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4	NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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8	RULES COMMITTEE
9	KOLES COMMITTEE
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13	NORMA GONSALVES, Chairwoman
14	Nothin Concile vice, Charle woman
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18	1550 Franklin Avenue Mineola, New York
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22	Monday, October 2, 2017 1:15 P.M
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2	LIST OF SPEAKERS
3	MICHAEL SCHLERNOFF8
4 5	NARDA HALL9
6	MARTHA KRISEL16
7	ROBERT CLEARY17
8	KEN ARNOLD24
9	META MEREDAY
10	TIM LACHAPELLE40 EILEEN KRIEB66
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2	INSERTS
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4	By Reference:
5	Consent Clerk Items:
6	354, 362, 363, 367, 368, 369 Locate in minutes of the Public Safety;
7	And Finance Committees Dated 10-2-1739
8	Dated 10 2 17
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- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Will my
- 3 colleagues join us in the chamber.
- 4 Legislator Gaylor, please lead us
- 5 in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 6 (The Pledge of Allegiance was
- 7 recited.)
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Please
- 9 remain standing for a moment of silence for
- 10 the victims of the Las Vegas shooting.
- 11 (A moment of silence was
- 12 observed.)
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you.
- 14 And tomorrow marks the fifth anniversary of
- 15 the passing of former Presiding Officer
- 16 Peter Schmitt. I would like you all to
- 17 remember him in your thoughts and prayers.
- 18 Thank you very much.
- 19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: The Human
- 20 Rights Commission of Nassau County will be
- 21 holding a vigil on Wednesday at 5:30 on the
- 22 steps of this building also in recognition
- 23 of the victims of the Las Vegas shooting as
- 24 well, which we all are invited too as well.

2.5

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you
- 3 very much. I just got word about it.
- 4 The Rules Committee is now in
- 5 session. We have a contract period which is
- 6 not too long and, after the contracts are
- 7 heard and approved, or denied, whichever the
- 8 case may be, we will recess to go into the
- 9 other committees so we can then come back
- 10 and do the final items on the Rules
- 11 Committee.
- Now, for the members of the Rules
- 13 Committee, Mr. Pulitzer, please call the
- 14 roll.
- 15 CLERK PULITZER: Thank you,
- 16 ma'am. Rules Committee. Legislator Selia
- 17 Bynoe?
- 18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.
- 19 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Delia
- 20 DeRiggi-Whitton?
- 21 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- Here.
- 23 CLERK PULITZER: Ranking Member
- 24 Kevan Abrahams?
- 25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

1	Rules	Committee	/10-2-17

- 2 CLERK PULITZER: Alternate Deputy
- 3 Presiding Officer Howard Kopel?
- 4 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.
- 5 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator
- 6 Vincent Muscarella?
- 7 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.
- 8 CLERK PULITZER: Vice Chairman
- 9 Richard Nicolello?
- 10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.
- 11 CLERK PULITZER: Chairwoman Norma
- 12 Gonsalves?
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Present.
- 14 CLERK PULITZER: We have a
- 15 quorum, ma'am.
- 16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you
- 17 very much, Mr. Pulitzer.
- The first item is contract A-45,
- 19 a resolution authorizing the director of
- 20 Nassau County Office of Purchasing to
- 21 request oversight of a contract between the
- 22 County of Nassau acting on behalf of various
- 23 county departments and American Ware, Inc.
- A motion, please.
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.

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(Nay.)

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- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 The item passes four to three.
- 3 The next contract is A-49, a
- 4 resolution authorizing the director of
- 5 Nassau County Office of Purchasing to award
- 6 and execute a contract between the County of
- 7 Nassau acting on behalf of the Nassau County
- 8 Correctional Center and H. Schrier &
- 9 Company, Inc.
- Motion, please.
- 11 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So moved.
- 12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 14 Legislator Kopel, seconded by Legislator
- 15 Nicolello. Who is here to speak on this
- 16 item?
- 17 MS. HALL: Good afternoon
- 18 legislators. Narda Hall, Correctional
- 19 Center. The item before you is to authorize
- 20 and award a blanket purchase order for
- 21 groceries for the Nassau County Correctional
- 22 Center for H. Schrier & Company.
- The bid was advertised in Newsday
- 24 and posted to the Nassau County website bid
- 25 solicitation board. We had 13 vendors view

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 the bid, none of whom were minority, women
- 3 or veteran owned. Minority affairs was
- 4 given a copy of the bid. Four vendors
- 5 submitted the bid. None of whom are located
- 6 in Nassau County. H. Schrier & Company
- 7 located in Brooklyn, New York submitted bids
- 8 for 205 items and it is recommended that  ${\rm H.}$
- 9 Schrier be awarded a contract for 75 of
- 10 these items.
- 11 When those items are calculated
- 12 by unit of measure, such as pounds, ounces
- or grams, H. Schrier is the lowest
- 14 responsible bidder for each of those 78
- 15 items. The remaining items are being
- 16 awarded to the lowest cost responsible
- 17 bidders for those items.
- 18 Historically, Schrier has held
- 19 food requirement contracts with Nassau
- 20 County with satisfactory performance.
- 21 The cost of the contract is
- 22 \$119,801.15.
- 23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
- 24 questions? Minority Leader.
- 25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you,

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Madam Presiding Officer. The cost of this
- 3 contract in the past? I know this is only
- 4 78 of the 205 items, I don't know if you
- 5 have that level of detail and I envision
- 6 that there be will be subsequent contracts
- 7 that come in for the balance of 205 items of
- 8 the 78 that we are not considering today.
- 9 MS. HALL: Yes.
- 10 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: But of the
- 11 78 that are being done today, have you done
- 12 a cost by cost analysis?
- MR. SCHLERNOFF: No, this is the
- 14 only contract that meets the requirements
- 15 for oversight. All the rest are below
- 16 \$100,000 -- actually, two other contracts --
- in fact, I saw them today and approved them
- 18 today of just waiting on the oversight.
- 19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Those
- 20 contracts are under?
- 21 MR. SCHLERNOFF: Are under
- 22 \$100,000.
- LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Two things;
- 24 one, the names of those vendors for those
- other contracts that are under \$100,000;

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 and, two, I guess my question more directed
- 3 before was the cost of these 78 items, do
- 4 you have a breakdown of what we should be
- 5 paying for these items, are we paying more
- 6 than we paid in the past, less than in the
- 7 past, when it all adds up, when you add up
- 8 all the contracts for all the 205 items?
- 9 MR. SCHNERNOFF: Well, when we
- 10 review, we review each item separately and
- 11 make the award for each item and whoever is
- 12 the lowest cost per item that vendor gets
- 13 that item and we combine them all into three
- 14 different contracts.
- 15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: That part I
- 16 got. If you take the contracts --
- 17 MR. SCHNERNOFF: The price is the
- 18 same or off --
- 19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: The total.
- MR. SCHNERNOFF: I don't know. I
- 21 don't compare them to last years or the
- 22 previous two years ago.
- LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: How do you
- 24 know -- how do you estimate we're getting a
- 25 fair price?

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: How do you
- 3 determine we're getting a fair price?
- 4 MR. SCHNERNOFF: Because we do
- 5 competitive bidding and that's how we
- 6 determine whether we are getting a fair
- 7 price.
- 8 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Okay. So
- 9 if the competitive bids all came in and this
- 10 contract totaled \$500,000 and that was the
- 11 lowest bid, we would say that's was the best
- 12 price?
- MR. SCHNERNOFF: Well, we review
- 14 the contract with the agency. If the agency
- 15 feels that the pricing is excessive, they
- 16 would tell us and we would not make the
- 17 reward for that item.
- 18 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: So this
- 19 conversation is about pricing, in this case
- 20 it would be with the agency with the
- 21 correctional center?
- MR. SCHNERNOFF: Yes.
- LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And they
- 24 feel its pricing is balanced and fair than
- 25 in the past?

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- MR. SCHNERNOFF: Yes. Do you
- 3 still want the names of the other two?
- 4 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If you have
- 5 them.
- 6 MR. SCHNERNOFF: I will get them
- 7 in a minute.
- 8 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: While
- 9 Michael is getting that together, there are
- 10 other vendors from what I understand who
- 11 bidded on this were Nova, Universal Coffee
- 12 and Elwood.
- Were those bidders, did they
- 14 receive contract awards for the balance of
- 15 the items between the 78 and the 205?
- 16 If the names are different, than
- 17 the names of the other bidders on these 78
- 18 items then, that's one point. But I'm
- 19 trying to figure out who are the other
- 20 bidders -- I mean, can we rule out it was
- 21 Nova, Universal Coffee or Elwood for the
- 22 items that would be about 137 items?
- 23 Can we rule out these other
- 24 bidders?
- 25 MS. HALL: I would have to find

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 out who are the other bidders at this point.
- 3 I don't have that information because it's
- 4 indicated it's been bid out. I can get the
- 5 information for you.
- 6 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Okay.
- 7 MR. BECKER: I think he went back
- 8 in the anteroom to make a phone call.
- 9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Motion to
- 10 table.
- 11 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.
- 12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 13 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
- 14 Kopel.
- 15 All those in favor of tabling
- 16 this item signify by saying aye.
- 17 (Aye.)
- 18 Any opposed?
- 19 (No verbal response.)
- The item is now tabled until we
- 21 get the answers to the questions that were
- 22 posed. Thank you very much.
- The next item is a personal
- 24 services agreement, E-190, between the
- 25 County of Nassau acting on behalf of the

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Nassau County Attorney's Office and Leahy
- 3 and Johnson, PC.
- 4 Motion, please.
- 5 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.
- 6 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.
- 7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 8 Legislator Muscarella, seconded by
- 9 Legislator Kopel. Who is here to speak on
- 10 this item?
- MS. KRISEL: Good afternoon,
- 12 legislators. Deputy County Attorney Martha
- 13 Krisel. This is an amendment for additional
- 14 funds for outside counsel adding \$450,000 to
- 15 a total of \$700,000. It's for a litigation
- 16 matter.
- 17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
- 18 questions from the legislators? Legislator
- 19 DeRiggi-Whitton.
- 20 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Is
- 21 it okay if Mr. Cleary comes up for one quick
- 22 question?
- MS. KRISEL: On this personal
- 24 services contract?
- 25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Yes.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- I was trying to decipher if this
- 3 is the same contract as the one that you
- 4 have listed as number 19 on this list?
- 5 MR. CLEARY: I don't believe so.
- 6 I think this one is not retroactive. It's
- 7 from December 13th to completion of the
- 8 services.
- 9 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- 10 wasn't sure. Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any other
- 12 comments or questions from the legislators?
- 13 Minority Leader. Hold on. I'm sorry, do
- 14 you have another question?
- 15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: No.
- 16 He can take it.
- 17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Minority
- 18 Leader.
- 19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Just to
- 20 piggyback on Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton's
- 21 question. The item that we are referring
- 22 to, 19, I quess by coincidence, Mr. Cleary,
- 23 it has the same time frame. This contract
- 24 started on 1-1-14 that's why it prompted us
- 25 to think it was on the list. The amount is

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 \$600,000 even though it doesn't tie into the
- 3 \$450,000 increase. It just seems like a
- 4 contract with the same vendor while at the
- 5 same time started in the same year seems to
- 6 be a coincidence I guess. Am I surmising
- 7 that correctly, it's a coincidence?
- 8 Do we know the merit of those
- 9 services being provided in Item 19 on the
- 10 retroactive contract list?
- MR. CLEARY: I'm sorry, I know I
- 12 sent out a revised list this morning. Are
- 13 you working from the list that was
- 14 previously distributed?
- 15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: No. This
- 16 one was submitted as of 9-22.
- 17 MR. CLEARY: Okay. So I'm
- 18 actually carrying the 10-2 list right now so
- 19 I may actually have a different number on
- 20 the list. I do not have Leahy and Johnson
- 21 on this list. It may have come off in the
- 22 interim.
- LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I'm sorry?
- 24 MR. CLEARY: I do not have Leahy
- 25 and Johnson on the list that I sent this

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 morning. That item was either identified as
- 3 not retroactive or approved. I'm not sure
- 4 which. It may have been this item.
- 5 There may have been some
- 6 confusion because of the time frame but this
- 7 time we are not listing it on the list as a
- 8 retroactive contract.
- 9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Just from
- 10 an administrative standpoint, I know you
- 11 sent these items to our attention if you can
- 12 send them to Cecilia Capers our deputy
- 13 minority counsel, she does the review for
- 14 us, that would be appreciated.
- MR. CLEARY: Sure.
- 16 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I don't
- 17 want to get into the merits of this. I
- 18 don't want to get into the merits that would
- 19 warrant us to go into executive session, so
- 20 I'm not going to talk about the case, per
- 21 se, but I do have a question in regards to
- 22 the amount of claims that have been
- 23 submitted by Leahy and Johnson for payment
- 24 and how much has been paid to date.
- 25 MS. KRISEL: This vendor does

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 other work for the County Attorney as well.
- 3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I mean on
- 4 this particular.
- 5 MS. KRISEL: On this particular
- 6 one?
- 7 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Yes.
- 8 MS. KRISEL: I think that I did.
- 9 I'm going to double-check, if you would like
- 10 me to, but I think we have made payments and
- 11 to make any additional payments we need the
- 12 extra money. I think claims have been
- 13 submitted and processed, but, Christy, can
- 14 you call over and confirm that?
- 15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Do you know
- 16 how much?
- 17 MS. KRISEL: I personally do not
- 18 but I can have a phone call made over to
- 19 accounting over at County Attorney to get
- 20 that information.
- 21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: My next
- 22 question would be, according to our back up,
- 23 this was voted on in the Rules Committee on
- 24 June 30th, 2014. At that time it was
- E-161-14, but it appears at that time the

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 contract was not fully executed by the
- 3 County Executive's signature until seven
- 4 months ago on March 1. Can you explain to
- 5 us or clarify that large --
- 6 MS. KRISEL: Legislator, I
- 7 personally cannot. I'm not familiar with
- 8 that round of approval, but, again, I will
- 9 be happy to get that information for you.
- 10 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I would ask
- 11 for a motion to table, Madam Presiding
- 12 Officer.
- 13 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 14 Seconded.
- 15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 16 Minority Leader, seconded by Legislator
- 17 DeRiggi-Whitton. All those in favor of
- 18 tabling Item E-190 signify by saying aye.
- 19 (Aye.)
- 20 Any opposed?
- 21 (No verbal response.)
- The item is tabled until we get
- 23 the additional information.
- MS. KRISEL: We are working on it
- 25 and I will signal to you when we have all

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 that information in place.
- 3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I believe
- 4 we have the information for A-49 and at this
- 5 point I need a motion to untable A-49.
- 6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.
- 7 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 9 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
- 10 Kopel. All those in favor of untabling A-49
- 11 signify by saying aye.
- 12 (Aye.)
- Any opposed?
- 14 (No verbal response.)
- The item is untabled. What did
- 16 you find out?
- 17 MR. SCHLERNOFF: The names of the
- 18 three other bidders were Nova, Universal
- 19 Coffee, and Elwood International.
- 20 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: They were
- 21 awarded the contracts under the \$100,000?
- MR. SCHLERNOFF: Yes, their total
- 23 would be less than \$100,000.
- 24 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I have
- 25 nothing further.

1	Rules Committee/10-2-17
2	CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Are there
3	any other comments or questions regarding
4	this item?
5	(No verbal response.)
6	Is there any public comment?
7	(No verbal response.)
8	There being none, all those in
9	favor of A-49 signify by saying aye.
10	(Aye.)
11	Any opposed?
12	(Nay.)
13	The item passes four to three.
14	We're waiting for the additional
15	information, correct, so we are not going to
16	untable E-190, so we will move on to the
17	next item which is E-192, a personal
18	services agreement between the County of
19	Nassau acting on behalf of the Nassau County
20	Department of Public Works and Lockwood
21	Kessler and Bartlett, Inc.
22	Motion, please.
23	LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So moved.
24	LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.
25	CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Legislator Kopel, seconded by Legislator
- 3 Muscarella. Mr. Arnold.
- 4 MR. ARNOLD: Ken Arnold,
- 5 Department of Public Works. E-192 is a
- 6 contract amendment with LKB for our civil
- 7 site construction management contract.
- 8 This is a retroactive contract
- 9 but I would like to state the contractor is
- 10 not working at any risk right now, he is
- 11 working under an open encumbrance and the
- 12 contract allows him to complete ongoing
- 13 work.
- 14 This amendment will allow us to
- 15 extend the contract 18 additional months and
- 16 add new money into the contract to cover
- 17 future work that the department needs
- 18 covered.
- 19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
- 20 questions of Mr. Arnold? Yes, Minority
- 21 Leader.
- 22 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Ken, what's
- 23 the source of this money?
- 24 MR. ARNOLD: This would be
- 25 capital funds.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: From what
- 3 bond?
- 4 MR. ARNOLD: Mostly road
- 5 resurfacing at this point.
- 6 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: When was
- 7 that bonding approved?
- 8 MR. ARNOLD: I believe a year ago
- 9 this month.
- 10 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: How much is
- 11 left of that money?
- MR. ARNOLD: I would have to go
- 13 back and put that together.
- 14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Our records
- indicate there's well in excess of more than
- 16 half available, over \$35 million; does that
- 17 seem accurate?
- MR. ARNOLD: That seems a little
- 19 high but I know that there are significant
- 20 projects that are out to bid and being
- 21 awarded so that number could be that high in
- 22 the financial system but a lot of it is
- 23 allocated towards phases that we are working
- 24 towards getting contractors on board for.
- 25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: But it

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 sounds like obviously there's money to do
- 3 road resurfacing?
- 4 MR. ARNOLD: That is correct.
- 5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Nothing
- 6 further.
- 7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
- 8 Bynoe.
- 9 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you,
- 10 Presiding Officer. Good afternoon, Mr.
- 11 Arnold. I have a question that is in the
- 12 similar vein to Legislator Abrahams
- 13 regarding how we're using the bonding
- 14 capital money.
- So you've stated there's capital
- 16 money available to now do road paving and
- 17 road work, correct?
- MR. ARNOLD: That is correct.
- 19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Is there money
- 20 also available for traffic studies because I
- 21 know this body some months ago did some
- 22 bonding for traffic studies?
- MR. ARNOLD: That is correct.
- 24 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So the other
- 25 day I was requesting that we look, because

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 it was a request made to my office from the
- 3 local fire department in Westbury who stated
- 4 they were having trouble accessing and
- 5 exiting from the fire house during
- 6 emergencies.
- 7 It was stated that I should look
- 8 at putting in a CRP for a traffic study. I
- 9 found that odd. Is there money available to
- 10 do traffic studies?
- MR. ARNOLD: As I stated in my
- 12 email, there's two pieces of that work. The
- 13 the study the department can look at, I have
- 14 been working on a response back to your
- 15 aid's question, but any installation of that
- 16 equipment, because it is on a non-county
- 17 facility.
- 18 It has to be installed in the
- 19 fire house and maintained by the fire
- 20 department. We always look for the CRP
- 21 funding to cover that work.
- 22 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: But there is
- 23 money available for us to even do the study
- 24 to determine if there is some sort of
- 25 intervention required?

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 MR. ARNOLD: I will look back in
- 3 my notes to make sure that's something we
- 4 can do. I don't remember the last time that
- 5 I did it if it required CRP. I have to talk
- 6 to my bond counsel.
- 7 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
- 9 Nicolello.
- 10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Just to
- 11 follow-up with a bunch of the requests I put
- 12 in for the traffic studies seem to be rather
- 13 slow. Is there a large cue of these
- 14 projects?
- MR. ARNOLD: Yes, the department
- 16 has a very large cue of these traffic
- 17 requests. We work very diligently to get to
- 18 them all, but, yes, there is a very large
- 19 cue.
- LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
- Bynoe.
- 23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So that leads
- 24 me to the question that we should or could
- 25 be doing to alleviate the bottleneck so if

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 there are safety issues I think we need to
- 3 be looking at them as expeditiously as
- 4 possible. So, is there something that we
- 5 can be doing differently?
- 6 MR. ARNOLD: The department has
- 7 this issue, we brought on a new director of
- 8 engineering. We're in the process of
- 9 bringing another engineer on for the traffic
- 10 group and we're also looking at our
- 11 consultant support and working with the
- 12 union on that aspect also to address these
- 13 situations.
- 14 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I have one
- that's in from December of 2015 and so I'm
- 16 definitely concerned.
- 17 MR. ARNOLD: All the items are
- 18 looked at, they are triaged to make sure
- 19 there is no high level safety issues that we
- 20 address immediately, and then they're all
- 21 put in the cue to be addressed.
- 22 If someone is looking for a
- 23 signal or something new, if there's an
- 24 accident associated with that, those are
- 25 culled out and they're looked at first.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Everything else is put in the cue and looked
- 3 at in a timely fashion.
- 4 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Okay. So
- 5 we're looking at staffing a little
- 6 differently so that we can achieve better
- 7 outcomes, quicker outcomes?
- MR. ARNOLD: Yes. We're looking
- 9 to address those.
- 10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
- 11 DeRiggi-Whitton.
- 12 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- 13 was told that part of the delay for some of
- 14 the traffic studies and things was coming
- 15 from the Comptroller's Office; have you
- 16 experienced that?
- MR. ARNOLD: Well, if we bring a
- 18 consultant on board for a project, that
- 19 advisement needs approvals from many levels.
- 20 So there are always delays. You're probably
- 21 speaking to the Manorhaven study. We got
- 22 that approval today, but we have to wait for
- 23 the paper to be processed through, not just
- 24 the Comptroller's Office, but all the other
- 25 agencies.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 But the Comptroller's Office is
- 3 right now our longest time we wait for.
- 4 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 5 Right. That I guess is what I was trying to
- 6 get at. That would be the number one delay
- 7 you think, right?
- MR. ARNOLD: Well, they have
- 9 their process, and I wouldn't call it a
- 10 delay, I would call it their process.
- 11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 12 Right, and we're just trying to see if what
- 13 we can do to make it --
- 14 MR. ARNOLD: We work with them on
- 15 a constant basis --
- 16 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I'm
- 17 not suggesting there is a problem, I'm just
- 18 wondering what takes the longest amount of
- 19 time, but if that's the case, that should be
- 20 looked into a little just to have it.
- MR. ARNOLD: If things are
- 22 approved, and we have the new CRS system,
- 23 the electronic routing for these items, so
- 24 things are improving as people get used to
- 25 the routing of the advisements in the

Rules Committee/10-2-171 2 contracts. 3 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: 4 Thank you, Ken. 5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any other 6 comments from the legislators? 7 (No verbal response.) 8 Is there any public comment? 9 (No verbal response.) 10 There being none, all those in favor of E-192 signify by saying aye. 11 12 (Aye.)Any opposed? 13 14 (Nay.) 15 The item passes four to three. 16 Do we have the information for 190? 17 18 MS. KRISEL: We do not have it at 19 this time. 20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay. Then I'm going to leave it tabled and recess 21 22 rules and then come back after Public Safety 23 and Finance have had an opportunity to meet

So, without any further ado,

and discuss the items on their agendas.

24

2.5

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Rules is now recessed and Public Safety is
- 3 next.
- 4 MR. BECKER: Jeffrey Clark wants
- 5 to make a statement on behalf of the county
- 6 clerk and it would be okay if he makes it
- 7 now before Finance, Public Safety and other
- 8 committees rather than have him waiting
- 9 around for an extended period of time?
- 10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES:
- 11 Mr. Becker, is it on an item?
- MR. BECKER: It's on the budget.
- 13 It won't be that long so I guess we can
- 14 wait.
- MR. BECKER: Okay. It's your
- 16 decision.
- 17 (Whereupon, the Full Legislative
- 18 Committee recessed at 1:40 p.m. and
- 19 reconvened at 2:57 p.m.)
- 20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Rules is
- 21 back in session and I'm going to ask for a
- 22 motion to untable Item E-190.
- LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.
- 24 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.
- 25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
- 3 Kopel. All those in favor of untabling
- 4 E-190 signify by saying aye.
- 5 (Aye.)
- Any opposed?
- 7 (No verbal response.)
- 8 The item is untabled. I believe
- 9 we have information that was requested,
- 10 correct?
- MS. KRISEL: Yes. Deputy County
- 12 Attorney Martha Krisel. I apologize for not
- 13 having the information ready earlier.
- 14 Legislator Abrahams, I believe
- 15 you had two questions; one being how much
- 16 money had been paid to date and the answer
- 17 is \$215,000.
- 18 And the second question pertained
- 19 to what had been described as a delay in the
- 20 passage as opposed to the execution of the
- 21 underlying contract. The answer to that
- 22 question is that the contract was executed
- 23 when funds did become available, at the time
- 24 there was a delay in the funds becoming
- 25 available. So that was the delay factor.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may,
- 3 Madam Presiding Officer.
- 4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Minority
- 5 Leader, yes.
- 6 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you.
- 7 I want to thank you for getting that
- 8 information quickly.
- 9 I feel based on what you said in
- 10 your first response, you said 250 or 215?
- 11 MS. KRISEL: 215.
- 12 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And the
- 13 original amount was 250?
- MS. KRISEL: That's correct.
- 15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I hate to
- 16 ask my next question and obviously knowing
- 17 the circumstances of this case, I'm trying
- 18 to be conscience of the fact that we may
- 19 need to go in executive session.
- I need to make sure I'm clear,
- 21 what status, without talking about the case,
- 22 what status are we at in the case, are you
- 23 at liberty to discuss that?
- MS. KRISEL: Not at this time.
- 25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: You have to

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 go into executive session to tell us that?
- 3 MS. KRISEL: Correct.
- 4 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I'm trying
- 5 to get an understanding of where we are in
- 6 the case and how that commensurates with the
- 7 215 that we have spent. That's kind of what
- 8 I'm trying --
- 9 MS. KRISEL: So there has been,
- 10 just in the normal course of litigation
- 11 there have been proceedings that have taken
- 12 place to date. That's resulted in those
- 13 expenditures and those payments and the need
- 14 for the additional expenditures.
- 15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Hold on one
- 16 second.
- 17 Counsel has advised me that the
- 18 proceedings obviously are part of the public
- 19 record. Being that they're part of the
- 20 public record, anyone from the public can
- 21 access them. Can you tell me where we are
- in regards to those proceedings?
- MS. KRISEL: There has been a
- 24 fair amount of discovery that's taken place.
- 25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Any

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 motions?
- MS. KRISEL: There have been
- 4 certain motions that have been made but I
- 5 would need to regroup with our back up on
- 6 exactly what those motions have been to the
- 7 extent that I would be comfortable not being
- 8 in executive session.
- 9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Hold on a
- 10 second. Thank you. I don't have anything
- 11 further.
- MS. KRISEL: Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any other
- 14 questions?
- 15 (No verbal response.)
- Any public comment? Meta
- 17 Mereday.
- MS. MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday,
- 19 Baldwin resident. Just curious as to where
- 20 these additional funds were found for this,
- 21 just curious.
- Clearly this wasn't a set amount,
- 23 it wasn't something, again, not having the
- 24 background on the case, per se, but when we
- 25 say you're doing an amendment, in essence,

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 that's a change order which is a request for
- 3 funding, that wasn't something that was
- 4 already budgeted.
- 5 So, again, the public might want
- 6 to have an idea where we're getting all
- 7 these additional funds for these various and
- 8 sundry court cases requiring attorneys
- 9 outside of the County Attorney's Office.
- 10 Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: There
- 12 being no other comments, all those in favor
- of E-190 -- yes, Minority Leader?
- 14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Just in
- 15 regards to Ms. Mereday's question. The
- 16 source of the funds?
- 17 MS. KRISEL: There is a contract
- 18 fund in the police department.
- 19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: It's funded
- 20 through the police department?
- MS. KRISEL: Correct.
- 22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: There
- 23 being no other comments, all those in favor
- of E-190 signify by saying aye.
- 25 (Aye.)

1	Rules Committee/10-2-17
2	Any opposed?
3	(Nay.)
4	The item passes four to three.
5	Now, what is usually the case
6	when it comes to the other items on the
7	Rules Committee, there is what we call a
8	consent calendar and I been informed that
9	there are several items that have gone
10	through committees and are consensual.
11	Please incorporate the testimony
12	from those committees, incorporate by way of
13	reference.
14	(Whereupon, please refer to the
15	minutes of the Finance and Public Safety
16	Committees dated 10-2-17 pertaining to Clerk

- 17 Items 354, 362, 363, 367, 368, 369.)
- 18 So now I'm going to those items
- 19 that are on the consent calendar. Here we
- 20 go. Beginning with Item 354, Item 362, 363,
- 21 367, 368, 369.
- Motion, please.
- LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.
- LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.
- 25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
- 3 Kopel. All those in favor of those items
- 4 signify by saying aye.
- 5 (Aye.)
- Those opposed?
- 7 (No verbal response.)
- 8 These items went through
- 9 committees, Mr. Lachapelle. These items
- 10 went through committees. That is the
- 11 legislative budget.
- MR. LACHAPELLE: I would just
- 13 like to reiterate what I said in the Finance
- 14 Committee a couple of minutes ago.
- I would like to add that I heard
- 16 from this board that a yes vote on the
- 17 budget isn't an endorsement of the budget
- 18 which kind of defies logic.
- 19 If you're not here to be a check
- 20 and a balance to the executive, what exactly
- 21 are you here for?
- I just want to reiterate why we
- 23 are opposed to this fee and we suggest that
- 24 you vote it down today so that we can move
- 25 forward with the budget and when you debate

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 on a budget tonight at the hearing, we are
- 3 debating on a budget that we can all agree
- 4 on and doesn't contain any fees.
- 5 So, the two reasons I want to
- 6 point out is that this is based on uncertain
- 7 revenue. The amount of home sales -- it's
- 8 completely dependent on the amount of home
- 9 sales transacted in the county and you can't
- 10 pinpoint that. The best mathematician in
- 11 this room can't pinpoint that number.
- 12 I'm afraid we will be back here
- in a year if you pass these fees looking to
- 14 increase more fees.
- I really don't endorse the idea
- 16 that you need to vote yes to this budget to
- 17 move forward.
- I think that's a colossal waste
- 19 of time. If there is no appetite for these
- 20 fees to be passed, then let's vote the
- 21 budget down now so we can move forward and
- 22 pass a budget that we all have an appetite
- 23 for. Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I did call
- 25 those items. Legislator Kopel, go ahead.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Tim, I want to
- 3 say that the fact that we're passing this
- 4 through should not be misconstrued over
- 5 here.
- 6 What we are simply doing is we
- 7 are simply recognizing that the entire
- 8 Legislature is interested in discussing many
- 9 of these items.
- 10 Essentially what we are doing is,
- 11 instead of vetting it here, we are punting
- 12 and we're giving it to the entire
- 13 Legislature where it's going to be getting
- 14 heightened scrutiny from many more people.
- So, basically, all we're doing is
- 16 not considering it now. That's all this
- 17 really is.
- 18 It's simply a requirement that it
- 19 must go through Rules, that's what we're
- 20 doing. By no means I don't believe that any
- 21 member of the Rules Committee would be ready
- 22 to endorse the budget as it was presented to
- 23 us by the County Executive.
- I don't think anybody on either
- 25 side of the aisle, I don't believe that

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 anybody is ready to rubber stamp it. That's
- 3 not what this was. Don't be concerned about
- 4 that.
- 5 MR. LACHAPELLE: So you will be
- 6 voting no?
- 7 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: On your items
- 8 I certainly will. I will let other people
- 9 speak for themselves.
- 10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: There will
- 11 be a time.
- 12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I don't think
- 13 it will be today at all.
- 14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: There will
- 15 be a time. All those in favor of the items
- 16 that were called signify by saying aye.
- 17 (Aye.)
- 18 Any opposed?
- 19 (No verbal response.)
- The items pass unanimously.
- Now for those items that are part
- 22 of the non-consent calendar; and beginning
- 23 I'm going to call three of them together;
- 24 Items 351, 352 and 353.
- Motion, please.

Rules Committee /10-2-171 2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved. 3 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second. 4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by 5 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator 6 Kopel. I believe that they were discussed 7 in Finance at length but if there are any 8 other questions from my colleagues, and I 9 believe that Minority Leader has a question 10 or two. 11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: It was my 12 understanding, and I exacted through the 13 Finance hearing that the questions weren't 14 allowed to be asked because we were going to 15 ask them at a later point. 16 I think the greater point that 17 was trying to be made by my colleagues is 18 the fact that there are revenue aspects to 19 this budget, let's just call it what it is, 20 there are fee increases tied to this budget, 21 and to vote for a budget ordinance that has

25 day, to add those to pass a budget ordinance

those fee increases, but, again, those fee

increases as far as I can see have not been

calendared for any legislative particular

22

23

24

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 is almost in a way endorsing those fees to
- 3 be increased because we haven't even
- 4 considered the fees.
- 5 So I think, as Legislator Bynoe
- 6 said it, you're putting the cart before the
- 7 horse. We kind of know what happens with
- 8 fee increases in this county. I think
- 9 that's why we are pushing for them to be
- 10 called or at least to have debate and
- 11 discussion, and I think speak to what Mr.
- 12 Lachapelle and others have talked about in
- 13 regard to the fees.
- I am glad to hear from you,
- 15 Howard, that the fees have no appetite and
- 16 are not going anywhere.
- 17 If we're not going to vote for
- 18 the fees but vote for a budget ordinance
- 19 that includes fee increases to the tune of
- 20 \$75 million, I understand, but we should be
- 21 a little cognizant to the public because we
- 22 are sending a very conflicting message for
- 23 the folks that are covering us here today,
- 24 whether they be from the public or even from
- 25 the media, they are covering -- the

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Legislature is voting for an item that
- 3 includes these items as part of its
- 4 document.
- Just to get to my point that I
- 6 didn't get a chance to make yet --
- 7 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Would you
- 8 allow me to respond to that point?
- 9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Okay.
- 10 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: And that is
- 11 why I did jump in precisely to avoid people
- 12 misconstruing it in that manner. That is
- 13 why I jumped in with my comment and said
- 14 that it should not be and what we are really
- doing is passing items of such serious
- 16 import to the entire Legislature to review,
- 17 and it's a technical requirement that we
- 18 just have it go through Rules.
- 19 I think I've said it quite
- 20 plainly and I think it's true for all of us.
- 21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And,
- 22 Howard, I respect that position, however, I
- 23 think most people from the public have
- 24 experience that this Legislature has
- 25 especially in a year where the Legislature,

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 all 19 legislators are pursuing re-election
- 3 or all 17, are pursuing re-election, going
- 4 into November 7, it just seems to me to add
- 5 a process that is transparent, to add a
- 6 process that is open, it seems to do these
- 7 fee increases or consider them on the eve of
- 8 an election, or close to that eve, or in
- 9 some cases, as we have seen in this body,
- 10 consider them after the election, to me,
- 11 seems -- that's not an assumption, that's
- 12 actually happened. We have approved fees
- 13 after the election has occurred.
- 14 That being said, I think that's
- 15 where we are and we want to be able to ask
- 16 these questions in this body and, to me, it
- 17 seems more appropriate to ask these
- 18 questions in committee.
- 19 If there is no appetite, as
- 20 Mr. Lachapelle has said, if there is no
- 21 appetite to do them, then we have to get to
- 22 work. We have well over -- we're working on
- 23 well over 25, \$30 million. That number is
- 24 growing in potential amendments.
- 25 Let's get to work now and let's

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 fix this stuff now.
- 3 Let's amend the budget now and
- 4 let's make sure that we have a very concrete
- 5 message to the public that we will not
- 6 consider the fee increases as they appear
- 7 or, Madam Presiding Officer, maybe you can
- 8 even make it more clear and say they will
- 9 not be called for the 2018 budget. If we
- 10 can make that statement now, it would carry
- 11 much more weight.
- 12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Minority
- 13 Leader, the fact that we are teeing up the
- 14 budget items today does not mean that the
- 15 budget items, that we the budget that we
- 16 vote on October 30th is going to be the
- 17 same.
- 18 You can take that, and, just like
- 19 you just said, that you're working in ways
- 20 to compensate for not imposing the fees,
- 21 guess what? And so are we.
- We are doing what we should do.
- 23 This is the budget that the County Executive
- 24 has presented to us. We tee it up for the
- 25 committees and for the budget hearings.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- When it comes to October 30th,
- 3 that's when we decide what is going to
- 4 happen and what's not going to happen.
- 5 So, the same budget that you see
- 6 today, most likely is not going to be the
- 7 budget that you see on October 30th and
- 8 we're not going to be waiting until Election
- 9 Day or after.
- 10 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Madam
- 11 Presiding Officer, you do understand you
- 12 are passing a budget, which we are not going
- 13 to support at this time, because obviously
- 14 it includes historic amounts of increases in
- 15 fees, whether it's public safety, tax
- 16 verification, tax map verification. It
- 17 includes enormous fees.
- 18 You are passing a document and at
- 19 the same time you are saying you're going to
- 20 change the document.
- 21 It makes better sense to send a
- 22 very clear message that we are not
- 23 supporting those fees not at this time, at
- 24 all. That's been our message. We've been
- 25 very clear that we are not supporting those

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 fees and we plan to submit amendments to
- 3 address those fees.
- 4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I believe,
- 5 Minority Leader, I think we are both on the
- 6 same page, but the process is different. I
- 7 know what you are trying to do and what
- 8 you're trying to say.
- 9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: The part
- 10 that is a little bit different and
- 11 disconcerting, Madam Presiding Officer, in
- 12 all due respect, is the fact that this
- 13 legislative body waits until the eve of the
- 14 election to either vote for the fees, or,
- what's even worse, we've passed the fees
- 16 after the election.
- 17 That's the whole point of having
- 18 a budget process and a Charter that the
- 19 budget vote take place before the election
- on October 30th.
- 21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: And it
- 22 will take place October 30th which is
- 23 approximately one week before the election.
- So, the budget that you see
- 25 today, will most likely not be the budget we

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 vote on on October 30th because between now
- 3 and then we are doing our due diligence to
- 4 find the resources --
- 5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: So
- 6 basically we're saying -- if I understand
- 7 this correctly, then we are not going to
- 8 pass the fees going into the October budget
- 9 vote, October 30 budget vote? No fee
- 10 increases will be passed? See, that's the
- 11 problem. If we can't come to a resolution
- 12 on that, then I don't understand.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Listen to
- 14 me, Minority Leader. I said to you that the
- 15 budget that you see before you today, or
- 16 that we are voting on today, to tee it up
- 17 for the hearings, is not going to be the
- 18 same budget we vote on on October 30th.
- 19 The way you want to read it, if
- 20 you said you are looking for resources to
- 21 compensate for the loss of the revenue that
- 22 would be generated by these fees, and so are
- 23 we.
- So, together, together, that
- 25 could very well mean that come October 30th

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 that the fees may not be in the budget.
- 3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I
- 4 understand.
- 5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: But we're
- 6 not waiting until after election. That's
- 7 been done before. It's not going to happen
- 8 now. It also happened when we had tax
- 9 increases that were done after the election
- 10 and we were not in the majority. So enough
- 11 is enough. I don't want to go there.
- 12 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: You would
- 13 have to refresh my memory on that.
- 14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I'm not
- 15 going to refresh your memory. I don't want
- 16 to debate this at this point.
- I think it's important at this
- 18 point that we just move forward so we can do
- 19 what we have to do in the next two or three
- weeks.
- 21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Madam
- 22 Presiding Officer, you made a reference to
- 23 tax increases being increased after the
- 24 budget. I would need to understand when
- 25 that happened. I don't recall that

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 happening.
- 3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You may
- 4 not have been here.
- 5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I have been
- 6 here for 15 years. I don't recall. I
- 7 recall that happening just recently -- the
- 8 County Executive had proposed a three
- 9 percent tax increase and you guys rejected
- 10 it until after the election.
- 11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I don't
- 12 want to debate you, Minority Leader.
- 13 Legislator Nicolello.
- 14 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The
- 15 process, we do have these two hearings; one
- 16 of which is tonight, one of which is on
- 17 October 20th.
- We do have, according to our
- 19 rules, we have to submit amendments. So the
- 20 amendments or potential changes to the
- 21 budget will be on the table, so to speak, by
- 22 October 23. It's not on the eve of the
- 23 election.
- The actual adoption of the budget
- on October 30th is a good week before the

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 election, not on the eve of the election.
- 3 So we will be doing what we have to do on
- 4 that date.
- 5 We are very interested to see
- 6 what the minority proposes this year. I'm
- 7 sure they are interested to see what we will
- 8 propose and we will have a good two weeks
- 9 before the election when that's on the
- 10 table. The process is what it is. It's
- 11 completely transparent; people are going to
- 12 see exactly what we do well before the
- 13 election.
- 14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Deputy
- 15 Presiding Officer Nicolello, the process is
- 16 not transparent because the folks that are
- 17 coming here tonight cannot speak to the
- 18 budget. That's the problem.
- 19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: If they
- 20 stick around for the next hour and a half
- 21 for the budget hearing, if they stick
- 22 around, they can speak to the budget.
- LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: No, no.
- 24 The folks that came here to speak on the
- 25 budget is public safety related. It's going

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 to be the police department. The correction
- 3 officers. It's not going to be Ms.
- 4 D'Alleva, and Eric Naughton, that's the
- 5 problem.
- 6 Our questions are more tied to
- 7 the fact that there are \$70 million in fee
- 8 increases that are in this budget.
- 9 So that means the public has to
- 10 wait two weeks minimum or possibly into
- 11 October 30th before we get an answer. And
- 12 kind of what Ms. Mereday said earlier, it's
- 13 like, well, we voted for it already and we
- 14 weren't able to save all of the fee
- increases but we saved some. That's the
- 16 problem.
- 17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Are you in
- 18 communication with Ms. D'Alleva? I'm sure
- 19 if there are questions that are so urgent,
- 20 if you need this to formulate your
- 21 amendments then I'm certain that she will
- 22 give you whatever information you want. If
- it's a matter of you developing your
- 24 amendments.
- 25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: But she's

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 not scheduled to be here and as a matter of
- 3 the public, she's not scheduled to be here
- 4 later on.
- 5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We're
- 6 going around in circles.
- 7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Hold on.
- 8 On the 16th of October, we have a Full Leq
- 9 meeting. We have public comment at that
- 10 particular time.
- 11 There's an opportunity for people
- 12 to voice their concern at that time and they
- 13 could be budget related as well. At this
- 14 point in time --
- 15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: May
- 16 I, Norma?
- 17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You may.
- 18 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- 19 just have a difference of opinion as far as
- 20 the procedure goes, I know, surprisingly.
- But to pass something through by
- 22 voting yes, that's giving the public the
- 23 perception that we approve of what we're
- 24 voting on.
- I really think for a hearing to

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 be held, for a committee to be held and not
- 3 be able to ask any questions, the whole
- 4 point -- I understand that finance has
- 5 questions, but I sit here and I listen, and
- 6 there were a few things that they had
- 7 questions about that that made me think of
- 8 some questions and then I'm sure if we go
- 9 through the same issues under Rules, there
- 10 are other things that we can think about
- 11 that we may want to follow-up at the
- 12 hearing.
- So to not ask questions during a
- 14 committee, which gives us all reason to
- 15 think about things, and then have a couple
- 16 of hours to think about it if we have to and
- 17 then ask a different question at the
- 18 hearing, and to just vote yes on something
- 19 that, basically, Madam Presiding Officer,
- 20 you just told us isn't going to be the item
- 21 at some point, I feel very uncomfortable
- 22 with that procedure.
- I believe that's absolutely
- 24 opposite of any kind of transparency that
- 25 this board should stand for.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I'm going
- 3 to have the final statement. The final
- 4 statement is this: Every year when a budget
- 5 is presented to us, we do look at it very
- 6 diligently with every effort to make sure
- 7 that those items in the budget are not
- 8 offensive to the public.
- And we're doing exactly the same
- 10 thing now. We have a job to do and that job
- 11 is to review the budget as presented to us
- 12 by the County Executive, and if we don't
- 13 like what he sent down to us then let me say
- 14 to you, we have the right and the ability to
- 15 change that budget and this has been the
- 16 procedure ever since I have been here.
- 17 So to underestimate the fact that
- 18 this particular item or items are not going
- 19 to be changed or that this is what we're
- 20 going to be doing down the road when it
- 21 comes to the final vote -- and let me also
- 22 say this to you, we are seven people sitting
- 23 here. There are 11 people who are not here.
- 24 They also have the right and the ability to
- 25 ask the same kinds of questions that you are

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 asking. Now, without any further ado --
- 3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Nobody is
- 4 taking that -- see, this is where we get
- 5 bogged down with misinformation. Nobody is
- 6 taking that right away from the other 11
- 7 members. All we are saying is, we want to
- 8 be able to ask questions on something that
- 9 is as big as \$75 million in fee increases.
- 10 Where is the money going? How is it making
- 11 these departments better?
- 12 I think a lot of these questions
- 13 came up in public comment and, because we
- 14 have this archaic policy of not asking
- 15 questions when it pertains to \$75 million in
- 16 new fees, which sounds like are dead on
- 17 arrival, I don't understand why we can't ask
- 18 the questions.
- 19 To say that both the departments
- 20 are coming later on tonight and tomorrow,
- 21 who made the determination that we were
- 22 going to raise fees by \$75 million? Who
- 23 made that determination?
- That's a budget OMB
- 25 administrative policy. The folks in the

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Police Department, in the Clerk's Office
- 3 clearly told there was a representative from
- 4 the Clerk's Office said we are against the
- 5 fees. So who made this decision?
- If the County Executive made the
- 7 decision, he should answer these questions
- 8 before this legislative body moves forward.
- 9 To me it doesn't make any sense. It's dead
- 10 on arrival, that means we got to roll up our
- 11 sleeves and get to work now.
- 12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: We are
- 13 doing that. There is nothing stopping us
- 14 from doing that.
- 15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: No. We are
- 16 kicking the can down the road because I'm
- 17 willing to say we are going to come up with
- 18 our amendments. You may not like our
- 19 amendments. Therefore, since you do not
- 20 like our amendments, our amendments will not
- 21 pass.
- 22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I'm
- 23 calling the question. I just said, I'm
- 24 calling the question.
- 25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Presiding

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Officer, I didn't have an opportunity to
- 3 address this issue.
- 4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Were you
- 5 on Finance?
- 6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I was on
- 7 Finance.
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I just
- 9 said that we're calling the question.
- 10 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: It's a
- 11 different audience. You weren't on finance,
- 12 Presiding Officer.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I was
- 14 listening in the caucus room.
- 15 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I would like
- 16 to present a reasonable request.
- 17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: All those
- 18 in favor of 351 -- I'm sorry, I called the
- 19 question, 351.
- 20 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Presiding
- 21 Officer, I make a motion to table.
- 22 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- 23 second it.
- LEGISLATOR BYNOE: On the motion,
- 25 Presiding Officer --

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: There's no
- 3 debate or discussion on a motion to table.
- 4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: No debate
- 5 on a motion to table. You know that.
- 6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I need to
- 7 explain my vote in support of the tabling of
- 8 this.
- 9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: No, you
- 10 don't.
- 11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I do need to.
- 12 I feel that I need to. The point --
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: When you
- 14 vote -- no, you're not doing that now.
- 15 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So call the
- 16 vote.
- 17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: All those
- in favor of tabling 351, 352, 353 signify by
- 19 saying aye.
- 20 (Aye.)
- 21 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: To explain my
- 22 vote --
- 23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I'm
- 24 telling you right now, I just said, I gave
- 25 you an opportunity to call for a table. I

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 also said I wanted to call the question.
- 3 Since you voted in the affirmative you can.
- I will do it again, all those in
- 5 favor of tabling 351, 352, 353 signify by
- 6 saying aye.
- 7 (Aye.)
- 8 Those opposed signify by saying
- 9 nay.
- 10 (Nay.)
- 11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I'm explaining
- 12 my vote to say that, Presiding Officer, that
- 13 I actually agree with everything that was
- 14 said by Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton and
- 15 Legislator Abrahams.
- I do think this whole process is
- 17 out of order, and that I think that we
- 18 should have the hearing before the
- 19 committees because it's during these
- 20 committees that we can do the work of
- 21 presenting possible solutions to any issues
- 22 that we find in the budget.
- I think that we're rendering this
- 24 particular committee impotent because we are
- 25 not doing what we should be doing. We are

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 ineffective and we might as well not have
- 3 committees if we are not going to follow the
- 4 Charter.
- 5 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: If you have a
- 6 real solution, we would love to hear the
- 7 plan.
- 8 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: We might be
- 9 able to through meaningful conversation.
- 10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: The motion
- 11 to table fails.
- 12 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Through
- 13 meaningful conversation, we might come up
- 14 with a solution. We might work together and
- 15 come up with a solution.
- 16 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: That's what
- 17 we're going to do.
- 18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: We can't do
- 19 that if we go into public hearings. That's
- 20 not how it works.
- 21 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I just
- 22 wanted to note for the record that if we
- 23 continue to go in circles we will be
- 24 starting the hearing, so --
- 25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: The motion

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 to table fails four to three.
- Now for the items themselves;
- 4 351, 352, 353, all those in favor signify by
- 5 saying saying aye.
- 6 (Aye.)
- 7 Any opposed?
- 8 (Nay.)
- 9 The items pass four to three.
- 10 I'm sorry, sometimes we can get full of
- 11 ourselves. Let's go.
- 12 The next item that was not on the
- 13 consent calendar is Item 360 I believe, a
- 14 resolution authorizing the County Executive
- 15 to execute an amendment to grant agreement
- 16 between the County of Nassau acting on
- 17 behalf of the Department of Parks,
- 18 Recreation, and Museums and the Levittown
- 19 Post 1171, Inc.
- Motion, please.
- 21 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.
- LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.
- 23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 24 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
- 25 Kopel.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- MS. KRIEB: Eileen Krieb,
- 3 Department of Parks. This is an amendment
- 4 to extend the term from December to March to
- 5 give the Levittown Post a chance to satisfy
- 6 their advanced grant that was given to them
- 7 for a Vietnam monument.
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
- 9 questions for Ms. Krieb?
- 10 (No verbal response.)
- Any public comment?
- MS. MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday,
- 13 Baldwin resident. And, guess what? I'm in
- 14 support of this one, just so you know.
- The reason I am in support of
- 16 this one is because, at least for no other
- 17 reason, the fact that we are doing
- 18 something, there's actually something on
- 19 this agenda for this group that pertains to
- 20 veterans. So I am definitely in support of
- 21 this.
- 22 And, while I'm here, since I was
- 23 not recognized for public comment for the
- 24 prior discussion, since it was cut off and
- 25 the public was not allowed to speak on the

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 issue, again, I reiterate our concerns in
- 3 regards to this budget. It just poses the
- 4 question since most of you in the public and
- 5 Newsday and everyone else knew about these
- 6 egregious fees that even the County Clerk is
- 7 opposed to, why wasn't that opportunity, if
- 8 this side has ideas --
- 9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Ms.
- 10 Mereday, stay on topic. Are you in favor?
- 11 MS. MEREDAY: You did not give me
- 12 the opportunity to speak on that, so that's
- 13 why I was putting it on the record while I'm
- 14 here.
- 15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Speaking
- 16 on Item 360 and you said you were in favor
- 17 it. That's it.
- MS. MEREDAY: Not exactly.
- 19 Because you did not give me the opportunity
- 20 for the public comment that I was entitled
- 21 to because I did acknowledge myself in the
- 22 public quietly.
- So I'm putting it on the record
- 24 that I am in support of this item and it's
- 25 my hope that we have other items that can

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 positively impact our veteran community.
- 3 Thank you. I'm still waiting.
- 4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I told
- 5 you, you and I are going to talk one of
- 6 these days regarding the veterans.
- 7 All those in favor of 360 signify
- 8 by saying aye.
- 9 (Aye.)
- 10 Any opposed?
- 11 (No verbal response.)
- 12 Everyone is in favor. So it's
- 13 unanimous.
- We have 361, a local law amending
- 15 Title 24 of the miscellaneous laws of Nassau
- 16 County in relation to extending the Hotel
- 17 Motel occupancy tax.
- I heard a great deal of
- 19 discussion from I believe Legislator Bynoe
- 20 while I was in the caucus room listening to
- 21 everything that was being said here. Trust
- 22 me, I listen. Any further questions?
- LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.
- 24 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.
- 25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
- 3 Kopel. Yes, Minority Leader.
- 4 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may.
- 5 Thank you, Madam Presiding Officer. Just
- 6 more of a general comment. This is not
- 7 really directed at the administration but it
- 8 seems to follow a common theme in regards to
- 9 projects from folks from this side, don't
- 10 really receive the full consideration that
- 11 they should.
- 12 The reason why I say that is
- 13 because, as we saw earlier, or last week
- 14 with the Uniondale street scape, in regards
- 15 to the improvement of the downtown Uniondale
- 16 community, there are four projects that have
- 17 not been called that all resinate from
- 18 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton's district, the
- 19 Village of Sands Point, the friends of
- 20 Cedarmere, Baxter Pond Foundation, and Sea
- 21 Cliff Chamber of Players.
- 22 All of these projects are very
- 23 worthy as we've seen in the 2016 list of
- 24 projects. Money that goes to the Historical
- 25 Society of Massapequas, African American

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Museum, friends of Bailey Arboretum,
- 3 ChrisEvers Yearling, East Meadow Soccer
- 4 Clubs. These seem to be all vital places
- 5 where money is going in regards to the Hotel
- 6 Motel.
- 7 But for whatever reason, we have
- 8 not seen these items be called. The County
- 9 Executive has sent these items down. They
- 10 all have clerk item numbers. They seem like
- 11 they're worthy for funding and for some
- 12 reason they do not get called.
- 13 It seems like they follow the
- 14 same theme as the CRP and the IMAs, like
- 15 there is some type of back door punishment
- 16 to the folks on our side of the aisle.
- So, again, although we plan to
- 18 support this item 361-17, we are just noting
- 19 for the record, again, that there are worthy
- 20 items and the people of these areas though
- 21 they may not, most people that pay towards
- 22 Hotel Motel come from outside of Nassau
- 23 County, we understand that, but I know full
- 24 well that most of the vendors they are
- 25 paying that money to do have businesses in

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 this legislative district.
- 3 And if those monies are coming
- 4 in, those communities should see a benefit
- 5 in regards to their particular project or
- 6 their particular entities and they all have
- 7 clerk item numbers totaling \$112,000, which
- 8 the County Executive has sent down and said
- 9 they should go forward, but they have not
- 10 seen the light of day in terms of debate or
- 11 discussion today in the Legislature.
- 12 I'm sorry, can you comment on why
- 13 and when can we anticipate them being
- 14 called?
- 15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: When are
- 16 you going to vote for the capital plan? If
- 17 you want to do this, we can do this every
- 18 week. You know what our position is. We
- 19 know what your position is. We can do this
- 20 every week if you want.
- 21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Rich, for
- 22 you to say that -- I know you say that in
- 23 part jest, but, in all seriousness, that has
- 24 nothing to do with what I just talked about.
- This is Hotel Motel money.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Nothing to do with bonding. Not one thing
- 3 to do with bonding.
- 4 These projects are all worthy.
- 5 To say that there is some type of -- it's
- 6 political extortion.
- 7 The bottom line is, to tie these
- 8 projects, which are all viable, to capital
- 9 bonding, which quite frankly Mr. Arnold
- 10 said, for the record today, there is well in
- 11 excess of \$30 million, your argument was
- 12 that there was no money for resurfacing
- 13 folks. These guys are holding up
- 14 everything.
- Mr. Arnold said for the record
- 16 that there is well in excess of money to do
- 17 road resurfacing. So where is your argument
- 18 coming from that we need to do in excess of
- 19 \$160 million in capital money today in order
- 20 for Democratic projects to go forward?
- You guys are holding this up
- 22 because you want your cake and you want to
- 23 be able to eat it too all in the same day.
- 24 It's not right.
- The people of this county, all

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 people of the county; whether they live in
- 3 Uniondale, Roosevelt, Massapequa, Glen Cove,
- 4 Locust Valley, they all pay taxes.
- 5 They all have the right to see
- 6 their money be spent. You are holding up --
- 7 I can't even say you are holding it up for
- 8 financial reasons because Mr. Arnold said on
- 9 the record today, that's why I asked the
- 10 question, that there is money there for
- 11 resurfacing.
- So I don't understand your
- 13 argument, what are we holding up? Tell us
- 14 what projects are being held up that you can
- 15 codify by the record because the road
- 16 resurfacing is not it. We just did the road
- 17 resurfacing today and there is money there
- 18 for additional contracts that are being
- 19 bidded.
- So, tell me specifically what we
- 21 are holding up? And don't say the dollar
- 22 amount of bonding again because the road
- 23 resurfacing was a big part of your argument
- 24 last week and the road resurfacing has more
- 25 than enough money. I would love to hear it.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Again, I
- 3 think we are really going astray for a
- 4 while. 361-17 has nothing to do with what
- 5 you're saying. It doesn't. Because many of
- 6 those projects that you are talking about
- 7 are not funded through Hotel Motel. I know
- 8 what you are trying to.
- 9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Madam
- 10 Presiding Officer, Legislator Nicolello
- 11 said, and I know part of it was in jest, he
- 12 said, when are you going to vote on the
- 13 capital plan, and that's what opened the
- 14 door for me to talk about all these other
- 15 projects.
- 16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I know and
- 17 I can open two other doors and I'm not going
- 18 to do it.
- 19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Okay. But,
- 20 to me, it seems like the capital plan vote
- 21 is tied to hurting Democratic districts in
- 22 which we should be in the business of
- 23 helping all taxpayers, whether they live in
- 24 Massapequa, Glen Cove, Farmingdale,
- 25 Uniondale, it doesn't matter. They pay

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 their taxes, again, I want to remind this
- 3 legislative body, the money that we are
- 4 talking about for the capital plan was
- 5 previously bonded. The County Executive
- 6 sent these items down for a vote.
- 7 This legislative body still
- 8 refuses to consider it. It's like some
- 9 personal political extortion vendetta.
- 10 Then, on top of it, today, the Hotel Motel
- 11 money, which we plan to support, we want to
- 12 encourage tourism in Nassau County, that's
- 13 absolutely not the case.
- But, here we are, because the
- 15 money can be spent. There are four items.
- 16 If there was one, I would say, you know
- 17 what, we don't have an argument. But there
- 18 are four items that exist from Legislator
- 19 DeRiggi-Whitton's district that she presides
- 20 over, and, again, all four of them can't
- 21 even receive the light of day.
- 22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay.
- 23 Minority Leader, one more comment and it's
- 24 going to Legislator Nicolello.
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I have to

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 say that if that's the standards, what he's
- 3 announcing, that our votes, or our failure
- 4 to pass things has hurt people in some of
- 5 the districts, I have to say that you guys
- 6 are much better than us because by failing
- 7 to approve the bond issue voting, the
- 8 business in this county, you are hurting
- 9 every district.
- 10 So you are better at this than we
- 11 are, so you guys, by holding up \$93 million
- 12 in funding, whatever the number is, is
- 13 hurting every district.
- 14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Rich, let's
- 15 be honest, we're not hurting anybody.
- 16 Mr. Arnold got up there today and said
- 17 there's money for road resurfacing. We are
- 18 moving forward with road resurfacing.
- 19 We just passed a contract based
- 20 on the \$50 million that was passed in
- October, we passed money for road
- 22 resurfacing. So tell me what we are holding
- 23 up? Tell me exactly what we are holding up.
- 24 Other than your --
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: You don't

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 want to hear my answer.
- 3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I would
- 4 love to hear a direct answer to the
- 5 question. I'm asking. Tell me how, out of
- 6 the \$90 million you are proposing, tell me
- 7 exactly which projects, specifically, we are
- 8 holding up.
- 9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We will
- 10 give you the list.
- 11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Because you
- 12 don't have it.
- 13 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I don't
- 14 have it in my hand.
- 15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: But you
- 16 hung your hat on last week that we were
- 17 holding up the resurfacing. Go back and
- 18 check the records. You hung your hat that
- 19 we were holding up massive road projects
- 20 across Nassau County because Democrat won't
- 21 budge, and traffic studies are not
- 22 happening. That was your words last week.
- Then, when I had Mr. Arnold here
- 24 at the podium, he totally contradicted that.
- 25 He said, no, we have \$50 million, and, on

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 top of that --
- 3 MR. BECKER: Legislator Abrahams,
- 4 he didn't contradict that. You are
- 5 incorrect. Most of that money is already
- 6 encumbered is what he said.
- 7 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Fran, to
- 8 answer your question, the comment was made
- 9 that we were holding up projects. We are
- 10 not holding up anything.
- 11 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I have a
- 12 response. You asked me to tell you what
- 13 you're holding up.
- 14 Since you want to hear it. Here
- 15 we go, sewer pump station upgrades, Sea
- 16 Cliff sewers, various county parks
- 17 infrastructure improvements, road
- 18 resurfacing, E-government, network --
- 19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: You just
- 20 mentioned road resurfacing.
- 21 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: You don't
- 22 want to hear me? You're acting like one of
- 23 those leftist professors at college, you
- 24 want to shut everybody else down.
- 25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Rich, you

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 are reading from a list that somebody handed
- 3 you. You just said road resurfacing.
- 4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: You asked
- 5 me to tell you what you are holding up. You
- 6 are smart enough to understand that because
- 7 there's some money that they're spending
- 8 down that's residual money for these
- 9 purposes, the fact that that money is not
- 10 going to last forever, these bond issues
- 11 that are proposed, additional projects have
- 12 to be done. That's what this represents.
- 13 You know that.
- Once we spend this \$30 million,
- 15 the county doesn't stop spending money. Our
- 16 road resurfacing and our infrastructure
- 17 project doesn't stop.
- Obviously, the reason we have a
- 19 capital plan every year is that this work is
- 20 ongoing. The fact that some money is
- 21 available spent down doesn't mean we don't
- 22 need the rest of it. You hold it up for a
- 23 year and say we don't need it, that doesn't
- 24 make any sense from a governmental
- 25 standpoint.

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I don't
- 3 think anybody is making an argument that we
- 4 don't need it. But there is more based on
- 5 Mr. Arnold's argument that it's there. That
- 6 part you can't refute.
- 7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Ms.
- 8 Mereday, let's go. I'm ready to move. Item
- 9 361.
- MS. MEREDAY: I'm sorry, I don't
- 11 really understand. I'm trying to come to
- 12 the forum to be informed, to understand
- 13 where our tax dollars are going. I'm not
- 14 bringing the hostility. I'm really not in
- 15 any particular mood to be in receipt of it
- 16 either.
- 17 So as it pertains to this law, I
- 18 am concerned about, again, where these
- 19 monies are going and how it's being
- 20 translated, but it's unfortunate because the
- 21 public does not get the answers to the
- 22 questions and the concerns continue to grow
- 23 with regard to asking earlier about where
- 24 parks and rec money was going and how
- 25 specifically it had to be earmarked to

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 Mitchell Field and not getting any
- 3 background information as to why.
- 4 So, since the numbers will always
- 5 be the same in term of the vote break, you
- 6 are going to do what you are going to do
- 7 anyway, but I just feel that, again, the
- 8 process of governing in this county really
- 9 has to change and unfortunately it's not
- 10 going to start with the group before me.
- 11 So it really just saddens me that
- 12 we have to have this type of situation and
- 13 the needs of those who are voiceless in this
- 14 county are not being heard. That really
- 15 makes me very sad.
- So, as it pertains to this, I'm
- 17 just hoping that questions do get asked but
- 18 they won't get answered, and there is really
- 19 no point in my mind to have public comment
- 20 if the public itself is going to be
- 21 disrespected, if the taxpayers are going to
- 22 continue to be disenfranchised and
- 23 overtaxed.
- 24 So we will have to continue to be
- 25 more concerned about the zombie homes

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 because folks don't really care about the
- 3 roads in Uniondale, and they don't care
- 4 about the seniors and those who continue to
- 5 be the most vulnerable because we are in
- 6 storm front locations. We have hotels and
- 7 motels that are closed. So even some of
- 8 those entities that you feel you are getting
- 9 a tax from are not even in operation. So
- 10 what are you doing about that? If this is
- 11 perceived as a revenue stream, and, again,
- 12 you are going to be voting on a budget that
- 13 has no true revenue base, that unfortunately
- 14 means that the taxpayers are going to be
- 15 taxed again and the voices of the public are
- 16 not being heard. You should all be ashamed
- 17 of that.
- The way that you conduct
- 19 yourselves even among yourselves is very
- 20 disrespectful and it does not warrant really
- 21 the majority of you even being re-elected.
- 22 Again, the voters will have to speak on that
- 23 issue. And hopefully we can have some type
- 24 of positive and productive change so that we
- 25 do not have any type of significant problems

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 that will arise in this county. Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: All those
- 4 in favor --
- 5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Madam
- 6 Presiding Officer, you never answered my
- 7 question when these clerk items will be
- 8 addressed.
- 9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I'm
- 10 calling the question. The item is 361-17.
- 11 All those in favor signify by saying aye.
- 12 (Aye.)
- Any opposed?
- 14 (No verbal response.)
- 15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 16 We're going to vote for it but I ask that
- 17 these be considered since I feel it's
- 18 personal at this point. These are the only
- 19 ones in my district. I would appreciate it.
- 20 They were sent down by the County Executive
- 21 which I appreciate.
- 22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Is it
- 23 unanimous? It's unanimous.
- 24 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: We
- 25 are going to support it because there's a

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 lot of good projects but so are the friends
- 3 of Cedermere and just because I'm the
- 4 representative, they shouldn't be
- 5 discriminated against.
- 6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: The next
- 7 item is 379-17, a resolution to accept a
- 8 gift offer by the New York Autofest to the
- 9 New York Police Department.
- Motion, please.
- 11 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.
- 12 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 14 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
- 15 Muscarella.
- 16 LIEUTENANT STEPHANOFF: Good
- 17 afternoon. Lieutenant Greg Stephanoff,
- 18 Nassau County Police Department.
- 19 Item 379 of '17 is an item to
- 20 accept from New York Autofest a donation of
- 21 one canine vest, approximately \$1,000. This
- 22 is a vest for the dog in case the situation
- 23 arises that we need to use it for him.
- 24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any
- 25 questions of the lieutenant?

1	Rules Committee/10-2-17
2	(No verbal response.)
3	Is there any public comment?
4	(No verbal response.)
5	There being none, all those in
6	favor of Item 379-17 signify by saying aye.
7	(Aye.)
8	Any opposed?
9	(No verbal response.)
10	The item passes unanimously.
11	Now I need a motion to suspend
12	the rules.
13	Motion, please.
14	LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So moved.
15	LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.
16	CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
17	Legislator Kopel, seconded by Legislator
18	Nicolello. All those in favor of suspending
19	the rules signify by saying aye.
20	(Aye.)
21	Any opposed?
22	(No verbal response.)
23	The rules are suspended.
24	The item is $383-17$ , a resolution
25	ratifying the act of the County Executive in

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 executing a memorandum of agreement between
- 3 the County of Nassau and the Nassau
- 4 Community College Federation of Teachers.
- 5 Motion, please.
- 6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.
- 7 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 9 Legislator Nicolello, seconded by Legislator
- 10 Muscarella. By the way, again, this is
- 11 being teed up and will be before the Full
- 12 Leg on the the 16th.
- MS. MURRAY: Good afternoon,
- 14 Madam Presiding Officer, Mr. Minority Leader
- 15 and all of the legislators. Kate Murray,
- 16 here on behalf of Nassau Community College.
- 17 I'm also joined by Mr. Frank
- 18 Frescenda who is the president of the NCCFT.
- 19 Before you this afternoon is the
- 20 NCCFT MOU that was agreed upon. It is a
- 21 three year agreement that runs from
- 22 September 1, 2017 through August 31st, 2020.
- 23 There are a number of changed terms.
- 24 Within the MOU, including some
- 25 work rules, some grievance procedures, of

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 the members compensation. The changes to
- 3 the compensation package include some wage
- 4 increases, reasonable, modest ones, I think
- 5 Mr. Frescenda would say.
- 6 They will be incorporated into
- 7 the existing graded and step salary plan for
- 8 2017, 2018 there will be a one percent
- 9 increase, in wages in 2018 2019 there will
- 10 be a one and a quarter percent increase. In
- 11 2019-20, they'll be a 1.5 percent increase
- 12 in salary.
- 13 With regard to the first year,
- 14 the one percent increase for '17-'18 that is
- included and supported in the 2017-18 Nassau
- 16 Community College budget which was passed
- 17 unanimously by this body back in June of
- 18 this year.
- 19 Normally we would have Mr. John
- 20 Gross who is the chief negotiator for the
- 21 college to be here. Unfortunately he had a
- 22 death in his family. He could not make it.
- 23 He's actually out of state today.
- He will, however, appear on
- October 16th if there were any deeper

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 questions with regard to some of the
- 3 substantive items.
- 4 Although I know from
- 5 Mr. Frescenda that he said he's memorized
- 6 every word of the MOU as a good union
- 7 president does. So if there are any
- 8 questions on this MOU?
- 9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: How are
- 10 you, Kate? Obviously, I think, Kate, you
- 11 mentioned in your opening statement that
- 12 this MOA covers -- is covered in not only
- 13 the budget that was passed earlier year for
- 14 the 2017-18 but it also is addressed in the
- 15 multiyear plan as the college perceives
- 16 going forward?
- 17 MS. MURRAY: No. Actually, for
- 18 this year we do one budget at a time but
- 19 certainly those numbers will be
- 20 incorporated. The vice president for
- 21 finance is beginning to create the budget
- 22 for '18-'19. And certainly the one and a
- 23 quarter percent that would be represented in
- 24 wage increases for '18-'19 would be part and
- 25 parcel of that budget proposal. But for '17

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 and '18 it is covered.
- 3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And then
- 4 eventually it will be covered?
- 5 MS. MURRAY: Yes, absolutely.
- 6 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Then I
- 7 guess the other question which we will
- 8 probably delve into, which Mr. Gross needs
- 9 to speak on this or President Keen, it's our
- 10 understanding that the middle state is going
- 11 to be at the college over the next couple of
- days which obviously, no agreement is done
- in a vacuum, so this agreement probably
- 14 considers many of those facets that the
- 15 middle states have concerns about being
- 16 addressed which may require some level of
- 17 parts of this MOA as well.
- 18 It is your impression as well as
- 19 your understanding that voting for this
- 20 agreement will address those aspects that
- 21 the concerns that the middle states have
- 22 had?
- MR. FRESCENDA: Yes. Part of the
- 24 agreement in this MOA addresses the roles
- 25 and responsibilities of various

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 administrators at Nassau Community College.
- 3 One of the standards that this
- 4 falls under is leadership. We failed that
- 5 standard. And one of the requirements was
- 6 to demonstrate to middle states that the
- 7 roles and responsibilities of the
- 8 administration were clearly outlined.
- 9 So there are aspects of this MOA,
- 10 and I can name them, some of them have to do
- 11 with appointment policies, have to do with
- 12 disciplinary issues, has to do with
- 13 grievances where we have codified the roles
- 14 and responsibilities of deans and vice
- 15 presidents to comply with middle state
- 16 standard number five.
- 17 MS. MURRAY: And, also, if we're
- 18 lucky enough and fortunate enough to have
- 19 this committee pass this MOU at least onto
- 20 the Full Legislature for October 16th, it's
- 21 another piece and indicator to the middle
- 22 state's team which will be here on campus on
- 23 Wednesday, that their piece has broken out
- 24 and that various constituencies are dealing
- 25 with each other well, peacefully and can

- 1 Rules Committee/10-2-17
- 2 actually strike a good collective bargaining
- 3 agreement.
- 4 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Okay. I
- 5 don't have anything further.
- 6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any public
- 7 comment?
- 8 (No verbal response.)
- 9 There being none, all those in
- 10 favor of Item 383-17 signify by saying aye.
- 11 (Aye.)
- 12 Any opposed?
- 13 (No verbal response.)
- 14 It's unanimous. Thank you very
- 15 much. See you on the 16th.
- 16 There being no other business for
- 17 the Rules Committee, a motion to adjourn.
- 18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: So moved.
- 19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.
- 20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
- 21 Legislator Kopel, seconded by Legislator
- 22 Nicolello. All those in favor signify by
- 23 saying aye.
- 24 (Aye.)
- 25 Any opposed?

1	Rules Committee/10-2-17
2	(No verbal response.)
3	The Rules Committee is now
4	adjourned.
5	(Whereupon, the Rules Committee
6	adjourned at 3:53 p.m.)
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