

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

FULL

COMMITTEES MEETING

RICHARD NICOLELLO

PRESIDING OFFICER

County Executive and Legislative Building

1550 Franklin Avenue

Mineola, New York

Monday, October 24, 2022

1:00 p.m.

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A P P E A R A N C E S

LEGISLATOR RICHARD J. NICOLELO

PRESIDING OFFICER

9TH Legislative District

LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

Deputy Presiding Officer

7th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR DENISE FORD

Alternate Presiding Officer

4th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR KEVAN ABRAHAMS

Minority Leader

1st Legislative District

LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE

2nd Legislative District

LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES

3rd Legislative District

LEGISLATOR DEBRA MULE

5th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR C. WILLIAM GAYLOR, III

6th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR JOHN J. GIUFFRE

8th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR MAZI MELESA PILIP

10th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

11th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR JAMES KENNEDY

12th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR THOMAS MCKEVITT

13th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR LAURA SCHAEFER

14th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR JOHN FERRETTI, JR.

15th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR ARNOLD W. DRUCKER

16th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR ROSE MARIE WALKER

17th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR JOSHUA LAFAZAN (arrived during Top Cops)

18th Legislative District

LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS

19th Legislative District

MICHAEL PULITZER

Clerk of the Legislature

A L S O A P P E A R E D :

PUBLIC COMMENT:

A L S O A P P E A R E D :

HUMAN SERVICES, JILL NEVIN

DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSOR, MATTHEW CRONIN

PUBLIC COMMENT:

SCOTT DIAMONDLEVADA FELDER

RICHARD CLOLERY

BARBARA EPSTEIN

KEVIN MCKENNA

MELINDA CAMASTRO

PAMELA HUGHES

LISA CASTRO

DOROTHY BUSCEMI

MIMI PIERRE-JOHNSON

META MEREDAY

JERRY KORNBLUTH

JOHN GROSS, ESQ.

LESLEY CULP

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LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: All right.
I'm going to call the meeting of the
Legislature to order. I'm going to ask
Deputy Presiding Officer Howard Kopel to
lead us in the Pledge. Please stand.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of
Allegiance is recited.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Thank you.
Mike, could you please call the
roll?

CLERK PULITZER: Thank you,
Presiding Officer.

Deputy Presiding Officer Howard
Kopel?

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Alternate Presiding
officer Denise Ford?

LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Thank you.

Legislator Siela Bynoe?

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Carrie
Solages?

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LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Debra
Mule?

LEGISLATGOR MULE: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator C.
William Gaylor, III?

LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Present.

CLERK PULITZER: Thank you, sir.
Legislator John Giuffre?

LEGISLATOR GUIFFRE: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Mazi Pilip

LEGISLATOR PILIP: Here

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Delia
Deriggi-Whitton?

LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator James
Kennedy?

LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Thomas
McKevitt?

LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Laura
Schaefer?

LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator John
Ferretti?

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Arnold
Drucker?

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Thank you.
Legislator Rose Walker?

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Joshua
Lafazan?

(Whereupon, no response.)

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Steven
Rhoads?

LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.

CLERK PULITZER: Minority Leader
Kevan Abrahams?

LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Presiding Officer
Nicolello?

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Present.

CLERK PULITZER: We have a quorum,
sir.

PRESIDING OFFICER NICOLELLO: Thank

1
2 you very much.

3 Welcome to the Legislative meeting.
4 We have several orders of business before
5 we get into the public comment portion.
6 As we always do, we start things off with
7 the Top Cops. We then have a
8 presentation in recognition of Italian
9 Heritage month, and then lastly, we are
10 going to be recognizing a couple of
11 baseball and softball teams that have
12 achieved tremendous things, which we will
13 be recognizing.

14 After that, we will have the public
15 comment portion of our meeting. If you
16 have not already done so, and you intend
17 to speak, please fill out a slip and give
18 it to our Clerk's Office down here and we
19 will put you in line to speak when the
20 public comment portion starts.

21 Let's get started with Top Cops.
22 Id' like to invite Nassau County PBA
23 First Vice President Kevin Mullick for
24 the purposes of a presentation.

25 MR. MULLICK: Good afternoon,

1
2 everybody. I want to thank everybody for
3 the opportunity for me to speak and
4 present our Top Cops and heroes today.
5 Did a very excellent job. So here are our
6 Top Cops for October 2022.

7 On September 22nd at approximately
8 18:35 hours Second Precinct and police
9 officer Jason Ziegler and Salvatore
10 Mangano were on patrol in the Syosset,
11 Woodbury area. These officers heard a
12 radio assignment for a stolen
13 Mercedes-Benz in Woodbury. The officers
14 began canvassing as soon as they heard
15 the description of the vehicle. Officer
16 Ziegler spotted the vehicle eastbound on
17 Jericho Turnpike. He then transmitted the
18 vehicle's location over the radio. The
19 vehicle then entered the turning lane of
20 Jericho Turnpike to make a left turn to
21 head south on South Oyster Bay Road
22 toward the Long Island Expressway.
23 Officer Ziegler stopped in the turning
24 lane, a few cars back, keeping an eye on
25 the stolen vehicle until more patrol cars

1
2 arrived. He didn't want to alert the
3 subject that he was there until more cars
4 were on scene, so he refrained from using
5 his lights and sirens.

6 Officer Mangano arrived on scene as
7 traffic proceeded left on South Oyster
8 Bay Road. Officers Ziegler and Mangano
9 activated their lights and sirens. As
10 officers proceeded southbound, trying to
11 stop the subject in the stolen vehicle, a
12 Mutton Town unit coming northbound put
13 his RMP in the southbound lane to stop
14 traffic.

15 Officers used the stopped traffic to
16 box in the stolen vehicle. The officers
17 tried to open the door, but it was
18 locked. The officers gave the subject
19 numerous verbal commands to exit the
20 vehicle. The subject refused to open the
21 door and continue to try to get away. The
22 subject rammed another vehicle to get
23 away.

24 Ultimately, the subject could not
25 get away and unlocked the door, at which

1
2 time officers gained entry into the
3 vehicle and placed the subject under
4 arrest. The quick thinking and teamwork
5 of these heroes led to the recovered
6 stolen car and closed out multiple stolen
7 car cases out of Nassau and Suffolk
8 County.

9 This is why we're proud to announce
10 them as the top legislative cops for
11 October 2022. (Applause.)

12 POLICE COMMISSIONER RYDER: Good
13 afternoon.

14 First of all, you know what we're up
15 against out there when it comes to
16 fighting crime and there are certain
17 rules that we've put in place. We change
18 the game that we can make it fit. And
19 they changed the game that day. They put
20 themselves at risk and not to involve any
21 of the public. The individual jumped up,
22 tried to ram through another car to get
23 away. They did a great job and I'm very
24 proud of both of them. But make no doubt
25 with what we're dealing with here, two

1
2 young cops that have done outstanding
3 work.

4 Salvatore Mangano, we all know the
5 last name. The kid could have went and
6 hid and did nothing. But every single
7 day, Sal, along with Officer Ziegler, go
8 out there and do their job. Sal went
9 through more scrutiny than anybody else
10 that ever came on this job. We had to put
11 it at the level of supervision to make
12 sure he gets through the applicant
13 process. Then he goes out and he gets in
14 a bad accident and busts his arm in half.
15 He comes back to work as fast as he can.
16 He does his job. He goes out there every
17 single day, and I couldn't be more proud
18 of him and his father, who was a friend
19 of mine. So I stand by him and his
20 loyalty to him and his family.

21 Before I came up and I took that
22 little side angle, I made sure Officer
23 Ziegler was okay with it, and obviously
24 he was.

25 So, again, I just want to say I'm

1
2 proud of all my young cops. I take a
3 little exception for this young man. I'm
4 very proud of him.

5 OFFICER MANGANO: Thank you. Hello,
6 everybody. I just want to say on behalf
7 of me and my partner, Jason Ziegler,
8 thank you to the County Legislature for
9 bestowing us with this honor. Thank you
10 to our great police commissioner and
11 thank you to the entire PBA. Thank you
12 very much.

13 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Legislator
14 Walker.

15 LEGISLATOR WALKER: We couldn't be
16 more proud of our two officers today.
17 Jason and Sal, you put yourselves in
18 harm's way to protect all of us. As
19 Commissioner Ryder has said many times,
20 we don't chase after after cars. We don't
21 want to put the rest of the public in
22 danger where, God forbid, another car's
23 hit, an accident occurs because you're
24 trying to zigzag in and out of traffic.
25 You followed what you thought was the

1
2 right procedure, and certainly it was.
3 You kept an eye on this vehicle. You
4 waited for backup to come. And once you
5 had everyone in place, you stopped that
6 vehicle. The vehicle had no place to go
7 yet, still tried to get away. And you
8 managed to take this person off the road.
9 This car returned, hopefully -- I don't
10 know what shape it was in to get back to
11 its owner, but you were there to do that
12 for the owner of that car and certainly
13 for each and every one of us. So commend
14 both of you tremendously for this, how
15 proud your families are of you.

16 Sal has a special place in my heart,
17 too, since I've known him since he was a
18 baby. And here he is, one of our fine
19 police officers today. So but for our
20 young officers to perform the way they do
21 is really a tribute to the entire police
22 force and all the training that they get,
23 which, thank God for this Legislature, we
24 make sure that you do have the training
25 that you need. Thank you.

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2 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Legislator
3 Drucker.

4 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you,
5 Presiding Officer.

6 Congratulations, Police Officers
7 Ziegler and Mangano for a job well done.

8 This is just another shining example
9 of how the residents of Nassau County are
10 protected by the finest police department
11 in this country. No one can contest that
12 at all.

13 But what particularly stands out to
14 me is how your instincts and your
15 training kicked in at a moment's notice.
16 And I've been particularly proud and
17 involved with the Second Precinct. It's
18 where I live. And you've been protecting
19 the people of my district for so many
20 years. And the Second Precinct is hyper
21 vigilant now because we've all seen this
22 uptick in car burglaries and car thefts
23 with the catalytic converters, and the
24 Second Precinct has been interacting.
25 They've attended many, many town halls

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2 and meetings that we've arranged for them
3 to advise the public on what's going on.
4 And this is just another example of how
5 you guys and gals are so in tune to
6 what's going on. And you're focused on
7 reducing this epidemic of crime in our
8 county and then in that precinct. And I
9 particularly am so proud of you as we all
10 are.

11 So thank you so much for your
12 service. Thank you so much for your
13 bravery and what you accomplish day in
14 and day out.

15 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Well, I think
16 we can all agree with Arnie that this is
17 the finest police force anywhere in this
18 nation. So I think it's unanimous among
19 the legislators.

20 You know, we have noticed that over
21 the last several years, our police force,
22 our men and women on the streets have
23 gotten remarkably younger because there's
24 been hiring and because of turnover and
25 things of that nature.

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2 So this is very reassuring to all of
3 us that our young police officers are
4 following in the great tradition. They
5 have the same skill, the same
6 professionalism, same courage that those
7 who have served this county for years. So
8 congratulations to you two. We are
9 honored to honor you today. Thank you
10 (applause).

11 So we're going to have you come up
12 in a couple of minutes to present
13 citations, but we'll do the DAI in the
14 meantime.

15 On behalf of the detectives, I'd
16 like to invite up the president of the
17 DAI, Jeff Gross.

18 MR. JEFF GROSS: Good afternoon and
19 thanks for having us again. I'd like to
20 thank the Presiding Officer Rich
21 Nicolello and the Minority Leader Kevan
22 Abrahams, and the Full Legislative Body
23 for taking the time out to honor the
24 Third Squad, Detectives Michael
25 Echevarria and Thomas Daly.

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2 This is a recent case, September the
3 fourth of this year, slightly after
4 midnight, these detectives were in the
5 Hempstead, Uniondale area, an unrelated
6 investigation. They monitored both
7 frequencies, both the Third and the
8 Sixth, as well as the First and the
9 Seventh precinct. They heard a call come
10 over for a burglary in progress. They
11 both knew the first precinct fairly well.
12 They responded. They were the first ones
13 at the scene. They got the suspect coming
14 out of the backyard. They attempted to
15 stop him. It turned into a violent
16 struggle. They were actually able to
17 subdue him and apprehend him.

18 During the investigation, they found
19 out that he had an open warrant in
20 Poughkeepsie. He had a history of
21 burglaries, forcible touching and sexual
22 crimes. He also had an open case for
23 robbery in the third degree from the
24 First Precinct.

25 I'd like to commend these officers.

1
2 It's not something that we normally
3 expect, to monitor both radios and
4 respond to a different precinct. But they
5 took the opportunity, they used their
6 knowledge, and they had a successful
7 conclusion and protected the members of
8 Nassau County. So we'd like to
9 congratulate them. (Applause.)

10 POLICE COMMISSIONER RYDER: So as
11 you can see, they're not only young cops,
12 they're young detectives, too, and
13 they're still out there doing their job.
14 They're given the best tools by the best
15 legislative body anybody can ask for. You
16 always support the men and women of law
17 enforcement, and we thank you for that.

18 Again, I want to congratulate both
19 of them and the DAI for continuing to put
20 up such great quality. We still need more
21 detectives if anybody wants a job. Thank
22 you.

23 DETECTIVE ECHAVARRIA: On behalf of
24 myself and my partner Daly, who couldn't
25 be here today, I'd like to thank the

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2 Legislature for this opportunity to
3 recognize our work, as well as the
4 Command Staff for the Police Department
5 and the DAI. Thank you.

6 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Minority
7 Leader Abrahams.

8 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you,
9 Presiding Officer.

10 I just want to commend you,
11 Detective, for your outstanding work that
12 you were able to perform, you and
13 Detective Daly. It speaks volumes always
14 when we hear these stories of when we're
15 able to take violent or in this case,
16 burglary, individuals off the street. We
17 want to continue to strive to make our
18 streets safer. And obviously, if there
19 was a radio call, I'm thinking that
20 someone saw something and they notified
21 the police, which is great. And then from
22 there it was in your hands with your
23 partner, and that even speaks to the
24 volume of the work that you have to do on
25 a daily basis.

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2 And I mean, again, this person was
3 there trying to burglarize a home, but
4 they also committed crimes in
5 Poughkeepsie. So Poughkeepsie gives you a
6 round of applause as well by taking
7 somebody off their streets as well, that
8 can very well go back there and commit
9 the same types of crimes.

10 But it goes without saying that we
11 in Nassau County, especially now in the
12 First Legislative District, appreciate
13 your service, your commitment, not just
14 to the Department but to the residents.
15 Thank you again. And please express our
16 well wishes and our thank you to your
17 partner as well, Detective Daly. Thank
18 you again, Commissioner, and all of the
19 members of the DAI.

20 MR. JEFF GROSS: I should just say
21 real quickly that I left it out of the
22 story. But there was three women in the
23 house. Two of them were special needs
24 people, and they were trying to kick in
25 or push in an air conditioning unit to

1
2 get access to the house, and they were
3 very scared when they called. And they
4 responded in less than one minute.

5 (Applause.)

6 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Okay. Come
7 on. Come on up for a presentation.

8 (Whereupon, Top Cop
9 presentation.)

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2 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: All right.

3 The next order to a business is October
4 is Italian-American Heritage Month, and
5 that's become a custom here. We are proud
6 and privileged to recognize all that
7 Italian-Americans have done in our
8 society and our county, the many
9 contributions, the excellent work in
10 government, politics, medicine, the arts,
11 culture, history, you name it;
12 Italian-Americans have achieved it in
13 Nassau County.

14 So to make a presentation, we have
15 with us a special guest, Joe Sciame, past
16 president of the National Sons and
17 Daughters of Italy and America, the
18 current president of the Foundation for
19 the National Sons and Daughters of Italy
20 in America and active members since 1968,
21 a member of the greatest Lodge around the
22 Cellini Lodge and Vice President of
23 Community Relations at Saint John's
24 University. Mr. Sciame.

25 MR. SCIAME: Good afternoon. Brother

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2 Richard, member of the Cellini Lodge at
3 New Hyde Park and Presiding Legislator
4 and all of you, my sisters and brothers
5 of this great county that I've lived in
6 since 1955 as a young kid.

7 I must say that I'm speechless for a
8 variety of reasons. I've been battling a
9 throat problem that the doctor says I
10 shouldn't speak for ten days, which is
11 impossible in my life. But in any case,
12 standing here in this room with all the
13 people that are behind me, what a moment.
14 What a moment to be surrounded by heroes.
15 So I think another round of applause for
16 all the people that were here. I mean,
17 those -- incredible (applause).

18 I'm here today, really to pay my
19 respects to all of you for recognizing us
20 with this special citation that was
21 placed in the middle of our annual
22 booklet of all the activities this year.
23 As many of you may have known from
24 reading about it this year, the Italian
25 Heritage and Culture Committee of New

1
2 York selected as its theme something very
3 different. We decided to honor the 26
4 Italian and Italian American Nobel Prize
5 laureates. This has never been done
6 before. This required a great deal of
7 permission from Wikipedia and everybody
8 else, because you can't use their names
9 because they're so honored. But we got
10 all the permission that we needed and
11 obviously did that.

12 In the middle of this, about two
13 weeks ago, we learned that a woman from
14 Stanford University became the 27th
15 Italian American to achieve laureate
16 status in chemistry. So it couldn't be a
17 better year to honor them.

18 At the same time, I'm here wearing
19 many hats, but I would say that the
20 National Order of Sons and Daughters of
21 Italy in America just returned from a
22 trip abroad in Italy, where we
23 established, strangely enough, a chapter
24 of the Order of Sons and Daughters of
25 Italy in Italy itself. And another group

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2 flew in from Palermo. And the reason is
3 that they're modeling themselves after
4 where we have been since 1905, one of the
5 oldest Italian-American organizations, if
6 not the only one. We model ourselves on
7 charity and scholarship and benevolent
8 good works. And so as a result, these two
9 different groups decided that they needed
10 to do such in Italy. I think, of course,
11 with the political climate in Italy and
12 with the new prime minister who was just
13 installed within the last 24 hours, I
14 believe, hopefully these two new chapters
15 and lodges will continue the level of
16 generosity that we have here in America.

17 And again, on behalf of the
18 Italian-Americans, the tens of thousands
19 of Italian-Americans in Nassau County, I
20 want to convey to you the best wishes of
21 our leadership for all that you do for
22 us. I have a special framed poster to
23 present to all of you. Thank you.

24 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Sir,
25 before you, can I just make one comment?

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2 I'm Delia Deriggi-Whitton. And I've been
3 a member of your lodge in Glen Cove for
4 years. I have to share that one of the
5 highest honors which I have yet to get
6 over, was I was their queen in 1985. The
7 only time I've ever had a tiara and that
8 anyone ever called me Queen. It hasn't
9 happened since then.

10 But anyway, I want to thank you
11 also, because although you mentioned that
12 you do some work, you didn't give
13 yourselves enough credit. I mean, the
14 work that you do, not only for sickle
15 cell anemia and with different, I guess
16 you'd call it seeing impaired groups, the
17 seeing eye dogs and everything else that
18 you do. You do a tremendous effort and
19 it really pays off. And I've been honored
20 to be part of it. I'm the third
21 generation in Glen Cove. And I think I'm
22 the only Italian woman up here still. We
23 have some men, but I'm proud to represent
24 you as an Italian-American. Thank you.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: I think we're

all Italian-American this month.

(Whereupon, presentation.)

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2 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Legislator
3 Kennedy.

4 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Thank you,
5 Presiding Officer. Before I get started,
6 first of all, thank you, everyone, for
7 coming today. I'd like to thank, before I
8 forget, Craig Garland and Joe Pinto, who
9 cannot be here today. I know both of them
10 very well and they have done incredible
11 things with Massapequa Coast Little
12 League and Massapequa International
13 Little League. So I don't want to forget.

14 I'd like to thank manager Roland
15 Clark and the coaches for the Massapequa
16 Coast Little League, 12-year-old
17 Williamsport team. I would also like to
18 thank Chris Brooks, the president of
19 Massapequa International Little League,
20 and vice president of softball, Tom
21 Dorsa, and the manager, Rich Eaton, and
22 all the coaches of Massapequa
23 International Little League team that won
24 the New York State title for the 12U
25 girl's softball.

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2 So, you know, as far back as I can
3 remember into my childhood, baseball has
4 been a central part of my life. I took a
5 liking early on, even though my parents
6 were both immigrants and knew more about
7 hurling and rugby than they knew about
8 baseball. But they knew it was the
9 American game and they came along.

10 But now softball is becoming part of
11 our household at home because my daughter
12 Emma, who's seven, is developing an
13 interest. She really liked it. Then she
14 said she didn't. She wants to do more.
15 But she's only seven, I have to bring her
16 down to watch some of the older girls so
17 I think that she'll be mesmerized and
18 want to go moving forward.

19 Anyway, many of my memories are
20 connected to baseball, and I'm sure many
21 of you can relate in in in this entire
22 room. I can still remember vividly
23 yelling at the television at 1:30 in the
24 morning back in 1986, when the Mets were
25 about to clinch the NLCS against the

1
2 Astros. We know we had a good year that
3 year, and it's been a while since then.

4 Now I spend many of my nights and
5 weekends coaching my son Logan's South
6 South Shore Chiefs baseball team. And
7 this past weekend, as a matter of fact, I
8 was losing my voice again, this time
9 yelling because he hit an extra inning
10 homerun to put our team ahead and went
11 into the championship and eventually won
12 that championship.

13 So I just wanted to mention that
14 because these are the kinds of things
15 that we want for our children. These
16 opportunities are available all over the
17 place. But where we live in Massapequa, I
18 love how the sports are such a key
19 component of everything. The community
20 gets so involved in everything. But right
21 now I'm talking about baseball and
22 softball.

23 So there are two teams here today
24 from Massapequa and their parents,
25 coaches, whole community is so proud of

1
2 you guys, what you've done. So first of
3 all, the Massapequa Coast Little League
4 state champs who are not here right now,
5 they made history when they won the New
6 York State Championships in back-to-back
7 years in 2021 and 2022. Now the
8 Massapequa International Little League
9 softball team 12-year-old Division won
10 the New York State championship, which is
11 something no Massapequa team or any other
12 team in any local town has done. It's an
13 incredible accomplishment. And Massapequa
14 Coast Little League 12-year-old team went
15 on to win the New York State
16 Championship, the Metro Region
17 Championship, and was the first Long
18 Island team to make it to the Little
19 League World Series since Rockville
20 Centre did it back in 1978 (applause).

21 In our town, we saw signs popping up
22 all over the place in support of our
23 Massapequa teams. Massapequa Coast Little
24 League was going to the Little League
25 World Series, so it took on a life of its

1
2 own. Signs in shops, rallies, watch
3 parties became the norm, and everyone in
4 Massapequa, as well as the rest of Long
5 Island, it seemed like got behind this
6 baseball team and we were treated to a no
7 hitter by Joey Lionetti to get Coast into
8 the Little League World Series, which was
9 another incredible accomplishment.

10 I will say sports in general teach
11 us about how to handle winning and about
12 how to handle losing. And these teams
13 showed themselves to be supportive
14 teammates and they demonstrated good
15 sportsmanship throughout their respective
16 competitions as well.

17 It's an honor for me to be able to
18 say to all of you out there that what
19 you've done is an incredible
20 accomplishment. But you guys are so young
21 and you're going to go on to do
22 incredible things, reach new heights
23 every year. Just keep striving for
24 something better, because you managed to
25 -- both the girls softball team and the

1
2 Boys Little League World Series team --
3 managed to do what you've done, and that
4 is that is saying a tremendous amount
5 about you and all your coaches and your
6 parents.

7 Thank you for coming today and good
8 luck to all the teams. And I hope that in
9 the future, life in sports is great.
10 Thank you for coming.

11 Would the kids like to come up to
12 the mic. Anybody or the coaches like to
13 say a few words. Anyone?

14 MR. EATON: Hi. I'm the manager,
15 Rich Eaton. I want to thank Mr. Kennedy
16 for inviting us here and for everyone
17 else having us here. We appreciate that.

18 Through this run, the support we've
19 gotten from Nassau County has blown my
20 mind. I mean, these kids are just
21 playing a game. But I will tell you, for
22 as hard as they've worked, all the life
23 lessons they're going to get out of this,
24 knowing that if they work hard at
25 anything they do, that people are going

1
2 to recognize it and they're going to get
3 opportunities. So I just want to thank
4 everyone up here. I want to thank my team
5 for making this summer the best summer of
6 my life. So thank you.

7 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Before you step
8 away, I just want to congratulate you,
9 too. I represent not all of Massapequa
10 like James does, but I represent up as
11 far as North Massapequa. So I think some
12 of the girls live in the North Massapequa
13 area. But I could tell you that all of
14 your teams, once you kept advancing all
15 of Nassau County, all of of Long Island,
16 was cheering for each and every one of
17 you. And I played softball when I was
18 growing up. I was a catcher, so I didn't
19 know who your catcher is out there. But,
20 you not only learn about your sport, but
21 you learn about teamwork and getting
22 together. And no one has to be the star.
23 Today it might be your catcher or your
24 pitcher, but it could be anyone on the
25 team who really made everything gel that

1
2 day. So I congratulate each and every one
3 of you, as Legislator Kennedy said, we
4 know you're going to go on and do more
5 and more exciting things in your lives
6 and not just about your sport, but about
7 many things because you've learned so
8 much life lessons while playing this.

9 So again, thank you to the coaches
10 and to the parents and to the
11 grandparents, because I know you all play
12 a big role because I go back and forth
13 and run all over with my grandkids now.
14 So it's great. And some of you I get to
15 see out there on the field. So again,
16 good luck in your future.

17 EMERSON: Thank you.

18 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Would any of
19 the baseball players or coaches like to
20 come up?

21 MR. CLARK: Good afternoon. I'm the
22 manager, Roland Clark. It's a pleasure to
23 be here. Thank you to Legislator Kennedy
24 for inviting us and the rest of the
25 chamber for having us.

1
2 Boys couldn't be more proud of their
3 accomplishments this summer. One of the
4 things that myself and the coaching
5 staff, outside of their athletic
6 accomplishments, we always talk about
7 giving back. You know, what makes a true
8 community member is the ability to give
9 back. And at 12 years old, we can never
10 give back maybe the way that some of the
11 top cops were represented here today or
12 how some adults are. But they did make a
13 community, they did make Nassau County,
14 and even an entire state very proud of
15 their accomplishments this summer, and it
16 was a real feel good story. And I think
17 the important lesson for being here today
18 and us accepting this invitation, which
19 was really over the top and very excited
20 about, is that their teamwork, the
21 qualities of teamwork, sportsmanship, as
22 Legislator Kennedy mentioned, being loyal
23 to one another, representing their
24 parents, their families and their
25 communities as they traveled to different

1
2 states, as they traveled to different
3 towns, is something that will be with
4 them for the rest of their lives. And I
5 couldn't be more proud, along with my
6 coaching staff and their parents, about
7 how they represented themselves in all of
8 those different situations at such a
9 young early age, and for me to be
10 standing here as their manager, makes me
11 very proud. And I hope that one day as
12 they become older, that they are in the
13 positions of politicians like yourselves
14 or Top Cops and other examples of
15 community members that give back to
16 everyone.

17 With that, I'd like to thank you
18 once again, and we appreciate all the
19 support that we received. Congratulations
20 to the other teams that are here, as well
21 as the other people that were honored. So
22 thank you very much once again.

23 (Whereupon, unidentified
24 young baseball player #10 says
25 thank you.)

1
2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: I'd like to
3 invite everybody, both the boys and the
4 girls and coaches and managers would like
5 to go out for a photo outside on the
6 steps, if that's okay. Thank you so much
7 for coming. If you guys, we can go out
8 that way. Yeah, we'll just go out the
9 back corner door right there.

10 (Whereupon, presentation
11 portion of meeting concludes.)
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2 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: All right. We
3 have now it's the portion of our meeting
4 for the public comment. The first
5 speaker, Scott Diamond, I don't know if
6 you want to speak now or wait until the
7 item's called. It's up to you. You can
8 speak now if you want. Okay. Well, we're
9 going to call it. We're going to go
10 through the whole public comment portion
11 of the meeting and then the item will be
12 called and probably about a half an hour
13 or so.

14 Actually, no, that was my mistake.
15 Mr. Diamond, this is actually your
16 opportunity to speak.

17 MR. DIAMOND: Yeah. Uh, I'd like
18 this on the record, if possible. I am one
19 of the 842 property owners who were
20 affected by the recent egregious error
21 within the Department of Assessment.

22 I have several issues with the
23 explanations that have been given in
24 reference to this issue. I will also note
25 that I personally have yet to receive any

1
2 explanation other than a vague letter
3 that accompanied my corrected bill as to
4 what actually happened here. Most of what
5 I've been able to glean with watching the
6 budget hearings from two weeks ago.

7 I want to know why my property was
8 included in the 842. The TPP law states
9 that changes to the base exemption should
10 only be made in cases of demolition,
11 destruction or fire. This was also
12 confirmed at the budget hearings. My
13 house has had has incurred no physical
14 changes since the 1990s. No demolition,
15 no destruction, no fire. Yet my base
16 exemption was lowered for inexplicable
17 reasons.

18 I also want to know why the
19 homeowners were not informed. In the
20 letter that assessor Cronin sent, he
21 talked about being fair and transparent.
22 This whole process was the opposite of
23 transparent. The Assessor tried to slip
24 these changes into the tax bills without
25 informing anyone. I understand that

1
2 you're discussing Correction of Error
3 Petitions today, but there were no
4 Correction of Error Petitions submitted
5 for the 842 changes that they made. Those
6 changes were made back in June. They had
7 plenty of time to submit these petitions
8 to inform the homeowners to allow for
9 some feedback as to whether they were
10 actually able to make these adjustments.

11 If my property was adjusted in
12 error, because there were no changes,
13 then we have no clue that the 842 were
14 actually done correctly. If that's the
15 case, then that means the rolls are still
16 wrong. The tax bills are still wrong.
17 And my feeling is that we should reverse
18 the 842, set the base exemption back to
19 what it was originally and make the TPP
20 that 40% that it was supposed to be
21 originally.

22 I guess I'm out of time, but this
23 whole thing was handled very, very
24 poorly.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Levada

1
2 Felder.

3 MS. FELDER: Hi, friends,
4 legislators and community, I'm Levada
5 Felder. We were here a couple of months
6 ago, June 27, to seek assistance for
7 Eager to Serve the organization of which
8 I am the founder and now transitioning to
9 a new role as board member, volunteer and
10 professional fundraiser.

11 My initial concern was regarding the
12 inconsistencies with the payment
13 procedures in the Housing Department of
14 Nassau County, DSS, the Homeless Services
15 Department. We have provided a copy of an
16 18 page report provided to the Commission
17 of DCIS in April 2020 and receipt of the
18 document was acknowledged and some of you
19 had the privilege to receive.

20 An example of the details of the
21 document would be as follows:

22 We would bill -- this is an example
23 -- DSS \$20,000 in January, we would bill
24 DSS again \$20,000 in February, we would
25 bill DSS again \$20,000 in March, and then

1
2 in April we still had to bill DSS
3 \$20,000. But in April we may get a check
4 for \$15,000. Out of the \$15,000, \$5,000
5 maybe for some of the people in January.
6 The other \$5,000 may be for some of the
7 people in February. The other \$5,000 may
8 be for some of the people in March, but
9 not maybe the same people.

10 And then the time consuming for
11 reconciliation and the like causes a lot
12 of hardship for the organization, which
13 is described in the 18 page report, along
14 with solutions. Instead of addressing the
15 matter, according to the social service
16 law, we received a letter two years later
17 regarding the termination of the
18 operations of the shelter in April 2020,
19 which I misinterpreted because of the
20 date.

21 Nevertheless, the action is unlawful
22 and, therefore, is in litigation. See
23 Eager to Serve versus Nassau County ETAL
24 #605664/2022 Supreme Court, Nassau
25 County.

1
2 This is being said because during
3 our research because the matter is still
4 outstanding, we found that the person
5 who's responsible for the shelter invoice
6 practice is actually out of title
7 (buzzer) Do you want me to continue or
8 stop?

9 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Your time to
10 speak is as up. Do you want to just sum
11 up or to your point?

12 MS. FELDER: Okay, I'll sum it up.
13 The billing for Nassau County Homeless
14 Shelters is over \$4 million per month;
15 therefore, \$48 million per year. My
16 opinion is that the qualifications for a
17 Welfare Examiner Supervisor II is very
18 different from someone who oversees an
19 accounts payable budget for \$48 million
20 annually. I think that a person with a
21 financial business and/or accounting
22 background has the knowledge base to know
23 that paying the actual amount of an
24 invoice and or indicating a reference to
25 when the balance or why the full amount

1
2 is not being paid is justifiable and
3 amicable contractor relationship. This
4 professional will also know that a
5 systematic cash flow is necessary for
6 proper business management, for not for
7 profit management also. He or she may
8 not get upset and start arguing when
9 questioned by yours truly about why
10 invoices aren't being paid as such.

11 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Okay. Thank
12 you, Ms. Felder. Thank you. I know we
13 have your written comments as well.
14 They'll be submitted as part of the
15 record.

16 MS. FELDER: Thank you.

17 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Okay. Thank
18 you. Richard Clolery.

19 MR. CLOLERY: To the members of the
20 legislature: It has been a long time
21 since we last talk or rather I talk to
22 you. But as I'm sure you're aware, we are
23 facing a serious crisis involving gas
24 prices. Now, I'm sure you're aware, Long
25 Island is built on, ironically, two

1
2 things people who with their cars and low
3 gas prices. But what happens when gas
4 prices are so high that people can't
5 afford to do the simplest things because
6 gas prices are so high that people can't
7 afford to drive their vehicles anywhere
8 and do their jobs, go shopping, etc.
9 That is right. They have to move back to
10 the cities where there is good public
11 transportation options, which would mean
12 that Nassau County and Long Island is
13 essentially dead because no one's around
14 to do anything.

15 Now, this could be a form of
16 disaster or an opportunity to do
17 something about it:

18 Like increasing funding for the
19 buses so that NICE can restore bus
20 services in Nassau County so I wouldn't
21 be as dependent on Uber to get me to
22 certain places;

23 Like building EV charging stations
24 is that people with electric vehicles can
25 charge them while they go shopping and

1
2 get their hair done, etc.

3 Now I know that you have heard this
4 before, but I can't tell you how
5 important this matter is for everyone
6 here in Long Island, even those who
7 drive. Because without your people you
8 claim to support, Nassau County will
9 cease to exist. Have a good day.

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Thank you,
11 Richard.

12 Barbara Epstein.

13 MS. EPSTEIN: Good afternoon, ladies
14 and gentlemen. My name is Barbara
15 Epstein, and I am a member of the League
16 of Women Voters of Nassau County.

17 The League is a nonprofit,
18 nonpartisan organization that encourages
19 informed and active participation in
20 government, works to increase
21 understanding of major public policy
22 issues, and influence public policy
23 through education and advocacy.

24 I'm here to discuss the upcoming
25 presentation of the map or maps for

1
2 redistricting of the Nassau County 19
3 legislative districts. Mr. Nicoletto, you
4 chair the Rules Committee and are the
5 presiding officer of this legislative
6 body. We are asking for you to have
7 multiple hearings around the county after
8 the map or maps are presented, and before
9 you vote on either of the maps or one of
10 your own.

11 These districts will affect the
12 residents of Nassau County for the next
13 ten years. Right now, there are eight
14 communities that have three or more
15 legislators representing them. This needs
16 to change.

17 Please be transparent and do what
18 the Suffolk County Legislature did and
19 come together to a in a bipartisan manner
20 and put transparency and bipartisanship
21 above pure politics. They created four
22 minority/majority districts. I believe
23 you can do better. We'll hope that you
24 will keep this in mind when deciding on a
25 map. Thank you.

1
2 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Thank you,
3 Mrs. Epstein.

4 Kevin McKenna. Mr. McKenna, your
5 time is running. It doesn't matter. I
6 called you up about 30 seconds ago, so.

7 MR. MCKENNA: Kevin McKenna,
8 Syosset, New York. It's amazing that
9 you'll spend one hour giving out very
10 well-deserved rewards, but you'll only
11 give residents three minutes to speak and
12 you try to cut people short.

13 You're being handed right now a copy
14 of what's posted on your Nassau County
15 website. And I'm going to show the
16 public right now exactly what it says. It
17 says that if the contracts go through the
18 Rules Committee, if approved, issues are
19 placed on the calendar of the Nassau
20 County Legislative Body at full session
21 where it's voted on by all 19 Nassau
22 County legislators. I'd like to know why
23 our County Executive Bruce Blakeman is
24 violating Nassau County rules and signing
25 contracts that are not approved by all 19

1
2 Nassau County legislators? I'd like to
3 know the answer to that question, Mr.
4 Nicoletto.

5 You were just given a copy of what's
6 posted on your website. You're supposed
7 to represent the taxpayers in Nassau
8 County. You're supposed to look out for
9 them. Why are you violating exactly what
10 it says on the Nassau County website?
11 It's a fair question, and I think all the
12 taxpayers deserve an answer.

13 And I'd also like to know, Mr. Kevan
14 Abrahams, Minority Leader, I'd like to
15 know why you're allowing the Legislative
16 Majority to violate Nassau County's
17 rules. It says it right on the website.
18 You gave out a contract to the Dover
19 Group a few months ago. It did not go
20 before all 19 Nassau County legislators.
21 Why not? It says it right on your
22 website. Would anybody like to respond?

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: You need to
24 spend more time looking at the website
25 because the website clearly indicates the

1
2 contracts go to the Rules Committee and
3 are approved at --

4 MR. MCKENNA: And I just gave you a
5 copy of what it says on your website, Mr.
6 Nicoletto. It says it right on your
7 website.

8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: You've given
9 me a part of what it says on the website.
10 Yes. There are items that go on before
11 Committees and go to the Full
12 Legislature. But with respect to
13 contracts, they go to the Rules
14 Committee. The Rules Committee approves
15 them and they're approved. They don't go
16 to the Full Legislature. I've told you
17 this multiple times.

18 MR. MCKENNA: It says it right on
19 your website. It's supposed to be voted
20 on by all 19. It says it right on your
21 website. Let me move on.

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I told you
23 multiple times, but apparently, you don't
24 understand it.

25 MR. MCKENNA: Let me move on. And

1
2 unfortunately, unfortunately -- you have
3 a lot of lawsuits that you're settling
4 today in your calendar, and
5 unfortunately, you're going to burden the
6 taxpayers with another one soon.

7 I want to put you on notice that
8 your Nassau County Commissioner of
9 Health, Mrs. Gelman, received an e-mail
10 almost two weeks ago regarding a serious
11 health-related matter in Nassau County
12 (buzzer). And I'm going to provide you
13 with a copy of that letter. I've actually
14 e-mailed it all to you. And I want you
15 all to know you're representatives of the
16 public.

17 CLERK PULITZER: Mr. McKenna, your
18 time is up.

19 MR. MCKENNA: Your Nassau County
20 Commissioner is ignoring and not
21 responding to a letter that's a serious
22 matter. I called her office today. I
23 spoke to Marianne, her assistant today,
24 and I simply wanted to know, is Ms.
25 Gelman going to respond to the letter?

1
2 And her assistant refuses to answer the
3 question.

4 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: All right,
5 Mr. McKenna, your time is up.

6 MR. MCKENNA: And you have a copy of
7 that letter. You have a fiduciary
8 responsibility to protect the taxpayers
9 and residents of Nassau County, The Town
10 of Oyster Bay is demolishing homes and
11 they're --

12 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Thank you,
13 Mr. McKenna.

14 MR. MCKENNA: Not protecting the
15 neighbors from the asbestos. They are
16 not protecting the neighbors from the
17 asbestos that's coming off the houses
18 when the Town is demolishing the homes.

19 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Mr. McKenna,
20 your time is up.

21 MR. MCKENNA: And I brought this to
22 the attention of Ms. Gelman --

23 (Whereupon, microphone is
24 disconnected.)

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Mr. McKenna.

1
2 Mr. McKenna, please step away from the
3 mic. You're not being recorded.

4 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: All right.
5 That's Stefan Krompier, President of the
6 Adjunct Faculty Association.

7 MR. KROMPIER: Hi. As I'm sure you
8 all know that our contract is in front of
9 you for ratification today. If you look
10 at the contract, we're settling on a
11 1.94% raise. What that means is that our
12 members are taking a big hit in terms of
13 real wages, real money. One of the kinds
14 of things that we brought forth with this
15 contract is we want to make it, and it
16 is, a one year contract, which is very
17 unusual.

18 So now the good news: 96% of our
19 members voted yes on that contract. And
20 that's important to know, but more
21 importantly, is to know why. There's been
22 a major transition at Nassau Community
23 College. We have a new acting president.
24 We have a new person in charge of
25 governmental affairs. And we have a new

1
2 person in charge of institutional
3 development and marketing, and the key
4 word there is marketing. It is our belief
5 under the leadership of these new
6 administrators are enrollment will rise
7 significantly over the next year.

8 There'll be more money available to us
9 and for other positive endeavors to make
10 Nassau Community the jewel that we all
11 believe it is and want it to be. We have
12 that face, we have that confidence, and
13 so that's why when you look at that
14 contract and it's minimal, that's what it
15 has to do with.

16 Thank you very much.

17 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Okay. Thank
18 you very much. As my counsel indicated,
19 the contract is on the Consent Calendar,
20 so it will be passed by the Full
21 Legislature without it being called
22 individually in a few moments.

23 Next speaker is Melinda Camastro.

24 MS. CAMASTRO: Good afternoon. I'm a
25 resident of East Meadow for 28 years. I

1
2 really don't know where to begin. I'd
3 like to thank all our police officers for
4 the fine job that they do under the
5 horrendous circumstances that they're
6 given.

7 There are so many things that I want
8 to address in three minutes. I don't know
9 where to start, but my main problem and I
10 feel bad after going up after this fine
11 young lady who's advocating for the
12 homeless in Eisenhower Park, a park which
13 I travel through regularly, we have a
14 horrendous problem with the homeless
15 situation there. You guys have a festival
16 of lights coming in a couple of weeks
17 with families that are going to be
18 visiting and the bathrooms are owned by
19 them. They sleep in there, they urinate
20 in them, they live in the parks. I guess
21 everybody needs somewhere to live, but
22 the two just don't really go. Recently, I
23 had the opportunity of one homeless
24 person, and I know he's homeless because
25 I see him all the time with his

1
2 bottles -- you know, I stop at the light
3 and he's got his penis in his hand
4 urinating on the wall. I'm scarred. I
5 can't. I can't unsee it. But why should I
6 have to?

7 My family is grown. I'm the wife of
8 a first responder of 9/11 who thankfully
9 is still healthy. I'm the mother of a
10 Suffolk County police officer. My heart
11 is in my chest every single day. It makes
12 me sick that we have to live, all of us,
13 the way we do. Our children are unsafe.
14 They were muzzled for two years and now
15 as a state, we're going to potentially be
16 forcing vaccinations on them, which
17 parents don't want. So you guys are going
18 to have a mass exodus of home schoolers
19 or people that are just leaving the state
20 because we're not going to put up with
21 what has happened going forward. So if
22 Kathy Hochul is elected, we're going to
23 have a big problem because you as a
24 county are going to suffer the
25 consequences even more than we already

1
2 are of a Democrat leadership.

3 So the laws need to be changed at
4 the top. I know we only can do so much. I
5 still believe in my local government as
6 much as they haven't been by our side
7 meant much of the time.

8 Kids need a safe environment. You
9 know, the drug situation has touched most
10 of us. I don't think there's anyone that
11 can honestly say that Fentanyl hasn't
12 touched their life in one way, shape or
13 another. I lost my niece to it at the age
14 of 32 in Rhode Island, another really
15 liberal state which just wants to give
16 drug use freedom.

17 The deli on my corner, which my son
18 used to work at. Now when you go in
19 there, there's rolling paper, there are
20 bongs. I refuse to send my grandson into
21 my corner deli -- Meadow Dairy in East
22 Meadow, which used to be a family deli.
23 Now it's just a drug spot for everybody
24 else. Across the street, they shut down
25 the shop last week because the guy was

1
2 selling Special K, the same store that
3 potentially was selling it to this guy
4 that smashed 25 car windshields on my
5 corner in East Meadow only two months ago
6 to walk free the next day with an ankle
7 bracelet. And he walks my neighborhood
8 with an ankle bracelet. He sits on my
9 corner. I'm afraid.

10 The taxes are through the roof. I'm
11 here because my core is here. I moved
12 here from the city to raise my family. My
13 family's here. We can't afford the taxes
14 in this county, but I don't want to leave
15 my children. I don't want to see my
16 grandchildren not grow up. But this,
17 this, the taxes, the crime, the
18 homelessness, just everything is out of
19 control (buzzer). And it's really make it
20 an unhappy place to be. So how is that
21 fair? How is that fair? My husband is 61.
22 He still has to go to work every day
23 after putting in his term at the police
24 department, seeing all that so that we
25 could eat because our taxes are out of

1
2 control. And that's my biggest chunk is
3 my taxes. I don't even have kids in the
4 school, the school that are now bringing
5 in transgender librarians. I mean,
6 everything's out of control. My three
7 minutes is up. Thank you. Stay safe,
8 everybody. And please think of our
9 children. Our children, our future.
10 They're two years behind in their
11 education. Please think about that when
12 it's time --

13 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Next speaker.
14 Pamela Hughes?

15 MS. HUGHES: Hi, ladies and
16 gentlemen. Thank you so much for your
17 time. I'm here with families. Anonymous.
18 Sorry, I'm the crier in the group.

19 About six and a half years ago, my
20 son went from high honors, was going to
21 get a full ride to Duke, but he was
22 introduced to drugs. It started with pot,
23 went to cocaine, I don't know what else.
24 He was arrested.

25 He was able, because of my health

1
2 insurance, he was able to go to
3 California for dual diagnosis treatment
4 for four months and longer if necessary.
5 We happen to have been very lucky because
6 my insurance company paid for it. But in
7 our support groups, there are parents
8 whose who their children are sent to
9 Nassau County Medical Center or sent to
10 other treatment facilities and once the
11 insurance runs out, the family can't pay,
12 they're just kicked to the side to fend
13 for themselves. I think it's absurd.
14 Because my son didn't deserve to get
15 anything better than their children. And
16 it breaks my heart when I when in the
17 rooms and I hear this and I feel why was
18 I worthy? Why was my son worthy?

19 He did ultimately go to prison and
20 came back and I'm glad to say, six and a
21 half years later, he's perfectly clean.
22 He will have a problem for the rest of
23 his life getting a job and whatever. But
24 I'm glad he pays some kind of
25 consequences other than prison and other

1
2 than, you know, every other problem he's
3 having. But he's clean. I can't say that
4 for some of our other members. And it's
5 sad for me because I feel lucky when they
6 should be just as lucky.

7 The money that's coming to the
8 County from the opioid case, it needs to
9 go to places where there's dual
10 diagnosis. Like I said, my son had a
11 psychological anxiety issue and he also
12 had a drug problem and where he went was
13 able to help him with both and give him
14 the tools he needed. By letting one of
15 our kids go into a facility that just
16 kicks them out like a revolving door,
17 they're not giving them the tools to
18 survive. As a family's anonymous group,
19 we have to do all the research. We have
20 to find what we can do to make things
21 happen. And I just would like to see some
22 of that money to please go for something
23 better. Thank you.

24 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Lisa Castro.

25 MS. CASTRO: Yes, I was supporting

1
2 my my family's anonymous member and we
3 are guests. I'd like to thank you for
4 hearing us. We're actually guests of Miss
5 Whitton, who invited us to speak on the
6 behalf of Families Anonymous.

7 We are a support group that's in the
8 forefront of this drug addiction
9 epidemic. We are the parents of our
10 children who we see suffering the effects
11 of opioid addiction, heroin addiction,
12 you name it. It could be alcoholism,
13 could be anything. And it affects
14 everybody. There is no race, creed,
15 religion, sex or economic background that
16 substance abuse does not hit and it
17 affects all of us.

18 So we've been asked to come and talk
19 about the types of programs that would be
20 beneficial for the money from the
21 settlement to go towards. So we had a lot
22 of ideas. We met with Ms. Whitton and we
23 talked about the insurance industry, we
24 talked about rehab programs, we talked
25 about having reserve funds available for

1
2 families, we talked about having medical
3 hospital care, we talked about job
4 training, we talked about crisis
5 management, and we talked about education
6 for public and private schools in our in
7 our area.

8 We're just hoping that we can be
9 advocates for change. And this is the
10 first time that our group has ever spoken
11 in public like this. We're a private,
12 anonymous group. We meet every Wednesday
13 come rain, sleet or shine, and we help
14 each other through the trauma of dealing
15 with our drug addicted loved ones.

16 We're hoping that we can have some
17 better accountability for the money
18 that's going to be spent on this issue,
19 on health care, and for the many recovery
20 areas that are open to us. We need more
21 avenues. We need help from our government
22 for resources and we thank you for
23 hearing us. And we're hoping that the
24 money will be put towards good use for
25 addicted people. Thank you.

1
2 LEGISLATOR WALKER: I just want to
3 thank you, ladies, for being here today.
4 I do know some of the members in your
5 group. The opioid problem and the
6 addiction problem we have in this county
7 and throughout Long Island, really
8 throughout our country, is absolutely
9 awful. I've been to too many wakes and
10 funerals for young people from my
11 community and from outside of my
12 community. And, you know, I knew these
13 kids. I knew these kids as good students,
14 great sports advocates, drama, music;
15 again, wonderful families. We truly do
16 have to do everything we can to fight
17 this, and it's going to take all of us to
18 fight it together.

19 So I just want to thank each and
20 every one of you for being here today.
21 And you spoke beautifully. I know you
22 said you've never done this before, but
23 you spoke beautifully. So thank you very
24 much.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Just just

1
2 want to let you know that on today's
3 calendar, the first item is a
4 supplemental appropriation of \$15 million
5 from the Opioid Litigation Settlement
6 Fund, which will go again to treatment,
7 prevention, etc., of substance abuse.
8 This is the first of a number of
9 different items in which that money is
10 going to be spent for those purposes. And
11 just so it's clear that the Legislature
12 actually created that fund when the
13 monies were coming in from the
14 settlements. We created the fund because
15 we didn't want the settlement monies to
16 go into the General Fund and just be
17 spent for general purposes. So it was
18 created so that those monies would be
19 directed to attacking the substance abuse
20 problem and now that will be starting
21 with this legislative agenda.

22 Legislator Deriggi-Whitton.

23 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I also
24 want to thank you for coming today. You
25 really did a beautiful job and I attended

1
2 your meeting about a month ago, and I
3 brought a neighbor of mine who is
4 struggling. And you were so warm and
5 welcoming to her. She's a way out of the
6 country. But when she comes back, she's
7 going to join you. And you gave her hope
8 and you gave her support and I'll always
9 be grateful for that.

10 I agree with the Presiding Officer
11 that we're happy that today we're
12 allocating \$15 million. We have \$70
13 million. And I think we're going to get
14 more. I think it'll be over \$100 million
15 by the time we're done. This is a once in
16 a lifetime opportunity for us to finally
17 be able to make the real changes that
18 have to happen. And your input, there's
19 no better, because you know firsthand of
20 what is needed and your requests are not
21 going on deaf ears. We will all up here
22 promise to follow up and make sure that
23 the money is allocated correctly and it's
24 allocated for programs. And we understand
25 even a 28 day program is just not enough.

1
2 We need real, real solid programming. And
3 this money is the first time that we've
4 had an opportunity to provide it. So I
5 thank you. I'm so proud of you. I'm so
6 glad that you came today. And we'll keep
7 working together.

8 Rose, thank you. I know this is from
9 your district. It's an incredible,
10 incredible group that they have. And I
11 look forward to continuing my
12 relationship with you.

13 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Dorothy
14 Buscemi.

15 MS. BUSCEMI: Good afternoon. I'm
16 also here with the ladies that spoke
17 prior. We never have come to the public
18 before, but this insidious disease, the
19 scourge that has created mayhem in our
20 county, and of course our country, has
21 pulled us out of the shadows. And this is
22 the first time where it seems like the
23 legislature is going to have a big impact
24 on the funds that have been won to fight
25 opioid and substance abuse issues within

1
2 the county.

3 So we're here today to say, please.
4 Think about substance abuse and the
5 people that are impacted as a communal
6 problem, because it is. It is every
7 street, every corner that you turn. And
8 we are losing people daily, good
9 citizens. I looked at the beautiful young
10 people that stood up here earlier, and I
11 thought, I remember when all our kids
12 were in dance and sports and had all
13 kinds of promise before they got involved
14 in drugs. And I would like to say that we
15 are from the mindset of treatment based.
16 There is no real cure, and as long as
17 there's demand, there'll be supply and
18 that will have to be unraveled and it'll
19 take a long time.

20 But with the funds that are coming
21 our way now, we're asking you to think
22 about treatment. Treatment is the only
23 way to first handle the people who are so
24 impacted right now. Putting up
25 billboards for the new buzzword harm

1
2 reduction, we don't see that as an avenue
3 that's going to help us get through this.
4 Harm reduction is giving them almost an
5 avenue to continue amongst the way
6 they're living. We need treatment,
7 treatment facilities to help them
8 overcome their addictions, get through
9 detoxing and hopefully sober living homes
10 that are county funded.

11 This is a great deal of money and we
12 hear that there's going to be more. And
13 we're asking you to seriously look at it
14 from a treatment vantage point. And if
15 you need help, we're here to help let you
16 know where treatment is needed. Mostly
17 it's fighting big insurance who says 28
18 days is enough? I can tell you 28 days
19 will never get you straight, clean, and
20 sober. So thank you again for listening.
21 And I hope we're invited back again. And
22 have a great day.

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Okay. Thank
24 you. Lesley Culp.

25 MS. CULP: Good afternoon and thank

1
2 you for the opportunity to speak. I am
3 also with the Families Anonymous group. I
4 have a 26 year old son. I've been on a
5 six year journey with him for heroin
6 addiction. I'm happy to report he is
7 clean and sober 2 to 3 years now. But I
8 will tell you that he had to go to rehab
9 more than once, and 28 days does not cut
10 it. He had the opportunity to go into a
11 program where he spent 14 months in a
12 therapeutic community with the adequate
13 counseling and care to get him on the
14 road to recovery. Okay. So it is
15 definitely overwhelming.

16 We question ourselves, did we do
17 something wrong with our children? No, we
18 didn't do anything wrong with our
19 children. There's too many people out
20 there that want bad things for our
21 children because they can make money off
22 of it. And that has to stop.

23 What we've done here is you've all
24 probably received a letter that was
25 drafted by us and sent to all the

1
2 legislators, and I just want to hit some
3 punch lines on this. We definitely have
4 ideas where the funds should be used:

5 The funds have to be used to provide
6 more drug rehab facilities with longer
7 terms of stay; 28 days is definitely not
8 cutting it. They're barely detoxed at 28
9 days. Their brain is still not
10 functioning properly;

11 We also need funds to provide dual
12 diagnosis. Because what you see in most
13 of these kids, they have a depression
14 issue or a self-esteem issue that causes
15 them to go and self-medicate themselves
16 with these drugs, whether it be Xanax,
17 heroin, cocaine, you know, it's terrible;

18 We also need more state certified
19 sober homes that as these young adults
20 progress through, they can go somewhere
21 and hopefully not be put back in their
22 home where they go back and see the same
23 people because that's that doesn't help;

24 They're also should be more funding
25 for minimum specialized hospital care

1
2 with resources and options.

3 One of the big things that helped my
4 son was he received the Vivitrol shot.
5 After he was clean for a couple of years,
6 he had a slight slip and he came and I
7 said, let's go to the doctor and get the
8 Vivitrol shot. The shot is something that
9 is given once a month. It blocks the
10 receptors in your brain that crave the
11 heroin, because I don't know if you
12 realize, but, you know, the first time
13 you try heroin, it's great; cocaine, it's
14 great. After the first time, it's no
15 longer a choice. You need it to survive.
16 You need it to live. You need it to
17 function.

18 These shots can be very expensive.
19 The Vivitrol has been approved since 2010
20 and it costs \$1,500 a shot. There's
21 another shot out now since 2017, that's
22 Sublocade and that's \$1,800 dollars per
23 shot (buzzer). Again, we were fortunate.
24 Our health insurance covered this for him
25 and he was on it for almost 18 months.

1
2 The other thing is, you know, I
3 would think it would be much easier to
4 give these people the shots because,
5 otherwise, just put them on methadone and
6 they can stay on methadone forever. They
7 sometimes have no desire to get off of it
8 because they're still getting high.
9 They're not in recovery when they're on
10 methadone.

11 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: I'm going to
12 ask you to please sum up, Ms. Culp.

13 MS. CULP: Right.

14 The final thing I have here is that
15 no one should be treated or disrespected
16 when asking for help. So there needs to
17 be funding to educate staff. And I'm
18 including hospital staff, because I can
19 tell you right now that my granddaughter,
20 unfortunately, was the product of two
21 heroin addicts. She was born addicted to
22 methadone. And I have to tell you, when
23 we found out she was pregnant, it was
24 terrible because I took her to Northshore
25 University Hospital because she could not

1
2 stop throwing up. And the doctors there
3 pretty much ignored her and said she
4 needed to be in the pediatric section.
5 And she was 22, 23 years old.

6 I saw this and I went to the nurse
7 and I said, Listen, I don't care who you
8 are. You're a human being. You deserve to
9 be respected and taken care of. Doesn't
10 matter if you're a drug addict or what.
11 You need the attention. P.S., she got a
12 very nice doctor, came over, an hour
13 later, you're pregnant. That's what the
14 problem is. We're lucky. We have a
15 beautiful, beautiful little
16 granddaughter.

17 So we're just here because we're
18 interested. We keep hearing about this
19 money. We're interested in what it's
20 going to be used for, who's going to
21 control it. I'm very happy to hear that
22 it's not going into the General Fund.
23 That was one of the questions I asked the
24 legislator Whitton when we met with her.
25 But I'd like to see more information on

1
2 who's going to control this money.

3 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: We have an
4 item that's coming up. We have several
5 more slips and then we'll do a Consent
6 Calendar and we'll bring that item up.

7 MS. CULP: Is there going to be a
8 committee forum to determine how this
9 money is spent or?

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: I believe the
11 County Executive has done a Request For
12 Expressions of Interest. So they're still
13 soliciting proposals from whoever has a
14 program, a worthy program that needs
15 funding. So.

16 MS. CULP: Well, I think it would be
17 appropriate to maybe talk to some of the
18 people who are actually living this, as
19 opposed to some of the people who are who
20 are doing this because, yes, they make
21 money on it or whatever. But I think it
22 would be a good idea if you just consider
23 speaking to the people who are in the
24 trenches and dealing with it on a daily
25 basis.

1
2 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: You're 100%
3 right to your left. To your right Over
4 there is Chris Leimone. He's the County
5 Executive's representative here. So I
6 would ask that you give them your
7 information. Obviously, Legislator
8 Diriggi-Whitton has been in touch. So
9 it's important also that the
10 administration has your information. They
11 can reach out to you.

12 MS. CULP: Thank you. Thank you for
13 your time.

14 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Mimi
15 Pierre-Johnson.

16 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: Good afternoon
17 and thank you for letting me approach you
18 today.

19 I want to talk specifically about
20 Elmont and Valley Stream when it comes to
21 redistricting. And I'd like if you can
22 give me an answer in reference to the
23 next step with the commission. I don't
24 want to talk about Democrats, Republican,
25 but on the Commission right now, the

1
2 Republicans seems to have something
3 that's different than what what we
4 thought that was going to happen and I
5 just like some clarification.

6 The reason that we are having all of
7 these redistricting hearings is so that
8 the public can tell the Commission what
9 we would like to see our districts. And
10 then they would draw a map and we would
11 discuss it further and then they would
12 give you the map that we've all given our
13 testimonies and then you would vote on
14 it. But it seems that it's just a meeting
15 for us to speak, but not actual maps that
16 will be drawn.

17 So on the 26th, the Commission will
18 be in Elmont and I don't think there will
19 be a map, but I think there should be a
20 map because if you don't do it this way,
21 by the time it comes to this body, we're
22 starting all over again. And you've
23 allocated funds for this bipartisan
24 commission to work together to draw a map
25 so that the public can see the map,

1
2 discuss the map, and before you vote on
3 it so that you know exactly that the maps
4 are fair and there is transparency, how
5 the maps, how the Commission came to
6 that, and that is not happening.

7 So I want to ask you, what is the
8 next step of the Commission? Because we
9 don't want to again, in Elmont on the
10 26th, talk about how we don't want to be
11 cracked. We don't want to be packed.
12 Right? We want to see a map. That would
13 be the good thing, the fair thing to do
14 on the 26th, to have at least a draft map
15 so that we can look at it. So will that
16 happen? And I still have 54 seconds.

17 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: I cannot
18 speak for the commission. It is an
19 independent entity I'm not aware of
20 when--

21 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: Can you stop
22 the clock? Because I'm not done.

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Then I'm not
24 answering your question. Continue with
25 the time. You have a little bit more

1
2 time, because I was speaking. You get a
3 little extra.

4 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: Thank you for
5 reclaiming my time.

6 I do realize that this is a waste of
7 your time, our time as the public. You
8 know why? It's just a checking off of the
9 box that you have a so called bipartisan
10 Commission because it's not working
11 together. Right? And when we talk about
12 that, we want our districts to be fair,
13 that simply means that we want someone
14 that represents us in our district.
15 Right? So that our votes, our voice
16 matter. In Elmont and Valley Stream in
17 2013 (buzzer), we were not given fair
18 maps. And if you look at the maps, you'll
19 see we have to go through Rosedale, the
20 marshes, and then make a left to go back
21 into Nassau County on Legislative three.
22 And you know what happened on the State
23 and the in and the Congressional.

24 So what we're simply asking is
25 transparency as to what the next step is.

1
2 And Mr. Nicoletto, you just said that you
3 do not speak for the Commission, but if
4 you watched because I know you were not
5 there in the meetings, if you watch what
6 they say, they put it back on you. They
7 don't talk about and I'm referring to the
8 Republican side. They don't say we have
9 the right. They don't say we will draw
10 the maps. They don't say anything that
11 gives them any kind of power. They always
12 put it back on you. The Legislative Body
13 will vote. The Legislative Body will draw
14 the maps. We're simply going to advise
15 them. So it is a waste of money that
16 you've already allocated to them. And
17 secondly, it's a waste of our time,
18 because now we're going to have to start
19 all over again with our testimony, and
20 all we're asking for is fair maps, and
21 it's not happening.

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Okay. Well,
23 thank you for your comments on this.

24 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: You know, I
25 have been on this quest of believing that

1
2 our elected officials, regardless if you
3 represent me or not, it's fair for us to
4 participate in our civic duties.

5 Since 2005, living in Nassau County,
6 I still have that hope. When I became an
7 American citizen, do you know who gave me
8 the American flag and the Nassau County
9 flag? Right here he presented to me. It
10 was John Ciotti, a Republican. When I
11 first spoke in front of this Body, which
12 three of them are no longer here with us,
13 but we are still we are still living in
14 the decisions that they made, right? It
15 was here that I spoke about being fair to
16 my community and this is how I have now,
17 Legislator Solages. Here it is. Ten years
18 later. My daughter has left kindergarten,
19 has gotten married, and we are still
20 fighting the same thing. So don't dismiss
21 a constituent when they come here because
22 the decisions that you make -- Rose
23 Walker was there. I don't know if you
24 remember me. I begged for a fair map.

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Ms. Johnson,

1
2 it's three minutes. It's double that.

3 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: Hold on, you
4 gave a young lady extra time. You took
5 away 54 seconds of mine. So please allow
6 me to allow me to finish.

7 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: You're well
8 beyond that. I just asking you to please
9 sum up the rules apply to one; they apply
10 to all.

11 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: And you don't
12 do that for all.

13 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: All right,
14 then. It you don't want to finish, they
15 we're moving on.

16 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: Listen. What
17 I'm saying to you is, your constituents,
18 whether you are directly my
19 representative or not, you should listen
20 to the people. Because when you don't
21 listen to the people, sooner or later it
22 affects you.

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Thank you,
24 Ms. Johnson.

25 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: Because you

1
2 know what?

3 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Ms. Johnson,
4 I'm calling the next speaker.

5 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: -- we fight for
6 redistricting lines, we fight for the
7 future of our children. And you're taking
8 away the future of our children when you
9 don't give us fair maps.

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Meta Meraday.

11 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: If I may,
12 Presiding Officer, this is my
13 constituent.

14 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: My legislator
15 would like to ask me a question.

16 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Ms. Johnson,
17 all due respect, you had more than enough
18 time, and we're moving on to the next
19 speaker.

20 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: But my
21 legislator would like to ask --

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: He can ask
23 you any questions he wants, but we are
24 moving on with this meeting to Ms.
25 Mereday.

1
2 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Thank you very
3 much, Miss Pierre-Johnson, for coming
4 today. I really appreciate it's about the
5 process and the process must be fair and
6 we must have notes as to how these maps
7 look like before they were approved of so
8 the public has a full contribution in
9 this process. But thank you for being
10 here and I appreciate your comments.

11 MS. PIERRE-JOHNSON: Thank you.

12 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Okay. Ms.
13 Mereday.

14 MS. MEREDAY: Before my clock starts,
15 I want to ask the question with regard to
16 the information that was in *Newsday* about
17 the change or the correction for the tax
18 assessment rolls that was supposed to be
19 addressed today. There's no documents to
20 support that. Again, for the public to
21 have that information. So I don't know if
22 that's going to an emergency issue. It
23 was in *Newsday* this week about an error
24 that County Executive Blakeman
25 acknowledged, and it was said that that

1
2 was going to be something on the agenda
3 for today.

4 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: It will be on
5 the agenda. We're going to have
6 Committee Meetings and then the Full
7 Legislature. Yes.

8 MS. MEREDAY: Well, would there be a
9 copy available for the public? Those of
10 us that are here, those of us who come
11 regularly to try to monitor what's going
12 on, I'm not just showing up or coming out
13 of the shadow because of millions of
14 dollars that folks may think are going
15 into their community, which probably will
16 not. At least it won't go into my
17 community because we haven't seen it yet.

18 The redistricting process, we
19 already know it's going to court. So I'm
20 not going to waste too much time for
21 that. You know, when you're in violation
22 of both State and Federal law, it becomes
23 clear. The divisiveness on the Committee
24 is clear. It's evidenced, it's streamed,
25 it's there.

1
2 I'm here with regard to my issues
3 with the budget, not to mention the lack
4 of qualified funding for the temporary
5 aid in needy families. New York State is
6 among those and the trickle down that
7 comes into Nassau County, it's still not
8 going with the Temporary Aid Needy
9 Families (TANF). It's on record,
10 research: Less than 30% in New York
11 State goes to the actual families, the
12 needy families who are aware of that. So
13 we may look at what's happening in
14 Mississippi and the tragedy with the
15 water issue in Jackson, Mississippi, and
16 how connected people like Brett Favre are
17 able to get monies diverted for their
18 personal interests. New York State is not
19 that far away with regard to that lack
20 and that disparity in that inequitable
21 distribution.

22 For those who wanted to know about a
23 facility, it's always interesting when
24 folks want to come and say, we need more
25 facilities, we need more this, we need

1
2 more that. But then when it comes time
3 for having it in their neighborhood, it's
4 a NIMBY issue. We have a facility, county
5 run Nassau University Medical Center,
6 plenty of empty space that could be
7 utilized for a variety of services. They
8 had a methadone clinic there. They
9 probably still do. I have a strong
10 background from a family connection with
11 regard to those who are in social work,
12 those who were alcoholism treatment
13 counselors. So I'm aware of that.

14 We also have a veteran services.
15 They're hard working. Before somebody
16 says, I'm knocking what they're doing,
17 they don't have enough resources, staff
18 or support to do all the work that they
19 need to do for our returning veterans and
20 their families who are struggling. When
21 we run around at parades and say we've
22 got close to 50,000 veterans, and if we
23 count Suffolk County, we got close to
24 100,000 veterans, one of the largest
25 veteran contingents in the Northeast, but

1
2 we have a Veteran Services Agency that is
3 still underserved and underfunded.

4 We've got a PAC bill that was just
5 passed. I brought it to this Body six
6 months ago to give the opportunity to
7 say, let's get those funds. There are now
8 scammers that are out there trying to
9 reach out to our veterans who have
10 suffered for decades with the burn pit.
11 Did this Legislative Body step up and do
12 anything, offer \$0.10 to address that
13 issue, to provide those resources? No.

14 We have police officers who are
15 still looking for their resources in a
16 contract. I had to sit here for a couple
17 of hours and wax poetically on this side
18 with regard to bail reform, but I didn't
19 hear anybody talking about the gun issue
20 that's still rampant in this state. Let's
21 address that.

22 Crossing guards. I don't know what
23 happened to the crossing guard in
24 Legislator Deriggi-Whitton's area, but if
25 we want to talk about how we can support

1
2 the crossing guards, give them some
3 benefits. You can keep it at the \$25,
4 but give them some benefits. They used to
5 have it, Legislator Ferretti, just so you
6 know about that (buzzer).

7 But again, we need to upgrade our
8 resources in general. Let's stop leaving
9 Nassau University Medical Center as the
10 partisan pit that it has been for
11 decades. We can address many of the
12 issues. Fund Nassau Community College
13 with the programs and services so that we
14 can provide more proactive resources for
15 our veterans, our communities and other
16 residents and we can move towards being
17 the type of county that all of us can
18 feel represented in. Thank you.

19 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Thank you.
20 Jerry Kornbluth from Nassau Community
21 College.

22 MR. KORNBLUTH: Good afternoon,
23 everyone. I'm here today representing
24 Nassau Community College and Interim
25 President Maria Conzatti thanking you for

1
2 your support of the Adjunct Faculty
3 Association contract.

4 The adjuncts play an important role
5 at Nassau Community College and we value
6 everything they do. And more importantly,
7 we want to thank you for your support and
8 commitment to Nassau Community College.

9 We provide to the residents in
10 Nassau County a strong educational
11 experience, as well as giving students a
12 an education that is low cost. And we
13 provide many opportunities so that they
14 can get out there, graduate, get a job,
15 and be part of the economic fabric of
16 Nassau County. So, again, we want to
17 thank you for all your support.

18 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Thank you,
19 Jerry.

20 John Gross.

21 MR. GROSS: Yes, sir. Just wanted to
22 extend the appreciation of the Board of
23 Trustees of the college, similar to what
24 Jerry indicated, and to remind the
25 Legislature that this contract is fully

1
2 funded with college funds. There's no
3 funds that come out of the County. And
4 as Mr. Krompier, the President of the
5 Association, indicated, it was a very
6 fair one-year deal to get us through a
7 difficult period, and we'll be
8 negotiating very shortly for a subsequent
9 contract. Thank you very much.

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Thank you.
11 Legislator Drucker.

12 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you, .
13 John and Jerry and Stefan, nice to
14 see you here today. As you guys all know,
15 I'm a fierce advocate and supporter, as
16 all of us on this Body are, for the
17 college, and we stand firmly united when
18 it comes to the education that Nassau
19 Community College provides for our kids
20 and our future leaders in this county. So
21 thank you very much for being here today.

22
23 *****
24
25

1
2 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: All right. We
3 are going to go a little bit out of
4 order. We'll do the Consent Calendar so
5 that the department heads who are here
6 can go back to their respective agencies.
7 Then we're going to take up the opioid
8 settlement funds. And then after that, we
9 will go into Committees to consider the
10 Correction of Errors.

11 So the Consent Calendar is comprised
12 of items that went through Committees
13 earlier, a couple of weeks ago, and it's
14 been agreed by the Majority and Minority
15 that no further debate or discussion is
16 needed as to these items at this time:

17 ITEMS:

- 18 2. Ordinance 65
19 3. Ordinance 66
20 4. Ordinance 67
21 5. Ordinance 68
22 6. Ordinance 69
23 7. Ordinance 70
24 8. Resolution 193
25 9. Resolution 194

10. Resolution 195

11. Resolution 196

12. Resolution 197

13. Resolution 198

14. Resolution 199

15. Resolution 200

16. Resolution 201

17. Resolution 202

18. Resolution 203

19. Resolution 204

20. Resolution 205

21. Resolution 206

And that's all we have for now. Any further debate, a discussion on those items?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Motion by Legislator Schaefer, seconded by Legislator Diriggi-Whitton. Any further debate or discussion?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Hearing none,

1
2 All in favor signify by saying aye.

3 (Whereupon, all members of
4 the Nassau County Legislative
5 Body respond in favor.)

6 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Those
7 opposed?

8 (Whereupon, no verbal
9 response.)

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Carries
11 unanimously.

12 So we go back to Item 1, which is
13 Ordinance 64. This is an ordinance
14 supplemental to the annual appropriation
15 ordinance in connection with the
16 Department of Human Services. Motion by
17 Deputy Presiding Officer Kopel, seconded
18 by Minority Leader Abrahams.

19 This is the item with respect to the
20 opioid settlement funds. Anyone here from
21 the administration to speak on this?

22 MS. NEVIN: Good afternoon. I'm Jill
23 Nevin, commissioner of the Department of
24 Human Services. Today, we are asking for
25 you to approve the appropriation of the

1
2 opioid settlement funds.

3 The breakdown of how we plan on
4 using it over four years; it's \$60
5 million over four years:

6 - It's going to be \$2 million a year
7 to NUMC for the expansion of the detox
8 program.

9 - There is going to be \$12 and a
10 half million for a Request For
11 Expressions of Interest that covers the
12 four areas legislated: Prevention,
13 treatment, recovery and supports.

14 - \$60,000 per year for five
15 community based organizations that I want
16 to note all have dual licensors. I know
17 our group here today had a concern about
18 covering the mental health aspect along
19 with the substance use.

20 - \$180,000 per year for Mercy
21 Hospital.

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Do we have
23 any questions from the Legislators?
24 Legislator Mule.

25 LEGISLATOR MULE: Thank you,

1
2 Presiding Officer. Ms. Nevin, I have a
3 couple of questions. I understand that
4 that an RFEI is going out, and that's
5 based on what responses you receive,
6 that's how things will be determined as
7 to who gets the money; is that correct?

8 MS. NEVIN: Correct. It's similar as
9 an RFP process. Okay.

10 LEGISLATGOR MULE: And can you tell
11 us how that's being advertised so that it
12 gets beyond our normal --

13 MS. NEVIN: Sure. It was announced
14 on Friday, September 23rd. It was posted
15 in the *Newsday* announcement section. It's
16 on the Nassau County bid board. We
17 reached out to our contacts and community
18 providers to let them know an
19 announcements been made. We've also been
20 in touch with the President of the
21 Council of Superintendents so that all
22 the school districts are made aware and
23 they could collaborate with community
24 providers or themselves, respond to it.

25 LEGISLATGOR MULE: Thank you. And

1
2 then who will make the decisions about
3 who gets the money?

4 MS. NEVIN: There's going to be a
5 Selection Committee formed. Just like a
6 usual county RFP process, there will be a
7 Selection Committee.

8 LEGISLATGOR MULE: All right. And
9 are there criteria already set for how
10 those decisions are going to be made?

11 MS. NEVIN: Not just yet. We're in
12 the process of working on that.

13 LEGISLATGOR MULE: And will clinical
14 decisions be included in that process so
15 that it's being made based on what are
16 proven treatment programs?

17 LEGISLATGOR MULE: Yeah, we'll have
18 individuals and most of the programs in
19 there are evidence-based. So there is a
20 science to it, it's not just going to be
21 randomly decided.

22 LEGISLATGOR MULE: Okay. And then
23 once the awards are made, I'm wondering
24 what safeguards are being put into place
25 to make sure that the money that's

1
2 awarded actually goes toward an expansion
3 of services. Because what I want to know
4 is -- let's just use NUMC for an
5 example. They're getting \$2 million to,
6 as you said, to expand their treatment
7 program. What safeguards is the County
8 putting into place to make sure that NUMC
9 doesn't just then take \$2 million out of
10 its current treatment program and put it
11 elsewhere?

12 MS. NEVIN: I have assigned actually
13 somebody from my office as the oversight
14 person specifically for these opioid
15 funds. It's going to be the program
16 liaison that's going to be treated just
17 like our current program liaisons do for
18 our current contracts. But he's going to
19 be specifically tasked with overseeing
20 any money spent on the opioid funds and
21 to make sure that everybody's working
22 within the committed boundaries.

23 LEGISLATGOR MULE: So will there be
24 regular reporting from the agencies?

25 MS. NEVIN: Yes.

1
2 LEGISLATGOR MULE: And are there
3 rules set in place so that what I just
4 described to you cannot happen?

5 MS. NEVIN: Yeah. We will come up
6 with within the contracts, things will be
7 contracted out. We will have a specific
8 set of rules on how reporting is going to
9 take place and very specifically spell
10 out how the moneys are going to be used.

11 LEGISLATGOR MULE: Okay. So I'm
12 requesting that you very specifically put
13 into place in the contracts that they
14 cannot take money that is currently in
15 their program and transfer it elsewhere
16 because they might have shortfalls in
17 other places and that this is additional
18 money.

19 MS. NEVIN: Absolutely. Absolutely.
20 I agree.

21 LEGISLATGOR MULE: Thank you.

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Legislator
23 Ford.

24 LEGISLATOR FORD: Good afternoon.
25 Sorry. So far with since you've issued

1
2 the RFI, have you received numerous
3 responses?

4 MS. NEVIN: Responses aren't due
5 until November 21st, but we have received
6 Letters of Intent. The Letter of Intent
7 due date was October 10th. It's not a
8 mandate. It's not required, but it's just
9 a courtesy. And so far we have 18 Letters
10 of Intent that have been submitted.

11 LEGISLATOR FORD: Who would actually
12 comprise the committee that would select
13 the recipients and award the monetary
14 amounts? I mean, I don't need names, but
15 I just --

16 MS. NEVIN: We're looking for people
17 with a background in behavioral health,
18 whether that be substance use, mental
19 health.

20 LEGISLATOR FORD: All right. Also,
21 the agencies, if they didn't send in a
22 Letter of Intent, they still have an
23 opportunity because you have up until
24 November 21st?

25 MS. NEVIN: Absolutely. The Letter

1
2 of Intent was not required. It was just
3 asked as a courtesy.

4 LEGISLATOR FORD: And I know that
5 you've advertised it. Have you reached a
6 lot of the population? Because I know
7 that some people weren't aware of it.

8 MS. NEVIN: Yeah. Well, like I said
9 to Legislator Mule, we did our standard
10 *Newsday* announcement. We have it on the
11 bid board. We reached out to our contacts
12 within mental health chemical dependency.
13 We also collaborated with the President
14 of the Council of Nassau County
15 Superintendents to make sure that the
16 school districts are informed that
17 something's out there and encourage them
18 to go look at it.

19 LEGISLATOR FORD: All right. But I
20 understand, though, because the school
21 districts are not necessarily eligible
22 for the funding they would have to
23 partner with --

24 MS. NEVIN: They could. They could
25 respond. You know, I don't know if they

1
2 have the resources to respond, we
3 encourage them that they could
4 collaborate with a community provider or
5 they could very well respond on their
6 own.

7 LEGISLATOR FORD: I received
8 something from Dr. Wilansky that said
9 that they would have to go with an
10 agency.

11 MS. NEVIN: The RFEI, for the school
12 aspect of it speaks about collaborating
13 with a community provider. The community
14 provider have the resources built within
15 to be able to implement such programs in
16 the schools.

17 LEGISLATOR FORD: All right. So I'm
18 going to make sure that my school
19 districts -- because I have the link if I
20 need to have it again, maybe you could
21 send it.

22 MS. NEVIN: Absolutely, just reach
23 out.

24 LEGISLATOR FORD: But thank you very
25 much.

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MS. NEVIN: No problem.

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Any other
legislators?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Okay. Thank
you, Jill.

MS. NEVIN: Thank you.

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Any further
debate or discussion on this item?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Hearing none,
all in favor signify by saying aye.

(Whereupon, all members
respond in favor.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Those
opposed?

(Whereupon, no response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Carries
unanimously.

So before we move on, we need a
motion to suspend the rules, which we're
going to require for the Correction of

Errors petition. Moved by Legislator Rhoads, seconded by Legislator Ferretti.

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: All in favor of suspending the Rules, signify by saying aye.

(Whereupon, all members respond in favor.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Those opposed?

(Whereupon, no response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Carries unanimously.

All right. I'm going to put the Legislature in recess and we're going to call first the Rules, then the Finance Committee, and they will both meet at the same time to discuss the Correction of Errors.

(Whereupon, Full Legislature goes into recess, 2:59 p.m.)

(Whereupon, Full Legislature back in session, 3:34 p.m.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: We're going back into the Full Leg. These same three

items are on the Full Legislative
Calendar:

ITEMS:

25. Resolution 210.

26. Resolution 211.

27. Resolution 212.

Motion by Deputy Presiding Officer
Kopel, seconded by Minority Leader
Abrahams. Any further debate or
discussion on these items at this time?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Hearing none,
all in favor signify by saying aye.

(Whereupon, all members of
the Nassau County Full
Legislative Body responds in
favor.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Those
opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Carries
unanimously.

1
2 Item 22 Resolution 207 is a
3 resolution to authorize the transfer of
4 appropriations, heretofore, made within
5 the budget for the year 2022. Motion by
6 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator
7 Ford. So that item's before us. We have
8 to submit an amendment in the nature of a
9 substitution to increase the total of the
10 board transfer to \$20,590,000 by adding
11 \$450,000 to the Fire Commission CAD
12 Enhancement.

13 Motion by Legislator McKeivitt,
14 seconded by Legislator Mule to amend.
15 Any debate or discussion on the
16 amendment?

17 (Whereupon, no verbal
18 response.)

19 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Hearing none,
20 all in favor of the amendment signify by
21 saying aye.

22 (Whereupon, all members of
23 the Nassau County Legislative
24 Body respond in favor.)

25 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Those

1
2 opposed?

3 (Whereupon, no verbal
4 response.)

5 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: The item is
6 amended. Now the item is amended. Anyone
7 having to debate a discussion on this?
8 This is the ARPA funds.

9 (Whereupon, no verbal
10 responds.)

11 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Nope. So
12 let's have a vote on that. All in favor
13 of Item 22 Resolution 207 signify by
14 saying aye.

15 (Whereupon, all members of
16 the Nassau County Legislative
17 Body respond in favor.)

18 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Those
19 opposed?

20 (Whereupon, no verbal
21 response.)

22 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Carries
23 unanimously.

24 Let's call 23 first. That is Item 23
25 Resolution 208 motion by Legislator

1
2 Lafazan, seconded by Legislator Gaylor.

3 Any debate or discussion on the item
4 23?

5 (Whereupon, no verbal
6 response.)

7 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Hearing none,
8 all in favor signify by saying aye.

9 (Whereupon, all members of
10 the Nassau County Legislative
11 Body respond in favor.)

12 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: I think the
13 last one is 24 Resolution 209. Let the
14 record reflect that Legislator Drucker is
15 leaving the chambers will not be
16 participating in any debate, discussion
17 or vote on this item.

18 Item 24 Resolution 209 Motion by
19 Legislator Solages, seconded by
20 Legislator Bynoe. A resolution to
21 authorize the release of surety bond and
22 escrow deposit covering improvements on
23 the map of Country Point at Plainview
24 Condominium VI situated in Plainview, Old
25 Bethpage Town of Oyster Bay County of

1
2 Nassau.

3 Any debate or discussion?

4 (Whereupon, no verbal
5 response.)

6 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Any public
7 comments?

8 (Whereupon, no verbal
9 response.)

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Hearing none,
11 all in favor signify by saying aye.

12 (Whereupon, all members of
13 the Nassau County Legislative
14 Body respond in favor.)

15 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Motion to
16 adjourn by Legislator Deriggi- Whitton,
17 seconded by Legislator Walker. All in
18 favor of adjourning signify by saying
19 aye.

20 (Whereupon, all members of
21 the Nassau County Legislative
22 Body respond in favor.)

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: Those
24 opposed?

25 (Whereupon, no verbal

response.)

LEGISLATOR NICOLLELO: The
Legislature is adjourned, p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : SS.:
COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and
within the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the above is a correct transcription
of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 24th day of October, 2022

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

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