

ORIGINAL

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

REGULAR MEETING

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED

PROCEEDINGS

Washington School
3905 New York Avenue
Union City, New Jersey

Tuesday, April 20, 2021
Commencing at 7:03 p.m.

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

LUCIO P. FERNANDEZ, COMMISSIONER
WENDY A. GRULLON, COMMISSIONER
MARYURY A. MARTINETTI, COMMISSIONER
CELIN J. VALDIVIA, COMMISSIONER
BRIAN P. STACK, MAYOR

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

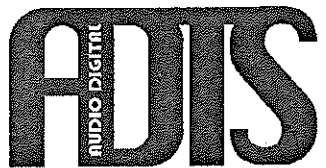
A L S O P R E S E N T:

ERIN M. KNOEDLER, CITY CLERK

SCARINCI HOLLENBECK
BY: ANGELO AUTERI, ESQ.
Corporation Counsel

GREGORY T. FARMER, ESQ.
Attorney for the Union City
Alcohol Beverage Control Commission

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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 20th, 2021 at seven
4 p.m., at the Washington School, 3905 New York
5 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 Adequate notice of the meeting has been
14 provided to The Jersey Journal, The Record, and
15 The Hudson Reporter, and posted on the board in
16 City Hall and made available to the public in the
17 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

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

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

10 1. ORDINANCE RESTRICTING OPEN BURNING
11 THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF UNION CITY.)

12

13 CITY CLERK: There are three Ordinances on
14 for Introduction this evening.

15 Adoption on first reading authorizes the
16 Municipal Clerk to advertise the notice of the
17 introduction, along with the public hearing and
18 further consideration, which will be held on
19 Tuesday, May 4th, 2021, at the Union Hill Middle
20 School, 3808 Hudson Avenue, Union City, New
21 Jersey.

22 Ordinance 1 is an Ordinance Restricting
23 Open Burning Throughout the City of Union City.

24 May I have a motion to introduce?

25 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

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?

11 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

12 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

13 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

15 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

16 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

17

18 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
19 action on the following item:

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

21 2. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 386 OF THE CODE
22 OF CITY OF UNION CITY OF UNION CITY ENTITLED
23 "TAXICABS" TO REDUCE THE INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.)

24

25 CITY CLERK: The next Ordinance is an

1 Ordinance Amending Chapter 386 of the Code of the
2 City of Union City Entitled Taxicabs to Reduce
3 Insurance Requirements.

4 May I have a motion to introduce?

5 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

6 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
7 Valdivia.

8 Second?

9 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

10 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
11 Martinetti.

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

23 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
24 action on the following item:

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

1 3. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 223, TO PROHIBIT
2 THE OPERATION OF CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENTS,
3 DISTRIBUTORS AND DELIVERY SERVICES WITHIN THE
4 CITY OF UNION CITY AND AMENDMENT TO SECTION 50
5 THEREOF.)

6
7 CITY CLERK: The next Ordinance is an
8 Ordinance Amending Chapter 223, to Prohibit the
9 Operation of Cannabis Establishments,
10 Distributors and Delivery Services within the
11 City of Union City and an Amendment to Section 50
12 Thereof.

13 May I have a motion to introduce?

14 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

15 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.

16 Second?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.

18 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: 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 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

7

8 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
9 action on the following items in total:

10 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

11 (1) Resolution Approving the Payment of Claims

12 (2) Resolution Approving the Payment of

13 Concurring Claims

14 (3) Resolution Approving the Escrow Refunds

15 (4) Resolution Approving the City Payroll

16 (5) Resolution Approving the Library Payroll

17 (6) Resolution Authorizing Refund of Redemption

18 Monies to Outside Lienholders

19 (7) Resolution Authorizing the Refund of

20 Premium Monies Collected at the Tax Sale

21 (8) Resolution Authorizing the City Clerk to

22 Advertise for Bids for the 2021 Tree Planting

23 Program

24 (9) Resolution Authorizing the City Clerk to

25 Advertise for Bids for the 2021 Sidewalk Program

1 (10) Resolution Authorizing the City Clerk to
2 Advertise for Bids for the 2021 Pavement Repairs
3 - Bonded Roads

4 (11) Resolution Authorizing the City Clerk to
5 Advertise for Re-bid for the William V. Musto
6 Center Roof/Façade Repairs & Renovations.)
7

8 CITY CLERK: There are 11 items on the
9 Consent Agenda.

10 The first is a Resolution Approving Payment
11 of Claims.

12 Second is a Resolution Approving the
13 Payment of Concurring Claims.

14 Third is a Resolution Approving the Escrow
15 Refunds.

16 Fourth is a Resolution Approving the City
17 Payroll.

18 Fifth is a Resolution Approving the Library
19 Payroll.

20 Sixth is a Resolution Approving the --
21 Authorizing the Refund of Redemption Monies to
22 Outside Lienholders.

23 Seventh is a Resolution Authorizing Refund
24 of Premium Monies Collected at the Tax Sale.

25 Eighth is a Resolution Authorizing the City

1 Clerk to Advertise for Bids for the 2021 Tree
2 Planting Program.

3 Ninth is a Resolution Authorizing the City
4 Clerk to Advertise for Bids for the 2021 Sidewalk
5 Program.

6 Tenth is a Resolution Authorizing the City
7 Clerk to Advertise for Bids for the 2021 Pavement
8 Repairs, Bonded Roads.

9 Eleventh is a Resolution Authorizing the
10 City Clerk to Advertise for Re-bid for the
11 William V. Musto Center Roof and Façade Repairs
12 and Renovations.

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

15 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

16 Just before we do, just to go over the
17 different tree planting program, the sidewalk
18 improvements, the pavement of the bonded roads;
19 this is, once again, just building up our
20 infrastructure.

21 Any streets that are opened for any type of
22 emergency repair or -- or repair done by an
23 outside person, the streets are repaved again,
24 just to keep them in good condition. So that,
25 going forward, the City maintains our

1 infrastructure.

2 In addition to that, the William V. Musto
3 Center façade repairs and, I believe also with
4 the roof; this is something that we've been
5 working on for quite some time. Hopefully, we're
6 maintaining a good structure. That was an old
7 library in which we continue to maintain it and
8 keep it in good order.

9 So, hopefully, we'll have that done.

10 Once again, I'd just like to thank the
11 Commissioners for moving the meetings around the
12 community. A hundred percent of our meetings are
13 moved in the evening hours throughout each
14 neighborhood of the community.

15 Thank you once again.

16 Anyone wishing to comment on the Consent
17 Agenda, please step forward, state your name and
18 address for the record.

19 Seeing none.

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

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Motion.

23 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
24 Fernandez.

25 Second?

1 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

2 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner

3 Grullon.

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 May I have a motion to approve all items on

16 Consent?

17 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

18 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner

19 Valdivia.

20 Second by Commissioner Fernandez.

21 Commissioner Fernandez?

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, but before

23 doing so, Miss Clerk, I want to commend the Mayor

24 for the wonderful street signs in the City; the

25 new signs.

1 It's been a very long time in the history,
2 as far as I can remember and there's no new
3 street sign. The street signs look beautiful.

4 And, Mayor, I can't thank you enough, on
5 behalf of the City of Union City, for those
6 beautiful street signs. Everybody's talking
7 about them.

8 MAYOR STACK: Thank you, Lucio.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: People finding
10 their way. It just makes our City look so
11 beautiful.

12 The -- the new sidewalks; the trees all
13 over the City. You drive all around the City,
14 just the City's a whole new different place.
15 It's just gorgeous how -- how the City's turning
16 around.

17 The work that you're doing on Palisade
18 Avenue, Mayor, I can't believe how beautiful
19 Palisade Avenue's coming along.

20 I -- I can't thank you enough on be-- on
21 behalf of, not just as a Commissioner but on
22 behalf of all the residents in Union City.

23 Thank you very much, Mayor, --

24 MAYOR STACK: Thank you, Commissioner.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- for the great

1 work.

2 MAYOR STACK: Thank you, Lucio.

3 CITY CLERK: Thank you, Commissioner
4 Fernandez.

5 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

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: And Mayor Stack?

13 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

15

16 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
17 action on the following item:

18 **REGULAR AGENDA:**

19 1. Resolution Approving a Payment of Claim for
20 the Hudson County Improvement Authority.)

21

22 CITY CLERK: There are four items on the
23 Regular Agenda.

24 The first is a Resolution Approving a
25 Payment of Claim for the Hudson County

1 Improvement Authority.

2 May I have a motion on item 1?

3 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

4 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Motion.

5 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner

6 Grullon.

7 Second by Commissioner Valdivia.

8 Commissioner Fernandez?

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

10 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

11 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

12 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

13 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti is
15 recusing.

16 Mayor Stack?

17 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

18 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

19

20 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
21 action on the following item:

22 **REGULAR AGENDA:**

23 2. Resolution Approving a Payment of Claim for
24 the Union City Daycare.)

25

1 CITY CLERK: The next is a Resolution
2 Approving a Payment of Claim for the Union City
3 Daycare.

4 May I have a motion on item 2?

5 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

6 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
7 Martinetti.

8 Second?

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.

10 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
11 Fernandez.

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: And Mayor Stack is recusing.

21

22 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
23 action on the following item:

24 **REGULAR AGENDA:**

25 3. Resolution Re-appointing Carlos Vallejo as

1 a Trustee of the Union City Board of Education.)

2

3 CITY CLERK: The third Resolution is a
4 Resolution Re-appointing Carlos Vallejo as a
5 Trustee of the Union City Board of Education.

6 Angelo?

7 MR. AUTERI: Normally, Commissioner
8 Valdivia and Grullon would not vote on Board of
9 Ed matters. Tonight we're -- the Board is
10 invoking the doctrine of necessity.

11 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

12 May I have a motion to approve item 3?

13 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Motion.

14 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
15 Grullon.

16 Second?

17 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

18 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
19 Valdivia.

20 Commissioner Fernandez is -- is recusing.

21 Commissioner Grullon?

22 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

23 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

24 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

25 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti is

1 recusing.

2 And Mayor Stack?

3 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

4 I would just like to thank Carlos Vallejo
5 for serving all these years. He served many
6 years on the Board of Education and we're proud
7 to appoint him for another three year term.

8 CITY CLERK: Thank you, Mayor.

9

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

12 **REGULAR AGENDA:**

13 4. Resolution Appointing Rosa Cortez-Lopez as
14 a Trustee of the Union City Board of Education.)

15

16 CITY CLERK: The next is a Resolution
17 Appointing Rosa Cortez-Lopez as a Trustee of the
18 Union City Board of Education.

19 Angelo?

20 MR. AUTERI: The City will again invoke the
21 doctrine of necessity for this item.

22 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

23 May I have a motion to approve item 4?

24 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

25 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Motion.

1 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.

2 Second by Commissioner Gullon.

3 Commissioner Fernandez is recusing.

4 Commissioner Gullon?

5 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

6 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

7 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

8 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti is
9 recusing.

10 And Mayor Stack?

11 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

12 I'd just like to make a comment.

13 Rosa Cortez-Lopez is somebody who's lived
14 in the community for, I believe, over 30 years
15 right now. It's definitely over 30 years.

16 I actually met Rosa and her husband when I
17 used to walk around the City by myself seeking
18 residents' complaints and doing voter
19 registration. And she lived in 1013 Palisade
20 Avenue; she still lives there today. And just a
21 very nice family.

22 And I felt that this would be somebody good
23 to serve on -- on the Board of Education.

24 She's replacing -- just as a member, she's
25 replacing Jeanie Pena, who resigned after 18

1 | years of serving on the Board of Education, to
2 | pursue a career endeavor.

3 | And I'd just like to thank Rosa for her
4 | service.

5 | Obviously, these positions are not paid
6 | positions and Rosa came forward and said, yes,
7 | she would be happy to serve on the Board of
8 | Education.

9 | So I think it's important that everybody
10 | welcomes her. She's a very nice young lady.
11 | Somebody who's lived in the community for over 30
12 | years, I know that for sure.

13 | I know it's -- I don't know how much time
14 | it is, I just know I'm getting old. Especially,
15 | I know somebody for 30 years living in the same
16 | building.

17 | But -- but, having said that, I'd just like
18 | to thank her.

19 | And I'd just like to remind the public
20 | that, most importantly, anyone wishing to serve
21 | on a board in the community, all they have to do
22 | is just come forward. We've appointed a lot of
23 | people to boards.

24 | Anyone wishing to serve on any board in the
25 | City, just please send me a letter that you'd

1 | like to serve and we'll do our best to get you
2 | appointed as vacancies arrive.

3 | Thank you very much.

4 | CITY CLERK: Thank you, Mayor.

5 |

6 | **OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

7 |

8 | CITY CLERK: At this time would you like to
9 | take public comment on any item concerning
10 | government in the City of Union City?

11 | MAYOR STACK: Anyone wishing to comment on
12 | any matter concerning municipal government in the
13 | City of Union City, please step forward, state
14 | your name and address for the record.

15 | Seeing none.

16 | CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to close
17 | public comment?

18 | COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Motion.

19 | CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
20 | Fernandez.

21 | Second?

22 | COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

23 | CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
24 | Martinetti.

25 | Commissioner Fernandez?

1 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

2 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

3 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

4 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

5 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

6 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

7 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

8 CITY CLERK: And Mayor Stack?

9 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

10 I would just like to also thank all the
11 Commissioners again; thank all those that attend
12 the meeting.

13 Erin, as our City Clerk.

14 Angelo, as our -- our Corporation Counsel.

15 Mr. Farmer, who's at many of the meetings,
16 if not most of the meetings -- or all the
17 meetings I should say.

18 Lieutenant Dunlay.

19 During the entire pandemic, which we're
20 still in, they came to every meeting.

21 We only had one meeting by Zoom. Only one
22 meeting by Zoom.

23 And we've continued to do it with social
24 distance, which I think is important; gives
25 people a sense that their leadership in the City

1 is working on their behalf. They see them.

2 I'm not a big fan of going on Zoom. I'd
3 much rather do meetings in -- in -- in person.

4 And I'd just like to thank the
5 Commissioners for doing this with me.

6 Thank you, again.

7 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: You're welcome,
8 Mayor.

9 CITY CLERK: Thank you, Mayor.

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1 LIQUOR LICENSE PUBLIC HEARINGS:

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3 1. 2216 Bergenline Ave, LLC

4 t/a Centro Bar

5 2216 Bergenline Avenue

6 0910-33-166-006

7

8 2. Wendy C. Diaz

9 t/a Tropical Bar & Restaurant

10 4100C Bergenline Avenue

11 0910-33-060-003

12

13 3. Bambinas Bar & Restaurant, Inc.

14 t/a Milagro Bar

15 2906 Bergenline Avenue

16 0910-33-040-009

17 (Nino Falcone, Esq.)

18

19 CITY CLERK: At this time we have Liquor
20 License Public Hearings.

21 Mr. Farmer, whenever you're ready.

22

23 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
24 proceedings.)

25

1 MR. FARMER: Good evening, Mayor and
2 members of the Board.

3 There are three matters on your calendar.

4

5

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1 LIQUOR LICENSE PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2

3 1. 2216 Bergenline Ave, LLC

4 t/a Centro Bar

5 2216 Bergenline Avenue

6 0910-33-166-006

7

8 MR. FARMER: The first one is Centro Bar.

9 I received a phone call this afternoon from
10 Mr. Ciro Mederos, indicating he had just been
11 retained by the licensee and asked for it to be
12 adjourned.

13 This is the first time it's on. And we can
14 adjourn it to May 4th, if that's okay with
15 everybody.

16 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
17 proceedings.)

18 MR. FARMER: So if we could just carry this
19 to May 4th.

20 MAYOR STACK: Sure. Absolutely.

21 MR. FARMER: Okay?

22 MAYOR STACK: I'll make a motion to
23 carry --

24 This is on which one, Mr. Farmer?

25 MR. FARMER: This is on the first one.

1 MAYOR STACK: Centro -- Centro Bar, --

2 MR. FARMER: Yeah.

3 MAYOR STACK: 22--

4 MR. FARMER: Ciro Mederos called me; said
5 he represents them.

6 MAYOR STACK: All right. So we'll put this
7 on the May 4th meeting.

8 I'll make a --

9 Do I need to make a motion, Erin, on that?

10 CITY CLERK: Well, since the -- yeah, I
11 think since the representatives of the bar are
12 here, I think we should make a motion, so --

13 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

14 CITY CLERK: Thank you, Mayor.

15 Motion by Mayor Stack.

16 Second?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.

18 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
19 Fernandez.

20 Commissioner Fernandez?

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

22 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

23 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

24 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

25 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

1 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

2 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

3 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

4 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

5 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

6

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1 LIQUOR LICENSE PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2

3 Wendy C. Diaz

4 t/a Tropical Bar & Restaurant

5 4100C Bergenline Avenue

6 0910-33-060-003

7

8 MR. FARMER: The next one is Tropical Bar.

9 Wendy Diaz, the licensee is here, as well
10 as Lieutenant Dunlay.

11 We've had two discussions with Wendy Diaz
12 and Tropical Bar; last Thursday and again this
13 evening. And Lieutenant Loaces (sic) has been
14 involved in both of those discussions.

15 MAYOR STACK: Lieutenant Dunlay.

16 MR. FARMER: Oh, I said Loaces?

17 MAYOR STACK: Dunlay.

18 MR. FARMER: Lieutenant Dunlay. My
19 apologies.

20 Just like you said, if you keep doing
21 something for 30 years, just go back --

22 MAYOR STACK: I get it.

23 MR. FARMER: -- and fall into --

24 MAYOR STACK: I get it.

25 MR. FARMER: -- old habits.

1 But, in any event, Lieutenant Dunlay spoke
2 with the licensee. The licensee is here.
3 Charged with two offenses.

4 One, being open after ten o'clock, in
5 contrary to your Executive Order back in March.

6 Now there seemed to be a little confusion
7 here. Because in this March that closing was
8 extended to 12 o'clock. But this offense took
9 place in February.

10 In our discussions the licensee raised a
11 point that he called the Police Station and they
12 told him 11 o'clock when he was served with the
13 summons. But, nevertheless, that was in February
14 and it's clear that in February of this year the
15 closing hours was ten o'clock -- were ten
16 o'clock; it wasn't changed until about a month
17 later.

18 He also had some paper violations.

19 We're going to be having a training course
20 later in -- in May, once we get the date
21 straightened out and the notices squared away,
22 where I'm hoping that we can get across what
23 documentation and what paper documentation
24 licensees must have on premises and in their
25 possession at all time.

1 Because every time we have a paper
2 violation, we look at the history and it's three
3 or four past violations. And these people are
4 reasonable people. So, maybe it just needs to be
5 clarified.

6 So, after saying all that, we have
7 discussed the matter and subject to your
8 approval, there will be a ten day suspension,
9 going from May 4th to May 13th.

10 MAYOR STACK: Is there anything --

11 Like in the training that we do, -- in the
12 training that we do, --

13 I know we do the training.

14 -- do we tell people exactly what they're
15 supposed to have?

16 MR. FARMER: Yes.

17 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

18 Maybe if --

19 MR. FARMER: And -- and --

20 MAYOR STACK: -- there was something like
21 you said though, spelled out, --

22 MR. FARMER: Well, --

23 MAYOR STACK: -- and maybe even if --

24 So -- the amount of paperwork that they
25 have to show, when you go in Lieutenant, --

1 MR. FARMER: Um-hum.

2 MAYOR STACK: -- how much -- how much would
3 it take up? Like in a -- in a --

4 Would it fit in a folder?

5 Would it --

6 MR. FARMER: Oh, sure.

7 MAYOR STACK: Yeah.

8 MR. FARMER: Sure.

9 And -- and you know, quite frankly, just --
10 just so we're clear on this, --

11 I don't have it with me but I can easily
12 get it to you.

13 -- we have sent out a letter to the
14 licensees saying this is what you need; A, B, C,
15 D, E, F.

16 I also sent it out just last week again.
17 No, couple days ago. Today's Tuesday; probably
18 Friday, another one, which is reiterating the
19 same thing.

20 So, -- and, plus, when they got their
21 license, they got a booklet that had all the
22 rules and regulations and in that says what you
23 got to have on your premises --

24 MAYOR STACK: Do you --

25 MR. FARMER: -- at all times.

1 MAYOR STACK: -- think it would help if we
2 made up something, almost like a binder, and we
3 put the pages in that they would be able --

4 I don't know. This may not be a great
5 idea.

6 Maybe if we made up a binder that said City
7 of Union City, you know, records of a liquor
8 establishment. Each establishment's given it to
9 -- in a bright red or a bright yellow, where they
10 could put it, where it wouldn't get lost in the
11 establishment, and they could actually --

12 You know, something where you have the
13 pages that you could slide stuff in. It's
14 covered in plastic. That it would be in a spot
15 that they would just hand it --

16 MR. FARMER: Okay.

17 MAYOR STACK: -- to --

18 MR. FARMER: I --

19 MAYOR STACK: -- to the -- to the, you
20 know, to the detectives --

21 MR. FARMER: The licensee.

22 MAYOR STACK: -- when they come in.

23 MR. FARMER: We can do that and we will do
24 that.

25 One other thing, aside from the letter that

1 I sent them, when we have the training, we can
2 distribute it right there at the training because
3 all the licensees will be there.

4 As well as one of our concerns is that we
5 want to make sure that we know who the people
6 are.

7 MAYOR STACK: Right.

8 MR. FARMER: That it's not ABC
9 Corporation --

10 MAYOR STACK: Right.

11 MR. FARMER: -- at the resi-- at the bar
12 site.

13 We want to know that it's -- that license
14 is owned, controlled by Mary and Joe Sullivan and
15 -- who live in Hackensack and this is their
16 telephone number.

17 So we have that and that's going to go out
18 when we send out the notice for the hearing.

19 We have -- already have it in a form.

20 We will also, just as you indicate, we will
21 get something laminated, put together, --

22 MAYOR STACK: Right.

23 MR. FARMER: -- and we'll give it out at
24 the -- at the hearing so everybody knows.

25 More than that, I don't know what we can

1 do.

2 We've sent -- we sent out two letters.
3 They have to know what it is. When they got the
4 license, they would notice that. We're going to
5 give them this laminated thing. And we're also
6 going to have a whole training session on it;
7 just like we have done in the past.

8 This is about --

9 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

10 MR. FARMER: -- the third training session.

11 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

12 MR. FARMER: But, hope--

13 MAYOR STACK: Lieutenant, do you have --
14 you want to add something to that, Dave?

15 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Yes, sir.

16 I'm sorry.

17 Lieutenant David Dunlay, Union City Police.

18 We've done the -- when we've done the
19 training, we've always given everybody a handout.
20 And it's pretty much the -- the playbook for, you
21 know, the way it's -- it's supposed to be with --

22 MAYOR STACK: Is it in Spanish also?

23 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: It is not.

24 MAYOR STACK: See, that --

25 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: It is not.

1 MAYOR STACK: -- that's another thing. We
2 should --

3 I mean we're in a community that's 95
4 percent Hispanic. I'm not saying that you should
5 trans-- but we should get it professionally
6 translated.

7 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Okay.

8 MAYOR STACK: One thing, listen, if
9 somebody has a paper violation, it's serious.
10 Don't get me wrong. But a paper violation,
11 compared to people that have other types of
12 violations, it's -- it's a world's difference.

13 And maybe we should -- maybe we should two
14 things. Let's get it professionally translated.
15 Let's get a company to professionally translate
16 the whole booklet. And let's get some type of a
17 binder that we give out that they can actually
18 slip this stuff into.

19 I think it's -- I think it's a step that
20 the City's making in the right direction to work
21 together.

22 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Absolutely, sir.

23 MR. FARMER: There --

24 Just -- just since we're in this
25 discussion.

1 There are paper violations and there are
2 paper violations.

3 MAYOR STACK: Right.

4 MR. FARMER: You can -- you can --

5 MAYOR STACK: Exactly. That's what I mean,
6 Greg.

7 MR. FARMER: All right.

8 MAYOR STACK: Right.

9 MR. FARMER: One of the things that we want
10 to really be careful of is the E-141. That's the
11 form that the licensee has to keep, having the
12 address and telephone number, --

13 MAYOR STACK: Right.

14 MR. FARMER: -- of every --

15 So that if an incident occurs, we know
16 who's working in that place.

17 MAYOR STACK: Exactly, a hundred percent.

18 MR. FARMER: Okay?

19 MAYOR STACK: And -- and, believe me, I'm
20 not downplaying paper violations because you know
21 how I feel --

22 MR. FARMER: Yeah.

23 MAYOR STACK: -- when it comes to all of
24 this stuff. You know, we've been very strong on
25 it.

1 But I think it would be a good idea, just
2 to make a step in this right direction.
3 Translate the entire booklet to Spanish --
4 professionally. Let's get it professionally
5 done. And let's work out the binder and see if
6 that improves it. That's all.

7 MR. FARMER: Okay.

8 MAYOR STACK: All right?

9 MR. FARMER: Okay.

10 MAYOR STACK: Dave, you're going to work on
11 getting a company. Maybe through work-- working
12 with Erin. Erin could help you to get a company
13 in that could translate that whole document.

14 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Absolutely, sir.

15 I'll check with also the State ABC, see if
16 they have anything on file.

17 MAYOR STACK: Yeah. I would volunteer
18 Fannie in my office but she'll kill me.

19 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: No, absolutely.

20 MAYOR STACK: All right?

21 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: I just --

22 MAYOR STACK: Plus, I need her to do my
23 letters.

24 No.

25 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: I just want to just be

1 clear here.

2 This is -- Wendy C. Diaz is actually the
3 owner of the license. This is her brother and
4 her -- and her --

5 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

6 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: -- and her mother that
7 are here.

8 So you guys could just enter your
9 appearances.

10 MR. DIAZ: Yes. I'm Peter Diaz,
11 representing Tropical Bar Restaurant, --

12 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

13 MR. DIAZ: -- 4100 Bergenline Avenue.

14 Yeah, we're here to accept the -- the
15 punishment for the -- the ten days for the
16 violation.

17 MR. FARMER: Now you know you could have a
18 lawyer here?

19 MR. DIAZ: Yes.

20 MR. FARMER: And you're choosing not to?

21 MR. DIAZ: I choose not to, yes.

22 MR. FARMER: Okay.

23 And the days you proposed, May --

24 MR. DIAZ: May 4th to May 13th.

25 MR. FARMER: May 4th through May 13th.

1 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

2 I'll make a motion to approve.

3 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.

4 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

5 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
6 Fernandez.

7 Commissioner Fernandez?

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

9 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

10 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

11 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

12 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

13 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

14 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

15 CITY CLERK: And Mayor Stack?

16 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

17 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

18 MR. FARMER: Okay, that's it.

19 MR. DIAZ: Thank you.

20 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Thank you.

21 MAYOR STACK: Thank you very much.

22 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
23 proceedings.)

24

25

* * *

1 LIQUOR LICENSE PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2

3 Bambinas Bar & Restaurant, Inc.

4 t/a Milagro Bar

5 2906 Bergenline Avenue

6 0910-33-040-009

7 (Nino Falcone, Esq.)

8

9 MR. FARMER: I'm -- what I'm doing right
10 now is trying to get a hold of Nino Falcone, who
11 represents Bambinas.

12 The licensee is here.

13 And when I spoke to Mr. Falcone today and
14 last week, he indicated because of his own
15 physical condition, he was reluctant to come here
16 in person.

17 This is a paper violation. We've worked it
18 out. It's three days. It will be May 3rd, 4th,
19 and 5th.

20 I tried just before we got -- stood up here
21 now to get a hold of Mr. Falcone and I didn't --
22 was unable to get him.

23 So I'm going to try him again now and see
24 if we hear him.

25 But, in any event, the licensee is here.

1 She's spoken to Lieutenant Dunlay. And it's
2 going to be --

3 And, again, this is a situation with
4 respect to paper violation. There's confusion as
5 to what papers she should have, although this is
6 like the fourth or fifth offense -- time there's
7 been a violation of paper.

8 Let's see if we get Falcone here.

9

10 (Whereupon, Mr. Farmer placed a telephone
11 call to Nino Falcone, Esq.; call went to
12 voicemail.)

13

14 MR. FARMER: Would you -- would you put
15 your name on the record?

16 This is the licensee of Tropical Bar
17 (sic) --

18 Not Tropical Bar.

19 -- Bambinas Bar at 2906 Bergenline Avenue.

20 MS. MAJORCA: Yes.

21 Good afternoon, Mayor Brian Stack,
22 everybody buenas tardes.

23 (Whereupon, Vilma Majorca, licensee,
24 addressed the Board in Spanish.)

25 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Your -- your name.

1 MR. FARMER: No.

2 MR. DILLON: I need a name.

3 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Your name.

4 MR. FARMER: Your name.

5 MS. MAJORCA: Ah, my name -- nombre, Vilma
6 Majorca.

7 My name is Vilma Majorca.

8 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Vilma Majorca.

9 MR. DILLON: Majorca?

10 MAYOR STACK: But she's represented by
11 counsel.

12 Right?

13 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Yes.

14 MS. MAJORCA: Yes.

15 MR. FARMER: Mr. Falcone.

16 MAYOR STACK: Okay.

17 MS. MAJORCA: Yeah, he's no come because
18 he's --

19 MAYOR STACK: We're going to get him -- he
20 couldn't get him on the phone?

21 MR. FARMER: I tried twice.

22 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: We had a --

23 MR. FARMER: Just a minute ago.

24 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: I'm sorry.

25 We had a meeting on Thursday, with Mr.

1 | Falcone, via tele-- telephone, where we discussed
2 | the matter and we came to an agreement on the
3 | last Thursday before today.

4 | MAYOR STACK: I know but we got to get him
5 | on the phone tonight though.

6 | MR. FARMER: Well, I -- I told him --

7 | MAYOR STACK: If -- if she's represented by
8 | counsel, I can't let her go ahead on her own.
9 | She's got to have her lawyer on the phone or
10 | here.

11 | I mean I'm not even crazy -- just having
12 | him on the phone -- with that idea but --

13 | He really should be here.

14 | But I understand the situation.

15 |

16 | (Whereupon, Mr. Farmer placed a telephone
17 | call to Nino Falcone, Esq.)

18 |

19 | LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: And, Mayor, if I could
20 | just add something while we're waiting?

21 | MAYOR STACK: Sure.

22 | LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Regarding the whole
23 | books, there's a -- the issue there may be some
24 | confusion.

25 | A lot of the licensees tend to do have

1 | their paperwork in order. The problem that we're
2 | always seeing is the books of account.

3 | Right?

4 | Now the books of account are done for two
5 | reasons. Either you maintain proper books
6 | because -- or you don't maintain proper books
7 | because you don't know what you're doing.

8 |
9 | (Whereupon, Mr. Farmer's telephone call to
10 | Nino Falcone, Esq., call went to voicemail.)

11 |
12 | LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Or there's another
13 | reason why you don't maintain proper books is
14 | because you're trying to hide money.

15 | That's the main reason why the books of
16 | accounts have always been created --

17 | MAYOR STACK: Okay.

18 | LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: -- and it's always been
19 | up in -- up in the air.

20 | So a lot of times the violations are very
21 | minimal --

22 | MAYOR STACK: Okay.

23 | LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: -- and it goes --

24 | MAYOR STACK: No --

25 | LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: So they rather take the

1 -- the violation, the one, two, three day --

2 MAYOR STACK: Right.

3 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: -- suspension, --

4 MAYOR STACK: Right.

5 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: -- as opposed to, you
6 know, --

7 MAYOR STACK: And, Dave, you guys have done
8 a great job. And that's why going into these
9 establishments is what's important about how
10 we're getting these paper violations, which is
11 something that -- you know I support that, --

12 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Yeah.

13 MAYOR STACK: -- a thousand percent.

14 But if there's anything that you think
15 makes it easier or more efficient, we'll back you
16 a hundred percent.

17 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Thank you, sir.

18 MAYOR STACK: But getting the book
19 translated is a good idea.

20

21 (Whereupon, Vilma Majorca and Lieutenant
22 Dunlay had a discussion in Spanish.)

23

24 MAYOR STACK: You can't get him, Greg?

25 MR. FARMER: Can't get him. Just called

1 him a third time.

2 Well, --

3 MAYOR STACK: What his cellphone?

4 MR. FARMER: Cellphone. His private line.

5 He gave me his private line.

6 MAYOR STACK: You want to put it off then?

7 Want to try him one more time?

8 MR. FARMER: Try him one more time.

9 MAYOR STACK: Try him one more time and
10 then we'll put it off.

11 MR. FARMER: Just -- so what?

12

13 (Whereupon, Vilma Majorca and Lieutenant
14 Dunlay continued a discussion in Spanish.)

15

16 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
17 proceedings.)

18

19 (Whereupon, Mr. Farmer placed a telephone
20 call to Nino Falcone, Esq.)

21

22 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
23 proceedings.)

24 MAYOR STACK: Greg, maybe you want to leave
25 a message on the record that you called him

1 after --

2

3 (Whereupon, Mr. Farmer's telephone call to
4 Nino Falcone, Esq. went to voicemail.)

5

6 MAYOR STACK: I mean you're doing that now.
7 Maybe you want to leave him a message.

8 We'll adjourn it until the May 4th meeting.

9 MR. FARMER: Okay.

10 We'll adjourn it to the 4th then.

11 MAYOR STACK: Yeah.

12 MR. FARMER: Okay.

13 We're coming back on the 4th.

14 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Okay.

15 MR. FARMER: Because it --

16 And these days will have to change.

17

18 (Whereupon, Lieutenant Dunlay addressed
19 Vilma Majorca in Spanish.)

20

21 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
22 proceedings.)

23 MR. DILLON: Are we on the record?

24 CITY CLERK: Excuse -- she's --

25 MR. FARMER: I had told him that we would

1 call him.

2 CITY CLERK: -- excuse me, Mr. Farmer?

3 She's okay with tabling it for this
4 evening?

5 MR. FARMER: Pardon me?

6 CITY CLERK: She's okay with tabling it for
7 this evening?

8 MR. FARMER: Yes.

9 CITY CLERK: Okay.

10 Since she's --

11 MAYOR STACK: She -- she understands that
12 we're going to be -- the meeting will be --

13 Being that we couldn't reach Mr. Falcone,
14 -- Mr. Farmer has tried numerous times, in Vilma
15 Majorca's presence here at the Commission
16 meeting, and being that we can't reach him, --

17 He tried to reach Mr. Falcone four times.

18 Correct, Greg?

19 MR. FARMER: Yes.

20 MAYOR STACK: -- we're going to put this
21 off being that Vilma's represented by counsel,
22 Nino Falcone.

23 We'll put this off until the May 4th
24 meeting, which will be held at Union --

25 MR. FARMER: Union Hill Middle School.

1 MAYOR STACK: -- Union Hill Middle School
2 on 38th and Hudson Avenue.

3 CITY CLERK: Okay.

4 So, Mayor Stack's --

5 MR. FARMER: And I'll be sending out a --

6 CITY CLERK: -- going to make a motion to
7 table.

8 May I have a second?

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Second.

10 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

11 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
12 Fernandez.

13 Commissioner Fernandez?

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

15 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

16 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

17 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

18 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

19 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

20 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

21 CITY CLERK: And Mayor Stack?

22 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

23 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

24

25

* * *

1 **ADJOURNMENT :**

2

3 CITY CLERK: There are no other items on
4 the agenda.

5 Have -- may I have a motion to adjourn?

6 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Motion.

7 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

8 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
9 Fernandez.

10 Second by Mayor Stack.

11 Commissioner Fernandez?

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

13 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Grullon?

14 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

15 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

16 (No audible response.)

17 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

18 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

19 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

20 MAYOR STACK: Thank you, Greg.

21 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

22 MR. FARMER: Okay.

23 Thank you.

24 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded
25 at 7:28 p.m.)

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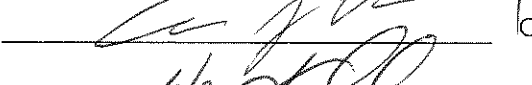
Brian P. Stack



Lucio P. Fernandez



Maryury A. Martinetti



Celin J. Valdivia



Wendy A. Grullon

Board of Commissioners

Attest:



Erin M. Knoedler,

City Clerk

1 STATE OF NEW JERSEY:

2 :

3 COUNTY OF ESSEX :

4

5 I, KAREN A. MARINO, 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 20, 2021 and digitally
10 recorded.

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Karen A. Marino
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