	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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4	COMMITTEES MEETING
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8	RICHARD NICOLELLO
9	PRESIDING OFFICER
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11	*****
12	FINANCE COMMITTEE
13	JOHN FERRETTI
14	ACTING
15	CHAIRMAN
16	
17	County Executive and Legislative Building
18	1550 Franklin Avenue
19	Mineola, New York
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21	*****
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23	Monday, April 3, 2023
24	3:53 p.m.
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	TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516)414-35161

______TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516)414-3516 _____2 __

	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	APPEARANCES
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4	LEGISLATOR FERRETTI ACTING CHAIR
5	LEGISLATOR THOMAS MCKEVITT
6	LEGISLATOR ROSE MARIE WALKER
7	LEGISLATOR ARNOLD DRUCKER RANKING MEMBER
8	LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES
9	LEGISLATOR JOSHUA LAFAZAN (ABSENT)
10	****
11	MICHAEL PULITZER Clerk of the Legislature
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_____TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516)414-3516 _____3 _

	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	ALSO APPEARED
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4	JOANNE OWEIS, DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY/DSS
5	DARCY BELYEA, PARKS COMMISSIONER
6	KEN ARNOLD, COMMISSIONER PUBLIC WORKS
7	KEVIN WALSH, OFFICE OF REAL ESTATE
8	ANDY PERSICH, OMB
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___TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516)414-3516 _____4 _

1	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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3	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: At this
4	time, I'd like to call the Finance
5	Committee to order. I'll ask the Clerk
6	to call the roll, please.
7	CLERK PULITZER: Thank you,
8	Chairman. Roll call Finance Committee.
9	Legislator Joshua Lafazan?
10	(Whereupon, no response.)
11	CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Carrie A.
12	Solages?
13	LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.
14	CLERK PULITZER: Ranking Member
15	Arnold Drucker?
16	LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.
17	CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Rose
18	Marie Walker?
19	LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.
20	CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Thomas
21	McKevitt?
22	LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Here.
23	CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Denise
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_____TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516)414-3516 ______5 _

LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.

Ford?

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CLERK PULITZER: Chairman John

Ferretti?

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: I'm here.

CLERK PULITZER: We have a quorum,

sir.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you, Michael.

Clerk Item 114-23 is an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriation ordinance in connection with Parks, Recreations and Museums.

May I have a motion?

LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator Drucker. The item is before us. Darcy.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Good afternoon. Darcy Belyea, Parks Commissioner.

Supplemental appropriation is in the amount of \$66,119. The fund source is the New York State Empire Development I love New York Matching Funds program. It will be allocated to the Parks Department DE

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Contractual Services line. You will recall that a Resolution was passed late last year naming the County as our own tourism promotion agency which allows us to receive these funds from Empire State Development and we will use them until we until we award a contract for a new tourism promotion agency. We're currently in the RFP process now.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Great.

Thank you. Any debate or discussion from the legislators?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Any public comment?

MS. MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday.

Question with regard to the RFP process. Exactly how is this going to be disseminated within actual organizations that will provide kind of a diverse listing of participants?

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Hold on, hold on, hold on. Can you make all your

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comments and then we'll ask the Commissioner to come up after?

MS. MEREDAY: I thought she was finished. You asked for public comment.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Yes. Are you finished with your public comment?

MS. MEREDAY: Oh, okay. Well, you know, I'll keep it moving.

in terms of incorporating at least,
again, a broad reach in terms of how many
aspects of the County itself, what we all
bring to the table. I think that has been
something that has been lacking. So I'm
just hoping that, again, I don't know if
there's the idea of having maybe some
type of community council as a part of
this mechanism to get some input, you
know, things of that nature.

So I'm just looking for, again, the diversity in terms of the outreach for the RFP, the diversity in terms of the development of a process, and the inclusion where we're looking at bringing

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in, you know, intergenerational, you
know, young people as well as our seniors
to really package how we're kind of
promoting all of our resources. So now
I'm finished.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: I appreciate
the interest from the commenter.

We actually released the RFP this morning and I myself on Friday sent out timed e-mails to hit the streets this morning at 8 o'clock when it was in the newspaper to over 350 MWBE potential businesses who are registered with the New York State Registry. I have not formed a committee for the RFP selection yet, but I will take your advice to heart and look for some diversity and some age diversity as well.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you,

Commissioner. Do we have any further

public comment?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: There being
3	none, all in favor, please say, "Aye".
4	(Whereupon, all members of
5	the Finance Committee respond
6	in favor with, "Aye".)
7	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Any opposed?
8	(Whereupon, no verbal
9	response.)
10	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The item
11	passes unanimously.
12	COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Thank you.
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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Item 115-22 is an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriation ordinance in connection with Social Services. May I have a motion? Moved by Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator Solages.

The item is before us. Do we have someone from the administration? sorry, it's 115-23, I said 22.

MS. OWEIS: Joanne Oweis, Deputy County Attorney on behalf of DSS. This is the one I spoke about before. It's one 115-23. It's the appropriation for funding for DSS plan that was accepted by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services to fund our Safe Harbor project, which addresses the needs of commercially sexually exploited children in Nassau County. It's a plan that was approved by the State in conjunction with our Partners at the Safe Center, and it's fully funded with state monies.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you. Any debate or discussion from the

	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	legislators?
3	(Whereupon, no verbal
4	response.)
5	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Do we have
6	any public comment?
7	(Whereupon, no verbal
8	response.)
9	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. All
10	those in favor, please signify by saying,
11	"Aye".
12	(Whereupon, all members of
13	the Finance Committee respond
14	in favor with, "Aye".)
15	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
16	opposed? The item passes unanimously.
17	MS. OWEIS: Thank you.
18	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you.
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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Item 118-23, a resolution to authorize the transfer of appropriations, heretofore, made within the budget for the year 2023.

May I have a motion? Move by Legislator Ford, seconded by Legislator Solages.

Who from the Administration do we have on this one?

MS. ZAKI: Good afternoon, Legislators. Seema Zaki, Fiscal Director, Department of Human Services.

Clerk Item 118-23 has multiple items. The first one is these are funds that has been passed through from New York State Office of Addiction Services and Support for Workforce Development and Stabilization Initiative, which is affected due to the COVID 19 crisis. We are requesting to reallocate these funds from the equipment to general expenses. Just to be more accurate for our accounting purposes, we are utilizing this for the licenses and licenses

	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	doesn't fall under equipment.
3	And the second item that we have
4	today is these are stimulus funds,
5	federal funds for COVID related issues.
6	We are reallocating it to purchase COVID
7	19 test kits so that we can distribute it
8	to the sub-recipients or vendors who
9	provide services to senior citizens.
10	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. The
11	second one you were speaking of is
12	119-23, correct?
13	MS. ZAKI: I'm sorry. It's two
14	items under 118-23.
15	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: It's okay.
16	So you spoke on 118-23 and 119-23, right?
17	MS. ZAKI: No. 118-23 has two items.
18	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Right.
19	Got it. Thank you. Any debate or
20	discussion?
21	(Whereupon, no verbal
22	response.)
23	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Any
24	public comment?
25	MS. MEREDAY: Again, you all must

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have the information, and that's the reason why you're not asking any questions. But I think your constituents might want to know exactly what's going on with regard to these.

I'm just a little concerned about workforce development funds. Isn't that supposed to be developing the workforce? Maybe it's just a little confusing for me in terms of terminology and allocation, but I'm told it's being reallocated under a general expense to cover licenses. Okay. Licenses for who?

And again, if we're not utilizing resources to provide workforce development for our most critical constituents, including our veterans and our young people, I didn't need Newsday to tell me that depression is ranking high on Long Island. Work challenges are impacting so many people in our community and we still seem to kind of turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to what is going on. So I'm questioning this.

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So again, if you all have the information, please share it with your constituents, or if somebody can answer the question today.

It's the same thing with COVID-related funding issues. Most constituents are under the impression that their town and their county utilized all the resources that came through for COVID. Many of them are now going through an eviction process because the moratorium has been removed. Folks are losing their job regarding COVID companies that are going out of business.

So I'm not saying that COVID test kits that were in abundance, and most of them have gone out of expiration because they were not utilized and they were wasted. If that is a priority at this juncture, then so be it. But if there is a program that is geared towards, again, keeping our seniors and our veterans and our widows in their places that they've lived for years, let's reevaluate that or

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let's determine where we actually put these test kits that are going to be beneficial and again, not go to waste.

This is 2023. It's my hope that we can do things a little differently because we're already missing out on so many federal funds, so many state funds that can help our most vulnerable. And I'm really getting tired of being before this Body when I need to be out there dealing with some of these issues, with our widows being evicted and our veterans committing suicide and our young people committing suicide, to have to come here and keep asking you for these things. We want to put patrols out here and we're putting them in cars that are broken down. But we're telling us you're telling the public that you're going to protect us and our police officers are riding in cars that are now 10-20 years old. We need to address this and we need to be serious about it.

Thank you.

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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Thank you. Any further public comment?

(Whereupon, no verbal

response.)

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. All those in favor?

You stood up. Do you want to say something further? You've got to speak into the microphone.

MS. ZAKI: The licenses are for the dosing of the methadone. Simply it's not an equipment. That's why it's being reallocated to to general expenses. It's being utilized for the dosing, methadone dosing. So it's not being taken away from any other purpose. It was meant and it was set up for that purpose.

And COVID kits are that whole funding was for COVID related. It was \$24,000. And that funding is getting closer to expiration. So we are utilizing it to purchase the COVID kits and distribute it to the senior centers.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay.

1	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
2	Thank you. Okay. All those in favor
3	of passing this item, please signify by
4	saying, "Aye".
5	(Whereupon, all members of
6	the Finance Committee respond
7	in favor with, "Aye".)
8	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
9	opposed?
10	(Whereupon, no verbal
11	response.) The item passes
12	unanimously.
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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Item 119-23 is a resolution to authorize the transfer of appropriations, heretofore, made within the budget for the year 2023 and the Health Department.

May I have a motion? Moved by Legislator McKevitt, seconded by Legislator Drucker.

The item is before us.

MS. DESIMONE: Good afternoon. Ann DeSimone, Health Department. Item 119-23 maximizes grant funding for the early intervention grant in the amount of \$1,005. Staffing changes in this program resulted in a decrease in salary a savings used to cover travel expenditures.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Great. Thank you. Any debate or discussion? Legislator Ford.

LEGISLATOR FORD: I'm sorry. You said that there's a decrease in personnel for the early intervention, or did I misunderstand?

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MS. DESIMONE: So we did have some staff that retired. They're trying to backfill those staff positions.

LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay, so how many positions are down? How many people left?

MS. DESIMONE: I would have to ask Program for that information.

LEGISLATOR FORD: Are we actively trying to recruit and hire them? Because this is such an important program.

MS. DESIMONE: Yes, we are trying to get more early intervention service coordinators on board.

LEGISLATOR FORD: And then how long of a wait is it for the families that request this type of intervention?

MS. DESIMONE: I would have to get you that information as well.

LEGISLATOR FORD: If we can get it before the full ledge, that would be perfect.

MS. DESIMONE: I can do that.

LEGISLATOR FORD: All right. Thank

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you.

MS. DESIMONE: Thank you.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Legislator Walker.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: And you said some of this is going to travel expenses. Is that because those that were short, some of our staff has to travel to additional places?

MS. DESIMONE: Yes. And for conferences.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Okay. But we're not leaving any children out. I mean, I know how hard you all work.

MS. DESIMONE: Yeah, absolutely not. They're increasing the caseload on every caseworker so that we're not missing anything.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Okay. But the sooner we can hire, we don't want to overload our workers either. That, you know, things could possibly fall through the cracks because they have such a large caseload.

1	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	MS. DESIMONE: Absolutely. I know
3	they still are having trouble getting
4	providers to do the service, but that has
5	nothing to do with the Health Department.
6	LEGISLATOR WALKER: Okay. Thank you,
7	Ann.
8	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Any
9	further debate or discussion?
10	(Whereupon, no verbal
11	response.)
12	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: There being
13	none, Any public comment?
14	(Whereupon, no verbal
15	response.)
16	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: There being
17	none, all those in favor of passing this
18	item, please signify by saying, "Aye".
19	(Whereupon, all members of
20	the Finance Committee respond
21	in favor with, "Aye".)
22	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
23	opposed?
24	(Whereupon, no verbal
25	response.)

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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The item passes unanimously.

Clerk Item number 120-23 is an ordinance supplemental to an appropriation ordinance in connection with the Health Department.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator Drucker. The item is before us. Do we have someone from the administration on this one?

MS. DESIMONE: Ann DeSimone, Health. I already reported on that one on Health. You want to hear it again?

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: No, that's okay. No, no, no. You're referring to number --

MS. DESIMONE: 120, that's the \$453,766 for the HIV Expanded services grant. Covers surveillance, verification of treatment, contact investigations for all sexually transmitted diseases.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: John, we went

,	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
1	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
2	over that in Health. That's what she's
3	saying.
4	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. If
5	you could present it again to this
6	Committee.
7	MS. DESIMONE: No problem. So Item
8	120-23. Ann DeSimone, Health Department.
9	It's a supplemental appropriation in
10	the amount of \$453,766 for the HIV
11	Expanded services Grant from New York
12	State Department of Health Program
13	reduces the spread of sexually
14	transmitted diseases through
15	surveillance, verification of treatment
16	and contact investigation. Grant covers
17	salary fringe General expenses. Grant
18	does not require matching.
19	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you.
20	You're welcome. Any debate or
21	(Whereupon, no verbal
22	response.)
23	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Any public
24	comment?
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(Whereupon, no verbal

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	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	response.)
3	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All those in
4	favor of passing this item, please
5	signify by saying, "Aye".
6	(Whereupon, all members of
7	the Finance Committee respond
8	in favor with, "Aye".)
9	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
10	opposed?
11	(Whereupon, no verbal
12	response.)
13	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The item
14	passes unanimously.
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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All right.

There's an Addendum to the Agenda. May I

have a motion to suspend the Rules?

LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator Ford. All in favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".

> (Whereupon, all members of the Finance Committee respond in favor with, "Aye".)

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The Rules have been suspended.

We will call the settlements at the end of the meeting.

Clerk Item number 136-23 is an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriation ordinance and to transfer appropriations, heretofore, made within to reconcile the County's financial records for the budget year of 2022.

May I have a motion?

LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by

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Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator McKevitt.

The item is before us.

MR. PERSICH: Good afternoon, Andy Persich, Office of Management Budget.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Good afternoon.

MR. PERSICH: This is the annual cleanup of the close of the year with the Comptroller's office where we have to move money around for certain items. I'll give you some highlights. Without the ins and outs of what we do, we are transferring money and we're putting money into reserves.

I briefed both caucuses on this, but I'll go over quickly with you. The County finished with the \$320 Million surplus this year. We're taking those funds and putting them into, I'll give you a breakdown:

We're putting \$40 Million into a General Lit Fund; we're putting \$10 Million into the Longevity Lit Fund to

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fund the last portion of the lit of the longevity which comes due in 2026; we're putting \$50 Million in for tax certs; We're establishing a Labor Reserve for \$20 Million; and we're putting \$40 Million in for Retirement Contribution Fund; \$105 Million into the Bond Indebtedness Fund. This purpose will be for defusing debt, which is something we should do with all the outstanding debt we have; \$10 Million in for an insurance reserve, which is probably going to be set up for we were exploring the possibility of getting property and casualty insurance. And this will be a layer of the excess that will help us in future things; and then \$25 Million into a healthcare reserve which will be for any anomalies that come from the health insurance premiums.

We will probably have further discussions about the County finances coming up. But again, we've had a good year and this is just putting the money

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in fiscally prudent places and I think it's just going to stabilize the economics and the finances of the County for the next 5 to 10 years. I'm here to answer any questions if you have them.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All right. Thank you. Any debate or discussion? Legislator Drucker.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you, Chairman Ferretti.

Andy, just quickly, the amount you allocate for the General Litigation Fund of \$40 Million, the Longevity Fund, Litigation of \$10 Million and Tax Certs, \$50 Million. I guess my question is, are they projected amounts that you associate or predict based on what's on the pipeline?

MR. PERSICH: Well, to answer that question, yes, Legislator. The years that we didn't have money, I hate to say it, we kicked the can down the road. Like with so much with the cert liability growing, we've narrowed that scope down

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to a manageable number and we're getting there with the monies we have in place.

Same thing with judgments and claims.

We're managing, I hate to say it, the balance sheet, the liability side of the county's finances now, which is we're trying to mitigate and settle things faster, so there's no big interest charges and everything else. So that's why we do have it lined up that there are monies that are due for these appropriations.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Right. I'm just concerned. I mean, it should be a correlation to what you anticipate is going to be going out the door because, you know, in principle, the taxpayers should be getting surplus monies that the County has.

MR. PERSICH: Duly noted. Again, if you look, one of the things we don't focus on here because we don't see it, but when you look at the the finances of the County, even though the budget is

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balanced, there's a lot of outstanding things that come up. Like I'll give you a for instance is Restivo back in 2018, it threw this place into a tailspin. So there's things like that out there, hopefully not of that magnitude, but those are the things that, theoretically, to your point is, if I didn't have the money in place for this, what I'd have to do is then go raise taxes to cover that judgment, which was one of the options we had when Restivo came out. So we're managing the liability side much more closely. And, you know, with these surpluses, we put money away for future years so that we wouldn't have to do any harm to the taxpayers for lack of a better --

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you. just wanted to make sure that there is there is a correlation between what you're putting aside.

MR. PERSICH: Yeah. When the comptroller's report comes out, you're

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going to see that the liability number that we have on some of these litigations and everything else are a lot more than what we have here. But, you know, that's part of the settlement and dynamic, I would say, of negotiating settlement.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you, Andy.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Any other debate or discussion? Okay. Any public comment?

MS. MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday.

Where does one begin when you have millions of dollars that are allocated for a litigation fund? And we talk surplus and then we talk about a tremendous debt.

My questions have to do with certain departments in the county that are still without contracts. So are those funds within the budget allocated for them already? When are we going to actually finalize these contracts and account for those resources? I mean, when you have

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special and important agencies such as Veterans Services and I think there are still some departments and entities within the Police Department. And again, can't say it enough, they need real current modern patrol cars. I think the sheriff's department could use a couple, too, so that they can continue to do the great work that they do.

But I'm just concerned about these kind of rainy day funds or \$20 Million for the tax certs, that's definitely important. But the judgments and claims is something that's troubling to me because I read these maybe two and three o'clock in the morning, but the number of settlements that we're claiming, are we learning anything from them? I mean, taxpayers need to know, again, that we're seeing millions of dollars. You know, one person got hundreds of thousands of dollars for their tax assessment issue. That there are others that, you know, they need that couple of hundred for the

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extra. But are we learning from any of these lawsuits? What is the majority? I

mean, I guess Newsday -- I might have to

put on my own journalism hat to question

why Newsday isn't addressing the number

of settlements and what stems from those

settlements. What are we learning from

those settlements and what are we doing

different, so we do not have to

specifically have a judgment and claims

budget line and we can have maybe a

programs and services? Maybe we can talk

about diversity, maybe we can talk about

inclusion, maybe we can talk about how we

can work more effectively, proactively

and legally together to be more inclusive

and engaged in what's happening with the

County.

And I'm hoping, I'm praying that particularly for our veterans, if we're not looking at addressing some resources for that public hospital when there are billions of dollars that are being allocated. And I brought it to this Body,

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the information over a year ago with regard to the PACT Bill, and now we're now we're just talking about suicide. And now our veterans are dying at 44 a clip per day. And now our young people are dying. We have a potential to make that facility what it is, as opposed to looking at a casino property that is just going to raise the level of depression and despair to this county.

So, again, thoughtful questions. Maybe I'll get an answer. Not for me, it really is about we the people. Thank you.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you. Any further public comment? (Whereupon, no verbal

response.)

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All those in favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".

> (Whereupon, all members of the Finance Committee respond in favor with, "Aye".)

> ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those

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2 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Item 3 137-23 is a resolution establishing the General Reserve Fund. May I have a

motion?

LEGISLATOR FORD: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by

Legislator Ford, seconded by Legislator

Walker. The item is before us. Once

again, Mr. Persich.

MR. PERSICH: Good afternoon. Andy

Persich, Office of Management and Budget.

This item, we had to establish this

new Reserve Fund for some of the monies

that we're moving from the surplus in

here, and this is the mechanism in which

we need to do that. It's a general

reserve. It's not a GML reserve. And I

don't want to get into that, but that's

the reason it's done this way.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you.

Any debate? Yes. Legislator Drucker.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you,

Chairman Ferretti. Andy, just a couple

more little questions. So as a lawyer, I

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kind of break down some of the language here. So you itemize it or specify it's for things related to healthcare, labor, and insurance. But then there's that catchall of, "also for extraordinary costs and to fund other fiscally prudent expenditures". So that concerns me a little bit because, you know what should we be looking out for when it comes to that?

MR. PERSICH: Well, I will say this is nothing nefarious here, Legislator. What it is, and I think it's just language that we used in the past. I have guidelines and I have an oversight, which would be the Comptroller's Office that when I go to try and expend these funds, they'll say if it fits the criteria that this reserve was set up for. I think it's language you use because we have to say if it's extraordinary above certain budget appropriations, meaning that the use of it has to somewhat conform to what some

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of the language is that the State Comptroller has set up as far as the language of the use of these reserves.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: But at this moment in time, there's not something that you're focusing on.

MR. PERSICH: No.

And again, the labor component is to fund some of the outstanding contracts that are still out there with CSEA, COBA and IPBA, because those are the three unresolved ones. The health insurance we've seen anomalies in health insurance premiums. And I don't know what the future's going to hold. So I think it's fiscally prudent to put some money away just in case we have a 25% hit. We can use those monies to cover the shortfalls. And then the insurance reserve. Look, property and casualty insurance is something that I've wanted to get because it takes us out of the risk business for property and casualty, which means some of these lawsuits that we refer to will

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then have a coverage of a layer of above \$10 million.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: So that's in addition or aside from the \$25 Million for healthcare related --

MR. PERSICH: No, that's inclusive of it. Okay.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Okay.

And then just the final question. So our backup raised a query about, you know, from a historical standpoint, the legal authority to establish the actual General Reserve fund via resolutions. Where does that come from?

MR. PERSICH: I'll give you -- my knowledge is, is that I did some research post fact from this morning when I discussed this. The other monies we did by local laws were outside agency funds, meaning that they were from federal government and opioid settlements and we restricted the use of these. These back in 2004, which was the last time we had these reserves were established this way.

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It's a term that not functioned under GML, but the reasons the other ones were local laws were there were federal outside funding that came in. This is county surplus dollars that's being used to fund this reserve. The other ones that were set up by local law had restrictions and were set up as a result of outside monies coming in.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: So the distinction now is what?

MR. PERSICH: This is a precedent that was set previously. Let's rewind a little bit. We never had this money to put into reserves, and now we do. Previously, when we did this, this is the way we did it. In 2004, we created the retirement reserve and a couple other things in this manner. So we have historical precedents on how we did this.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: No, no, that's fine. We're going to have to perhaps answer this at some point down the road where someone might ask us or successors

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	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	to us what the authority was to do this
3	in 2023, you know, so.
4	MR. PERSICH: Agreed. I think the
5	charter pretty much covers the fact that
6	I can't move money without coming to this
7	Body. To give you a level of comfort
8	that I can't move a dollar unless I have
9	to stand before this Body.
10	LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: All right.
11	Thank you, Andy.
12	MR. PERSICH: Thank you.
13	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Any
14	further debate or discussion?
15	(Whereupon, no verbal
16	response.)
17	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Any public
18	comment?
19	(Whereupon, no verbal
20	response.)
21	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Thank
22	you, Andy.
23	All those in favor, please signify
24	by saying, "Aye".
25	(Whereupon, all members of

	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	the Finance Committee respond
3	in favor with, "Aye".)
4	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Item 2 3 138-23 is a resolution authorizing the County Treasurer to correct an error 5 pertaining to tax arrears on two parcels located at Section 38, Block 400, lots, 6 465 and 476 in Oceanside. And I would ask the clerk to please note that Legislator 8 McKevitt has recused himself.

(Whereupon, Legislator

McKevitt leaves the Chambers.)

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: May I have a motion?

LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator Ford. The item is before us.

Good afternoon.

MR. SARANDIS: Nicholas Sarandis, Deputy County Attorney.

This basically deals with a tax lien that was on property in Oceanside, identified as 38, 400, lots, 465 and 476.

The original tax lien covered the period from 2012 through approximately

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2020. Under the administrative code when the County -- the County is the owner of all these tax liens -- when the County purchases a tax lien, in this instance, the 2012 lien, all subsequent liens not paid on the property automatically get added to the original lien. So there's not a separate lien on each property on each year, but the lien comes to the 2012 year.

The property was purchased by the current owner in December of 2017. At the time it was purchased, the taxes were not paid off at that time and as a result, additional liens occurred at that time after his purchase. And I believe that uncovered the 2018 liens, '19 and maybe a portion of the '20.

Sometime thereafter, I believe in 2020 or 2021, the owner came and wanted to pay off the liens that had accrued after the time he purchased the property in December of 2017. He came in to pay those liens. They were the subject of

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some tax cert settlements as well. But he paid the full amount of the liens that was subsequent to the year he bought the property.

Unfortunately, the other liens that were from 2012 to now 2017 remained on the property. Because the liens were the lien, which was a larger lien from 2012 to 2020 was reduced to 2012 to 2017, which when he purchased the property, the lien was taken out of lien status and left into the County as open taxes.

Now, under the administrative code, liens that have accrued on property have 10% interest per six months under 5-40 of the administrative code. If satisfied within six months, 10%, another 10% afterwards, another 10% in the third period, and another 10% in the fourth period, which means that a lien has a maximum interest of 40% for the periods of time. Under the administrative code, also, when there is a tax lien, that is where the taxes are held as open taxes as

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opposed to being sold as a lien, the open taxes carry interest at 1% per month until they're paid with no expiration period.

So what really happened on the records of the Treasurer is that the lien, for instance, the 2012 lien, which was the first lien on the docket, had 11 years of 12% interest a year or approximately 140% interest, even though the maximum amount, if it had been held as a lien for that period and that amount due under that lien, would have been 40%, which resulted in a windfall amount to the County on the records of the Treasurer.

But under 550 of the administrative code, the owner or any person interested are having a lean upon the real estate on where the tax lien has been sold, may satisfy the same by paying the sum for what the tax lien was purchased and a subsequent taxes, which would be the 2012 for the 2017 years, and interest and

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penalties and the amount of the tax liens and the subsequent taxes calculated as provided in Section 5-40, which is those four periods I mentioned to you before.

So what we're asking by this Legislation is to authorize the Treasurer to correct its records so that the liens that are now shown as open taxes be converted to a lien with the lien status, which would carry the maximum amount of interest of 40% per year. Since the liens back down to 2017, there's no further interest accruing on any of these liens. And it's our understanding that upon this being done so that the Treasurer can correct its records, the current owner of the property will come in and pay off the full amount of the lien that would be due under 5-50 administrative code. Thereby, there's no financial effect on the County because it really shouldn't be listed on the County's record as open taxes.

This happens in other situations where an instance where a homeowner files

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bankruptcy and we don't sell the lien because of the bankruptcy pending, and then what happens is it's left us open taxes and then they settle the bankruptcy, they don't realize the tax is unpaid and the and the property owner comes back ten years later and instead of having a 40% on this one period of

interest that wasn't served, it has 120%.

So we've authorized in the past the Treasurer to reduce the record. Most of the time those are very small amount because they're involving houses and it might be a \$5,000 lien that should be \$8,000. And because of the way the records, it's 15 or 18,000. So it's not an unprecedented idea. And the idea of the one the 12% per year is -- and you probably have noticed, all the people come into the Treasurer's Office after the lien notice is sent and before the lien is sold, they're all paying the 1% a month additional interest to the County. So there's no real financial loss to the

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County because the lien as a sold lien that has already been accounted for in the prior budget.

I think that this is the right solution in accordance with the provisions of the administrative code.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. So this is a commercial or residential property.

MR. SARANDIS: Excuse me?

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Commercial property?

MR. SARANDIS: Yes, it is a commercial property. It's currently is a vacant property. It was previously a nursery of some sort and is now owned by a party who's -- it's already gone through a couple of hearings in Town of Hempstead, zoning on certain potential to turn it into some type of housing or something of that nature. But this has been going ongoing for three or four years, this issue with the liens.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: So the the

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property was sold in 2017 and the sale went through with tax with tax liens on the property?

MR. SARANDIS: Yes, it did. Did. The person who bought did not pay off the taxes at that time.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The person who sold it. You mean the person who sold the property didn't pay off?

MR. SARANDIS: No. He was the one who bought the property. He did not require that the seller pay off the taxes. The circumstances regarding why -normally when a when a party buys a property, they settle the tax liens on the property. It's our understanding that there was some understanding between the parties that he wasn't required to pay it. And as a result, the liens kept running on the property.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All right. In the beginning, when you started speaking, I thought you said that when there are multiple year after year tax

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liens, they get combined; is that so? MR. SARANDIS: Yes.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: In 2017, the guy came with or '20, they came in and paid.

MR. SARANDIS: Yes, 2017.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. So when they came in and paid in '20, that was for the year since they purchased the property?

MR. SARANDIS: Yes. Because he had tax certs on the property, he wanted to settle the years in which he owned the property.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: But wouldn't they have all been combined into one?

MR. SARANDIS: They were. That was it. And then in order to have him pay off a portion of it, they had to be disengaged from the one so that the the taxes that were due on the '18 liens forward were paid independently, which left the '12 through '17 unpaid.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. But

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just so I understand. So if there's a property with multiple years of tax liens, they can get combined into one lien, correct?

MR. SARANDIS: That's correct. if somebody comes in to pay off the lien, they can sever it?

MR. SARANDIS: I think it was done in this case because of the tax cert settlements that were --

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Forget this case. In general, do we know?

MR. SARANDIS: No. In general, the Treasurer cannot take anything less than the amount owed on the liens and that's why it resulted in the liens being left on the system.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: So was that the error? Was that the error? Severing the years and taking partial payment?

MR. SARANDIS: When you say error, yes, that is the error.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: That's what we're voting on.

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MR. SARANDIS: Because it theoretically it should have been left in

in lien status for the years 2012 through

2017, which would have fixed the amount

of interest at 40%.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All right.

So the error happened --

MR. SARANDIS: As opposed to 120 or

130.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: I just want

to understand where this whole thing

started, where the error began. Like what

triggered all of this? This seems to be

when somebody came in to pay off partial

in 2020, correct?

MR. SARANDIS: I think at that

point, he was in the process of trying to

sell the property or whatever it is, and

that he felt that that would be, since it

was his obligation to pay those two. And

in essence, also by paying that off, no

other liens were added to it to reinforce

more interest because if another lien had

come on the property, he would then be

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liable for the 10% for every six months on the additional lien.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Well, that's what's confusing me, because you're using terms like additional liens. There's really only one lien.

MR. SARANDIS: Additional lien -in other words, if he hadn't paid the '17 through '20 in, '21, '22 and coming up '23, that would have been all added to the original lien, which would have caused all of those leans to have 20% per year added.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Thank you. Any further -- Legislator Walker.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: I guess it's something that I don't really understand too well, but.

Okay, so, he comes in, he buys his property in 2017.

MR. SARANDIS: Yes.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: He doesn't pay the back liens till.

MR. SARANDIS: He never paid the

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back liens.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Okay. But in 2020, what did he pay?

MR. SARANDIS: He paid everything that was due from 2018 on.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Okay. So in 2020, he pays from when he purchased the property and he pays what he owed and then he's continued to pay things up in up front --

MR. SARANDIS: The current taxes. So there's no current taxes due on the property.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: I quess in my mind, I don't understand why he's responsible at all for the ones that went from 2012 to 2017 when it wasn't his.

MR. SARANDIS: I think it was a business decision that he made. I'm not that certain. I'm not -- My concern here is that the county get what's in total entitled to under the statute for the years 2012 through 2017.

So like I said, my understanding is

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that when this is resolved, so that the Treasurer is enabled to accept that money and does not have to accept the additional monies that were brought on by by being open taxes, he's willing to come in, which would, in fact, eliminate all the tax liability on the property.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: But that becomes, this owner who purchased in 2017, his responsibility to pay it?

MR. SARANDIS: Understand that real property runs with the land, not with the person. So, therefore, when you say it's his responsibility, if he were not to pay the taxes, the 2012 to 2017, we could not personally go after him for the taxes. That's a lien on the property which would enable him to do whatever he wants with the property. So liens go to the property, not to the individual. So a lot of times that's why we have the title insurance and all of that. I get this all the time. What I do. People selling their house ten years later and said, Oh,

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my God, there was a lien on that and didn't realize it. And then they have to come pay it off in order for the buyer to get clear title to the property.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: I guess it was always my understanding that if, say there was a lien on my property, say I didn't have the money to pay my taxes or whatever, I wasn't paying something. And so now there's liens on my property. And I'm selling my house, whether it's me or my children, because I'm gone or whatever, and say, now I owe \$40,000 in liens, then that would come out of the sale of my house.

MR. SARANDIS: That's correct.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Okay. So that part I understand. I don't understand this situation where this man purchased his property in 2017 --

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Legislator Walker, clearly, I think there was an error here or an agreement between the buyer and purchaser, which was

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advantageous to the -- I'm sorry, the

buyer or the seller, which was

advantageous to the seller in that they

had these liens that were pending that

they didn't pay off before the

transaction. So in your situation, if

you had \$40,000 liens, if your heirs

found a buyer that was willing to take on

the property and not have them pay off

the liens, that seems to be what happened

in this case, which does not seem to

be -- I know that's not the way that

things usually happen. You've got to pay

off all the outstanding liens before the

transaction goes through. I don't know

how this happened the way it did, but it

did.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: But now this person who bought it in 2017, he's

willing to pay this now.

MR. SARANDIS: Yes. He's willing to pay this now because I think he's

progressed with his development of the property or possible future sale. And he

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was willing to let this money sit because it shouldn't have owned any interest during this period of time.

Obviously, the County could have had some way to collect the monies, but this situation had been ongoing in our office for since the time -- also my understanding is that the original owner of the property that for whom the taxes were not paid, passed away and was an acquaintance of the owner of the property who so basically agreed to take it off his heirs hand so that they wouldn't become obligated for the future taxes. And he agreed, I guess, to hold it that way until he made whatever arrangement he had to make.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Right. basically then we're just voting on this today that will basically somewhat lessen the burden that he technically would have had to pay, but now it's all going to be taken care of. It'll be done. It'll be paid for. There'll be no more liens. And

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the present owner --

MR. SARANDIS: Well, the present owner will be making the County whole for everything the County is owed.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Okay. Got it.

MR. SARANDIS: That basically -- and it's really designed to correct the record of the Treasurer so the Treasurer can allow can be allowed to accept the money that -- the full amount that the Treasurer and the County of Nassau is fully warranted to pay.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: So, Nick, congratulations, because I think you've successfully confused us ten times more than when we started. Congratulations on it. And with no disrespect, Kevin, perhaps you could shed some light on this, too.

It's my it's been my experience that, listen, anyone can sell a property subject to whatever title defects or liens are on the property. It's up to the buyer to be willing to accept title with

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those defects. And in this particular case, in 2017, title was transferred. As you said, the tax liens run with the land. You don't avoid them simply by changing title. So in this particular case, in 2017, when title was transferred, those liens from 2012 to 2017 or '18 were there. They weren't going away. And they were combined, as you said, based on Legislator Ferretti's question, they were combined into one singular lien.

And so I wanted to just repeat, my question too is, was a mistake done when the guy, after he bought it in 2017, subject to all of the liens from 2012 and then in 2018 or 2020, he paid taxes from 2018, '19 and '20, it was a mistake for the county to allow him to pay those taxes and separate the liens from the prior years which were already lumped into one? Maybe, Kevin, maybe you could answer that.

MR. WALSH: Yes. Kevin Walsh,

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Office of Real Estate. Yeah. My understanding is that is actually what the error was. It was kind of unique. Like Nick alluded to, I think this was a situation where it was a property that was kind of vacant, derelict, trying to get developed. The owner passes away, had environmental issues. He takes on this property and closes on it, and there's tax certs and the like pending, complicates it even more. And then decides, okay, I'm trying to develop this property. I'm going to pay taxes going forward, and I'll deal with the tax lien in the past. So now you got this one lien, like Nick mentioned, it just collects 2012 to 2017. He comes, we came to you, Nick came to you about a year and a half ago trying to see if he could get an assignment of the tax lien to get some sort of a little bit of help with the interest and the penalties. We determined that got tabled here couldn't move

forward. So now he does have somebody

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interested in buying the property. It's going to be corrected, the error. think the question is being asked, it probably should not have been accepted as a partial payment at that time. So now he's going to pay the full amount of the tax lien with -- I believe that's his plan -- with the actual interest and penalties due at that time. And then the property would be free and clear. The

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Okay. that's really in conformity with what I was thinking too.

lien will technically be satisfied.

So basically, what would have happened in 2020 when a mistake was made and the County accepted 2018, '19 and '20, he just wouldn't have been allowed to make those payments and the County would have said, you owe us to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars from 2012; is that correct?

MR. WALSH: Right and '20 was obviously a tough year. Probably the

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timing of this with the pandemic and people physically not being in the office, number one. But number two, you're correct. Probably, the idea was there were pending tax cert cases, they're trying to settle through this and work with the County. So that's all resolved. The settlements done, they've been settled. And now that will be factored into this.

But the fact remains, the liens have to be paid, as Nick gave the provisions of the code, with the correct tax lien, 40% interest they'll be paying.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: In my experience there are buyers who will speculate and buy a property for, let's say, undervalued, subject to certain tax liens because they have every expectation that they're going to be able to negotiate with the taxing authority and have it reduced in some way. But you just stated that the County doesn't reduce any of those tax liens, but yet so in this

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particular case, the mistake was accepting a bifurcated type of payment for the three years.

MR. WALSH: Right. At this point, there's not a budget hit on the County. These are 2012 to '17. And like I said, at least the current owner who will become a seller soon has been current with his taxes and his level of ownership. So he needs to clean up title, obviously, to move on, as you know, through a title.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thanks, gentlemen.

> MR. WALSH: Sure.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All right. So so when they pay the '12 to '17 taxes, which they're prepared to do so I know you said this earlier, but there was a lot you said. So what is the interest they're going to be paying on it now?

MR. SARANDIS: Forty percent. Tax lien interest pursuant to the statute. So if the total of the liens were \$100,000,

1	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
2	they'd be paying %140,000.
3	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Which
4	is the maximum amount.
5	MR. SARANDIS: Which is the proper
6	amount under the statute.
7	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay.
8	Got it. Thank you.
9	Any further debate or discussion?
10	(Whereupon, no verbal
11	response.)
12	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Any public
13	comment?
14	(Whereupon, no verbal
15	response.)
16	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: There being
17	none, all those in favor, please signify
18	by saying, "Aye".
19	(Whereupon, all members of
20	the Finance Committee respond
21	in favor with, "Aye".)
22	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
23	opposed?

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response.)

(Whereupon, no verbal

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	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The item
3	passes unanimously.
4	I'd like to invite Legislator
5	McKevitt back to the chamber.
6	(Whereupon, Legislator
7	McKevitt returns.)
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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Item 141-23 is a resolution authorizing the County Executive acting through the County's Department of Public Works to administer a program in accordance with the Inter Municipal agreement between the County of Nassau. May I have a motion?

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by Legislator Walker, seconded by legislator Solages? The item is before us. Mr. Arnold.

So moved.

LEGISLATOR WALKER:

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Item 141-23 is a resolution to authorize AARP funds to assist property owners in the Village of Sea Cliff to connect to recently sewer expansion that was funded through an IMA with the County and the Village. This will look to provide \$7,500 in grant, plus waive any permit fees that the Department would collect.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Any debate or discussion? Legislator Ford. LEGISLATOR FORD: So with this item,

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we're looking that we're going to provide some relief to the homeowners connecting to the sewer system?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: That is correct.

LEGISLATOR FORD: And up to \$7,500 per resident to the connect?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Per property owner. Correct. And also waiving any fee that the Department would collect.

LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. Because I just have to say this. Hopefully, I have a community in my neighborhood that will be hopefully connecting to sewers in the not too distant future. And I'm hoping that, I want to put it on the record that I think this is a great idea to help the residents to be able to connect to the sewer. They have enough that they have to pay for, so this is a nice gesture to help us clean up our water and our underground and whatever. So I'm hoping, though, that we will look to the same consideration for those residents as

FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
well. Then once we do a new sewer system,
that will also be able to provide them
some sort of relief when they connect as
well. Okay. Thank you.
ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Any further
debate or discussion?
(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)
ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: There being
none, Any public comment?
(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)
ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All those in
favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".
(Whereupon, all members of
the Finance Committee respond
in favor with, "Aye".)
ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
opposed?
(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)
ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The item
passes unanimously.

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2 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Item 3 144-23 is a resolution to authorize the transfer of appropriations, heretofore, 5 made within the budget for the year 2023. 6 May I have a motion. LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved. ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator 10 Drucker. The item is before us, 11 Commissioner. 12 COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: So 144 is just 13 the supplemental to move the funding 14 where we need it to do this work. 15 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Thank you. 16 Any debate or discussion? 17 (Whereupon, no verbal 18 response.) 19 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Any public 20 comment? 21 (Whereupon, no verbal 22 response.) 23 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All those in 2.4 favor, please signify by saying, "Aye". 25 (Whereupon, all members of

	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
1	
2	the Finance Committee respond
3	in favor with, "Aye".)
4	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
5	opposed?
6	(Whereupon, no verbal
7	response.)
8	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The item
9	passes unanimously.
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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Item 145-23 is a resolution to authorize the transfer of appropriations, heretofore, made within the budget for the year 2023. May I have a motion?

LEGISLATOR FORD: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by Legislator Ford, seconded by Legislator Solages.

The items before us.

MR. PERSICH: Good afternoon. Andy Persich, Office of Management and Budget.

Item 145 is a quarterly budget transfer for the operating budget for 2023. It's moving money into Public Works Investment, Information Technologies, and the County Attorney's Office. Funding is coming from fringe benefits, where we have an excess surplus of about \$4 Million in there.

I'm here to answer any questions you may have.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay, I'm sorry, how much is being transferred?

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This request?

MR. PERSICH: \$4.3 million is being transferred.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: And that is into the County Attorney's.

MR. PERSICH: No, not all of it, \$2 million going into the County Attorney's office.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. And what is the reason for that?

MR. PERSICH: Twofold. I will say we found some back bills from previous years that date back probably to 2018, era, 2019. The delay probably was from contractual issues and some other things. I don't really know the facts behind it. And then there's some new contracts as a result of some of the litigation we're entering into.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay, so the current amount that's budgeted does not cover that?

MR. PERSICH: No, without a doubt. It's roughly around four and one half

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million dollars. And based on the size of some of the claims that we have out there, I will say that we've had to enlist some outside counsel with some expertise that will help us with some of the size of these cases.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: What is \$4.5 million?

MR. PERSICH: That's their current '23 operating budget. They need an additional \$2 million this year.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Will that cover the entire amount of the -let me finish.

MR. PERSICH: We're hoping --ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: I didn't finish.

MR. PERSICH: Sorry.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: It's okay. She's going to kill us if we're talking over each other, right?

So the \$2 million, would that cover the entire backlog for the '18-'19 amount that is owed?

1 2 MR. PERSICH: I would say it would cover -- there's a possibility we may be 3 back here. We'll have to review that. 5 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Do you know 6 what the total amount is? The backlog? MR. PERSICH: I don't know off the 8 top of my head. I will get that before this Legislature for the Full 10 Legislature, if that's okay. But the last 11 I saw, this should be ample coverage at 12 this point, unless some other surprises 13 come up. 14 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Thank 15 you. 16 Any further debate or discussion? 17 (Whereupon, no verbal 18 response.) 19 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Any public 20 comment? 21 (Whereupon, no verbal 22 response.) 23 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All those in 2.4 favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of

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	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
1	
2	the Finance Committee respond
3	in favor with, "Aye".)
4	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
5	opposed?
6	(Whereupon, no verbal
7	response.)
8	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The item
9	passes unanimously.
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ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Clerk Items 121-23; 122-23; 125-23; 126-23; and 127-23, resolutions authorizing the County Attorney to compromise and settle the claims, SNH Medical Office Property Trust, Claire Durecko and Simone Ried, Plainview Properties SPE LLC, Wisdom and Iannelli versus County of Nassau.

May I have a motion?

LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by Legislator McKevitt, seconded by Legislator Drucker. The items are before us. We now need to move to Executive Session.

LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: So moved.

ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Motion made by Legislator McKevitt, seconded by Legislator Solages.

All those in favor of moving to Executive Session, please signify by saying, "Aye".

> (Whereupon, all members of the Finance Committee respond

FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023 in favor with, "Aye".) ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay, we're in Executive Session. (Whereupon, Executive Session, 4:52-5:51 p.m.)

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1 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: All right. 2 I'm going to be calling number 122-23 out 3 of order. Do I have a motion to table? 5 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: So moved. Motion to table. 6 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Motion to 8 table made by Legislator McKevitt Seconded by Legislator Drucker. 10 All those in favor of tabling the 11 item, please signify by saying, "Aye". 12 (Whereupon, all members of 13 the Finance Committee respond 14 in favor with, "Aye".) 15 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those 16 opposed? 17 (Whereupon, no verbal 18 response.) 19 ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The item 20 number 122-23 is tabled. I'm now going to 21 call item 125-23 out of order and 22 Legislator Drucker will be recusing 23 himself. 2.4 (Whereupon, Legislator 25 Drucker leaves the Chambers.)

	FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
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2	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Do I
3	have a motion for item 125-23?
4	LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.
5	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by
6	Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator
7	Ford. All those in favor of passing item
8	125-23. Please signify by saying, "Aye".
9	(Whereupon, all members of
10	the Finance Committee respond
11	in favor with, "Aye".)
12	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
13	opposed?
14	(Whereupon, no verbal
15	response.)
16	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: The Item
17	passes unanimously.
18	(Whereupon, Legislator
19	Drucker returns to Chambers.)
20	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Okay. Back
21	to Clerk Items 121-23; 126-23; and
22	127-23. Do I have a motion?
23	LEGISLATOR FORD: So moved.
24	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Moved by
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Legislator Ford, seconded by Legislator

1	
2	Drucker. All those in favor of passing
3	Items 121-23; 126-23; and 127-23, please
4	signify by saying, "Aye".
5	(Whereupon, all members of
6	the Finance Committee respond
7	in favor with, "Aye".)
8	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those
9	opposed?
10	(Whereupon, no verbal
11	response.)
12	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Those items
13	pass unanimously.
14	Okay. There's no other business in
15	front of this Committee. May I have a
16	motion to adjourn?
17	LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: So moved.
18	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: Made
19	vociferously by Legislator McKevitt,
20	seconded by Legislator Ford. All those in
21	favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".
22	(Whereupon, all members of
23	the Finance Committee respond
24	in favor with, "Aye".)
25	ACTING CHAIR FERRETTI: We are

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FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023 adjourned. Thank you. Back to Rules. (Whereupon, the Finance Committee meeting is adjourned, 5:56 p.m.) __TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516)414-3516 _____85 _

FINANCE COMMITTEE 04.03.2023
CERTIFICATE
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 3th day of April, 2023.
<u>Karen Lorenzo</u>
Karen Lorenzo

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