## In the Matter Of:

VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

## **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW AND WORK SESSION**

February 16, 2021



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3	v	ILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE	
4	воя	ARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW	
5		AND	
6		WORK SESSION	
7			
8		February 16, 2021	
9		p.m. (Board of Assessment p.m. (Board of Trustees )	
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2	APPEARANCES FOR BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW:		
3	MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND		
4	DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT		
5	ANTHONY ADDEO, Trustee		
6	CHERYL PARISI, Trustee		
7	BRIAN HARTY, Village Administrator		
8	BARBARA KELLY, Deputy Village Clerk		
9	KEVIN WOOD, Zoom moderator		
10			
11	APPEARANCES FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION:		
12	MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND		
13	DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT		
14	ANTHONY ADDEO, Trustee		
15	CHERYL PARISI, Trustee		
16	WALTER PRIESTLEY, Trustee		
17	CLAUDE DE BELLIS, ESQ., Village Attorney		
18	BRIAN HARTY, Village Administrator		
19	BARBARA KELLY, Deputy Village Clerk		
20	STEVE FELLMAN, Building Superintendent		
21	KEVIN WOOD, Zoom moderator		
22			
23			
24			

25

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 (WHEREUPON, the Board of Assessment
- 3 Review was commenced at 5:00 p.m. on a
- 4 Zoom Webinar.)
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: You can come
- 6 in up until 9 o'clock. So you can come in
- 7 any time from now until 9 o'clock.
- 8 So right now I will need a
- 9 resolution from the Board to convey the
- 10 opening of the Farmingdale Village Board
- 11 of Assessment Review.
- 12 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'll make
- 13 that resolution, or you want me to -- Or,
- 14 Mayor Ralph, do you want me to speak it or
- 15 just make --
- 16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No, that's
- 17 good.
- 18 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Okay.
- 19 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I'll second
- 20 it.
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, second
- 22 it.
- 23 All in favor?
- 24 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
- 25 affirmative vote of the Board Members

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 present, excluding Trustee Priestly, not
- 3 present.)
- 4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, it's
- 5 unanimous by all present.
- 6 Please, Barbara, when you do the
- 7 minutes, note that Walter isn't here yet.
- 8 BARBARA KELLY: Right.
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, at
- 10 this point in time, we will let people --
- 11 residents in to speak or ask questions
- 12 about their tax grievances.
- 13 Kevin, is there anybody in queue or
- 14 anybody who wants to speak?
- 15 KEVIN WOOD: There is. There are
- 16 two people attending and one raising their
- 17 hand, William Gleckler. Mayor, may I let
- 18 that person in?
- 19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yes.
- 20 KEVIN WOOD: Standby, please.
- 21 Asking to unmute. Mr. Gleckler, if you'd
- 22 unmute, you can speak to the Board.
- MR. GLECKLER: Sorry about that.
- Good evening, everyone. This is
- 25 Bill Gleckler living in Farmingdale

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 Village.
- 3 My question to the Board is, how is
- 4 the assessment being performed with
- 5 looking at the value of the different
- 6 homes? If you can just describe that
- 7 assessment process. Is it based on lot
- 8 sizes and capacity or occupancy space.
- 9 Because, over the years, I have gotten
- 10 grievances done through Nassau County and
- 11 successful, but the Village takes more of
- 12 a process and I was just wondering how
- 13 that assessed value is obtained.
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay,
- 15 William, I can explain that to you very
- 16 easily.
- 17 There are seven villages in Nassau
- 18 County who do not use the Nassau County
- 19 assessment to assess their residents'
- 20 property. We use what is called, in New
- 21 York State, the Homestead Act. We enacted
- 22 that in 2010, in which we, the Village of
- 23 Farmingdale, becomes its own tax assessor
- 24 for your property, for Village taxes, not
- 25 using the Nassau County tax rolls. What

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 that means is, our assessors -- and we use
- 3 Haberman and Associates -- assess your
- 4 property value and it is assessed on fair
- 5 market value, which means we assess your
- 6 property, your house, what we feel the
- 7 Village would sell for in the marketplace
- 8 at this point in time, and it does change
- 9 up or down from year to years (sic),
- 10 that's understandable.
- 11 So Nassau County uses -- used to
- 12 use a different method. They are
- 13 attempting to go into fair market value,
- 14 but their values may be different than
- 15 ours because we use -- we are our own
- 16 assessors. So, for example, I'll use my
- 17 condo in the Village here. Nassau County
- 18 has assessed my condo at \$295,000, what
- 19 they say is fair market value. Or the
- 20 value for assessment. The Village of
- 21 Farmingdale said my condo would sell on
- 22 the market for \$255,000. So if you want
- 23 to grieve your taxes in the Village of
- 24 Farmingdale, you would have to grieve your
- 25 taxes based on what the Village assessed

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 you at, at their -- our Village -- fair
- 3 market value. Which, in my case, would be
- 4 \$255,000, not what the County based it on
- 5 because they are two completely different
- 6 taxing entities.
- 7 Did I explain myself --
- 8 MR. GLECKLER: Yes. I just have a
- 9 follow up question based on your response
- 10 though.
- 11 So what industry index are you
- 12 using for that fair value determination?
- 13 Is it like Zillow, is it -- I mean what
- 14 are you using --
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 16 There's not a problem, William.
- 17 What we do is, we hire the company
- 18 that converted us to the Homestead Act
- 19 back in 2010, and answers to the Office of
- 20 Real Property Services for the State of
- 21 New York. We could not do this on our
- 22 own. We have to do it and apply to the
- 23 State of New York Office of Real Property
- 24 Services in order to do so. So we have to
- 25 -- it's not just the Village, it's -- we

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 have to go by all the regulations of New
- 3 York State in order to do what we do. We
- 4 hired a company to do that for us and
- 5 they, every year, reevaluate, in this
- 6 case, your property for what its fair
- 7 market value is on a year by year basis,
- 8 and that is done by the expertise of this
- 9 specialization company we use.
- 10 I'll refer to the Board or any of
- 11 our wonderful staff, like Barbara, if I
- 12 explained this incorrectly or if they can
- 13 explain it in terms better than I just
- 14 did.
- 15 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Ralph, you
- 16 did an excellent job.
- 17 BARBARA KELLY: I think with the
- 18 current -- current assessors that we have,
- 19 they have gone through the Village -- and
- 20 I'll be honest, I was not here -- I think
- 21 they did it back in 2009.
- 22 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yeah, Butch
- 23 Starkie was the mayor.
- 24 BARBARA KELLY: Yeah. And so I
- 25 don't know the methodology that they used

- 1 2/16/21 2 except they're foremost experts in Nassau 3 County on -- on assessing properties. 4 So they did whatever assessment --5 they go through our building permits every 6 single year. They look for improvements made to their original assessment and that 7 8 makes an adjustment to the fair market 9 value and they also look at the trends, 10 like everybody. Because of COVID and 11 people moving from the City to the 12 suburbs, everybody's home values have gone 13 up this past year, and there was an 14 increase across the board for home values, 15 and the assessment roll this year based upon that. We have -- I believe it was 16 17 one year had gone down in value. It was a 18 number of years ago. but the assessed 19 values went up across the board because of 20 the -- the migration and effect of City 21 people to more suburban standards from --22 for working at home.
- MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Barbara -
  MR. GLECKLER: Can you just give me

  the name of that specialist who does the

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 assessment? Is it Kapear (phonetic) you
- 3 said -- the name of the firm.
- 4 BARBARA KELLY: Haberman Associates
- 5 -- and Associates, I think it is.
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Barbara,
- 7 while I have you as a captive audience,
- 8 could you explain to the residents what it
- 9 means -- just because -- just because
- 10 their --
- 11 BARBARA KELLY: Because of the
- 12 assessment going up?
- 13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Right it
- 14 goes --
- 15 BARBARA KELLY: I know what you're
- 16 going to ask me --
- 17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 18 -- up doesn't mean their taxes go up.
- 19 BARBARA KELLY: Correct. So I mean
- 20 this is part of what Nassau County is
- 21 having a problem with is because there
- 22 were people who contested their taxes in
- 23 the past -- and we're just talking about
- 24 Nassau County, and not the Village of
- 25 Farmingdale, just to give you some

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 guidance. There were people who contested
- 3 taxes every year and with that -- say they
- 4 have a half million dollar house, they had
- 5 the value down to say 300, 350 but their
- 6 neighbor who has the same house as them,
- 7 never contested and had a house value at
- 8 \$500,000. Because of that, they took an
- 9 inordinately larger proportion of the
- 10 taxes. In the Village of Farmingdale,
- 11 everybody is at fair market value. So you
- 12 don't have those discrepancies in the
- 13 value of your home based upon your
- 14 contesting your tax value. So the value
- of the assessment roll -- say it went up
- 16 ten percent this year -- does not mean at
- 17 all that your taxes are going to go up ten
- 18 percent.
- 19 MR. GLECKLER: Yes, I understand
- 20 that.
- 21 BARBARA KELLY: Okay.
- MR. GLECKLER: Yeah, I mean, all
- 23 I'm looking to do is make sure that it's
- 24 on an equal playing field of assessment.
- 25 Your budget, I know, are (sic) very well

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 maintained and it's divided equally among
- 3 this fair value assessment and that's my
- 4 only concern.
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay,
- 6 William, I'll just close with, this is
- 7 what we say to everybody who goes and asks
- 8 that question about how we assess your
- 9 taxes. If you stand back and look and say
- 10 what the Village -- not the County -- what
- 11 the Village assessed your home, if you --
- 12 do you feel that the Village has assessed
- 13 your home correctly. Now, of course,
- 14 there may be a little scooch in between
- 15 here and there -- let's say we say your
- 16 home is worth 560 and you say it's only
- 17 worth 550, you're not going to win a tax
- 18 grievance. We all know that. But we
- 19 should be in very close ballpark to what
- 20 you should be able to market your home for
- 21 in the current market today.
- MR. GLECKLER: In past years, you
- 23 have been very good with that. It's just
- 24 this past year, with COVID, as I just
- 25 heard from your Deputy Clerk -- okay -- it

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 went up significantly higher and I don't
- 3 really know what the real value of the
- 4 house is because we're in this unusual
- 5 COVID real estate, you know, market at
- 6 this -- you know -- and that could get
- 7 corrected again. And I just want to make
- 8 sure it's an equal playing field with the
- 9 assessment with the fair value market on
- 10 my home.
- 11 BARBARA KELLY: It was across the
- 12 board. It was across the board. So it
- 13 was equal to everyone.
- 14 MR. GLECKLER: Thank you very much.
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: And,
- 16 William, we assess -- we look at the tax
- 17 roll every year for reassessment. So it's
- 18 not something that we do every three
- 19 years, every five years, every ten years.
- 20 We do it annually. Okay?
- 21 MR. GLECKLER: Thank you very much
- 22 for your answers.
- 23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you.
- Okay, is there anybody else with
- 25 their hand up, Kevin?

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 KEVIN WOOD: Well, we have a --
- 3 we're going to let Brian -- so let me have
- 4 Brian talk here.
- 5 Brian, please unmute if you can.
- 6 Brian Harty.
- 7 Brian, you are in the meeting so I
- 8 just want to make sure you can unmute. And
- 9 I'm also going to let this gentleman in --
- 10 BRIAN HARTY: Hi, Kevin. Hi,
- 11 everybody.
- 12 KEVIN WOOD: Okay, good, you're
- 13 there.
- 14 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Hi, Brian.
- 15 BRIAN HARTY: Thank you. How are
- 16 you, everybody?
- 17 KEVIN WOOD: As you know, when
- 18 people come in through their cellphone,
- 19 there's no way to tell the name. So would
- 20 the person with the 917 area code, please
- 21 unmute if you'd like to speak.
- 22 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)
- 23 KEVIN WOOD: Okay, so we will do
- 24 this. Okay, so they're just attending
- 25 then.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 So Brian -- Brian's where he should
- 3 be and we can continue. That's what we
- 4 have right now.
- 5 That's it, Mayor.
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 7 Kevin, if somebody comes in or wants to
- 8 come in, and raises their hand, ten
- 9 minutes, 20 minutes, whatever, from now,
- 10 just let us know.
- 11 KEVIN WOOD: Okay. And then I'll
- 12 put on the screen, so everybody can kind
- 13 of do what they'd like in terms of just
- 14 standing down. You know you can stop
- 15 video and I'll put something about the
- 16 assessment on the screen.
- 17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, that's
- 18 cool. Because we are -- we are not
- 19 officially in our public meeting yet for
- 20 our work session, so we still, at this
- 21 point in time, are discussing only the tax
- 22 grievant issues.
- 23 Brian, I assume I am correct in
- 24 interpreting the wonderful rules and
- 25 regulations that are given to us?

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 BRIAN HARTY: You are correct.
- 3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, so
- 4 unfortunately for Barbara, she cannot hear
- 5 my jokes.
- 6 COURT REPORTER: Mayor and Brian,
- 7 if you guys are now going to talk among
- 8 yourselves, this shouldn't be recorded.
- 9 It should only be when someone comes in.
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: That's
- 11 correct.
- 12 COURT REPORTER: So could you say
- 13 like maybe off the record? But you're
- 14 being recorded so anything you say is --
- 15 not recorded but you're Live.
- 16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: It goes on
- 17 YouTube.
- 18 COURT REPORTER: Yeah.
- 19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Which we
- 20 understand.
- 21 COURT REPORTER: So try not to
- 22 talk.
- 23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: We can talk
- amongst ourselves, however, we cannot do
- 25 stuff that belongs in the work session at

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 7 o'clock prior to the work session at 7
- 3 o'clock because that would preclude the
- 4 public from being -- who wants to hear
- 5 that, as not being able to.
- 6 KEVIN WOOD: Brian, can you hear
- 7 me? It's Kevin.
- 8 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah, I got you, Kev.
- 9 You got me?
- 10 KEVIN WOOD: I understood the
- 11 5 p.m. to convene the Board of Assessment
- 12 Review and then --
- 13 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah.
- 14 KEVIN WOOD: (Continuing) -- we
- would come back at 7:00, but you tell me.
- 16 BRIAN HARTY: Well, it convenes but
- 17 it stays open because anybody can come in
- 18 between 5:00 and 9 o'clock.
- 19 KEVIN WOOD: Okay.
- 20 BRIAN HARTY: It's a four-hour
- 21 window.
- 22 KEVIN WOOD: Okay.
- 23 BRIAN HARTY: People can come in
- 24 and express their view.
- 25 COURT REPORTER: But if you guys

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 are going to talk amongst yourselves, I
- 3 don't think that should be reported.
- 4 BRIAN HARTY: I think we should
- 5 just not say anything.
- 6 COURT REPORTER: And just wait for
- 7 somebody to come in.
- 8 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah.
- 9 BARBARA KELLY: I agree.
- 10 BRIAN HARTY: We can go on mute for
- 11 some things until somebody comes in with a
- 12 question. I think that's probably the
- 13 best thing right now.
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, I'm
- 15 just going to put it on mute and I'm
- 16 actually going to grab a cup of coffee and
- 17 some french fries --
- 18 KEVIN WOOD: Stop your videos and
- 19 that's fine. I'll do a look out.
- 20 BRIAN HARTY: Okay, good. Thanks.
- 21 (WHEREUPON, off-the-record
- 22 discussion from 5:25 p.m. to 6:31 p.m.,
- 23 after which the following transpired:)
- 24 BARBARA KELLY: You can put in the
- 25 request -- in the request for a -- and it

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 has to be in by 9 o'clock tonight?
- FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes.
- 4 BARBARA KELLY: It has to be to the
- 5 Village Hall by 9 p.m. this evening for
- 6 anybody who's looking --
- 7 KEVIN WOOD: Tireak, if you can
- 8 hear me, it's Kevin, the Zoom Admin. Did
- 9 you have a question?
- 10 FEMALE SPEAKER: I was just --
- 11 whatever they --
- 12 BARBARA KELLY: But whatever detail
- 13 you can put in the -- in the request for a
- 14 -- and it has to be in by 9 o'clock
- 15 tonight?
- 16 FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes.
- 17 BARBARA KELLY: It has to be to the
- 18 Village Hall by 9:00 p.m. this evening.
- 19 FEMALE SPEAKER: Yup.
- 20 BARBARA KELLY: For anybody who's
- 21 looking to --
- 22 KEVIN WOOD: Tireak, if you can
- 23 hear me, it's Kevin, the Zoom admin.
- 24 Hi, Tireak, can you hear me? Can you hear
- 25 us all in the meeting?

- 1 2/16/21
- Barbara, can you hear me?
- 3 BARBARA KELLY: I can hear you,
- 4 Kevin.
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I can hear
- 6 you also, Kevin.
- 7 BRIAN HARTY: I gotcha, too, Kevin.
- 8 Can you hear me?
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, we can
- 10 hear you, Brian.
- 11 BRIAN HARTY: Good, okay.
- 12 KEVIN WOOD: Okay, did you see the
- 13 question that came in, everyone?
- 14 BARBARA KELLY: Yeah, we did and I
- 15 thought I answered that. So the answer
- 16 is, supply as much information as you can
- 17 to support your case for a reduction in
- 18 your assessment and it has to be at
- 19 Village Hall by 9:00 p.m. this evening.
- 20 Two of us are here at Village Hall to
- 21 accept those. You can just ring the bell
- 22 and --
- 23 BRIAN HARTY: What about accepting
- 24 emails?
- 25 BARBARA KELLY: (Continuing) --

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 (inaudible) drop in box and we will stamp
- 3 them in.
- 4 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: How do I
- 5 get video back?
- 6 KEVIN WOOD: I'm asking you to put
- 7 it on now.
- 8 BARBARA KELLY: You should have a
- 9 stop video or start video.
- 10 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Oh, here it
- 11 is. Back up and here we go. Thank you,
- 12 Barbara.
- 13 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: My
- 14 video doesn't start. I need Kevin to
- 15 release me. Free me.
- 16 BRIAN HARTY: What about sending
- 17 emails in?
- 18 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah, I had followed
- 19 the instructions on the website, so I
- 20 submitted via email.
- 21 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: All
- 22 right, Kevin. I have to do this to you.
- 23 KEVIN WOOD: Okay, we have a
- 24 resident online. He's trying to talk to
- 25 us. I'm unmuting those that are singing.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 Tireak, if you can hear me. I
- 3 think you can now.
- 4 TIREAK TULLOCH: Yes, I can.
- 5 KEVIN WOOD: Perfect. I wanted to
- 6 make sure you heard Barbara's answer on
- 7 that.
- 8 TIREAK TULLOCH: Yes. Yes, I did.
- 9 I had submitted it via email, that was on
- 10 the Village website.
- 11 BARBARA KELLY: And did you submit
- 12 it today? Because I can verify whether
- 13 we've gotten it.
- 14 TIREAK TULLOCH: I believe I
- 15 emailed it last night.
- 16 BARBARA KELLY: Okay. And what's
- 17 your address?
- 18 TIREAK TULLOCH: 41 Jefferson.
- 19 BARBARA KELLY: Did you hear that?
- 20 41 --
- 21 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah, I think we have
- 22 that in the package.
- 23 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Yeah,
- 24 that's the one that was emailed to us
- 25 later in the day today.

- 1 2/16/21
- BARBARA KELLY: Okay. All right.
- BRIAN HARTY: Yup, it's in the
- 4 package.
- 5 BARBARA KELLY: Yes, Tireak, we
- 6 have yours.
- 7 TIREAK TULLOCH: Okay. All right.
- 8 All right, fair enough. Yeah, I just used
- 9 -- I had used comps from the sales data
- 10 from Village sales over the last year in
- 11 there.
- 12 BARBARA KELLY: Okay.
- 13 KEVIN WOOD: Anything else, Tireak?
- 14 TIREAK TULLOCH: No, that was it.
- 15 Thank you.
- 16 KEVIN WOOD: Oh, you're absolutely
- 17 welcome.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you
- 19 for joining us. Thank you.
- 20 TIREAK TULLOCH: Thank you for the
- 21 quick answer.
- 22 BRIAN HARTY: You're welcome.
- 23 KEVIN WOOD: Okay. Well, you can
- 24 stand down again, and see if anybody comes
- 25 in.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 (WHEREUPON, there was a pause in
- 3 the proceedings from 6:35 p.m. to 7:00
- 4 p.m., after which the following
- 5 transpired:)
- 6 KEVIN WOOD: Okay, we're getting
- 7 around to the 7 o'clock hour. Welcome
- 8 back.
- 9 BRIAN HARTY: Hey, Kevin, it's
- 10 Brian. You got me, Kev?
- 11 KEVIN WOOD: I do, loud and clear.
- 12 BRIAN HARTY: Good, thanks. I'm
- 13 going to mute.
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Can you hear
- 15 me?
- 16 KEVIN WOOD: Gotcha, Mayor, no
- 17 problem.
- 18 COURT REPORTER: Do we consider the
- 19 previous meeting finished?
- 20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No. The
- 21 other meeting -- we are going to make a
- 22 motion at 7 o'clock. Our first motion
- 23 would be to run the work session
- 24 concurrently with the Board of Tax
- 25 Grievances until 9 o'clock. If our

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 meeting runs more or less than that, we
- 3 will work accordingly.
- 4 Okay, Kevin, can we -- can we get
- 5 an American Flag up there?
- 6 KEVIN WOOD: Yes. Standby, please.
- 7 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Hi, guys.
- 8 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Hi, Steve.
- 9 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Hi,
- 10 Claudio, how are you?
- 11 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: I'm doing
- 12 well. How about everyone else.
- 13 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Claudio,
- 15 just a heads up, before we start. We're
- 16 going to ask you -- in the documents you
- 17 sent us, it wasn't well defined -- what
- 18 Class 1A, Class 1B, Class 1C is. So when
- 19 I talk to you about that later, just a
- 20 heads up to get the definitions.
- 21 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Okay.
- 22 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Was
- 23 that an email today?
- 24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No, that was
- 25 -- that was our email with the Board --

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 BID Board stuff last week.
- 3 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
- 4 Okay. It has to do with the Business
- 5 Improvement District, nothing else.
- 6 Okay, it appears to be 7 o'clock.
- 7 So, Kevin, if you want to throw the
- 8 American Flag up there.
- 9 KEVIN WOOD: (Complying)
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay,
- 11 Lorraine, if you want to start recording.
- Okay, welcome, everybody to the
- 13 Farmingdale Village Board of Trustees
- 14 meeting, February 16th, 2021.
- 15 As we always do, we start the
- 16 meeting with the Pledge to the American
- 17 Flag, and a moment of silence in support
- 18 of our military forces overseas, and our
- 19 first responders.
- 20 So if everybody would, please, put
- 21 their hands over their heart and recite
- 22 the Pledge of Allegiance with me.
- 23 (WHEREUPON, the members present
- 24 recited the Pledge of Allegiance, after
- 25 which the following transpired:)

- 1 2/16/21
- MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: And, again,
- 3 a moment of silence in support of our
- 4 military personnel defending freedom
- 5 throughout the globe and our first
- 6 responders who are always going into
- 7 harm's way.
- 8 (WHEREUPON, a moment of silence was
- 9 observed.)
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you,
- 11 ladies and gentlemen, and again, welcome
- 12 to our Village Board meeting, Tuesday,
- 13 February 16th.
- Our first item on the agenda is to
- 15 -- I need a motion to convey the
- 16 Farmingdale Village Board of Trustees work
- 17 session to run concurrently with the
- 18 Village of Farmingdale Board of Assessment
- 19 Review, which has been running since
- 20 5 p.m. The Village Board of Assessment
- 21 Review, by New York State Law, will
- 22 terminate at 9 o'clock. So we need a
- 23 motion to run concurrently from 7:00 to
- 24 9:00 both Village meetings.
- 25 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'll make

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 that motion.
- 3 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I'll second
- 4 it.
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
- 6 favor?
- 7 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
- 8 affirmative vote of the Board Members
- 9 present, after which the following
- 10 transpired:)
- 11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you.
- 12 Resolution to set the following
- 13 public hearing on Monday, March 1st, 2021,
- 14 at 8 p.m, adopt local law to add
- 15 authorization to override the New York
- 16 State tax levy.
- 17 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I'll
- 18 make a motion.
- 19 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Do
- 20 we need to discuss this?
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Well, we --
- 22 Deputy Mayor, as you know, the motion is
- 23 just there for us to have the ability --
- 24 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Have
- 25 the flexibility, yes.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 3 -- to override it. Doesn't mean this
- 4 Village has never and I repeat never
- 5 overrided the tax cap. However, if with
- 6 in these budgetary times, and this COVID
- 7 time, we need to override the cap --
- 8 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: We
- 9 have the ability.
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 11 -- we have to have a resolution at this
- 12 time to override the cap.
- 13 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Why does it
- 14 have to be at this time? I thought it
- 15 could be done right before we adopt the
- 16 budget. Because if we do it now,
- 17 doesn't --
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, why
- 19 don't we get an answer from the people who
- 20 tell me it has to be done at this time.
- 21 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay, but
- 22 could I just finish my question?
- 23 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Sure.
- 24 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Because I
- 25 thought I was -- I was under the

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 impression that if we even pass this
- 3 resolution, that the people in the Village
- 4 would not get a percentage of their taxes
- 5 back based on us passing this resolution.
- 6 So someone tell me that's not true
- 7 and if we don't use it, it doesn't go
- 8 against our Village.
- 9 BRIAN HARTY: I've never heard
- 10 that.
- 11 BARBARA KELLY: I don't believe
- 12 that anybody's -- yeah, I don't believe
- 13 that anybody's getting any percentage of
- 14 the taxes back any longer. I think that
- 15 was a -- a bunch of years ago and it's no
- 16 longer being done. I haven't gotten --
- 17 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Can we find
- 18 out about that before we actually vote on
- 19 this?
- 20 BARBARA KELLY: This has to be done
- 21 for -- it has to be passed on the
- 22 March 1st date. But there is no longer --
- 23 I haven't heard anything about money being
- 24 back -- being --
- 25 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Didn't we

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 get -- I could swear I got money back last
- 3 year, but that's neither here nor there.
- 4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Cheryl,
- 5 you're not paying attention. We're making
- 6 a resolution to do this on March 1st.
- 7 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Oh, okay.
- 8 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Now you may
- 9 have got it, we can -- we can do whatever
- 10 we want on March 1st, I just have to
- 11 announce that we're holding the public
- 12 hearing on March 1st --
- 13 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay, I'm
- 14 sorry --
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 16 -- is all. --
- 17 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI:
- 18 (Continuing) -- I don't have an agenda.
- 19 I apologize.
- 20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No, no, no.
- 21 That's okay. You can see we can do our
- 22 homework between now and then to see -- to
- 23 answer all your questions.
- 24 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yes, thank
- 25 you.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 BRIAN HARTY: We need a second on
- 3 the motion.
- 4 BARBARA KELLY: Yeah.
- 5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I'll
- 6 make the motion.
- 7 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I'll second
- 8 it.
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
- 10 favor?
- 11 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
- 12 affirmative vote of the Board Members
- 13 present, after which the following
- 14 transpired:)
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you.
- 16 Fire Department: Brian, I have
- 17 nothing for the Fire Department, other
- 18 than they stated the Chief's car is still
- 19 in queue. No?
- 20 BRIAN HARTY: They've gotten bids
- 21 back on the -- on all the whistles and
- 22 bells to go on the new chief's car. It's
- about 17,000 that'd be coming up in the
- 24 March meeting.
- 25 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay,

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 that's --
- BRIAN HARTY: We'll forward that to
- 4 the March meeting.
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: From my
- 6 memory, and I can look at Bill and Cheryl,
- 7 that's pretty much --
- 8 BRIAN HARTY: (Inaudible) is what
- 9 we spent in the past.
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 11 -- we've always spent, in the past,
- 12 anywhere between 15 and \$19,000, depending
- on the vehicle and the -- and the stuff.
- 14 Exactly.
- 15 Okay. Building Department. Stevie
- 16 Ray, where are you?
- 17 STEVE FELLMAN: There we go.
- 18 I got a call last week from Howard
- 19 Abertine (phonetic) the attorney. They
- 20 brought up a year or so ago, apparently,
- 21 they're going to move forward now with
- 22 combining the 7-Eleven and the Gulf
- 23 Station up across from Palmer's into one
- 24 project that will be a new 7-Eleven
- 25 building with gas. He just came and

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 called to say they're going to start
- 3 moving forward and submitting applications
- 4 for that proposed project.
- 5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I
- 6 thought 7-Eleven was getting away from the
- 7 gas.
- 8 STEVE FELLMAN: Yeah, I guess only
- 9 for Raj (phonetic)
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: We had
- 11 correspondence -- and Brian will help me
- 12 out here -- probably in the vicinity of
- 13 five or six years ago from Southland
- 14 Corporation -- I believe they're in Texas
- 15 -- that stated that nationally they are
- 16 going out of the gasoline business, and as
- 17 the tanks get to an age where they need to
- 18 be replaced, they will just remove them,
- 19 remediate them, and are getting out of the
- 20 gas business. We have correspondence from
- 21 Southland saying that. However, like many
- 22 multi-billion dollar fortune corporations,
- 23 they tend to change their mind over the
- 24 years.
- 25 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: So are they

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 looking to put up a new one where the new
- 3 car wash is? Is that correct, Steve?
- 4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Other side
- 5 of the street.
- 6 STEVE FELLMAN: Where the 7-Eleven
- 7 is now and the Gulf Station, right across
- 8 from Palmer's.
- 9 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Oh, okay --
- 10 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: It's a
- 11 Sunoco Station.
- 12 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO:
- 13 (Continuing) -- they're going to take the
- 14 gas from the Sunoco station --
- 15 STEVE FELLMAN: A Sunoco. A
- 16 Sunoco.
- 17 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Sunoco.
- 18 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO:
- 19 (Continuing) -- and 7-Eleven and make it
- 20 one property and one building?
- 21 STEVE FELLMAN: Yes. Yes.
- 22 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Okay. I
- 23 would assume then that the building is
- 24 going to face Hempstead Turnpike or Fulton
- 25 Street there. Do you know that?

- 1 2/16/21
- MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, that's
- 3 -- that's -- you're correct. That is
- 4 Fulton Street at that location.
- 5 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Yeah.
- 6 BRIAN HARTY: Do you have a site
- 7 plan yet, Steve?
- 8 STEVE FELLMAN: No, I -- he was
- 9 just calling to let me know that it would
- 10 be coming soon and also I asked him if he
- 11 could find out what's going on with our
- 12 towing friend down the block and Michael,
- 13 and he said -- yeah, good point. Has a
- 14 way of disappearing on me every once in
- 15 awhile. I'll try to track him down he
- 16 said.
- 17 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: When you're
- 18 talking to them -- when you're talking to
- 19 him again, can you have him have his
- 20 people like look at the gas stations
- 21 around the Village now and what they look
- 22 like so that possibly we can go in that
- 23 direction?
- 24 STEVE FELLMAN: I already told him.
- 25 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Thank you.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 STEVE FELLMAN: He said thank you
- 3 for the heads up, he will certainly take
- 4 care of that.
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Stevie, was
- 6 he -- he represents -- he represented,
- 7 over the years, a lot of businesses in the
- 8 Village. Did he represent any of the gas
- 9 stations? Do you remember?
- 10 STEVE FELLMAN: I do not
- 11 remember --
- 12 BRIAN HARTY: He just represented
- 13 the -- the auto body guy.
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 15 BRIAN HARTY: That's as far as I
- 16 remember.
- 17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No, no --
- 18 BRIAN HARTY: For the last ten
- 19 years.
- 20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay. Just
- 21 checking.
- 22 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: We seem to
- 23 have only -- we had the same architect
- 24 come in front of us. I don't think we had
- 25 any of the 7-Eleven -- any of the gas

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 station lawyers come in front of us.
- 3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Stevie --
- 4 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah, Harold.
- 5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
- 6 Harold --
- 7 STEVE FELLMAN: Gephart (phonetic)
- 8 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yeah.
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Stevie,
- 10 could you find out, is -- is that land
- 11 owned by 7-Eleven or it is owned by a
- 12 private person?
- 13 STEVE FELLMAN: I'll find out.
- 14 Sure.
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Because they
- 16 would have to do something with both
- 17 properties; correct?
- 18 STEVE FELLMAN: Yeah, they would
- 19 merge the properties.
- 20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: So one would
- 21 make one think that the same owner owns
- 22 both properties?
- 23 STEVE FELLMAN: Quite possible.
- 24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Well, take a
- 25 look -- I don't believe 7-Eleven owns that

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 property like they do the one on 150 Main
- 3 Street. I believe that's owned by a
- 4 private investor, not Southland
- 5 Corporation.
- 6 All right. What else you got for
- 7 us, Stevie?
- 8 How about 20 Merritts Road?
- 9 STEVE FELLMAN: 20 Merritts Road,
- 10 crawling ever forward, and I think they
- 11 swept a piece of the street. That's about
- 12 all that's happened.
- 13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: We did have
- 14 23 inches of snow over the last several
- 15 weeks, and as you know, we have the storm
- 16 coming in on Thursday. Depending if you
- 17 look ar the Euro model, it's four to six
- 18 inches; the National Weather Service model
- 19 is six to nine inches. So, we'll --
- 20 either way, we're getting -- we're getting
- 21 a good chunk of snow, either way. I'm
- 22 sure that doesn't help construction.
- 23 STEVE FELLMAN: I got my snow
- 24 blower fixed so I'm ready to go.
- 25 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Good job.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 STEVE FELLMAN: Bill and I will be
- 3 going with the snow blowers.
- 4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Maybe you
- 5 could help out Trustee Priestley.
- 6 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I'm
- 7 supposed to be getting on a plane Friday
- 8 morning.
- 9 STEVE FELLMAN: You're going to be
- 10 snowed in.
- 11 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: So we'll
- 12 see what happens.
- 13 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I wouldn't
- 14 count on it.
- 15 STEVE FELLMAN: Yeah.
- 16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 17 Hopefully, you're going someplace warm,
- 18 like Nome.
- 19 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Tampa.
- 20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Oh, good.
- 21 Good.
- 22 Stevie, anything new on any of the
- 23 restaurants and breweries that we gave
- 24 permits to? Have they commenced any
- 25 building?

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 STEVE FELLMAN: Not that we're
- 3 aware of.
- 4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 5 STEVE FELLMAN: I believe the --
- 6 Grandma's Kitchen -- actually, they have
- 7 done all the work. I think they're
- 8 getting ready to open up, according to
- 9 Steve Sharkie.
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Do you know
- if they've gotten fire marshal approval?
- 12 STEVE FELLMAN: Again, I don't --
- 13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 14 STEVE FELLMAN: (Continuing) --
- 15 they shouldn't need it because they didn't
- 16 change any of the fire stuff. All they
- 17 did was paint a little bit.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, but we
- 19 also know that the Nassau County Fire
- 20 Marshals -- it's a change of ownership --
- 21 so they may require an inspection just
- 22 because they can.
- 23 STEVE FELLMAN: Yup, and the bigger
- 24 thing is the Health Department. They have
- 25 to have Health Department approval for

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 their particular entity.
- 3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay. Just
- 4 keep us in the loop, Stevie.
- 5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
- 6 Stevie, anything by Five Star Collision,
- 7 the assisted living place?
- 8 STEVE FELLMAN: No, other than I
- 9 had a nice conversation with the architect
- 10 about how spectacular most of these
- 11 assisted living places look
- 12 architecturally, and while we appreciate
- 13 the Holiday Inn version of architecture he
- 14 gave us during the presentation, we're
- 15 expecting some of that award winning
- 16 stuff, and he said oh, absolutely --
- 17 they're going to give us the good stuff.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Allegedly.
- 19 STEVE FELLMAN: No, David Mammina
- 20 (phonetic) from H2M.
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Oh.
- 22 STEVE FELLMAN: He would tell us.
- 23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Oh, well.
- 24 H2M are my all time favorite architects.
- 25 Any other questions for Stevie?

- 4 Highway Department. Brian I'm sure -- I
- 5 know we got more salt delivered to the
- 6 salt barn, and I know --
- 7 BRIAN HARTY: Yes, we have.
- 8 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 9 -- with the -- with the rainstorms that
- 10 have turned to ice, we have been salting
- 11 more frequently than we normally would
- 12 have been --
- 13 BRIAN HARTY: Yes.
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 15 -- I'm sure we're all ready for the storm
- 16 coming. Theoretically, it's gonna occur
- 17 some time just before or about lunchtime
- 18 on Thursday.
- 19 BRIAN HARTY: Yes.
- 20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 21 BRIAN HARTY: Allegedly.
- 22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Barbara,
- 23 tomorrow, I'll record a robocall and we'll
- 24 talk about putting it out for the
- 25 snowstorm. Hopefully, we'll have a better

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 idea of whether we're going to get four to
- 3 six or six to nine, but either way, even
- 4 if it's the minor one, four to six is
- 5 enough snow to be hazardous and require
- 6 frequent plowing.
- 7 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Ralph,
- 8 can I make a suggestion for the robocall?
- 9 If we could find out whether the Town of
- 10 Oyster Bay is going to pick up the garbage
- 11 on Friday or not? If they're not going to
- 12 pick up the garbage, we should tell our
- 13 residents not to put it out because it
- 14 just gets in the way of the plows and it
- 15 stays there all weekend and, you know, it
- 16 just creates havoc if it's out and they're
- 17 not picking it up for a weekend.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Right,
- 19 right. We got that.
- 20 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Good
- 21 point.
- 22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: So Brian,
- 23 we'll -- I know Ann has --
- 24 BRIAN HARTY: We'll do that.
- 25 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I know Ann

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 has the contact number for Tobay Garbage
- 3 pickup. We'll give them a buzz Wednesday
- 4 morning.
- 5 BRIAN HARTY: First thing tomorrow.
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you.
- 7 BRIAN HARTY: First thing tomorrow.
- 8 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Good
- 9 suggestion.
- 10 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Good idea,
- 11 Walter. Yup.
- 12 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: People
- 13 were very confused in the last event.
- 14 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Oh,
- 15 confused, I got so many emails. "How come
- 16 I didn't get recycle pickup?" I've been
- 17 -- I said, sorry for the confusion. Oh,
- 18 it's unbelievable.
- 19 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah, if we can get
- 20 some clarity on that, I think it would
- 21 help everybody.
- 22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah.
- 23 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yup.
- 24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: We'll --
- 25 Cheryl will also put it out to our

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 Constant Contact people --
- 3 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yup.
- 4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 5 -- and for those people who are joining us
- 6 on Zoom, although you probably are already
- 7 registered for Constant Contact, just go
- 8 to the Village website,
- 9 farmingdalevillage.com, and click the
- 10 little tab for Constant Contact sign up
- 11 and make sure you tell your friends and
- 12 neighbors to do the same thing. You'll
- 13 get the snow emergency warnings, you'll
- 14 get changes in garbage pickup. You'll get
- 15 all the information you need to live life
- 16 well in our Village. And an informed
- 17 resident is our best customer. Sounds
- 18 like Sy Syms.
- 19 BARBARA KELLY: May I just clarify
- 20 that, Mayor? May I clarify that, Mayor?
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yes.
- 22 BARBARA KELLY: It's -- the sign up
- 23 for the Constant Contact is on the home
- 24 page. Let me just make sure at -- on the
- 25 home page, on the right-hand side, it says

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 Constant Contact, you put in your email
- 3 and you hit go and that email gets added
- 4 to the contact list.
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: It's that
- 6 easy. Make sure you tell your friends and
- 7 neighbors. Even if you're signed up, make
- 8 sure your kids and your next door
- 9 neighbors are because, as I said, getting
- 10 the information -- the correct information
- 11 out, like on garbage pickup, is always a
- 12 good thing.
- 13 Anything else on Highway, ladies
- 14 and gentlemen?
- 15 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)
- 16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay. Water
- 17 Department and Code. Well --
- 18 BRIAN HARTY: Water Department, we
- 19 have the bid on the tower. The bid on the
- 20 tower is due tomorrow at 11 o'clock.
- 21 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Oh, nice.
- 22 BRIAN HARTY: And we talked to our
- 23 engineering people today. We have --
- 24 we're anticipating more than one bidder,
- 25 so -- at this point, there's been some

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 interest -- they have some three or four
- 3 companies expressed serious interest. So
- 4 we'll see tomorrow at 11:00.
- 5 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Very nice.
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: And you'll
- 7 email the Board the results of the bid?
- 8 BRIAN HARTY: Yes. Yes.
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Brian, also
- 10 we had a problem with a leak in the
- 11 booster area of the Lenox Hill area.
- 12 After several hours it was finally
- isolated to a fire hydrant right by the
- 14 bridge serving Bethpage State Park and it
- 15 was quadranted off and we'll fix that fire
- 16 hydrant as soon as weather permits.
- 17 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah. Just so you
- 18 know, Dvirka Bartilucci will be doing an
- 19 analysis of the bids tomorrow for final
- 20 recommendation for award at the March
- 21 meeting. Hopefully, they come in within
- 22 budget.
- 23 Code Department is status quo.
- 24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, guys,
- 25 do we -- do we have our people ready --

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 and zoom ready to come on? Our BID
- 3 people?
- 4 KEVIN WOOD: We have Joseph Garcia
- 5 here and Bill is about to get on. I'm
- 6 working with him in the background. I can
- 7 bring Joe in now if you'd like.
- 8 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Sure.
- 9 KEVIN WOOD: Okay, standby. And I
- 10 think Bill will be very shortly after.
- 11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Hey, Joe.
- JOSEPH GARCIA: Hey, how are you?
- 13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: It's good to
- 14 see you. I see you have a nice view of
- 15 your -- your street.
- 16 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: He's
- 17 muted. Joe, you're muted.
- 18 JOSEPH GARCIA: Yeah, I don't know
- 19 what that picture is. I don't know why --
- 20 why that -- that's doing that, but what
- 21 are you going to do? It is what it is.
- 22 It's Zoom.
- 23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: That's quite
- 24 all right.
- 25 For those of you, who are on the

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 Zoom, we are -- we have been officially --
- 3 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: There he
- 4 is.
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 6 -- we have been officially been approved
- 7 and incorporated as a Business Improvement
- 8 by the State of New York. We are the
- 9 first Nassau County BID, Business
- 10 Improvement District, awarded by the State
- 11 of New York, in over 20 years, which I
- 12 feel very proud of our merchants, Board of
- 13 Trustees and staff that helped us get this
- 14 Building Improvement District.
- We're in the process of actually
- 16 forming a Board of Directors of the
- 17 Farmingdale Business Improvement District.
- 18 Three of the directors are here tonight.
- 19 They're the initial directors. One is
- 20 Walter -- Trustee Walter Priestley; one is
- 21 Joseph Garcia, who's President of the
- 22 Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce, and one
- 23 of our best all time presidents. And I
- 24 say that tongue in cheek because I was
- 25 president in '92,'93 and '94, and I still

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 consider him one of the best all time
- 3 presidents. We -- we are just waiting for
- 4 Bill Carman.
- 5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: He's
- 6 here. He's here.
- 7 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Bill
- 8 Carman's family has had a law practice on
- 9 Main Street for three generations, if I
- 10 can count, myself, correctly. And is a
- 11 hometown Daler. So we have a very good
- 12 representation as the initial three
- 13 directors for the Board.
- 14 And, Claudio, could you unmute
- 15 yourself?
- 16 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Let's
- 17 see. Where the hell are we here. I'm
- 18 unmuted. Thanks for the head's up, Mayor.
- 19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yes, well,
- 20 where the -- where the "well" (sic) are
- 21 you? You're okay. Okay. You know, we
- 22 have a Water Department, we like wells.
- 23 If you could explain to the public
- 24 and our three initial Board of Directors,
- 25 how we go forward in forming the full

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 Board and kick starting our Business
- 3 Improvement District better than a '55
- 4 Harley.
- 5 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: So the
- 6 three -- like you -- like you said, Mayor,
- 7 the three directors that the Board has
- 8 appointed are referred to as
- 9 incorporators. They were the ones that
- 10 incorporated the BID. They now have to
- 11 have a meeting -- the three of them --
- 12 where they will accept the petitions of
- 13 folks that want to become Board of
- 14 Director members. And they will have an
- 15 election at that initial organizational
- 16 meeting of the three incorporators. At
- 17 that meeting they'll adopt the by-laws and
- 18 then at some point after they have
- 19 directors, they will elect the officers;
- 20 the President, the Vice President,
- 21 Secretary and Treasurer.
- 22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, I'll
- 23 turn this over to Joe, Bill and Walter, to
- 24 ask Claudio specific questions on what you
- 25 need to do.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 I think, Claudio, you should
- 3 explain to them -- like, for example, on
- 4 Page 7 of the document you sent us, the
- 5 people that are able to become the other
- 6 seven -- if I remember correctly -- other
- 7 six -- excuse me, other six members of the
- 8 Board, what category of where they are in
- 9 terms of property owners, tenants,
- 10 residents, et cetera, et cetera, what they
- 11 have to be.
- 12 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Okay. So
- 13 the three that were appointed or elected
- 14 by the Board are your Class C Board
- 15 Members. Those guys, the incorporators
- 16 will now elect a Class A and Class B.
- 17 There'll be four Class A directors, which
- 18 are made up of the ownership component of
- 19 the BID, and then two of the Board of
- 20 Directors will be Class B, which will
- 21 represent the tenants. So that is further
- 22 divided. I don't know if this is
- 23 something that anybody's interested in
- 24 knowing but -- so the A -- the Class A
- 25 directors -- you have a Class A1, Class

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 A2, Class A3. The number that follows is
- 3 just a number of years they serve in their
- 4 initial term. That just provides for
- 5 staggering so that you don't have all the
- 6 Board changing all the time.
- 7 So, for example, Class A, Class A1,
- 8 will be elected and they will serve for
- 9 one year. At the next annual meeting,
- 10 that term will come up and you'd have to
- 11 -- the membership would elect a new Board
- 12 of Director member.
- 13 Class A2, that person would serve
- 14 until the second annual meeting.
- 15 And then Class A3, would serve the
- 16 three. After that initial term, all of
- 17 your directors serve three years.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: So it's just
- 19 -- you have to have it staggered as a
- 20 start up --
- 21 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Right.
- 22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 23 -- so the first year, you don't have to do
- 24 it all over again for everybody.
- 25 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Right. .

- 1 2/16/21
- Same thing for the B -- you know
- 3 you have a B2 and a B3. The B2,
- 4 obviously, serves for two years, and then
- 5 the B3, three years. Once that initial
- 6 term is up again, they -- they, too, serve
- 7 for three years.
- 8 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: So, Claudio,
- 9 the -- the four directors that are the
- 10 Class A, can they be a representative of
- 11 an owner? For example, can a tenant of
- 12 the property be -- by the owner -- said to
- 13 be a representative of him for that, or
- 14 no, the owner has to be representative?
- 15 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: No, the
- 16 owner can designate someone to represent
- 17 his interest.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 19 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: As long
- 20 as that individual has a petition with at
- 21 least five owners signing off on it.
- 22 JOSEPH GARCIA: Do we have a list
- 23 of proposed members for the Board of
- 24 Directors?
- 25 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: We don't.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 I mean that's something we can work on --
- 3 you know, I could help the three
- 4 incorporators put together that kind of a
- 5 list.
- I think it might help to have a
- 7 meeting with the people who are somewhat
- 8 influential in the -- in the creation of
- 9 the BID. The Merchant's Association --
- 10 you know, you may have folks there that
- 11 are interested in serving.
- 12 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: We have a
- 13 Farmingdale Village Merchant's Association
- 14 meeting next Thursday. I will ask if
- 15 anybody would like to serve on that. It's
- 16 always -- it's always nice when you get
- 17 people to -- to step up and volunteer. If
- 18 any of -- either -- Walter and I are going
- 19 to that meeting because we always attend
- 20 the Merchant's Association meetings, but
- 21 if either one of you two want to attend --
- 22 Walter, it's Thursday at 3/17, socially
- 23 distanced, by the way, and all our
- 24 meetings are socially distanced. We all
- 25 wear masks. It's all a hundred percent

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 government guidelines.
- What's that 12 o'clock, next
- 4 Thursday?
- 5 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: 12 Noon.
- 6 It's in the catering area, in the back,
- 7 which is a large area. We can all be, you
- 8 know, six to ten feet apart, if necessary.
- 9 BRIAN HARTY: It's on the 25th.
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: And if you
- 11 guys can't make it, Walter and I will
- 12 certainly ask and give a list of people.
- 13 And the Village Board has also people that
- 14 have asked us, over time, saying that they
- 15 would like to serve. So we'll get you a
- 16 preliminary list also.
- 17 Both of you have been long time
- 18 involved in the Village. You may have
- 19 people, yourself, that think would make a
- 20 good representative on the Business
- 21 Improvement District, and we recommend
- 22 also that you use your own instincts and
- 23 skills to pick somebody that you think
- 24 would also serve the Business District
- 25 well. As we, the entire Board, believe

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 you three will.
- 3 Anything else, Claudio?
- 4 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I have a
- 5 question. So, how many Board Members are
- 6 we supposed to have?
- 7 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Nine.
- 8 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Nine.
- 9 So of those nine Board Members, we need a
- 10 president, a vice president, a secretary
- 11 and a treasurer?
- 12 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yes.
- 13 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: So those
- 14 can -- we don't need -- on top of the
- 15 nine, we don't need another nine people?
- 16 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: No, no,
- 17 no, no.
- 18 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Out of
- 19 those nine --
- 20 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Right.
- 21 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Okay.
- 22 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Once you
- 23 have a full board, you can decide -- you
- 24 know, you can nominate someone at that
- 25 meeting -- you know, I think Bill Carman

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 doesn't really have a lot to do and I want
- 3 him to be president. You vote.
- 4 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: And the
- 5 other thing is --
- 6 JOSEPH GARCIA: You've got a sense
- 7 of humor; huh?
- 8 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: He does.
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Especially
- 10 for a lawyer.
- 11 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: I just
- 12 want to make sure you pay attention.
- 13 BILL CARMAN: I'm here.
- 14 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I think
- 15 he's taking notes. I'm depending on your
- 16 emails.
- 17 So you said something about tenant
- 18 -- we need tenants -- tenants on the board
- 19 members. Now are those residents,
- 20 tenants, or are those only business owner
- 21 tenants?
- 22 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Well,
- 23 it's not specified but I think the idea is
- 24 to have the commercial tenants in the BID.
- 25 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Okay,

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 that's fine. That's what I would have
- 3 imagined.
- 4 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yeah.
- 5 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Okay.
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: The way the
- 7 law is written, if a resident tenant
- 8 petitions, I do not believe you could turn
- 9 him down.
- 10 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: No, it
- 11 was stuff you voted on, but, yes, you
- 12 could get us five signatures from the
- 13 tenant component of the BID and there's --
- 14 you know, his application of petition
- 15 would be considered.
- 16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah,
- 17 Claudio, could you put that -- what you're
- 18 talking about -- the petitions into an
- 19 email form and email the Board --
- 20 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Sure.
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 22 -- and the -- the initial directors of the
- 23 BID.
- 24 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yup, you
- 25 got it.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Joe, you've
- 3 been very quiet, which is unlike you.
- 4 JOSEPH GARCIA: Well, we just got
- 5 to the restaurant. Got a late start out
- of Lake Placid, but wanted to be on the
- 7 meeting.
- I have a quick question for you,
- 9 Claudio, if you have a second.
- 10 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yes.
- 11 JOSEPH GARCIA: So the -- the
- 12 executive board, president, treasurer, et
- 13 cetera, does it matter which class they
- 14 come from or once on the Board all the
- 15 different classes have an equal status in
- 16 the BID?
- 17 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: That's
- 18 correct. It doesn't matter.
- 19 JOSEPH GARCIA: All right, thank
- 20 you.
- 21 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: You're
- 22 welcome.
- 23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: And, again,
- 24 I truly appreciate the three of you for
- 25 volunteering yourselves to start -- start

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 the BID. You know, you may not realize
- 3 it, but forming a BID in the State of New
- 4 York, is historical. As I said, we are
- 5 the first in Nassau County in over 20
- 6 years. So BIDs do not come by lightly.
- 7 And we appreciate your enthusiasm and your
- 8 commitment to the Village to help us out
- 9 and do so.
- 10 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Thank
- 11 you, Ralph.
- 12 JOSEPH GARCIA: Thank you. I'm
- 13 excited.
- 14 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
- 15 Thanks, guys.
- 16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, any
- 17 more questions, guys? Or if you have --
- 18 BILL CARMAN: I just got a quick
- 19 question because I'm still a little
- 20 confused about the process here.
- 21 So, Walter, Joe and I, are the
- 22 initial incorporators. Is that -- is that
- 23 -- do I understand that correctly?
- 24 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: That's
- 25 correct.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 BILL CARMAN: And we are going to
- 3 then approve the -- the petitions once
- 4 they're submitted? Is that -- or am I
- 5 missing something there? I don't know
- 6 what the next steps are.
- 7 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: It's not
- 8 necessarily an approval process. I think
- 9 what will happen at that meeting with the
- 10 merchants, people will be told if you want
- 11 to be considered for a Board of Director
- 12 position, they're going to have to fill --
- 13 fill out a petition and have five owners
- 14 sign it, if they want to be a Class A.
- 15 The tenants will be told if you want to be
- 16 a tenant member, director, Class B, get
- 17 five names of five commercial tenants and
- 18 then the incorporators on the night of the
- 19 -- that initial organizational meeting,
- 20 will elect the Board from those petitions.
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay,
- 22 Claudio, just to clarify, however. If you
- 23 were a business -- and there's only about
- 24 a half dozen on Main Street -- that owned
- 25 -- was an owner and a tenant -- okay --

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 they don't have to get petitions. They
- 3 are -- they own the property. They can
- 4 run for the Board themselves as an owner
- 5 of the property.
- 6 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: No, no.
- 7 So, they can be considered but they still
- 8 -- the petition -- they still need five
- 9 signatures from the other --
- 10 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Land
- 11 owners.
- 12 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.:
- 13 (Continuing) -- (inaudible) owners in the
- 14 BID.
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, but
- 16 the tenants do not need petitions?
- 17 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: They do.
- 18 They do.
- 19 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Everybody
- 20 does.
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Everybody
- 22 needs five signatures.
- 23 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Right,
- 24 everyone.
- 25 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Right.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Now -- now,
- 3 can -- being that there's not many owners
- 4 available, can an owner sign more than one
- 5 petition, being that you're going for --
- 6 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yeah.
- 7 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 8 -- six positions.
- 9 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yes.
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: So I could
- 11 sign as, an owner, six petitions or more.
- 12 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: You
- 13 could. Sure.
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: And -- okay.
- Now, some of the people -- and I'll
- 16 pick on -- I don't know if Bill comes into
- 17 this or not, but if he owned -- if he is a
- 18 director and an owner, can he sign a
- 19 petition?
- 20 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yeah,
- 21 listen -- yes, he can do it, but --
- 22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 23 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.:
- 24 (Continuing) -- I think there are more
- 25 than five or six businesses in the -- more

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 than five or six owners. The idea should
- 3 be to include as many folks as we can in
- 4 the process.
- 5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Right, but
- 6 they're not all readily -- if Staller owns
- 7 23 storefronts --
- 8 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Right.
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 10 -- on Main Street, it's not like you can
- 11 ask Staller to sign a -- you can't walk
- 12 into the place and ask Staller to sign
- 13 something.
- 14 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Right.
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: You know,
- and the same with the person that owns 317
- 17 Farmingdale -- Main Street Liquors and
- 18 East Side Pizzeria.
- 19 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESO.: Yeah.
- 20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: She is --
- 21 she's never -- she has never been in the
- 22 Village in years, to my knowledge, except
- 23 for to sign some documents at Village
- 24 Hall. So some of -- my point is, some of
- 25 these land owners are not readily

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 accessible. Some are corporations that
- 3 may have a Manhattan address or Huntington
- 4 Quadrangle address, et cetera, et cetera.
- 5 I'm just trying to -- to try and solve
- 6 problems that these merchants may run
- 7 into, to try and get five people to sign
- 8 their petition, when -- you understand
- 9 what I mean.
- 10 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yeah.
- 11 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I know
- 12 what you're saying, Ralph. Maybe we can
- 13 get a list from Brian or Barbara of who
- 14 are some of the property owners in the BID
- 15 and we can just track them down and
- 16 explain what we're doing and get the
- 17 signatures from them. Once we figure out
- 18 who -- who's available -- get a list of
- 19 people who is available -- like yourself
- 20 and --
- 21 BRIAN HARTY: We have that list.
- 22 We'll provide you with a list.
- 23 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Okay,
- 24 great.
- 25 And Sherry (phonetic) is probably

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 available, too, the woman that owns 317
- 3 and --
- 4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: The other
- 5 two businesses. Yeah.
- 6 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: She's
- 7 around a lot and -- we'll find out who's
- 8 available and then take it from there.
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Good, Good,
- 10 that's because we don't want this to
- 11 become stagnant --
- 12 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I
- 13 know --
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 15 -- we move forward.
- 16 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY:
- 17 (Continuing) -- exactly. It's a good
- 18 point, Ralph. We have to get on top of
- 19 that and take care of all the details and
- 20 get it done.
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay,
- 22 everybody has Claudio's email address and
- 23 Claudio's phone number. If you don't have
- 24 Claudio's phone number, he will email it
- 25 to you. I will not give his private

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 number out on the -- on the internet, but
- 3 he will -- he will email everybody his
- 4 private cell number to get this thing
- 5 rolling.
- 6 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Will do.
- 7 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, do any
- 8 of the three of you have any further
- 9 questions or comments or anything we can
- 10 help you out with?
- 11 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I think
- 12 we should try to plan for a meeting the
- 13 week after the Village Merchant's
- 14 Association meeting, so we can get it
- 15 rolling. So I'll reach out to Bill and
- 16 Joe for the week after the Merchant's
- 17 meeting, which will be like the first
- 18 weekend in March, and we'll have an
- 19 initial organizational meeting.
- JOSEPH GARCIA: Sounds good. I'm
- 21 in.
- 22 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Thank
- 23 you.
- 24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Great. And,
- 25 again, thank you all.

- 1 2/16/21
- DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Yes,
- 3 thank you.
- 4 BILL CARMAN: All right, very good.
- 5 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Good luck.
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you.
- 7 Okay, getting back to our normal
- 8 agenda here.
- 9 Several -- several -- well, I'll
- 10 tell you what. I'll ask the Board of
- 11 Trustees if they have anything to bring
- 12 up. We have to meet until 9 o'clock, as
- 13 required by New York State Law, for the
- 14 grievance. But does anybody have anything
- 15 to bring up to the Village Board?
- 16 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I just
- 17 have --
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Go ahead.
- 19 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: This is
- 20 like with beautification. So what are we
- 21 thinking? Are we thinking that in May
- 22 we'll be able to put planters out all
- 23 along Main Street? Women are asking me
- 24 about planting, so I'm wondering what
- 25 we're thinking. Do we think that it will

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 be a go by May?
- 3 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
- 4 Tough to say. I mean we're in a decline
- 5 right now.
- 6 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I know.
- 7 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: But
- 8 two weeks ago, the world was ending.
- 9 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yes, but we
- 10 had a record number of people immunized
- 11 today. Over 250,000 I think. Something
- 12 like that -- whatever -- just in New York
- 13 State. So I don't know what to tell
- 14 people, and if we think that it might be
- 15 something we're going to get done, we need
- 16 to order flowers.
- 17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: You know
- 18 what, Cheryl, I would love to see the
- 19 planters out on Main Street.
- 20 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Uh-huh.
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I think it
- 22 would be a good sign to spur the
- 23 businesses on Main Street --
- 24 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Right? A
- 25 positive thing; right?

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: A positive
- 3 thing --
- 4 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI:
- 5 (Continuing) That life is --
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 7 -- so my opinion -- my opinion would be
- 8 yes. Many of us -- I get my -- my vaccine
- 9 on April 3rd.
- 10 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.
- 11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: So many of
- 12 us will be vaccinated by --
- 13 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: By May;
- 14 right?
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: By May. And
- 16 I think it's -- and who knows, maybe we'll
- 17 get a lot of the one shot doses by then.
- 18 Johnson and Johnson is very close to being
- 19 approved. Their paper work should be
- 20 ruled on some time next week for
- 21 distribution of their vaccine.
- 22 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.
- 23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: It's all in
- 24 the hands of the FDA. So that would not
- 25 only -- not only would it enhance the

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 amount of people being vaccinated by one
- 3 shot only, but now we'll have three
- 4 companies distributing the vaccine, which,
- 5 theoretically, means you have an extra
- 6 one-third more.
- 7 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Correct.
- 8 Yup, absolutely.
- 9 All right, I'll send out an email
- 10 and see if, you know -- I'll get a good
- 11 feel for it then. Okay.
- 12 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, one of
- 13 the things I have to talk about is, what
- 14 does the Village Board think -- and I
- 15 think it's a slam dunk -- of naming the
- 16 courtroom for Judge Salvatore J. Nicosia?
- 17 What are your thoughts?
- 18 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: How long
- 19 was he the judge there?
- 20 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I think 19
- 21 years. I think next year would have
- 22 been --
- 23 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Between his
- 24 terms and my terms --
- 25 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI:

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 (Continuing) -- twenty.
- 3 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO:
- 4 (Continuing) -- about 20 years.
- 5 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Uh-hum.
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, I was
- 7 going to say two decades.
- 8 BRIAN HARTY: I think it was 24.
- 9 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I have no
- 10 objection.
- 11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Twenty-four,
- 12 Brian?
- 13 BRIAN HARTY: I believe it's 24. I
- 14 did ask that and Cheryl told me 24.
- 15 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: And he was
- 16 Village Attorney, too.
- 17 BRIAN HARTY: Yes, he was.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I'm throwing
- 19 out there your thoughts. And, Anthony,
- 20 only because you're on the screen now, and
- 21 smiling -- what are your thoughts of -- my
- 22 idea was to get a sign like you see many
- 23 places -- like school districts and other
- 24 villages -- as you're walking into the
- 25 courtroom, going from the front door on

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 Main Street to the courtroom, that area
- 3 above the dual doors, you know, have a
- 4 sign up there -- whatever the verbiage be
- 5 -- the verbiage could be figured out --
- 6 but, you know, the Salvatore J. Nicosia
- 7 Village Courtroom or something to that
- 8 effect.
- 9 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Absolutely.
- 10 I agree.
- 11 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Sure.
- 12 Works well.
- 13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: What do you
- 14 think, Bill?
- 15 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I'm
- 16 just trying to think. You know, I know
- 17 there were other judges that -- I just
- 18 don't know how long they served. You
- 19 know, there was what, Billings (phonetic)?
- 20 I don't know if anyone served as long as
- 21 Sal. I don't know. You know --
- 22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Well, the --
- 23 that's -- well, I tell you what, the
- 24 suggestion is not here for the other
- 25 judges, it's for Judge Sal, so...

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
- 3 Yeah, I know, I know.
- 4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: So you can
- 5 mull it over.
- 6 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I
- 7 think if we put his name there, we should
- 8 put right underneath it "Pay the clerk."
- 9 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: What was
- 10 that, Bill?
- 11 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: "Pay
- 12 the clerk." Salvatore J. Nicosia would
- 13 always say "Pay the clerk."
- 14 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: "Pay the
- 15 clerk."
- 16 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I think
- 17 he did say that. It would be fun.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, so
- 19 we'll -- we'll --
- 20 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Put it
- 21 in quotes, "Pay the clerk."
- 22 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Exactly
- 23 right, Walter.
- 24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Cheryl
- 25 Cruthers is -- it was Cheryl Cruthers

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 idea, obviously. And it's -- she wants to
- 3 -- she, of course, wants to do it, so I'll
- 4 tell her that the Board has -- has said
- 5 it's okay.
- 6 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Yup.
- 7 BRIAN HARTY: Why don't you do a --
- 8 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: And you
- 9 know we might have had other judges --
- 10 BRIAN HARTY: (Continuing) --
- 11 resolution.
- 12 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I would like
- 13 a resolution.
- 14 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Before we
- 15 do that, should we ask the Nicosia family
- 16 if they have any objections?
- 17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I did not
- 18 think of that. That's an excellent idea.
- 19 I did not ask Barbara. I will ask Barbara
- 20 tomorrow.
- 21 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: And just
- 22 a comment that, although we may have had
- 23 judges that served the Village for a long
- 24 time, I don't think we've had any of them
- 25 that worked until his passing. So he was

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 in office when he passed and I don't think
- 3 there's probably any others that worked
- 4 there --
- 5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: No,
- 6 I think you're right, Walter.
- 7 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: He passed
- 8 while he was on the bench.
- 9 Okay, thank you. Thank you, guys.
- 10 We talked about this snow
- 11 removal --
- 12 BARBARA KELLY: So a resolution for
- 13 March 1st?
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, we'll
- 15 do the resolution March 1st.
- 16 Anything else from the Village
- 17 Board to discuss?
- 18 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)
- 19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
- 20 Claudio --
- 21 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yes.
- 22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 23 -- because we're doing grievance night --
- 24 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yeah.
- 25 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 -- are we allowed to convene into exec and
- 3 then come back out of exec into grievance?
- 4 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yeah.
- 5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I'll
- 6 make that motion.
- 7 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Second?
- 8 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I'll
- 9 second it.
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
- 11 favor?
- 12 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
- 13 affirmative vote of the Board members
- 14 present.)
- 15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, so --
- 16 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: But wait a
- 17 second now.
- 18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, I'm
- 19 asking our Zoom master.
- 20 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Thank you.
- 21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Kevin, could
- 22 you come on?
- 23 KEVIN WOOD: Yes, I am here.
- 24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, Kevin,
- 25 so I just cleared with legal, we can go

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 into exec, which you would turn everybody
- 3 off except for the current panelists and
- 4 if somebody calls in or raises their hand
- 5 in the chat room that they have a question
- 6 about their grievance -- in the 13 years
- 7 I've been doing this, this has not
- 8 occurred this late in the evening, but the
- 9 chance is it could -- we will -- you will
- 10 let us know and we will come back out?
- 11 KEVIN WOOD: Yes, do you want to go
- 12 to exec on this same exact meeting that
- 13 we're on now?
- 14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: If you could
- 15 turn off the -- the YouTube --
- 16 KEVIN WOOD: Yeah, let's do that.
- 17 Let's call for that so I can do that
- 18 first.
- 19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Right, we
- 20 have a motion on the floor and it was
- 21 approved -- yes, guys?
- 22 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yes.
- 23 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Yes.
- 24 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Yes.
- 25 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Yes.

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, good.
- 3 So, yes, you can do that.
- 4 KEVIN WOOD: Okay, Livestream is
- 5 stopped.
- 6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, now,
- 7 Claudio --
- 8 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yes.
- 9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 10 -- while we still have Lorraine here,
- 11 because it's a New York State Public
- 12 meeting grievance night, and is on Zoom,
- 13 and I believe it has to be publicly
- 14 recorded 'til 9 o'clock, Lorraine has to
- 15 sort of like hang out.
- 16 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Yes.
- 17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Sorry,
- 18 Lorraine, you can, you know, hang out,
- 19 play Donkey Kong or Battleship to pass the
- 20 time.
- 21 BARBARA KELLY: Can I ask if Steve
- 22 Fellman needs to stay for the rest of the
- 23 meeting?
- 24 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I
- 25 would like -- I'd like Steve to -- for a

- 1 2/16/21
- 2 little bit in exec. Sorry, Steve.
- 3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay. Okay.
- 4 (WHEREUPON, there was a pause in
- 5 the proceeding from 7:48 p.m. to 8:35
- 6 p.m., after which the following
- 7 transpired:)
- 8 KEVIN WOOD: We're waiting on
- 9 Claudio to come back and Steve?
- 10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No, not
- 11 Stevie --
- 12 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Not Steve.
- 13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
- 14 -- just Claudio and I think that's it.
- 15 KEVIN WOOD: Walter?
- 16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Actually,
- 17 Claudio really doesn't have to be with us
- 18 at this point in time. Unfortunately, I
- 19 doubt, in the next 25 minutes, anybody's
- 20 gonna come in, but by law, we have to be
- 21 here.
- 22 KEVIN WOOD: Okay.
- 23 KEVIN WOOD: So we'll stay in a
- 24 wait state until such time -- I'm going to
- 25 check the YouTube just in case.

- 1 2/16/21 2 (WHEREUPON, there was an 3 off-the-record, non-related conversation 4 between the Board Members present, after 5 which the following transpired:) 6 7 8 9
  - TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: It's 9:01.
  - TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Good night.
  - KEVIN WOOD: Good night.
  - TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Thank
- 10 you, Kevin.
- 11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay,
- everybody take care. Be safe, be well. 12
- 13 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Thank you.
- 14 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Good night
- all. 15
- 16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: And I'll let
- 17 you know when Fiona is born.
- 18 CLAUDIO DE BELLIS, ESQ.: Good
- luck, Ralph. 19
- 20 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.
- 21 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Good
- 22 luck, Ralph.
- 23 BARBARA KELLY: Congratulations.
- 24 KEVIN WOOD: Congratulations.
- 25 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Make sure

```
1
                 2/16/21
 2
  you send us an email.
 3
           MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I will. I
    will.
 4
           BRIAN HARTY: Good night all.
 5
 6
           MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Take care.
 7
   Be well.
            (WHEREUPON, this meeting was
 8
9 concluded at 9:01 p.m.)
10
11
12
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```

1	2/16/21		
2			
3	CERTIFICATION		
4	STATE OF NEW YORK		
5	Ss:		
6	COUNTY OF SUFFOLK		
7	I, LORRAINE D. BERARDI, Court Reporter and		
8	Notary Public of the State of New York, do hereby		
9	certify:		
10	That the within transcript was prepared by		
11	me and is a true and accurate record of this hearing		
12	to the best of my ability.		
13	I further certify that I am not related to		
14	any of the parties to this matter by blood or by		
15	marriage and that I am in no way interested in the		
16	outcome of any of these matters.		
17	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my		
18	hand this 9th of March, 2021.		
19	Lorraine D. Berardi		
20	LORRAINE D. BERARDI		
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

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