

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEES MEETING

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RICHARD NICOLELLO  
PRESIDING OFFICER

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FINANCE COMMITTEE  
HOWARD KOPEL (absent)

CHAIRMAN

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JOHN FERRETTI  
ACTING CHAIRMAN

County Executive and Legislative Building  
1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York

\*\*\*\*\*

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

2:48 p.m.

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A P P E A R A N C E S

LEGISLATOR JOHN FERRETTI            ACTING CHAIRMAN

LEGISLATOR DENISE FORD (Subbing for Kopel)

LEGISLATOR THOMAS MCKEVITT

LEGISLATOR ROSE MARIE WALKER

LEGISLATOR ARNOLD DRUCKER            RANKING MEMBER

LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES

LEGISLATOR JOSHUA LAFAZAN

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MICHAEL PULITZER      Clerk of the Legislature

A L S O    A P P E A R E D

COMMISSIONER BELYEA, PARKS DEPARTMENT

ANDY PERSICH, OMB

JOHN BUTLER, COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

ANN DESIMONE, HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COMMISSIONER KEN ARNOLD, PUBLIC WORKS

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4           LEGISLATOR FERRETTI:  At this time,  
5           I will call the Finance Committee to  
6           order.

7           Mr. Clerk, please call the roll.

8           CLERK PULITZER:  Thank you, sir.  
9           Roll call Finance.

10          Legislator Joshua Lafazan.

11          LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN:  Here.

12          CLERK PULITZER:  Legislator Carrie A.  
13          Solages?

14          LEGISLATOR SOLAGES:  Here.

15          CLERK PULITZER:  Ranking Member  
16          Arnold Drucker?

17          LEGISLATOR DRUCKER:  Here.

18          CLERK PULITZER:  Legislator Rose  
19          Marie Walker?

20          LEGISLATOR WALKER:  Here.

21          CLERK PULITZER:  Legislator Thomas  
22          McKevitt?

23          LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT:  Here.

24          CLERK PULITZER:  Vice Chairman John  
25          Ferretti?

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Denise  
Ford.

LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Thank you very  
much. Vice Chairman.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you, Mr.  
Clerk, we have a quorum.

May I have a motion to suspend the  
Rules?

Moved by Legislator McKevitt,  
seconded by Legislator Drucker.

All those in favor of suspending the  
Rules, signify by saying, "Aye".

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

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Rules are  
suspended.

First I will call the Items which  
have gone through earlier Committees by  
consent.

Clerk Items 214-22; 264-23; 266-23;  
267-23; 268-23; 270-23; 278-23.

May I have a motion?

LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Moved by  
Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator  
Lafazan.

The Items are before us. Any debate  
or discussion?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: There being  
none, any public comment?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in  
favor, signify by saying, "Aye".

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

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those Item are  
passed unanimously.

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2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item  
3                   258-23 is a Local Law amending Title 24  
4                   of the miscellaneous laws of Nassau  
5                   County in relation to extending the  
6                   Hotel/Motel occupancy tax.

7                   May have a motion?

8                   LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

9                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Moved by  
10                  Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator  
11                  McKevitt.

12                  The items are before us.

13                  MR. PERSICH: Good afternoon. Andy  
14                  Perish. Office of Management and Budget.

15                  Item 258 is just a renewal of the  
16                  Hotel/Motel tax that was passed by New  
17                  York State. We have to enact local  
18                  legislation which follows what the State  
19                  did.

20                  LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.

21                  Any debate or discussion?

22                  (Whereupon, no verbal  
23                  response.)

24                  LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: There being  
25                  none, any public comment?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in  
favor of this Item, please signify by  
saying, "Aye".

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

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: That Item  
passes unanimously. Thank you.

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Item 259-23 is a  
3 Local Law amending Local Law 18-1984, as  
4 last amended by Local Law 9-2020 and is  
5 incorporated in Chapter 4 of Title 9 of  
6 the miscellaneous laws of Nassau County  
7 in relation to imposing additional rates  
8 of sales and compensating use taxes  
9 authorized by Section 1210 of the Tax Law  
10 and continuing Local Government  
11 Assistance Program authorized by Section  
12 1262-E of the Tax Law.

13 May have a motion?

14 LEGISLATOR FORD: So moved.

15 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Moved by  
16 Legislator Ford, seconded by Legislator  
17 Solages.

18 The item is before us. Anyone here  
19 from the Administration? Mr. Persich,  
20 take it away.

21 MR. PERSICH: Good afternoon, Andy  
22 Perich, Office of Management and Budget.

23 This is local sales tax extender for  
24 two years, which provides the County and  
25 local government assistance to our

1  
2 neighboring municipalities with funding.  
3 We need the money, it helps us pay the  
4 bills, and that's really what it comes  
5 down to.

6 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All right.  
7 That's a good thing.

8 Any debate or discussion.

9 (Whereupon, no verbal  
10 response.)

11 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any public  
12 comment?

13 (Whereupon, no verbal  
14 response.)

15 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in  
16 favor of this Item, please signify by  
17 saying, "Aye".

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

21 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

22 (Whereupon, no verbal  
23 response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Item  
passes unanimously.

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2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item  
3                   260-23 is an ordinance supplemental to an  
4                   appropriation ordinance in connection  
5                   with the County Clerk.

6                   May I have a motion?

7                   Moved by Legislator Walker, second  
8                   Legislator McKevitt.

9                   The item is before us. Mr. Butler.

10                  MR. BUTLER: Good afternoon. John  
11                  Butler, Fiscal Officer, as County Clerk,  
12                  Maureen O'Connell's office.

13                  Item 260-23 is a New York State  
14                  Local Government management grant for  
15                  approximately \$75,000. Our records  
16                  Management Division plans to digitize  
17                  aging paper court files, which are  
18                  permanent records from 1899 to 1992, a  
19                  total of 1062 civil minute books, with  
20                  these funds.

21                  LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.

22                  I know it's a very important project  
23                  working with Maureen O'Connell and  
24                  yourself for so many years. And that's  
25                  already been done from 1992 to the

1  
2 present, and I know that Nassau County,  
3 at least at the time when I was there, is  
4 the only county in New York State that  
5 offers those documents online for no  
6 charge, which is an incredible service.  
7 So we thank you for that and I'll  
8 certainly be supporting this. So thank  
9 you.

10 Any debate or discussion?

11 (Whereupon, no verbal  
12 response.)

13 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any public  
14 comment?

15 (Whereupon, no verbal  
16 response.)

17 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in  
18 favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".

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

22 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

23 (Whereupon, no verbal  
24 response.)

25 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: That Item

passes unanimously. Thank you.

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item

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261-23 is a Resolution to authorize the

4

transfer of appropriations heretofore

5

made within the budget for the year 2023.

6

May I have a motion?

7

Moved by Legislator Walker, second

8

by Legislator Drucker. The Item is before

9

us?

10

MS. DESIMONE: Good afternoon. Ann

11

DeSimone, Health Department.

12

Item 261-23 is a board transfer in

13

the amount of \$7,719 in order to maximize

14

grant funding in the Adolescent Tobacco

15

Use Prevention Act. It is 100% grant

16

funded from the New York State Department

17

of Health.

18

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any debate or

19

discussion?

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(Whereupon, no verbal

21

response.)

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any public

23

comment?

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(Whereupon, no verbal

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response.)

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2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in  
3 favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".

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

7                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

8                   (Whereupon, no verbal  
9 response.)

10                  LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Item  
11 passes unanimously. Thank you.

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item

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262-23 is a Resolution to authorize the

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transfer of appropriations heretofore

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made within the budget for the year 2023.

6

May I have a motion?

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Moved by Legislator Ford, seconded

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by Legislator Lafazan. The Item is

9

before us.

10

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Good

11

afternoon. Ken Arnold, Public Works.

12

262-23 is a budget transfer in our

13

Traffic Safety Grant Fund. We are

14

transferring \$9,800 from our General

15

Expenses to Contractual Expenses.

16

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay. Thanks.

17

Any debate or discussion?

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(Whereupon, no verbal

19

response.)

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any public

21

comment?

22

(Whereupon, no verbal

23

response.)

24

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in

25

favor, signify by saying, "Aye".

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

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Item  
passes unanimously. Thank you.

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1  
2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item  
3                   263-23 is a Resolution to authorize a  
4                   transfer of appropriations heretofore  
5                   made within the budget for the year 2023.

6                   May I have a motion?

7                   Moved by Legislator Drucker, second  
8                   by Legislator McKeivitt. The Item is  
9                   before us.

10                  MS. DESIMONE: Good afternoon. Ann  
11                  DeSimone, Health Department. Item 262-23  
12                  has three board transfers to maximize  
13                  grant funding. The first one is in the  
14                  amount of \$7,354 for the Tuberculosis  
15                  Grant; the second one is in the amount of  
16                  \$25,175 for the Early Intervention  
17                  Administration Grant; and the third is in  
18                  the amount of \$1,127 for the Children and  
19                  Youths With Special Needs Care Grant.

20                  The three board transfers maximize  
21                  grant funding and are 100% reimbursable  
22                  by the New York State Department of  
23                  Heath.

24                  LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.

25                  Any debate or discussion?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any public  
comment?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: There being  
none, all those in favor of passing this  
Item, please signify by saying, "Aye".

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

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Item  
passes unanimously. Thank you.

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2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item  
3                   265-23 is an ordinance supplemental to  
4                   the annual appropriation ordinance in  
5                   connection with the Board of Elections.

6                   May I have a motion?

7                   Moved by Legislator Ford, seconded  
8                   by Legislator Solages. The Item is  
9                   before us.

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

12                  This is supplemented in two parts:  
13                  One is for \$1.1 million, which will  
14                  enhance technology in the Board of  
15                  Elections, and approximately \$285,000  
16                  which will be used for postage and  
17                  absentee ballots. I was given that by  
18                  the State Board of Board of Elections,  
19                  and it was going to help enhance some of  
20                  the processing over at the Board of  
21                  Elections.

22                  LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any debate or  
23                  discussion?

24                  (Whereupon, no verbal  
25                  response.)

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2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any public  
3 comment?

4                   (Whereupon, no verbal  
5 response.)

6                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in  
7 favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".

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

11                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

12                   (Whereupon, no verbal  
13 response.)

14                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Item  
15 passes unanimously.

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2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item  
3                   269-23 is a Resolution approving an  
4                   amendment via Memorandum of Understanding  
5                   to the Collective Bargaining Agreement  
6                   between the County of Nassau and the  
7                   Civil Service Employees Association.

8                   Moved by Legislator Ford, seconded  
9                   by Legislator Drucker. The Item is before  
10                  us.

11                  Briefly, this is the proposed  
12                  contract between the County and the Civil  
13                  Service Employees Association, the term  
14                  of which is January 1, 2018 to December  
15                  31, 2030. Today, the Finance Committee  
16                  will tee-up the Item for the purpose of  
17                  moving it onward to the Rules Committee  
18                  later today and the Full Legislature on  
19                  Monday, September 18th, at which time the  
20                  entire Legislature will receive testimony  
21                  regarding the Item and ask questions.

22                  Mr. Persich?

23                  MR. PERSICH: I'll just give you the  
24                  30,000 foot view on the on the contract  
25                  and then we'll have further discussions.

1  
2 It provides for general wage  
3 increases over the 13 year period. I'm  
4 just going to read out the numbers: Two  
5 percent; two percent; two and a half  
6 percent; two percent; three percent;  
7 three percent; two and a half percent;  
8 2.5%; 2.5%; and 2.85%.

9 It is a 13 year contract which  
10 provides stability and it finally gives  
11 the civil service employees a fair and  
12 equitable contract. Nobody leaves the  
13 negotiation happy, but I think the way  
14 this was structured and how it came out I  
15 think made everybody happy. It was a  
16 large approval by the membership, so it  
17 was a good thing.

18 In addition to the general wage  
19 increases there would be a sign on bonus  
20 for full-time employees of \$3,000; a  
21 \$1,000 for full-time employees who don't  
22 work a full 35 hours; and \$250 per  
23 part-time and seasonal.

24 In addition, members who have 15  
25 years of service will receive a stipend



1  
2 of \$2,000. The other piece of this MOU,  
3 the membership will be switching from  
4 NYSHIP, or other plans that we have to  
5 the NYSHIP Excelsior plan, which is a  
6 little different of a flavor than what we  
7 have. But to offset that, we will be  
8 putting about between four and six  
9 million into healthcare reimbursement,  
10 help off at any cost that the employees  
11 may have.

12 We are unfreezing the chart, which  
13 is unprecedented, from the NIFA freeze,  
14 which I think people should understand,  
15 that we're going to the college chart  
16 with some caveats to it. It's being  
17 phased in over time. So it'll be a new  
18 step chart which will bring the employees  
19 up to comparable rates from what we've  
20 been hearing a lot about, which should  
21 help in retention and help with the  
22 ability for people to move up and provide  
23 fair and equitable wages to our civil  
24 servant employees.

25 In addition, there'll be 20 year

1  
2 vesting period starting 6/30/26 for  
3 healthcare benefits.

4 There'll be a reduction in leave  
5 days of approximately two days from  
6 1/24-12/31/26.

7 The workday will be increased for  
8 6.75 employees by 15 minutes, which is a  
9 managerial thing. We'll get an extra 15  
10 minutes of work out of our employees.

11 Termination pay will be capped at  
12 1.5 of the base salary and the emergency  
13 leave will be capped for four days.

14 In a nutshell, that's what the deal  
15 is. I will tell you that it was a long  
16 negotiation. It was hard and fast, but it  
17 took a little time because of the  
18 complexity of what was out there, but I  
19 think both sides are very happy with the  
20 outcome of what happened here.

21 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All right.

22 Thanks, Mr. Persich. I'm sure there  
23 will be questions. But like I said, for  
24 purposes of this Committee, we're just  
25 teaming this up over to the Rules

1  
2 Committee and the Full Legislature. But  
3 thank you.

4 Any further debate from the  
5 Legislators?

6 (Whereupon, no verbal  
7 response.)

8 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: We do have  
9 some public comment, so I'll call those.  
10 I have four slips. First is Kathy  
11 Mucerino.

12 MS. MUCERINO: Good afternoon,  
13 ladies and gentlemen.

14 I was hired to work at the Health  
15 Department in July of 2020. That was  
16 about a couple of months before I turned  
17 59. I entered into an agreement with the  
18 County that I worked for 10 years and I  
19 had this pot of gold at the end of the  
20 rainbow; it was called my healthcare.

21 My husband is a first responder so  
22 healthcare is very important to me. He  
23 developed lung cancer within 18 years of  
24 working down at the Trade Center.

25 Now a contract comes into play. I've

1  
2           been in agreement for the last -- I just  
3           entered my fourth year. It was never  
4           mentioned to me that 10 years would be  
5           ripped out from under me. All of a  
6           sudden, I'm told I have to be here for 20  
7           years. I'm going to be 81 years old by  
8           the time I'm able to retire with any type  
9           of full benefits. This is unrealistic.  
10          People were always grandfathered in  
11          previous contracts. So what happened to  
12          us being grandfathered?

13               My goal was 10 years. I was told to  
14               give the County 10 years. My goal was  
15               actually to do 11 or 12 years, depending  
16               on how I felt and what my health was. For  
17               my husband to turn round to me and say,  
18               "I've never used the word forbid, but I  
19               forbid you to work until you're 81 years  
20               old. I'd like to spend a little time with  
21               you". I'm currently married for 43 years.

22               This is just ridiculous. I'm not the  
23               only one that was hired in 2020. There  
24               are several people that were hired at my  
25               age. Had I been told that it was 20

1  
2 years, well, that would have required the  
3 second conversation, because the first,  
4 of course, was the salary, which was  
5 \$35,000 a year. My thing was, can we  
6 afford to do this? He said, I want you to  
7 do this because this is what you've  
8 wanted to do, will be fine. And think  
9 about it, 10 years, 11 years at least. We  
10 don't even have to worry about some kind  
11 of supplemental health insurance.

12 Well, I do have to worry about  
13 health insurance because even if I do get  
14 grandfathered now, I have to worry about  
15 a horrible healthcare plan that's not  
16 even going to cover the hearing aids that  
17 I may need, because I'll be 81 answering  
18 phones and I'm going to need to be able  
19 to hear these people when they call,  
20 correct?

21 I'm just asking you to please put an  
22 amendment in there. Allow us to be  
23 grandfathered. We were grandfathered for  
24 years. All of a sudden -- and who's to  
25 say that at the end of 13 years, that

1  
2 they don't turn around and say, we  
3 changed our mind? It's not 20 years, it's  
4 going to be 25 years.

5 Please consider people like me.  
6 Thank you.

7 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you, Ms.  
8 Mucerino. We wish your husband a speedy  
9 recovery.

10 Vivian Sasson.

11 MS. SASSON: Good afternoon. I too  
12 also worked at the Department of Health.  
13 When I came to the Department of Health I  
14 had a big decision to make. Not only was  
15 I overqualified for the job that I took  
16 and was also getting job offers for  
17 substantially more money, I decided to  
18 take the lesser pay due to the fact that  
19 I would at 10 years, have my health  
20 insurance and retirement. I didn't take  
21 the job right away. I kept on pursuing it  
22 with the Human Resources Department  
23 asking them over and over again, is this  
24 a benefit that I will be receiving? And  
25 they said, yes, you will be given the

1  
2 benefit if you work 10 years at the  
3 Department of Health or for the County.  
4 So that was a very easy decision for me  
5 to make give up the money at another job  
6 and come and work here for the benefit at  
7 the end.

8 I was appalled to find out that our  
9 Union let us down and allowed for the  
10 benefit to be taken away from us. They  
11 have eliminated us, meaning anyone hired  
12 within the last six years, anybody in my  
13 age-group, where I will be 78. If I, if I  
14 stay here for 20 years.

15 How can you hire someone under these  
16 false pretenses? This was told to us as a  
17 benefit that we would receive. Nobody  
18 ever said that it may be taken away. And  
19 I understand it's part of a contract;  
20 however, we were told this is what you  
21 get. You would get this benefit. They  
22 could have asked us, they could have  
23 grandfathered us in or asked us to pay  
24 towards it for until we made our 10  
25 years. There were so many other ways

1  
2 around this. Do you have any idea how  
3 much it will cost somebody 60 plus to  
4 have secondary insurance? It would cost  
5 almost \$2000 a month. I looked it up,  
6 AARP, Forbes. You could look up any of  
7 them. It will be approximately \$2000.  
8 That's at today's cost. That would  
9 bankrupt most people, maybe losing their  
10 homes, definitely not being able to live  
11 in Nassau County. Why should we be  
12 promised something and have it taken  
13 away? Have the rug taken out from under  
14 us?

15 I know I speak for myself, but I  
16 know I speak for others who are in my  
17 situation. You will ruin a lot of lives.  
18 We came here with the understanding that  
19 we were going to work a job and we kept  
20 our end of the contract. It was a verbal  
21 contract. However you want to look at it,  
22 but we kept our end of the agreement. We  
23 are here working. We're doing our best.  
24 But now we have this ripped out from  
25 underneath. I feel betrayed, I feel



1  
2 abandoned and I feel that our union  
3 representatives did not really negotiate  
4 this for us and didn't walk away from the  
5 table without at least something on our  
6 behalf.

7 We gave up a lot. We gave up six  
8 vacation days, we gave up 15 minutes  
9 longer in the workday, six minutes grace  
10 period and our insurance coverage went to  
11 -- Thank you for your time.

12 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you, Ms.  
13 Sasson. Jackie O'Loughlin.

14 MS. O'LOUGHLIN: My name is Jackie  
15 O'Loughlin. You're going to hear a lot of  
16 the same thing.

17 I was hired to work at the Nassau  
18 County Department of Health in 2020.  
19 Prior to that I was a speech pathologist  
20 for the state and then an independent  
21 consultant. Because of that, my husband  
22 carried the benefits which were costing  
23 us over \$14,000 a year. A friend of mine  
24 suggested that, although the County does  
25 not pay the best, that I look into

1  
2 working for the County because the  
3 benefits are absolutely amazing, which is  
4 what I did. And I took several tests, and  
5 the first test that I was called for an  
6 interview was the Nassau County  
7 Department of Health Clerk. When I saw  
8 the salary on the canvas letter, I was a  
9 bit shocked. The 2020 starting salary for  
10 a full-time clerk in the County was  
11 \$22,803. If you are to do the math,  
12 that's not even minimum wage.

13 When I interviewed, I questioned the  
14 salary and the woman told me, yes, the  
15 salary is very low, but the benefits are  
16 amazing. The benefits was what I was  
17 there for. And on top of that I was told  
18 that after 10 years I would receive  
19 lifetime benefits for myself and my  
20 husband. I went home. I discussed this  
21 with my husband. The pay cut was  
22 significant, but I could not give up  
23 these benefits. It would have been  
24 foolish of me to give up these benefits,  
25 so I decided to work for the Department

1  
2 of Health in a renovated garage that has  
3 leaks, holes in the ceiling, rodents and  
4 occasionally birds in the building, and I  
5 took less than a livable salary and I  
6 gave this job a 150%.

7 On top of that, I took two more  
8 tests and advanced twice. And I am  
9 kicking myself because as of five months  
10 ago I turned down, yet again, three  
11 school jobs offering more than twice my  
12 administrative salary on a school year  
13 calendar because I could not give up  
14 these benefits. I would be foolish. I  
15 weighed it out. I did the cost -- I  
16 couldn't do it. I did what I thought was  
17 best for for my family. I was ready to  
18 give 10 years, maybe 15. I might give 20,  
19 but I don't know. Now I'm locked in to  
20 giving 20 years. I'll be on my death bed  
21 at work.

22 I never had a union job. I was so  
23 excited to finally have a job because I  
24 thought the Union would protect me from  
25 something like this ever happening. When

1  
2 that contract went through I felt like  
3 the rug was pulled out from underneath  
4 me. I really don't feel that I'm asking  
5 for anything other than what was agreed  
6 upon August 23, 2020 when I agreed to  
7 work here. Thank you.

8 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you, Ms.  
9 O'Loughlin.

10 Susan Naftol.

11 MS. NAFTOL: Hello, I'm Susan  
12 Naftol. I am also at the Department of  
13 Health, although I was formerly at Nassau  
14 Community College.

15 I just want to start with a  
16 definition. Contract: A written or  
17 spoken agreement, especially one  
18 concerning employment, sales or tenancy,  
19 that is intended to be enforceable by  
20 law.

21 When I became a CSEA worker hired by  
22 the Nassau County back in April of 2018,  
23 one of the agreements made with the  
24 County was that after 10 years I would be  
25 fully vested. There was an offer and an

1  
2 acceptance. This verbal contract informed  
3 my decision, as it did when I turned down  
4 in school districts this last April after  
5 taking a promotional civil service exam,  
6 and I decided to stay with the County. I  
7 already had five years in and decided  
8 that the lower salary the County offered  
9 was balanced by the benefits. Now I'm off  
10 the list and my options are zero.

11 As the vestment was contractually  
12 agreed on by both the employer and the  
13 employee, I believe we should be  
14 grandfathered in. Let this new contract  
15 effect new hires, not me or us.

16 As is the case with many of us. I am  
17 not 25. I was hired when I was 55. For me  
18 to reach the 20 year carrot that's being  
19 dangled as per this new proposed  
20 contract, I would not be able to retire  
21 fully vested till I'm 75, not the 65 that  
22 was originally agreed upon. This is  
23 unconscionable. There are others who  
24 would have to work into their eighties.  
25 How are we supposed to afford secondary

1  
2 insurance when we haven't had to plan on  
3 this added expense later in life? I would  
4 like this proposed contract to be negated  
5 or renegotiated, with the stipulation of  
6 grandfathering in and applying this other  
7 proposition to the new hires, who can  
8 then decide if this arrangement is  
9 acceptable to them. It's definitely not  
10 acceptable to me and countless others.  
11 Thank you.

12 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you, Mr  
13 Naftol. Is there any further public  
14 comment?

15 (Whereupon, no verbal  
16 response.)

17 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: That's all the  
18 slips I have.

19 So, as I stated before, this will be  
20 teed up in this committee. It will be  
21 sent on to the Rules Committee and then  
22 the Full Legislature. So just so you  
23 understand how it works, the Full  
24 Legislature will meet on September 18,  
25 same time, and so that's when we'll have

1  
2 time for debate and discussion.

3 Yeah, you got to come up to the  
4 microphone.

5 MS. NAFTOL: I'm really glad those  
6 of us who were able to take a half-day of  
7 work are able to come and speak to you.  
8 The next time, will we be allowed to  
9 speak again? Will our thoughts and our  
10 feelings be addressed? How does this  
11 work?

12 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: So there's an  
13 opportunity before the meeting for public  
14 comment where you can speak on this if  
15 you wish, yes.

16 MS. NAFTOL: Thank you.

17 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.

18 All those in favor of passing this  
19 Item, please signify by saying, "Aye".

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

23 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

24 (Whereupon, no verbal  
25 response.)

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Item  
passes unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*



1  
2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item  
3                   280-23 is a Resolution authorizing the  
4                   County Executive to execute a Grant  
5                   Agreement between the County of Nassau,  
6                   acting on behalf of the Department of  
7                   Parks, Recreation and Museums, and the  
8                   Baldwin Historical Society, Inc.

9                   Moved by Legislator Ford, seconded  
10                  by Legislator Drucker.

11                  The Item is before us.

12                  COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Good afternoon  
13                  again, Darcy Belyea, Parks Commissioner.

14                  Again presenting a Hotel/Motel Tax  
15                  Grant Agreement between the County and  
16                  the Baldwin Historical Society, Inc. The  
17                  terms of this agreement is from May 1,  
18                  2023 to April 30, 2024. The requested  
19                  amount is \$6,000.

20                  The funds will be used to help  
21                  support the society's efforts in Baldwin,  
22                  including the revival of an outdoor  
23                  concert series and the creation of a  
24                  "Nunley's Day" celebrating the famed  
25                  namesake Baldwin Amusement Park. This

1  
2 grant will be funded by the Hotel/Motel  
3 Tax Grant Fund.

4 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any debate or  
5 discussion?

6 (Whereupon, no verbal  
7 response.)

8 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Any public  
9 comment?

10 (Whereupon, no verbal  
11 response.)

12 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in  
13 favor of passing this Item, please  
14 signify by saying, "Aye".

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

18 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

19 (Whereupon, no verbal  
20 response.)

21 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Item  
22 passes unanimously.

23  
24 \*\*\*\*\*  
25

1  
2                   LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Clerk Item  
3                   245-22 is a Resolution authorizing the  
4                   County Attorney to compromise and settle  
5                   the claims of and E&A Restoration  
6                   pertaining to contract B90230P03G  
7                   pursuant to the County Law, the County  
8                   Government Law of Nassau County and the  
9                   Nassau County Administrative Code.

10                  Moved by Legislator McKevitt.

11                  Seconded by Legislator Lafazan.

12                  The item is before us.

13                  Can I have a motion for Executive  
14                  Session?

15                  Moved by Legislator Walker, seconded  
16                  by Legislator Solages.

17                  All in favor of Executive Session.  
18                  Please signify by saying, "Aye".

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

22                  LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

23                  (Whereupon, no verbal  
24                  response.)

25                  LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: We are in

1  
2 Executive Session.

3 (Whereupon, Executive  
4 Session, 3:16-3:36 p.m.)

5 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All right,  
6 we're back from Executive Session.

7 Do we have any debate or discussion  
8 on this item?

9 (Whereupon, no verbal  
10 response.)

11 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: There being  
12 none, any public comment?

13 (Whereupon, no verbal  
14 response.)

15 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All those in  
16 favor of passing this Item, please  
17 signify by saying, "Aye".

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

21 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Those opposed?

22 (Whereupon, no verbal  
23 response.)

24 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The Item  
25 passes unanimously.

1  
2                   There's no other business in front  
3                   of this Committee. May have a motion to  
4                   adjourn?

5                   Moved by Legislator Ford, seconded  
6                   by Legislator Lafazan.

7                   This Committee is now adjourned.

8  
9                   (Whereupon, the Finance  
10                  Committee meeting is adjourned,  
11                  3:37 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 6th day of September, 2023.

Karen Lorenzo

Karen Lorenzo

<b>\$</b>	<b>15</b> <sup>[5]</sup> - 24:24, 26:8, 26:9, 33:8, 35:18 <b>150%</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 35:6 <b>1550</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 1:19 <b>18</b> <sup>[2]</sup> - 27:23, 38:24 <b>18-1984</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 9:3 <b>1899</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 12:18 <b>18th</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 23:19 <b>1992</b> <sup>[2]</sup> - 12:18, 12:25	15:12 <b>262-23</b> <sup>[3]</sup> - 17:3, 17:12, 19:11 <b>263-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 19:3 <b>264-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 5:24 <b>265-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 21:3 <b>266-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 5:24 <b>267-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 5:25 <b>268-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 5:25 <b>269-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 23:3 <b>270-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 5:25 <b>278-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 5:25 <b>280-23</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 41:3 <b>2:48</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 1:23	<b>7</b> <b>75</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 37:21 <b>78</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 31:13
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		<b>4</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 9:5 <b>43</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 28:21	<b>A</b> <b>AARP</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 32:6 <b>abandoned</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 33:2 <b>ability</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 25:22 <b>able</b> <sup>[6]</sup> - 28:8, 29:18, 32:10, 37:20, 39:6, 39:7 <b>absent</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 1:12 <b>absentee</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 21:17 <b>absolutely</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 34:3 <b>acceptable</b> <sup>[2]</sup> - 38:9, 38:10 <b>acceptance</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 37:2 <b>Act</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 15:15 <b>ACTING</b> <sup>[2]</sup> - 1:16, 2:4 <b>acting</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 41:6 <b>added</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 38:3 <b>addition</b> <sup>[3]</sup> - 24:18, 24:24, 25:25 <b>additional</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 9:7 <b>addressed</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 39:10 <b>adjourn</b> <sup>[1]</sup> - 45:4 <b>adjourned</b> <sup>[2]</sup> -

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