In The Matter Of:

In Re: Nutley Board of Commissioners

Transcript of Proceedings January 21, 2025



66 W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue Livingston, NJ 07039 T (973)992-7650 F (973)992-0666 www.rizmanrappaport.com reporters@rizmanrappaport.com

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1	(Recording begins)
2	MAYOR KELLY: Flag Salute.
3	(Pledge of allegiance)
4	MAYOR KELLY: Sunshine notice, Madam Clerk.
5	THE CLERK: Thank you, Mayor.
6	Board of Commissioners Public Meeting Agenda
7	for Tuesday, January 21st, 2025. The time is now 7:05.
8	Pursuant to the requirements of the Open
9	Public Meeting Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), notice of
10	this meeting was published in the November 21st, 2024
11	issues of The Nutley Sun, The Herald News, and The Star
12	Ledger. A copy of this notice has been posted on the
13	Nutley Town Hall bulletin board, and a copy is on file
14	in the Municipal Clerk's office.
15	Commissioner Evans.
16	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Here.
17	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
18	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Here.
19	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
20	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Here.
21	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
22	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Here.
23	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
24	MAYOR KELLY: Present.
25	THE CLERK: All present, Mayor.

1	MAYOR KELLY: I thank you. Minutes, please.
2	THE CLERK: Yes. We have Board of
3	Commissioner Meeting Minutes for December 17th, 2024.
4	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move it.
5	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
6	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
7	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
8	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
9	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
10	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli?
11	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
12	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
13	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
14	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
15	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
16	All right. Communications, Madam Clerk.
17	THE CLERK: Thank you, Mayor. Yes, so we
18	have several this evening.
19	The Nutley Music Boosters Association has
20	submitted a letter to request permission to hold a
21	raffle On Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 300 Franklin
22	Avenue. The township has received three applications
23	for social affair permit as follows: All three are
24	from the Nutley Elks Lodge. One is for a paint and sip
25	for Saturday, February 13th from 6 p.m. to 12 p.m. with

1	a rain date of Thursday, February 20th, 2025. The
2	second one is also for the Nutley Elks Lodge. It's the
3	their annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Celebration on
4	Saturday, March 1st, 2025 from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. And
5	the last one is for a cancer fundraiser for Sunday,
6	March 30th, 2025 from noon until 6 p.m. And all three
7	events will be located at 242 Chestnut Street.
8	Motion, please?
9	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move it.
10	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
11	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
12	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
13	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
14	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
15	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
16	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
17	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
18	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: (No audible
19	response).
20	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
21	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
22	THE CLERK: And that's it for communications,
23	Mayor.
24	MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Moving on to bills,
25	please.

1	THE CLERK: Bill list for January 21st, 2025.
2	Public Affairs, \$552,840.41. Revenue and Finance,
3	\$6,345,167.63. Public Safety, \$66,667.40. Public
4	Works, \$39,491.38. Parks and Public Property,
5	\$1,176,163.84. Water Utility, \$521,643.40.
6	Payroll: As of January 3rd, 2025, regular
7	payroll total \$980,656.99. Overtime payroll total,
8	\$52,889.23. Total payroll \$1,033,546.22. For a grand
9	total of \$9,735,520.28.
10	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Move the bills.
11	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
12	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
13	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
14	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
15	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
16	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
17	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
18	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
19	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
20	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
21	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
22	THE CLERK: That's it for bills, Mayor.
23	MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Moving on to public
24	comment on agenda items only. This is public comment
25	on agenda items only. People wishing to be heard on

agenda items only, please approach the microphone and state your name for the record, please.

Seeing none. Moving on to Board of Commissioner announcements. Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Nothing for me.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Nothing, Mayor.

COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Yes, Mayor. I -- we had a press release come out and an email announcement about our garbage can recycling program. That's going to start this Saturday. It'll be every Saturday for 10 weeks. We've divided the town up into 10 sections, and people can go on the website and see the map to see where they fall. And we will be putting notices on the homes during the week prior to Saturdays. So that will start this Saturday. And we'll see how it goes. That's it, Mayor.

MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Commissioner Petracco?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Yes. I just like to once again comment on these pedestrian crosswalks. We are -- we do enforce. I say it all the time. I can't say it enough. I can't teach people manners. If you see somebody in a crosswalk or going across, especially now it gets dark earlier, please stop for them. One of the worst crosswalks, and not only in my opinion, is by

the park over there on Center Street. Very difficult to see. People are passing on the right. I know myself from driving through town, I'm urging the residents who walk all these streets, especially at night, wear bright clothing. I can't tell you how many times myself I have had almost gotten in an accident with a kid on a scooter, you know, dressed all in black or people walking. It's difficult to see. We have snow now. You know, so let -- help us help you. Dress in bright clothes, use a light at night, so forth and so on.

Thank you, Mayor.

MAYOR KELLY: I have a couple of things to announce. We are -- we have a number of events coming up this winter and spring in the Public Affairs and Health Department. But the -- oh, we'll start with some of the more, I guess, near future events we have.

We're celebrating the Lunar New Year. This year is the Year of the Snake. Be on the lookout for more information pertaining to that event. Next month is Black History Month. We'll be having some events associated with that. And also it's heart health month, and on February 8th, we'll be doing our annual yoga event and walk through the park, followed by some axe throwing at the Axe House here in Nutley.

And as we move into March, we have Women's 1 History Month and we have some health fairs coming up, 2 so be on the lookout for more information regarding all 3 of that. And we hope to see everyone there. 4 5 you. Moving on to public hearings. 6 7 Commissioner Tucci? 8 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Yes. Thank you. I have 9 two this evening. My first one, the purpose of this public 10 11 hearing is we're seeking funding through the state of New Jersey under the Jakes Law program in the amount of 12 13 \$536,000 and change. And this is a project -actually, it's at Glotzbach Park. There's an existing 14 15 park here, but we will be installing an inclusive playground all -- with all the equipment and all the 16 features to ensure ADA compliance there. It's going to 17 18 include accessible play structure, safety surfacing, 19 ramp, sensory friendly play areas, and pathways design. 20 MAYOR KELLY: I think the biggest issue that 21 citizens want to hear is always the cost. And if you could talk a little bit about that. 22 23 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: It's 536,000 (audio 24 interference).

Aye.

UNIDENTIFIED:

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1	UNIDENTIFIED: Aye.
2	UNIDENTIFIED: Aye.
3	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I will move the
4	ordinance.
5	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.
6	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Second.
7	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
8	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
9	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
10	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
11	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
12	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
13	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
14	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
15	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
16	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
17	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: My second public hearing
18	this evening in the amount of \$1,210,410. Also, for
19	Glotzbach (audio interference).
20	MAYOR KELLY: Hearing anyone wishing to be
21	heard on this matter. Please approach the microphone
22	and state your name for the record.
23	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Propose to move hearing.
24	MAYOR KELLY: Second.
25	UNIDENTIFIED: Aye.

UNIDENTIFIED: Aye.

MAYOR KELLY: Resolutions Commissioner Evans?

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes. I have a

resolution tonight, 13-25 which authorizing the issuance of not exceeding \$8,000,000 bond anticipation notes of the Township of Nutley.

It fully referencing in Section 1. The amount is for \$8 million. In notes 2 -- section 2, that it's upon anticipation note that will be administered by the Chief Financial Officer. These would be notes that would be renewable annually and that the budget impacts of this will be included in our budget each year. The first interest payment associated with this would be in 2026, which would be covered by the lease agreement with 777, so it won't affect the municipal budget.

And for Section 4, authorizes the Chief
Financial Officer to move efficiently and quickly to
get this done. In Section 5, all actions heretofore
taken by the Township officials and professionals with
regard to the sale and award of the notes is hereby
ratified, confirmed, adopted, and approved. Section 6,
this resolution shall take effect immediately.

So moved.

THE CLERK: I need a second.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.

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1	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.	
2	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.	
3	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Abstained.	
4	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.	
5	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.	
6	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.	
7	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.	
8	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.	
9	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.	
10	COMMISSIONER EVANS: My next resolution is	
11	for a refund of overpayment of tax charges in the	
12	amount of \$1,366.53 for the lot and blocks that are	
13	listed in the resolution.	
14	So moved.	
15	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.	
16	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.	
17	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.	
18	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.	
19	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.	
20	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.	
21	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.	
22	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.	
23	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.	
24	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.	
25	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.	

COMMISSIONER EVANS: My next is for the renewal of our grant writing services with Millennium Strategies for the year 2025 in the amount of \$43,200. Millennium has completed and submitted the business entity disclosure certification, which certifies that s corporation has not made any reportable contributions to a political or a candidate committee and attached of nothing in the previous one year. And that all contracts will prohibit -- and that the contracts will prohibit Millennium from -- partners from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract. Funds are available with the adoption of the 2025 budget, which will be certified by the Chief Financial Officer in account 501209205. Now, therefore be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, which follow the contract shall be entered into between the township of Nutley and Millennium Strategies, 60 Columbia Avenue, Suite 230 for grant writing services for a rate of \$3,600 a month for a total not to exceed \$43,200. Previous year contract was for \$42,000. A copy of this resolution shall be published as required by law within 10 days of its passage and a copy of the resolution as well as the contract shall be placed on file with the municipal clerk's office.

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1	So moved.
2	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
3	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
4	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
5	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
6	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
7	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
8	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
9	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
10	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
11	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
12	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
13	COMMISSIONER EVANS: My last resolution is
14	for the temporary appropriations ordinances.
15	Whereas, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-
16	20, in addition to temporary appropriations necessary
17	for the prior period to the prior to the adoption of
18	the budget and the regular appropriations, the
19	governing body may, by resolution adopt a two-thirds
20	vote of the full membership, make emergency temporary
21	appropriations for any purposes for which appropriates
22	may lawfully be made for the period between the
23	beginning of the current fiscal year and the date of
24	the adoption.
25	Whereas, the amount such emergency

appropriation shall be included under the correct
headings in the budget as adopted. The total of a
temporary appropriation for 25 includes \$8,832,446.45.

Now, therefore, be it the Board of Commissioners in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 an emergency temporary appropriation be and the same is made for the accounts that are listed in here, which cover workman's compensation, payments to the employee, retirement assistance for both public employees as well as police and fire for a total amount of \$7,024,380.58 and temporary appropriations for the Passaic Valley Sewer Commission in the amount of \$1,808,065.87.

13 So moved.

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14 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

15 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.

16 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.

18 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.

20 COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.

21 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.

22 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

23 THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.

MAYOR KELLY: Aye.

25 Thank you. Commissioner Evans. Commissioner

Tucci?

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Yes.

Whereas, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program provides grants and/or loans to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition, development, and stewardship of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes.

And whereas, the Township of Nutley desires to further the public interest by obtaining total funding in the amount of \$402,624.86 in the form of a \$134,208.29 matching grant. And if available a zero per -- a \$0 loan from the state to fund the following project Father Glotzbach Park Inclusive Playground Improvement at that a total cost of \$536,833.15.

Whereas, the state shall determine the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Urban Parks initiative and notify the applicant of the amount of funding award.

And whereas, the applicant is willing to use state funds in accordance with applicable policies and laws and is willing to enter into an agreement with the state for the above named project.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners, Number one, that the mayor of

1	Township of Nutley or successor to the office of Mayor
2	is hereby authorized to, A, make application for such a
3	loan and/or such a grant; B, provide additional
4	application information and furnish such documents that
5	may be required; C, act as the authorized correspondent
6	of the above named applicant. And two, in the event
7	state funds are less than the total project cost
8	specified above the applicant has the balance of
9	funding necessary to complete the project; Three, the
10	applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal
11	state and local laws, rules, and regulations in its
12	performance of the project; And four, this resolution
13	shall take effect immediately.
14	I move the resolution.
15	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.
16	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
17	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
18	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
19	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
20	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
21	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
22	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
23	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
24	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
25	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.

COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Whereas, New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres
Program is providing grants for the Urban Parks
Initiative.

And whereas, the Township of Nutley desires to further the public interest by obtaining Urban Parks grant funding in the amount of \$1,210,410 from the state to fund the following project. The Father Glotzbach Memorial Park Improvement Project at a total cost of \$1,210,410.

And whereas, the Township of Nutley desires to obtain Green Acres funding above Urban Parks grant funding request is underfunded or unsuccessful.

And whereas, the state shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the initiative and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award.

And whereas, the applicant is willing to use state funds in accordance with the applicable policies and laws and is willing to enter into an agreement with the state for the above named project.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Nutley Board of Commissioners, That one, that the mayor of the Township of Nutley or the successor to the of mayor is hereby authorized to, A, make application for such a

1	loan or grant; B, provide additional application
2	information and furnish such documents as may be
3	required; And C, act as the authorized correspondence
4	of the above named applicant. And two, in the event
5	state funds are less than the total project cost
6	specified above, the applicant has the balance of
7	funding necessary to complete the project; Three, the
8	applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal
9	state, local laws, rules, and regulations in its
10	performance of the project; And four, this resolution
11	shall take effect immediately.
12	I move the resolution.
13	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.
14	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
15	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
16	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
17	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
18	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
19	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
20	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
21	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
22	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
23	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
24	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: I'd like to consolidate
25	the next three and I'll read them as such.

Whereas, the Township of Nutley has a need to acquire specialized professional services as a fair and open contract pursuant to the provision of N.J.S.A 19:44 A-2.5.

And whereas, the Department of Parks and Public Property has determined that there is a need to acquire specialized professional services for air conditioning, heating, and refrigeration services and purchase of materials and supplies. Also for plumbing service and purchase of materials and equipment as necessary and for roofing service and purchase of materials as necessary.

And whereas, the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for all three of these items.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the sealed bid shall be due on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025 at 11 a.m., prevailing time addressed in Municipal Clerk, Nutley Township Hall, 1 Kennedy Drive, Nutley, New Jersey, at which time they will be publicly open and read.

I move all three resolutions.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.

1	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
2	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
3	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
4	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
5	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
6	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
7	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
8	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
9	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
10	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: This is also a
11	resolution authorizing the application for dugouts for
12	the East River League at Flora Louden Park.
13	Whereas, the Township of Nutley desires to
14	apply for an independent grant from the New Jersey
15	Department of Community Affairs local recreation
16	improvement grant for approximately \$100,000 in order
17	to enhance the recreational opportunities for our
18	residents by supporting improvements in Flora Louden
19	Park by replacing the current dugouts with new and
20	improved enclosed baseball/softball dugouts.
21	Whereas, the Township of Nutley does hereby
22	authorize the application for such a grant and
23	recognizes and accepts that the department may offer
24	lesser or a greater amount upon receipt of the grant
25	agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community

Affairs.

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And be it therefore resolved that the Township of Nutley does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreements. And also upon receipt of the executed agreement from the department does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Township of Nutley and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

And be it further resolved that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application and that they are their successors in said titles are authorized to sign an agreement in any other documents necessary in conjunction therewith.

The two people are John V. Kelly III, Mayor, and, Mauro G. Tucci Commissioner.

17 So moved.

18 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Second.

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.

20 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

21 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.

22 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mr. Scarpelli?

24 COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.

25 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.

1	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
2	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
3	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
4	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: That's all I have.
5	MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. And thank you for
6	moving the meeting along and consolidating those
7	resolutions. Commissioner Scarpelli.
8	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Thank you, Mayor.
9	Be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners
10	of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of
11	New Jersey, that the Township Clerk is hereby
12	authorized to advertise for sealed bids for the 2024
13	CDBG Prospect Street Intersection Improvements project,
14	and the Township of Nutley will be received by the
15	Board of Commissions in the Commission Chambers,
16	Township Hall, 1 Kennedy Drive, Nutley, New Jersey on
17	Wednesday, February 12th, 2025 at 11 a.m. prevailing
18	time, at which time they'll be open and read.
19	I move the resolution.
20	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
21	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
22	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
23	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?
24	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
25	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli?

1	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
2	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
3	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
4	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
5	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
6	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: That's all I have,
7	Mayor.
8	MAYOR KELLY: Thank you, Commissioner
9	Scarpelli. February 12th will be a big day for bids.
10	Commissioner Petracco?
11	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Yes.
12	Whereas, the Township of Nutley currently
13	owns a 2003 Ford E-350 truck, which has been used as a
14	HAZMAT vehicle in the Nutley Fire Department.
15	Whereas, said vehicle is no longer needed by
16	the Nutley Fire Department and therefore pursuant
17	N.J.S.A 40A-11, the township desires to donate the said
18	vehicle to the Nutley Board of Education for student
19	related activities.
20	Now, therefore be it resolved by the Board of
21	Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex,
22	State of New Jersey, that the Township is hereby
23	authorized to donate aforementioned vehicle to Nutley
24	Board of Education effective immediately.
25	I move it.

1	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Second.
2	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
3	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
4	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
5	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
6	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
7	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
8	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
9	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
10	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
11	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
12	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: The Township of
13	Nutley currently owns a 2012 Ford F-450 which was
14	acquired in the transition of moving the Nutley
15	Emergency Rescue Squad under the umbrella of the Nutley
16	Fire Department.
17	And whereas, the said vehicle is no longer
18	needed by the Nutley Fire Department and therefore
19	pursuant N.J.S.A 40A-11, the Township desires to donate
20	the said vehicles to the Bloomfield Fire Department.
21	Now, therefore be it resolved by the Board of
22	Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex,
23	State of New Jersey that the Township is hereby
24	authorized to donate the aforementioned vehicle to the
25	Bloomfield Fire Department effective immediately.

1	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I move it.
2	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Second.
3	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
4	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
5	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
6	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
7	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
8	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
9	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
10	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
11	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
12	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
13	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Whereas, the Nutley
14	Police Department employee SLEO I, SLEO II and SLEO III
15	officers. SLEO I officer is a volunteer who is trained
16	to assist in the Nutley Police Department, including
17	but not limited to traffic crowd control and civic
18	events. The SLEO II officers and SLEO III officers
19	have a full police powers while on duty.
20	Whereas, the Nutley Police Department has
21	appointed Joseph LeonE, Mike Lambrugo as SLEO II
22	officers for one year, beginning January 1st, 2025
23	through December 31st, 2025.
24	Whereas, the Nutley Police Department has
25	appointed Joseph Castellano as a SLEO III officer for

1	one year, beginning January 1st, 2025 through December
2	31st, 2025.

Whereas, the Nutley Police Department has appointed Pragnesh Bhatt and Rudolph -- Randolph, I'm sorry, Alfaro as SLEO I officers for one year, beginning January 1st, 2025 to December 31st, 2025.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the Nutley Police Department is authorized to appoint Joseph Leon, Michael Lambrugo as SLEO II officers, Joseph Castellano as a SLEO III officer, Pragnesh Bhatt and Randolph Alfaro as SLEO I officers for January 1st, 2025 through December 31st, 2025.

I move it.

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16 COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Second.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.

18 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.

20 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

21 THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.

22 COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.

23 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.

24 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

25 THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly

1 MAYOR KELLY: Aye.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Be it resolved by Board of Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for sealed bids for surplus equipment that is no longer in use by the township. The equipment vehicles are listed below 2004 Ford F-550 2-door pick up with cab. 1991 Ford pickup 2-door pickup with generator.

Be it further resolved that the above vehicles will be available for inspection Wednesday, February 5th, 2025, between the hours of 8:30 and 11:30. Contact the fire department at 973-284-4937 if interested in inspecting the vehicle.

Be it further resolved all bid submissions must be clearly marked "sealed bid document" with reference to which advertisement the bids are for.

Be it further resolved that the equipment will be sold as is and where is and sealed bids are to be sent to Municipal Clerk's Office, 1 Kennedy Drive, Nutley, New Jersey, Wednesday, February 12th, 2025 by 11 a.m. prevailing time at which time they will be promptly open and read.

I move it.

COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Second.

1	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
2	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
3	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
4	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
5	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
6	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
7	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
8	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
9	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
10	MAYOR KELLY: Aye.
11	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Okay.
12	Whereas, pursuant in the New Jersey Revised
13	Statute 38A:4-4 (2023) permanent or full-time employee
14	who is member of an organized military is ordered to
15	active duty that the individual is entitled to leave of
16	absence from his perspective respective duties.
17	And whereas, the statute further provides
18	that the employee is entitled to receive up to 90 work
19	days of pay per calendar without the loss of time for
20	all days that the person is engaged in active military
21	duty, inclusive of their vacation days.
22	Whereas, the police officer, Vincent Santino
23	DellaFave, was ordered to active duty at Piccatinny
24	Arsenal as a member of the New Jersey National Guard
25	beginning of December 1st, 2024 through November 30th,

2027 entitling him to the compensation and benefits in accordance with the N.J.S.A. 38A:4-4.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, that Officer Vincent Santino DellaFave receive compensation and benefits contained to N.J.S.A 38A:4-4 for the duration of his active service.

Be it further resolved that the Board of Commissioners has continuously supported our employees and veterans who have served or are serving in our military. We thank Officer DellaFave for his service.

I move the resolution.

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14 COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Second.

15 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.

16 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.

18 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.

20 COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.

21 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.

22 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

23 THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.

24 MAYOR KELLY: I would like to thank Officer

25 DellaFave for his service to our nation, to our state,

- 1 and to this town and wish him a safe mission. And we
- 2 look forward to welcoming back on the completion of his
- 3 deployment. I vote aye.
- 4 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: That's all I have,
- 5 Mayor.
- 6 MAYOR KELLY: I have three on for this
- 7 evening. I'll be tabling one and I'll have a brief
- 8 explanation as to why. The first one I have on for
- 9 this evening is Resolution Number 19-25.
- 10 Whereas, raffle license applications have
- 11 been received from the following organizations:
- 12 Radcliffe School PTO and on-premises 50/50 cash raffle
- on Friday, February 28th, 2025. Nutley Music Boosters
- 14 Association, off-premises merchandise raffle, Sunday,
- 15 March 16th, 2025. Friends of Phoenix Center
- 16 Foundation, Casino Night, Friday, May 2nd, 2025.
- 17 Friends of the Phoenix Center Foundation, on-premises
- 18 50/50 cash raffle, Friday, May 2nd, 2025. Nutley
- 19 Junior Raiders Booster Club, on-premise 50/50 cash
- 20 raffle, Saturday, February 22nd, 2025. Nutley Junior
- 21 Raiders Booster Club, on-premise merchandise raffle,
- 22 Saturday, February 22nd, 2025. Nutley High School Crew
- 23 Boosters Association, on-premises 50/50 raffle,
- 24 Saturday, March 8th, 2020 -- 2025. Nutley High School
- 25 Crew Boosters Association, on-premises merchandise

1	raffle, Saturday, March 8th, 2025. Nutley Youth
2	Baseball Club, on-premises 50/50 cash raffle, Saturday,
3	April 26th, 2025. Nutley Youth Baseball Club, on-
4	premises merchandise raffle, Saturday, April 26th, 2025
5	with the license numbers written herein.
6	Whereas, the applications have been reviewed
7	and approved by the Municipal Clerk and the police
8	department.
9	Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board
10	of Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex,
11	State of New Jersey that the aforementioned license are
12	hereby approved and the Municipal Clerk is authorized
13	to issue said license.
14	I move the resolution.
15	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
16	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
17	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
18	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
19	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
20	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
21	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
22	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
23	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
24	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.

MAYOR KELLY: Aye.

I'll be tabling Resolution Number 20-25 and 1 we'll be having -- we'll be reading it at the 2 February 4th commission meeting, which will be held in 3 this room on February 4th at 7 p.m. The reason being 4 is we -- we're trying to -- we had some scheduling 5 conflicts of trying to get clergy members from each of 6 7 the different religious faiths associated with Four Chaplains Day. For those of you who don't know, Four 8 9 Chaplains Day is a day designated to honor four United States military chaplains from four different faiths. 10 They -- on their way to World War II overseas to 11 Europe, their ship was struck by a torpedo and was 12 sinking and the panic, not all the crew members were 13 able to have life jackets, and they calmed the crew 14 15 through prayers and through their leadership. offered their life jackets to crew members who didn't 16 have them. And they ended up perishing, but those crew 17 18 members ended up -- many of them survived because of 19 their efforts. And so we're going to honor four 20 chaplains day on February 4th, and we look forward to 21 that. 22 The next one I have on for this evening is 23 Resolution 29-25. And this is the recognition of 24 February is Black History Month.

Whereas, in 1776 people envision the United

States as a new nation dedicated to the proposition stated in the Declaration of Independence that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Whereas, in the face of injustices people of goodwill and all races in the United States have distinguished themselves with commitment and noble ideals on which the United States was founded and have fought courageously for the rights and freedom of African Americans and others.

Whereas, the contributions of African

Americans from all walks of life throughout the history

of the United States reflect the greatness of the

United States.

Whereas, many African Americans lived, toiled, and died in obscurity, never achieving the recognition those individuals deserved, and yet paved the way for future generations to succeed.

Whereas African Americans continue to serve the United States at the highest levels of business, government, and the military.

Whereas the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas inspired the creation of Negro Week, the precursor to Black History Month. Black History

Month celebrated during the month of February originated in 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson set aside a special period in February to recognize the heritage and achievements of Black people in the United States.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, join the Citizens of Nutley to observe and honor Black History Month recognizing the wealth and contributions made by African Americans.

10 So moved.

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11 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.

12 THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.

13 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

14 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.

15 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.

16 THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.

17 COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.

18 THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.

19 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.

20 THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Aye.

And the last resolution I have on for this evening is Resolution Number 30-25. This is a resolution recognizing February's National Heart Health

25 Month.

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Whereas, February's American Heart Health month, a time when all people, especially women, are encouraged to focus on their cardiovascular health.

Whereas, heart disease is very common, leading cause of death for men, women, and people of most racial and ethnic groups; one person dies every 33 seconds from cardiovascular disease in the United States. Someone has a heart attack every 40 seconds.

Whereas, about 1 in 20 adults age 20 and older have coronary artery disease and every year over 800,000 people in the United States have a heart attack.

Whereas, 1 out of every 5 deaths from cardiovascular disease was among adults younger than 65 years old and about 1 in 5 heart attacks are silent.

The damage is done but the person is not aware of it.

Whereas, February is National Heart Health
Month and Friday, February 7th, 2025 has been
designated as National Wear Red Day, at which time
residents are encouraged to wear red to raise awareness
about cardiovascular risks and disease. On this date,
all Township of Nutley municipal buildings will be
illuminated in red to bring awareness to this
initiative.

Whereas, the Township of Nutley Department of

1	Public Affairs, through its health department and the
2	American Heart Association are committed to changing
3	the future of health together by promoting healthy
4	eating and fitness and thus preventing heart disease
5	through public and professional education about the
6	risk factors.
7	Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board
8	of Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex,
9	State of New Jersey that in recognition of the
10	importance of the ongoing effort to prevent heart
11	disease we do hereby declare February 2025 as National
12	Heart Health Month and urge all citizens in Nutley to
13	show their support for preventing heart disease by
14	learning more about their heart health and eating a
15	healthy diet and maintaining a healthy active
16	healthy active lifestyle.
17	I move the resolution.
18	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
19	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
20	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
21	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.
22	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
23	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
24	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
25	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.

1 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly. 2 MAYOR KELLY: And like I said earlier this 3 evening, on Saturday, February 8th, we'll be having 4 some heart and healthy activities on that day. 5 tuned for locations and times. I vote aye. 6 7 At this time we'll open the meeting up to the 8 public. Those wishing to address the board, please 9 approach the microphone and state your name for the Your comments will be limited to three 10 minutes, and please address all comments to me. 11 And I 12 will, if appropriate, hand them to the appropriate commissioner. 13 My name is Linda Demora, 71 14 MS. DEMORA: 15 Lakeside Drive. Senior Tax Freeze, which I recently qualified for. I want to make sure that I understand 16 You set a base level and then after that, you're 17 18 reimbursed if your taxes go up. Is that correct? 19 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yes, that is correct. 20 MS. DEMORA: Okay. 21 COMMISSIONER EVANS: And you have to -- you 22 have to establish your base share level, your two-year 23 base level. 24 MS. DEMORA: Okay. So my question then is 25 now that the sewer charges are taken off your taxes and put on your water bill, if they were to remain on your taxes, that would be capped. Now that they're on your water bill, they're not. You're paying them, which, in my way of thinking, would create a hardship for people who are eligible for this freeze, senior citizens in Nutley. And I just wanted to know if anyone had thought that through or if there's anything that would be done. I understand you are giving reimbursements for people who have pools or --

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Sprinklers.

MS. DEMORA: -- the sprinkler systems, but what about your senior population that now this will impact? I want to stay in town, you know, but six or \$800 a year on top of my water bill is -- it's tough now that I'm on a fixed income, so.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: So a couple of things, one, paying for the pursuer as part of your property tax assessment --

MS. DEMORA: Right.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: -- basically it says that everybody, no matter what your usage is, right, it's just based if you -- in fact, the cost coverage of use of the sewer system is basically grounded on the assessed value of your property, not your actual usage, not your actual burden. So in many cases throughout

the town that turned out to be a windfall for many and a burden for others. Most towns have a separate utility. Nutley just has -- hasn't done it for a very long time. We just found ourselves a need to change to actually something that was hopefully distributing the bill more fairly. The expectation with seniors is that their water usage at a time is probably -- as to sewer usage at a time is maybe lower or different and they should not be -- they might have a higher property value, they shouldn't be subsidizing the usage of waste water for a laundromat, a restaurant.

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Understood, if that's the way it MS. DEMORA: works, but I think that's a specious argument because, and I'll tell you why, the people who live next door to me, there's three adults living there and I -- we compared water bills and sewer bills when the new bills Their water usage, because I do a lot of came in. gardening and I try to eat as much as I can, you know, through what I grow, I do not have a sprinkler system. I stand there with a hose. My water bill is much higher than theirs. So I am a single person. paying much more for the sewer than three adults who are living next door, who are showering, washing, you know, water usage. Yeah. So

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yeah. And that --

that's impact Commissioner Scarpelli and I have been
talking about ways of possibly addressing that, right?
I don't -- we don't have an answer yet.

4 MS. DEMORA: Okay.

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COMMISSIONER EVANS: But we are looking at different things to make sure that at least the system itself is -- has -- is grounded in fairness.

MS. DEMORA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: So whatever the consumption is, that's the consumption. And then -- and when you -- and by the way, our sewer bill is a fixed bill, it's \$4.3 million, you know, for the year. So the allocate -- what we're talking about is the allocation of how we collect that money where we collected from. If we go around and say, everybody gets a break, right, where you start to give breaks all along the way, it changes the formula on how much money you can collect, which has an impact on the rate. Because you (indiscernible).

MS. DEMORA: I understand that. I

21 understand. I'm just trying to --

22 COMMISSIONER EVANS: I appreciate your 23 question.

MS. DEMORA: Yeah.

25 COMMISSIONER EVANS: And I'm not being

argumentative --

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I mean, people who have a nice MS. DEMORA: pool or they have a sprinkler system and now they're getting, you know, something back for this. And then you have a senior citizen who's just out there with their hose watering their garden and it just -- I don't know. I just wanted to make -- I had written to you, and I had spoken to you, Dr. Scarpelli, prior, back in September, because this concerned me as soon as I got I want to stay in Nutley, I've been here 40 I raised my daughter here. I'm very happy years. I don't want to be priced out of my own living here. home, you know? And it may not seem like a lot, six or \$800, but now that I'm retiring and I'm going to be on a fixed income every year, you know, that's going to go less and less far. So that six or \$800 is enormous to me.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yeah. So one of the things we are -- that we are tracking very, very closely is the State of New Jersey program that should become a part of the calendar -- the fiscal 26th state budget, which takes effect July 1st, 2025. But the expectation is based upon what they've said is that a new program will come out to assist folks that are 65 years or older with a greater discount on their

- property taxes, which the formula is pretty
 straightforward. If you earn less than a half a
 million dollars a year, you will get a break-up to 50
 percent of your property tax up to \$6,500.

 MS. DEMORA: I just read that tonight. Yes
- 6 COMMISSIONER EVANS: If you are already
 7 getting freeze and anchored, then that difference. So
 8 the maximum benefit. So you know, one of the things
 9 we're looking at is the state's been trying to figure
 10 out a way for a long time how to deal with the property
- MS. DEMORA: Right.
- 13 COMMISSIONER EVANS: And I'm --
- 14 MS. DEMORA: Because it -- it's impactful.
- 15 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Oh, sure.
- MS. DEMORA: You know, it is.
- 17 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Well, I'm hoping that
- we'll be able to talk more about that in the coming
- 19 months.

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- MS. DEMORA: Okay.
- 21 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Budget cycles just
- 22 getting started.

tax issue.

- MS. DEMORA: Okay. I just wanted to make you
- 24 aware of it because I'm --
- 25 COMMISSIONER EVANS: I hear you.

1 MS. DEMORA: -- really aware of it.

2 COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yeah. Yeah.

MS. DEMORA: You know, because it's impacting me directly.

5 COMMISSIONER EVANS: I appreciate it.

6 MS. DEMORA: So -- all right. Mr. Evans,

thank you very much.

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COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: I just want to --Commissioner Evans and I met actually last week. You know, this is we're six months into this utility and we kind of mirrored what most of the other municipalities were doing as far as the water and the pool discounts. We looked at that and said that -- maybe that's not the way we should be moving forward. So we're, as Commissioner Evans said, we're looking at some alternatives to what we can do. We haven't made any final decisions. You know, we're aware that the senior -- the senior freeze, it's a little bit different because it's having a property tax. But are the things we're all looking at and, you know, again, as Commissioner Evans said, if you decrease the amount of money coming in, you got to raise the rate on everybody else. So it's a lot of things to consider. It's a -it's kind of a kind of influx at this point until we get more data and we're six months in. So we are

obtaining more of that data and we're going to change 1 as we move forward. And hopefully, it's what we 2 expected is -- it's equitable and fair. And that's 3 what we wanted right from the beginning. 4 MS. DEMORA: I just think we tend to, without 5 getting off on a tangent, in this country, don't 6 7 necessarily take care of our babies or our elderly the 8 way maybe they would in --COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Well, the fact that 9 we have a senior freeze is certainly one way that --10 11 MS. DEMORA: It is. It is. 12 COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: -- we're protecting 13 our elderly and helping them stay around. MS. DEMORA: So it's the -- if the people in 14

MS. DEMORA: So it's the -- if the people in the middle had to shoulder a little bit more of the burden, which I did -- I've done for 40 years, you know, that may be what has to happen in order to protect your seniors, you know? And now that I'm there, it's like of course, I would like to benefit from that because I want to stay here.

COMMISSIONER EVANS: Yeah.

MS. DEMORA: You know, I don't want to have to move from my home.

24 COMMISSIONER EVANS: I know your feeling.

MS. DEMORA: You know.

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1	COMMISSIONER EVANS: I absolutely do.
2	MS. DEMORA: So. Okay. All right.
3	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Thank you very much.
4	MS. DEMORA: Thank you.
5	MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. And you do raise a
6	very good point about seniors being priced out of their
7	homes. And that's something that this entire board is
8	laser focused on, especially when it comes to our
9	budget, we're all each every one of us, I can say
10	honestly, looks at our budget and looks for ways to
11	keep our costs down. So that way, no one has to get
12	priced out of Nutley. We want to keep everyone here.
13	MS. DEMORA: It's scary. It's scary.
14	MAYOR KELLY: Yeah.
15	MS. DEMORA: So all right. Okay. Thank
16	you.
17	MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.
18	MR. AURIEMMA: Nicholas Auriemma, 35 Wilson
19	Street, Nutley, New Jersey. Just wanted to stop by and
20	give you guys an update.
21	As you are well aware. It's been over
22	well over two years. And this has consumed my life and
23	don't even can't even imagine, sleepless nights,
24	headaches, probably be part of your statistics with
25	cardiac arrest because it really it this is, you

know, I have good days and bad days and -- you know, on 1 good days, I'm fine and when I have a bad day and, you 2 know, I get a bill for my lawyer. It kind of kind of 3 it is like an antecedent me coming here. When I got to 4 deal with him and I get a bill, it's just -- it 5 triggers me. So I'm not here to bash people. 6 I never 7 did, never will. But I'm very disappointed at most of 8 you, not all of you with exception. And disappointed 9 not in an angry way. Just disappointed that it's been over two years and I -- I'm no further ahead in this 10 drama than I was over two years ago. 11

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Again, the house is more in debt. Can't tell you -- it just compiles every month paying the stupid ass loans, excuse my mouth, that I took it out on the property, thinking it'll be paid in three, four months. Interest rates high. Recently, you know, I just spoke to my wife. I said, that's it, I can't do it no more. I cannot pay the loan. I'm going to go bad on a loan. I'm 55. God willing. I said, God, you know, sometime ahead of me. But once I go bad on a loan, you know what happens. You know, I screw up my credit. I screw up my -- some of my future. Thank God I'm pretty stable now. But you always need your credit and so forth.

I don't care if this gets back to my lawyer

because it has. I have no respect on him. His days are numbered. Okay. You know, we're doing depositions, you know, and I argue with him all the time because he originally wanted to depose all of you because I think one of you made fun of him and, you know, he didn't like that. So you know, he took it out on you guys and wanted to do depositions, and I fight with him, why are you deposing them. You know, go after the people that put me in this position. again, I don't believe anyone did this intentionally, but I'll say again, if this is Corporate America, things will be different. Okay. You know, it's hard for me to stand up here and be critical of anyone. You've always shown me respect from the beginning. I'm a loyal guy, so I'll never go against, you know, the respect that you've shown me.

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Mr. Evans, you know, we know each other mutually. Mauro, I don't know. I can't say again. You myself, my family, got a lot of love for you. know, did, always will. You know, Mr. Kelly. Always all of you. Doc, I mean, I -- I'm just dumbfounded I'm still. Okay. And I don't care what I say. up here I don't care what gets back to my lawyer, but you know, you have an ordinance that you guys passed, and Scarpelli, you signed it. I think you initiated that.

Part of it talks about the duties of the fund 1 administrator, Mr. Sal Ferraro, who also I have a lot 2 of love for. It's tough for me because Sal's daughter 3 and my daughter are roommates at Rutgers. 4 I love your 5 He was at my house. I wish I didn't love all those people. Maybe I could, you know, be a little 6 7 more angry, but I can't. You signed an ordinance and it clearly states 8 9 the words that the fund administrator's duty is to -whether or not to recognize that a parcel is in a 10 It -- I mean, it's written out. I don't get 11 floodway. It's written out. I know I'm pressed for time, 12 13 but, you know, I got the construction permit from Dave Berry when I originally submit my plans, submitted for 14 15 foundation plan. I got emails from him saying, forward to the electrical department. 16 I got the affordable housing residential development fee 17 18 calculation given by the township. I guess you're more 19 comfortable with the cover fee. I'm not sure all -- if all of you are, but it's a fee that you have to pay 20 21 when you're building a new home. 22 I got the FEMA report with the township. I 23 -- I mean, I got the survey with an email from your got 24 town engineer telling me he wanted me to update the

I got the report from your

survey or from Dave Barry.

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township engineer telling me once again, this is approved for a one family home. Right at the top. This is approved for a one family home. Your township engineer told me to do X, Y, and Z. Okay. Changed my plans. I know I'm reiterate everything, but I just -again, I'm dumbfounded that with all this you guys won't work with me. I'm not telling you to assume full responsibility. And I heard about the Green Acres grant and so forth. I mean, it's all a little bit this I mean, you guys were elected to make the way. decisions for the township. I'm not here saying, Mauro, come on, man. You know, I remember back in good old days. Al, Come on, we're Belleville people.

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Dr. Scarpelli, I was your patient. You know, Mayor Kelly, you know, I'm not -- I'm not here doing I never did that. I never came to you, Al, and put you on the spot and asked you to do something. I'm asking you, as the powers of this town to recognize I mean, how much more -- listen, I'm going to this. prevail in court, God willing. Or I truly believe I will prevail. Okay. But again, there's no end in So you know, if I got to wait another two years, I can't pay this anymore. It -- it's -- I don't want tell you how much I spent already. And I said this a thousand times. If I sat in that seat, or sat in

that seat. And this was your son or daughter. All of you would've reached out to me and say, Nikki, come on, you got to help my son or daughter. The township did them wrong. And again, I've never blasted the township employees. I never called them disparaging remarks.

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Okay, they made a mistake. Everyone made a mistake. I cannot emphasize again that prior to all this, I went to the town. We were talking with the Carl Lordi and I went to town. All this was I did my due diligence. before I closed on this. township led me down a path of no return. And I don't care what they tell you now, because I lost faith in certain people. If they're telling you they told me, show me one email. One email, one phone message. them tell me that you can't build on the spot. of you really think -- it's your department. Hopefully you know the procedures of building. Do any of you think that they would make me go through all this knowing that it's an unbuildable lot? It doesn't even I walked in, I want to build a house. make sense. they knew that house -- that lot was unbuildable, they would've said,

Mr. Auriemma, sorry, you can't build on this lot. Know why? I tell you why. I don't care whatever the deal, because I've had people that want to buy the lot, you know, since. And, you know, I say, sure, as is. I

- 1 would never sell to them.
- I think Rinaldi would tell you that because
- 3 you can use listen to the conversation against my better
- 4 judgment and conscience. I would never hurt someone,
- 5 like I've been hurt. But when they go to town,
- 6 ironically, now they all find out you can't build on
- 7 this lot. But meanwhile, no one told me that. And I
- 8 know everyone. I know Dave. I know Carl. I know Sal.
- 9 I know Antonette. I know them all. You don't think
- 10 that they knew this lot was unbuildable they would've
- 11 told me that. Come on guys. It's common sense. You
- 12 all made -- they made a mistake. I just don't
- 13 understand why none of you just, you know, do the right
- 14 thing. Put a pocket card. You know, I'm not looking
- 15 for the full amount. I'm 270,000 plus. I just want
- 16 this loan paid for. I just don't understand, like, you
- 17 guys keep on saying you're helping me. Have you done
- 18 anything for me?
- MAYOR KELLY: Mr. Auriemma, I -- the entire
- 20 board certainly empathizes with your situation. And
- 21 like I've said in the past, these legal matters, they
- 22 certainly take a lot of time, more time than most
- 23 people would like. And my understanding from our -- my
- 24 last update with the attorney was that new parties have
- 25 been added, which kind of adds a little bit more time

- 1 to that. But I -- what I will say is that, you know, I
- 2 will -- we'll -- we will continue to have a
- 3 conversation with our attorney and see if we can't move
- 4 this at a more expedited pace to see if we can't find
- 5 an amicable resolution to this situation. And
- 6 especially now given your current personal situation,
- 7 we'll see if we can get something moving, get -- so get
- 8 something going in terms of an amicable resolution to
- 9 this matter.
- 10 MR. AURIEMMA: And Mayor, I appreciate that
- 11 language. I've been hearing this whole for two years.
- 12 I mean, it's the same thing. I leave and no, like I
- 13 mean, I don't get it. I mean -- I mean, I'm here as a
- 14 -- as a citizen. I have the right to speak and I think
- 15 you have the right to, you know, if you want to
- 16 respond. Al, not to call you out, but come on. That's
- 17 bullshit.
- 18 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: I mean, you know, you
- 19 -- you've sat on these boards and we've had many
- 20 discussions, right? And I wish I had a magic wand for
- 21 you, and I'll keep saying that, but I don't want to be
- 22 out of turn. I think in my own opinion, not my
- 23 commissioner seat, if you're changing your lawyer, I
- 24 think that's a win for you, because you know what, from
- 25 the things that you have told me and that we discussed.

I mean, that I think that would be a step in the right direction because we want to help you, Nick. And it's and this is a correction, I'm from Nutley. I thought what you said, us Belleville guys. I grew up in Nutley, but whatever.

MR. AURIEMMA: We still got that Belleville.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Yeah. Yeah.

MR. AURIEMMA: Got to smile.

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: But seriously speaking, you know, I mean, Jonathan, you and I've talked. Jonathan met with you 100 times. You know we're all friends up here. We all want to do something because it's the right thing to do.

MR. AURIEMMA: Would you mind if I cut you off?

COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: But listen, not to cut you off, I think you're headed in the right direction for once. Go find a lawyer that could represent you properly. Because in my opinion, I don't think he has.

MR. AURIEMMA: It's not about us all being friends and knowing each other. Okay. Let's set that aside. I think I would've gone further with this if I didn't know anyone. Okay. Here's (indiscernible) for respect. Here's what I owe. I'm done. I'm not paying

So when I filed a substitution of attorney, 1 anymore. Mr. Stone (phonetic), and I don't care if you -- I know 2 John Ferrick called him up and he told -- John told him 3 I called him a weasel. He is a weasel, not John. 4 5 lawyer because he has no backbone. He does a lot of barking, you know. He doesn't like veal and he barks, 6 7 barks, barks, you know? But you know -- you know, he --8 he's not, you know, once I get my depositions done --9 I'm not a lawyer. Okay. I -- I'm not spending another So guess what, I'm going to -- I'm 10 34,000 on a lawyer. going to be pro se. And I am -- I'll be here to talk 11 12 to you, you, and you, but as a citizen, like, why is it so difficult for you guys just to purchase this for a 13 minimum fee. You know, I'm glad no one comes here 14 15 because I'm not grandstanding. Okay. I'm here because 16 some people don't even take my calls anymore, not even a hello, text, you know? So it's like --17 18 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Maybe they don't want 19 to get to court with you. It's nothing personal. It's like, you know, you think that, you know, we get -- you 20 21 think that I want to have to go to court and say, oh, you're friends with Nikki. And this is what you said. 22 23 MR. AURIEMMA: I don't care. 24 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: And this and that. 25 MR. AURIEMMA: It's not about the friendship.

- 1 I'm sorry.
- 2 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: No, forget the
- 3 friendship.
- 4 MR. AURIEMMA: Yeah.
- 5 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Right? But if you
- 6 weren't my friend, you wouldn't have my cell phone
- 7 number either.
- 8 MR. AURIEMMA: You are right.
- 9 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Right. So you are my
- 10 friend and you're everybody's friend, but the thing
- 11 that you have to understand is that, you know what,
- 12 there's a process, Nick. And I think you're moving in
- 13 the right direction. Do what you said.
- MR. AURIEMMA: Listen --
- 15 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Jonathan, can you --
- 16 Jonathan, is there anything that you could comment
- 17 about or --
- 18 MR. BRUNO: Listen, he's represented. It's -
- 19 we've had this discussion and it would be improper.
- 20 I -- I've advised all of you guys not to talk about
- 21 this because there's pending litigation. It's
- 22 unfortunate, everyone empathizes with you. You know,
- 23 if I am always happy and free to speak to anyone with
- 24 the permission of their attorney, but we don't have
- 25 | that, you know, right now and I invite you, and I

continue to invite you whenever you want to have a substantive meeting about the strengths and weaknesses of the case. We have always extended that offer.

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MR. AURIEMMA: You know, I served, you know, years ago, but I'm sorry. You know, I think, you know, my short tenure, my reputation was pretty good. honestly, when I ran, no one supported me. Everyone, you're not going to win, but I was old school politics. I ran close to being the top go getter. And everyone said, no because I went out and I served the people. I didn't care your color, your trade, and so forth. know, if I could go back and pull the tapes, you know, from the meetings, when you know, we were about to not have a budget, I'm like, no, we stay here all night. That's what -- that's what we were elected to do. made choices back then and I know some of them every time you cast a vote, you say, yes, you upset the You say, no, you upset the yes people, but guess I did what was right. I just can't comprehend, everything I have, how you guys don't see that the township made a mistake. And I'm not putting a full blame on them. I have no respect for the landowner, the seller. Okay. I mean, the title -- but of all people, can you do your part? Just -- I just -- when I

leave, what are you going to talk about, like --

MAYOR KELLY: I think Mr. Bruno made a good suggestion. Go back to your attorney.

MR. AURIEMMA: I'm done with him.

MAYOR KELLY: Let -- let's have a sit-down conversation with our attorneys, with your attorneys, and we can talk about the strengths and weaknesses and see if we can come to a conclusion regarding this matter. If you are going to go pro se, you know, that kind of certainly will allow us to talk more freely with you about the strengths and weaknesses of this matter and see if we can bring this to an amicable conclusion.

MR. AURIEMMA: The Council wants to offer me
14 \$5,000. That --

MR. BRUNO: That's never been part of any discussion at any time.

MR. AURIEMMA: Well, that -- that's because I have -- that just leads me to -- I can't -- I have no respect for my attorney. You know, everyone's all bells and whistles and hugs when, you know, they want to represent you, they want to take your initial fee. Okay. Your retainer. Okay. You know, I knew off the bat the first week, when he said, we're like family. Buddy, I chose you because I could have easily gone to someone local, which I should have. But I have better

relationships with you and make this work. I chose an outsider purposely, so I didn't have to do this. Okay.

That was a mistake. Okay. I want to choose someone in town, but I said, I'm not doing that to you. I'm not doing that to you. I'm not doing that to you. No disrespect. I didn't really know you that well, and

think it would've mattered who you went to. We're going to do whatever is in the best interest for the town and listen to our attorney. But like I said, like Mr. Bruno said, we're willing to sit down with you. Talk about the strengths and weaknesses. Reach out to your attorney, have him set up a meeting through your - through our counsel and we're happy to sit down and have a conversation about, you know, where the strengths and weaknesses are and where we can reach an amicable resolution to this.

MR. AURIEMMA: Again, he serves in the best interest of you guys, however you guys are the bosses.

Okay. I mean, I wish -- you know, some of you have seen this paperwork. Okay. I just don't see how you can't just say, listen, this kid got hurt. Just, you know, let's give him our part and let's get

out of this case. I mean, you are going to spend 40,
50,000 legal bills. Another 50, you would've paid off
my loan. Mr. Tucci, any comments? Come on, Mauro.

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There's -- I know you COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: a long time, Nick. I know your entire family. what you may or may not think because I don't answer you -- I can't answer you on the advice of our attorney. All right. If it's you and I having a conversation about Ohio State and Notre Dame or what we're going to eat on Sunday, then fine. I can't talk to you about this case. Your attorney doesn't like me because I repeated something that someone else said about him not being a great attorney. So be it. Ι don't care if he likes me or not. That -- that's neither here nor there. But from what I'm hearing and what I've witnessed, your biggest problem is your attorney. All right. From what I've heard in the past, all right, and we can't get into details, but there were several different options that were put on the table.

Now, I don't know where the obstacles are.

I'm not a lawyer. All right, but there's nobody here
that doesn't want to help. Just that there are
impediments, and I don't know if it's personalities. I
don't know if it's representation or a little bit of

- each, but it's just -- it's not happening and it's not
- 2 that anyone wants to not speak to you or ignore you.
- 3 You're a great guy, Nick. And listen, it's -- as hard
- 4 as it is for you, it's equally as hard for us to listen
- 5 to what's going on and we know what's going on you.
- 6 And we don't want you to be hurt financially,
- 7 physically, mentally. Or anyway. I mean, and as well
- 8 -- when we get something that we can deal with, I think
- 9 we're -- we've always been prepared to deal with it.
- 10 MAYOR KELLY: Right. And I do want to say
- 11 that we all do feel for you, we do empathize for you,
- 12 and we do want to come to a solution, but we're in an
- interesting predicament, too. Because let's say we
- 14 actually did do exactly as you say, buy you out, give
- 15 you the 100 percent that you're looking for. We also
- 16 have to answer to the rest of the taxpayers in Nutley
- 17 and the residents in Nutley. And we have to be able to
- 18 clearly and concisely say why we did what we did. And
- 19 right now there -- there's -- it's not as clear as we
- 20 would like.
- MR. AURIEMMA: It doesn't get any clearer. I
- 22 mean, it doesn't get any clearer.
- MAYOR KELLY: And we're --
- MR. AURIEMMA: Your engineer told me I --
- 25 it's a bill- I was directed by Dave Barry to go to the

township engineer in Sal Ferraro. How much clearer can
it get when they tell me --

MAYOR KELLY: And as Mr. Bruno suggested, we're happy to talk about exactly what those issues are and what our position is and what we see. And we're happy to hear you out as to what your position is and see if we can come to some sort of agreement as to what the facts are.

MR. BRUNO: This is the story I'm going to tell everybody also because I think we're going down a bad road here. That conversation has never happened.

MR. AURIEMMA: Which one?

MR. BRUNO: The substantive conversation about the case. It has never happened for whatever reason. That's a conversation we're always willing to have.

MR. AURIEMMA: About what, a settlement agreement?

19 MR. BRUNO: About the case.

MR. AURIEMMA: You know, this is -- this really like -- it's comical because I -- you know, I guess what I'm going to do again. I'm going to send an email and I'm going to put you both in again. I don't care who yells at me. My -- I don't care. I'm sending an email tomorrow, not you know, surprise you, saying I

went to, you know, he forbids me to come here. 1 2 citizen. Okay. I have to write to speak and guess 3 what I can show you case law that you have to -- you can answer me right now, but I'm not trying to override 4 5 Mr. Bruno. Again, I thank you from day one. So I'm I -- I'm not a guy that, you know, goes to -- people that 6 7 have been good to me, I'm a loyal guy. If anything, 8 any of my friends would tell you, I'm a loyal guy. So 9 I'm not going to change my loyalty on you because things aren't going well. But it makes me 10 wonder, I'm going to be honest with you, because my 11 lawyer says, these guys don't like you, Nikki. I don't 12 know why and I don't know what -- you don't even 13 how. than, you know -- I mean, I'm like -- but it 14 makes me 15 wonder, Mauro, this is two and a half years, \$270,000. MR. BRUNO: 16 Listen. Nobody up here is a mind We can't tell you why people won't make you 17 reader. 18 say certain things. We continue to be available to 19 have real conversations about the facts. 20 MR. AURIEMMA: So when I -- I'm going to send 21 an email and --22 MAYOR KELLY: When you send that email, make 23 sure you CC your counsel. 24 MR. AURIEMMA: Yes. I am. 25

1 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

MR. AURIEMMA: And he's emailing me because 2 he doesn't want me involved with anything, because if I 3 don't, you know, push things, you know, he doesn't do 4 5 things, like I said. He doesn't file motions on time. He told me he was in the courtroom filing this case, 6 7 only for me to follow up the docket number, he never So I have a whole problem with him, but the 8 9 problem is, I'm stuck with him. But Mauro, Listen, I know some people think I'm rich. 10 Okay. I have limited funds, too. I have three kids. You know, I got two in 11 It's not -- I don't -- I'm not poor, but I'm 12 college. 13 sure as hell can't give away \$270,000. I don't think anyone, except maybe you are, in a position to give up 14 15 270,000. Maybe you, too. And probably you, too. What am I saying. And you. What am I saying? 16 I'm the poor person in here. I don't know what you do 17 18 for a living, Mr. Evans but --19

COMMISSIONER EVANS: I'm retired.

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Oh, well then maybe you're not. MR. ORIAMA:

I'm going to send an email tonight and Okay. he could cry all he wants. Okay. And then I'm going to say, can we please set up, I know, a conference call, all of us, and just say -- and during the conference call, we're going to -- I'm going to ask for

a settlement, but see my -- see my energy right now. 1 If you're going to come back with \$5,000, then --2 because that's what he said you guys are offering me, 3 5,000. Come on guys, man. Listen, someday there's a 4 good chance when you all retire, I'm going to be up 5 Okay. And the reason why I ran the first time, 6 there. 7 because people hurt people -- and I know -- I truly 8 believe my heart, no one here is intentionally trying 9 to hurt me. But I also believe you guys are the powers at be, you have a lot more pull than you will -- not 10 that you realize. You know what you can do and what 11 you can't do. And I'm just dumbfounded that two and a 12 13 half years later --14 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Okay, Jonathan keeps 15 telling us not to talk, but I just have to say this one 16 thing to you because you're bright. And I know you probably know more about us anybody here. 17 The common 18 denominator is, and you say it yourself is your 19 Come on, man. Like -attorney. 20 Well, he --MR. AURIEMMA: 21 COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: You know, you could -- you could stay here. We could laugh, joke, we could 22 23 watch you cry, but it's you that keeps telling us what 24 the problem is. You're bright. Fix your problem so we

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can help you.

- 1 MR. AURIEMMA: Well, again --
- 2 MR. BRUNO: I want to make it clear. You
- 3 have an attorney, you're well represented, he advocates
- for you strongly. It would not matter who your
- 5 attorney is. You have expressed your personal feelings
- about that. Do with that what you will .
- 7 MR. AURIEMMA: I don't know how he advocates
- 8 me, man. I mean, that's a -- you know, that's a matter
- 9 of opinion. Well, I will -- I will wait until they
- 10 have the depositions and I'll decide what to do with
- 11 them. I will file a substitute attorney and hopefully,
- 12 at least on this end, we could talk. You guys could
- 13 see this and say, listen, come on. This kid got let
- 14 down a road of you know, (indiscernible). Again, thank
- 15 you. An honor.
- 16 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you, Mr. Auriemma. I
- 17 don't see anyone else here this evening for public
- 18 comment. We do have a need for executive, right, Mr.
- 19 Bruno?
- MR. BRUNO: Yes, Mayor, to discuss the
- 21 litigation.
- 22 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. I accept the
- 23 motion.
- 24 COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
- 25 THE CLERK: Whereas, Section 8 of the Open

Public Meeting Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), permits 1 the exclusion of the public for meeting in certain 2 circumstances, and where the public is of the opinion 3 that such circumstances exist. And whereas the Board 4 of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley in the 5 County of Essex and State of New Jersey desires to 6 7 proceed to close executive session. And now therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the 8 9 Township of Nutley, move into close executive session to discuss litigation. 10 11 MR BRUNO: Madam Clerk and as well as 12 contract negotiations. 13 Thank you. And contract THE CLERK: negotiations as well. 14 15 Be it further resolved that at the time when

Be it further resolved that at the time when such discussions may be disclosed to the public shall be when and such disclosures may be made without adversely affecting the Township of Nutley pending and/or anticipated legal personnel, contractual matters, and other matters within the exceptions provided for by statute. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Commissioner Evans.

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COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.

25 THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci.

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1	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
2	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli.
3	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
4	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
5	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
6	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
7	MAYOR KELLY: Aye. And we won't be
8	conducting any more business this evening. Our next
9	meeting will be February 4th at 7 p.m. and I'll
10	entertain a motion to adjourn.
11	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Move.
12	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Second.
13	THE CLERK: Commissioner Evans.
14	COMMISSIONER EVANS: Aye.
15	THE CLERK: Commissioner Tucci?
16	COMMISSIONER TUCCI: Aye.
17	THE CLERK: Commissioner Scarpelli?
18	COMMISSIONER SCARPELLI: Aye.
19	THE CLERK: Commissioner Petracco.
20	Commissioner Petracco.
21	COMMISSIONER PETRACCO: Aye.
22	THE CLERK: Mayor Kelly.
23	MAYOR KELLY: Goodnight, everyone. Aye.
24	THE CLERK: The time is 8:14.
25	(End of recording)

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1	CERTIFICATION
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3	I, Alicia Jarrett, transcriber, hereby
4	certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from
5	the recording provided.
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LO	ALICIA JARRETT, AAERT NO. 428 DATE: February 10, 2025
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