

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

CONFERENCE/BOARD MEETING : TRANSCRIPT OF
-----: RECORDED PROCEEDINGS

Hall of Record
Room 506
Newark, New Jersey

Wednesday, April 6, 2022
Commencing at 5:00 p.m.

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T:

THYSHAMMIE L. COOPER
BRENDAN W GILL
ROMAINE GRAHAM
RUFUS I. JOHNSON
LEONARD M. LUCIANO
ROBERT MERCADO
PATRICIA SEBOLD
CARLOS M. POMARES, Vice President
WAYNE L. RICHARDSON, President

M E M B E R S A B S E N T:

A L S O P R E S E N T:

MICHAEL J. PARLAVECCHIO, ESQ., County
Commissioner Counsel
ROBERT D. JACKSON, County Administrator
DEBORAH DAVIS FORD, Clerk of the Board
DEBRA MARVEL, Deputy Clerk of the Board
FRANK McENERNEY, Budget Consultant

SUSAN BISCHOFF, CCR, RPR
449 Columbia Blvd., Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075
201-933-8220 SBischoffccr@yahoo.com

A L S O P R E S E N T: Continued...

JULIUS N. COLTRE, Deputy County Administrator
KYALO MULUMBA, Public Information Officer, Board
of County Commissioners
HOSSAM MOHAMED, Director, Department of
Administration & Finance
ALFARO ORTIZ, Director, Department of Corrections
JOSHUA ZAITZ, Parks, Recreation and Cultural
Affairs
MICHAEL VIEIRA, Director, Department of
Transportation

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1 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: This meeting of
2 the Essex County Board of County Commissioners is
3 hereby called to order. This meeting is being
4 live streamed in addition to taking place in
5 person. Madam Clerk, please call the roll.

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

7 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Here.

8 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

9 COMMISSIONER GILL: Here.

10 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

11 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Here.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

13 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Here.

14 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

15 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Here.

16 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

17 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Here.

18 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

19 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Here.

20 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice

21 President Pomares.

22 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Here.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
24 Richardson.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Here.

1 Will everyone please stand for the
2 salute to the flag. I'm going to ask Commissioner
3 Luciano to lead us in the salute.

4
5 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
6 recited.)

7
8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Please remain
9 standing for a moment of silence for all those who
10 have perished around the world, especially here in
11 Essex County from COVID. Thank you.

12
13 (Whereupon, a moment of silence was
14 observed.)

15
16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: I have before me
17 certification from the Clerk that this meeting is
18 in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

19 Madam Clerk, are there any transcripts
20 to be approved?

21 MS. DAVIS FORD: Mr. President, there
22 are none.

23 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Madam Clerk, are
24 there any topics of discussion?

25 MS. DAVIS FORD: Mr. President, there

1 are none.

2 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: In that case,
3 let's move to public comment session.

4 Tonight's meeting is combined
5 conference/board meeting, which means we will vote
6 on every item on the agenda.

7 So if there any members of the public
8 who would like to comment on agenda items only,
9 please come to the microphone, state your name and
10 affiliation for the record. You have
11 three minutes to speak. There will be time later
12 in the evening for the public to comment on any
13 other items or actions. Please limit your
14 comments at this time to agenda items only.

15 MR. WEINER: Good evening, David Weiner,
16 president of Local 1081, representing the
17 non-supervisory employees at Essex County Division
18 of Family Assistance and Benefits, nee Division of
19 Welfare.

20 Our union has submitted scores of
21 grievances on behalf of our members, many of which
22 we've shared with this august body. I'll
23 reiterate some of our concerns related to
24 Resolution Number 1 about the budget. Yes, Number
25 1. The chronic lack of sufficient staffing as

1 witnessed by our management cancelling millions of
2 dollars approved by this body intended to hire
3 employees. Decelerated DFAB internet connections
4 where we can't get to our clients. Printer,
5 failure to maintain cleaning staff at University
6 Avenue site. The private cleaning staff is down
7 to one or two persons for two buildings and
8 leaving the structures, especially the restrooms,
9 filthy every single day, that's in the budge. Why
10 is this company still being remunerated for their
11 efforts?

12 The scheme by the administration to
13 build an eight-story building on our parking lot
14 at University Avenue, after we've moved in. So
15 now we're going to have to park once you build
16 that for your 22 courtrooms, we're going to have
17 to walk across Market Street in the morning and at
18 night, including the disabled, wheelchairs, and
19 walkers and scooters, because you're putting an
20 eight-story building on our parking lot after we
21 moved in there. DFAB paid \$22 million for that
22 building -- strike that, \$22 million and
23 \$15 million to fix it up.

24 The nepotism and favoritism practiced by
25 our management to reward personal and political

1 friends at the fiscal cost to the County by
2 promoting employees in violation of our contract
3 and civil service regulations. The pernicious
4 presence of mice and other vermin within the
5 buildings, including mouse droppings left to
6 linger within the privately run cafeteria, upon
7 which not enough resources have been dedicated for
8 remediation. Recyclables and garbage maintained
9 within the buildings instead of outside, thus
10 attracting mice and vermin.

11 And we're concerned about legislative
12 interference into the works of the executive body
13 of this government. We've seen it, we've
14 discussed it, and we're still not satisfied that
15 it's going on. There should be a separation of
16 power, that's what it does in this country,
17 federal, state, local level. You've got the
18 legislative, executive, and the judicial branch.
19 This branch should not be injecting itself into
20 the workings, everyday workings of the executive
21 branch.

22 MS. DAVIS FORD: 30 seconds.

23 MR. WEINER: So as a follow up to our
24 meeting with Mr. Richards -- President Richardson
25 on March 2nd, we wrote him on March 9th asking for

1 a meeting with the Work First New Jersey committee
2 and the labor oversight committee. We've yet to
3 get a response and we look forward to getting it
4 because I noted in my OPRA request that fiscal
5 2019, '20, and '21, six of the committees I asked
6 for reports from, none had met in any of those
7 years. You've got to have --

8 MS. DAVIS FORD: Time is up.

9 MR. WEINER: -- oversight over the
10 legislative body. Thank you very much.

11 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr.
12 Weiner. And as always, you will be answered in
13 writing.

14 MS. DOUGLAS: Good evening. My name is
15 Lisa Douglas, I am the president of Public
16 Employees Supervisors Union, which represents
17 supervisory and managerial titles within the
18 Division of Family Assistance and Benefits,
19 formerly known as Welfare.

20 When you authorize the budget, I ask
21 that you consider monies for overtime to address
22 the seven to 10,000 cases which were not
23 recertified for the month of April 2022. For
24 those of you didn't have an opportunity to look at
25 social media, it's blasted all over social media.

1 The clients were lined up and wrapped around the
2 corner.

3 We also ask that you consider the seven
4 to 10,000 constituents of the County of Essex who
5 may have lost their job as a result of the
6 pandemic or for whatever other reason. But
7 whatever it is, they're certainly food insecure
8 and will not eat for the month of April.

9 Please recall the multiple grievances
10 that we filed on behalf of our members, both CWA
11 Local 1081 and Public Employees Supervisors Union
12 and we did copy the Commissioners Board. We ask
13 that the current administration within DFAB, that
14 they authorize overtime to process these cases
15 immediately, implement overtime, especially since
16 DFAB knew about this well over a month ago. So
17 it's not like it was something new. We were
18 concerned. We did not have the human capacity to
19 process the cases, nor did we have the
20 technological capacity to process these cases.

21 So we also ask that you consider that
22 the Department of Human Services also allotted the
23 County of Essex monies, CARES Act monies to
24 process cases for overtime. That did not happen.

25 My hope is that we do make sure that

1 these cases are processed timely, give our
2 employees overtime to do so.

3 We also ask that you ask our DFAB
4 administration and hold them accountable. We hope
5 that these statements that Mr. Weiner and myself
6 will not lead to the mendacious menacing that
7 usually occurs when we complain. We don't want
8 our employees to be harassed or scapegoated for
9 all that is going on administratively because
10 there is lack of leadership in the Division of
11 Family Assistance and Benefits. We're very, very
12 concerned, so we are looking --

13 MS. DAVIS FORD: 30 seconds.

14 MS. DOUGLAS: -- to a collaborative
15 leadership style, which is very much needed during
16 these times. We need collaborative leadership.
17 As you're aware, like I stated, the lines were
18 wrapped around the building. The staff was
19 inundated as a result of the situation, which
20 could have been avoided proactively and it could
21 have been mitigated, but it didn't happen.

22 If DFAB administration had a viable
23 plan, we would not be in the position that we're
24 in. Please help our members help our community,
25 your constituents and our clients. Thank you.

1 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Ms.
2 Douglas. And as always stated, your question will
3 be answered in writing. Seeing no one else
4 wishing to speak.

5
6 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
7 action on the following items:

8 ORDINANCE(S) /RESOLUTION(S) ON
9 INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

10 1. BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR
11 RENOVATIONS TO THREE COUNTY BRIDGES IN AND BY THE
12 COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING
13 \$5,172,537.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE
14 ISSUANCE OF \$5,172,537.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE
15 COUNTY FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATION

16 2. BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE
17 IMPROVEMENT OF THE ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE IN AND BY
18 THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING
19 \$3,537,000.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE
20 ISSUANCE OS \$1,768,500.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE
21 COUNTY AND \$1,768,500.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE
22 COUNTY ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS OF CHAPTER 12 OF
23 THE LAWS OF NEW JERSEY OF 1971 FOR FINANCING SUCH
24 APPROPRIATION

25 3. RESOLUTION AMENDING 2022 BUDGET.)

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PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: So let's move to ordinance on introduction and first reading. Do we have ordinances or resolutions for introduction and first reading?

MS. DAVIS FORD: Yes, Mr. President, we have two ordinances and one resolution, which is an added starter.

(Whereupon, the Board discussed and took action on the following item:

ORDINANCE (S) /RESOLUTION (S) ON
INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

1. BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR RENOVATIONS TO THREE COUNTY BRIDGES IN AND BY THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$5,172,537.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,172,537.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATION.)

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Okay. Let's move to Ordinance Number 1, Mr. Jackson, please, explain the ordinance.

MR. JACKSON: Good evening, Mr. President, Members of the Board. Our Director of

1 Finance, Mr. Mohamed, will address these items.

2 MR. MOHAMED: Good evening, Hossam
3 Mohamed, County Treasurer. Ordinance Number 1 is
4 to provide renovation to three bridges in the
5 County of Essex for \$5,172,537.00 and this issue
6 loans from the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank and
7 we do not have to put down payment because it's
8 financed by the loan. And this is much needed
9 emergency repairs to these three bridges.

10 Ordinance Number 2 is to provide
11 improvement to the County College and this was
12 approved by the Board of School Estimate. And
13 that amount is \$3,537,000.00, \$1,768,500.00 is
14 financed by the County and the rest will be
15 Chapter 12, which is financed by the State of New
16 Jersey. I'm here for any questions.

17 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. Parlavecchio?

18 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: I don't have any
19 questions on one or two.

20 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney?

21 MR. MCENERNEY: No questions.

22 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,
23 questions or comments?

24 Commissioners, do I have a motion and a
25 second to introduce Ordinance Number 1?

1 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Motion.

2 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Second.

3 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by
4 Commissioner Cooper, second by Commissioner
5 Graham. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

7 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

8 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

9 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

10 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

11 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

13 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

14 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

15 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

16 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

17 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

18 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
19 President Pomares.

20 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

21 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

22 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
24 Richardson.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

1 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

2 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam
3 Clerk.

4
5 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
6 action on the following item:

7 ORDINANCE(S) /RESOLUTION(S) ON
8 INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

9 2. BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE
10 IMPROVEMENT OF THE ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE IN AND BY
11 THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING
12 \$3,537,000.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE
13 ISSUANCE OS \$1,768,500.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE
14 COUNTY AND \$1,768,500.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE
15 COUNTY ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS OF CHAPTER 12 OF
16 THE LAWS OF NEW JERSEY OF 1971 FOR FINANCING SUCH
17 APPROPRIATION.)

18
19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Let's move to
20 Ordinance 2, which was talked about. Do I have a
21 motion and a second to introduce the Ordinance
22 Number 2.

23 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Motion.

24 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Second.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by

1 Commissioner Mercado, second by Commissioner
2 Cooper. Roll call.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

4 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

5 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
6 President Pomares.

7 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

8 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

9 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

10 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

11 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

13 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

14 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

15 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

16 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

17 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

18 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

19 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

20 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
21 Richardson.

22 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

24 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you.

25

1 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
2 action on the following item:

3 ORDINANCE(S) /RESOLUTION(S) ON
4 INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

5 3. RESOLUTION AMENDING 2022 BUDGET.)
6

7 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: We'll move to
8 Resolution Number 3. And do I have a mover and a
9 second for Resolution Number 3?

10 Mr. Jackson, Resolution Number 3?

11 MR. JACKSON: Mr. Mohamed.

12 MR. MOHAMED: Good evening, Hossam
13 Mohamed, County Treasurer. Resolution Number 3 is
14 to amend the 2022 budget. As a part of the budget
15 process, the State of New Jersey has to review our
16 budget and they send us -- they're requiring us to
17 amend the budget to change -- one of the grants
18 has to be reduced. And this has to be advertised
19 because it's more than 50 percent of one --
20 10 percent of the item, it has to be advertised.

21 So this resolution to amend the 2022
22 budget and it will be -- the budget should be
23 adopted at following meeting, which is April 20th.

24 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you. Mr.
25 Parlavecchio.

1 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Mr. Mohamed, just
2 from -- procedurally, we do have the adoption of
3 the County budget listed later in the meeting, so
4 we should move to adjourn that, open it, and move
5 to adjourn that to the meeting of the --

6 MR. MOHAMMAD: Yes, it should be held
7 public hearing and not to vote on it. Just I
8 forgot to mention, this amendment did not change
9 the tax levy or the tax rate or the amount of
10 surplus anticipated. Just it's an amount in and
11 out from revenues and appropriation, it did not
12 affect any other issues in the budget.

13 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Thank you.

14 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney.

15 MR. McENERNEY: Yes. This amount was
16 recognized in the revenue section of the budget
17 and it was recognized as an appropriation in the
18 individual departments. The state is merely
19 asking us to take it out of the departments, those
20 amounts that equal the revenue amount, put them in
21 a separate section, unclassified by department.
22 So it's nothing more than just reclassifying
23 appropriations that were in the individual
24 department into a separate line item, so it's
25 easier to track the money that's being charged

1 there for the purposes for which the grant was
2 given.

3 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr.
4 McEnerney.

5 Commissioners, any questions or comments
6 on Resolution Number 3? Commissioner Cooper.

7 COMMISSIONER COOPER: On Resolution 3,
8 was that delivered to us?

9 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: It was, it's fairly
10 new.

11 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Anybody have a
12 copy?

13 MR. McENERNEY: This just took place.

14 MR. JACKSON: Through you, Mr.
15 President. This is, Commissioner, as a result the
16 feedback we got from the state, so it was on as a
17 late starter.

18 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Can we get a copy?

19 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Somebody can help
20 you. It's just introduction.

21 COMMISSIONER COOPER: All right. Thank
22 you.

23 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners, do
24 I have a motion and second to introduce Resolution
25 Number 3?

1 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Motion.

2 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Second.

3 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by
4 Commissioner Cooper, second by Commissioner
5 Johnson. Roll call.

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

7 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

8 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

9 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

10 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

11 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

13 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

14 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

15 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

16 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

17 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

18 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
19 President Pomares.

20 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

21 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

22 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
24 Richardson.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

1 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

2 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam
3 Clerk.

4 Do we have any ordinances or resolutions
5 for listing purposes only?

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: Mr. President, we have
7 none.

8
9 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
10 action on the following items:

11 ORDINANCE(S) /RESOLUTION(S) ON SECOND
12 READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

13 1. ORDINANCE O-2022-00004 - ORDINANCE
14 NAMING THE ANIMAL HOSPITAL AT ESSEX COUNTY TURTLE
15 BACK ZOO AS THE "ESSEX COUNTY BARRY H. OSTROWSKY
16 ANIMAL WELFARE CENTER" IN HONOR OF BARRY H.
17 OSTROWSKY, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF RWJ BARNABAS
18 HEALTH

19 2. RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-00248 -
20 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE, OFFICE
21 OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET - RESOLUTION TO EXCEED
22 THE COUNTY TAX LEVY AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
23 FOR CY 2022 PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14

24 3. RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-00249 -
25 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT

1 AND BUDGET - ADOPTION OF THE 2022 COUNTY BUDGET.)

2

3 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Do we have any
4 ordinances/resolutions on second reading and
5 public hearing?

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: Yes, Mr. President, we
7 have three. Ordinance O-2022-00004, Resolution
8 R-2022-00248 and Resolution R-2022-00249.

9

10

11

12 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
13 action on the following items:

14 ORDINANCE(S) /RESOLUTION(S) ON SECOND
15 READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

16 1. ORDINANCE O-2022-00004 - ORDINANCE
17 NAMING THE ANIMAL HOSPITAL AT ESSEX COUNTY TURTLE
18 BACK ZOO AS THE "ESSEX COUNTY BARRY H. OSTROWSKY
19 ANIMAL WELFARE CENTER" IN HONOR OF BARRY H.
20 OSTROWSKY, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF RWJ BARNABAS
21 HEALTH.)

22

23 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Okay. Madam
24 Clerk, let's move to Ordinance Number O-2022-00004
25 and it will be read into the record at a later

1 time.

2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mr. President, I'm
3 sorry to interrupt, I fear we may be having a
4 technical issue, I just want to make sure we're in
5 compliance with the audio. Sorry to interrupt,
6 but we want to make sure we're okay.

7 MR. MULUMBA: If everyone could just
8 speak a little louder.

9 MS. DAVIS FORD: Speak into the mic.

10 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Closer, closer.
11 We're having trouble hearing you, Mr. President.

12 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: I'm not sitting
13 like that, I'm not doing it.

14 I hereby declare the public hearing on
15 Ordinance O-2022-00004 open. If there's any
16 member of the public who would like to comment for
17 or against this resolution, please come to the
18 microphone and state your name and affiliation for
19 the record. You will have three minutes to speak.

20 There's no one appearing. Mr.
21 McEnerney, questions? Comments?

22 MR. MCENERNEY: I have none.

23 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. Parlavecchio?

24 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: No, no questions.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners?

1 Commissioner Sebold.

2 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Thank you. I'm
3 delighted that we are naming the animal hospital
4 after Barry Ostrowsky, I've known him for such a
5 long time and he has done such wonderful work,
6 especially at St. Barnabas, which is now called
7 Cooperman Barnabas and he's head of the St.
8 Barnabas Health System and he's spent so much time
9 helping us right here in Essex County. So I'm
10 delighted that the animal hospital will be named
11 in his honor. Thank you.

12 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you,
13 Commissioner Sebold.

14 Commissioners, any other questions or
15 comments? Hearing none, can I have a motion --

16 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: I'll move it.

17 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: I'll second.

18 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: -- to close
19 public hearing on Ordinance O-2022-00004. I have
20 a mover in Commissioner Sebold and a second in
21 Commissioner Mercado. Roll call -- same two to
22 approve?

23 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Roll call, Madam

1 Clerk.

2 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

3 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

4 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
5 President Pomares.

6 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

7 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

8 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

9 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

10 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

11 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

12 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

13 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

14 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

15 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

16 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

17 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

18 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

19 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
20 Richardson.

21 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

22 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

23 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam

24 Clerk.

25

1 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
2 action on the following items:

3 ORDINANCE(S) /RESOLUTION(S) ON SECOND
4 READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

5 2. RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-00248 -
6 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE, OFFICE
7 OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET - RESOLUTION TO EXCEED
8 THE COUNTY TAX LEVY AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
9 FOR CY 2022 PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14.)
10

11 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Let's move to
12 Resolution R-2022-00248 and it will be read into
13 the record at a later time. I hereby declare the
14 public hearing on Resolution R-2022-00248 open.
15 If there's any member of the public who would like
16 to comment for or against this resolution, please
17 come to the microphone and state your name and
18 affiliation for the record. You have
19 three minutes to speak.

20 There's no one appearing. Mr.
21 McEnerney?

22 MR. McENERNEY: No questions.

23 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. Parlavecchio?

24 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: No questions.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,

1 questions or comments?

2 Can I have a motion and a second to
3 close public hearing on Resolution R-2022-00248?

4 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Mr. President,
5 I'll move it.

6 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Second.

7 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by Vice
8 President Pomares, second by Commissioner Johnson.
9 Do I have the same mover and second to approve the
10 resolution?

11 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

12 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

13 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Roll call, Madam
14 Clerk.

15 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

16 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

17 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

18 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

19 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

20 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

21 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

22 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

24 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

25 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

1 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

2 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
3 President Pomares.

4 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

5 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

6 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

7 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
8 Richardson.

9 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

10 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

11

12 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
13 action on the following items:

14 ORDINANCE(S) /RESOLUTION(S) ON SECOND
15 READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

16 3. RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-00249 -
17 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
18 AND BUDGET - ADOPTION OF THE 2022 COUNTY BUDGET.)

19

20 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Madam Clerk,
21 let's move to R-2022-00249, which is the adoption
22 of the 2022 Essex County budget. Mr.
23 Parlavecchio?

24 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Yes, thank you, Mr.
25 President. Having heard from Mr. Mohamed and Mr.

1 McEnerney about the amendments required to the
2 budget that came -- were recommended by the state,
3 I would recommend at this time that you open the
4 public hearing on this resolution and then adjourn
5 it to the meeting of April 20th. By that point,
6 the other resolution will be in place, the
7 amendments, and we can move to adopt the budget at
8 that time, at the next meeting. So it would be at
9 this point a motion to open the public hearing and
10 then we would have a motion to adjourn to the
11 20th.

12 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: I hereby declare
13 the public hearing on R-2022-00249 open. Now, I
14 need a motion to adjourn this resolution until
15 April 20th?

16 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: I'll make that
17 motion.

18 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by
19 Commissioner Sebold, second by Commissioner
20 Graham. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

21 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

22 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
24 President Pomares.

25 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

1 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

2 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

4 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

5 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

6 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

7 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

8 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

9 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

10 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

11 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

12 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

13 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
14 Richardson.

15 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

16 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

17 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Mr. President, if I
18 can just to put --

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. Parlavecchio?

20 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Thank you. Just to
21 be clear, if there's any members of the public who
22 are listening or watching or here on this, the
23 public hearing is still open and will be held at
24 the meeting of April 20th, which will be in this
25 room at 5:00. So there will still be time to

1 speak on this.

2 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr.
3 Parlavecchio.

4

5 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
6 action on the following item:

7 RESOLUTION NO. 6 - OFFICE OF COUNTY
8 COUNSEL - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT - TO
9 PROVIDE INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY
10 ADJUSTER INVESTIGATIONS - TRIONAID ASSOCIATES,
11 INC. - JUNE 1, 2022, THROUGH MAY 31, 2024 -
12 EXERCISING A TWENTY-FOUR MONTH CONTRACT EXTENSION
13 OPTION - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000.00)

14

15 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Madam Clerk,
16 let's move to Resolution Number 6, since
17 Resolutions 1 through 5 have been withdrawn by the
18 administration. We will read it into the record
19 at a later time. Mr. Jackson.

20 MR. JACKSON: Thank you, Mr. President.
21 This is a 24 month extension option for
22 Trionaid investigative services for the County
23 Adjuster's Office, for those who are admitted to
24 our hospital center, there's a process of
25 investigation that's conducted to provide that

1 each of those residents or those persons admitted
2 are Essex County residents. This firm provides
3 that service. We are extending -- requesting to
4 extend that contract for another 24 months, in an
5 amount not to exceed \$80,000.00.

6 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr.
7 Jackson. Mr. Parlavecchio?

8 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: I don't have any
9 questions.

10 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney?

11 MR. MCENERNEY: Is this the same firm
12 that we've used for a number of years?

13 MR. JACKSON: Yes. Through you, Mr.
14 President, this was -- the original contract was
15 three years for \$120,000.00 and we've expended
16 about \$92,000.00 for that. This will be a 24
17 month extension of the original three years.

18 MR. MCENERNEY: Thank you, Mr. Jackson.

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,
20 questions or comments?

21 Hearing none, do I have a mover and a
22 second?

23 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: So moved.

24 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Second.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by

1 Commissioner Mercado, second by Commissioner
2 Johnson. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

4 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

5 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

6 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

7 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

8 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

9 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

10 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

11 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

12 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

13 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

14 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

15 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice

16 President Pomares.

17 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

18 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

19 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

20 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President

21 Richardson.

22 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

24

25 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took

1 action on the following item:

2 RESOLUTION NO. 7 - DEPARTMENT OF
3 CORRECTIONS - AMENDMENT TO THE MEMORANDUM OF
4 AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX
5 (ESSEX) AND THE COUNTY OF UNION (UNION) FOR THE
6 PROVISION OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES BY ESSEX.)

7
8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam
9 Clerk. Let's move to Resolution Number 7, which
10 is from the Department of Corrections. It will be
11 read into the record at a later time. Mr.
12 Jackson.

13 MR. JACKSON: Thank you, sir. Director
14 Ortiz will handle this item.

15 MR ORTIZ: Good evening. Alfaro Ortiz,
16 Director, Essex County Correctional Facility. I'm
17 here this evening to advance the following:
18 Department of Corrections amendment to the
19 Memorandum of Agreement, MOA, between the County
20 of Essex and the County of Union for the provision
21 of correctional services by Essex.

22 This particular amendment includes
23 original MOA on 5/12/21 for a five year period
24 from 7/1/21 to 6/30/26. Essex to receive an
25 additional \$950,000.00 for July 1, 2021, through

1 December 31, 2021, includes specific information
2 language not included in the original MOA, general
3 liability insurance at one million per occurrence,
4 five million as a general aggregate amount, five
5 million general law enforcement liability. Union
6 County to maintain the same limits for processing
7 and transporting of inmates.

8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you. Mr.
9 Parlavecchio?

10 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Yes. Director Ortiz,
11 good evening. This is, like you said, a
12 relatively new contract in 2021. Is this as a
13 result of an increased number of Union County
14 inmates or increased number per inmate or for the
15 daily charge, a combination of those things, or
16 something else that caused this increase?

17 MR. ORTIZ: Alfaro Ortiz, Director.
18 Yes, there is an increased amount of inmates, so
19 they're projecting out. The numbers have
20 increased significantly since the beginning of
21 this particular contract, you are correct.

22 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Does that -- is that
23 number -- if I recall, there's a daily cost per
24 inmate, correct?

25 MR ORTIZ: Correct.

1 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Did that increase or
2 is it just based on the overall numbers?

3 MR ORTIZ: No, it's been 104 since the
4 inception and continues.

5 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Thank you.

6 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney?

7 MR. McENERNEY: That 104 was based on
8 the calculation of costs, overhead?

9 MR ORTIZ: Correct.

10 MR. McENERNEY: That hasn't gone up that
11 much?

12 MR. ORTIZ: Not at this time, but we're
13 always negotiating.

14 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,
15 any questions or comments?

16 I need a mover and a second.

17 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: So moved.

18 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Second.

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by
20 Commissioner Graham, second by Vice President
21 Pomares. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

22 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

23 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

24 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
25 President Pomares.

1 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

2 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

3 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

4 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

5 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

7 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

8 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

9 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

10 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

11 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

13 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

14 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
15 Richardson.

16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

17 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

18 MR ORTIZ: Thank you.

19

20 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
21 action on the following item:

22 RESOLUTION NO. 9 - DEPARTMENT OF CITIZEN
23 SERVICES, DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES - RESOLUTION
24 OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL
25 SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTCLAIR,

1 FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY THE USE OF
2 TRANSPORTATION NETWORKING COMPANIES (TNC).)

3

4 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: We're going to
5 move to Resolution Number 9, because 8 has been
6 withdrawn by the administration. Mr. Jackson.

7 MR. JACKSON: Thank you, sir. Director
8 Michael Vieira will handle this item.

9 MR. VIEIRA: Thank you, Commissioners.
10 Michael Vieira, Director of Special Transportation
11 Services for the County of Essex. Today, I'm
12 representing the Division of Senior Services.

13 This resolution is an
14 interdepartmental -- intergovernmental agreement
15 between the Township of Montclair and the County
16 of Essex for transportation services through a
17 pilot project, which we're using TNC,
18 transportationnetworking companies, which we all
19 refer to as Ubers and Lyfts.

20 During COVID, the Township of Montclair
21 ended up switching their shuttle buses to Uber and
22 Lyfts, very similar to what Essex County ended up
23 using, because we were doing one-on-one
24 transportation. The seniors in Montclair loved
25 the service and Montclair had asked if the County

1 of Essex could take over their transportation
2 program and continue the TNC program.

3 The state is watching this, Montclair
4 will become the first full town operating with
5 Ubers and Lyfts for their senior citizens, very
6 successful within the County of Essex, we're
7 looking for it to be successful in Montclair also.

8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr.
9 Vieira. Mr. Parlavecchio?

10 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: No questions.

11 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney?

12 MR. MCENERNEY: How does this work? So
13 somebody would just call up or does it go through
14 a dispatch?

15 MR. VIEIRA: So it's a little bit
16 different than the Essex County program. For
17 Essex County, a senior citizen would call our
18 transportation company, our third party
19 contractor. How we set this contract up is a
20 company called EZ Ride who actually provides our
21 TNC service, will also be providing the TNC
22 service for Montclair.

23 In Montclair, the seniors will actually
24 directly call Montclair and they will get
25 transportation within minutes. So it's actually

1 not even going through our system. We're just
2 actually reconciling the numbers at the end of the
3 month, paying the bill, and then billing
4 Montclair.

5 MR. McENERNEY: And as far as liability
6 insurance, and things like that, does this have
7 any impact on the County?

8 MR. VIEIRA: Absolutely not.

9 MR. McENERNEY: And are the rates the
10 same is there a discount rate or --

11 MR. VIEIRA: Well, you know, believe it
12 or not, it's cheaper than the services that the
13 County of Essex provides with our third party
14 contractor. Average trip in Montclair will cost
15 about \$16 a trip. Can't beat that.

16 MR. McENERNEY: Thank you. So this is
17 something new that could --

18 MR. VIEIRA: The state is actually
19 watching to see how we're going to do Montclair.
20 We've been doing it for -- this will be the third
21 year that the County of Essex is doing it. New
22 Jersey Transit actually gave us money for the
23 pilot project three years ago, actually offered it
24 to the entire state, only Essex and Sussex ended
25 up taking them up on it. Sussex, because there's

1 not a lot of people with Ubers and Lyfts wasn't
2 very successful. Essex County was very
3 successful.

4 MR. McENERNEY: So it does depend on the
5 volume of drivers (audio disruption)

6 MR. VIEIRA: Yes. And the problem is
7 also getting drivers for shuttle buses. There is
8 a shortage of CDL drivers nationwide. So this a
9 perfect answer to that problem also.

10 MR. McENERNEY: Thank you very much.

11 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,
12 questions or comments? Commissioner Johnson.

13 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: This service, if
14 a senior was going to go shopping, food shopping,
15 would that driver wait for her? Or she have to --
16 after she got all her groceries, she would have to
17 call in again?

18 MR. VIEIRA: They have to call in again.
19 And the interesting part of this, unlike a regular
20 Uber and Lyft like we take, the senior does not
21 need a smart phone. The company they will call is
22 EZ Ride directly. And EZ Ride will make that
23 phone call for that senior, stay on the phone
24 until actually the vehicle even arrives, tell that
25 senior the color of the vehicle, the driver's

1 name, and even the license plate. And then after
2 that person is done shopping, they would actually
3 make the call again and the same process would
4 happen.

5 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Suppose someone
6 don't have a cell phone, they call from the house
7 to get this ride, how would they get the return
8 ride?

9 MR. VIEIRA: They probably would not be
10 eligible. And at that point, those who are not
11 eligible -- or there are some people who can't
12 take Ubers and Lyfts, such as those in
13 wheelchairs. The Essex County of Essex would
14 supplement that service and we would take those
15 people.

16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioner
17 Cooper.

18 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you. So do
19 the seniors have to pay for the service at all or
20 is the city paying for it? And then we're getting
21 reimbursed?

22 MR. VIEIRA: The Township has
23 \$123,200.00 that they budgeted for County of
24 Essex, so the seniors do not have to pay for the
25 service at all.

1 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Do the seniors
2 have an option, I guess they need to have a smart
3 phone to track that the driver is taking them to
4 the correct destination that they requested to go
5 or come from?

6 MR. VIEIRA: No, there's no need for the
7 senior to have a smart phone. Everything is going
8 through the company, EZ Ride. And EZ Ride will
9 make the appointment for that senior. And on the
10 return trip, the senior calls EZ Ride and EZ Ride
11 will call the Uber or Lyft.

12 COMMISSIONER COOPER: So EZ Ride will
13 track the seniors in the vehicle going to their
14 destination?

15 MR. VIEIRA: They can, yes. They have
16 the computerization to do all of that.

17 COMMISSIONER COOPER: And we have
18 already contracted with EZ Ride, the County?

19 MR. VIEIRA: We've contracted with EZ
20 Ride for a number of year. The EZ Ride does our
21 job access reverse commute service, and they've
22 been doing that probably since 2002.

23 And they also now have a contract with
24 our third party contractor to do the -- it's
25 called Ride For Life, that's the Uber and Lyft

1 terminology, that's the program. We've been using
2 them for three years in our special
3 transportation program.

4 COMMISSIONER COOPER: All right, thank
5 you.

6 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. Vieira, the
7 \$16 that's round trip?

8 MR. VIEIRA: No, that's per trip. Where
9 the average, if you use the Essex County
10 transportation system, you're talking 25 to 30
11 dollars a trip.

12 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioner
13 Gill?

14 COMMISSIONER GILL: Thank you, Mr.
15 President. I'm trying to wrap my head around
16 this. So the service currently -- this service to
17 seniors is currently provided by the Township of
18 Montclair or by the County of Essex?

19 MR. VIEIRA: It was provided by the
20 Township of Montclair, they used two and three
21 shuttle buses prior to COVID. After COVID --

22 COMMISSIONER GILL: I'm sorry, are those
23 on demand? So are those a set set of stops or are
24 those on demand shuttles that they're calling into
25 the Township?

1 MR. VIEIRA: No, they were pretty much
2 shuttle. They had the -- EZ Ride actually had a
3 route that they did in the town, they would take
4 half the town one day, half the town the next day.
5 And they would just pretty much do a circle of
6 trips. Where if a person needed --

7 COMMISSIONER GILL: Where do they go?

8 MR. VIEIRA: They would mostly go to
9 food shopping, food shopping. And if a doctor's
10 appointment was on the route, they would take a
11 doctor's appointment. If the doctor's appointment
12 was not on the route, they would probably call the
13 County of Essex to take that person for them.

14 COMMISSIONER GILL: So currently that
15 was a driver that the Township of Montclair is
16 paying, it's a Montclair shuttle?

17 MR. VIEIRA: No, they -- they were very
18 similar to what Essex County was doing, they were
19 paying a third party contractor.

20 COMMISSIONER GILL: They were paying a
21 third party contractor, okay. So that money that
22 they were paying the third party contractor,
23 they're now going to pay -- they're now going to
24 pay the County of Essex?

25 MR. VIEIRA: They're giving the County

1 of Essex that \$123,200.00 and we will be providing
2 this pilot project with Ubers and Lyfts.

3 COMMISSIONER GILL: And the pilot
4 program is being provided through New Jersey
5 Transit. I guess the question I'm trying to get
6 to is why would we need the third party contractor
7 to do this? Why wouldn't we just contact Uber and
8 Lyft and make these arrangements ourselves and
9 save some money?

10 MR. VIEIRA: Say that again, I'm sorry?

11 COMMISSIONER GILL: Why wouldn't we just
12 go to Uber and Lyft directly, why do we have a
13 third party --

14 MR. VIEIRA: Because there's
15 computerization involved and staff time. This
16 doesn't take any of our staff time at all. With
17 the number of people calling, you actually have to
18 have a program installed to directly work with
19 Uber and Lyft. We just don't have the manpower to
20 do that, Commissioner.

21 COMMISSIONER GILL: So I guess my
22 question is different. We're not dealing with
23 Uber and Lyft directly, we're dealing with --

24 MR. VIEIRA: We're dealing with a third
25 party. We're deal with EZ Ride and actually we're

1 not dealing -- in this particular program, the
2 senior is not calling us, we're not calling EZ
3 Ride. They're actually calling EZ Ride directly,
4 a little bit different from what we're doing in
5 the County of Essex.

6 COMMISSIONER GILL: So the senior's
7 actually calling essentially dispatch?

8 MR. VIEIRA: Yeah, it's saving our -- so
9 there's no telephone backlog, so it's kind of
10 bypassing the county system, going right to EZ
11 Ride.

12 COMMISSIONER GILL: But under the other
13 system that we had in the Township, we had
14 essentially a shuttle system, which was people
15 call, group of people get picked up at a certain
16 time to get driven to a certain place, they're
17 there for a certain amount of time. They know
18 that the ride will be there when they're done and
19 they'll be driven back. So this is -- you keep
20 saying a ride share. I think I understand the
21 concept of a ride share is one person calls and
22 the ride share shows up and it takes you to where
23 you want to go. Then you got to call somebody for
24 the ride share to come back, pick you up and then
25 bring you --

1 MR. VIEIRA: That's exactly what's going
2 to happen in Montclair. The problem with the
3 shuttle, when they had the shuttle bus, pre-COVID
4 was the apartment buildings, the senior apartment
5 buildings got serviced. It was those individual
6 homes that really were not on the route. And
7 those were the people who were kind of missing --
8 not missing, but the County was subsidizing those
9 services. So with this TNC, Uber, Lyft service,
10 now the entire senior population is pretty much
11 equal.

12 COMMISSIONER GILL: But the return
13 trip -- I'm still trying to wrap my head around
14 how do they get back?

15 MR. VIEIRA: Oh, they just make the
16 phone call again to EZ Ride and say, hi, I'm Mrs.
17 Jones, I'm ready to be picked up. They already
18 have her in the computer.

19 COMMISSIONER GILL: Assuming, as
20 Commissioner Johnson said, Ms. Jones has a --

21 MR. VIEIRA: Well, if Ms. Jones didn't
22 have a telephone, she wouldn't have gotten to the
23 destination in the first place.

24 COMMISSIONER GILL: Can't she call the
25 switchboard through the home phone?

1 MR. VIEIRA: Yeah, but -- no, they will
2 be -- they will be given the directions, do you
3 have a cell phone. You don't have to have a smart
4 phone, you have to have a cell phone. So when a
5 senior calls, they're asked you do have a cell
6 phone. And if the person doesn't have a cell
7 phone, then it will be referred to the County of
8 Essex. And then we'll take that person.

9 COMMISSIONER GILL: You'll take it.

10 MR. VIEIRA: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER GILL: Okay, thank you.

12 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioner
13 Cooper.

14 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Are there limits
15 on where the destinations that these seniors can
16 go to or is it open?

17 MR. VIEIRA: It's not opened for
18 Montclair, we -- in the intergovernmental
19 agreement, we have a ten mile radius. So that's
20 pretty much the bordering communities of
21 Montclair. In the County of Essex, we kind of
22 decide whether or not we can take somebody up to
23 Bergen County or not.

24 So with our system, we really don't have
25 a -- we have the discretion to go into Bergen

1 County or up further. Montclair, we're just kind
2 of doing the contiguous counties around them.
3 That's how it was with Montclair. We didn't tell
4 Montclair that, Montclair told us that.

5 COMMISSIONER COOPER: So you limited it
6 to a ten mile radius?

7 MR. VIEIRA: Ten mile radius, yes.

8 COMMISSIONER COOPER: What is the normal
9 number that residents can call to use your
10 services? I get asked that question all the time
11 and I always have to look it up.

12 MR. VIEIRA: I think the Essex County
13 Community Transportation program is
14 (973) 737-7200.

15 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you.

16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,
17 any other questions or comments?

18 Mr. Vieira, before this ride share that
19 we're doing now, approximately how many seniors
20 used the shuttle? And if you would estimate or
21 guesstimate, how many were missing out in terms of
22 homeowners who were not at the senior buildings?
23 What numbers are we talking about?

24 MR. VIEIRA: Are you talking pre-COVID
25 or during COVID? Because during COVID, we ended

1 up going to a one-on-one transportation program
2 because we didn't want to put -- and I'm talking
3 the County system -- we did not want to put
4 multiple seniors on our vehicles. The exact -- a
5 COVID contagious person in Bergen County ended up
6 contaminating the entire system in Bergen County.
7 Every single driver almost got COVID and shut that
8 down.

9 Once I learned that, what we ended up
10 doing is we went to a one-on-one system. And I'm
11 happy to say in the two years, not one of our
12 drivers ended up with COVID. So we what we ended
13 up doing was we needed the Ride For Life service
14 to supplement our vehicles because we were going
15 one-on-one.

16 Yes, we did lose passengers during COVID
17 because we were not transporting nutrition sites
18 or developmentally disabled workshops. However,
19 anybody who needed to go to a doctor, dialysis,
20 chemotherapy, we ended up taking them throughout
21 the two years. And we're still doing that today.
22 Nutrition is starting to pick up, we are going to
23 start seeing our numbers grow again.

24 Prior to us having the Ride For Life
25 program, yes, we were -- there was some waiting

1 lists. There was some services that we could not
2 do on Saturdays. With our TNC, which will be
3 hopefully approved at the next meeting, through
4 New Jersey Transit, it's very difficult to say no
5 to somebody because we have access to a ride for
6 those people.

7 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: So what were the
8 pre-COVID numbers?

9 MR. VIEIRA: The pre-COVID numbers, we
10 were -- the County of Essex was probably doing
11 about 125,000 trips a year and that takes into
12 account everything. We don't say no to anybody.
13 If a person has to take their pet to the vet and
14 we could fit them on our vehicles, we will do
15 that. We're open to anything.

16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: What's the dollar
17 amount in the program?

18 MR. VIEIRA: So it's -- the dollar
19 amount is a little bit different because our
20 contract with our third party contractor is \$63.67
21 an hour. But that \$63.67 an hour that takes into
22 account the salaries for the drivers, the salaries
23 for the dispatchers, the dispatchers for the
24 maintenance mechanic. It's inclusive of
25 everything, maintenance of the vehicle, insurance

1 of the vehicle. So that dollar amount is very
2 difficult to breakdown of how much each person's
3 getting, it's a whole. The only thing the third
4 party contractor does not provide is the vehicles
5 because the County of Essex provides the vehicles
6 and fuel. The third party contractor provides
7 everything else, including training for the
8 drivers.

9 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioner
10 Cooper, you have a question?

11 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you, Mr.
12 President. So how much is our annual contract
13 with this third party vendor?

14 MR. VIEIRA: I believe it's close to
15 \$4 million.

16 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Each year?

17 MR. VIEIRA: Each year.

18 COMMISSIONER COOPER: And we provide the
19 buses and we provide the fuel?

20 MR. VIEIRA: Yes. And they provide 40
21 drivers and maintenance mechanics. They provide
22 the maintenance on the vehicles, they provide the
23 vehicles for the 45 vehicles.

24 COMMISSIONER COOPER: So they upkeep and
25 maintain the vehicles?

1 MR. VIEIRA: And do everything, yes.

2 COMMISSIONER COOPER: So we give them
3 the vehicles, we give the fuel, and they have to
4 did everything else to run the operations?

5 MR. VIEIRA: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER COOPER: County wide?

7 MR. VIEIRA: Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER COOPER: And they also
9 maintain the dispatch system, when folks call in
10 for rides?

11 MR. VIEIRA: Yes.

12 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you.

13 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,
14 any other questions or comments?

15 Hearing none, I need a motion and a
16 second.

17 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: I'll move it.

18 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Second.

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by
20 Commissioner Sebold, second by Commissioner
21 Cooper. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

22 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

23 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

24 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

25 COMMISSIONER GILL: Present, not voting.

1 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

2 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

4 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

5 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

6 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

7 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

8 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

9 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
10 President Pomares.

11 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

13 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

14 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
15 Richardson.

16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

17 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

18

19

20

21 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
22 action on the following items:

23 RESOLUTION NO. 10 - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
24 RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - CONTRACT AWARD
25 TO AMERICAN WOODCARVING, THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND

1 RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, TO PROVIDE FOR THE DESIGN AND
2 FABRICATION OF CUSTOM ILLUMINATED SIGNS -
3 TWENTY-FOUR MONTH CONTRACT - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
4 \$350,000.00

5 RESOLUTION NO. 11 - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
6 RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - CONTRACT AWARD
7 TO GSP PROPERTIES, LLC, THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND
8 RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, TO PROVIDE MASONRY WORK - MAY
9 7, 2022, THROUGH MAY 6, 2024 - AMOUNT NOT TO
10 EXCEED \$672,615.00

11 RESOLUTION NO. 12 - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
12 RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - CONTRACT AWARD
13 TO STORR TRACTOR COMPANY, FOR THE PURCHASE OF TORO
14 GROUNDMASTERS TRI-FLEX MOWERS AND ACCESSORIES
15 UNDER THE ESCNJ MIDDLESEX REGIONAL COOPERATIVE
16 PURCHASING AGREEMENT - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
17 \$696,328.56

18 RESOLUTION NO. 13 - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
19 RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - CONTRACT AWARD
20 TO BUSINESS TECH PARTNERS, INC., TO PROVIDE POINT
21 OF SALE SYSTEM FOR RICHARD J. CODEY ARENA -
22 THIRTY-SIX MONTH CONTRACT - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
23 \$307,420.00

24 RESOLUTION NO. 14 - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
25 RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - CONTRACT AWARD

1 TO DFFLM, LLC/FLEMINGTON FORD, THE LOWEST
2 RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, TO PROVIDE FIVE
3 NEW 2022 FORD F-450 TRUCKS WITH WESTERN PLOW
4 EQUIPMENT (OR EQUIVALENT) - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
5 \$356,055.00

6 RESOLUTION NO. 15 - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
7 RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - CONTRACT AWARD
8 TO DFFLM, LLC/FLEMINGTON FORD, THE LOWEST
9 RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, TO PROVIDE
10 THREE NEW 2022 FORD F-250 SUPER-CAB TRUCKS WITH
11 PLOW EQUIPMENT (OR EQUIVALENT) - AMOUNT NOT TO
12 EXCEED \$135,825.00

13 RESOLUTION NO. 16 - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
14 RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - CONTRACT AWARD
15 TO DFFLM, LLC/FLEMINGTON FORD, THE LOWEST
16 RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, TO PROVIDE TWO
17 NEW 2022 FORD T-150 TRANSIT LOW CARGO VANS (OR
18 EQUIVALENT) - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$65,983.00

19 RESOLUTION NO. 17 - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
20 RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - CONTRACT AWARD
21 TO WINNER FORD, THE SOLE RESPONSIVE AND
22 RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, TO PROVIDE ONE NEW 2022 FORD
23 TRANSIT CONNECT VAN WITH REAR SYMMETRICAL DOORS
24 (OR EQUIVALENT) - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$31,786.00
25

1 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Okay. Madam
2 Clerk, we'll move to Resolutions 10 through 17,
3 which are from the Department of Parks and will be
4 read into the record at a later time. Mr.
5 Jackson.

6 MR. JACKSON: Thank you, sir. Mr. Zaitz
7 will handle these items, Mr. President.

8 MR. ZAITZ: Joshua Zaitz, Essex County
9 Parks.

10 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. Zaitz, before
11 you get started, when will the Commissioners see
12 their pictures on one of these billboards in the
13 parks?

14 MR. ZAITZ: I reached out to the Parks
15 Director after our conversation previously and he
16 said he will check with the administration once
17 again.

18 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Okay. Hopefully
19 you have a more clear answer on the 20th, if you
20 have anything on.

21 MR. ZAITZ: I hope so. Number 10 is a
22 contract award with American Woodcarving to
23 provide the design and fabrication of custom
24 illuminated signs, 24 month contract not to exceed
25 \$350,000.00. These are for light up signs that

1 we're going to put up in front of new buildings or
2 when buildings are rehabbed. We don't currently
3 have any in the park system, but there is one
4 outside of the OEM building over by the Codey
5 arena, and they'll look just like those.

6 Number 11 is a contract award with GSP
7 Properties, the lowest responsive bidder to
8 provide masonry work, amount not to exceed
9 \$672,615.00. Simply, this is for sidewalk
10 repairs, pavers, foundation, fence installations,
11 storm drains throughout the entire park system and
12 golf courses.

13 Number 12 is a contract award with Storr
14 Tractor Company for the purpose Toro Grandmaster
15 Tri-Flex mowers and accessories, under the
16 Middlesex Regional Cooperative purchasing
17 agreement, amount not to exceed \$696,328.56.
18 Specifically, this is for a total of 12 of these
19 mowers. There's going to be four over at each of
20 our golf courses. The current mowers have
21 outlived their useful life. These mowers cut
22 greens, tees, aprons. And each course has four
23 that will be replaced. The mowers that they're
24 replacing are eight years old and are used on a
25 daily basis for the growing season.

1 Number 13 is a contract award with
2 Business Tech Partners to provide a point of sale
3 system for the Richard J. Codey arena, 36 month
4 contract not to exceed \$307,420.00. This is for
5 the point of sale system over at the arena. It
6 includes online reservations for coaches and
7 students, as well as patrons could purchase ice
8 time during the free skate, as well as they can
9 reserve their skates. This is a system we haven't
10 had specifically for the Codey arena in the past.
11 In the past, we've had all of our revenue
12 generating systems -- all of our generating
13 revenue facilities together on one system, but
14 Codey arena presents some unique challenges with
15 their ice time. So we are now having them have a
16 separate POS system.

17 Numbers 14 through 17 all deal with
18 vehicles that the Parks Department is looking to
19 purchase. 14 is to provide five new 2022 Ford
20 F-420 trucks with western plow equipment, not to
21 exceed \$356,055.00.

22 Number 15, contract award to DFFLM to
23 provide three new 2022 Ford F-250 super-cab trucks
24 with plow equipment, not to exceed \$135,825.00.

25 Number 16, contract award with DFFLM to

1 provide two new 2022 Ford T-140 transit low cargo
2 vans, amount not to exceed \$65,983.00.

3 And, finally, number 17 is a contract
4 ward with Winter Ford to provide one new 2022 Ford
5 transit connect van with rear symmetrical doors,
6 amount not to exceed \$31,786.00.

7 Just to specifically inform the Board as
8 to where these vehicles are going, the Ford --
9 number 14, F-450 plows, one's going to Hendrick's,
10 one to Burn, one to the Zoo, two to Branch Brook
11 Park. Number 15, the Ford 250 trucks with plows,
12 one's going to Independence Park, one to South
13 Mountain Reservation and one to Branch Brook Park.
14 Number 16, the Ford Transit vans, both of those
15 are going to Branch Brook Park. And finally
16 number 17, the Ford Transit Connect is going to
17 the zoo.

18 These totally will be three replacement
19 vehicles and eight new ones that will be adding to
20 the fleet. I'll be happy to answer any questions
21 the Board may have.

22 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. Parlavecchio?

23 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Yes, Mr. President.

24 Hello, Mr. Zaitz, couple questions.

25 Number 10 with the signs, the

1 illuminated signs, do you have buildings or
2 locations where these will be going? Do you have
3 designated spots for them and are they replacing
4 existing signs?

5 MR. ZAITZ: Through you, Mr. President,
6 Joshua Zaitz, Essex County Parks. We're still
7 determining where to place them. We envision them
8 going in spots where we -- where the wooden signs
9 that you see around the parks system aren't
10 feasible, as well as putting them, you know, if we
11 have a new building, you know, the wooden sign
12 might not look as nice as an illuminated sign.

13 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: I think you hit the
14 point of my question, they're not replacing those
15 nice kind of --

16 MR. ZAITZ: No, no, certainly not.

17 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: All right. Other
18 question on the vehicles, the 14 through 17, you
19 said three were replacements and eight were new
20 additions to the fleet. Was there -- what's the
21 reason for the additions?

22 MR. ZAITZ: It's really just the
23 day-to-day use for the park system and the cleanup
24 and the plowing, we need new vehicles in order to
25 meet the demand of the public.

1 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Are we -- okay. I
2 guess my question is was there an outside vendor
3 or some other -- some outside vendor providing
4 these vehicles through other services or we just
5 have an increased demand?

6 MR. ZAITZ: Through you, Mr. President,
7 it's really just an increased demand.

8 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Thank you.

9 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney?

10 MR. MCENERNEY: With regard to
11 illuminated signs, this is a contract not to
12 exceed, so these are custom signs. Each sign, I'm
13 assuming hasn't been priced out yet because it's a
14 custom design. And is there a quote given as to
15 how much that sign will cost, is there a budget as
16 to how much you spend on a sign?

17 MR. ZAITZ: Through you, Mr. President,
18 Joshua Zaitz, Essex County Parks. We do have
19 specific line items, so the design of the sign
20 will be \$60 an hour, the fabrication will be \$95
21 an hour, and then the installation would be \$110
22 an hour. And we would be provided with a quote to
23 see what the total price would be before
24 installation.

25 MR. MCENERNEY: (Indiscernible)

1 MR. ZAITZ: That is correct, yes.

2 MR. McENERNEY: And all these other
3 contracts I'm looking at here, for the most part,
4 on the equipment are lowest responsible or sole
5 responsible bidders?

6 MR. ZAITZ: Correct.

7 MR. McENERNEY: Thank you.

8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr.
9 McEnerney. Commissioners, questions or comments?

10 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

11 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioner
12 Cooper.

13 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you. On
14 Resolution Number 10, are the signs -- do you
15 envision that the signs will look like the signage
16 that's outside of 50 South Clinton in East Orange?

17 MR. ZAITZ: Through you, Mr. President,
18 Joshua Zaitz, Essex County Parks. I'm not
19 familiar with the sign. The only sign I could
20 think of that I've personally driven past recently
21 would be the OEM sign over at Codey arena. I
22 don't know how familiar you would be with that
23 one.

24 COMMISSIONER COOPER: That one has
25 words, so it's like illuminated signage with words

1 and sometimes the County Executive's face is up
2 there and other pictures --

3 MR. ZAITZ: I believe you're thinking of
4 electronic signs, that we would have outside of
5 the arena or outside of the hall of records,
6 actually we have an electronic sign. It wouldn't
7 be like that. This is more a decorative sign, you
8 can't flash messages, like kid's birthday parties
9 on Tuesday. It's more of a permanent fixture that
10 would say, for instance, the name of the building
11 or the name of the exhibit. It would be more like
12 that.

13 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Right -- (audio
14 disruption) but you just answered. I got another
15 question for resolution --

16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Do we know where
17 the static is coming from?

18 Mr. Zaitz, it's because we don't have
19 our pictures up on any billboards.

20 MR. ZAITZ: Do you have some kind of
21 button that makes it sound like that?

22 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: It wasn't me.

23 COMMISSIONER COOPER: For Item Number 13
24 Resolution --

25 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper,

1 please speak into the mic.

2 COMMISSIONER COOPER: I'm sorry, I
3 normally have a big mouth, so I thought you were
4 picking it up. For Item Number 13, it referenced
5 that you got responses from six vendors, but only
6 three were listed. Did you reject the other three
7 or am I misreading?

8 MR. ZAITZ: Through you, Mr. President,
9 Joshua Zaitz, Essex County Parks. I believe --
10 let me just double check. It was evaluated since
11 it was a competitive contract. I apologize I'm
12 going to default to Mr. Coltre over at purchasing.

13 MR. COLTRE: Julius Coltre, purchasing
14 agent. On our decision memo, there's only three
15 vendors. Yes, I'll have to get back to you about
16 it, Mr. President.

17 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you.

18 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioner
19 Cooper.

20 COMMISSIONER COOPER: That's it. After
21 we're done, can we keep Mr. Zaitz, I have two
22 questions about something not related to the
23 resolutions?

24 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Absolutely.
25 Commissioner, any other questions or comments?

1 Hearing none, I need a motion and a second.

2 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: I'll move it.

3 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Second.

4 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Motion by
5 Commissioner Sebold, second by Commissioner
6 Graham. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

7 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold --

8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: This is to take
9 Resolutions 10 through 17.

10 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

11 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
13 President Pomares.

14 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

15 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

16 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

17 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

18 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

19 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

20 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

21 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

22 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

24 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

25 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

1 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

2 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
3 Richardson.

4 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

5 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

6 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam
7 Clerk.

8
9 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
10 action on the following items:

11 RESOLUTION NO. 18 - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
12 WORKS, DIVISION OF ENGINEERING - PROFESSIONAL
13 SERVICES AGREEMENT - TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION
14 ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR IRVINGTON AVENUE
15 STREETScape PROJECT PHASE 2 - OMSUM ENGINEERING,
16 LLC - \$158,800.00

17 RESOLUTION NO. 19 - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
18 WORKS - CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER WITH MOTT MacDONALD,
19 LLC, FOR ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR
20 REPLACEMENT OF LAKESIDE AVE. CULVERT - ADDING AN
21 AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$17,364.00

22 RESOLUTION NO. 21 - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
23 WORKS, DIVISION OF ENGINEERING - CONTRACT AWARD TO
24 A.A. BERMS, LLC, THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND
25 RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, TO PROVIDE IRVINGTON AVENUE

1 STREETSCAPE PROJECT PHASE 2, IRVINGTON AND
2 MAPLEWOOD TOWNSHIPS - TWO HUNDRED TEN DAY
3 AGREEMENT - AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$878,718.00)
4

5 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Let's move to
6 resolution 18 through 21, 20 was withdrawn.

7 You want to talk to him now? No, the
8 only -- Commissioner wants to speak with you.
9 Sorry. Mr. Jackson.

10 MR. JACKSON: Mr. Antonio will handle
11 these.

12 MR. ANTONIO: Good evening. David
13 Antonio, Department of Public Works. Item 18 is a
14 contract award, Omsum Engineering, to perform the
15 construction engineering and inspection services
16 required to undertake the construction of the
17 Irvington Avenue streetscape phase 2 roadway
18 improvements. Omsum's proposal was rated as the
19 highest scoring of the 11 responses this project
20 received. This contract will not exceed
21 \$158,800.00, nor will it exceed 12 months in
22 duration.

23 Item Number 19 is a change order in an
24 not to exceed \$17,364.00 to cover the costs of
25 unforeseen additional engineering services

1 associated with the replacement of the Lakeside
2 avenue culvert over the Wigwam Brook in West
3 Orange. This change order will yield a 7.9
4 percent increase change to the original contract
5 awarded to Mott MacDonald.

6 Item 21 is a contract award to A.A.
7 Berms, the lowest of the two bids received to
8 construct the Irvington Avenue streetscape phase 2
9 improvements. This project will expand the
10 already constructed streetscape improvements along
11 Irvington Avenue from Hillcrest Road in Maplewood
12 to Florence avenue in Irvington. This contract
13 will not exceed \$878,718.00, and it will not
14 exceed 210 calendar days.

15 Mr. Juan Alvarado of A.A. Berms has
16 joined us and he would like to introduce his
17 company and answer any questions the Board may
18 have.

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Please.

20 MR. ALVARADO: Hello, my name is Juan
21 Alvarado, I'm the owner of A.A. Berms, we're a
22 small firm headquartered in Belleville, Essex
23 County. And we have a lot of experience,
24 seven years' experience now in sidewalk work,
25 decorative concrete, a lot of parks and

1 streetscape projects. And we were responsible for
2 the first phase, where we were fortunate enough to
3 hire other Essex County subcontractors to perform
4 various work along Irvington Avenue. And if you
5 guys have any questions for me, I'll be glad to
6 answer them.

7 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. Parlavecchio?

8 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: No questions.

9 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney?

10 MR. MCENERNEY: I have no questions, Mr.
11 President.

12 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Any questions?
13 Commissioners, questions or comments?

14 So how many -- do you employ any Essex
15 County residents?

16 MR. ALVARADO: Yes. I would say
17 80 percent of our force is from Essex County,
18 particularly Newark.

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Any other
20 questions or comments?

21 Hearing none, I need a motion and a
22 second.

23 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Motion.

24 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Second.

25 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by

1 Commissioner Johnson, second by Commissioner
2 Cooper. Roll call.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: We're taking this one
4 independently?

5 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: This is for
6 Resolutions 18 through 21, and number 20 was
7 withdrawn. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

8 MS. DAVIS FORD: Mr. President, it was
9 Johnson and Cooper?

10 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Correct.

11 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

12 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

13 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

14 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

15 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

16 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

17 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

18 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

19 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

20 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

21 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

22 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
24 President Pomares.

25 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

1 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

2 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
4 Richardson.

5 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

7 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you.

8 MR. COLTRE: Mr. President, Julius
9 Coltre, purchasing agent. The answer to
10 competitive contract 21-296, that was a typo, that
11 based on technology, I'm looking at the bid
12 tabulations, there were only three vendors.

13 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you.

14 MR. COLTRE: Thank you.

15

16 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
17 action on the following item:

18 RESOLUTION NO. 22 - GOVERNING BODY
19 CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES
20 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S
21 "ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE ON THE CONSIDERATION OF
22 ARREST AND CONVICTION RECORDS IN EMPLOYMENT
23 DECISION UNDER TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT
24 OF 1964".)

25

1 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: So the next item
2 is 22 on the agenda. Mr. Parlavecchio.

3 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: Yes, thank you, Mr.
4 President. This is an item that comes up around
5 budget time every year and I sent out a memo to
6 brief you on it. But, essentially, this is to
7 certify compliance with the United States EOC
8 enforcement guidance on -- they have guidance,
9 it's not a law, but guidance on the consideration
10 of arrest and conviction records in the County's
11 employment decisions. So we've reviewed that and
12 actually there's no changes since last year or
13 probably the year before.

14 But what it does, what the memo will do,
15 if you want to read that, is it gives you the
16 relevant County hiring practices pertaining to an
17 individual's criminal history and all the things
18 that the County does regarding law enforcement and
19 non-law enforcement. And it is my opinion that
20 the County's practices do comply with that EEOC
21 guidance. So I just wanted you to be comfortable
22 with this before you do certify through the
23 resolution that the County is in compliance.

24 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr.
25 Parlavecchio. Mr. McEnerney?

1 MR. McENERNEY: I have no questions.

2 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,
3 questions or comments?

4 Hearing none, I need a mover and a
5 second?

6 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: I'll move, Mr.
7 President.

8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by VP
9 Pomares, second by Commissioner Graham. Roll
10 call.

11 MS. DAVIS FORD: Okay. Mr. President, I
12 was talking and I didn't get --

13 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: 22, moved by Vice
14 President Pomares, seconded by Commissioner
15 Graham.

16 MS. DAVIS FORD: Thank you.
17 Commissioner Sebold.

18 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

19 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
20 President Pomares.

21 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

22 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

23 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

24 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

25 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

1 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

2 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

4 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

5 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

6 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

7 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

8 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

9 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
10 Richardson.

11 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

13 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam
14 Clerk.

15

16 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
17 action on the following items:

18 RESOLUTION NO. 23 - COMMENDATION -

19 HONORING SYLVIA SIMPSON-ALLEN UPON HER RETIREMENT
20 FROM THE ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF FAMILY
21 ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS (Sponsored by Acclamation)

22 RESOLUTION NO. 24 - COMMENDATION -

23 HONORING SHARON WILLIAMS UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM
24 THE ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE AND
25 BENEFITS (Sponsored by Acclamation)

1 RESOLUTION NO. 25 - COMMENDATION -
2 HONORING ERNESTO MORILLO AS HE IS SWORN IN AS THE
3 CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE SOUTH ORANGE POLICE
4 DEPARTMENT (Sponsored by Commissioner Cooper)

5 RESOLUTION NO. 26 - COMMENDATION -
6 HONORING KECIA RICHARDSON-GILBERT DURING THE
7 CELEBRATION OF THE POWER OF WOMEN IN THE LABOR
8 MOVEMENT - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022 (Sponsored by
9 Commissioner Richardson)

10 RESOLUTION NO. 27 - COMMENDATION -
11 HONORING GWENDOLYN WELLS-HILL DURING THE
12 CELEBRATION OF THE POWER OF WOMEN IN THE LABOR
13 MOVEMENT - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022 (Sponsored by
14 Commissioner Richardson)

15 RESOLUTION NO. 28 - COMMENDATION -
16 HONORING CHRISTINE TAYLOR DURING THE CELEBRATION
17 OF THE POWER OF WOMEN IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT -
18 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022 (Sponsored by
19 Commissioner Richardson)

20 RESOLUTION NO. 29 - COMMENDATION -
21 HONORING SUSAN M. CLEARY DURING THE CELEBRATION OF
22 THE POWER OF WOMEN IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT -
23 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022 (Sponsored by
24 Commissioner Richardson)

25 RESOLUTION NO. 30 - COMMENDATION -

1 HONORING BEATRICE MEBUDE DURING THE CELEBRATION OF
2 THE POWER OF WOMEN IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT -
3 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022 (Sponsored by
4 Commissioner Richardson)

5 RESOLUTION NO. 31 - COMMENDATION -
6 HONORING AMY LEWIS DURING THE CELEBRATION OF THE
7 POWER OF WOMEN IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT - WEDNESDAY,
8 MARCH 30, 2022 (Sponsored by Commissioner
9 Richardson)

10 RESOLUTION NO. 32 - COMMENDATION -
11 HONORING MARIE BLISTAN DURING THE CELEBRATION OF
12 THE POWER OF WOMEN IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT -
13 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022 (Sponsored by
14 Commissioner Richardson)

15 RESOLUTION NO. 33 - COMMENDATION -
16 CONGRATULATING REVEREND VANESSA EVERETT ON HER
17 ELEVATION TO THE OFFICE OF BISHOP OF DELIVERANCE
18 JESUS IS COMING CHURCH (Sponsored by Commissioner
19 Richardson)

20 RESOLUTION NO. 34 - IN MEMORIAM -
21 RICHARD E. BRENNAN, ESQ. (Sponsored by
22 Commissioners Gill & Luciano)

23 RESOLUTION NO. 35 - IN MEMORIAM - DAVE
24 JASON REID (Sponsored by Commissioner Cooper)

25 RESOLUTION NO. 36 - IN MEMORIAM - DR.

1 ELNARDO J. WEBSTER, SR. (Sponsored by Acclamation)

2 RESOLUTION NO. 37 - IN MEMORIAM - LEWIS

3 WATSON (Sponsored by Acclamation)

4 RESOLUTION NO. 38 - IN MEMORIAM - ALICE

5 JUANITA L. BRANCH (Sponsored by Commissioner

6 Gill).)

7

8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Let's move to

9 Resolutions 23 through 38 which are all

10 commendations, in memoriams, proclamation

11 resolution and they will be read into the record

12 at a later time.

13 Commissioners, any questions or

14 comments?

15 Hearing none, I need a motion and a

16 second.

17 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: I'll move.

18 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Second.

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by

20 Commissioner Mercado, second by Commissioner

21 Graham. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

22 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

23 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

24 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

25 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

1 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

2 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

4 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

5 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

6 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

7 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

8 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

9 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
10 President Pomares.

11 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

12 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

13 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

14 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
15 Richardson.

16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

17 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

18 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam
19 Clerk.

20

21 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
22 action on the following:

23 RESOLUTION NO. 39 - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
24 AND REHABILITATION, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH -
25 SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF

1 ESSEX & THE TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY - SHARING OF AN
2 AMBULANCE.)

3
4 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Let's move to
5 Resolution 39, which will be read into the record
6 at a later time. Mr. Jackson.

7 MR. JACKSON: Thank you. Director Lordo
8 will address this item.

9 MS. LORDO: Good evening, Commissioners,
10 Maya Lordo, health officer for Essex County.
11 Item 31, Department of Health and Rehabilitation,
12 Division of Community Health, shared services
13 agreement between the County of Essex and the
14 Township of Nutley sharing an ambulance for haz
15 mat.

16 I come before you as the links agency
17 here for the County, we are also the haz mat
18 enforcement agency for the County and haz mat is
19 coordinated through the fire department through
20 Nutley through a contract agreement. So
21 therefore, due to that, there's an ambulance that
22 we purchased that is equipped to handle haz mat
23 response and also is able to be used for other
24 clinics and also can be use for vaccination or
25 testing for COVID, so it's dual uses.

1 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you. Mr.
2 Parlavecchio?

3 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: No questions.

4 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney?

5 MR. MCENERNEY: So it is pursuant to the
6 contract, the ambulance -- the charges to the
7 contract are only when the ambulance is used for
8 haz mat purposes?

9 MS. LORDO: So when it come to the
10 ambulance use, the vehicle would be given over to
11 Nutley haz mat. And when the County needs to use
12 it, we can at any time. But it is being used for
13 haz mat responses when they're called and that is
14 throughout every municipality of the County uses
15 that ambulance and haz mat through Nutley.

16 MR. MCENERNEY: So it is -- so there is
17 a specific charge that (indiscernible) not to
18 exceed --

19 MS. LORDO: I believe -- I'm going to
20 refer to our purchasing director.

21 MR. COLTRE: Mr. President, Julius
22 Coltre. This vehicle is purchased through the
23 CARES for \$265,000.00 and the need for -- it's an
24 a combination need that also it will respond to
25 health emergencies that the health department has

1 along with hazardous materials throughout the
2 County.

3 MR. McENERNEY: Okay. It's used for
4 multiple purposes, but this contract only deals
5 with one specific use?

6 MR. COLTRE: Multiple uses. One is
7 hazardous materials, the second one is for the
8 county health.

9 MR. McENERNEY: That's within this
10 contract?

11 MR. COLTRE: Correct.

12 MR. McENERNEY: Okay.

13 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you.
14 Commissioners, any questions or comments?
15 Commissioner Johnson.

16 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes, I would like
17 to put in a comment because I would like all of
18 our -- my colleagues to recognize that this young
19 lady here was the one who ran the COVID-19 testing
20 and all those for all the facilities. And I think
21 that for her being here, I think we should give
22 her around of applause.

23

24 (Whereupon, there was a round of
25 applause.)

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MS. LORDO: Thank you, Commissioners,
much appreciated.

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: I didn't realize
you were going to be last. Had I realized that, I
would have moved you to the top of the list.

MS. LORDO: It's perfectly fine.

MS. DAVIS FORD: Mr. President, she
wasn't last. She's next to last, but you still
would have moved her.

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioner
Sebold.

COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Thank you.
Commissioner Johnson took the words right out of
my mouth. I was prepared to say almost the same
thing. Because for two and a half years, you have
extended so much of your time and energy to help
Essex County and you truly helped us get through
this horrible situation with the pandemic. So we
all applauded you, but I think you did a fantastic
job giving your time and energy. What would we do
without you? We were very fortunate that you came
to work for Essex County. Thank you so much.

MS. LORDO: Thank you to all as well.

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Vice President

1 Pomares.

2 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Thank you. I
3 have the pleasure of reminding my fellow
4 colleagues that she came by way of Bloomfield. So
5 I don't forget to remind you all. And I really
6 want to comment, of course I agree with what has
7 already been said and I seen it firsthand. But I
8 did have the opportunity to see the ambulance and
9 I am a bit of a gear head, and I won't describe it
10 except for the fact it's a very well equipped
11 vehicle. But it was very clear to me that the way
12 it was equipped really did meet the variety and
13 diversity that you articulated earlier. So I want
14 to commend you on the selection of the vehicle and
15 how it can be used in a variety of ways. I think
16 it will be great for all of us.

17 I know that Nutley in particular has had
18 a long history of working in that capacity haz
19 mat, I've seen throughout the years. I've seen in
20 action and our parades, too. So they certainly
21 have been very well known and I want to commend
22 them for the selection of vehicle, which is going
23 to be a new specialty. Thank you, Mr. President.

24 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: I, too, want to
25 commend you for all the hard work. There were a

1 lot of people out front, in front of the cameras
2 who got a lot of the credit, and people need to
3 know that you were really the engine behind the
4 whole thing.

5 MS. LORDO: Thank you. Couldn't have
6 done it without you.

7 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: We really
8 appreciate it.

9 MR. COLTRE: Mr. President, Julius
10 Coltre, purchasing agent. Also this vehicle will
11 be titled to the Township of Nutley because of the
12 response for ambulances within the health
13 department, the policies and procedures, that has
14 to be done. So this is vehicle will be
15 transferred to them via their title.

16 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you. Can I
17 have a motion?

18 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: I'll move it.

19 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Motion.

20 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by
21 Commissioner Sebold, seconded by Commissioner
22 Cooper. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

23 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

24 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

25 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

1 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

2 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

3 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

4 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

5 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

7 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

8 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

9 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

10 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice

11 President Pomares.

12 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

13 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

14 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

15 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President

16 Richardson.

17 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

18 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam

20 Clerk.

21

22 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
23 action on the following item:

24 RESOLUTION NO. 40 - EMERGENCY TO THE

25 2022 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION TWO MONTH EXTENSION

1 (APRIL-MAY) .)

2

3 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Let's move to
4 Resolution 40, it will be read into the record at
5 a later time. Mr. Jackson.

6 MR. JACKSON: Good evening, sir.
7 Treasurer Mohamed will handle this item.

8 MR. MOHAMED: Good evening. Hossam
9 Mohamed, County Treasurer. This resolution is to
10 extend the temporary budget for two months. The
11 reason of this, the original temporary budget was
12 for the first three months of the year and because
13 the budget was not adopted in this meeting, so
14 this is required to keep the County funded until
15 the budget is adopted. I'm here for any
16 questions.

17 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you. Mr.
18 Parlavecchio?

19 MR. PARLAVECCHIO: No questions.

20 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Mr. McEnerney?

21 MR. MCENERNEY: So more than likely, we
22 may have a budget adopted prior --

23 MR. MOHAMED: Yes, before that.

24 MR. MCENERNEY: Yes, but just in case.

25 MR. MOHAMED: Yes.

1 MR. McENERNEY: Thank you.

2 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Commissioners,
3 questions or comments?

4 Hearing none, I need a mover and a
5 second.

6 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Motion.

7 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Second.

8 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Moved by
9 Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner
10 Graham. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

11 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Sebold.

12 COMMISSIONER SEBOLD: Yes.

13 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Vice
14 President Pomares.

15 VICE PRESIDENT POMARES: Yes.

16 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Mercado.

17 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Yes.

18 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Luciano.

19 COMMISSIONER LUCIANO: Yes.

20 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Johnson.

21 COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: Yes.

22 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Graham.

23 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes.

24 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Gill.

25 COMMISSIONER GILL: Yes.

1 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner Cooper.

2 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes.

3 MS. DAVIS FORD: Commissioner President
4 Richardson.

5 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Yes.

6 MS. DAVIS FORD: So moved.

7 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Madam
8 Clerk. Let's move to report of Board committees.
9 Do we have any? No, no. Before we go there,
10 we'll get Mr. Zaitz back up here. Did you get
11 that information I asked you for?

12 MR. ZAITZ: Joshua Zaitz, Essex County
13 Parks. I've been told that my picture will now be
14 on the billboards.

15 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Mr. Zaitz, so I'll
16 start with my easiest question first. Do we go
17 out to bid for concessions throughout the county
18 parks?

19 MR. ZAITZ: Through you, Mr. President.
20 Yes, we do. Do you have a specific park in mind?

21 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Yes. So I've been
22 contacted by a couple of folks from South Orange
23 and other towns within Essex County that goes to
24 the -- I'm reading the specific park, the South
25 Mountain Dog Park. And they would like to know

1 can you add concessions there for them? I guess
2 they're looking that if you could allow for a
3 vendor during the winter months to sell coffee or
4 hot beverages and maybe during the summer water,
5 you know, small drinks? Because apparently they
6 go there for hours at a time with their dogs and
7 would like to know if we could take that into
8 consideration?

9 MR. ZAITZ: Through you, Mr. President.
10 Joshua Zaitz, Essex County Parks. Those are
11 biddable items, so I can certainly take it back to
12 the Parks Director and we would have to put out --
13 if he sees that as a viable option, we would have
14 to bid that out. Historically, with our ice cream
15 trucks that go through Branch Brook or Brookdale,
16 those are biddable. So I would envision this
17 would be something similar to that.

18 COMMISSIONER COOPER: All right,
19 perfect, thank you. I will take that back to
20 constituents that it needs to go out to bid, but
21 you're taking it under advisement.

22 Next question, what is the status of the
23 repairs for the missing fence in Orange Park?
24 About two or three years ago, we discussed that
25 the administration had gone out to bid for a

1 contractor to replace fencing at a couple
2 different parks throughout the county system. The
3 fencing at Orange Park has not been addressed yet.
4 So I would like to know what is the timeline for
5 when that fence will finally be repaired? And
6 then the same question related to Orange Park,
7 about two years ago, we told constituents we were
8 going to do a survey to determine the condition
9 and health of various trees within Orange Park.
10 Because whenever there's storms, high winds,
11 Orange Park always have a significant number of
12 trees that break off, that fall down. Just a week
13 ago with high wind, same thing. And because of
14 the health of some of those trees, a lot of the
15 fencing there, the sections is getting damaged,
16 you know that's some old fencing. So I would like
17 to know to be able to report back to constituents
18 that are asking for a status update of those two
19 things.

20 MR. ZAITZ: Through you, Mr. President,
21 Joshua Zaitz. I do not have the answer to either
22 of those on hand, but I will certainly check with
23 the Parks Director and staff and we'll get back to
24 the administration with an answer.

25 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Last two things

1 for Orange Park. The complaint has been can you
2 guys adjust the time that those lights that are
3 out on the park, that they, you know, go on and
4 come off. Because they are super bright, I've
5 gone past there at night to observe them.

6 And then I noted we were making a lot of
7 upgrades to the park, maybe someone stole it, but
8 there used to be signage up that talked about the
9 hours that the bathroom facilities were open. And
10 that signage is no longer there.

11 MR. ZAITZ: Joshua Zaitz, again, I will
12 certainly report back to the Parks Director and
13 we'll get you some answers.

14 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you.

15 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: If you had the
16 Commissioner's picture up there, they wouldn't
17 have taken the sign.

18 MR. ZAITZ: Mr. President, you're saying
19 you want your picture by the bathrooms, is that
20 it?

21 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: You have a great
22 evening.

23 MR. ZAITZ: You, too. Good evening.

24 MR. COLTRE: Mr. President, Julius
25 Coltre, purchasing agent. One of the problems we

1 have are vendors -- we have a bid for ice cream
2 trucks that went out. We've received no bids from
3 anyone countywide. We've been -- now, it's out
4 again for vendors to be at the Branch Brook Park,
5 Weequahic Park and Brookdale Park. Again,
6 hopefully, we get a vendor who would like to
7 participate. So we do have bids out there for
8 various concessions and it's very difficult
9 finding vendors.

10 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you.

11 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you,
12 everyone.

13 Commissioners, do we have any reports of
14 Board committees? Commissioner Mercado.

15 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Mr. President, a
16 meeting of the Public Safety Committee was held on
17 Tuesday, March 29th, to discuss the details
18 regarding Essex County parks were allocated the
19 effects of (audio disruption) against the County
20 Correctional facility in 2019-2021.

21 Before I begin, let me just thank the
22 administration, Robert Jackson, Chief Allaja,
23 Director Ortiz and Warden Cirillo for their
24 participation in that meeting. I also want to
25 recognize and thank my committee colleagues,

1 Commissioner Vice President Pomares and
2 Commissioner Johnson for their continued support
3 on that committee.

4 So the topics we discussed, brief recap
5 of the events regarding the County's decision to
6 provide for the legal funding of the ICE detainees
7 as well as the subsequent decision 2021 to
8 continue holding their detainees. We also
9 discussed the amount the County funds provided
10 (audio disruption) service providers and the
11 timelines of the provisions. Seton Hall Law
12 School, Rutgers School of Law and Legal Services
13 of New Jersey were each to receive \$625,000.00
14 between 2019 and 2021. Subsequent to that, we
15 authorized or modified -- we authorized
16 modification of that, so the could spend down that
17 money to serve as legal representation.

18 Representatives from each of the
19 providers gave specific clients they represented
20 and current statuses regarding their immigration
21 cases. In fact, the dean from Rutgers did mention
22 some positive, some clients being released result
23 as a result of their interventions and several
24 clients being diverted. He provided an update to
25 the County on the funds they received. And so

1 far, Seton Hall has 51,522, as of February 2022;
2 and Rutgers School of Law was awaiting a County
3 \$75,000 fund extension, which they will receive
4 sometime this month. Legal Services has spent
5 down funds by December 2021. Legal Services
6 also -- they also provided a brief summary of the
7 challenges they faced while representing clients
8 during this period of time, including meeting
9 their clients out of state and attending virtual
10 legal hearings.

11 At this time, each of the County's
12 decisions to continue (audio disruption) detainees
13 at the Essex County Correctional facility, there's
14 no time table for the follow-up on the following
15 issues. I would like one (indiscernible) agencies
16 have completed the program that they provide a
17 written comprehensive report with some demographic
18 data and, you know, just some information about
19 how that program went, what went well, what
20 didn't, and what recommendations they may have in
21 the future. Thank you very much.

22 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you,
23 Commissioner Mercado. Commissioner Cooper.

24 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you, Mr.
25 President. I wanted to give a report on the TNR

1 committee. We held a meeting on March 22nd to go
2 over the activities that took place last year in
3 2021. We allocated -- the Board approved
4 \$50,000.00 for that activity, we spent roughly
5 about \$22,000.00 for the various entities that
6 brought in feral cats down to the Newark Humane
7 Society.

8 Our takeaways from the meeting was
9 that -- the next meeting will be held June of this
10 year. And we're looking to host a train the
11 trainer for some time in the month of July or
12 August. And, Mr. Jackson, I want to thank you and
13 your staff for attending that meeting and coming
14 up with the great recommendation to come up with
15 some type of incentive to encourage other people
16 to come in, to bring stray cats in so we can
17 impact that population more. My goal is to have
18 us spend 100 percent of the \$50,000.00 of the
19 allocated this year, so that we're not leaving any
20 money on the table. Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you,
22 Commissioner Cooper. Do we have any legislative
23 reports. Commissioner Gill?

24 COMMISSIONER GILL: Thank you just to
25 come back to the committee reports. So, first of

1 all, Commissioner Cooper, thank you for your work
2 on that issue for sure and thank you to the
3 administration. I just wanted to comment on
4 Commissioner Mercado, thank you for that update.
5 The program that the County agreed to create for
6 pro bono representation for our ICE detainees is
7 something that I'm particularly proud to have seen
8 has started here, was particularly proud during
9 the time that I had the opportunity and support of
10 this Board to serve in the leadership position,
11 that each of and every one of you supported me on
12 that initiative. Thank you, Commissioner Mercado,
13 for continuing that and thank you to the
14 administration for doing that.

15 You know, when the request was first
16 made, you know, we were told we're going to fund
17 it at \$100,000.00 and we were able to get that
18 number up, which I appreciate, to a significant
19 amount. And there is no program -- I don't know
20 anywhere else that existed, regardless of where
21 you fell on whether we should have had this
22 contract or not, we are, I think, the only County
23 that initiated a program with those providers.

24 So I'm looking forward to seeing the
25 actual -- I apologize I was not able to

1 participate in the meeting. I look for to
2 receiving the actual report back from Rutgers and
3 Seton Hall, the providers that did the work, and
4 to have a conversation around potentially similar
5 programs. Not just for our -- potentially for ICE
6 detainees, but for those we currently have in our
7 criminal justice system here in the County. Thank
8 you, Mr. President.

9 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Great. Ditto.
10 Are there any legislative reports?

11 Written communications?

12 Unfinished business?

13 Any new business?

14 In that case, Madam Clerk, let's go to
15 public comment. If there are any members of the
16 public who would like to comment on any matter,
17 please come to the microphone, state your name,
18 address, and affiliation for the record. You will
19 have three minutes to speak.

20 MS. MADDOX-DOUGLAS: Good evening,
21 again. My name is Lisa Maddox-Douglas, I am the
22 Public Employees Supervisors Union president. We
23 represent supervisory and managerial employees
24 within the Division of Family Assistance and
25 Benefits. It was so great to hear the County and

1 how they plan to comply with the United States
2 Equal Opportunity Commission, regarding the
3 enforcement guidance on the consideration of
4 arrest and conviction records in employment
5 decisions under the Title 7 of the Civil Rights
6 Act of 1964.

7 I stand before you because DFAB
8 administration was not adequately prepared to
9 address the in flux of clients which hit our doors
10 on April 1st of 2022. As a result of not having a
11 plan to not only address the 7,000
12 recertifications, but we also had online
13 applications which may have included senior
14 citizens and those who are applying for benefits
15 immediately after their release from prison.

16 As you are aware the City of Newark has
17 the highest per capita number of parolees than any
18 other city within the State of New Jersey. And
19 early March 2022, another 852 inmates were
20 released and no doubt a large percentage have or
21 plan to land at 320-321 University Avenue, DFAB.

22 Commissioners, we ask that you inquire
23 about the monies that was requested by DFAB and
24 received from the federal government for overtime
25 to process cases. We also ask that you inquire

1 about the technological devices which were
2 purchased and supposed to assist employees who
3 worked from home during the pandemic.

4 Finally, we ask that you encourage DFAB
5 administration to not simply cherrypick those who
6 will process cases during overtime, but to also
7 ensure that all hands are on deck to ensure that
8 these cases are processed.

9 We also encourage you to implore them to
10 implement a plan, which would include the overtime
11 and make sure that we have the services, for not
12 only these individuals who did not receive the
13 benefits on the first of month, but also those who
14 have been released from prison, who do not want to
15 go back to a life of crime and desire to be
16 reintegrated into society and require our
17 services.

18 Thank you so much for your time and
19 consideration. Have a great evening.

20 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you.
21 Again, as is our practice, you will be -- your
22 questions will be answered in writing.

23 MS. MADDOX-DOUGLAS: Thank you, sir.

24 MR. WEINER: David Weiner, also known as
25 David (indiscernible) Frank, how's the back? Good

1 to see you.

2 On both Monday and Tuesday, there were
3 lines of clients on University Avenue, from
4 University and Branford, all the way up to MLK
5 Boulevard, out in the cold and the damp. The
6 elderly, children were standing on line because
7 7,000 food stamp cases recertifications, these are
8 people that were on food stamps, they had to do
9 recertification. They got a messed up letter from
10 the state and our telephone system when we call
11 them shows up as spam, so they don't answer their
12 phones. So 7,000 people have been cut off and all
13 we're handing them is fliers to go to food banks
14 for the satisfaction. If not for the activist
15 Donna Jackson who I've known for years, Faith live
16 streaming it, we would not have gotten those
17 people into the building and safely and warm.

18 In addition, our agency has been
19 proclaimed by the State of New Jersey as the
20 highest percentage of overdue clients'
21 applications. I just talked about clients who
22 were on the system, these are applications. In
23 January of 2021, we had 78,631 overdue
24 applications, 67,000 family care cases, 9,000
25 Medicaid cases, 7,000 food stamp cases. These

1 78,000 applications went unfulfilled as a result
2 of residents being denied services that they
3 direly need.

4 We reiterate our request that we meet
5 with the above cited committees -- above cited
6 that we mentioned earlier -- about the problems
7 that exist within the Division of Welfare, I'll
8 use that term. Because the neediest residents of
9 our County are not getting the services that they
10 need.

11 If you wonder why there's disruptions in
12 the community it's because there's no resources in
13 the community because of malfeasance and
14 misfeasance. We would say to you that there are
15 hundreds of -- due to hundreds of years of
16 discrimination, all these problems are falling
17 mostly in this County upon people of color, black
18 and brown. It's unacceptable, it's got to stop.

19 Again, I ask that the welfare to work
20 committee and the labor committee meet with us and
21 go over -- and the management -- and go over these
22 issues so that we can make things right for the
23 people that have been so adversely affected
24 through this COVID and beyond. Thank you very
25 much.

1 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr.
2 Weiner. Again, your questions will be answered in
3 writing.

4 Commissioners, any comments?
5 Commissioner Mercado.

6 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Mr. President,
7 this is the first in-person meeting that we had,
8 thank you for your leadership during these past
9 two years, it's been a challenge.

10 And I just want to publicly thank the
11 clerk's office, Madam Clerk Deborah Davis Ford,
12 Deputy Clerk Debra Marvel, and the whole gang,
13 Kathy and public information officer, Kyalo
14 Mulumba, the rest of the staff, counsel Michael
15 Parlavecchio and Frank for their commitment and
16 all the work that they've done to help us do what
17 we do. So thank you very much.

18 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you for
19 that, Mr. Mercado, appreciate it. Commissioner
20 Cooper.

21 COMMISSIONER COOPER: Thank you, Mr.
22 President. I want to thank you and the staff as
23 well for a smooth transition back to our very
24 first meeting, it feels like we never left. I
25 want to thank you all for your support and thank

1 the administration. It was a really nice meeting,
2 you know, a little bit nervous knowing that we
3 haven't done this in a long time. Thank you for
4 all that and working out the kinks. It's good to
5 be back.

6 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you.
7 Commissioner Mercado.

8 COMMISSIONER MERCADO: Again, just want
9 to give a shout out to our Department of
10 Recreation for those that are here and those that
11 are viewing, the Cherry Blossom Festival is going
12 on right now, had a kick off last Tuesday. And it
13 continues this Saturday and Sunday with Blossom
14 Fest on Sunday. So please come out and enjoy the
15 cherry blossoms. I want to thank Director Dan
16 Salvante and Kate and all the staff who put a lot
17 of work in to keeps our parks the way they are,
18 it's a really nice festival. Thank you.

19 PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you,
20 Commissioner. Any other questions or comments?

21 Hearing none, I need a motion to
22 adjourn. All in favor? The ayes have it.

23

24 (Whereupon the meeting was adjourned.)

25

C E R T I F I C A T E

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing transcript of the RECORDED proceedings in their entirety, as taken stenographically by me, is a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings as recorded, and to the best of my ability.

Susan Bischoff

SUSAN BISCHOFF, CCR, RPR
LICENSE NO. 30XI00233700