

ORIGINAL

CITY OF UNION CITY
HUDSON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

:
:
TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED
:
PROCEEDINGS

Holy Cross Armenian Church
2610 Bergenline Avenue
Union City, New Jersey

Tuesday, April 30, 2019
Commencing at 7:00 p.m.

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T:

LUCIO P. FERNANDEZ, COMMISSIONER
MARYURY A. MARTINETTI, COMMISSIONER
CELIN J. VALDIVIA, COMMISSIONER, (Left at 7:39 p.m.)
WENDY A. GRULLON, COMMISSIONER
BRIAN P. STACK, MAYOR

M E M B E R S A B S E N T:

A L S O P R E S E N T:

ERIN M. KNOEDLER, CITY CLERK

SCARINCI HOLLENBECK
BY: ANGELO AUTERI, ESQ.
Corporation Counsel

CHARLES D. SAPIENZA, ESQ.
Attorney for Union City
Alcohol Beverage Control Commission

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t/a International Discount Liquors

ADOLFO L. LOPEZ, ESQ.,
Attorney for R & J Supermarket
t/a La Roca Supermarket

ADOLFO L. LOPEZ, ESQ.,
Attorney for Lee Entertainment, LLC
t/a Fantasy Night Club/Lounge

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1 CITY CLERK: This is a Regular Public
2 Meeting of the Union City Board of Commissioners
3 being held on Tuesday, April 30th, 2019, at seven
4 p.m., at Holy Cross Armenian Church, 2610
5 Bergenline Avenue, Union City, New Jersey.

6 Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

7

8 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance was
9 said by all.)

10

11 CITY CLERK: This meeting has been called
12 in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

13 Notice of the meeting has been provided to
14 The Jersey Journal, The Record, and The Hudson
15 Reporter, and has been posted on the bulletin
16 board in City Hall, and made available to the
17 public in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

18

19 **ROLL CALL:**

20

21 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Fernandez?

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Here.

23 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

24 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Here.

25 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

1 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Here.

2 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

3 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Here.

4 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

5 MAYOR STACK: Here.

6 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

7

8 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
9 action on the following item:

10 **ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION:**

11 1. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4

12 "ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT" ARTICLE XIII OF
13 THE CODE OF THE CITY OF UNION CITY ENTITLED
14 "POLICE DEPARTMENT" TO INCREASE FEES FOR OFF DUTY
15 POLICE DETAILS.)

16

17 CITY CLERK: We have one Ordinance for
18 Introduction.

19 Ordinance --

20 Adoption on first reading will prompt
21 advertisement and public hearing, which will take
22 place on Tuesday, May 20 -- May 14th, at the Early
23 Childhood Center, 2200 Kennedy Boulevard, Union
24 City, New Jersey.

25 This is an Ordinance Amending Chapter 4

1 Administration of Government Article XIII of the
2 Code of the City of Union City, Entitled Police
3 Department, to Increase Fees for Off Duty Police
4 Details.

5 May I have a motion to introduce?

6 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

7 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.

8 Second?

9 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

10 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
11 Valdivia.

12 Commissioner Fernandez?

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

15 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

16 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

17 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

18 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

19 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

20 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

21 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

22 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

23

24 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
25 action on the following items in total:

1 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

2 (1) Resolution Approving the Payment of
3 Concurring Claims

4 (2) Resolution Approving the Escrow Refunds

5 (3) Resolution Approving the City Payroll for
6 the Period of April 13, 2019 through April 26,
7 2019

8 (4) Resolution Approving the Library Payroll
9 for the Period of April 13, 2019 through April
10 26, 2019

11 (5) Resolution Approving the Memorandum of
12 Agreement between the City of Union City and the
13 Union City Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 216

14 (6) Resolution Authorizing Refund of Redemption
15 Monies to Outside Lienholders

16 (7) Resolution Authorizing the Refund of
17 Premium Monies Collected at the Tax Sale

18 (8) Resolution Authorizing the Award of a
19 Contract to Matera's Nursery and Garden for
20 Horticultural Supplies

21 (9) Resolution Authorizing the City Clerk to
22 Advertise for Bids for Electrical, Plumbing and
23 HVAC Services

24 (10) Resolution Authorizing a Contract to
25 Fullerton Grounds Maintenance for the 2019

1 Landscape Maintenance Program A and B
2 (11) Resolution Designating May 1, 2019 as
3 "Altamura Day" in the City of Union City.)
4

5 CITY CLERK: We have 11 items on the
6 Consent Agenda.

7 The first is a Resolution Approving a
8 Payment of Concurring Claims.

9 The second is a Resolution Approving the
10 Escrow Refunds.

11 The third is a Resolution Approving the
12 City Payroll for the Period of April 13, 2019
13 through April 26, 2019.

14 The fourth is a Resolution Approving the
15 Library Payroll for the Period of April 13, 2019
16 through April 26, 2019.

17 The fifth is a Resolution Approving a
18 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Union
19 City and the Union City Fraternal Order of
20 Police, Lodge 216.

21 The sixth is a Resolution Authorizing
22 Refund of Redemption Monies to Outside
23 Lienholders.

24 The seventh is a Resolution Authorizing a
25 Refund of Premium Monies Collected at Tax Sale.

1 The eighth is a Resolution Authorizing the
2 Award of a Contract to Matera's Nursery and
3 Garden for Horticultural Supplies.

4 The ninth is a Resolution Authorizing the
5 City Clerk to Advertise for Bids for Electrical,
6 Plumbing and HVAC Services.

7 The tenth is a Resolution Awarding a
8 Contract to Fullerton Grounds Maintenance for the
9 2019 Landscape Maintenance Program A and B.

10 The eleventh is a Resolution Designating
11 May 1st, 2019 as Altamura Day in the City of Union
12 City.

13 Mayor, at this time, would you like to take
14 public comment on the Consent Agenda?

15 MAYOR STACK: Anyone wishing to comment on
16 the Consent Agenda, please step forward. State
17 your name and address for the record.

18 Seeing none.

19 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to close
20 public comment?

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Motion.

22 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
23 Fernandez.

24 Second?

25 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

1 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
2 Grullon.
3 Commissioner Fernandez?
4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.
5 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?
6 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
7 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?
8 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
9 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?
10 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
11 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?
12 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
13 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
14 May I have a motion to approve all items on
15 consent?
16 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.
17 MAYOR STACK: Motion.
18 Second.
19 CITY CLERK: Motion by -- motion by
20 Commissioner Valdivia.
21 Second by Mayor Stack.
22 Commissioner Fernandez?
23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.
24 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?
25 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

1 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

2 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

3 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

4 Yes?

5 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

6 CITY CLERK: And Mayor Stack?

7 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

8 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

9

10 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
11 action on the following item:

12 **REGULAR AGENDA:**

13 1. RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MR. JOSEPH ISOLA
14 AND MS. YDALIA GENAO AND APPOINTING MS. VIVIAN
15 TAVERA TO THE UNION CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION.)

16

17 CITY CLERK: We have one item on the
18 Regular Agenda.

19 It's a Resolution Re-Appointing Mr. Joseph
20 Isola, Ms. Ydalia Genao, and Appointing Ms.
21 Vivian Tavera to the Union City of Board of
22 Education.

23 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

24 MR. AUTERI: Ordinarily --

25 MAYOR STACK: Just before we do, I would

1 just like to thank those members who serve on the
2 Board of Education, as all Boards in the City.

3 The Board of Education is an extremely
4 important Board, as all Boards are. But this
5 Board deals with our children.

6 I'd like to thank Joe Isola, Ydalia, and
7 now Vivian going on as a new member, to serve on
8 the Board of Education. I appreciate their
9 service.

10 MR. AUTERI: Usually Commissioner Valdivia
11 and Commissioner Gullon would not vote on Board
12 of Ed matters, however tonight, we're invoking
13 the doctrine of necessity.

14 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion?

15 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Motion.

16 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
17 Gullon.

18 Second?

19 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

20 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
21 Valdivia.

22 Commissioner Fernandez is recusing.

23 Commissioner Gullon?

24 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

25 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

1 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

2 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti is
3 recusing.

4 Mayor Stack?

5 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

6 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

7

8 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
9 action on the following item:

10 **ORDINANCES FOR HEARING AND ADOPTION CONSIDERATION**

11 1. ORDINANCE REQUIRING SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS
12 FOR ALL LIQUOR LICENSE ESTABLISHMENTS.)

13

14 CITY CLERK: We have three Ordinances for
15 Public Hearing and Adoption.

16 The first is an Ordinance Requiring
17 Surveillance Cameras for all Liquor License
18 Establishments.

19 Mayor, at this time, would you like to take
20 public comment on this Ordinance?

21 MAYOR STACK: Anyone wishing to comment on
22 this Ordinance at this time?

23 This would have the cameras at liquor
24 establishments on the exterior.

25 Anyone wishing to comment at this time,

1 please step forward. State your name and address
2 for the record.

3 Seeing none.

4 I'll make a motion.

5 CITY CLERK: Motion to close public comment
6 by Mayor Stack.

7 Second?

8 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

9 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
10 Grullon.

11 Commissioner Fernandez?

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

13 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

14 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

15 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

16 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

17 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

18 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

19 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

20 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

21 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to adopt?

22 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

23 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

24 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
25 Martinetti.

1 Second by Commissioner Valdivia.

2 Commissioner Fernandez?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

4 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

5 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

6 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

7 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

8 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

9 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

10 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

11 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

12 And just, yes -- yes on the vote.

13 I just also would like to thank the Police
14 Department for their diligent work in protecting
15 the community and helping us clean up the quality
16 of life.

17 Also, this is just one more step that we're
18 taking to ensure quality of life and safety in
19 the community. Most businesses on Bergenline
20 Avenue and Summit Avenue and throughout the city
21 have cameras. A lot of residents in the city
22 have cameras. And this is just one more step in
23 protecting those people that will frequent a
24 liquor establishment, and might appreciate --

25 I'd also like to give a special thank you

1 to Lieutenant John Loaces for his work over the
2 years, not only -- not only on the Police
3 Department on all issues, but on -- specifically
4 on liquor establishments in the city and helping
5 with this Ordinance.

6 Thank you, Lieutenant.

7 Yes. Yes. Vote yes.

8 CITY CLERK: Thank you, Mayor.

9

10 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
11 action on the following item:

12 **ORDINANCES FOR HEARING AND ADOPTION CONSIDERATION**

13 2. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 366 SETTING
14 FORTH DEPOSIT AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR
15 SIDEWALK OPENINGS.)

16

17 CITY CLERK: The next is an Ordinance
18 Amending Chapter 366 Setting Forth Deposit and
19 Permit Requirements for Sidewalk Openings.

20 Mayor, at this time, would you like to take
21 public comment on this Ordinance?

22 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

23 Just before we do, this is once again just
24 preserving the sidewalks that we're putting in
25 throughout the city; wherever we're doing them,

1 whether it would be on Bergenline Avenue, on New
2 York Avenue, on side streets.

3 And now Palisade Avenue, we'll be spending
4 up to \$9 million on doing new streetscape on
5 Palisade Avenue from the Jersey City border to
6 West New York, we'll be putting in new sidewalks,
7 tree planting, decorative lighting, new streets.

8 This is a major, major improvement in the
9 city.

10 We just want to make sure when we put a
11 sidewalk in, if somebody has to do work in their
12 house, that it's properly repaired, put back in
13 place. And that the appropriate fee is paid to
14 the city, so we can go back and restore that
15 sidewalk to its natural finish.

16 While we're making all these improvements,
17 as we do in our parks and our infrastructure, we
18 just want it to be maintained for years to come.
19 Long after we're gone and the city is -- is
20 progressing, we want to see the city stay in good
21 condition.

22 Anyone wishing to comment on this Ordinance
23 at this time, please step forward. State your
24 name and address for the record.

25 Seeing none.

1 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to close
2 public comment?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Motion.

4 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
5 Fernandez.

6 Second?

7 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

8 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
9 Grullon.

10 Commissioner Fernandez?

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. But before I
12 do, I want to comment the Mayor for the great
13 program he's doing, not only doing the
14 streetscapes and sidewalks, but the trees.

15 Union City has never looked any -- anymore
16 -- more beautiful than it is and you really see
17 it in the springtime, when the flowers start to
18 come out. It's just absolutely beautiful. I
19 cannot believe we're in Union City, New Jersey.
20 And someone who -- we all grew up in Union City,
21 but someone like me, who grew up in Union City,
22 and saw Union City, what used to be to what it is
23 today it's just an incredible change.

24 It's absolutely, absolutely beautiful and I
25 cannot commend the Mayor enough for his great

1 work.

2 MAYOR STACK: Thank you very much.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

4 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

5 CITY CLERK: Thank you, Commissioner.

6 Commissioner Grullon?

7 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

8 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

9 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

10 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

11 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

12 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

13 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to adopt?

15 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

16 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner

17 Valdivia.

18 Second?

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.

20 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner

21 Fernandez.

22 Commissioner Fernandez?

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

24 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

25 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

1 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

2 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

3 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

4 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

5 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

6 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

7 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

8

9 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
10 action on the following item:

11 **ORDINANCES FOR HEARING AND ADOPTION CONSIDERATION**

12 3. ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 397-23 "RATES"
13 TO UPDATE THE SERVICE AND STORAGE CHARGES TO BE
14 USED BY TOWING OPERATORS WITHIN THE CITY.)

15

16 CITY CLERK: The third Ordinance is an
17 Ordinance Amending Section 397-23 Rates to Update
18 the Service and Storage Charges to be used by
19 Towing Operators within the City.

20 Mayor, at this time, would you like to take
21 public comment on this Ordinance?

22 MAYOR STACK: Just before we do, I just
23 want the Corporation Counsel just to go into a
24 little more detail; I know he worked on this.

25 Angelo, if you can go into a little more

1 detail, just for the public to know exactly what
2 we're doing with this Ordinance?

3 MR. AUTERI: Sure, Mayor.

4 So, we're -- this is going to amend the
5 schedule that's currently already in the Code,
6 which sets forth not only the rates, but the
7 services that the tow providers provide in the
8 City of Union City.

9 We're amending it tonight, the Board of
10 Commissioners will vote in a moment, to -- and
11 the changes are new -- new services. We're not
12 increasing any of the old rates that were already
13 charged to the citizens of the city. This is
14 only to allow the tow providers to perform these
15 services and then be compensated either through
16 insurance or wherever they're going to receive
17 their compensation.

18 This is mostly geared towards commercial
19 vehicles and not residential vehicles for
20 residents of the city.

21 MAYOR STACK: Thank you, Angelo.

22 Anyone wishing to comment on this Ordinance
23 at this time, please step forward. State your
24 name and address for the record.

25 Seeing none.

1 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to close
2 public comment?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Motion.

4 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

5 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
6 Fernandez.

7 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

8 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
9 Martinetti.

10 Commissioner Fernandez?

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

12 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

13 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

15 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

16 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

17 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

18 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

19 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

20 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

21 May I have a motion to adopt?

22 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

23 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
24 Martinetti.

25 Second?

1 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

2 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
3 Valdivia.

4 Commissioner Fernandez?

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

6 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

7 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

8 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

9 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

10 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

11 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

12 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

13 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

15

16 **OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

17

18 CITY CLERK: Mayor, at this time, would you
19 like to take public comment on any item
20 concerning government in the City of Union City?

21 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

22 Anyone wishing to comment at this time
23 concerning any matter in -- concerning municipal
24 government in the City of Union City, please step
25 forward. State your name and address for the

1 record.

2 Sir?

3 Sure.

4 MS. DILLON: Right here, sir.

5 MAYOR STACK: You can come right over here.

6 MR. SIMONCINI: Thank you.

7 MS. DILLON: Please state your name for the
8 record.

9 MR. SIMONCINI: Ron Simoncini from Hudson
10 Regional Hospital.

11 Hi, Mayor and Council.

12 I introduced myself to some of you before.

13 My name's Ron Simoncini. Among other
14 things, I'm the Chairman of the Meadowlands YMCA.

15 And I've had the opportunity recently to
16 work with Hudson Regional Hospital on some
17 programmings at the Y and in our community.

18 We realize that many of the municipalities
19 here that we serve don't know the transformation
20 of Hudson Regional Hospital since it was
21 Meadowlands Hospital, which happened last June.
22 I'm sorry, last January.

23 And it really is quite astounding, so we
24 felt we'd just come in, introduce ourselves, let
25 you know what's going on, if there's a place

1 | where we can be helpful to each other, or you'd
2 | like to come and see the hospital. This is an
3 | opportunity for us to introduce you to what's
4 | going on there.

5 | So, my colleague Marat Rysmendiev is here.
6 | And I'm going to go through these in a very quick
7 | period of time. We'll be out of here in just a
8 | couple of minutes.

9 | I think that from the -- my entry point, in
10 | the YMCA point of view here is, we knew the old
11 | ownership of the hospital and we knew the old
12 | owner. And when the new people came in, and I
13 | think there was a lot of doubt in the community
14 | about the history of that hospital and some of
15 | the things that went on there.

16 | And anybody would be dubious about who's
17 | coming in next and what's going to happen next.
18 | Obviously, a hospital's a sacred thing. It's got
19 | the public trust in it, more than anything else,
20 | and it needs to be represented well.

21 | So, you'll see that we have some new
22 | branding. It's now called Hudson Regional
23 | Hospital rather than Meadowlands. It reflects a
24 | broader sense of what we're going to do in terms
25 | of the community. But also, a narrower sense.

1 The hospital's not going to be a full service
2 hospital, like Hackensack University Medical
3 Center or any of those other large giant
4 hospitals. It's going to have a narrower focus.
5 It embraces the community in some specialties
6 that we'll talk about in a second.

7 So, it's been a year and four months since
8 the new ownership took over. In that time, we've
9 gone from representing zero insurance to
10 accepting 95 percent of the insurance in New
11 Jersey.

12 So, 95 percent of the people who are in New
13 Jersey right now, through their insurance plan,
14 can access services at the hospital.

15 Sorry about that. I skipped -- no, that's
16 -- that's okay.

17 One of the things that we're done since we
18 came is embrace the medical community. There
19 were a lot of union problems at the old hospital,
20 in particular the nurse's union, with some of the
21 other unions have had confrontational
22 relationships with the old ownership. Every
23 single employee of the hospital has access to --
24 to union employment, who's in a line role. We've
25 also attracted 500 new doctors in 15 months. And

1 those doctors have specialties, in particular in
2 OB-GYN, spine surgery, other orthopedic
3 surgeries, and things that require robotic
4 surgery.

5 So, as an example, two weeks ago, we had a
6 patient come in who needed a gall bladder
7 removed. His scar is about the size of my thumb
8 nail, and he went home two hours after having his
9 gall bladder removed.

10 The average time for a gall bladder
11 removal, under the old regime, was measured in
12 days, certainly not hours or minutes, as this
13 case was.

14 So, this hospital's relying now on very
15 advanced robotic surgeries. The previous -- in
16 the transition between the previous ownership,
17 the State required that we spend \$2 million in
18 capital to improve the hospital. We spent the \$2
19 million in the first three months. And since
20 then, we spent an additional six million. Much
21 of that is high tech robotic surgery equipment,
22 but also we've redone the lobby, we're going
23 through the maternity ward and redoing that. We
24 expect to deliver 650 babies this year, as
25 opposed to 200 the year that it turned over.

1 So, the place has been in massive
2 transformation. It's in -- and again, I come to
3 the hospital as the Chairman of the YMCA
4 initially. Our programs -- each one of the
5 programs that we have this public facing, they
6 have asked us to participate in.

7 So, for example, we want to do a diabetes
8 screening. They send their doctors to do a
9 diabetes screening for no cost. There currently
10 are 17,000 members of the Meadowlands YMCA. We
11 make all the screenings that they make available
12 to us to every single one of our members. And we
13 get a huge turnout. That's in addition to all
14 the programing that they run through the local
15 colleges and through their Board themselves.

16 One more.

17 So, this is the renovation of the lobby.
18 You can see it. It has a very hotel feel to it.
19 Medicine today is very much about the aura and
20 the environment that you can create for the
21 patients. While we don't want them to be there
22 for very long, because insurance has a problem
23 with that, we want them to be very comfortable
24 while they're there.

25 So, we've created a sort of resort style

1 entryway, with food services and other stuff, to
2 get them in, make them comfortable, consult with
3 their doctors and then leave.

4 And then, finally, we have some upcoming
5 events, and I'll close with this and Marat and I
6 can answer any questions you might have.

7 The second Saturday of every month there
8 are prenatal classes. Those are free to the
9 public. You can come, enjoy that. We have the
10 foundation golf outing which comes up in a couple
11 of months at Alpine. Pretty swanky place, and
12 so, we're trying to raise some money for our
13 foundation, which goes to support special needs
14 in the community.

15 I'll give another example of that.

16 At Christmas time, the hospital was ahead
17 of its projections and decided to make a gift to
18 the community. They allocated -- and this was
19 like on a Thursday, they said, we have
20 \$50,000.00. What local organizations are in need
21 of that money?

22 In Secaucus, which is our home state, city,
23 Mayor -- Mayor Gonnelli thinks it's a state.
24 It's actually a city. So, we're in our home
25 city/state of Secaucus and the youth auxiliary

1 | there has an outreach program for at-risk kids.

2 | And that was one of the contributions.

3 | Another contribution was for the YMCA.

4 | And a third contribution was to people who
5 | had abandoned their layaways for Christmas. And
6 | we thought that there were people who weren't
7 | going to get their Christmas present because it
8 | had been abandoned. And they paid those off and
9 | had a ceremony with Santa and gave all the stuff.

10 | So, I guess, the short of it is, it's a
11 | very different group, it's a very different aura,
12 | it's a very different type of approach to
13 | medicine. It's going to evolve over the next 14
14 | months, too, and we -- we might come back another
15 | time to update you on that.

16 | Our emergency medical services are
17 | topnotch, highly rated by the state. And it's a
18 | place where we certainly have expanded. And
19 | then, we have a program where -- what's the card
20 | program called again? The thing we do with
21 | Secaucus where you get to register your --

22 | MR. RYSMENIEV: File of Life.

23 | MR. SIMONCINI: Your File of Life.

24 | So, we, for free, in Secaucus created what
25 | was called the File of Life. Any resident of

1 Secaucus can come and register with all their
2 medical conditions, their File of Life will be on
3 file. And in the event that we're called for
4 them from emergency medical point of view, we'll
5 already have their records before we get there.
6 We'd be happy to come to Union City and do the
7 same from here.

8 I very much appreciate the accommodation
9 and the time, and -- and if you have any
10 questions, we'd be happy --

11 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

12 MR. SIMONCINI: -- to answer them.

13 MAYOR STACK: What is your role at the
14 hospital?

15 MR. SIMONCINI: So, as in all things, I
16 have a public relations firm called Axiom
17 Communications.

18 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

19 MR. SIMONCINI: And we end up with a lot of
20 clients that we do pro bono work for. So, the
21 hospital, you might be familiar with Daytop New
22 Jersey and Opioid Diversion Center, the
23 Meadowlands YMCA, the Meadowlands Chamber, these
24 are all clients of ours that we also provide a
25 layer of public outreach for.

1 And then, that's -- that freight's paid for
2 by all of our real estate developer clients. So,
3 just like the municipal government squeezes the
4 real estate guys to help, we do too, and we
5 deliver it back to community institutions like
6 the hospital and Daytop and the Chamber.

7 MAYOR STACK: Who's the president of the
8 hospital now?

9 MR. SIMONCINI: He's a guy name Yan Moshe.

10 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

11 MR. SIMONCINI: He is a real estate and --
12 and healthcare services investor for 20 years, a
13 very dynamic guy. Rubs some people the wrong
14 way, but has been incredibly effective. And he's
15 a person that I would stake my reputation on. He
16 has been an incredibly solid person to me and the
17 associations and the institutions that I'm
18 associated with. And he's going to change the
19 way healthcare is delivered in Hudson County, and
20 it's needed.

21 MAYOR STACK: And how many beds is the
22 facility?

23 MR. SIMONCINI: So, the facility has 200
24 beds. We don't anticipate using those beds.

25 Those beds turnover really quickly, --

1 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

2 MR. SIMONCINI: -- because we do a lot of
3 day of surgeries.

4 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

5 MR. SIMONCINI: And a lot of maternity
6 issues that, at this point, I mean, delivery is
7 only a 24 hour thing.

8 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

9 MR. SIMONCINI: So, we may have 250
10 patients through the hospital in a day, but we
11 may only have 34, 38, 52 stay overnight.

12 MAYOR STACK: What type of outreach are you
13 doing now to advertise that the hospital is under
14 new ownership and that there's a new plan? Are
15 you doing any type of direct mail, any
16 advertisement on TV, or --

17 MR. SIMONCINI: Yeah. One of my
18 colleagues, Michael Sloan, from The Macallan
19 Group, which is a hospital marketing specialist,
20 they have a lot of key word search oriented
21 marketing that happens online, so that people
22 with particular medical conditions can attach to
23 the hospital.

24 And we also have this public outreach
25 program that we're doing.

1 I've advised them to be low key, come and
2 appear in person, let people know what you're
3 doing, --

4 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

5 MR. SIMONCINI: -- make personal
6 connections and then, see where that leads from
7 there.

8 So, we haven't taken really like any really
9 high profile mega-sponsorship type stuff.
10 They've focused on, A, direct relationships with
11 patients, direct relationships with officials.
12 And then, I think that these programs that they
13 do in the community for outreach are relatable to
14 people and they end up -- you know, being more
15 interested in the hospital.

16 And trusting.

17 Look, we have a big trust issue to
18 overcome. The last guys did not do a great job
19 with that. And by being available to 95 percent
20 of New Jerseyans with our health insurance, that
21 was the start.

22 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

23 Maybe getting involved in some of the
24 health fairs that -- I mean, we do large health
25 fairs in Union City where we get 10,000 people

1 that show up. Maybe even have a table like Night
2 Out Against Crime, we have three different
3 locations in the city, have -- you know, people
4 from the hospital come out and do some of that
5 outreach. That would be good.

6 I mean Commissioner Fernandez organizes all
7 our events. I mean, if you want to have somebody
8 at our events, you could reach out for Lucio.
9 Lucio will be more than happy to work with you.

10 And the Board of Education, also, maybe
11 getting involved with the Board of Ed, when they
12 have a health fair, along with the city -- I
13 mean, you'll -- you'll reach a lot of people that
14 way. Maybe some brochures, some handouts, stuff
15 like that, blood pressure, diabetes, do all that
16 testing. It would be a good way to let us know.

17 I mean, I consider myself somebody who's
18 pretty much on the ball and keeping up with
19 stuff, and I got to be honest with you, I lost
20 like what -- I lost -- you know, touch with
21 what's happening with Meadow -- I call it
22 Meadowlands, with Meadowlands, I lost touch with
23 what's happening.

24 So, this is even like new to me. I mean, I
25 don't even know if the Commissioners, do you

1 know?

2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No. I didn't
3 know.

4 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: I didn't really
5 know.

6 MAYOR STACK: I didn't really --

7 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: I didn't know.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I didn't know.

9 MAYOR STACK: I really didn't know about
10 what's taking place. So, if we don't know, I
11 doubt very much that, really, people know.

12 MR. SIMONCINI: Agreed.

13 MAYOR STACK: I would also recommend, even
14 doing some -- I mean, if you guys can afford it,
15 some direct mail in the radius of the hospital,
16 reaching out and maybe some cable. Cable TV is
17 cheap, just to let people know that it's there.

18 MR. SIMONCINI: Yup.

19 MAYOR STACK: To be honest with you, I
20 didn't know what was happening with the hospital
21 anymore.

22 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: And under new
23 management, too.

24 MAYOR STACK: Yeah. Under --

25 MR. SIMONCINI: Yeah.

1 MAYOR STACK: -- under new management, new
2 ownership.

3 MR. SIMONCINI: It's amazing. New CEO, new
4 --

5 MAYOR STACK: Yeah.

6 MR. SIMONCINI: -- owner, new CF of the
7 whole --

8 MAYOR STACK: Absolutely.

9 MR. SIMONCINI: -- senior --

10 So, Commissioner Fernandez, would you mind
11 if I reached out to you, through the Clerk --

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Not at all.

13 MR. SIMONCINI: -- and we can figure
14 something out.

15 MAYOR STACK: Yeah. Yeah.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: That's my private
17 cell.

18 MR. SIMONCINI: Thank you --

19 MAYOR STACK: That's his --

20 MR. SIMONCINI: -- very much.

21 MAYOR STACK: -- direct cell right there.

22 Any time whatsoever that we can help, I
23 mean, don't hesitate.

24 I'm going to give you my cell phone number,
25 too. It's 201-376-1942. If you ever want to

1 meet and you want to setup in Union City, we have
2 a lot of public outreach stuff, we're more than
3 happy --

4 MR. SIMONCINI: Thank you.

5 MAYOR STACK: -- to work with you.

6 MR. SIMONCINI: Okay.

7 And Mayor, we're going to have a grand
8 opening for this thing a little bit later in the
9 summer.

10 MAYOR STACK: Good.

11 MR. SIMONCINI: So, we'd be happy to invite
12 you guys. We hope you'll come.

13 MAYOR STACK: You know what I'd like to see
14 the hospital do at some point, to do some type of
15 like -- like an emergent medical -- like an
16 emergent center, where people can go. If you set
17 up a spot in Union City, let's say, where people
18 could go, not a 24 hour operation, I understand
19 you couldn't do that, but something that's open
20 from six in the morning till ten o'clock at
21 night, to stop people from going to the emergency
22 room. Set up some type of a center in Union
23 City. Nothing gigantic, a couple thousand square
24 feet, set up somewhere. It's a good way to --
25 you know, get people to come in, get people

1 | attracted to the hospital for follow up care. It
2 | would be good to get that going. There's a great
3 | need for that in Union City.

4 | MR. SIMONCINI: We'll -- we'll look into
5 | that and we'll get back to you.

6 | MAYOR STACK: Absolutely.

7 | MR. SIMONCINI: That's great. That's a
8 | great idea.

9 | MAYOR STACK: Please, reach out.

10 | The Commissioner will set up all the
11 | events. Any time you want to reach out, we're
12 | here to help any way we can.

13 | MR. SIMONCINI: Great.

14 | Thank you very much.

15 | MAYOR STACK: Great.

16 | Thank you very much.

17 | MR. SIMONCINI: Thanks for having us.

18 | COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

19 | MAYOR STACK: Thanks for coming in. I
20 | appreciate it.

21 | MR. SIMONCINI: Nice to meet you finally.

22 | MAYOR STACK: Any time.

23 | Thanks for coming to the meeting.

24 | Thank you.

25 | MR. SIMONCINI: Fellows, thank you very

1 much.

2 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

3 MR. SIMONCINI: Thank you.

4 CITY CLERK: Take care.

5 MAYOR STACK: Anyone else wishing to
6 comment at this time? Please step forward.
7 State your name and address for the record.

8 Seeing no other.

9 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to close
10 public comment?

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Motion.

12 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
13 Fernandez.

14 Second?

15 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

16 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
17 Grullon.

18 Commissioner Fernandez?

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

20 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

21 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

22 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

23 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

24 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

25 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

1 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

2 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

3 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

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1 **LIQUOR LICENSE HEARINGS:**

2

3 (1) Resolution Approving a Person to Person
4 and Place to Place Liquor License Transfer Liquor
5 License No. 0910-33-011-008 from Partners
6 Associates (T/A Los Reyos Bar & Restaurant -
7 Pocket License) to El Salvadoreno Restaurant 2,
8 Inc., 4607 Bergenline Avenue, Union City, New
9 Jersey

10 (2) Sapan Spirit LLC

11 T/A International Discount Liquors

12 126 43rd Street

13 0910-44-027-005

14 (Jason Michael Ross, Esq.)

15 (3) R & J Supermarket

16 T/A La Roca Supermarket

17 4416 Bergenline Avenue

18 0910-43-005-003

19 (Adolfo Lopez, Esq.)

20 (4) Lee Entertainment, LLC

21 T/A Fantasy Night Club/Lounge

22 416-418 43rd Street

23 0910-33-072-007

24 (Adolfo Lopez, Esq.)

25

1 CITY CLERK: At this time we have Liquor
2 License Hearings.

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1 (1) Resolution Approving a Person to Person and
2 Place to Place Liquor License Transfer Liquor
3 License No. 0910-33-011-008 from Partners
4 Associates (T/A Los Reyos Bar & Restaurant -
5 Pocket License) to El Salvadoreno Restaurant 2,
6 Inc., 4607 Bergenline Avenue, Union City, New
7 Jersey

8
9 CITY CLERK: The first is a Resolution
10 Approving a Person to Person and Place to Place
11 Transfer of Liquor License 0910-33-011-008 from
12 Partners Associates, trading as Los Reyos Bar and
13 Restaurant.

14 It's a pocket license to El Salvadoran --
15 El Salvadoreno -- excuse me -- Restaurant 2,
16 Incorporated, at 4607 Bergenline Avenue, Union
17 City, New Jersey.

18 MAYOR STACK: Is anyone here on this
19 license?

20 MR. SAPIENZA: What license is that, Mayor?

21 CITY CLERK: El Salvadoreno.

22 MAYOR STACK: At 4607 Bergenline Avenue.

23 CITY CLERK: Eike Paneque is the counsel.
24 She's here tonight.

25 MR. SAPIENZA: We'll share.

1 MS. PANEQUE: Okay.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. DILLON: Do you have a card?

4 MS. PANEQUE: I do not.

5 MS. DILLON: What is your first name?

6 MS. PANEQUE: Eike, it's E-I-K-E.

7 MR. SAPIENZA: And what's the name of the
8 license purchased?

9 MS. PANEQUE: The license is going from
10 Partners Associates to El Salvadoreno 2.

11 MR. SAPIENZA: This is a transfer?

12 MS. PANEQUE: Yes. It is.

13 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
14 proceedings.)

15 CITY CLERK: So, --

16 MS. PANEQUE: Okay.

17 CITY CLERK: -- Ms. Paneque, if you want to
18 just explain what is occurring with the
19 application?

20 MS. PANEQUE: Sure.

21 CITY CLERK: And then, Lieutenant Loaces
22 will fill in some information.

23 MS. PANEQUE: It's currently -

24 My name's Eike Paneque --

25 MAYOR STACK: I'm sorry?

1 MS. PANEQUE: -- for Mr. Carlos Velasco.
2 He's the, I guess, owner of El Salvadoreno
3 Restaurant 2. It's an established restaurant on
4 46 --

5 MR. VELASCO: 4607.

6 MS. PANEQUE: -- 07 Bergenline. And he's
7 purchasing a -- what's presently a pocket
8 license, so he can serve as people eat dinner.

9 MAYOR STACK: All right.

10 What is this going to be though, a bar or a
11 restaurant?

12 MS. PANEQUE: No, it's a restaurant.

13 MAYOR STACK: Is there a bar?

14 MS. PANEQUE: There's a -- no. Not really,
15 no. It's -- he's going to have -- he has tables
16 right now and an area that -- where he has the
17 liquor, but it's going to be served as people eat
18 dinner and --

19 MAYOR STACK: I just want to make sure that
20 it stays in the family type atmosphere it is now.
21 It doesn't become a bar, where we're going to
22 have problems with fights and stuff like that.

23 MR. VELASCO: No. We -- no, my intention
24 is just --

25 MS. DILLON: Step -- step forward, --

1 MAYOR STACK: If you could just step
2 forward --

3 MS. DILLON: -- sir.

4 MAYOR STACK: -- a little bit.

5 MS. DILLON: And state your name --

6 MAYOR STACK: Yeah. Just to come on the
7 record.

8 MS. DILLON: -- for the record.

9 MR. VELASCO: Yes. My name is Carlos
10 Velasco, the owner for El Salvadoreno Restaurant.

11 Yeah. My intention is family restaurant.

12 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

13 So, we're not going to do any type of a bar
14 there or anything like that. It's going to be
15 table service.

16 MR. VELASCO: Right.

17 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

18 How long do you own the restaurant?

19 MR. VELASCO: A year and a half.

20 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

21 And what is your -- have you ever owned a
22 liquor license before?

23 MR. VELASCO: No.

24 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

25 MS. PANEQUE: But he does have another

1 restaurant in Fairview.

2 MR. VELASCO: In Fairview, 207 Anderson
3 Avenue.

4 MS. PANEQUE: That he's had for a number of
5 years.

6 MR. VELASCO: Five years.

7 MS. PANEQUE: And it's also a family
8 restaurant.

9 MR. VELASCO: That was for five year
10 already, back in February.

11 MAYOR STACK: What -- what I just want to
12 do, I just want to make sure, and I want to give
13 you the benefit of the doubt that you have a
14 restaurant there and we want you to be
15 successful, we want you to prosper. But I just
16 want to make sure we don't have problems there
17 with fights or anything like that, up there.

18 MR. VELASCO: No, no.

19 MAYOR STACK: You know, it's a big
20 responsibility when you're serving liquor.

21 MR. VELASCO: Yes.

22 MAYOR STACK: And the business changes.
23 Once you put in liquor, the business definitely
24 changes.

25 MR. VELASCO: Yes. Yeah. Just I take care

1 of that, you know?

2 MAYOR STACK: What time does the restaurant
3 close now?

4 MR. VELASCO: Ten o'clock.

5 MAYOR STACK: What time is it going to
6 close? It will continue to close at ten?

7 MR. VELASCO: No. My intention -- you
8 know, like Friday, Saturday, to 12.

9 MAYOR STACK: Like 12 o'clock?

10 MR. VELASCO: Yeah.

11 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

12 MR. VELASCO: And regular day -- you know,
13 like 10:30, 11.

14 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

15 MR. VELASCO: You know? Because I don't
16 want to -- you know, be like those bar -- you
17 know?

18 MAYOR STACK: Yeah. Exactly.

19 MR. VELASCO: Because I mean I --

20 MAYOR STACK: We have a number of bars in
21 that area.

22 MR. VELASCO: Right.

23 MAYOR STACK: And I just want to make sure
24 we don't have an issue, because you might get
25 somebody who's intoxicated that comes to your

1 establishment and says, okay, I want to have a
2 meal. But then, they want to get served liquor
3 that --

4 MR. VELASCO: That's why -- that's why we
5 talking to my -- my wife and that's --

6 MAYOR STACK: Right.

7 MR. VELASCO: -- what we want. You know,
8 we want a family restaurant.

9 MAYOR STACK: Good.

10 MR. VELASCO: We don't want a crazy. You
11 know, because we don't want no headache.

12 MAYOR STACK: Good.

13 MR. VELASCO: Yeah.

14 MAYOR STACK: That's good.

15 Lieutenant, do you have anything you'd like
16 to add?

17 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Yes.

18 Excuse me.

19 I had the opportunity to meet with the
20 gentleman and with his attorney actually at the
21 restaurant.

22 Prior to going there, I actually reviewed
23 our computer CAD entry to see if we have ever
24 responded there on any jobs, any calls for
25 service, fights, anything like that. We have

1 not.

2 MAYOR STACK: Good.

3 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Upon arriving there, it
4 immediately struck me as just that, a family --

5 MAYOR STACK: Good.

6 LIEUTENANT LOACES: -- oriented restaurant.

7 MAYOR STACK: Good.

8 LIEUTENANT LOACES: The gentleman has
9 assured me he has no intention of changing that.
10 He's not going to turn it into a nightclub or a
11 bar. He's not going to put in any pool tables or
12 anything that's going to invite that kind of
13 element into his family style restaurant.

14 I explained to him, and to his attorney,
15 that Union City has a very -- almost a zero
16 tolerance policy when it comes to ABC related
17 issues. And he has assured me that he
18 understands and he just wishes to be able to
19 afford to his customers the opportunity to have
20 -- you know, a -- an alcoholic beverage with
21 their meal. He does not, by any way, shape or
22 form, intend to make it into a nightclub or a
23 bar.

24 MAYOR STACK: And -- and Los Reyos' license
25 where they were?

1 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Um hum.

2 MAYOR STACK: They were located at 33rd --

3 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Thirty-third, across
4 from The Thread, 33rd and Hudson.

5 MAYOR STACK: Right.

6 So, they had quite a bit of violations on
7 their license over the years.

8 Right?

9 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Which I explained to
10 him, as well, that that --

11 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

12 LIEUTENANT LOACES: -- license is not
13 exactly --

14 MAYOR STACK: No.

15 LIEUTENANT LOACES: -- clean.

16 MAYOR STACK: A clean license.

17 LIEUTENANT LOACES: No.

18 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

19 LIEUTENANT LOACES: He is aware.

20 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

21 Is there anyone here on the license, on the
22 transfer from pocket status to 4607 Bergenline
23 Avenue, El Salvadoreno Restaurant Number 2,
24 Incorporated?

25 Okay.

1 Okay. You seem like a good man who's going
2 to take care of the establishment. Please do
3 that for us, okay?

4 MR. VELASCO: Yes.

5 MAYOR STACK: I'm going to approve -- I'm
6 going to make a motion to approve it, with the
7 stipulation until 12:30.

8 Okay, John?

9 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Yes.

10 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

11 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

12 There's a motion to approve until 12:30
13 made by Mayor --

14 MAYOR STACK: 12:30 a.m., right?

15 CITY CLERK: -- 12:30 a.m., made by Mayor
16 Stack.

17 May I have a second?

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.

19 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
20 Fernandez.

21 Commissioner Fernandez?

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

23 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

24 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

25 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

1 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

2 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

3 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

4 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

5 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

6 Good luck with the establishment.

7 MR. VELASCO: Thank you.

8 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

9 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

10 MAYOR STACK: Charlie, just make sure that

11 that's in the paperwork, please.

12 LIEUTENANT LOACES: 12:30.

13 CITY CLERK: I have the Resolution.

14 MAYOR STACK: 12:30.

15 CITY CLERK: I'll make sure that you look

16 at it.

17 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

18 Thank you, Erin.

19 Thank you very much.

20 MS. PANEQUE: Thank you everyone.

21 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

22 MS. PANEQUE: Thank you.

23 MAYOR STACK: Have a -- have a good

24 evening.

25 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Thank you.

1 MAYOR STACK: Good luck with your
2 establishment.

3 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Thank you, sir.

4 MAYOR STACK: That's important.

5 Thank you very much.

6 That's important.

7 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
8 proceedings.)

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1 (2) Sapan Spirit LLC
2 T/A International Discount Liquors
3 126 43rd Street
4 0910-44-027-005
5 (Jason Michael Ross, Esq.)
6

7 MR. SAPIENZA: The next matter on the
8 agenda is -- involves Sapan Spirit, LLC, license
9 number 0910-44-027-005.

10 The license is represented by Jason Michael
11 Ross, who stands on my left.

12 MR. ROSS: Good evening, Mayor,
13 Commissioners.

14 MR. SAPIENZA: Gentlemen -- ladies and
15 gentlemen -- I'm sorry -- this matter has been
16 the subject of previous discussion between
17 Gregory Farmer and Mr. J. Michael Ross.

18 And we have reached a -- a proposal for
19 settling the ABC charges that have been filed.

20 That proposal is that on these charges, the
21 licensee will serve a suspension from May 28th to
22 June 6th, ten days, inclusive, and all of these
23 charges will be --

24 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: What are the
25 charges?

1 CITY CLERK: Yeah.

2 MR. SAPIENZA: -- merged into one.

3 CITY CLERK: Excuse me?

4 MR. SAPIENZA: Anyone --

5 CITY CLERK: Mr. Sapienza, for the record,
6 can you list the charges?

7 MR. SAPIENZA: Yes, I can.

8 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

9 MR. SAPIENZA: Charge was having an
10 incomplete E-141 form on the premises. Mr.
11 Farmer has indicated that he would prefer that
12 that case -- that charge be dismissed.

13 Another charge was an employee on the
14 premises who did not have an employee license
15 identification on his person. There are two
16 employees like that.

17 And what were the other charges, Mr. Ross?

18 MR. ROSS: It was those two and -- and
19 sales. Underage.

20 MR. SAPIENZA: Sale to an underage --

21 MR. ROSS: Individual.

22 MR. SAPIENZA: -- customer.

23 So, that would be what we would merge all
24 of these cases into, the sale to the underage
25 customer.

1 So, could you explain to the Board what the
2 situation is now with -- with your client?

3 MR. ROSS: Situation with my client is --
4 and he'll -- he'll explain a little bit, too,
5 he's now taking more precautions to check
6 everyone's ID, making sure everyone has a -- a
7 bar card.

8 I was speaking with the Lieutenant and
9 there was a little confusion as to who needed to
10 have a bar card and who didn't need to have a bar
11 card. So, we're clearing that up.

12 And I -- I went and I did my own compliance
13 check with them. Went through everything to make
14 sure all the I's -- I's are dotted, T's are
15 crossed. I'm even filing an amendment to the
16 license application tonight, not that there was
17 really anything wrong with it, but I'm OCD about
18 this stuff, so I -- I wanted to make sure
19 everything was perfect on this -- on their
20 existing long form application.

21 MAYOR STACK: What's the history of the
22 license, Mr. Sapienza?

23 How many years has your client owned the
24 establishment?

25 MR. PATEL: Five years.

1 MAYOR STACK: Five years?

2 MR. ROSS: Yes. There -- there's no
3 disciplinary history in the last five years. And
4 then, prior to my client owning it, there was a
5 -- a minor charge, which they, I think, received
6 a one day suspended suspension, which they --

7 MAYOR STACK: Yeah. I haven't heard a lot.
8 No.

9 MR. ROSS: Yeah.

10 MAYOR STACK: Just -- I just ask that
11 you're very careful in who you sell to. You
12 know, when in doubt, proof, proof everybody.
13 It's most important to do that, especially when
14 it's a minor, it's serious.

15 MR. ROSS: My -- yeah. My client's
16 principal, the managing member, and sole member.
17 Prashant Patel is here. I don't know if you
18 wanted to hear from -- from him at all?

19 MAYOR STACK: No, that's fine.

20 MR. ROSS: Okay.

21 MAYOR STACK: That's fine.

22 MR. ROSS: Okay.

23 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

24 I'll make a motion to approve ten day
25 suspension, May 28 through June 6.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.
2 CITY CLERK: Moved by Mayor Stack.
3 Second by Commissioner Fernandez.
4 Commissioner Fernandez?
5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.
6 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?
7 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
8 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?
9 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
10 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?
11 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
12 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?
13 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
14 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
15 MAYOR STACK: Thank you very much.
16 MR. ROSS: Okay.
17 Thank you, Mayor.
18 MAYOR STACK: Have a good evening, guys.
19 MR. ROSS: It's good to see you again.
20 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

21 * * *

22

23

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25

1 (3) R & J Supermarket
2 T/A La Roca Supermarket
3 4416 Bergenline Avenue
4 0910-43-005-003
5 (Adolfo Lopez, Esq.)
6

7 MR. SAPIENZA: Next case is -- involves
8 R and J Supermarket, license number 0910-43-005-
9 003. Represented by Mr. Adolfo Lopez, who stands
10 on my left and only this pen this evening.

11 MR. LOPEZ: Mr. Mayor, Commissioners, good
12 evening.

13 My name is Adolfo Lopez. I'm here with Mr.
14 Nolasco from La Roca.

15 There was an incident involving a sale to a
16 minor. Since then, there has been a retraining
17 of all the cashiers. Cashiers are the ones who
18 actually do the sale, obviously, it goes through
19 there. Police Department was very clever in
20 bringing a Jersey City officer, who was just
21 underage. Just -- that's how it happened. The
22 girl did not ask for proof. Thought he was over
23 age. Obviously, he was not.

24 There are no excuses here, other than the
25 total failure of this one employee. But Mr.

1 Mayor and Commissioners, La Roca has retrained
2 all employees and instituted a policy of, as you
3 said, ask for proof.

4 MAYOR STACK: Exactly.

5 MR. LOPEZ: It's as simple as that. And
6 we've agreed to a ten day suspension.

7 In terms of history of the license, we
8 believe the last violation was a paper violation,
9 about nine or ten years ago. There have been no
10 violations since.

11 MR. SAPIENZA: The last violation was in
12 2009.

13 MAYOR STACK: Right. Ten years ago. You
14 got it.

15 Okay. I'll make --

16 Same thing. Just please be very careful
17 yourself.

18 MR. NOLASCO: Yes.

19 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.

20 MAYOR STACK: Proof everybody.

21 MR. SAPIENZA: The days of suspension are,
22 if I said them stop me, but June 3rd through and
23 including June 12th.

24 MAYOR STACK: Through June?

25 MR. LOPEZ: Twelfth.

1 MAYOR STACK: Okay. I got it.

2 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you very much.

3 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

4 I'll make a motion to approve.

5 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.

6 Second?

7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.

8 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner

9 Fernandez.

10 Commissioner Fernandez?

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

12 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

13 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

15 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

16 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti is

17 recusing.

18 Mayor Stack?

19 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

20 Thank you very much.

21 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you.

22 * * *

23

24

25

1 (4) Lee Entertainment, LLC
2 T/A Fantasy Night Club/Lounge
3 416-418 43rd Street
4 0910-33-072-007
5 (Adolfo Lopez, Esq.)
6

7 MR. SAPIENZA: The next matter involves Lee
8 Entertainment, LLC, trading as Fantasy Night
9 Club, license number 0910-33-072-009 (sic).
10 Represented by Mr. Adolfo Lopez.

11 Mr. Lopez and Mr. Farmer have spent time
12 discussing this particular case.

13 And Mr. Farmer has recommended, through me,
14 that a 15 day suspension is an adequate penalty
15 for the charges. And Mr. Lopez has indicated to
16 me that he and Mr. Farmer have agreed to a time
17 period of June 4 through June 18. That would be
18 15 day suspension.

19 I'll ask Mr. Lopez to address you now on
20 the charges.

21 MR. LOPEZ: Mr. Mayor and Commissioners, I
22 actually met with Mr. Farmer and Lieutenant
23 Loaces on this. And I mean, no excuses here, but
24 it is quite a shame. We reviewed a video as how
25 the incident happened. The location has cameras,

1 as are required by the Ordinance.

2 Management did everything correct. There
3 was an unruly patron. The patron was removed.
4 The doors were locked. The patron was outside.
5 The incident was over. No fights. Someone came
6 and opened the door, let him back in. A fight
7 ensued.

8 So, on the one hand, they did everything
9 that they were supposed to. Unfortunately,
10 someone let him in. And clearly, there was a
11 fight. Again, no excuses. They tried to break
12 it up as best as possible, but once it starts,
13 Mr. Mayor, Commissioners, there's really not much
14 management can do.

15 This is not what someone running a business
16 wants. They obviously -- they would prefer that
17 these things do not take place. They did.

18 Their security personnel are trained and
19 they took the right steps. Unfortunately, this
20 incident happened.

21 This license does have a history. It's a
22 difficult establishment. This is not a
23 restaurant. It is a nightclub. My client does
24 the best that he can and there was one incident
25 about a year ago. We fall just inside and Mr.

1 Farmer asked for an enhanced penalty on this, of
2 an additional five days from the recommendation.
3 And we accepted it because they realized that
4 this happened and they had agreed that, for the
5 one year, they would have no incidents and this
6 one did happen.

7

8 (Whereupon Commissioner Valdivia left the
9 meeting at 7:39 p.m.)

10

11 MR. LOPEZ: Again, there's been a
12 retraining and it's an unfortunate incident.

13 MAYOR STACK: Who called the police, Mr.
14 Lopez? Do you know? Who called -- who called
15 the police?

16 MR. LOPEZ: I don't know who called.

17 Do you know?

18 MAYOR STACK: Do we know?

19 LIEUTENANT LOACES: No.

20 MR. LOPEZ: We don't know.

21 MAYOR STACK: What night of the week was
22 this?

23 LIEUTENANT LOACES: I don't know. They
24 should have it there.

25 MAYOR STACK: What -- what I'm trying to

1 determine, Lieutenant --

2 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Um hum.

3 MAYOR STACK: I thought there was a police
4 officer stationed there.

5 LIEUTENANT LOACES: There should be. My
6 understanding is it's pretty much seven days a
7 week.

8 MR. LOPEZ: It was a -- it was a Thursday
9 night.

10 MR. SAPIENZA: On January 17th, 2019.

11 MAYOR STACK: A Thursday night? At about
12 what --

13 LIEUTENANT LOACES: January -- January
14 what?

15 MR. SAPIENZA: Seventeen.

16 LIEUTENANT LOACES: That is a Thursday.

17 MR. LOPEZ: It was a Thursday.

18 MAYOR STACK: What time? What time was
19 this fight?

20 LIEUTENANT LOACES: What time? According
21 to the report, the time would be right there. At
22 ten --

23 MR. LOPEZ: Ten o'clock.

24 MAYOR STACK: Ten o'clock.

25 MR. LOPEZ: It wasn't even that late.

1 MAYOR STACK: No.

2 John, do we keep a police officer? I
3 thought we keep a police officer --

4 LIEUTENANT LOACES: We do. Till three a.m.

5 MAYOR STACK: -- because the amount of
6 liquor establishments right there.

7 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Absolutely. We do.
8 Absolutely.

9 MAYOR STACK: Can you check into that for
10 me and let me know?

11 LIEUTENANT LOACES: I will.

12 MAYOR STACK: I'm just curious to see if
13 there was a police officer that readily was
14 available.

15 LIEUTENANT LOACES: I will.

16 MAYOR STACK: It doesn't affect so much
17 what -- what the -- what the action was that he
18 did or didn't do. I'm just curious to see if
19 that police officer is staying out there, because
20 there's times I pass and I don't see it.

21 LIEUTENANT LOACES: I'll look into it.
22 Absolutely, sir.

23 MAYOR STACK: Does -- does he know, Adolfo,
24 if he was -- if there was a cop outside?

25 MR. LEE: It wasn't.

1 MAYOR STACK: Was he able to get the police
2 officer outside?

3 MR. LEE: It wasn't because --

4 MAYOR STACK: No?

5 MS. DILLON: What is your name, sir?

6 MR. LEE: -- many, many time --

7 MAYOR STACK: There wasn't?

8 MR. LOPEZ: Your name?

9 MAYOR STACK: I believe it, too.

10 MR. LEE: Oh, my name, Fantuey Lee.

11 Many, many time they have to ask, and I so
12 happy when they are there.

13 MAYOR STACK: Yeah. Exactly.

14 MR. LEE: Because when we have any -- any
15 small trouble, we put the person at the door and
16 they help a lot. On that day, it was -- it was
17 the first --

18 MAYOR STACK: And it's a deterrent, too.
19 With that police officer out there -- even --
20 even if I'm drinking, unless I'm really out of it
21 -- you know, you think twice about going back to
22 start a fight.

23 MR. LEE: Yeah, he was outside already and
24 --

25 MAYOR STACK: Yeah.

1 MR. LEE: -- the --

2 MAYOR STACK: Just do me a favor, going
3 forward, if -- if -- I mean, your attorney will
4 tell you this, too, but just make sure you call
5 the police. If there's a fight, we always look
6 at that.

7 MR. LEE: Yeah.

8 MR. LOPEZ: Yeah.

9 MAYOR STACK: If you call the police,
10 believe me, we're going to look at that.

11 MR. LEE: Yeah. We -- we always do.

12 MAYOR STACK: Good.

13 MR. LEE: But --

14 MAYOR STACK: Good.

15 MR. LEE: It was so fast.

16 MAYOR STACK: Right.

17 MR. LEE: They opened the door, the guy
18 come in.

19 MAYOR STACK: I got it. I got it.

20 Okay. All right.

21 I'll make a --

22 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you.

23 Thank you.

24 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

25 I'll make a motion to approve.

1 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.
2 Second?
3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.
4 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
5 Fernandez.
6 Commissioner Fernandez?
7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.
8 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?
9 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
10 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia has left
11 at 7:38 p.m.
12 Commissioner Martinetti is recusing.
13 Mayor Stack?
14 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
15 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
16 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.
17 CITY CLERK: There are no --
18 MAYOR STACK: Have a good night.
19 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you so much.
20 MAYOR STACK: Good night.
21 Good night, Mr. Lopez.
22 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you.
23 MAYOR STACK: Good night, sir.
24 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
25 MS. DILLON: Sir? Sir?

1 MAYOR STACK: John, can I see you for a
2 minute?

3 LIEUTENANT LOACES: Yes.
4

5 **ADJOURNMENT:**
6

7 CITY CLERK: There are no other items on
8 the agenda --

9 MS. DILLON: I need his name.

10 CITY CLERK: -- may I have a motion to
11 adjourn?

12 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Motion.

14 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
15 Fernandez.

16 Second by Commissioner Grullon.

17 All in favor?

18

19 (Whereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)
20

21 CITY CLERK: Any opposition?

22 Thank you.
23

24 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded
25 at 7:41 p.m.)

1

Brian P. Stack

2

Lucio P. Fernandez

3

Maryury A. Martinetti

4

Celin J. Valdivia

5

Wendy A. Grullon

6

Board of Commissioners

7

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Attest:

9

Erin M. Knoedler,

10

City Clerk

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1 STATE OF NEW JERSEY:

2 :

3 COUNTY OF ESSEX :

4

5 I, DEBRA A. KASZNIAK, assigned transcriber,
6 do hereby affirm that the foregoing is a true and
7 accurate transcript in the matter of the REGULAR
8 MEETING of the UNION CITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
9 heard on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 and digitally
10 recorded.

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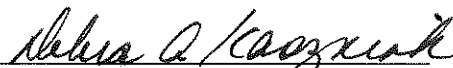
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Debra A. Kaszniak
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