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2	INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF LAUREL HOLLOW BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3	PUBLIC HEARING February 9, 2022 6:30 p.m.
4	0.30 p.m.
5	PUBLIC HEARING VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE
6	DDE CENT.
7	PRESENT: DANIEL F. DeVITA, Mayor
8	JEFFREY NEMSHIN, Deputy Mayor KEVIN JUSKO, Trustee
9	JEFFREY C. MIRITELLO, Trustee RICHARD M. NICKLAS, Trustee
10	MARTIN NOVICK, Trustee NICHOLAS TSAFOS, Trustee
11	
12	ALSO PRESENT:
13	HOWARD AVRUTINE, Village Attorney
14	NANCY POPPER, Village Clerk/Court Clerk RENEE FENTON, Deputy Clerk
15	JAMES ANTONELLI, Village Engineer Consultant MICHAEL MCNERNEY, Building Department
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17	Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
18	2021 Revised Master Plan
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23	MARY ANNE COPPINS
24	OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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1	MAYOR DeVITA: We will start the
2	public meeting.
3	Howard, can you put up a flag, as
4	we begin all our meetings with the
5	Pledge of Allegiance.
6	(Whereupon, the Pledge of
7	Allegiance was said in body.)
8	Good evening, we will do the Lab
9	application first.
10	First of all, I would like to take
11	the opportunity to thank everyone for
12	taking the time to attend the public
13	meeting on the Lab application on Zoom
14	last Monday, January 31st, and for the
15	many e-mails that were sent both before
16	and after the meeting about the
17	application that were all made a part of
18	the record. All were well-intentioned,
19	heartfelt and appropriate. Because of
20	the nature of the proposed project, it
21	is understandable that there is a high
22	level of concern about the scope and
23	impact of such a project.
24	Tonight is when the Board will
25	discuss the project and finally vote on

it.

I would like to start by giving you my thoughts on the many issues that have been raised and how I intend on voting on this project, then we will hear from other members of the Board and then we will vote.

I have spent many, many hours
reading the transcripts, reviewing the
documents, including the reports of the
Village experts, and I have considered
all the necessary standards that apply.
I will vote to approve the Lab's
application for the revised Master Plan
and special use permit with conditions.
Here are my comments and reasons and
they are extensive.

Personally, I consider myself, and
I think those who know me would consider
me a straight shooter. There is no
pandering and no Washington-speak here.
In fact, some of the things I have to
say may not be well-received by those in
favor or those opposing this
application. Our job is to neither make

1 friends nor make enemies, it is to 2 decide this matter in a fair and just 3 manner with respect to the applicant and to our residents. 4 5 Unfortunately, one of the things 6 that became evident during the hearing and then continued into post-hearing 8 e-mails is that there is a certain amount of misinformation that has 10 permeated the process. Maybe it comes 11 from social media or a lack of knowledge 12 about an issue or something else, I 13 don't know. But I will address the 14 important issues from which there 15 clearly is misinformation out there. 16 First, with respect to the Boards. 17 First, the sentiment was voiced 18 that somehow other Boards should have 19 been involved, with the flip side of 20 that being that this Board of Trustees 21 is not equipped to handle this 22 application. 23 Let me address that. 24 Prior to 1996, any construction 25 applications by the Lab went to the

Zoning Board. Then, as a new Zoning 1 2 Code was established, the Village was 3 starting with a clean slate, vis-à-vis, the Lab and the procedure for future 4 5 development. Our forerunners decided 6 that the jurisdiction for the Lab 7 applications would be moved from the Zoning Board to the Board of Trustees, 8 and I understand why. At virtually 10 every meeting, the Board of Trustees 11 discusses a wide variety of issues that 12 include building matters, engineering 13 matters, environmental matters, 14 including slopes, wetlands, even 15 telecommunications, road issues, 16 including road construction, road 17 restoration, traffic signals, financial 18 matters, including budgeting, public 19 bidding, procurement and others, police, 20 and fire coverage and other contract 21 issues. These are things we handle and 22 have done so for many years. Moreover, 23 each year the Board of Trustees is 24 scheduled to meet 11 times. Last year 25 the Board of Trustees met 18 times. The Planning Board met four times, and the Zoning board three times.

It is understandable given the broad range of responsibility and experience and wide variety of municipal issues that the jurisdiction for Lab construction was changing from the Zoning Board to the Board of Trustees.

Now, I have appointed, or reappointed, and this Board has confirmed, each and every member of the Zoning Board and Planning Board. I have confidence they are able to handle the responsibilities assigned to them by law. More importantly, I have full confidence in this Board's ability to handle its obligations under the law which includes the examination and decision-making responsibilities for Lab construction projects. This it further bolstered, as I described in the hearing, by the fact that four of our current Trustees first served on the Zoning Board, including myself, serving many years as a Board member, then as

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Chairperson, during which time I

personally wrote dozens of Zoning Board

decisions in narrative form, a tradition

no longer followed. So the Board of

Trustees is certainly well-equipped to

handle this application.

The nature of this project.

Let's be clear about the nature of

Let's be clear about the nature of this project. This is an expansion of the campus for a non-profit entity. It is not a construction project proposed by a for-profit business developer who is going to build a Walmart, a strip mall, a housing complex or a multi-unit condo complex who, once finished, will pick up their equipment, pack their tools and leave.

Now, there is nothing wrong with that type of development, but that is not what we have here. The Lab is part of our community. After this project is completed it's not going to pick up and leave. I think it's safe to say it will always be here. It has been for the past 130 years and there is nothing to

indicate that will change. In fact,
this project proves otherwise. While I

do not disparage at all the

profit-making nature of private

development, the Lab offers, as its

goal, in furtherance of this building

project to help cure disease and to

improve humanity's lot.

Many people in the hearing or

post-hearing submissions gave lip

service to that truth, but I believe it

weighs more heavily here.

One other thought on this topic.

It seems to me the proposed project is akin to an application to build an extension on a house. I don't mean to say that they're comparable in size or scope or impact, but the resident who lives in their house during construction knows how challenging it can be. Here, the Lab will be operating a world-class facility for this project going on at the same time. I believe that they would want this to be as minimally intrusive to their staff and operations

1	as to those outside the campus.
2	Consequently, we have to look at the
3	mitigation proposals put forth by the
4	Lab and analyze whether they're
5	sufficient.
6	Environmental review.
7	One of the pieces of misinformation
8	put forth during the hearing was that
9	the Village is relying on an outdated
10	2004 Environmental Impact Statement and
11	somehow it has not fulfilled its
12	responsibility for environmental review.
13	Nothing could be further from the
14	truth.
15	Both Howard, our Village Attorney,
16	and James Antonelli, our Consultant
17	Engineer, did an excellent job at the
18	end of the hearing explaining both the
19	Lab's and the Village's responsibilities
20	for analyzing environmental impacts on
21	the documents to be reviewed. Instead
22	of me reinventing the wheel, let me
23	quote at length.
24	Quote, Mr. Avrutine:
25	"I think what is important for the

community to know here is that this is

-- the development plan and the Master
Plan for the Laboratory has been ongoing
three decades or more. And in 2004 what
was significant about it was, yes, the
original Environmental Impact Statement
was done in 2004. The Master Plan that
was created at that time contemplated
most of what is before the Board
tonight. And, yes, there's been some
changes, but overall, as far as the
Master Plan is concerned, it's
consistent.
Similarly in 2018, when the Lab

Similarly in 2018, when the Lab amended the plan, there were some changes. But, again, the overall scope was substantially similar. Also, in 2004, as I indicated, there was the full Environmental Impact Statement. In 2018, it was a supplement, essentially, through a long Environmental Assessment Form and study submitted at the time. But, again, that was the change to the plan; not the actual applications to begin the work, which is what this is.

What is required now is not being characterized as a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement terminology.

Let's look at what was submitted because I don't want any resident or

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because I don't want any resident or any Board member or anyone, quite frankly involved in this hearing, to think that the full required environmental review was not, is not being performed here, because it is. And as part of that, there was a traffic study submitted which was reviewed in detail by Mr. Antonelli. You heard about it on many, many occasions during this evening, the scope and the extent of it. And all of this material, highly technical, as much of it is, is always put on the website for anyone who has the patience to read it, if they could.

For instance, lighting plans, noise studies, traffic studies that we've already talked about, all the impacts that can reasonably be anticipated from this application and from the work that

is being contemplated by this project 1 2 were reviewed, and not based upon old 3 data, but based upon new information submitted contemporaneously with this 4 5 application. So the Board's obligation 6 under State Law to do its environmental 7 review, and Mr. Antonelli referred to it 8 several hours ago, is a concept of taking a hard look. So what the Board 10 is obligated to do is to, A, identify 11 the areas of potential impact, what they 12 are; B, take a hard look at what those 13 impacts are; and C, formulate mitigation 14 for the maximum extent practicable under 15 the circumstances. And, so, that is the 16 role under SEQRA to make sure that the 17 actual anticipated impacts are 18 identified and studied to a degree that 19 the Village can intelligently determine 20 how best to mitigate the impact. 21 22 23 they conclude that the applicant

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It doesn't mean that the Board is obligated to prove anything just because submitted sufficient material; but, the Board must determine that the materials

submitted are sufficient and that is the 1 2 role, the Board has to make that 3 determination. But they make that determination in large part on the 4 5 advice and analysis and recommendations 6 of people who are professionals, such as 7 Mr. Antonelli who has done that. So that is very, very essential to 8 this situation because it's Mr. 10 Antonelli's analysis in reporting back 11 to the Board that the sufficiency of a 12 lot of this technical material is what 13 is important. Because the Board 14 members, as I am, are lay people with 15 respect to much of it." 16 Mr. Antonelli then says, "I would 17 like to just mention something about the 18 supplement EIS. That was the subject of 19 a number of comments tonight, per se. 20 A supplement or an amendment to a 21 previous EIS is typically done if there 22 are impacts that were not even 23 considered before. And just because you 24 change your project and believe me, I 25 have been through this. This started

back in the '70s, I have a lot of
experience on this and I don't want to
sound like an attorney, I'm not trying
to, but just because a project changes
or there's a change of scope or any part
of the project, that doesn't mean you
file a supplemental EIS, that is not the
purpose.

So just to amplify what Howard said, what we are looking at is an evaluation of the various subjects that can be scoped or part of a scope of the former EIS, and that's what we are evaluating," closed quote.

That's the hearing transcript pages 138 to 141.

Because a number of people had already left the hearing at that late time, we had Jim prepare a supplemental report to repeat and amplify what had been said late at night. Between that February 2nd report and Jim's original January 21, 2022 report, the many, many documents are listed and described as to what makes up a complete environmental

assessment.

The 2004 EIS is only one such document; moreover, it does, in fact, contain the project that is subject of the application today. I am sure the people who said the Board was relying on an outdated report did not know that. I say that because they did not even look at it. And how do I know that.

Prior to the hearing not one

person, including those at the hearing

claiming to be in the know, claiming it

was outdated, ever asked to see it, not

one. The couple of people after the

hearing who said they were going to come

to the Village Hall to see it never

showed up.

Let me say one final word on this point.

In addition to my position to

Mayor, I have the privilege of serving

as the Chairperson of the Oyster Bay

Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee.

This committee consists of

representatives of the many different

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municipalities in the watershed area, including seven villages, the Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County, and the nonprofit organization Friends of the Bay, which, by the way, Friends of the Bay has reviewed the project, met with the Lab and has asserted no objections.

The protection committee exists for education, training and promulgation of programs to improve the water quality in the bay and harbor. Our Oyster Gardening program which started in Laurel Hollow and is sponsored by the committee, and the committee's sponsoring of testing for microbial source tracking of bacteria in the harbor, and MS-4 training are some examples of what we do on the committee to improve the water quality of our environment. I assure you, no one will ever get a break, be able to skirt, or somehow get a pass on environmental regulations, not on this project, not on any other project and not on my watch.

Now, let's take a look at the

1 environmental subject for mitigation 2 proposed. 3 Water and Drainage. We know the project is being 4 5 constructed on land that is 6 characterized by our Code as steep, very 7 steep and severely steep slope property. 8 Our engineer is satisfied with the erosion control and drainage measures in 10 place, as well as the SWPPP, the Storm 11 Water Pollution Prevention Plan. 12 addition, if approved, we should adopt 13 our Engineer's recommendations for the 14 Village to conduct inspection of erosion 15 control measures prior to 16 groundbreaking. Moreover, the Village 17 should conduct SWPPP inspections 18 periodically during the construction 19 process as determined by the Village 20 Engineer. In addition, one of the 21 conditions relevant to runoff from the 22 temporary parking lot was the scour hole 23 rock feature to help prevent erosion.

In addition, the Lab will use permeable

asphalt in the temporary parking area as

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1 described in their plan. 2 Noise and sound. 3 There was discussion during the hearing about noise during construction. 4 5 The Lab exhibited a noise study showing 6 acceptable levels of noise given the 7 distances from the homes. You may recall Jim Antonelli's 8 confirming this and recounting that 10 every time you double the distance from 11 where the sound emanates, the sound 12 level drops six decibels so you're 13 basically down to background noise on 14 Moores Hill Road. 15 However, as a condition, I would 16 have the Lab use best efforts to reduce 17 construction vehicle backup noise by 18 eliminating backup beeps and using other 19 technology and/or flagmen in their place 20 that are compliant with all safety rules 21 and regulations. 22 Traffic. 23 Temporary construction road, start 24 with the concept of why one is needed. 25 Consider when construction is done

on a single-family home. Whether if it's for a swimming pool, an extension to a house, temporary construction driveways are almost always part of the project, especially if a family is living through the construction project. Separation from construction equipment for safety reasons and for the reason that you need to keep your house running as close to normal as possible during construction, including ingress and egress to your home.

Similarly, here, granted on a much larger scale, the Lab has explained they want to keep construction as separate as possible from the scientists and science being conducted.

Here is another factor that has
been much overlooked. We have a track
record we can look to. This same
proposed construction entrance was
already used in the past and I believe
demonstrated it could be used
successfully. If it weren't, I doubt we
would see an application to use it again

in the same place for a similarly large project.

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People complained at the hearing it will be tougher to turn out of Moores Hill Road because of increased traffic. But there were complaints that, in general, traffic is slow going on 25A and that this would make it worse, especially since things are slow-going in the morning and afternoon hours. However, the testimony at the hearing was that the conference housing will be used to house conference attendees during a conference. Presently, the people are bussed in from local hotels and motels. Because of the conference schedules the vans and buses are sometimes making three trips a day between the Lab and the hotels and the motels. Housing the conference attendees on campus will eliminate much of that traffic.

With respect to the traffic for construction, the traffic study concludes that during the busiest time

of construction, the project would 1 2 generate 12 truck trips, six entering 3 and six exiting during the weekday a.m. 4 and p.m. peak hours. Moreover, the 5 study recommends, and the New York State 6 Department of Transportation permit requires, and I would require as a condition, right turns only out of that 8 entrance. Furthermore, there is no 10 conceivable need for any construction 11 vehicles, construction workers' vehicles 12 to travel on any Village roads. Consequently, I would make this a 13 14 condition, the prohibition of any 15 construction-related vehicle from 16 traveling on any Village roads; 17 additionally, no construction-related 18 vehicle will be allowed to use Cold 19 Spring Road. 20 Also, the Lab has submitted an 21 updated truck route as part of the 22 record, essentially requiring an eastern 23 approach from Park Avenue, which is

further east than 110 to 25A to the Lab,

and then exiting onto 25A west and then

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1 proceeding south on 106. I would make 2 this route a condition. Also, to 3 further guard against unnecessary intrusion onto our roads, including 4 5 turnarounds, I would erect, at the Lab 6 expense, signs at intersections of 7 Moores Hill and 25A, Laurel Hollow Road 8 and 25A, Cold Spring Road and 25A stating that Lab construction vehicles 10 are prohibited from entering these 11 roads, from Village roads. 12 With respect to the difficulty of 13 making a left turn out of Moores Hill 14 Road, it sounds like there are already 15 delays because of traffic and not 16 because of line-of-sight issues. 17 As discussed at the hearing, the 18 distance between the temporary 19 construction entrance and Moores Hill is 20 450 feet. That is one and-a-half 21 football fields. The New York State DOT 22 would never issue the permit if they 23 didn't think it was sufficient. 24 Let me say this, especially if you 25 chose to purchase a home and live right

on 25A. 25A is classified as a State highway. Because of that, the Village does not have controls over it that it does on a Village road. We cannot control car or truck traffic. We cannot maintain it, plow it or decide whether traffic control devices are needed, and if they are, which ones and how many there will be.

We can ask the DOT to study it with the end game that a traffic control device is needed at one or more intersections. I can probably guarantee that just as many people may not want additional traffic control devices as would want them for a number of reasons, including they do, in fact, slow down the flow of traffic even further and vehicle noise and air pollution is increased when a vehicle accelerates from a stop position than a vehicle in motion.

In any event, I go back to my first point that the temporary construction entrance has a proven traffic record,

1 and I would approve it with the 2 aforementioned conditions. 3 Screening. Two different parts of the project 4 to be screened. 5 6 First, the temporary parking lot to 7 be constructed in the northerly portion of the campus and then the project area. 8 First, the Lab has stated that it 10 will screen the temporary parking lot 11 from residents living on the ridge above 12 the temporary parking lot area by 13 utilizing transplanted Evergreens 14 removed from the area of tree removal 15 above at southwesterly portion of the 16 campus. I would make that a condition. 17 With respect to the rest of the 18 project, the Lab said it would submit a 19 permanent landscape plan by the end of 20 the year. 21 A couple of things -- of course, 22 that would be conditioned on any plan 23 being subject to the approval of the 24 Board of Trustees. But further, any 25 permanent plan must have screening

sufficient so that no part of the buildings are visible from Laurel Hollow residents' properties.

The view we have been given by the Lab are from roadway views. This is fine for the dog walkers, but not for people living there. I know that is a concern that has been voiced by residents going back to the 2018 hearing. However, there is another concern.

The first part of this project, which is scheduled to last four years, is the removal of over 200 trees in order to construct the new portion of the ring road. Part of this will affect the 150-foot buffer. The Lab says it will restore the buffer, which it is required to do. The fact is we don't want residents, because of the removal of trees and screening, to have to look into a large construction site for four years.

So as a condition, I would require an interim screening plan be submitted

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1 to the Village, which plan will be 2 subject to the approval of the Board of 3 Trustees and which plan will provide the complete screening of the construction 4 site from the view of residents' 5 6 properties until the final landscape 7 plan is implemented. If there must be a 8 wall of Evergreen, so be it. It will be much better to look at that than a 10 construction site. Also, whatever 11 Evergreens from the interim screening 12 cannot be integrated into the final 13 landscape plan will be donated to the 14 Village to be used as screening and 15 further mitigation of the visual impact 16 of the Crown Castle cell nodes being 17 installed in the Village. 18 Money. 19 There are two aspects to this 20

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There are two aspects to this topic. The first is the building fees for this project. The final amount of the building fees will be determined by our Building Inspector in accordance with the Code. His determination will be final.

We know that the figure will be several million dollars, easily the largest building fee ever collected by this Village; furthermore, the largest influx of revenue at one time. Yet, many people have been dismissive of this as a one-shot thing. I am not. This is considerable revenue that practically matches an entire year's budget, year of our budget.

The second aspect of the money issue is the additional monies that some claim should be paid in addition to the pilot.

We discussed at the hearing that
the police and fire expenditures
utilized by the Lab are presently
covered by the pilot. I explained that
if you calculate one-third of fire calls
to the Oyster Bay companies are from the
Lab, that's one-third of the \$265,000
fee we pay for fire protection north of
25A, that is \$85,000. Roughly, the
140,000 remaining is adequate to cover
police response. Don't forget the Lab

has its own security force which
mitigates somewhat the need for more
extensive police presence.

Another way to look at it is to

take the amount of the Lab pilot for the 2021-22 year, the 226,000, divide it by the average tax bill, which is \$4,736 and you get 48. That would be 48 2-acre plots paying the average tax bill. That is 96 acres, which is roughly the size of the Lab campus. So that if the Lab was somehow subdivided into two-acre taxpaying residential plots, the tax revenue would equal what the Lab pays in the pilot. The simple fact is that the pilot does cover police and fire services that are utilized.

This is significant for the following reasons:

As we have heard, the Lab is a nonprofit and does not have to pay anything. However, it recognizes its moral obligation and contributes for services rendered. However, what we heard from some people was that

1	regardless of all that the Lab should
2	pay more. Why? Well, as one resident
3	put it, quote, "You have a lot of money,
4	we should get some of it."
5	That reminds me of the statement of
6	Willie Sutton who when famously asked
7	why do you rob banks, he responded
8	that's where the money is.
9	Well, the Lab is not a bank or some
10	fatted pig roasting on a spit waiting
11	for us to engorge ourselves. It is a
12	nonprofit, tax-exempt world-class
13	scientific community seeking to better
14	humanity's lot in this world.
15	Here is the real issue.
16	The call for a special district fee
17	is illegal. Everyone agrees you cannot
18	tax the Lab. You cannot tax a
19	nonprofit. Calling it a special
20	district fee would never survive.
21	First, let's look at the difference
22	between a fee and a tax.
23	Both Forbes and the Tax Foundation
24	define them as follows:
25	A tax has a primary purpose of

raising revenue. By contrast, a fee recoups the cost of providing a service from the beneficiary. So if the pilot recoups the cost of providing services, labeling something a special district fee would have a purpose nothing more than raising revenue and therefore is a tax and therefore is illegal. While Section 148 -- 145-8 of our

Code does permit the Board to impose a condition that payment for services can be a condition of a variance in a zoning application, that section of law is also crystal clear that the tax-exempt entity must consent. Moreover, that section was enacted in 1996 before a pilot agreement was, in fact, mutually agreed to between the Village and the Lab. addition, the Lab has made it clear it will not consent to paying more than the millions in building fees on this project in the pilot fees currently in existence.

Area variances.

The Lab, as part of this

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1 application, has applied for area variances. An area variance is an 2 authorization for the use of land that 3 is not allowed by dimensional or 4 5 physical requirements of the applicable 6 zoning regulations. A determination 7 will consider weighing the benefits to the applicant if a variance is granted 8 versus the detriment to the health, 10 safety and welfare of the community by 11 such grant. 12 The Board also considers whether 13 the variance, if granted, will change 14 the character of the neighborhood, 15 whether the benefit sought can be 16 achieved by some other way, whether the variance is substantial, whether the 17 variance itself will have an adverse 18 19 effect in the neighborhood or district 20 and whether the hardship is self-created

Let's examine the requested variances.

of the variance.

First, the maximum allowable

which alone cannot preclude the granting

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building area, which is the building
footprint which is under our Code
forecent of the lot area.

The Lab proposes to increase this to 6.21 percent of the lot area. While that translates into an overage of more than 9,000 square feet, I consider this to be a very minor increase, given the lot size, 88 acres, 103 if you include the beach.

Second, the Lab's application seeks a variance from the floor-area ratio.

That is basically a bulk coverage measurement where each story of the structure is counted. The Code allows floor-area ratio of 12 percent of the lot area. In this case, the Lab proposes 12.08 percent, or 3400 square feet over what is allowed by Code.

Again, this requested increase is minimal, one-tenth of one percent. And neither change, in my opinion, will be a detriment to the health, safety and welfare of the community.

While the hardship is self-created,

1 as are most applications for new 2 construction, that should not be 3 determinative. As to whether the benefit can be achieved some other way, 4 there is no evidence that it could. 5 to lessen the overall environmental 6 7 impact of this construction, the Lab, in fact, altered the plans in 2018 to 8 remove distributive parking and center 10 it in the subsurface parking lot 11 proposed. 12 Consequently, I would vote to 13 approve the variances with the 14 aforementioned conditions. 15 With respect to the construction 16 being done in virtually every category 17 of slope, steep, very steep and severely 18 steep, I believe the Lab has proven 19 sufficient mitigating factors that would 20 prevent drainage, runoff and other storm 21 water problems. 22 We can point to their SWPPP and Jim 23 Antonelli's analysis of it for 24 activities both during construction and 25 thereafter. To note, the severely steep

portion is manmade, left over from previous construction and presently contains a portion of the ring road which widening in one small area will be the only severely steep slope area affected.

With respect to the removal of 200-plus trees, I'll note that that's a lot of trees. However, it is not uncommon for the Village to get a request to take down 40, 50 or 60 trees for a new swimming pool, maybe patio, and over 100 trees for new house construction, and that is for a 2-acre lot.

Given the size of the project, the Lab's history of impeccable landscaping of the campus, I would commit the removal of the trees, the transplanting of those the Lab intends to use to screen the temporary parking lot, the final landscape plan subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees and the interim landscape plan already discussed.

Finally, I want to make some 1 2 comments about the Lab as a neighbor. 3 These do not weigh in on the application, other than to say we should 4 5 not do things like impose an illegal tax 6 that will only lead to treasure-sucking 7 litigation and bad neighborly relations. The Lab, in fact, is a good neighbor. 8 Did you know that the Lab allows 10 our residents to use their private 11 beach. There is sign on Lab property 12 that says private beach, use of the beach is restricted to Cold Spring 13 14 Harbor Lab staff and residents of the 15 Village of Laurel Hollow. 16 Did you know that the Lab lets Laurel Hollow residents walk and dog 17 18 walk throughout their private property. 19 Did you know that the Lab maintains 20 the triangle on 25A and Cold Spring 21 They planted a tree, cut back and 22 removed overgrown shrubs, de-weed 23 regularly and remove the leaves from 24 there. They use their employees, at no 25 charge to us, even though New York State

1 requires Laurel Hollow to maintain that 2 triangle. 3 Did you know that we piggyback on the Lab Swift-reach system. That means 4 5 that every time we send out a 6 Swift-reach e-mail it costs the Lab 7 money, not us. 8 Did you know that the Lab and the Village have a very beneficial 10 inter-municipal agreement to both 11 parties involving the gas pump tank at 12 the Laurel Hollow police booth. The Lab 13 pays for all maintenance, insurance, 14 testing. In addition, they pay us a \$350 monthly administrative fee for use 15 16 of the pump for their vehicles. The point is there is no reason to 17 18 destroy the goodwill and mutually 19 beneficial relationship that presently 20 exists between the Lab and the Village 21 by doing things like trying to impose an 22 illegal tax. 23 As I've said, I've spent many, many 24 hours reading the transcripts, reviewing 25 the documents, including the reports of

1 the Village experts and have considered all the necessary standards that apply. 2 3 I will vote to approve the Lab's application for the revised Master Plan 4 5 and the Special Use Permit. 6 The use authorized by a Special Use Permit is recognized under law as a 8 permitted use and shall be approved provided all Zoning Ordinance criteria 10 is met. Here, approval of the Special 11 Use Permit is appropriate, especially 12 because, first, all of the environmental 13 mitigation measures being taken. 14 Second, the imposition of 15 conditions intended to minimize impacts 16 from the project to the maximum extent 17 practicable under the circumstances. 18 In conclusion, I will vote to 19 approve the Lab's application with the 20 conditions I mentioned, plus whatever other conditions the Board feels are 21 22 warranted. 23 I would like to hear now from the 24 rest of the Board. 25 First, Deputy Mayor Nemshim.

1	DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: You want me
2	to follow that up, Dan?
3	MAYOR DeVITA: However you want.
4	DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: You did a
5	great job. You touched on all the
6	points.
7	I looked through all the plans. I
8	looked through much of the application
9	and the paperwork. I did visit the Lab,
10	I did walk the site. I know what kind
11	of neighbor the Lab is to us. I know
12	the importance of the Lab and the work
13	that they do. I also understand the
14	trepidations of the Village and the
15	neighbors, the Village residents and the
16	size of the project. When you look at
17	the project and when you see the
18	magnitude of the parking structure and
19	the other structures, I understand their
20	concern, which is one of the reasons why
21	I spent some time going through the
22	plans and walking the site.
23	I don't remember when they built
24	the previous structures that were
25	erected there, but I know the way those

were built and incorporated into the landscape, and, frankly, I think they are attractive, really well done and there is no doubt in my mind that this new construction will be consistent with what they have there.

One of the things that stood out to me during the hearing was the number, or the net increase in individuals that will be on the campus or in the campus.

Being in the real estate business,

I actually have done a few laboratory

deals, transactions when people are

leasing laboratory and/or constructing

laboratory space.

One of the things I think is important to mention is that laboratory space is very low in density with people. Laboratory space is built for just that purpose, for laboratory purposes, obviously. But it's not a high-dense space, not like an insurance company that will have one person every 80 square feet or 100 square feet. It's much less dense than that. So even

1	though the structures are bigger, I know
2	a big portion of this laboratory, it's a
3	low density of people, which is less
4	traffic, less people coming in and out,
5	less people on the campus.
6	One of the things that stood out to
7	me after doing this project, I believe
8	the figure was 60 or 70 net gain of
9	individuals that will be utilizing these
10	facilities, whether they are staying or
11	commuting to the site, and that is just
12	not a big impact. And if you told me
13	there would be 300 more people coming to
14	the Lab in cars every day, every
15	morning, at the end of the day,
16	commuting out of there, that would be
17	very different, but this it quite the
18	opposite of that.
19	So those are the important features
20	that I looked at and what is going to
21	direct the way I will vote on this.
22	Thank you very much.
23	MAYOR DeVITA: Thank you, Jeff.
24	Trustee Nicklas?
25	TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Between the open

meeting and I read all the e-mails, I 1 2 get the impression that almost all of 3 them, all comments, were very favorable and most all had very reasonable 4 5 questions and concerns. You've touched 6 on so many of them that I am not going 7 to bore you trying to repeat them, but I have two comments on the traffic. 8 Let's assume -- one thing I would 10 hope the Lab, and I think they said they 11 would -- will really harp on the drive, 12 the construction workers not to go on 13 the Village road, not to use Moores Hill 14 or Laurel Hollow Road as turnarounds. 15 think there is a very simple solution to 16 that. 17 When they come out of the Lab's 18 entrance, construction entrance, drive 19 up to the light, make a left, make 20 another left and now you're headed back 21 east, you don't have to do any 22 turnarounds within the Village. 23 The other thing is -- I won't go 24 into the detail now, but Steve, I'll 25 call you and give you an idea. I think

the routing of the trucks is flawed. 1 2 think I had a better solution that will 3 avoid going through Huntington Village. I couldn't see any way we can avoid Cold 4 5 Spring Harbor, unfortunately, the 6 Village there, but I think we should avoid the Village of Huntington. 7 Landscaping was brought up many 8 times, Dan touched on it. 10 My feeling on that is I just look 11 at the record of the Lab and in regard 12 to how beautiful the campus is and what they do to maintain it and all the 13 14 effort they have to provide a buffer for 15 the Village. And I think that I would 16 use the effort, also, in most everything they do as neighbors. As Dan said and 17 18 Jeff said they're great neighbors. 19 Actually, I am proud to have them as a 20 neighbor. 21 I guess that is my summary. I 22 think they are great neighbors and are 23 very considerate of us. Everything they 24 do they do in great detail to try and 25 mitigate any problems. I think that is

1	evident when you read all the comments
2	and the plans they submitted to us for
3	this project.
4	So my vote is going to be yes.
5	MAYOR DeVITA: Thank you, Rich.
6	Trustee Miritello?
7	TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I see no reason
8	to say no, actually. I've looked at the
9	papers. I have gone through them. I've
10	talked to the experts and we really
11	can't deny it. They have parking with
12	New York State that I'm satisfied with.
13	The only thing I'm not satisfied or
14	actually, for a condition I would put in
15	is I am worried about the houses next to
16	the Lab.
17	The Lab, and I think they already
18	said they would take pictures of the
19	houses beforehand and they would fix any
20	damage done.
21	Other than that, I can't see any
22	reason to say no.
23	MAYOR DeVITA: I think that was
24	said, they said they would do foundation
25	surveys.

1	TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Then that is
2	perfect.
3	MAYOR DeVITA: Thanks, Jeff.
4	Trustee Tsafos?
5	TRUSTEE TSAFOS: I also read the
6	e-mails and heard the concerns of the
7	residents. I looked at the blueprints
8	and the plans and listened to the
9	presentation.
10	I would have to say my biggest
11	concern was the traffic issues that were
12	raised. However, being a resident for
13	the past 12 years what I did notice is
14	since COVID-19 started the increase in
15	traffic in the Village, and that mostly
16	has to do with less bussing of school
17	children to school and just the volume
18	of everybody just using their cars. I
19	think with COVID-19 going away, I think
20	you will see a reduction, I hope we see
21	a reduction in traffic, which, I think,
22	will mitigate the concerns that
23	residents have.
24	I am proud to have the Lab in our
25	Village and all the great work they do

1 and everything that I've noticed or I 2 have seen, I should say, since I have 3 been on the Board of Trustees about 10 years, if you have to rate everything 4 5 from one to 10, the Lab does everything 6 at 13 to 14. 7 So based on this history and the 8 plan they laid out, I am for -- I approve the plan to go forward. 10 MAYOR DeVITA: Thank you, Nick. 11 Trustee Novick? 12 TRUSTEE NOVICK: I've also studied 13 the plans to a degree as a layman and 14 don't really feel adequate in making a 15 great decision based on the plans, but 16 overall, and talking about a facility 17 that is world renowned, that the purpose 18 is to contribute so much to mankind, 19 that I don't see how we can stand in its 20 way because of traffic or because the 21 rabbits are going to have a problem 22 finding new homes. I think everything 23 should be in proportion to what the 24 benefits are. 25 The only thing that I can suggest

1 further is speaking to some of the neighbors who do not want this to go on 2 3 endlessly. So I am thinking of, perhaps, we can make a schedule, barring 4 5 anything of natural disasters that may 6 happen to shorten or increase it, but the residents should get periodic 8 updates as to where we are in the construction. If it's a four-year deal 10 or a three-year deal or whatever it is, 11 then every quarter or six months, whatever the residents -- whatever we 12 13 feel, we should give an update as to 14 where they are and be abreast and 15 everybody be aware of the scheduling of 16 how it's going to run. Other than that, I find no other 17 18 concern. I am also very proud to have 19 them as a neighbor and it's just a great 20 institution. And we should do all we 21 can to encourage them to grow, and to do 22 better for mankind than to look for ways 23 to stymie their growth and make it 24 difficult for them.

I will vote for the Lab.

1	MAYOR DeVITA: Thank you, Marty.
2	I would also endorse that condition
3	as quarterly periodic construction
4	updates to the Village and we can let
5	our residents know. Thank you.
6	Trustee Jusko?
7	TRUSTEE JUSKO: Yes, Dan.
8	I have been to the Lab on two site
9	visits, spent several hours working with
10	the Lab officials, taking a tour of the
11	property, reviewing all of the
12	documents, speaking to our engineer and
13	then I have been on visited the site
14	personally just walking it to get a
15	sense of the project. I read all of the
16	documents, the concerns of the
17	residents. Dan, you basically touched
18	on most of them, but if I can add a
19	little color to the tree issue.
20	The Lab proposed to moving 213
21	trees. We know that many of them will
22	be relocated. I did look at the Village
23	records. There were five, over the last
24	many years, I picked out five projects,
0.5	l

three new homes, two homes that were

adding a pool and patio. So the total was about 10 acres of property and there were 324 trees removed from those five projects. So I don't believe that the tree removal that the Lab is proposing is out of the -- is too far away.

My one condition that I would suggest, and I believe the Lab will do that, is for the temporary construction fence, that it be covered in a solid material to prevent, at least as possible, the view into the construction site while it is being -- while the construction is going on.

And if I can add another item to did you know. The Lab has allowed the Village to use their conference rooms on many occasions over the decade that I have been living in the Village. There were many Crown Castle hearings, the police contract, the one we switched from Nassau County to Oyster Bay Cove, to leave the Village Hall after hurricane Sandy was temporary. We relocated, at least the meetings, to the

1 Lab and there was even a Narcan training 2 meeting that took place at the Lab, all 3 at no cost to the Village. For all of the reasons that Dan 4 5 mentioned, obviously, the great work 6 that the Lab does for humanity, I also 7 would be voting in favor of this 8 project. MAYOR DeVITA: Thank you, Kevin. 10 I would endorse that cover of the construction fence also as a condition. 11 12 The irony is because of the size of --13 when we had large public hearings, if it 14 were not for the pandemic tonight's 15 hearing, rather, the January 31st 16 hearing probably would have been at the 17 Lab. 18 But in any event, that's just in 19 addition. I appreciate the other things 20 you said. 21 So, Howard, what's the next step on 22 this? 23 MR. AVRUTINE: So, at this point, 24 procedurally, the Board of Trustees, as 25 lead agency on this application as it

1 has been since 2004, makes certain determinations regarding the 2 3 environmental impact in full accordance with the requirements under New York 4 5 State Environmental Quality Review Act. 6 The first such legal requirement is 7 for the Board of Trustees, as lead 8 agency, to determine what type of action this constitutes under SEQRA. And in 10 this particular case under the SEQRA 11 rules this type of action would be deemed unlisted. 12 13 It was originally Type I which is 14 the most severe impact and that was all 15 covered by the original Environmental 16 Impact Statement. So, as an action 17 taken pursuant to the original Master 18 Plan and the modifications, this would 19 constitute an unlisted action. 20 So the first motion I would request 21 that the Board pass is one declaring 22 this action as unlisted under the New 23 York State Environmental Quality Review 24 Act.

MAYOR DeVITA: I will make that

1	motion.
2	I need a second.
3	TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Second.
4	That's Trustee Nicklas.
5	Now I will poll the Board.
6	Deputy Mayor Nemshin?
7	DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Aye.
8	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Miritello?
9	TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Aye.
10	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos?
11	TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.
12	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Novick?
13	TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.
14	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Jusko?
15	TRUSTEE JUSKO: Aye.
16	MAYOR DeVITA: Okay, Howard.
17	MR. AVRUTINE: Okay. At this time,
18	in the aspect of having declared the
19	matter unlisted, the question now is to
20	determine what the impacts will be and
21	whether the Board can conclude that the
22	anticipated environmental impacts have
23	been mitigated sufficiently to issue
24	what's called a negative declaration,
25	meaning that there will be, with all of

1	the mitigation, an un-consequential
2	impact on the environment with the
3	mitigation factors.
4	I would like ask Mr. Antonelli to
5	speak about this aspect of the
6	proceedings. I know he had indicated
7	previously, the applicant submitted a
8	shorten Environmental Assessment Form in
9	connection with this application. That
10	is deemed Part 1 of the environmental
11	review process. Part 2 is the
12	assessment of the impact and Part 3 are
13	the findings. So I would like Mr.
14	Antonelli to summarize his preparation
15	of Part 2, the anticipated impacts in
16	Part 3, which are the proposed
17	environmental findings which have been
18	distributed to the Board for review.
19	MR. ANTONELLI: Thank you.
20	For the record, Jim Antonelli,
21	Village Engineering Consultant.
22	Before I begin, at the risk of
23	either showing that I don't hear as well
24	as I think I do, when the Mayor made a
25	remark about the right turn from the

1	construction site, I only heard right
2	turn out, and Dan, I don't know whether
3	you misread or
4	MAYOR DeVITA: No, no, right turn
5	in and right turn out. Yes, thank you.
6	MR. ANTONELLI: I just wanted to
7	clarify that because I heard out only,
8	okay, sorry for that.
9	As a consequence to the Public
10	Hearing and the information submitted I
11	did prepare the SEQRA Parts 2 and 3.
12	Part 2 includes an evaluation of the
13	for enumeration of the potential
14	environmental impacts and whether or not
15	they are significant.
16	The New York State DEC in their
17	guidelines gives us threshold limits to
18	weigh against and if there are any
19	potentially significant aspects then in
20	the SEQRA Part 3, that would include a
21	detailed evaluation and explanation of
22	the level of significance and also a
23	forerunner to the mitigation measures.
24	The specific issues that I have
25	examined, and I believe the Mayor has

1	covered all of them but I will just go
2	through what part of the Part 3 it
3	potentially impacts to the following:
4	Land, grading, land disturbance, soil,
5	erosion, ecology, including plants,
6	animals, water bodies, any surface
7	waters, flooding, storm water, impacts
8	to ground water, potential impacts to
9	aesthetics, lighting, visual aspects,
10	traffic, zoning and community services.
11	They are all included in the detail. It
12	is based on factual technical
13	information, not opinion, and it is
14	complete and sent to the Board.
15	MR. AVRUTINE: And the Part 3
16	document, Jim, consists of approximately
17	eight pages of environmental findings
18	based upon your review.
19	MR. ANTONELLI: Nine.
20	MR. AVRUTINE: Nine, sorry. I
21	don't mean to shortchange you.
22	And if you can, at this time, offer
23	a recommendation to the Board regarding
24	its determination of significance.
25	MR. ANTONELLI: The recommendation

1	is for a negative declaration under
2	SEQRA.
3	MR. AVRUTINE: Thank you, Mr.
4	Antonelli.
5	At this time, then, I would request
6	that a motion be made to declare a
7	negative declaration.
8	MAYOR DeVITA: I'll move to declare
9	a negative declaration and I'll ask the
10	Board for a second.
11	TRUSTEE JUSKO: I'll second.
12	MAYOR DeVITA: That's Trustee
13	Jusko.
14	Deputy Mayor Nemshin?
15	DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Aye.
16	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Nicklas?
17	TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Aye.
18	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Miritello?
19	TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Aye.
20	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos?
21	TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.
22	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Novick?
23	TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.
24	MAYOR DeVITA: Howard?
25	MR. AVRUTINE: The next would be a

1	motion on the application.
2	MAYOR DeVITA: I move to approve
3	the application with the conditions
4	mentioned.
5	I'll look for a second.
6	TRUSTEE NOVICK: Second.
7	MR. AVRUTINE: Do you want me to
8	read them in at this time?
9	MAYOR DeVITA: Okay, thank you.
10	MR. AVRUTINE: If you would like I
11	can.
12	MAYOR DeVITA: Yes.
13	MR. AVRUTINE: Okay. This would be
14	for the conditions that go along with
15	the motion to approve.
16	First, strict compliance with all
17	of the approved plans.
18	Second, prior to ground breaking,
19	the Village will inspect and approve
20	installed erosion control measures to
21	ensure compliance with the approved
22	storm water pollution prevention plan,
23	the SWPPP, and all applicable law.
24	There will also be periodic
25	inspections during construction to

1 ensure such compliance. 2 Third, permanent landscaping -- a 3 permanent landscaping/replanting plan 4 will be submitted for approval by the 5 Board of Trustees. The plan must 6 provide landscape screening such that the buildings to be constructed are not 8 visible from any residents in the Village at anytime of the year, and the 10 plan must meet these requirements when 11 implemented. 12 In addition, an interim landscape 13 screening plan to the satisfaction of 14 the Board of Trustees must be provided. 15 This plan must provide complete 16 screening from all residential 17 properties in the Village until the 18 permanent landscaping/replanting plan is 19 implemented. 20 Fourth: All construction work will 21 be performed in strict accordance with 22 all Village regulations regarding 23 construction hours. 2.4 Firth: No construction vehicles or

equipment shall utilize any Village

1 roads or Cold Spring Road at any time or under any circumstance. 2 Sixth: All construction vehicles 3 shall be limited to making right-hand 4 5 turns entering and exiting the temporary construction road. Left-hand turns are 6 7 strictly prohibited. 8 Seventh: The applicant shall submit a construction vehicle and 10 equipment routing plan depicting the route all such vehicles shall utilize to 11 12 arrive at, depart from, and to enter and 13 exit the site. This plan shall be 14 subject to review and approval by the 15 Board of Trustees. 16 Eighth: There shall be safety 17 officers and flag people in the field at 18 all times during construction. 19 Ninth: There shall be strict 20 compliance with the truck route plan 21 submitted by the applicant and approved 22 by the Board of Trustees. 23 Tenth: The applicant shall utilize 24 best efforts to reduce backup noise from 25 construction vehicles and equipment by

1	eliminating the beeping backup alarms
2	and/or using flag people, in lieu of
3	such alarms. Any such actions must be
4	fully compliant with all safety rules
5	and regulations.
6	Eleventh: The temporary
7	construction road will be removed upon
8	completion of construction and all
9	landscape screening installed as soon as
10	practicable thereafter, in accordance
11	with the permanent
12	landscaping/replanting plan approved by
13	the Board of Trustees.
14	Twelfth: Road signs stating that
15	no construction vehicle and/or equipment
16	are permitted on Village roads will be
17	placed at the intersections of Moores
18	Hill Road and Route 25A, Laurel Hollow
19	Road and Route 25A, and the intersection
20	of Cold Spring Road and Route 25A.
21	Thirteenth: A scour hole, that's
22	S-C-O-U-R, hole, H-O-L-E, rock feature,
23	will be utilized to minimize erosion
24	from the temporary parking lot.

Fourteenth: The temporary parking

1 lot will be paved with permeable 2 asphalt. 3 Fifteenth: No certificates of occupancy and/or completion will be 4 5 issued until the Building Inspector and 6 Village Engineer verify that all work has been done and performed in strict 8 accordance with the approved plans and all conditions set forth by the Board in 10 its approval and decision. Sixteenth: 11 There will be strict 12 compliance with all applicable Village 13 Code requirements, Nassau County 14 requirements, New York State 15 requirements, and United States 16 requirements, if any, governing 17 activities taken by the laboratory in 18 furtherance of this project. 19 Seventeenth: The approval is 20 conditioned upon the applicant obtaining 21 all approvals required by other 22 agencies, including but not limited to, 23 the New York State Department of 24 Environmental Conservation and the New

York State Department of Transportation.

1	Eighteenth: Vibration monitors
2	will be utilized to ensure that
3	surrounding homes are not impacted by
4	construction activities, and if they are
5	impacted and if damage were to occur,
6	the Laboratory will pay all costs
7	associated with restoration.
8	Nineteenth: Construction status
9	updates will be provided by the
10	Laboratory to the Village every three
11	months during construction which will
12	then be disseminated to the community.
13	Twentieth: A temporary
14	construction fence will be the
15	temporary construction fence will be
16	covered in a solid material to prevent
17	visibility of the construction site, and
18	this, of course, would be to the
19	satisfaction of the Board of Trustees.
20	I believe that covers it.
21	MAYOR DeVITA: I am just going to
22	add, Howard, I think you left out on the
23	interim screening.
24	To the extent that Evergreens
25	cannot be used by the Lab in a

1	replanting plan, they will be donated to
2	the Village which will use it to
3	mitigate the impact of the Crown Castle
4	cell nodes.
5	MR. AVRUTINE: Consider that
6	condition so amended as per the Mayor's
7	direction.
8	That is the list of conditions in
9	connection with Mayor DeVita's motion to
10	approve the application.
11	Do we have a second?
12	TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.
13	MR. AVRUTINE: Trustee Tsafos.
14	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos.
15	Deputy Mayor Nemshin?
16	DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Aye.
17	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Nicklas?
18	TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Aye.
19	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Miritello?
20	TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Aye.
21	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Novick?
22	TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.
23	MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Jusko?
24	TRUSTEE JUSKO: Aye.
25	MR. AVRUTINE: Application approved

1	as conditioned.
2	MAYOR DeVITA: Thank you everyone,
3	very much, and we will move to regular
4	meeting agenda.
5	
6	*************
7	
8	The Foregoing is a True and Accurate Transcript of the Electronic
9	Proceedings Held Before Me Via Zoom, and Transcribed to the Best of My Ability.
10	MaryAnne Coppins
11	MARY ANNE COPPINS
12	Official Court Reporter
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