

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

PETER J. SCHMITT,  
PRESIDING OFFICER

FULL LEGISLATURE

PETER J. SCHMITT,  
CHAIRMAN

1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York

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

PETER J. SCHMITT  
Chair

KEVAN ABRAHAMS  
Minority Leader

ROBERT TROIANO

CARRIÉ SOLAGES (Not Present)

DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

JOSEPH SCANNELL

FRANCIS X. BECKER

HOWARD KOPEL

VINCENT MUSCARELLA

RICHARD J. NICOLELLO

JUDI BOSWORTH

WAYNE WINK

NORMA GONSALVES

JOSEPH BELESI

DENNIS DUNNE, SR.

DENISE FORD

JUDITH JACOBS

ROSE MARIE WALKER

DAVID DENENBERG

WILLIAM MULLER  
Clerk of the Legislature

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2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I would ask everybody  
3 in the chamber to please rise for the Pledge of  
4 Allegiance, led by Legislator Richard Nicoletto.

5 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was  
6 recited.)

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Would you call the  
8 roll, please?

9 CLERK MULLER: Deputy Presiding Officer  
10 Gonsalves?

11 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Present.

12 CLERK MULLER: Alternate Deputy  
13 Presiding Officer Kopel?

14 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

15 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Troiano?

16 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Here.

17 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Solages?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Ford?

20 LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.

21 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Scannell?

22 LEGISLATOR SCANNELL: Here.

23 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Becker?

24 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Here.

25 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Muscarella?

2 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.

3 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Nicoletto?

4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.

5 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Bosworth?

6 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Here.

7 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Wink?

8 LEGISLATOR WINK: Here.

9 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Belesi?

10 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Here.

11 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Dunne?

12 (No verbal response.)

13 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Jacobs?

14 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Here.

15 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Walker?

16 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

17 CLERK MULLER: Legislator DeRiggi-

18 Whitton?

19 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Here.

20 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Denenberg?

21 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Here.

22 CLERK MULLER: Minority Leader Abrahams?

23 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

24 CLERK MULLER: Presiding Officer

25 Schmitt?

2 LEGISLATOR SCHMITT: Here.

3 CLERK MULLER: We have a quorum.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

5 Okay. We have a couple of points of  
6 personal privilege. The Chair is going to  
7 recognize Legislator Judy Jacobs.

8 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Mr. Schmitt, that  
9 was cancelled for today, because I asked the  
10 gentleman to please make it another day that he  
11 comes in. I'm sorry.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: No problem.

13 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I'm sorry. I  
14 thought somebody had called your office.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. We now  
16 recognize Legislator Howard Kopel.

17 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Thank you, Mr.  
18 Presiding Officer. Good afternoon, ladies and  
19 gentlemen.

20 All of us here are used to the honors  
21 that are frequently bestowed on people who have  
22 done great things in our community. But I'm  
23 afraid sometimes we lose sight of the people who  
24 have done things and sacrificed for the good of  
25 the community a long time ago and may not have

2 been recognized yet. Also, let's not forget  
3 people that do great things quietly day after day  
4 over great periods of time.

5 Today, between D-Day and the Fourth of  
6 July, and I might even mention Father's Day, it's  
7 a confluence of, it's a propitious time to  
8 recognize someone that fits both of these  
9 categories. Ladies and gentlemen, I want to  
10 introduce you to Milton Kramer. Milton, where  
11 are you? Do you want to stand up at the podium,  
12 please? A wonderful member of the Lawrence  
13 community. I want to briefly tell you a little  
14 story, starting at a time when he was a young  
15 man.

16 Growing up, Milton Kramer always dreamed  
17 of being a lawyer. He worked hard, did well in  
18 school. And in September 1940 Milton entered NYU  
19 Law School in Manhattan as a member of the  
20 freshman class. As things went on pretty well,  
21 until December 7, 1941, and I guess everyone  
22 knows what happened then.

23 Right after Pearl Harbor, like so many of  
24 our parents, grandparents, and other relatives,  
25 Milton left school, he enlisted in the Army in



2 defense of his country. He's fiercely patriotic  
3 then and now. And his intention, of course, was  
4 to do his duty and return to his dream, which was  
5 law school.

6 He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps,  
7 because in those days there was no separate Air  
8 Force. He served in Europe and North Africa,  
9 through heavy fighting, as a member of the Second  
10 Fighter's Squadron, famously known as the  
11 American Beagle Squadron, which achieved  
12 tremendous success in moving the war on the  
13 European theatre of operations to a favorable  
14 end. I won't go into tremendous details of the  
15 fighting; anyone interested can just Google it --  
16 Google American Beagle and you'll find out you  
17 will be suitably impressed.

18 But suffice it to say, Milton faithfully  
19 did his duty, served with distinction. He was  
20 discharged in 45. And like so many returning  
21 veterans, he had to help his family. But New  
22 York at that time, there were so many veterans  
23 who had this issue. And New York allowed people  
24 to take the bar exam with a certain amount of  
25 school and self-study. Unfortunately, Milton

2 missed it. He enlisted a little bit too quickly  
3 and he missed it by two weeks. Two weeks. So,  
4 he didn't become a lawyer at the time and it was  
5 hard.

6 In due course, he married his lovely  
7 Rita, who is here in the audience, had children,  
8 built a business, and to this day still consults  
9 in the field, active in local charitable and  
10 religious affairs and a beloved fixture in the  
11 Lawrence community.

12 Over the years, he considered returning  
13 to school but the dream naturally faded to a  
14 background regret until about three years ago,  
15 when at the age of 90 years old Milton asked if  
16 he could clerk for a few years in my office and  
17 simultaneously study for the bar. So just  
18 consider the magnificent determination. Anyway.  
19 He couldn't begin a lawyer, but he began the  
20 study of the Ptolemy in the original Hebrew and  
21 Aramaic. Ptolemy is, for those who don't know,  
22 is a huge complicated treatise written over a  
23 several hundred year period and ended about 1800  
24 years ago. It's incredibly challenging, and you  
25 can take this from a guy who has also studied it

2 but with far, far less success.

3 Milton's the first one in the class,  
4 which begins every morning 6:45, seven days a  
5 week, to prepare coffee and cookies for everyone  
6 else. He asks the most and best questions, and  
7 always challenges the study leader.

8 Closing. I ask all of you to join me in  
9 honoring a man who quietly and modestly serves as  
10 a lifelong inspiration to everyone he has met  
11 along the way. At my age, father figures are  
12 rather hard to come by. But Milton's always  
13 available to fill that role, not just for me but  
14 all the other kids in the neighborhood.

15 We all have dreams and some are fulfilled  
16 and some are not. That's life. But what counts  
17 is what you do with what you've got and how you  
18 prioritize your life. Before I ask Milton just to  
19 say a few words, we have a presentation to him by  
20 Assistant Dean Sara Rubin of New York University  
21 Law School, Dean of Alumni Affairs, who, having  
22 heard the story, insisted on coming here  
23 personally to join in honoring one that got away.  
24 Dean Rubin.

25 DEAN RUBIN: Thank you, Legislator

2 Kopel. And thank you to the other members of the  
3 Legislature gathered here today for Nassau  
4 County, and to so many members of the community  
5 and certainly to Mrs. Kramer and her family for  
6 being here and to you, sir, we salute you.

7 I'm delighted to be here on behalf of the  
8 New York University Law School and Dean Richard  
9 Revesz to recognize Milton Kramer today for his  
10 lifelong passion for the law. In so doing, I'm  
11 pleased to present you with this plaque and a  
12 letter, which I'd like to be allowed to read if  
13 you'll indulge me. Here's the plaque.

14 Dear Mr. Kramer. It is with tremendous  
15 pleasure that I offer you this letter in honoring  
16 recognition of your lifelong passion for the law.  
17 There could be no better time than today to  
18 remark upon the rich and wonderful life you have  
19 led and the role that the law has played therein.

20 In September of 1940, when you first  
21 entered New York University School of Law, the  
22 law school was a very different place. Our  
23 campus, though already ensconced in the dynamic  
24 neighborhood of Greenwich Village, was smaller.  
25 The number of students we admitted fewer, the

2 student body, though diverse by the standards of  
3 the day in its inclusion of Jewish, African  
4 American, and female scholars, did not yet know  
5 the abundant international diversity that the law  
6 school today takes such pride in.

7           The world too was very different. Europe  
8 was in turmoil. And in December of 1941, when  
9 you were just half way through your legal  
10 education, the attack on Pearl Harbor would  
11 expedite the entry of the United State into World  
12 War II. Like so many young men of your  
13 generation, you were called away from the studies  
14 you loved in order to serve your country. Though  
15 circumstances would prevent you from earning a  
16 Juris Doctor upon your return from war, I  
17 understand that the time that you once spent at  
18 the NYU School of Law remained meaningful and  
19 your unbridled love of the law remained intact.

20           Every individual who walks through our  
21 doors, whether a professor, a member of our  
22 staff, or a young law student who must terminate  
23 his legal studies too soon, contributes in a  
24 significant way to the law school, and makes an  
25 indelible impact upon the success of our

2 institution. And you, Mr. Kramer, are no  
3 exception.

4 A law degree may have alluded you while  
5 you served your country, your family, and your  
6 community, but no certificate is needed to attest  
7 to the high degree of your intellect, patriotism,  
8 and devotion to your nation and its laws; that  
9 much has been made clear by the exemplary passion  
10 and integrity with which you have chosen to live  
11 your life.

12 Mr. Kramer, on behalf of the New York  
13 University School of Law, I want to thank you for  
14 your continued commitment to and enthusiasm for  
15 the law. Your remarkable spirit is true  
16 inspiration to the entire law school community.  
17 Warm Regards, Richard Revesz, Dean of the Law  
18 School.

19 I present you with this.

20 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Milton.

21 MR. KRAMER: Well, I usually don't get  
22 much of an opportunity to speak when my wife's in  
23 the audience, but alright. We'll still have a  
24 few words to say, some of them may sound  
25 redundant because my dear friend Howard had

2 mentioned some of the items. But I'd like to put  
3 it all together in a coordinated way so that you  
4 can get a flow of the things that happened to me  
5 in my life.

6 First of all, thank you, Howard, for your  
7 kind and gracious introduction. At the outset, I  
8 want to thank the officers and members of the  
9 Nassau County Legislature for hosting today's  
10 event. Also, my deepest heartfelt thanks and  
11 appreciation to my dear friend Howard Kopel, who  
12 germinated, planned, implemented today's event,  
13 and for going to bat for me, not as a designated  
14 hitter, but as a regular homerun hitter who  
15 touched all my bases, which he left me in a very  
16 grateful, emotional, and tearful mood.

17 Actually, today's event would never have  
18 taken place if in December 31, 1941, after Pearl  
19 Harbor, my local draft board had not denied my  
20 appeal for an extension of my draft affirmant to  
21 April 1942, when my second year of NYU Law School  
22 would be completed. Incidentally, I have here a  
23 law school bursar's receipt, dated November 12,  
24 1941, for the 1940/41 second quarter tuition of -  
25 - and I hope everyone is seated -- \$80, or \$320

2 for the year. Quite a bargain when one compares  
3 that to today's tuition, which is 1,400-plus  
4 percent more than 71 years ago. Those were the  
5 good old days when a dollar was valued above 100  
6 copper pennies, whereas today a zinc penny is  
7 worthless.

8           On the other hand, if the draft board had  
9 granted my appeal and allowed me to complete my  
10 second year, I would be practicing law today.  
11 Because after World War Number II, the New York  
12 Court of Appeals ruled that any veterans who  
13 completed two years of law school was exempted  
14 from the normal requirement of three years of law  
15 school classroom attendance, and could take the  
16 Bar Exam at their own pace after working in a law  
17 office. Unfortunately, this rule did not apply  
18 to me, which consequently changed the direction  
19 of my chosen career. After three and a quarter  
20 years of World War II overseas duty in the Air  
21 Force, my mind was not oriented towards studying  
22 and writing up cases which I attempted when I re-  
23 enrolled in NYU Law's night courses. I could not  
24 duplicate my intensive concentration and library  
25 research, which I was happily engaged in 24-hours



1 a day, to the exclusion of social activity,  
2 during my 1940/41 daytime attendance at NYU Law  
3 School. Instead, I was compelled to join the  
4 family pants manufacturing business, established  
5 by my grandfather in 1902. For the past 25  
6 years, I have been doing consulting work as a so-  
7 called guru with 67 years experience in the  
8 garment industry. On the other hand, my wife of  
9 63 years has always said that I never needed to  
10 complete law school nor take the Bar Exam because  
11 she has never won an argument.  
12

13 I want to particularly thank Sara Rubin,  
14 the Assistant Dean for Students and Alumni at  
15 NYU's Law School for personally taking time from  
16 her busy schedule to present this treasured  
17 certificate to me in recognition of my one and  
18 three-quarter years attendance at NYU Law School  
19 during the 1940/41 and of my World War II Air  
20 Force service. This recognition closes the book  
21 on my life's deep desire to be part of the legal  
22 profession, and hopefully it will strengthen my  
23 ability to win more arguments with my wife.

24 In summation, I want to declare and  
25 emphasize that despite the enormous and negative

2 contemporary changes taking place in our society,  
3 it is heartened to know and to witness that there  
4 are still organizations and individuals, such as  
5 those in attendance here today, who deeply care  
6 and take action to correct personal injustices.

7 Thank you from the depths of my heart.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Don't go away.  
9 Presiding Officer, through you, just one question  
10 if I could.

11 First of all, I want to congratulate you  
12 for all you've accomplished. It's truly  
13 inspiring. However, I wonder if we asked your  
14 wife if you in fact won the arguments all along,  
15 if she would agree. She said she would. Boy,  
16 she's so kind to you. You married a real -- you  
17 know -- you married a winner there.

18 The other thing, too, could you share  
19 with us your life's experience, in part with us,  
20 just some piece of wisdom that has carried you  
21 through your life and kept you going, despite the  
22 ups and downs, and through the War. Do you have  
23 just one piece of advice or piece of wisdom that  
24 you could share with us?

25 MR. KRAMER: Well, there are many

2 aspects and many facets of that question  
3 requiring answers.

4           Actually, you know, my life's direction  
5 was really part of my upbringing. My parents  
6 were great parents. They taught me a great deal  
7 to follow. I'll give you an example. When we  
8 were in North Africa, we were there for quite a  
9 while, in my outfit the guys came from all over  
10 the United States. There were very few from New  
11 York. I was the only Jew in the outfit of 263  
12 men. Some came from Minnesota, from Iowa, from  
13 Idaho, all over the place. Fortunately, we were  
14 together three and a half years, which we're  
15 bosom pals. So just to give you an indication  
16 about how this upbringing is important. When  
17 these guys went to town to drink beer and to mess  
18 around, I was with them, but I didn't go to mess  
19 around because I had the image of my folks there  
20 who taught me otherwise. So it shows you how  
21 important upbringing is. Plus the fact that you  
22 have to be fortunate enough to marry an  
23 individual who is similarly oriented and who  
24 keeps things going, in terms of making sure that  
25 your health is in good order. I can't eat the

2 main course at our meals unless I eat the  
3 vegetables. This is a requirement. And we don't  
4 have Coca Cola in our house and our kids don't  
5 drink that stuff. So I think all of that adds up  
6 to that.

7 As far as my work is concerned, I was  
8 fortunate enough to have been educated in the  
9 garment business from the ground up, working in  
10 factories for a while and seeing what's going on  
11 there, knowing how things are put together, and  
12 that helped me move forward in that field. And I  
13 was in my own business for 37 years and so on and  
14 so forth. I hope that's part of the answer.

15 LEGISLATOR BECKER: That is terrific,  
16 and a very powerful answer to my question. Thank  
17 you.

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: We're going to start  
19 the public comment portion of the meeting. We  
20 have a lot of speakers. We have a half hour of  
21 public comment. And we ask you to please limit  
22 your remarks to three minutes each.

23 First speaker is Elizabeth Goldfrank.  
24 And I apologize at the outset if I mispronounce  
25 anybody's name. Elizabeth Goldfrank.

2 MS. GOLDFRANK: I will be very brief  
3 because I am not a very good and extemporaneous  
4 speaker.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Excuse me one second.  
6 Shh. Some of us have to hear. Go ahead, ma'am.

7 MS. GOLDFRANK: Thank you. I'll be very  
8 brief because I am not a very good extemporaneous  
9 speaker. I thank you for inviting me here this  
10 afternoon.

11 I have been a friend and I have the  
12 deepest respect for Tom Bruno of the Hicksville  
13 Boys and Girls Club. As the Director of the  
14 Hicksville Public Library, we've been in  
15 partnership for the tweens and teens in our  
16 community for a very long time, and I've seen,  
17 firsthand over a number of years, the lives that  
18 have been bettered and the kids that have gone on  
19 to do wonderful things that otherwise might not  
20 have had those opportunities if Tom and the  
21 Hicksville Boys and Girls Club were not there.  
22 Also, the Youth Services Network I know makes a  
23 difference for all the teenagers in our  
24 community. So I would ask you at this time to  
25 please consider restoring the funding for this

2 wonderful organization and for the Youth Services  
3 Network.

4 Thank you for your time.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you very much.

6 Tom Bruno. Tom Bruno.

7 MR. BRUNO: Good afternoon.

8 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Good afternoon.

9 MR. BRUNO: I'd like all the young  
10 people and the parents who are in the audience to  
11 please stand up. All the young people, all the  
12 parents.

13 I have been working in this field of  
14 human services for 20-some-odd years at the  
15 Hicksville Boys and Girls Club. The services  
16 that are provided by these agencies cannot end.  
17 I know all of you will do all that you possibly  
18 can to ensure that these services do continue. I  
19 urge you all to do whatever you need to do to  
20 make this work. We cannot turn our backs on all  
21 these kids.

22 We had a rally outside today. We pulled  
23 that rally off in less than one week.  
24 Unfortunately, we could have had many, many more  
25 kids there with us today, but the kids have

2 school. We did bring kids with us. We promised  
3 that we weren't going to take anybody out of  
4 school today, because that is a priority. But  
5 the services that these programs in Nassau County  
6 do provide to these kids need to continue. They  
7 need your support. They need our support. It's  
8 not for me. It's for them.

9 Thank you very much.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you. Thank  
11 you, Tom.

12 Pat Boyle.

13 MR. BOYLE: Hi. Well, we're here. And  
14 we're here with everybody else behind us because  
15 we are stopping. Our programs are stopping.  
16 Summer programs are stopping. Counseling is  
17 stopping. Work with probation clients is  
18 stopping. Work with the police department is  
19 stopping. We don't have the money to be able to  
20 do it anymore. And the reason we don't have the  
21 money to be able to do it anymore is not because  
22 of this finger pointing that goes back and forth  
23 all the time. I'm sorry.

24 You know that I've come up here and I  
25 respectfully speak with each one of you each

2 chance I get an opportunity to do it. But right  
3 now, I'm dismayed and I'm hurt, and I'm hurt for  
4 the people who are behind me. I'm hurt for the  
5 250 kids in Elmont alone that are not going to  
6 have a summer program this year. What are those  
7 parents going to do? What are we going to do?

8 Now, when I ask that kind of question, I  
9 say to myself I'm going to look for an answer.  
10 I'm not going to say it's this one's fault or  
11 that one's fault. I'm going to look for an  
12 answer. Answers are the only way for us to get  
13 through this right now, and if we don't start  
14 coming up with answers, children are going to be  
15 hurt. Families are going to be hurt.

16 Listen. I'm a social worker. I could  
17 make more money driving a bus in the Elmont  
18 School District. The bottom line is this isn't -  
19 - thanks. The bottom line about this not about  
20 me. It's not about me at all. It's about the 250  
21 kids who are going to be on the street, and the  
22 800 kids in after-school programs who are going  
23 to be on the street, and the tens of thousands of  
24 children who could be positively affected by the  
25 programs that we provide that won't be able to



2 get that now.

3 Believe me. If this goes on too much  
4 longer, agencies are going to completely close.  
5 Do you know what it's like to try to open a  
6 business once it's been closed? Any of you who  
7 do it know.

8 We've got to get this done. We have to  
9 get it done now. We have to stop he went that-a-  
10 way, and start talking about what you're going to  
11 do right now to make it change.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you, Pat.

14 James Carver.

15 MR. CARVER: Although I have Glen  
16 Ciccone with me from the DAI and the SOA, we're  
17 just going to make one joint statement, and this  
18 has to do about the bonding for tax certs.

19 As everybody knows, a vote will be taken  
20 to bond for the tax certs. We are asking each  
21 legislator to vote in favor of this bonding,  
22 which is a vital part of the four-year multi-year  
23 plan which was approved by NIFA. Failing to do  
24 so will cause the county to use other operating  
25 funding which in turn will result in the further

2 decimation of vital services provided here in  
3 Nassau County, as we just heard Pat Boyle talk  
4 about it. The police department, we've already  
5 known, has had its fair share of cuts. And we  
6 cannot afford to have any of these cuts. These  
7 kids, if you cut youth programs they're going to  
8 become our responsibility at one point and that's  
9 not good for anybody.

10 Obviously, the utmost concern that we  
11 have is public safety. We've seen legislation  
12 pass that's closed four precincts and to further  
13 decimate the services if bonding isn't approved  
14 is going to be very costly to the youth and to  
15 the citizens of this County.

16 To hold up this bonding for political  
17 reasons would be irresponsible and a disservice  
18 to the residents of this County. The PBA, along  
19 with the SOA and DAI, have had productive talks  
20 with the county towards resolving the labor  
21 savings that are included in the budget. We have  
22 a workforce that is demoralized while the battle  
23 over bonding continues. We cannot let politics  
24 interfere with the sustainability of this County.  
25 Again, this plan was approved by NIFA, and not

2 voting in favor of this bonding is irresponsible  
3 at a time when cooperation is needed the most.  
4 We need to have the politics out of this, and we  
5 need to get together and we need to work together  
6 and solve this together.

7 Labor is here, willing to do its share.  
8 But we cannot do its share until the bonding is  
9 done and we can go forward. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I want to thank you,  
11 Mr. Carver. We've been listening to the  
12 speakers. And let me just say for the record,  
13 while all of you are here, that this argument  
14 with the bonding has been going back and forth  
15 and been going on for many months now. There is  
16 disagreement between the Republicans and the  
17 Democrats, the Majority and the Minority, on  
18 whether or not these bonds should be passed.

19 As everybody in the audience should know,  
20 it takes 13 votes to pass a bond. We stand here  
21 with ten, and Legislator Dunne will be joining us  
22 in about 20 minutes, that will give us ten votes  
23 to approve the necessary bonding to ensure that  
24 your program's funding, which fortunately or  
25 unfortunately, is considered discretionary

2 funding. We want to ensure that your funding  
3 continues uninterrupted. But in order to do  
4 that, we need to pick up at least three votes  
5 from the other side to get the 13 votes to bond.  
6 If the other side wishes to do that, I stand  
7 ready to put all the bonding on today by  
8 emergency. We'll put it all on by emergency.  
9 We'll pass it today. And everybody will go home  
10 secure in the knowledge that the funding for  
11 their programs will continue.

12 We have a \$41 million bond that is going  
13 to go through the Rules Committee, hopefully,  
14 this afternoon after the Legislature concludes.  
15 That \$41 million is the money that is necessary  
16 to pay tax certioraris that have been converted  
17 into judgments. Those judgments are going to  
18 come here and under the law they must be paid.  
19 That \$41 million bond is going to go through the  
20 Rules Committee today. We're going to have a  
21 last-ditch effort here to get everybody on the  
22 same page and to go forward. And next Monday,  
23 when our committees are scheduled to meet, we  
24 will be holding a special meeting of the  
25 Legislature to consider one item, which is that

2 \$41 million bond. If we pass that bond, we can  
3 continue to go forward. If we don't, you've  
4 already received letters that indicate what the  
5 consequences will be.

6 Legislator Abrahams.

7 MR. CARVER: Mr. Schmitt, to follow up  
8 on that. We're asking every legislator to vote  
9 for this, to support this.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I understand.

11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: First, I want to  
12 thank you, Jimmy, for coming down today.

13 MR. CARVER: You're welcome.

14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And to make sure  
15 that our position is stated and is very clear.

16 I was prepared to basically -- and I am  
17 still prepared. I want to be able to listen to  
18 the folks who came down here today. So I ask my  
19 side to not really engage in the back and the  
20 forth, because I know that's what basically this  
21 legislature is subjected to. Thank you. But I'm  
22 not really doing it for that. We honestly had a  
23 discussion about that in the back.

24 But to talk about what's being discussed,  
25 let me lay it out pretty clearly. One. You

2 already had that protection. The red light  
3 camera fund passed in 2009 was a revenue stream,  
4 a revenue stream agreed to not just by this  
5 legislature but by the county executive when he  
6 served this legislature, which gave you the very  
7 protection that we're talking about giving back  
8 to you. Now, I don't know about you, but I can  
9 speak for this side of the aisle. I couldn't  
10 trust anybody who is going to repeal something  
11 when the county's in further trouble -- because  
12 if you read the headlines, this county has an  
13 upward deficit of \$400 million in the out years.  
14 How do you know they're not going to repeal it  
15 again? How do you not know that we will be back  
16 at this very same incident?

17 Number two. The county executive was  
18 supposed to demonstrate \$150 million in savings.  
19 One hundred and sixty, even better, in savings.  
20 To date, math is all over the place. But he is  
21 either between 90 and 120; according to him being  
22 120, according to NIFA, he's at 90. So he hasn't  
23 demonstrated the savings. I mention that because  
24 NIFA -- the Nassau Interim Finance Authority, the  
25 control board that oversees the County's

2 finances, has integrated on multiple occasions  
3 that they will not bond or approve bonding for  
4 this legislature, for the county, until they see  
5 that savings. That's not just me making that up.  
6 You can read it. *Newsday* has reported it. It's  
7 been reported multiple times. Go to their  
8 meetings. They have said that multiple times.

9 Last and definitely not least, this  
10 county budget, \$2.7 billion, today the county  
11 executive, because he's playing political games,  
12 has outlined \$8 million, which the republican  
13 majority's going to go along with, of cuts to  
14 you. This county needs over 300 to \$400 million  
15 in savings. But they've only identified eight  
16 million. Because they know that the most  
17 vulnerable people in this county will come out to  
18 try to put pressure on our side of the aisle.  
19 They won't demonstrate the rest of the cuts,  
20 because you know why? He won't, because he can't  
21 do it. The county executive has mismanaged this  
22 county budget to the tune of \$126 million, and  
23 the salary line's been overspent, to the tune of  
24 \$10 million that's being out there in regards to  
25 outside personal services contracts. This county

2 has been mismanaged. And now, because he's  
3 trying to get something for \$41 million, he's  
4 putting you into the fray. I'll tell you what,  
5 folks. You're going to be put into the fray not  
6 just today, but when the budget time comes later  
7 on this year, and then next year, and then the  
8 year after that, and you will always be in the  
9 fray until the county gets the ability to bond  
10 its way out of this problem. But I can tell you  
11 -- and we've talked to the financial monitors in  
12 the county. The county cannot bond its way out  
13 of this problem. It's just impossible.

14 So we're asking, if you really want to  
15 take a strong position and favoring view, repeal  
16 Item 164-12, which is the item that basically  
17 took away the red light camera fund from you.  
18 That's the best way you can demonstrate -- that  
19 is the best way you can demonstrate to these  
20 people that you're willing to take them out of  
21 the fray for years to come. Because all you're  
22 doing is, by bonding for \$41 million, is giving  
23 you just another day to live. And maybe another  
24 day to live is satisfactory, but that other day  
25 to live can come at an expiration because, as I



2 said before, NIFA will not go along with any  
3 additional borrowing. That day of expiration can  
4 come in a week.

5 So, from that standpoint it is very  
6 clear; repeal the law that went into effect, 164-  
7 12, which takes away your fund and your  
8 designated revenue stream. That was something  
9 that was agreed to not just by us, not just by  
10 the republicans, it was done bipartisanly.  
11 Nineteen to zero voted for that fund in 2009. We  
12 had a democratic county executive at that time.  
13 But this is not about democrats and republicans,  
14 because we saw cuts under Gulotta, we saw cuts  
15 under Suozzi. So that's not about republicans  
16 and democrats.

17 You become the political pawns when that  
18 fund and that designated revenue stream is not  
19 there; that's the fact. So, if you want to talk  
20 about good gestures, you want to talk about what  
21 next steps can be done, let's put that on the  
22 plate first and then we'll talk about what can be  
23 done.

24 I thank you again for coming down, guys.  
25 I appreciate it very much.

2 MR. CARVER: Kevan. Kevan, I think  
3 everybody's using it as a political pawn here.  
4 We cannot do a deal with the county to get the  
5 other savings until you do the bonding. So this  
6 goes back and forth here.

7 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Why? Why?

8 MR. CARVER: Because that's -- without  
9 going into talks that are talks behind closed  
10 doors with various different agencies and  
11 government and independent authorities, that's  
12 what we're being told, the bonding must be done.

13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: By who? Are you  
14 talking about by us?

15 MR. CARVER: I think that's behind  
16 closed doors we'll have that discussion.

17 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: You're talking  
18 about the administration.

19 FEMALE VOICE: Why can't we bring it  
20 before open doors?

21 MR. CARVER: Because there's  
22 negotiations, that's why. And there's  
23 negotiations behind closed doors and that's where  
24 they'll stay.

25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Alright.

2 MR. CARVER: And that's from labor  
3 costs.

4 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Somehow, someway  
5 those negotiations, those talks need to be  
6 brought to light.

7 MR. CARVER: They will be brought to  
8 light when there's bonding done. That's what the  
9 bottom line is, Kevan.

10 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Okay. Thank you.

11 MR. CARVER: You're welcome.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Ford.

13 LEGISLATOR FORD: Thank you very much,  
14 Jimmy, for coming up here.

15 I agree -- Peter can I say what I said to  
16 you?

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Of course.

18 LEGISLATOR FORD: Legislator Abrahams, I  
19 am heartened, to a certain degree, by your  
20 comments. And I think that you're right, that we  
21 need to sort of try to work together on something  
22 like this and we did work in the past.

23 Just to let you know, I've written NIFA  
24 myself in regard to this bonding, to allow us the  
25 42 million, if we can't get it through the 13

2 votes. I've met with state senators. I'm going  
3 to be writing up to Andrew Cuomo, our governor,  
4 in the hopes of trying to help alleviate this  
5 situation, because it is a bad, bad situation  
6 where we are right now.

7 For me, I think the deal is if we can --  
8 Legislator Abrahams, if you truly mean that you  
9 would vote for and you would support the bonding  
10 of the 42 million, contingent upon the fact that  
11 we will repeal this legislation and restore the  
12 red light funding back to these youth agencies, I  
13 think that this side will vote for it. So I  
14 think that maybe together we can -- and I ask the  
15 Presiding Officer if we can get the 13 votes to  
16 pass the bonding, will you then immediately call  
17 and allow us to vote to repeal the law that we  
18 passed two weeks ago?

19 LEGISLATOR FORD: Thank you. Can you  
20 please say it so that everybody can hear it?

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: As I indicated  
22 before, we stand ready to put the bonding  
23 necessary on the calendar by emergency, we'll do  
24 it today. We can do it today, and then we can  
25 finish everything up with an emergency

2 declaration of 13 votes.

3 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Repeal 164-12.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: We can do that today.  
5 The point of the matter is this: Legislator  
6 Abrahams points out that NIFA has said to the  
7 county executive, you've only cut, like it's only  
8 a small deal, he's only cut between 90 and \$100  
9 million out of the county budget, and he needs to  
10 get to 160 before they'll allow him to bond. As  
11 a result of that, it's necessary to take all  
12 discretionary funds that are available in the  
13 county and put them together in a pool to pay the  
14 tax certiorari judgments. If those judgments hit  
15 and the money is not there to pay for it, they  
16 will attach county accounts and it would result  
17 in disruption of payrolls, it could result in the  
18 disruption of purchase of police cars, or any  
19 aspect of this county. It cannot and will not be  
20 allowed to happen.

21 We need to accumulate all of the  
22 discretionary spending that unfortunately the  
23 funding from the red light cameras is included in  
24 that packet. It all goes away, and it's not  
25 politics.

2 For ten years the republican minority  
3 approved the bonding necessary to keep this  
4 county running. For ten straight years. Even  
5 after the then-democratic majority refused to  
6 consider our proposals to fix the broken  
7 assessment system, we still provided the votes  
8 necessary to keep this county running. We're in  
9 the same exact position today. We need the  
10 bipartisan support of the legislature to do the  
11 responsible, not the obstructionist thing, to  
12 keep this county running, and then we can fight  
13 about the details afterwards. But this is  
14 serious business and we're not going to permit  
15 the finances of this county to be put into that  
16 kind of jeopardy. And we need everybody's  
17 support and everybody's help.

18 I would suggest to you that if you want  
19 to continue with the programs -- and that seems  
20 to be what I'm getting from the speakers. Pat  
21 Boyle was very eloquent, not this way, just get  
22 it done. To get it done we need 13 votes, and  
23 then it will be done. So I call on the minority  
24 to join with us. We have ten votes; we need  
25 three more and then we can take care of business.

2 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may, and this  
3 is what I feared. If I may, and this is what I  
4 feared.

5 Last week, my colleagues to the right  
6 keep pointing out the fact of this \$41 million  
7 and authorization and bonding that they need.  
8 Well, last week the county went to the market for  
9 anticipated bonding that we're getting ready to  
10 do. And within that financial statement they've  
11 already indicated -- they have to indicate all of  
12 the authorized by unissued -- and I know I'm  
13 talking finances. And I know if you're not  
14 familiar with finances, it might not be easy for  
15 you to follow.

16 All of the authorized by unissued debt,  
17 which means basically all of the bonding that the  
18 county already gave the authorization, the  
19 legislature already provided the authorization,  
20 they had to provide a statement of how much that  
21 accumulated. Well, according to the financial  
22 statement that was put together by the  
23 administration, the Mangano administration, \$196  
24 million is already authorized by unissued.  
25 That's the same authorization that we would go

2 for which is -- I'm sorry, let me add also for  
3 tax certs, for this very same purpose that we're  
4 talking about today. They put this statement  
5 out. \$196 million. Okay? So the fact that they  
6 put a statement out already indicating that the  
7 authorization's there, this is what they're  
8 presenting to financial markets, I don't see why  
9 this legislature is even entertaining \$41 million  
10 if you're already saying that 196 million is  
11 there for property tax refunds and other judgment  
12 and settlements. You put this in the record --

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You --

14 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Mr. Schmitt, I did  
15 not interrupt you when you spoke.

16 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Go right ahead.

17 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And you put this  
18 statement out, meaning the Mangano  
19 administration. This is a statement that came  
20 out on June 7, 2012. So what are we talking  
21 about here?

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I'll explain what  
23 we're talking about here when you're done.

24 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: So the fact  
25 remains that there is tons of authorized but



2 unissued debt that just sits and lingers out  
3 there, which they claim is out there. So which  
4 one is it; do you need the money or don't you?  
5 Based on this, this indicates that you don't.  
6 And this is the problem that we're having, is  
7 that basic, basic answers to relative questions  
8 that we have always asked in the past, we get  
9 these wish-washy answers, which I'm not surprised  
10 by because obviously we have a county that's  
11 being mismanaged. But the fact remains \$196  
12 million -- and we can enter this into the record.  
13 If we had the ability, I'd make copies and show  
14 it to everybody. \$196 million authorized by  
15 unissued. That's the same mechanism that they're  
16 talking about today for \$41 million. So which  
17 one is it? I'm sure you'll fill in the gaps.

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Are you finished?

19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Yes, I am.

20 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: As you should know,  
21 if you read the newspapers, there is \$196 million  
22 in bonding authorization that was authorized in  
23 the past and not used. Matter of fact, former-  
24 County Executive Suozzi found a very similar  
25 authorization and was able to tap into it to pay

2 tax certioraris, which is why the borrowings for  
3 tax certs in 2009 and 2010 were sharply  
4 diminished over what they had been years before.  
5 So the Mangano administration has located this  
6 \$196 million in authorization, and wishes to tap  
7 into it, which would be a prudent financial thing  
8 to do, in order to pay these tax certs and leave  
9 these people alone and let us get on with the  
10 other business of straightening out this county.  
11 But the Nassau Interim Finance Authority is  
12 changing the rules, having allowed to Suozzi to  
13 do it, they now say to Mangano you can't do it  
14 unless we get a sense of the legislature  
15 resolution which takes 13 votes and that puts the  
16 mess right back on your doorstep. We can go one  
17 way or we can go another.

18           The situation that we have here is the  
19 \$196 million is out there but we need the sense  
20 of the legislature, so to speak, resolution in  
21 order to allow NIFA to tap into it. And in the  
22 interim, just like when you don't pay your  
23 mortgage or your credit card bills, in the  
24 interim these judgments are swirling around out  
25 there and are going to start hitting home and

2 they must and will be paid. So that's the \$41  
3 million authorization, to take care of the  
4 immediate problem that is on the horizon not next  
5 year, not next month, now. And this is the last  
6 week that we have in order to deal with this  
7 problem. And we're going to go forward in that  
8 fashion.

9 Look. You'll make your choice. The  
10 minority has its votes. You'll make your choice.  
11 Next Monday you will either vote for this stuff  
12 or you'll vote against it, and then the chips  
13 will start to fall where the chips fall and that  
14 will be the end of that. That's where we are.

15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Just if I can.

16 LEGISLATOR BECKER: I'd like to speak.

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Hold on. We have a  
18 list here.

19 LEGISLATOR BECKER: And I was on the  
20 list. You have spoken. I was supposed to speak  
21 after you.

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Please, Mr. Becker,  
23 we're running out of time already. We will get  
24 to it. Legislator Abrahams, finish your  
25 statement, and then I'm going to go to Legislator

2 Becker.

3           LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS:     Thank you.     Just  
4 again, as I said before, these are the basic  
5 questions to basic answers.     We've been asking  
6 this stuff to the administration for quite some  
7 time.     Just to add more to the table.

8           In the same official statement that came  
9 out, in paragraph three of the fund balance  
10 policy, the county's unreserved fund balance is  
11 totaled at \$91.1 million.     Sounds like that's  
12 more than enough money to handle anything that  
13 you guys are talking about, in terms of being  
14 cut.

15           Look.     The bottom line is very simple for  
16 us.     You should not be here.     Youth board  
17 agencies basically made the sacrifice when you  
18 went to Albany to be able to get red light camera  
19 funds for yourselves as well as for the  
20 communities and populations you represent.     The  
21 fact that you are continually made political  
22 pawns so that whoever the county executive is  
23 gets their political satisfaction is wrong.     It's  
24 wrong.     And for anybody to try to say do the  
25 bonding first, do the bonding first and then

2 we'll talk about all these serious issues, I  
3 think we'd be walking away from our  
4 responsibilities.

5 The fact is very clear, very clear. You  
6 will be right back here next week before NIFA  
7 will do our job for us. And I got to tell you.  
8 I didn't get elected by the folks who kindly  
9 elected me to the First Legislative District to  
10 have somebody else do my job when I should be  
11 doing it myself. From that standpoint, as I  
12 identified before -- and this is what we can't  
13 get answers to. 91.1 million is already being  
14 talked about that's unreserved fund balance. 196  
15 million is authorized by unissued debt, the very  
16 same type of debt that the republican majority  
17 would like us to do today for another \$41  
18 million, for whatever particular reason.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Becker.

20 LEGISLATOR BECKER: I have to say I've  
21 been here since the beginning, and I have to say  
22 that never before have I really -- it almost  
23 makes me sick coming here, physically in many  
24 ways, because of the great fear that I have that  
25 if the plug is pulled on our youth board and the

2 other agencies, that there's going to be great  
3 suffering out there.

4           Legislator Abrahams, I respect you  
5 greatly and I think you know that. But it's not  
6 fair you to pull in this mismanagement nonsense.  
7 It's just wrong; I see you saying it in the  
8 paper.

9           I'm just going to repeat this, and I  
10 didn't want to ever again. While you folks were  
11 in the majority and Suozzi was the county  
12 executive, you folks put us into a \$310 million  
13 deficit. Also, in addition to that, you bonded  
14 \$100 million a year to the tune of about a  
15 billion dollars, which is greatly -- and this is  
16 not event disputable -- which is greatly why  
17 we're faced with the crisis we are today. But I  
18 don't think that we should be throwing barbs or  
19 putting each other down at this particular point.  
20 I just want to remind you of that. And I remind  
21 you of that to say, come on.

22           These agencies, these young people -- I  
23 was at Pat's agency in Elmont and I saw all these  
24 young kids in an after-school program. You'd  
25 think there's just a handful of them? There's

2 not a handful of them. There are hundreds of  
3 them. And these kids need these particular  
4 programs.

5 Many people know that I'm a person of  
6 faith. Of all the things we can fight about and  
7 should fight about, this really isn't one of  
8 them. I would really -- I pray about this  
9 consistently each and every night, that there  
10 will -- somehow God's presence will be among us  
11 and in this audience and to somehow put aside,  
12 Legislator Abrahams, let's put aside our  
13 differences.

14 You want to know something? I don't  
15 really benefit much by the youth programs and  
16 some of the other programs; I don't. But I care  
17 about them and I know my republican colleagues,  
18 and I know each and every one of you do, care  
19 about these young people. What are they going to  
20 do during the summer? They, more than anybody,  
21 need the help.

22 So let's bring God into the audience here  
23 just for a moment, and let's pray about this and  
24 make sure that we're doing the right thing. Wait  
25 a minute.

2 This is one thing, Legislator Jacobs --  
3 wait a minute. This is one time, more than any  
4 other time, that we really need to put aside  
5 whatever the politics is, whether it be  
6 redistricting or who wants to run for county  
7 executive or whatever else happens. There is no  
8 question that if you don't bond this, as the PBA  
9 president said, Jim, and I'm thankful for his  
10 presence here today. If we don't bond it, that  
11 41 million, if it's not that 41 million, it's  
12 another. People wear bracelets, what would Jesus  
13 do, sort of thing.

14 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Excuse me.

15 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Mrs. Jacobs, I'm  
16 just saying to you -- wait a minute. I don't  
17 know why you're interrupting me, because I'm  
18 being very sincere about this. You think what  
19 I'm saying is ridiculous, that God's presence  
20 should be here among us, that we should do the  
21 right thing for the people? I'm just saying to  
22 you --

23 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I would appreciate  
24 legislators not sniping at each other.

25 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Finally, Mr.



2 Abrahams, the kids on these programs benefit in  
3 your district more than any. Really, at this  
4 particular point I'd do anything to make sure  
5 that this wouldn't happen, agreeing with my  
6 colleague here that if we could pass this bonding  
7 to immediately reverse the red light camera thing  
8 and move forward.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Becker.

11 Legislator Ford and then we'll hopefully  
12 move on.

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: In 2009 when we  
14 faced a crisis, we gave you the red light camera  
15 money so that you were nondiscretionary; that's  
16 how we handled the crisis then. It's unfortunate  
17 that in a crisis now that --

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Denenberg.

19 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: you're the first  
20 one being hit.

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Denenberg. Okay.  
22 Legislator Ford.

23 LEGISLATOR FORD: Once again, I appeal  
24 to the other side. Legislator Abrahams, you had  
25 said in your opening remarks that you would vote

2 for the bonding if we would reverse -- we'd  
3 repeal. It was my understanding that if we would  
4 repeal --

5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I said if you want  
6 to show a genuine act, in terms of what we can do  
7 today -- I'm sorry to interrupt you, Legislator  
8 Ford, but I just want to correct the record --  
9 you could start with your repeal, the law that  
10 repealed 164-12, which repealed the red light  
11 camera fund. You could un-repeal or repeal that  
12 law, that would be the first genuine act. Frank  
13 could check it for the record.

14 LEGISLATOR FORD: I understand. But I  
15 really think, though, in today's situation -- and  
16 I understand. I'm not diminishing your concerns  
17 about the budget, about a lot of other issues  
18 above and beyond what we're facing here today. I  
19 do actually share some of your concerns as well,  
20 with the fund balance, with everything else. But  
21 I also believe that today it's very critical that  
22 if we can at least come together on this, pass  
23 this bonding today so that these agencies can  
24 continue, summer camps can go on. Once again, I  
25 reiterate the fact that I will sit down -- and I

2 think that perhaps once again it's time that some  
3 of us, from both sides of this aisle, sit  
4 together and start discussing what can we do to  
5 move this county along in a much better fiscal  
6 situation, and at least put this to rest.

7           We have, and we all know that with the  
8 judgments and with the tax certs that we are  
9 going to have to pay this money to these  
10 residents. And I'm sure that you have received  
11 phone calls, like I have, from people in my  
12 district that are owed this money from last year  
13 and they want their money. They have gone to  
14 court. We have to pay it. So let's at least  
15 settle on this today and then work together,  
16 because, as you said, there's about a hundred  
17 million more coming down the road. We don't know  
18 what else is going to happen with the budget.  
19 But let's get this out of the way, and then at  
20 least we know that they're safe. Our summer  
21 programs are safe, our youth agencies, our  
22 seniors agencies will still be able to operate,  
23 and let's all try to work together to come  
24 together with a better consensus. And we could  
25 both simultaneously, as we vote for the bonding,

2 we'll vote to repeal the law, and I think then we  
3 could at least send these people home. Let's  
4 take the politics out of it and let's all work  
5 together without a political agenda.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. I'd like to  
7 call Jon Johnson from Elmont.

8 MR. JOHNSON: Hello. Good afternoon.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Good afternoon.

10 MR. JOHNSON: Once again I'm standing  
11 here. I did this in February. I've been in this  
12 county for 16 years and I had never been here.  
13 Now, come February I was here and I'm back here  
14 now in June. And I can't understand it. How do  
15 you play political chess with children? How do  
16 you do that? You talk about your care, but the  
17 only thing I keep hearing is the back and forth,  
18 the back and forth. You gotta get it done. The  
19 youth programs are suffering and it's in your  
20 hands to fix it, whatever you have to do.

21 Bipartisanship means coming together and  
22 understanding. There's a greater good - the  
23 kids. That's where the good stands at. You  
24 cannot leave outta here and realize -- my child,  
25 right now, they have 800 kids in an after-school

2 program. If those doors close, what are you  
3 going to do with those 800 kids? And I keep  
4 hearing that I care. If you care, do something.  
5 Stand up. Put left and right to the side, and  
6 think about the middle, the kids. You put the  
7 kids in the middle. How can you do that as  
8 adults?

9 We just celebrated Father's Day. How can  
10 you sit there and then say you're caring about  
11 the kids because you're taking the program from  
12 them? That's ridiculous. We did not come here  
13 for this. We did not go into that booth and vote  
14 yes for this bullshit.

15 I'm telling you right now, this needs to  
16 stop. The accountability falls on y'all. The  
17 accountability falls on you to get it done.

18 These people are taking time off from  
19 work. They have come here. They took kids out  
20 of school. And I'm sitting here watching y'all  
21 not even paying attention to half the speakers.  
22 This is ridiculous.

23 When will y'all realize this county is  
24 going down? And until leadership changes, it's  
25 going to keep going down because you can't come

2 together. This is a big issue. And, yes, Mr.  
3 Becker, I'm sick and tired of coming here. Let's  
4 fix this, the way it has to get done, however you  
5 have to figure it out. Get it in black and white  
6 that you will repeal. Get it in black and white  
7 and then hold them to it. If the bonding's gotta  
8 happen, make it happen. It might be a stop-gap  
9 situation. But there's a lot of parents out here  
10 that need that stop-gap. What are we going to do  
11 with kids if you don't have an after-school  
12 program for them and we have to work to live in  
13 this high-ass county? Tell me that. Tell me  
14 that. Answer that question.

15 When you walk back in those chambers  
16 please realize these people came here today for  
17 an answer, not the back-and-forth chess playing.  
18 You all are great chess players, I got that. But  
19 somebody gotta say checkmate and somebody gotta  
20 say let's play it again later, not now.

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Johnson.

23 Ted Levy. And then we're going to break  
24 to do the legislative calendar. Ted Levy.

25 MR. LEVY: Good afternoon.

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Good afternoon.

3 MR. LEVY: I've been here to address the  
4 legislature maybe 20 times over the last many  
5 years, and virtually every time I've been here  
6 it's to urge my county not to cut youth programs,  
7 which indicates how many times my county has  
8 proposed to cut youth programs.

9 You see, the County Sewer and Storm Water  
10 Authority was supposed to ensure our funding, and  
11 then the red light camera program was supposed to  
12 protect us, and then there was the restructuring  
13 of the Wal-Mart settlement funds that had to be  
14 used to fund our programs. Recently, we needed  
15 more red light camera money, and then we needed a  
16 surcharge on the new red light camera money to be  
17 used to fund youth programs, and now we need  
18 borrowing. Broken promise after broken promise  
19 made by Nassau County to county youth and county  
20 youth programs. Now we're being told we're  
21 breaking the old promise, but if you do certain  
22 things we want you to do, we'll make a new  
23 promise.

24 When the county broke the most recent  
25 commitment by eliminating the special red light

1 camera fund and closing all county youth  
2 programs, it sank to a new low. But there's been  
3 a buzz among county residents. It appears to be  
4 just about unanimously. Almost every person,  
5 every organization, every newspaper that has  
6 expressed an opinion has said the county is wrong  
7 to use youth programs as pawns, and the county is  
8 wrong to now close these programs. That makes me  
9 proud of the county residents. They know the  
10 difference between right and wrong. I am not  
11 proud of my county government.

12  
13 Caring about others, particularly our  
14 youth, is not controversial or complex; it's  
15 simple and it's what we do. We are after-school  
16 programs, youth counseling services, programs for  
17 pregnant teenagers, gang prevention programs,  
18 programs for runaway youth, youth employment  
19 programs, juvenile justice services, hotline  
20 services for youths contemplating suicide,  
21 mentoring services, and much more. Thirty-seven  
22 programs throughout Nassau County funded through  
23 the Nassau County Office of Youth Services. We  
24 are in Hempstead, Uniondale, and Freeport, and in  
25 Hicksville, Massapequa, Levittown, Woodmere,



2 Bellmore, New Hyde Park, and Bethpage. So this  
3 game that the county has constantly played with  
4 us has to -- has shut us down.

5 We have been informed by certified mail  
6 that our contracts have been cancelled and our  
7 funding has been terminated. This means we  
8 either have or very soon will give notice to our  
9 employees that their employment has ended.  
10 People who have made careers in our programs  
11 serving others and those who have been with us a  
12 shorter term has been unceremoniously discarded,  
13 and the young people we serve are left to fend  
14 for themselves.

15 If any of you were working in our  
16 programs or served our programs, you would be on  
17 this side of the room with us, and you would be  
18 outraged as how you were being treated. Why does  
19 that change when you get up there?

20 How many of you are going to say you  
21 support our programs, and many of you do. But a  
22 supporter does not simply say I'm a supporter;  
23 it's acting like a supporter that's the important  
24 part. And unfortunately, that's the part that  
25 many of you just don't get right. One last

2 point.

3           The Long Island Crisis Center runs a 24-  
4 hour crisis intervention hotline. In 2011, the  
5 Crisis Center responded to more than 10,000  
6 callers, 11 percent of which, almost 1,000 young  
7 people, reported some level of suicide ideation.  
8 One thousand people calling with thoughts of  
9 suicide to the hotline. Let's just talk about  
10 one of those callers.

11           This individual called and was depressed  
12 expressing thoughts of suicide, and after a  
13 somewhat lengthy conversation she got off the  
14 phone feeling a little better about herself and  
15 about life. During the call the counselor  
16 encouraged this young lady to seek a school  
17 counselor the next day; she did so, and now after  
18 some ongoing support and counseling her mental  
19 health is much improved. Now that the hotline  
20 has been closed by the county, I wish I could  
21 show you the face of just one young person who  
22 will not have the hotline to help them. I wonder  
23 if that young person will be your neighbor or a  
24 member of your family. This is one story of  
25 35,000 stories of our programs each year, as we

2 serve 35,000 young people this year. But the new  
3 35,000 stories we were planning to tell you on  
4 the upcoming year will not be told starting July  
5 6.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

8 Mr. Muller, we have been joined by  
9 Legislator Dunne. I understand he's in the back  
10 room. He'll be coming out to answer the roll, to  
11 vote. He is here today to discharge his  
12 obligations as a legislator. He is still very  
13 subject to infection. So I would ask you to go  
14 down below and clear that whole area there. I  
15 don't want any people coming in up here. Close  
16 that door so he doesn't get exposed to infection.

17 And we're going to go to the legislative  
18 calendar. I ask everybody to just stay in your  
19 place. We're going to go to our legislative  
20 calendar, which not take all that long, and then  
21 we're going to come back and listen to each and  
22 every speaker who is remaining.

23 Do we have to -- I don't have to call the  
24 roll again. We're established, correct? Okay.

25 First item we're going to call is Item

2 Number 1 -- I'm sorry -- Item Number 28, which is  
3 a resolution to authorize the transfer of  
4 appropriations heretofore made within the budget  
5 for the year 2011.

6 May I have a motion, please?

7 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
10 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

11 Is somebody here from the budget office  
12 that's going to speak to this item?

13 MR. NAUGHTON: Eric Naughton, Budget  
14 Director.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Hello, Mr. Naughton.  
16 Welcome.

17 MR. MORONEY: Frank Moroney, Deputy  
18 Comptroller.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you. Frank or  
20 Eric, would you tell us what this is, briefly?

21 MR. MORONEY: This is a transfer of  
22 funds from different lines within the budget to  
23 cover expenses in other lines that were either  
24 overspent or under budgeted. That's the essence  
25 of what we're doing.

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: This is to allow the  
3 closing of the 2011 books?

4 MR. MORONEY: Correct.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Naughton, do you  
6 got anything to add?

7 MR. NAUGHTON: No. I do not. I'm here  
8 to answer any questions, if there are any.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Is there any debate  
10 or discussion on this item?

11 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I have a question.

12 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Yes.

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Chair recognizes  
14 Legislator Jacobs.

15 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Okay. I would like  
16 to, number one, ask, the source of the \$43.1  
17 million that's being transferred from TPVA into  
18 the treasurer, can someone please tell me what  
19 that \$43.1 million is?

20 MR. NAUGHTON: There was extra money  
21 sitting in the line related to offsetting  
22 expenses. When the county assumed that there was  
23 going to be extra revenue, there was also an  
24 offset in expense. So, therefore, at the year  
25 end the extra expense money was sitting in the

2 budget and became available for the transfer.

3           LEGISLATOR JACOBS:     So, in other words,  
4 the 43.1 million is not money that's being  
5 transferred, it was money that was being  
6 anticipated and didn't happen. What are we  
7 transferring, the expense from TPVA to the  
8 treasurer's office?

9           MR. NAUGHTON:     In the year-end transfer  
10 you are transferring lines of appropriation. So  
11 where one department may have a surplus for an  
12 appropriation, you move it to a department where  
13 there is a deficit in the appropriation.

14           LEGISLATOR JACOBS:     And what does that  
15 do since it's not real money? To me it's like  
16 voodoo economics. We're not talking money, we're  
17 talking just anticipated money, anticipated  
18 expenses.

19           MR. MORONEY:     If I may. What this does  
20 is it sets up an appropriation of the -- an  
21 appropriation line in the 2011 budget. The 2011  
22 budget did not contain any budgeted line for the  
23 payment of certioraris. So what this does is it  
24 creates a budget line by using another budget  
25 line to create it in the, I suppose, Office of

2 Assessment where it would be paid from -- or  
3 charged to, rather than paid for.

4           LEGISLATOR JACOBS:     Charged to.  
5 Essentially, all of this -- I love being a  
6 layperson up here, because all of this is total  
7 gibberish. To me, a transfer is X number of  
8 dollars from here, transferring it to X number of  
9 dollars here, because X did not use it by Y needs  
10 it. But that's not what this is because there is  
11 no money here. Doubling the number of red light  
12 cameras never happened. So what are we talking  
13 about? What is Y getting that X really has?  
14 Nothing, just a line in a budget that never  
15 happened.

16           MR. NAUGHTON:     Legislator Jacobs, this  
17 is something that happens every year in year-end  
18 transfers. When there's a surplus in X, the  
19 money goes to Y, where there's a deficit.

20           LEGISLATOR JACOBS:     For 43 -- I've  
21 never, ever seen a \$43 million transfer from one  
22 department to another, in my life, without it  
23 involving actual money. I want to see how this  
24 could read to any normal John Q. Public out  
25 there, that we are transferring nothing. We are

2 really transferring -- I said X, you say Y, so X  
3 is going to give Y nothing. That's what I  
4 believe I'm reading here.

5 MR. NAUGHTON: We're not claiming that  
6 we're moving cash. We're moving appropriations.

7 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Are we transferring  
8 this to pay the tax certs?

9 MR. MORONEY: No. What's going to  
10 happen is that this will allow a deficit for the  
11 2011 budget to be counted as a deficit for the  
12 particular reason that it occurred, and then it  
13 will have to be paid in some fashion from 2012  
14 money.

15 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So let me ask you  
16 something, seriously. Would you call this  
17 phantom money? Would you say then that you  
18 really don't need the -- it's amazing everything  
19 comes out to 43 million, by the way. We need \$43  
20 million to bond. We need 43 million here to  
21 transfer. Would you say that this is phantom  
22 money and that what we're doing is really putting  
23 off from 2011 and figuring in 2012 we'll figure  
24 out a way to find it?

25 MR. MORONEY: Unfortunately, we have



2 these things called accounting rules, which are  
3 sometimes the gibberish that you referred to.

4 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I have never seen  
5 this.

6 MR. MORONEY: In order to have this  
7 counted in the 2011 budget, we have to create the  
8 appropriation for 2011.

9 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I thank both of you  
10 very much. Mr. Presiding Officer, I'd like to  
11 ask Maurice Chalmers to come up, please.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Let us finish with  
13 these two, and then we'll have him come up.  
14 Maurice, are you in the room here? You get ready  
15 to come on up. Mr. Denenberg has questions of --  
16 who do you have questions of? Mr. Chalmers is  
17 going to come up after we're done with these two.  
18 Go ahead, Mr. Denenberg.

19 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So, after I ask  
20 questions at some point Legislator Jacobs will  
21 have questions --

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Absolutely. We will  
23 bring up Mr. Chalmers and we will all have  
24 questions.

25 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So after

2 Legislator Jacobs I'd like to ask Mr. Chalmers  
3 questions.

4 For these gentlemen, on the 43 million,  
5 didn't we know over six months ago that the 43  
6 million, if this was for the second red light  
7 camera money, wasn't coming in?

8 MR. NAUGHTON: I wasn't here six months  
9 ago, so I can't speak to it.

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I don't have an  
11 accounting degree, but I knew in December 2011  
12 that this \$43 million projected for traffic and  
13 parking violations bureau wasn't coming in.

14 MR. NAUGHTON: If that is the case, I  
15 don't know the relevance of the question.

16 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Why are we  
17 transferring it now, some six months later? Why  
18 are we creating this phantom transfer now, six  
19 months after the end of the fiscal year?

20 MR. NAUGHTON: Six months ago there was  
21 no need to do the expense. Six months ago I  
22 think there was a general assumption that the  
23 county was going to follow up on its multi-year  
24 plan and borrow for tax certs.

25 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But it's after

2 the fact. And you're saying that this money  
3 never materialized and now you want to move it  
4 where? Where are we moving the fictitious money?

5 MR. NAUGHTON: We are transferring the  
6 money to the treasurer's office so the  
7 comptroller's office can book and accrual for tax  
8 certs.

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But there's no  
10 money.

11 MR. NAUGHTON: I believe you heard the  
12 conversation with Legislator Jacobs. This is  
13 standard transfer process.

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I think Mr.  
15 Moroney said that the answer is we need to do  
16 this transfer so that we can show the actual  
17 deficit. Did I hear that right?

18 MR. MORONEY: That's what I said. Yes,  
19 you heard it right.

20 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. So how  
21 much is the deficit going to be for 2011?

22 MR. MORONEY: It's yet to be determined.  
23 But it's roughly in that neighborhood.

24 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Roughly in the  
25 neighborhood of \$43 million?

2 MR. MORONEY: Yes.

3 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And that's the  
4 entire deficit is all the \$43 million that we  
5 didn't get from traffic and parking violations  
6 bureau?

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: No, no. From tax  
8 certs.

9 MR. NAUGHTON: No. The deficit is  
10 totally due to the tax certs.

11 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So if we followed  
12 the budget from each of the three years prior,  
13 four years, five years, six years -- I'm sorry,  
14 seven years prior -- 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10 --  
15 six years prior, and budgeted \$50 million worth  
16 of operating money for tax certs, we wouldn't  
17 have had a deficit?

18 MR. NAUGHTON: I'm totally lost in your  
19 question. I'm sorry.

20 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: You were here all  
21 those years, and in each of those years when you  
22 were Office of Legislative Review, you should  
23 know as well as I do, that we put \$50 million a  
24 year, each year out of operating funds to pay tax  
25 certs as you go. Not to borrow, to pay as you

2 go.

3 MR. NAUGHTON: And in each of those  
4 years --

5 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So if we -- let  
6 me finish my question. If we did that in 2011,  
7 which was the first year that I could recall that  
8 we didn't have money for paying as you go, we  
9 wouldn't have had a deficit.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. Just let me  
11 interject here Mr. Clerk. I want the record to  
12 reflect --

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: It's my question.  
14 I don't need you to interject.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Clerk, I want the  
16 record to reflect that we have been joined by  
17 Legislator Dunne. I want everybody to see that  
18 Legislator Dunne is in his chair. Legislator  
19 Dunne is here. Nobody's holding a gun to his  
20 head. They're under no coercion. Mr. Dunne, I  
21 invite you to go into the back room to limit your  
22 exposure to infection.

23 You can answer Mr. Denenberg's question.

24 MR. MORONEY: The 2011 budget did not  
25 budget for the payment of tax certioraris from

2 the general fund.

3 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay.

4 MR. MORONEY: There was in place,  
5 however, at the time the budget was adopted, a  
6 plan to borrow money to pay tax certioraris, and  
7 that was negotiated between the principles and  
8 that budget passed. And that's the budget that  
9 we have today.

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: That budget  
11 passed 10/9. There were nine --

12 MR. MORONEY: I don't challenge --

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: didn't want to  
14 borrow for tax certs, but wanted at least 50  
15 million pay-as-you-go. So now we're transferring  
16 this 43 million to accept that we're going to  
17 have that as a deficit. Is that what I'm  
18 understanding?

19 MR. MORONEY: No. We're transferring  
20 this because it appears as though there is going  
21 to be a deficit, and it has to be assigned to the  
22 proper place, and that would be to tax  
23 certioraris.

24 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But that's where  
25 you want to assign it. The deficit actually we

2 could say was in traffic and parking violations  
3 because you failed to recover \$43 million that  
4 you projected for traffic and parking. It's your  
5 choice to move this money that never existed.

6 MR. NAUGHTON: No. That's totally  
7 inaccurate. There's a deficit because we did not  
8 get bonding approval for tax certs. That's why  
9 we have an expense that has to be --

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: The bonding money  
11 is not revenue.

12 MR. NAUGHTON: No. Had the tax certs  
13 got bonding approval there would be no deficit,  
14 even with the deficit in your red light cameras.

15 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: The deficit, 43  
16 million, was put in red light cameras because you  
17 said at the time -- not you, but your predecessor  
18 and Mr. Sullivan said at the time that we were  
19 going to get 43 million from a second stage red  
20 light camera money which never materialized.

21 MR. NAUGHTON: But you're looking at an  
22 expense line.

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: At the time you  
24 didn't decide to fictitiously move it any place.  
25 All of a sudden now you want to fictitiously move

1 it.

2  
3 MR. NAUGHTON: It's not fictitious.

4 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: If the money  
5 doesn't exist and you're just assigning it as a  
6 deficit because you didn't want it in one fund as  
7 a deficit, so we're moving a deficit to another  
8 fund -- that sounds pretty fictitious to me.

9 MR. NAUGHTON: Legislator Denenberg,  
10 your staff could look. That line has money in  
11 it, and that money from that line is being moved  
12 to the treasurer. Period.

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But the money  
14 doesn't exist.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You're going over the  
16 same count for the fourth time.

17 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Next question.  
18 Last week, last week I asked on 13 regarding a  
19 transfer of \$17 million worth of funds from a  
20 contingency fund to cover -- mostly it was  
21 overtime or over -- most of it was over budget in  
22 other areas, some was overtime, etcetera. It was  
23 about 17 million, and you said that was coming  
24 from a contingency fund, which I looked and the  
25 contingency fund only had \$13 million in it.



2 MR. NAUGHTON: I believe the Office of  
3 Legislative Budget Review put out a memo on the  
4 contingency fund expense.

5 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And this is what  
6 I read that memo to say.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You're interrupting  
8 the guy when he's in the middle of a sentence.  
9 You asked him the question, let him answer it.

10 MR. NAUGHTON: No. The memo states --  
11 and I know MR. Chalmers is here so he can say if  
12 it says something different -- there was \$70  
13 million. Money was moved to different areas.  
14 And after the money is accounted for in this  
15 year-end transfer, there is still roughly \$11  
16 million left.

17 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So my question to  
18 you is this \$17 million that we're now approving  
19 then was already transferred.

20 MR. NAUGHTON: In order -- I won't speak  
21 for the comptroller. But in order for them to  
22 prepare the year-end books, they process it in  
23 the system. However, if this legislative body  
24 for some reason chose not to pass the item, then  
25 they would reverse it in the system. It's only

2 done in the system so they can create the reports  
3 and get it out on time, by June 30.

4 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But I thought  
5 that there can't be a transfer until we approve  
6 it. So you're saying that on the other item we  
7 were transferring money that didn't exist; now  
8 we're making a transfer that does exist only on  
9 paper until we approve it?

10 MR. MORONEY: What we do, in order to  
11 close the books, is we make certain assumptions,  
12 as accountants do. And the assumption was that  
13 these transfers would be approved back and forth,  
14 and that's why the report shows some conflicting  
15 information.

16 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: If we're --

17 MR. MORONEY: It's not just --

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: If we're doing  
19 quarterly hearings and quarterly --

20 MR. MORONEY: If I may.

21 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: and we know that  
22 some departments are coming in over and there's a  
23 contingency or rainy day fund that's as big as  
24 you said, perhaps we would have said don't use it  
25 so we can use it for some of the reason that

2 people are here right now. But to find out that  
3 17 million -- and it was Legislator DeRiggi and  
4 I's question -- if a fund only had 13 million in  
5 it and we were approving transfer of 17 million,  
6 it sounded like we were transferring more than we  
7 had. I was shocked to find out that you've  
8 already booked the transfer.

9 MR. MORONEY: Nothing is official until  
10 this legislature acts. If you don't act --

11 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So if we --

12 MR. MORONEY: If you don't act then the  
13 amounts of money that have deficits in them will  
14 remain with deficits in them.

15 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But it's in the  
16 county financials. It's booked. It's in the  
17 county financials. So if we say --

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: He indicated it's not  
19 official --

20 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: no, we're going  
21 to undue all of our financials?

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: until we act.

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But the books are  
24 printed. It's actually in the county finances.

25 MR. MORONEY: Please, Mr. Denenberg,

2 please don't confuse what's in the county  
3 financial forms, which the comptroller's office  
4 does not prepare, with what we're doing in the  
5 accounting system for purposes of coming before  
6 this legislature to close out the books for 2011.  
7 They are two different things.

8           LEGISLATOR DENENBERG:     Legislator Jacobs  
9 brought up that we were transferring from one  
10 fund to another, 43 million, that we never got,  
11 so it was money that didn't exist to begin with.  
12 Now we're transferring real money, reducing a  
13 fund, and all of that's done before we approve  
14 it. And when we asked in committee how could the  
15 fund only have 13 million and we're transferring  
16 17 million, no one had the answer. Now, I  
17 appreciate that you're coming with the answer.  
18 But I think in the future you shouldn't be  
19 transferring money in our books, on paper until  
20 we approve it.

21           I understand that you think you have your  
22 ten votes and you know whose going to rubberstamp  
23 stuff. But let's at least keep -- let's at least  
24 keep the look of an independent body and don't do  
25 it until we approve it or don't approve it.

2 MR. MORONEY: Mr. Denenberg --

3 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You don't even have  
4 to respond to that drivel.

5 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: That's class.  
6 There's your presiding officer.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Moroney, you  
8 don't even have to respond to that.

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Who are you to  
10 choose when they have to answer and not? It's a  
11 question from a legislator. You're asking us to  
12 transfer \$17 million, which is more than anyone  
13 up here gets in total.

14 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Denenberg, you  
15 are totally, totally out of order. For you to  
16 characterize this legislature as a rubberstamp is  
17 insulting.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: No, they did.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: And for the benefit  
20 of the people out there --

21 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: They said -- they  
22 said they're transferring the money --

23 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: who are watching --

24 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: assuming that  
25 you're saying okay. Why didn't you listen?

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: For the benefit of  
3 the people out there who are watching this  
4 charade on the other side, let me point out to  
5 you and put on the record that this is a routine  
6 end-of-the-year closing out of the accounts.  
7 Legislator Jacobs, the great layperson, was  
8 presiding officer for eight years and did this  
9 each and every year. And I might point out --

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I'm here 13  
11 years. We never did a transfer --

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: that the republican  
13 minority asked her --

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: like this in  
15 June. The latest we ever made transfers --

16 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: We had a transfer one  
17 year of \$200 million.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I had the floor.  
19 You interrupted.

20 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I give the floor.  
21 You don't have the floor.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: The latest a  
23 transfer ever was in February. You just  
24 transferred 43 million that doesn't exist. Money  
25 that does exist, 17 million --

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Do you have anything  
3 new to add, Mr. Denenberg?

4 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: you're being told  
5 it was transferred already because they're  
6 assuming you're voting for it.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Do you have anything  
8 new to add?

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I want an answer  
10 to my question.

11 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: He's not going to  
12 answer your question about ten rubberstamp votes;  
13 that's insulting.

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I didn't ask  
15 about the rubberstamp votes. I asked why that  
16 money is transferred before we vote.

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Why don't you  
18 rephrase your question? Rephrase your question,  
19 we'll try to get you an answer.

20 MR. MORONEY: The money is not  
21 transferred before the vote. This is not  
22 guesswork. What happens is --

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: It says it's  
24 transferred.

25 MR. MORONEY: If I may.

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Don't interrupt him.

3 MR. MORONEY: These professionals, one  
4 of which is now on your staff, worked in the  
5 comptroller's office under two administrations,  
6 can tell you in private what I'm going to tell  
7 you public.

8 What happens is the people in the  
9 accounting office sit down and they try to  
10 identify where there is money or appropriation.  
11 They identify where there is no money or  
12 appropriation. That's why they're here. That's  
13 why they have those lists, because those things  
14 have been identified so that they can move from  
15 Point A to Point B so that we can close out the  
16 budget at the end. It's just that simple.

17 There's nothing nefarious. There's nothing --

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I just think --

19 MR. MORONEY: nothing magical or --

20 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Mr. Moroney --

21 MR. MORONEY: fictitious about it.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Sorry. Mr.  
23 Moroney, my question is I just think to show a  
24 transfer in the system, in the accounting system,  
25 before it's approved by the legislature raises



2 issues as to whether -- I don't even know if  
3 that's legal.

4 MR. MORONEY: Let me explain something -  
5 -

6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Let me close with  
7 this.

8 MR. MORONEY: No, no. You're assumption  
9 is incorrect.

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Why?

11 MR. MORONEY: The changes don't take  
12 place in the system. You have to look at the  
13 system in order to figure out where the money is.  
14 You just don't guess. So you have to --

15 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I certainly would  
16 rather be using this \$17 million otherwise. But  
17 let me ask you this.

18 Do you ever -- can you tell me a time in  
19 this county, the last time we were making year-  
20 end transfers of a magnitude more than \$50  
21 million, which we've been doing today in this  
22 item, in June, six months after the fiscal year  
23 ended?

24 MR. MORONEY: My three years, this is  
25 the first time.

2 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: My 12 years this  
3 is the first time.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: No, it's not.

5 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: My other  
6 questions are for Mr. Chalmers.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: All right. Hold on.  
8 Legislator Jacobs.

9 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Let me just ask you  
10 a question, both of you. So, let's say you're  
11 creating an expense line in the treasurer's  
12 office, are we planning on using the unallocated  
13 fund balance for that line?

14 MR. MORONEY: It would fall down to the  
15 unreserved line, but it wouldn't be paid from  
16 that. Like it or not, you need a supplemental  
17 appropriation, which we require 13 votes.

18 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: What does that mean?  
19 If you have an unallocated fund balance, where  
20 would you get it from then? If you're putting an  
21 expense line into the treasurer's office, how are  
22 you going to pay for that line?

23 MR. NAUGHTON: Essentially, to answer  
24 your question, the county has roughly about \$92  
25 million of undesignated fund balance. If the

2 fiscal year 11 ends with a deficit of roughly,  
3 let's call it 43 million, the simple math is that  
4 you do 92 minus 43 and your balance goes down to  
5 49.

6 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Okay. So then why  
7 are these people here today? Why is an \$8  
8 million figure of social services, which is  
9 hurting every child that I have spent my entire  
10 life up here fighting to protect, seniors, why  
11 are they being used as pawns during this if there  
12 will be a balance at the end of all of this --  
13 the no money, the yes money, the expense money  
14 versus the unallocated? Bottom line, there will  
15 be a balance. Why is \$8 million being taken away  
16 from social services? I want someone to tell me.  
17 I don't need applause. I'm trying to be logical  
18 here. And I'm trying to say why in the world are  
19 we getting e-mails as if we're the worst thing  
20 that's been created since sliced bread, when, in  
21 fact, if everyone puts their thinking caps on,  
22 they will know that we were one of the best  
23 things that ever happened because we spent our  
24 life making sure that they were funded. And  
25 refused to vote for budgets when we had a county

2 executive, if there was ever a question of  
3 cutting social services, we said we would not  
4 give our votes for it until it didn't exist. And  
5 that's how they stayed in all this time. I don't  
6 get this.

7           There is going to be money. I don't see  
8 why \$8 million is being taken away from the faces  
9 I'm looking at right now. Sorry. Sorry, I  
10 don't.

11           CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: That is because we  
12 provided the votes for bonding in each and every  
13 one of those years. You didn't face this  
14 situation because we bonded.

15           LEGISLATOR JACOBS: We faced many  
16 situations.

17           CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: And they have stated  
18 for the record, and I want them to state it  
19 again, that the \$41 million deficit that's going  
20 to show for 2011 is caused solely and only  
21 because of the failure to bond. Is that not  
22 correct?

23           MR. NAUGHTON: That is correct.

24           LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So what --

25           LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Peter --

2 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: One second, Dave.  
3 So then what are you referring to when you say  
4 that there was \$92 million in that fund? At the  
5 end of the game, at the end of taking 43 million  
6 out of that, you're left with 40-some-odd-  
7 million-dollars, and I'm saying to you then why  
8 are these people being cut eight million? And  
9 say it in my language.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Judy, we're talking  
11 about 2011. What's being talked about now to be  
12 cut and where we're going to get the money to pay  
13 these judgments is 2012. Is that correct?

14 MR. MORONEY: That's correct. We're  
15 talking about two different budgets at this  
16 point. This we're doing in order to deal with  
17 the 2011 budget. We're closing out the books for  
18 2011. That's all this resolution is about. It  
19 has nothing to do with 2012 or going forward.

20 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: But yet they're  
21 being cut in the middle of 2012.

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: It's two separate  
23 things.

24 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Excuse me. One  
25 second, Mr. Schmitt. They're being cut in the

2 middle of -- I'm looking at it from the  
3 standpoint that normal people could understand.  
4 I'm not saying you're not. But you are very much  
5 financially oriented; my background is I was a  
6 teacher, and children were my life and are my  
7 life. I don't understand what you're saying.  
8 This is not money, this is money. This expense  
9 will come in, but we have a fund that can deal  
10 with that expense. At the end of using that fund  
11 there will be 40-some-odd-million dollars left.  
12 But, in the overall scheme of things, \$8 million  
13 is going to end youth services in Nassau County.  
14 I don't get it. Sorry. I just don't get it. I  
15 know you know I don't get it because you probably  
16 don't either.

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator DeRiggi-  
18 Whitton.

19 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: First of  
20 all, thank you for providing the balance in the  
21 accounts. I appreciate it. Because we were  
22 asked to transfer money and we did not know what  
23 the balance was.

24 Now, just so I understand, the 17 million  
25 that you came to us from last week was actually

2 already transferred on this account that you  
3 provided for us. I actually see it down here.  
4 Now, I also see that the 43 million, I have it  
5 as, was also transferred back on June 12. Is  
6 that correct?

7 MR. NAUGHTON: I don't know the exact  
8 date. But if you have a printout. I think it  
9 had to be done before June 12. I think that's  
10 probably just the date of the printout.

11 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Now, June  
12 12 is the date that I see it being transferred.  
13 So the 43 million has also already been taken  
14 care of, let's put it that way.

15 MR. NAUGHTON: Everything in this year-  
16 end transfer has been put into the financial  
17 system.

18 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: So it's  
19 already been transferred even though we have not  
20 voted on it. Even though the Finance Committee  
21 did not have the information at the time all  
22 these transfers took place without our, like,  
23 knowledge?

24 MR. NAUGHTON: I think Chief Deputy  
25 Comptroller Moroney has already spoken to that.

2 It's not official until this legislative body  
3 votes on it.

4 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: All right.  
5 Now, that being said, there still is a current  
6 balance of \$13 million, according to the records  
7 that you provided us, correct?

8 MR. NAUGHTON: That would be accurate.

9 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Now, this  
10 \$13 million is on top of the 91 million that we  
11 also have left over. And I want you people to  
12 understand this; there's money in the budget.  
13 There's 91 million there and there's 13 million  
14 here that is not allocated to any expense. Is  
15 that correct?

16 MR. NAUGHTON: No, that's not correct.

17 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Well, what  
18 is this allocated to, the 13 million?

19 MR. NAUGHTON: The 13 million is an  
20 expense line that says contingency. If you were  
21 to spend that 13 million that would also --

22 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: No, it's  
23 not.

24 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Don't interrupt,  
25 please.



2 MR. NAUGHTON: draw down your fund  
3 balance.

4 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: No, no, no.  
5 It's not. I apologize for interrupting.  
6 However, what it says is current contingency  
7 balance - \$13 million. This is where the 17  
8 million came from last time.

9 MR. NAUGHTON: That's an expense line in  
10 the budget.

11 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: No, no, no.  
12 This says balance.

13 MR. NAUGHTON: That is the balance in  
14 that is the balance in that account that started  
15 with 70 million and now has 13.

16 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: So there's  
17 13 million remaining.

18 MR. NAUGHTON: In an expense line.  
19 That's different than having money as part of  
20 your fund balance.

21 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Where did  
22 the 17 million come from?

23 MR. NAUGHTON: From that 70 million.  
24 It's just an appropriation.

25 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: The 17

2 million came from the original 70 million,  
3 correct?

4 MR. NAUGHTON: Correct.

5 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: And that's  
6 where all the other transfers came from, correct?

7 MR. NAUGHTON: Correct.

8 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: There's 13  
9 million remaining, is that correct?

10 MR. NAUGHTON: correct.

11 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Why can't  
12 we use that 13 million for this eight?

13 MR. NAUGHTON: If this body chooses to -  
14 - well, the books are closed for 11 so you can't  
15 move that money at this point.

16 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: I don't  
17 want to interrupt you and I apologize. All I can  
18 tell you is as a new person here, as a new  
19 legislator, who I was elected and I am a mother  
20 of three and I know what it's like to have kids  
21 and need help, these numbers, I've never seen  
22 anything like this, and I was a city councilwoman  
23 before. We had the budget -- it was real money,  
24 it was cash -- before we transferred anything.  
25 And you're telling me you took money from this

2 account, there's a \$13 million balance but that's  
3 not real money? A \$13 million budget balance  
4 and that's not real money?

5 We need to find \$8 million, okay? What  
6 they're doing is using this as some kind of ploy  
7 to scare everybody into us doing something that  
8 might not be financially responsible. I can find  
9 it in two or three different ways right now. We  
10 have 91 million in an account, which I have, if  
11 anybody wants I have the actual summary of where  
12 the 91 million is. If any of you guys want to  
13 see this, I'd be more than happy to share it with  
14 you. And there's also another 13 million in the  
15 contingency. Basically, the whole idea of  
16 contingency is it's not allotted to any specific  
17 thing, so we can definitely use it for this, in  
18 my opinion.

19 And the last thing --

20 MR. NAUGHTON: Just to -- I'm sorry to  
21 interrupt you. But just to set the record  
22 straight, you cannot use a 2011 budget, which is  
23 your contingency, to pay for 2012 youth board  
24 expenses.

25 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: So where is

2 that \$13 million?

3 MR. NAUGHTON: It becomes part of your  
4 fund balance. It goes away.

5 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: If you're  
6 asking us to bond -- but we can bond money for  
7 the 2011 budget?

8 MR. NAUGHTON: I'm sorry. I couldn't  
9 hear you.

10 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Can we be  
11 asked to bond money for the 2011 budget?

12 MR. NAUGHTON: I believe there is a  
13 light on for you to do a tax cert borrowing.

14 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: So we can  
15 borrow for 2011 but we can't use the extra  
16 contingency from 2011? I don't understand how  
17 these rules are made. I just think that's  
18 absolutely absurd.

19 MR. NAUGHTON: I think maybe we need to  
20 have a conversation later. But you can bond for  
21 the expense --

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Hey, hey.

23 MR. NAUGHTON: The tax cert borrowing's  
24 to cover an expense that the comptroller's office  
25 has recognized for 2011. You're referring to

2 2012 youth board expenses. We can't use 2011  
3 operating money to pay for 2012 expenses.

4 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: So why do  
5 we have to bond for 2011 for these people to have  
6 the money for 2012? You're just totally  
7 counteracting -- you're basically going back,  
8 contradicting what you're saying.

9 MR. NAUGHTON: The issue becomes we do  
10 not want our fund balance to go from \$91 million  
11 to \$49 million. We do not want rating agencies  
12 to now take a look at the county and say that the  
13 county's heading down a slippery path, where it's  
14 going to become insolvent.

15 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: But you  
16 have to just tell me. The 13 million that was  
17 leftover in the contingency balance for 2011,  
18 correct?

19 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.

20 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Where is  
21 it?

22 MR. NAUGHTON: It just sits in that  
23 balance. And there are other items that offset  
24 it. When they close the books, you'll see what  
25 the final numbers are.

2 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: No. There  
3 are no other items that offset it, because that's  
4 why it's in the contingency budget. If there  
5 were, it would not be in the contingency budget.  
6 I'm sorry? It doesn't go away. There is \$13  
7 million left in contingencies, that's enough to  
8 pay for these people so they can leave and go  
9 have a nice lunch.

10 MR. NAUGHTON: Come January 1, 2012,  
11 that money no longer exists.

12 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Where did  
13 the 13 million go?

14 MR. NAUGHTON: Once you close the books,  
15 we will now have a fund balance of either 91 or  
16 49 million and that 13 million is absorbed in  
17 those numbers.

18 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Can I just  
19 say something? And I'm sorry if I'm speaking out  
20 of line. But I work for someone who is a  
21 financial planner. I've dealt with the county.  
22 I have never seen anything like this.

23 MR. NAUGHTON: Welcome to government.

24 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Well, it  
25 really shouldn't be this way. These people owe a

2 better strategy.

3 The way things are transferred prior to  
4 us even knowing about them, the way money appears  
5 and disappears, that doesn't happen in a  
6 business, like, situation. You have a solid idea  
7 of where money is coming from and where it goes,  
8 and you don't have to jeopardize people and scare  
9 people through this way, if you are organized and  
10 you have a clear vision of where the money is. I  
11 really -- I'm embarrassed by this situation.

12 I appreciate you finally providing us  
13 this information, but I think it doesn't clarify  
14 what you're saying. As far as I know, we still  
15 have \$13 million that I really believe we should  
16 give to them right now in this whole process.

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. Legislator  
18 Ford.

19 LEGISLATOR FORD: Thank you very much  
20 for your presentation. I share some of the  
21 concerns. When you look at the information that  
22 we have received on these transfers, it seems  
23 like, especially with TPBA, there seems to be a  
24 lot of money going back and forth. To me it  
25 looks like money, but obviously these are things

2 to sort of balance the books, so to speak, I  
3 guess, from last year.

4 MR. NAUGHTON: That's correct.

5 LEGISLATOR FORD: When we look at the  
6 cost and we look at the tax certs for last years,  
7 basically when we talk about the 41 or \$43  
8 million that is in judgments, were they from 2012  
9 or 2011, these judgments?

10 MR. NAUGHTON: This is a 2011 expense  
11 you're looking at.

12 LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. So what's going  
13 to happen is because, like, from what I  
14 understand -- and I don't know if I am getting  
15 this. Because the tax certs that we're looking  
16 to borrow for are 2011 expense, they can be put  
17 against this budget of 2011 that we're going to  
18 close the door on, so to speak, say, today.

19 MR. NAUGHTON: That's correct.

20 LEGISLATOR FORD: But we're looking now,  
21 today, at the other expenses that we have with  
22 our youth programs and our senior programs that's  
23 a 2012 expense that must come from the present  
24 budget of 2011 to 2012, correct?

25 MR. NAUGHTON: Correct.



2 LEGISLATOR FORD: And then next year we  
3 would close that budget out.

4 MR. NAUGHTON: Right.

5 LEGISLATOR FORD: If we -- and I look --  
6 I mean, I look at this \$13 million. I'd like to  
7 see this -- and from what I understand from you,  
8 because that ended up as excess money, so to  
9 speak, it then was put into the general fund,  
10 which is, you know, to keep us solvent, so to  
11 speak. Correct?

12 MR. NAUGHTON: That would be accurate.

13 LEGISLATOR FORD: Then we look at 90 --  
14 say we have \$95 million in this expense fund or  
15 general fund or whatever, like, fund balance.

16 MR. NAUGHTON: It's the county's  
17 operating funds. It's the general fund and  
18 police district fund combined.

19 LEGISLATOR FORD: What -- I mean, what  
20 would be the harm if we took out \$41 million to  
21 pay the tax certs from this?

22 MR. NAUGHTON: You can't say  
23 definitively whether or not the rating agencies  
24 would downgrade the county, but it becomes very  
25 likely. It shows that we are unable to manage

2 our expenses and be consistent with our plan that  
3 was adopted by the county. And it says what are  
4 you going to do in the future? How do you pay  
5 for future operations? What happens if there's  
6 another hurricane? How do you cover unforeseen  
7 expenses? For a county of this size with a  
8 budget of nearly \$3 billion, a reserve -- a fund  
9 balance of 49 million would be considered very  
10 insufficient.

11 LEGISLATOR FORD: Because, I mean even  
12 for me, and I know that Legislator Whitton had  
13 talked about, like, even with her home city of  
14 Glen Cove, I'm looking at the City of Long Beach,  
15 which now has no fund balance and they've been  
16 downgraded, I mean, dramatically by all of the  
17 rating agencies.

18 When we look, too, also, like, when we  
19 say -- and I know their concerns, and we all have  
20 concerns about moving forward. When you look at,  
21 like, right now with the \$41 million, what  
22 happens then? Because we know that we haven't  
23 resolved all of the tax cert grievances right  
24 now. Like, so there's another -- say if we use,  
25 if we decide we're going to use \$41 million to

2 pay the tax certs and this all goes away for now  
3 and our balance is down to \$40 million or \$45  
4 million, and then all of a sudden judgments come  
5 in and it's \$100 million. What do we do then?

6 MR. NAUGHTON: You're going to be out of  
7 money very quickly. You can -- the ramifications  
8 are something that we've been working at and  
9 looking at possible solutions. There are no good  
10 solutions. You're talking about liens on  
11 accounts. We're heading down a dangerous road  
12 here.

13 LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. And I don't  
14 know if you can answer this question or not.  
15 Even when we look at, you know, where we had  
16 passed the legislation with the red light camera  
17 money, if judgments come in, if judgments come in  
18 against us on our monies, can they attach to any  
19 account or is there a protocol that you follow  
20 when they go after money?

21 MR. NAUGHTON: They can go where they  
22 see money available. We do not have a say in  
23 that process.

24 LEGISLATOR FORD: So even if we had  
25 legislation that protected the -- like, we had

2 this legislation that we repealed, a judgment can  
3 come in and say you have \$14 million in that  
4 account, we're going to attach it and you can't  
5 spend that money or distribute it to anyone. Is  
6 that correct?

7 MR. NAUGHTON: Right. There may be some  
8 accounts, such as capital funds or grant funds,  
9 that will probably be restricted, they couldn't  
10 access. But something that's considered an  
11 operating fund, they could access.

12 LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. Thank you very  
13 much.

14 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Bosworth.

15 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you,  
16 Presiding Officer Schmitt.

17 So, I share in some of the confusion.  
18 Because you're talking about the books being  
19 closed, but yet we're here to vote on  
20 transferring money for last year. So if we're  
21 transferring money, then the books aren't closed.

22 MR. NAUGHTON: We are moving money to  
23 cover expenses that occurred in 2011.

24 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: So then the books  
25 aren't closed. So why can't we then transfer \$8

2 million -- that's all the youth agencies need.  
3 Why can't we transfer \$8 million from the  
4 contingency fund? Because we're transferring  
5 money to help with what needs to be done today.

6 MR. NAUGHTON: Once again, it has to be  
7 for an expense that occurred in 2011. We cannot  
8 move the money from 2011 into 2012.

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But you could  
10 borrow in 2012 for 2011?

11 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Denenberg, you've  
12 already had your say. You're out of order.

13 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Alright. So you  
14 are now tying your 2011 bonding needs to money  
15 that needs to be spent in 2012. That's okay?

16 MR. NAUGHTON: It's not being spent in  
17 2012. The comptroller's office is saying this is  
18 a 2011 obligation of the county.

19 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Yes. But we also  
20 have an obligation and a responsibility to  
21 contracts that we've signed to the youth  
22 agencies. Why is that not as pertinent and as  
23 valuable?

24 MR. NAUGHTON: Because, once again I'm  
25 sorry if it's -- if I'm not making myself clear.

2 But the items that you are referring to for the  
3 year are for expenditures in 2012. We cannot use  
4 2011 money to pay for 2012. Tax cert  
5 expenditures, the \$41 million we're referring to,  
6 is a 2011 obligation.

7 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: So you can borrow  
8 in 12 to cover 2011 obligations?

9 MR. NAUGHTON: Correct.

10 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: You know what?  
11 I'm going to leave that to those who are more  
12 knowledgeable in financial ways of doing things.  
13 But I also know that since I've been a legislator  
14 we had \$50 million in the operating budget to  
15 take care of tax certs. So if you didn't want to  
16 use fund balance, couldn't you have budgeted  
17 again this \$50 million and that would have more  
18 than taken care of the \$43 million of tax certs?

19 MR. MORONEY: If I could just roll back  
20 the tape a little bit.

21 When the budget was being prepared last  
22 year and the decision was made to request what  
23 was called at the time transitional borrowing to  
24 deal with tax certiorari payments, there was --  
25 and Comptroller Maragos requested it. There was

2 a written agreement that was signed by the county  
3 executive and I believe Presiding Officer  
4 Schmitt, but at the time Minority Leader Yatauro,  
5 that there would be bonding for the tax  
6 certioraris in 2011. That, for reasons best  
7 known to her --

8 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: That is correct.

9 MR. MORONEY: and the delegation, was  
10 walked back on.

11 LEGISLATOR WINK: Mr. Chairman, that is  
12 a gross misrepresentation of what --

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Wink.

14 LEGISLATOR WINK: Legislator Yatauro  
15 said.

16 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You aren't  
17 recognized.

18 LEGISLATOR WINK: In point of fact,  
19 there were no tax certs brought before this  
20 legislature in 2011. And what she indicated when  
21 we authorized \$40 million in October of 2010, we  
22 indicated at that time, as a caucus, that we  
23 would consider and review tax certiorari matters  
24 as they came to us. The fact of the matter is  
25 this administration did not bring them to this

2 legislature until 2012. That's why you're in the  
3 situation you're in. So do not represent Ms.  
4 Yatauro's statements on this. They were  
5 abundantly clear, even when they were being  
6 misrepresented by Mr. Mangano and his people back  
7 in 2010.

8 MR. MORONEY: I'll stand on the contents  
9 of the letter.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You should have only  
11 been as nice to her when she was here.

12 MR. MORONEY: I'll stand on the contents  
13 of the letter and let it speak for itself.

14 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: I would just like  
15 to also ask a question.

16 MR. MORONEY: If I may just complete the  
17 thought.

18 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Sure.

19 MR. MORONEY: There was no general fund  
20 money budgeted for paying certioraris. Whether  
21 it's Mr. Wink's interpretation or a different  
22 interpretation by somebody else, the fact of the  
23 matter is that when the 2011 budget was passed  
24 there was no intention upon paying tax  
25 certioraris from the general fund. Since the



2 borrowing didn't take place, for whatever reason,  
3 under whatever circumstances it didn't take  
4 place, there now is money that is owed -- that  
5 was budgeted to be paid out of the 2011 budget  
6 for tax certioraris that needs to be paid. And  
7 I'm not characterizing a vote for or against it.  
8 I'm not getting into the political discussion  
9 that's gone here today at all. I'm simply trying  
10 to talk about the dollars and cents of it. So,  
11 therefore, that's how you go back and you bond  
12 out to cover an expense through 2011.

13 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: All right. But is  
14 it not so that there is \$10 million sitting there  
15 in money that was allocated for bonding in 2010  
16 exactly for this purpose?

17 MR. NAUGHTON: At some point there was.  
18 I remember people talked about 14. That money  
19 has been reduced. I don't know what's sitting  
20 there right now.

21 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: To what? As of  
22 this morning it's seven. Why are we not paying  
23 that down? That's bonding you already have. Why  
24 are we not having our residents get their tax  
25 refunds if we have that money available for them?

2 MR. NAUGHTON: Well, as you just stated,  
3 it is down to seven so we have been making some  
4 payments.

5 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Okay. Here's my  
6 other question. Why are we telling agencies  
7 we're cutting their funding in the middle of 2012  
8 when they're in mid-stream of programs for  
9 bonding items for 2011? I don't get it.

10 MR. NAUGHTON: I can't address that  
11 letter. I'm sorry.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Nicoletto.

13 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: But that is the  
14 big question.

15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The scope of the  
16 problem here or the scope of the bonding that's  
17 at issue isn't just the \$40 million. Do you  
18 understand? The 40 million is for the judgments.  
19 But there are settlements and refunds due that  
20 equates to what, \$140 million?

21 MR. NAUGHTON: That sounds about right.  
22 It's a big number, yes.

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: And that's  
24 separate and apart from what NIFA says is 60  
25 million or so, give or take, that we haven't

2 achieved in labor savings. Am I right there?

3 MR. NAUGHTON: Yeah. I mean, the score  
4 card, no, what NIFA says we've achieved in labor  
5 savings it's kind of a separate issue.

6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: What they're  
7 saying.

8 MR. NAUGHTON: Right. I think they're  
9 probably at the 80 to 90 million range.

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So when people  
11 say you get an eight million here, eight million  
12 there. The scope of this problem isn't \$8  
13 million.

14 MR. NAUGHTON: Correct.

15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: It's over 100  
16 million if you look at the tax certs alone,  
17 right?

18 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.

19 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: And there isn't -  
20 - we've cut hundreds of millions of dollars from  
21 this budget. We've changed the way government's  
22 doing things. There simply isn't money lying  
23 around out there, you can just grab eight million  
24 and say let's ship it over here and pay the youth  
25 agencies. Am I right about that?

2 MR. NAUGHTON: You're very correct on  
3 that.

4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Or if you  
5 identify eight million, you still have 130  
6 million to go for the rest the whole. Is that  
7 correct?

8 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes. We have -- the  
9 problem here is enormous.

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: It's enormous. I  
11 think that sums it up. Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Maurice are you here?

13 MR. CHALMERS: Maurice Chalmers, Budget  
14 Review.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Good afternoon. Who  
16 is going first over there? Legislator Jacobs.

17 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Yes. Mr. Chalmers,  
18 I appreciate your coming up. I would like your  
19 opinion on what we're discussing right now, as  
20 far as the 43.1 million, as far as what we're  
21 going to have left as a balance, if there is  
22 going to be a balance. Walk us through step-by-  
23 step as to where we are and why we can't seem to  
24 do anything for \$8 million.

25 MR. CHALMERS: The \$43 million, as I

2 understand it, is the recognition of \$43 million  
3 for tax certs for 2011. What happens is when  
4 they put that entry in the ultimate result would  
5 be to create a negative number, which will be  
6 taken out of the fund balance. That number has  
7 already been posted in the system and has reduced  
8 the fund balance by that amount.

9           LEGISLATOR JACOBS: That number has been  
10 posted already?

11           MR. CHALMERS: Correct.

12           CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Pending the vote  
13 here, correct?

14           MR. CHALMERS: Pending the vote, yes.  
15 If the vote is a nay, then everything would have  
16 to be reversed.

17           LEGISLATOR JACOBS: But if the entry was  
18 made already, and we've seen that it's been made  
19 already, what does that entry being made mean if  
20 we didn't vote -- if voting isn't going to take  
21 place until today?

22           MR. CHALMERS: Well, the comptroller is  
23 saying that's the way -- that's the rules that  
24 they follow. I can't really say why they do it  
25 the way they do it, but that's the way that

2 they've been doing it for a while. It's just the  
3 magnitude of the entry is \$43 million.

4 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So let me ask you  
5 this. When it was explained to me about the  
6 extra money in surplus and the fact that it's,  
7 like, 92 million and then 43 million removed from  
8 that leaves the balance of what there really is  
9 now. What? Is it real or is it paper?

10 MR. CHALMERS: The \$92 million is what  
11 we have in reserves; that's real money. The 43  
12 million is just an entry to recognize the 43  
13 million liability for tax certs, which ultimately  
14 will be taken out of the fund balance.

15 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: But then you take  
16 the 92 million which is real --

17 MR. CHALMERS: Correct.

18 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Even if you're  
19 posting the 43 million -- I understand that now.  
20 Thank you for saying that in my language -- then  
21 you're being left with the balance from that.  
22 Okay. So then that balance, can you confirm them  
23 to me that there still is a balance of about \$40  
24 million or a little less?

25 MR. CHALMERS: There will be a balance

of approximately \$40 million, yes.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Can you explain to me why \$8 million can't be immediately given to social services and stop the bleeding right now?

MR. CHALMERS: That's a policy decision.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Really? That's what I thought when I started questioning before.

MR. CHALMERS: That's a policy issue.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: But the bottom line is it could be.

MR. CHALMERS: Yes. Yes, it could.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chalmers.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: To the Chair, may I go with Mr. Chalmers?

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mrs. Jacobs are you finished?

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I'm sorry. I'm finished.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Denenberg.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Mr. Chalmers, I was -- you were here when I was asking questions of Mr. Moroney and Mr. Naughton. The \$43 million that's being transferred from the traffic and

2 parking violations to the county treasurer, other  
3 expense, that transfer, as we heard, is of money  
4 that doesn't exist, but it's being assigned to a  
5 different line, I guess the tax cert line.

6 MR. CHALMERS: The tax cert line had a  
7 zero, zero dollars in the budget. So in order to  
8 put the \$43 million as an obligation, the way I  
9 understand it is you need to create a budget line  
10 of \$43 million, which is what this entry does,  
11 basically.

12 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And you just  
13 heard that Mr. Moroney and I guess Mr. Naughton  
14 said and that's to acknowledge -- if there's no  
15 bonding, that's to acknowledge that that \$43  
16 million amount would be a deficit.

17 MR. CHALMERS: Correct.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Meaning that we'd  
19 end 2011 in a deficit.

20 MR. CHALMERS: Correct. I agree with  
21 that.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But if we borrow  
23 41 million in 2012, we can borrow in 2012 and  
24 assign that borrowing to 2011 to try to show no  
25 deficit?



2 MR. CHALMERS: That I am not sure of. I  
3 don't know how the comptroller would do it. I  
4 believe the books were closed. I am not sure if  
5 that can be done. That's a question for the  
6 comptroller.

7 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But if somehow  
8 this 41 million could be borrowed before June 30  
9 and assigned towards the tax certs in 2011 --

10 MR. CHALMERS: I don't believe you could  
11 do that, but I would probably defer to the  
12 comptroller. He's the expert. He could probably  
13 answer the question.

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Then why else  
15 would we be moving that 43 now and accepting a  
16 deficit now? And the comptroller said to Ms.  
17 DeRiggi that even though we can't use contingency  
18 funds from 2011 for a 2012 expense, we can use  
19 2012 borrowed money, bonding for 2012 as revenue  
20 in 2011, and then he repeated the same answer to  
21 Legislator Bosworth. So I'm thinking there's 41  
22 million in this \$43 million deficit, and this  
23 whole issue for this borrowing might be just to  
24 say we closed 11 breakeven.

25 MR. CHAMBERS: It could be. If that's

2 what he said. He's the expert on the accounting  
3 rules. I can't really disagree with him.

4 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Now let me ask  
5 you this, Mr. Chalmers. You did a study for  
6 myself and Legislator DeRiggi, where we were  
7 concerned that 17 million was being taken out of  
8 contingency when contingency fund only showed 13  
9 million, and that's the 2011 contingency fund.

10 MR. CHALMERS: That is the balance of,  
11 yes, of that account.

12 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So what you  
13 found, correct me if I'm wrong. You found that  
14 the balance of that contingency fund is 13  
15 million.

16 MR. CHALMERS: Correct.

17 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And that's real  
18 money, as opposed to the 43 million that was just  
19 fictitious money that we moved from traffic and  
20 parking to other expense.

21 MR. CHALMERS: I think the confusion  
22 exists because of the way the contingency works.  
23 A contingency is not a revenue line, it's an  
24 expense line. So if you have any additional  
25 postings against it, you'd be creating another

2 deficit.

3 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. So when  
4 they took the 17 million out, that 17 million  
5 that we're approving today, in transfers, has  
6 already been assigned.

7 MR. CHALMERS: That's included in the --  
8 that gets us to the net of 13.1.

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So it was 30  
10 million and now it's 13.1 because the 17 million  
11 has already been transferred.

12 MR. CHALMERS: It was 70.3 million, and  
13 now we have 13 million left, 13.1.

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And that's real  
15 money.

16 MR. CHALMERS: That is an authorization  
17 in the budget, yes.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. So if that  
19 isn't used and 13 was left, if eight was used,  
20 five would be left, correct?

21 MR. CHALMERS: Yes.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But we're using  
23 17 to cover basically overage in, for example,  
24 overtime and other items. Correct?

25 MR. CHALMERS: Correct.

2 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So we reduced a  
3 fund that started, as you said, in the 70s; we've  
4 reduced that all the way down to 13.1 to cover  
5 overage in various budget items, correct?

6 MR. CHALMERS: I think I know where  
7 you're going with this. If you used --

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Mr. Chalmers, I'm  
9 not sure that you do. But if you want to answer,  
10 fine.

11 MR. CHALMERS: If you used the eight  
12 million, let's say out of the contingency, what  
13 would happen is you would create another eight  
14 million gap. That eight million could then fall  
15 down.

16 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: We'd be down to  
17 five.

18 MR. CHALMERS: To the fund balance, yes.  
19 But that would create a deficit of eight which  
20 actually eat up another eight from the fund  
21 balance.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: What did we say  
23 the fund balance was starting in 2012?

24 MR. CHALMERS: There's about \$92 million  
25 as of right now.

2 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Didn't we create,  
3 and take, and reduce that fund balance when we  
4 transferred this 17 million?

5 MR. CHALMERS: The ultimate goal -- the  
6 ultimate result of this will be a \$43 million hit  
7 to 2011.

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: No. But the 17  
9 million transfer that I'm asking you about,  
10 wasn't that a hit to the fund balance too?

11 MR. CHALMERS: Taking everything into  
12 account, they already accounted for the surplus  
13 of 13 million. That's how they get to basically  
14 zero, and then the tax cert, the recognition of  
15 the tax cert is the only item that will reduce  
16 the fund balance. But they already took the  
17 benefit of this 13 million.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: In what? Where  
19 did they take the benefit of the 13 million?

20 MR. CHALMERS: In the bottom line. They  
21 have a surplus of 13 million in that particular  
22 line item.

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Wasn't it larger  
24 when they first did the budget for 12? Haven't  
25 we just reduced that fund balance for the end of

2 2011 by 17 million if we authorized this today,  
3 even though it was already taken, apparently?

4 MR. CHALMERS: All of it is going to be  
5 \$43 million. The entire thing, yes.

6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So the bottom  
7 line is this. If we borrow \$41 million today, we  
8 can assign that to 2011?

9 MR. CHALMERS: I did not think you could  
10 do it. But if the comptroller said you can, I  
11 can't speak for the comptroller.

12 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Can you explain  
13 any reason why we can't use real money from 2011  
14 for contract agencies in 2012 but we can use  
15 borrowed money in 2012 to book it in 2011 to show  
16 that we don't have a deficit?

17 MR. CHALMERS: I really can't explain  
18 that. If they're saying that we can move the  
19 money, maybe we can. But again, that's probably  
20 a question for the comptroller on whether he  
21 would allow that entry to take place.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Does the  
23 comptroller want to elaborate on that? I see  
24 Frank is still here. Mr. Moroney is still here.

25 MR. MORONEY: I think the -- I think

2 what's being lost here in this discussion where  
3 we're talking about accounting rules and you're  
4 talking about policy expenditures, they really  
5 don't connect with each other. That said, we  
6 have to make a commitment to restore that fund  
7 balance, that unreserved fund balance, in order  
8 to maintain our bond rating. And we have to do  
9 that. So that money will have to be restored.

10 In answer to your question, why can't you  
11 use 2012 money, is when you do use 2012 money,  
12 you have to use that 2012 money to restore that  
13 fund balance.

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But we're  
15 borrowing in 2012 -- there's been a request to  
16 borrow 41 million in 2012 and that money would be  
17 assigned as revenue in 2011, so that magic number  
18 of 43 million suddenly isn't a deficit anymore,  
19 correct?

20 MR. MORONEY: No. What happens is that  
21 the money that gets paid out of the 2011 budget  
22 for these expenses has to come from somewhere.

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So it could come  
24 from 2012 borrowed money?

25 MR. MORONEY: It could come from 2012

2 borrowed money. It has to come from somewhere.  
3 And we have spoken with our auditors; they've  
4 kept the books open for as long as they possibly  
5 can in order to make sure that we can squeeze out  
6 every dollar we can to cover whatever deficit  
7 there's going to be for 2011 without having to  
8 dip into that unreserved balance.

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But my concern is  
10 that all of this, this whole \$41 million magical  
11 number, is to try to get borrowed money in 12 to  
12 show that 11 closed without a deficit.

13 MR. MORONEY: If you borrowed the money  
14 necessary to pay these judgments in 2012, we  
15 would allow that to be counted towards the money  
16 that was budgeted in 2011 for purposes of  
17 balancing the 2011 budget.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But that's an  
19 unreal balance. That's borrowed money from 12  
20 being counted as revenue in 11.

21 MR. MORONEY: It is how you treat the  
22 revenue. And the revenue can be treated that  
23 way.

24 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I have to agree  
25 with Legislator Whitton then. If we're going to



2 borrow in 2012 to count it as revenue in 11, we  
3 can use real money in 11 toward an obligation in  
4 2012.

5 MR. MORONEY: You have to have that  
6 money in the 2012 budget, however.

7 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: We did when we  
8 entered into contracts with everyone.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. Legislator  
10 DeRiggi-Whitton and then I'm going to call the  
11 question.

12 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Thank you.  
13 I just want to recap just so that we're clear.

14 There was a \$13 million balance in the  
15 contingency budget, correct?

16 MR. CHALMERS: There is. Yes.

17 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: That's real  
18 money?

19 MR. CHALMERS: Yes.

20 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: We could go  
21 and do whatever we wanted to do with that \$13  
22 million, okay? So I want everyone in this room  
23 to clearly hear that, that there is 13 million  
24 available -- and I have the account number --  
25 that should take care of today's issue.

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Is that true, Mr.  
3 Chalmers?

4 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: The fact  
5 that it's discretionary means that they're doing  
6 exactly what we've accused them of, which is  
7 playing on our heartstrings by talking about our  
8 children. It reminds me of almost like an ugly  
9 divorce where the kids get involved, and it  
10 really should never happen. And I'm really  
11 embarrassed to see that it's stooped to this  
12 level to scare our citizens --

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Is there a question  
14 here?

15 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: when it's  
16 discretionary. My question is this: With moving  
17 the 41 million from the 91 million that we have  
18 leftover, the transfer we just did, the 42  
19 million, for now you're going to be moving that  
20 from the 91 million, correct?

21 MR. CHALMERS: Correct.

22 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: David,  
23 listen. He's moving it from the 91 and you're  
24 taking 42 from the 91. What does that do to our  
25 bond rating?

2 MR. CHALMERS: It's probably going to  
3 hurt our bond rating. I can't say for sure. But  
4 what you are doing is eating away at the fund  
5 balance. You are basically cutting it in half.

6 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Now, you're  
7 willing to do that for the 41 million. You're  
8 willing to take that out of our 91 million --

9 MR. CHALMERS: I'm not willing to do it.

10 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: It's just  
11 another way of showing where we could get this  
12 eight million. You won't take eight million out  
13 of the 91 because you're concerned about the bond  
14 rating.

15 MR. CHALMERS: I'm not taking anything  
16 out of anywhere. This is a policy decision.  
17 This is the administration, not me.

18 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: But what  
19 you're asking us to do with this transfer, which  
20 might have already happened, I don't even know,  
21 could still affect our bond rating just as if we  
22 took the eight million out of there, correct?

23 MR. CHALMERS: Yes.

24 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: In my  
25 opinion, that also shows that taking the eight

2 million out of 91 million is moot.

3 One last question. What are you  
4 budgeting for 2012 for the tax certs?

5 MR. CHALMERS: I believe the budget is  
6 75 million.

7 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: So we have  
8 75 million in that account right now?

9 MR. CHALMERS: Yes. In authority.

10 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: We have 75  
11 million in a tax cert account as of today.

12 MR. CHALMERS: Yes, we do. That's what  
13 was budgeted for 2012.

14 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: We don't  
15 know if we're going to need the full 75 million.

16 MR. CHALMERS: I will say we probably  
17 will need it.

18 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: But we  
19 don't know yet. Yet we have 40 million that's  
20 already owed. Why don't -- I don't understand  
21 why we're not using that money to clear up our  
22 debts.

23 MR. CHALMERS: The 41 million is  
24 specific to 2011; the 75 would be for 2012.

25 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: You know

2 what? It's really interesting how sometimes we  
3 can go back to 2011 and sometimes we can't. I  
4 find it very, very confusing, as far as when we  
5 can and when we can't. I find it very  
6 discretionary. We have 75 million in the account  
7 for tax certs right now, correct?

8 MR. CHALMERS: That's what's included in  
9 the budget, yes.

10 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: And one  
11 other question. It was mentioned that we are  
12 paying down some tax certs. We are paying them  
13 right now.

14 MR. CHALMERS: I believe the bond  
15 proceeds are down to \$7.5 million from 14  
16 million.

17 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Right. It  
18 was something like that. Who are we paying?

19 MR. CHALMERS: I could get that detail  
20 for you.

21 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: How do we  
22 decide who we pay and who we don't pay?

23 MR. CHALMERS: That happens in the  
24 treasurer's office. But we could get the detail  
25 for you.

2 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: I would  
3 really like to see a clear list of who has been  
4 paid and who hasn't been paid, and if there is  
5 any explanation as to why.

6 MR. CHALMERS: We'll get you that  
7 information.

8 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: I'm done.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I'm going to call the  
10 question. Dennis is here, very good.

11 All those in favor of Item Number 28 --  
12 what? All those in favor of Item Number 28  
13 please signify by saying aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 Any opposed?

16 (Nay.)

17 Let the record show that the item carries  
18 with 10 votes from the majority and eight  
19 negative votes from the minority.

20 Mr. Moroney and -- you're gone already.  
21 Thank you.

22 Next item is Item Number 27, which is a  
23 resolution to authorize the transfer of  
24 appropriations heretofore made within the budget  
25 for the year 2012.

2 May I have a motion, please?

3 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
5 Gonsalves, seconded by -- who said that?  
6 Legislator Dunne. Welcome back, Dennis.

7 If you wish to go to the back while this  
8 is going on, you are certainly encouraged to do  
9 so.

10 I can't see out there that far, I'm  
11 sorry. Could you identify yourself?

12 MR. DELANEY: Tom Delaney, Nassau County  
13 OEM.

14 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Oh. How are you,  
15 Tom?

16 MR. DELANEY: Very good, sir.

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Would you tell us  
18 what this is, please?

19 MR. DELANEY: This is a board transfer  
20 so that we can move monies from two of our  
21 homeland security grants, those being some older  
22 monies that are soon to expire, let's say, from a  
23 BB line into a DD line. This is so that we can  
24 purchase an emergency notification service for a  
25 one-price-pays-all, for a one-year subscription.

2 The purchase will be off of state contract. It  
3 can be used by any department without any  
4 additional cost to the County, so it will be 100  
5 percent grant funded.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: So regardless of the  
7 number of times -- this is the Swift Reach  
8 Program, right?

9 MR. DELANEY: Well, we are going to use  
10 Swift Reach at this time for it. That's not to  
11 say what it will be next year after this.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I understand.

13 MR. DELANEY: Currently, yes, sir.

14 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: So the emergency  
15 management notification that exists, under this -  
16 - under this transfer, as many times as that is  
17 used there will be no charge to the county.

18 MR. DELANEY: There will be no  
19 additional charge, that's correct.

20 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: So there's other  
21 legislation that's in front of us today on public  
22 notification of pesticide spraying with the West  
23 Niles virus -- so assuming that that passes,  
24 which I am very hopeful that it will, we can  
25 expect a much higher use of the Swift Reach



2 Program this year than we had last, isn't that  
3 correct?

4 MR. DELANEY: Could very well be the  
5 case. Yes, sir.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Anybody have any  
7 questions?

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Yes.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Denenberg.

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I had asked at  
11 the last meeting, understanding as Mr. Schmitt  
12 just elaborated on, that this goes to a one-  
13 price, unlimited use, correct?

14 MR. DELANEY: Yes. That's right.

15 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: In the past  
16 meaning 2012 until now, 2011, we were charged  
17 per-time using the system, correct?

18 MR. DELANEY: That's correct.

19 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I asked you -- by  
20 the way, thanks for being here, Tom. I asked you  
21 or your office if you could provide the  
22 legislature with how many times the system was  
23 used in 2011 and 2012, the dates for the use and  
24 the purpose for the use as well as the cost.  
25 Have you that information?

MR. DELANEY: Yes, sir.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Do you have copies for everyone or?

MR. DELANEY: There's one full copy here. If you would like, I'll take this back to the office, I'll scan it in and we can e-mail everybody.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: No. I'd like to take the copy and make sure that the legislature has that.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Scanning it in and e-mailing it is quite sufficient, thank you.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Let me see it now so I can at least ask you a question about it, if that's okay.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Hold on.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: It's not his only copy.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Is that your only copy?

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: You said you made a copy. This is a copy.

MR. DELANEY: These are copies we pulled down from the vendor's website, detailed billing

2 that's available. We can get copies again if we  
3 need to.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Yeah, but we got --  
5 one legislator's going to have paperwork and  
6 copies to refer to and everybody else is in the  
7 dark, that's not acceptable. He could ask you  
8 questions, you can refer to the paperwork, or  
9 we're going to have to -- we're going to have to  
10 let this go until you can get the copies.

11 MR. DELANEY: The one thing, though.  
12 This billing pertains to another issue, as  
13 opposed to what this board transfer is  
14 addressing. This billing is for previous things  
15 that Swift Reach has done. This billing right  
16 now -- excuse me -- board transfer now is  
17 intended to save the county a substantial amount  
18 of money every year.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: So that information  
20 has no bearing on this.

21 MR. DELANEY: No, sir. It does not.

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: It does not. Okay.  
23 Then we can move on. You can scan --

24 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Peter, it was  
25 still my questions.

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: He just told you --  
3 he just testified that it has no bearing to what  
4 is in front of us. Therefore --

5 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: That wasn't my  
6 question.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: your question will be  
8 out of order.

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: That is what you  
10 made up.

11 Tom, the reason why you're saying that  
12 this has no bearing -- we're paying one -- with  
13 all due respect, we're paying one price now,  
14 which is what?

15 MR. DELANEY: What we're paying right  
16 now -- it's set up this way.

17 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: No. I  
18 understand. It's per use, right?

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Let him answer the  
20 question. I'd like to know how it's set up.

21 MR. DELANEY: I'd be glad to explain it.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: You should've  
23 listened last week.

24 MR. DELANEY: We're using grant funds  
25 and we're using general funds to pay for this

2 service. We subscribe to two DS3 circuits that  
3 the provider has dedicated to us. Each one of  
4 those circuits is capable of 670-some-odd  
5 concurrent calls. The charge for those is  
6 \$10,000 a month. I can pay for those out of my  
7 grant funds. For any operational charges,  
8 however, that is not covered the way we have this  
9 architected as the moment. Those have to come  
10 out of the general fund. And if we're fortunate  
11 enough that we have a declaration, yes, we'll get  
12 reimbursement.

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: If we vote for  
14 this, this annual cost will be what?

15 MR. DELANEY: \$295,000 a year.

16 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Correct. And  
17 what did we spend last year?

18 MR. DELANEY: Let's see. Irene was like  
19 140,000-something itself. There was \$120,000 in  
20 the annual subscription charge. Snow events and  
21 things like that. It does vary, you're  
22 absolutely right. You don't know whether you're  
23 going to win or lose. But the bottom line is  
24 this is 100 percent funded by grants.

25 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. This year,

2 we used the system to date right now, correct?

3 Up until --

4 MR. DELANEY: Yes. Yes.

5 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: we've used the  
6 system. Can you think of -- we used it -- were  
7 there any snow emergencies that we used it for?

8 MR. DELANEY: For this past year,  
9 fortunately no. We didn't get any snow.

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So in 2012 --  
11 Irene was 11, correct?

12 MR. DELANEY: That was the big one.  
13 That's right.

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So what did we  
15 use it for in 12?

16 MR. DELANEY: It was used for  
17 notifications to residents when Town Hall  
18 meetings were going to take place. Again, those  
19 came out of general funds to pay for that.

20 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: What about for --  
21 when you say Town Hall meetings, was that Town  
22 Hall meetings about the police consolidation?

23 MR. DELANEY: There were calls that were  
24 used for that purpose, or was used for that  
25 purpose. I'm aware. I read the newspapers.

2 Yes.

3 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: What else aside  
4 from police consolidations?

5 MR. DELANEY: Those were the two main  
6 things -- Town Hall meetings and those calls for  
7 those announcements.

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: What Town Hall  
9 meetings then?

10 MR. DELANEY: These were things that --  
11 initiatives that the county exec carried out, to  
12 meet with local municipalities and local areas on  
13 a smaller basis.

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And grant money  
15 was able to be used for that or no?

16 MR. DELANEY: No, sir. This was all  
17 paid for out of general funds.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So we didn't use  
19 grant money for those -- for the community -- I'm  
20 sorry, the Town Hall meetings or the police  
21 precinct phone calls?

22 MR. DELANEY: Currently, grant money was  
23 only used to pay for subscriptions for the two  
24 DS-3 circuits.

25 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. And the

2 items that you are going to provide to us would  
3 say what the subject matter of the calls were?

4 MR. DELANEY: If you look in there it  
5 will actually have some information on each one  
6 of the campaigns, what it was for.

7 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. So  
8 publisher of leader agrees with Mangano community  
9 policing or *Newsday* agrees with Mangano  
10 community policing, so we used this system to  
11 make calls to say something on community policing  
12 in agreement with Mangano?

13 MR. DELANEY: This is what I've read in  
14 the newspaper. Yes, sir.

15 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And that was not  
16 grant fund, that was general fund.

17 MR. DELANEY: That's right.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So that was money  
19 we could've used elsewhere. Okay.

20 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Does that have any  
21 bearing on what's in front of us?

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Well, there are  
23 people who want \$8 million out here and we're  
24 making phone calls about whether *Newsday* agrees  
25 with --



2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: We all read the  
3 newspapers. The county executive makes --

4 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And Tom does a  
5 great job on emergency management.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: The county executive  
7 -- not the county legislature --

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I don't want the  
9 system being misused. I think that --

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You're impossible,  
11 Mr. Denenberg.

12 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I think that has  
13 bearing.

14 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Don't let the facts  
15 stand in the way.

16 The county executive is in power to make  
17 those decisions and to make those allocations.  
18 You've taken it up with him. You've --

19 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: It bothers me if  
20 general funds are being used that way.

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You have a vote --

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Obviously it  
23 doesn't bother you.

24 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: use it.

25 Okay. Anybody else?

2 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Thank you, Mr.  
3 Reynolds.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Bosworth.

5 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you. So  
6 here's the concern. Certainly, to have the  
7 ability to do these calls and have a one-time  
8 expense so that if there is a hurricane, if there  
9 are flooding situations, if there are emergency  
10 situations, notification of spraying, all of  
11 those are wonderful reasons to contact the  
12 residents of our county. My concern is if we  
13 have this system and there are unlimited calls,  
14 are there any safeguards in place so that these  
15 calls will not be used in a partisan way?

16 MR. DELANEY: To give you a flat answer  
17 to that, no, there are no safeguards, per say. I  
18 cannot control how the system would be used,  
19 especially once we give the privileges to other  
20 departments, you know, when they use it. So I  
21 cannot control that.

22 I can only tell you this. If we take and  
23 purchase this using our grant funds, what we've  
24 done is built a capability to notify our citizens  
25 in the event of an emergency, when they would

2 need to evacuate. We have then satisfied what  
3 our investment justifications are for that grant.  
4 What we do beyond that, though, the federal  
5 government does not have concern with. So we  
6 would not be violating any federal policies as  
7 long as we have established the capability  
8 intended.

9           LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: And I appreciate  
10 that. And I think to have a system in place that  
11 can notify our residents in time of emergency is  
12 invaluable. But I think you can also understand  
13 why it would be of concern to me if there's  
14 nothing stipulated in the -- as we start using  
15 this system, that would say that these calls can  
16 only be made in those kinds of circumstances, to  
17 notify for spraying, flooding, hurricanes,  
18 evacuations, all very valuable reasons to use  
19 this system. But to use this system in a  
20 partisan way, which you're saying you can't  
21 control it, that is of great concern to me  
22 because I don't think anything that's being done  
23 in government can have a partisan use. That's  
24 just my belief. You can't opine on that.

25           MR. DELANEY: I can't respond to that

2 other than just saying what I've said, that I  
3 cannot stop that usage.

4 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: It is possible to  
5 have it written into this contract or policy that  
6 it cannot be used for partisan uses?

7 MR. DELANEY: This definitely crosses a  
8 line that I'm not qualified to speak to. What's  
9 a good usage and what's not a good usage,  
10 everyone has a different viewpoint on that.  
11 Again, I can't speak to that. I'm sorry.

12 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Is there anybody  
13 who can?

14 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Is there anybody who  
15 can define partisan?

16 Legislator Ford has a question, and then  
17 we'll have Legislator Gonsalves. Legislator  
18 Ford.

19 LEGISLATOR FORD: What you're asking  
20 today, when you talk about the ability, I guess,  
21 under the grant money, that if we switch this  
22 instead of paying 10,000 per month per DS-3 line,  
23 which would then equate to \$240,000, is that  
24 correct?

25 MR. DELANEY: I'm sorry?

LEGISLATOR FORD: I'm just looking for clarification. I hope you don't mind if I go all over the page on this. According to your testimony, we pay \$10,000 a month per DS-3 line, so that would be \$240,000 a year. Correct?

MR. DELANEY: No. For the two DS-3 circuits are a total of \$10,000 a month.

LEGISLATOR FORD: Oh, together.

MR. DELANEY: 120 a year.

LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. Then what we're looking to do now is instead of paying a per-usage fee, we're looking now to make it so that it's just a monthly fee or something, a set fee a month?

MR. DELANEY: It would probably be a yearly fee. We pay in advance and just use the service as the need arises. Currently, one of our biggest problems is we don't encumber monies until after an activation takes place, and then I'm burdened with how are we going to pay for this? Up until this year my department never budgeted money to pay for Swift Reach activation calls. Last year I put in \$100,000 to do that to pay for some of these charges. Before that, it

2 was always where are we going to get money from?  
3 You know, I'd get contingency money from the  
4 county somehow and then we'd have to encumber it  
5 through an amendment and then the vendor would be  
6 on the hook now for, like, six months before  
7 they'd get paid.

8           LEGISLATOR FORD:     So then we'll know  
9 that, say that we're going to then allocate  
10 \$120,000 a year or 160, I don't know what the  
11 total amount is right now, despite how many times  
12 we're going to use it based on emergencies.

13           When we talk about, like, even -- not  
14 only -- like, we always look at the hurricanes.  
15 Of course, with the summer season coming up, we  
16 have hurricanes that we may have to use the Swift  
17 system for and whether or not with snowstorms.

18           Do we also use it, I mean, is this also  
19 something like, say, that you could use it within  
20 a certain area rather than the whole of the  
21 county? You know, like, if there -- like, I  
22 think a couple of months ago I think there was a  
23 gas leak over in the Five Towns area or Valley  
24 Stream, I forget which area it was, and they had  
25 to notify residents to leave their homes. Is

2 this something that you would use the Swift  
3 System for?

4 MR. DELANEY: Yes, you could. You can  
5 take it and you can carve out a specific  
6 notification area that you want to activate.

7 LEGISLATOR FORD: I know, like, say if  
8 you have, like down by me, on our island, we have  
9 fireworks. So the Town of Hempstead has it one  
10 weekend, the City of Long Beach has it another  
11 weekend. The City, of course, or the Town can  
12 notify, through their own systems, their  
13 particular residents. But people in the City of  
14 Long Beach are not part of the Town of Hempstead.  
15 But we can then, in essence, the county can then  
16 say to both areas that we will also do a Swift  
17 response to everybody letting them know that  
18 there's fireworks going to be down in that area,  
19 so regardless if you live in the City of Long  
20 Beach or the Town of Hempstead, you will be  
21 notified either way of great traffic, potential  
22 traffic.

23 MR. DELANEY: Which is a great example  
24 too. Because maybe some people might hear  
25 explosions, start tying up 9-1-1, and you can

2 avoid doing that.

3 LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. So we can then  
4 alert people.

5 This grant money, when you get this grant  
6 money, because of the communication lines, you  
7 know, is this something strictly homeland  
8 security or are you also held under the control  
9 of the FCC?

10 MR. DELANEY: No. This is just strictly  
11 under DHS, homeland security.

12 LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. So that if  
13 people were -- and I know that the concern is  
14 that if people start misusing the system, in  
15 their eyes, what is a recourse? Like, say, if I  
16 felt that it wasn't -- if you weren't -- if it  
17 wasn't being used properly, what is the recourse  
18 for somebody if they felt we didn't follow the  
19 rules on some of these calls?

20 MR. DELANEY: There are no rules, per  
21 say, other than that we use the grant money to  
22 establish a capability, to be able to rapidly  
23 notify our residents in case of emergency. Once  
24 we have that capability, you can do other things  
25 with it too.



2 LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. Like letting  
3 people know if there are going to be summer  
4 concerts; if they want to go to Eisenhower Park,  
5 they can go to Eisenhower Park, if they want to  
6 go to a certain concert. Correct?

7 MR. DELANEY: That's right.

8 LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. Thank you.

9 MR. DELANEY: You're welcome.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Gonsalves.

11 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Tom, I just want  
12 to clarify. Would it be correct to say that this  
13 item transfers funds to permit OEM to purchase an  
14 unlimited emergency notification service? Is  
15 that correct?

16 MR. DELANEY: That's what we're doing,  
17 yes.

18 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Now, can you at  
19 least give us some idea of what you consider  
20 emergency?

21 MR. DELANEY: Well, in my office what  
22 we'd consider an emergency would be the  
23 anticipation of a hurricane. We want to tell  
24 people to start taking preparations. It could be  
25 an evacuation for flooding that may be taking

2 place due to an unusual condition, maybe due to a  
3 hurricane. It could be the West Nile virus  
4 spraying.

5 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: It could  
6 certainly be something like a leak in a  
7 community, a natural gas leak in a community.

8 MR. DELANEY: It could absolutely be.

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: And those would  
10 be considered emergencies.

11 I think what I'm getting at is that there  
12 is a clearly defined definition of the word  
13 emergency. And to notify somebody about a  
14 concert may not be an emergency situation, and in  
15 that case could this money be used?

16 MR. DELANEY: Again, we can go beyond  
17 that though, too.

18 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: This grant be  
19 used. I'm sorry.

20 MR. DELANEY: Right. Because once we  
21 have satisfied our investment justification with  
22 the grant, that is creating the capability, you  
23 can use it for Town Hall meetings to tell people  
24 that you're having a meeting at the local public  
25 library and you'd like some of your constituents

2 to attend if they have an interest in it.

3 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Now, with this  
4 grant is there a requirement on the part of OEM  
5 to justify from time to time how the money is  
6 being used?

7 MR. DELANEY: Again, we would show that  
8 we established the capability. That would be it.

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: And the reason  
10 why I ask that is because I do grant work and  
11 every three months I have to justify the use the  
12 grant monies. So I'm asking whether or not there  
13 is a requirement on the part of OEM to justify  
14 the use of this money.

15 MR. DELANEY: We do. In our reporting  
16 to the state, which in turn passes through back  
17 to the feds, we would say this is how we used the  
18 money, this was our investment.

19 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you, Tom.

20 MR. DELANEY: You're welcome.

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. Anybody else?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 You want to bring Legislator Dunne out  
24 and invite him to join us, and make sure  
25 everybody's in their seats, please.

2 All those in favor of Item Number 27  
3 please signify by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 Any opposed?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 The item carries unanimously.

8 MR. DELANEY: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

10 Okay. Next we're going to call the  
11 Nassau Community College budget, which would be a  
12 hearing on Ordinance Number 166 to adopt the  
13 Nassau County budget for Nassau Community  
14 College.

15 May I have a motion, please?

16 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

17 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
19 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

20 All those in favor of opening the hearing  
21 please say aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 Any opposed?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 The hearing is open.

2 For a very brief statement, we welcome  
3 College President Dr. Astrab. Doctor, welcome.

4 DR. ASTRAB: Good afternoon, Presiding  
5 Officer Schmitt, Minority Leader Abrahams, and  
6 members of the Nassau County Legislature. I want  
7 to thank you for this opportunity to talk about  
8 Nassau Community College's budget for fiscal year  
9 2012 and 13.

10 On June 4 this budget was brought before  
11 the Government Services, in the Finance and Rules  
12 Committees, and at that time I offered an  
13 overview of the budget. On behalf of the members  
14 who were not present then, I'd like to touch on  
15 some of the highlights and key elements of the  
16 budget here today. I'd also like to respond more  
17 fully to a question that was presented at that  
18 time, as it related to the nursing program  
19 expansion and opportunities. In addition, I'll  
20 talk a little bit about some non-mathematic  
21 impacts of this budget.

22 But first, the 2012/2013 budget call for  
23 no-tuition increase, no fee increase, and no tax  
24 increase. So I'd like to start off by just  
25 looking at those elements.

1           First, for the fourth year in a row, the  
2 budget does not assume any increase in County  
3 property taxes supporting the College. We are  
4 very grateful for the support Nassau County has  
5 given to the College in the past. That level of  
6 support has enabled the County's contribution to  
7 be a percentage of the overall College budget  
8 that stays pretty close to the level envisioned  
9 by state law. Although we recognize that  
10 maintaining the County's commitment on behalf of  
11 the College's operating budget will require  
12 additional revenues at some point in the future,  
13 we also recognize that the reality of such a  
14 revenue increase at this time would not be  
15 forthcoming this year.

17           Second, this budget does not include any  
18 increase in tuition or fees. Currently, students  
19 are bearing approximately 40 percent of the cost  
20 of the College's operating budget. This already  
21 high percentage would have been even higher had  
22 it not been for a significant increase in state  
23 aid this year, which amounted in NCC's case to be  
24 almost \$3 million. However, to put this increase  
25 in context, the level of state aid to community

colleges, including Nassau Community College, even with this increase, is still less than it was in 2003. All elements of the College -- the administration, the faculty, the students -- expended considerable efforts in advocating for an even larger increase in state aid. We are, of course, grateful to our state representatives for this increase, but I assure you our efforts on all fronts will continue to have the state ultimately provide the level of aid envisioned in state law. By providing for no increase in tuition or fees, we have been able to keep the tuition at \$3,990 annually, which is the same level as Suffolk County Community College. In addition to being mindful of maintaining our competitive position with respect to other community colleges, the level of tuition in this budget recognizes the substantial tuition increases, if they were put forward, would risk our ability to fulfill our mission of offering affordable, high quality higher education.

Third, with respect to the level of spending in this budget, spending will be increased by less than one percent compared to

the adopted for 2011/12. To put this in further context, the College budget for 2011-2012 itself called for spending that was at a level lower than 2009/10 in spite of the fact that the baseline expenses and growth in the budget each year is approximately \$10 million. In other words, the budget that is before you today for your consideration continues a pattern of the last few years of significant spending restraint.

Fourth, this budget includes spending \$1.5 million in fund balance. Spending down fund balance is something that must be done carefully and judiciously. At a time when other sources of revenue have been increased to their practical limits and when spending, as I indicated a moment ago, has already been significantly restrained, tapping into fund balance is not an inappropriate action. However, even with this expenditure of fund balance, the level of our fund balance remaining for the College is still within the Board of Trustees' policy of what should be on hand to deal with emergency spending needs.

With that, our challenge has been there. We're keeping our budgeting constraints. We have



2 a number of community activities we've started,  
3 in terms of workforce education and initiatives  
4 with the Town of Hempstead and Long Beach, for  
5 GED training. But I'll keep it short. There  
6 will be a copy of the full statement available to  
7 everyone, along with a copy of this GED and  
8 Review for Workforce Literacy Program that I'll  
9 make available to everyone.

10 I guess if you have any questions, I'm  
11 available here right now.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: We have copies of the  
13 statement, Dr. Astrab. Thank you very much.

14 Does anybody have any -- why don't we  
15 hear from Stephanie Sapiie - am I pronouncing it  
16 right? Don't go too far, Dr. Astrab, unless  
17 there are responses that have to be made, please.

18 MS. SAPIIE: I'm here to speak on behalf  
19 of the Nassau Community College Federation of  
20 Teachers. This year's budget keeps tuition flat  
21 for next year, and it will be realized the  
22 difficult to vote against. However, we believe  
23 this budget is driven by a vision for the College  
24 more concerned with shortsighted financial  
25 priorities than with what it means to be a

nationally recognized community college.

The budget you have before you may look good on paper, but it sets up our College for failure. Consider the flat tuition. While students and their parents may reasonably celebrate it, it is not part of a rational fiscal policy that takes the College's financial needs into account in a predictable manner. Equally troubling is the decision to use \$1.5 million from the fund balance to pay for operating expenses, something we regard as not sound fiscal management. We find this particularly disturbing since we put on the table more than a year ago a package of savings totaling at least four million, which was rejected.

Much of the savings in this budget comes from the anticipated retirement of 20 full-time faculty members that the administration has decided not to replace, an action that will lead to a 15 percent reduction in the ranks of the full-time faculty by spring 2013. This may be interpreted as a cost-saving measure, but it is a savings that jeopardizes the reputation of our College, as one of the finest two-year colleges

2 in the nation, because of its dedicated full-time  
3 faculty, its low faculty-to-student-ratio, and  
4 correspondingly small class size, and its  
5 commitment to providing students the highest  
6 quality support services outside of the  
7 classroom.

8           By continuing to deplete the numbers of  
9 full-time faculty, this budget compromises the  
10 quality of education students come to Nassau  
11 Community College to receive. Increasingly,  
12 students are having difficulty registering for  
13 courses when they need them. When students to  
14 register for classes, they are less likely to  
15 have an instructor who is required to hold office  
16 hours and students are less likely to get the  
17 kind of personalized attention Nassau is known  
18 for.

19           A budget that gives short shrift to the  
20 strengths that have earned Nassau Community  
21 College its good name is not going to be a budget  
22 that truly puts students first, no matter how  
23 good the words no tuition increase this year may  
24 sound.

25           If you care about Nassau Community's

2 reputation, independently of how you vote today,  
3 we invite you to work with us to ensure that it  
4 remains intact.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Do you have copies of  
7 your statement available for us?

8 MS. SAPIIE: I do not.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Would you just go  
10 back to the first lines you read? You said  
11 something about the no tuition increase not  
12 taking into account what?

13 MS. SAPIIE: Taking into account -- the  
14 first lines, which first lines?

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: The very beginning of  
16 your statement you said something about a no  
17 tuition increase budget may look good --

18 MS. SAPIEE: May look good on paper, but  
19 it sets up our College for failure by not  
20 accounting for costs that may rise in the absence  
21 of state/county funding that our College needs  
22 the fair share. The original agreement was one-  
23 third, one-third, one-third.

24 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I understand. I  
25 understand the one-third, one-third, on-third.

1 It's one thing for members of the College  
2 community to look at things from how it affects  
3 the College community and we do that too. But we  
4 also have to look at things at how it affects the  
5 residents of the County and whether or not --  
6 you're talking about a tuition increase. That's  
7 the families that are sending their children to  
8 the College, those are our constituents. Let's  
9 be honest. Where does a 17 year old, 18 year old  
10 go to get the tuition money? They go home. They  
11 go to mom and dad and say the tuition is \$4200 a  
12 year, \$4500 a year. We feel that the residents,  
13 we feel that the residents have to dig into their  
14 pockets, at a time when the economy appears to be  
15 getting worse, not better, when we still continue  
16 to see the for sale signs on houses popping up,  
17 we still continue to see an increase in the  
18 number of downtown stores that are vacant.

19  
20 In my judgment, speaking only for myself,  
21 I do not think that this is the time to raise  
22 either taxes or tuition on the students, if it  
23 can at all be avoided. Obviously, the future is  
24 the future, and I don't believe the College -- I  
25 believe in my heart that the College will not

1 suffer long-term damage. I don't think this  
2 could be a policy that goes on ad infinitum into  
3 the future, but I don't believe it will have any  
4 long-term damage to the College.  
5

6 I understand the difficulties in the  
7 contract negotiations, and I applaud the efforts  
8 of the NCCFT for putting offers on the table, and  
9 would urge them to continue to put offers on the  
10 table and to work with the administration to try  
11 and bring some -- it's funny for me to say with  
12 what's going on in Nassau County -- but I was  
13 going to say try and bring some labor peace to  
14 the College campus. It's been done in the past,  
15 and I'm sure it can be done again in the future.

16 MS. SAPIIE: May I respond, briefly?

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Of course. Of  
18 course. Absolutely.

19 MS. SAPIIE: With respect, I think one  
20 of the things that we are concerned about is the  
21 effect, the current emphasis spending has on  
22 student services. And I think one of the things  
23 we -- many of our students who come to Nassau  
24 Community College come with severe deficiencies  
25 in reading, writing, arithmetic; many of them

1  
2 need remedial coursework. This is coursework  
3 that is non-credit bearing coursework. Many of  
4 them spend many years doing it. These services  
5 are vital to this student population, and it's an  
6 ever-growing number of students who yearly depend  
7 on this. So I think from the perspective of  
8 students, in terms of how the College is able to  
9 serve their needs, we find shortcomings in this  
10 budget.

11 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I fully understand.  
12 But what I'm saying to you -- what you're saying  
13 to us, I just want to be clear. What you're  
14 saying to us is either raise tuition or raise  
15 taxes to address those problems now, in the midst  
16 of the worst economy I've ever seen in my life.  
17 Right?

18 MS. SAPIEE: This is why we were so  
19 grateful for state aid, but even that is not  
20 enough.

21 MS. DESANTO: May I say something?

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Certainly. Identify  
23 yourself. Are you with the College?

24 MS. DESANTO: I am.

25 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Identify yourself for

2 the record.

3 MS. DESANTO: I'm Debra DeSanto,  
4 President, NCCFT.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I thought so.  
6 Welcome.

7 MS. DESANTO: Thank you. I really  
8 didn't plan to speak today, but you're asking  
9 about long-range problems that could result from  
10 this. And what we see as long-range problems is  
11 that we don't want to dismiss the role that the  
12 adjuncts play; the adjuncts are essential. What  
13 we're talking about here are the full-time  
14 faculty. And right now we have lost over 80  
15 full-time faculty members.

16 Obviously the solution may not have been  
17 a tuition increase. Although, for every \$50  
18 tuition increase means a million dollars, and we  
19 could have retained many of the full-time faculty  
20 members. We're concerned about the students who  
21 do come from Nassau who are from the community  
22 who have special needs, and now they're no longer  
23 able to get these special needs, because adjuncts  
24 are not required contractually to hold office  
25 hours, the services for remediation and for labs



are being shut down. They're just not there.

So we're bringing this to your attention. We stated in the beginning, that Stephanie read so eloquently, is that we understand, but there's a bigger issue here. This is a concern that if this is going to continue that the full-time faculty are going to be eliminated, and this is what we're addressing right now.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: And this is really off the College budget. But what is the position -- how does the Board of Trustees respond to that?

MS. DESANTO: The Board of Trustees right now, I think -- I have to be diplomatic. The Board of Trustees right now is struggling. As you probably have seen, they've replaced two Board of Trustees; one individual was indicted, another individual just resigned. We are going up there. We speak. We have hundreds of people that turn out talking to the Board of Trustees, trying to go back to the table. We do have something coming up again on Thursday. We did have over four million, that was pretty well, I thought could stabilize the contract right now,

2 and to move us forward and to stop the  
3 elimination of the full-time faculty members.  
4 But we were, more or less, dismissed. But we do  
5 have something coming up on Thursday. I'm  
6 hopeful that maybe that's something we can work  
7 together. We were willing to go back and to give  
8 givebacks.

9 So we're just bringing this to your  
10 attention -

11 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I understand.

12 MS. DESANTO: if it goes through this  
13 year, we're concerned next year and what's going  
14 to happen. And we're also concerned about the  
15 elimination of full-time faculty.

16 Many of us got our education there. Many  
17 of you probably have family members that went  
18 there too. And for the 3990, which we consider  
19 to be an exceptional value, and we were always  
20 known as the gem of Nassau County. We're  
21 concerned. We're not seeing that. There's  
22 turmoil on the campus. And there is a problem  
23 right now with the Board of Trustees, and I think  
24 the administration realizes also. But we need to  
25 work together. And we don't want to see the

2 College decimated and we care about it. And  
3 that's it.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I understand  
5 completely. We've met before, and I'm more than  
6 willing to meet with you in the future. If  
7 there's something that my office can do to be of  
8 assistance with that, I will certainly be there  
9 for you.

10 MS. SAPIIE: Thank you.

11 MS. DESANTO: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Anybody have anything  
13 -- Legislator Jacobs.

14 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Yes. I was  
15 listening to you also very carefully. But these  
16 times are so difficult. You have some really  
17 strong supporters here; I'm one of them, and many  
18 others are up here too. And we know the value of  
19 this College, and we are definitely committed to  
20 seeing this College survive, if anything,  
21 especially during these times. But as you could  
22 see, I don't know how long you've been here  
23 today, but as you could tell with what was going  
24 on here today, these are extremely difficult  
25 times and decisions have to be reached that can

2 enable all of us to get through them as they're  
3 going on, and I think that's what you're seeing.

4 MS. DESANTO: I agree. And I have been  
5 here the whole time. And I think it's  
6 heartbreaking to sit here and to listen to the  
7 other programs that are being decimated also.  
8 But again, our concern is that -- and I don't  
9 want to negotiate publicly because that's not  
10 something that I would do.

11 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Nor would I.

12 MS. DESANTO: Right. Exactly. But we're  
13 concerned about the full-timers that are  
14 continuing to be losing positions, and we no  
15 longer are giving our probationary lines; we only  
16 have temporary lines. If you want to track  
17 quality educators, which is what we've had in the  
18 past, I think we need to continue to work in the  
19 direction that we had in the past and respect  
20 everyone that's employed at the College, also,  
21 and keep a careful eye on our numbers, as our  
22 numbers continue to slide down. I'm concerned  
23 about the students in the community.

24 And there are many adults and many people  
25 coming back to campus right now because it's

2 affordable. We're not saying raise the tuition.  
3 We're just saying the solution is not eliminating  
4 the full-time positions.

5 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Which has to result  
6 in some type of increase, whether it's in tuition  
7 or in taxes. Right now that is not something  
8 that anyone --

9 MS. DESANTO: You have to balance it  
10 with what the administration looks like also.  
11 You have to look to see where the moneys' being  
12 spent on campus. You also have to maybe put a  
13 percentage that not 100 percent are not filled,  
14 that there's a certain percentage that be filled,  
15 whether it's 50 percent or something. There's  
16 got to be some level of reason within, and that's  
17 all we're asking for at this point.

18 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Let's hope that as  
19 next year arrives it becomes even a little bit  
20 more.

21 MS. DESANTO: I hope so. Thank you very  
22 much for your time.

23 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you. Dr.  
24 Astrab, would you like to respond?

25 DR. ASTRAB: If I can just respond

quickly.

I emphasized early in my talk that students are already paying 40 percent of our College operating budget right now. So when you think of one-third, one-third, one-third, they're there. Just to hit two things quickly.

I've personally been involved working with SUNY Farmingdale, SUNY Old Westbury, and Suffolk County Community College, in conjunction with the Long Island Regional Council, to design an advanced manufacturing program to directly address the needs of manufacturing on Long Island. The challenge and opportunity entailed in this, in meeting this goal was highlighted in a story that appeared in *Newsday* on June 3, entitled *Help Really Wanted, Amid Skills Gap*. Some companies are struggling to find workers. Currently, there are no higher education institutions on Long Island that offer training in composite technology, in composite materials, which is a growing industry on Long Island. At the same time, manufacturers of compromise materials cannot staff their plants and do not get the applicants they need. A program like

2 this offers a multi-level approach to teach NCC  
3 students and retain people currently in the  
4 workforce for these jobs that are available  
5 today. I look forward to working with all  
6 sectors of the campus community to resources  
7 being put to this initiative.

8           Finally, just going back to what NCC has  
9 been doing with the Center for Workforce  
10 Development in offering GED and workforce  
11 literacy review programs, in conjunction with the  
12 Town of Hempstead and the City of Long Beach.  
13 This is a six-week program that started just a  
14 little over a month ago. It provides students  
15 with the opportunity to receive GED and workforce  
16 literacy training at no cost to them. NCC  
17 assisted the Town of Hempstead in the youth  
18 program with recruitment efforts from our GED  
19 testing program, admissions office, the College  
20 website, campus information center, and library,  
21 along with the workforce investment boards and  
22 the labor departments. So, I'd like to share --  
23 and that handout was given to you earlier -- just  
24 a couple of things.

25           We are moving forward. We're trying to

2 partner with the community every way we can and  
3 keep affordable, high-quality education.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you very much,  
6 Dr. Astrab.

7 Legislator Becker.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Mr. Astrab, was that  
9 in this handout you just gave? Is it in this  
10 handout, what you just read?

11 DR. ASTRAB: It's in my statement and  
12 there's a flyer that's coming around about more  
13 about the Hempstead, Long Beach program.

14 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Somebody's providing  
15 what you just read to us?

16 DR. ASTRAB: Yes.

17 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Okay. Just, once  
18 again, I wanted to just reiterate what I said in  
19 committee, and that's just that I personally  
20 appreciate the great job you're doing at the  
21 College and all your administration, they're  
22 working so very, very hard. And to present a  
23 budget like this that has no increase to anybody,  
24 it couldn't be more timely. Yet, I know it is  
25 extremely difficult.



2 I want to compliment also the teachers  
3 and the professors for their hard work and the  
4 quality of education they're giving our kids.

5 I went to Nassau Community College, as  
6 did my wife, and it's a platform for all people  
7 in our county to get an education start at a  
8 very, very reasonable cost. And we hear nowadays  
9 kids come out of school with 100,000, 120,000,  
10 \$130,000 in loans and where do they start? Many  
11 of them not at Nassau Community College.

12 I just want to personally thank you.  
13 Over the last couple of years since you have  
14 stepped up to the presidency, I know it hasn't  
15 been easy and you've worked very hard. But I  
16 think you're doing a great job, as well as the  
17 rest of your administration. This budget you're  
18 presenting today couldn't be more timely,  
19 considering what we're all experiencing in our  
20 country, especially in our country.

21 I'm very comforted in knowing that our  
22 kids are going to continue to go to the school,  
23 get a great, great education, and beginning to  
24 maybe going on to a four-year school. So you  
25 have my continued support, as your

2 administration. And I want to also thank  
3 everybody involved, including the teachers and  
4 other professors.

5 So, thank you again Mr. Astrab. I  
6 appreciate it.

7 DR. ASTRAB: Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. Anybody else?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 Any public comment?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 I'll take a motion to close the hearing.

13 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

14 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
16 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

17 All those in favor of closing the hearing  
18 please say aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 The hearing is closed.

21 We're now going to take a vote on --

22 we're going to call Ordinance Number 166, which  
23 is the ordinance to adopt the Nassau County  
24 budget for Nassau Community College.

25 Can I have a motion, please?

LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

We've had all the debate and discussion.

Any public comment?

(No verbal response.)

All those in favor of adopting -- please  
bring Mr. Dunne out. Thank you.

I should point out for the record that  
Mr. Dunne is getting a streaming of what goes on  
here in the computer in the back room, so he's  
very much aware of all the testimony and able to  
cast his vote with knowledge of what we have been  
talking about here.

All those in favor of Ordinance Number  
166 adopting the Nassau County budget, please  
signify by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any opposed?

(No verbal response.)

The item carries unanimously.

Congratulations to the College. We're  
all very proud of the College.

2 We are now going to go to Items Number 21  
3 and 22, which I'm going to call together.  
4 Resolution Number 97 is a resolution appointing a  
5 republican commissioner of elections for the  
6 County of Nassau.

7 And Resolution Number 98 is a resolution  
8 appointing a democratic commissioner of elections  
9 for the County of Nassau.

10 May I have a motion, please?

11 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

12 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
14 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

15 The republican appointee is the incumbent  
16 Louis Savantete, and the democratic appointee is  
17 the incumbent William Biamonte.

18 Is there any debate or discussion?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Any public comment?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 All those in favor of appointee the  
23 commissioners please say aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 Any opposed?

2 (No verbal response.)

3 The commissioners are appointed  
4 unanimously.

5 I'm now going to take a motion to open up  
6 a hearing on -- a hearing to amend Title 42 of  
7 the Miscellaneous Laws of Nassau County in  
8 relation to the advance notification of aerial  
9 and ground spraying of pesticides for adult  
10 mosquito control.

11 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

12 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I have a motion by  
14 Legislator Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator  
15 Muscarella.

16 All those in favor of opening the hearing  
17 please say aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 Any opposed?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 The item -- the hearing is open.

22 Is there any -- actually, this Bill is  
23 coming from the legislature. This is a Bill to  
24 require that in the event that West Nile Virus or  
25 any other health situation of that type that is

2 in the county and causes the Health Department to  
3 declare an emergency that would require the  
4 spraying of pesticides, either on ground, when  
5 they use the trucks and go up and down the  
6 streets, or aerial spraying, where they contract  
7 out for airplanes to do the same, that this will  
8 tile in nicely with our Swift Reach item of  
9 before, that the residents of the affected area  
10 will be notified in advance to tell them that  
11 spraying will take place and to tell them what  
12 will be sprayed and to give them the option of  
13 making informed decisions on how to deal with  
14 that, whether to close their windows and sit it  
15 out, leave, or whatever it might be. So it's no  
16 longer going to be an option, as it has been in  
17 years past. It's going to be part of the local  
18 law.

19 Any debate or discussion? Question.

20 Legislator Bosworth.

21 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: And I know this  
22 says that it adds the following sections, but I  
23 just want to make sure that we still have the  
24 notification in place if the spraying is actually  
25 cancelled and notification for when it is

rescheduled.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Yes.

LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Because spraying takes place -- good question, because aerial spraying takes place under very certain conditions. If the wind is different, rain, or anything of that nature, it has to be postponed and we will be notifying people that way as well.

Yes, sir. Public comment?

MR. ZAUSNER: No, sir. I'm from the Office of Emergency Management. Eric Zausner.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Oh. How are you?

MR. ZAUSNER: I'm well.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I expected you. But when I didn't see anybody there, I took it on myself and ran with it. But, go ahead.

MR. ZAUSNER: I'm sorry, Legislator.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: That's alright.

MR. ZAUSNER: Basically, what we're doing here is your codifying a -- utilizing OEM's notification system where we can carve out specific areas of the county on a geographic map to alert those specific areas whether there is

spraying in Port Washington, that way we can only say in Port Washington, they will be the only ones that get the calls. This will be very beneficial, given the item that you just passed before, which is our pay-one-price for these Swift Reach calls. And in the calls we will be specifying it will take place the day before, and it will specify the duration of the calls -- I mean the duration of the spraying.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Denenberg.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Two questions. The first one will be to the representative from Emergency Management.

A call for pesticide notification would fit within the grant, and that would be paid for through the grant money or would that be paid for through the general fund?

MR. ZAUSNER: Currently, the resolution that you just previously approved is the board transfer so that we can do a pay-one-price, so it will all be funded with grant money. As or right now, every call that we make is paid out of the general fund.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. Then, I



2 guess to the Presiding Officer, do you envision  
3 the county executive makes the determination with  
4 Emergency Management of what areas and who to  
5 make a call?

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: No. My understanding  
7 from previous years, where pesticide spraying  
8 took place, is the Department of Health declares  
9 an emergency, and then they work in consultation  
10 with the Department of Public Works to outline  
11 the area that will be sprayed. Am I correct so  
12 far? And the State Health Department is  
13 involved. And then once they carve out an area  
14 where there will be spraying, that's when we get  
15 notified -- you know, we can get maps.

16 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: We get the  
17 notification under the current law.

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: At that point, they  
19 will -- when we get the notification, at that  
20 point they will kick in the notification of the  
21 residents.

22 MS. LAURAIN: Mary Ellen Laurain,  
23 Department of Health. That's correct.

24 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: There you go. Thank  
25 you.

2 MS. LAURAIN: The Department of Health  
3 gives the location of the spraying and a map to  
4 OEM, and then they create the Swift Reach  
5 notification based on the specifications that we  
6 set at the Department of Health.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: At the time that this  
8 legislation was envisioned or discussed in our  
9 conference, it would have been a cost factor.  
10 The Swift Reach thing is terrific in the sense  
11 that moving it now to grant funded and having it  
12 now not cost anything to make an unlimited number  
13 of phone calls just helps us out tremendously.

14 Any public comment?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 I'll take a motion to close the hearing.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

18 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
20 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

21 All those in favor of closing the hearing  
22 please say aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 Any opposed?

25 (No verbal response.)

2 The hearing is closed.

3 We'll take a vote on the local law to  
4 adopt the law related to the ground spraying and  
5 aerial spraying of pesticides for adult  
6 mosquitoes.

7 May I have a motion, please?

8 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

9 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
11 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

12 We've had all the debate and discussion.

13 Any public comment?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 All those in favor of adopting the  
16 amendment please say aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 Any opposed?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 The item carries unanimously.

21 Okay. Now we're going to go to the  
22 consent calendar, which are items that the  
23 minority and the majority have agreed to -- that  
24 there's been sufficient airing in the committees,  
25 that these can just be put forth and adopted. So

2 I'm going to call the numbers, and somebody watch  
3 to make sure I don't make a mistake.

4 Item Number 5, Item Number 6, 7, 8, 9,  
5 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23,  
6 24, 25 -- not 24 -- 25, 26, 29, and that's it.

7 May I have a motion, please?

8 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

9 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
11 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

12 Any public comment on any of those items?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 All those in favor please say aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 Any opposed?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 The ayes have it unanimously.

19 Now we're going to do Item Number 24. We  
20 have an amendment in the nature of a  
21 substitution, which was clocked in on June 11,  
22 which an amendment is being made to substitute  
23 Schedule A, B, and C to the easement agreement.  
24 The schedules originally attached were incorrect.

25 May I have a motion -- I'll take the

2 motion on the amendment. May I have a second?

3 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Second.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Seconded by  
5 Legislator Gonsalves.

6 All those in favor of the amendment as  
7 proposed please signify by saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 Any opposed?

10 (No verbal response.)

11 Now, Item Number 24, as amended. May I  
12 have a motion, please?

13 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

14 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
16 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

17 Any debate or discussion on the item as  
18 amended?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Any public comment?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 All those in favor please say aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 Opposed?

25 (No verbal response.)

2 The item carries unanimously.

3 We now go to Item Number 30, 31, and 32,  
4 are all correcting anonymous -- erroneous  
5 assessments. Item Number 30 is Resolution 105.  
6 Item 31 is Resolution 106. Item 32 is Resolution  
7 107.

8 Do we have a motion, please?

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

10 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Moved by Legislator  
12 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

13 Any debate or discussion on these items?

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I still had a  
15 question on this.

16 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Denenberg.  
17 Is Martin Volk here? Martin Volk? These are  
18 your items, right? There are two people coming  
19 up.

20 MR. CESTRA: My name is Jeffrey Cestra  
21 from the Assessment Unit and title's accountant.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: In the Finance  
23 Committee I had asked and really didn't get an  
24 answer. These three items, I believe it's three  
25 items, each deal with the county paying for an

2 error made with the STAR or Enhanced STAR  
3 exemption. I just don't understand if it's a  
4 state program, which STAR and Enhanced is, state  
5 school tax relief, what could we possibly have  
6 done, mistaken where now the county has to pay  
7 its residents for an exemption not being I guess  
8 filed correctly.

9 MR. CESTRA: Yeah. See --

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And I don't ever  
11 recall us doing this before.

12 MR. CESTRA: Well, we have done it  
13 before, okay? Basically, what happens is we have  
14 to get state approval for the approval of the  
15 Basic STAR or the Enhanced STAR, okay. And  
16 sometimes the state will say no, we're not  
17 allowed to take the exemption, and then say a  
18 period later that we can take it. And I'll give  
19 you an example. If a person, for example, has  
20 two households in New York State, okay, one in  
21 Westchester, the other one in Nassau County,  
22 okay, and he's taken the exemption in Westchester  
23 first, obviously we have to take that exemption  
24 off before he's allowed the Nassau County  
25 exemption, okay, and that's what happened on

2 several of these exemptions.

3 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But then that  
4 doesn't sound like it's the county error then,  
5 that sounds like a state error. So why are we  
6 paying for it?

7 MR. CESTRA: Right. State error.

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So why are we  
9 paying for it?

10 MR. CESTRA: That's the way, at this  
11 point, Nassau County does it.

12 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Is this just  
13 correcting the assessment or is this the county  
14 paying it itself?

15 MR. CESTRA: This is correcting the  
16 assessment.

17 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So the county  
18 doesn't pay for it, the state will?

19 MR. CESTRA: I'm not saying the state's  
20 going to pay it. In other words, the treasurer  
21 is going to issue a check and refund the  
22 taxpayer.

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Who's going to  
24 issue the check?

25 MR. CESTRA: The treasurer's department



2 issues the check.

3 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Nassau County  
4 issues the check?

5 MR. CESTRA: Nassau County.

6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: It's a correction  
7 in assessment to reflect that someone was  
8 entitled to STAR or entitled to Enhanced STAR.  
9 And because of the way you described it, a state  
10 mistake, they didn't get that STAR or Enhanced  
11 STAR credit or their assessment didn't reflect  
12 the reduction because the STAR or Enhanced STAR,  
13 why should the county treasurer be paying it?  
14 First of all, it's a state program to begin with.  
15 And if the error was due to the state and all the  
16 county does, near as I could tell, is process the  
17 application, right, so why would the county be  
18 paying for this?

19 MR. CESTRA: The County is obligated to  
20 pay first.

21 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Will we get  
22 refunded from the state?

23 MR. CESTRA: No, at this point.

24 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I don't get it.  
25 It makes -- we process it on time, it's state

2 school tax relief, the state makes the mistake  
3 and doesn't credit someone because, as you said  
4 it, they think they're in Westchester but they're  
5 in Nassau County. Why would the county have to  
6 refund a state school tax relief unless we did  
7 something wrong with the filing and turning it  
8 down, and we don't do that.

9 MR. CESTRA: Legislature Denenberg,  
10 first of all, the county isn't going to get the  
11 money back from the state, okay. If anything,  
12 okay, the county would get their money from the  
13 school district, okay. For the way it's set up  
14 now, okay, Nassau County is paying for the  
15 refund.

16 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: It's state school  
17 tax relief. It's my understanding that the state  
18 gives the relief for school taxes, right?

19 MR. CESTRA: The state is giving aid to  
20 the schools.

21 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Correct.

22 MR. CESTRA: That's how it's done.

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So why are we  
24 paying for a mistake? I don't get it.

25 MR. CESTRA: At this point --

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Ford.

3 LEGISLATOR FORD: From what I understand  
4 of this, the STAR and Enhanced STAR is something  
5 that the state allows each school district -- we  
6 can have taken off of our assessed values or  
7 whatever county taxes or state school taxes we're  
8 going to pay, correct?

9 MR. CESTRA: Correct.

10 LEGISLATOR FORD: So if have \$1300  
11 Enhanced STAR, I'm entitled to take that and I  
12 pay that -- that should be taken off of my tax  
13 bill and I should pay \$1300 less.

14 MR. CESTRA: Correct.

15 LEGISLATOR FORD: So what we're saying  
16 is that in the past the state has made a mistake  
17 where I should have had the STAR on my taxes on  
18 my property in Long Beach, but somehow or another  
19 it was on my property in upstate New York where I  
20 don't want to have the STAR, correct?

21 MR. CESTRA: Okay.

22 LEGISLATOR FORD: So what's happening is  
23 that the person who was entitled to the STAR and  
24 the Enhanced STAR overpaid their taxes by  
25 whatever the STAR or Enhanced STAR reduction is.

2 Correct?

3 MR. CESTRA: Okay. Correct.

4 LEGISLATOR FORD: And that's why we're  
5 paying them back, because they overpaid. They  
6 grieved it to say I was entitled to this STAR  
7 deduction or Enhanced STAR. Therefore, like  
8 we've done with all the over assessments, we've  
9 always paid back what a person was either owed or  
10 overpaid, correct?

11 MR. CESTRA: Correct.

12 LEGISLATOR FORD: Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. Anybody else?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 Thank you.

16 We'll take a vote.

17 Any public comment?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 All those in favor of the three items  
20 please signify by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 Any opposed?

23 (No verbal response.)

24 The items carry unanimously.

25 Are there any other items to come before

2 us? Okay.

3 I'm going to recess this meeting, and  
4 we're going to go back into public comment.  
5 We're recessing this meeting because, as I  
6 announced before, with the bonding, there's all  
7 kinds of stuff that we have to do, stuff going on  
8 that may or may not be going on up in Albany; I  
9 have no idea, I just work here. If they need to  
10 get a home rule message, if there should be some  
11 kind of agreement in Albany, we'll be able to  
12 come back together, although I think it's pretty  
13 late in the game. But we'll see.

14 We'll recess this meeting, and we'll go  
15 back to public comment.

16 (Whereupon, the Full Legislature recessed  
17 at 4:22 p.m.)

18 (Whereupon, the Full Legislature  
19 reconvened at 4:25 p.m.)

20 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Randy Malone. Randy  
21 Malone?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Randy Malone?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 Gwen O'Shea.

MS. O'SHEA: I started off writing good morning, but obviously that's not the case. So good afternoon. I'm Gwen O'Shea with the Health and Welfare Council of Long Island, and I'm obviously here testifying on some of the cuts to a variety of health and human service programs that are available to Nassau County residents.

It was at the time that the current administration took office a number of years ago that we, as part of the health and human service sector, as the umbrella agency, understood the difficult fiscal climate that they the county was in and the bleak outlook that was ahead for the years that would follow, and we offered to the county administration, as well as to all elected officials, our assistance in planning for and managing the critical services that, through this sector, we understood reform was necessary to be able to manage, and that there would be a growing number of those most vulnerable and in need that we would be called on to assist.

Because it was an area that we knew and understood, we offered our help and expressed, on numerous occasions, our willingness to partner in

2 a partnership collaborative manner, and it was as  
3 recent as last summer and in the fall that we  
4 spoke with the county executive's office and his  
5 staff about how can we plan appropriately to  
6 maintain the delivery of services.

7 At that time many legislators welcomed  
8 our ideas and were very receptive and in fact  
9 supported them. However, the administration at  
10 that time and others said no thank you. So, here  
11 we are today, therefore asking, since our  
12 planning wasn't necessary and our assistance  
13 wasn't necessary, what is happening related to  
14 county leadership.

15 Each of the elected officials, including  
16 the county executive, was elected to manage and  
17 do the county's business, and part of that  
18 business is ensuring the provision of services  
19 through health and human service providers.  
20 However, with all due respect, right now it is  
21 simply impossible for health and human service  
22 providers to do business. Contracted agencies,  
23 many of which were outside on the steps this  
24 morning, some of which are still here today, are  
25 paid to provide services, and to provide services

1 to those most vulnerable and at-risk. Instead,  
2 we're outside this morning and are in the room  
3 today because they have to ensure that their  
4 contracts are maintained. And the question is  
5 why is there money being spent by having them  
6 here in the room rather than have them in their  
7 agencies providing the services and programs that  
8 are so critical for those they serve? And part  
9 of that is because they're being asked to play a  
10 game of political ping pong, and they need to be  
11 here to advocate to ensure that their contracts  
12 are in place after the first week of July to  
13 ensure they're able to serve those who are most  
14 in need.

16 And while we offered our services to  
17 assist the county in maintaining a sector a  
18 number of years ago, we did that also to ensure  
19 maximizing the federal and state dollars that  
20 come into the county and that are now at-risk.

21 We now, instead of being asked to help  
22 plan, are being asked to manage a political  
23 problem that really isn't our doing and it really  
24 isn't our area of expertise. Borrowing and  
25 bonding has nothing to do with what we do, and



those that we represent are being used as pawns in this issue and it's really not appropriate.

While many say there's a fiscal emergency in Nassau County, we suggest that the county recognize and declare a state of emergency for health and human services and for those who are most vulnerable. We believe, with all due respect, that it's a shame that we are here today. And if you are going to decide to cut contracts and services, that is your decision. But to blame agencies when that happens, to put us in the middle, is not, in fact, fair.

The decision to be made is your decision, and it's not as a result of the sector not coming out, not speaking out on behalf of the importance of the services and speaking out on behalf of those who are most vulnerable. We still believe that today there are opportunities to draw down the federal dollars and the state dollars that we, as taxpayers, send to Albany and Washington, D.C., which will now be at-risk. We are asking you to work with us to maintain those services, to do your due diligence, and ensure those services are there, because the standoff is

2 really shameful, and those that are being held  
3 hostage are the most vulnerable in Nassau County  
4 -- our youth, our seniors, those with significant  
5 mental health issues. And so the choice is yours  
6 --

7 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes have  
8 expired.

9 MS. O'SHEA: you can continue to play  
10 political ping pong and use the individuals that  
11 we serve as pawns, or we can ask you to do what  
12 you were elected to do, which is to stand up and  
13 protect those who are most vulnerable.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

16 Eon Bailey.

17 MR. BAILEY: I should say good  
18 afternoon, good evening.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Good afternoon.

20 MR. BAILEY: What is happening here on  
21 these proposed cuts could be considered a crime  
22 against humanity here in Nassau County. I am in  
23 the trenches with people with substance abuse,  
24 youths, and seniors. If these services are cut,  
25 some of the things that you do not understand is

2 the people who are coming out of the correctional  
3 institutions, people with two bodies, one body,  
4 in other words they have killed two people,  
5 people who have spent 25 years in jail, ten years  
6 in jail, five years in jail. And when these  
7 folks come to the community, they need to have  
8 people who can counsel them so that they can be  
9 adequately recirculated within the community,  
10 with a sense of purpose. Otherwise, if these  
11 things do not take place, all of us will be in  
12 trouble. Everyone will be in trouble.

13 To cut youth services is a crime. You  
14 need to understand also that there are people  
15 within the community who are willing to work.  
16 Because all of you legislators have two jobs; the  
17 first one is to get elected and the second one is  
18 to get re-elected. And playing with the  
19 disenfranchised of the community is a sin. And  
20 we promise you all that we will work diligently  
21 with all those who need the assistance and all  
22 the other programs to let them know where you all  
23 stand when it comes to defending the rights of  
24 the disenfranchised, the same people who put you  
25 in office, and I'm talking to both sides of the

2 party. I'm not talking to one side. The thing  
3 should be people first. And as John Casey used  
4 to say, we think of the plan and not the man. So  
5 you all should please think about this.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

7 Joanne Borden.

8 MS. BORDEN: Variation is nature's best  
9 thing. Nature loves variation so much that she  
10 has 9,000 species of birds, 28,000 kinds of fish,  
11 350,000 different beetles. All together, she has  
12 over two million different species. Nature likes  
13 variation in people also.

14 We've all heard the saying no two people  
15 are alike, everyone is different; well, it's  
16 true. Nature says I make them different because  
17 I can and I like to produce variations.

18 Everyone accepts nature's variations  
19 because everyone has a variation of some kind.  
20 However, when the birth variation involves having  
21 two sexes, one inside and a different one  
22 visible, people don't like us. Even when medical  
23 researchers all but prove conclusively that we  
24 are simply a birth variation, they don't like us.  
25 Those that do not believe it is a birth variation

2 must think we do it to get fired from our job  
3 when our secret is discovered, or so the landlord  
4 can force us out of our apartment when a peeping  
5 tom reports us. It must be so we can be refused  
6 service in a restaurant and forced to leave in  
7 embarrassment. The very best reason is we want  
8 the emergency service to refuse to treat us after  
9 an accident. Those things have and are happening  
10 somewhere now and happening as I speak. And  
11 don't forget our desire to be mistreated by the  
12 Nassau County Police bad apples that I reported  
13 to you previously. We have no purpose, no  
14 motive. This was imposed on us by something more  
15 powerful than our lifelong determination to be  
16 free of it.

17 We spend our lives trying to be like  
18 everyone else, but we never win. It goes beyond  
19 the clothes that we are driven to wear, that only  
20 places us at the risk of physical harm from  
21 haters. We take powerful hormones so we can feel  
22 a little like our true sex. We undergo dangerous  
23 operations to get closer to our identity. We are  
24 literally forced to place ourselves at risk and  
25 in danger all to claim our true identity and

2 prove our existence to ourselves. We just want  
3 to be treated equally like all of other God's  
4 children. I pray you grant us civil rights,  
5 Lord. Lord, give these legislators the strength  
6 to start the process of freeing us from the very  
7 worst part of discrimination, the fear of it.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

10 Maria Alisa Quadra.

11 (No verbal response.)

12 She left.

13 Marissa Fahee, Glen Cove. Marissa Fahee.

14 (No verbal response.)

15 She left.

16 Kristen Ferrari.

17 (No verbal response.)

18 Queven Garcia. Queven Garcia.

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Margarita Grossing.

21 VOICE: She's not here.

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: James Hodge.

23 MR. HODGE: James Hodge. I'm not

24 exactly sure -- well, so much has been said.

25 I've been here the whole morning. I would like to

1 just add on to all of the other speakers that  
2 have been talking about saving youth funds.

3  
4 As I sit here, it saddens me to hear  
5 legislators going back and forth so much. When,  
6 of course, you have to debate against different  
7 things, but there should be no debate about youth  
8 services being cut. It shouldn't be on the  
9 table.

10 I'm not exactly sure how many of you grew  
11 up through youth agencies or came through youth  
12 agencies. I'm one that has been able to have  
13 been blessed by going through the Long Beach  
14 Martin Luther King Center, which now I stand as  
15 the board chair. I know that if it had not been  
16 for the Long Beach Martin Luther King Center  
17 which, when I was younger there are two board  
18 members here, when I was just a teenager and five  
19 and eight years old, they were on the board and I  
20 saw the diligent job that they did, and it  
21 inspired me to do what I'm doing now.

22 It saddens me to think what would have  
23 happened if it wasn't there. Where my parents --  
24 we didn't have all of the finances to be able to  
25 get the foods that the Center provided for us,

2 and five o'clock meals, and whether it was free  
3 cheese or free peanut butter, all of those  
4 different things that people take for granted,  
5 and we didn't. And I still remember those. I'm  
6 so grateful. I'm so grateful for when my mother  
7 probably couldn't help me with homework, I had  
8 people there helping me with my homework and  
9 assisting me.

10           It saddens me to think that where we  
11 fought so hard on the red light cameras, where  
12 even before that, youth will always were always  
13 being put on the table, and then we found a  
14 solution, to say it's discretionary money and we  
15 can take this, which youth shouldn't be  
16 discretionary. And if you can find a way for it  
17 be mandated money -- so we had the money from the  
18 red light cameras and it was designated for  
19 youth. Yet, somehow the vote changed that.

20           I say to all of you, when is the last  
21 time you sat and went in some of these youth  
22 agencies and saw the work that they did? I know,  
23 Mr. Becker, you said a lot about God. You pray  
24 that we have God do this and do that. Well,  
25 you're elected, so God has blessed you to be in



2 that spot. So your decision, He's watching what  
3 you do. So you can pray all you want, but he's  
4 letting you have that opportunity to make that  
5 vote. So what was your vote on the red light  
6 camera district before you prayed that day?  
7 Wait. Hold on one second, Becker.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: But you're asking me  
9 a question.

10 MR. HODGE: I know. But I want you to  
11 answer that in a minute, after I'm finished. I  
12 only got three minutes. Thank you.

13 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Sure.

14 MR. HODGE: As you pray and as you, you  
15 know, talk to God and He's probably talking back  
16 to you. Are you hearing? Is anybody hearing  
17 what maybe God is saying?

18 I know, Mr. Schmitt, you tell everybody  
19 to kind of quiet down. I want you to hear me now  
20 because I know you was having a little  
21 conversation.

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I'm hearing you.

23 MR. HODGE: Okay. Thank you.

24 My point is this, that I know that Mrs.  
25 Ford worked very diligent for many years with the

2 Martin Luther King Center and helping us out.

3 But I say to Mrs. Ford, I know you've worked very  
4 diligent. But I say to you that I encourage you,  
5 knowing the work that we do and many times that  
6 you've been to the Center, it saddens me and I  
7 have to leave here and go to a board meeting to  
8 find out what are we going to do with our  
9 children over the summertime? What are we going  
10 to do with our programs that we have? Because  
11 Nassau County Youth Board is a great part of our  
12 budget, like so many others. What will we do.

13           Again, when is the last time that many  
14 legislators here have been to youth agencies? If  
15 you can sit and play with youth money, if you can  
16 play with money that is budgeted for youth -- I  
17 don't understand it and so many of the other  
18 youth will not understand it either.

19           I could say so much. There's been some  
20 great speakers before me. But I know I've been  
21 one that's been affected greatly but what my life  
22 has been impacted by all of those people that  
23 came through the youth center and all of those  
24 people that taught me. But now as I go back to  
25 Long Beach -- and there's so many people that

2 will gather later today for our community meeting  
3 to see what will we do? I don't know. To have  
4 three weeks to decide what we're going to do with  
5 children, it may be easy for some but it's very  
6 hard for all of us.

7 So as you go back and you think about  
8 what you're going to do, I say think yourselves.  
9 Don't think on party lines -- the Republican  
10 Party will be mad at me, the Democrat. Think  
11 about the children. Again, if there's money that  
12 you can find, yeah, it's still a deficit even if  
13 you take that money away. So why take that  
14 money? Take it from somewhere else.

15 I'm here to advocate on behalf of youth  
16 today. Because if you think crime is down now --  
17 and Mr. Becker, another thing you said, again,  
18 you said I don't really benefit from this. But  
19 believe me, I don't know how many youth programs  
20 in your district, but if you close those youth  
21 agencies, you think you don't benefit. When you  
22 have somebody hitting you upside your head  
23 because they haven't been taught -- and I'm being  
24 for real.

25 Statistics show that most crimes by

2 juveniles are committed between 3:00 and 7:00  
3 p.m. That's because the youth agencies are  
4 keeping them indoors and teaching them, and  
5 training them, and helping them be productive  
6 citizens. So if you have not -- if you feel that  
7 you have not benefitted from youth agencies,  
8 you're sadly mistaken. You're sadly mistaken.

9 Now you can go ahead. I'm finished.

10 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Thank you very much.  
11 I appreciate it.

12 Number one. Let's -- I think that  
13 there's a problem here, and that's that this  
14 government is running out of money.  
15 Interestingly enough, somehow people aren't  
16 grasping the fact that we've always bonded the  
17 tax certiorari proceedings -- money. So if we've  
18 always done it and they refuse to do it, that  
19 means that there's a certain amount of cash flow  
20 that's no longer available to this government.  
21 And I think you heard a lot of what was taking  
22 place.

23 When I pray about this issue, I'm praying  
24 that the other side will see the light a little  
25 bit.

2 MR. HODGE: Well I --

3 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You spoke a long  
4 time. So you're going to have to let me finish.

5 That's why I'm so anguished by this.

6 When I said I don't benefit, I mean my  
7 district doesn't benefit. I didn't say that I  
8 didn't care about other people, and God's  
9 children, no matter where they may be. I did  
10 specifically say that I saw the Elmont program --  
11 it was not just a few kids but hundreds of kids.  
12 Something -- you and I are friends and  
13 something's missing between what I've been saying  
14 and what your statements are currently.

15 I'm saying to you that most of the people  
16 who have benefitted from this are in Kevan  
17 Abraham's district and perhaps Robert Troiano's  
18 district and others. And I'm saying to you that  
19 I care about those kids, even though they're not  
20 in my district. I don't want to see the funding  
21 cut. In fact, I fought very, very hard to make  
22 sure that the funding wasn't cut when the budget  
23 first occurred. But I don't know why people are  
24 missing the fact that if you normally bond  
25 something -- in other words, if you normally may

2 put something on the credit card and you don't  
3 take it out of your cash flow, if that's not  
4 there anymore then it has to come out of your  
5 cash flow.

6 So I'm wondering, on the other side of  
7 the aisle, I voted for the bonding. I voted for  
8 \$41 million coming into the county coffers to pay  
9 these tax settlements so that money doesn't have  
10 to be used -- that money doesn't have to be used  
11 for tax certiorari proceedings. It's kind of  
12 very simple math. It's not even very, very  
13 complicated.

14 MR. HODGE: I hear what you're saying.

15 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You have to  
16 understand something, though. I take a little  
17 bit of offense to the fact that you think I don't  
18 benefit. You misunderstood completely. Because  
19 I think you know, knowing me, that I care a great  
20 deal.

21 Now I'm confused and I'm kind of  
22 heartbroken that Legislator Abrahams and even  
23 Legislator Troiano, people I respect a great  
24 deal, the money goes significantly into these  
25 communities. But if the money is not here in

2 Nassau County -- if the money is not here in  
3 Nassau County as the budget continues to get  
4 squeezed and squeezed, they bonded a billion  
5 dollars over ten years, a billion dollars, and we  
6 went along with it because that was tax  
7 certiorari proceedings. But you know what  
8 happened? There's something at play. If anybody  
9 is playing politics right now, it's the other  
10 side of the aisle. Understand, because I want to  
11 say something to you.

12           It's not -- this -- you want to play  
13 politics with a lot of other stuff and  
14 redistricting and stuff, and I understand all of  
15 that, let's do it somewhere else. There are all  
16 kinds of things we can fight about. But when it  
17 comes to the \$41 million -- you get all hooked up  
18 on the red light cameras. But the point of the  
19 matter is today, today the issue goes away if  
20 they vote for the bonding.

21           MR. HODGE: From my understanding --

22           LEGISLATOR BECKER: So I'm asking you  
23 why are people --

24           MR. HODGE: What I heard --

25           LEGISLATOR BECKER: talking to me? I

2 already voted in favor. So I did what my God  
3 wanted me to do, and I'm very comfortable with  
4 him.

5 MR. HODGE: From my understanding, you  
6 said we vote -- if they vote on that -- but from  
7 my understanding, I think they explained it very  
8 well that it's 13 million or seven million --

9 LEGISLATOR BECKER: They didn't explain  
10 it very well.

11 MR. HODGE: that is still there --

12 LEGISLATOR BECKER: They bamboozled you.

13 MR. HODGE: Whatever it is --

14 LEGISLATOR BECKER: They just bamboozled  
15 you.

16 MR. HODGE: Listen.

17 LEGISLATOR BECKER: It's just fun and  
18 games. It's politics.

19 MR. HODGE: We can go back and forth.  
20 I'm not going to go back and forth. Ms. Ford  
21 knows what we do, and she knows what I do.

22 LEGISLATOR BECKER: All we need is --

23 MR. HODGE: Listen.

24 LEGISLATOR BECKER: the 41 million.

25 MR. HODGE: Listen.



2 LEGISLATOR BECKER: It's simple math.  
3 All the problems go away, if they vote yes for  
4 bonding.

5 MR. HODGE: We can make it seem --

6 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may.

7 MR. HODGE: We can make it seem very  
8 confusing for people that don't really understand  
9 everything that's going on. But this  
10 legislature, whether democratic or republican, I  
11 know you want to force this side to be able to  
12 get the bond and whatever they did in the past.  
13 I don't care about all of that. I care --

14 LEGISLATOR BECKER: But you're looking  
15 at me.

16 MR. HODGE: What I care --

17 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You're looking at  
18 me, though.

19 MR. HODGE: What I care --

20 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You're questioning -  
21 -

22 MR. HODGE: Because I went on what your  
23 word --

24 LEGISLATOR BECKER: my faith. And I'm  
25 saying to you I voted yes for the bonding. I'll

2 do anything to make sure --

3 MR. HODGE: I only -- I'm going to  
4 finish what I'm saying.

5 LEGISLATOR BECKER: The heck with the  
6 red light cameras. You bought into their phony  
7 argument.

8 MR. HODGE: All I'm --

9 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You bought into it.

10 MR. HODGE: All I --

11 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Good for you. Good  
12 for you. The red light cameras -- we can talk  
13 about it until the sun sets, talk about the red  
14 light cameras. The bottom line is you don't want  
15 to ignore the fact that we have the \$41 million -  
16 -

17 MR. HODGE: Okay.

18 LEGISLATOR BECKER: This is very serious  
19 stuff.

20 MR. HODGE: Okay. So --

21 LEGISLATOR BECKER: This is affecting  
22 children. And I can't believe they're playing  
23 chicken with this kind of nonsense.

24 MR. HODGE: I just want to finish what I  
25 was saying.

2 LEGISLATOR BECKER: I'm shocked.

3 MR. HODGE: I only said your words --

4 LEGISLATOR BECKER: No, no. I do take  
5 offense to that.

6 MR. HODGE: Then you have to take  
7 offense.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You know what's  
9 going on.

10 MR. HODGE: I take offense for all of  
11 the thousands of youth that will be on the  
12 street.

13 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You're buying into  
14 their argument which is phony.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Becker.

16 LEGISLATOR BECKER: We're running out of  
17 money here. This County's running out of money.  
18 It's in a crisis.

19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: It didn't just  
20 start running out of money.

21 LEGISLATOR BECKER: It started in the  
22 Suozzi administration with \$310 million, \$310  
23 million -- oh, you don't want to accept the fact.

24 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may.

25 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You made the

2 problem. You created the problem and you don't  
3 want to help us fix it.

4 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you,  
5 Legislator Becker.

6 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You guys are so  
7 phony. So phony.

8 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you. Thank  
9 you.

10 Mr. Hodge, I just feel compelled to  
11 respond because Mr. Becker chooses to keep  
12 mentioning my name, as well as Legislator  
13 Troiano, in terms of us playing politics.

14 Let's just be very clear. And I think  
15 Mr. Becker's tactic is to argue with people that  
16 he doesn't agree with; I guess God's telling him  
17 that too.

18 Unfortunately, if I may, Fran, you did  
19 have the floor. If I may now.

20 What I want to infuse into this  
21 conversation -- and I know my colleagues to the  
22 right just have a hard time understanding this.  
23 The reason -- the red light camera fund took you  
24 guys away from this, what you just heard, between  
25 Fran -- and I love Fran -- between him blaming

2 us, we blaming him. The red light camera fund,  
3 when we agreed to it three years ago, and Fran  
4 knows this, it took you guys out of this. It  
5 took you guys out of this bickering, partisan,  
6 legislative body. That's what this fund did. No  
7 matter what happened between this body and  
8 upstairs, you guys would not be harm's way.  
9 Suddenly, when the going gets tough, the tough,  
10 in this case, decided to cut the red light camera  
11 fund. That's just a fact. That's what it is. I  
12 know we don't want to understand that, and that,  
13 in itself, is a policy decision. So we can't  
14 even bring ourselves to recognize that.

15 Ask yourselves, for those that repealed  
16 the fund, ask yourselves why did you even put the  
17 fund in place if you're just going to repeal it  
18 when everything starts to go wrong.

19 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Because you broke  
20 the arrangement.

21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: What was the  
22 arrangement, Fran?

23 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You broke the  
24 agreement of doing the things that we need to  
25 make this county work. You broke that covenant.

2 Now it's broken.

3 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Okay. Okay.

4 LEGISLATOR BECKER: It's gone. Now  
5 we're forced to do other things. By not bonding  
6 tax certs, which is baloney, that is sick.

7 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: We understand.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: It's crazy.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Are you finished?

10 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I guess I'm done  
11 because Fran just --

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Ford.

13 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Stuff that should be  
14 bonded is coming out of cash flow.

15 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I would remind the  
16 member, let's have a little decorum up here,  
17 please, gentlemen and ladies.

18 LEGISLATOR FORD: James, I thank you  
19 for coming down.

20 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I would remind the  
21 members that in addition to several more speakers  
22 that we have a Rules Committee meeting to conduct  
23 at the end of this.

24 Legislator Ford.

25 LEGISLATOR FORD: I'll be brief. James,

thank you very much.

And I know, for me, it is very painful because I've always advocated for our youth agencies. But just as you heard the testimony today, alright, like why the importance of the bonding will be able to help not only the youth but our seniors -- and Legislator Kevan Abrahams is right. It's, like, you know, we should, like, to protect it. But I don't know if you heard the testimony when I asked that even if we had kept the dedicated funding in place for the youth agencies and the seniors, with the judgments, based on the tax certs, when people grieve their assessments and then won, they were supposed to get their money. We did not give them the money because we never bonded, which we normally did in the past to pay for tax grievances, tax certs, or whatever you want to call it. So now those people went to court, okay, and the judges ruled that we have to pay that money back. One way or the other, it's coming out of the county budget. So, in essence, even if you were a protected fund, if we kept the law in place that kept you as a separate fund balance, the courts can deem

2 it and go after you anyway.

3 MR. HODGE: And you know what? Thank  
4 you so much, Legislator. As you said, it's a  
5 possibility. But even if it was a possibility,  
6 right now we already received letters. If that  
7 was the case and the court said now you have to  
8 go after that, then that could have at least gave  
9 us more months. We don't even know. But for  
10 sure, all of these agencies received letters  
11 already. So I think it's good that we heard it's  
12 a possibility we may.

13 LEGISLATOR FORD: And the thing is that  
14 it's \$43 million. Right behind that 43 million -  
15 - and you've heard, like, even when we had the  
16 committees and we were all arguing way back when  
17 about this, that we're also looking at another  
18 additional \$100 million that we're going to have  
19 to pay in tax certs, more than likely.

20 We're talking about, like, we are in a  
21 very, very dire circumstance. For me, if we can,  
22 like, today, my recommendation was understanding  
23 what we have facing us, if we pass the bonding  
24 today, at the same time we can pass then to  
25 reinstate the funding.



2 MR. HODGE: I just want to say also --  
3 this is my last point. If we said in front of  
4 all of the children that was here, a lot of them  
5 left, if you guys pass the bond for the 41  
6 million, then we'll go back and, you know, go  
7 back on the vote that we turned over on the red  
8 light cameras, the legislation that we passed.  
9 It's just -- it's just really crazy that we're  
10 playing with the kids; if you do this, then we'll  
11 do that. If you do this, we'll do that. Even  
12 though I know we need the \$41 million -- and I'm  
13 not exactly sure how the administration can take  
14 it from here, take it from there, they have to.  
15 But they don't have to. From all that I heard  
16 and all the testimony that I heard today and  
17 being on the phone with you, the Assembly, and  
18 the State Senate, and being on the phone with  
19 everybody I can, the county does not have to take  
20 the money from the youth. They don't have to  
21 take the money from the youth. But it's  
22 something that they decided to do. They don't  
23 have to.

24 LEGISLATOR FORD: But they are going to  
25 take it from the seniors. And they are going to

2 take it. It's not necessarily that they are  
3 going to take it from the youth. The county  
4 executive, I know he sent the letters. And we're  
5 trying to stop this.

6 MR. HODGE: I know. I know you are.

7 LEGISLATOR FORD: Even for me, I've  
8 written to NIFA asking -- because they already  
9 authorized, in 2004/2005, \$192 million worth of  
10 bonds that can be used to pay tax certs. So, I  
11 mean, they already said it's okay.

12 We also have NIFA that, you know, even  
13 though the county executive has asked to have  
14 them restructure their debt to save us maybe 15  
15 or \$20 million annually, they haven't done that.  
16 They refused to do that. And we look at NIFA --  
17 and we have FOIL'd them. And I'm not -- yes, it  
18 may seem like I'm attacking, but NIFA is looking  
19 at all of this as well, directing a lot of the  
20 things that we need to do, not accepting a lot of  
21 the recommendations that we're making because  
22 they don't like it. But if you look at what they  
23 cost us every year, you, the taxpayers, when we  
24 talk about, like, maybe other people wasting  
25 money, their budget has gone up and it's doubled

2 since the time when they were put in inception.

3 NIFA, at a minimum, has cost the county  
4 taxpayers a million dollars a year, and I believe  
5 we're up to over \$2 million a year. Judy, it  
6 still costs us money. And the thing is that they  
7 don't have public hearings to allow us to go  
8 before them to ask them questions. We get to go  
9 to sit at their hearings and to listen how they  
10 mandate to us. But I believe as a public  
11 authority, as somebody where they're getting  
12 money from taxpayers, that they have an  
13 obligation to all of us to be able to respond to  
14 us in a timely manner as to why they have certain  
15 decisions, and what are they doing, and why  
16 aren't they working with all of us to be able to  
17 fix this fiscal crisis so we don't have  
18 situations like this where we don't know what  
19 these kids are going to do during the summer.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. HODGE: Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Well done.

23 MR. HODGE: Please continue to work on  
24 behalf of the youth. Please.

25 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you, Mr. Hodge.

2 MR. HODGE: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mara P. Jacobowitz.

4 Did I pronounce that right?

5 MS. JACOBOWITZ: No.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I'm sorry.

7 MS. JACOBOWITZ: Mara Jacobowitz. That's  
8 okay.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Can we have a little  
10 quiet up here so we can hear?

11 MS. JACOBOWITZ: I hope you'll afford me  
12 a little --

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I'm sorry. You've  
14 got to talk into the microphone.

15 MS. JACOBOWITZ: I hope you'll afford me  
16 a little bit more than three minutes, because I  
17 didn't come here to cost you any money. Maybe  
18 you'll give me four minutes.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: First of all, how do  
20 you pronounce your last name?

21 MS. JACOBOWITZ: Jacobowitz.

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Jacobowitz.

23 MS. JACOBOWITZ: Yes. Thank you.

24 In a thought-provoking book, *To Forgive*  
25 *Design, Understanding Failure*, distinguished Duke

1 engineer and historian Professor Henry Petroski  
2 explains why disasters like the Challenger and  
3 Discovery Shuttles occur. What he so eloquently  
4 describes is how we must look beyond the design  
5 that is of failure and rather look at the inter-  
6 dependency of the people and those designs and  
7 appreciate not only the relationship between man  
8 and design but the complex socioeconomic systems  
9 that affects that relationship.  
10

11 Today I've come here to outline some  
12 failures and potential failures in our county,  
13 some big and some small. Regardless of size,  
14 calling attention to these failures is a gift  
15 because it gives all of us an opportunity to take  
16 corrective action before a disaster occurs.

17 I'm not here to give all of you a lesson  
18 in physics, but the topic is key to understanding  
19 the root problem. In his book, Petrowski  
20 explains how physicist Dr. Richard Feinman  
21 concluded why the Challenger exploded. It was  
22 obvious that the O-rings malfunctioned. But many  
23 have concluded that that was not the ultimate  
24 cause of the disaster. Many of you may recall  
25 that there was a lot of blame to go around --

2 engineers knew the atmosphere temperatures might  
3 have been incompatible with the launch, but the  
4 managers and bean counters overruled them and  
5 launched the space craft.

6 Many years before the disaster, the  
7 engineers and managers knew of potential failures  
8 that could occur, and there -- but, because  
9 nothing happened, because nothing happened, okay,  
10 their concerns diminished over time and that  
11 myopic view is what led to the disaster.

12 In everyday life here in Nassau County,  
13 we have potential failures in our infrastructure  
14 occurring all day long. I've come here to  
15 discuss a few, and I hope you will realize that  
16 by my describing these failures and potential  
17 failures, it is a gift to you.

18 What I would like to say is, beginning  
19 with the Nassau County Police Department -- I  
20 just want to mention that my brother-in-law  
21 retired after 35 years of service in another  
22 county, and my nephew wears the uniform, and my  
23 other nephew is a corrections officer. So it  
24 pains me with great - it pains me a great deal to  
25 come here to have to say that I'm very

2 disappointed in our police department. And this  
3 has nothing to do with their contract, with their  
4 salaries, with anything; it has to do with  
5 commonsense. For example, I have contacted both  
6 the Fourth and Fifth -- the Fourth and Fifth  
7 Precincts, as well as Chief of Patrol Kirby's  
8 office to discuss graffiti. Okay. In Palm Beach  
9 County, where my brother-in-law retired, there is  
10 a hotline that both constituents and police  
11 officers are encouraged to call so that they can  
12 clean up the graffiti, okay. Here, in Nassau  
13 County, I have been told that until a report is  
14 made there is no investigation of graffiti.  
15 Okay. I have been told by the police department  
16 when they look at the graffiti -- and I want to  
17 mention there is graffiti right now on a clothes  
18 bin in Valley Stream, right now, that has no tags  
19 on it, not identifying itself, that if it was ten  
20 years ago, right after 9-11, that bin would have  
21 been hauled away, graffiti or not, because there  
22 was no tag on it.

23 CLERK MULLER: Your time has expired.

24 MS. JACOBOWITZ: Thank you. What I was  
25 saying is if it was ten years ago, that bin would

1 have been removed promptly. It is still there.  
2  
3 And, what appalls me is when I pointed it out to  
4 the police officer that was facing it, he said he  
5 could not do anything about it until it was  
6 reported. Okay. When I spoke to the Fourth  
7 Precinct about, also, another issue regarding  
8 graffiti in the Town of Hempstead parking lot in  
9 Hewlett, again, when the patrol car faces the  
10 graffiti, five feet -- I'm not talking a small  
11 piece of graffiti, I'm talking wide graffiti --  
12 the response I was given was the same, until a  
13 report is made they will not investigate.

14           They are wonderfully reactive. We had a  
15 burglary in my neighborhood not three weeks ago  
16 when two perpetrators attempted to go into a home  
17 and burglarize it while a 16 year old was home.  
18 The two perpetrators were apprehended, and I  
19 applaud our Nassau County Police Department for  
20 their service. Likewise, just last week we had a  
21 little toddler who had a seizure and five police  
22 cars showed up and EMT. So I'm very proud of the  
23 job that the Nassau County Police Department  
24 does. However, the complacency and the lack of  
25 commonsense with regard to issues of quality of



2 life concerns me, and these are things that I  
3 asked to be addressed and they are not being  
4 addressed. I want to go further.

5 With regard to Public Works --

6 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Excuse me. Ms.  
7 Jacobowitz --

8 MS. JACOBOWITZ: Jacobowitz, yes.

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Could you just  
10 wrap it up, please?

11 MS. JACOBOWITZ: Yes. Public Works.  
12 Okay. Last year they upgraded traffic lights in  
13 Valley Stream/Hewlett, which we were waiting for  
14 for many years and we applaud it. Did anybody  
15 come down to see when they positioned the new  
16 traffic lights, to remove the branches that were  
17 in front of the trees? I was told yes, they  
18 would do it. It is now nine months later and  
19 none of the tree branches, with the exception in  
20 front of the Carbonaro Elementary School, have  
21 been removed and make those traffic lights  
22 visible.

23 Finally, the other thing that I wanted to  
24 mention was the pavement markings on our streets.  
25 My son took a job and had to leave 5:30, six

2 o'clock in the morning. I spoke to Nassau County  
3 regarding Peninsula Boulevard, where their  
4 pavement markings have disappeared, if they could  
5 please repaint them. That was last fall, in  
6 September, when my son graduated college and  
7 began a job. He has since moved out of the  
8 state. And when I was coming here today, the  
9 pavement markings still have not been painted.

10 So all I'm saying to you, okay, is that  
11 there are -- what happens is, just like with the  
12 Challenger and the Discovery explosion, is that  
13 they knew ahead of time that there were issues.  
14 But because of constraints, whether it be  
15 economic or just complacency, because there  
16 wasn't a problem before, they counted on there  
17 not being a problem afterwards. And I believe we  
18 potentially have a huge problem that doesn't  
19 require money to fix. I think we need  
20 commonsense and we need an agreement with the  
21 police department to be more proactive and not  
22 reactive, and the same thing with our -- our  
23 public works department.

24 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Thank you, Mrs.  
25 Jacobowitz. Please, we asked you to please wrap

2 it up.

3 MS. JACOBOWITZ: That's it. That's all  
4 I have to say.

5 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: And, by the way,  
6 have you e-mailed your legislator regarding some  
7 of these issues? Because I know for a fact that  
8 DPW is doing markings on the streets within  
9 Nassau County. And do I think that if it's  
10 reported, it could be done.

11 MS. JACOBOWITZ: I made the request  
12 already, a dozen times, since last September, and  
13 it's not been done. My point is -- I don't mean  
14 to be disrespectful. But I've made numerous  
15 phone calls and I've even spoken with Legislator  
16 Kopel last week, and that's why I decided it  
17 needed to come here today.

18 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I'm sure your  
19 legislator will take care of it. Thank you.

20 MS. JACOBOWITZ: And the police  
21 department? Thank you.

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Dr. Mary-Lou  
23 Jones.

24 (No verbal response.)

25 Carol O'Neill.

2 (No verbal response.)

3 Carol McBride.

4 (No verbal response.)

5 Sister Evelyn.

6 (No verbal response.)

7 Arlene O'Dell.

8 MS. O'DELL: My name is Arlene O'Dell.

9 I'm the executive director of the City of Glen  
10 Cove Youth Bureau and a member of the Nassau  
11 County Coalition for Youth Service Agencies. I'm  
12 asking that you do not make a decision that will  
13 have terrible lasting effects on our county,  
14 effects that will last not just for today or  
15 tomorrow, but will have lasting effects.

16 Have you thought about where all the  
17 children and families we serve will be without  
18 our services? What will your community look like  
19 without services to youth, seniors, people in  
20 need of mental health services or help with drug  
21 and alcohol dependency? How safe will your  
22 community be? Where then will funding come from  
23 because you will need to incarcerate youth, add  
24 police to our streets, institutionalize those  
25 that don't get help. Let's not make this a very

2 sad day with repercussions that will have a  
3 lasting effect on our county.

4 On behalf of the future of Nassau County,  
5 please work out -- please work together to work  
6 this out.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

9 Mark Rosen.

10 MR. ROSEN: Members of the Legislature,  
11 I'm sure many of you are well aware of the issues  
12 at stake, perhaps a less so than I thought, after  
13 hearing today's discussions. This is not  
14 discretionary, however it may be classified to  
15 some of you. This is, quite literally, a matter  
16 of life and death.

17 Without this money, kids, kids in your  
18 districts, maybe even your own kids or grandkids,  
19 will die. They will die from suicide, drug  
20 addiction, or any other number of unmentionable  
21 occurrences. However, I've come up with a  
22 proposal which can free up countless millions.  
23 This is to enact a county ordinance or amendment  
24 to the County Charter that before any cuts can be  
25 made to funding for services to youth, seniors,

2 mental health services, or services to other  
3 seriously dependent populations, that at least 70  
4 percent of funding for contract law firms be cut.  
5 This can be done regardless of anything regarding  
6 a bond. And I will accept anything less than a  
7 long-term solution, given that these are the  
8 programs that kept me alive as a kid.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

11 Aaron Scott.

12 MR. SCOTT: Good evening.

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Good evening.

14 MR. SCOTT: I'm representing the  
15 Roosevelt Educational Alcohol Program as a board  
16 of director, one of the board of directors and,  
17 also, we're representing the staff also. And I  
18 have to agree with many of those who have spoken  
19 prior to me.

20 Being in a community that's one of the  
21 poorest communities in the State of New York, we  
22 don't have a youth program. We've had two. We  
23 don't have one. We don't even have a mental  
24 health program. So we're here trying to, in  
25 some way, keep this program in the community.

2 To the Honorable County Executive Edward  
3 Mangano, Minority Leader Kevan Abrahams,  
4 Legislator District 1, Presiding Officer Peter  
5 Schmitt, and to the legislators of Nassau County.

6 The Roosevelt Educational Alcoholism  
7 Counseling Treatment Center, is a non-profit  
8 medically supervised chemical dependency  
9 outpatient treatment center located in Roosevelt.  
10 We have provided services to the most underserved  
11 individuals in our community for more than 36  
12 years. Our services help members of the  
13 community recover from substance abuse/dependency  
14 by providing therapeutic services that include  
15 individual and group therapy sessions. We also  
16 treat veterans, men and women. We provide  
17 vocational services such as remedial education,  
18 GED preparation, computer literacy, and life  
19 skills training to assist individuals with  
20 achieving abstinence and living meaningful lives.  
21 Our contracts from the County has provided  
22 tangible returns by assisting individuals in  
23 becoming productive citizens and reducing their  
24 dependency on the social service systems.

25 We implore you to consider other options

2 within your power and control to continue funding  
3 the REACT Center, the only funded program  
4 remaining in Roosevelt to provide these vital  
5 services to the Roosevelt Community.

6           While we understand the financial crisis  
7 impacting Nassau County, there appears to be an  
8 impasse and differences of opinion as to how to  
9 go about solving the financial problem. As a  
10 result, this agency, as well as other non-profit  
11 agencies, will potentially suffer the  
12 consequences. Removing valuable services from  
13 the most vulnerable individuals and families in  
14 the community is counterproductive. We implore  
15 you to find a common ground to resolve your  
16 differences expeditiously and continue funding  
17 REACT's beneficial services.

18           Every step of our agency's journey has  
19 been beneficial to the community it serves and  
20 the government at large. We have formed  
21 professional relationships to rehabilitate  
22 individuals back into productive community life,  
23 among them the court system, parole, and  
24 probation to name a few. From our base of  
25 operations, we impact a large number of



2 unemployed, poverty-stricken and under-educated  
3 community members by helping them gain the skills  
4 and ability to cope with life's challenges and  
5 become substance free, hopefully. Removing  
6 funding from such an integral community based  
7 agency would create greater harm than good and  
8 jeopardize the quality of service to the  
9 individuals under our care.

10 The community is as strong as the  
11 citizens that inhabit it, the government that  
12 supports it, and the services provided to it.  
13 REACT has provided exemplary services for more  
14 than 36 years.

15 This has been submitted by the Board of  
16 Directors. We will hope that you will consider  
17 this. Thank you so much.

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

19 Cynthia Stewart.

20 Thank you for staying so late, all of the  
21 speakers.

22 MS. STEWART: Hi. My name is Cynthia  
23 Stewart. I'm a resident of Elmont, and a parent,  
24 a single parent, a veteran, a homeowner. I moved  
25 into this community over ten years ago because

2 the school systems were so great, because the  
3 community was so great. And I brought my  
4 daughter here today so she could see how  
5 government works. And I really want her to know  
6 that it works for her and not against her.

7 I am troubled because I see a lot of  
8 finger pointing. I know you have a difficult  
9 job. I know you have to deal with dire financial  
10 times. However, there are people at risk in  
11 Nassau County. And don't believe that because  
12 they live in Elmont or in Roosevelt or in some  
13 other town that it won't spill over into every  
14 community, it will.

15 We have to find a way to get the funding  
16 back for the youth board. We have to find a way.  
17 It is difficult. And it is your job; it is why  
18 you chose to run for office, it's why you're here  
19 today, and it's why you should protect the  
20 citizens who elected you.

21 Mrs. Ford, you were going to say  
22 something?

23 Mr. Becker is not here. But I pray every  
24 day that there will be somebody who acts in a  
25 human way, somebody who crosses party lines,

2 somebody who does whatever they have to do to  
3 make sure that our communities are maintained.  
4 That the status, the value, the lives that we  
5 have here are - the quality of our lives here are  
6 maintained. And I think if youths, elderly, and  
7 the disabled, and children are cut out of this  
8 budget, then the quality of life for all of us  
9 will diminish.

10 And I am surprised, very surprised that  
11 children and the elderly and the disabled are not  
12 fixed items in your budget. They're variable  
13 items in your budget. We have to do something  
14 about that. That is not right. And I come to  
15 you today to ask you to do whatever you have to  
16 do, think out of the box. Don't make this a  
17 bonding issue. Make this a people issue. Let's  
18 make sure we have the funding for these programs.  
19 We need it and you need it too.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: John Jaronzyk.

22 MR. JARONZYK: Good afternoon, ladies  
23 and gentlemen. I'm John Jaronzyk. I'm President  
24 of the Nassau County Correction Officer  
25 Benevolent Association. Now, I've been sitting

2 here all day and it's very disheartening to hear  
3 about all of the youth services that are going to  
4 be cut, and I understand that the county's in bad  
5 financial shape. As a matter of fact, back in  
6 December this legislature, minus Legislator  
7 DeRiggi-Whitton and Legislator Solages who were  
8 not on the seats yet, this legislature voted to  
9 change the adopted budget to lay off hundreds of  
10 county workers and to demote corporals at the  
11 jail.

12 Now, there's 30 correction supervisors  
13 that were demoted at the jail. But what's  
14 happened in the meantime is there's been other  
15 promotions done at the jail at the same time the  
16 supervisors at the jail are still demoted. Now,  
17 my question to you, Presiding Officer Schmitt, is  
18 who has the authority to change the 2012 budget?  
19 Who has the authority to change the 2012 adopted  
20 budget?

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Change it how?

22 MR. JARONZYK: To add positions in that  
23 budget.

24 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You have not listened  
25 to anything that's been going on here today if

2 you could ask that question.

3 MR. JARONZYK: Well, what's your answer?

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You think we're in  
5 any position to add positions to the budget?

6 MR. JARONZYK: So you're saying that if  
7 a position is taken out of the budget it cannot  
8 be filled?

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: No. What I'm saying  
10 is that to change the 2012 budget the county  
11 executive would have to make a recommendation  
12 specific of what it is, what he wants to change,  
13 where the money would come from, where the  
14 money's going to go, and exactly what it is for,  
15 and send it to us and have his budget people  
16 stand where you're standing and make their case,  
17 and then we would vote to change the budget or  
18 amend the budget.

19 MR. JARONZYK: My question to you,  
20 because I have been paying attention all day, is  
21 was that done at the correctional center?

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: What is what?

23 MR. JARONZYK: Are you aware they did  
24 promotions at the correctional center last week?

25 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: If it's - exactly.

2 If it's within the budget, they could do whatever  
3 they want.

4 MR. JARONZYK: What if it's not in the  
5 budget? That's what I'm asking you. If there  
6 are two positions for deputy under-sheriff --

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: If they made the  
8 promotions it's obviously in the budget.

9 MR. JARONZYK: Your budget that's on  
10 your website does not state that. As a matter of  
11 fact, the department requested to have two deputy  
12 undersheriffs. The county executive took it out  
13 of the budget and in the adopted budget the  
14 budget line is zero. Yet, last week they  
15 promoted a deputy undersheriff, who just happens  
16 to be good personal friends with Ed Mangano. And  
17 they promoted another acting deputy undersheriff,  
18 who just happens to be a neighbor of Ed Mangano.  
19 And, at the same time, they're demoting  
20 supervisors at the jail, they're promoting  
21 civilian correctional center cooks at the jail.  
22 My question is is anybody up there familiar and  
23 know what's going on up there? Did you know they  
24 were doing promotions at the jail promoting  
25 cooks? At the same time they want to close youth

2 services, they're promoting cooks at the jail.

3 Are you aware of that?

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Promoting cooks at  
5 the jail to what?

6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Undersheriffs.

7 MR. JARONZYK: From Cook 2 to Supervisor  
8 or from Cook 1 -- they're doing the same job,  
9 they're just getting paid more money.

10 Now, all county workers are under a wage  
11 freeze right now. Yet, they're awarding their  
12 political patronage jobs at a time -- on the  
13 backs of the corporals that were demoted that  
14 took a civil service position, that provide  
15 security --

16 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Jaronzyk.

17 MR. JARONZYK: It's Jaronzyk.

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Jaronzyk.

19 MR. JARONZYK: Jaronzyk. You know how  
20 to say it. You know what? I'll let you call me  
21 --

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Wait a minute. What  
23 do you mean I know how to say it?

24 MR. JARONZYK: You know how to say it.

25 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: If I knew how to say

2 it, I would have said it. What do you think,  
3 this is a game?

4 MR. JARONZYK: You know how to say it.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. Good. John.

6 MR. JARONZYK: Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You have a history of  
8 coming up here and making allegations with  
9 nothing to back them up.

10 MR. JARONZYK: Nothing to back it up?

11 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Why don't you submit  
12 the dates, the times, the names, the salaries of  
13 who was promoted? If you want to send it to me -  
14 -

15 MR. JARONZYK: Are you familiar with  
16 your budget?

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: This is not a cross  
18 examination, John. It's not going to go down  
19 that way.

20 MR. JARONZYK: So my question is, you  
21 don't know what's going on at the jail?

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay. Fine. Finish  
23 up your three minutes and get out.

24 MR. JARONZYK: So you don't know what's  
25 going on?



2 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I just want to  
3 say I'm offended.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: That's too bad.

5 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: You're telling  
6 someone to finish up their three minutes and get  
7 out. That's on the --

8 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: This is not a cross  
9 examination. I'm not --

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: record.

11 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: going to have them  
12 standing there questioning us --

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I thought he was  
14 asking about adding positions. You snapped at  
15 him and said, oh, have you not listened? We have  
16 no money. Then when you found out he was saying  
17 the county executive was --

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Mr. Denenberg --

19 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: adding positions  
20 --

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: maybe you'd vote to  
22 add positions --

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: your whole tune  
24 changed.

25 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: at this stage, but I

2 certainly would not.

3 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Everyone  
4 witnessed what you did.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Legislator Ford.

6 LEGISLATOR FORD: Thank you very much.  
7 You were saying that there are two  
8 undersheriff -- were they promoted within the  
9 ranks?

10 MR. JARONZYK: No. One is a correction  
11 officer that was promoted to a deputy  
12 undersheriff on June 11, who just happens to be a  
13 close personal friend of Ed Mangano. And then  
14 there's also an acting deputy sheriff that went  
15 from correction officer to an acting position;  
16 again, another resident and neighbor of Ed  
17 Mangano.

18 LEGISLATOR FORD: Wait. Are they both  
19 acting or?

20 MR. JARONZYK: No. One is permanent and  
21 one is acting, and neither of them are in the  
22 budget.

23 LEGISLATOR FORD: Okay. Then -- but  
24 what about the promotion of, you said of the  
25 cooks. What were they promoted to?

2 MR. JARONZYK: They were promoted either  
3 from Cook 1 to Cook 2, where they're doing the  
4 same job, just getting paid more money, at a time  
5 when we're closing youth services, at a time when  
6 corporals and supervisors at the jail are  
7 demoted, the time you're cutting training at the  
8 jail, you're cutting services at the jail, you're  
9 cutting security posts at the jail, but you're  
10 promoting cooks. Does that make sense to anybody  
11 up here?

12 LEGISLATOR FORD: In all fairness, I  
13 know that you represent the sheriffs and I'll  
14 look into this anyway.

15 MR. JARONZYK: I represent the  
16 correction officers, yes.

17 LEGISLATOR FORD: Correction officers.  
18 I'm sorry. But I know that the cooks fall under  
19 the CSEA. Am I not correct?

20 MR. JARONZYK: Correct. You know what?  
21 This is not a knock on any of the civilian staff  
22 at the jail; they do a very essential job. I  
23 have spoke to President Larrichiuta. I am not  
24 trying to start a war with my union and his  
25 union. But the reality is if there's not enough

2 money and we have to demote supervisors at the  
3 jail, then why are we promoting cooks? That's  
4 the question I'd like answered.

5 LEGISLATOR FORD: There may be a reason  
6 for that, and I'll speak to the county executive  
7 on that or even Mike Sposato.

8 MR. JARONZYK: And my question about the  
9 budget is if the deputy undersheriffs are not  
10 funded in the budget, how can they promote that  
11 position?

12 LEGISLATOR FORD: You bring up a good  
13 point.

14 MR. JARONZYK: Contrary to what  
15 Presiding Officer Schmitt said.

16 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Within the budget,  
17 John --

18 MR. JARONZYK: Yes, Peter.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: if they're operating  
20 within the budget of the correctional center they  
21 can do that. It's apples to oranges to say we  
22 can't take money -- you don't take money from the  
23 correctional center budget and use it to pay for  
24 youth services. It's not a choice that way. If  
25 there's a budget that's adopted for the

2 correctional center -- now, I don't know the  
3 intricacies of what happened yesterday or last  
4 week. But if there is money in the budget,  
5 internally within that department, where the  
6 sheriff can say I'm taking X dollars from here  
7 and X dollars from here and I'm putting them here  
8 and I'm promoting somebody to be an undersheriff.

9 MR. JARONZYK: So are you telling me  
10 that those 30 corporals which had to be done  
11 legislatively can be brought back?

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: No, no. As you know  
13 -- I understand that the title of corporal  
14 doesn't exist anywhere.

15 MR. JARONZYK: Well, you're mistaken  
16 because there are still 62 of them.

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: But they don't exist  
18 anywhere else in the State of New York.

19 MR. JARONZYK: That's not true either.

20 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay.

21 MR. JARONZYK: I don't know who is  
22 giving you that information.

23 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Okay.

24 MR. JARONZYK: That is not true.

25 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: John --

2 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Probably a good  
3 friend of Ed Mangano's.

4 MR. JARONZYK: Probably a good friend of  
5 Ed Mangano's.

6 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I have a meeting  
7 on Thursday -- John --

8 MR. JARONZYK: Yes. How are you?

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I have a meeting  
10 on Thursday and I will ask the sheriff what  
11 changes in positions have taken place.

12 MR. JARONZYK: Norma, you're on the  
13 Civilian Review Board at the jail. Were you  
14 aware they did promotions there?

15 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Pardon?

16 MR. JARONZYK: You're on the civic  
17 association board there.

18 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: No. I'm going to  
19 be meeting with him on Thursday.

20 MR. JARONZYK: And you're on the Jail  
21 Advisory Committee. Were you aware they did  
22 promotions at the jail and they promoted cooks at  
23 the jail?

24 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I am going -- I  
25 just said to you, John, that I have a meeting on

2 Thursday and I will inquire from the sheriff.

3 MR. JARONZYK: Okay. So you weren't  
4 aware. Okay.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Are you done?

6 MR. JARONZYK: I'm done.

7 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Good.

8 MR. JARONZYK: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

10 Andrew DeMartin. Hello? Andrew  
11 DeMartin?

12 (No verbal response.)

13 David Stonehill. David Stonehill?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 Kathy Rosenthal.

16 MS. ROSENTHAL: Good afternoon.

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Good afternoon.

18 MS. ROSENTHAL: It's been a long  
19 afternoon. My name is Kathy Rosenthal. I'm the  
20 Vice President for Long Island Regional  
21 Operations, for FEGS Health and Human Services.  
22 And I'm going to talk just a couple of minutes  
23 about how this decision is going to affect our  
24 agency and the broader sector. But I just want  
25 to point out we've heard a lot today about the

2 impact on youth agencies and senior agencies, and  
3 I just want to clarify, and I hope you all know  
4 this and I don't know if our audience does, but  
5 it's beyond that at this point, that it's  
6 services across the health and human services  
7 sector that are at serious risk here.

8 FEGS, I think a lot of you know, was  
9 established in 1934. It's a broad-based health  
10 and human services agency. We serve 100,000  
11 people a year across the New York Metro area,  
12 including 30,000 on Long Island. And we have had  
13 a very long -- and we're proud of our  
14 longstanding partnership with government and the  
15 community.

16 The proposed cuts for central human  
17 services will have a drastic effect on some of  
18 the most vulnerable and fragile clients that we  
19 serve, including disconnected youth, those with  
20 mental illness and other special needs, those who  
21 have experienced the devastating effect of  
22 unemployment since the economic downturn, victims  
23 of domestic violence, children and adults with  
24 HIV/AIDS and others. These are the Long  
25 Islanders that depend on FEGS and the crucial



2 funding we received from the county and other  
3 sources to support programs that provide  
4 critically important services to assist them in  
5 leading independent and successful lives.

6           There are countless examples  
7 demonstrating the significant hardships that will  
8 be experienced by thousands of clients served by  
9 FECS and other human service agencies if the  
10 proposed cuts are implemented. At FECS alone,  
11 these cuts will mean the loss of a lifeline and  
12 essential support system for some of the most  
13 vulnerable mentally ill clients who access  
14 services at our outpatient mental health clinic  
15 located in Hempstead. The proposed \$50,000 cut  
16 in funding currently helps FECS to cover the cost  
17 of serving individuals who don't have insurance  
18 or are underinsured. If these cuts go through,  
19 the individuals who get the prescription  
20 medication they need or the counseling support  
21 that helps keep them stable, out of the hospital  
22 and functioning independently in the community  
23 will be at risk.

24           In addition, FECS is at risk of losing  
25 nearly \$250,000 to support our work in the mental

2 health court program. This initiative is  
3 designed to help individuals not get further  
4 involved in the criminal justice system by  
5 linking them to services and interventions. This  
6 program not only prevents more serious criminal  
7 involvement, but saves the County the cost of  
8 putting these people in jail who are better  
9 treated in mental health settings. The trade-off  
10 should be immediately obvious to anyone.

11 The financial stress on the not-for-  
12 profit sector since the economic downturn in 2009  
13 cannot be overstated. Any further cuts in  
14 services would be devastating not only to  
15 programs that provide urgent and critical care to  
16 some of the neediest populations, but also to  
17 society and the Long Island community, Nassau  
18 County in particular. The result of these  
19 potential cuts will likely be higher healthcare  
20 costs, incarceration, increased rates of  
21 unemployment, and other poor life outcomes for  
22 all of our communities.

23 We urge the Nassau Legislature and the  
24 county executive to reconsider any further  
25 proposed reductions in support for health and

2 human service programs in Nassau County, and we  
3 appreciate your attention to this matter. Thank  
4 you.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

6 Judy Sanford Guise.

7 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: I was debating  
8 whether to put something in to speak or not. I  
9 attended this morning, I was outside as a trustee  
10 of Family and Children's Association. I'll say  
11 that I'm very happy to have seen our name listed  
12 on the Rules Committee agenda several times, as  
13 well as the names of other organizations. It's a  
14 shame that so many of the human services people  
15 had to leave. But I'm very happy they left to go  
16 do the work that our people do. But I think it's  
17 a loss to all of us that we don't have all those  
18 comments.

19 I, aside from already knowing before I  
20 walked in here today that we were talking apples  
21 and oranges, that the red light money was what  
22 was supporting human services. And thank you  
23 very much for now explaining the fact and being  
24 able to give us the ability to explain it to  
25 other people, that it's a choice to make it the

2 issue that it's become, a choice to claim to  
3 claim that services that are, again as I said the  
4 last time I was here, these are contracted  
5 services because we do the work of the  
6 government, we do the work that the people need  
7 to have done in Nassau County. And it just so  
8 happens that instead of you having a department  
9 to do it, you contract with the human services  
10 community because, again, we can do it very  
11 effectively, very efficiently. And so you can  
12 understand, I think, why we're so upset when  
13 we're considered -- our clients, our people, our  
14 staff are considered discretionary. We don't  
15 think hung people is discretionary to be hungry  
16 or it's discretionary to be ill or mentally ill.  
17 Our programs save lives, as was said.

18 Now, Mark had some very creative  
19 suggestion. And I've been -- because I like to  
20 do things -- I was trying to find some money to  
21 save, and so it led me to two curiosities I have.  
22 Had the discounts at the county golf club been  
23 repealed? I know there were discounts really for  
24 seniors many years ago. Does anyone know if  
25 those discounts are still in effect? Because I'm

2 looking at Meals on Wheels golf.

3 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: If you're referring  
4 to the senior citizen --

5 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: Yeah.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: reduced fee --  
7 there's no county golf club; it's the county golf  
8 courses.

9 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: Of course. Because  
10 I really am curious about what is the unrealized  
11 revenue.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: They are still in  
13 effect.

14 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: Then my question  
15 would be what is the amount of the -- I'm sure  
16 it's not \$43 million. I hope not. But I would  
17 like to know what is the unrealized revenue from  
18 recreational activity.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: There's no way to  
20 quantify that.

21 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: Well we would know  
22 how many seniors we have who are playing --

23 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: If they know how many  
24 seniors they have that play a round of golf --

25 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: We know how much

2 money is being generated at a discount.

3 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: But what you don't  
4 know is how many seniors would not play a round  
5 of golf if the fee was raised up to normal level.

6 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: Then, sir, I have to  
7 go back --

8 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: So now you would lose  
9 revenue rather than gain revenue.

10 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: to Meals on Wheels,  
11 the only program in Nassau -- in Long Island for  
12 providing emergency services for runaway -- you  
13 know there's only one program from Montauk to  
14 Manhattan for providing emergency services for  
15 runaway and homeless youth. We have all sorts of  
16 people in need. I don't think golf is that  
17 important.

18 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: That's what you  
19 think.

20 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: And of course I'm  
21 not a golfer, and I apologize for that.

22 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: There you go.

23 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: We really are  
24 talking about from a good-faith effort. If we  
25 really have these problems -- and I know since

2 the economic downturn the state isn't getting the  
3 revenue from the stockbrokers that it once was,  
4 which did provide 20 percent of New York's State  
5 budget, I know that. That's not anybody --  
6 necessarily any political party's fault. There  
7 is less money in New York State. There's less  
8 money coming into Nassau County, these are  
9 certain realities. But we can't now -- when  
10 we're making decisions about what to do, there  
11 are certain decisions we need to make and look at  
12 the effect, what is the big effect on it.

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I regret that most of  
14 the people who were here, they seem to miss the  
15 concept of what's going on here today and what's  
16 in front of us today. There is not a decision to  
17 be made about whether or not to continue funding  
18 to these agencies --

19 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: That was a choice  
20 that was made to put us in this position.

21 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: that decision has  
22 been made. It's over.

23 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: I'm not here to  
24 argue with you.

25 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: It's in the past.

2 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: I'm here to ask a  
3 question.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I'm not here to argue  
5 with you either.

6 What's here in front of us --

7 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: What is the  
8 unrealized revenue --

9 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I have no idea,  
10 ma'am.

11 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: There is other  
12 revenue that can be generated.

13 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: How about we double,  
14 triple the fees? What does that mean? What does  
15 that realize?

16 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: Hum?

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: How about we triple  
18 the fees? What does that mean in unrealized  
19 revenue?

20 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: No, no. Unrealized  
21 revenue is -- what is the regular fee that  
22 someone walks in and what is the discounted fee?  
23 I'm giving you an opportunity to get a lot more  
24 people upset with you.

25 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: That's exactly what



we need.

MS. SANFORD-GUISE: But it would be a much fairer group of people to be upset --

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Says you.

MS. SANFORD-GUISE: who may understand that a child --

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Says you.

MS. SANFORD-GUISE: being fed or reducing crime might be in their economic interest. It may be as equally valuable in their value of living in Nassau County.

I also saw on the list there was \$134,009 of approvals for the "free concerts". Most people think those concerts are free. I'm assuming these are not grants, that this is not grant money. This is taxpayer money.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Excuse me. No, no.

MS. SANFORD-GUISE: People should know there's a cost.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: No, no, no.

MS. SANFORD-GUISE: That it's not free.

CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: The concerts are being funded by hotel/motel tax money. It did not come out of the general fund.

2 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: That's great. I  
3 come from that industry. That is excellent.

4 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: So that's where  
5 they're being funded from. And that's money that  
6 you cannot use for other purposes.

7 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: I'm not looking at  
8 it. See, this is not -- I'm not talking this or  
9 that. I'm talking about the good faith effort  
10 that there should be a shared responsibility that  
11 people should understand that maybe playing  
12 around of golf is not as critical as a senior  
13 being fed, or a child being educated, or not  
14 having people not getting services for their  
15 illnesses. That's all.

16 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: I'm trying to follow  
17 what you're saying. But to suggest that seniors  
18 are mandated to play golf, no matter what the fee  
19 is that we charge, is where you're missing the  
20 point.

21 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: I'm not missing that  
22 point.

23 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: You can't say that a  
24 thousand seniors played a round of golf and  
25 therefore if we raise the fee \$10 we'd have ten

2 times a thousand, because that's not so.

3 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: What I'm saying is,  
4 I'm talking about good faith. If we are saying  
5 we don't have money, we actually -- we should be  
6 looking at a lot of different ways of how -- I  
7 know how unpopular that would be. I know --

8 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Please. We have  
9 raised fees in the parks and been criticized for  
10 it.

11 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: Right. But then  
12 when people understand that this is part of their  
13 investment in their community rather than having  
14 three year olds not getting services, not having  
15 the mentally ill not getting services, and not  
16 having hungry seniors.

17 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Would they  
18 understand? I have no idea. You'd have to ask  
19 them.

20 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: I would say no. I'm  
21 not elected, you are. That's what you get to  
22 explain.

23 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Fine.

24 MS. SANFORD-GUISE: Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN SCHMITT: Thank you.

2 That's the last speaker slip that I had.  
3 Is there anybody else? If not, we stand in  
4 recess.

5 (Whereupon, the Full Legislature  
6 recessed.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 30th day of June, 2012.

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FRANK GRAY