CONCORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES LAKE COUNTY, OHIO REGULAR MEETING

Held via Webex Teleconference and YouTube Live Streaming

Concord Town Hall 7229 Ravenna Road Concord, Ohio 44077

September 16, 2020 7:30 p.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Present on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Carl Dondorfer, Chairman Morgan McIntosh, Vice Chairman Amy Lucci, Trustee Amy Dawson, Fiscal Officer

Also Present:

Andy Rose, Administrator Michael Lucas, Esq., Legal Counsel Matt Sabo, Fire Chief

Melton Reporting
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7:30 p.m. 1 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Good evening, Concord Township, 2 and welcome to the Concord Township Board of Trustees regular 3 meeting for September 16, 2020. I am going to call the meeting to order, and if you could all join me in standing for 5 the Pledge of Allegiance, please. 6 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.) 7 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Mrs. Dawson, the roll call, 8 9 please. MS. DAWSON: Mr. McIntosh? 10 MR. McINTOSH: Present. 11 12 MS. DAWSON: Mrs. Lucci? MS. LUCCI: Present. 13 MS. DAWSON: Mr. Dondorfer? 14 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Present. 15 Okay. Moving into the approval of the minutes for 16 the August 5, 2020, regular Board of Trustee meeting, is there 17 18 a motion to approve? MR. McINTOSH: Mr. Chairman, I move that we approve 19 20 the minutes for August 5, 2020, as -- regular trustee meeting 21 as written. 22 MS. LUCCI: And I second. 23 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: All in favor? 24 (Three aye votes, no nay votes.) CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: And approval of the minutes for 25 26 September 2, 2020, regular trustee meeting. 27 MS. DAWSON: Hold on. Mike, as amended, because we had, we had approved minutes of the 19th, which we didn't have

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a meeting?

MR. LUCAS:

Yes.

MS. DAWSON: So you need to approve the September 2nd regular trustee meeting minutes as amended.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: As amended.

MR. McINTOSH: Mr. Chairman, I move to approve the September 2, 2020, regular trustee meeting as amended.

MS. LUCCI: I second.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: All in favor?

(Three aye votes, no nay votes.)

into the rest of the meeting this evening, for those of you that have been following us on township news, we have some great news to report this evening. We are excited about it.

We've been working behind the lines for a long period of time trying to get this accomplished and we're really happy to break this news to our community this evening. So with that announcement, Amy Lucci.

MS. LUCCI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is with great excitement that we would like to announce Lucky's Market Concord coming to the Grist Mill Village Shopping Center in the spring of 2021. Awesome.

(Applause.)

MS. LUCCI: Lucky's Market Concord will be the latest addition to the recently acquired and now locally-owned Lucky's Market stores in Cleveland and Columbus. Customers can look forward to the freshest farmers market style produce, natural and organic foods, high-end meat cut daily by butchers on site, flesh prepared foods from our kitchen, and healthy living products. Other highlights include extensive beer and wine assortment -- I heard there is a sip and shop in there, too -- and emphasis on local offerings and enough of the

grocery staples to round out your shopping experience.

If you are interested in getting a sense of what is coming about, please visit Lucky's Market location on the border of Cleveland and Lakewood, take a road trip to Columbus or follow them on Facebook at Lucky's Market Ohio. More details to come.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Yeah, great news. I mean, a family-owned business. We went collectively out with the owners for dinner recently, met them. It was a great meeting. And, you know, it's going to be involving locally grown organic foods, things of that nature, and should be one-stop shopping. It's going to be a great store. It looks really inviting. We looked at a lot of the pictures. We are collectively going down this Saturday to look at the store and get a private, individual tour, so I am really excited. You know, the residents have really been waiting for this and it's a great announcement. I am glad we were able to get it done.

MS. LUCCI: Yeah. The family was wonderful. And, you know, nothing brings people together like food, so we're all very excited.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: For those that are on the phone, can you mute your call button there until we get to the audience portion, please. Thank you.

MR. McINTOSH: I was -- I think it was a great meeting. It's nice to see that it's going to be a local owned grocer. I think that's really, I think it's really important these days. And it's exciting to see that they're going to take a fresh, fresh look at that space. I know that there is going to be a lot of change as far as what goes in there, so

there's a lot of expectation to get more, I think, pack more in it. It sounds like they're looking to be able to, as I said, you know, the full service, to be able to go in there for a week and grocery shop. I know the grocers seem to be aware that was something that Concord residents really wanted to see go in there.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Right.

MR. McINTOSH: And I think the product is going to be unique. You know, we can go anywhere to get a grocery store but to have, I think, what they're going to do here in Concord, they're very, very interested in what the community wants. And I think we've had a pretty good pulse on it. I know I've talked with a lot of residents. We've all gotten --CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Right.

MR. McINTOSH: Amy, since even you've started, how many times do you get asked, When is a grocery store coming?

MS. LUCCI: Right, that's the number one question.

MR. McINTOSH: So we were able to relay a lot of the concerns, a lot of the desires from, you know, people we've talked to and they were just super enthusiastic, I think, was the thing.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Right.

MR. McINTOSH: And so excited to come out to Concord. And it's nice that they have a concept. I know that they talked about doing -- originally, this is the people that were going to take over that space -- and they had talked about wanting to develop their own brand, and they got that opportunity to acquire those other Lucky stores and make it a locally-owned, Ohio-based organization. They will be in Lakewood, I think, Columbus and then now in Concord.

So I think it's just exciting and I know it is something this community has been just desperate for for a number of years now. So I can't wait until they're going to open in the spring. It will be fantastic.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Yeah, it's exciting. They have some staff that live in Concord and I know they've been working with the architects on the concept and they're going to use that whole, that whole building space. It's just going to be a great, you know. They're going to be great business here neighbors for us in Concord.

So we are excited to let the community know about that and, if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us and we will keep you up to date on the movement.

Moving into the Elected Officials Report this morning -- this evening with our Fiscal Officer, Amy Dawson.

MS. DAWSON: Thank you, Mr. Dondorfer. Based upon some of our residents' recent questions and concerns, I thought I would start some financial facts reporting in the second meeting of the month.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Great.

MS. DAWSON: Just random as I get questions or -So, hopefully, you know, our residents will participate and I
will be able to get you some random financial facts every
month.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Great.

MS. DAWSON: The first one is, in 2014, Concord Township spent \$1,370,950 to purchase land for the Capital Parkway Extension Road Project. This was from nine different property owners and it was paid from our Capital Projects Fund, and that fund is funded through grants, hotel tax and

other special assessments. It was court ordered as part of ODOT's road project. We were reimbursed for this through a federal grant in early 2015. Okay?

In 2015, we purchased seven acres of land at the corner of Auburn Road and Capital Parkway for economic development for a total of \$986,120. The majority of this money came from the JEDD fund. We did not spend \$1.3 million on the seven acres of land.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay.

MR. FISCHER: Close enough.

MS. DAWSON: So that's my first fact. It was also recently mentioned that Concord should have plenty of tax money coming in because of new development, and that's partially true. But when you have a renewal levy, Concord receives the same revenue off of the levy even though the tax base is growing. What happens, basically, is the effective millage of that levy decreases over time, so individual property owners' taxes actually decrease. If you have a replacement levy, then the levy continues to grow and collect more revenue over that growing tax base. So I hope I have clarified that for that particular resident.

Also, today a resident pointed out that, in our year-end, my year-end report for 2019 it shows revenue in the JEDD fund for \$905,000 and some change. So because of that, some individuals thought that that's how much money we receive from the JEDD fund. This is total revenue for that fund and it also includes SIB loan draws in order to pay the state vendor. Actual payroll tax revenue for 2019 was \$770,000. The reason that money was put in that fund is that's basically where the state auditor told me to put it.

So those are several fun facts. Okay? And I do apologize if there was any misinformation there but all we report at the end of the year is total revenue in, total expenses out. I have a report that basically, if somebody is interested in that, all they have to do is contact me. I would be happy to generate the report and it will show you details of the money going in and the money going out.

So if you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to call my office at 354-7516. If you have a financial fact that you would like addressed, please feel free to email me the question at ADawson@ConcordTwp.com and I will try and include it in my report. The main reason being, if you have that question, other people may have that question as well. So, hopefully, this will be something a little different that we could do monthly.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank vou.

MS. DAWSON: You are welcome.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Mrs. Lucci.

MS. LUCCI: Thank you. So I did want to point out we just realized we had an issue with our website email. We noticed that some of our emails were not coming through. So we apologize for that. We are looking at that and hope to have that fixed fairly soon.

Just to kind of give you an idea what I've been doing the last couple weeks, I did have some resident calls regarding some land use and development, primarily just kind of concerned with how changes are happening. And, you know, those kind of things are, you know, a little bit, a little complex sometimes. There is a lot of history involved. So I spent some time kind of going over with our Zoning Directors

and then with the residents on kind of what we're expecting and what's kind of coming up. So a couple of calls on that.

I also had a resident who had an issue with a neighbor with some tall grass. Our Administration took care of that. The Zoning Inspector went out and will hopefully take care of that soon.

Another resident called to ask about, if we have the two fire stations under construction, how will that affect service? And I confirmed with Chief that, you know, when Station 1 is constructed, that would go across the street, so we are still able to service out of Station 1 where it is now. With Station 2, they would set up some areas where the rigs, the ambulances could be in some tents, as well as some trailers for the staff. So there would still be full service in each side. Obviously, they would be helping each other out. So there is no worries there about lacking service from one station while it's under construction.

Last, I did have some conversations with folks regarding the fire levy. You know, we had some education.

We, you know, I listened. I respect everybody's opinion and very open to any and all discussions. So thank you.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank you, Mrs. Lucci.

Mr. McIntosh.

MR. McINTOSH: Yes. I have also taken a lot of questions about the Fire Station Project and/or the levy. I have done a lot of explaining regarding what it means and the cost of it and the project. Also have had some questions about how we are going to manage service and I've also dialogued quite extensively with Chief Sabo about how that is working.

I have also had several conversations about some zoning issues and/or questions of development going on around the township, have an ongoing conversation with a resident regarding some stormwater issues there in a neighborhood that we're working with the county on. I did get a report of some vandalism in a park on Colburn, looked like there was some partying going on. So I actually stopped by. I got that message a little late one day but we went out and took care of it on, I think, Monday morning. The Service Department did a great job because we got an email from another resident saying they had noticed it and they were thankful we cleaned it up. So just a lot going on. And, of course, we had that long meeting or good, extensive conversation with the folks regarding the grocery store. So it's been a busy couple weeks and that concludes my report, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: I just have a few things. I did take some calls from some residents about some road concerns that we're looking into. I also met with a resident at one of the Concord parks regarding some trees that might need to be trimmed as far as some long branches hanging over a trail that I am going to get with Mr. Brown about. And I fielded some questions also about the fire station levy and the actual financial costs and things of that nature that I helped to clarify with the residents that contacted me.

So moving on to Department Reports, our Administration Department, Mr. Rose.

UNKNOWN PHONE SPEAKER: (Inaudible) the live stream.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Can you mute your phone,

please.

MR. McINTOSH: That wasn't -- That was like Webex.

It's the live stream.

UNKNOWN PHONE SPEAKER: How do you find the live stream?

MR. McINTOSH: Okay, that is someone talking.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Can you please mute your phone please for a moment until we get to the audience portion. Thank you.

Mr. Rose.

MR. ROSE: Thank you, Mr. Dondorfer. Members of the Board, Mrs. Dawson, members of the audience both here and on the phone, thank you very much. Just a few items to cover quickly. Within the next few weeks down at the cemetery, we're going to be doing some maintenance around the concrete area that surrounds the columbarium. The area is going to be cleaned, painted and resealed. Once that job is completed, it will be temporarily roped off for a day or two, depending on the weather, to let it fully dry and cure and then the columbariums will be reopened. But it's an opportunity with good weather to spruce that up, so that will happen within the next couple weeks.

Once that's open back up, please remember that the sealant on the concrete has a tendency -- and we're going to post a sign -- it can be a little slippery when it's wet. So please use caution there.

I covered this last time. I want to cover it again. Our Annual Shred Day is scheduled for September, Saturday, September 26, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Due to COVID restrictions, we are asking residents to remain in their vehicle, have their materials that they desire to be shredded placed in the trunk or the hatchback area of the vehicle. A

township employee will remove the boxes. This year, due to COVID, residents will not be able to stand around and watch the shredding as they have in years past and we are not returning boxes. If you wish to have a certificate of destruction for your boxes, please let the township employee that's removing your items know that and we will take down your information to ensure that you get a certificate of destruction. This event is open to township residents and there is a limit of three legal-sized boxes per resident. If you have any questions or you'd like more information, please visit the website, township website, or you can call (440) 354-7500 and someone from the township can give you more information or clarify any questions.

As Ms. Lucci mentioned, the Contact Us section of the website is not working properly. There is a gremlin running around in our system and we haven't caught him yet. We apologize for that. We're working to correct that. We are working with IT folks and our website manager to correct this issue as fast as possible. The staff has been retrieving the messages manually that were not auto-forwarded and we are reaching out to those folks as quickly as possible to clean that up. So, again, we apologize for any inconvenience or delay in our communications.

And then, finally, I just want to jump on the grocery store band wagon and say I am absolutely thrilled that that announcement is finally made. It is the number one question that we get here at the township on a regular basis. I personally would like to thank the folks at Friedman, who are the property managers of Grist Mill, and the Saltzman family for working together and getting this deal done. It's

been terrific and we look forward to spring of '21 when we can start shopping for groceries right here in Concord Township.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Great.

MR. ROSE: That concludes my report. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank you, Mr. Rose.

Okay. Moving on to our Audience portion, for those of you that are online with us this evening, we're going to start out with people that are online with us. Last name beginning with A through I, if you are on the phone and you would like to speak during the audience portion, if you could state your name and address for the record and go ahead, please.

(No response.)

Okay. Seeing none, if there is anybody on the line with the last name that begins with J through R, you can please state your name and address for the record and speak, please.

MS. KANGAS: Is this on the phone?

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Yes, ma'am, on the phone.

MS. KANGAS: Okay.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: I apologize.

MS. KANGAS: Yes, it's Linda Kangas, 7061 Cascade Road. Yes, I have two questions for you and I think that sometimes this is, it is a conundrum to the residents. I read in the Grapevine that you don't have actual cost of construction for both stations and we've, we've known that. And I know that you had also said it will be some time before we see actual cost of construction for both stations.

So how is it that you can present residents with

costs that are almost the same as last year in the failed levy but we don't have any actual cost to deal with in order to present a levy on our ballot? How does that, how does that work, that you can justify a figure and put it on the ballot when we don't have costs?

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Is that -- Okay. We're going to address everything at the end, Mrs. Kangas. You said you had two questions. Do you have one other one?

MS. KANGAS: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay.

MS. KANGAS: A comment is that I just don't know how you can ask the residents for any tax levy unless we have firm costs.

But the second question has to do with, during the stakeholder meetings and the trustee meetings, you stated that you could build both stations by asking residents for a \$6 million tax levy and yet we now have \$8 million affair and the thought was that you needed some extra elbow room. And what would be the elbow room? What would it be for?

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay. Thank you very much and we will address that here at the end of the audience portion.

Anybody else on the line with the last name of R -- I am sorry -- J through R that would like to make a comment or a question?

MS. PESEC: Sure. This is Vanessa Pesec, 11705 Cali Court, and I had a couple questions. I also read in the Grapevine that, stating that, if you vote no, that it could potentially be years before the project got off the ground and yet it doesn't seem to be relative to what was presented at the July 28th stakeholder meeting, in that case, showing that

you could, if you had a \$6 million bond, it showed that there was \$3 million cash on hand and you could collect \$3 million more in uncollected tax, grants and short-term debt, which would equal \$6 million. So the cost for Station Number 2 is \$4.95 million, which is not even 6.

So how is it that you can't right now, starting today, start building Station Number 2 when your presentation shows that you had the money and that you could start that station?

I know that Trustee McIntosh, he said on Nextdoor that you were going to address that, so I would like to hear what you have to say about that. And then I would ask that we be able to ask any follow-up questions so that we fully understand the answer that you might pose.

My second question is that next year there is a 2.7 mill fire levy that will probably go on the ballot, and I understand from Amy that this would be a replacement.

MS. DAWSON: No.

MS. PESEC: I have also noted throughout the last year, year and a half that all of the fire station salaries have increased.

And so my question is, watching all of these salaries increase, and knowing that the fire levy of 2.7 mills is used for a lot of operating expenses, will this be a replacement next year and sufficient money or do you think that you will need to also ask for an increase next year? That's my second question.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay.

MS. PESEC: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank you. Anybody else on the

line with the last name beginning with J through R?

(No response.)

Okay. Seeing none, anybody on the line with the last name beginning with S through Z?

(No response.)

Okay. We have people with us this evening. Welcome and thank you for joining us. Is there anybody present that would like to come up to the podium? Please state your name and address for the record and we'd be happy to hear from you. Yes, sir.

MR. FISCHER: Can I take this off to speak?
CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Certainly.

MR. FISCHER: Michael Fischer, 7780 Hermitage Road. This is just a comment on things that I have noticed in the past really strong with our previous administration. It seems when people get elected, their IQ goes to 200 and the residents go to 10 and no one wants to listen to the residents. And, I mean, I see it here. You had all these meetings. We had \$13 million last year, \$13.9. This year we have \$13.75 is what this paperwork says. So, obviously, these meetings didn't affect you guys at all.

And the other thing that I want to talk about is that we have some people that work for the township -- I won't mention names but one of them is Andy Rose and the other one is Matt Sabo -- that go on Twitter and rag on the residents that pay their salaries. Now, if you don't like working here and the people bother you that do things, then you need to go find a job someplace else. It's as easy as that. So either shut your mouth and not say anything or you leave. That's how it works. You guys work for us, all of you, whether you

realize that or not. A lot of people forget that. We pay the 1 bills and we should have an opportunity to say what, where and 2 when and how we pay the bills. And if something happens that 3 you don't like, tough luck. Don't push the Twitter button, just mind your own business. If you were working in a 5 corporation someplace, you don't walk into the boss's office 6 and tell him he's a jerk. 7 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Sir, sir. 8 MR. FISCHER: Okay. 9 10 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: You need to conduct yourself respectfully. I am charged with managing the decorum of this 11 12 meeting. MR. FISCHER: Yeah? 13 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: And you can speak politely and 14 respectfully. 15 MR. FISCHER: I am. 16 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Nobody is disrespecting you but 17 you --18 19 MR. FISCHER: I didn't say they were but they were, 20 yes, they were. 21 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: There is nobody showing you any 22 sign of disrespect here. 23 MR. FISCHER: Not here. 24 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: But we're charged with 25 maintaining --26 MR. FISCHER: It was on Twitter. Okay? It's not 27 here, it was on Twitter. 28 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay. You're entitled --29 MR. FISCHER: Okay? So that's just --30 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: -- to your comment but you have

to maintain a professionalism in here. 1 MR. FISCHER: I am. 2 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: I don't believe you are doing 3 that at all. You are --MR. FISCHER: Well, that's your, that's your 5 opinion. 6 7 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Again, I am charged with --MR. FISCHER: Who is working for who, Carl? 8 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Sir. 9 10 MR. FISCHER: Yeah. CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Do you have any other comments 11 you would like to make? 12 13 MR. FISCHER: Yeah. There is a guy by the name of Wayne Traffels, Traffis, lives in Far Hills. He wants to know 14 the name of the people that were in the, in the photograph 15 that was taken in front of Station 2 last Wednesday. So if he 16 wants to come over to my house, we can talk about it when he 17 18 wants, whatever, you know. He is welcome to come. 19 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank you for your comment. 20 MR. FISCHER: Okay. There was another thing that I 21 heard, that Andy was keeping records on residents in Concord, 22 calls it his dossier. 23 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Sir, there is no truth to that. 24 I have already been called on that and I have talked to 25 individuals regarding that and that is not accurate. 26 MR. FISCHER: How did that get started; do you know? 27 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Again, there is no truth to So, again, I am charged with maintaining the decorum of 28 29 this meeting and I am going to make sure it's professional.

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MR. FISCHER:

Sure.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: And that's the way it's going to be.

MR. FISCHER: Okay. Also, I was going to mention -It's been mentioned twice now. I will mention it for the
third time that you guys talked about a levy for \$6 million
and it turned out that you wrote one for \$8 million. So I was
wondering, where is the \$2 million? What slush fund is that
going into and what would that be involved in?

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: We're going to address that question -- I have notes on that -- at the end here once we're done. It's not -- There is no slush fund. And we'll cover that, maybe we can clarify those facts. There were two separate packages that we showed as financial options that may or may not be chosen, the \$6 mill, the \$8 mill, and we will have some discussions at the end to maybe sort of be able to clarify that for you.

MR. FISCHER: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank you.

Anybody else in the audience this evening like to say anything? Mr. Aspinwall.

MR. ASPINWALL: Robert Aspinwall, 7559 Sarah Lee, Concord. I guess this would be for Administration. Have you information on a sale of Quail Hollow? Is there going to be one going on? Have you heard anything of that?

MS. DAWSON: I can address that later.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay. We will address that. I will have Amy address that because she has some information on it.

MR. ASPINWALL: Thank you. One thing about the Fire Department, I've got just one quick comment. If the residents

for this township care about their safety and the safety of the firefighters, please vote yes on Issue 1 and support the construction of new fire stations. This is very important. When I come by Station 1 early in the morning or in the evening, sometimes the doors or open. You see coats lying in the back, which is kind of -- I don't know -- that doesn't look right. It should be hidden. It should be, the station should be cleaned -- clean. I mean, it's just I should see fire trucks, ambulances, that's what you should see.

So this is very important for this levy, you know, to get this passed. I mean, it's just, it's got to be done. I mean, it's \$5 a month, \$60 a year for a \$300,000 home. I don't know what the average home price is in Concord. But it's minimal, I mean, that's how I look at it, \$60. I don't know how much a pack of cigarettes cost but it's nothing really. That's all I've got to say. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank you, Mr. Aspinwall.

MR. McINTOSH: I will hold my remark.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Yeah, till the end.

Anybody else this evening? Yes, sir.

MR. WARNER: Good evening. My name is Mike Warner. I live at Ravenna Road in Concord Township. I have been here for over 20 years, a retired fire chief after 20-some years. And what I want to talk to you a little bit about tonight is -- getting rid of that echo from my hearing aid -- is the fact that there is many people have different opinions about what's going on, but I'd really like to congratulate you on doing everything you said you would do.

I came to you after the last levy and talked to most of you about what I saw were issues that caused problems.

After speaking with the ACT group, we addressed most every one of their issues with you and you did the same by holding your stakeholder meetings. You brought forth information. You brought forth a plan.

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And the fact is, you're asking for six-tenths of a mill to put both fire stations up that have been nothing but trouble and maintenance and cost for 20 years for me and 11 years before that with Chief Terriaco. They're not in good repair although maintenance has been done on them to keep the roofs from leaking. And the fact is, Station 2 is not a very good place to be. It's started off as a two-car garage. Chief Terriaco put bunks in it when they finally put people in there when it didn't even have a restroom. We put an addition on in '98 to try to make it a little better so that we could take care of the people. Because if we don't take care those pieces of equipment that we spend thousands and thousands of dollars on and the people that we put in there, who is our most valuable investment in this township are the firefighters -- They need to have a place where they can take care of their equipment, all their equipment, their personal equipment, their fire equipment, as well as being able to respond in a responsible amount of time.

And when you have good stations on the same level in good locations in our township, is what you're doing, they now can respond safely to take care of the residents. Station 1, I can tell you that, at least in my 20 years, we had three ankle injuries coming down the stairs from training or if they were taking rest in between calls in the evening or lunch or whatever coming down those stairs to be able to get out of the station within a minute. Those stairs are dangerous. We need

to put it all on one level.

And you moving the station across the street, utilizing that vacant property, cutting down on the square footage, you did everything that we talked about. I admire you for doing that. You have a good plan.

And many people say, "Well, they say they're going to pay it back early if they can." Well, you can't put that in writing. You can tell people, "We're going to do our best," but what if the economy changes? The most important thing is to keep the firefighters that we have. When you start adjusting and taking from their operational funds, which we strived for years to not touch the operational fund, to get JEDD to help buy equipment, this millage that you are putting on is the only way to keep that secure and keep the number of firefighters that you have responding for our residents to keep us safe.

The reason we have that many is because we get multiple calls, Station 2, Station 1 at the same time. It takes four people to handle a full arrest. That's why you have the number of people that you have. You've got to take care of them and the stations are the way to do it. Give them good places to stay, good places to have their equipment maintained, they'll maintain it for you. They're good housekeepers. They're good stewards of your money. No one in this township government has ever been frivolous with the funds. They've been good stewards and I appreciate that and I just wanted to tell you that.

And as far as somebody saying something on social media, sometimes we shouldn't be keyboard warriors but it's on their personal time. They are a right -- They have a right to

their First Amendment rights. There is no law broken. But everybody ought to take a chill pill. Everybody has their own personal feelings about this. My feelings are, this needs to go forward and get it done. Now is the right time and the right thing to do. Any questions?

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank you. Anybody else joining us this evening? Thank you, Mr. Warner.

Okay. So before we move into these, answering some of these audience portion questions, I just want to start out by saying that, you know, this is a contentious issue. It's emotional. Everybody is entitled to their own opinion. But we are going to hold these meetings and this dialogue in an orderly fashion. There is not going to be any type of inappropriate or disrespectful behavior. I mean, I am charged with the decorum of this meeting and it's going to be orderly and it's going to be respectful, despite what anybody's opinion is. We're here and we can have a, we can have good conversation.

So with that, I will start out and we can all, you know, talk differently with different questions. But, you know, Mr. Fischer, I always respected who I worked for in my years of service in this, not only county but this community. I've worked for the taxpayers for 28 years now and I never took that for granted. Okay? So --

MR. FISCHER: You need to pass it around.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: I'd just like to talk, sir. I appreciate it. I gave you your time.

So I don't believe any of us take that for granted.

I know we work for the public. We're elected officials. I
got into this work and I got into the work I got into years

ago because I am passionate about service to the public.

Okay? And that's what still drives me now, nothing else other than being passionate about serving the community.

So with that, there were some questions about the financial millage and things of that nature that I think it's going to be good if we clarify some of that. You know,

Ms. Pesec mentioned the plan that came out when we proposed one of the financial options of the \$6 mills, which was the plan that Amy drew up was \$12, you know, \$12 million for the budget estimate for the project, 6, 3 and 3. And then we looked at the \$8 million, \$12 million budget estimate and 8, 2 and 2. That wasn't, that didn't indicate that we had \$3 million on hand. That was just an example of a possible financial plan for getting the stations done.

I know that Mrs. Kangas had mentioned, you know, how are we moving ahead without any cost analysis on what it's going to take to build these stations? And we went into depth in over seven hours of discussions at the stakeholder meetings on what the costs were. We had the architects out here from Virginia. We talked about how it was going to be -- what the budget estimate was and how we get to the cost estimate. So we did lay some financial numbers down there. So I don't -- Again, those are able to be viewed and they're online on our website but we did have numbers there to show what it was going to cost.

MR. McINTOSH: Mr. Chairman, I think I would like to say something and I'd like to ask our Fiscal Officer to clarify some things.

MS. DAWSON: Sure.

MR. McINTOSH: First off, I appreciate the questions

and I can appreciate, I mean, what's going on. I think to Ms. Kangas's question with respect to, how can you move forward not knowing actual costs, well, we do have budgetary estimates and we presented them and we have talked about them with respect to where the project would be. So we've come forth with a plan to say that the township will provide 30 percent of the project in the form of \$4 million in JEDD taxes and then we're going to finance the other part of the project with an \$8 million levy. So that effectively sets a budget.

Assuming the levy were to pass, the township is stuck with that. I mean, we're in the confines of having to operate within that. So if we were to get into a project and we had costs over, we'd have to deal with that. So I think the idea is that we move forward with the project as far as working within a budget. I think that's the process we've gone.

And as we explained in the stakeholder meetings, you don't proceed any further in the project than we are today without knowing that you've got financing. You don't go buy a home unless you get prequalified. So lining up financing is a part of the process. Like I said, I mean, we've got the plan outlined, so that certainly gives us a budget to work within.

 $$\operatorname{\mathtt{And}}$ I think that would be a good opportunity for $$\operatorname{\mathtt{Ms.}}$ Dawson to add her expertise.

MS. DAWSON: Sure. Thank you, Mr. McIntosh. So in that -- Again, you were given two choices. And in that \$6 million bond choice, that was dependent upon the last \$3 million was coming from Capital Projects Fund. It also was dependent, quite frankly, upon short-term financing, of which I can't quote you rates right now because we are not going out

for the financing. We can assume between 3 and 5 percent at this point. It all depends on how long it takes to get there.

I was more comfortable with the \$8 million option, as I explained to you, because we never know what's going to happen in the township. And those capital projects funds are used for a variety of things. You know, when Morley Road caved in years ago, that's what we used to pay for the reconstruction. Right now, we're having a problem with -- Mr. Rose, correct me. Is it Sarah Lee or is it, what, Nancy Ann? We are having a problem with Nancy Ann. You know, until the contractor basically walked off the job, we had no idea the condition of what was underneath that road.

So many things can happen. We are certainly prepared to deal with them. But to go into a large scale project without knowledge of having that money up front, I really wasn't comfortable with that, to be perfectly honest with you. It's always better to budget more conservatively and get that revenue in when you're supposed to get it in and then it always allows us the option to pay things off early, which is something I have a history of doing since I've been here. That's what I like to do.

The other thing is, I have no control over hotel taxes coming in. I have no control over, quite frankly, the payroll tax coming in from the JEDD. If something catastrophic happens with the economy, you know, there is no say, there is no guarantee as to we're going to get this figure from the JEDD this year or this figure. They're all estimates. And we can save the money that's coming in but I can't predict what we're going to get long term from that.

I hope that helps clarify as to where the money was

coming from for that last \$3 million.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Amy.

MS. LUCCI: So in regards to the fire levy, the 2.7 fire levy, you know, we haven't made any decisions on that. We never said that was going to be a replacement levy. So, you know, that's not, that's not right now on the table at all.

MS. DAWSON: You know, I did want to say that, you know, the JEDD contract, one of the reasons why that income is not guaranteed is it's going to be renegotiated in eight years. The 20-year term of that initial contract is up for renegotiation. So I have no idea, in eight years, I mean, again, while we have an estimate, I have no idea what that's going to be in eight years. I can't predict that.

And then if you don't mind, while I'm talking, I'd like to clarify Mr. Aspinwall's question.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Sure.

MS. DAWSON: So Club Corp that owned Quail Hollow, the resort -- or not the resort, the country club, they were looking for short-term capital, so they actually sold the property to an investment group out of Delaware. That investment group put the money back into Quail Hollow. So it was done purely as investment. It's still being run by Club Corp and nothing there as far as the country club has changed. I would recommend you contact the board of governors over there if you have any additional information -- or any questions about that.

MR. ASPINWALL: Thank you.

MS. DAWSON: But it was purely done as a short-term means to raise capital. Okay?

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: I think there was a couple other things that I had on my notes that I jotted down. I know there was some mention about, I think Mrs. Kangas mentioned about there wasn't that much of a cost reduction between the plan in '19 and the current project plan, and I think I tried to clarify that in an earlier meeting.

The budget estimate, Mrs. Kangas, in 2019 was \$10 million. And the budget estimate --

MS. DAWSON: For one station.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: What's that?

MS. DAWSON: It was \$10 million for one station.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Right, for one station, yeah.

And the budget estimate that we have for now is \$8 million.

So we did make some reductions in cost that I think are rather

significant that came through working with the community and the stakeholder meetings.

There was a mention about, why did we go with the 8 because is this extra elbow room or does this go into a slush fund, and I think we had some dialogue about that, also.

There is no slush fund. When we decided over the 8 mills, \$8 mill versus the \$6 mill, you know, some of the things we considered was, you know, not financially strapping the township for any type of emergency that may come up, and then it put us in a better position, after a Concord resident mentioned the operational fire levy, it put us in a better position, you know, to hopefully get us in a position where we don't have to go back to the taxpayers.

So I know, Morgan, that comment about the elbow room, I think, was in your discussion. You had some dialogue here at one of the -- Maybe you can clarify that.

MR. McINTOSH: Yeah. I think, to address

Mr. Fischer's question about the why we -- Again, I think we

are clarifying the reason we chose from the 6 to the 8. So we

asked the Auditor's Office to certify what, how much would any

of the borrowing amounts come to so we could decide what that

meant to the residents as far as a tax. So going back a

little bit, being that I followed some of the issues in

Concord for a while, the JEDD fund was something that was

created. In other words, we had the hospital coming into the

township at a time and there was no, there was no offsetting

tax to deal with the infrastructure cost. So the last board

had the forethought to put together the JEDD.

So we often talk about how -- having a rainy day fund or something like that. Well, the JEDD is that extra room in the township budget. It allows to -- It helped pay for the road and there's been a number of things that have come up where the township has used the JEDD over the years to pay for things as opposed to going out for, out for an increase or something. That's part of how Concord's taxes remain in the bottom third of the county. If you are not aware, the taxpayers in Concord across the county are some of the lowest.

So when we looked at the difference between the 6 and the 8, at the recommendation of our Fiscal Officer, the 6 kept things very tight. We took a look at tying up all of those JEDD funds and if we had a change in the negotiation of the rate, if the split with Painesville shifted a little bit or changed, or if collection in that came or an emergency came up -- and I don't want to call it or it's not fair to say it's a rainy day fund but it's an extra part of our budget we can

direct other places -- that would totally be consumed and we wouldn't have that flexibility. Okay?

so by borrowing a little bit more -- and when we assessed the difference in millage, it was so small, it was a few dollars a year -- we felt that it was the responsible choice to borrow a little extra so that kept us from having to go back to the residents in the future for anything if we had road problems or things we needed to use the JEDD funds for or we had to direct them someplace else. But rather than tie up all of that extra budget that we have flexibility with and consume it all with debt payments, we didn't feel it was responsible. So we didn't think the 6 was going to really get us where we needed to be. It was going to tie up all the township budget and give us no flexibility. And we didn't really want to say no to something. If an emergency came, ah, can't do it, you know.

And I do want to take a minute to address your concerns about just the communication, and I think

Mr. Dondorfer said it. I agree. The conversation in this is a contentious issue in the township and it makes me sad. It's disappointing that we're so divided over something like this. It's not surprising. We're a divided country right now.

We're in the midst of a lot of different things going on and it's unfortunate that we -- that these things are happening and everybody has an opinion. And generally speaking -- Well, not generally speaking, there is a right to that opinion.

It's a First Amendment right that everybody has to express their opinion and I don't feel right impinging on that. I think that, you know, it's up to the individual. So it's unfortunate that we're having that dialogue.

I think we did take on the -- And I think, I think we did spend a lot of time in the shareholder -- stakeholder meetings talking about the difference of the \$6 to \$8 million. And I agree, we did bring the cost down and we looked at the project. And the truth is, last year, they were, we were at, there was a \$10 million levy that was put on. It was 0.83. We're down to 0.6. So it was a 27 percent savings. So I mean, I think we did listen and we did hear the community. There was talks about changing the footprint, changing the location, lowering the cost. I think we did all those things, on top of having seven hours of meetings. Do you want to --MS. LUCCI: I just want to mention, I don't know where the 13 mill came from that you mentioned, Mr. Fischer. MR. FISCHER: I don't know. This got published, printed. CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: I am not sure what that is. MR. FISCHER: It said about \$13 million for 2019 and \$13.75 million for this year. So that's what this paperwork says and that's what I referenced. CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay. I don't know where that paperwork came from. It's not accurate. MS. LUCCI: Yeah. I just wanted to clarify that was 12. It's 12. MR. FISCHER: I want to make a comment. We're not divided on the fact that we need the fire stations. Okay? That's not the issue.

MR. McINTOSH: I didn't say that. I just said

MR. FISCHER: You said we're divided. We're not

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"divided."

divided on the fact that we need the fire station. We are divided on the fact of how we're going to pay for them. So just keep that in mind. I don't want any firemen or anyone here to think that I don't think these guys need a good place to work out of. They do, and they deserve it. But how we pay for it is the issue.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Fischer. And I think that's why we are having this round robin here is about trying to clarify some of the information. We talked about the financial plans in the stakeholder meetings.

One other thing I did want to mention was that when we decided, you know, to go with the larger ask, again, you know, the Concord Township has always demonstrated the ability to pay off the debt early. And, you know, like you said, we need these fire stations. We can't do it alone. And we didn't want to put the township in a position where, if there was some type of emergency that came up, that we couldn't address it or be responsible in correcting it.

So, you know, everybody has their own opinion but, you know, I believe that we spent a lot of time trying to get input from the community and to, you know, do our due diligence in coming up with the best option that we though was in the best interest of the township.

Yes, Amy.

MS. DAWSON: So I just had one closing thought from me. The difference between the \$6 million figure and the \$8 million figure per household, per \$100,000, is \$6.

MR. ROSE: It's \$5.25.

MS. DAWSON: I am sorry, \$5.25 per \$100,000. So for a \$300,000 house, that was going to be --

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Just under \$16.

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MS. DAWSON: -- \$16 a year difference. And the amount of money that we could put toward this project to do it assuredly and correctly, you know, I thought was a good ask.

MR. McINTOSH: I just want to -- I know maybe a point of order as far as audience portion of the communication. I just want to clarify something, that I appreciate people speaking on this issue and everyone is always welcome to participate in the audience, but we want to make sure to draw a distinction that, if you come to speak about things, that we're not going to allow the audience, we can't allow the audience portion to be a vote yes, a vote no kind of a thing. So we need to, if you have an opinion about the fire service or if you want to present facts or you have questions, that's free, but just so that we don't have this thing, you know, in our future meetings as we go along, if we -- I don't think that's really an official policy but it's kind of always been the way of Concord. So I want to reiterate that, going forward, if we could just kind of refrain from -- I appreciate everyone expressing their opinions and so forth but we want to not make this a campaigning bid as much as the Trustees also try not to do that as well.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Right, thank you.

All right. Thank you for everyone that participated in the audience portion tonight and we are going to move into Old Business.

MS. PESEC: Excuse me, excuse me. This is Vanessa.

I had a specific question about inaccuracy in the newsletter

regarding when Station 2 could be built, knowing that you have millions of dollars on cash in hand and can get short-term bonds and why you couldn't built Station 2 starting now and I didn't hear an answer to that.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Do you want to answer that?

MS. PESEC: So could you please address that?

MS. DAWSON: I can address that.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Go ahead, Amy.

MS. DAWSON: All right. We cannot, in order to go out for bid, we need to have, as an example, if Station 2 is going to cost \$4.5 million, I need to have that money set aside in order to go out for bid. We don't have \$4.5 million out for -- in capital to do that. I don't have the security right now. I cannot put up the JEDD funds because, A, the contract is being renegotiated in eight years and, B, it is still secured to the state infrastructure bank loan, which the State of Ohio won't release until they finish a legal matter.

So, I mean, we would be going out with \$2 million right now. Nobody is going to bid on that station for \$2 million.

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: All right. Thank you, Vanessa. We forgot that question. I thought we jotted everything down. I appreciate you drawing our attention to that.

And that concludes our Audience portion this evening and we will move into Old Business. Seeing that there is none, we'll move into New Business with some votes this evening.

MR. McINTOSH: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, I move that we approve the Resolution 2020-30, declaring the necessity for street lighting in Quail Hollow Number 10, Phase

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1 B, an unincorporated area of the township in Lake County,
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    Ohio.
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               MS. LUCCI: I second.
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               CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: All in favor?
               (Three aye votes, no nay votes.)
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               MS. LUCCI: I move that we vote to approve a step
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    increase to $17.58 for Service Department administrative
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    assistant Susan Bobnar effective 9/16/2020.
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               MR. McINTOSH: Second.
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               CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: All in favor?
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               (Three aye votes, no nay votes.)
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12
               MR. McINTOSH: Mr. Chairman, I move to approve step
    increase to $21.16 for maintenance worker 1 Chad Gillenwater
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    effective 9/19/2020.
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               MS. LUCCI: I second.
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               CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: All in favor?
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               (Three aye votes, no nay votes.)
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               MS. LUCCI: I move that we approve Fire Department
    P.O. in the amount of $22,644.
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               MS. DAWSON:
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                           No, no, no, that was a typo.
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               CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay.
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               MS. DAWSON: It's $249,220.
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               MR. McINTOSH: No, no, we've got hose.
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               MS. DAWSON: Oh, I'm sorry.
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               MR. McINTOSH: Hose and ambulance.
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               MS. DAWSON: Okay. I apologize. I don't have these
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    in front of me.
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               MR. McINTOSH: All right. We're good.
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               MS. DAWSON: Yep, we're good.
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               MS. LUCCI: All right. Thanks, thank you for making
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1 sure. CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thanks for keeping us on our 2 toes. 3 MS. LUCCI: Yes. That's all right. MS. DAWSON: No. 5 MS. LUCCI: I move that we vote to approve Fire 6 7 Department P.O. in the amount of \$22,644 to All American Fire Equipment for fire hose. 8 MR. McINTOSH: Second. 9 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: All in favor? 10 (Three aye votes, no nay votes.) 11 12 MR. McINTOSH: I get to do the expensive one. 13 move --MS. DAWSON: Can I just comment on that? So Morgan 14 is going to make the motion but that money specifically is 15 coming from the CARES Act. It's a grant. It's for COVID-16 related expenses. This particular purchase is going to be 17 18 outfitted with automatic disinfection systems. 19 MR. ROSE: UV lighting. MS. DAWSON: UV lighting. 20 It is -- And the funds 21 are, it's not going to require any funds from any current tax 22 It's all coming from the CARES Act. So -- And it's 23 to keep our firefighters safe. 24 MR. McINTOSH: It's exciting that we're going to be 25 able to do this. So thank you, Mrs. Dawson. 26 So I move to approve the P.O. in the amount of 27 \$249,220 to R.S.V.P., Inc. for ambulance -- for an ambulance. 28 MS. LUCCI: I second. 29 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: All in favor? 30 (Three aye votes, no nay votes.)

CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Next is our trick-or-treating 1 date and time for the township, correct, Mr. Rose? 2 MR. ROSE: That is correct. Thank you, 3 Mr. Dondorfer, just a quick comment. Communities are starting to set the trick-or-treating. It will be an individual family 5 decision and individual household decision on whether or not 6 7 to participate. CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Right. 8 MR. ROSE: But the reason I would like to set this 9 10 is because, typically, the safety forces will put an extra duty crew, you know, an extra man on or, you know, the 11 12 Sheriff's Department may have an extra car that patrols the 13 areas during the trick-or-treating times. So I would recommend that we stick to 10/31 of 2020 and we go from 14 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 15 16 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okav. MR. ROSE: Which has been the traditional time and 17 18 date for Concord Township. And then folks can make their own 19 decisions on whether or not they want to participate this 20 year. Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay. Thank you. We're good 22 with that date? 23 MS. LUCCI: Sounds good. 24 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Morgan? 25 MR. McINTOSH: Yep. 26 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Amy, good? 27 MS. LUCCI: Yep. 28 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Okay. On to Future Meetings 29 and Announcements and, as always, Mrs. Dawson, please. 30 MS. DAWSON: Thank you, Mr. Dondorfer. On Friday,

September 18th, at 8:00 a.m., there will be a JEDD meeting 1 here at Town Hall. 2 On Saturday, September 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 3 12:00 p.m., Shred Day, with the COVID-19 guidelines, here at 4 Town Hall Campus. Mr. Rose just went over those and I believe 5 they'll also be posted on the website. 6 MR. ROSE: Correct. 7 MS. DAWSON: On Friday, October 2, at 9:00 a.m., 8 staff meeting in the conference room at Town Hall. 9 10 Tuesday, October 6th, at 7:00 p.m., Zoning Commission meeting here at Town Hall. 11 12 There is also going to be a candidates forum to be recorded with no audience. A videotape will be available to 13 14 the public. And then on Wednesday, October 7th, at 6:30 p.m., 15 trustee office hours in the conference room; 7:30 p.m., 16 trustees meeting at Town Hall. 17 18 CHAIRMAN DONDORFER: Thank you. And thank everyone 19 for joining us this evening at the trustee meeting and we look 20 forward to our grocery store here in the near future. 21 everybody stay safe and thank you for joining us. That 22 concludes our meeting this evening. We're adjourned. 23 (Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 24 8:30 p.m.) 25 26 27 28 29 30

STATE OF OHIO 1 CERTIFICATE COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA 2) I, Melinda A. Melton, Registered Professional 3 Reporter, a notary public within and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that, to the best of my ability, the foregoing proceeding extension reduced by me to stenotype shorthand, subsequently 5 transcribed into typewritten manuscript; and that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of said 6 proceedings so taken as aforesaid. 7 I do further certify that this proceeding took place at the time and place as specified in the foregoing 8 caption and extension completed without adjournment. 9 I do further certify that I am not a friend, relative, or counsel for any party or otherwise interested 10 in the outcome of these proceedings. 11 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office this 22nd day of September 2020. 13 14 15 16 Melinda A. Melton 17 Melinda A. Melton Registered Professional Reporter 18 Notary Public within and for the 19 State of Ohio My Commission Expires: 20 February 4, 2023 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30