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INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF LAUREL HOLLOW
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC HEARING
June 17, 2020
6 p.m.
(Via video conference.)

VILLAGE HALL
1492 Laurel Hollow Road
Syosset, New York 11791-9603

PRESENT: DANIEL DeVITA, Mayor
JEFFREY NEMSHIN, Deputy Mayor
KEVIN JUSKO, Trustee
JEFFREY MIRITELLO, Trustee
RICHARD NICKLAS, Trustee
MARTIN NOVICK, Trustee
NICHOLAS TSAFOS, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT:

TAMAR HARUTUNIAN, Associate Village Attorney
ELIZABETH KAYE, Clerk/Treasurer
NANCY POPPER, Deputy Clerk and Court Clerk

RONALD KOENIG
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 (whereupon, The Pledge of Allegiance was
2 recited.)

3 MAYOR DEVITA: For those of you just joining,
4 Howard is recovering from surgery from Monday. So, we
5 have Howard's associate who many of you might know who
6 works behind the scenes for many, many years.

7 why don't you introduce yourself.

8 MS. HARUTUNIAN: My name is Tamar Harutunian.
9 I've been working with Howard Avrutine and Avrutine and
10 Associates since 2006, and I've been working with him on
11 various Laurel Hollow issues and memos. I'm sure you
12 read some of them. But he's recovering, he's doing
13 well, and hopefully he'll be able to join everyone soon.

14 MAYOR DEVITA: Thank you. Thank you.

15 we have no building report. We have no
16 engineer's report. Just to give you an update briefly,
17 Kevin and I received an e-mail from Jim Antonelli who
18 seems has now got a new new plan for Cherry that
19 involves no gutters and no drainage system. So we told
20 him we want to meet with him ASAP. He is getting final
21 figures together and we're going to meet with him to see
22 if this is viable and then obviously discuss it with the
23 Board.

24 And that basically summarizes it, Kevin?

25 TRUSTEE JUSKO: That's it.

Proceedings

1 MAYOR DeVITA: And in terms of a building
2 report, there's nothing new, no building report. Nancy
3 will be here to help talk to us about the parking ticket
4 fines.

5 Minutes, Liz?

6 THE CLERK: The Mayor's changes were the ones
7 in yellow. I don't know if anybody has any other
8 changes. We have the three meetings, the 13th, the 19th
9 of May and then June 4th.

10 MAYOR DeVITA: So we have to vote to approve
11 on separate motions. So the first is, I believe, May 13
12 minutes.

13 THE CLERK: May 13.

14 MAYOR DeVITA: I'll move to approve the
15 minutes. A second?

16 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Second.

17 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Miritello. We have to
18 poll.

19 Trustee Jusko?

20 TRUSTEE JUSKO: Aye.

21 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Novick?

22 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.

23 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos?

24 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.

25 MAYOR DeVITA: Next is a motion to approve the

Proceedings

1 minutes of May 19, the May 19 meeting. I'll move.

2 Second by who? Trustee Tsafos.

3 Trustee Jusko?

4 TRUSTEE JUSKO: Eye.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Miritello?

6 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Aye.

7 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Novick?

8 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.

9 MAYOR DeVITA: The next is -- I'm sorry, Rich.

10 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Am I voting?

11 MAYOR DeVITA: I'm sorry, Rich. I thought I
12 had everyone on one screen and I don't. I apologize.

13 So, did I get you on the first?

14 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: No. But I'm an aye on both.

15 MAYOR DeVITA: So a motion to approve the
16 minutes for June 4, the June 4 meeting. I'll move.

17 Second, Trustee Miritello.

18 Trustee Novick?

19 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.

20 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Jusko?

21 TRUSTEE JUSKO: Aye.

22 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos?

23 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.

24 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Nicklas?

25 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Aye.

Proceedings

1 MAYOR DeVITA: Next, financial report, Liz.

2 THE CLERK: The report in your packet is a
3 preliminary report for the year. It shows a deficit for
4 the year of 88,000. The books are still open because
5 we'll have a number of audit adjustments. I still have
6 things to do. The 57,500 from Crown is in that number.
7 So that was accrued at year end. So the 88,000 without
8 that would obviously be 57,000 higher.

9 We also received an \$80,000 -- 80 percent of
10 our multi-modal grant for Phase II. That's in the
11 capital fund. But, you know, it's going to help with
12 the, you know, the roadwork.

13 MAYOR DeVITA: Do me a favor, call whoever
14 that was from DOT. This is a first -- so everyone knows
15 this -- and DOT is busting our chops. It's better,
16 let's just go along instead of fight this. They wanted
17 to do an inspection of the roads before they gave us all
18 the monies. It's the first time ever in the history of
19 mankind. So, of course, we're the target. So I had Jim
20 make an appointment to meet with the DOT person. I
21 don't know if that occurred.

22 But maybe, Liz, you can follow up and ask the
23 DOT person --

24 THE CLERK: I'll follow up.

25 MAYOR DeVITA: And they don't even have to go

1 with Jim. But ask them if they inspected and when are
2 we getting the rest of the money. It's as simple as
3 that.

4 THE CLERK: Okay.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: And we still haven't heard
6 anything on the 75,000 for the wall?

7 THE CLERK: No.

8 MAYOR DeVITA: That's a call I have to make to
9 Gaughran's office.

10 One other thing. Do me a favor, you can even
11 send me an e-mail tomorrow, remind me to call Gaughran's
12 office for that and Josh Lafazan's office for the 29,000
13 we were supposed to receive this spring so that we can
14 redo the siding on the salt barn shed.

15 THE CLERK: Okay.

16 MAYOR DeVITA: One other thing I just want to
17 throw out to the Board. We don't have to discuss it
18 tonight. The 57,500 we received from Crown Castle, we
19 know that part of that is going to have to be for
20 landscaping, some of these poles that Crown is going to
21 put in. We don't know how yet. We can probably sit
22 down, I know certainly probably Kevin and I can sit
23 down, and figure which ones are going to need it in
24 addition to the ones we think we need it, ones that
25 people have already complained about that they want it.

1 But in my opinion, we're going to have a good -- and
2 this was by design -- have a large chunk of that money
3 left over. The question is where to put it. We can
4 discuss that at another meeting, but just think about
5 it.

6 I think you all know my desire was to put it
7 in the Parks Trust Fund to be used for capital
8 improvements at the village Hall, by the beach, you
9 know, on our properties, that kind of thing. But if
10 there's some other special projects maybe people have
11 that are of a smaller nature, we certainly can discuss
12 that. Or, you know, we just deposit it in the general
13 fund, which, you know, is one thing, but it's just money
14 that's gone. It's already gone if we do that,
15 basically.

16 So think about it. We have a little bit of
17 time to think about what to do with that. I'm just
18 throwing that out so people can start thinking about it.

19 Okay. Anything else on the financials?

20 THE CLERK: Not really.

21 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Dan, kind of on the issue
22 talking about the 57,000 and the DOT issue where we got
23 to get the inspection and eventually get the money.
24 State governments or the New York State government is
25 obviously going to be experiencing financial

1 difficulties because of the pandemic. And all
2 governments, local and state, haven't been collecting
3 the sales tax that they should be collecting. So what
4 I'm saying is that we might not be getting the aid in
5 the future that we think we should be getting or that we
6 usually get. Just something to think about when we have
7 the 57,000 and whatever else that we might be able to
8 have out there so we can just keep some extra cash
9 around.

10 Those are just my thoughts.

11 MAYOR DEVITA: I agree. But as you also know,
12 Nick, we never budget state aid because we don't know if
13 and when it's ever going to come.

14 But, but, here's the other thing. On the
15 multi-modal and on the wall repair money, we sign
16 contracts, and, in my mind, it's a little higher than
17 expecting to get CHIPS money every year which is by the
18 grace of the State of New York, and they've always
19 funded that. But to me this is money, even though we
20 didn't budget for it, that to me we have more of an
21 expectation of receiving.

22 But you're right, the State can do whatever
23 they want and, you know, we'll see. They were in
24 trouble well before -- as you know, they were 6 billion
25 in the hole well before the pandemic. So whether DC is

1 going to help them, us or anyone else out, we have no
2 idea. But, yes, we have that money there if we really
3 start to dig ourselves in a hole for some unexpected
4 reasons. We may need it for that. Absolutely, that's
5 something that genders the thought process we can talk
6 about.

7 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Okay.

8 MAYOR DeVITA: Anything else on those
9 financials, Liz?

10 THE CLERK: No, other than the auditors
11 starting, which you know about, in July.

12 MAYOR DeVITA: They're coming in July. I told
13 Liz, and they've accepted, that if they want to work in
14 our village hall, because it's usually three of them,
15 they are either going to work in the kitchen, or if they
16 want the main room, then Nancy and Mike are going to
17 stay home because we're not having that kind of crowd
18 from these people. We don't know where they are, where
19 they've been, et cetera. So they've told Liz they can
20 manage to work in the kitchen.

21 THE CLERK: There'll be two of them.

22 MAYOR DeVITA: That's fine. And to use the
23 public bathrooms. So, that's fine. That's fine.
24 Because it's creating right now more work for Liz
25 keeping them out. She has to make copies for everything

1 they want.

2 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Liz, how long do they usually
3 spend at the village offices?

4 THE CLERK: Under a week.

5 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: what I would recommend, and
6 this is what a lot of our clients are doing with us, is
7 we make our selections of the items that we need pulled,
8 invoices and all that, and the client has them pulled,
9 and somebody comes in and the pile is sitting there with
10 all the information they need, and instead of spending a
11 week, they spend a day.

12 THE CLERK: I don't know if they can do that,
13 but --

14 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Maybe two days. What I'm
15 trying to say is, if they can prepare and get the
16 request lists out to you and you pull everything ahead
17 of time, we can minimize that.

18 MAYOR DeVITA: Liz, why don't you call Chris
19 Reno and tell them that was our suggestion, is there any
20 way they can work with that.

21 You know what, Nick, they're asking for the
22 same type of documents every year. They should know
23 what they're going to come in and look for.

24 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: I think what happens is, what
25 changes, Dan, is some transactions happened this year

1 that fall within their scope of testing that have new
2 items, and that's what Liz is talking -- that's what
3 they're going to be asking Liz to pull. So they have --
4 once they have our general ledger, they have all the
5 information they need to make their selections, which
6 they can forward over to Liz and she can pull that
7 document and have it in a pile for them.

8 THE CLERK: To be honest with you though,
9 Nick, it's all boxed up. I just give them the boxes.

10 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Oh.

11 THE CLERK: I don't even pull. I'm pretty
12 ready to hand it over.

13 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Okay. That's different then.

14 THE CLERK: Yeah.

15 MAYOR DeVITA: That's all right. Let them do
16 the work in the kitchen.

17 THE CLERK: I don't mind. They're good.

18 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Never mind.

19 MAYOR DeVITA: Number one, the parking ticket
20 fines. We talked about this last time. Howard drafted
21 an ordinance. And Nancy reminded me, and that's why we
22 needed to have -- that we need if, you know, assuming we
23 adopt this increase, on the tickets that are printed we
24 afford the violators to send in the parking ticket ahead
25 of time and they get a halvesies.

Proceedings

1 Is that correct, Nancy?

2 MS. POPPER: Yes.

3 MAYOR DeVITA: So right now they can send in a
4 check, and a guilty plea, of \$75. And they're happy to
5 do that, most people it seems.

6 Right?

7 MS. POPPER: Yes.

8 MAYOR DeVITA: So the first offense is going
9 to be increased to 250. I guess we should first --
10 let's first, I guess, talk about it. Let's focus right
11 now on the actual traffic section, and this is what
12 Howard drafted. It's still in the redline. It's a very
13 simple change from 150 to 250, and second offense, three
14 to 350.

15 Does anybody have any other discussion about
16 that? Because really all we're here for tonight is if
17 there's no changes we'll set a public hearing date for
18 the July 15 meeting.

19 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Dan.

20 MAYOR DeVITA: Yes, Rich.

21 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I had a question. At the
22 beginning of that paragraph there's talk about a
23 violation of any provision which is not a violation of
24 any provision of the Vehicle and Traffic Law of the
25 State of New York. Do we have certain regulations that

1 are not --

2 MAYOR DeVITA: Well, I think that means
3 parking.

4 Nancy, correct me if I'm wrong.

5 MS. POPPER: When you have a village
6 ordinance, you can use that in lieu of the VTL.

7 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I was just curious about
8 what that meant.

9 MAYOR DeVITA: In this section, and I had a
10 discussion with our prosecutor, Jeff Blinkoff, the VTL
11 specifically allows the localities to set their own fine
12 for parking. Okay. The VTL generally sets the fines
13 for everything else, you know, for speeding, you know,
14 lapsed registrations, things like that. But we double
15 checked before we had even this discussion that we could
16 increase it, you know, to the levels we wanted. So --

17 MS. POPPER: The VTL doesn't have a violation
18 of parking at the village beach. So, that would be a
19 separate --

20 MAYOR DeVITA: Right. So it's not a violation
21 of the VTL. It's a violation of our ordinance.

22 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: While we're talking about
23 parking, can I mention something about that?

24 MAYOR DeVITA: Sure.

25 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Two things, actually.

Proceedings

1 Number one, today we were taking a walk and walked down
2 by the beach. There were literally five or six cars
3 without stickers on. So I went into the village hall
4 and Nancy was kind enough to call and got Ted. Ted said
5 he'd send a car down. Well, we were there for another
6 15 minutes just sitting there and then we walked back up
7 here to the house which was another 15 minutes. There
8 was no cop in sight. So, it's nice to see that we have
9 an increase in the parking tickets, but I think there's
10 still so many out there.

11 MAYOR DEVITA: Let me just say a couple
12 things, Rich. I don't know, I could find out from Teddy
13 what was going on, but I know they've been writing lots
14 of tickets. Number one, just look at the police report.
15 They wrote 36 parking tickets last month. That's got to
16 be an all-time record. Plus, you got people who are
17 running into the village hall bitching to the girls that
18 they just got tickets and they're residents, how dare
19 they, even though I sent out three e-mails including
20 that it's a \$150 fine if you don't get your sticker.

21 The only other thing I can think of is, as you
22 know, we have the one car, and it's possible he was, he
23 or she, was either on another call, you know, assisting
24 another car, or something, you know, that could have --
25 obviously they prioritize it. But otherwise, I can

Proceedings

1 check on it. But I think, Nancy and Liz will tell you,
2 when we, I or when I ask them to call, they're usually
3 down there pretty quick.

4 No, Nancy and Liz?

5 MS. POPPER: Usually. They've been down there
6 a lot. But as Rich said, I don't know happened today.

7 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: They sometimes have two cars
8 down there, Dan. They've been doing a much better job.
9 I'm not questioning that.

10 MAYOR DeVITA: I know. You're right. What
11 happened today, I don't know. If you want, I'll ask
12 Teddy.

13 What time was that today?

14 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: What time did you guys
15 leave?

16 MS. POPPER: About 3:30 it was.

17 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Do you think that we have
18 this problem because maybe there's no signage? I know
19 there's a sign that talks a little bit about it, but
20 maybe a sign that's easier for people to see or if we
21 put it somewhere in a better place, no parking without a
22 permit or, you know --

23 MAYOR DeVITA: We can get another sign, number
24 one, at the front entrance, and another sign. Yeah, I
25 mean, you know what, Jeff, I have no problem. But, you

1 know, there's, yeah, that's fine, but these people know.
2 These people know.

3 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: You'd have to read the
4 green sign. I don't know. I miss it because I'm not
5 looking at the sign. I'm looking to make the turn in.
6 So I'm not looking to read a sign, I'm looking to make
7 the turn in and I'm trying to keep my eyes on the road.
8 Maybe we can just make a better sign somewhere.

9 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I agree with you, Jeff.

10 MAYOR DeVITA: That's fine. That's fine.

11 But, I'm sorry. I'm just not convinced that
12 nonresidents don't know that they can't park at our
13 beach. And I can't make excuses for residents because
14 they've been told enough times and they live here and,
15 you know, I think a lot of it is just they don't bother
16 reading the e-mails. And you know the old story, you
17 can lead a horse to water, you can't make them drink. I
18 mean, I've led them to the water to drown them
19 practically and they still don't want to get one.
20 That's fine.

21 But that's fine. I'm happy to remove whatever
22 flimsy excuses people may have for not getting the
23 sticker for parking there. And signs are cheap,
24 relatively cheap. So I will talk to Nick about getting
25 one, one for the entrance that says, village residents

1 with permits or with permitted stickers only, or
2 something. We can come up with language --

3 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Or no parking without a
4 permit.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: No parking without resident
6 sticker.

7 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: without a permit. Simple
8 enough.

9 MAYOR DeVITA: And another one by the
10 entranceway where you walk onto the beach. Because even
11 if you get out of your car and didn't see the other
12 ones, you'll see it there. I hate cluttering up the
13 beach with signs, but if you think this will help.

14 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Unless you want to use it
15 as a revenue builder, then we don't need the signs.

16 MAYOR DeVITA: You know what, Jeff, it's not
17 even about that because this is more of a headache than
18 anything. So, we'll get signs. But right now, to me,
19 it's not an excuse if someone comes in and says, well --
20 we had a Syosset resident the other day told Chris
21 Maletto (phonetic) walking with his 85-year-old
22 grandmother on the beach, why aren't you following
23 social distancing, really nasty. And it turns out the
24 person lives on Renee Court, or whatever that road is,
25 in Syosset. The cops had just come down while they were

1 getting in their car and said, you're not allowed to
2 park here. They don't care. They live in Syosset.
3 They know they're not allowed at the beach. This is
4 what we have all summer, these trespassers, these
5 nonresidents, and then they themselves not social
6 distancing, you know, rude. I'm kind of fed up with
7 this.

8 So, we'll put the signs up. At the same time
9 we raise the fine and we got new signs, there's really
10 no excuse after that. And what I'll do is I'll ask Nick
11 to draw up a sign and we'll circulate it. And if you
12 guys think it's good enough, we'll have it drawn up.

13 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Dan, I have less sympathy
14 for our residents who don't have the sticker than I do
15 for some of the people who've been there, because I've
16 been down there, that actually went there because they
17 found out Laurel Hollow was Googled as a public beach.

18 MAYOR DeVITA: Yeah. Well, it's the old story
19 about the internet, if you believe everything you read
20 on there, you know. Whoever put that up there --

21 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Well, it's a public beach.

22 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: It is a public beach.

23 MAYOR DeVITA: Sure. If you want to walk from
24 Teddy Roosevelt Beach, certainly you can lay your
25 blanket there. Just don't bring your car.

Proceedings

1 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: You just can't park.

2 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: what about bicycles?

3 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: They can bring them.

4 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: They can tie up to the
5 racks and do what they want?

6 MAYOR DEVITA: well, we've never had to
7 address that. If we will, we can, because that's still
8 our property. So, you know, I don't know if --

9 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Not the beach part.

10 MAYOR DEVITA: No. No. The landward side of
11 the wall. So, I don't think that's been an issue. I
12 mean the bikers are usually bikers in packs that ride
13 through. Nobody really, not a lot of them, I think,
14 that use it to stop there and swim. I could be wrong.
15 But if that becomes an issue, we'll address it.

16 So, okay. Any other discussion on the
17 ordinance?

18 I think we need a motion to set the public
19 hearing to approve this introductory law.

20 Liz, do you have a number yet?

21 THE CLERK: I think it's G.

22 MAYOR DEVITA: Let's just call it Introductory
23 Law G of 2020 to amend our Chapter 135 of the village
24 Code as presented in the draft ordinance for a public
25 hearing on July 15, 2020.

Proceedings

1 I'll move. Second, Trustee Jusko.

2 Trustee Novick?

3 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.

4 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Miritello?

5 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Aye.

6 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos?

7 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.

8 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Nicklas?

9 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Aye.

10 MAYOR DeVITA: Now we get to the resolution
11 part where really I guess the passage of this resolution
12 would have to wait for the passage of the ordinance next
13 month. But we can discuss the amounts to fill in, you
14 know, that we would propose for a resolution for early
15 payment of the fine.

16 So correct me if I'm wrong, Nancy, on your
17 draft resolution it would basically be parking fines
18 will be set at 250. It really should say, parking fines
19 for first offense.

20 MS. POPPER: Okay.

21 MAYOR DeVITA: Parking fines for a first
22 offense will be set at 250 with incentive reduction
23 to -- now does the Board want to do half, 125, 150?

24 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: What's the reason for
25 offering any discount?

Proceedings

1 MAYOR DeVITA: It's administratively
2 burdensome to have people come in. And, number one, if
3 they are going to pay, they're probably -- Nancy, you
4 tell me if I'm wrong, -- they're going to conference
5 with our prosecutor. They're probably going to get a
6 break on the fine anyway. So this relieves a lot of
7 administrative headache for everybody.

8 And, Nancy, go ahead if I'm saying this wrong.

9 MS. POPPER: That's right. But what it really
10 does is, it really motivates people to just pay it and
11 just be done with it rather than have the fine go up.
12 If they know they can pay 75 now instead of 150 and just
13 be done, not have to come to court, not sit around, not
14 try to argue, they're happy to do that.

15 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: What kind of percentage do
16 you think do that? Half?

17 MS. POPPER: Half.

18 MAYOR DeVITA: What, Nancy?

19 MS. POPPER: He was asking how many of the
20 people are prone to doing that.

21 I think at least half of them.

22 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: So the other half you
23 still have to go through the whole process?

24 MS. POPPER: Yeah.

25 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: What is the fine now? 150

Proceedings

1 is the present fine?

2 MAYOR DeVITA: Yes.

3 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I would suggest the discount
4 go down to 150 then.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: To make the discount 150?

6 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Yeah.

7 MAYOR DeVITA: I don't have a problem with
8 that.

9 what does anybody else think?

10 TRUSTEE NOVICK: So we're going to net what?
11 A hundred?

12 MAYOR DeVITA: No. No.

13 TRUSTEE NOVICK: What are you going to get
14 them down to?

15 MAYOR DeVITA: Going from 250 to 150.

16 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Okay. I just wonder if the
17 50 percent that Nancy said that settle it, how many of
18 that 50 percent would have settled it anyway without the
19 incentive.

20 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: And why give it away if
21 you don't have to.

22 TRUSTEE NOVICK: I don't know.

23 MAYOR DeVITA: Look, you guys, you understand
24 the way the court system works. All these cases are
25 conferenced when they come in to try and come out with a

Proceedings

1 resolution so that you don't have to have an expensive
2 and time consuming -- because we have to pay our
3 prosecutors to prepare for trial if they need to have
4 subpoenas and other stuff ready. So, the idea is try
5 and see if we can resolve it without a trial. So you
6 want to give them some incentive to plead guilty,
7 whether it's a parking ticket, speeding ticket, taking a
8 tree down without a permit. You know, the idea is they
9 try and conference these things to get rid of them.

10 People, anyone who walks in a courthouse,
11 unless they think they've been wronged to the highest
12 extent and you're hundred percent right, or they're just
13 troublemakers, they're going to want to try and resolve
14 it.

15 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: What argument would you
16 have for a parking ticket?

17 MS. POPPER: They make arguments that they
18 didn't know, that somebody told them they can park
19 there.

20 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: So what does that lead to?
21 A big --

22 MAYOR DeVITA: It's a big nothing. The big
23 nothing is the prosecutor says you can have it reduced
24 to -- let's say the full price is 150 -- have it reduced
25 to 100, and that's it, otherwise, you go to trial.

Proceedings

1 And what's the trial? Officer Smith, did you
2 see this car with license plate X parked at the Laurel
3 Hollow beach on X day at Y time, yes, boom, rest my
4 case. What are they going to say, it's not my car?
5 Well, here's the registration.

6 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: That was my point. A
7 parking ticket is not a real arguable case. So would it
8 create -- if we have a lot of people going in for
9 parking tickets, would it create a big backlog?

10 MAYOR DeVITA: You are now because of the
11 increased ticketing.

12 And don't forget -- and, Nancy, you can say,
13 you know, fill in the gaps -- but you got almost
14 everybody gets a ticket calls, when is my court date,
15 what is going on, do I have to come in, I want to tell
16 the judge this, I really was only doing this and I
17 really didn't do anything wrong. And they've got to
18 listen to this stuff all day. As opposed to someone
19 saying, you know what, let me get rid of this, there's
20 no points on my record, and they send in the \$100 fine.
21 So there is an administrative, you know, aspect to this.

22 Nancy, am I wrong?

23 MS. POPPER: No, you're a hundred percent
24 right. Everybody has a story and it takes a lot of
25 time.

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1 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Nancy, what do you think
2 50 percent or just bring it to 150?

3 MS. POPPER: Whatever you guys think.

4 MAYOR DeVITA: The bottom line is, the last
5 one that we gave was a 50 percent discount. So this
6 one, if we stick with the 150 from 250, it's less than
7 50 percent. I'm fine with that.

8 TRUSTEE NOVICK: I'm fine with that.

9 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Okay.

10 MAYOR DeVITA: I've got to tell you, I hate
11 those damn traffic cameras, but I send in the stupid-ass
12 \$100 every time because who wants to go down to
13 Hempstead and argue a losing cause because you crawled
14 through it one mile an hour and still got the ticket.

15 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Who do you know? I thought
16 the fine is 150.

17 MAYOR DeVITA: Whatever it is.

18 Anyway, we can set it down for tentatively 250
19 to 150. And then again, we're not adopting this
20 resolution until after we approve the legislation at the
21 next meeting.

22 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Dan, you need a public
23 hearing? I mean, the law is on the books.

24 MAYOR DeVITA: Yes.

25 TRUSTEE NOVICK: So in order to set the

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1 amount, you still need a public hearing?

2 MAYOR DeVITA: Yes. That's what we did. We
3 set the public hearing for the ordinance, for the change
4 in the amounts of the ordinance for next July. But the
5 reduction from 250 to 150 is a simple resolution that
6 the Board can pass, and we'll do that after the public
7 hearing next month.

8 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Okay.

9 MAYOR DeVITA: Thank you, Nancy. Have a good
10 night.

11 MS. POPPER: Thank you.

12 Good night, everybody.

13 MAYOR DeVITA: The only thing I want to say
14 about draft legislation on the squatter matter is, we
15 talked about it last time, I thought two good ideas came
16 up and maybe we could have Howard draft something for
17 the next meeting that we can look at. And those were:

18 One, I thought that Mike's suggestion was good
19 that, like Kensington has a registry, that you have to
20 if you're renting your house you have to register that,
21 I don't know, maybe file a copy of the lease with the
22 village. Okay. That way, number one, we know that
23 their house may be empty, it's being rented. And number
24 two, you know, it will avoid -- what these criminals
25 have been doing is coming up with phony leases, and, you

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1 know, the homeowners are wherever, in the Virgin Islands
2 for six months, and there is no way to get ahold of them
3 and it's a problem just proving that. And, in fact,
4 that's what the guy did at the Stillwell house. And
5 it's only because they knew he was one of the criminals
6 storing the handguns from the 25A house they were able
7 to arrest him and get him out of there. But if we have
8 a registry, keep a list of homes that are being rented
9 and a copy of the lease, I think that, number one, that
10 may be of help. And we'll talk about all this.

11 And the other idea was the idea of having when
12 real estate agents come in for a sign to put a house up
13 for sale that we're told that it's vacant and we have to
14 know within 30 days that the house will be vacant or
15 something, and have the brokers and/or the homeowners
16 sign something like that when they come to get the
17 permit for the sign.

18 So anyway, these were ideas that we talked
19 about. I think we should at least put something down to
20 talk about. We should do something. We're limited,
21 obviously, to the localities to what we can do, but it
22 seems like there'd be some things we can do.

23 What do you guys and gals think?

24 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I agree there are some
25 things. The only thing I think about as far as the

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1 lease, if they are away and they lease the house. It's
2 easier to do the sale of the house because you have a
3 real estate agent, as you say, for permit. But how do
4 we be sure, just like they don't know about the parking,
5 how are they going to know that they should say
6 something that they're leasing it or renting it for six
7 months?

8 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Especially if it's not a
9 New York State law.

10 MAYOR DeVITA: That doesn't matter.

11 TRUSTEE NOVICK: What about if the house --

12 MAYOR DeVITA: What's that?

13 TRUSTEE NOVICK: If I lease my house and it
14 doesn't remain vacant, I leave and they move in five
15 days.

16 MAYOR DeVITA: The idea is we would want a
17 copy of the lease so that we know, you know. You may
18 know who it is, but you're off, you know, traveling
19 somewhere, and people are claiming, you know, that
20 they're the rightful renters, and the owners next door
21 say that house is empty, these people shouldn't be in
22 there. At least we'll have some kind of certainty.
23 Right now they call us and like, we don't know, we have
24 no idea. This goes back to, we don't even know when
25 people buy houses. We may not know who the owners are

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1 for six months unless they contact us. So it just seems
2 like there's some holes we can fill.

3 The rental thing, I would like at least for
4 now maybe, Liz, you can call the Clerk of Kensington and
5 ask her what the section is of their local law or
6 whatever, and we can look at that and see what's
7 involved with that. Maybe it's for us. Maybe it's not.
8 But it's something for us to look at.

9 And then with the idea of someone selling
10 their home, you know, I'm open to it. But remember last
11 time we talked about these problems. There's no
12 incentive for anyone to let the village know that they
13 sold their house or someone else is moving in or it's
14 going to be vacant for a long time.

15 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Dan, if someone is leaving
16 their house, the police or the village, for a length of
17 time, should be notified. If you're going to leave a
18 house vacant for two weeks or more, we or the police
19 should be notified or both.

20 MAYOR DeVITA: I agree, Marty. But if there's
21 no ordinance or anything, there's no impetus other
22 than -- look, maybe it's people of our generation. When
23 I was young, we'd call the police and say we're going to
24 be away on vacation for a week, and they'd say thank you
25 very much and they'd drive by. People don't do that

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1 anymore even though we put reminders in, to the police,
2 to do that in our news letter. I think a lot of people
3 don't because a lot of people don't want anyone to know
4 they're away.

5 TRUSTEE NOVICK: would there be a consequence
6 if they don't do? Is there going to be a fine?

7 MAYOR DeVITA: I don't know. I don't think if
8 it's a vacation thing. If they're selling their house
9 and it's going to be empty, if nothing else, requiring
10 them -- I think the idea was requiring them to file, I
11 think require the broker to file a copy of the deed, the
12 new deed, with the village within whatever, 30 days of
13 the transfer of ownership. Because right now --

14 TRUSTEE NOVICK: That's another thing. I
15 don't know how many houses now are sold by brokers and
16 how many go on the internet with different sales that
17 they have there.

18 MAYOR DeVITA: That's why I say you can put
19 broker and/or owner. I think most deals are probably
20 still brokered even though they're on the internet.
21 There's usually a broker attached to the listing
22 somehow, a multiple listing. It's something we can talk
23 about. But maybe just saying they got to give us a copy
24 of the deed within a certain amount of time. I'm
25 throwing this out there because I see these loopholes

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1 and it seems like there are things we can at least think
2 about doing.

3 TRUSTEE NOVICK: I think the basis for a law
4 that if you're going to leave your house vacant for
5 whatever reason for whatever, two weeks or a week or
6 more, that it should be reported to the village and the
7 police.

8 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: What business is it of
9 ours if someone leaves their house for a week or 10 days
10 or two weeks, what business is it of ours?

11 If I want to leave my house for a month, what
12 business is it of yours?

13 TRUSTEE NOVICK: In case somebody decides to
14 make it a residence that shouldn't be there, how
15 would they know?

16 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: What if I don't want you
17 to know that I'm going to be away for a month? What if
18 I'm not interested and it's none of your business?

19 MAYOR DeVITA: Jeff, that's a good point. But
20 at the same time if your neighbor knows you're away for
21 a month and a week later, because these guys sit in
22 their BMWs and watch houses, they decide to move into
23 your house.

24 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: That's my fault.

25 MAYOR DeVITA: I understand that. It is your

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1 fault. It's your very expensive problem. But it also
2 becomes -- it does also become the village problem,
3 especially if they're criminals.

4 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: You can legislate almost
5 anything in life that's going to eventually lead to a
6 problem.

7 MAYOR DeVITA: Look, I see that point. What
8 do you think about making them file a deed after a
9 transfer of ownership?

10 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I think it's good in
11 concept. But if it's only Laurel Hollow's law, how
12 would people know that they even have to do this if
13 we're the only municipality in the state that asks for
14 this kind of information? How would anyone know to do
15 it?

16 MAYOR DeVITA: That's why the suggestion was
17 when the broker comes in for a sign that's one of the
18 things that they have to sign and they'll then know it.

19 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: We can be assured of that,
20 certainly if the broker comes in for the sign then we
21 can give them a piece of paper, and I think that's fine.
22 But does that happen every time?

23 MAYOR DeVITA: I don't think it's every time.

24 TRUSTEE NOVICK: The tax law, if somebody buys
25 a house, don't they have to file with the County? We

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1 can get a copy of that, there's a change in tax, who's
2 there.

3 MAYOR DeVITA: Jeff, you're on.

4 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: We got cut short, so I
5 got off early.

6 MAYOR DeVITA: Jeff, we're talking about this
7 issue which you would have knowledge of. So somebody
8 sells a house. The thought was if you want to make them
9 file a copy of their new deed with the Village let's say
10 within 30 days, do we make the broker when they come in
11 for a sign sign something that says that? That doesn't
12 cover everyone these days when they're selling a house.

13 What impetus is there to be able to put on the
14 homeowner to make them do that if it's not a broker
15 deal?

16 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: I don't know if you can
17 make someone do that. I think to notify people that
18 they should do it. Because if someone is selling a
19 house or if someone is selling their house or leaving
20 their house vacant while it's for sale, they certainly
21 don't want someone living in it. So the way to protect
22 it is to, you know, oh, the Village sent this notice. I
23 don't know if you can make someone do it. I just don't
24 know how you can do that.

25 We can certainly keep an eye on the listings.

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1 We can monitor the listings and if there's a sale we can
2 reach out to the broker and say, you know, please keep
3 us updated on what's happening with this sale, if and
4 when it closes.

5 Listen, in my report every year I do a list of
6 Laurel Hollow all the houses that are sold. We can
7 almost work off of that list.

8 TRUSTEE NOVICK: And what happens if the house
9 gets vacant? We're interested if a house goes vacant.
10 It will go vacant. It doesn't necessarily necessitate a
11 sale.

12 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Right. But it's a time
13 when there might be a gap between a seller selling the
14 house and a buyer occupying a house. So we'll at least
15 know that 10 or 15 houses that were sold --

16 TRUSTEE NOVICK: I'm saying any house that's
17 going to be vacant whether it's a sale, a vacation or
18 whatever the story is, if it's going to be vacant for a
19 week or more or ten days, whatever the figure happens to
20 be, that has to be reported to the village and to the
21 police so the police --

22 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: I don't know how you
23 can make it --

24 TRUSTEE NOVICK: How to make it what?

25 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: I don't know how you

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1 can make someone do it. And like Jeff said --

2 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Why not?

3 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: It's none of your
4 business.

5 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: As Jeff said, it's none
6 of your business. I'm going on vacation. I don't want
7 people to know I'm on vacation. Sometimes people are
8 concerned about why is the house empty --

9 TRUSTEE NOVICK: But the police knowing that
10 the house is empty so in case they leave a car there
11 there's no problem that they would know? Or if there's
12 no car left there and all of a sudden the police are
13 aware and there's a car there, that would give them a
14 clue?

15 MAYOR DeVITA: Marty, here's an example. What
16 if Jeff --

17 TRUSTEE NOVICK: It's --

18 MAYOR DeVITA: What if Jeff is away --

19 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: It's my house.

20 TRUSTEE NOVICK: So what. Don't you want to
21 protect it?

22 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: That's my business, Marty.
23 I don't want you to protect it for me. If I had any
24 brains, I'd call the police and tell them I'm away for a
25 month. But that's me. Someone might not want to tell

1 the police. What business is it of ours of protecting
2 someone else's house?

3 TRUSTEE NOVICK: You're protecting the house
4 that's next door that might be if people that come in
5 are undesirable that can hurt other people.

6 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: How do you protect the
7 house next door if someone who is undesirable buys the
8 house legally?

9 TRUSTEE NOVICK: That's a different story.
10 We're talking about only houses that are empty.

11 MAYOR DEVITA: Jeff Miritello, I agree with
12 you. I agree with you. I think that you can't --
13 people want to be away. Look, if you're away for a
14 month and you tell the police I'm away for a month and
15 all of a sudden one of your kids decide to move in for a
16 week and doesn't tell you, then what? Then the police
17 are going to come and arrest them? That's a quagmire I
18 don't think we have to address.

19 I think there's simpler things like we'll take
20 a look at the rent registry law that Kensington has.
21 I'm still on this idea of having a broker sign something
22 to say they'll give us a copy of the deed 30 days after
23 closing. To me that doesn't seem intrusive.

24 TRUSTEE NOVICK: What percentage of the houses
25 are rented? What would you estimate, unless Liz can

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1 tell us --

2 MAYOR DeVITA: We don't know. We have no
3 idea.

4 TRUSTEE NOVICK: What percentage are rented?

5 MAYOR DeVITA: We have no idea. We hear about
6 it --

7 THE CLERK: We only know when they come for
8 beach passes.

9 MAYOR DeVITA: Right. And their license
10 address doesn't match the home address. They're like,
11 well, I'm renting.

12 THE CLERK: They show us the lease.

13 MAYOR DeVITA: It's sporadic and we have no
14 control. The way we found out about illegal rentals in
15 the past has been by happenstance.

16 Don't forget the story someone is walking on
17 the street and told by someone and says, oh, we're
18 staying at the whatever bed and breakfast. And we shut
19 that down. Another guy on Cold Spring Road was selling
20 bait and tackle out of his house and we saw an add in
21 Newsday. I mean that's kind of happenstance. That was
22 years ago.

23 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Apparently, we don't have
24 this -- I'm not sure if we're making a mountain out of a
25 molehill. Perhaps maybe just educating and --

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1 MAYOR DEVITA: Jeff, here's the thing and this
2 is what I've been so really hot and after the cops on.
3 These guys sit and watch a property, okay, and look to
4 see if it's vacant, if it's something screened, whatever
5 they can get away with it. So that's why I've been so
6 hot on getting these cars off the streets. Because as
7 far as I'm concerned, any car parked on the street is a
8 suspicious vehicle. So that's number one and that's
9 something we can control.

10 But after that it just seems I don't think we
11 can lock this down. You know, look, we know it's an
12 island-wide problem. I talked to Charlie Goulding a
13 number of times. They had someone in Oyster Bay Cove
14 for years and the owners had to finally pay them to get
15 out of there even though it was completely illegal.
16 They were squatters. So these people are educated. And
17 now I'm hearing stuff that they're doing all kinds of
18 fraudulent stuff with the deeds at the County Clerks
19 Office and it looks like they have a valid deed.

20 So what's the total answer? I don't know.
21 Maybe the answer has to come from the State. I'm just
22 looking to see if there's any little ways we can help to
23 give information to ourselves. Because right now, these
24 two incidents, when we got called, especially the one on
25 25A, we couldn't find the owner. We didn't know whether

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1 these people were renting. The neighbors, Jeff, you
2 know them, they'd been calling the police. And the
3 police, look, they really can only do so much. They can
4 go up and knock on the door. If someone shows them what
5 looks like a valid lease, what are they supposed to do.

6 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Another thing. If you leave
7 the house, you should have a number where you can be
8 reached if you're going to be away.

9 MAYOR DEVITA: Well, it turned out they had a
10 property manager -- the one on Stillwell did also -- who
11 kind of checked the property like once a week.

12 So we can't do everything, Marty. We really
13 can't be the big brother for every problem. But if
14 there's something that's non-intrusive that can help us
15 collect information, that's all I'm looking for.

16 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: How about just educating
17 people?

18 MAYOR DEVITA: Jeff, here's my answer to that.
19 Yes, we can try and do that. Look how it worked with
20 the parking. Okay. You still got these people coming
21 in, I didn't know I need. Can you imagine this week
22 coming in and saying I didn't know I needed a sticker,
23 I'm a resident here.

24 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: A resident.

25 MAYOR DEVITA: What, are they living with

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1 their head under the sand. So you're going to have
2 those people. And you know what, maybe they are the
3 ones who should get squatters.

4 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: They're lying. They're
5 lying. Well, I'm not saying they're lying. I'm saying
6 they might be --

7 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Lying.

8 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Lying. You know, it's --

9 MAYOR DeVITA: I know. Look, I just wanted to
10 talk about it.

11 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Why don't we start with the
12 Kensington thing?

13 MAYOR DeVITA: Let's take a look at that and
14 just see what it looks like. Maybe it's for us. Maybe
15 it's not for us. But I thought if somewhere else had
16 something we can look at it, which is usually where we
17 start anyway.

18 THE CLERK: A lot of villages also have that,
19 you know, as far as the Airbnb, passed legislation.

20 MAYOR DeVITA: Yes. Lloyd Harbor passed
21 legislation.

22 THE CLERK: And it's similar. They require a
23 copy of the lease. One item, for example, you couldn't
24 lease more than two times a year for under six months.

25 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Isn't that running a

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1 commercial business when you have a bed and breakfast?

2 THE CLERK: Right.

3 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: It's not allowed here
4 anyway.

5 THE CLERK: No. But they had to put a law on
6 the books to restrict renting to not less than six
7 months and only twice a year. Because we had homes
8 getting, you know, weekends and it was -- they were
9 online, on Craigslist or something.

10 MAYOR DeVITA: Well, with respect to that
11 stuff, we tend to be reactive. I mean, we don't have to
12 address that now unless you think there's an issue.

13 THE CLERK: No. Correct.

14 MAYOR DeVITA: So, let's just -- we'll go with
15 that. And, Liz, we'll try and get a copy of the
16 ordinance --

17 THE CLERK: Yes.

18 MAYOR DeVITA: -- from Kensington.
19 Mike may know offhand.

20 THE CLERK: I'm sure it's online.

21 TRUSTEE NOVICK: whatever happened to the
22 movie people? Did they pull out?

23 MAYOR DeVITA: That was in the fall. They
24 paid us. They pulled out.

25 THE CLERK: Yeah, that was done.

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1 MAYOR DeVITA: All right. Liz, abstracts.

2 THE CLERK: This month we have in the trust
3 account we returned the escrow balance to Crown Castle.
4 So that matter is closed. That account is closed.

5 And in the general fund, we have the first
6 half of Syosset Fire Department, first half of the year.

7 Everything else is pretty routine.

8 TRUSTEE JUSKO: The fire department or the
9 police department?

10 THE CLERK: Syosset Fire.

11 MAYOR DeVITA: What is it, 118,000 something.

12 THE CLERK: 118, yeah.

13 The police, that was approved at the May
14 meeting for me to pay it on June 1. So you did approve
15 that.

16 MAYOR DeVITA: Just so you know, we pay two
17 million a year for police and we pay over half a million
18 for fire, which is basically an insurance policy. And,
19 you know, still when you compare the two it gets, I
20 think, more bank for the buck with the police. But in
21 any event, it's a lot of money. So that was the big
22 check for this month.

23 Do you need a motion for approval?

24 THE CLERK: For the abstracts, correct.

25 MAYOR DeVITA: A motion to approve the

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1 abstracts? Trustee Nicklas. Seconded, Trustee Jusko.
2 I vote aye.

3 Trustee Miritello?

4 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Aye.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos?

6 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.

7 MAYOR DeVITA: Deputy Mayor Nemshin?

8 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Aye.

9 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Nicklas, you seconded.
10 Trustee Novick?

11 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.

12 MAYOR DeVITA: All right.

13 Next, budget transfers.

14 THE CLERK: Next month.

15 MAYOR DeVITA: Life insurance.

16 THE CLERK: The life insurance is up for
17 renewal on July 1, and no rate increases. So if the
18 Board is so inclined, I need a motion.

19 MAYOR DeVITA: Motion by Deputy Mayor Nemshin.
20 Seconded by Trustee Nicklas. I vote aye.

21 Trustee Jusko?

22 TRUSTEE JUSKO: Aye.

23 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Miritello?

24 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Life insurance for what?

25 MAYOR DeVITA: Life insurance for the

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1 employees. No rate increase. Would you like a rate
2 increase?

3 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: No. I was wondering why
4 we're paying life insurance.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: Because we always have. Do you
6 want to discuss cutting that out now?

7 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Liz --

8 THE CLERK: It was here when I got here. So,
9 I'm just going with the flow.

10 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Is it typical of companies
11 paying life insurance?

12 MAYOR DeVITA: I don't know, but it's typical
13 of municipalities.

14 TRUSTEE NOVICK: But not trustees. You're not
15 covered.

16 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Aye.

17 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos?

18 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.

19 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Novick?

20 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.

21 MAYOR DeVITA: Now you wanted to talk about
22 here the workers' comp?

23 THE CLERK: That's up to --

24 MAYOR DeVITA: Did you want to talk about it
25 or wait until next month?

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1 THE CLERK: We need because it's effective
2 7/1.

3 MAYOR DEVITA: It looked like something
4 favorable.

5 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I don't think there's much
6 of a discussion. I think it is favorable. It's a
7 reduction. I did try to do due diligence today and
8 called Nicole, but she didn't get back, just to run by
9 her is there a reason to look at anyone else.

10 THE CLERK: Rich, she did. You didn't check
11 your e-mail after five. She did get back. She said
12 it's a very small market for municipalities. There's
13 PERMA which we have, the State Insurance Fund, and then
14 that self insurance that I mentioned. She said by far
15 PERMA is the best and she highly recommends taking
16 advantage of --

17 MAYOR DEVITA: There was something about a
18 three-year option.

19 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: It basically is what it is.
20 We have to have it. In 2018-19 we paid 23-odd thousand.
21 In 19-20, we paid 21 thousand odd. And now this one
22 here even though we had a loss, we had the claim by
23 Dave, we are owed what they call the percentage and we
24 justifiably could have been higher. But if we opt to
25 extend this for another year, which we've been doing

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1 right along, they give us this reduction so it would
2 knock it down to 20,930, which is again cheaper than
3 last year. I don't think there's any really much to
4 discuss.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: Any questions?

6 Jeff, we have to have workers' comp by law.

7 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: All right. I don't agree
8 with it.

9 MAYOR DeVITA: It actually was designed to
10 protect the employer. So, I think you do want it.

11 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Okay. It's time for
12 Band-Aids and go back to work.

13 MAYOR DeVITA: Trust me, there was no Band-Aid
14 that would cover the chunk of finger missing from Dave
15 this year.

16 So anyway, any discussion? So, I'll move in
17 favor of renewing the workers' comp for the third year
18 for -- what is the name of the company?

19 THE CLERK: PERMA.

20 MAYOR DeVITA: PERMA, which is obviously with
21 that extension at a cheaper rate than we're now paying
22 even with the loss. I'll move. Second, Trustee Tsafos.

23 Trustee Jusko?

24 TRUSTEE JUSKO: Aye.

25 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Miritello?

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1 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Aye.

2 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Nicklas?

3 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I vote aye.

4 MAYOR DeVITA: Deputy Mayor Nemshin?

5 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Aye.

6 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Novick?

7 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.

8 MAYOR DeVITA: Safety Committee update.

9 THE CLERK: Mayor, we have vision.

10 MAYOR DeVITA: Go ahead. I'm sorry.

11 Yes, we pay for eyeglasses too, Jeff.

12 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I want to work for this
13 village.

14 THE CLERK: No rate increase.

15 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: They get more vacation
16 time than I've had in the last five.

17 MAYOR DeVITA: Let me say something. In the
18 last month, go spend one day down at the village Hall
19 and see what it's like. Everybody is sitting at home
20 with their feet up in the armchair saying, I don't know,
21 maybe we should take a tree down, let's call the Village
22 Hall and see what's involved; Oh, I need a sticker, let
23 me see how many different ways I can buy it, let's call
24 the village Hall.

25 Liz, am I exaggerating?

Proceedings

1 Non-stop.

2 THE CLERK: Yes. And e-mails too.

3 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: That's why they call it
4 work.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: It's not about that, Jeff. But
6 when you say, Oh, I wish I worked for the village, spend
7 a day down there and see if people drive you crazy after
8 the end of the day.

9 Anyway, I don't know how much --

10 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I vote aye.

11 MAYOR DeVITA: Go ahead, Liz.

12 THE CLERK: Second? Trustee Miritello moved.

13 MAYOR DeVITA: I second.

14 Trustee Jusko?

15 TRUSTEE JUSKO: Aye.

16 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Tsafos?

17 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Aye.

18 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Nicklas?

19 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Aye.

20 MAYOR DeVITA: Deputy Mayor Nemshin?

21 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Aye.

22 MAYOR DeVITA: Trustee Novick?

23 TRUSTEE NOVICK: Aye.

24 MAYOR DeVITA: Safety Committee. We are the
25 Safety Committee, the whole Board of Trustees. So this

Proceedings

1 is our convening as the Safety Committee. And the
2 report for this committee, and correct me if I'm wrong,
3 Liz, that there have been no safety incidents since the
4 last time we met.

5 THE CLERK: Correct.

6 MAYOR DEVITA: That's the end of that meeting
7 of the Safety Committee.

8 Parking boats at the dock. So, Jeff, why
9 don't you give some background and then we can talk
10 about it if we want to do anything.

11 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Okay, you know, the rules
12 are at the dock that you can only tie up for ten
13 minutes, and that's basically for loading and
14 offloading. I mean, they don't want to use the dock as
15 a private place for the people to park their boat and
16 take the day on the beach. And basically, we don't have
17 too much of a problem, but we are getting more and more
18 of a problem because there's more boaters coming in now
19 during this pandemic. And a lot of the boaters now are
20 children, are kids. The parents bought a boat because
21 the kid wanted a boat. And they're taking some
22 liberties at the dock and people are tieing up at the
23 dock and staying, leaving their boat and keeping the
24 boat there all day.

25 I was down there Sunday, and there's not much

Proceedings

1 I can do about it. Because as I remember, the last time
2 I really had an issue with this is when Denise was the
3 Mayor and the procedure for me writing a ticket is
4 pretty much similar to a police officer writing a
5 ticket. I had to have the ticket form. I had to, from
6 what I remember, actually hand it to the offender which,
7 unless I stay there all day long, I couldn't do that.
8 So I think on Monday I asked the Mayor if there's just
9 an easier way of doing this where these people can get a
10 ticket. And I don't know what you come up with, but
11 it's a problem we have to address.

12 MAYOR DEVITA: So first of all, in the code
13 there's a list of harbor master duties and penalties and
14 all that. But the relevant one is that says, The harbor
15 master shall enforce rules and regulations for use of
16 the village pier governing permissible tie up, maximum
17 size and type of vessel that may tie up, and permissible
18 uses made at the village pier. So I suspect the Board
19 at some point passed a resolution that said you can only
20 tie up for ten minutes. Where that is, who has
21 knowledge of that, I honestly don't know.

22 My suggestion was that we, if you want to,
23 keep with the ten-minute rule, which it sounds like we
24 need to. And for those of you who are boaters and those
25 of you who aren't know our dock is tiny and you're

Proceedings

1 really pushing it if you think you can get three boats
2 docked there at once. And you really can't depending on
3 the tide. Especially that inside one. And the outside
4 one you got to worry about moors.

5 Correct me if I'm wrong, Jeff, on all this.

6 It's a small dock and you had two boats. And
7 you had one which we found out who it was about. And I
8 know the mother, and she's very, very lovely. But this
9 kid told a cockamamie story to her, from what I
10 understand, and the next time should get a ticket, so
11 that he told the authorities and all this stuff, which
12 was a load of crap.

13 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I was told that first
14 their kayak was stolen. Then I was told that they had
15 engine problems. So someone is making up a story. I
16 don't know if it's the child making up to the parent or
17 the parent making up to us, but the story doesn't make
18 sense.

19 MAYOR DeVITA: Anyway, we've always had boat
20 breakdowns. Usually we pull them over to the side and
21 tie them up until the mechanic comes.

22 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: People tell me. I know
23 about them.

24 MAYOR DeVITA: But to leave it at the main
25 area, it could be a nightmare.

Proceedings

1 But anyway, the idea is if we got that, why
2 not just embody it in the code, why not just make this
3 ten-minute rule a rule in the code. And the thought was
4 that we spell it out in there and then for the next
5 session which is enforcement, and this shows you how old
6 this section is, the present one says 140-13, The harbor
7 master and the police department --

8 THE CLERK: Nancy had given me that section
9 with the ten minutes at the end of the day. I have it
10 if you want me to share it.

11 MAYOR DEVITA: Is it a resolution?

12 THE CLERK: It was 140-7. It's in the code.

13 MAYOR DEVITA: Yes. No vessel shall be tied
14 up or made fast to the village pier for a continued
15 period in excess of ten minutes. It is in there.

16 THE CLERK: Nancy gave that to me at the end
17 of the day.

18 MAYOR DEVITA: Terrific. But nevertheless,
19 the enforcement section says, The harbor master and the
20 police departments of the village of Laurel Hollow,
21 Nassau County and Suffolk County, are hereby empowered
22 to enforce the provisions of this chapter, et cetera, et
23 cetera. I think we need to change that to, you know,
24 the Oyster Bay Cove Police Department.

25 But here's the thing. I don't see the police

Proceedings

1 sitting there, we call, sitting there for ten minutes
2 and then writing a ticket. Now I don't know why we'd
3 have to be giving it to the person. To me it's like a
4 parking ticket. This thing is illegally parked after
5 ten minutes. If we write the ticket, the registration
6 numbers are on the boat.

7 I think you should be authorized to write a
8 ticket, Jeff. We can print up parking ticket forms.

9 Now, the only other thing I was thinking
10 was -- and Liz, you have to check this -- you know we
11 again, every year we renew the enforcement of, you know,
12 I'm not sure how it's phrased, let's just say water
13 violations are enforced by the Oyster Bay Water
14 Constable, and to think they're in charge of enforcement
15 they get to collect the revenues. The tickets are
16 returnable at Oyster Bay and they get to collect the
17 revenue from the tickets, you know, which is fine
18 because the last time they issued a ticket was God knows
19 when, maybe years ago with the jet skies. But I'll look
20 at the ordinance and if it's not exclusive, and this may
21 not be considered a water violation but it's kind of a
22 parking violation, and Jeff can write a ticket and it
23 can be returnable in our court.

24 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: why can't it be like a
25 fine? when you say a ticket, is that something that has

Proceedings

1 to go through the court and someone can challenge it?
2 Can't it be just a fine from the village?

3 MAYOR DeVITA: In order to levy a fine, Jeff,
4 we have to, unfortunately in some case, we have to allow
5 due process.

6 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Does it go through New
7 York State?

8 MAYOR DeVITA: No. It's a local village
9 ordinance, so they go to our courts. It would be like
10 getting a parking ticket.

11 I was just going to bring up the fine is for
12 this section punishable by up to \$1,000. Now if you
13 think that's enough, fine. No pun intended. We can
14 raise it more than that or say have a minimum, your
15 first offense \$500 or something. I just want to be able
16 to have some teeth in it. But I think if we just amend
17 that enforcement section, just to put Oyster Bay Cove in
18 there. But if you don't want to, we don't really have
19 to if we're going to give Jeff, you know, recognize the
20 authority and print up some tickets for him.

21 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: First of all, we should
22 possibly put some signage on the dock because there
23 isn't signage there.

24 MAYOR DeVITA: Didn't there used to be a sign,
25 ten minutes?

Proceedings

1 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Maybe near where the hose
2 was. I don't know if it's still there or not.

3 MAYOR DEVITA: Maybe Kaiser (phonetic) took it
4 off.

5 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: We have to see if it's
6 there. But, Jeff, I don't think any sign anywhere else
7 is going to last. Some kid is going to tear it down.

8 MAYOR DEVITA: Jeff Nemshin, you're right. I
9 go back to signs are cheap. I can have Nick have one
10 made up, maximum ten-minute tie up, and put it by the
11 hose at the end of the dock and we can put it by the
12 entrance at the top.

13 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Where you walk up the
14 entrance.

15 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: Yeah.

16 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Let me just share.
17 And, Jeff, I'm down there a lot.

18 In practicality, yes, I agree, it's gotten
19 much busier this year. Yes, there are kids on the
20 boats. My 15-year-old got the bug and she passed my
21 test that she can now go out on her own. So she's doing
22 that. But most of the users of the dock, in the past
23 especially, maybe it's a little more difficult now with
24 the younger kids, are courteous to each other. Someone
25 is coming in, you want me to move.

Proceedings

1 That boat last week, Russell was telling me,
2 it was sitting there the night before, then they came
3 out and moved it to the other side. It was there for a
4 long time. That was the biggest issue I think we've
5 seen. And the dock got busy. There were a couple
6 boats.

7 In most cases the people are courteous
8 including the kids. The kids are generally courteous
9 about are you done with the hose, are you done with the
10 dock. The problem is there is more volume this year.
11 So if you get one person who leaves his boat there like
12 this person did a week or two ago, it really messed up
13 the whole thing.

14 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Actually, it led to two
15 boats. He was there and then there was another boat in
16 front of him closer to the shoreline in the same row.
17 And for both boats, I thought I was just going to be
18 able to jump on the beach and find out who owned the
19 boat and tell them to not tie them off there. I kind of
20 was in a rush --

21 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: One of them was there,
22 the home on Ridge, the boat was there overnight.

23 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Who was the one, there's a
24 boat with a very light blue hull, a fishing boat?

25 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: This was a Sea Hunt,

1 S-H it says on it. It's a center console. It had some
2 blue writing. I think it was a white boat.

3 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Yes. That was a bad one.

4 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Russell came back like
5 8:41 maybe. It was Saturday night.

6 MAYOR DEVITA: That was Howard's boat.

7 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: He came back on
8 Saturday night, it was there. And then we went out on
9 Sunday and it was still there on the other side. That
10 was a bad situation.

11 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I don't say anything to
12 anybody. Generally, if they do it during the week, who
13 cares if there's not a lot of traffic. You just don't
14 want boats like Passarelli's tender. That guy sometimes
15 ties up and waits around. If he stays with the boat,
16 it's not a problem.

17 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Are you talking about
18 the Hinckley that comes from Connecticut?

19 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: The one that takes care of
20 the brick house right next door to Village Hall.

21 MAYOR DEVITA: They're the ones that dump the
22 garbage from the main boat into our garbage all over the
23 floor. Is that the one?

24 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Yes.

25 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: So I had another

Proceedings

1 suggestion and it's probably a little more -- my other
2 suggestion was not only should there be a ten-minute
3 tie-up, which again people are courteous -- my wife is
4 always the last one down there so we're always waiting
5 for her so sometimes I go over the ten minutes, but
6 we're courteous of other people, we shuffle around, I
7 usually try to go into a tight spot -- but I think
8 another important rule should be that boats can't be
9 left unattended, and this way if the boat is left
10 unattended and you walk around for five minutes and you
11 can't find someone, that's an unattended boat. Maybe
12 that's another rule that we can instill.

13 MAYOR DEVITA: The only one thing, Jeff,
14 exception, what if they left it unattended to use the
15 bathroom or something.

16 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: That's fine.

17 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Or go home and get
18 gasoline.

19 Listen, honestly all this stuff is little
20 stuff. All I need is a system for when something
21 happens like what happened Sunday I can do something
22 about it without it being a big rigamarole. If I just
23 had the book. I couldn't imagine me doing more than a
24 ticket a year. But in this case, I asked around.
25 People told me it was kids. I knew it was kids. I took

Proceedings

1 a look at the boat. There was a generic cigarette pack
2 on the boat. So I knew that it was nobody -- I knew.
3 We just have to make it a simple procedure where I don't
4 have to spend all day and wait for them. I can make the
5 ticket, put it on the steering column and leave. So if
6 it's possible to do it, Dan, then that would be fine.

7 MAYOR DeVITA: I'll check with Howard.

8 Tamar, just make a note, we'll check with
9 Howard.

10 The way I see it, I don't see why you have to
11 have someone present. It's like writing a parking
12 ticket. It's the owner's responsibility. But then
13 we'll make sure we can print up. I think they may even
14 sell stuff like this. And I know that Minuteman can
15 print it up in a couple days, a simple ten-ticket book
16 or whatever. We have to get the wording right. It's
17 something you should be able to do. The law clearly is
18 authorizing you to do it.

19 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: With a carbon copy for Jeff.

20 MAYOR DeVITA: Yes.

21 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: What happens, it's an open
22 boat, you put it on the steering column, it pours, the
23 thing gets destroyed, and they claim I never saw it?

24 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: What if they just throw it
25 out? What if they take it, rip it up and throw it out?

Proceedings

1 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: They have to then report to
2 court, right?

3 MAYOR DEVITA: A car parking ticket, they put
4 under a windshield. And you know there's something on
5 there. We'll find out if there's waterproof ink. Maybe
6 we buy Jeff a plastic sleeve to put it in and Duct Tape
7 it to the deck, something, and you can take a picture.
8 I mean there's things we can do if people are going to
9 start claiming that I never got it.

10 what happens when they say that to a cop? The
11 cop will testify, you know, I did, I wrote this ticket,
12 here's the time and date, here's my copy of the ticket
13 and I left it on the windshield. And you know what,
14 they established the case. If they want to say it blew
15 away, I can understand that we're on a boat, so maybe
16 we'll put it in a protective wrapper and Duct Tape it to
17 the deck, to the steering wheel, so they have no excuse.

18 There's only so much we can do.

19 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I think a sign would be
20 good. And if it's an easy way to do it, I don't want to
21 make a big deal out of this, let's do it. If not, you
22 know, I'll just send e-mails to more of the boaters just
23 let all the boaters know that if they see someone there
24 they can tell them. It should be that way anyway. I'm
25 not there all the time. If someone sees people doing

Proceedings

1 this, they should go to them and say, you know, tie-up
2 time is only ten minutes. They can play the bad guy
3 too. It's okay.

4 MAYOR DEVITA: I know. But you know what,
5 everyone is out to have a good time, not out to make
6 enemies when they're boating.

7 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Me too.

8 MAYOR DEVITA: I know that. Unfortunately we
9 have to be the bad guys sometimes.

10 So we'll start with the signs and look into
11 the printing tickets, that kind of thing.

12 And, Tamar, we'll talk to Howard.

13 MS. HARUTUNIAN: Yes.

14 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: And you all know the boat
15 camera is working?

16 MAYOR DEVITA: Yes. Thank you, Rich.

17 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Dan, that's a good point
18 too. Would the boat camera, if I was home and I took --
19 is there a timer on the camera, Rich?

20 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I don't see one there.

21 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Isn't it a clock that
22 takes a history? There must be a clock on it.

23 MAYOR DEVITA: Maybe at the Village Hall one.
24 I don't know if it displays when you're looking on your
25 app.

Proceedings

1 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: That's true, Jeff. You can
2 be like the people monitoring the traffic light cameras.
3 You go back at the end of the day and run the videotape
4 and you issue a bunch of summonses.

5 MAYOR DeVITA: Well, I thought what you were
6 getting at is, I'd still rather Jeff say I was there and
7 saw it for 15 minutes, it didn't move, then we can go to
8 the Village Hall and look and see this thing was there
9 for ten hours.

10 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I was hoping.

11 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: I hear you. But I figured if
12 Jeff can't be there and he wants to raise some revenue
13 for the Village he can just go back and run videotape.

14 MAYOR DeVITA: Well, even better, if Jeff is
15 at home and people are telling him this boat has been
16 here all day, if Jeff looks on the camera, he probably
17 knows whose boat it is, he can make a call.

18 And unfortunately, this one -- Jeff, does that
19 boat moor at --

20 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: I don't see any timer.

21 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: It doesn't have, like,
22 a time of day?

23 TRUSTEE NICKLAS: No.

24 MAYOR DeVITA: The main unit at the Village
25 Hall will do all that.

Proceedings

1 THE CLERK: We'll check tomorrow.

2 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: This one, the system broke
3 down because of course the guy who dropped the mooring,
4 we didn't have the paperwork. And when I called the guy
5 today he claims he mailed the village the paperwork, but
6 Nancy never got the paperwork.

7 You know, everything falls apart all the time.
8 No one follows all the procedures. So I was looking to
9 try to find the boat Sunday. I couldn't find it because
10 although they moor in our mooring field, the application
11 wasn't into the village.

12 MAYOR DeVITA: Can we find the mooring
13 contractor?

14 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: He says he mailed it in.

15 MAYOR DeVITA: I don't care what he says.

16 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: The problem is this is a
17 part-time job.

18 MAYOR DeVITA: You know these guys, they are
19 all creeps.

20 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: It's a part-time job and I
21 can't police it. Like going down to check the dinghies.
22 We are constipated with dinghies and kayaks and paddle
23 boards. I dread going down there to check if everyone
24 is in the right spot. That's the most aggravating thing
25 in the world. You should come down and do it with me

Proceedings

1 some day and see. They put the sticker at the very top
2 so you can't see the sticker even though you tell them
3 to put it where you can read it.

4 A guy told me the other day -- he was Spot
5 No. 77 -- he claims that Nancy never sent him the spot,
6 which I know is not true. I know she does that. So
7 what did he tell me, I've been in this spot, Spot 23,
8 all season. I said, well, that's someone else's spot.
9 His reaction was, well, nobody was in it. I said, when
10 they come down to put it in their spot and it's going to
11 be full, they're going to put it in someone else's spot.
12 It's ridiculous.

13 TRUSTEE TSAFOS: Jeff, you still want to work
14 at the village?

15 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: Listen, if I'm getting
16 paid for it, it's one thing.

17 DEPUTY MAYOR NEMSHIN: Get things under
18 control down there, please.

19 MAYOR DeVITA: It's frustrating. There's a
20 system, and when people don't follow it, what do you do.

21 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: I've said my piece.

22 MAYOR DeVITA: Anyway, signs and tickets, and
23 we'll go from there. And if you think a SwiftReach to
24 all the boaters to remind them --

25 TRUSTEE MIRITELLO: We did that already.

Proceedings

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MAYOR DeVITA: That's right.

Anything from anyone else? I want thank you
all. God bless. Have a great night. It's 7:34.

CERTIFIED THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND
ACCURATE TRANSCRIPT OF THE ORIGINAL STENOGRAPHIC MINUTES
IN THIS CASE.

Ronald Koenig

RONALD H. KOENIG
Senior Court Reporter