

1. Agenda

Documents:

[20231017-AGENDA.PDF](#)

2. Meeting Materials

Documents:

[20231017-RESOLUTIONS.PDF](#)

[20231017-VERBATIM-AFTERNOON.PDF](#)

[20231017-VERBATIM-EVENING.PDF](#)

CALENDAR

TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

SPECIALTOWN BOARD MEETING – 2:30 P.M. (D.S.T.) OCTOBER 17, 2023

Roll Call: Present:

Also Present:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CASE NUMBER

- | | | |
|------------|---|---|
| 969 | 1 | Proposed Assessment Roll – GREATER ATLANTIC BEACH WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT – for fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024 |
| 969 | 2 | Preliminary Budget – TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD – for fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024 |

MEETING SCHEDULE

NOV 21- A.M.
DEC 5 -A.M.

CALENDAR

TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

SPECIALTOWN BOARD MEETING – 7:00 P.M. (D.S.T.) OCTOBER 17, 2023

Roll Call: Present:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CASE NUMBER

- | | | |
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| 969 | 1 | Proposed Assessment Roll – GREATER ATLANTIC BEACH WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT – for fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024 |
| 969 | 2 | Preliminary Budget – TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD – for fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024 |

MEETING SCHEDULE

NOV 21- A.M.
DEC 5 -A.M

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to the provisions of Section 202-a of the Town Law of the State of New York, as amended, the Commissioners of the Greater Atlantic Beach Water Reclamation District, formerly known as the West Long Beach Sewer District, have filed in the Office of the Town Clerk, where they may be inspected by any interested person during Town office hours, 9:00am to 4:45pm, Monday through Friday, the Estimates and Proposed Assessment Roll for the Greater Atlantic Beach Water Reclamation District, in the Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, that public hearings upon the adoption of the aforesaid Assessment Roll will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Hempstead, pursuant to the provisions of Section 239 of the Town Law of the State of New York, in the Town Meeting Pavilion, Hempstead Town Hall, 1 Washington Street, Village and Town of Hempstead, New York, on October 17th, 2023, at 2:30 p. m. of that day, and on October 17th, 2023, at 7:00 p. m. of that day, at which hearings any person may be heard in favor of or against the adoption of said Assessment Roll.

Dated: Hempstead, New York
October 3, 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

DONALD X. CLAVIN, JR.
Supervisor

KATE MURRAY
Town Clerk

Item #

1

Case #

969

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Hempstead for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, has been adopted by the Town Board and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk, at Hempstead Town Hall, 1 Washington Street, Village and Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York, where it may be inspected by any interested person during Town office hours, 9:00am to 4:45pm, Monday through Friday, and at hempsteadny.gov .

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Board shall hold public hearings on the Preliminary Budget, showing such changes, alterations and revisions as may have been made therein by the Town Board pursuant to Subdivision 3 of Section 106 of the Town Law of the State of New York, in the Town Meeting Pavilion, Hempstead Town Hall, 1 Washington Street, Village and Town of Hempstead, New York, on October 17th, 2023, at 2:30 p. m. of that day, and October 17th, 2023, at 7:00 p. m. of that day.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the time and place aforesaid.

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 108 of the Town Law that the proposed salaries of the following chief officers of this Town are specified as follows:

Supervisor	-	\$160,000.00
Town Councilmembers (Six at \$71,000.00)	-	\$426,000.00
Town Clerk	-	\$106,500.00
Receiver of Taxes	-	\$130,000.00

Dated: Hempstead, New York
October 3, 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

DONALD X. CLAVIN, JR.
Supervisor

KATE MURRAY
Town Clerk

Item #

2

Case #

969

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TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

TOWN BOARD MEETING

One Washington Street

Hempstead, New York 11550

October 17, 2023

2:30 P.M.

BEFORE: DONALD X CLAVIN, JR.

SUPERVISOR



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

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY

COUNCILMAN CARINI

COUNCILMAN DUNNE, JR.

COUNCILWOMAN MILLER

COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA

COUNCILWOMAN RYDER

CLERK MURRAY

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY

TOWN ATTORNEY MACCARONE

CHIEF OF STAFF LIBERT

TOWN COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO

RECEIVER OF TAXES DRISCOLL



1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Good Afternoon and
2 welcome to the Hempstead Town Board Meeting for October
3 17, 2023.

4 Madam Clerk, please, call the roll.

5 CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

6 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I am here.

7 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

8 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Here.

9 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

10 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Here.

11 CLERK MURRAY: Deputy Supervisor Goosby?

12 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Here.

13 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Miller?

14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Here.

15 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

16 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Here.

17 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Ryder?

18 COUNCILWOMAN RYDER: Here.

19 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Good afternoon,
20 everybody.

21 I'd like to remind everybody, every
22 participant is given one chance to speak for up to three
23 minutes in accordance with the Town's rules, Town Board's
24 rules.

25 Today's Public Hearing begins at 2:30 and

1 will be continued at 7:00 P.M.

2 Each of the items are one continuous Hearing
3 today, so participants can offer their comments either
4 now or later at 7:00 P.M.

5 We'll start, now, Madam Clerk, with a call
6 of the Public Hearing on the Assessment Roll for the
7 Greater Atlantic Beach Water Reclamation District for the
8 fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024.

9 CLERK MURRAY: Well, you said it Well.

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you.

11 CLERK MURRAY: Proposed Assessment Roll of
12 the Greater Atlantic Beach Water Reclamation District for
13 fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024.

14 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Excellent. Does any
15 Member of the Board wish to be heard on this?

16 (Whereupon, no comments were heard. After,
17 the following ensued.)

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay. I do have a
19 couple of sign-ins, here.

20 I have Mary Ann Brady.

21 Did you want to be heard on this item?

22 Okay. Martha Ann Brady. Thank you very much. I
23 apologize for reading it wrong. You'd like to be heard
24 on this, ma'am?

25 MARTHA ANN BRADY: Yes.

1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Name and address. Thank
2 you.

3 MARTHA ANN BRADY: I want to know what the
4 Classes are within the Fire Protection Districts 1,2,3,
5 4.

6 How do they determine what amount of funds
7 goes into these different Classes?

8 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I'll ask our Town
9 Comptroller to give you an answer.

10 I think you might it have to confused with
11 our second part of the Hearing.

12 Is that, right?

13 This is not about the Greater Atlantic - -

14 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: This is about the
15 Greater Atlantic Beach.

16 But I think your question isn't about the
17 Greater Atlantic Beach.

18 MARTHA ANN BRADY: No, it's about
19 Uniondale.

20 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, well, we're
21 talking about the Greater Atlantic Beach.

22 MARTHA ANN BRADY: for the last 75 years.

23 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, great.

24 Again, as I said, this call number one that
25 you signed in for, is for the Greater Atlantic Beach

1 Water Reclamation District.

2 Perhaps you want to wait to be heard on the
3 second one, and I'll make sure I say your name proudly
4 and proper. Thank you.

5 All right. Does anybody else wish to be
6 heard on the Greater Atlantic Beach Water Reclamation
7 District?

8 (Whereupon, no comments were heard. After,
9 the following ensued.)

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay.

11 If not, may I please have a Motion to
12 continue this Public Hearing to the 7:00 P.M.

13 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move to continue
14 this Public Hearing to 7:00 P.M. this evening.

15 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Second the
16 Motion.

17 CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

19 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

20 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

21 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

22 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

23 CLERK MURRAY: Deputy Supervisor Goosby?

24 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Aye.

25 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Miller?

1 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

2 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

3 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

4 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Ryder?

5 COUNCILWOMAN RYDER: Aye.

6 CLERK MURRAY: And, I also want to note, for
7 the record that our Receiver of Taxes, Janine
8 Driscoll, is here, as well.

9 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you very much,
10 Mrs. Driscoll, always good to see you, America's favorite
11 Receiver of Taxes.

12 I am now going to ask Madam Clerk to call
13 the next item.

14 CLERK MURRAY: Yes, we have the Preliminary
15 Budget for the Town of Hempstead for fiscal year
16 commencing January 1, 2024.

17 TOWN ATTORNEY MACCARONE: Mr. Supervisor --

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Yes, sir.

19 TOWN ATTORNEY MACCARONE: - - and the Board,
20 the Controller's Office received a revised estimate from
21 Sanitary District 7 for its fuel and oil expense and its
22 Social Security expense.

23 And received a revised estimate from the
24 West Hempstead Water District for its motor vehicle
25 expenses, Social Security expenses, and New York State

1 Commuter tax expense.

2 We have copies of the revised spreadsheets
3 for the public and a copy is available on the Town's
4 website.

5 I would ask the Board to, please, amend the
6 Preliminary Budget regarding Sanitary District 7's
7 estimates and the West Hempstead Water District's
8 estimates.

9 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, thank you, Mr.
10 Town Attorney.

11 May I have a Motion to that effect, please?

12 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: So moved.

13 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Second.

14 CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

15 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

16 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

17 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

18 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

19 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

20 CLERK MURRAY: Deputy Supervisor Goosby?

21 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Aye.

22 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Miller?

23 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

24 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

25 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

1 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Ryder?

2 COUNCILWOMAN RYDER: Aye.

3 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Does any Member of the
4 Board wish to be heard on the Preliminary Budget?

5 (Whereupon, no comments were heard. After,
6 the following ensued.)

7 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, I have a couple
8 of people who signed in.

9 I have a Martha Ann Brady. Hi, Ms. Brady.

10 If you give your name and address for the
11 record. Appreciate it.

12 MARTHA ANN BRADY: Thank you.

13 Classes are listed 1 through 4. What's
14 the definition of these classes?

15 And I'm looking at the Uniondale Fire
16 District, which is listed as a 4th Class.

17 Why is that?

18 What's the definition of these?

19 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Town Comptroller,
20 would you respond to that? Mr. Mastromarino, my Town
21 Comptroller.

22 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Good evening -
23 - Good afternoon, actually, not yet evening.

24 There are four classes of property.

25 The Town does not have anything to do

1 with designating the four Classes of property.

2 They are an assessment issue.

3 And what it is, is there are different
4 types of properties that are in each Class.

5 The 4th Class is basically, "all
6 others."

7 Class 1 is Residential.

8 Class 2 is Multiple Dwellings.

9 Class 3, I believe, is Utilities.

10 And 4 is "all other," which is primarily
11 Commercial.

12 So, what that's telling you?

13 That in that particular budget, that
14 particular breakdown, there's only Class 4 properties in
15 that particular District.

16 MARTHA ANN BRADY: Uniondale is more
17 than just Residential.

18 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Not in that
19 District. That's according to the Nassau County
20 Assessor, who provides that information to us, and
21 according to the Nassau County Assessor, is only
22 Commercial in that area.

23 MARTHA ANN BRADY: Okay, thank you.

24 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, thank you
25 very much.

1 Next, I have Mrs. Kreye. Mrs. Kreye, can
2 you give you your name and address? That'd be great.

3 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Mary Ellen Kreye. 436
4 Locust Avenue, Uniondale.

5 I want to protest, first of all, that we
6 just received - - we were sitting out in the lobby area
7 and unable to receive copies of this.

8 And you have had many hours to review it
9 and assess it, and we get a chance to look at it for
10 three minutes before the Hearing starts.

11 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Maybe my Town
12 Comptroller can put you a little bit at ease.

13 John, you want to respond.

14 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Yes. The
15 budget that you have is very - - almost identical to the
16 tentative budget that was submitted on September 29th, I
17 believe, and it was put up on our website on September
18 29th.

19 And, on September 29th, there were copies
20 available at the Town.

21 This is the Preliminary Budget and this
22 has also been put up on the website for, at least, a
23 week.

24 So it's been out there. You've had plenty
25 of opportunity to read and look at the numbers since

1 September 29th.

2 MARY ELLEN KREYE: And how was this
3 publicized, please?

4 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: It's on the
5 Town's website.

6 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I guess I'm just out of
7 sync with websites and things like that, so I'm a paper
8 person. Thank you.

9 Okay, then I do have a number of questions
10 and I'd like to know, for example, as far as the Water
11 Department, are the water filters now in operation, the
12 ones that we're paying \$25 a month for?

13 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: The twenty-five
14 dollars is a fee to help offset the cost of cleaning the
15 water out of the 1,4-dioxane.

16 The Town has authorized two hundred
17 million dollars to clean the water at the six water
18 districts that the Town has, and that twenty-five dollars
19 is just an attempt to offset some of those costs.

20 The operational costs are pardon me - -

21 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Excuse me, you're not
22 answering my question.

23 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Yes, I'm
24 addressing the twenty-five dollars that's on your bill.
25 That's what you're talking about?

1 MARY ELLEN KREYE: I'm just asking, are
2 the filters now in operation?

3 Have they been installed?

4 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: That's a question for
5 the Water Department.

6 If you'd like to give us your name and
7 number after, I'll be happy to have the Commissioner talk
8 to you about the many investments we've made and the
9 different ways he's maneuvering to make sure we have
10 clean water in compliance with 1,4-dioxane requirements.

11 But that's not part of the budgetary
12 question.

13 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Well, I think if they
14 haven't been installed - -

15 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I'm not disagreeing
16 with you.

17 But this Hearing and you've come to the
18 Town Board Meetings so many times, this is the Hearing
19 about the budget.

20 So if you have something regarding the
21 budget that we could respond to directly but, if not, I'm
22 happy to take your name and number and have the Water
23 Commissioner personally call you. He's a great guy.

24 He's probably here right, now.

25 Jay, are you here? There he is, right

1 there. He's right in the back. And he's going to take
2 your name and number right after the Meeting.

3 MARY ELLEN KREYE: So you cannot tell me
4 whether the - - I would imagine buying these filters
5 would be part of your budget.

6 I would imagine installing them would be
7 part of your budget.

8 Why is this not part of the Hearing?

9 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Once again, Mrs.
10 Kreye, I think you understand this is the Operating
11 Budget.

12 MARY ELLEN KREYE: There is an effort,
13 so you'll tell me, what about the other people who are
14 here?

15 I think there is definitely a situation of
16 non-transparency.

17 But we'll go on to another thing.

18 In the Sanitation Department, a number of
19 people were questioning the feeling that Uniondale is not
20 being properly cleaned by the sweepers and so on.

21 And so we'd like to know whether there is
22 money in there to street sweep on Uniondale Avenue and
23 Front Street.

24 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: We come out with a
25 street sweeping schedule.

1 We work with our Highway Department as
2 well as the Deputy Supervisor who represents the area to
3 do it.

4 If you have a particular problem and it's
5 a Town-related street, we'll be happy to address it.

6 If it's a County street, which some of
7 them may be, we'll be happy to work with our partners in
8 Nassau County as well.

9 MARY ELLEN KREYE: Thank you.

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, thank you.

11 MARY ELLEN KREYE: One further, the
12 landfill, I didn't get that far in the budget, but as you
13 may or may not know, it had been proposed that we put a
14 solar array on the land for the Oceanside landfill, which
15 happens to be right across the street from a transfer
16 station.

17 And there was a company or is a company
18 willing to pay the Town, which could contribute to the
19 budget.

20 And, so I think that it is very
21 appropriate for this issue to come up again and help to
22 fill the coffers of the Town.

23 Thank you.

24 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you very much
25 for taking the time to join us.

1 As always, we'll take that under an
2 advisement.

3 Next, I have Lisa Godley. Do you want to
4 be heard?

5 (Whereupon, "I will pass," was heard called
6 out from the audience. After, the following
7 ensued.)

8 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, no problem.

9 Okay, today's a Budget Hearing Meeting, so
10 we're only dealing with the budget here, today.

11 Next, I have Stephanie Chase.

12 (Whereupon, "I will pass, now," was heard
13 called out from the audience. After, the following
14 ensued.)

15 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay.

16 Next, I also have Pearl Jacobs. How are you
17 doing? Give your name and address, thank you.

18 PEARL JACOBS: Pearl Jacobs, Uniondale
19 Uniondale, an underserved community, a donor community.

20 And, if you can't read my shirt, it says,
21 "taxation without representation."

22 I have a question on the budget item - -

23 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: You do have
24 representation, you have the Deputy Supervisor who
25 represents Uniondale.

1 PEARL JACOBS: I'm sorry?

2 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: The Deputy Supervisor
3 represents Uniondale.

4 PEARL JACOBS: Listen, you're the Board,
5 I'm just saying taxation without representation.

6 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I know, but Dorothy is a
7 duly elected Member of the Board.

8 PEARL JACOBS: I'm not being represented.
9 That's my opinion, and I'm sticking to it. Thank you.

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, okay I'm sorry.

11 PEARL JACOBS: The water issue here, the
12 Water Districts, um, I'm having here on page, I think
13 it's 29, it says Roosevelt Field, total of \$46,564.02
14 cent, Uniondale, total \$326,328.75 cent.

15 And, then you have the Class 1, 2, 3, and 4
16 total Water Districts total 5,625,900. And I do believe
17 it's \$0.68.

18 Can you break that down to me and explain
19 where these Class 1 to 4 Districts are and how much is
20 allocated?

21 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: What page is that you
22 were referring to?

23 PEARL JACOBS: I do believe it's - - If I
24 can see correctly, it's Page 25, I think, in the budget.

25 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: 25.

1 Mr. Comptroller?

2 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Page 24 is the
3 breakdown of the revenue that's collected, the tax
4 revenue that's collected with the four Classes of
5 property that I just spoke about and it's broken down.

6 We supply the County Assessor with the total
7 taxes that we're going to collect.

8 The Assessor, then, takes it and breaks it
9 out into the four Classes of property.

10 We have nothing to do with that.

11 They have determined how much of each section
12 Class 1, 2, 3, and 4 bears to the total tax.

13 PEARL JACOBS: Can you, please, identify the
14 four Classes of property so I can understand it, please?

15 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Class 1 is
16 Residential.

17 Class 2 is Multiple Dwelling.

18 Class 3 is utilities.

19 And Class 4 is everything else, which would
20 mean Multiple Dwellings and Commercial Properties.

21 PEARL JACOBS: Is there anything in the
22 budget for our Residential?

23 This is what our water tower looks like.
24 (Indicating.)

25 This was taken by a picture from a drone,

1 okay.

2 This is what our water tower looks like.
3 It's disintegrating. It's brown. It's disgusting. This
4 is what our water tower looks like.

5 When will Uniondale's water towers be
6 replaced or retrofitted?

7 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, I know
8 Commissioner Reinhardt's here.

9 He can follow up with you.

10 I don't know if there's anything directly in
11 the budget for that.

12 Commissioner? Please, thanks, Jack.

13 PEARL JACOBS: And you can have this
14 picture. Can you hand this picture in, young lady? I
15 appreciate it. Thank you so much.

16 That's Uniondale. It looks like a health
17 and a safety issue, something I can maybe follow up with
18 the New York State Department of Environment and
19 Conservation about.

20 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: If you feel so strongly
21 about that, absolutely, you should.

22 PEARL JACOBS: If it was in your community,
23 you would feel strongly about it as well.

24 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I said, if you have the
25 concern, you can reach out to them. I think you're right

1 about that.

2 PEARL JACOBS: It is disgusting.

3 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Joe, you can speak to
4 that.

5 COMMISSIONER REINHARDT: Yes, we've discussed
6 the water tower in the past.

7 That's actually the East Meadow Water Tower
8 that you're referring to.

9 PEARL JACOBS: Is that Turtle Hook?

10 COMMISSIONER REINHARDT: That is actually the
11 East Meadow Water District, the one at the foot of
12 Hempstead Boulevard at the Uniondale Water Tower.

13 That is actually in our five-year Capital
14 Plan.

15 Right at this point, where it's not been
16 done, because we're in the process of doing the 1, 4-
17 dioxane treatment and we can't take towers out of service
18 for that reason.

19 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay.

20 COMMISSIONER REINHARDT: But that's a Capital
21 Project.

22 It's not included in this budget.

23 It's included in our Capital Plan.

24 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, so it's on the
25 radar, and now we're dealing with the 200 million for the

1 1,4-dioxane.

2 PEARL JACOBS: I am not an expert in this
3 field, but just to look at that tower, it would show me
4 that there's some compromise.

5 If you would go on top of that tower, I'm
6 sure there's some breaches in that tower with that amount
7 of corrosion. It's a health and safety issue.

8 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay.

9 PEARL JACOBS: And it needs to be followed-
10 up.

11 And I have one more issue before we go, they
12 put a metered, water meter in my home. It's causing
13 noise pollution in my home.

14 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Is that a budgetary
15 question?

16 PEARL JACOBS: No, it's not a budgetary, but
17 I want to - -

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Ms. Jacobs, you've been
19 coming to the Meetings for over a decade. We love having
20 you here, but you're know what today's about it.

21 If you'd like to follow up with the
22 Commissioner - -

23 PEARL JACOBS: I will follow up after the
24 Meeting.

25 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you very much. I

1 appreciate it. Thank you very much.

2 I don't have any other slips. Is there
3 anybody that did not sign in that wishes to be heard at
4 this afternoon's Meeting? There we go. We got one.
5 There we go. Marcia Ditieri?

6 Please, your name and address, thanks.

7 MARCIA DITIERI: Marcia Ditieri Merrick, New
8 York.

9 I looked over what I could see in the budget
10 and I wanted to know if there was anything in the budget
11 for right-of-way tree planting or tree-trimming programs?

12 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Well, directly, obviously
13 we do, do tree trimming with our Parks Department, our
14 Highway Department, Conservation and Waterways.

15 So that's sort of included in the entire
16 process of it.

17 MARCIA DITIERI: Low cost or no cost to
18 residents?

19 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Like I said, when it's
20 safety or there's a matter in the Parks or on the roadway
21 or anything that we have see, our crews go out there and
22 maintain it.

23 MARCIA DITIERI: And not on people's
24 property?

25 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Yeah, they don't like

1 when we show up on their property and trim their trees.

2 MARCIA DITIERI: Even if they call?

3 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I'm sure my neighbors
4 love me to come mow their lawn. That's not happening
5 either.

6 MARCIA DITIERI: I think if we had that
7 program, maybe it would stop people from calling the tree
8 cutting places and just removing the tree instead of
9 having it trimmed.

10 It's just something to think about.

11 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you.

12 MARCIA DITIERI: Less trees, less
13 pollution.

14 You are budgeting \$4,500 on pollution
15 control and \$5,000 out of the same budget for paint and
16 supplies.

17 I mean, that seems a little off.

18 The Animal Shelter budget, I see, full time
19 staff budget is increased by \$100,000 from last year.

20 Is that for hiring additional staff which is
21 desperately needed, or increased salaries?

22 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Generally, that could be
23 a combination.

24 We also don't know if anybody's going to
25 retire. It's for anticipation.

1 I think, John, you also budgeted for?

2 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Additional
3 vetted facility.

4 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Additional vetted
5 facility.

6 MARCIA DITIERI: Part-time budget is
7 reduced by almost half.

8 There are incredible part-timers there that
9 the Director, as well as, Supervisors would attest to.

10 And if you put them full-time, it would be a
11 win-win for all, especially the animals.

12 Is that part of the increase, to make part-
13 timers full-time?

14 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Mrs. Ditieri, we manage
15 a budget and, you know, if there's a request, we review
16 it and we take a look.

17 We have a lot of requests for part-timers
18 throughout the Town, from Sanitation to Highways to
19 everybody in between.

20 MARCIA DITIERI: These are animals.

21 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: No, I understand that.
22 We get that.

23 I am saying, but it just doesn't come from
24 one department. We have a lot of departments.

25 MARCIA DITIERI: Well, you decreased the

1 part-time budget, so hopefully you don't decrease the
2 part-timers and lose them instead of making them full
3 time.

4 Our legal fees are increasing by one third.

5 If money was invested in increasing
6 staffing, social media and putting animals on the lost
7 and found site immediately after arrival or picked up by
8 Animal Control, the Town would have decreased legal fees
9 with less lawsuits.

10 Speak with the employees to get their input
11 for better use of funds instead of consultants.

12 Animals are not evaluated, sometimes for
13 months, making it harder to socialize and ultimately get
14 adopted.

15 Budget for a full-time Vet or Veterinarians
16 on staff instead of double billed outside Vets who are in
17 it just for the money, as was Central Vet.

18 You can't bring animals back after they are
19 euthanized.

20 Imagine if it was your pet.

21 Grant money is available as other Townships
22 have received to better serve and enrich the animals.

23 No cost to the taxpayer.

24 I mentioned North Hempstead and Oyster Bay
25 who received \$200,000 Grants, in addition, to Kent

1 Animals Shelter in Suffolk.

2 Islip just received a one million dollar
3 Grant. No cost to the taxpayers, enriching animals
4 lives, update the Shelter. I mean, win-win for all.

5 I don't know if you've looked into that.

6 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Do you have a question
7 regarding the budget? Because we've talked about the
8 Grants before.

9 MARCIA DITIERI: You have decreased the
10 budget.

11 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Mrs. Ditieri, again, we
12 talked about a lot.

13 Today is about the budget and you know,
14 we've utilized Grants to redo the turf recently there, so
15 we've talked about this.

16 Do you have anything directly regarding the
17 budget today?

18 MARCIA DITIERI: I'm just talking about
19 saving money for the constituents.

20 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, great.

21 I don't have any other slips. Is there
22 anybody else who wishes to be heard that did not sign in?

23 If you just go to the back and give us your
24 name and address, that'd be amazing. Hey, how you doing?
25 You're good?

1 JANINE MAYNARD: Can you hear me?

2 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Absolutely.

3 JANINE MAYNARD: Okay. My name is Janine
4 Maynard.

5 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Hi, Mrs. Maynard.

6 JANINE MAYNARD: I live at 255 Perry
7 Street, Hempstead, New York.

8 And, I'm part of the Greater Uniondale area
9 in the taxing School District.

10 I'm asking about information that we have
11 now that the Brookhaven Mall - - I'm sorry, the
12 Brookhaven landfill will be closing in 2024.

13 And we know we have the Covanta Plant in
14 the area, and that's been functioning and been in the
15 news recently as well, concerned about the content of the
16 ash.

17 Does the budget reflect that, that landfill
18 will be closing and that there's a likelihood that we'll
19 have to transport ash further away to a different
20 location?

21 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: We pay Covanta
22 based on a contract that we have.

23 What they do with the ash, it's simply
24 their process of how they get rid of the ash.

25 We have absolutely no connection to that

1 landfill at all.

2 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: We don't ship anything
3 to the landfill.

4 We go to Covanta. We pay a contractual
5 price to Cavanta, and that's how we deal with it.

6 JANINE MAYNARD: So these reflect accurate
7 projections from Covanta for 2024?

8 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: It's a contract
9 that has cost of living increases in it, and that's where
10 we bring our garbage to them and they process it and burn
11 it and whatever they do with it, they do it.

12 They're responsible for that. We're not.

13 JANINE MAYNARD: Okay, as long as it's
14 based on a real contract.

15 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Yes, it's a real
16 contract.

17 JANINE MAYNARD: Okay, thank you.

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: All right. Thank you,
19 Ms. Maynard.

20 Okay. I don't have any other slips.
21 Anybody else who did not sign in?

22 Yes, please give your name and address at
23 the back. Thank you.

24 DIANE MADDEN: Diane Madden, Hempstead.

25 A question about the health line on the

1 Animal Shelter budget, I did notice, I think it's within
2 two years, the shelter budget went up by a million
3 dollars.

4 That could be a good or very bad thing.

5 It could be a good thing if the money is
6 being spent to help the animals and to increase staffing.

7 But could someone give me the breakdown on
8 the health?

9 I'm looking for the - - where is the
10 crematory?

11 Where's the TNR? Where's the behaviorist?

12 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Wantagh Animal
13 Hospital is 150,000,

14 Central Vet 945. Bloodhound Labs 15,000,
15 and New York Vet 190. That's 1,000,300 estimates for
16 next year.

17 DIANE MADDEN: I'm sorry, did you say
18 "Central Vet"?

19 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Central Vet.,
20 yes.

21 DIANE MADDEN: For next year?

22 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: All of these
23 numbers are for next year. It's a budget for '24.

24 DIANE MADDEN: I understand. I thought
25 that was severed.

1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Jack, you'll explain
2 regarding Central Vet.

3 Right now we're not utilizing Central Vet,
4 is that correct?

5 CHIEF OF STAFF LIBERT: Supervisor, Central
6 Vet. is no longer being utilized.

7 DIANE MADDEN: Thank you for verifying.
8 Could someone please tell me then where can I find the
9 TNR expenses, crematory, behavior?

10 There used to be a line item for enrichment,
11 which would have been a trainer, veterinary.

12 Where is that cost that you had mentioned?

13 I'm happy to hear that, that you'll be
14 hiring an on-site Vet.

15 I implore you to look very carefully, but
16 where can I find all of those itemized numbers?

17 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: You're under
18 Account 641260, fees and services.

19 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Excellent.

20 DIANE MADDEN: Can you break that up for me?

21 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: We're not going to do
22 it. That's been provided. So do you have a direct
23 question regarding it?

24 DIANE MADDEN: I was just trying to get to
25 specific numbers.

1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Well, if you had one
2 source like I said, Ms. Madden, you've been down here a
3 long time too. You know we put the budget online.

4 The Comptroller responded, he gave you the
5 budget line.

6 But we're not going to go through line by
7 line in the budget.

8 DIANE MADDEN: Supervisor Clavin, I have been
9 here a long time and as a matter of fact, they used to
10 explain, a previous Comptroller used to explain and
11 identify those costs.

12 So with all due respect - -

13 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: That previous Comptroller
14 is not here and John Mastromarino has got me at AAA bond
15 rating, so I'm going to go with this Comptroller.

16 DIANE MADDEN: Listen, congratulations, but
17 that still didn't answer my question.

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, I think it did.

19 DIANE MADDEN: Where would the maintenance
20 mechanic salary be? That's no longer itemized either?

21 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: General Services budget.

22 DIANE MADDEN: I'm sorry?

23 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: In the back of the
24 budget, all the salaries are listed in the back of the
25 budget.

1 DIANE MADDEN: Related to the Animal Shelter?

2 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Yes.

3 DIANE MADDEN: Okay, thank you.

4 And any injury litigation or settlements,
5 where would that number be found?

6 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: We have Legal Services
7 641320.

8 DIANE MADDEN: And, that is where it
9 includes all of that.

10 And where is employee health care?

11 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Employee health
12 care?

13 DIANE MADDEN: Right.

14 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Well, it's in the
15 undistributed section of the General Fund and it includes
16 health insurance.

17 It includes everything related to that.

18 I'm told it's on page 62.

19 DIANE MADDEN: Okay. And the category
20 where I would find and help determine because I
21 wholeheartedly agree the staffing there is very
22 insignificant, it's inadequate.

23 So, where would I find the number to
24 determine whether employees were getting full-time
25 promotions or additional part-time jobs?

1 COMPROLLER MASTROMARINO: Yeah, the
2 salaries are on Page 87.

3 DIANE MADDEN: So it hasn't gone up, is
4 that correct?

5 COMPROLLER MASTROMARINO: Salaries are -
6 - the total amount is, approximately, what it was in
7 '23. It's 4,212,046.

8 DIANE MADDEN: Okay, because again, I
9 can't stress that enough, it's imperative for the shelter
10 to succeed, to have a very adequate amount of staffing,
11 to have on staff on-site veterinary care, and to have a
12 very strong Behavior Department.

13 The Shelter has none of those three right
14 now.

15 So, in order for the Shelter to succeed, I
16 implore you to look at some of these numbers, move them
17 around, and bring professionals in and experts. Thank
18 you.

19 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you, Ms. Madden,
20 as always.

21 I don't have any other slips. Is there
22 anybody else that wishes to be heard that did sign in?

23 (Whereupon, no comments were heard. After,
24 the following ensued.)

25 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: If not, may I please

1 have a Motion to adjourn to 7:00 P.M. this evening?

2 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: So moved.

3 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Second.

4 CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

5 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

6 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

7 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

8 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

9 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

10 CLERK MURRAY: Deputy Supervisor Goosby?

11 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Aye.

12 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Miller?

13 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

14 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

15 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

16 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Ryder?

17 COUNCILWOMAN RYDER: Aye.

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Thank you all very much,

19 and we'll see you this evening at 7:00 P.M. for the

20 continuation of the Public Hearing.

21 (Whereupon, the Hempstead Town Budget

22 Meeting held at 2:30 P.M. was adjourned until 7:00 P.M.)

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CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the foregoing Verbatim Transcript of the Town of Hempstead Town Board Budget Meeting for 2:30 P.M. held on October 17, 2023 consisting of pages 1 through 35 is an accurate transcription of my cryptic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.

CFM

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

NORTH SHORE COURT REPORTERS

NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK



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TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

TOWN BOARD

One Washington Street

Hempstead, New York 11550

October 17, 2023

7:00 P.M.

BEFORE: DONALD X CLAVIN, JR.

SUPERVISOR



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

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY

COUNCILMAN CARINI

COUNCILMAN DUNNE, SR.

COUNCILWOMAN MILLER

COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA

COUNCILWOMAN RYDER

CLERK MURRAY

DEPUTY CLERK POKALSKY

TOWN ATTORNEY MACCARONE

CHIEF OF STAFF LIBERT

COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO



1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Well, good evening,
2 everybody.

3 This is the continuation of the Town of
4 Hempstead's Public Hearing on the Assessment Roll for the
5 Greater Atlantic Beach Water Reclamation District for the
6 fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024, and the
7 Preliminary Budget of the Town of Hempstead for the
8 fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024, which both
9 Hearings began earlier today.

10 Madam Clerk, would you please call the
11 roll yet, again?

12 CLERK MURRAY: Yes. Supervisor Clavin?

13 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I am here.

14 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

15 COUNCILMAN CARINI: I'm here.

16 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

17 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Here.

18 CLERK MURRAY: Deputy Supervisor Goosby.

19 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Here.

20 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Miller?

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Here.

22 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

23 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Here.

24 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Ryder?

25 COUNCILWOMAN RYDER: Here.

1 CLERK MURRAY: And Receiver of Taxes
2 Janine Driscoll?

3 RECEIVER OF TAXES DRISCOLL: Here.

4 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, thank you.

5 As a reminder, today's Public Hearing began
6 at 2:30 and we are continued here at 7:00 P.M., this
7 evening.

8 The public can watch the 2:30 portion of the
9 Public Hearing on the Town's Livestream Web page.

10 Every participant who did not speak at 2:30,
11 will now be given one chance to speak for up to three
12 minutes in accordance with the Town Board rules.

13 We are going to start, Madam Clerk, with the
14 first Public Hearing.

15 CLERK MURRAY: We have the proposed
16 Assessment Roll of the Greater Atlantic Beach Water
17 Reclamation District for the fiscal year commencing
18 January 1, 2024.

19 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay. Any Member of
20 the Board wish to be heard?

21 (Whereupon, no comments were heard. After,
22 the following ensued.)

23 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, I have a couple of
24 people who signed in.

25 First, this is Item Number 1.

1 You are signing in, here, for the Atlantic
2 Beach District, Mr. Procacci?

3 (Whereupon, "No, the Preliminary Budget,"
4 was heard called out from the audience. After, the
5 following ensued.)

6 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, it says, "Number
7 1, that's okay.

8 No problems. No worries.

9 Next, I have Tate Simmons.

10 This is for the Atlantic Beach Reclamation
11 District. This is Hearing Number 1.

12 (Whereupon, "No," was heard calling out from
13 the audience. After, the following ensued.)

14 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN : Okay, no worries. Okay,
15 with that, I will take a Motion.

16 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move the Assessment
17 Roll for the Greater Atlantic Beach Water Reclamation
18 District for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024,
19 be adopted.

20 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay. Can I get a
21 second, please?

22 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Second the
23 Motion.

24 CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

25 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

1 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

2 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

3 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

4 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

5 CLERK MURRAY: Deputy Supervisor Goosby.

6 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Aye.

7 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Miller?

8 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

9 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

10 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

11 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Ryder?

12 COUNCILWOMAN RYDER: Aye.

13 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, Madam Clerk,
14 please call the second Public Hearing.

15 CLERK MURRAY: We have the Preliminary
16 Budget for the Town of Hempstead for fiscal year
17 commencing January 1, 2024.

18 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay. Felix Procacci,
19 please. Good evening, Ms. Procacci, if you give your
20 name and address for the record.

21 FELIX PROCACCI: Felix Procacci, Franklin
22 Square.

23 How much reserves were used in the 2024
24 budget?

25 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: 56 million.

1 FELIX PROCACCI: How much reserves were
2 used in the 2022 budget?

3 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Mr. Procacci, this is
4 the 2024 budget, so you can ask questions - -

5 FELIX PROCACCI: '22 is all listed in
6 here.

7 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Mr. Procacci, as I
8 said, this Hearing is on the 2024 budget.

9 FELIX PROCACCI: How much Reserves were
10 used in the General Fund for 2024?

11 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: 2024, 23.4.

12 FELIX PROCACCI: How much Federal Cares
13 Act Funds remain unspent?

14 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Federal Cares
15 money has been done two years ago, three years ago.

16 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Done, Mr. Procacci.

17 FELIX PROCACCI: Zero, okay.

18 How much American Rescue Plan funds remain
19 unspent?

20 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Mr. Procacci, its
21 regarding the budget, so if you have a question - -

22 FELIX PROCACCI: It's part of the budget.
23 If it's in the Reserves, it's sitting in the budget.
24 It's part of the budget.

25 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Mr. Procacci, you

1 asked a question - -

2 FELIX PROCACCI: American Rescue Plan is
3 not part of the budget.

4 Don't you use it to pay salaries?
5 You've used it several times this year.
6 How could you say it's not part of the
7 budget?

8 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Mr. Procacci, the
9 premise of the Hearing is you ask a question - -

10 FELIX PROCACCI: In this Budget, is there
11 money allocated to pay for the maintenance of
12 typewriters?

13 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: John?

14 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: I would assume
15 if we have typewriters anywhere, we have a maintenance
16 contract on it.

17 I don't drill into each typewriter in the
18 Town of Hempstead.

19 FELIX PROCACCI: I'm just saying, years
20 ago we were told that we're going to modernize the Town
21 Clerk's office and part of it was getting rid of the
22 typewriters.

23 So, I just was wondering if we still have
24 that.

25 I did read through this budget commentary

1 and there are some errors.

2 First, this Board did vote to increase
3 taxes in 2021 on the residents of the Town's Water
4 District.

5 Just because it was used to meet State
6 mandate doesn't change the definition of a tax.

7 I mean, you put the 2021 data in the 2024
8 budget book.

9 So, you are mixing things and you tell me
10 I can't ask questions about other years, but you actually
11 do that.

12 And second, this budget was not produced
13 in an open and transparent manner.

14 Each of the funds should show their
15 expenses, the revenues, and any reserves used, so someone
16 doesn't, like me, have to go through every one and
17 calculate it.

18 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: I tend to
19 disagree with you, each does show revenue, does show
20 expense, and has a line called, "balances."

21 FELIX PROCACCI: And if somebody wanted
22 to get the total, they'd have to go through each of those
23 items and sum it up. So, it would take considerable
24 amount of time. But that's - -

25 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: If you can use

1 a calculator, you can do it.

2 FELIX PROCACCI: Yeah, but it would be
3 nice if you just - - most people who just don't know how
4 to do that, we just like to see the total reserves used.

5 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I think the
6 Comptroller was just pointing out the error of your
7 comment, that's all.

8 FELIX PROCACCI: Not the error of my
9 comment, it's making - -

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: You made a
11 misrepresentation, Mr. Procacci.

12 FELIX PROCACCI: The Town's budgeted
13 expenses in 2020 was \$437,000,000.

14 You mentioned 2020 in this book, so it is
15 apropos.

16 In 2024, according to this book, it's
17 522.5 million, that comes roughly to a 19.6% increase
18 over four years.

19 That's a pretty rapid increase in
20 expenditures, you know, budget to budget, which also
21 isn't in this book either.

22 It just says a modest increase over last
23 year, but it doesn't say what the number is.

24 So, it is related to the prior year,
25 although you say it's not.

1 Should we expect expenses to rise at a 5%
2 clip per year going forward?

3 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Mr. Procacci, nobody
4 can predict the market or anything going on.

5 I don't think anybody thought we'd have the
6 massive inflation we've seen from the Federal Government,
7 so it's tough to make those kind of estimates.

8 FELIX PROCACCI: You looked backwards in
9 this book and said, how rosy it is.

10 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: When you look backwards,
11 that's called history.

12 FELIX PROCACCI: You didn't mention from
13 2020, that 19.6 increase, that you forgot to mention.

14 You put other stuff in there, but that's not
15 it.

16 Also on this EMS thing, I just learned about
17 it this morning, so I don't really know where it is in
18 the budget book, before we go ahead with it, as far as
19 hiring people or whatever we're going to do with it, I'm
20 unclear - -

21 (Whereupon, the three-minute bell rang.
22 After, the following ensued.)

23 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, thank you.

24 FELIX PROCACCI: Thank you.

25 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Always a pleasure.

1 I know you're excited about the tax freeze.

2 Next, I'm going to call up Tate Simmons.

3 Mr. Procacci, please don't yell.

4 Mr. Procacci, this is the last time I'm
5 going to tell you, and I want this on the record, you're
6 making a number of the Board Members incredibly
7 uncomfortable with your constant yelling, your constant
8 interruptions.

9 And, I'm just letting you know I'm putting
10 it on the record, you make me feel uncomfortable at
11 times.

12 I'm asking you to be respectful, like so
13 many of the other residents have come in here and stop
14 with your antics.

15 I'm asking you personally to please stop,
16 you're making a lot of people uncomfortable continually
17 with your outbursts.

18 Thank you.

19 The next person I'm going to call up is
20 Tate Simmons.

21 Good evening, Ms. Simmons. If you've give
22 your name and address for the record.

23 Thank you.

24 TATE SIMMONS: Hi. Tate Simmons. Okay,
25 so I'm here just to question a few things about the

1 Animal Shelter.

2 As you guys know, I've been here talking
3 about it before.

4 The first is going to be on page - - is
5 the line item that is called, "Health."

6 That goes over the increase of one million
7 dollars. That's amazing.

8 I'm excited to hear more as to what
9 exactly the breakdown is of that and what that entails.

10 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: It's outside
11 services for veterinary services, laboratory services.

12 There is one for the Wantagh Animal
13 Hospital and for NY Vet, totally 1.3 million.

14 It's outside services.

15 TATE SIMMONS: What is NY Vet?

16 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: NY Vet is a
17 provider of the service.

18 TATE SIMMONS: Is it a Vet's Office? Is
19 it a Vet's Hospital?

20 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Yes.

21 TATE SIMMONS: Or will they be taking over
22 for Central Vet., now that we're severing the contract?

23 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: I can't answer
24 that question yet.

25 TATE SIMMONS: Okay, moving on, then,

1 obviously, we've talked about marketing, which would have
2 saved my cat's life and Toast's life.

3 I don't see marketing or any social media
4 expenses here on the budget.

5 I was wondering if that's hidden in one
6 of the line items, and if you could tell me where that
7 would be for marketing expenses of the animals at the
8 Animal Shelter?

9 COMPROLLER MASTROMARINO: Advertising and
10 Promotion is Account 641150. Advertising and promotion,
11 \$10,000.

12 TATE SIMMONS: How much is that?

13 COMPROLLER MASTROMARINO: \$10,000.

14 TATE SIMMONS: Okay. That doesn't seem
15 like enough to have someone standing in for marketing
16 efforts.

17 COMPROLLER MASTROMARINO: I disagree.

18 TATE SIMMONS: Okay. And then next, the
19 veterinarian, obviously, I see that two Vets will be on
20 call, and the salaries combined will be 264,000.

21 Looking into that, you know, obviously,
22 we've spoken about the need to have these on-call Vets
23 and the importance of it with Central Vet, it's on record
24 that it's been cut and Members of this Board have told me
25 that, are we planning on these Vets being seven days a

1 week in the Shelter since there is a need for the support
2 with the animals, now that we are getting rid of
3 Central Vet.?

4 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: The Shelter will make
5 the determination and availability of what can be scheduled
6 with the Vets.

7 And if there needs to be the use of an
8 outdoor Vet in case anybody's not there, it really comes
9 down to availability of people.

10 TATE SIMMONS: Okay, now in terms of
11 emergency hospitals, since we still will probably need
12 that for anything expensive, will that be getting pulled
13 out of Health?

14 COMPTROLLER MASTROMARINO: Yes.

15 TATE SIMMONS: Okay. And then another
16 question of mine, looking at the designated Lost and
17 Found Program, you can see that there was a cat named
18 Sally recently who sat in the Shelter for three months
19 and recently, by the works of God, was reunited with her
20 family without any marketing efforts by the Town of
21 Hempstead.

22 Obviously there's a need for a Lost and
23 Found person, in particular. One body would do the job.

24 Is that broken down here on the Line Items
25 anywhere?

1 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Don't think it is, but
2 we'll take it under advisement for the idea.

3 Thank you.

4 TATE SIMMONS: Okay, great.

5 I think that's really it.

6 I appreciate the support. I know I've been
7 here a few times and I appreciate you guys listening, and
8 I'm excited to hear about what is to come next.

9 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: I'm glad you have heard
10 that decision on the Vet services too.

11 I don't have any other slips.

12 Is there anybody that did not sign in that
13 did not speak this afternoon that wishes to speak, now?

14 (Whereupon, no comments were heard. After,
15 the following ensued.)

16 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, If not, may I
17 please have a motion.

18 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: I move that we
19 close the hearing - -

20 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: And adopt the budget?

21 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: - - And, adopt the
22 budget.

23 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay.

24 Please let that be reflected. There you go.

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Second.

1 CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?

2 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.

3 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?

4 COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.

5 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?

6 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.

7 CLERK MURRAY: Deputy Supervisor Goosby.

8 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Aye.

9 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Miller?

10 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

11 CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?

12 COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.

13 CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Ryder?

14 COUNCILWOMAN RYDER: Aye.

15 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Okay, before we

16 adjourn, I just want to personally say thank you to John
17 Mastromarino and his staff. He did yet another great job
18 with a tax-free budget with AAA bond rating.

19 (Whereupon, applause from the audience was
20 heard. After, the following ensued.)

21 SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: And, now may I have a
22 motion to adjourn

23 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: I move that we
24 adjourn.

25 COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Second:

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CLERK MURRAY: Supervisor Clavin?
SUPERVISOR CLAVIN: Aye.
CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Carini?
COUNCILMAN CARINI: Aye.
CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Dunne?
COUNCILMAN DUNNE: Aye.
CLERK MURRAY: Deputy Supervisor Goosby.
DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GOOSBY: Aye.
CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Miller?
COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
CLERK MURRAY: Councilman Muscarella?
COUNCILMAN MUSCARELLA: Aye.
CLERK MURRAY: Councilwoman Ryder?
COUNCILWOMAN RYDER: Aye.

(Whereupon, the official meeting of the
Hempstead Town Board Budget was concluded.)



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CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the foregoing Verbatim Transcript of the Town of Hempstead, Town Board Meeting held on October 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. consisting of pages 1 through 19 is an accurate transcription of my cryptic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.

CFM

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

NORTH SHORE COURT REPORTERS

NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK

