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6 NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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8 RICHARD NICOLELLO

9 PRESIDING OFFICER

10

11 FINANCE COMMITTEE

12

13 LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

14 CHAIR

15

16

17 Theodore Roosevelt Building

18 1550 Franklin Avenue

19 Mineola, New York

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21

22 June 8, 2022

23 3:46 P.M.

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2     A P P E A R A N C E S:

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4     LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

5                     Chair

6

7     LEGISLATOR JOHN FERRETTI

8                     Vice Chair

9

10    LEGISLATOR TOM MCKEVITT

11

12    LEGISLATOR ROSE MARIE WALKER

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14    LEGISLATOR ARNOLD DRUCKER

15                     Ranking member

16

17    LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES

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19    LEGISLATOR JOSHUA LAFAZAN

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2 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: At this  
3 time I will call the Finance Committee to  
4 order. Mr. Clerk if you could please call the  
5 roll.

6 MR. PULITZER: Thank you  
7 chairman. Thank you. Roll call.  
8 Substituting for Legislator Lafazan is Delia  
9 DeRiggi-Whitton.

10 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
11 Here.

12 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Carrie  
13 Solages.

14 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.

15 MR. PULITZER: Ranking Member  
16 Arnold Drucker.

17 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.

18 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Rose  
19 Marie Walker.

20 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

21 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Thomas  
22 McKevitt.

23 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Here.

24 MR. PULITZER: Vice Chairman John  
25 Ferretti.

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2 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Here.

3 MR. PULITZER: We have a quorum.

4 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Mr. Clerk I'm  
5 here as well. Did you call me?

6 MR. PULITZER: I apologize  
7 chairman. Chairman Howard Kopel.

8 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

9 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Can I have  
10 a motion to suspend the rules? Moved by  
11 Legislator Walker. Seconded by Legislator  
12 DeRiggi-Whitton. Any debate or discussion?  
13 All in favor please signify by saying aye.  
14 The rules are suspended.

15 The following items have been  
16 unanimously approved by committees earlier and  
17 are called by consent. Items 150-22, 158-22,  
18 159-22, 160-22, 162-22, 163-22, 167-22, 168-22  
19 and 185-22.

20 May I have a motion. Moved by  
21 Legislator Walker. Seconded by Legislator  
22 Solages. Any debate or discussion? Any  
23 public comment? All in favor please signify  
24 by saying aye. Any opposed? The items pass  
25 unanimously.

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2 Clerk item 156-22 is a resolution  
3 to authorize the transfer of appropriations  
4 heretofore made within the budget for the year  
5 2022.

6 May I have a motion. Moved by  
7 Legislator Kopel. Seconded by Legislator  
8 Drucker. The items are before us. Who is  
9 here from the administration?

10 MR. MCDERMOTT: Good afternoon.  
11 Dennis McDermott, assistant district  
12 attorney. This is respecting the federal  
13 grant in the aid of prosecutions solutions.  
14 It's a budget transfer that enables the office  
15 to fully utilize the grant funds that have  
16 already been appropriated.

17 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.  
18 Any debate or discussion? Any public  
19 comment? All those in favor of passing this  
20 item please signify by saying aye. Opposed?  
21 The item passes unanimously.

22 Clerk item 157-22 is a resolution  
23 to authorize the transfer of appropriations  
24 heretofore made within with the budget for the  
25 year 2022.

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2 May I have a motion. Moved by  
3 Legislator Walker. Seconded by Legislator  
4 McKevitt. The item is before us. Who is here  
5 from the administration?

6 MS. ZAKI: Good afternoon. I'm  
7 Zema Zaki. Fiscal director from Department of  
8 Human Services. We are requesting this  
9 transfer from the budgeted category of  
10 contractual expenses to general expenses.  
11 This is 100 percent federal stimulus funds  
12 awarded to Office of Aging for the purposes of  
13 Coronavirus prevention and response purposes.

14 The purpose of this transfer is to  
15 use it -- the department wants to provide the  
16 masks, the KN-95 or N-95 masks, gloves and  
17 hygiene and distribute it to the providers and  
18 the senior centers. That's why we are  
19 requesting it to be transferred from the  
20 contractual expenses to general expenses.

21 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.  
22 Any debate or discussion? Any public  
23 comment? There being none, all those in favor  
24 of passing this item please signify by saying  
25 aye. Those opposed? The item passes

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2 unanimously. Thank you.

3 Clerk item 170-22 is a resolution  
4 authorizing the county of Nassau to file an  
5 application for federal assistance with the  
6 United States Department of Housing and Urban  
7 Development.

8 May I have a motion. Moved by  
9 Legislator Walker. Seconded by Legislator  
10 Delia DeRiggi-Whitton. The item is before  
11 us. Who do we have from the administration?

12 MR. CREAN: Good afternoon.  
13 Kevin Crean, Office of Community Development.

14 As you stated, item 170-22 is an  
15 annual action plan that covers the submission  
16 of -- that itemizes the budgets authorized by  
17 US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
18 for the Office of Community Development under  
19 three grants. The Community Development Block  
20 Grant Program. Which is roughly \$13.5  
21 million. The Home Program which is \$2.6  
22 million. And the Emergency Solutions Grant  
23 Program, which is \$1.19 million.

24 The office held two public hearings  
25 on January 27th, on May 18th. The 30-day

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2 comment period also ran from May 6th through  
3 June 5th.

4 I'm here today if you have any  
5 questions on the item I'm available.

6 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.  
7 Do we have any debate or discussion or  
8 questions? Any public comment? All those in  
9 favor of passing this item please signify by  
10 saying aye. Those opposed? The item passes  
11 unanimously.

12 Clerk 174-22 is a resolution  
13 authorizing the county executive to execute a  
14 grant agreement between the county of Nassau  
15 acting on behalf of the department of the  
16 district attorney and the Hispanic Counseling  
17 Center, Inc.

18 May I have a motion. Moved by  
19 Legislator Drucker. Seconded by Legislator  
20 Walker. The item is before us.

21 MR. MCDERMOTT: Good afternoon  
22 legislator. Dennis McDermott, assistant  
23 district attorney.

24 This is a grant of Hispanic  
25 Counseling Center to support their domestic



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2 violence batterers intervention program. It's  
3 an educational and counseling program. It's  
4 designed to change the behavior of  
5 perpetrators of domestic violence, increase  
6 their accountability and protect victims and  
7 families.

8 The grant's for \$85,000 and fully  
9 funded by New York State civil forfeiture  
10 funds.

11 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Fantastic.  
12 Any debate or discussion? Thank you sir. Any  
13 public comment? All those in favor of passing  
14 this item please signify by saying aye. Those  
15 opposed? The item passes unanimously. Thank  
16 you.

17 We will call the settlements at the  
18 end of this committee but we will now move on  
19 to the addendum. Clerk item 177-22 is a  
20 resolution authorizing the county executive to  
21 enter into grant agreements on behalf of the  
22 county's Department of Health with various  
23 public school districts, charter schools and  
24 nonpublic elementary and secondary schools,  
25 which agreements are funded with monies from

1 Finance 6-08-22  
2 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
3 received by the county from a grant by Health  
4 Research, Inc. through the New York State  
5 Department of Health, and which monies have  
6 been supplementally appropriated by the county  
7 to fund grant agreements with public school  
8 districts, charter schools and nonpublic  
9 elementary and secondary schools to establish  
10 COVID-19 screening and testing programs to  
11 support and maintain in-person learning and to  
12 keep schools operating safely.

13 Clerk item number 178-22 is a  
14 resolution declaring a capital budget  
15 emergency pursuant to Section 310(d) of the  
16 county government law -- sorry. Hold on one  
17 second.

18 Back to 177 for a second. May I  
19 have a motion. Moved by Legislator Walker.  
20 Seconded by Legislator McKeivitt. The item is  
21 before us. Who do we have from the  
22 administration?

23 MS DESIMONE: Ann DeSimone,  
24 health department.

25 DR. BUCHMAN: Dr. Tavora Buchman,

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2 Health Department.

3 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Good  
4 afternoon. Do we have any questions for the  
5 ladies? Do you have anything to add?

6 MS. DESIMONE: No. It's a CDC  
7 grant funded \$19,171,026 and it will be used  
8 for all schools that are in need of this  
9 funding for COVID-19.

10 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Do we have  
11 any debate or discussion? Any public  
12 comment? Legislator Walker.

13 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Does this  
14 cover the testing that you do for like faculty  
15 also and not just students?

16 DR. BUCHMAN: Yes. These are  
17 funds available to the school districts,  
18 charter schools, private schools to enter into  
19 agreements to cover that testing. It's  
20 exactly for that purpose. In addition,  
21 allowable costs include things like mobile  
22 HEPA filters, some personnel issues. So it's  
23 a very encompassing grant funded.

24 LEGISLATOR WALKER: All the  
25 schools are notified about this funding now?

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2 DR. BUCHMAN: Yes. The schools  
3 have been notified in the past and they will  
4 indeed be notified again.

5 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Then they  
6 have to apply for part of the funding?

7 DR. BUCHMAN: They will apply.  
8 This will allow them to apply to Nassau  
9 County. And if indeed the costs are  
10 allowable, we go through that. We have to  
11 verify that and then they will be reimbursed  
12 for the past year and as well as the coming  
13 year until 2023.

14 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Thank you.

15 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any further  
16 debate or discussion? Any public comment?  
17 All those in favor of passing this item  
18 signify by saying aye. Those opposed? The  
19 item passes unanimously.

20 Clerk item 178-22 is a resolution  
21 declaring a capital budget emergency pursuant  
22 to Section 310(d) of the county government law  
23 of Nassau County.

24 Do we have a motion? Moved by  
25 Legislator Walker. Seconded by Legislator

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2 Drucker. The item is before us. Commissioner  
3 Arnold.

4 MR. ARNOLD: Good afternoon. Ken  
5 Arnold. This item is the declaration to have  
6 the amended capital plan and corresponding  
7 bond ordinance heard.

8 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.  
9 Do we have any debate or discussion on this  
10 item? There being none, any public comment?

11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
12 just want to mention that we're going to be  
13 abstaining only because we just started to  
14 review the plan and I actually have a couple  
15 of questions. Just a quick one for  
16 Mr. Arnold. Could you just tell me what the  
17 Crescent Beach item is for \$250,000?

18 MR. ARNOLD: That is the  
19 additional funding for the next phase of  
20 work. I believe that there was not adequate  
21 bond ordinance for the complete work that was  
22 proposed by the city as part of the IMA. This  
23 is to make sure there's adequate appropriation  
24 to enter into the amended IMA when we present  
25 that.

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2 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
3 have to talk to you about that. I don't  
4 think, unless I'm totally missing it, I don't  
5 think that that is necessary because we just  
6 did the filters in the homeowner stage of  
7 them. But I'd would like to see about that  
8 before.

9 MR. ARNOLD: I think this might  
10 be the wetland work.

11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: No,  
12 we had that done already and I had the money  
13 for that. But I have to double-check with you  
14 because I also believe that we bonded for that  
15 already. We still have plenty of money in  
16 that existing bond.

17 MR. ARNOLD: I think you're  
18 thinking of the sewage capital project not the  
19 Crescent Beach.

20 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: The  
21 \$2 million.

22 MR. ARNOLD: We can talk.

23 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
24 just want to make sure because I know it's  
25 been a couple of years. I think we still have

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2 money left from that \$2 million. I don't  
3 think the \$250,000 is anywhere near that, the  
4 cost of that. I just want to make sure.  
5 Again, I think I already had that money. But  
6 we'll discuss. Thank you.

7 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you  
8 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton. Do we have any  
9 further debate or discussion? There being  
10 none, any public comment? All those in favor  
11 of passing this item please signify by saying  
12 aye. Those opposed? We have a vote of four  
13 to zero with three abstentions.

14 Clerk item 179-22 is an ordinance  
15 to amend ordinance 126-2020 adopting the  
16 capital budget for the county of Nassau for  
17 the first year of the four-year capital plan  
18 to commence on January 1, 2021 pursuant to the  
19 provisions of Section 310 of the county  
20 government law of Nassau County.

21 Moved by Legislator McKevitt.  
22 Seconded by Legislator Walker. Commissioner.

23 MR. ARNOLD: Item 179 is the  
24 capital budget amendment that modifies the  
25 budget for both county funding and noncounty

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2 funding off the '21 approved plan. This was  
3 put together for things that have to happen in  
4 the short term or projects that we're bidding  
5 currently.

6 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you  
7 commissioner. Any debate or discussion?

8 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
9 Again, we would like to support it. We just  
10 want to review it closer. So, we're going to  
11 have three abstentions again.

12 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any further  
13 debate or discussion? Any public comment?  
14 All those in favor please signify by saying  
15 aye. Those opposed? Those abstaining? The  
16 vote is four to zero with three abstentions.

17 Clerk item 180-22 is a bond  
18 ordinance providing for capital expenditure to  
19 finance the capital projects identified herein  
20 with the county of Nassau and authorizing  
21 \$156,949,668 of bonds of the county of Nassau  
22 to finance said expenditure pursuant to the  
23 local finance law of New York and the county  
24 government law of Nassau County.

25 Moved by Legislator McKevitt.



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2 Seconded by Legislator Kopel. The item is  
3 before us. Commissioner.

4 MR. ARNOLD: This is the  
5 corresponding bond ordinances to support the  
6 capital plan amendment for the total that you  
7 read out previously.

8 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thanks.  
9 Any debate or discussion?

10 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
11 Again, we're going to abstain pending final  
12 review of the paperwork.

13 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.  
14 Any public comment? There being none, all  
15 those in favor please signify by saying aye.  
16 Those opposed? The vote is four to zero with  
17 three abstentions.

18 Clerk item 181-22 is a resolution  
19 authorizing the county executive to enter into  
20 and execute a grant agreement on behalf of the  
21 county with Nassau County Vocational Education  
22 and Extension Board that is funded with money  
23 received by the county under the American  
24 Rescue Plan's coronavirus state and local  
25 fiscal recovery fund and which has been

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2 supplementally appropriated to a fund grant  
3 agreement with VEEB, a qualifying 501c(3)  
4 not-for-profit organization, for the purpose  
5 of providing funds to mitigate financial  
6 hardship to respond to the negative economic  
7 impacts of the public health emergency caused  
8 by the COVID-19 pandemic.

9 Moved by Legislator Walker.  
10 Seconded by Legislator Drucker. The item is  
11 before us. Yes, hello. Who do we have from  
12 the administration?

13 MR. PILCZAK: Bo Pilczak, captain  
14 from the Nassau County Fire Marshal's office.

15 Item 181-22, which is before you,  
16 is a grant to the Vocational Education and  
17 Extension, VEEB, which operates the Nassau  
18 County Fire Service Academy. This is a grant  
19 that will be paid out of the American Rescue  
20 Plan and it's as a result of increased costs  
21 from the COVID-19 pandemic to supplement their  
22 funding to go back into training.

23 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you  
24 captain. Do we have any debate or  
25 discussion? Any public comment? There being

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2 none, all those in favor please signify by  
3 saying aye. Those opposed? The vote is  
4 unanimous. It passes unanimously. Thank you  
5 captain.

6 Clerk item 182-22 is a resolution  
7 authorizing the county executive to execute an  
8 amendment to a grant agreement between the  
9 county of Nassau, acting on behalf of the  
10 Department of Parks, Recreation and Museums  
11 and the African Atlantic Genealogical Society,  
12 Inc.

13 Moved by Legislator Walker.  
14 Seconded by Legislator Solages. Commissioner,  
15 good afternoon.

16 MS. BELYEA: Good afternoon.  
17 African Atlantic Genealogical Society. This  
18 is a grant agreement, as you mentioned,  
19 requesting an extension in the grant term  
20 retroactively to May 31, 2022 from September  
21 30, 2021. With the transition there was no  
22 time to get the work done that they were going  
23 to do. And adding \$75,000 to the agreement  
24 for a maximum of \$175,000. It's funded by  
25 hotel-motel grant program.

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2 The society helps to fund the  
3 Nassau County African-American Museum. One of  
4 the only museums of its kind in the country.  
5 The extension and funding will allow for  
6 improved cultural and historical exhibits,  
7 attractions at the museum and provide for  
8 county-run shows and exhibits. These exhibits  
9 are mobile and are frequently brought to  
10 Nassau County schools and museums for outreach  
11 educational programing. We have two new  
12 full-time employees there. They've been doing  
13 more outreach. This will definitely help that  
14 program.

15 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you  
16 commissioner. Any debate or discussion?  
17 Thank you commissioner. Any public comment?  
18 There being none, all those in favor of  
19 passing this item please signify by saying  
20 aye. Those opposed? The item passes  
21 unanimously. Thank you.

22 Clerk item 183-22 was erroneously  
23 placed on a Finance Committee agenda and  
24 should only be heard by Rules Committee as is  
25 standard practice with items that are

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2 community revitalization projects. As such,  
3 this item will be not be called at this time.

4 Clerk item 184-22 is a resolution  
5 authorizing the county executive to execute a  
6 grant agreement between the county of Nassau  
7 acting on behalf of the county Department of  
8 Parks, Recreation and Museums, and the museums  
9 at Mitchel doing business as Cradle of  
10 Aviation Museum.

11 Moved by Legislator Walker.

12 Seconded by Legislator Drucker. Commissioner.

13 MS. BELYEA: As you mentioned,  
14 Cradle of Aviation grant agreement for  
15 \$600,000. Again, funded through the  
16 hotel-motel grants program. It's a one-year  
17 term expiring February 28, 2023. These funds  
18 allow the Cradle of Aviation to undertake a  
19 variety of programs and events that will  
20 attract visitors from outside of Nassau  
21 County. Which is the main goal there.

22 Programs and events include the  
23 STEM magnet academy and educational programs  
24 for elementary schools. A partnership with  
25 Nassau Geographic for a new IMAX film series.

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2 The Chocolate Expo which is a big hit every  
3 year. And the 50th anniversary of Apollo 16  
4 and 17. They have a new initiative going on  
5 right now The Future is Now. Focusing on the  
6 science behind aviation and space travel.

7 You may have seen in today's  
8 Newsday, just if I could give the Cradle a  
9 shout-out, that they're taking ownership of  
10 the historic Navy F-14 Tomcat from the former  
11 Grumman site. That's actually going to be at  
12 the entrance on Charles Lindbergh Boulevard.  
13 Just had to give a little shout-out. Great  
14 things happening there.

15 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you  
16 commissioner. Any debate or discussion?

17 LEGISLATOR WALKER: No debate or  
18 discussion but I did see that in Newsday today  
19 and I'm excited that it is going to go to the  
20 Cradle but we're going to miss it where it's  
21 been for many, many years over in Bethpage.  
22 And so many people actually go over there.  
23 People go and take pictures. Not that they  
24 can't do that at the Cradle but it's kind of  
25 special that it was there. But I'm glad it's

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2 going to be taken by the Cradle and I know  
3 you're going to not really refurbish it but  
4 whatever, it's been outside.

5 MS. BELYEA: At the Cradle, just  
6 as an aside, there's a whole team of former  
7 Grumman workers that volunteered to refurbish  
8 every thing that comes in. That's their next  
9 project. I'm sorry it's leaving your neck of  
10 the woods but drive to work that way.

11 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Thank you.

12 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All right.  
13 Anybody else? Any public comment? There  
14 being none, all those in favor of passing this  
15 please signify by saying aye. Those opposed?  
16 The item passes unanimously.

17 Clerk item 186-22 is a resolution  
18 authorizing the county executive to execute a  
19 grant agreement between the county of Nassau  
20 acting on behalf of the county Department of  
21 Parks, Recreation and Museums and the Artists  
22 in Partnership, Inc.

23 Moved by Legislator McKeivitt.  
24 Seconded by Legislator Solages. Commissioner  
25 are you back?

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2 MS. BELYEA: You totally caught  
3 me offguard because I wasn't prepared for that  
4 one on the agenda. I know that it is funded  
5 through the hotel-motel grants program for the  
6 Artists in Partnership program which does  
7 outreach programs and programs for youth.

8 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.  
9 Any debate or discussion? Any public  
10 comment? There being none, all in favor  
11 please signify by saying aye. Those opposed?  
12 The item passes unanimously.

13 Clerk item 188-22 is a resolution  
14 to increase the petty cash funds of the  
15 Enforcement Division and Correctional Center  
16 Division of the Department of Sheriff pursuant  
17 to the Nassau County administrative code.

18 Moved by Legislator Drucker.  
19 Seconded by Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton. Good  
20 afternoon.

21 MS. HALL: Narda Hall,  
22 correctional center. Item 188-22. This is a  
23 resolution that increases the sheriff  
24 department's petty cash for the enforcement  
25 division from \$1,000 to \$3,000 and the



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2 correctional center division from \$6,000 to  
3 \$9,000. This is to meet the current demands  
4 of providing transport and other services to  
5 incarcerated individuals ensuring the  
6 effective operation of the department.

7 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thanks so  
8 much. Any debate or discussion? Any public  
9 comment? There being none, all those in favor  
10 please signify by saying aye. Those opposed?  
11 The item passes unanimously. Thank you.

12 Clerk item 189-22 is an ordinance  
13 to adopt the Nassau County budget for Nassau  
14 Community College for the fiscal year  
15 commencing September 1, 2022 and ending August  
16 31, 2023 and to appropriate revenues and the  
17 total amount of monies to be raised by  
18 taxation within the county of Nassau for the  
19 purposes of Nassau Community College for such  
20 fiscal year, pursuant to the provisions of the  
21 education law, the county law, the General  
22 Municipal Law, the county government law of  
23 Nassau County and the Nassau County  
24 administrative code.

25 Moved by Legislator Drucker.

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2 Seconded by Legislator McKevitt. The item is  
3 before us. We will be hearing from the  
4 college at the meeting of the full  
5 legislature, not today.

6 But I do have a slip in for public  
7 comment. Mr. David Stern.

8 MR. STERN: Good afternoon. My  
9 name is Dr. David Stern. I'm a full professor  
10 of the physical sciences department with  
11 Nassau Community College and was elected  
12 classroom vice president of the Nassau  
13 Community College Federation of Teachers.

14 I want to thank all of you for the  
15 applause that you gave when I gave comments at  
16 the legislative meeting that occurred at the  
17 Museum of American Armor. Not only did it  
18 acknowledge your commitment to our community  
19 college but it was an inspiration for our  
20 faculty that you actually care about our  
21 survival.

22 I also want to thank the minority  
23 members -- I want to let the minority members  
24 know that I have spoken with Bill Biamonte to  
25 set up a tour and again invite all of you to

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2 join. And for all the legislators, please  
3 have your office contact me if you want a  
4 tour. We would be more than happy to provide  
5 one.

6 We have here to ask the committees  
7 that are considering item 189-22 to adopt the  
8 Nassau County budget for the Nassau Community  
9 College for the fiscal year of 9-22 to 8-23 to  
10 vote no in order to send back the proposed  
11 college budget and ask the college board of  
12 trustees and the administration to work with  
13 the faculty to revise the budget to reflect an  
14 increase in county contribution to be used as  
15 investments for initiatives identified in the  
16 college's academic master plan and by  
17 department chairs. There's still a few months  
18 that this budget can be revised and a no vote  
19 means that you're willing to provide the  
20 support for our college to be able to  
21 survive.

22 Monday's Newsday article provided  
23 independent evidence to support the need for  
24 you to get the college trustees and the  
25 administration to revise the proposed budget.

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2 The current austerity approach that has been  
3 going on for a decade fails to ask the county  
4 for additional assistance and it's resulting  
5 in a much greater loss of students than when  
6 you compare it with Suffolk County. With  
7 their approach, Suffolk County's approach is  
8 to provide yearly increases to its community  
9 college. This also allows for the associated  
10 retention and hiring of new full-time  
11 faculty.

12 Over the past decade, Suffolk  
13 County Community College their enrollment  
14 declined 23 percent. But Nassau Community  
15 College's decline is a whopping double number  
16 at 46 percent.

17 Our current interim president is  
18 quoted in Newsday by saying her sole goal is  
19 guided pathways. Well, this goal actually  
20 requires significant resources in full-time  
21 faculty and advisors to provide the guidance  
22 for this idea to be successful.

23 However, the budget that's before  
24 you today, to this committee, does not  
25 consider this program and the money that's

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2 required to make this program successful. It  
3 also fails to provide resources to promote  
4 faculty initiatives that many of you heard  
5 about firsthand when you came and visited our  
6 campus.

7 Another reason to vote no is to ask  
8 the college to use its strategic planning  
9 process to support the budget. The current  
10 proposal is not linked to our strategic plan  
11 and this threatens our accreditation again.  
12 Since our accreditation by Middle States  
13 requires that budgeting be based and heavily  
14 linked to our strategic plan or strategic  
15 planning.

16 For the good of the county, the  
17 residents, please vote no for this item. We  
18 know it's -- do I have any more time?

19 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: You can  
20 finish your thought but if you could just --

21 MR. STERN: I will go real  
22 quick. We know that this is usually a pro  
23 forma process for you to approve the budget.  
24 But we ask that you consider the survival of  
25 our college and what's going to happen if you

1 Finance 6-08-22  
2 approve another zero increase budget this  
3 year. The same \$52 million contribution ten  
4 years ago is only worth \$32 million in today's  
5 dollars with inflation. That matches our \$20  
6 million deficit by the way.

7 If we had done what Suffolk County  
8 has done, small increases over the last 15  
9 years, we wouldn't be in such a hole. Thank  
10 you very much and please vote no.

11 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Dr. Stern,  
12 thank you very much. Just so you're aware, on  
13 the 27th is our full legislative meeting. So  
14 this will be voted on in the full legislative  
15 meeting on June 27th. This is just a  
16 committee process.

17 MR. STERN: Understand. Our  
18 thought was that the sooner that the  
19 legislature could send back the budget the  
20 sooner we could work collaboratively, that's  
21 our goal, in providing a budget that will  
22 ensure the survival of our college as opposed  
23 to what's been proposed to you.

24 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: On the 27th  
25 we're going to have the college

1 Finance 6-08-22  
2 representatives are going to be here and we  
3 will be hearing from them as well. It is  
4 going to pass through today. But again, that  
5 doesn't mean the budget passes. That's just  
6 pushing it on to June 27th when the full  
7 legislature will hear from the college and I  
8 assume you as well. We'll see you then.

9 MR. STERN: Thank you for your  
10 time.

11 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any further  
12 public comment? There being none, all those  
13 in favor of passing this item please signify  
14 by saying aye. Those opposed? The item  
15 passes unanimously.

16 Clerk item 190-22 is a resolution  
17 to authorize and require the transfer of  
18 appropriations made within the budget of the  
19 Nassau County Legislature for the year 2022.

20 Moved by Legislator Walker.  
21 Seconded by Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton. The  
22 item is before us. Do we have any debate or  
23 discussion? Any public comment? All those in  
24 favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed?  
25 The item passes unanimously.

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2 Clerk item 191-22 is a resolution  
3 to appoint members to the board of directors  
4 of the Nassau County Local Economic Assistance  
5 and Financing Corporation.

6 Moved by Legislator McKevitt.

7 Seconded by Legislator Kopel. The item is  
8 before us. They will be here on the 27th to  
9 present to the full legislature but they will  
10 not be with us here today. Is there any  
11 debate or discussion at this time? There  
12 being none, any public comment? All those in  
13 favor please signify by saying aye. Those  
14 opposed? The item passes unanimously.

15 Finally, the settlements will be  
16 called together. Clerk item 152-22. A  
17 resolution authorizing the acting county  
18 attorney to compromise and settle the claims  
19 of plaintiff as set forth in the action  
20 entitled Valetutti versus County of Nassau et  
21 al index number 6033020/2013 pursuant to the  
22 county law, county government law of Nassau  
23 County and the Nassau County administrative  
24 code.

25 Clerk item 176-22 is a resolution



1 Finance 6-08-22  
2 authorizing the acting county attorney to  
3 compromise and settle the claims of plaintiff  
4 as set forth in the action entitled Dover  
5 Gourmet Corporation versus County of Nassau et  
6 al index number 612941/2019 pursuant to the  
7 county law, the county government law of  
8 Nassau County and the Nassau County  
9 administrative code.

10 May I have a motion for both of  
11 these items. Moved by Legislator Walker.  
12 Seconded by Legislator Drucker. The items are  
13 before us.

14 Now may I have motion for executive  
15 session. Moved by Legislator McKeivitt.  
16 Seconded by Legislator Walker. Any debate or  
17 discussion? There being none, all those in  
18 favor of moving to executive session please  
19 signify by saying aye. Those opposed? We are  
20 in executive session.

21 (Committee went into executive  
22 session at 4:20 p.m.)

23 (Committee reconvened at 4:51 p.m.)

24 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Back to  
25 items 152-22 and 176-22. So, any debate or

1 Finance 6-08-22

2 discussion on these items? Items 152-22 and  
3 176-22 are before us. Any further debate or  
4 discussion? There being none, any public  
5 comment? There being none, all those in favor  
6 of passing those two items signify by saying  
7 aye. I'm sorry. We'll do them separately.

8 All those in favor of item 152-22  
9 please signify by saying aye. Those opposed?  
10 The item passes unanimously.

11 All those in favor of passing item  
12 176-22 please signify by saying aye. Those  
13 opposed? The item passes four to three.

14 There is no other business in front  
15 of this committee. May I have a motion to  
16 adjourn. Moved by Legislator Walker.  
17 Seconded by Legislator Drucker. All those in  
18 favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed?  
19 The item passes four to three. Thank you.

20 (Committee adjourned at 4:53 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 15th day of  
June 2022.

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FRANK GRAY