and the years of  
22    service, the police department has done a good  
23    job knowing where these areas are going to be  
24    potentially. And the good thing about that 50  
25    percent number, we already have vacancies in

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2 some of these positions that we were filling  
3 irregardless of this separation incentive.  
4 They're well on their way to getting those  
5 people hired.

6 Again, if there was all of a sudden  
7 a mass exodus of I mentioned equipment  
8 operators, police medics, we would come back  
9 and say we have a problem. We can't man and  
10 we would like to make an amendment to the MOA  
11 if the legislature and NIFA would obviously  
12 agree.

13 LEGISLATOR FORD: Who would then  
14 determine that critical level? We may say  
15 that NIFA can tell us that. Maybe it should  
16 be if there's 30 percent of the people that's  
17 your critical level. You can then defer their  
18 retirements, their separations. But we who  
19 are representing Nassau County and who are  
20 here amongst our neighborhoods and see what's  
21 going on and we have our union representatives  
22 here as well, they also know like from their  
23 members that like say if we lose five AMTs  
24 that may put that department into a critical  
25 state where they may not have enough trained

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2 people to be able man all the ambulances.

3 Who would then determine at that  
4 point that there should be a deferment given  
5 to maybe December or November.

6 MR. WALKER: At the end of the  
7 day it's really the legislature, the county  
8 executive and that have that ability to do  
9 that. The budget process is obviously  
10 underway discussing a lot of these items  
11 already.

12 With respect to the police  
13 communication operators, there is a minimum  
14 number of employees that we are attempting to  
15 hire. It's not been easy. As many people as  
16 we hired we have people that leave. But that  
17 is a targeted number. The budget is not  
18 changing. As we prepare with AMTs that budget  
19 number is not changing. It will be funded and  
20 with the ability to hire. I think with  
21 critical mass we're looking at some of these  
22 positions as they don't need to be replaced  
23 because either through different things that  
24 have been done, making maintenance more  
25 friendly by doing different things, is that

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2 you don't have to hire back in certain  
3 positions but some you know you critically  
4 have to hire.

5 So that overall 50 percent is on  
6 the overall amount of people that leave. In  
7 terms of rehiring it's up to -- if you had a  
8 make a decision one day about cutting a blade  
9 of grass and/or making sure you had a police  
10 terminal at the public safety center manned  
11 unfortunately or fortunately you're going to  
12 go with the terminal. But we don't anticipate  
13 that happening.

14 I think again there is a lot of  
15 vacancies already embedded in the budget. The  
16 hiring has already begun. I mentioned  
17 equipment operators only because we are  
18 already in August. Snow season is around the  
19 corner. We do not want to have a problem.  
20 One thing we realized last year there were a  
21 couple of snowstorms. As some of the  
22 employees get a little older they don't want  
23 to work some of the snowstorms. And the last  
24 thing you want to do is not have enough trucks  
25 on the road. We already have gone down that



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2 road. DPW is already in the process of doing  
3 that. Pretty much every place is ramping up  
4 where we know the employees have to be hired  
5 back.

6 Jamie Wilson is with us from the  
7 police department. He is in the Applicant  
8 Investigation Unit and what they have done in  
9 terms of getting people ready. They are well  
10 on it. They know what they need to do. They  
11 foresaw this happening already. And again,  
12 the numbers I mentioned are outside the VSIP.  
13 There are already vacancies that we are hiring  
14 on and doing it.

15 The one thing I would like to  
16 mention too within this is when you talk about  
17 the ability -- the union and the  
18 administration has the ability to enter into  
19 an agreement to allow some people to come back  
20 part time. So if there was a lapse by which  
21 you wanted to do additional training or  
22 somebody that is going to move into a new  
23 position, a superior officer or something of  
24 that nature, we have the ability, with the  
25 union's consent, to allow those people to come

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2 back part time, assist in the training to get  
3 people up to speed.

4 Again, I don't think there's one  
5 incentive that has not worked. It saved the  
6 county taxpayers money. The union employees  
7 we have, you can just look around the county  
8 from the work they have done. One West  
9 Street, the building, the parks, the amount of  
10 work that they've done. The facilities. The  
11 health department, moving the health  
12 department out. Our employees are great. The  
13 last thing we want to do is lose some of the  
14 most qualified people. If they would come  
15 back and assist us in some type of transition  
16 and the union would allow it we're going to do  
17 it.

18 LEGISLATOR FORD: I appreciate  
19 your response and I know what we are under  
20 like looking at this budget and everything  
21 like that. I do know that sometimes when you  
22 have to make cuts, whether or not it's public  
23 safety. But the reality is that people are  
24 paying taxes and as much as they may say they  
25 want to have the police presence, which we all

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2 want and love to see more police officers, a  
3 lot of people look at their neighborhoods and  
4 they feel if we don't cut the grass in a  
5 timely matter it makes the neighborhood look  
6 bad.

7 MR. WALKER: We're giving out  
8 scissors to everybody.

9 LEGISLATOR FORD: What I'm saying  
10 is in this day and age with the number of  
11 employees we have and the lack of some of them  
12 every job counts regardless of what they do.  
13 So what we need to do is make sure we keep as  
14 many people employed here in the county.  
15 Because a lot of people pay for them to be  
16 here and the county would be better. Like you  
17 say, they do excellent work and a lot of them  
18 have been doing a lot above and beyond what  
19 most of us would do and we need to recognize  
20 that. But we need to also give them the  
21 support and get them the help and the fellow  
22 workers that they need. Thank you.

23 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator  
24 Schaefer.

25 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Thank you.

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2 So along the lines of the AMTs I represent the  
3 village of Garden City and they're also going  
4 to discontinue using Nassau County  
5 ambulances. And you said earlier that you're  
6 not going to take those off the streets  
7 basically. Still continue to use those.

8 I guess my concern is that at some  
9 point down the road then there is not enough  
10 for those employees to do or to manage that  
11 then they're going to have to worry about  
12 their position. Is that something that you  
13 anticipate? Is that something that have  
14 experienced? You are going to keep them  
15 employed?

16 MR. WALKER: Yes. Right now it's  
17 one of the highest areas of overtime that we  
18 have for a lot of reasons. You have 14 people  
19 in a class not on the street. The employees  
20 working a lot of hours. They get stressed.  
21 They want to take time off. We don't perceive  
22 any need -- other than call volume is down, we  
23 do not want to take ambulances off the road.  
24 If the can assist in other areas of high call  
25 volume they can be moved around, put in the

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2 same area in the precinct. They move around  
3 as it is today even though they are assigned  
4 to precincts and areas. But the police  
5 commissioner can better manage that as he sees  
6 fit. The administration is not taking any  
7 ambulances off the road. We will manage it.  
8 And it's going to be budgeted and staffed as  
9 it is today. I think it's 144 police medics  
10 and then you we have four different positions,  
11 the deputy director and the director, bureau  
12 director and then the coordinators and the  
13 supervisors. That will be budgeted fully in  
14 the 2018 budget.

15 Again, we just bought all new  
16 ambulances. Everybody probably sees the nice  
17 decals going on. It makes no sense to buy new  
18 ambulances and not staff it. And it comes as  
19 a revenue source to the county as well. We  
20 acknowledge that and we are going to make sure  
21 we continue to do that.

22 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: So you  
23 don't anticipate there being an issue with  
24 that either.

25 MR. WALKER: No.

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2 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Thank you.

3 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator  
4 Rhoads.

5 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Deputy County  
6 Executive Walker how are you? Just one quick  
7 question. It may seem as though obviously  
8 government's responsibility to keep people  
9 safe. And I think that one of the concerns  
10 that seems to be expressed by everyone here is  
11 whether or not we can do the job if we a  
12 significant number of people that take the  
13 incentive. I know that you indicated that  
14 obviously we can go back with the consent of  
15 the legislature and the consent of NIFA to do  
16 a deferment if we had an irregularly large  
17 number of people that actually took the  
18 incentive and there was a concern that we  
19 wouldn't be able to meet the need.

20 Obviously you also referenced the  
21 fact that CSEA would have to consent to that,  
22 change the memorandum of understanding. Have  
23 there been any preliminary conversations?  
24 Obviously it's not part of any memorandum of  
25 understanding now. Have there been

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2 preliminary conversations with CSEA to make  
3 sure they would be willing to do something  
4 like that if in the unlikely event that it  
5 occurred?

6 MR. WALKER: Yes. And I know  
7 that the president is here. I just want to  
8 thank Jerry personally. The work that he's  
9 done obviously in terms of moving the county  
10 forward in so many different ways he's been  
11 there. Tough times that he had to face. I  
12 would say it's very easy to be a union leader  
13 when you're swimming in money and can just  
14 hire, hire and promotions, promotions. But  
15 he's been literally a partner in terms of  
16 government.

17 We have had those conversations.  
18 And again, depending on how those numbers are  
19 we would come back. Again, we do not believe  
20 there is going to be a need to do that. I  
21 hope that there isn't because it's much easier  
22 moving forward to know where we are. But we  
23 have had those discussions and we will  
24 continue to have them as the numbers come in.

25 The good thing about it is we

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2 monitor it every day. So every day we know  
3 who's coming, who's going. To date we have  
4 about 220 employees, 224. A few people have  
5 actually applied and then decided after they  
6 went out and decided not to leave. So you  
7 will have that occurring as well.

8 Again, we monitor it by title. We  
9 monitor it by department and we will make  
10 those educated decisions.

11 Again, I just go back to history.  
12 Over the last four that we've done, we have  
13 done a lot more with our county workforce. I  
14 highlighted all the work at the facilities,  
15 the parks. If anybody went to Cantiague Park  
16 when we put the boards in from the Nassau  
17 Coliseum now that Cantiague Park is filled  
18 with the boards the Islanders once played  
19 against, there's no room for people to walk  
20 around. The guys designed a breezeway in  
21 house. The employees were the ones that built  
22 it. Eisenhower Park. I don't know if  
23 anyone's been to the mini golf in Wantagh. I  
24 recommend you all go there. Built by the  
25 county employees. Very hard. So prepare to



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2 get like a 55 or 56. I had my hole in one on  
3 my first shot and haven't had one since one  
4 since.

5 But the work that they have done is  
6 tremendous. The last thing we want to see is  
7 to see the work that's gone into these  
8 facilities, as Legislator Ford said, turned to  
9 garbage. That does not make any sense to do  
10 it. So we're going to make sure we keep that  
11 integrity. Most important thing, the 19 of  
12 you have that as well. That's why you're  
13 here.

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator  
15 Bynoe.

16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you  
17 presiding officer. Hi. Good afternoon. I  
18 don't want to beat a dead horse but I have to  
19 ask this question because it looks like some  
20 of the big takers in terms of departments one  
21 of them is social services. And given the  
22 fact that they provide service to the least of  
23 us I have to ask, have we looked at the  
24 applications based on title and their actual  
25 roles in that department to determine that

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2 we're not losing a lot of case workers?

3 I'm sure that there is a maximum  
4 level of case work that each social worker or  
5 social service worker is able to carry and  
6 with individuals providing services that are  
7 essential, CPS, Child Protective Services,  
8 foster care placement, nutritional programs  
9 homeless. I'm concerned in particular, I hear  
10 your commitment we're going to back into the  
11 numbers and if they don't make sense to try  
12 and negotiate terms with all of the players to  
13 make sure it works out. But ultimately I want  
14 to know that we have done some kind of  
15 analysis and looking at those 27 people we  
16 have applications for to date and what kind of  
17 roles they play.

18 MR. WALKER: So ten o'clock this  
19 morning I actually met with Commissioner  
20 Imhoff, Deputy Commissioner Broderick. We  
21 actually laid out a plan that they are very  
22 comfortable with. The Nassau County Social  
23 Services Department roughly over 800  
24 employees, the work that they did. This year  
25 they were awarded as one of the top social

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2 service departments in all of New York State.  
3 Which speaks volume for them. I have never  
4 trusted people more than Commissioner Imhoff  
5 to speak on where he at least stands in the  
6 state. He's one of the most respected  
7 people.

8 He came in this morning already we  
9 went through literally individual by  
10 individual, title by title. Civil service has  
11 already prepared for them an approved list  
12 that people have taken tests. They are  
13 beginning that process already to interview  
14 and hire so there will not be a gap.  
15 Especially in some of those fields you talked  
16 about with Child Protective Services. The  
17 last thing we want to do is see is a child go  
18 injured because loss ten employees and we  
19 didn't replace any in time.

20 We've already discussed with some  
21 of those employees where we know that may  
22 potentially not be a list, would they be  
23 willing to come back to work part time, as I  
24 mentioned before, for an interim period while  
25 that list is fully vetted. The last thing

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2 also you want to hire someone off a list that  
3 at the end of the day was a wrong hire just  
4 because you needed to hurry up and hire  
5 people.

6 They are on top of it. I say this  
7 and get in trouble if any other employees are  
8 working but I don't think there's a more  
9 dedicated workforce than we have in social  
10 services. They have a very difficult job.  
11 They are going out in the community and facing  
12 some dangerous conditions. And to win that  
13 award speaks volumes of the work that they've  
14 done. We're not going to let it fall by the  
15 wayside. I think on the legacy of the  
16 department I don't think any of them will let  
17 that fall on the wayside.

18 Again, they've already went through  
19 it. We met I said ten a.m. this morning.  
20 Went through title by title. I said thank God  
21 we went through this rodeo a few times.  
22 You're able to at least have the ability to in  
23 fact figure out what you're doing, when you're  
24 doing it and how you're doing it.

25 The good thing I say also, at the

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2 same time it affords the county an  
3 opportunity. Some of these employees we've  
4 had for 40 years. Great outstanding service.  
5 It also is a different time with the age of  
6 computers and things of that nature where  
7 things are automated. That you're able to  
8 bring in new fresh blood sometimes is good  
9 also where they're much more starving to get  
10 involved, promote themselves and move up. So  
11 I think turnover is bad but turnover is also  
12 good if done correctly. Which I think  
13 monitored well it will work out.

14 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you.  
15 I'm definitely encouraged to know that that  
16 level of detail and commitment was granted to  
17 that department. We don't want to set them up  
18 for failure because the stakes are high  
19 there. Thank you very much.

20 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator  
21 MacKenzie.

22 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Good  
23 afternoon. One quick question. How long have  
24 the employees known about this incentive? And  
25 what efforts have been made to outreach to

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2 them? I know there have been many efforts,  
3 and the reason I'm asking this is because I  
4 think when that's explained it maybe will help  
5 to bolster the idea that these are realistic  
6 numbers in terms of retirement.

7 MR. WALKER: We really started  
8 this process, myself and Jerry Price, speak 15  
9 times a day. We probably started discussing  
10 this back in July if my memory serves me  
11 right. We put everything into place. I think  
12 we signed the agreement right around the  
13 August 8thj, August 9th. Notification went  
14 out immediately. We have an email that goes  
15 out to every single civil service employee.  
16 The union itself met had done a great job in  
17 notifying people. They actually met with  
18 every unit president and they actually  
19 detailed exactly what they're going to do and  
20 not do. They sent out email notifications.

21 Then obviously just the additional  
22 emails that goes out from our Department of  
23 Human Resources. They remind people of it.  
24 They schedule seminars so each employee gets  
25 opportunity to discuss and know their numbers

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2 and where they stand.

3 And then the employees can sign up  
4 and also can revoke. They possibly may go out  
5 to Hauppauge to see if the numbers make sense  
6 or not. They may go home and decide that  
7 maybe someone doesn't want them at home so  
8 they have to go back to work. You have all  
9 those opportunities by which to decide what  
10 they're able to do or not do. Again,  
11 thankfully we went through a few of these and  
12 it makes it a lot easier because people are  
13 somewhat used to it.

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Any other  
15 comments from the legislators? There being  
16 none, we have Jerry Laricchiuta followed by I  
17 believe we have Chris Kalender and I believe  
18 Gary Volpe.

19 MR. LARICCHIUTA: Good afternoon  
20 and thank you very much for actually taking  
21 the time out of a very busy day and I see  
22 you've really spent a lot of time and energy  
23 on this topic.

24 To my left and to your right is  
25 Gary Volpe and Chris Kalender. Gary

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2 represents the 911 operators and Chris  
3 represents the police medics. These are just  
4 two unit presidents and about seven or eight  
5 public safety areas. Look, let me explain  
6 something because you must be saying to  
7 yourself CSEA you signed this agreement and we  
8 did. I'm not here fighting against  
9 ourselves. We're not here arguing with  
10 ourselves.

11 I will say as far as desiring to  
12 have yet another incentive was not really our  
13 top choice. But given the alternative or  
14 given the choices that seemed to be coming  
15 down the pipeline from the control board,  
16 NIFA, when Ed Mangano was ordered pretty much  
17 by the control board to cut seven percent  
18 across the board or \$100 million that was a  
19 scary demand for us. Because we've been  
20 through that before, this union.

21 In light of how that order went  
22 down we started talking yes, Rob Walker and I  
23 started talking sometime in July. It wasn't  
24 until I think early August, he's correct, that  
25 we were able to come to terms. At one point



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2 NIFA we thought that the control board had  
3 basically killed the idea so we stopped  
4 talking for a little because we couldn't move  
5 forward without the consent of the control  
6 board.

7 What do I mean it's not a proposal  
8 that we really wanted to get in. I'm so  
9 thankful to hear that we have the chief deputy  
10 county executive and all of our legislators  
11 here acknowledging that the workforce is  
12 already drastically low and has been reduced  
13 by almost 2,000 people in the last five or six  
14 years. And that has already created pockets  
15 of areas where we're not able to provide the  
16 services. So why then would CSEA go into an  
17 agreement that yet lowers the numbers even  
18 more? I just explained that. That's in light  
19 of the alternative. We didn't know exactly  
20 where this was going to head if your budget  
21 that you're going over with the county  
22 executive budget that you're now reviewing had  
23 in fact been taken over by the control board  
24 at some point and there was a demand to make  
25 cuts. So we found this to be the lesser of

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2 two evils.

3 I use the simulation of saying --  
4 this is not funny because people have this  
5 disease -- but someone that's anorexic being  
6 asked to lose more weight. It's exactly where  
7 we are.

8 All we want to do and I want to  
9 thank you for the attention and the amount of  
10 time you have put into this, but I have these  
11 two people here to also cement in that we need  
12 now and in future administrations we need to  
13 be able to come back here and replenish the  
14 workforce so that we can to provide the  
15 services to the Nassau County residents,  
16 especially in the areas of public safety, but  
17 certainly in social services as well.

18 So I'm going to step back and just  
19 let my two met friends here. Gary with 911.

20 MR. VOLPE: Good afternoon. I  
21 thank for your time. I have met with many of  
22 you on different occasions.

23 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Gary state  
24 your name for the record.

25 MR. VOLPE: Gary Volpe. I met

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2 with many regarding 911. Some have come to  
3 visit 1194 the 911 center. I did have some  
4 thoughts on speaking points I have here but I  
5 want to address what some of the legislators  
6 have brought up to the deputy county  
7 executive. One in particular, Legislator  
8 Curran asked Rob about some people taking this  
9 incentive if it would leave a hole. To answer  
10 that there is a hole. There has been a hole  
11 since 2011 and we've been screaming from the  
12 pulpit. It got worse and worse.

13 I know Legislator Ford was down  
14 there. Saw one and zero people on the bakery  
15 clock. It has not improved. And I think it  
16 was Ms. Ford that brought up about training or  
17 getting a brain drain. I'm paraphrasing what  
18 you said. I can tell you to that point one of  
19 our supervisors that train new hires is  
20 putting people that are just hired with people  
21 still on probation, that are still in  
22 training. You have people in training  
23 training people that are just hired. That  
24 can't happen. These people are on probation.  
25 They are not able to do the job. They have to

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2 sit with somebody that's no longer on  
3 probation. That's not happening. You have a  
4 crisis down there.

5 So, it's not going to leave a  
6 hole. There is a hole. It's how much of a  
7 crater it's going to create. This is  
8 something that you need to think about because  
9 it affects the voters, the constituents that  
10 you represent. I'm going to turn it over to  
11 my colleague Chris. Thank you for your time.

12 MR. KALENDER: Chris Kalender from  
13 the police medics. Thank you for your time.  
14 Again, I just want to extend the thanks for  
15 the time and effort you guys are putting into  
16 this and to all the things we brought to you  
17 today.

18 In addition to everything the two  
19 gentlemen had spoken about I would just like  
20 to kind of reinforce the staffing levels and  
21 how this might create a problem with the  
22 ambulance bureau. Each average ambulance  
23 brings in about \$11,000 per day. If we have  
24 to lay off ambulances because of a shortage of  
25 personnel we're looking at funds that won't be

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2 coming back to the county. Which we all know  
3 how that can affect us.

4 We do have very low staffing level  
5 for tomorrow in addition to a couple of days  
6 ago where we had a number of ambulances that  
7 are really crucial for public safety. We have  
8 ambulances that go from Elmont to somewhere  
9 nowhere near Elmont. So maybe they might go  
10 to Great Neck, they might go to Freeport just  
11 to go to a 911 call for somebody answering  
12 help.

13 I hope that this incentive does not  
14 make that exaggerated. I hope that this  
15 incentive doesn't drive more people out to  
16 give us that much more of a shortage.

17 In addition to those, I know that  
18 Deputy County Executive Walker did refer to  
19 two of our members putting their papers in.  
20 That's our commanding officer and our deputy  
21 commanding officer. They're the ones that set  
22 the rules. They run the bureau themselves.  
23 If they were to take the incentive without a  
24 deferral if you guys choose, the training for  
25 the following deputy bureau director and

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2 bureau director would be very limited to at  
3 least two to three weeks. That of course will  
4 play a role in how effective the next people  
5 that go into that spot is.

6 Again, I thank you for your time  
7 and we appreciate it.

8 MR. LARICCHIUTA: If you don't  
9 mind I want to sum it up. Basically, as you  
10 can tell, we are here to make sure that the  
11 deal that was negotiated between Nassau County  
12 and CSEA gets passed. However, we implore you  
13 to keep to the forefront the fact that this is  
14 a decision that was made based on today's  
15 circumstances here in Nassau County, today's  
16 budget issues here in Nassau County. We would  
17 like for you all to remember this so that when  
18 we come back and say we need more help in the  
19 911 and someone says why did you let your  
20 members go? I think the fear was they were  
21 going any way possibly and this is a far  
22 better way.

23 We would like the control board,  
24 NIFA, who is now getting involved in  
25 operations here in Nassau County to some

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2 extent, to understand and give credit to this  
3 unit. Once again CSEA has stepped up to the  
4 plate. Once again this union has come here to  
5 answer the call to help Nassau County figure  
6 out it's budgetary problems, but we are taking  
7 a sacrifice and hit here. I think working  
8 with Rob and county executive actually worked  
9 out very well. Everyone has good intentions  
10 here. There is no one trying to outplay  
11 anybody. Nobody is trying to be the winner or  
12 the victor.

13 However, at the end of the day if  
14 we cannot provide the services to the Nassau  
15 County residents then the Nassau County  
16 residents are the losers not so much anyone  
17 else here. We implore you to remember what  
18 was said today so we can come back and get  
19 help. Thank you.

20 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: You are  
21 most welcome. Legislator Curran.

22 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Just quickly  
23 since Mr. Volpe brought this up it sounds like  
24 there's a crisis situation in the 911 center.  
25 It's a hole, it could become a crater. I'm

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2 just wondering if there's someone from the  
3 police department or the administration who  
4 can address the situation that we have now  
5 before VSIP happens.

6 MR. VOLPE: Are you asking me or  
7 Mr. Walker.

8 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Looks like we  
9 do have someone. When you're talking about  
10 trainees training newbies it doesn't sound  
11 very heartening and those are the only two  
12 people there.

13 MR. WILSON: I'm inspector Jamie  
14 Wilson, the commanding officer of the  
15 Personnel Accounting Bureau. Any requests for  
16 hiring that were directed by Commissioner  
17 Ryder initiates in my office. And recently we  
18 did just bring on -- we hired 11, one did drop  
19 out immediately for personal reasons. We  
20 hired ten police communication operators on  
21 the 11th of August. It is struggle to, as DC  
22 Walker said, it always seems like we're  
23 playing catch up in the staffing there.

24 But the department has been  
25 cognizant of it for a while. Application



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2 investigations, which falls under my unit, it  
3 seems is constantly working on certain titles  
4 that are critical to the public safety for the  
5 residents of Nassau County. Those are police  
6 officers, police medics, CB operators. Along  
7 with our administrative staff the core of our  
8 being.

9 We do have I believe 25 current  
10 candidates and they have completed what we  
11 call phase one. Phase two is the physicals  
12 and medicals, psychologicals that have to be  
13 performed by the Civil Service Commission.

14 So, police communication operators  
15 are a critical part. The staffing has always  
16 been problematic it seems. But it seems to be  
17 a never-ending fight. We're always trying  
18 constantly to address that. And if we did  
19 lose a significant amount of CB operators  
20 during this incentive it would either lead to  
21 increased overtime to staff it or it could  
22 lead to vacancies at the consoles.

23 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: That's pretty  
24 serious. You said there are 11, now ten, who  
25 are getting the training. They're getting the

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2 medical clearance and all that now. They're  
3 in that phase now?

4 No ma'am. We hired ten on the  
5 11th. They are in their training now. I  
6 don't know -- it is extensive training to get  
7 them out on a console.

8 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Many months  
9 from what I understand.

10 MR. WILSON: Probably six months  
11 minimum. I'm not sure. So the cavalry never  
12 is right around the corner it seems. That's  
13 why applicant investigations is usually seems  
14 perpetually trying to clear candidates, keep  
15 some in the pipeline and when we can we seek  
16 permission to hire.

17 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Obviously we  
18 have new leadership in the police department  
19 and this is something that is being taken very  
20 seriously sounds like from what you're  
21 saying. I'm concerned about the gap. We will  
22 just have to do our best.

23 MR. WILSON: I wish I had a  
24 better answer. It's the reality we're in.  
25 The onset when the rumors started with an

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2 incentive, Commissioner Ryder called me and  
3 stressed sort of trying to assess the critical  
4 civilian positions, primarily being police  
5 medics and CB ops. So we tasked applicant  
6 investigation with fast tracking or  
7 prioritizing those. Especially those two  
8 titles.

9 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Thanks. I  
10 appreciate your answers.

11 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator  
12 Ford.

13 LEGISLATOR FORD: Thank you very  
14 much. One question we have I guess when you  
15 say we're always trying to catch up, what do  
16 you feel is the challenge in trying to get the  
17 correct number of personnel to man the  
18 stations in the 911 bureau?

19 MR. WILSON: I will give you my  
20 personal reasons. It's a very demanding job.  
21 It's not for everybody. It's a stressful  
22 job. Gary can speak to the day day-to-day  
23 operations. I was a police officer and some  
24 nights you were amazed at the call volume  
25 these people can handle and put out. It's

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2 just a very stressful job. A lot of  
3 training. The hours. People are human. Some  
4 people don't want to work midnights. But we  
5 are a 24-7 operation and that comes with the  
6 territory. Some of it is human nature.

7 But we administer the test for PCO  
8 whenever it comes up. We try and keep at  
9 least a list of possible candidates that we  
10 can investigate. But it's a very demanding  
11 job. That poses a problem for us in  
12 recruitment.

13 LEGISLATOR FORD:

14 Understandably. Do you think once you have  
15 people who do apply to take the test and once  
16 they take the test and pass it, is there a  
17 delay or lag like you say when you have to do  
18 applicant investigations and things, is it  
19 possible that perhaps we may have to bolster  
20 that division to help process people faster?

21 MR. WILSON: If I can speak for  
22 Lieutenant Schmitt who runs it he would always  
23 welcome additional help. We did, under former  
24 Commissioner Krumpter, seeing a need for  
25 increased police hiring due to attrition

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2 during the wage freeze that staff was bulked  
3 up. I can't tell you how many people exactly  
4 were there but it is more than was there five  
5 or six years ago.

6 I think that's something that  
7 Commissioner Ryder would have to address if  
8 seeing that it's the nature of our business  
9 when we need to -- if we see a need for  
10 significant hiring we will do the math and  
11 kind of say we need police officers, CB ops,  
12 we need police medics we need just civilians.  
13 They also handle investigations for sheriff's  
14 department. The corrections officers too.  
15 They do other county agencies. But I think  
16 that's something historically as our needs  
17 dictate the commissioner can direct additional  
18 personnel there.

19 LEGISLATOR FORD: Perfect. Just  
20 speaking about the 911 bureau. Having visited  
21 there I know that when we hire and we bring  
22 candidates in they end up doing different  
23 jobs. Like one person who may take in the  
24 intake call for 911, the initial call, isn't  
25 necessarily the person that works to dispatch

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2 the police officers to the call. There's  
3 different training that they have to go  
4 through for each position.

5 I know sometimes you could have a  
6 certain number of 911 intakers I guess here,  
7 but then over in this other area all of a  
8 sudden if you have like say 40 that work that  
9 area but now all of a sudden with the  
10 incentive, ten of them or 12 of them or 15 of  
11 them may take the incentive so we're going to  
12 lose them.

13 So that really is very critical  
14 because they're the ones that actually  
15 communicate with the police officers. They're  
16 the ones send them out on the call to know  
17 exactly where to send them with their  
18 function.

19 Then you also have another area,  
20 and I'm probably saying the title wrong,  
21 please forgive me if I am, but where at the  
22 end of a call the police then call in to case  
23 intake we were down that. Then I remember the  
24 night I was there just watching the board and  
25 you see these officers calling in, and because

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2 we were down a number of people, the officers  
3 had to stay on hold and they couldn't go  
4 anywhere. They had to sit in their cars  
5 waiting for their place in line to be able to  
6 close out that report.

7 So it's compounded that you have  
8 less officers patrolling, you might have four  
9 of them sitting in their cars waiting to close  
10 out the call that they had.

11 I guess when we move forward, I'd  
12 have so say this and I'm sure Commissioner  
13 Ryder will pay attention to this as well as  
14 the deputy county executive, that when we are  
15 looking at this and if these people do decide  
16 that they are going to retire, and I  
17 understand a 911 operator is an extremely  
18 stressful job, but we look at that to see  
19 which areas are going to be retiring from.  
20 Because it may not be all of the 911 that  
21 needs to be deferred but maybe certain job  
22 titles that may need to. So that we have the  
23 people, bring them in, get them trained, get  
24 them up to speed so a probationary person is  
25 not training a new hire but that we make sure

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2 everybody gets trained properly. To enjoy the  
3 safety of everybody. Not only the residents  
4 but as well as our officers who answer the  
5 calls.

6 So that's my request. Thank you.

7 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator  
8 Bynoe.

9 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you  
10 Presiding Officer. Good evening.

11 MR. WALKER: It's just important  
12 to remember again he gets stuck with the brunt  
13 of all the problems because he's got to get  
14 everyone hired. I think we all acknowledge we  
15 want to have more police communication  
16 operators. Right now the 11 -- we're down to  
17 ten that are being trained, 25 are in the  
18 pipeline to get hired regardless of whether  
19 one person takes the separation incentive or  
20 not. We are hiring those 25. They are  
21 budgeted to be hired. They will be hired.

22 And again, as I mentioned before,  
23 as of today not one police communication  
24 operator has elected to take the incentive.  
25 Based upon looking at the historical



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2 perspective up there, which we do when we  
3 offer the incentive, based upon historical  
4 analysis of how many years they have on the  
5 job, where they are, we do not believe that  
6 there will be a lot taking it, if potentially  
7 any. Numbers I have heard is three, is six,  
8 is ten, is none. We're thinking about it. We  
9 can leave in December but we'd rather wait for  
10 December so we don't want to leave now.

11 Again, we're hiring that 25  
12 irregardless if one person leaves or not. If  
13 more leave we will hire more. The good thing  
14 about it is they're in the process already.  
15 They are past the hardest phase is to get them  
16 through the background check. They're now  
17 doing their physicals and their psych, which  
18 takes a lot. So those people will be put on  
19 board immediately.

20 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Legislator  
21 Bynoe.

22 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Mr. Walker  
23 answered in part my question, and I think I  
24 will just ask the other part off the record.  
25 Thank you.

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2 MR. LARICCHIUTA: I just want to  
3 say and I agree with everything that Rob  
4 Walker has just said except for one of the  
5 problems, one of the reasons that we stand  
6 here before you today with concern is the new  
7 administration in the police department,  
8 working hand and hand with both the union and  
9 the county executive, is a big tremendous leap  
10 forward. We've been waiting for five years to  
11 get these numbers up to where they're supposed  
12 to be with the prior administration of the  
13 police department. Make that very clear.

14 So, we are very happy and looking  
15 forward to working as a new partnership with  
16 the new police commissioner and this  
17 administration and future administration  
18 because we believe we are making tremendous  
19 progress. It's five years of going through  
20 this why the concern on the faces. Thank  
21 you.

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Most  
23 welcome Mr. Laricchiuta. If there are no  
24 other comments from the legislators. Any  
25 other public comment? Thank you sir. There

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2 being none, all those in favor of item 331-17,  
3 an ordinance extending a voluntary separation  
4 incentive to certain officers and employers  
5 represented by CSEA. All those in favor  
6 signify by saying aye. Any opposed? I guess  
7 it's unanimous, am I correct? Frank, it's  
8 unanimous.

9 The next item on the legislative  
10 calendar is item 317, a capital budget  
11 emergency, and I believe that it's to add  
12 capital projects to the capital plan relating  
13 to NUMC contract.

14 The next item is item 318, an  
15 ordinance to amend ordinance number 13 2016  
16 adopting the capital budget for the year 2016  
17 for the County of Nassau corresponding to the  
18 first year of the four year capital plan  
19 pursuant to the provisions of section 310 of  
20 the county government law of Nassau County.

21 Am I at liberty to call 319 as  
22 well? 319 is a bond ordinance providing for a  
23 capital expenditure to finance the capital  
24 projects identified here within the county of  
25 Nassau in authorizing \$9 million of bonds of

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2 the county of Nassau to finance said  
3 expenditure pursuant to the local finance law  
4 of New York and the county governmental law of  
5 Nassau County.

6 Now I need a motion. Moved by  
7 Legislator Walker. Second by Legislator  
8 Schaefer.

9 I guess we can take each of them  
10 one at a time. Is there anyone who wants to  
11 speak on these items Mr. Becker?

12 MR. BECKER: On the emergency  
13 itself Madam Chair?

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: This is  
15 item 317 on the capital budget emergency.

16 MR. PODLESAK: The emergency is a  
17 formality in order to make an amendment to the  
18 capital plan. We do it every time there's a  
19 change in the capital plan.

20 MR. BECKER: Mr. Arnold is here to  
21 speak on the items themselves.

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Okay Mr.  
23 Arnold.

24 MR. ARNOLD: Good evening. Ken  
25 Arnold. Item 318 is the capital plan

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2    amendment adding two capital projects to the  
3    capital plan. And then 319 is the bond  
4    ordinance associated with the equipment for  
5    the medical center that's part of the sheriff  
6    sending these inmates for the care over to the  
7    medical center.

8                   LEGISLATOR GONSALVES:     Any  
9    questions of Mr. Arnold? There being none --  
10   item 319 requires an amendment in the nature  
11   of a substitution. So, motion please. Moved  
12   by Legislator Nicoletto. Second by Legislator  
13   Muscarella. The reason for it was the filing  
14   was at 2:37 today.

15                  LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS:     Just to add  
16   we wanted to tidy up the language in the  
17   bonding and make it more specific to what we  
18   are actually bonding for and the intent.

19                  LEGISLATOR GONSALVES:     Clerk call  
20   the emergency for item 319. We need the clerk  
21   to call an emergency for item.

22                  MR. PULITZER:     An emergency  
23   resolution 12-2017 declaring an emergency for  
24   immediate action upon a bond ordinance  
25   providing for expenditures to finance the

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2     capital project identified herein within the  
3     county of Nassau in authorizing \$9 million of  
4     bonds of the County of Nassau to finance such  
5     expenditure pursuant to the local finance law  
6     of New York and the county government law of  
7     Nassau County.

8                   LEGISLATOR GONSALVES:       Moved by  
9     Legislator Walker.   Second by Legislator, I'm  
10    going to say Minority Leader Kevan.   It's your  
11    emergency, right?   All those in favor of  
12    establishing the emergency signify by saying  
13    aye.   Any opposed?   The emergency is now  
14    established.

15                  Now the item as amended.   That's  
16    item 319.   Any questions?   Any comments  
17    regarding 319?   No?   Okay.   Any public  
18    comment?   There being none, all those in favor  
19    of 319 signify by saying aye.   Any opposed?  
20    Unanimous, correct?   Frank it's unanimous.

21                  We did not take a vote on item 317  
22    nor 318.   If there are no other questions or  
23    comments regarding those two items we are now  
24    ready to take the vote.   All those in favor of  
25    317 and 318 signify by saying aye.   Any

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2 opposed? I assume again it's unanimous,  
3 correct. Frank, 317 and 318 are unanimous.

4 Next item is item 326 authorizes  
5 Nassau County to continue to collect sales  
6 taxes as part of the New York State tax law in  
7 continuing a local government assistance  
8 program.

9 There is an amendment in the nature  
10 of a substitution for this item that due to  
11 the time of its filing requires an emergency  
12 resolution to be passed by this body if it is  
13 to be considered today at this meeting. Now  
14 I'm going to ask the clerk to call the  
15 emergency on the item 326.

16 MR. PULITZER: Emergency  
17 resolution 14-2017 declaring an emergency for  
18 immediate action upon a local law amending  
19 local law 18-1984 as last amended by local law  
20 4-2015, and as incorporated in chapter four of  
21 Title Nine of the miscellaneous laws of Nassau  
22 County in relation to imposing additional  
23 rates of sale in compensating using tax  
24 authorized by Section 1210 of the tax law in  
25 continuing a local government assistant

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2 program authorized by Section 1262(e) of the  
3 law.

4 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Motion to  
5 establish the emergency. Moved by Legislator  
6 Nicoletto. Seconded by Legislator MacKenzie.  
7 All those in favor of establishing the  
8 emergency signify by saying aye. Any  
9 opposed? The emergency is now established.

10 Now we need an amendment in the  
11 nature of a substitution because the item was  
12 filed today at 3:27. So, motion to establish  
13 an amendment in the nature of a substitution.  
14 Moved by Legislator Rhoads. Second by  
15 Legislator Gaylor. All those in favor of  
16 accepting the amendment in the nature of a  
17 substitution signify by saying aye. Any  
18 opposed?

19 Now, the amendment that we just  
20 voted on considers changing the language back  
21 to what it was historically and that is  
22 mandatory. We understand that this program  
23 was stripped from our budget due to the  
24 demands of NIFA. We still hold out hope this  
25 money can be distributed for this calendar



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2 year this amendment preserves this needed  
3 program for our villages going forward.

4 Does anyone have any questions on  
5 this amendment in the nature of a  
6 substitution?

7 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: We support  
8 the amendment.

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: All those  
10 in favor of the amendment signify by saying  
11 aye. Any opposed?

12 Now for the item as amended. Who  
13 is going to speak on this? Is someone ready  
14 to speak on this Mr. Becker? Do we need it?  
15 It's our amendment, therefore I don't know.  
16 It's a sales tax extender I believe and it  
17 goes back to the original intent to include  
18 the villages as part of the state law.

19 Any comments that you wish to make  
20 indicate so. If not, any public comment?  
21 There being none, all those in favor of item  
22 326 as amended signify by saying aye. Any  
23 opposed? Guess what? The item passes  
24 unanimously. I'm going to keep this  
25 legislature meeting in recess. God only know

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2 what can surface between now and the next  
3 time. Now, the August 7th, 2017 meeting  
4 remains in recess.

5 (Meeting was recessed at 5:45 P.M.)

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CERTIFICATION

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand this second day of  
September 2017

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FRANK GRAY