

BERGEN COUNTY  
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS  
HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY  
PUBLIC MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018  
COMMENCING AT 7:35 P.M.

FREEHOLDERS PRESENT:

THOMAS J. SULLIVAN, CHAIRMAN

GERMAINE M. ORTIZ, VICE CHAIRWOMAN

MARY J. AMOROSO, CHAIRWOMAN PRO TEMPORE

DAVID L. GANZ

DR. JOAN M. VOSS

TRACY SILNA ZUR

STEVEN A. TANELLI

FREEHOLDERS ABSENT:

NONE

KIM O. FURBACHER, C.C.R., R.M.R.  
P.O. BOX 213  
ROCHELLE PARK, NEW JERSEY 07662-0213  
201-336-6200

1  
2  
3 ALSO PRESENT:  
4

5 LARA RODRIGUEZ  
6 CLERK TO THE BOARD

7 JULIEN X. NEALS, ESQUIRE  
8 ACTING COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

9 EDWARD J. FLORIO, ESQUIRE  
10 COUNSEL TO THE BOARD

11 MICHAEL SHEINFELD  
12 DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & POLICY  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
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21  
22  
23

24 KIM O. FURBACHER, C.C.R., R.M.R.  
25 P.O. BOX 213  
ROCHELLE PARK, NEW JERSEY 07662-0213  
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HEARING OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC

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1                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I call the meeting  
2 to order at 7:35 p.m.

3                   Before we begin our meeting, I ask that  
4 everyone please take a moment to silence their  
5 cellphones.

6                   Thank you.

7                   Will the Clerk please read the  
8 compliance with the Sen. Byron Baer Open Public  
9 Meetings Act.

10                  MS. RODRIGUEZ: In accordance with  
11 Section 5 of the Sen. Byron Baer Open Public Meetings  
12 Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been  
13 provided in the Annual Notice Schedule, which  
14 contained the time, date, and location of this  
15 meeting, copies of which Notices were forwarded to  
16 the official County newspapers, to wit: The Herald  
17 News and The Record, and a copy of which was posted  
18 on the bulletin board in the Bergen County Justice  
19 Center and Administration Building, One Bergen County  
20 Plaza, Hackensack, New Jersey, and filed with the  
21 Office of the Bergen County Clerk.

22 ROLL CALL

23                  CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Roll call, please.

24                  (At this point in the proceeding roll  
25 call is taken with Freeholders Amoroso, Ganz,

1 Tanelli, Voss, Silna Zur, Vice-Chairwoman Ortiz, and  
2 Chairman Sullivan present.)

3 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Evidence of a  
4 quorum is present.

5 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

6 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Will everyone  
7 please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

8 Mr. Florio, will you lead us in the  
9 Pledge of Allegiance.

10 MR. FLORIO: Thank you, Chairman.

11 (At this point in the proceeding all  
12 rise for a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance,  
13 led by Mr. Florio.)

14 MOMENT OF SILENCE

15 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Would everyone  
16 kindly remain standing. I ask you to remain standing  
17 as we remember the 11 victims of one of the deadly  
18 anti-Semitic attacks in U.S. history, which occurred  
19 in Pittsburgh at the Tree Life Synagogue on Saturday,  
20 October 27th.

21 (Whereupon, a Moment of Silence is  
22 observed.)

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

24 MINUTES

25 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Will the Clerk read

1 the minutes to be accepted.

2 MS. RODRIGUEZ: September 12th - Work  
3 Session; Freeholders Ortiz and Tanelli absent.

4 September 26th - Public Session; all  
5 present.

6 October 3rd - Work Session; Freeholder  
7 Tanelli absent.

8 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: May I have a motion  
9 to accept the minutes?

10 FREEHOLDER GANZ: Move the minutes.

11 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: All in favor?

13 (All present Freeholders respond in the  
14 affirmative.)

15 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Unanimously  
18 approved.

19 HEARING OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC

20 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We will now have  
21 the Hearing of the General Public, with a  
22 three-minute time limit in effect, in accordance with  
23 the Bergen County Freeholder bylaws.

24 The Board Attorney will keep the time.  
25 When the time of the speaker expires, the Board

1 Attorney will announce that the time has expired.

2 Please fill out a slip of paper with  
3 your name, address, and general topic on which you  
4 wish to speak.

5 Mary Walsh.

6 MS. WALSH: Hello. I live in  
7 Hackensack, New Jersey.

8 So, this evening my topic is "Things  
9 that don't jive."

10 First, I was in the area behind the  
11 Puffin, and I think Freeholder Sullivan had  
12 mentioned -- can you hear me okay?

13 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Yes.

14 MS. WALSH: Had mentioned that you want  
15 to make Area II beautiful, and that place behind the  
16 Puffin is absolutely magnificent. And if Area II  
17 were like that, it would be so unique, because  
18 there's nothing like that around here, especially in  
19 this end of Bergen County.

20 So, as far as the parking goes, you  
21 could park on that Old Fort Lee Road, you know, which  
22 extends almost the whole way. Because if the place  
23 were open to people who were going to enjoy the  
24 nature, then that would be sufficient parking for  
25 them.



1                   On the topic of the 200-car parking  
2 lot, which is supposedly to help the overflow at the  
3 other side of the park, it doesn't seem logical to  
4 cut down lots of trees for the sake of grass, because  
5 the other side of the park has plenty of grassy  
6 areas. So you really don't need 200 parking spaces,  
7 especially because the Field Station: Dinosaurs  
8 doesn't even pay their rent.

9                   I have a copy of all the receipts that  
10 the county has received since 2016, and I'm going to  
11 pass this around, you'll see that they don't pay  
12 their rent on time. They're often in arrears.

13                  Here are eight copies.

14                  But my favorite part of this is where  
15 the lady who takes the money records and she says,  
16 "Called Fred and asked him where the rent was. He  
17 says," because it's three months overdue," he says,  
18 "Well, I'll send it to you when I get out to Kansas."

19                  So you'll see her handwritten comments,  
20 "called for the rent, called for the rent," and all  
21 the dates that she called for the rent.

22                  So, now, here is a copy of the  
23 receipts, the money this thing has actually  
24 generated, and you'll see that it's going downhill  
25 since 2012.

1                   So what doesn't jive for me is why you  
2                   would let somebody like this into such a pristine  
3                   area which could be so special, when you could have a  
4                   very small parking lot and provide the nature that  
5                   the people of Bergen County want.

6                   Finally, here's -- are the three  
7                   minutes up?

8                   Finally, here is a copy of the -- this  
9                   is from 2012.

10                  MR. FLORIO: That's three minutes, Ms.  
11                  Walsh.

12                  MS. WALSH: This is inaccurate, it does  
13                  not show the wetlands that are there at the present  
14                  time. So this thing is inaccurate (indicating).

15                  Was that my bell?

16                  MR. FLORIO: Yes, three minutes are up.

17                  CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

18                  This is from 2012, they didn't come  
19                  here until I think 2014, just for the record.

20                  Christoph Hesterbrink.

21                  MR. HESTERBRINK: Thank you.

22                  Christoph Hesterbrink from Leonia.

23                  First of all, congratulations,  
24                  Freeholders Tanelli and Zur for your reelection.

25                  FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Thank you.

1 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Thank you.

2 MR. HESTERBRINK: I'm also here to  
3 speak about Area II from a different angle. I'm a  
4 little late, I don't know all the details, but the  
5 more which comes up, the more questions come up.

6 I was at a Leonia Council meeting on  
7 Monday, and we had about 40 to 50 people in the  
8 public area, not because of Area II, not always yet,  
9 but it was because of environmental concerns, they  
10 actually introduced and passed an ordinance to ban  
11 Styrofoam packaging for food.

12 Then, ultimately, at the public  
13 comments' section both at the beginning of the  
14 meeting and towards the end, Area II came up. And  
15 that meeting ended actually at 10:30 p.m., and it's  
16 kind of on the same schedule as you, starts at 7:30  
17 and it normally doesn't go that long. So my message  
18 here is that the more people learn about it, the more  
19 questions come up, and I have not found anybody who  
20 is in favor of it.

21 And I'm not somebody who says, "Oh, my  
22 God, this is what's happening." I said, "This is  
23 what's proposed," and universally people say, "We  
24 don't want commercial use for the park that we paid  
25 for and fought for," because you know how this came

1     about better than I do, and we certainly want to  
2     preserve our open space.

3                     And, Freeholder Zur, you said at the  
4     last meeting there are 9,000 acres of open space in  
5     Bergen County, which is great. In this area, we  
6     don't have that many. Or was it 6,000?

7                     FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: It was 9,000 in  
8     our park system, there are many more that have been  
9     preserved in municipalities.

10                    MR. HESTERBRINK: I apologize. I stand  
11     corrected.

12                    Here in Southern Bergen County,  
13     Overpeck Park is one of the few that we have.

14                    I don't want to criticize in any way  
15     what you said, you are right about it, but in this  
16     most densely part of the county, there are more  
17     people who need the space. So, again, I put my trust  
18     in you that you'll preserve it, that you'll use your  
19     power to do the right thing for the people, and there  
20     are not many who want this as a commercial  
21     development.

22                    Thank you.

23                    CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

24                    Okay. Again, for the record, for the  
25     probably I don't know how many times, we are

1 preserving the area. It is an area that needs to be  
2 remediated. We're remediating it. Yes, there's  
3 going to be an area with dinosaurs, but right now  
4 there's nothing there. The area that we are talking  
5 are spots where the parking lot would go. It has to  
6 be capped anyway, so it makes sense to put a parking  
7 lot there. But, you know, there's been a lot of talk  
8 about redesigning what's going there. You know, it  
9 just gets to me a little bit that people say we're  
10 not preserving that area. We're totally cleaning up  
11 the area, which is uninhabitable right now. People  
12 can't get to it. We're going to make it so people  
13 can get to it and enjoy it. And there will be a  
14 little carve-out of that property, but, for the most  
15 part, the vast majority of that project is going to  
16 benefit every single person that goes there and  
17 everyone that lives in the area.

18 I know a lot of people are coming up  
19 and talking about our open space. You should really  
20 be talking to your municipalities as well to maybe  
21 start an Open Space Fund in your town. We do our  
22 part here in Bergen County. We fund it heavily.

23 I live in Montvale. We fund our own  
24 open space. And I hope that the towns that don't  
25 will look into putting a penny per hundred, similar

1 to what we do, to preserve their open space, because  
2 the reason there's not a lot of open space is because  
3 the municipalities continue to pass things at their  
4 planning boards and zoning boards, and we seem to get  
5 the brunt of it.

6 So, I don't want anyone to come here  
7 and think that we are knocking this whole area down,  
8 the whole area is going to be paved. It will be  
9 beautiful when it's done. It's going to be passive  
10 recreation, and I think everyone is going to enjoy  
11 it.

12 So, now that I just opened myself up to  
13 some more criticism, Stephen Quinn.

14 How are you, Mr. Quinn?

15 MR. QUINN: Very good to be back, Mr.  
16 Chairman.

17 I'd like to congratulate Freeholder Zur  
18 and Freeholder Tanelli for their success.

19 I'd also like to start by again  
20 thanking the Board for approving the funding to the  
21 Open Space Trust Fund for Ridgefield Park. I'm  
22 Chairman of the Environmental Commission, and we will  
23 be using that to enhance our nature preserve in  
24 Ridgefield Park, which is adjacent, by the way, to  
25 Area II.

1                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN:   Mr. Quinn -- stop  
2 the clock for a second -- does Ridgefield Park have  
3 an Open Space Fund established?

4                   MR. QUINN:   We do not.

5                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN:   You do not?

6                   MR. QUINN:   No, we don't.

7                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN:   Thank you.

8                   MR. QUINN:   Which is why your funding  
9 from the county was so important to us.

10                   But, that being said, I know you  
11 already have an awareness and appreciation for  
12 preserving open space, as demonstrated to Ridgefield  
13 Park.

14                   I would really urge you, if you  
15 haven't, I hope you have, to visit Area II.

16                   At the last meeting, Mr. Chairman, you  
17 said that the area was closed and there were signs  
18 for hazardous area and everything else. I'm not  
19 saying this to get you annoyed, but I visited it and  
20 it's not closed at all. There's a big sign that says  
21 "Overpeck Park," and the gate is open, there are no  
22 signs saying "Hazardous Materials" or "Dangerous  
23 Area" or "Keep Out" or anything like that. My  
24 wife --

25                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN:   The dinosaurs

1       probably stole them.

2                       MR. QUINN:   They probably did.

3                       (Laughter.)

4                       MR. QUINN:   My wife and I now regularly  
5       stroll the old Fort Lee roadbed that extends through  
6       the middle of Area II, and it is a beautiful area.  
7       It is a magnificent area.

8                       It is composed of both forest, open  
9       field, and freshwater wetland.   So, as a natural  
10      area, as an area for studying nature and studying  
11      environmental science, it is superb because you have  
12      plants and animals adapted for all of those three  
13      ecosystems.

14                      Now, the area where Field Station:  
15      Dinosaurs will occupy will take up the entire  
16      woodland area.   Gone.   The parking lot will take up a  
17      considerable size, a large percentage of the wetland  
18      area too.   And we all know how rare -- Mr. Chair, I  
19      really would invite all of you to please join --

20                      FREEHOLDER TANELLI:   I did it two weeks  
21      ago.

22                      MR. QUINN:   You did visit.   That's so  
23      good.   I would love to have you visit.

24                      For instance, you know, just as an  
25      example, this evening my wife and I, we saw a herd of



1 deer, spectacular two bucks, which were beautiful big  
2 animals, and a number of migratory birds. These  
3 little patches of green space in the middle of vast  
4 areas of concrete and development are so important  
5 for wildlife and they're so wonderful for viewing  
6 wildlife, because wildlife in nature is concentrated  
7 there.

8 So, I would please ask you, if you can,  
9 I'd be happy to accompany you. I know Don Torino --

10 MR. FLORIO: Three minutes Mr. Quinn.

11 MR. QUINN: -- has invited you as well.  
12 Please do join us for a nature walk. Please do.

13 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I will. Thank you.

14 And speaking with our Administrator,  
15 the area that the parking lot is going to be on is  
16 land that needs to be capped.

17 I don't know, maybe there's a  
18 disconnect.

19 But Freeholder Tanelli wanted to say  
20 something.

21 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: So, I did walk the  
22 site, and the problem is, and Don admitted when we  
23 walked, when you look to the right of Fort Lee Road,  
24 that all has to be taken out.

25 Don't say no, I walked it, so you --

1                   AUDIENCE VOICE: They have the maps.

2                   FREEHOLDER TANELLI: You're under a  
3 misconception. We spoke. All that foliage, all the  
4 trees, all the garbage has to be removed. So, as it  
5 appears right now, where the deer were, where I saw  
6 them as well in the morning, that all has to be  
7 capped. All that garbage has to come out and it has  
8 to be capped. It's going to take years for that to  
9 grow back over.

10                   Guys, we keep telling you to wait until  
11 we get the plans from the administration, what  
12 they're planning on doing there. You can keep coming  
13 back every week, and we love to have you, we love to  
14 get feedback from the audience, but we don't have  
15 anything to review. And you keep telling us and  
16 giving us stuff that's outdated that we're not going  
17 to review. We're going to wait for the plan to come  
18 from the administration to review it, and then we'll  
19 share it.

20                   There are points that Don made to the  
21 County Executive that he's already talked to the  
22 Parks Department to make sure it was included, access  
23 to the trails.

24                   No one is supposed to be on there.  
25 Matter of fact, you got me in trouble, one of the

1 people came up to the microphone and said we walked  
2 the trail, and the administration got kind of upset.

3 So, you just need to be patient and  
4 wait until we get something, before we start making  
5 the accusations that the map is not right, this  
6 overlay is not right. Wait until they give us  
7 whatever we need from the administration, and then we  
8 can sit down. Please.

9 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Some of the areas  
10 that may look beautiful are areas, you don't know, it  
11 has to be wiped out because of the pollution and  
12 garbage that's underneath there.

13 So it may look beautiful to you when  
14 you're walking it, but you don't have the entire plan  
15 there.

16 And that's a great point by the  
17 Freeholder.

18 Laura Tracey Coll.

19 MS. COLL: Hi. I live at 41 Washington  
20 Avenue, Elmwood Park.

21 I'm the Conservation Co-Chair with the  
22 Sierra Club.

23 I think that's part of the problem, is  
24 no, we don't have the plans.

25 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Right.

1 MS. COLL: But a hearing was held and  
2 we were asked for our opinion on the plans, and we  
3 keep on getting corrected, we don't seem to know the  
4 number of parking spots, we don't seem to know how  
5 big -- "carved out" means you must have seen  
6 something. We would like to be privy to that  
7 information as well.

8 Even Ms. Zur said -- I asked her if she  
9 didn't have any information. She said, "No, I have  
10 information."

11 So, if you have information, can the  
12 public have this information?

13 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: What I said is  
14 it's in the process of being finalized, and when we  
15 have the information, you'll have the information.

16 MS. COLL: No, I said I know you said  
17 you don't have any information, and then you  
18 corrected me, so that means you have some  
19 information.

20 You already know it's a different  
21 number of parking lot spaces than what the public was  
22 told. It's a different site plan than what the  
23 public was told.

24 But the public was asked to comment on  
25 it.

1                   Executive Tedesco, during the candidate  
2 forum, promised us another hearing. So we would like  
3 to have this information before that hearing, so we  
4 could comment on it. And we couldn't --

5                   FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Chairman, may  
6 I?

7                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Just let her  
8 finish, and then we'll address it.

9                   MS. COLL: Because there's another, you  
10 know, phenomenon that's going on.

11                   When we're incorrect and leaving the  
12 podium, someone is yelling after us the facts, and  
13 that's pretty embarrassing to us, because we're doing  
14 our best to find the facts.

15                   From day one of the hearing, I  
16 submitted to Mr. Strobel many, many requests for the  
17 documentation. He ignored me. So this is a problem  
18 for us.

19                   So, No. 1, we would like to know when  
20 the hearing is going to be?

21                   And, No. 2, when we would get this  
22 documentation?

23                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I don't have that  
24 information. I don't know when the County Executive  
25 had planned for a hearing.

1 MS. COLL: Because what we do fear is  
2 that it will just be signed.

3 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I'm sorry?

4 MS. COLL: Seeing that this agreement  
5 will just be signed and we will never be told, and  
6 that's really what we fear.

7 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: If the County  
8 Executive told you he's going to have another  
9 hearing, I suggest, you know, you call the County  
10 Executive.

11 We have our Administrator right here.  
12 I'm sure he will relay your concerns to the County  
13 Executive tomorrow.

14 MS. COLL: And, Mr. Sullivan, how do  
15 you know they're carving out? You must have seen  
16 some plans, so there must be some plan in existence.

17 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Just everything  
18 that you saw. I mean, we --

19 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Mr. Chairman,  
20 may I for one moment?

21 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Please, Freeholder  
22 Zur.

23 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: I think where  
24 I'm getting frustrated and I think you're getting  
25 frustrated -- I'll just speak for me -- where I'm

1 getting frustrated is that you don't trust or believe  
2 that we're actually hearing anything which you are  
3 saying to us. We've been listening, we've been  
4 hearing, and we've been absorbing.

5 I know that the County Executive has  
6 taken the thoughts and the processes back to the  
7 drawing board, and that going forward they are going  
8 to try to come up with a better solution.

9 So, yes, you're right, we don't have  
10 anything, because they're in the process, and as soon  
11 as we --

12 MS. COLL: Is this a private process or  
13 can the public be privy to it?

14 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Once it is  
15 finalized, it will come before the public again.

16 MS. COLL: But that is late in the  
17 game.

18 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: No, it's exactly  
19 in the game where you were five weeks ago when you  
20 came before us.

21 MS. COLL: You have received many  
22 letters at the hearing all against it, not one in  
23 favor of that it, but we're hearing public and  
24 private partnerships work out great. "Oh, it's a  
25 garbage dump. It's not really valuable land."

1 We hear comments to the contrary.

2 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: We are legally  
3 required to remediate --

4 MS. COLL: There are a lot of surface  
5 debris piles in that area, there are very few capped  
6 areas.

7 Thank you.

8 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Okay.

9 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Brian Peck, youth  
10 golf.

11 MR. PECK: Sorry to change the topic.  
12 Is that okay?

13 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Do you like  
14 dinosaurs?

15 MR. PECK: Yes.

16 My name is Brian Peck. I live in  
17 Westwood. I have a nine-year-old son who has been  
18 playing golf since he was two, competitive golf for  
19 the past three and a half years.

20 I don't know if anybody else here is  
21 interested in golf. Bergen County has a lot of great  
22 golf courses, but you have to be 12 or over to play  
23 them.

24 There are two exceptions to that rule.  
25 You can join the Pioneer League, and then you're



1 allowed to play with an adult, provided it's after  
2 4:00 on most days of the week.

3           There are better options in other  
4 counties. Passaic County, for example, it's all kids  
5 play whenever they want, with an adult, of course.  
6 Morris County also offers golf for children under the  
7 age of 12. You get certified by one of their pros,  
8 you know, the parent goes with the kid, they do like  
9 a go through, and that pro then certifies the kid is  
10 allowed to play for free with an adult after, you  
11 know, 5:00 on most days of the week.

12           So those are not great options, but  
13 they're better than the Bergen County options.

14           I bring this up for a couple of  
15 reasons.

16           So, one is, by way of example, my son  
17 is playing competitive golf, and there are a lot of  
18 kids, believe it or not, playing competitive golf  
19 under the age of 12 in New Jersey. These are  
20 tournaments in north and central Jersey. My son's  
21 played in about 40 "North Jersey" tournaments, not  
22 one of which has been in Bergen County.

23           There's also another reason to bring  
24 this up. I think there are six public courses in  
25 Bergen County. For them to be financially viable in

1 15, 20 years, kids have to start playing golf now.  
2 If they don't get involved in the game now, they are  
3 not going to be playing when they are able to pay and  
4 have the time and funds to do that sort of stuff.  
5 These courses are going to be maybe public parks,  
6 condominiums, strip malls, they're not going to be  
7 golf courses in 20 years, if you don't get kids  
8 involved in golf sooner.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

11 FREEHOLDER GANZ: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Gia Schneider.

13 MS. SCHNEIDER: Hi.

14 I'm Gia Schneider. We live in  
15 Hillsdale, my husband and I.

16 Earlier this week, we contacted you,  
17 Mr. Sullivan, regarding a utility line that's being  
18 placed very close to our property, and it has to do  
19 with Demarest Farms.

20 So we came here tonight to see if  
21 there's a way we can open discussion about the future  
22 development of what's happening right next to our  
23 property.

24 We bought the house last July. And I  
25 did already speak with the town, and they actually

1 recommended that we come here.

2 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Are you on a county  
3 road?

4 MS. SCHNEIDER: I live on Craig Road,  
5 so I mean, yeah, it's a public road.

6 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: It's not a county  
7 road, but go ahead.

8 MS. SCHNEIDER: Okay. I don't know, I  
9 had spoken to people on the planning board and one of  
10 the engineers, and he had mentioned coming down to  
11 speak to you guys or reach out. So we were hoping  
12 that we could facilitate some type of discussion, and  
13 maybe we can get some help or maybe you could point  
14 us somewhere else.

15 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Sure. I mean, if  
16 you want to stick around after the meeting, I'll have  
17 a conversation with you and we'll see where we can go  
18 from there.

19 MS. SCHNEIDER: I appreciate it. Thank  
20 you very much.

21 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

22 I saved the best for last, Chuck Powers  
23 from Teaneck.

24 You're supposed to smile when I say  
25 that.

1                   MR. POWERS: I appreciate your  
2 accuracy, Mr. Chairman.

3                   Chuck Powers.

4                   I want to just say that -- first,  
5 congratulations to those who won this last election.  
6 We, as you know, conducted three separate forums, and  
7 all of the candidates that we were able to contact,  
8 we were not able to reach one, not only got there on  
9 time, were extremely well prepared, and I thought  
10 that, in fact, we actually served an important  
11 purpose for the county, because of the way in which  
12 you folks function. It was really quite impressive.  
13 And I don't know if you know it or not, but the  
14 Sheriff's one has reached over 10,000 people,  
15 apparently 6,000 people have watched it. Not quite  
16 as many people watched you folks, maybe that was  
17 because people had some semblance as to how that  
18 election might turn out, I don't know, but I do want  
19 to say that not only were those live streamed, but  
20 they continue to be available.

21                   In terms of the sort of struggle we've  
22 just been having, there are commitments that were  
23 made both by the County Executive and you folks as to  
24 how this thing ought to move forward. Over half the  
25 questions we got were about this one single issue,

1     there's no question about it, and Green Acres said  
2     they've never seen as much attention to a particular  
3     problem as this one has raised.

4                     It is really important that what you  
5     did say, which would suggest that you are at a point  
6     where you are going back and looking again at what to  
7     do and then are going to be coming forward to the  
8     public, that all gets pretty well clarified in those  
9     statements, and you're on record on that, and I trust  
10    that you'll do it.

11                    Thank you.

12                    FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR:   Thank you.

13                    Mr. Chairman?

14                    CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN:   Yes, Freeholder  
15    Zur.

16                    FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR:   Mr. Powers, I  
17    also want to thank you for our debate for postponing  
18    the time so that I could go to the vigil.   It was  
19    really meaningful to me, and I just want to thank you  
20    for that accommodation.

21                    MR. POWERS:   It was very important.

22                    It was a terrible three day cycle, and  
23    I knew that you were under -- well, we were all  
24    appropriately under pressure, but that some folks  
25    felt it more than others, and, of course, it was the

1 right thing to allow you to go to Tenafly.

2 Thank you.

3 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: So, unfortunately,  
5 Mr. Powers, someone just handed me a slip, so you're  
6 not the best and last, it's Jeri Kadison.

7 MS. KADISON: Thank you for letting me  
8 speak, and I wasn't going to, but I feel that you're  
9 all listening and you hear.

10 I've never been to a Freeholder  
11 meeting, and I realize that dealing with the county  
12 has been so frustrating. It's just the state that's  
13 helping me.

14 By background, I'm a speech  
15 pathologist. I raised two kids in Teaneck. I did a  
16 show, which was actually shown all over the county  
17 from 1997-2004 for Teaneck in the town council  
18 chambers. It was an update. It was a live show. I  
19 did it for seven years. I had health segments,  
20 community segments, had everybody, officials from the  
21 county. And it was a wonderful thing to bring that  
22 show and to help other people. All the while, I was  
23 being a victim of domestic violence, and I kept it  
24 quiet.

25 And, finally, after years of trying to

1 go for help in the county and not being able to,  
2 postdivorce I filed a restraining order to protect my  
3 two children and I.

4 My ex-husband had married somebody very  
5 rich and had tried to, you know, keep monies and  
6 funds. Nobody helped me in the county. I'm a  
7 resilient person, and finally I got a temporary  
8 restraining order, but I didn't get a permanent. And  
9 then he filed for guns, and a gun permit was granted  
10 him by an appellate judge, after the chief of police  
11 turned him down. And since 2002 and from the  
12 violence, I went through 15 years of surgeries.

13 So, I come to you tonight moving out of  
14 Teaneck in 2004, because I had just had it. I spoke  
15 to the Governor and to the Attorney General at the  
16 meeting for gun violence, and they were so receptive.  
17 And what happened was the Governor did change that a  
18 TRO -- that that judge never should have granted my  
19 ex. He had a letter "I'm going to kill you all," but  
20 my ex came with all these lawyers, all his wife's  
21 money. I don't care how much money he has, but there  
22 is something unfair, and nobody could help me in  
23 Bergen County.

24 So, now I moved back to Bergen County a  
25 few years ago. And now my mother's a victim of elder

1 abuse, she's quite a famous person, and it started to  
2 affect me because she was just helping me get back on  
3 my feet.

4 And, unfortunately, I had to file for a  
5 restraining order against my brother. And it is a  
6 hate crime. And I got a temporary, though the judge  
7 said on September 27th, "I believe everything you're  
8 saying." He had a lawyer that acted like a monster.  
9 I just brought the CD up to domestic violence.

10 There is no help in this county for  
11 elder abuse. I have for two years tried to protect  
12 my mother, from the Surrogate to every single  
13 department saying "Hire a lawyer. Hire a lawyer."

14 Well, I'm still wiped out. I'm getting  
15 back to work. I'm working at Englewood Hospital.  
16 I'm working with cancer patients. But after that  
17 experience of six hours being questioned by an  
18 attorney, my brother never got on the stand.

19 MR. FLORIO: Three minutes, Ms.  
20 Kadison.

21 MS. KADISON: Thank you.

22 And he is a violent, dangerous person,  
23 and there is no help for anybody in this county,  
24 unless you have a lot of money.

25 So I will forward letters to you, and



1     thank you for listening, because I ended up with  
2     pneumonia for five weeks after that, and I'm just  
3     pulling my bootstraps up again. And thank you for  
4     this opportunity. We need help in this county, and  
5     I'd be happy to help you.

6                     Thank you.

7                     CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you for your  
8     time. Thank you for your statements.

9                     Bergen County has a lot of services  
10    that deal with domestic violence. We were the first  
11    one in the whole state to have a domestic violence  
12    program 40 years ago. So I don't know who you talked  
13    to, I don't know what information you have.

14                    MS. KADISON: But I've gone through the  
15    system.

16                    CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Excuse me. I gave  
17    you your time. I don't want to be disrespectful.

18                    MS. KADISON: Thank you, no.

19                    CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We have plenty of  
20    programs.

21                    If you want to get together with our  
22    Administrator after, he can certainly guide you in  
23    the right direction, but Bergen County is out in  
24    front on the domestic violence issue.

25                    MS. KADISON: And I will have to

1 disagree.

2 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Like I say, we have  
3 numerous programs. We always offer help. I believe  
4 there is a domestic abuse hotline.

5 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: There is also  
6 elder abuse covered through the Bergen County  
7 Prosecutor's Office, as well as the Board of Social  
8 Services.

9 MS. KADISON: And everybody, "I can't  
10 help you. I can't help you."

11 Thank you. I'll write you what really  
12 happened.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

15 Any other services you want to talk  
16 about?

17 No? Is that it, Tracy?

18 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Uh-huh.

19 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Can I have a  
20 motion to close the hearing of the public?

21 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: So moved.

22 FREEHOLDER GANZ: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: All in favor?

24 (All present Freeholders respond in the  
25 affirmative.)

1 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Motion carried.

4 RESOLUTIONS OF UNANIMOUS CONSENT

5 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Will the Clerk  
6 please read the Resolutions on the Consent Agenda.

7 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Resolutions of Consent  
8 are: #1057-18 through #1142-18.

9 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: May I have a motion  
10 to accept the Resolutions on the Consent Agenda as  
11 read by the Clerk?

12 FREEHOLDER GANZ: So moved.

13 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: All in favor?

15 (All present Freeholders respond in the  
16 affirmative.)

17 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Roll call.

20 (At this point in the proceeding roll  
21 call is taken and the Resolutions of Unanimous  
22 Consent are passed by a unanimous vote.)

23 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Seven ayes.

24 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Are there any  
25 Resolutions pulled, postponed or tabled?

1 If so, will the Clerk please read them.

2 MS. RODRIGUEZ: There are none.

3 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

4 ORDINANCES

5 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Will the Clerk  
6 please read Ordinance 18-36 by title only.

7 MS. RODRIGUEZ: 18-36 is a:

8 "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CAPITAL  
9 IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE BY  
10 THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE  
11 AMOUNT OF \$500,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE  
12 ISSUANCE OF \$476,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY TO  
13 FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF."

14 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: May I have a motion  
15 to introduce Ordinance 18-36 as read by the Clerk?

16 FREEHOLDER GANZ: So moved.

17 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: All in favor?

19 (All present Freeholders respond in the  
20 affirmative.)

21 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Roll call, please.

24 (At this point in the proceeding roll  
25 call is taken and the Introduction and First Reading

1 of Ordinance 18-36 is passed by a unanimous vote.)

2 MS. RODRIGUEZ: With seven ayes, 18-36  
3 passes First Reading.

4 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

5 COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM FREEHOLDERS

6 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We will now have  
7 Freeholder Committee Reports.

8 I'll start with Mary Amoroso tonight,  
9 because I always make her go last.

10 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: That's lovely,  
11 Chairman.

12 On Friday, October 26th, I attended the  
13 Prosecutor's SNAP conference for law enforcement at  
14 the Venetian in Garfield. This year's topic was  
15 school safety. The Prosecutor's School Safety Task  
16 Force, of which I am a part, put together a list of  
17 best practices to maximize safety and prevent and  
18 minimize trauma of active shooter situations.

19 Some of the things we talked about  
20 included the GPS app on first responders' cellphones,  
21 so that first responders know the layout of every  
22 building they're called to and where other first  
23 responders are in the building. County Executive  
24 Tedesco pioneered this GPS app here.

25 Also an app called "Lit Safe" that

1 let's students do anonymous tip-offs, if someone at  
2 school is raising red flags and making them nervous.

3 The Task Force put together a  
4 questionnaire that allows schools to survey  
5 themselves about the strengths and weaknesses in the  
6 security of their physical plants.

7 On Monday, October 29th, I attended a  
8 seminar on the use of deadly force sponsored by the  
9 Prosecutor's Office for the clergy. The highlight of  
10 the seminar is a live simulation of a couple of  
11 active shooter scenarios. I held a fake gun in a  
12 scenario with a shooter who was in a bulletproof vest  
13 and aiming a rifle on an office worker laying on the  
14 floor. I was slow to respond, and I died.

15 Yesterday, Election Day, was a good day  
16 for us in Bergen County. We have a new Sheriff in  
17 town, Anthony Cureton, who is grounded both in law  
18 enforcement and compassion for our citizenry.

19 Our County Executive, Jim Tedesco, was  
20 reelected to a second term so he can do more good  
21 things for Bergen County's health, mental health,  
22 veterans, seniors, children, parks, and diversity.

23 Two leaders on our Freeholder Board,  
24 Tracy Zur and Steve Tanelli, won election to a third  
25 term.

1                   Steve was kind enough to be a guide to  
2                   two newbie Freeholder candidates, me and Germaine, in  
3                   2016. He is a thoughtful leader and a voice,  
4                   especially for our parks and for law enforcement.

5                   Tracy, as you know, is a fighter and a  
6                   doer, particularly for women, children, mental health  
7                   issues, and special needs.

8                   We are so happy they are both back with  
9                   us.

10                  And, finally, Happy Veterans Day.

11                  CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Freeholder  
12                  Vice-Chairwoman Ortiz.

13                  VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: Thank you.

14                  I'll try to keep it short.

15                  I attended with my colleagues on the  
16                  board and the County Executive made an announcement  
17                  of the launch of the Hackensack Transit Connective  
18                  Bus Routes, which will connect Hackensack's train  
19                  stations and bus terminals with the county  
20                  administrative complex, which means this building and  
21                  Two Bergen, next door, and all the administrative  
22                  buildings, in a partnership between local, county,  
23                  state, and federal government in making this project  
24                  possible.

25                  Using grant funding from the NJTPA,

1 with additional funding provided by Bergen County,  
2 the Transit Connector Routes will help reduce the  
3 number of personal vehicles on the roads and provide  
4 better public transit access to those without  
5 vehicles and individuals with mobility issues.

6 There is no fee or residency  
7 requirement to use this transit connector. And with  
8 Bergen County being so populated, I think we're  
9 always trying to find innovative ways in which we can  
10 get people to use more commuter services and keep  
11 more cars off the road.

12 This is definitely a great idea here  
13 for Hackensack, especially having all the municipal  
14 and administrative buildings here next to our train  
15 stations and our bus stops.

16 I was also proud to be able to speak at  
17 Bergen Community College. They had the closing  
18 ceremonies for Hispanic Heritage Month. Again, they  
19 always do a lot in regards to their diversity at the  
20 college. I think they're about 32 percent Latino,  
21 and they had a wonderful ceremony representing all  
22 the different countries. They had dances and music  
23 and food. It was great. We honored several of the  
24 professors and teachers from the college.

25 And in the same week, the great report



1     came out by the state Board of Education saying that  
2     Bergen Community College grads are the top earners  
3     among their peers. And it says they are earning the  
4     highest salaries among their peers from the  
5     state's 19 two-year institutions and even out-earning  
6     peers from some of the four-year colleges.

7                     The average salary 10 years after  
8     enrolling in Bergen is \$38,400, with an annual  
9     average tuition cost of \$6,900, versus a four-year  
10    college, which is an average of \$43,000 after 10  
11    years, but paying \$20,837 average of tuition.

12                    I'm extremely proud of Bergen Community  
13    College. I know we always talk about it, how proud  
14    we are of the college, and it's definitely the gem of  
15    Bergen County.

16                    And that concludes my report.

17                    CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you,  
18    Vice-Chairwoman.

19                    Freeholder --

20                    VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: Oh, wait, wait.  
21    I'm not done.

22                    CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I'm glad you were  
23    going to be brief.

24                    Freeholder Ortiz.

25                    VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: No, this will

1 be brief, but I just want to congratulate our County  
2 Executive for being reelected.

3 I especially want to congratulate Tracy  
4 and Steve for coming back to us, because this team  
5 works well together. I think we can get so much more  
6 accomplished, and I'm just so excited that you're  
7 back with us.

8 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Thank you.

9 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Are you done?

11 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: I'm done.

12 Thank you, Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Freeholder

14 Dr. Voss.

15 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Thank you, Chairman.

16 I also want to add my congratulations  
17 to Jim and to Tracy and to Steve and to Anthony.

18 I have to say, Chuck's not here right  
19 now, but the Grassroots debate for the Sheriff  
20 candidates was absolutely fantastic. I think it was  
21 so important that we learn about people's backgrounds  
22 to make the best choice. Grassroots did a great job,  
23 and I'm sure Chuck is watching this.

24 This evening I missed the Work Session,  
25 which I hate to do, but I went down to Palisades Park

1 because they were giving raises and conferring  
2 different titles to several of the police officers.  
3 It was really a wonderful experience, because  
4 Palisades Park has had, you know, some issues in the  
5 past. I have to say that hundreds of people came out  
6 for this ceremony. It was absolutely wonderful to  
7 see, first of all, the community coming together.  
8 And, second of all, being so supportive of our  
9 police.

10 I want to say a special congratulations  
11 to new Sgt. George Beck, who has been a very, very  
12 wonderful person. I wish him all kinds of success in  
13 the future. I think he will go very far.

14 I wish every community would treat  
15 their police and treat their community as a group and  
16 not be divisive and at odds with one another. So  
17 this was really something very, very special.

18 Our county does a great deal for  
19 veterans. I think A.J. Luna came to the Work Session  
20 today, and, unfortunately, I missed hearing him, but  
21 I know that I have sent many, many people to A.J. for  
22 assistance with various veterans issues, and he has  
23 been invaluable.

24 On November 11th, which is Veterans  
25 Day, not Memorial Day but Veterans Day, too many

1 people get the too confused, one is to remember those  
2 who made the ultimate sacrifice, which is Memorial  
3 Day, but Veterans Day is to say thank you to the men  
4 and women who have served our country.

5 We're very lucky here in Bergen County  
6 that, as we said during the campaign, there are no  
7 homeless veterans in Bergen County. As I said, we  
8 have very good services for them. So, if anybody  
9 needs assistance, you know, let us know.

10 One of the people in my town who did  
11 tremendous, tremendous awareness training for  
12 patriotism, particularly for the young people in  
13 town, but a couple of years ago people were  
14 forgetting to remember Memorial Day and forgetting to  
15 remember Veterans Day, and the person who was the  
16 head of our local Veterans of Foreign Wars, James  
17 Viola, practically single-handedly revitalized the  
18 parade on Memorial Day and the commemoration of our  
19 veterans on Veterans Day.

20 Jimmy passed away, unfortunately, this  
21 year. He was well into his 80s. He had served in  
22 World War II. And on Veterans Day, we are going to  
23 be dedicating a plaque to his memory, and I will be  
24 speaking about all of the contributions that Jimmy  
25 made to our town, and, actually, to all of Bergen

1 County, because our commemorations became some of the  
2 largest in the county.

3 Please remember the veterans. Only a  
4 very small percentage of our men and women are in the  
5 military today, and we should say thank you to all of  
6 them for the services they perform for us.

7 God bless America.

8 Thank you, Chairman.

9 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you,  
10 Freeholder.

11 Freeholder Ganz.

12 FREEHOLDER GANZ: Thank you, Chairman.

13 100 years ago this month, an agreement  
14 was signed in France to end the hostilities of  
15 World War I, and, in fact, to putting an end to all  
16 war.

17 That, of course, was unduly optimistic,  
18 but here in Bergen County, we have made veterans  
19 services a priority.

20 My son, Scott, served in Afghanistan.  
21 My dad was flying foreign fortresses. We understand  
22 the importance of not only paying back the veterans,  
23 but making certain that those veterans who made the  
24 ultimate sacrifice are honored.

25 On November 11th or November 12th, free

1     flu shots will be available to veterans here in  
2     Bergen County.

3                     That's all for now.

4                     CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you,  
5     Freeholder Ganz.

6                     Freeholder-reelect Tanelli.

7                     FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Thank you,  
8     Chairman.

9                     I don't have a report prepared today,  
10    but I just wanted to take a few moments to thank the  
11    County Executive and my Freeholder colleagues for  
12    their friendship and support. We have a great team  
13    up here. The proof is in the pudding, for the great  
14    things that Bergen County has done making huge  
15    strides in the last four years in so many ways, and I  
16    look forward to spending the next three years with  
17    all of you to continue the great work that we've  
18    already done. There's still some heavy lifting that  
19    needs to be done to right the ship, and I just wanted  
20    to echo everyone's sentiments, to remember that  
21    Sunday is Veterans Day, but every day should be  
22    Veterans Day. We should be thanking our veterans.  
23    It takes two seconds to just shake the hand of a  
24    veteran and thank them for their service. You'd be  
25    surprised at the reaction you'll get, the positive

1 feelings, and just let them know they're appreciated.

2 So that concludes my report.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you,  
5 Freeholder.

6 Freeholder-reelect Zur.

7 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Thank you,  
8 Chairman.

9 First, I want to thank everyone in  
10 Bergen County who last night showed their endorsement  
11 of the job that Steve and I have been doing on this  
12 Board for the last six years. The overwhelming  
13 message that we received at the ballot box was really  
14 something to be felt all along the way on the  
15 campaign trail.

16 To all of those who kind of helped  
17 amplify what we do up here and what we do in county  
18 government, I want to say thank you so much. We have  
19 a lot of work that we've accomplished, but so much  
20 more that we look forward to doing all together up  
21 here over the next three years.

22 There were a lot of government  
23 responsibilities and events along the way that really  
24 reminded me and underscored why it is that we want to  
25 serve on this Board and the things that we are doing

1     that is making an impact on so many lives in all of  
2     Bergen County, whether it was the Bleshman  
3     Roll-A-Thon, where we saw kids in wheelchairs  
4     participating in raising money for causes or the  
5     Salute to Champions Breakfast, which honored those  
6     with unique abilities who are making impacts so  
7     amazingly in other people's lives, or the Center for  
8     Alcohol and Drug Resources, which is helping those  
9     and educate those who are on the frontline dealing  
10    with our opioid epidemic, or the SNAP Conference that  
11    Freeholder Amoroso mentioned, or the ribbon-cutting  
12    of McLaren, where we brought in a new business with  
13    125 new jobs and highlighted the work that our  
14    Economic Development folks are doing in attracting  
15    new businesses and highlighting the strength of  
16    Bergen County. I could go on, actually. I probably  
17    shouldn't.

18                   FREEHOLDER TANELLI: I was waiting for  
19    the gavel.

20                   (Laughter.)

21                   FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: I could go on,  
22    but on top of all of that, with the backdrop of  
23    Pittsburgh and the mail bombings and the shooting in  
24    Louisville, it also underscores why it is important  
25    for us to be serving in government, why it is



1 important for us to have a platform, and to really  
2 talk about and embrace our diversity, and to really  
3 make sure we're ensuring that hate has no home here  
4 in Bergen County.

5 So, to all of you on the Board, I just  
6 want to say thank you for all of the work that you  
7 did and the support. You are the only folks who  
8 understand what it is to run in 70 towns, so I want  
9 to thank you for your sanity checks along the way and  
10 for really encouraging and for being such amazing  
11 partners.

12 To our team, to County Executive  
13 Tedesco, to Sheriff Anthony Cureton, to my running  
14 mate whom I have had the privilege of serving with  
15 for the last six years, I couldn't have been part of  
16 a better team, and I am so proud of what we were able  
17 to highlight to the voters of Bergen County.

18 To Tara Chatterjee, thank you so  
19 profoundly for holding it so together and for keeping  
20 straight my ridiculous schedule over these last  
21 several months. I can't thank you enough for  
22 drinking the Cool-Aid.

23 And to my family, I wanted to thank  
24 them also, because they remind me of why we do this.

25 And, Mr. Chairman, thank you for

1 indulging me with these extra few moments tonight. I  
2 can't promise you I won't babble on on other nights,  
3 but thank you for letting me speak.

4 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: No, you weren't  
5 babbling at all.

6 Thank you, Freeholder Zur.

7 I'll give my committee report.

8 We continue our commitment to providing  
9 savings for the taxpayers of Bergen County. The  
10 Freeholder Board has approved Shared Services  
11 Agreements with Teterboro and Closter to provide the  
12 use of county street sweepers, as well as the  
13 county's emergency and non-emergency vehicles, all at  
14 a reduced cost to those town and revenue producing  
15 for the county.

16 Since I've been on this Board, I've  
17 been one of the champions -- we've all been  
18 champions, but I certainly made it a priority of mine  
19 to get out in front with shared services, as you all  
20 have. We continue and continue and continue to do  
21 it. The more people catch on, the better we're all  
22 going to be, because it's a win/win for both the  
23 municipality and the county, and it saves us both  
24 money. We have the equipment, we get some revenue by  
25 lending it to you, you pay a reduced fee, and that's

1     what shared service is all about. Our residents get  
2     what they need in terms of services, and we do it  
3     together and pool our services at a reduced.

4                 I'd also like to take the opportunity  
5     to recognize and thank all my brothers and sisters of  
6     labor and unions who worked tirelessly to help so  
7     many candidates this year and contributed to their  
8     victories, all to maintain our middle class. That's  
9     why it's done, and that's why they do what they do,  
10    and I appreciate that. I'm grateful to them all for  
11    helping my colleagues, Steve and Tracy, and I'm  
12    thankful for their support that they have shown to  
13    labor.

14                As an elected official, I support all  
15    the efforts that they have shown through the county  
16    who support labor.

17                You know, I was with Freeholder Zur at  
18    the Workforce Investment Board, and they continue to  
19    talk about the need for skilled labor, which seems to  
20    have gone by the wayside in this country for way too  
21    many years. I happen to be fortunate and come from a  
22    union where they offer apprenticeship and training.  
23    I was able to have a skill and learn a skill. We  
24    need more of that today.

25                You know, we all talk about Stigma-Free

1     in the towns. Sometimes parents or even individuals  
2     have a stigma with working with your hands, and  
3     there's nothing wrong with it at all, it's an  
4     honorable living and it's a middle class living, and  
5     we need to get back to it.

6                 I could tell you that in high school I  
7     took electric shop, and that's what started me in my  
8     career as an electrician. We also offer auto shop,  
9     metal shop, wood shop, things that a lot of schools  
10    don't offer anymore. It's time we start looking back  
11    and start realizing the need for these programs.

12                Special congratulations to a friend  
13    that I met last year, Maria Nolan, the varsity  
14    volleyball coach at IHA in Washington Township. She  
15    had her 1,000 career victory last week, and she did  
16    it in style by winning the Bergen County  
17    championship. Maria is just a great person and a  
18    wonderful role model, and she's also an icon in high  
19    school sports.

20                I want to say thank you to the Council  
21    of the Irish Association of Greater Bergen County.  
22    Freeholder Zur and I attended their kick-off dinner  
23    for their annual St. Patrick's Day parade.

24                I recognized some people who did some  
25    wonderful community service there.

1                   I want to say thank you to them for  
2           having us and for also being a wonderful part of the  
3           community. There's over 100,000 Irish people living  
4           in Bergen County. That's not even including my  
5           family. So...

6                   (Laughter.)

7                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I want to  
8           congratulate all the elected officials in the state  
9           and the county, from Menendez, Tedesco, Cureton,  
10          Pascrell, Gottheimer, Lagana, Tully, Swain,  
11          Calabrese, and as one of those who have won locally  
12          as well as my colleagues, Freeholders Tanelli and  
13          Zur, I think this is a very, very special election,  
14          and some things had to happen to bring some sanity  
15          back into the country, and I think some things did  
16          happen. I know in Bergen County, I don't think there  
17          was really another choice than the ticket of Tanelli  
18          and Zur and our County Executive Jim Tedesco, who has  
19          just done some wonderful things since taking over  
20          four years. And on our Freeholder Board, the way we  
21          all get together and discuss issues I think is a  
22          credit to us, and to our County Executive especially,  
23          and our party chairman, Lou Stellato, who helps us  
24          see things the right way as a former mayor. So  
25          everyone has been influential and the county is

1 running great right now, but we know we can do  
2 better. We're going to do better. We're going to  
3 continue to find ways to make it better. But I just  
4 want to say congratulations to my colleagues. I was  
5 a very proud of you, I'm very proud to sit here and  
6 serve with you.

7 That concludes my report.

8 I don't think I have anything else,  
9 Germaine. I think that's it.

10 Oh, yes, I do have something else.

11 For the record, I want to state that  
12 Freeholder Tanelli for the first time in six years  
13 gave his acceptance speech the right way and  
14 recognized his wife and family. I want to  
15 congratulate my buddy for that.

16 Thanks, Steve.

17 Okay. So there being nothing further  
18 to come before this Board, I'll take a motion to  
19 adjourn.

20 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: So moved.

21 FREEHOLDER GANZ: So moved.

22 FREEHOLDER SILNA ZUR: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: All in favor?

24 (All present Freeholders respond in the  
25 affirmative.)

1 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Motion carried. We  
4 are adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

5 (Whereupon, the Public Meeting is  
6 adjourned at 8:32 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, KIM O. FURBACHER, License No. XIO1042, a Certified Court Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Realtime Court Reporter, and Notary Public of the State of New Jersey, hereby certify that the foregoing is a verbatim record of the testimony provided under oath before any court, referee, board, commission or other body created by statute of the State of New Jersey.

I am not related to the parties involved in this action; I have no financial interest, nor am I related to an agent of or employed by anyone with a financial interest in the outcome of this action.

This transcript complies with Regulation 13:43-5.9 of the New Jersey Administrative Code.

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KIM O. FURBACHER, CRCR, CCR, RMR  
License #XIO1042, and Notary Public  
of New Jersey

My Commission Expires:  
7/11/19