1	STATE OF NEW JERSEY LOCAL FINANCE BOARD MEETING
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4	DATE - Wednesday, May 11, 2016
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6	LOCATION - Department of Community Affairs Conference Room #129/235A 101 South Broad Street Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0803
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13	BOARD MEMBERS:
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15	TIMOTHY J. CUNNINGHAM, CHAIRMAN
16	PATRICIA PARKIN MCNAMARA, EXEC. SECRETARY
17	FRANCIS BLEE
18	TED LIGHT
19	IDIDA RODRIGUEZ
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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning. We will

- 2 reconvene the meeting. The meeting was already
- 3 open to the public in a previous session, so we
- 4 can resume. We have a pretty robust agenda today.
- 5 Although, I should note for the record that we
- 6 probably had at least 10 or 12 applications that
- 7 were vetted by staff and did not make it to the
- 8 agenda. So I want to dispatch of a couple of
- 9 things quickly.
- 10 We have two applications on the consent
- 11 agenda arising out of Gloucester County
- 12 Improvement Authority. Both of them are proposed
- 13 project refundings. They would only be commenced
- if the savings were in excess of three percent.
- 15 Right now their current refundings that show
- 16 present value savings of over 7 and a quarter
- percent, almost \$400,000 in one case and double
- 18 savings at that. The second is an advance
- 19 refunding, which would save 4.8 percent present
- value and over \$500,000. So these matters were
- 21 put on consent agenda, and I would ask the Board
- 22 for a motion and a second.
- MR. BLEE: Motion.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Motion, Mr. Blee.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Second.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Second, Ms. Rodriguez.

- 2 Roll call, please, Pat.
- 3 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 6 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 8 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Notice, Mr. Light is
- 12 sitting over there, and it through me off.
- We have one other application to be
- 14 considered on a consent agenda. And that's Wall
- 15 Township Fire District Number 2. Again, this is a
- 16 refunding in the amount of 2.6 million that would
- only proceed if the savings would have exceeded
- 18 three percent. This is an advance refunding that
- 19 right now shows savings of over five percent. It
- 20 doesn't extend any maturities and is level
- 21 savings, so Board's division staff has recommended
- 22 it. And in this case I would again ask for a
- 23 motion and a second motion.
- MR. BLEE: Motion.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Second.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Rodriguez and Mr.

- 2 Blee. Roll call, please.
- 3 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 6 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 8 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: So the first applicant to
- 12 appear today is Buena Fire District Number 1.
- So, Mr. Braslow, would you and your
- 14 colleague, please, introduce yourself to the
- 15 reporter, and assuming your colleague is not
- 16 Counsel, please be sworn in.
- MR. BRASLOW: Sure. Richard Braslow,
- 18 representing the fire district.
- MR. BURSHTIN: Michael L. Burshtin, fire
- 20 commissioner and secretary. B-u-r-s-h-t-i-n.

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- 22 MICHAEL L. BURSHTIN,
- 23 Having been first duly sworn, was examined and
- 24 testified as follows:
- MR. BRASLOW: This is an application

1 concerning a lease purchase of a fire truck. The

- 2 fire district secured the approval from the legal
- 3 voters at the February 20th, 2016, election. It
- 4 was to buy a tanker pumper in an amount not
- 5 exceeding \$450,000. The proposed purchase would
- 6 be with Rosenbauer for an amount of \$370,088. The
- 7 financing proposed would be over a period of eight
- 8 years. The fire district did send ten bid
- 9 packages out on the financing. Did receive bids.
- 10 The low bid was Municipal Asset Management of 2.49
- 11 percent over a period of eight years. And the
- 12 fire truck being replaced is a 1991 tanker, which
- 13 will be disposed of in accordance with statute and
- 14 being replaced with this new proposed truck.
- 15 Those are the highlights of the application. I
- don't know if there are any questions.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: There is one. We are
- 18 going to hear this from a couple of the fire
- 19 district applications today. So because the
- 20 referendum or the matter went before the public in
- 21 2016 and the Applicant is in front of the Board in
- 22 2016, it causes issue with the statutory language
- that refers to revenue for fire district purpose
- 24 limitations. And IN NJSA 40 A 14 84, the last
- 25 sentence says, "the amount so voted for shall be

1 included in the next succeeding annual budget of

- 2 the fire district." So the question before the
- 3 applicant today is will any of the funding be
- 4 expended during the 2016 budget or will this be a
- 5 2017 expense?
- 6 MR. BRASLOW: And let me say, I totally
- 7 recognize this issue. And it's one of the reasons
- 8 we always do lease purchasing. In this particular
- 9 case there, A, is no down payment. B, there is no
- 10 money in the 2016 budget that was even allotted
- 11 for a payment. If you look at the amortization
- 12 schedule, the lease purchase is always a year
- 13 after. So the first payment will not be until
- 14 2017. And I also will note, this fire district is
- going to be making a \$200,000 payment towards
- 16 principal next year. The reason it was not in
- their 2016 budget, they had not envisioned the
- 18 payment. So it's going to be in next year's
- 19 budget as a debt payment. So the answer to the
- 20 question is, I totally recognize the issue, and
- there will be no payment on the debt until 2017.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: And I do want to say that
- 23 the executive summary in this application was
- 24 particularly strong explaining what a pumper is
- 25 and why the additional capacity and the additional

1 flow rate is necessary for this district. Again,

- 2 I remain disappointed that only 11 people came out
- 3 in the vote. I think that is indicative of some
- 4 of the problem we have with fire district
- 5 elections.
- And so the question is being raised on
- 7 the amortization schedule. We have \$50,000 in
- 8 that -- never mind. We will leave it at that.
- 9 So, again, I have no questions. Just whether any
- of the board members have questions. Hearing
- 11 none, then I would ask for a motion to second.
- 12 Oh. Mr. Blee?
- 13 MR. BLEE: One question. Appreciate
- 14 that you got four bids on the financing. How
- about on the actual pumper?
- MR. BRASLOW: HGAC. Done through the
- 17 Houston Galveston Purchasing Program. Yes.
- MR. LIGHT: So move the application.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Light moves.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: I'll second.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Ms. Rodriguez seconds.
- 22 Roll call.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?

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1 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
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- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 3 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 4 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- 5 MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.
- 7 MR. BRASLOW: As long as I'm sitting
- 8 here, can I go to my next one? I have you listed
- 9 two in between.
- 10 MR. CHAIRMAN: Who is your next one? As
- long as you're at the table, we'll go slightly out
- 12 of order.
- MR. BRASLOW: Thank you.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: And we will go to Middle
- 15 Township Fire District Number 4.
- So, Mr. Braslow, would you make your
- 17 colleague is introduced and sworn,
- MR. STACKHOUSE: I'm Joe Stackhouse from
- 19 the fire district. S-t-a-c-k-h-o-u-s-e.
- 20 MR. BRASLOW: Richard Braslow
- 21 representing the fire district. This also is a
- 22 proposed lease purchase of a fire truck. It is
- going to be replacing a 1997 pumper. The pumper
- 24 needs to be replaced because of its age and the
- 25 fact that there are significant repair issues with

1 the truck. It's ending up costing the district

- 2 quite a bit for the repair issues; therefore, the
- 3 desire for the new truck. Again, this is an HGAC
- 4 purchase through the Houston Galveston cooperative
- 5 purchasing program. The voters approved not to
- 6 exceed 450 for the truck purchase. The financing
- 7 would be 4 47 4. It would be over a ten-year
- 8 period.
- 9 We did send out a number of bids. Eight
- 10 bid packages and five bids were received. And,
- 11 again, the low bid was municipal asset at 2.44
- 12 percent. Mr. Director, should I address some of
- 13 the issues you asked me just to put them on the
- 14 record, which I will be happy to do?
- THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. I would ask,
- 16 specifically, if you would address, first, the
- voting issue in terms of the two elections within
- 18 two days of each other?
- MR. BRASLOW: Exactly. The only way I
- 20 can answer that for the record and being totally
- 21 honest was that the district did not have the
- 22 appropriate statutory notices prepared to have put
- 23 this issue on the ballot. Having said that, I can
- 24 also say that in this case they went, I think,
- 25 well beyond what the statute calls for in terms of

where they posted the notices. And they got more

- 2 people to vote at the special capital meeting then
- 3 they do normally in the regular election. I fully
- 4 appreciate your comment, though, about the
- 5 election date. But that would be my answer for
- 6 the record. They just weren't able to comply with
- 7 the statutory notices to get it with the regular
- 8 ballot.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Not a great answer, but
- 10 if that is the answer --
- MR. BRASLOW: I acknowledge that. But
- 12 that is the truthful answer, so --
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: That's fine.
- 14 All right. So then I would like to move
- into the next issue. So, Mr. Braslow, if I can
- just maybe ask you, if I can frame it and ask you
- 17 to then comment on it. So the public question
- 18 that did occur, the vote was held on February 22nd
- 19 of '16. And then --
- MR. BRASLOW: Right.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: And then the application
- 22 in front of me says that the delivery may actually
- occur in '16, and we had something -- and we're
- looking for it, but somewhere along the way the
- 25 staff was under the distinct impression that a

1 contract was executed, meaning, that the Board's

- 2 vote today was largely or potentially, you know, a
- 3 formality. So could you, please, address that for
- 4 the record, as well?
- 5 MR. BRASLOW: I will. The first thing I
- 6 will tell you, as the attorney for the district, I
- 7 would not permit that. I remember having dialogue
- 8 with a number of the commissioners and, clearly,
- 9 indicating that a contingency for doing any formal
- 10 award or any formal contract would be the positive
- 11 findings from the local finance board. So I can
- 12 sit here and represent to the Board that, to my
- 13 knowledge, there is no contract. I think I would
- 14 know about it. The contract has not been awarded;
- nor, has there been any contract signed.
- Also, too, if I may, Mr. Director, to
- get to the issues you raised before, again, there
- is no down payment. There is no payment in 2016.
- 19 And the first debt payment will be in 2017 to just
- 20 address the issue you raised earlier to the other
- 21 application.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. With those
- 23 representations, I think that answers the
- 24 questions I had on this application. Any other
- 25 members of the Board have questions? Hearing

1 none, then I would ask for a motion and a second?

- 2 MR. BLEE: Motion.
- 3 MR. LIGHT: Second.
- 4 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Roll call, please.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 6 MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 8 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 11 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
- 14 We'll return then to Franklin Township District
- 15 Number 4. Good morning.
- MR. PAUL: Good morning. Edward F.
- 17 Paul, Jr., RMA, representing Franklin Township
- 18 Fire District Number 4 and Ball Buckley Seher.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Would you kindly be
- 20 sworn.
- 21 EDWARD F. PAUL, JR.,
- 22 Having been first duly sworn, was examined and
- 23 testified as follows:
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. First issue I
- 25 have, I have two actions before you today. The

first is Franklin Township Fire District Number 4,

- 2 which is a lease purchase agreement for
- 3 replacement of a 23 year old heavy rescue vehicle.
- 4 The District has opted to use HGAC for this
- 5 purchase in a total of \$833,000. The voters
- 6 approved \$850,000 at the February 2016 election.
- 7 We solicited quotations for the financing in this
- 8 project. Received four quotations back. The
- 9 lowest being leasing two of Florida with a rate of
- 10 2.35 percent. Again, can't answer to your
- 11 question. There is nothing in the 2016 budget for
- 12 this purchase. The lease is structured in such a
- way that the first payment is due in 2017 and will
- 14 be funded from reserved and unreserved funds. And
- 15 that the lease payments, themselves, will kick in
- in 2018, and, basically, come from funds
- 17 previously being used for a lease which is paid
- off in 2017. So it will have no technical aspect
- 19 of increasing the tax for the actual acquisition
- 20 of this piece of equipment.
- 21 All right. So this purchase is not
- 22 expected to have any effect on the tax rate?
- MR. PAUL: No.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Passed by a vote of 45 or
- 25 43 to zero? And, again, as you mentioned, going

1 through the Houston Galveston Co-Op, no one from

- 2 the district has joined you today?
- MR. PAUL: No, they haven't.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I assume you will
- 5 let them know that their website is not in
- 6 compliance in terms of the information you were
- 7 supposed to post?
- 8 MR. PAUL: I spoke to the district
- 9 secretary right after I received the notices. He
- 10 has at this point updated the 2013 and '14
- 11 budgets. '14 and '15 budgets were already
- 12 updated. Their audit currently is in draft format
- 13 for 2015. I spoke to him yesterday via E-mail,
- 14 and would expect that he finish his review and we
- 15 would expect it by the end of this week, the
- 16 beginning of next week. That audit will be issued
- in final form.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Any questions from
- 19 the Board? Take a motion in a second.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Motion.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Is there a second?
- MR. BLEE: Second.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Second, Mr. Blee.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Roll call, please.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?

- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 3 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 4 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 5 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 6 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- 7 MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: You are representing
- 9 Franklin Fire District 3, as well.
- 10 MR. PAUL: Yes.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: So as you're already
- 12 sworn, we can take testimony on that matter. So I
- 13 will let you introduce the application, and then I
- do have some questions on this one.
- MR. PAUL: Yes. This is again a
- 16 replacement of a 26 year old pumper, fire
- 17 apparatus, with a pumper -- a rescue pumper
- 18 apparatus. Again, it's being purchased under the
- 19 HGAC, and at a cost of \$616,000. I don't have the
- 20 numbers off the top of my head. I know it's in
- that range. With the additional monies of \$34,000
- 22 being used to purchase needed new equipment for
- 23 this piece of equipment apparatus. We have last
- 24 night accepted quotations for the equipment. And
- 25 they didn't get those prices to me today, because

- 1 I didn't attend last night's meeting. We have
- 2 solicited quotations, received three quotations
- 3 back for the financing. Again, Leasing Two from
- 4 Florida was the low bidder at 2.35 percent. And
- 5 this was approved by the voters in 2015. The down
- 6 payment is in the 2016 budget, and the balance
- 7 will be funded on a month-to-year lease. Again,
- 8 it will be first payments commencing in 2017.
- 9 Again, from leases which have gone out often in
- 10 the last couple of years, those funds will then
- 11 became available to also pay the new lease and
- 12 retain the lower and not cause any tax increase.
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. The issue I have
- with this application is that on October 13th of
- 15 '15 the fire district entered into a contract with
- 16 the Houston Galveston Co-Op for this pumper. So,
- 17 now, am I correct, then, that the fire district
- 18 Number 3 of Franklin is obligated to accept
- 19 delivery of this vehicle regardless of what the
- 20 board chooses to do today with this application.
- MR. PAUL: I would say, yes, sir. But I
- 22 was always under the impression that the Board's
- 23 approval was necessary for the financing. Not
- 24 necessarily for the apparatus.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: So if I don't approve the

1 financing, then what would that do to the

- 2 district?
- 3 MR. PAUL: Well, then, we would have to
- 4 go back and find new financing that would meet the
- 5 Board's approval.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Your client didn't bother
- 7 to even show up today to address the issues before
- 8 the Board?
- 9 MR. PAUL: I in the past have always
- 10 represented my clients. They are all part-time
- 11 working people.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: We've seen every other
- 13 fire district come in front of this Board and most
- in uniform, come in front of this Board and be
- able to answer questions. So now we're in the
- 16 unenviable position of having a fire truck that
- was ordered from a company that the district has
- 18 to take delivery of. And if we don't accept the
- 19 terms of the financing, then that puts, frankly,
- 20 the tax payors of that fire district in a very
- 21 disadvantageous position. I don't know what the
- 22 solution that you would proffer is.
- 23 MR. PAUL: Again, I apologize. You
- 24 know, in the past I've come before this Board and
- 25 never been questioned on having somebody from the

1 fire district attend with me. I would have had

- 2 somebody take time off from work in order to come
- 3 here if it had been, you know, in the past.
- 4 MR. LIGHT: Mr. Chairman, can I make a
- 5 suggestion that we postpone this until next month.
- 6 MR. PAUL: The only thing I would say to
- 7 you is, we have -- we have the pricing held on
- 8 this up until the end of this month on the leasing
- 9 quotation.
- 10 MR. LIGHT: Well, can you come up with a
- 11 better suggestion than the one I was going to try
- 12 to suggest to the Chair.
- MR. PAUL: No. I'm only offering what I
- 14 have. I would have to go back then and re-bid
- 15 these -- I would think I would have to go back and
- 16 re-bid these quotes.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: So there was a \$175,000
- 18 payment made?
- MR. PAUL: Yes. No. That payment has
- 20 not been paid. That payment will be made upon
- 21 delivery.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: And maybe I'm confused by
- your prior testimony. So is that in the 2016
- 24 budget?
- MR. PAUL: Yes, it is.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: The referendum was in '15

- 2 and --
- MR. PAUL: The referendum was in '15.
- 4 We ordered the truck in '15. The first payment,
- 5 which is the down payment, is due upon delivery of
- 6 the truck in 2016.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: And what proceeds? Are
- 8 they coming out of the proceeds of the financing
- 9 or are they coming out of --
- 10 MR. PAUL: They're coming out of
- 11 reserved and unreserved funds.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Staff requested a copy of
- 13 the contract. Did we get a copy of the contract?
- MR. PAUL: I'm pretty sure I sent one up
- 15 with it.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: It wasn't in my package.
- MR. PAUL: This is the packet that I
- 18 sent and here is the contract that was attached to
- 19 it, the reply.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: What I am going to do is
- 21 I'm going to table this application while we
- 22 confirm with staff that we received that. And
- then we can have you come back up and decide what
- 24 to do with formal action on it. So I would ask
- you to just hang tight. We'll table Franklin Fire

- 1 District Number 4.
- 2 MR. LIGHT: 3.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: 3. Do we have a copy?
- 4 So, Mr. Paul, I ask you to come back up
- 5 then. We do, in fact, have it. So we do have a
- 6 copy of the contract as requested. It wasn't
- 7 included in the application. So we're left with
- 8 the issue that the fact is that the contract was
- 9 executed prior to the Board's approval of the
- 10 financing. So, as I said, the Board is in an
- 11 awkward position now. I don't know how to --
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: I have a concern. We're
- 13 setting a precedent here that fire districts can
- just go out and negotiate contracts, sign
- 15 contracts, order equipment apparatuses and then
- 16 come here like we're an after-thought. And I
- don't think that -- we're not established to do
- 18 that. My inclination, of course, today is you
- 19 know not to vote no on this because of the way,
- you know, the procedure, how this took place. I
- 21 hate to set a precedent here where other fire
- 22 districts up and down the State can think they can
- do this and come to us afterwards.
- MR. PAUL: My question would be to the
- 25 Board, is if -- and I have had some concern

1 expressed to me over the pre-payment system that's

- 2 currently being used as we use them. In doing
- 3 this, in this contract, if we were to sign a
- 4 contract last year and negotiate a lease at that
- 5 point in time, we would be negotiating a year, at
- 6 least, a year before we're even looking to
- 7 purchase a truck. A year before we're expecting
- 8 to make any payments on that truck.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: This is the --
- 10 MR. PAUL: And it's a concern. It's an
- issue as to whether -- at point in time that the
- 12 district was looking at this purchase and looking
- 13 at the HGAC at the time there was a 17 percent
- 14 increase coming down -- or I'm sorry -- a three
- 15 percent increase coming down in the cost of the
- truck, because at that time we weighed waiting
- 17 until the first of the year and ordering the truck
- 18 with the pre-payment discount or taking --
- 19 ordering the truck in October of last year saving
- 20 the three percent on the cost of the truck. And
- 21 so the District did do due diligence in making
- 22 sure that they were getting the best possible
- 23 price on the truck.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: So the district signed a
- 25 contract on October 15th, and you're in front of

- 1 the Board in May of '16. And --
- 2 MR. PAUL: Right.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: And maybe you tried to
- 4 get on the agenda for April. But still, I mean,
- 5 that's a significant amount of time. I share
- 6 Ms. Rodriguez' concern, that the Board, in
- 7 essence, is an afterthought at this point.
- 8 MR. PAUL: Well, again, my, my thinking
- 9 and what I was working under the impression was
- 10 that the Board was approving financing, not
- 11 approving purchase of the apparatus. The voters
- 12 had already approved purchase of the apparatus.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: But how do you purchase
- 14 an apparatus without financing?
- MR. PAUL: Because there is no -- there
- was no payments due until June of 2016.
- 17 MS. RODRIGUEZ: I understand what you're
- 18 saying. If this isn't approved and you don't have
- 19 financial approval, and you have to receive the
- 20 apparatus.
- 21 MR. PAUL: Then we cannot accept the
- 22 apparatus.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Exactly. So that's why
- you come here and you cover the finance before all
- of this happens, because you would be, you know --

- 1 the district would be stuck.
- 2 MR. PAUL: And, again, I apologize for
- 3 that. It's just in my -- again, I've been doing
- 4 this for 40 years as an accountant.
- 5 MR. LIGHT: Well, then, you should know
- 6 better. Excuse me.
- 7 MR. PAUL: Okay. But I've always been
- 8 told that the Board is approving financing, not
- 9 approving the purchase of the vehicle.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: We are. That's fine.
- 11 I'll stipulate to that. We're approving the
- 12 financing today.
- MR. PAUL: Right. And --
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: But we're approving
- 15 financing for something that was already
- 16 purchased, and it really renders our evaluation of
- 17 the financing moot. And I think that is the point
- 18 that Ms. Rodriguez raised very clearly.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: That's my point.
- 20 MR. PAUL: But I didn't know. At the
- 21 point in I was not aware that the Board wanted
- 22 approved financing which is almost eight months,
- 23 ten months in advance. And I would have to sign a
- 24 contract ten months ago when I would have the
- 25 money sitting in an escrow account someplace for

- 1 ten months.
- 2 MR. CHAIRMAN: Apparently, this is the
- 3 only district we've had this issue with, because
- 4 in my tenure on the Board --
- 5 MS. RODRIGUEZ: I've never seen this
- 6 before.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: -- hasn't been a problem
- 8 for anyone else.
- 9 MR. PAUL: I have done this in the past.
- 10 And, again, it's not under your tenure as a Board,
- 11 but I have done this in the past. And a lot of it
- 12 has to do now, what a lot of districts today are
- 13 purchasing under the chassis -- under the
- 14 pre-payment status where they're paying for an
- apparatus when they order it; much the same way
- 16 District 4 is doing.
- 17 In this case they felt that it was more
- 18 beneficial to them to save the three percent cost
- of the truck by ordering it prior to an increase
- 20 then it was to do -- go with the chassis
- 21 pre-payment.
- MR. LIGHT: Sir, I respect what you're
- 23 saying, but if that was the case, certainly, if
- this occurred in October, you could have called
- 25 the director in November, December, February, over

- 1 six months.
- MR. PAUL: Again, I was working with,
- 3 with my past experience in having done these
- 4 deals.
- 5 MS. RODRIGUEZ: You are correct. You've
- 6 had your own experience. But I think the Director
- 7 is probably going to from here on in send a
- 8 message that from here on in to tell your -- the
- 9 districts that you represent when they come here,
- 10 they're going to have a problem, because we're not
- 11 going to --
- MR. PAUL: And I will be honest with
- 13 you. A few years ago I had a problem with the
- 14 method that the Director wished -- talked about
- with bidding. I immediately left this meeting,
- went back to my districts and informed them of the
- 17 Director's decision, and we followed that ruling
- from that point on. I know no longer allow them
- just to advertise when they're going into
- 20 advertising for bids. I now make them send out
- 21 copies, other proposals to all of the vendors in
- 22 the area as per the Director's --
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Paul, if we took a
- vote today for positive findings and it failed, do
- you think that because of the application was

1 heard, do you think that your client would still

- 2 be able to proceed with the transaction?
- MR. PAUL: If we, what, sir?
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: If we put a motion up
- 5 under 40 A 5 86 for positive findings and that
- 6 motion failed, would your client still be able to
- 7 go to the co-op, and as long as you satisfied your
- 8 statutory requirement to come in front of this
- 9 Board, do you still think the transaction would be
- 10 able to -- would your client still be able to
- 11 proceed with the transaction.
- MR. PAUL: As far as the transaction
- 13 with HGAC, I say yes. As far as them not being
- 14 able to pay for the apparatus, we would have to
- defer acceptance of the apparatus until I could
- get this Board's approval.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: All right. I think in
- 18 this instance, the Board is going to have to take
- 19 executive session to discuss it. I want to save
- that executive session, because we do have other
- 21 applicants who are here. So rather than go into
- 22 executive session now, I would ask you to, you
- 23 know, please, bear with us. We're going to go
- through the rest of the agenda. Then we can meet
- 25 privately and have a conversation how to best

- 1 proceed with this, because I understand the
- 2 difficulty that it represents to your client. And
- 3 I also do appreciate your experience and tenure in
- 4 front of the Board. So we are going to table
- 5 Franklin District Fire District Number 3 for now.
- 6 We will then move to Lower Township Fire District
- 7 Number 3.
- 8 Okay. Would you guys, please, introduce
- 9 yourself to the reporter, and those that are not
- 10 Counsel will be sworn in?
- 11 MR. WINITSKY: Jeff Winitsky, Parker,
- 12 McCay, Bond Counsel to the Fire District.
- MR. VAN MOURIK: Jeff Van Mourik,
- 14 Chairman Commissioner. V-a-n Capital M,
- 15 o-u-r-i-k.
- MR. COSTELLO: Leon Costello, auditor
- 17 for the District.
- 18 LEON COSTELLO & JEFF VAN MOURIK,
- 19 Having been first duly sworn, were examined and
- 20 testified as follows:
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Counsel, how are you?
- MR. WINITSKY: Very well. Thank you.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to introduce
- the application to the Board?
- MR. WINITSKY: Yes. We're here on

1 behalf of the Lower Township Fire District Number

- 2 3. We're seeking positive findings in accordance
- 3 with NJSA 48 5 6 to issue up to 1.3 million
- 4 dollars of its bonds to finance the cost of a
- 5 capital improvement project consisting of much
- 6 needed improvements to the District's Erma
- 7 Volunteer Fire Station. In particular, the
- 8 improvements include renovations, replacement of
- 9 the roof, doors, engine bay doors, lighting,
- 10 utility and the like. The building is over 21
- 11 years old, so there is lot to be done.
- The fire district originally received
- 13 approval from it's voters to issue up to
- \$2,000,000 worth of bonds. They're actually only
- going to need 1.3 million dollars worth of bonds
- 16 given the very low bids that they got back for
- 17 purposes of completing construction, which is
- 18 great. The election occurred in 2013. The fire
- 19 district has actually appeared before the Board, I
- 20 can, twice since then. We originally appeared, it
- 21 was packaged with the fire apparatus, which was
- 22 subsequently leased, which the district now has.
- 23 And there was some questions that the Board has
- had in the intervening period with respect to
- ownership of the land and ownership of the

- 1 building, all of which, I think, have been
- 2 resolved to your satisfaction between now and
- 3 then.
- 4 The vote was -- we would a little bit
- 5 more than the last. We had 50 some votes, 73
- 6 percent approval rate for the project. We intend
- 7 to do conforming maturity schedule with respect to
- 8 the bonds over 12 years. We also expect to
- 9 privately place the bonds, which should give us
- 10 some pretty good cost savings given the size. So
- if you have any additional questions related to
- 12 the application, we're here to answer those.
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: We do. Thank you.
- 14 First, I would just ask the district to speak a
- 15 little bit about the need and the types of
- 16 renovations that are going to be undertaken.
- MR. VAN MOURIK: We're replacing the
- 18 roof because the roof is leaking. So we're going
- 19 to replace the roof. It's over 21 years old.
- This building was built in '95. The sprinkler
- 21 system, we've made major repairs to the sprinkler
- 22 system, and it was recommended to replace it,
- 23 which is a major factor. The heating system, the
- 24 hot water heaters, everything is original and
- 25 we're replacing them. There is soffit material

1 that's all deteriorating. We're in a salt water

- 2 environment right next to the seashore down there.
- 3 So we're replacing the soffit as we're doing the
- 4 work.
- 5 The lighting, we're putting in a more
- 6 modern lighting system. 21 years ago it was all
- 7 fluorescents and old things. So we're going all
- 8 LED lighting throughout the entire complex, which
- 9 is a cost savings for the district over the long
- 10 haul. Replacing the doors, the steel doors are
- 11 rusting out. The hinges are flexing and bending.
- 12 Nothing is fitting together the way it was when it
- 13 was new.
- And this is, basically, an upgrade to
- the building and remodeling and refurbishing the
- 16 building to bring it back up to an efficient
- 17 standard.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: I live in a salt water
- 19 environment, as well, so ...
- 20 But I just wanted to get on the record
- 21 that the improvements that are being done are
- 22 utilitarian in nature. There is not new space,
- 23 new --
- MR. VAN MOURIK: No.
- THE CHAIRMAN: No?

1 MR. VAN MOURIK: We're not making any

- 2 additions to the building, and we're not
- 3 reconfiguring the building in any way, shape or
- 4 size or anything inside.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: I guess, the one, I
- 6 wouldn't necessarily call it a concern. And it is
- 7 not something we would note in the resolution, but
- 8 if it's been known for quite a while that the
- 9 improvements have been needed and there kind of
- 10 wasn't any money budgeted short of the financing,
- is not money being put down on that, and that was
- 12 something when I read through the application. It
- 13 kind of struck me, because it is an older
- 14 building. You know, one might have thought that
- there would have been a little bit of pre-planning
- in the budget for those types of expenses.
- MR. VAN MOURIK: We just paid off the
- 18 bond on the original building, like, a year and a
- 19 half, I think, two years ago we paid off the bond.
- 20 And we've putting that bond money away for
- 21 improvements to the building, knowing that we were
- going to do a bond. We were also going to be
- using some of that funds if we have anything else
- 24 that we find that needs to be repaired on the
- 25 building. And there won't be any effect on the

tax rate, because that -- we're going to roll that

- into our payment for the bond. That money that we
- 3 were using.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: I understand. Two bids
- 5 were sought. And I note that there were very,
- 6 very close in range, but nevertheless, the
- 7 district is going with one that is slightly more
- 8 expensive, by less than \$20,000. And I was just
- 9 hoping that you could explain why more expensive.
- 10 MR. VAN MOURIK: If I remember
- 11 correctly, the bidder for number -- that had the
- lower price did not enter an amount in. He put no
- 13 bid in there. And when we asked him a question
- 14 about that, on an option that we had in there that
- was also supposed to be part of the bid package,
- 16 he didn't place a price on it. And he said no
- 17 bid. And our attorney disqualified that bid.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: So it wasn't a compliant
- 19 response?
- 20 MR. VAN MOURIK: Right. It wasn't
- 21 compliant.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Jeff, just one other
- 23 technical question. You already mentioned that
- two million was initially approved by the voters.
- 25 And there is going to be 700,000, so the applicant

1 would not anticipate coming or coming back or

- 2 doing anything else with that remaining capacity?
- 3 MR. WINITSKY: No. This ties off the
- 4 project.
- 5 MR. CHAIRMAN: Any other questions from
- 6 the Board?
- 7 MS. RODRIGUEZ: No.
- 8 MR. BLEE: No.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Motion?
- 10 Okay. Second?
- 11 MR. LIGHT: Second.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Second, Mr. Light.
- 13 Roll call, please.
- 14 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 16 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- MR. WINITSKY: Thank you very much.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: The Borough of
- 24 Lindenwold.
- Good morning.

- 1 MR. CAPOZZI: Good morning.
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Kindly introduce
- 3 yourselves for the record. And those that aren't
- 4 Counsel can be sworn in.
- 5 MR. CAPOZZI: David Capozzi, Solicitor
- for the Borough of Lindenwold.
- 7 MS. THOMPSON: Dawn Thompson, business
- 8 administrator and chief financial officer.
- 9 MR. ROCHE: Richard Roche, Mayor.
- 10 DAWN THOMPSON & RICHARD ROCHE,
- 11 Having been first duly sworn, were examined and
- 12 testified as follows:
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: So you're here before the
- 14 Board today for a cap waiver?
- MR. CAPOZZI: Yes.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Would you kindly explain
- 17 to the Board, in general terms, the application
- 18 and just a couple of questions for you.
- MR. CAPOZZI: Very good. This is an
- 20 assumption of the solid waste utility services
- 21 where the Borough of Lindenwold was -- solid waste
- 22 collection and disposal services through a solid
- 23 waste utility. The utility had a low collection
- rate. Usually it was coming in about 70 percent,
- 25 and when we went out to tax sale no one was really

interested in purchasing them. In order -- in

- 2 December of last year, the Borough chose to
- 3 disband and dissolve the solid waste utility.
- 4 What we're seeking to do is to transfer the costs
- 5 of the solid waste collection and disposal from
- 6 the utility to the general account, which is why
- 7 we're here seeking a waiver -- I'm sorry -- a cap
- 8 based adjustment with respect to those costs.
- 9 The cost that we're seeking that we're
- seeking to transfer is the number of \$941,457.
- 11 Now, in discussions with the auditors, the
- 12 governing body was able to determine that by
- 13 transferring the service back to the general
- 14 account, and, also, by engaging in in-house solid
- 15 waste collection and disposal, we were able to
- 16 save the average home -- the average value of the
- home in Lindenwold is \$96,437. That was being
- 18 charged \$120 per year for the utility. We are
- 19 going to take away the \$120 charge per year, now
- 20 that it's back in the tax base. And the actual
- 21 charge to the average homeowner now will be \$84
- 22 per unit, which would effectuate a tax savings,
- actually, in the amount of \$36. We're here
- seeking the Board's approval and permission to
- 25 have the cap base adjustment.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I guess the only

- 2 thing that struck me -- and I know it struck some
- 3 of the staff that reviewed it as well, is that the
- 4 solid waste utility was only set up in '11, and
- 5 the first budget year was '12. So it's a pretty
- 6 quick turn around that this would be set up and
- 7 then immediately -- not immediately, about within
- 8 a matter of, you know, three years, the reverse
- 9 and then go back to the municipal budget. And I
- 10 think that the Board would like to hear a little
- 11 bit about that process and that decision-making.
- MR. CAPOZZI: The solid waste utility --
- and I will defer the numbers to our business
- 14 administrator and CFO, was losing money just about
- 15 every year. We were having to pull money out of
- 16 the general account to continue funding it. It
- was supposed to be a self-funded utility.
- 18 However, as a result of multiple litigation with
- 19 several complexes, apartment complexes, in town
- 20 and as a result of low collections with the
- 21 residential homes, it just was not self-funding.
- 22 We attempted to sell the liens. Nobody wanted
- them. They were only \$120 that were going up to
- 24 tax sale. And as a result, the collection rates
- were coming in somewhere in the neighborhood of 70

1 percent per year, and we would have had to fund

- 2 that through the general account.
- 3 Is that a correct statement?
- 4 MS. THOMPSON: Yes.
- 5 MR. CAPOZZI: As a result of it losing
- 6 money every year, the Governing body decided to go
- 7 back to the drawing board and see if there was
- 8 another way that we could do this, because the
- 9 utility just didn't seem to be working out
- 10 properly.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: And that wasn't expected
- in 2012 when this utility was established?
- MS. THOMPSON: Well, I would say, in
- 14 2012 when it was established, the governing body
- wasn't really sure as to what the outcome was
- 16 going to be. Again, we had litigation which
- 17 prompted the decision to do a solid waste utility
- and to spread the costs amongst the entire
- 19 community. So based on the actual cost that we
- 20 received from the apartment complexes, because we
- 21 had to send out letters to get their actual cost
- of collection and what we were spending for the
- 23 residential, we were able to spread that over the
- number of units in town and came up with 120 per
- 25 unit for the whole community. And based on that

1 we were able to do, I think, the first year, it

- 2 was only half the collections, because it started
- 3 in, actually, in August. Although, the governing
- 4 body approved it in 2011, we didn't actually start
- 5 and include it in the budget until 2012. So we
- 6 only had half the year in 2012. And then in 2013,
- 7 the other half in addition to the portion for 2013
- 8 to give us a full year. But each year we have
- 9 just been having difficulty. And as of the end of
- 10 2015 we have receivables sitting on the books for
- 11 317,000. And we're having a tax sale today in
- 12 hopes of, you know, recouping some of that. But
- 13 at this point, for the past couple of years, we've
- 14 had to use monies from our current fund in order
- to help to support it. And the governing body
- just made the decision that they didn't want to
- 17 continue this undue burden to our tax payors,
- 18 because the tax payors were not only paying the
- 19 120 per unit for the solid waste utility. They
- were also supporting the solid waste utility
- 21 through their regular tax bill. So the most
- 22 prudent thing to do and the most fiscally
- 23 responsible thing to do was to dissolve it at this
- 24 point and to put it back into the overall tax
- 25 billing.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: So I think that your

- 2 solicitor made a good point, that at \$120, you're
- 3 not going to have a lot of interest from, you
- 4 know, those entities that come in and buy tax
- 5 liens. I guess the only other question I would
- 6 have is, what happens to those delinquencies once
- 7 the utility is dissolved.
- 8 MS. THOMPSON: We're still going to try
- 9 to collect on them.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: As obligations of the
- 11 municipality?
- MR. THOMPSON: Yes.
- MR. CAPOZZI: Receivables. Yes. We're
- 14 not liquidating them.
- MS. THOMPSON: Yes.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other questions?
- 17 Mayor, anything you wanted to add before we --
- MR. ROCHE: I was just concerned that
- 19 the tax payors were going to end up having to fund
- 20 this thing. And in order for them to make it
- 21 whole, we would have had to raise the bill to 150
- 22 to \$160 per household. When we did the numbers
- and figured it out, versus \$86, it wasn't hard to
- 24 decide.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: I imagine that also would

- 1 have increased the 70 percent --
- 2 MR. ROCHE: Exactly.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: -- rate of
- 4 non-collections to even higher.
- 5 MR. CAPOZZI: That's exactly what we
- 6 were thinking, as well.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: If there's no other
- 8 questions from the Board, then, I would ask for a
- 9 motion.
- MR. BLEE: Motion.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee, motion.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Second.
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Rodriguez with a
- 14 second. Roll call, please, Pat.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 17 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 19 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 21 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Borough of
- 24 Tuckerton.
- Good morning, Mr. Mayer.

1 MR. MAYER: How are you today? William

- 2 Mayer bond Counsel to the Borough of Tuckerton.
- 3 And with me is Jenny Gleghorn, administrator for
- 4 the Borough of Tuckerton.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: She needs to be sworn.

- JENNY E. GLEGHORN,
- 8 Having been first duly sworn, was examined and
- 9 testified as follows:
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: So we're getting a new
- 11 building?
- MR. MAYER: Getting a new municipal
- 13 complex at a surprisingly reasonable price, I
- 14 heard from staff. This is -- and I know you've
- done one of these before. I don't know how many
- 16 you've done.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Not too many.
- MR. MAYER: You did one in Beach Haven a
- 19 couple months back.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: That was the only other
- one was actually Beach Haven.
- MR. MAYER: And I saw that transcript.
- 23 And I might sound a lot like it.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Good. Because that one
- 25 passed.

1 MR. MAYER: It is EDA, NJ EDA Stronger

- 2 New Jersey Neighborhood Community Revitalization
- 3 Development and Public Improvement Program Loan.
- 4 I think that's the last time I am going to say
- 5 that.
- 6 So the story -- and I'll just try to
- 7 make it brief. It starts with Sandy. Tuckerton.
- 8 I'm sure the chairman knows where it is, but it is
- 9 across the Barnegat Bay. You got Holgate.
- 10 Holgate broke through. Tuckerton got flooded.
- 11 That was October of '12. November of '13 we
- prepared a bond ordinance for Tuckerton, 550,000,
- 13 22 5 down. 522,500 bonds and notes, and they
- 14 bought the property. In November of '16 we got
- 15 EDA commitment for this sort of strange, precise
- number of \$1,498,896. I can't read my own
- writing. 896.39. If it comes in there right,
- 18 I'll be amazed, but there it is. And they got a
- 19 dollar breakdown on it. It's a 30-year loan. Two
- years no principal and interest. Interest, when
- 21 it does start up in Year 3 is on the five-year
- 22 treasury rate, which checking this morning is
- 23 currently 1.2 percent. The interest resets in
- Years 10 to 20 and then 20 to 30, again, at the
- 25 five year treasury rate. Level principal payments

- 1 start in month 25.
- 2 Upon completion of the construction and
- 3 the issuance of a permanent CO, we will get over
- 4 that -- there is a 25 percent forgiveness totaling
- 5 \$374,000. 374,724.10. We're here to request two
- 6 things. One is a waiver of the down payment on
- 7 the \$976,396 bond, which that is the balance of
- 8 the loan amount. And for a non-conforming
- 9 maturity schedule on -- I'm not going to repeat.
- 10 We'll call it almost a million five loan. And
- 11 Jenny Gleghorn who is the administrator probably
- 12 knows more about the project and the details than
- 13 anybody, I suspect.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: So if I could just ask a
- 15 question to that point then. The total
- 16 construction costs are estimated at 741. And
- 17 within that number, that includes a ten percent
- 18 contingency. And my question to you would be, has
- 19 your engineer, any other professional, taken a
- look to see if they think that those construction
- 21 estimates are accurate? Do you feel confident
- 22 that you can build? I know you were kind enough
- 23 to send over the renderings. And I guess the
- 24 question would be, how confident are you that is
- enough money to do the job.

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1 MS. GLEGHORN: Pretty much 100 percent
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- 2 confident. Because I have an architect and I have
- 3 also Owen Little and Associates and Greg Curry
- 4 (ph). He is out with us working on the numbers,
- 5 and that's how this came about. So I'm pretty
- 6 close to being 100 accurate that we're going to
- 7 stay within that figure.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. As I told Beach
- 9 Haven, I live in Stafford. I live in Beach Haven
- 10 West, so I know very well what that area was like.
- 11 I've been in the Tuckerton municipal building
- 12 before many times in a previous life. But I know
- 13 your challenges down there. And as someone that
- 14 has worked or been involved with personally and
- professionally with the Sandy recovery, I really
- do wish Tuckerton the best of luck, as you bring
- your assets back up to the standard that your
- 18 staff and your tax payors deserve. And, again,
- 19 I'm happy that you know this media program could
- 20 be used for such purposes. I would ask that if
- 21 any of the Board members have any questions about
- 22 this project or want to know anything more about
- 23 the financing program or the building, itself. So
- I'll make a motion to approve this application,
- and I would ask for a second from one of my

- 1 colleagues.
- 2 MR. BLEE: Second.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee seconds. Roll
- 4 call, please.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 10 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 11 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- MR. CAPOZZI: Thank you very much.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: On the agenda listed next
- is the Borough of Mantoloking. Because of the
- 16 nature of the application, I waived an appearance,
- 17 and I will just read into the record.
- 18 What's being sought here is a, is a
- 19 waiver of down payment. The, the Borough is
- 20 undertaking a project, and they're expecting a
- 21 large portion of FEMA funds to reimburse. I
- 22 should note in a similar context as the previous
- 23 applicant, that the Borough's current business
- 24 operations are being conducted in a trailer, which
- 25 is certainly not conducive to the needs. And I

- 1 believe that this particular project were
- 2 improvements -- was this the police station, Pat?
- 3 This is the municipal building. So, again,
- 4 because this was Sandy damage, and it's expected
- 5 that, you know, FEMA funds in the amount of 1.1
- 6 million dollars would be received, and the
- 7 application was merely for the waiver of the down
- 8 payment, which I thought was prudent, given the
- 9 fact that the ratable base hasn't fully recovered,
- 10 I thought we could waive the appearance and
- 11 dispatch of this ourselves. And unless any -- the
- 12 Board has any questions for me, I would make a
- motion to approve a 5.5 million dollar proposed
- 14 waiver of down payment. And I would ask for a
- 15 second.
- MR. BLEE: Second.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee seconds. Roll
- 18 call.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 24 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.

1 MR. McMANIMON: If I can direct -- not

- 2 really a trailer. It is in a strip mall. Not in
- 3 a trailer.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Second floor --
- 5 MR. McMANIMON: No, no. I knew what you
- 6 were referring to. I wasn't going to present -- I
- 7 wanted to make sure the record was clear.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: I knew what Tuckerton was
- 9 doing.
- 10 MR. McMANIMON: Second floor of an
- 11 office complex, correct.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Likewise, because of the
- 13 Division's great involvement with the City of
- 14 Camden as the only municipality of the State under
- 15 the Mirror Act and the fact that we have a
- 16 transitional aid monitor assigned, I waived the
- appearance of the City of Camden today as they're
- looking for a motion to approve the adoption of a
- 19 bond ordinance pursuant to the qualified bond
- 20 program and then, likewise, were seeking a waiver
- of the down payment.
- The project here relates to a demolition
- 23 program that the Mayor is undertaken and is
- 24 seeking to -- that the demolition of a building
- 25 and structures, this a program that the division

1 staff has worked closely with the City on, and we

- 2 were well aware of this. And I should note that
- 3 we did receive a memo from the monitor, and that
- 4 was included in the Board's packages, explaining
- 5 our recommendation along with the local finance
- 6 Board's staff's report.
- 7 I can tell you, as someone that has
- 8 spent some time in the City of Camden, there are
- 9 an extraordinary number of abandoned, vacant
- 10 properties. They are deleterious and create
- issues for the law enforcement community. And the
- 12 division does support the Mayor's efforts to try
- 13 to clear them and improve their ultimate ratable
- 14 base. And that is the part of the transitional
- 15 recovery plan that the Mayor had submitted to the
- 16 Division as a requirement as for receiving
- 17 transitional aid. Because of our involvement with
- this program and the fact that it's a waiver of
- 19 down payment and qualified bonds to be issued, I
- 20 would just ask if anyone had questions.
- So I would make a motion to approve and
- 22 ask for a second.
- MR. BLEE: Second.
- MR. LIGHT: Second.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee was faster on

1 the draw. And we'll take a roll call, please.

- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 4 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 5 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 6 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 7 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 8 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- 9 MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Last evening I
- 11 received an E-mail from bond counsel to the next
- 12 applicant, the City of East Orange, advising that
- 13 because they were going through the Environmental
- 14 Infrastructure Trust, they were going to withdraw
- 15 the application. So that matter has come off the
- 16 agenda, which will now bring us to the City of
- 17 Trenton.
- 18 MR. McMANIMON: Thank you. For the
- 19 record, Ed McManimon from McManimon, Scotland and
- 20 Baumann, Janet Schoenhaar, who is the City's Chief
- 21 Financial Officer, and Neil Grossman who is the
- 22 financial advisor to the City. And I know they
- 23 have to be sworn in.
- JANET SCHOENHAAR AND NEIL GROSSMAN,
- 25 Having been first duly sworn, was examined and

- 1 testified as follows:
- 2 MR. McMANIMON: Just so that the record
- 3 is clear, our firm has been bond counsel to the
- 4 City of Trenton, I know, since this Board signs
- 5 off on changes. The City has hired Wilentz,
- 6 Goldman and Spitzer to replace our firm, so
- 7 technically they are the City's Bond Counsel. I
- 8 was asked to complete this matter before the
- 9 Board, so I am still representing the City, even
- 10 though they have replaced our firm. So if you
- just said yes, I am out the door would be great.
- The City had submitted an application in
- 13 connection with three bond ordinances. Two of
- 14 them, which was a sewer utility ordinance and a
- 15 water utility ordinance did not receive the
- 16 appropriate vote on introduction. So I can't
- 17 really have you defer it as opposed to withdraw
- 18 it, because when they took the vote, and they
- 19 didn't have sufficient vote for introduction, it
- 20 was determined to have been defeated by the clerk
- 21 as opposed to deferred. So if there is going to
- 22 be another consideration for those ordinances, I
- am going to assume it's a separate application.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: So we would think so,
- 25 too.

1 MR. McMANIMON: So the last ordinance is

- for \$4,725,000. It's a refunding bond ordinance
- 3 to fund an emergency appropriation to deal with
- 4 the issue involving the absconding of tax funds by
- 5 a company that was hired by the City to coordinate
- 6 the payment to the Internal Revenue Service and
- 7 the State of New Jersey. They did not do that.
- 8 So although the city paid them the money, that
- 9 money was not paid to the Internal Revenue Service
- 10 nor to the State of New Jersey. So in order to
- 11 provide the funds that now have to be paid while
- they pursue whatever actions they are going to
- pursue against this provider, they needed to have
- an emergency appropriation to spend the money.
- 15 And they adopted that with a two-thirds vote last
- 16 week. They also introduced a refunding bond
- ordinance to provide the funding for that since,
- obviously, you have to have the funding before
- 19 they can commit to it. So we're asking for this
- 20 Board's approval to the adoption of a refunding
- 21 bond ordinance. We provided the information with
- 22 regard to what the impact would be over three
- 23 years. One year, three years or five years. And,
- 24 certainly, under the rule that you used for tax
- 25 appeals, it would be three years, because it's

about \$50 on an average home in Trenton, if this

- 2 was funded over three years. We have asked the
- 3 Board to do consider five years, but it's
- 4 completely up to this Board, since the City is
- 5 essentially partially a ward of the State. And
- 6 you provide a lot of funds to the City. This is a
- 7 circumstance different from tax appeals in the
- 8 sense that this was something that came out of the
- 9 blue that someone stole the money and didn't use
- 10 it correctly.
- 11 So the City is prepared, whatever this
- Board chooses, to have three years or five years
- 13 for the payment out of this through the
- 14 refunding -- the issuance of either refunding
- bonds or notes. However they choose to do that,
- 16 so ...
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Mr. McManimon,
- 18 thank you for that. So just going back to a
- 19 comment you made about the State's involvement
- 20 with the City of Trenton. The City of Trenton is
- 21 a transitional aid municipality that receives
- approximately \$25,000,000 in transitional aid.
- 23 Although we are under an MOU with the City for
- 24 governing the terms of the transitional aid, and
- 25 part of the MOU is that we have a monitor

- 1 assigned. And that monitor has been involved in
- 2 working closely with the City administration from
- 3 the time that this issue was first uncovered. I
- 4 think we have worked together already to identify
- 5 steps the City could have taken from an internal
- 6 control standpoint to potentially reduce this type
- 7 of issue from happening again or at least. And,
- 8 perhaps, being caught sooner, if possible. But I
- 9 do -- I did speak to the Mayor personally about
- 10 this. And I think that the business administrator
- and the staff took immediate and prudent action to
- 12 stop the problem from getting any worse. What we
- 13 feared immediately was that it could be
- 14 exacerbated by additional quarters of payroll not
- being paid, because right at the time it was
- 16 uncovered, there was a payroll pending, and it
- 17 caused the City a lot of angst, and us by
- 18 extension. But I think the City did a very good
- job in terms of immediately segregating accounts,
- 20 contacting law enforcement officials. And I think
- 21 the City did do everything in its power to deal
- 22 with the situation, to deal with the situation
- 23 well, and to pursue every avenue for potential
- 24 recoupment of the money. So I'm well aware of
- 25 this issue. I think the only question that I have

1 -- and I would talk to my colleagues on the Board

- 2 about, is whether or not in this case we would
- 3 want to defer slightly from our rule, or, I should
- 4 say, maybe rule of thumb would be a more accurate
- 5 way of expressing it. But the impact on the
- 6 averaged assessed home is \$49.77 for a three-year
- 7 recoupment. The City is before us seeking five
- 8 years, which would be \$29.86 cents.
- 9 I am inclined to be flexible with the
- 10 City and allow them to go to five years. Because
- 11 the fact of the matter is, we're giving the City a
- 12 significant amount of transitional aid. And we're
- 13 trying to keep the tax rate somewhat stabilized.
- 14 And to have an additional amount on the tax bill
- just provides difficulty for other things we're
- 16 working with the city on to try to get them moving
- in the right direction. But I think that would
- have to be something that, obviously, the majority
- 19 of the Board supported. And I would just ask if
- the Board has any questions on what happened, how
- 21 it was dealt with, or the impact on the tax rate
- 22 assuming this Board was to approve this
- 23 application.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: I just think it's
- 25 unfortunate, because, you know, Mayor Jackson has,

1 you know, inherited, to begin with, you know, a

- very challenging situation. And to have this
- 3 compiled, I commend him. I think he's, you know,
- 4 he's doing a good job trying to move beyond this.
- 5 I'm very much in favor of this.
- 6 MR. LIGHT: Usually, I push to go out
- 7 further. But under the circumstances, I would be
- 8 willing to go the five years or even further. I
- 9 might be willing to go to with the five years.
- 10 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: So if there are no other
- comments from the Board, I will make the motion to
- 13 approve this application with a five-year term,
- 14 which would mean that the impact on the average
- assessed home would be \$29.86. And, clearly, the
- 16 division will continue to support the City of
- 17 Trenton in its efforts to recoup as much money as
- 18 possible from this company. This is not the first
- 19 time that this has happened in the State of New
- 20 Jersey. I know it happened in a different region
- 21 a couple of years ago. It is unfortunate, and I
- do hope that this company, you know, and it looks
- 23 like it will, but I certainly hope they're brought
- 24 to justice. So motion is on the table.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: I'll second.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Rodriguez seconds.

- 2 And I would ask for a roll call.
- 3 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 6 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 8 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
- 12 So next before the Board is the City of
- 13 Newark. The first application involving -- so
- 14 Newark City first application involving the
- expansion of the City's Riverfront Park.
- Good morning. Would you kindly
- introduce yourself for the record. Those that
- 18 aren't counsel will be sworn in.
- MR. EISMEIER: Tim Eismeier, NW
- 20 Financial. We're the financial advisor to the
- 21 City.
- MS. OBERDORF: Cheryl Oberdorf,
- 23 Decotiis, Fitzpatrck and Cole, Bond Counsel to the
- 24 City.
- MR. WILSON: Baye Adofo-Wilson, Deputy

1 Mayor, Director of Economic Housing Development

- 2 for the City of Newark.
- 3 MR. GUZMAN: Benjamin Guzman, City of
- 4 Newark, Department of Finance.
- 5 BAYE ADOFO-WILSON & BENJAMIN GUZMAN,
- 6 Having been first duly sworn, was examined and
- 7 testified as follows:

- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning.
- 10 MS. OBERDORF: Good morning.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: We've talked about this
- 12 project in the past, but -- or at least at the
- 13 division level, but would you kindly discuss it
- 14 and then just help the Board understand the
- 15 application.
- MR. EISMEIER: Sure. In 2013 the City
- approved by referendum the implementation of a one
- 18 cent city open space tax. The purpose of which
- 19 was to fund the -- or support parks throughout the
- 20 city. The city began collecting that tax in 2015.
- 21 Also, in 2015, the City Council approved a
- 22 referendum to increase that tax by two cents. The
- 23 purpose of which increase would be to support the
- 24 expansion of Riverfront Park in -- within -- along
- 25 the Passaic River in the City. Deputy Mayor

1 Adofo-Wilson can speak in a little bit more detail

- 2 about the project itself and the various sources
- 3 of financing.
- 4 The application in front of you is for
- 5 the issuance of not to exceed 25 million in
- 6 qualified open space bonds. The -- we are also
- 7 seeking a waiver of down payment based upon the
- 8 fact that the City will adopt a resolution which
- 9 mandates that the City have at least 1.1 times
- 10 coverage on the debt service based on the open
- 11 space tax revenue which creates a self-liquidating
- 12 enterprise, which is the basis for the waiver of
- down payment if approved.
- 14 Based on the 2015 assessed value of the
- 15 city, the estimate, the tax will collect around
- 16 2.4 million dollars annually. That's the
- 17 additional two cents. The projected debt service
- we included in the application was 1.9 million.
- 19 Based on the average useful life of the projects,
- 20 we're requesting a 19 year maturity schedule. And
- I think at this point I'll turn it over Baye to
- 22 talk about the project.
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: Thank you. I
- 24 appreciate you hearing this application.
- Newark Riverfront is a space that has

- 1 been very unutilized over the last century. We
- 2 haven't been really able to utilize the park space
- 3 for open space. It's really been to the back of
- 4 the city, even though it's the beginning, so it's
- 5 an issue of real economics to the city.
- And so initially there was a County
- 7 Park. That's a three-acre park. It's finished in
- 8 2012. And then there is another park that was
- 9 being worked on now that was by the trusted public
- 10 land. What we are finding out is that they were
- 11 like ten sources of funding, twelve sources of
- 12 funding, Federal and State. We just weren't
- 13 getting the kind of traction that we needed to
- 14 actually move the project forward in any type of
- way in that space. We would be finished in 50
- 16 years. And so we went to the voters and asked for
- 17 a referendum. They approved it by 84 percent in
- 18 2015. And it's really to build -- eventually, it
- 19 will be a three-mile park from, from the Iron
- 20 Bound Section all the way up to the north ward.
- 21 It will be next to Penn Station, most of the
- 22 restaurants in Iron Bound, NJ PAC, Panasonic
- 23 building, Blue Cross, Blue Shield. It will be a
- 24 signature project. Hopefully, one of the
- 25 signature parks in the State of New Jersey along

- 1 the Passaic River. So we've been working with
- 2 Trusted Public Land, Horizon Blue Cross to fund
- 3 the project.
- 4 It's also a big dredging effort.
- 5 Recently there's been an effort to clean the
- 6 Passaic River. 1.4 billion dollars. That's been
- 7 allocated from the polluters. So this project
- 8 works in tandem with that to create the park.
- 9 Let's clean up the Passaic River. We will collect
- 10 -- it will have a huge impact on the city in terms
- of taxes and ratables. As we know, most of the
- valuable land in cities are next to parks and open
- 13 spaces. So we feel like the property values that
- 14 are near the Passaic River will increase
- substantially, increase noticeably because of the
- 16 creation of the park. That's where we felt like
- 17 the two cents assessment, though, a burden on the
- 18 tax payers, will have a long-term benefit for the
- 19 residents. We want to activate it. Have events,
- 20 programs, program it. We have the F.B.I. building
- 21 is down there, so we have -- they can watch our
- 22 programming. We have to program around the part.
- But we're really excited about it. As someone to
- transform the project in the administration, we
- 25 think it will help us galvanize our residents,

1 really bring people into the downtown and really

- 2 activate the business community.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Couple of
- 4 technical questions, but I guess a broader
- 5 question than that I wanted to just talk about a
- 6 little bit, because we've talked about this
- 7 project before. And I know the importance of the
- 8 administration for it. But let's talk about the
- 9 total cost of the park. So the total cost of the
- 10 park, if I'm correct, is estimated to be just in
- 11 excess of 41 million dollars, and 25 million of
- open space funds are going to be used. But when I
- 13 was reading the application over the weekend, I
- 14 note that there is still a significant number of
- properties that have to be acquired. I guess I
- didn't realize that there was still a lot of
- individual ownership in areas that this park would
- 18 encompass. And I know that we previously talked
- 19 about the fact that the City wanted to bring in,
- you know, some architecture firms to design this,
- 21 as you said, to be a signature park project within
- the State.
- My question is, what if it's not 41
- 24 million dollars for the project? What if it winds
- 25 up being more? Will the City scale the project

- down or will the City identify additional funds?
- 2 What I don't want to have happen is, I don't want
- 3 to approve the issuance of the debt using the 25
- 4 million in open space trust bonds and then that
- 5 money just kind of get stalled or held in abeyance
- 6 because the overall project budget fell apart.
- 7 Could you talk a little bit about how comfortable
- 8 you are with the 41 million dollar total cost and
- 9 just your thoughts on how the city would proceed
- 10 if --
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: Yes. We were very
- 12 conservative in terms of our numbers. So,
- 13 hopefully, that number is the high number as
- opposed to the number. We already have our
- 15 re-development plan for the river front. And so
- 16 the park -- and because there is an easement that
- is there already for the entire river front park.
- 18 So the acquisition -- we can proceed with the park
- 19 based on the easements that are in the
- 20 re-development plans as of now. So that portion
- 21 of it is where sort of the 25 million number, that
- 22 we can proceed, build the park and not acquire
- anyone's land and just build on the easements
- 24 portion it and we'll be fine. And that will be
- 25 the same three-mile park. It will just be in some

- 1 areas where there is additional property owners,
- 2 we won't be able to acquire those lands. But we
- 3 will be able to build out the easement portion of
- 4 the parks currently. We're very comfortable with
- 5 that number, and feel that that's what will make
- 6 the part successful.
- 7 The additional funding is for land
- 8 acquisition and for environmental clean-up. So
- 9 one of the things we're doing is working with DEP.
- 10 And our goal to obtain some of the funding for the
- 11 clean-up around river front park. And they have
- as a requirement after a 40-foot clean-up on the
- 13 shore as a part of the clean-up of the river. So
- 14 we're working with them to see if we could have
- that layered on to do the clean-up of the river
- 16 front park, so that that portion of the funds
- doesn't have to come out of the 25 million. And
- in addition to that 25 million, we have 5 million
- 19 from Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield. That's
- already been part of the project, and so we're
- 21 working with other entities to raise money. Trust
- 22 Public Land, they're raising eight million dollars
- for their portion of the project. And we're
- 24 working with them, as well, to raise additional
- 25 funding.

1 So the application of the staff report

- 2 that I'm looking at, there's 40 parcels of land
- 3 that make up the river front park expansion area.
- 4 16 are owned by the city, and, as you mentioned,
- 5 there's easements in place on six additional
- 6 properties. Then we have the Newark Housing
- 7 Authority and DOT, State DOT own properties. So
- 8 there are still -- I mean, I know about four
- 9 million dollars was budgeted to purchase lands of
- 10 additional easements. I guess, I was just -- I
- didn't realize just how many properties had to be
- 12 acquired.
- 13 We're working with the Housing Authority
- 14 and DOT now. That's the bulk of the lands that
- we're talking about. We regularly swap properties
- 16 with the Housing Authority. That happens on a
- 17 couple, few times a year based on properties they
- 18 need. So that is just a normal occurrence. And
- 19 we're also talking to Department of Transportation
- 20 about -- for the sites that they have that we need
- 21 for it. So it's not -- I mean, they're not
- 22 actually owned by the city, but they're owned by
- other entities. But because they're the Housing
- 24 Authority and DOT and we have had negotiation, but
- 25 we have a lot of confidence in the transfer. And

- 1 we work with the Housing Authority a lot in
- 2 transferring properties back and forth. Most of
- 3 the time we do them in swaps. So we don't have to
- 4 pay the purchase price. Often times what we do
- 5 is, we just swap lands based on the square foot
- 6 basis. And then so it evens out as an even swap.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: So the 41,500,000 number,
- 8 I just want to make sure I understand, that is the
- 9 entirety of the park?
- 10 MR. ADOFO-WILSON: That's the entirety
- of the park. That's if we have to acquire
- 12 everything. That is if the housing authority
- doesn't work with us and the DOT doesn't work with
- 14 us and if we have to clean up everything
- ourselves. So that is the biggest number that the
- 16 project would be.
- 17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Right.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: At the time that, I
- 19 think, the application was submitted, the city had
- 20 not adopted a resolution to utilize the open space
- 21 fund. Is there an update on that?
- MS. OBERDORF: Well, it was contemplated
- that once the ordinance becomes effective, which
- they're assuming approval at this meeting, that it
- 25 will be on the agenda for the City's meeting of

1 May 24th for the bond ordinance and that ordinance

- 2 will become effective 20 days after publication.
- 3 And then I had anticipated doing the resolution,
- 4 you know -- it needs public hearing and resolution
- 5 to allocate specific dollars to specific purposes
- 6 pursuant to 40 12 dash 15.7. And so, I would say,
- 7 sometime, probably end of June, beginning of July.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: If for some reason that
- 9 resolution failed, then the Board's approval would
- just be rendered moot.
- MS. OBERDORF: Well, then the question
- 12 becomes, it would not be a self-liquidating
- 13 purpose. And then, therefore, the ordinance would
- 14 have to raise a down payment.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Said a little more
- 16 simply, if the City Council chooses not to use
- open space funds for this project, and that's the
- 18 resolution I was referring to -- I don't think
- 19 there's been a resolution by the governing body
- 20 saying that they are going to use open space
- 21 dollars towards this project.
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: So the resolution
- 23 that submits for the application for the -- there
- has been an adoption of the referendum, which
- 25 specifically allocates for the two cents for River

- 1 Front Park because it -- the way the issue of
- 2 referendum went, there was one cent for the entire
- 3 park for the city. So nobody is going to add it
- 4 to three cents. We also have an accounting where
- 5 there is one cent that goes to the other account
- 6 for all of the parks. And then the two cents
- 7 would be separated into another account.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: But the City Council has
- 9 taken formal action supporting the
- 10 administration's desire to use open space funds --
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: Yes.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: -- towards this project.
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: Yes.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: I have a question. This
- 15 encompasses the East Ward --
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: Yes.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: -- the central and a
- 18 little bit of the north.
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: Of the North.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: So it encompasses --
- 21 it's a river front property, basically, for three
- 22 separate wards, right?
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. The concern
- initially was, we weren't going far enough.
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: It was just an East

- 1 Ward park. That's why they.
- 2 MS. OBERDORF: I think it is also
- 3 important to note this park will unite a county
- 4 park with an existing river front park in terms
- 5 and connect the two and there will be a pathway
- 6 developed along the entire Passaic River, so it
- 7 would be one long park.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: So it's a good seque to
- 9 my next question, which is, I think I read in the
- 10 application and the statute report that it is
- 11 contemplated that the City would enter into a
- 12 contract with Essex County and Essex County would
- operate the park; is that accurate?
- MR. ADOFO-WILSON: Yes. Long term,
- 15 that's the goal. We've had conversation with the
- 16 county. We don't have a formal agreement as of
- 17 yet. They own and operate a portion of the park.
- 18 They, we believe, do a really good job with parks
- 19 in Essex County. And I thought it would be in the
- 20 best interest of the City, long-term, given
- 21 Branchburg Park and the other county parks to make
- it a county park, but we know that the funds
- 23 require just a piece of the management as opposed
- 24 to ownership, so that's the structure that we will
- 25 eventually upon completion of the build-out of the

- 1 park.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Any other questions?
- 3 Mr. Light, did I hear a motion?
- 4 MR. LIGHT: No, no, no. If you are
- 5 open, I'll make a motion to approve it.
- 6 MS. RODRIGUEZ: I'll second it.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Light and Ms.
- 8 Rodriguez. Take roll call.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 11 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 13 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very
- 18 much.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: I'm looking forward to
- 20 taking a walk on that River Front Park.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: So the City remains
- 22 before us for a temporary emergency appropriation
- 23 dealing with some unpaid invoices, significant
- 24 unpaid invoices. So this group has already been
- 25 identified on the record, has already been sworn

- 1 in so we can move into that application.
- 2 Mr. Rodriguez has recused herself on this matter,
- 3 anyway, so the remainder of the Board will hear
- 4 the application.
- 5 MS. OBERDORF: The City of Newark owes
- 6 money to Blue Cross Blue Shield for unfunded
- 7 amounts due for retirees and employees as well as
- 8 past due premiums. And the City, as well, and
- 9 Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield have reached an
- 10 agreement regarding the amount that will be paid
- 11 by the City to Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield for
- 12 these amounts. On April 20th the City adopted a
- 13 temporary emergency appropriation because they had
- 14 already adopted their temporary budget to -- for
- 15 the -- for the payment of these amounts. And the
- 16 City seeks to fund the temporary emergency
- 17 appropriation through the introduction and final
- 18 adoption of a refunding bond ordinance pursuant to
- 19 NJSA 40 A dash 251. The City also seeks approval
- from the Board regarding the final adoption of
- 21 this ordinance as well as the issuance of the
- 22 bonds as qualified bonds and also seeks -- the
- 23 Board put its consent upon the bond ordinance.
- 24 The City is also requesting a ten-year
- amortization schedule not to exceed 17 million

dollars, which essentially would result in a tax

- 2 impact of \$54 per year per assessed value per 100
- 3 percent --
- 4 MR. GUZMAN: Yes. For the average
- 5 assessed home.
- MS. OBERDORF: Average assessed home.
- 7 The City did introduce a refunding bond ordinance
- 8 on April 26th and assuming Board approval of this
- 9 application intends to finally adopt the ordinance
- 10 at a meeting on May 24th.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: I think it should be
- 12 noted on the record that the City's business
- 13 administrator met with the division staff, brought
- 14 this issue to our attention as well as to the
- monitor assigned to the City of Newark. We
- discussed the status of the negotiations with the
- 17 vendor. We discussed the amount. We discussed
- 18 why it happened. And I do think that it happened
- 19 during the prior administration. And there is a
- very little, unfortunately, that the City can do,
- 21 other than to negotiate the number as low as
- 22 possible. And I think that they've been rather
- 23 successful in that regard. And I do think the BA
- 24 has done a good job in his best work on that. It
- is a very unfortunate position. And, once again,

even at ten years, we're still over \$50 impact on

- 2 average homes, so just to, again, talk about the
- 3 amount for the record, we're talking about 17
- 4 million dollars in unpaid expenses. And there is
- 5 no, there is no argument, whatsoever, that the
- 6 City wasn't libel for these expenses. There is a
- 7 little bit of an argument that the City took a
- 8 gamble in terms of the way this was structured
- 9 hoping that the utilization wasn't going to be as
- 10 high as it is, but in some other respects there is
- 11 unpaid invoices that are due and owing to an
- 12 entity. But I know this is a big number. And as
- 13 I said the division staff met for quite a while
- 14 with the City and the monitors has been involved
- in this along the way. But if you gentleman have
- any additional questions, we can certainly have
- 17 the City talk about that.
- 18 MR. LIGHT: Yes. According to the
- 19 report we have here, this goes back to actually
- 20 2011, '12, '13 and '14.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: That's right.
- MR. LIGHT: Were there any -- did it end
- 23 there? Were there any for 2015 or --
- MS. OBERDORF: No.
- MR. LIGHT: Okay. So, apparently, it

1 was found sometime in the 2015 year, early in the

- 2 2015 year?
- 3 MS. OBERDORF: That's correct.
- 4 MR. LIGHT: Right?
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: It was first brought to
- 6 my attention when the City's, I guess we would
- 7 call him interim business administrator, who was
- 8 on loan to the City and was working on it when I
- 9 came into this job, that's when the negotiations
- 10 first happened. They've been ongoing for quite a
- 11 while. And, as I said, Jack Kelly, the business
- 12 administrator, kind of recently struck terms with
- 13 the vendor and brought those terms to us for
- 14 discussion and consideration.
- MR. LIGHT: So under the circumstances
- are you willing to go with the \$55 at ten years?
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. I think that's --
- 18 especially given the tax burden on the residents
- of the city and, you know, other issues.
- MR. LIGHT: Stab this through my heart,
- 21 you know, and then --
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Again. It's still \$55,
- even at ten years. And the city did have a
- 24 significant tax increase on the residents this
- last year, so I certainly don't take it lightly.

1 Certainly, it's a very, very difficult application

- 2 coming the City. I think this administration was
- 3 very forthright with us and has kept us apprised
- 4 along the way. And the monitor has met on this,
- 5 worked on this and submitted a memo as part of the
- 6 package.
- 7 MR. LIGHT: So it has been corrected so
- 8 we're not continuing into 2016 with the same --
- 9 MS. OBERDORF: I think it is also
- 10 important to note that the Administrator did a
- 11 great job in negotiating the amount down by a
- 12 significant dollar amount.
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, if there is no
- other questions, I'll a motion and ask for a
- 15 second from my colleagues.
- MR. BLEE: Second.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee seconds.
- We will take roll call, please.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: And Ms. Rodriguez recuses

1 herself on this matter so the motion carries.

- 2 Thank you very much.
- 3 City of Asbury Park.
- 4 Would you kindly make sure everyone is
- 5 identified for the record, and those that aren't
- 6 can be sworn in.
- 7 MR. CANTALUPO: Mr. Chairman, John
- 8 Cantalupo from Archer and Greiner, bond attorney
- 9 to the City of Asbury Park. To my right we have
- 10 the chief financial officer, Ricky Gartz and also
- 11 further to my right is the City's financial
- 12 advisor, Jennifer Edwards.
- 13 RICKY GARTZ & JENNIFER EDWARDS,
- 14 Having been first duly sworn, were examined and
- 15 testified as follows:
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Mr. Cantalupo,
- 17 please.
- MR. CANTALUPO: The first application
- 19 involves a refunding at the -- a funding
- 20 opportunity that the City has for 4.2 million, not
- 21 to exceed 4.2 million in qualified general
- 22 improvement bonds. They would be taking out
- 23 approximately 3.6 of the 2009 Municipal Qualified
- 24 Bond Act bonds. Savings are roughly 4.88 percent
- or 175,000 on present value basis. The savings

1 are taken level but for a little quirk in that

- 2 first year, because of an interest payment onto
- 3 roughly about \$13,000 a year. Most likely, the
- 4 City will participate in the MCIA program. That
- 5 is going to come before you next month. We have
- 6 the famous Heather Litzebauer from NW Financial,
- 7 the MCIA Financial Advisor back there. And I know
- 8 that they're coming forward. And we had talked, I
- 9 believe, last week or the week before that they
- 10 would probably participate in that pool, because
- 11 the Triple A bond rating of the County really
- 12 affords them great interest rates. I'm sure we
- 13 will see the savings jump from the 4.88. We are
- seeking approval pursuant to 40 A 2 51 to do the
- 15 refunding bond ordinance and for you to endorse
- 16 your consent upon it. And also your approval to
- issue qualified bonds pursuant to the Municipal
- 18 Qualified Bond Act and endorse your consent upon
- 19 the funding bond ordinance. Happy to entertain
- 20 any questions at this time.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Any questions from the
- 22 Board? No. It seems pretty cut and dry. Motion
- 23 from Mr. Blee.
- MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second.
- MR. LIGHT: Idida seconded.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Roll call,

- 2 please.
- 3 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 6 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 8 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. So continuing on
- 12 you have another application in front of us.
- 13 Mr. Cantalupo, would you introduce this to the
- 14 board, as well.
- MR. CANTALUPO: Yes. Sure. This is the
- 16 City's new money annual capital program that
- they're going to be undertaking this year. I
- 18 believe it's the same amount as we did last year,
- 19 correct? 2,850,000. It's divided into two
- 20 separate ordinances. One is for 1 million 662 500
- 21 for various capital improvements which include
- 22 police, fire, Department of Public Works,
- 23 Administration. It's all pretty highly detailed
- in the ordinance. The second ordinance is for 1
- 25 million 187 500 for various road improvements in

1 the City. We are seeking approval to sell these

- 2 bonds pursuant to the Municipal Qualified Bond Act
- 3 and for you to endorse your consent upon both of
- 4 the bond ordinances, as well.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I guess the one
- 6 question I had on this application is the local
- 7 portion of the taxes on the average assessed home
- 8 would increase by \$77. And I just bring it up for
- 9 the City's, you know, thoughts on that, given the
- 10 fact that the City is a transitional aid
- 11 municipality. I know the City has done a great
- job in terms of stabilizing the budget. You have
- 13 a lot of really good development going on and
- 14 potentially, you know, coming out of transitional
- 15 aid program pretty quickly. Nevertheless, given
- 16 the tax increases that the City has faced over the
- 17 prior years and decades, I was just curious that
- 18 the administration's thoughts on the \$77 number.
- MR. GARTZ: The County of Monmouth, as
- you're aware, has an annual program that everybody
- 21 gets reassessed every year. Our assessment since
- this has been done since '14, '15 to '16's
- 23 assessments went up 80 million dollars. Now, the
- 24 way the City is thriving with new pilots coming
- on, four current pilots that were presented to me

- 1 through RAD payment issues, we feel that, you
- 2 know, everybody -- 77 is at the high mark at this
- 3 point. I believe it will not be at that point as
- 4 the City keeps expanding and the City goes in the
- 5 right direction.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Again, we did talk to the
- 7 monitor assigned to the City to talk about these
- 8 projects and so the division staff did look at
- 9 them. But in terms of any other questions that
- 10 the Board may have. Make a motion.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Make a motion.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Rodriguez makes a
- 13 motion.
- 14 MR. LIGHT: I'll second that.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Light seconds. Roll
- 16 call, please.
- 17 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 19 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUES: Yes.
- 21 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Passaic County Utility

- 1 Authority.
- 2 Mr. McManimon, welcome back.
- 3 MR. McMANIMON: Thank you. Ed
- 4 McManimon, Bond Counsel for the Passaic County
- 5 Utilities Authority. I have Steve Wielkotz who
- 6 serves the auditor for both the Passaic County
- 7 Utilities Authority and the County of Passaic,
- 8 which is really the party that has the interest
- 9 here. And we have Heather Litzebauer here who is
- 10 representing NW who is the financial -- the
- 11 underwriter for this transaction.
- 12 This matter had been presented in a
- 13 slightly different form at the last meeting of the
- 14 -- the March meeting of this Board and was
- 15 approved as a financing that would save debt
- 16 service for the County. The Passaic County
- 17 Utilities Authority, as you know, really doesn't
- 18 exist much as an operating entity. It was
- 19 utilized for the solid waste facilities. And when
- 20 this all crashed and burned, the County had
- 21 certain debt that was guarantied by the County and
- 22 certain debt that was not. The debt that was not
- remains an obligation by the Authority. The debt
- 24 that was guarantied by the county, including this
- 25 debt, is paid for by the county. This accounting

is an amendment to the prior approval by the Board

- 2 because the original application that was
- 3 submitted presumed a tax exempt financing to
- 4 undertake a current refunding of prior debt of the
- 5 Authority. Because the prior debt that is being
- 6 refunded here refunded a variety of prior bond
- 7 issues of the utilities authority, a number of
- 8 them had been previously advanced for funding. So
- 9 either you had to split this transaction into a
- 10 taxable refunding and a tax except re-financing or
- do what is referred to as a forward refunding,
- 12 forward delivery refunding, which essentially
- means that you sell these bonds to an underwriter
- 14 now. They don't close on it until within 90 days
- of the call date, so there is a current refunding.
- And they purchased bonds with the same interest
- 17 rates that exist on the bonds that occur now.
- 18 They take the risk of whether that will actually
- 19 produce the savings for them at that time as a
- forward delivery obligation, but the savings are
- 21 paid up front. So there is a one-time payment
- 22 that is made at the time of entering into the
- 23 agreement for the underwriter to purchase these
- for ultimate delivery to the customers of theirs
- in 90 days of the call date, which is 2018.

1 So instead of there being a new maturity

- 2 schedule where the savings occur annually in the
- 3 pieces that would be level, there is a one-time
- 4 payment that's made here to the authority that
- 5 actually goes to the county, because there is a
- 6 party paying the interest. So it's projected to
- 7 be about \$900,000. And the county had planned and
- 8 does plan, they have a 40 million dollar budget.
- 9 I'm sorry. A 400 million dollar budget, and
- 10 they're planning on using this all in the one year
- 11 because it's really not a large amount as a
- 12 percentage-wise, but they will adapt to whatever
- 13 this Board prefers. And Mr. Wielkotz who does the
- 14 budgets and audits can address whether that is
- something that you should embrace as a one-time
- \$900,000 deposit into the County for their budget
- in one year or over two or three years. Any
- 18 questions you want answered?
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Please.
- MR. WIELKOTZ: What he said. Again,
- 21 whatever the Board is most comfortable with in
- terms of how to use the \$900,000, whether it be
- 23 for '17 budget, '17/'18, '17, '18, '19. We're
- open to or -- we're just happy to save the tax
- 25 payers \$900,000. So if whatever the Board is

1 comfortable in terms of years to utilize it, we

- 2 will certainly do that.
- 3 MR. McMANIMON: It obviously requires
- 4 the money not to be used in one year, held in
- 5 reserve for a couple years. While it's a large
- 6 sum of money in a vacuum against this budget, it's
- 7 not. That's the reason they had anticipated and
- 8 asked us to request one year, but they're not
- 9 driven by that.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, it would be helpful
- if the County Administrator appears so we could
- 12 ask him these questions.
- MR. WIELKOTZ: I will certainly send him
- 14 a message. Call.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Call him to drive down,
- and we'll defer the application until he gets
- 17 here.
- 18 Very complicated transaction. It took
- 19 me a couple of reads through. And I know Dan
- 20 Marinella called me last week and offered to walk
- 21 me through it. But I honestly think that after
- 22 reading the application -- and, Paul, you were on
- our team and did a nice job with the staff report
- 24 -- I think I understand the transaction. So what
- 25 it came down for me was, and as Counsel said, you

1 know, it's a \$900,000 savings to the tax payer.

- 2 And in a percentage terms, it's over 6 percent.
- 3 So it's, clearly, a favorable financial
- 4 transaction.
- 5 With respect to utilization of those
- 6 savings, I don't see the reason to hold money in
- 7 reserve and complicate the transaction for the
- 8 simple fact that in a budget the size of Passaic
- 9 County, which I know and I know very well, it
- 10 really is diminutus. And it is not going to --
- it's not anywhere near a tax point. And it's not
- 12 going to move the needle one way or the other. I
- 13 actually think the administrative function of
- 14 trying to account for that money over a multi-year
- 15 term is going to have more of a hassle than it
- 16 actually would be just, you know, socializing it
- across the rest of the budget. But that's my
- 18 general thoughts on the matter.
- The questions I had on the application,
- 20 I think, Mr. McManimon answered during his
- 21 presentation in front of the Board.
- 22 Were there any questions that the
- 23 members had realizing it is a bit of a transaction
- we don't often see?
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. So then I would

- 1 ask for a motion and a second on this one.
- 2 MR. BLEE: Motion.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee motions.
- 4 MR. LIGHT: I will second it.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Light seconds. Roll
- 6 call, please.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 10 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 11 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 13 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
- MR. McMANIMON: Thank you.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Gloucester County
- 18 Improvement Authority. Good morning. I know that
- 19 you previously -- just for the record, identify
- yourself again, just so the transcript is clear.
- 21 But I know Ms. Edwards is already sworn in, so we
- don't have to do that again.
- MR. WINITSKY: Just quickly, George
- 24 Strackton (ph) who is the Executive Director of
- 25 the Improvement Authority was supposed to be here

- 1 today. He was called away on an emergency. He
- 2 apologizes. We saw there were several absences
- 3 today. His was certainly not intentional.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: On this particular
- 5 application, I'm still a little unsure why you're
- 6 here.
- 7 MR. WINITSKY: I share that thought,
- 8 but, nevertheless, we're here, so ...
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Go ahead.
- 10 MR. WINITSKY: Jeff Winitsky from Parker
- 11 McCay, Bond Counsel. To my right, Jennifer
- 12 Edwards Acacia Financial, financial advisors to
- 13 the improvement authority.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.
- MR. WINITSKY: We're here before you
- seeking positive findings, I think, pursuant to 40
- 17 A 5 A 6 to issue, not to exceed seven million
- dollars of county guarantied solid waste revenue
- 19 bonds for the Gloucester County Improvement
- 20 Authority. They're seeking to expand their
- 21 existing landfill at the IA's solid waste complex
- 22 in South Harrison Township, New Jersey. The
- 23 Improvement Authority is going through the New
- 24 Jersey environmental infrastructure trust for this
- 25 financing. I think the complicating matter, I

think, why we're here today is because part of the

- 2 transaction involves the inclusion of a county
- 3 guaranty, so -- pursuant to Section 80. So we're
- 4 here specifically seeking approval of the final
- 5 adoption of that guaranty ordinance. We're happy
- 6 to talk about the particulars of the transaction,
- 7 but I think that's the crux of why we're here is
- 8 with respect to the guaranty ordinance. So if you
- 9 have any questions, we're happy to answer them.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: I think we're still
- 11 trying to sort out what the clean-up bill means in
- 12 terms of the IT. I'm still working with the trust
- and how we're dealing with those approvals. I'm
- 14 not sure we felt that this needed to come in front
- of the Board, but I understand that the Applicant
- 16 wanted that comfort.
- MR. WINITSKY: Yes.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: So I'm happy, unless has
- 19 any questions, to dispatch of this rather quickly.
- 20 So seeing no affirmations of questions, I will
- 21 make a motion to approve this application and ask
- 22 for a second.
- MR. BLEE: Second.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee. And roll call,
- 25 please.

1 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?

- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 3 THE SECRETARY: Ms Rodriguez?
- 4 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 6 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- 8 MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very
- 10 much. Passaic County Improvement Authority.
- 11 MR. DRAIKIWICZ: John Draikiwicz, Bond
- 12 Counsel on this transaction with Passaic County
- 13 Improvement Authority.
- MS. LITZEBAUER: Heather Litzebauer from
- NW financial, financial advisor to Passaic County
- 16 Improvement Authority.
- MS. FOX: Nicole Fox, Executive Director
- 18 of Passaic County Improvement Authority.
- 19 MR. WIELKOTZ: Steve Wielkotz, Auditor
- 20 for the County of Passaic.
- 21 MR. DRAIKIWICZ: The Passaic County
- 22 Improvement Authority approved not to exceed 14
- 23 million --
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry. We haven't been
- 25 sworn in yet.

1 MS. LITZEBAUER: We also have

- 2 representatives from the City of Paterson here, as
- 3 well.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Draikiwicz looks very
- 5 nervous with Mr. Cantalupo over his shoulder.
- 6 (Discussion off the record.)
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: But I see Mr. Cantalupo,
- 8 Mr. Ten Hoeve and Mr. Grossman here, as well. Are
- 9 you going to be presenting testimony on the
- 10 application. Shall we have you sworn in?
- 11 MR. CANTALUPO: Yes. If needed.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Then let's just do it, so
- we can have open an conversation as needed. So
- 14 these gentleman have appeared. Mr. Ten Hoeve, I
- don't know that you've identified yourself. Maybe
- 16 by spelling your last name, and then we'll have
- 17 ...
- MR. TEN HOEVE: James Ten Hoeve, T-e-n
- 19 space, Capital H, o-e-v-e. Director of Finance.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Neil Grossman. I was
- 21 sworn in with Trenton.

- JAMES TEN HOEVE, NICOLE FOX,
- 24 Having been first duly sworn, were examined and
- 25 testified as follows:

1

2	THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Draikiwicz, are you
3	going to take lead on this?
4	MR. DRAIKIWICZ: Yes. Please. The
5	Passaic County Improvement Authority notes not to
6	exceed \$14,395,000. The proceeds of which will be
7	utilized to make a loan to the City of Paterson to
8	finance various capital projects, tax appeals and
9	emergency notes of the City. The Passaic County
10	Improvement Authority's notes will be secured by
11	bond anticipation notes by the City of Paterson,
12	which notes are secured by the taxing power of the
13	City.
14	In addition, the notes will also be
15	secured by a guaranty from the County of Passaic,
16	which, again, guaranties also secured by the

which, again, guaranties also secured by the
taxing power of the County. The note are expected
to receive as SP-1 rating based on the County of
Passaic's bond rating, which is the highest
short-term rating available through Standard and
Poor's. If there are any questions to be asked, I
will happy to answer them at this time.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm sure, maybe, Mr. Ten 24 Hoeve, you will correct me if I'm saying anything

25 incorrect, but these are projects that have

- 1 previously been approved for the City to
- 2 undertake. They include money for a city-wide
- 3 road reconstruction project in the amount of 11.6,
- 4 and that was approved by this Board in September
- 5 of '14. In February of '16 this Board -- and I
- 6 was here during that period -- approved 1.6
- 7 million dollars in tax appeal refunding notes and
- 8 then also in February '16 at the same time,
- 9 although, I was a little unhappy with some of the
- 10 -- with the way that the demolition was
- 11 configured, we approved a little over one million
- dollars in emergency notes for the demolition of
- 13 the armory. Since the approval -- since those
- 14 approvals, the City has determined and worked with
- 15 the Improvement Authority to identify a financing
- 16 mechanism that was cheaper, and, I would guess,
- more stable than trying to finance this, and that
- is the purpose of them working through the
- 19 Improvement Authority. Did I summarize that
- 20 correctly?
- MR. TEN HOEVE: Perfect.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. So the
- 23 Authority is going to sell bands, and then that
- 24 funds the authority's -- funds the purchase of the
- 25 City's bands?

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1 MR. DRAIKIWICZ: That is correct.
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- THE CHAIRMAN: And, Mr. Draikiwicz, I
- 3 know that you already addressed the fact that this
- 4 deal will be rated significantly higher from in
- 5 terms of a credit rating perspective by going
- 6 through the Improvement Authority as opposed to
- 7 the City doing the financing themselves.
- 8 MR. DRAIKIWICZ: Maybe the financial
- 9 authority can speak more to that.
- 10 MS. LITZEBAUER: Yes. With the County's
- 11 guaranty, they will get an SB-1, short-term rating
- on the bond anticipation notes, which is the
- 13 highest short-term rating. If the City were to
- 14 get a short-term rating, they actually would not
- get an investment-grade, short-term rating,
- 16 because they are the double A-3 credit. They
- would not be able to get an investment-grade,
- 18 short-term rating just because of how the
- 19 short-term ratings work for the rating agencies.
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: And in no way am I being
- 21 critical of the City, but I should, at least,
- 22 recognize that the City has had -- just building
- on that point, rather, that the City has had
- 24 difficulty accessing the markets for even the sale
- of notes in the past. So there is a risk that the

- 1 transaction would be difficult, if not -- I don't
- 2 want to say impossible, but let's just leave it at
- 3 very difficult. So by going through the
- 4 Improvement Authority it increases the likelihood
- 5 of the successful financing at more favorable
- 6 financing terms.
- 7 MS. LITZEBAUER: Correct. And I think
- 8 the transaction in December where the City came to
- 9 the Improvement Authority and the County to
- 10 permanently finance their bond anticipation notes
- 11 last year was very successful. The City and the
- 12 County were very happy. It saved approximately
- \$2,000,000 for the City. So everyone was happy
- 14 with the result, so it really fostered this
- 15 additional transaction and has paved additional
- transactions in the future to help the City save
- 17 additional money for their tax payers.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: I think the record should
- 19 be clear -- and I think I already said it, but
- 20 these all expenditures that this Board has already
- 21 approved. So, really, the only thing in front of
- 22 us today is who the transaction is consummated
- 23 through. So I just want to make sure that my
- 24 colleagues understand, as we look down the list of
- 25 projects included, that these were all things

we've already discussed as a board and voted upon.

- 2 Did I hear, Ms. Rodriguez, that you
- 3 wanted to --
- 4 MS. RODRIGUEZ: That I wanted to speak?
- 5 Yes. No. I think it's an excellent vehicle, I
- 6 mean, for the County of Passaic, really, to look
- 7 at the PCIA and, you know, I have to say, it's a
- 8 vehicle that's working for the City of Paterson.
- 9 It can really work for the County. It's probably
- 10 the most -- I'm not going to say underutilized,
- 11 but, I mean, it was established to do things like
- 12 this in the County, and we haven't done it. So I
- 13 hope that the City sets a precedent to keep Nicole
- 14 busy. Busier. Sorry, Nicole. Busier. And the
- administrator should have been here for this.
- 16 Just kidding.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Any questions?
- 18 MR. LIGHT: Yes. A question on the
- 19 documentation.
- 20 According to our report, there was some
- 21 paperwork that was not submitted, including the
- 22 introduced ordinance, supplemental dates and
- 23 supplemental debt statement and supplemental
- 24 questionnaire. I think that's been provided.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, the supplemental

1 questionnaire I have in hand. I think that's been

- 2 provided. Yes. The other one, the supplement
- 3 says it is not applicable in the case, so I think
- 4 the staff had everything we needed to.
- 5 MR. LIGHT: Okay. Thank you.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. So if there is no
- 7 further questions, I would ask for a motion.
- 8 MR. BLEE: Motion.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee. Second,
- 10 please?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Second.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Rodriguez.
- 13 Roll call, please.
- 14 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 16 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- MR. BLEE: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
- I want to return to a matter we
- 24 discussed earlier. And we are going to go into
- 25 executive session to do it. So I propose a motion

- 1 to go into closed session for the purpose of
- 2 discussing pending applications regarding the
- 3 investment of public funds and options related to
- 4 the same, the disclosure of which could negatively
- 5 impact the public interest and we may receive
- 6 legal advice regarding same. So with that motion
- 7 to go into executive session, I would ask for a
- 8 second.
- 9 MR. BLEE: Second.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee seconds.
- If the rest of the public is, is
- 12 leaving, then we can commence executive session in
- 13 this room, because the only other parties -- we
- can do this with you and the rest of the people in
- the room, because we are all staff. So I don't
- 16 think it's a problem.
- We do need roll call on my motion to go
- into executive session. And Mr. Blee seconded.
- 19 So I'm sorry roll call on that motion.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee.
- MR. BLEE: Yes.

1 THE	SECRETARY:	Mr.	Light?
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- 2 MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 3 (Discussion off the record.)
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: We are back on the
- 5 record. Mr. Paul, I had asked you to appear
- 6 before the Board. Having discussed in closed
- 7 session the application in front of us regarding
- 8 Middle Township Fire District Number --
- 9 MR. PAUL: Franklin Township Fire
- 10 District Number 3.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Franklin Fire
- 12 District Number 3, which is just to refresh for
- the record was a \$475,000 proposed project
- 14 financing. I would make a motion to adopt
- 15 positive findings related to the application in
- 16 front of the Board.
- MR. BLEE: Second.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Second by Mr. Blee. So
- 19 we have a motion and a second. I would ask the
- 20 executive secretary for roll call.
- 21 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- THE CHAIRMAN: No.
- THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: No.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?

- 1 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- 3 MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: The motion doesn't carry.
- 5 So there are not positive findings, but,
- 6 nevertheless, action was taken by this Board and
- 7 your client can proceed with their application.
- 8 MR. PAUL: Thank you very much.
- 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.
- 10 Remaining in open session we have two last matters
- 11 before the Board. Both deal with the proposed
- 12 adoption of rules. They were included in your
- 13 package and deal with a Notice of Action on
- 14 petition for rule making and proposal amendments.
- 15 I think we'll vote on them separately, but these
- deal with a certification of available funds to be
- included upon local government contractor
- 18 resolutions for same. They were proffered
- initially by John Path who sent a letter to staff.
- 20 We referred it to staff, and it's coming back now.
- 21 So the first matter is approval of the
- 22 Notice of Action for petition of rule making which
- will appear at the administrative code 5 30 dash 5
- 4 and 5 5. And can I have a motion and a second?
- MR. BLEE: Motion.

- 1 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Second.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Blee and Ms.
- 3 Rodriguez. Roll call.
- 4 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 6 THE SECRETARY: Ms. Rodriguez?
- 7 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.
- 8 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
- 9 MR. BLEE: Yes.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
- 11 MR. LIGHT: Yes.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. And then the
- 13 second matter would be the Notice of the
- 14 Pre-Proposal and the proposal amendments and
- 15 adoption of the same which were included in your
- 16 packages. And I would ask for a motion and a
- 17 second there.
- MR. BLEE: Motion.
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Second.
- MR. CHAIRMAN: Roll call, please. Blee
- 21 and Rodriguez.
- THE SECRETARY: Mr. Cunningham?
- THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 24 THE SECRETARY: Mr. Rodriguez?
- MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

1	THE SECRETARY: Mr. Blee?
2	MR. BLEE: Yes.
3	THE SECRETARY: Mr. Light?
4	MR. LIGHT: Yes.
5	THE CHAIRMAN: Motion to adjourn.
6	MR. BLEE: Motion.
7	MR. LIGHT: Second.
8	THE CHAIRMAN: All in favor.
9	(Whereupon, the proceedings were
10	concluded at approximately 12:46 p.m.)
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Τ	CERTIFICATE
2	I, JAMES A. KORWAN, a Certified Shorthand
3	Reporter and Notary Public of the State of New
4	Jersey, do hereby certify that prior to the
5	commencement of the examination, the witness was
6	duly sworn by me to testify the truth, the whole
7	truth, and nothing but the truth.
8	I FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing is a
9	true and accurate transcript of the testimony as
LO	taken stenographically by and before me at the
L1	time, place and on the date hereinbefore set
L2	forth, to the best of my ability.
L3	I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a
L 4	relative nor employee nor attorney nor counsel of
L5	any of the parties to this action, and that I am
L6	neither a relative nor employee of such attorney
L7	or counsel, and that I am not financially
L8	interested in this action.
L9	C:\TINYTRAN\JAMES KORWAN.bmp
20	C:\IINIIRAN\JAMES KORWAN.DIIIP
21	
22	TAMES A MODULAN SOR NO. 1000
23	JAMES A. KORWAN, CSR NO. 1800
24	DATED: May 26 2016