SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

FIRST DAY

January 5, 2015

THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WAS HELD AT THE
WILLIAM H. ROGERS LEGISLATURE BUILDING
IN THE ROSE Y. CARACAPPA LEGISLATIVE AUDITORIUM
725 VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY, SMITHTOWN, NEW YORK

Minutes Taken By
Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer
Organizational Meeting – January 5, 2015

(*The meeting was called to order at 10:58 A.M.*)

(The following was taken by Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer and transcribed by Kim Castiglione - Legislative Secretary)

**ACTING P.O. GREGORY:**
Good morning, everyone. If you can please take your seats.

Good morning, Mr. Clerk.

**MR. LAUBE:**
Good morning, Mr. Presiding Officer.

**ACTING P.O. GREGORY:**
Can you do the roll call?

**MR. LAUBE:**
Will do.

(*Roll was called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

**LEG. KRUPSKI:**
Here.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**
Here.

**LEG. BROWNING:**
Here.

**LEG. MURATORE:**
Here.

**LEG. HAHN:**
Present.

**LEG. ANKER:**
Here.

**LEG. CALARCO:**
Present.

**LEG. LINDSAY:**
Here.

**LEG. MARTINEZ:**
Here.

**LEG. CILMI:**
Here.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**
Here.
LEG. TROTTA:  
Here.

LEG. McCAFFREY:  
Here.

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:  
Here.

LEG. STERN:  
Here.

LEG. D’AMARO:  
Here.

LEG. SPENCER:  
Here.

MR. LAUBE:  
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:  
Okay, if you will all please rise for the colors? This morning we will have a salute to the flag led by Legislator Calarco.

Salutation

Next we will have the Star Spangled Banner sung by Alexandra Rose Meli. I would like to welcome her back to the Legislature. Alexandra sang the Star Spangled Banner for us two years ago. She is a ninth grader at the Shoreham-Wading River Albert G. Prodell Middle School. Alexandra is the granddaughter of one of my Legislative Aides, Marjorie Acevedo.

(Star Spangled Banner Performed by Alexandra Meli)

The Chair will recognize -- the Acting Chair will recognize Legislator Calarco for the purposes of introducing our clergy for today.

LEG. CALARCO:  
Thank you very much. It’s a real pleasure to be able to bring clergy to this morning’s meeting to deliver our invocation. Today I’m honored to have our Reverend Dwight Lee Wolter of the Congregational Church of Patchogue here to deliver the first invocation of the New Year.

Reverend Wolter is a graduate of the Union Theological Seminary in New York City and has been Pastor of the Congregational Church for nine years. In fact, I can remember when he first came to join the Congregational Church and he came to visit the Legislative office before I was a Legislator, while I was still an Aide. Previously he was the maitre d’ at the Tavern on the Green and the Ritz Carlton in Manhattan and is the author of six books in the subject of psychology. He’s also a proud father and grandfather.

The Congregational Church of Patchogue was formed in 1773, three years before the Declaration of Independence was signed. One of the historic churches of Patchogue Village, the current building on Main Street was constructed in 1893. The Congregational Church has a long history of social justice ministry and is strongly committed to the issues of diversity, labor, housing, immigration and social
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equality.

Reverend Wolter advocates for the church to "open its doors and go outside." The Congregational Church of Patchogue has been long been fully engaged and active members of our local community, from helping the community heal after the death of Marcelo Lucero and feeding the hungry at its soup kitchen, to providing solace through cultural events in the numerous concerts and art events throughout the community.

And I can say I like to call Reverend Wolter our eclectic Pastor of Patchogue Village, because when you go into his church you may hear on a sermon any day the typical sermon you might expect to hear in a church, or one featuring the music of the Beatles. So he really stretches all genres and tries to bring in all different cultures and respects life. And the things he did for our Village after the death of Lucero, inviting in the immigrant community to be able to have a safe place to tell their stories, to just providing bicycles for workers, feeding our poor and many, many other things -- open his doors for domestic violence programs. Reverend Wolter is truly an active member of our community, and as he likes to say it, our church that sits in the middle of our Downtown is the church on Main Street that serves all. So welcome, Reverend Wolter, and if you would, please give us an invocation.

REVEREND WOLTER:
I'd pay any amount of money for an introduction like that by one of my children or grandchildren. I'll hold my breath and keep prying for that one. Let us pray.

God of many names, many, many names throughout this world, and known by many, many names even right here in this place and in Suffolk County, God of all creation, today is a special day for the Suffolk County Legislature, Organizational Meeting. We ask that you empower your trusted servants gathered here, grant them the serenity necessary to embrace opposing views and positions with open minds and empathic hearts. Grant them the courage necessary to stand firm when the need arises and to be flexible when it is time to be so. Grant them the wisdom they shall need to study the tasks before them from a wide and deep perspective. May they serve as advocates for both the powerful and the disempowered, the strong as well as the frail, for those without voice or vision, knowing that the wealthy and the impoverished, the wise and the foolish, are equal citizens and partners in our beloved community. Grant these gathered leaders a sense of justice so that equity and justice prevail throughout our land. Grant them kindness and compassion so their hearts are never hardened or callous to the needs of any our brothers and sisters.

May you be such a real presence in this place, creator God, that the very air we breathe is permeated by your spirit of Holiness. Be with, guide and govern these trusted servants you have set aside to guide and govern others and may your spirit stay with these, our leaders. May they be worthy of the duties, responsibilities and trust we and you have placed in them. Amen.

Amen said in unison

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Please remain standing for a moment of silence for former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, who rose from the Depression Era streets of Queens to serve as the 52nd Governor of New York for three terms from 1983 to 1994, Lieutenant Governor of New York from 1979 to 1982, and Secretary of State of New York from 1975 to 1978, died of natural causes due to heart failure on New Year's Day 2015. His passionate keynote address at the 1984 Democratic National Convention vaulted him on to the national political scene. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to his son, Governor Andrew Cuomo, and the entire Cuomo Family.
Also, Owen Johnson, a strong representative of Long Island in the State Senate for 39 years. He was the longest-tenured State Senator in Long Island history. He worked with eight Governors during his tenure and, with 40 years of service, is the second longest tenured Senator in State history. Senator Johnson represented a Babylon-Islip district from 1973 to 2012 and had a powerful influence over State spending on schools, transportation and other key issues. He battled every day in Albany to make sure Long Island was fairly represented.

Also, Rosemary Walker Halpin, mother of our fifth County Executive, former State Assemblyman Patrick Halpin, passed away recently.

Also two New York Police Detectives, Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu, who were recently assassinated while on duty in Brooklyn.

Also at 45 years of age, retired New York City Police Captain and Babylon resident, Scott Stelmok, died after battling several cancers. It was determined that this disease was a result of being a first responder at the World Trade Center on 9/11.

As always, let us also remember all those men and women who put themselves in harm’s way every day to protect our country.

Moment of Silence Observed

Thank you. Color Guard, please retire the colors. Okay, thank you. At this time we will recognize Suffolk County Executive Stephen Bellone.

Applause

COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLONE:
I’m new over here. Good morning, Mr. Presiding Officer, members of the Suffolk County Legislature. It’s an honor to be here with you for your annual Organization Meeting. This is a tradition that started just a few years ago with our former Presiding Officer, Legislator Bill Lindsay, who invited me after a few days coming into office to address the Legislature at that Organizational Meeting, and I hope it is a tradition that will continue on well past all of us. I think it’s a good one and reflects the importance of all of us coming together to do the work of the people of this County, and that is something I’m very proud that we have been doing for the last several years.

I want to also congratulate in advance the Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer Schneiderman, who I expect will continue to lead this body and who I look forward to working with again this year to do important work for the people of our County, and all my colleagues on the Legislature. Happy New Year.

LEG. SPENCER:
Happy New Year.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLONE:
It’s the start of a new year, and hope for great things to come for each and every one of you and your families as well.

I also want to congratulate one of your former colleagues now and somebody who will be joining me in the Executive Branch of government. Welcome back to the Executive Branch, John.

MR. KENNEDY:
Yep, it’s been a while. Thank you.
COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLONE:
I want to congratulate John. And I know we're going to continue to get along as well as we have in
the last three years as he comes into the Executive Branch.

MR. KENNEDY:
No doubt.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLONE:
In fact, if I can, I would even predict even better.

But congratulations to you, John, and I look forward to working together in your role as Comptroller
for the County.

So in the last three years we have made great progress in Suffolk County under very difficult
circumstances by working together. And in this past year, this past year has been no different in
terms of that progress. We've had a number of important things happen. Two referenda last year
were passed overwhelmingly by the public that will protect water quality and that will help
consolidate government. In terms of government efficiency, we moved several more health centers
to the FQHC model that will save tens of millions of dollars and actually deliver better care for our
constituents. And we've made progress on public safety thanks to the dedicated men and women of
law enforcement in this County, and in particular the Suffolk County Police Department. We have
the lowest crime rates that we've ever had here in this County and we've reduced crime significantly
over the last three years, this past year included. And this is a difficult time to be a Police Officer. I
want to thank each and every member of the law enforcement community and the Suffolk County
Police Department for all the work they do for all of us in this County.

And we've moved forward some critical projects that are important for the future of this region, that
are important for economic growth and economic development in our County. Projects in Riverhead
and in Patchogue and Wyandanch and Ronkonkoma and many others actually that we've made
progress on, and that we should see even more progress in the coming year. That is very important
for us from a financial perspective, but also just about the future of our County, making sure that we
become a place where instead of young people leaving, they are not only staying here, but we're
attracting others to our region to help build the innovation economy that we all seek here. So we've
made great progress in the past year.

It is the start of a new year and I expect that we're going to make even more progress and, you
know, for the first time in a long time, people are optimistic again about our region. You know,
people are talking about our region and things that are happening, positive things that are
happening in our region. We're just at the beginning. But I am incredibly optimistic about our
future here in Suffolk County and the future of our region as a whole, and I'm optimistic about that
because we have shown and demonstrated that when people of good faith come together, people
have different views on certain issues, but when people of good faith come together and work
together, put aside partisanship, put aside politics for the benefit of our mutual constituents, you can
do great things. We have done that and I expect we'll continue to do that in 2015. Thank you.
Congratulations and I look forward to another prosperous year.
ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Next we will recognize for the administration of the Oath of Office, the Suffolk County Clerk, Judy Pascale. And conducting the oath will be the Honorable A. Gail Prudenti, Chief Administrative Judge.

HONORABLE JUDGE PRUDENTI:
First of all, I would like to say Happy New Year. It's an absolute pleasure to give the administrative oath to you, one of the finest County Clerks of the State of New York. So may I ask you, please, if you would raise your right hand.

Oath of Office Administered to
Judy Pascale, County Clerk

MS. PASCALE:
As the County Clerk within the Clerk of the County, I have had the honor and privilege of working with her. I'm one of 62 County Clerks of New York State and I have to tell you that we are extremely, extremely blessed to have her representing us in Albany.

I always call her my judge because she's from Suffolk County and we should all be very, very proud. She has made a tremendous difference in the Office of Court Administration, believe me. Thank you, Judge.

And I only get to do this every four years, so I'm going to just take advantage and I appreciate the Presiding Officer giving me this opportunity. I would like to introduce my family, my husband Vinny, my daughter Amy and her husband, Dean Murray, newly elected, reelected New York State Assemblyman.

And I know we're not supposed to be political, but we know that politics drives this machine. I would not be standing here today without the help of many of the political parties and I am deeply indebted to Suffolk County Chairman, Republican Chairman John J. LaValle, Suffolk County Democratic Chair, Rich Schaffer, the Independence Party Chair, Frank MacKay and Ed Walsh, the Conservative Party Chair. To them I give you my deep gratitude and I hope that I continue to make you proud, as we have been awarded one of the best County Clerks office's in the State of New York.

And just to add a little bit to what the County Executive said, I also would like to introduce my colleague and my roommate out in Riverhead, that's Suffolk County Treasurer Angie Carpenter.

Just to repeat what the County Executive said, I, too, am deeply indebted to all of the bargaining units, the unions that represent us here in Suffolk County, AME, and most especially, and I
introduced them as the other men in my life, the PBA, the SOA, all of the guys. I know Noel is back here, some of the other guys are here, Bill Plant. We have the best cops in the State of New York, folks. I mean, I am telling you, we have the best.

Applause

And they deserve our respect and like I said, they're the other men in my life. Also Vito Dagnello from the Correction Officers. Those guys have one of the worst jobs in the world and I have to tell you, you do a wonderful job, Vito. Thank you for your support.

And last but certainly not least, I would like to thank the Legislators and the County Executive's Office who have been there when we needed them in terms of running an efficient office. We've tried to bring our office into the next century, which I think we have been very successful in doing. I want to thank each and every one of you for giving me what I need. I truly, truly appreciate it.

And last but certainly not least, my staff. They defy the image that some civil servants get that we don't care, we snap our gum. I have been blessed with one of the best staffs I'm going to say in New York State. My staff goes above and beyond. I have some of my staff members with me today and they always make me look good. I have to tell you, they keep the wheels running, they keep the trains running on time, and I truly appreciate it. Thank you all very much. Happy, healthy New Year. God bless you.

Applause

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Next we will recognize Suffolk County Comptroller John M. Kennedy, Jr., and issuing the Oath is Honorable Judge Prudenti as well.

Applause

HONORABLE JUDGE PRUDENTI:
Mrs. Kennedy, we would absolutely love you to join us. It is wonderful to see you. Congratulations. And I have to say, this is a very, very special moment for me because many, many people may not realize this, but John Kennedy worked with my mother more than 25 years ago for the County of Suffolk, and my Mom and Dad have been gone for 25 years. So I have to tell you thank you, John. Thank you for remembering them in such a kind way.

MR. KENNEDY:
She taught me well.

HONORABLE JUDGE PRUDENTI:
So I would ask if you would please raise your right hand.

Oath of Office Administered to
John Kennedy, Suffolk County Comptroller

Applause

MR. KENNEDY:
Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to just also extend my thanks. Where do I start my thanks? My thanks, I guess, first of all, to my wife Leslie, who's here, my mother, my brother, my family members are here with me today. My father is in the house today, as a matter of fact I know, and my friends and brothers from labor are here, Local 25 and Nassau-Suffolk Building Trades Council.
AME is here, John J. LaValle. I will thank the Republican Chairman, John J. LaValle, and all the folks that were there for me throughout this campaign and many, many people came out.

Once again, I guess, as all my colleagues know, it's been a somewhat atypical political career and I was on one line. But nevertheless, the message came across and it was, I guess, a victorious message. Chairman Bill Ellis from the great Town of Smithtown, my hometown. I am pleased and honored to have been a resident of Smithtown from 1971. Maybe a late-comer, I guess, but nevertheless, it's been a great town to raise four children and five grandchildren and another grandchild on the way. God has been good.

I am eager and excited to go forward with this new challenge and with this new opportunity. I have many of my new staff here from the Comptroller’s Office. I know nothing but good things about this office. I promise to each and every one of you, and to each and every one of you, that we will do nothing but work hard and bring the same level of commitment that we have brought to governance that we managed to do while I had a chance to sit amongst you.

And as I said to everybody, I take this office in a somewhat bittersweet method. I am eager and excited, but I am going to miss you dearly, from the bottom of my heart. I loved being a Legislator. Thank you, everybody. Come on over and have a cup of coffee and cake and thank you all for being here. Dennis stand up.

(*Laughter*)

Applause & Standing Ovation

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Congratulations, John.

Next, I will recognize Legislator Monica Martinez for the purpose of nominations for Presiding Officer.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Thank you, Legislator. Good morning. I hope you all had a happy holiday season and I wish you all a healthy and joyous new year. As just mentioned, I’m here before you to nominate this year’s Presiding Officer.

Last year was definitely a productive year. Many important laws and resolutions were passed to ensure the safety and well-being of all our residents here in Suffolk County. We now enter a new year where we must continue to do the same for our residents. Many of our districts vary economically, socially and politically, but one thing we do know, it that it is our responsibility to work together to safeguard the lives of every single resident in Suffolk County.

Knowing what we did last year, I know this year will be productive as well. We also know this calendar year may bring an added layer of pressure and I believe the Legislature needs stability. We are an independent body of lawmakers, but it is extremely important to work together in conjunction with all levels of government here in Suffolk. In order to do so, our Presiding Officer needs to value our independence, but respect the importance of the other levels of government bring to the table. I believe Legislator Gregory can do just that. He led this body of government last year efficiently and I believe he will do the same this year. This is why it gives me the great pleasure to nominate our Legislator, DuWayne Gregory, to Presiding Officer for the 2015 legislative calendar year.

Applause
ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Thank you. I recognize Legislator Browning for the purposes of seconding the nomination.

LEG. BROWNING:
DuWayne, it is my honor to second the nomination for you, DuWayne Gregory, as Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature for a second term.

DuWayne, we met in 2005, and when I ran for office, and I’ve always found you to be a humble, patient and caring friend. You have had the unenviable task of following in the footsteps of our Presiding Officer, Bill Lindsay, and I truly believe that if Bill was here today, he would choose you as his successor, and it would be you, DuWayne.

This past year you have proven to be a leader of the Legislature. You've ensured that all Legislators are treated equally no matter what their party affiliation is, and I know it's not easy to work with the 17 different personalities from different backgrounds and to keep a cool head, but you have done that and with great patience. You've committed to make government open and accessible and protect the Legislative Branch’s independence, and you have done that.

Last year we held a Capital Budget Working Group in an open forum and have the camera placed in the rooms so that the public cannot just listen to the meetings, but view the Legislature at work. You know the importance of keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe, believe in giving that hand up to those in need and the need to respect all workers, no matter how much they earn, so they can continue to live here in Suffolk County.

DuWayne, we have had our differences of opinion and will not always agree, but I have no doubt that this year you will continue to be a strong leader and will continue to protect the Legislature's independence and respect our differences of opinion. You come from a humble and working class background and the residents of Suffolk County can be assured that their interests and concerns are important to you and I know you'll make sure that this Legislature will work together in the best interest of all of Suffolk County's residents. Congratulations, DuWayne.

Applause

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations?

LEG. TROTTA:
Yes, I have a nomination.

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
I recognize Legislator Trotta.

LEG. TROTTA:
I would like to recognize and nominate Kevin McCaffrey, because he's a Republican and he's a Conservative and I think that's what we need right now.

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, Legislator Trotta nominates Legislator McCaffrey. Is there a second?

LEG. MURATORE:
(Raised hand).
ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Second by Legislator Muratore. Okay, any other nominations? Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Okay, I will make a motion to close nominations.

LEG. LINDSAY:
Second.

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Second by Legislator Lindsay. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. LAUBE:
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. George?

MR. NOLAN:
The process now would be to take a roll call vote on the nominations in the order that they were made, so we would take a vote on you, Legislator Gregory, for Presiding Officer, by a roll call vote.

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Mr. Clerk? Yes?

LEG. BARRAGA:
I just have a question. You say that the vote is being taken in the manner in which the nominees were nominated. Why don't we just have -- you have two nominees. Why don't you just have one vote, have the Clerk call the roll, let individual members cast their vote accordingly. If they want McCaffrey, they vote for McCaffrey; if you want Gregory, it's Gregory, with one vote because you have two nominees. Seems to me that when you put one individual out there, they have a majority of the vote, the other party -- in this case, McCaffrey's group, doesn't get a chance to vote.

MR. NOLAN:
I understand, but the practice, the custom has been in this situation -- it's been a long time.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Well --

MR. NOLAN:
Hold on one second and I'll just finish. But the custom has been to do it in this manner, whether multiple people seeking this office of Presiding Officer, we take a vote on them individually and that has been the customary practice.

LEG. BARRAGA:
This process has not been conducted in the ten years I've been here. This is the first time I've seen this happen. It just seems to me we have 18 members, let them call the votes and cast their votes and let the chips fall where they may.

MR. NOLAN:
If you'd like, you can make a motion to do the vote that way, the way you are suggesting. But again, that would be determined by a majority.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Well, I would like to make a motion that we do it that way, that the Clerk call the roll and that
individual members cast their vote accordingly for one nominee or the other, and let the chips fall where they may.

**LEG. McCAFFREY:**
I'll second that.

**MR. NOLAN:**
So this would be a motion to basically take the vote, go around the horseshoe, vote for one of the two nominees.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**
That's right.

**ACTING P.O. GREGORY:**
Okay. All right, we have a motion and a second. Roll call, Mr. Clerk.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

**LEG. TROTTA:**
Yes.

**LEG. MURATORE:**
Yes.

**LEG. KRUPSKI:**
Yes.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**
No.

**LEG. BROWNING:**
Yes.

**LEG. HAHN:**
No.

**LEG. ANKER:**
No.

**LEG. CALARCO:**
No.

**LEG. LINDSAY:**
No.

**LEG. MARTINEZ:**
No.

**LEG. CILMI:**
Yes.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**
Yes.
LEG. McCAFFREY:
Yes.

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
No.

LEG. STERN:
No.

LEG. D’AMARO:
No.

LEG. SPENCER:
Yes.

MR. LAUBE:
Eight (Vacant Seat: District #12).

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. All right, so we go back to the first nomination. Roll call.

LEG. SPENCER:
This is voting for Gregory.

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Correct.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Yes.

LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Yes.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Yes.

LEG. MURATORE:
Abstain.

LEG. HAHN:
Yes.

LEG. ANKER:
Yes.

LEG. CALARCO:
Yes.
LEG. LINDSAY:
Yes.

LEG. CILMI:
Abstain.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Abstain.

LEG. TROTTA:
Abstain.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Abstain.

ACTING P.O. GREGORY:
Yes.

LEG. STERN:
Yes.

LEG. D’AMARO:
Yes.

LEG. SPENCER:
Yes.

MR. LAUBE:
Thirteen (Vacant Seat: District #12) (Amended to 12)

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, thank you.

Applause

HONORABLE JUDGE HINRICHS:
First of all, I would just offer my congratulations to Legislator Gregory on being reelected as Presiding Officer. Obviously it’s a tribute to your abilities and the job that you’re doing to be reelected. Congratulations. And thank you very much for the opportunity to provide me to swear you into today. It’s a real privilege. If you can please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

Oath of Office Administered to DuWayne Gregory,
Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature

Applause

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, thank you. I want to preface my remarks by first thanking my family for always being there and supporting me, and my friends. It means so much to me. And for Legislators Martinez and Browning for nominating me. They’re truly two true advocates who believe in the purpose and the role of the Legislature and believe that their role as Legislators have an effect on their constituents of Suffolk County and they’re truly remarkable and it’s a pleasure to work with them.
It is, of course, an honor to once again earn the support of my colleagues and be elected Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature. A year ago today I stood here with my colleagues and made a commitment as Suffolk’s Presiding Officer to put politics aside and work with all members of the Legislature, both Democrat and Republican, to put Suffolk residents first. Presiding Officer Bill Lindsay and Wayne Horsley were my mentors and incredible leaders. I hope I made them proud by living up to that commitment.

All too often partisan bickering can debilitate progress. We see it every day in Washington where partisanship trumps compromise and you see more rhetoric than action. But here in Suffolk County, the Legislature has a history of coming together in spite of our differences. We work hand in hand with other leaders, including County Executive Bellone, as our goal is simple; keep Suffolk County moving forward. I am proud to be a part of that history and our future.

Like so many other counties across the nation, Suffolk is still climbing out of the recession. And while so many families still struggle to make ends meet, we knew a tax increase would only hurt their recovery, so we held the line on General Fund property taxes again in 2015. While this tax relief will undoubtedly help Suffolk families now, we knew we had to stop "kicking the can" down the road and address our long-term debt problem so future generations wouldn't pay the price. That is why we formed a bipartisan committee to identify solutions to address this problem. As a result, we eliminated over $63 million in pipeline debt. This is important because as a lifelong resident of Suffolk I want future generations to be able to enjoy the Suffolk County that I did growing up.

Another goal of mine in 2014 was to make government as open and transparent as could possibly be. Citizens have a right to know how we do the people's business in Suffolk County and what decisions we are debating on their behalf. Access to government and their representatives is essential to maintaining a fair and open dialogue with residents. To that end, we began live-streaming our General Meetings last year, an effort that will continue in the future. I hope they expand that coverage to our Riverhead meeting site in the coming year. Live video streaming gives every resident of the County the opportunity to follow firsthand the operations of their government. In doing so, I am hopeful that we can involve more and more constituents more closely in the Legislative process.

Twenty-fifteen has just begun, and we start today working to keep Suffolk’s residents safe and sound both physically as well as fiscally. I am eager to work with all of my colleagues and representatives from other levels of government to address the issues facing us. Together we will find efficient, effective and affordable solutions while making the tough decisions to keep Suffolk strong and out ahead of the curve. Suffolk County is a unique and bold place to live. I am proud to be able to once again lead this unique and bold representative body of compassionate, creative and compelling leaders. The wisdom around this horseshoe is unmeasurable, but each of my colleagues bring something very special to our body.

I would be remiss if I were not to recognize the very special former Legislator of the 12th District, John Kennedy. He has served as the Legislator of the 12th District since November, 2004. For ten years he has represented his district with integrity, dedication and a total commitment to the good of his constituents. In 2011, he was elected as the Minority Leader for the Suffolk County Legislature, and he held that role in the Legislature until Legislator Kevin McCaffrey took over that role two months ago. Comptroller Kennedy was born and raised in Suffolk County. He's a long-term resident of Nesconset. He has worked cooperatively with his colleagues on issues too numerous to mention. His passion and commitment are always evident. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with Legislator Kennedy. While he is just moving across the street as our new Comptroller, I am certain we will see him often. We’re going to miss our usual meetings, John.
LEG. HAHN:
They'll be a lot shorter.

MR. KENNEDY:
You know I am.

P.O. GREGORY:
I am also looking forward to continuing to work with our new Minority Leader, Legislator McCaffrey. Together we will be confronting a new year full of challenges and I expect the Suffolk County Legislature to continue to work together in a bipartisan manner to serve the residents of Suffolk County. Again, I thank all of my colleagues for their support and electing me Presiding Officer and I promise to work with each and every one of you to achieve our common goals. I sincerely thank you.

Applause

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Mr. Presiding Officer, if I may?

P.O. GREGORY:
Yes.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Just quickly. I do want to say a follow-up to that and say that I just want to make it clear that our caucus' abstentions on your election clearly does not reflect a lack of fair and equitable treatment by you. All of the Legislators, including those in our caucus, and I wish you luck and we all look forward to working with you in the coming year. Thank you.

Applause

P.O. GREGORY:
Thank you. I appreciate that. While I have just a quick moment, I see a dear friend and former neighbor, we used to sit next to each right in that corner, former Legislator Lynne Nowick -- Councilwoman Lynne Nowick is in the audience.

Applause

Next we will make the nominations for Deputy Presiding Officer, and we will recognize Legislator Bill Lindsay.

LEG. LINDSAY:
Thank you, Mr. Presiding Officer. Congratulations on your reelection. The last three years we have made tremendous progress in turning around a possible catastrophic financial situation here within the County. This turnaround was made possible from strong leadership and vision, but that work is nowhere near completed. In order to continue this effort, we will need strong leadership to keep the momentum moving forward. With that in mind, it's my privilege to nominate Jay Schneiderman as our Deputy Presiding Officer.

I have had the opportunity to work with Jay often over the last year and I have always witnessed him legislate with nothing but honor and integrity. Jay works feverishly for not only his constituents, but the entire Legislative body as a whole. Having served on two committees with Jay, I have seen him advocate for a broad range of issues from the environment to consumer protection and many things in between. Jay also has a unique quality that isn't displayed often enough in politics, where Jay can philosophically disagree with you, but still treat you and your position with the utmost
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respect. For all these reasons, I am proud to nominate Jay Schneiderman for the position of Deputy Presiding Officer.

Applause

P.O. GREGORY:
Thank you. And I would like to second the nomination of Jay Schneiderman as the Deputy Presiding Officer. We worked seamlessly together over the last year and I look forward to more of the same productive relationship this coming year. Legislator Schneiderman is winding up his final year as a County Legislator, and we will miss his enormous experience and intimate knowledge of the ins and outs of County Government when he leaves. But for one more year I look forward to his polite persistence and creative tenacity.

(*Laughter*)

Jay is certainly an ardent advocate for his constituents and he is a thoughtful leader and he serves the South Fork and now Shelter Island as their Legislator and representative very well. It’s been a pleasure to work with him and certainly to second his nomination.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Thank you.

P.O. GREGORY:
So I will ask are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? I will recognize Legislator McCaffrey.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Thank you, Presiding Officer. I would like to nominate Legislator Tom Cilmi for the Office of Deputy Presiding Officer. Legislator Cilmi has been a Legislator for six years. He's been an advocate for open government, for lower taxes, reduced debt, and he's truly a fiscal conservative and it is my pleasure to nominate Legislator Cilmi for the position of Deputy Presiding Officer.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay.

LEG. TROTTA:
Second.

P.O. GREGORY:
Legislator Trotta seconds the nomination. Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Okay, I will make a motion to close nominations.

LEG. LINDSAY:
Second.

P.O. GREGORY:
Second by Legislator Lindsay. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. LAUBE:
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay.
LEG. TROTTA:
I have a question for Counsel. In reference to the voting for this, if there's nothing specifically in the County Charter, does it revert to Robert’s Rules?

MR. NOLAN:
Right, and I did look at Robert’s Rules this morning. It talks about if there’s a customary practice of voting that is the method that will be used, but if the body chooses a different method, which Legislator Barraga sought earlier with his motion to do it in a different fashion, but again, that's a majority vote. I don't know if anybody's going to make the same motion on this round, but that's the way --

LEG TROTTA:
I read Robert's Rules, and I don't know what you're referring to, but what we said is that when I pulled up, Legislator Cilmi pulled up, is that it goes by we vote for a person.

MR. NOLAN:
There’s another part of Robert’s Rules which says that you go with the customary practice. There’s nothing set in writing in terms of the how the vote is taken, but that is -- you know, if --

LEG. TROTTA:
Okay. I would like to make a motion to do it the way we each individually --

MR. NOLAN:
Right, you would get a chance to vote for one of the two nominees. That's fine.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
I'll second that motion.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. We have a motion and a second to vote for each nominee together. Roll call, Mr. Clerk.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Yes.

LEG. TROT TA:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Yes.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:
No.

LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.

LEG. MURATORE:
Yes.

LEG. HAHN:
No.
LEG. ANKER:
No.

LEG. CALARCO:
No.

LEG. LINDSAY:
No.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
No.

LEG. CILMI:
Yes.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Yes.

LEG. STERN:
No.

LEG. D'AMARO:
No.

LEG. SPENCER:
Yes.

P.O. GREGORY:
No.

MR. LAUBE:
*Eight (Vacant Seat: District #12).*

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. We will go in the order that the nominations were made. Roll call, Mr. Clerk, on Legislator Schneiderman. Excuse me.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. LINDSAY:
Yes.

P.O. GREGORY:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Yes.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Yes.

LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.
LEG. MURATORE:
Abstain.

LEG. HAHN:
Yes.

LEG. ANKER:
Yes.

LEG. CALARCO:
Yes.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Yes.

LEG. CILMI:
Abstain.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Abstain.

LEG. TROTTA:
Abstain.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Abstain.

LEG. STERN:
Yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Yes.

LEG. SPENCER:
Yes.

MR. LAUBE:
Twelve (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Congratulations.

Applause

HONORABLE JUDGE HINRICHS:
Congratulations, Legislator Schneiderman, on your reelection as Deputy Presiding Officer. Well deserved recognition. Congratulations. If you could please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

Oath of Office Administered to Jay Schneiderman, Deputy Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature

Applause

20
P.O. GREGORY:
While our Deputy Presiding Officer thanks his colleagues, I want to recognize two individuals, the President of the Suffolk Community College, Dr. McKay, is here in the audience today and he's been a tremendous partner.

Applause

And also former Deputy Presiding Officer, Vivian Viloria-Fisher, has blessed us with her presence and thank you.

Applause

And I understand the former Treasurer, Mr. Cochrane, is amongst us as well or maybe he left.

Applause

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Good morning, or afternoon; it's right at noon. First, let me start off by saying thank you to all, those who supported me, even those who abstained. I look forward to serving as Deputy Presiding Officer for the whole body and working with each and every one of you.

I want to start by wishing everybody a happy New Year. With this nomination, I get to change my seat from all the way at that end of the horseshoe to more at the center. We could say that's the East End of the Legislature, because that's where Legislator Krupski is and both of us have the pleasure of serving as the representatives for the East End of Long Island. But I -- through the years I believe have -- my perspective maybe has changed a little bit more from the East End to looking at the whole County. Many of you may not know this, though I'm often thought of as the East End Legislator, I grew up actually in Hauppauge. My father was a schoolteacher out in Centereach. My parents had a seasonal business out in Montauk, and so in the summers and in the weekends leading up to the summer I would drive from Hauppauge out to Montauk. And in my adult life I have been driving from Montauk to Hauppauge, so I spent most of my life driving back and forth between those two locations. And spent my entire life really here in Suffolk County and my perspective has changed through those years as well, learning more about the County and the incredible people who make up Suffolk County.

It's by been my honor to serve in this body, to help build Suffolk County and strengthen Suffolk County, and we certainly have had a long and difficult challenging journey. This is my 12th year, it's my final year on this body because of term limits, and we've, particularly over the last few years, since the great recession, have had some very difficult decisions to make and I think we've rose to those challenges with the help of the County Executive, Steve Bellone, and with Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory and before him, Bill Lindsay. We have done -- made tremendous strides through addressing the issues and we're seeing our economy bouncing back and we're seeing more people stay, but there is still many challenges ahead. We still have over 600 homeless families in Suffolk County. We still have to go further in addressing public transportation issues, only ten routes now running on Sundays of our 50 routes. We have many environmental challenges ahead. But I know working together we will stand together and we will address those issues.

It's really -- it's great to work with DuWayne Gregory as Presiding Officer. I'm happy to see you there again. I think DuWayne has been a tremendous leader, a compassionate leader for this body. As was said earlier, he had tremendous shoes to fill coming in after Bill Lindsay, and I think he's done it with grace, he's done it with professionalism, and I'm proud to serve as your Deputy Presiding Officer. So thank you for all your support. I look forward to a great 2015. And let's go back to work.
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Applause

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Next on our agenda -- congratulations again, Jay.

Next on our agenda is Introductory Resolution No. 2 - Adopting Rules of the Legislature of the County of Suffolk (Presiding Officer). Do I have a motion?

LEG. CALARCO:
Motion.

P.O. GREGORY:
Motion by Legislator Calarco. Second by Legislator Martinez.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Mr. Presiding Officer?

P.O. GREGORY:
Mister -- Legislator McCaffrey.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Yes, I would like to offer a resolution amending the rules as proposed.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
In keeping with what's been your fine history of providing more government access, including now the videotaping and broadcasting of our Legislative meetings here, and also in I think which was the first time we've ever done it, where the Capital Budget Working Group was done in a public forum, the resolution that I'm going to propose amending the rules would be to continue that work that you started, and that would be to establish that any of our meetings on our budget, the Omnibus budget, shall be held in public.

So I would like to present that be it resolved that the attached shall constitute an amendment to the rules of the Legislature of the County of Suffolk, amend Rules 14, committees, and add a new Subjection E. It shall read, "Any meetings of special committees or working groups established to create an Omnibus budget amendment shall be open and accessible to the public".

LEG. CILMI:
Second the motion.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. This year you are right, we've done several things. We started to have our Capital Budget meetings in public, we did the college budget meeting in public, we held the Bipartisan Task Force to address pipeline debt in public. We have done a lot of things. We had talked about doing the Budget Working Group, but the Budget Working Group presents different challenges that other committees do not. For one, because of the personnel issues, it's hard, it's difficult to have frank and open discussions about personnel issues in a public setting. There are many times, those of you that have been on the Working Group, that Commissioners and Directors reach out to members of the Budget Working Group to voice their pleasure or displeasure, concerns or whatever, however you may want to term it, about the budget process in a confidential way, in which we wouldn't be able to do that.
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So what we did was, what we haven't done in the past, is was we created a mechanism by which the public can contact or interact with the Budget Working Group. We established an e-mail that people can, you know, think it was Budget Operating Group 2015. We did a press release on it. It was out there to alert people that if you want to interact or communicate directly with the Budget Working Group, because there is many times a request from those who communicate with us confidentially, that was a mechanism by which we can respect that.

So I appreciate what you're trying to do, but I do believe that the Budget Working Group presents different challenges that other groups, working groups, do not. Anyone else? Legislator Calarco, then Legislator Krupski.

LEG. CALARCO:
Thank you. And I'd like to just kind of piggy-back on the Presiding Officer's statements. The working groups that we have established in this County is something that is unique, I think, to us in many ways. It was something that a Presiding Officer many years ago felt was a good process by which we can open up the budgeting process to both parties so that everybody can have a stake in the game and get their points heard and make sure that each Legislator, each party, had equal representation and the ability to effectuate the budget in one way or the other. And sometimes you need to be able to have frank conversations amongst Legislators as a good thing. But to that, we have a very open process as it is. The County Executive submits his budget, our Budget Review Office reviews it, their finished document is published, it's printed for the public to see. We then have public hearings where people have the opportunity to come and speak to us about anything that happens to be in the budgets. They certainly have the ability do to contact any one of us as well as the new e-mail system that's been put in place by the Presiding Officer. And to that as well, the Presiding Officer has tried to open up these budget -- our working meetings to the public as much as possible.

I think practically the entire Capital Budget was done in public. We had a couple of meetings for the Operating Working Group in public, so he's certainly been open to this thought of trying to provide more inclusiveness and more opportunities for the public to hear and see what we are doing, but at the same time in the guise of being open, I think we're trying to insert partisanship into a process that we have been very good about making non-bipartisan. And unlike Albany, where it's three men in a room or down in D.C. where they just can't get anything done, we happen to get balanced budgets done every year in Suffolk County with little fanfare and often with unanimous support because of the process we have in place. So I wouldn't be favorable to this amendment.

P.O. GREGORY:
Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Thank you. And congratulations, Presiding Officer. I'm going to support what the Presiding Officer said on this because, and I'm familiar with budgets and I'm familiar with working for the public. I think, you know, when you get into budget season you think -- that's what you're thinking about the whole time. I have been on the Working Group for the last two years. I can appreciate the input and the work that the Working Group does, but when it comes to public access, I think we're all -- we all work hard to be accessible to the public year round, and I think the budget is something we should be thinking about year round, and not only during that one small, legally defined budget season. So, any time -- I think any time the public, you know, has questions about the budget, that should be something that's added to the list of things that are addressed during the official working budget season, and I don't think opening up to the public would have -- would benefit the system that's in place now.
P.O. GREGORY:
And if I may, one of the things that I wanted to -- I feel it's important that the public have access to -- more access to have input in the budget process. One of the things I discussed even with the Budget Working Group this year was to have evening meetings, but we had -- the Working Group had stated that well since we had already put out the public hearing schedule, it would be duplicative to have evening meetings as well. So one of the things we'll be looking at doing this year is having meetings in the evenings when people are off work, that they can participate in the process, and sort of make it more accessible to them as well. I saw Legislator Spencer and I think I saw another hand.

LEG. SPENCER:
I can appreciate the concern for transparency, but I would like to also strengthen the point on the confidentiality. When we look at a lot of our contract agencies and we begin to discuss their track record as we look at making future budgeting decisions, and I think that a lot of times where publicly an agency relies on their reputation, but when we have to make those very delicate decisions where we may have open and honest discussions, I think sometimes having that information publicly could sometimes potentially harm agencies that are doing very good work, but I do think we have that need to be able to speak frankly about what we're hearing about the record and to be able to have oversight. And I think that we can have the oversight to make financial decisions and in certain situations when it comes to personnel, our agencies that really rely on their reputation that sometimes an unintended consequence of having everything aired in public could potentially have the effect of harming those agencies. So I wouldn't support having everything in public, but as much as we can, which the Presiding Officer did on his own, I'd like to continue that tradition, but I wouldn't support the amendment.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Legislator Schneiderman.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Thank you. You know, as a senior member of this body, I probably have seen more of these work groups than anybody here. You know, the process works. Maybe it's not perfect but, you know, the County Executive spends a lot of time developing the budget and it's -- you know, he has thousands of decisions to make and that's an internal process. When it's ready it's given to us as a Legislature. We then before -- because this really it's a piece of legislation we're voting on, it's a bill.

LEG. SPENCER:
That's right.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
We deliberate on that bill, but we have to have conversations to develop that bill. It didn't have to be a bipartisan group, but that's the way it's been historically. We work together to come up with a bill that we can deliberate on, and that really was what those budget working groups are. There's really, you know, whether somebody's in the room or not, there's really nothing to vote on until that is ready and then it's brought here. You know, great efforts have been made throughout, you know, my -- this is my 12th year here, to try to be as inclusive as possible in those budgets. So I think for me the process works, and if any Legislator wants to go, they've been able to attend those meetings, even if they have to stand a bit outside or get circulated in when they can. But it's been a process that has really has been open to comments by every single Legislator, and you're also welcome to submit your own resolutions as well and have them voted on.

But I think it's important to understand it as a budget development process, not a voting on a budget process. That's what you're trying to make open, is the deliberative process in the development. And when you guys do resolutions, and we all introduce resolutions, we don't have
public meetings as we develop those resolutions. We work on those resolutions and when they're ready then we introduce them and then we begin the public process. Maybe you'll have some, you know, some forums by which people can have input on earlier, but in most cases that's how it's done. It's been working and I don't support changing it.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Legislator McCaffrey.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Yeah, I just want to make something clear. This isn't a partisan issue. This is clearly an issue where we want to open up the process to the public. We have seen how it worked very well in the Capital Program. I mean, Presiding Officer Gregory, you did a great job of picking a diverse group where representation from whether your political party was on there, you did a good job of doing that, and I think you could do the same selection in the Budget Working Group. And I think if it came to personnel decisions, which is sensitive issues, we always have the right to go into Executive Session as we sometimes do now, and I would think that we need to do that.

In terms of some of these groups that are out there, we're finding out now maybe we need to know more about these groups. The public needs to learn more about these groups. I just read in Newsday, and I had to read it in Newsday, that we had a group that was giving unauthorized raises, you know, to their family members, and well above the 20% of what the administrative costs are. I mean, these are the kinds of things that should come out in public. They shouldn't be things that are held behind and be concerned that people aren't going to find out about it. I think more should be told about that.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Legislator Cilmi.

LEG. CILMI:
I guess it's obvious I agree with this amendment. This is something that I've been talking about and pushing for for at least the last three years. I think in addition to the points that have already been made, there's something to be said for the exclusivity that exists in the current process. And while it is completely true that every member of this Legislature, regardless of party or point of view, has been invited to attend Budget Working Group meetings, the fact of the matter is that their participation is governed by how many people are already in the room. And we have seen, I think, and I'm sure the Presiding Officer and my colleagues would agree, that when we opened up a process of open deliberations with every member of this Legislature and with the public, as is the case with our Debt Reduction Committee, as was the case with our Capital Budget and our Community College Budget, that process was beneficial. It helped to have that process in public. It helped to get everybody's opinions and sort of hash out some of the differences in a public forum and in a way where everybody could participate at once, rather than sort of, you know, e-mailing comments or stepping inside the room when somebody else steps outside of the room, etcetera.

So I obviously support this amendment and I would ask my colleagues to think twice about voting no. I think this is all about transparency, it's all about doing things in a public way with public inclusion and making a process better as a result.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, thank you. Legislator Browning.

LEG. BROWNING:
Yeah, I don't necessarily disagree with the proposed amendment. However, last year was the first time that we did it in an open forum in the Capital Budget and I think that went well, but I do have
concerns, and I'm not necessarily in support of trying to lock something in and set it in stone at this time, especially with our Operating Budget. I've participated in every budget since I've been in office, and I can tell you that the Operating Budget, there are many times that we've had some very sensitive issues, and I know you said we could go into an Executive Session. I agree we could, but again, I know that we have talked about issues in the Treasurer's Office, in the Clerk's Office, with staffing issues and many times people's names come up when it comes to County employees, and I'm not really comfortable with locking in and saying from this year that we're going to do that open process.

I certainly would encourage the Presiding Officer to consider trying to do that this year, but I don't want to lock it in. I'm just concerned about the issues that are very sensitive in nature and putting it on the floor this year. I'd like us to, you know, we did a good job on the Capital last year. I think that this year let's maybe try and discuss doing a bit more open this year and trying to, I guess, figure it out. How can it be done, how it can be done right, so that no organization, and you know that there's many of the non-profits we start out with, you know, this is what we're going to see them getting this year, and then a few weeks later we come back and we'll say, you know what, we can do better for them or we may have to do less. So I don't want to build up the hopes of a non-profit organization who's going to come to these meetings and say, oh this is what we've got, and then two weeks later that might have to change because of sales tax revenues or something to that effect.

So at this point in time I would encourage our Presiding Officer to try and do a more open process this year but not to lock it in in writing this year and hopefully for 2016 we can lock it in.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, that's all I have. Anyone else? I'm sorry, Legislator Anker.

LEG. ANKER:
I also want to comment. I just want to say that there's a certain amount of transparency and it really should be - of course it's all transparent, but there's a time when you have to put all the pieces together and there's the issue of expediting government. We want to expedite government but of course be inclusive in the comments of our constituents, but there's that time element, and I think this process right now is a perfect balance. You know, maybe in the future it will change, but I think we should, you know, follow this system. And, you know, I appreciate the comments, but there is time after the -- after it's been decided how the budget is going to go that there is a public hearing, there is additional comments, and I think we can work with that and, you know, keep the system as it is.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Legislator Barraga.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Maybe one suggestion is to take a look at the Working Group. I have had problems with it in the past because of how it meets, basically excluding the general public. Maybe we should take a look at it from the standpoint the Working Group maybe meets four or five times. Maybe one or two of those meetings should be in a public forum. So to split the time, some of the meetings up here, some of the meetings in an exclusive area the way you've had it in the past. Because, you know, historically in accordance with to custom, Mr. Nolan --

(*Laughter*)

-- the Executive Budget that comes over, the Operating Budget, most of the time the County Executive, and even Governors, get about 98% of what they want. The Legislature is sort of -- finds
itself in a position of really debating that two or three percent that they want to shift around. So all of this discussion really keys in on a very small percentage, and I would think that excluding the general public, maybe it's time for a change there. Maybe we can split the time between the meetings downstairs and the meetings up here.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Anyone else? Okay, we have a motion --

MR. NOLAN:
Motion and a second to amend the proposed rules so that the meetings of the Working Group would be open and accessible to the public. So that's a yes or no vote.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. All in favor of changing?

MR. NOLAN:
You need a roll call.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. We'll do a roll call vote on --

LEG. D'AMARO:
Excuse me, DuWayne? Mr. Presiding Officer?

P.O. GREGORY:
I'm sorry. Legislator D'Amaro.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Yes, Mr. Presiding Officer, just before the vote, could we hear the proposed rule once again?

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay.

MR. NOLAN:
Yes. The language -- it would amend Rule 14, which is committees, add a new paragraph E, which would state any meetings of special committees or working groups established to create an Omnibus Budget amendment shall be open and accessible to the public, period.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Thank you.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Mr. Clerk, roll call on the amendment.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. McCAFFREY:
No. Yes, yes.

(*Laughter*)

P.O. GREGORY:
You were right the first time.
LEG. McCAFFREY:
I'm just thinking about how I'm voting on the rules. Yes. I'm sorry.

LEG. CILMI:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
No.

LEG. BROWNING:
No.

LEG. MURATORE:
Yes.

LEG. HAHN:
No.

LEG. ANKER:
No.

LEG. CALARCO:
No.

LEG. LINDSAY:
No.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
No.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Yes.

LEG. TROTTA:
Yes.

LEG. STERN:
No.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Yes.

LEG. SPENCER:
No.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMANN:
No.

P.O. GREGORY:
No.

MR. LAUBE:
Six (Vacant Seat: District #12).
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P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. We have a motion and a second on the --

MR. LAUBE:
Yes, you do.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, on the rules. Roll call.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. CALARCO:
Yes.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Yes.

LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.

LEG. MURATORE:
Pass.

LEG. HAHN:
Yes.

LEG. ANKER:
Yes.

LEG. LINDSAY:
Yes.

LEG. CILMI:
No.

LEG. BARRAGA:
No.

LEG. TROTTA:
No.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
No, and I mean it.

(*Laughter*)

LEG. STERN:
Yes.
LEG. D'AMARO:
Yes.

LEG. SPENCER:
Yes.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Yes.

P.O. GREGORY:
Yes.

LEG. MURATORE:
No.

MR. LAUBE:
Twelve (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Resolution number three -- excuse me, number two is adopted. **Introductory Resolution No. 3 - Appointing the Clerk of the Legislature Tim Laube (Presiding Officer).**

LEG. CALARCO:
Motion.

LEG. ANKER:
Second.

P.O. GREGORY:
Motion by Legislator Calarco, second by Legislator Anker. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. LAUBE:
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. **Introductory Resolution No. 4 - Appointing Chief Deputy Clerk Jason Richberg (Presiding Officer).** I'll make the motion. Second by Legislator Browning. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. LAUBE:
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
**Introductory Resolution No. 5 - Appointing a Counsel to the Legislature George Nolan (Presiding Officer).**

LEG. STERN:
Motion.

LEG. SPENCER:
Second.
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P.O. GREGORY:
Motion by Legislator Stern, second by Legislator Spencer. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. LAUBE:
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, congratulations.

Applause

Oath of Office Administered to
Tim Laube, Clerk of the Legislature;
Jason Richberg, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature;
George Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Introductory Resolution No. 6-2015 - Fixing time of meetings of the County Legislature (Presiding Officer). Do I have a motion?

LEG. MURATORE:
(Raised hand).

P.O. GREGORY:
By Legislator Muratore. Second by Legislator Anker. And for the purposes of -- on the motion, Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Thank you. So in the -- I'm glad that everyone here today is so concerned about transparency in government and access to government, public access to their Suffolk County Legislature. And in the spirit of that great concern we all have, I would just like to say that on the East End it's difficult for people to come to a meeting. And I know that the live streaming is a help for people to observe what's going on, but if you are having an actual meeting for people to get there it's very difficult. I would propose that the meetings be actually split between having them here in Hauppauge and in the County seat in Riverhead. And also I would propose a change in the calendar because all the committees are held here in Hauppauge and it's really hard, if you live on the East End, to come to Hauppauge for a committee meeting. If you have a specific concern that you want to address in committee, it's really your day to get here and get back again. So I would like to say when we have the meetings in Riverhead we should have the committee meetings in Riverhead also to provide that level of public access to their government at work.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Anyone on Legislator Krupski's comments?

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Is that a motion?

LEG. KRUPSKI:
I'll make that as an amendment to the schedule.

P.O. GREGORY:
And what exactly is the amendment?
LEG. KRUPSKI:
That the meetings alternate between Riverhead and Hauppauge, and that the meetings in Riverhead, the committees for the meetings in Riverhead are held in Riverhead.

P.O. GREGORY:
Anyone want to second that?

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
I'll second.

(*Laughter*)

P.O. GREGORY:
Surprise, surprise.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
The County seat.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
I know everyone is concerned about public access, so this should receive widespread support.

LEG. TROTTA:
If I may?

P.O. GREGORY:
Legislator Trotta, then Legislator Spencer.

LEG. TROTTA:
If you were to do an analysis of the population, I believe that the western meetings would give the most amount of people access to those meetings.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Access is still access. You should have -- then maybe we should have all the meetings at the County seat in Riverhead.

LEG. TROTTA:
That would be unfortunate for the people, the large, large number -- the portion of the population lives in Western Suffolk, as you can tell by the size of your district as compared to ours.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
I know, but I think a fair and equitable split would be fair and equitable.

LEG. TROTTA:
I think that the five meetings we're having in Riverhead is the fair and equitable way of doing it. I think we should vote right now.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, Legislator Spencer.

LEG. SPENCER:
I do think that's a valid point, when you look at your geographic area on the East End is equal to the entire length of the other 16 Legislative Districts. And if we look at how the Founding Fathers resolved the population centers versus States, there's two Senators and then you have
representatives that are apportioned according to population. I think that having the meetings here where you have close to 85% of the population, but having some meetings in Riverhead to account for that 15%, if we’re talking about giving as many of our constituents access to government, I think our current system does that best.

P.O. GREGORY:
Legislator Browning?

LEG. BROWNING:
Just one question. And, I mean, clearly I live in the middle. Driving to Hauppauge at 10 o’clock in the morning versus Riverhead, I think Riverhead would work better for me. However, just curious, are you talking about the committees? Okay, if the General Meeting is in Riverhead, that that committee week prior to that should be in Riverhead?

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Yes.

LEG. BROWNING:
Okay. Well, again, I don’t necessarily disagree with it. I’m in the middle. It wouldn’t hurt me one way or the other where our committee meetings are and I think I’ll support you, Al.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Thank you.

P.O. GREGORY:
For full disclosure, we did have one of our open Capital Budget meetings in Riverhead this year, so we are moving in the right direction.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
And that is appreciated, but especially, even if we could consider one or two meetings, to have the committee meetings in Riverhead, because it is difficult. The committee meetings affect a lot of people and it’s an informal way of people coming and addressing their County government and having an impact and participating in government. And even if we had a couple of the meetings that are on the regular schedule in Riverhead, we had those committee weeks in Riverhead, it would be a -- you know, it would provide people with that opportunity.

P.O. GREGORY:
Legislator Hahn.

LEG. HAHN:
Yeah, I think I could support doing a trial whereby maybe two of the committee weeks were in Riverhead to start, and just work out all the kinks that may happen with the Clerk’s Office or whatever may be. I think that the population is shifting east and I do agree, though, that the population center is here, and that’s why we established this office, this Legislative chamber, but I do think that we need to have some opportunity for folks on the East End to make committees and not have to make a day, a full day for them.

P.O. GREGORY:
And to piggy-back on your comments, I do recognize the importance of having access or giving access to eastern residents. I think that although the County seat is in Riverhead, the -- very much the function and apparatus of County government is here in Hauppauge. So if you have -- you move the meetings or you have personnel go out for committee week, you have one, you have members of the Administration. They don't have an office in Riverhead, so they would have to go
out there for the day. They wouldn't have the ease of going back and forth between committee meetings. To the Clerk, what would be required in pulling this off?

**MR. LAUBE:**
To hold the week of committee meetings in Riverhead?

**P.O. GREGORY:**
Yes.

**MR. LAUBE:**
We would be able to do it.

**P.O. GREGORY:**
So it's --

**MR. LAUBE:**
Much to Annmarie Pastore's chagrin, but.

**P.O. GREGORY:**
Okay. But what's involved?

**MR. LAUBE:**
Well, we have all our network access in terms of computers and being able to download agendas and scan agendas and make everything accessible for people. We're just as mobile. We're able to operate out of there as easily as here. It's just a matter of packing up certain documents we need to take out there in the morning, just as we do for a General Meeting. LTU would have to make an adjustment, so you might want to ask Cary Flack how that affects him, because he's going to have to have computers out there.

**P.O. GREGORY:**
Robert doesn't look too happy. First of all, I should ask, where do you live? I know Tim lives in the East End.

**MR. LIPP:**
I live in the West End, but we'll do whatever you want. I'm always happy.

(*Laughter*)

**LEG. KRUPSKI:**
If I could then amend -- if I could, Mr. Presiding Officer, amend my amendment to say that the schedule would stay the same except that two of the meetings that are scheduled for Riverhead currently would have their committee weeks in Riverhead.

**D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:**
Which two? You have to be specific.

**P.O. GREGORY:**
Well, how about we do this. How about we, in the spirit of working together, we look at this further and you and I and Jay and whoever else may be concerned about this, you know, work together and try to figure out a date where we can or a couple of dates, since we don't have a proposed date.

**D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:**
And then amend it later.
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MR. NOLAN:
No, you don't have to.

P.O. GREGORY:
You don't have to amend the rules for the calendar.

MR. NOLAN:
This resolution is just setting the General Meeting dates. You know, in terms of the committee week, that's something that, you know, the Presiding Officer administratively could do. You know, I'm sure he would consult with all the Legislators from all over the County in making that determination. But this is just setting the General Meetings calendar, so I don't know if it's even appropriate to get into where are we holding committee meetings.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Could we have a vote on whether we could have a split, a 50/50 on the meetings in Riverhead first, and then have a second vote on whether we can have some of those committee meetings, committee week meetings, as a second vote?

MR. NOLAN:
You can make a motion to amend, you know, this resolution so that the first meeting is in Hauppauge and then we alternate Hauppauge and Riverhead after that. In terms of the committee part, I personally don't believe it's appropriate in this context where we're setting the General Meeting schedule. I think that's something that we should probably take up later, but not now, not as part of this setting the General calendar.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
All right. Thank you. And I thank everyone for that consideration and to think about that and which committee weeks would work best with people because this is -- it is about public access and otherwise people on the East End, it is their whole day to come up here, to sit here and maybe make a three-minute comment and then go home. It's asking the people on the East End quite a bit, so I think this would really help improve access.

P.O. GREGORY:
Legislator Schneiderman.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Well, first of all, I think your idea of having the committees preceding the meetings in Riverhead, really actually Southampton, but at the eastern, at the County seat, I think it's a good idea. And if we could do it a few times I would be happy to work with you in trying to figure that out, because it is very difficult, you know, particularly people coming from Orient or Montauk. It's a very long drive. But what we're voting on is not going to be that. We're voting on only the alternating, and that would put 50% of the meetings here and 50% in the Riverhead area. That would be great as far as I'm concerned.

When I first got here we were lucky if there were three meetings in the Riverhead area, most of them were here, and Legislator Romaine fought, and myself, we fought hard to get more and more up to the point where about a third of the meetings now are out there. So we've made some significant progress. To go from a third to a half would be great. I'll support that. I doubt if we'll have the support of many others, but I do look forward to working with you, though, on getting the committees, at least some of the committees, to happen on the East End.
LEG. SPENCER:
Can I say something?

P.O. GREGORY:
Legislator Spencer.

LEG. SPENCER:
I understand Legislator Krupski’s point. One thing as we’re looking into this, I would like to ask BRO if you would also do an analysis in terms of the staffing and mileage and the Legislators in terms of going back and forth and what the budgetary impact of that would be.

If we look at our fine nation, Washington is on the East Coast and I think that, you know, we have situations where people are in Hawaii and Alaska and California that, you know, I don’t know, it has worked. And I think that I agree that I don’t want to see the East End folks get cheated, but I think that we also have an obligation to give as many people as much access as possible and our current system does that.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Legislator Stern.

LEG. STERN:
Thank you, Mr. Presiding Officer. I certainly appreciate the point that Legislator Krupski is making here. You know, the — I suppose what you’re trying to get at is if there are issues that are of great importance particularly to constituents on the East End, that they should have every reasonable opportunity to participate, and not just for three minutes an hour or two away, but in a meaningful way throughout the process. But to simply match the committee meetings with a particular General session meeting that happens to be in Riverhead on a particular cycle I think might miss the point. If there’s an issue that’s of great importance to the East End, it might hit during that cycle, it might not hit during that cycle. You might have a week full of committee meetings that could have no bearing on the subject matter at hand and it wouldn’t have any real impact.

I do know that in the past that committee Chairmen have taken responsibility for holding committees off-site, especially when important issues have come up. I know in the Veterans and Seniors Committee over the years we’ve held committee meetings at the 106th. We’ve held committee meetings up at the VA. I know that Economic Development has held a committee meeting out at the airport. So I think perhaps a better result is possible when committee Chair members take responsibility for identifying particular issues, and if there happen to be issues that are of great importance to those residents on the West End, even if there’s going to be something held out in Riverhead, I would suggest that it’s more appropriate to have that here and vice versa.

So regardless of how this process goes on this particular proposal, I would suggest that perhaps it could be even more meaningful if committee Chair people take that responsibility and work with colleagues as important issues come up and determine, making sure that there is plenty of notice and opportunity to be heard given to the general public if there is going to be a meeting that’s held off-site, that that be utilized much more frequently in the future. I think that that would perhaps have an greater impact on what you’re trying to accomplish.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Thank you for that, but I think that if we had a couple of regularly scheduled monthly committees in Riverhead it would serve that purpose also, because then people could know on a calendar basis when they could address these committees. And as far as having a committee Chair hold it off-site, I’m not sure. That would make it difficult also for the committee members, because if they had a -- were sitting on a committee here in the morning and then had to go to Yaphank or Riverhead in the
afternoon and then back here for the later committee, it might make that difficult logistically to keep, you know, for the Clerk to keep track and for staff and everything to keep track. So I don't know if that would necessarily serve that purpose on a regular basis either.

**P.O. GREGORY:**
Legislator D’Amaro.

**LEG. D’AMARO:**
Just very quickly, thank you. I'm not going to address the committee meetings because that's not really before us right now, it is my understanding, except to say that I think that the committee meetings should follow the Legislative meeting just as a matter of organization so you know where you’re going. The committee Chair always has the option, I think it's a great idea, to move the location or propose to move the location and that can be done, too.

But I think, Legislator Krupski, I think you're just asking for a basic kind of fairness, whether we're talking about holding a meeting in Hauppauge or Riverhead, someone has to drive, someone gets the long drive. So what the Legislator from the First District is requesting is that we split that evenly. We have two wonderful facilities. I don't see any reason why we shouldn't use both equally and I'm going to support this motion.

**P.O. GREGORY:**
Okay. All right, so we have -- we have a motion and a second to amend the calendar to have -- to alternate General Meetings from Hauppauge and Riverhead on that amendment. Mr. Clerk, roll call.

**MR. NOLAN:**
Before you -- the dates that are on the resolution would remain the same. The first meeting would be Hauppauge, the second Riverhead and then alternate afterwards, just so everybody understands what they're voting on.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

**LEG. KRUPSKI:**
Yes.

**D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:**
Yes.

**LEG. BROWNING:**
Yes.

**LEG. MURATORE:**
Yes.

**LEG. HAHN:**
Yes.

**LEG. ANKER:**
Pass.

**LEG. CALARCO:**
No.
LEG. LINDSAY:
No.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Yes.

LEG. CILMI:
No.

LEG. BARRAGA:
No.

LEG. TROTTA:
No.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
No.

LEG. STERN:
No.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Yes.

LEG. SPENCER:
No.

P.O. GREGORY:
No.

MR. LAUBE:
Seven.

LEG. ANKER:
Yes.

MR. LAUBE:
Oh, Legislator Anker. I'm so sorry. Eight (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, we have a motion and a second on the motion as proposed for Resolution No. 6. Roll call.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. MURATORE:
Yes.

LEG. ANKER:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Yes.
LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.

LEG. HAHN:
Yes.

LEG. CALARCO:
Yes.

LEG. LINDSAY:
Yes.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Yes.

LEG. CILMI:
Yes.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Yes.

LEG. TROTTA:
Yes.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Yes.

LEG. STERN:
Yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Yes.

LEG. SPENCER:
Yes.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Yes.

P.O. GREGORY:
Yes.

MR. LAUBE:
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Introductory Resolution No. 7 - Designating Depositories pursuant to Section 212 of the County Law (Presiding Officer). I make a motion.

LEG. CALARCO:
Second.
P.O. GREGORY:
Second by Legislator Calarco. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. LAUBE:
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Introductory Resolution No. 8 - Designating two (2) alternating newspapers as official newspapers of the County of Suffolk (Presiding Officer). Motion by Legislator Calarco, second by Legislator Muratore. On the motion, Legislator Lindsay.

LEG. LINDSAY:
My question would be to the Clerk. Tim, if you can tell us what's the cost of this per year.

MR. LAUBE:
For all the newspapers County-wide?

LEG. LINDSAY:
Correct.

MR. LAUBE:
For last year I haven't seen the final numbers, but I know in past years it averages between 450,000 to $475,000 a year, what the County pays out to put legal ads in the newspapers.

LEG. LINDSAY:
Do we get copies or do we have the circulation numbers for all these papers?

MR. LAUBE:
I can provide that for you. I don't have it off the top of my head.

LEG. LINDSAY:
Mr. Presiding Officer, I would like to make a motion to hold this aside until we have that information. We seem to go through this year after year, we just pick these papers. We don't know what their circulation is and what the reach is on them.

P.O. GREGORY:
I recall we've gone through this process every year, obviously we go through it every year, but I think we had spoken about the specific numbers, because I want to say two years ago there was some concerns about one of the papers or there was some indecision and we had waited, right George, if I recall? It was the Republican paper?

MR. NOLAN:
I think there was one year where we, if I remember correctly, there was some discussion about whether or not the proposed paper met the legal requirements of being an official publication, but that was a few years ago.

P.O. GREGORY:
And the papers that we've selected, they have been, you know, the papers for -- because it hasn't changed.

MR. LAUBE:
No, we've used the same four newspapers for the last couple of years.
P.O. GREGORY: Right, right, so we can presume that if they met the requirement that they still meet the requirements. So I support moving forward with them. Does anyone else -- Legislator Anker.

LEG. ANKER: Basically you're bringing politics into a government situation and I will not be voting for this resolution.

P.O. GREGORY: Legislator Calarco.

LEG. CALARCO: Yeah, thank you, Legislator Gregory, Mr. Presiding Officer. This is a function that is actually my understanding is required by State law that we have publications that we publish our legal advertisements into, and this is following that State guidelines. And to that point, both parties, both major parties, are given the ability to have at least one publication which they designate. And the instance, the way we've done it in Suffolk County the last few years, is that the Democratic Party has chosen two different publications for two different halves of the year, and the Republicans have done similar with their choices. This particular resolution is to nominate or to select the two papers that the Democratic Party is supporting and the Democratic Caucus is supporting, and then the next resolution would be those that the Republicans have chosen as their paper.

To that, since it's something that is as per State law we must do, and I think that both of these publications as well as the next two do meet the guidelines, and I know in particular Suffolk County News does a great job down in the South Shore area, but the Smithtown News covers the North Shore area. We are meeting our obligations of trying to get those publications done in a fair manner and one that I think actually does try to reach the different points of the County.

P.O. GREGORY: Okay. Anyone else? Okay, so we have a motion and a second?

MR. LAUBE: Yes, you do.

P.O. GREGORY: Okay. We don't have a second on the tabling.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN: I'll second to table.

P.O. GREGORY: Okay, second to table. Okay, tabling motion goes first.

LEG. D'AMARO: Just, DuWayne, on the motion.

P.O. GREGORY: Legislator D'Amaro.

LEG. D'AMARO: There's a motion to table this particular resolution, but who made the tabling motion?
P.O. GREGORY:  
Legislator Lindsay.

LEG. D'AMARO:  
Legislator Lindsay. What's the purpose of the tabling?

LEG. LINDSAY:  
The purpose of the tabling motion was just to find out what the circulation numbers are on the particular papers, not the Democratic papers or the Republican papers, but all of them. We're spending half a million dollars, close to, for -- to publish these notices. How do we even know that it's getting out to the public? How do we know if there's any circulation with these papers? I think it's a lot of money. We debate issues for a lot -- with a lot smaller price tags. I just think we should have the information behind it before we just make this vote.

LEG. D'AMARO:  
And if I may. So are you also asking how many papers or which papers in Suffolk County meet the circulation requirements? Is that what you're trying to find out?

LEG. LINDSAY:  
I don't think we need to search every newspaper, but the ones that we're voting on here I think we should know what their circulation is.

LEG. TROTTA:  
A question to Counsel. Is there a certain number of papers they need to sell to be on this list?

MR. NOLAN:  
I think there's a very minimal requirement for circulation. I forget what the exact number is, but there's three or four or five criteria to be an official newspaper, but the numbers required for circulation are small. In addition, the overlay is, you know, a paper espousing the principals of the Democratic Party and a paper espousing the principals of the Republican Party. So, you know, it's one of those things in State law where -- like the Board of Elections.

LEG. TROTTA:  
You have to have this is what you're saying.

MR. NOLAN:  
We have to have official papers for publication purposes.

LEG. TROTTA:  
Do these meet the criteria as far as you know?

MR. NOLAN:  
As far as I know, yes.

P.O. GREGORY:  
Okay, you have a tabling motion. Roll call.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. LINDSAY:  
Yes.
D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
No.

LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.

LEG. MURATORE:
No.

LEG. HAHN:
Yes.

LEG. ANKER:
Yes.

LEG. CALARCO:
No.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
No.

LEG. CILMI:
No.

LEG. BARRAGA:
No.

LEG. TROTTA:
No.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
No.

LEG. STERN:
No.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Yes.

LEG. SPENCER:
No.

LEG. HAHN:
Can I change that?

P.O. GREGORY:
No.

MR. LAUBE:
Legislator Hahn?
LEG. HAHN:
I didn’t realize it was tabling.

MR. LAUBE:
Done. Five (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, motion to approve. Roll call.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. CALARCO:
Yes.

LEG. MURATORE:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Yes.

LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.

LEG. HAHN:
Yes.

LEG. ANKER:
No.

LEG. LINDSAY:
No.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Yes.

LEG. CILMI:
Yes.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Yes.

LEG. TROTTA:
Yes.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Yes.

LEG. STERN:
Yes.

LEG. D’AMARO:
No.
LEG. SPENCER:
Yes.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Yes.

P.O. GREGORY:
Yes.

MR. LAUBE:
*Fourteen (Vacant Seat: District #12).*

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. *Introductory Resolution No. 9 - Designating two (2) alternating newspapers as official newspapers of the County of Suffolk (Presiding Officer).* I recognize Legislator Mr. McCaffrey for a motion.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
I'm sorry?

LEG. BARRAGA:
County newspaper, make the motion.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Which one?

P.O. GREGORY:
Number nine.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
You mean the Trotta News.

(*Laughter*)

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Make a motion to read the whole pages of the Smithtown Messenger.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Just make the motion.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Make a motion.

P.O. GREGORY:
All right. Do we have a second? Second by Legislator Barraga. Any questions on the motion?

LEG. KRUPSKI:
This is a motion to approve.

P.O. GREGORY:
Yes.
LEG. LINDSAY:
DuWayne, I would like to just echo my same objection and offer to table this motion until we know the circulation of these papers that we're using.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Second.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. We have a tabling motion and a second.

LEG. D'AMARO:
On the motion.

P.O. GREGORY:
On the motion.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Yeah, I just want to put on the record that the reason why I'm going to support this tabling as well as the prior one is only because there's a request for more information from a Legislator who's making a significant vote. We could either pass over these or table them and do them at the next meeting just to get the question answered for the Legislator. I don't think that's too much to ask. So I'm going to support the tabling motion.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. All right. We have a motion and a second. I'm just going to call the vote. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? All right, roll call.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. LINDSAY:
Yes.

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
No.

LEG. BROWNING:
No.

LEG. MURATORE:
No.

LEG. HAHN:
No to table.

LEG. ANKER:
Yes.

LEG. CALARCO:
No.
LEG. MARTINEZ:
No.

LEG. CILMI:
No.

LEG. BARRAGA:
No.

LEG. TROTTA:
No.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
No.

LEG. STERN:
No.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Yes.

LEG. SPENCER:
No.

P.O. GREGORY:
No.

MR. LAUBE:
Four (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, the approval motion. The motion to approve, roll call.

(*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. McCAFFREY:
Yes.

LEG. BARRAGA:
Yes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Yes.

LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.

LEG. MURATORE:
Yes.

LEG. HAHN:
Yes.
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LEG. ANKER:
No.

LEG. CALARCO:
Yes.

LEG. LINDSAY:
No.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Yes.

LEG. CILMI:
Yes.

LEG. TROTTO:
Yes.

LEG. STERN:
Yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:
No.

LEG. SPENCER:
Yes.

P.O. GREGORY:
Yes.

MR. LAUBE:
Fourteen. I called Schneiderman -- yes. Fourteen (Vacant Seat - District #12).

D.P.O. SCHNEIDERMAN:
I haven't left yet.

MR. LAUBE:
I'm not rushing you.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Introductory Resolution No. 10 - To designate local newspapers in which County notices may be published (Presiding Officer). I'll make a motion.

LEG. CALARCO:
Second.

P.O. GREGORY:
Second by Legislator Calarco. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. LAUBE:
Fifteen. (Opposed - Legislators Lindsay and Anker; Vacant Seat: District #12).
P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. I would like to make a motion to waive the rules and lay the following resolutions on the table. Second by Legislator Schneiderman. IR 1027, Ways & Means; IR 1028, Parks. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. LAUBE:
Seventeen (Vacant Seat: District #12).

P.O. GREGORY:
That's all our business. We stand adjourned. Thank you.

(*The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 P.M.*)