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6 NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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8 RICHARD NICOLELLO

9 PRESIDING OFFICER

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11 RULES COMMITTEE

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13 LEGISLATOR RICHARD NICOLELLO

14 CHAIR

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17 Theodore Roosevelt Building

18 1550 Franklin Avenue

19 Mineola, New York

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21

22 May 23, 2018

23 5:11 P.M.

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

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4 LEGISLATOR RICHARD NICOLELLO

5 Chair

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7 LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

8 Vice Chair

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10 LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS

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12 LEGISLATOR LAURA SCHAEFER

13

14 LEGISLATOR KEVAN ABRAHAMS

15 Ranking member

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17 LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

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19 LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE

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2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Roll call
3 please.

4 MR. PULITZER: Rules Committe
5 role call. Legislator Siela Bynoe.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.

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

9 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON:
10 Here.

11 MR. PULITZER: Ranking member
12 Kevan Abrahams.

13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

14 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Laura
15 Schaefer.

16 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Designate
17 Legislator Kennedy sitting in for Laura
18 Schafer.

19 MR. PULITZER: Legislator
20 Kennedy.

21 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.

22 MR. PULITZER:

23 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.

24 MR. PULITZER: Vice-chairman
25 Howard Kopel.

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2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

3 MR. PULITZER: Chairman Richard
4 Nicolello.

5 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.

6 MR. PULITZER: We have a quorum.

7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank
8 you. We two items on the Rules Committee
9 calendar. I am going to call them both
10 together. If necessary we can vote on them
11 separately.

12 Item 236-18 is a resolution
13 authorizing the county executive to execute an
14 intermunicipal agreement with the town of
15 Hempstead in relation to procuring and
16 installing a recreational improvement project
17 at Wynsum Avenue Park.

18 E-62-18 is a resolution authorizing
19 the county executive to execute a personal
20 services agreement on behalf of the county
21 acting on behalf of the Department of Human
22 Services office, the Youth Services and Long
23 Beach Aware.

24 Moved by Legislator Rhoads. Second
25 by Legislator Kennedy. Those two items are

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2 before the committee.

3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I have just
4 a question for the administration regarding
5 item A-64-18 It has come to our attention in
6 reviewing the contract for Long Beach Aware
7 that Mr. Alphonso Albright is a principal or
8 works for Long Beach Aware. Could you give us
9 some insight on that particular --

10 MS. BREIL: Trista Breil.
11 Actually I cannot give some insight on that.
12 That's something that I would have to bring
13 back to the office.

14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: We don't
15 have an issue Mr. Albright. Our concern is
16 obviously the administration has done its due
17 diligence to ensure that Mr. Albright hasn't
18 been involved in any of the procurement that
19 has been tied to Aware as he's a commissioner
20 of corrections for the county. We just want
21 to make sure that we have cleaned that slate
22 to make sure it's going forward. So if the
23 administration can get back to us I'd
24 appreciate it in making that that has been
25 done.

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2 Hey Mike.

3 MR. SANTORAMO: Mike Santoramo. We
4 spoke with your council earlier today and I
5 spoke with our deputy county executive for
6 compliance and you can be assured that Mr.
7 Albright has nothing to do with any
8 procurement in the county.

9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thanks
10 Mike. Just what we wanted to hear.

11 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Good.
12 Thank you. Any other questions? Any public
13 comment?

14 MS. MEREDAY: My question has to
15 do with the municipal agreement as far as what
16 is the cost of the project? What does it is
17 actually entail? And as it pertains to the
18 diversity inclusions, since the county, as far
19 as I know, doesn't have an inspector general
20 to kind of go over these contracts overall, in
21 light of past activities within the county. I
22 mean, someone has to ask these questions. You
23 might have the documents before you but the
24 residents are at a disadvantage not knowing
25 what is happening. So again, the cost of the

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2 project, the inclusion involved and what does
3 it entail? Says installing a recreational
4 improvement project. I mean, are you adding a
5 swing? A slide? What does it mean?

6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We have
7 the perfect person to answer at least some of
8 those questions.

9 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you Mr.
10 Chairman. Ms. Mereday, the overall cost of
11 the project is estimated to be about
12 \$230,000. \$100,000 of that will be coming
13 from a grant through the state government that
14 was originally secured by Senator Venditto and
15 is being given to the Town of Hempstead. The
16 Town of Hempstead will control compliance,
17 obviously, with their internal procedures.

18 MS. MEREDAY: Well,
19 unfortunately, I've been told this on numerous
20 occasions for the number of years I've been
21 going to the town, is not under any obligation
22 to really emphasize any type of benchmarking
23 or, you know, fair outreach as it pertains to
24 minority women, sevice-disabled. Best efforts
25 is an ad in Newsday and notification on their

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2 website. So I would not be impressed by
3 hearing that the Town of Hempstead is
4 responsible for the enforcement as it pertains
5 to inclusion when the county has some
6 mandates. Whether you have actually --

7 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Well, the
8 issue that we have, Ms. Mereday, is the fact
9 that Wynsum Park is actually a Town of
10 Hempstead facility. Nassau County would not
11 be able to do any of the construction on a
12 Town of Hempstead facility. That's why
13 there's an intermunicipal agreement between
14 the two.

15 MS. MEREDAY: I understand that.
16 But within the negotiations and the language,
17 being that I'm not a lawyer, but most people
18 say you really need to have a cadre of them, I
19 need to have some clarity as it pertains to
20 the rights when we're talking about funding
21 that's coming from this. We're talking about
22 state grants, which I would say has some
23 inclusion from a federal connection, which
24 means that there are some compliance issues
25 that I would hope someone is taking into

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2 consideration. Because there is no track
3 record as it pertains -- there are no
4 numbers -- unless again you have the
5 information and the rest of us do not --
6 there's no numbers that speak to any
7 involvement inclusion of certain
8 service-disabled veteran-owned LBGT as it
9 pertains to contracting in Nassau County.

10 This is 2018. Who is going to be
11 responsible? If the county executive is
12 signing an agreement as the representative for
13 this county. Based upon trying to be
14 inclusive, when do the residents really see
15 where that inclusion is coming from that we're
16 getting the opportunities, or it's just going
17 to the same people that you see every month?

18 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Just a point
19 of clarification -- and Mr. Pulitzer correct
20 me if I'm wrong -- everything that we have
21 here, because I've already stated this a
22 couple of times, Ms. Mereday, I heard you say
23 this, everything we have here is posted
24 online, correct?

25 MR. PULITZER: Yes sir.

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2 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So

3 Ms. Mereday, I would refer you to go online to
4 make sure that what you want to see what we
5 have, we don't have any special documents.
6 So, whatever we have is posted online before
7 the meeting.

8 MS. MEREDAY: Okay. Well, of
9 this that you read -- I mean, because you have
10 you, you have staff, you have other people,
11 you have attorneys, things of that nature.

12 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Yes, they
13 prepare recommendations and thoughts, yes.

14 MS. MEREDAY: I understand that.
15 I don't always have the time to read every
16 piece of paper, every document. But I do know
17 that when I went to the site that I not seen
18 the inclusion. And knowing again what is on
19 the site as pertains to service-disabled
20 veteran-owned businesses in the county is not
21 fulfilling what is on its site.

22 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I just want
23 to correct the record, because you said that
24 what we have up here, almost implying that you
25 don't have something there.

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2 MS. MEREDAY: Okay.

3 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Okay. So,
4 just to correct the record, everything that we
5 have up here, the contract itself that I'm
6 looking at, the public has access to. So
7 we're not hiding it.

8 MS. MEREDAY: Okay. But are you
9 comfortable with that fact that there is --
10 what is the oversight? Are you comfortable if
11 I go to look at this contract?

12 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I'm
13 comfortable based on of my review as well as
14 our staff review. I'm comfortable in voting
15 for this contract, yes.

16 MS. MEREDAY: And that there is
17 going to be inclusion and there is going to be
18 benchmarking and it's going to involve -- when
19 the program for the county does not even have
20 sufficient staff for the input for this.

21 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: That is
22 something that requires greater input from the
23 administration. Which that could be the
24 reason we hold up every contract in the county
25 and we could completely stop business in the

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2 county. We could do that too. But if you're
3 asking me if am I comfortable with this
4 agreement, yes, we are comfortable with this
5 agreement and i plan to vote for it.

6 That being said, I'm not taking
7 umbrage with your issue on whether or not
8 there is minority or veterans future work
9 that's planned for this contract. My point
10 was that I've heard you say it a couple of
11 times at these at legislative meetings that --

12 MR. MEREDAY: I said maybe.

13 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Ms. Mereday,
14 I never interrupted you. Please.

15 All I'm saying is that you said
16 that we have stuff up here that you don't have
17 there. That implies like we have some special
18 documents, which we do not. Everything that
19 we have up here the public has. That's all I
20 wanted to do to correct the record, because
21 I've heard you say that a couple of times.
22 There is nothing special that we have up here
23 that the public does not have. Thank you.

24 MS. MEREDAY: Okay. Then I will
25 look at the contract so that I will, as you

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2 say, and I did is say you might have
3 information. That's a whole completely
4 different kind of thing than saying that you
5 have it.

6 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: You did say
7 might. But there is no might.

8 MR. MEREDAY: Okay.

9 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: There is no
10 might.

11 MR. MEREDAY: But you do have
12 this that says that's outlined what the county
13 is supposed to do as it pertains -- now I have
14 this. This is what the county is supposed to
15 do as it pertains to service-disabled
16 veteran-owned businesses.

17 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Ms.
18 Mereday --

19 MR. MEREDAY: As you said, I
20 didn't interrupt you but you're interrupting
21 me.

22 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Okay. Go
23 ahead.

24 MS. MEREDAY: I did say this is
25 what you have and this is what you are not

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2 doing. These are grounds right here. But why
3 add to another litigation that the county is
4 more than likely going to lose. That's all
5 I'm saying. Thank you.

6 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Gotcha. No
7 problem.

8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Okay.
9 Hearing no further discussion I'm gong to call
10 a vote on these two items. This is just Rules
11 Committee members. All in favor signify by
12 saying aye. Those opposed? They carry
13 unanimously.

14 Motion by legislator Kennedy,
15 seconded by Minority Leader Abrahams to
16 adjourn or close the hearing -- adjourn Rules
17 all in favor signify by saying aye. Those
18 opposed? Rules is adjourned.

19 (Meeting was adjourned at 5:21
20 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATION

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand this 11th day of
June 2018

FRANK GRAY