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1	INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF LAUREL HOLLOW BOARD OF ZONING
2 3	PUBLIC HEARING February 28, 2017 7:30 p.m.
4	VILLAGE HALL
5	1492 Laurel Hollow Road Syosset, New York 11791-9603
6	
7	PRESENT:
8	RUSSEL MOHR, CHAIRMAN
9	JEFFREY BLUMIN, MEMBER
10	CINDY KAUFMAN, MEMBER
11	CHRIS HADJANDREAS, MEMBER
12	
13	
14	ALSO PRESENT:
15	HOWARD AVRUTINE, Village Attorney
16	
17	HRVOJE MARNIKA, Architect
18	
19	
20	PUBLIC HEARING ON ZV3-2017
21	McNULTY - 1240 Moore's Hill Road
22	
23	
24	MARY ANNE COPPINS OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
25	

McNULTY

1	MR. AVRUTINE: The next public
2	hearing is ZV3-2017, the public hearing
3	on the application of Kevin and Maureen
4	McNulty to install a pool and patio at
5	1240 Moore's Hill Road where the
6	accessory structures are not set back at
7	least 40 feet from every lot line not
8	abutting the street as required by
9	Section 145-5(B)(2) of the Laurel Hollow
10	Village Code.
11	The side yard setback with respect
12	to the patio is 30.6 feet. The side
13	yard setback with respect to the pool is
14	33.3 feet, and the rear yard setback of
15	the pool is 31.9 feet. The property is
16	designated as Section 26 Block E Lot 85,
17	on the Land and Tax Map of Nassau
18	County.
19	The exhibits in connection with
20	this hearing are as follows:
21	First, notification from the Nassau
22	County Planning Commission dated
23	February 2, 2017 that the matter is
24	referred to the Laurel Hollow Board of
25	Zoning Appeals for action it deems

1	appropriate. The next exhibit is the
2	legal notice dated February 10, 2017.
3	That next exhibit is an Affidavit of
4	Posting from Nicholas Porcaro that the
5	legal notice was posted conspicuously on
6	the bulletin board at Village Hall on
7	February 17, 2017. The next exhibit is
8	an Affidavit of Publication from James
9	Slater stating that the legal notice was
10	published in the Oyster Bay Guardian on
11	February 17, 2017. The next exhibit is
12	a document that confirms that the legal
13	notice was published to the Village
14	website and sent to Village website
15	subscribers on February 17, 2017. The
16	next exhibit is an Affidavit from the
17	Deputy Clerk stating that the legal
18	notice was mailed on February 16, 2017
19	to the agencies set forth in the
20	affidavit. The next exhibit is an
21	Affidavit of Mailing from the applicant
22	indicating that the Notice of Public
23	Hearing was mailed on February 17, 2017
24	to the individuals set forth in the
25	affidavit.

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1	Good evening, you may proceed.
2	MR. McNULTY: I'm Kevin McNulty,
3	this is my wife Maureen McNulty and we
4	live at 1240 Moore's Hill Road.
5	We are looking to put in a pool, as
6	you went through it. We'll have our
7	engineer just go through the
8	technicalities of it. First, show you
9	the plan and what the hardships are and
10	he'll take it from there and if you have
11	questions for us, we would love to
12	answer them.
13	MR. AVRUTINE: Thank you.
14	MR. MARNIKA: Good evening, Board
15	members.
16	MR. AVRUTINE: Your name and
17	address for the record.
18	MR. MARNIKA: H-R-V-O-J-E, last
19	name is M-A-R-N-I-K-A, 3 Cherrywood
20	Drive, East Northport, New York 11731.
21	I would like to distribute a couple
22	of blowups here that show a clear
23	picture of what is being proposed here.
24	This is a partial view of the overall
25	plan, basically removing some of the

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1	contours and dimensions to just provide
2	a clean picture. The property is 2.26
3	acres and maintains an existing
4	two-story residence, as well as a garage
5	accessory structure.
6	Basically, the application proposed
7	is an in-ground swimming pool with a
8	masonry patio, approximate dimensions
9	are 20 by 30. Associated improvements
10	are a 4-foot high barrier fence, as well
11	as a dry well for the pool backwash and
12	the pool surface runoff.
13	A couple of the practical
14	difficulties for the location of the
15	pool. The original plan we submitted
16	showed the existing septic system
17	located in the rear yard of the
18	property, the basis of which was the
19	original plan that was being proposed
20	was an architect plan. That was
21	submitted, and its proposed location
22	since then, we've modified and updated
23	this plan to show the actual location of
24	the sanitary system. It was an as-built
25	plan that we received from the Village

1	files so it accurately depicts the
2	location of one septic tank, two
3	leaching pools.
4	So the hardships here are basically
5	the sanitary system is located in the
6	rear yard. We situated the pool where
7	it is, here. The client feels it's the
8	best location in keeping with the value
9	of the property, as well as maintaining
10	the character of the neighborhood, okay.
11	This entire yard here is basically
12	out of question, can't locate it there.
13	The Nassau County Health Department
14	ordinance regulates swimming pool
15	offsets and drainage leaching pool
16	offsets to septic systems, so that
17	requirement is 20 feet. The dry well
18	here that is proposed just makes it out
19	of that 20 feet, it's probably a couple
20	of feet beyond that. We are okay with
21	that.
22	The other practical difficulty we
23	have here is most of the properties that
24	are over two acres have a much bigger
25	rear yard here. The house is set back

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1	far from the property.
2	So out of the 2.26 acres, which is
3	about 98,000 square feet, if you project
4	the line from the rear of the house what
5	you have left over in the rear yard is
6	about 28.7 percent out of the entire
7	property which is available for the
8	construction of accessory structures
9	such as a pool in the rear yard.
10	So that really forms the basis of
11	the hardship between the sanitary being
12	located, which the applicants did not
13	construct. That was already there when
14	the house was purchased. That is
15	basically not something that they put
16	back there, this results in a variance,
17	not self-created.
18	The conclusion, basically, the
19	setbacks are minimal on the side lot
20	line where the requirement is 40 were
21	encroached 6.7 feet, and in the rear
22	yard we have encroached 8.1 feet for the
23	swimming pool. So we feel the variances
24	are minimal. The pool is also located
25	an acceptable distance from the

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1	residence, not too close, anything
2	closer would be really too close. So
3	the pool ended up there.
4	There is no adverse impact on the
5	environment or the neighborhood. And
6	that basically sums everything up.
7	If you guys have any questions, we
8	would be happy to answer them.
9	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: On the
10	landscape plan, crape myrtles, are they
11	deciduous or evergreen?
12	MRS. McNULTY: They're not
13	evergreen. That is going to grow to
14	about 15 feet they said. So they will
15	go in the ground at about 8 and grow
16	between 12 and 15 feet.
17	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: The pool
18	equipment, is that
19	MRS. McNULTY: Pool equipment is by
20	the house.
21	MR. MARNIKA: Located in the nooks.
22	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Could you explain
23	to the Board the necessity there is
24	quite a bit of lawn area between the, I
25	guess, the westerly edge of the pool and

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1	the 20-foot setback. Then the septic is
2	all open lawn there, correct?
3	MR. MARNIKA: That's correct.
4	CHAIRMAN MOHR: And when we were
5	visiting the site, the other home on the
6	adjacent lot, it's probably pretty close
7	to that 40-foot line, maybe 60.
8	MR. MARNIKA: The actual structure.
9	CHAIRMAN MOHR: The actual
10	structure.
11	So is there any did you look at
12	shifting that to the west a bit, both
13	the patio and the pool. On the rear
14	setback, it's wooded area, I don't think
15	there is much of a negative impact, but
16	on the side setback I see certain
17	questions. Did you look at other
18	locations?
19	MR. MARNIKA: This map here doesn't
20	show the proposed leaching pool
21	structure.
22	CHAIRMAN MOHR: This one does.
23	MR. MARNIKA: That's correct, so
24	that is in between that area.
25	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Setback off the

1	leaching pool as well, is there a
2	requirement?
3	MR. MARNIKA: No, I believe the
4	requirement says about a 10-foot minimum
5	as a practicality.
6	CHAIRMAN MOHR: What is this
7	distance between the edge of the
8	leaching pool and the
9	MR. MARNIKA: That distance is
10	probably 10 foot, probably a little over
11	10 feet.
12	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: You mean the
13	setback from the septic?
14	CHAIRMAN MOHR: You're talking
15	about the septic not from the leaching
16	pool?
17	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: The leaching
18	pool to the septic has to be 10 feet,
19	correct?
20	MR. MARNIKA: The leaching pool to
21	the septic and the swimming pool to the
22	septic, Nassau County regulations.
23	CHAIRMAN MOHR: 20 foot to the
24	septic.
25	And is there a regulation with

1	regard to the diameter to the pool, to
2	the leaching pool?
3	MR. MARNIKA: Absolutely. Drainage
4	leaching pool to a sanitary septic which
5	is called a leaching structure is 20
6	feet also. That is regulated by the
7	Nassau County Department of Health
8	Services.
9	MR. AVRUTINE: What about the
10	setback between the pool and the
11	leaching structure?
12	MR. MARNIKA: The drainage leaching
13	structure for the backwash and storm
14	water?
15	MR. AVRUTINE: Yes.
16	MR. MARNIKA: There is nothing that
17	I know of, other than an engineering
18	practical setback.
19	MR. AVRUTINE: There is nothing
20	mandated in terms of a setback or
21	distance.
22	MR. MARNIKA: Swimming pool to
23	drainage, no. But as a practical, I
24	would hold a minimum of 8 to 10 feet for
25	that.

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1	CHAIRMAN MOHR: That was put in at
2	the time of the construction, that
3	leaching pool?
4	MR. MARNIKA: That is the proposed
5	leaching pool.
6	CHAIRMAN MOHR: So that can be
7	moved as well.
8	MR. MARNIKA: Right.
9	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: That is for
10	the backwash area and the well, the
11	surface area, the patio, they have to
12	drain that, so the leaching pool would
13	absorb that.
14	MR. MARNIKA: Correct.
15	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Now, the only
16	setback for the leaching pool would be,
17	that we're really concerned about, would
18	be the septic in terms of the 20 foot.
19	So that opens up.
20	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Any questions,
21	Cindy?
22	MEMBER KAUFMAN: Well, I do have
23	some concerns in looking at the area.
24	Obviously, it's a recreational area
25	and you would want lighting, perhaps,

1	
1	around your pool and pool patio,
2	possibly speakers for music, maybe, and
3	it's quite close to the home.
4	MR. MARNIKA: It's actually two
5	corners of the pool, right here and
6	here. It is not the entire one
7	entire length of the pool, the width or
8	the length. It's really just these two
9	corners that project.
10	Again, the applicant wanted to get
11	a safe and a reasonable setback. No one
12	wants to walk out of their house and
13	have the pool right off the patio. It's
14	really not acceptable.
15	MRS. McNULTY: It's a very
16	odd-shaped property, if I can speak.
17	You can see that the one area that we
18	have to work in is really tight. So if
19	we move the pool closer into the house,
20	aesthetically, it looks like space on
21	here but it's right off the patio. You
22	step off the patio and you'd be standing
23	in the pool in just a few feet. We just
24	felt for such a large-scale project, we
25	wanted to ask permission to get the pool

1	that we really thought would enhance the
2	backyard and see if we can work with the
3	Board and come up with some kind of
4	solution.
5	MR. McNULTY: Also, the
6	landscaping, we are flexible to do more
7	fencing and what we need to do, if it
8	helps the neighbors out.
9	MRS. McNULTY: This is something we
10	came up with, but we're completely
11	flexible.
12	MR. McNULTY: Completely open to
13	any suggestions you might have to make
14	it better or more doable.
15	MEMBER KAUFMAN: This is the
16	screening from the adjacent property.
17	MRS. McNULTY: There are trees
18	here, and then you can kind of see in
19	this, they're already there. We were
20	plugging in evergreen trees into some of
21	the gaps to try and screen from this
22	neighbor. It seems to be more of an
23	issue than the back neighbor, there is
24	more woods back here to work with. This
25	is far less dense. Then we have a few

1	
1	more evergreens here than something like
2	a crape myrtle, like a flowering tree.
3	MEMBER KAUFMAN: Crape myrtles
4	don't screen, I have them.
5	MR. McNULTY: We are willing to put
6	a whole evergreen, put two rows, if
7	that's necessary.
8	MRS. McNULTY: We're just trying to
9	plug the holes with the evergreens. If
10	you feel we need more evergreens, we
11	will be more than happy to do what you
12	guys feel needs to be done to make this
13	project possible.
14	MR. McNULTY: We want it to be as
15	nice for the neighbor as it is for us.
16	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Thank you.
17	I think we should open it up to the
18	public.
19	Would anybody from the public like
20	to speak on this application?
21	MS. BALKIND: Yes, I would.
22	CHAIRMAN MOHR: State your name and
23	address, please.
24	MS. BALKIND: Mary Jo Balkind, I'm
25	at 1564 Laurel Hollow Road.

1	I am concerned about all the trees
2	going down that you have to take down
3	for a swimming pool.
4	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: I have been on
5	this lot and there is not one tree that
6	has to be cut down to install this pool.
7	It is not a forested area, it's just
8	grass right now, it's lawn.
9	MS. BALKIND: Really, can I see?
10	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: It's right
11	here, this isn't an actual depiction.
12	MRS. McNULTY: The survey has the
13	tree line on it.
14	MR. MARNIKA: The site plan has it
15	there.
16	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: There are
17	trees in this area here and over here.
18	This whole area is forested. This whole
19	area between this area and the
20	neighbor's house has trees, white pines
21	and a couple of oaks over here, they are
22	all clustered on the property line.
23	MS. BALKIND: This is the tennis
24	court?
25	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: No, there is

1	no tennis court, a proposed pool and a
2	proposed patio.
3	CHAIRMAN MOHR: It's all open
4	space, ma'am.
5	MS. BALKIND: I must be in the
6	wrong place.
7	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Which is your
8	house?
9	MS. BALKIND: Mine is right here.
10	MEMBER BLUMIN: That is Moore's
11	Hill Road and Laurel Hollow Road. You
12	said you're at 1564.
13	MS. BALKIND: That's me.
14	MEMBER BLUMIN: This is the
15	property.
16	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: And this is
17	where the pool would be in this area
18	here, yes.
19	MS. BALKIND: I thought it was this
20	property.
21	MEMBER BLUMIN: No.
22	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: There is a lot
23	of forest, if you will, all the wrapping
24	around this side of the property. It
25	was this side over here that was a

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1	little
2	MS. BALKIND: Iffy. I have the
3	wrong place, good, I'm so glad.
4	MRS. MCNULTY: No tennis court.
5	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Yes, sir.
6	MR. PALOPOLI: Frank Palopoli,
7	P-A-L-O-P-O-L-I, 1241 Moore's Hill Road,
8	so we are the neighbor next to them.
9	MR. AVRUTINE: Ma'am, can you give
10	your name as well.
11	MRS. PALOPOLI: Sandra Palopoli,
12	Sandra Lee Palopoli.
13	MR. PALOPOLI: I don't have much of
14	an issue with it, other than the fact I
15	want to be sure there is going to be
16	enough protection, coverage, between the
17	two properties. More importantly, I
18	would like it to be done as soon as
19	possible before you start any major
20	construction.
21	MR. AVRUTINE: Please address the
22	Board, your comments to the Board.
23	MRS. PALOPOLI: We have never even
24	met them.
25	MR. PALOPOLI: I would like to make

1	sure they either put Leyland Cypress
2	along that property line so at least I'm
3	not having to witness bulldozers or
4	whatever going up and down, because it's
5	kind of open now. It wasn't never that
6	way but now it is.
7	It's their property, they're
8	entitled to remove a tree. I have
9	nothing to say. I did it to mine.
10	Anyway, that's my feeling, I have no
11	objection.
12	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Did you see
13	the landscape plan, the proposed?
14	MR. PALOPOLI: No, I did not.
15	MRS. PALOPOLI: I love crape
16	myrtles, but they're not
17	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Let me ask you
18	about fencing that they propose.
19	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Ladies and
20	gentlemen, we can only have one
21	conversation.
22	MR. AVRUTINE: This is a hearing,
23	the matter is on record. Please, one at
24	a time.
25	MR. MARNIKA: We are just going to

1	stick with the area that is closest to
2	your property, that area which I am
3	addressing, this property line right
4	here. On this property line they are
5	proposing a 4-foot high chain link
6	fence.
7	MR. PALOPOLI: You can see through
8	chain line.
9	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Would you have
10	an objection, let's say, to a wood
11	stockade fence?
12	MR. PALOPOLI: Not at all. I think
13	there was once a wood stockade fence and
14	it was a 5-foot high and that was all.
15	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Or a PVC, or a
16	solid fence.
17	MR. PALOPOLI: I would prefer a
18	solid fence, if possible. I don't care
19	what they do on their side.
20	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Something.
21	MR. PALOPOLI: I don't want to see
22	guys running up and down with machines.
23	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: I understand.
24	CHAIRMAN MOHR: May I ask a
25	question of the applicant?

1	Is it the intention to provide, in
2	accordance with the Nassau County Code,
3	a fence around the entire property or
4	are you fencing in the pool area?
5	MR. MARNIKA: It's a perimeter
6	barrier fence right along the property
7	line.
8	MR. AVRUTINE: That will be the
9	pool fence on the property line.
10	MRS. McNULTY: If we fence the pool
11	and the area is so small, then it takes
12	up really the entire corner. Like to
13	put any kind of fence around the pool,
14	you just ate up the whole side of the
15	yard. We kind of have to fence the
16	property.
17	MR. PALOPOLI: I don't have a
18	problem with the setback. The setback
19	is fine. I don't care, just protect it
20	so we don't have to be viewing
21	everything, that's all. Our kitchen, if
22	you can see, is all glass. If you sit
23	in my kitchen, you can see out there.
24	MRS. PALOPOLI: We always had
25	privacy, and I think you guys are like

1	the third owners since we are there. So
2	this is the first time we ever like saw
3	your backyard.
4	MRS. McNULTY: Yes.
5	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Okay, thank you.
6	Anything else?
7	Does anybody else from the public
8	want to speak on this application?
9	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: On your
10	application, as I stated, it shows a
11	proposed 4-foot high chain link fence,
12	especially on this border. On the other
13	borders that we talked about, that's
14	more wilderness, if you want to call it,
15	forested area, there is really no one
16	right there.
17	On this side of the property, will
18	you again, I'm not it's your
19	house, it's your fence, but would you
20	MRS. McNULTY: Be willing to change
21	the fence?
22	MR. McNULTY: More than happy to.
23	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: In regards to
24	the landscape plan, again, right near
25	them, I'm looking at

1	CHAIRMAN MOHR: I think there is
2	some confusion. What I would suggest is
3	based on the discussions, your neighbors
4	are here, they are willing to work with
5	you on the setbacks. I think there is
6	consideration the Board will review, but
7	I think we should have the eastern side
8	fence showing either a PVC or a stockade
9	type fence with the balance of the site
10	to be, obviously, something in the front
11	would be nice, but we are not here for
12	that, could be a chain link as you
13	propose.
14	MRS. McNULTY: We're going to do
15	picket in the front.
16	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Okay. And a
17	landscape, actual landscape plan which
18	will demonstrate a thick wall.
19	I think maybe, as the gentleman
20	requested, I think he is correct. He
21	wants where you see the smaller plan
22	here, where you see you end the trees
23	here, I think, if you can, you can carry
24	those down a little bit and give him a
25	little more protection. As you

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1	suggested, Mr. McNulty, possibly a
2	second layer of them with more
3	evergreens.
4	MRS. McNULTY: Basically, we want a
5	line of evergreens down the property
6	line.
7	MR. PALOPOLI: If you stagger them
8	you get better coverage. Leyland
9	Cypress, they're not a lot of money,
10	gives you a lot of protection, coverage
11	and they grow nice. They are not like
12	the white pines, white pines die in the
13	bottom.
14	MRS. McNULTY: Okay, we can do
15	that, that's no problem.
16	MR. McNULTY: No.
17	CHAIRMAN MOHR: You can provide
18	that to us.
19	MRS. McNULTY: We have to resubmit?
20	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Well, Howard will
21	go through it when we close the public
22	hearing.
23	MR. AVRUTINE: Yes.
24	So does anyone else care to be
25	heard on this application?

1	
1	Let the record reflect no one
2	responded.
3	Motion to close the public hearing?
4	MEMBER BLUMIN: So moved.
5	MR. AVRUTINE: Member Blumin.
6	MEMBER KAUFMAN: Second.
7	MR. AVRUTINE: Seconded by Member
8	Kaufman.
9	All in favor?
10	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Aye.
11	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Aye.
12	MEMBER KAUFMAN: Aye.
13	MEMBER BLUMIN: Aye.
14	MR. AVRUTINE: Let the record
15	reflect this matter is deemed a Type II
16	under the New York State Environmental
17	Quality Review Act.
18	Motion on the application?
19	MEMBER BLUMIN: To approve subject
20	to proper screening and
21	MR. AVRUTINE: Subject to
22	submission of a landscape plan to the
23	satisfaction of the Board, including
24	fencing and evergreen, dense, evergreen
25	landscaping.

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1	Motion by Member Blumin.
2	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Second.
3	MR. AVRUTINE: Seconded by Member
4	Hadjandreas.
5	All in favor?
6	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Aye.
7	MEMBER HADJANDREAS: Aye.
8	MEMBER KAUFMAN: Aye.
9	MEMBER BLUMIN: Aye.
10	MR. AVRUTINE: So it's approved,
11	subject to submission of a landscape
12	plan depicting solid fencing, evergreen,
13	dense evergreen landscaping.
14	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Do we want to say
15	along the eastern property line?
16	MR. AVRUTINE: The eastern property
17	line. That is all subject to the
18	satisfaction of the Board of Appeals.
19	MRS. McNULTY: Do we submit a piece
20	of paper to Nancy?
21	MR. AVRUTINE: Yes, submit it to
22	the Village.
23	CHAIRMAN MOHR: If you were here at
24	the beginning of the meeting, it won't
25	be a formal public process. It will be

1	
1	reviewed and voted on by the Board.
2	MRS. McNULTY: We will wait for the
3	next hearing and then we come back?
4	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Yes, you can.
5	You will submit it. Then at the
6	next hearing we have, it will be on the
7	agenda, but not as a public hearing,
8	just as an administrative item.
9	MRS. McNULTY: We are not approved,
10	technically, until the next hearing.
11	CHAIRMAN MOHR: You're approved,
12	subject to approval of the landscape
13	plan.
14	MR. McNULTY: Which takes how long?
15	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Howard, can you
16	answer that question?
17	MR. AVRUTINE: You have to get the
18	plan. When you get the plan in, the
19	Planning Board will consider it.
20	CHAIRMAN MOHR: Can she start? Can
21	they get a permit for construction of
22	the pool so they can start the process?
23	MR. AVRUTINE: Typically not, you
24	have to get the whole thing done. So
25	the quicker you get the plan in, the

1	quicker the Board reviews everything.
2	MRS. McNULTY: Thank you very much.
3	MR. McNULTY: Appreciate it, thank
4	you everybody.
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8	CERTIFICATION:
9	I, Mary Anne Coppins, Court
10	Reporter, hereby certify that the above
11	transcript is a true and accurate copy
12	of the minutes taken by myself
13	stenographically in the within matter.
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16	Mary Anne Coppins
17	Court Reporter
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