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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RICHARD NICOLELLO,  
Presiding Officer

FINANCE COMMITTEE

HOWARD KOPEL, Chairman

1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York

Monday, January 11, 2021  
3:11 P.M

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

HOWARD KOPEL ,  
Chairman

VINCENT MUSCARELLA ,  
Vice Chairman

TOM MCKEVITT

ROSEMARIE WALKER

ELLEN BIRNBAUM ,  
Ranking

ARNOLD DRUCKER

JOSHUA LAFAZAN

MICHAEL PULITZER ,  
Clerk of the Legislature

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LIST OF SPEAKERS

JOHN BUDNICK, public comment.....9

1 Finance Committee/1-11-21  
2 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Finance  
3 Committee. Clerk, call the roll.  
4 CLERK PULITZER: Finance  
5 Committee roll call. Legislator Joshua  
6 Lafazan?  
7 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Here.  
8 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator  
9 Arnold Drucker?  
10 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.  
11 CLERK PULITZER: Ranking member  
12 Ellen Birnbaum?  
13 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Here.  
14 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator  
15 Rosemarie Walker?  
16 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.  
17 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator  
18 Thomas McKeivitt?  
19 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Here.  
20 CLERK PULITZER: Vice Chairman  
21 Vincent Muscarella?  
22 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.  
23 CLERK PULITZER: Chairman Howard  
24 Kopel?  
25 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Here.

1 Finance Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Because I  
3 am physically here and Mr. Kopel is not, I'm  
4 trying to run the committee personally  
5 today.

6 So, first, we need a motion to  
7 suspend the rules.

8 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

9 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Second.

10 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Moved by  
11 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator  
12 Birnbaum. Do we have any discussion?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 All those in favor signify by  
15 saying aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 Those opposed?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 The ayes have it.

20 So what we are first going to do  
21 is start off with those items on consent  
22 which have already been heard through the  
23 other committees today.

24 So we are going to call items  
25 1-21, 3-21, 4-21, 5-21, 6-21, 22-21 and

1 Finance Committee/1-11-21

2 23-21. Any discussion on these items?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 Let me first have a motion

5 actually.

6 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

7 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Second.

8 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Moved by

9 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator

10 Drucker. Do we have any discussion on these  
11 items?

12 (No verbal response.)

13 Is there any public comment?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 All those in favor signify by  
16 saying aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 All opposed?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Those items are passed.

21 Moving on next to the addendum.

22 We will first go towards the end of the  
23 addendum which will be Items 19-21. We have  
24 19-21, 20-21 and 21-21, and these are all  
25 items that we have just heard previously by

1 Finance Committee/1-11-21

2 other committees.

3 Do I have a motion to consider  
4 these items?

5 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

6 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Second.

7 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Moved by  
8 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator  
9 Drucker. Do we have any discussion on these  
10 items?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 Is there any public comment?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 All those in favor please say  
15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 All opposed?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 The ayes have it.

20 We are next going to go on to a  
21 number of resolutions dealing with  
22 settlements with the county attorney's  
23 office. We have items 14-21, 15-21, 16-21,  
24 17-21, 18-21, 19-21, 20-21 -- sorry. Let me  
25 stop that, that stops at 18-21.

1 Finance Committee/1-11-21

2 Actually, just one moment.

3 Actually starting at 9-21, then 10-21,  
4 11-21, 12-21, and 13-21, those are all the  
5 settlements dealing with the common issues  
6 with the County Attorney's Office.

7 Do I have a motion on that?

8 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: So moved.

9 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

10 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Moved by  
11 Legislator Birnbaum, seconded by Legislator  
12 Walker.

13 At this point, do I then have a  
14 motion to go into executive session on these  
15 items?

16 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: So moved.

17 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

18 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Moved by  
19 Mr. Drucker, seconded by Ms. Walker. It had  
20 been previously tabled and not on the agenda  
21 today. And these are all items dealing with  
22 the county attorney's office.

23 Do we have to vote on this?

24 Let's move on the executive session. All in  
25 favor signify by saying aye.



1 Finance Committee/1-11-21

2 (Aye.)

3 Those against?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 So that motion is passed. We  
6 will then go forth to our respective rooms  
7 where we would invite members of the Rules  
8 Committee to also join us so we can go and  
9 discuss this with the County Attorney's  
10 Office in executive session.

11 (Whereupon, the Finance Committee  
12 recessed into executive session at 3:15 p.m.  
13 and reconvened at 4:15 p.m.)

14 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: We returned  
15 to the dais. We will conclude this part of  
16 the Finance Committee calendar. We are back  
17 from executive session. We discussed with  
18 the County Attorney's Office nine through  
19 18, all of '21.

20 Is there any discussion?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 Any public comment? Mr. Budnick.

23 MR. BUDNICK: John J. Budnick,  
24 122 Von Huenfeld Street, Massapequa Park.  
25 I'm inquiring to each of those ten items, is

1 Finance Committee/1-11-21

2 there going to be a cost to Nassau County?

3 Additionally, I would like to  
4 have a very brief two to maybe seven word  
5 indication of what the cause of the reason  
6 that the county is paying out whatever money  
7 is being paid out. Is it a traffic  
8 accident? Is it incorrect construction? Is  
9 it dangerous workplace conditions? Just  
10 what? That's all.

11 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Mr.  
12 Budnick, not going too deeply into executive  
13 session, these all dealt with  
14 asbestos-related cases at the Nassau  
15 Coliseum and since there are ten case I will  
16 refer you to the information in the calendar  
17 for the amount for each of the settlements.

18 MR. BUDNICK: Thank you.

19 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: All in  
20 favor please indicate by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 All opposed?

23 (No verbal response.)

24 The item passes.

25 Do I have a motion to adjourn?

1 Finance Committee/1-11-21  
2 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: So moved.  
3 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.  
4 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Mr. Drucker  
5 so moves, Ms. Walker seconds.  
6 All in favor say aye.  
7 (Aye.)  
8 All opposed?  
9 (No verbal response.)  
10 Finance is adjourned.  
11 (Whereupon, the Finance Committee  
12 adjourned at 4:17 p.m.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set  
my hand this 12th day of January, 2021.

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FRANK GRAY