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| 1  | NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP<br>SCOPING HEARING ON THE<br>LAND DIVERSION BETWEEN<br>THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE<br>AND MONMOUTH COUNTY<br>GREEN ACRES | 2  | MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Welcome, everyone,                   |
| 2  |                                                                                                                                       | 3  | to the Neptune Township Scoping Hearing on the Land     |
| 3  |                                                                                                                                       | 4  | Diversion Between the Township of Neptune and Monmouth  |
| 4  |                                                                                                                                       | 5  | County Green Acres. We could now stand for a pledge of  |
| 5  |                                                                                                                                       | 6  | allegiance.                                             |
| 6  |                                                                                                                                       | 7  | (Whereupon the pledge of allegiance                     |
| 7  |                                                                                                                                       | 8  | commences.)                                             |
| 8  | Tuesday, October 1, 2013                                                                                                              | 9  | MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you. I'm glad                  |
| 9  |                                                                                                                                       | 10 | everybody could come out to night. I see there's a lot  |
| 10 |                                                                                                                                       | 11 | of interest in this project. And we're very happy for   |
| 11 |                                                                                                                                       | 12 | that. Tonight we have a nice presentation of what we    |
| 12 | MAYOR ERIC HOUGHTALING                                                                                                                | 13 | have in mind of trying to do to help the river. And we  |
| 13 | FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR THOMAS ARNONE                                                                                                     | 14 | have up here with me tonight Senator Jennifer Beck,     |
| 14 | COMMITTEEMAN RANDY BISHOP                                                                                                             | 15 | Director -- Freeholder Director Tom Arnone,             |
| 15 | SENATOR JENNIFER BECK                                                                                                                 | 16 | Committeeman Randy Bishop, Business Administrator for   |
| 16 | BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR VITO GADALETA                                                                                                  | 17 | Neptune Township Vito Gadaleta, our Business            |
| 17 | CFO MICHAEL BASCOM                                                                                                                    | 18 | Administrator Mike Bascom and our engineer, Peter       |
| 18 | ENGINEER PETER AVAKIAN                                                                                                                | 19 | Avakian, Neptune Township.                              |
| 19 |                                                                                                                                       | 20 | So tonight is all about trying to talk                  |
| 20 |                                                                                                                                       | 21 | about a land diversion between the Township of Neptune  |
| 21 |                                                                                                                                       | 22 | and Monmouth County. And we want to try to present as   |
| 22 |                                                                                                                                       | 23 | many facts to you tonight as possible. And with this    |
| 23 |                                                                                                                                       | 24 | group we have up here tonight we want to be able to     |
| 24 |                                                                                                                                       | 25 | bring forth the information to you that you'll be       |
| 25 |                                                                                                                                       |    | comfortable with. And if you have questions we'll be    |
| 1  | more than happy to try to answer them.                                                                                                | 1  | the entrance to the site on Old Corlies identifying the |
| 2  | So at this point now I'd like to turn it                                                                                              | 2  | Scoping Hearing as well.                                |
| 3  | over to Mr. Gadaleta. He will give you some of the                                                                                    | 3  | So I'm going to go through the statutory                |
| 4  | incite on tonight's events.                                                                                                           | 4  | provisions of the hearing tonight. And then I'll turn   |
| 5  | MR. GADALETA: Thank you, Mayor. Just                                                                                                  | 5  | it back over to the Mayor. And then he will proceed     |
| 6  | for the benefit of the public, there are certain                                                                                      | 6  | with the hearing. So first on the list, to describe     |
| 7  | requirements that have to be met for the Scoping                                                                                      | 7  | the proposed diversion. And we'll talk about the site   |
| 8  | Hearing. And essentially, because this piece of                                                                                       | 8  | specifically. There is a map here to my left, your      |
| 9  | property that we are talking about is a Green Acre site                                                                               | 9  | right which depicts the site owned by the county. The   |
| 10 | currently owned by the county there is a requirement to                                                                               | 10 | land affected, the total acreage of the parkland to be  |
| 11 | make application to the State for a diversion of this                                                                                 | 11 | affected. And you will notice that the total site is    |
| 12 | property for use. And its use is for the temporary                                                                                    | 12 | roughly 22 plus or minus acres. And we are talking      |
| 13 | storage/drying of dredge materials from the Shark                                                                                     | 13 | about potentially 16 acres to be utilized for the CDF   |
| 14 | River. So the first part of the process, the                                                                                          | 14 | which is a -- specifically a confined disposal site,    |
| 15 | pre-application process to the State, is to conduct a                                                                                 | 15 | but is a temporary dewatering site for the dredge       |
| 16 | Scoping Hearing. And that's why we're here this                                                                                       | 16 | materials in this project. Additionally, we have to     |
| 17 | evening.                                                                                                                              | 17 | set forth the compelling public need for this project   |
| 18 | We have provided the proper                                                                                                           | 18 | and what the project will fulfill in significant public |
| 19 | advertisement, initial 30-day notification. And we do                                                                                 | 19 | benefit that will come out of the project. And our      |
| 20 | have the Affidavit of Publication if anyone's                                                                                         | 20 | speakers and presenters tonight will address all of     |
| 21 | interested in seeing that. Additionally, there was a                                                                                  | 21 | these issues. We will further discuss the past and      |
| 22 | requirement for a secondary notification through a                                                                                    | 22 | ongoing efforts to identify alternatives to the         |
| 23 | display ad 15 days prior to the hearing. We also have                                                                                 | 23 | proposed diversion of this site. And there is a long    |
| 24 | that affidavit. And if you noticed as you went by the                                                                                 | 24 | history, nearly 17 years, that the municipalities that  |
| 25 | site, we did have a four-by-eight sign that sat out to                                                                                | 25 | border the river basin have been working on coming up   |

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| <p>5</p> <p>1 with a site for the dredging of the river.</p> <p>2 We will additionally look at reasons for</p> <p>3 rejecting any of those alternative sites. And there</p> <p>4 have been a very detailed report provided by a number</p> <p>5 of engineering firms in the State about alternative</p> <p>6 sites. And to the extent known what compensation is</p> <p>7 going to be provided. DEP requires that whenever you</p> <p>8 divert a Green Acres piece of property there has to be</p> <p>9 compensation back for that use of a Green Acres site.</p> <p>10 And that would be other property available for parkland</p> <p>11 and Green Acres designation. And that will be</p> <p>12 discussed as well this evening.</p> <p>13 And then finally, the reason you're all</p> <p>14 here this evening, number one, to hear the information</p> <p>15 that we have to present. But we are here to obtain</p> <p>16 public comment from you, anyone that wants to speak, on</p> <p>17 any alternative sites that you may make available to</p> <p>18 us, information you may make available to us and on</p> <p>19 alternative methods of achieving the ultimate result of</p> <p>20 this project which is the dredging of the channels, the</p> <p>21 State's channels in the river. And estimated at</p> <p>22 100,000 cubic yards of dredge material. 70,000 cubic</p> <p>23 yards of which is long-term, as we said, 15 to 17 years</p> <p>24 of dredge materials. And roughly 30,000 cubic yards</p> <p>25 that was brought into the river by Super Storm Sandy.</p>                               | <p>6</p> <p>1 So we're looking at actually 30,000 of emergency</p> <p>2 dredging and 70,000 of long-term dredging as part of</p> <p>3 this project. Mayor.</p> <p>4 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, Mr.</p> <p>5 Gadaleta. At this point now we will have a little bit</p> <p>6 of history of what's gone on for the past 17 years.</p> <p>7 We'll to try to accommodate that. At this point now</p> <p>8 I'll turn it over to Freeholder Director Tom Arnone.</p> <p>9 MR. ARNONE: Thank you, Mayor. And</p> <p>10 thank you, public. Most of you I recognize from the 17</p> <p>11 years of this process here when I was Mayor of the</p> <p>12 Borough of Neptune City. When at that time engaged</p> <p>13 with Mayor Catley when we first started out and myself</p> <p>14 and Mayor of Belmar, Avon and Wall Township when we</p> <p>15 engaged into I guess you could say a group that we</p> <p>16 formed to try to find a need and a fix for the dredging</p> <p>17 project. At that time when Mr. Catley left office</p> <p>18 Randy Bishop came on board. So it's been a long</p> <p>19 process. And there's been different people team at the</p> <p>20 helm of the different communities in those towns. I</p> <p>21 was there through the beginning of the process, the 15</p> <p>22 or 17 years ago. I was hoping it was only 15, but if</p> <p>23 it was 17 that's just a little longer, little older,</p> <p>24 then. But if it is 15 I'm going to stick with 15.</p> <p>25 But it's been a long process. And the process</p>                                                           |
| <p>7</p> <p>1 has been somewhat, I guess, sad because what we looked</p> <p>2 at was a resource. And anybody and all of us that are</p> <p>3 familiar with the Shark River has watched it decline</p> <p>4 and basically dry up. Over the course of the periods</p> <p>5 of time many numerous sites, many numerous decisions</p> <p>6 were brought down from the State. At that time</p> <p>7 Commissioner Lisa Jackson or all of us from Mike</p> <p>8 Bascom, Randy, myself at that time even Tom Catley and</p> <p>9 all the governing bodies went to the State of New</p> <p>10 Jersey, to the DEP and sat at her desk and proposed and</p> <p>11 actually to the point of begged for their help and</p> <p>12 assistance. At that time we had Senator Sean Kean</p> <p>13 which was on board at that time with us. And we moved</p> <p>14 forward and tried it at our best. Obviously, we</p> <p>15 weren't successful in that. And for many reasons. And</p> <p>16 you're going to hear reasons that were proposed</p> <p>17 earlier. A site in Wall Township that was initially</p> <p>18 proposed. And then there are was some sort of, I guess</p> <p>19 you could say, difference between the Borough and the</p> <p>20 group and Wall Township. Well, let me rest that that</p> <p>21 site even if it was agreed upon, okay, would not be</p> <p>22 allowed under Green Acres. Okay. Believe it or not, a</p> <p>23 bald eagle has landed there. And it came out to where</p> <p>24 that site could no longer be used under our</p> <p>25 regulations. That's why that site is no longer there.</p> | <p>8</p> <p>1 At that time because of the somewhat difference that</p> <p>2 went on there and the controversial part that went</p> <p>3 through there Randy Bishop and myself actually went,</p> <p>4 and I guess this was 12 or 14 years ago, went to the</p> <p>5 town and apologized for the differences that we had</p> <p>6 with the Township of Wall Township. And they tried to</p> <p>7 assist us in any which way they possibly could.</p> <p>8 So then sites had start to be revisited.</p> <p>9 And early, early in the stage as we looked at a site</p> <p>10 from the county when I was Mayor there. And we moved</p> <p>11 forward. And we reached out to the Board of Chosen</p> <p>12 Freeholders and attended meetings there when I was the</p> <p>13 Mayor. And I talked to the park system, which I will</p> <p>14 tell you some of the board members are here tonight.</p> <p>15 And I thank them for their assistance and their</p> <p>16 guidance. And even to the part of the individual that</p> <p>17 heads our acquisition there, part of the county. And</p> <p>18 they've been extremely helpful. Liaison of the parks,</p> <p>19 Freeholder Lillian Barry has been there. She's</p> <p>20 attended meetings with us and gave her guidance through</p> <p>21 this process here. And she's been to the part a good</p> <p>22 wealth of knowledge that we've needed through the</p> <p>23 different parts of the way you would acquire county</p> <p>24 land. Then we looked at and we brought to the site</p> <p>25 potential. And I state that, potential county site.</p> |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>1 And, you know, you're going to hear it earlier and I<br/> 2 just got to put to rest one thing because I don't think<br/> 3 that people are so familiar with the county policies<br/> 4 that we have. But the one policy I will assure you<br/> 5 that you can walk out of this door knowing that we have<br/> 6 county policy that's passed on through the park system<br/> 7 and through our county Board of Chosen Freeholders, a<br/> 8 shovel of a contaminated piece of soil will never be<br/> 9 put on a county parcel ever. And regardless of<br/> 10 whatever happens here through this process if, if when<br/> 11 we got those tests back if there was I could sit here<br/> 12 and assure you with the help of my Freeholders and the<br/> 13 park system, we are all on board, that there will<br/> 14 never, ever be a contaminated piece of soil put on<br/> 15 county park system.</p> <p>16 With that being said, we move forward.<br/> 17 I want to thank Senator Jen Beck. As we know, with the<br/> 18 redistricting of the way the legislatures went that we<br/> 19 ended up having a new Senator. And I welcome her,<br/> 20 Senator Jen Beck. But what I had to do is go through<br/> 21 17 years of an educational process to Senator Jen Beck.<br/> 22 Jen Beck went, visited the site. We visited the site<br/> 23 with Freeholder Berry. We went to numerous different<br/> 24 sites with Freeholder Berry, myself and Jen Beck and<br/> 25 with representatives from the park systems. And then</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>1 we entertained the State of New Jersey. And we<br/> 2 entertained the officials there. And we moved forward.<br/> 3 And we looked at the process that we would have to go<br/> 4 engage into if we were ever to come to where this<br/> 5 parcel was a parcel that we would be able to use right<br/> 6 now. It's a long process but it's the opening process<br/> 7 of strictly a Scope Hearing.</p> <p>8 The other thing I have to reassure<br/> 9 because I've had individuals, and, obviously, I know<br/> 10 lot of you here in this room tonight, come with me with<br/> 11 some of the design that they heard is proposed. Well,<br/> 12 I have to tell you, some of the design that you hear is<br/> 13 proposed is totally, totally not true because it has<br/> 14 not been engineered or designed. You're not going to<br/> 15 see if, this site was to be the potential site, you're<br/> 16 not going to see a pipe running down Corlies Avenue,<br/> 17 okay, with pumped dredge material running through it.<br/> 18 Absolutely. I would not allow that. I would not want<br/> 19 that if I lived there. So. And I can assure you that<br/> 20 this governing body has stated to me, stated to Senator<br/> 21 Jen Beck that what they want is the best thing for all<br/> 22 of Neptune Township. And that's what they're working<br/> 23 very hard to do. And that's what Senator Beck and<br/> 24 myself will always reassure all of the participants of<br/> 25 that river, the Shark River. Because we have to</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>1 remember that that is the Shark River. It's a<br/> 2 recreational source that's surrounded by many<br/> 3 communities. Now, one might say, "Well, why isn't<br/> 4 Neptune City given a piece of land?" Well, if you're<br/> 5 familiar with Neptune City, there's not too much land<br/> 6 in Neptune City. If you're familiar with Avon, there's<br/> 7 not too much land in Avon. If you're familiar with<br/> 8 Belmar, there's not too many sites in Belmar besides<br/> 9 the site that they used initially for their dredge site<br/> 10 which had nowhere near the size or magnitude of this<br/> 11 project. So then we looked at Wall and there is no<br/> 12 Green Acres site -- that's not approved Green Acres<br/> 13 site that's approved by the State. There is none<br/> 14 there. So then we looked at this county site. And<br/> 15 that's where we got to where we are today.</p> <p>16 But I can reassure you that this group<br/> 17 right here and myself and Randy here have worked very<br/> 18 hard on this project. And are whole focus is all --<br/> 19 and Randy's eyes Neptune Township, my eyes Monmouth<br/> 20 County and the eyes of the Senator of the State of New<br/> 21 Jersey. And just to reassure you, there would never be<br/> 22 a piece of contaminated property or soil on a site<br/> 23 owned by Monmouth County. Thank you.</p> <p>24 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you,<br/> 25 Freeholder Director. Now, Mr. Bishop will give you his</p>                                       | <p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>1 17 years of the struggle we've had from our Township<br/> 2 standpoint. Mr. Bishop.</p> <p>3 MR. BISHOP: Thank you, Mayor. I<br/> 4 promise it will take less than 17 years. Just to let<br/> 5 you know, and actually, Mayor, if I could first, I'd<br/> 6 like to acknowledge Sheriff Golden who's joined us this<br/> 7 evening. We actually had a study that was done in the<br/> 8 early stages which identified seven potential sites for<br/> 9 the dewatering of the materials from the Shark River.<br/> 10 They were ranked from best to least best, if you would.<br/> 11 Freeholder Director then Mayor Arnone and I, members of<br/> 12 the DEP, members of DOT visited and walked each of<br/> 13 those sites. And for a variety of reasons,<br/> 14 environmental reasons, bald eagles, actually deed<br/> 15 restrictions by the federal government, the sites were<br/> 16 dropped off one by one. What we have come to today<br/> 17 with this site is the best last alternative that<br/> 18 Neptune Township has in order to get these channels<br/> 19 dredged. And I know many people have said, "Have you<br/> 20 explored?" And I look forward to hearing if people<br/> 21 have alternatives to this because we have looked. And<br/> 22 this township is dedicated to the health of this river.<br/> 23 And if you look at this the majority of these channels<br/> 24 exist within Neptune Township. The entire region<br/> 25 benefits from this, but the majority of the channels</p>                     |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>1 lie in the width, if you would, of our border on the<br/>2 river.</p> <p>3 We worked early on. We went through<br/>4 these sites. Much of the work that was done was done<br/>5 pro bono by people who cared about this river. Wasn't<br/>6 a charge to have it done. And I want to publicly thank<br/>7 Senator Beck and Freeholder Director Arnone. Tommy for<br/>8 being there in all the days when we did a road show in<br/>9 front of the Freeholders, in front of Wall, in front of<br/>10 different towns, in front of different groups and<br/>11 Senator Beck for coming in and taking 17 years of<br/>12 teaching and getting it quickly and working with us.<br/>13 We don't come before you lightly with what we're<br/>14 looking at. And we're interested in hearing what it is<br/>15 that you have to say and if you have alternatives that<br/>16 we haven't found. But the economic and environmental<br/>17 state in the health of this river is insurmountable to<br/>18 this region. And I think it's something we all need to<br/>19 realize. A little bit later after Senator Beck we have<br/>20 some students from our high school who are going to be<br/>21 helping to present the compelling reason. And the<br/>22 reason that we've asked them to come is when Freeholder<br/>23 Director Arnone and I several years ago did one of<br/>24 these presentations the high school actually put<br/>25 together one of the best presentations in terms of why</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>1 this needs to be done, what is happening to the river,<br/>2 what the impacts are. And we've asked this group to<br/>3 come tonight. And we haven't directed them on what to<br/>4 say. I will tell you that right now. What they will<br/>5 say is from their findings. And that's where we'll go.<br/>6 So I thank you for coming out as well.</p> <p>7 I thank all of those who have been with us. The<br/>8 Township of Neptune filed suit against the State of New<br/>9 Jersey because we said these channels must be dredged.<br/>10 They are your responsibility. This is the farthest<br/>11 along, finding this potential diversion of land, I will<br/>12 tell you is the farthest we have ever gotten. If this<br/>13 diversion were not to happen my fear is the dredging of<br/>14 the Shark River would never occur. Thank you, Mayor.<br/>15 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, Mr.<br/>16 Bishop.</p> <p>17 MR. ARNONE: Could I also add one thing?<br/>18 And I thank you. Because I think it's really, really<br/>19 important to know the timeline that we're on. And, you<br/>20 know to myself, yes, it's probably personal because of<br/>21 all the years put into this, but at the end of the day<br/>22 I would have to say, and I think Senator Beck will add<br/>23 to this sentiment, when I say this is it. This is the<br/>24 last straw we're looking at. So it is very, very<br/>25 instrumental that we come together in one way or</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>1 another to a conclusion here and move forward.<br/>2 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, Mr.<br/>3 Arnone. I think what Mr. Bishop said is very<br/>4 important. That the reason this Township has such an<br/>5 interest in it because most of the channel is our<br/>6 property. It affects us the most. So to say, hey, why<br/>7 isn't Belmar doing this or Neptune City or Wall is<br/>8 because Neptune is the one that will benefit the most<br/>9 by what we're able to accomplish.</p> <p>10 Now, I'd like to introduce Senator<br/>11 Jennifer Beck who has come on late on this but I will<br/>12 say she's been a champion for this project and a<br/>13 champion for the Shark River. And we'll give us an<br/>14 update on what the need is for this land diversion.<br/>15 And welcome.</p> <p>16 MS BECK: Thank you, Mayor. I'm Senator<br/>17 Jennifer Beck. And I am thoroughly impressed by this<br/>18 turnout. I don't know when I was Councilwoman in the<br/>19 Borough of Red Bank I think there was only one issue.<br/>20 The parking garage was the only time we had this kind<br/>21 of turnout. I wanted to suggest that maybe the people<br/>22 that are standing in the hallway if everyone can move<br/>23 forward a little bit so they don't have to listen from<br/>24 outside. I think it's important that everyone gets to<br/>25 participate and have their questions asked and make</p>                                                                      | <p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>1 their statements. To the degree we can fill in along<br/>2 the walls and have a chance to let everyone come in. I<br/>3 think that's great.</p> <p>4 I want to thank Neptune Township, the<br/>5 committee members, Freeholder Arnone, Mayor, for all of<br/>6 their time. Neptune Township became part of my<br/>7 legislative district in 2011. And the first issue that<br/>8 really was brought to me by both Neptune City and<br/>9 Neptune Township was the state of Shark River. And the<br/>10 fact that year after year it continues to still end<br/>11 that it has a recreational use. It has a commercial<br/>12 use. It's part of our tourism. It's part of our<br/>13 community. And that we're slowly losing it. And that<br/>14 it was important to them that we could find a way to<br/>15 get the State of New Jersey to step up to the plate and<br/>16 dredge the State channels because the Department of<br/>17 Transportation in the State of New Jersey is<br/>18 responsible for dredging those channels. And they have<br/>19 not for almost 30 years.</p> <p>20 In the lay of Hurricane Sandy an<br/>21 additional 30,000 cubic yards of silt was put into<br/>22 those channels making it more dangerous and more<br/>23 difficult for boaters to navigate. There was an<br/>24 existing 70,000 cubic yards that was already in those<br/>25 State channels that we have been trying -- I shouldn't</p>                                  |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>1 say we. Randy and Tom and the members of the Township<br/> 2 Committee here have been trying to have addressed for<br/> 3 many, many years. Today we have an opportunity with<br/> 4 the site that we're looking at to actually make this<br/> 5 advance. The site would be what we call a dewatering<br/> 6 site. So we would take the silt materials. Would let<br/> 7 them dry out. And then they would be moved to a<br/> 8 landfill. They wouldn't stay there permanently. They<br/> 9 would just stay until they're dry. And that has been<br/> 10 the holdup for many of you that are familiar with the<br/> 11 conversation about dredging those channels. That<br/> 12 really has been the holdup in the past.</p> <p>13 The site that was used previously by the<br/> 14 New Jersey Department of Transportation was located in<br/> 15 Wall. And they sold it to Wall Township. And in<br/> 16 selling it to Wall Township a couple of things<br/> 17 happened. Because it wasn't being used it slowly<br/> 18 became wetlands. And secondly, a bald eagle nested<br/> 19 there and made its habitat there. So for both of those<br/> 20 reasons, plus the fact that Wall Township has no<br/> 21 interest in participating in using that site as a CDF<br/> 22 standing for contained disposal facility. CDF, we've<br/> 23 been staying CDF for so long I forgot what it stood<br/> 24 for. That that's not an option anymore. As the<br/> 25 Freeholder Director described many of -- and I think</p>         | <p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>1 probably many of the folks in this room have gone<br/> 2 through many iterations of various sites working with<br/> 3 DEP, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Marine Fisheries<br/> 4 Council, over and over and over again. And each and<br/> 5 every site they identified was rejected by either DEP,<br/> 6 the Army Corps, the Department of Interior. They found<br/> 7 arrowheads in one of the sites. This is the first time<br/> 8 that we actually have the Department of Environmental<br/> 9 Protection saying that this site would be an acceptable<br/> 10 location preliminarily in their estimation. We still<br/> 11 have to get permits from DEP. So today's hearing is<br/> 12 really a very, very, very beginning. DOT still has to<br/> 13 engineer how it would work. That hasn't been done yet.<br/> 14 Today is really just about whether or not it is<br/> 15 possible to take this county property and use it to dry<br/> 16 the silted materials.</p> <p>17 The other thing that's come together is<br/> 18 because of the hurricane which left a lot of<br/> 19 devastation but brought us new sources of funding that<br/> 20 the Shark River has been identified by the State of New<br/> 21 Jersey's Department of Transportation and Department of<br/> 22 Environmental Protection as one of the four sites in<br/> 23 the whole state that they believe is a priority to<br/> 24 dredge. And trust me, the calls I get to my office<br/> 25 there are in Monmouth County alone 2,200 rivers,</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>1 channels and bays that all would like to be dredged.<br/> 2 So we are we've identified as a priority because of the<br/> 3 long history of us trying to get it dredged and also<br/> 4 because we have communities that have come together.<br/> 5 Neptune City, Neptune Township have come together and<br/> 6 decided with the county that they will work together to<br/> 7 try to make this happen. So we have funding available.<br/> 8 This has happened once before. DOT allocated funding<br/> 9 for the project. And because no dewatering site was<br/> 10 ever identified the funding was lost. This is our<br/> 11 second bite at the apple. The funding has been<br/> 12 identified and set aside specifically for Shark River<br/> 13 and dredging it. And this is, want I want to say, our<br/> 14 only shot, but I think if we don't succeed this time it<br/> 15 will be -- we'll be hard pressed to get the State to<br/> 16 pay attention to us again.</p> <p>17 As a away of background, I am a Trustee<br/> 18 with the Monmouth Conservation Foundation, the State<br/> 19 Senate. I sit on the Environment Committee. I am I<br/> 20 would say by my own estimation a fairly green person.<br/> 21 The Sierra Club and the Internal Federation (Inaudible.<br/> 22 Someone coughed.) both support me. And I think that we<br/> 23 are -- this is the beginning of vetting this<br/> 24 possibility. And I do welcome your input and your<br/> 25 thoughts. As I said Neptune Township, I've only</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>1 represented you and Neptune City I've only represented<br/> 2 you for two years. Certainly, a great group of elected<br/> 3 officials here. Enjoyed working with them. And I had<br/> 4 a chance to meet a lot of you over the course of the<br/> 5 last two years, but I look forward to your incite and<br/> 6 your comments. And thank you. Thank you for hosting<br/> 7 us.</p> <p>8 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, Senator.<br/> 9 At this time now we have a presentation by the Neptune<br/> 10 High School students. Something they did totally on<br/> 11 their own. And I am anticipating a very nice<br/> 12 presentation. We have group one come up now.</p> <p>13 MS SHAFTO: My name is Theresa Shafto,<br/> 14 T-H-E-R-E-S-A, space, S-H-A-F-T-O. Greetings, ladies<br/> 15 and gentlemen. We have gathered here tonight to<br/> 16 discuss the process of sediment removal in the Shark<br/> 17 River. This process is highly beneficial in many ways<br/> 18 ranging from economic to environmental to recreational<br/> 19 standards. Sediment removal has been used throughout<br/> 20 history and has proven to be a healthy process when no<br/> 21 contaminants are used in the making. All around the<br/> 22 world this environmental process was used to help<br/> 23 various waterway systems. The article "History of<br/> 24 Dredging Reveals Deeper Need to Understand Bay's Bottom<br/> 25 Line" written by Kent Mountford best describes the</p>                                                   |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>1 importance of dredging. The concept of dredging has<br/> 2 existed since the time of the Romans when they used a<br/> 3 proto system called spoon and bag. Fast forward time<br/> 4 to the recognition of the importance of the Chesapeake<br/> 5 Bay by the Europeans as a port for shipping during the<br/> 6 early years. This water supply affects nearly everyone<br/> 7 involved. Especially since the Chesapeake Bay is a<br/> 8 well known port for shipping among different countries.<br/> 9 In Baltimore a new system called Lamsal was designed<br/> 10 after several complaints by oystermen. The Lamsal was<br/> 11 considered successful since there was 40 million in<br/> 12 export value that year. The numbers alone prove<br/> 13 sediment removal was beneficial from a socioeconomic<br/> 14 standpoint. The removal of silt from the Shark River<br/> 15 is imperative and necessary to help the surrounding<br/> 16 communities. It aids in business and helps the<br/> 17 environmental impact of all wildlife. As a resident of<br/> 18 Neptune I live only a few blocks away from the proposed<br/> 19 confined disposal facility for temporary placement of<br/> 20 the dredge materials. I have grown up most of my life<br/> 21 smelling the Shark River low tied. When I come back<br/> 22 from being away out of town whenever I smell the river<br/> 23 I know I'm home. Thank you.<br/> 24 MS CACATELCO: Good evening, everybody.<br/> 25 My name is Giovana Cacatelco, G-I-O-V-A-N-A</p>       | <p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>1 C-A-C-A-T-E-L-C-O. Good evening, everyone. As my<br/> 2 fellow classmate, Theresa Shafto, just stated, dredging<br/> 3 or a more appropriate term sediment removal has been<br/> 4 apart of estuary life for hundreds of years. It is the<br/> 5 process in which sediment is removed from the bottom of<br/> 6 shallow waters in order to keep them healthy. The<br/> 7 accumulation of sediment is a result of the<br/> 8 depositional flow in which the flow of the river itself<br/> 9 carries the dirt from our lawns and streets into the<br/> 10 river. It is estimated that our Shark River has<br/> 11 accumulated about 70,000 cubic yards of silt. Last<br/> 12 year Hurricane Sandy brought in an additional 30,000<br/> 13 cubic yards. Now, FEMA is saying that they're only<br/> 14 responsible for those 30,000 brought in by the storm.<br/> 15 So while FEMA looks for this 30,000 boundary it is up<br/> 16 to the bordering towns, Neptune Township, Neptune City,<br/> 17 Avon, Belmar and Wall Township to step forward and care<br/> 18 for our river. The Shark River needs to be dredged not<br/> 19 only because of the 100,000 cubic yards of silt that<br/> 20 has built up but because it has gotten to the point<br/> 21 where everything else is being affected. The high<br/> 22 tides can't even rid of the sand. And it's only during<br/> 23 high tides that the Shark River channels are navigable.<br/> 24 So imagine commercial boaters and fishermen,<br/> 25 waterskiers and jet skiers trying to enjoy the river.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>1 It's impossible. Getting in and out of the river is<br/> 2 already a hassle. The sediment buildup does not only<br/> 3 affect our communities but also the ecosystems that<br/> 4 live within the river. If we don't do anything about<br/> 5 this issue it will just worsen. For example, sediment<br/> 6 will fill up areas of the river creating a tidal marsh<br/> 7 and also filling areas that are prime shellfish<br/> 8 habitats. Spawning areas would also be reduced which<br/> 9 would impact the fin fish migration path.<br/> 10 However, some of you may know that the<br/> 11 dredge material may contain toxic chemicals that may<br/> 12 affect the disposal area and could release PCP's or<br/> 13 DDT's but it is not the case here. DEP has tested the<br/> 14 sediment under the Shark River and the only contaminant<br/> 15 appears to be salt. Yes, the same contaminant we all<br/> 16 swim in at the beach during the summer. Cleaning the<br/> 17 river of all the settlement will only benefit it. It<br/> 18 will improve the water quality which will allow the<br/> 19 river to cleanse itself with its high tides. There<br/> 20 will be an increase of shell fish reproduction and<br/> 21 spawning areas. It will increase the depth of the<br/> 22 channels and their capacity to carry water, which in<br/> 23 turn could prevent flooding. So when we think of<br/> 24 dredging let's not think of a 200-foot long harbor<br/> 25 barge causing a ruckus and blocking a beautiful view.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>1 Let's think of the sediment being removed by underwater<br/> 2 hydraulic pipes that will not cause a major<br/> 3 disturbance. Let's clean our river now so that future<br/> 4 generations can enjoy all of the 11.8 miles of our<br/> 5 river and not a confined area covered in mud. Thank<br/> 6 you.<br/> 7 MR. STEWARD: Hello, everybody. My name<br/> 8 is Michael Steward, M-I-C-H-A-E-L S-T-E-W-A-R-D, as in<br/> 9 David. And today I'll be talking briefly about the<br/> 10 economic benefits of dredging. To put it bluntly, if<br/> 11 Shark River does not get dredged it will die. Boats<br/> 12 will not be able to enter the Shark River Bay because<br/> 13 there will be less than one foot of water. Needless to<br/> 14 say, that this is not only bad for the environment but<br/> 15 for the economy. A lake is a sign that a community<br/> 16 will be able to flourish. It creates a wide array of<br/> 17 jobs and also has many recreational uses such as<br/> 18 boating, kayaking and paddle boating. And the Shark<br/> 19 River is not an exception. Recreational boating is an<br/> 20 economic gold mine for any community. And it is our<br/> 21 job to ensure that our gold mine is not insured. I<br/> 22 mean destroyed. Recreational boating is not only<br/> 23 crucial to Neptune's economy but to New Jersey's as<br/> 24 well. According to the National Marine Manufacturers<br/> 25 Association the total annual value of recreational</p>                                                                         |

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1 boating in New Jersey is about \$2.2 billion.  
 2 786.1 million is in dues values. Our money that comes  
 3 from employees and businesses that sell related goods  
 4 for boating services spending their income. For  
 5 example, a marina mechanic spending his wages at a  
 6 grocery store. Another \$541,100,000 comes from  
 7 indirect values. The changes in sales, jobs, labor,  
 8 income of businesses in economic area that supply goods  
 9 to services to boaters. In other words, businesses  
 10 like restaurants such as the Cracker Barrel benefit  
 11 from boaters spending their money in their  
 12 establishment. And the final \$873,500,000 comes from  
 13 direct wages or values, salaries and payroll benefits  
 14 of the employees working for the businesses like the  
 15 income of a marina owner.  
 16 So as you can see, recreational boating  
 17 has a lot of money in it. And that's why it is  
 18 important that we do not let the Shark River die.  
 19 Neptune has seven marinas in it. And each one of those  
 20 marinas has about 20 jobs. So if the river were to die  
 21 about 140 people would be losing their jobs. Now, you  
 22 might think that 140 people is not a big deal. When  
 23 you consider that each one of those 140 people make  
 24 about \$30,000 a year you'll find that by them losing  
 25 their job Neptune is losing about \$4,200,000 yearly.

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1 taken care of by the company that was funding it. This  
 2 lake, however, had been -- had had chemical waste  
 3 dumped into it for years prior in the 20th century  
 4 PCP's, heavy metals like cobalt, mercury. All that,  
 5 one odor complaint. The only contaminant that exists  
 6 in our Shark River area is salt. The same material  
 7 that you smell daily on your tables. Additionally,  
 8 another complaint could be relating that dredging is a  
 9 noisy process. Well, there are two kinds of dredging.  
 10 Mechanical which is when they bring in large hopper  
 11 barges and individually painstakingly suck it all out.  
 12 That is a loud process. In the Onondaga Lake dredging  
 13 that is method that's used. No, there were few noise  
 14 complaints. However, the method we're proposing to you  
 15 is the hydraulic dredging which is to basically have a  
 16 smaller barge, no larger than like your average barge,  
 17 commercial ship, put a large hydraulic pipe down into  
 18 the water and you suction power the sediment to the  
 19 proposed dredging site. This is a relatively quiet  
 20 process and will not disturb the average citizen's  
 21 daily life. Thank you.  
 22 MR. McKEON: My name is Max McKeon,  
 23 M-A-X M-C-K-E-O-N. I'm a senior at Neptune High  
 24 School. And during the Summer I was privileged to work  
 25 as an Ocean Grove lifeguard. And being a lifeguard,

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1 And that is nothing compared to the total amount of  
 2 money recreational boating brings to Shark River. It  
 3 is estimated that the economic value of recreational  
 4 boating is about \$35,000,000. So if we were to sit  
 5 here idly and not go forward with the proposed sediment  
 6 removal our local economy would be losing about  
 7 \$39,200,000 in total. It is up to you. Sit back and  
 8 let the Shark River die and lose \$39,200,000 or take  
 9 action and let the Shark River be the economic gold  
 10 mine that it is. I know what I'm going to do.  
 11 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you. Now  
 12 ready for group two.  
 13 MS BECK: Mayor, if I could just say  
 14 that was incredibly impressive.  
 15 MR. ARNONE: I think they must have been  
 16 with us for the 17 years.  
 17 MR. SALISBURY: My name is Shawn  
 18 Salisbury, S-H-A-W-N S-A-L-I-S-B-U-R-Y. And some of  
 19 the concerns that you guys may have could be concerning  
 20 the smells that could be produced by such dredge  
 21 material. However, I'm going to relate this to the  
 22 Onondaga Lake dredging in New York which had recently  
 23 -- was recently started -- was started last year. I'm  
 24 sorry. It was started last year. In total they  
 25 received one odor complaint. And that was quickly

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1 being around the water so much I grew such a -- I knew  
 2 that such an important aspect of our community. And  
 3 because of this my team and I did this pro bono. We  
 4 weren't paid. We weren't paid to do this. This is all  
 5 on our own. And that's why this lake is so important  
 6 to us. And we don't want to it see it suffer. So as  
 7 my colleague, Shawn, said for hydraulic dredging is  
 8 totally different than mechanical dredging. It's  
 9 cheaper, safer and causes less noise. And we'll clean  
 10 up the environment. This information is from IMS, a  
 11 Canadian dredging service. They do dredging all over  
 12 Canada. So some of you must be saying, "Oh, what's the  
 13 dangers?" But the dangers are more to the worker than  
 14 the citizen. And the machines and the dredging stuff  
 15 are built to under extreme conditions. Shark River is  
 16 not an extreme condition. It will not suffer breakage  
 17 because of the lines involving. And you think, may  
 18 think about traffic and how dredging will cause  
 19 traffic. Well, we're proposing how we're going to do  
 20 only a few trucks a day to the proposed area. And this  
 21 will not interfere with traffic. So it will be clean  
 22 for you guys to drive around to work. And the  
 23 preferred area's only actually going to be three miles  
 24 away. That means only very short trips to the Shark  
 25 River according State of New Jersey. Thank you.

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| <p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>1 MR. McKENZIE: My name is Shamier<br/> 2 McKenzie. I'm a senior at Neptune High School.<br/> 3 S-H-A-M-I-E-R M-C-K-E-N-Z-I-E. Ladies and gentlemen,<br/> 4 imagine, imagine that I have the inability to swim.<br/> 5 And if I fall into the Shark River I can stand up tall,<br/> 6 lift my head up high and say, "Sean, help me up. I'm<br/> 7 stuck in the river." Imagine that I took a boat ride<br/> 8 on this river. I can clearly see through the bottom.<br/> 9 Imagine. I spoke to Timothy Fitzpatrick from Argent<br/> 10 Associates, structural engineer. He stated to me that<br/> 11 if you walk into the river you'd be knee deep in thin<br/> 12 mud. We are obligated to take care of the environment<br/> 13 around us. After all, it is you who reminded our<br/> 14 generation of it all our lives. If we stand by and<br/> 15 watch the area around us wither away in a matter of<br/> 16 years there will be nothing left. Nothing left of our<br/> 17 homes, our memories. This is more than a political<br/> 18 debate on whether or whether or not. This is the<br/> 19 future of a local shore business. This is memories of<br/> 20 a family who enjoys fishing in the river with his son,<br/> 21 a daughter, a loved one. There is no danger. There is<br/> 22 no uncomfortable feeling about dredging. It is just to<br/> 23 make these five boroughs a better place for those who<br/> 24 call these places home, for those who use the beach<br/> 25 sides to escape stress.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>1 Ladies and gentlemen, this is no<br/> 2 research paper. This is not a school project. I will<br/> 3 not walk back to Neptune High School and hand this in<br/> 4 as a grade or extra credit. No. This is a group of<br/> 5 young adults who acknowledge the benefit of this river.<br/> 6 Who have seen approximately 20 fishermen less than<br/> 7 200 feet away from the shore who may not even be able<br/> 8 to fish there much longer. Restricted on certain areas<br/> 9 due to shallow waters. We are the future of this area.<br/> 10 We are the future of this land. We are the future of<br/> 11 this Shark River and refuse to stand by and watch the<br/> 12 future inevitably fade away. May I remind each and<br/> 13 every one of you that we are all part of the wonderful<br/> 14 Garden State New Jersey. We're all part of the United<br/> 15 States of America. Most importantly, we are all<br/> 16 people. A society. By definition, according to<br/> 17 dictionary.com a society is a body of individuals<br/> 18 living as members of the community. This is us. It is<br/> 19 in our nature to help a fellowman. To sacrifice and<br/> 20 compromise for the benefit of all. One hand cannot<br/> 21 wash itself. So come together not for the good of one<br/> 22 but for the good of all, the good of a community, and<br/> 23 watch the future unravel. Dredge the Shark River and<br/> 24 see that the river is clearer on the other side. Thank<br/> 25 you.</p>                                  |
| <p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>1 MS BECK: That's very impressive.<br/> 2 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, Neptune<br/> 3 High School students.<br/> 4 MS BECK: All of you, really impressive.<br/> 5 Well done.<br/> 6 MR. BISHOP: Thank you, guys, so very<br/> 7 much.<br/> 8 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Before we get into<br/> 9 the questions and answers Freeholder Director Tommy<br/> 10 Arnone would like to make a comment.<br/> 11 MR. ARNONE: You know, and since they<br/> 12 were talking about some past experience I just have to<br/> 13 share something that happened about, I guess it was<br/> 14 about 12 years back. We started a program with the<br/> 15 five local municipalities, a sailing program, where<br/> 16 each and every municipality, Neptune, Neptune City,<br/> 17 Avon, Belmar and Wall put together program for our<br/> 18 children where we would fund it. All the<br/> 19 municipalities would fund it and allow 8 to 10 students<br/> 20 to go into a sailing program that would be taught by<br/> 21 the Friends of Belmar Harbor in Belmar. Obviously,<br/> 22 there was overwhelming interest when we offered this<br/> 23 out there. And it was amazing because even in Neptune<br/> 24 City where we don't have too many sailors in Neptune<br/> 25 City, I tell you, the interest was, like I said,</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p style="text-align: right;">32</p> <p>1 overwhelming. So we had this. We decided that we were<br/> 2 going to have an event at the end of the sailing<br/> 3 program called the Mayor's Trophy. So we decided we're<br/> 4 going to have a big event. All the towns will<br/> 5 participate. We'll have a winner and they'll win that<br/> 6 Mayor's cup. So we decided to do something real nice.<br/> 7 We brought Channel 12 in there. And all the Mayors.<br/> 8 At that time it was Mayor Kenny Pringle was the Mayor<br/> 9 of Belmar at that time. And he's an avid sailor. And<br/> 10 so he brought his sailboat in way on the other end<br/> 11 Belmar. And he had all the Mayors come in. And we<br/> 12 figured we would do something really exciting. We<br/> 13 would sail across and enter where the final program was<br/> 14 going to be. Well, needless to say it didn't quite<br/> 15 work out that way because as Channel 12 was there we<br/> 16 got to the middle of our destination and got stuck.<br/> 17 And we had to get towed on Channel 12. Towed in. It<br/> 18 was most embarrassing moment when I Freeholder.<br/> 19 But I just want to add the experience<br/> 20 that the county has engaged in over the course of this<br/> 21 past two years. As everybody knows, we're an extreme<br/> 22 shared service county. And all the Board of Chosen<br/> 23 Freeholders are engaged with working with the<br/> 24 municipalities. One of the endeavors that we took was<br/> 25 to help as Senator Beck said the numerous phone calls</p> |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">33</p> <p>1 that she gets relate dams, dredging that she receives,<br/> 2 we get the same thing in Monmouth County. So we<br/> 3 decided we were going to take program on called our<br/> 4 dredging program. And this past year we had the I<br/> 5 guess the experience and the whereabouts to decide to<br/> 6 pick three locations. And one was in Colts Neck, in<br/> 7 the middle of a Colts Neck town where we dredged an<br/> 8 area for the Borough of Colts Neck, municipality of<br/> 9 Colts Neck. And with that being said, through that<br/> 10 period of time, and I'm not sure exactly the quantity,<br/> 11 and I apologize for that, but there was absolutely no<br/> 12 complaints whatsoever of the trucking, which that will<br/> 13 not come in this program here, the trucking part, or<br/> 14 the odor. And then Wreck Pond, very, very big project<br/> 15 that we had. And we took care of the whole project,<br/> 16 the county where we're now just about to mobilize this<br/> 17 upcoming Fall with Lake Takanassee in Long Branch. So<br/> 18 you know, it's not something that we looked at and<br/> 19 said, We have no idea what the potential problems could<br/> 20 be, odor or something to that or the contamination.<br/> 21 Like I said, we would never engage in something that<br/> 22 would be detrimental to a piece of land. And quite<br/> 23 frankly, the State wouldn't allow us. And we actually<br/> 24 have a policy ourselves. Thank you, Mayor.<br/> 25 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you. I think</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">34</p> <p>1 at this time we reached the portion where we will take<br/> 2 public comments on the land diversion and alternative<br/> 3 sites. We'll try to wrap this meeting up around 8<br/> 4 o'clock. We'll see how it goes. Make your comments<br/> 5 short as possible. There are a lot of people here. We<br/> 6 want to hear as many people as possible if we can. So,<br/> 7 yes, ma'am.<br/> 8 MS WIATI: W-I-A-T-I. First name Jane.<br/> 9 We live down at the end by Brighton Avenue. And we<br/> 10 have rescued many, many jet skis. And we've only been<br/> 11 living there three years. Every Summer my husband has<br/> 12 to walk out into that mud because of screaming children<br/> 13 and screaming women and men who cannot get out that<br/> 14 river. They're stuck in there. We have to make them<br/> 15 walk across to our dock. In addition, what I really<br/> 16 wanted to say was that we look at that every single<br/> 17 day. And my husband is an industrial arts teacher. So<br/> 18 he's always got a knack to figure out something. And<br/> 19 he was wondering, and he sent me up here, and that's<br/> 20 why I'm nervous, he was wondering if you had considered<br/> 21 building on island like they did over by the --<br/> 22 MS BECK: Yeah, but they won't do it.<br/> 23 MS WIATI: Because they built some<br/> 24 houses and some condos on a previously dredged river<br/> 25 area. And then we thought that might be nice. We</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">35</p> <p>1 could actually include it as a park so we could take<br/> 2 our area, our boat, and go out to the island. It could<br/> 3 become a park. In addition, I was just wondering if<br/> 4 the dredging was going to come down to our area because<br/> 5 we like to be able to use that, also.<br/> 6 MR. ARNONE: Okay. Well, the first<br/> 7 question I can answer since I was there at the<br/> 8 beginning of 17 years. The island was our first<br/> 9 alternative. And I couldn't agree with you more. If<br/> 10 it was allowed that would be obviously the most -- the<br/> 11 best process that we could have here. And it's<br/> 12 something that we engaged back 17 years later to see if<br/> 13 that was possible. Believe me, everybody sitting up<br/> 14 here, and I think the State of New Jersey that funds<br/> 15 it, would like to see the island because, obviously,<br/> 16 it's less expensive. So that has definitely been a top<br/> 17 priority alternative of ours, but it's been declined.<br/> 18 MS BECK: Could I suggest that we don't<br/> 19 -- we need to maintain civility because we have a large<br/> 20 crowd. So let's everyone take your turn. We will get<br/> 21 to you, I mean, if we have to stay until midnight,<br/> 22 which I hope we don't. The proposal to do an island<br/> 23 was put forward in the past. The challenge comes from<br/> 24 the National Marine Fisheries and also from the Army<br/> 25 Corps because of the habitat that is there. And also,</p>                         | <p style="text-align: right;">36</p> <p>1 the Army Corps takes some issue with the structure of<br/> 2 it, et cetera. I'm not an expert in this area. I do<br/> 3 know that we have talked about it with DEP and we know<br/> 4 that that has been rejected in the past. So we didn't<br/> 5 retread that ground because we knew that that had been<br/> 6 presented and rejected.<br/> 7 MS WIATI: Is that an environmentally<br/> 8 sensitive area? Is that what the DEP calls it? Is<br/> 9 that why they're saying "habitat"?<br/> 10 MS BECK: Shell fish, fluke. God bless<br/> 11 the fluke that are in there. So yeah, those were the<br/> 12 reasons they have.<br/> 13 MS EICHENOUR: Good evening. My name is<br/> 14 Loretta Eichenour, L-O-R-E-T-T-A E-I-C-H-E-N-O-U-R. I<br/> 15 live on Old Corlies Avenue. I voted for Senator Beck<br/> 16 and voted for Randy, too. And I thank you for having<br/> 17 this meeting. But with all due respect and with<br/> 18 respect to those who have spoken before me in terms of<br/> 19 students and this, that and the other, I don't really<br/> 20 feel like we have hit home on the point of this<br/> 21 meeting. When I read the letter that I received twice<br/> 22 in the nail, because I live so close in proximity to<br/> 23 this, this letter says that we're going to be scoping<br/> 24 out the confinement site. The disposal site. We're<br/> 25 going to be remediating this material. However, what</p>                                   |

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1 we are focusing on at this point I feel like is the  
 2 issue of dredging. And the issue of dredging is very  
 3 different than the issue of the site and what we're  
 4 going to be doing on the site. As of this time none of  
 5 you have really offered any kind of valuable  
 6 information, any kind of proposal, any kind of scoping  
 7 on what your ideas are for this land. And I find that  
 8 very concerning. Now, I have listened to Mr. Arnone.  
 9 And with all due respect, I can appreciate what you're  
 10 saying about how the county will not let any kind of  
 11 contaminated material on any of our land. But you know  
 12 what? That's what they said in Toms River back when  
 13 Ciba Geigy was moving in. And that's what they said  
 14 back in Toms River when Allied Chemical was storing  
 15 barrels. I -- forgive me. I do not have faith in any  
 16 kind of promises that your making about how we will not  
 17 allow any kind of contaminated materials since you have  
 18 not given us any kind of information, any ideas, any  
 19 whatsoever on what you are proposing.

20 MS BECK: Could I just ask please,  
 21 please don't yell out. I know the emotions are high.  
 22 But it's important that we can all hear each other.  
 23 Whether we agree or disagree we have to respect each  
 24 other. Okay. The purpose of the site is to dry the  
 25 material. And once the material is dried it is moved

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1 project going to take?  
 2 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: We still -- a lot of  
 3 things need to be done yet.

4 MR. ARMSTEAD: Well, how long? You  
 5 mentioned something eight or nine years, didn't you?

6 MR. ARNONE: Eight or nine years. No.

7 MR. ARMSTEAD: How long?

8 MS BECK: Let me just if I could,  
 9 Freeholder Director and Mayor. The DOT still has to do  
 10 its engineering. And the DEP we still have to go  
 11 through their permitting process. So the answer is  
 12 we're not certain. But we would like it to happen  
 13 sooner than later. The State and federal money will  
 14 only be allocated for a short window of time. And  
 15 again, the material will be dried there and then  
 16 removed completely and go to the Neptune Township  
 17 landfill and go to the county landfill.

18 MR. ARMSTEAD: Next point, you said  
 19 you're going to air dry it. Correct?

20 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Yes.

21 MS BECK: We really don't know. DEP and  
 22 DOT have to come up with a design and engineer. I  
 23 don't know.

24 MR. ARMSTEAD: The first thing I heard  
 25 from these fine gentlemen from Neptune that there is no

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1 to the Neptune Township landfill where it would be  
 2 moved. Or it would be moved to the county landfill.  
 3 One or the other. So the purpose is as a drying site  
 4 to dry the material. The Department of Environmental  
 5 Protection will require rigorous permitting and testing  
 6 of the material before it will allow it to go to the  
 7 drying site. So this Scoping Hearing is just to see if  
 8 we can use this to dry it. And then if we can, then we  
 9 have to go through a whole DEP permitting process and a  
 10 DOT engineering process so. This is at the very  
 11 beginning. And this will -- so the material will be  
 12 dried there.

13 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Okay. Who else?

14 MR. ARMSTEAD: Hello. My name is  
 15 Russell Armstead, R-U-S-S-E-L-L H-A-R-M-S-T-E-A-D.  
 16 I've lived on -- next to Old Corlies Avenue going on  
 17 44 years. So I know the area pretty well. There were  
 18 several years that we had such a terrible smell from  
 19 the sewer department that our neighborhood got together  
 20 and a last ditch effort pleaded with them, fix the  
 21 problem. Well, after about four years of pleading with  
 22 them they finally fixed the problem. And what they did  
 23 was they treated the sewer, the sewer water coming in  
 24 before it hit the plant and killed the smell. Okay.  
 25 That's number one. You mention, how long is this

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1 pollution in the Shark River. Now, when I heard this I  
 2 got a hold of New Jersey Department of Environmental  
 3 Protection and asked them can we clam in Shark River?  
 4 He says, "No, it's contaminated." Really? What's it  
 5 contaminated with?

6 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Who did you speak  
 7 to.

8 THE WITNESS: I have it on tape and I'll  
 9 bring it. Fecal bacteria highly contaminated. I'm  
 10 saying, well, geez, it's only salt water I just heard  
 11 today. Somewhere somebody's gone wrong. It's highly  
 12 contaminated. Said fecal bacteria. Number one. What  
 13 does the sewer department do when they get fecal  
 14 bacteria coming into their sewer plant? What they do  
 15 is treat it before it gets there. As it comes in it's  
 16 treated with some I have Benzine or Thorazine or  
 17 something. It also kills the odor. But now if the  
 18 sewer department their employees can go around their  
 19 sewer department and do their job without any fear of  
 20 fecal contamination airborne contamination. If for  
 21 what I've heard you're going to pump this water laden  
 22 even with fecal bacteria because it's contaminated into  
 23 this area of Shark River next right to where we live.  
 24 Right? It's going to air dry. What does that mean?  
 25 Now it becomes airborne. A possibility that it could

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| <p style="text-align: right;">41</p> <p>1 become airborne. The Glendora Reservoir is only about<br/> 2 three quarters of a mile away. What are they thinking?<br/> 3 You know? That's number two. It is highly<br/> 4 contaminated per the Department of Environmental<br/> 5 Protection. Listen, I would love to see Shark River it<br/> 6 all get cleaned up, but do it the right way. Don't<br/> 7 bring your contaminants in our neighborhood and then<br/> 8 expect us to live with the possibility of contaminated.<br/> 9 Now, here's the solution. If it's going to be it's<br/> 10 going to be. We can't fight it. I can see that. But<br/> 11 can any one of you here, any one of you here can you<br/> 12 guarantee the quality of our lives won't change? Can<br/> 13 you guarantee that our health won't change? Ourselves<br/> 14 and our family's? Can you guarantee that? And last<br/> 15 but not least, our property values. We know what our<br/> 16 properties values now are, we're paying our taxes. In<br/> 17 three years if we go to sell our house and the property<br/> 18 value went down \$200,000 because nobody wants to buy<br/> 19 our house we want to be compensated. Now, if you can<br/> 20 come up, if everybody says, oh, it's a 99 percent<br/> 21 chance none of this will happen. Fine. Go to Lords of<br/> 22 London. Get a nice cheap insurance policy for us.<br/> 23 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you. Who<br/> 24 else? Mr. Golub.<br/> 25 MS GOODWIN: Rosemary Goodwin,</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">42</p> <p>1 R-O-S-E-M-A-R-Y G-O-O-D-W-I-N. As concerned citizens<br/> 2 and Neptune taxpayers we have just a few questions for<br/> 3 the Township of Neptune, New Jersey Department of<br/> 4 Environmental Protection, the New Jersey Department of<br/> 5 Transportation and the Freeholders involved in this<br/> 6 project. Has an assessment been done to determine<br/> 7 whether and to what extent the sediment is contaminated<br/> 8 or has a potential to adversely affect the environment<br/> 9 and the public health in any way. Contaminants in the<br/> 10 sediment can include heavy metals such as the mercury<br/> 11 found in the adjacent Camp Evans sewer lines,<br/> 12 pesticides, PCP's, discharge from sewer lines post<br/> 13 Sandy and marine or boat discharges. Adverse impact to<br/> 14 environment and public could result from improperly<br/> 15 managed and regulated dredging and disposal of the<br/> 16 sediment.<br/> 17 Question two, I see you have a map of<br/> 18 the area in question. Has the necessary testing and<br/> 19 evaluation of the site been done? This happens to be<br/> 20 one of the -- in fact, I think it's the only stretch of<br/> 21 upland meadow in the eastern section of that part. The<br/> 22 area also contains a small wetland which would be<br/> 23 destroyed by the brine resulting from the dewatering of<br/> 24 these spoils. Also, have all the necessary permits and<br/> 25 certificates not only for the dredging but also for the</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">43</p> <p>1 subsequent disposal process been obtained?<br/> 2 Number three, what equipment, manpower<br/> 3 and funding will be needed to get this project built,<br/> 4 running and maintained safely in the long run? Will<br/> 5 there be pipelines with pumping stations? If so, how<br/> 6 many? Will it be active or passive dewatering? What<br/> 7 method if active? And will it be a retention basin or<br/> 8 geotextile pillows if it's passive? This question<br/> 9 which determines cost impact to the taxpayers.<br/> 10 Number four, will there be proper<br/> 11 monitoring of the resultant groundwater and also the<br/> 12 air quality if the material is dried to a fine state?<br/> 13 Dust resulting from the dry material becomes airborne<br/> 14 can travel into houses, cars, the reservoir, and<br/> 15 possibly the adjacent New Jersey American Water<br/> 16 facility.<br/> 17 Five, will trucks be involved in the<br/> 18 transportation to and from the site? If so, what are<br/> 19 the planned routes? And have residents along this<br/> 20 route been informed of this project? What will the<br/> 21 hours of operation and trucking be?<br/> 22 Number six, is there a map available for<br/> 23 the -- to the public for the proposed land trade? For<br/> 24 the Green Acres funded land must be twice the size and<br/> 25 value? Will the exchanged land provide hikers, dog</p>                                                             | <p style="text-align: right;">44</p> <p>1 walkers, mountain bikers, and other recreation the same<br/> 2 benefit uses of the current park land. We respectfully<br/> 3 request these questions be address and answered before<br/> 4 any further actions is taken with this land use<br/> 5 diversion. And we thank you for your time.<br/> 6 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: If you want to<br/> 7 submit that to us.<br/> 8 MR. ARNONE: I would really -- I would<br/> 9 appreciate if you could submit that because I will tell<br/> 10 you that all of the reports at a later date when it<br/> 11 comes to be tested will be open public record. So they<br/> 12 all would be. And that would be -- and all those<br/> 13 answers should be answered for you. Absolutely.<br/> 14 MS GOODWIN: As an alternative I was<br/> 15 questioning possibly the living shore line design and<br/> 16 something where all five towns involved along the Shark<br/> 17 River could share the burden not only physically but<br/> 18 also financially.<br/> 19 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you. Mr.<br/> 20 Golub.<br/> 21 MR. GOLUB: Michael Golub, M-I-C-H-A-E-L<br/> 22 G-O-L-U-B. I was the vice president of the Shark River<br/> 23 Coalition from 2002 to 2004. I was a Committeeman and<br/> 24 Deputy Mayor from 2004 to 2006. I'm currently the<br/> 25 president of the West Neptune Homeowners Association.</p>                                                                                                                                                        |

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1 I work for the federal government in Fort Monmouth for  
 2 a contract to clean up Camp Evans. And I'm formerly a  
 3 Board of Trustees member of the Camp Evans the InfoAge  
 4 Learning Center. So I know a lot about the site.  
 5 There is some contamination on the Wall side. I don't  
 6 know if that will impart any challenges to what you're  
 7 doing here. I'm not sure. But there is certainly some  
 8 contamination. But I would like to -- couple quick  
 9 points I want to make and questions. But if we have a  
 10 followup meeting could we have a bigger venue so  
 11 everyone can fit? And is it possible that on the  
 12 township's website there could be some sort of a e-mail  
 13 where everybody can e-mail their comments, folks that  
 14 are not going to have a chance to speak?

15 I'm reminded of a lot of history of what  
 16 happened prior to my leaving office and prior to these  
 17 folks taking on the baton. I spoke with Commissioner  
 18 Bard Campbell at the time when I was in office. I  
 19 spoke to Lisa Jackson. I met her in a conference in  
 20 Princeton University. I've been spoke to Bob Mark  
 21 (sic) a couple times. And a lot of them talked about  
 22 creating an environment of correcting bad behavior.  
 23 When you're going to rehabilitate anything whether it  
 24 be a site or a building or even a person we have to  
 25 talk about what got us there and what are we doing to

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1 gentlemen right her are being very sincere and honest  
 2 with their town. Where is it going to go? That's a  
 3 question that has to be answered. Well, I will suggest  
 4 to you an alternative site for some of the material.  
 5 It was actually suggested to me by a number of people  
 6 who sit on Wall Township committee. If you drive down  
 7 Route 35 in Belmar right before you get to Belmar.  
 8 Boulevard you notice that that area gets real thin and  
 9 comes close to the road. And you make a right on  
 10 Belmar Boulevard. It's right up on that bridge. And  
 11 it gets wide again where the residential area. You  
 12 could actually in fill that area and make that area  
 13 like a nice collar. Like almost like a shelf. And  
 14 that would also increase some resiliency,  
 15 sustainability for that particular area protecting that  
 16 bridge and just that intersection alone. That's just  
 17 one suggestion. I also suggest that while we're  
 18 talking about dredging I'm always the guy that's also  
 19 saying to myself, why don't we create economic activity  
 20 just from the dredging itself aside from saving the  
 21 economic activity. And I sat in Wall Township when you  
 22 folks had the students from Neptune Township do just as  
 23 good a job. And I sat there. I stood there and  
 24 testified with Cindy Zipf, a friend of mine who's the  
 25 Executive Director of Clean Ocean Action. And she said

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1 prevent that from happening again. Dredging is an  
 2 ongoing thing. It will always have to be done. I  
 3 understand that. But we have consistently and  
 4 deliberately done an awful lot of development in West  
 5 Neptune on Route 66. And Tinton Falls has done their  
 6 share as well. And what I need to know is for my home  
 7 in West Neptune what is going to be done to make sure  
 8 we're not down this way again so traumatically in  
 9 arrears or overdue with having everything dredged?  
 10 Now, in 2004, you know, we had -- and this is a  
 11 well-run town. It's a well-lead town. But we did have  
 12 a Mayor that was willing to protect the Shark River  
 13 with category one status. The name is Tom Catley. And  
 14 actually, the attorney is sitting five rows behind me  
 15 who drafted that resolution and that ordinance. And we  
 16 passed that on January 1st as the first order of  
 17 business. And you know, a lot of what has happened in  
 18 development is not congruent with that commitment that  
 19 the town had kept. And maybe that's something we  
 20 should revisit.

21 So what steps are being taken to correct  
 22 that? I don't know the answer to that. If there is  
 23 contamination and it's not going on a county piece of  
 24 property I take your word one it because you are a man  
 25 of integrity. You are a woman of integrity. And these

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1 that there was a soil blending facility that had been  
 2 created on the Passaic River. It was expected to  
 3 generate about \$2 and a half million. And they missed  
 4 the mark but in a very positive way. They hit just  
 5 north of 7 million. And I said to the guy, how did  
 6 this happen? He said, well, we've been in recession.  
 7 Have you seen a school system or university or hospital  
 8 that hasn't been under construction? They don't know  
 9 there's a recession going on. So the economy is going  
 10 to come back when everybody in Washington figures out  
 11 how to keep the door open. When it does let's have  
 12 something at least start the process now opening irons  
 13 and fire. Because dredging is the maintenance process.  
 14 We may be talking about the bulk of this operation to  
 15 be done in five or six years or three years, whatever  
 16 it is, but ultimately we know we're going to be here  
 17 again. And if we're careful, then it can be an ongoing  
 18 thing and a stream of income.

19 I'll mention one other little thing. I  
 20 went on a cruise with some very dear friends. And we  
 21 went out of Tampa. And we went to Cozumel and Costa  
 22 Maya and all these other places. And they have this  
 23 huge barge in Trenton. I mean in Tampa. Huge barge.  
 24 And they were doing the mechanical dredging. And do  
 25 you know what nested on top of the dredge? A pair of

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1 American bald eagles. And the darn things just take a  
 2 ride out to the bay every day. They look like they  
 3 were driving. And they'd go out there and forage. And  
 4 in the afternoon just out of habit they would go back  
 5 to the nest. And they get a ride back to Tampa. So  
 6 I'm not saying that we should do the thing in Evans  
 7 because it would encroach on a historical site anyway.  
 8 What I'm saying is that shouldn't be our only reason to  
 9 not do it somewhere because those animals can adopt.  
 10 They're -- they can adapt. There's a nest. It's  
 11 estimated about 1200 pounds. It's on U.S. 1 near Black  
 12 Horse Pike. And it's right on the highway where  
 13 tractor trailers go by.

14 So as far as the issue regarding fecal  
 15 coliform, those types of bacteria, there are enzymes  
 16 that can be applied to the water prior to any dredging  
 17 starting that will eat up all -- most of it if not all  
 18 of it. And it can be actually cultivated a little bit  
 19 before and churned up. And then when you dredge it --  
 20 because a lot of the smell is going to come from that  
 21 stuff. And it's not just salt because it's the  
 22 degradation+ of what you're churning up. The salt is  
 23 activating it. So I appreciate your time.

24 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Okay, Mr. Golub.  
 25 Thank you.

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1 room. DEP would not allow it to go there. But I will  
 2 tell you it's such an early -- you deserve those  
 3 answers. You deserve each and every one of those  
 4 answers. Absolutely. That's why we took that. And  
 5 we'll continue to get those answers when we get those  
 6 answers.

7 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Do you have any  
 8 questions?

9 MR. EICHENOUR: I have a few more  
 10 things, yes.

11 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Okay.

12 MR. EICHENOUR: Just so that I, and I  
 13 guess everybody else in the room, understands how this  
 14 process will proceed, this is a Scoping Hearing. And  
 15 there'll obviously be additional hearings. So who will  
 16 determine what happens with everything that we're  
 17 talking about tonight to determine if it goes to the  
 18 next level?

19 MR. BISHOP: If in fact -- are you  
 20 asking, if I can clarify, that the first thing if  
 21 indeed the land swap or, if you would, the diversion of  
 22 parkland what is the process that has the diversion?  
 23 Is it approved or not approved? Should it be approved  
 24 then what happens next? Is that what you're asking?

25 MR. EICHENOUR: Well, I don't understand

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1 MR. EICHENOUR: E-I-C-H-E-N-O-U-R. Just  
 2 so that I'm clear, a couple people before me have asked  
 3 questions and the questions haven't really been  
 4 answered.

5 MR. ARNONE: That's true. I'd just like  
 6 to add to that because we don't have the answers.  
 7 That's why -- and I think we stated in the early stages  
 8 this is such a preliminary opening Scope Hearing we  
 9 don't have the answers. You deserve the answers. You  
 10 absolutely do. And when we get the answers to show you  
 11 because this is a process. Is it a process that I  
 12 probably agree with? Absolutely not. Because we're  
 13 looking at such an early, early stage where -- and I  
 14 know feelings are tense and stuff like, but you have to  
 15 realize this is so early in the process. Those answers  
 16 should be answered. Each and every one of you. And  
 17 very good points that Senator Beck and the Mayor and  
 18 Randy looked at it, and looked together, said yeah,  
 19 they're very good concerns.

20 And you know, I know the woman there  
 21 that spoke before me said that with all due respect,  
 22 I'll tell you, you don't know me that well. Because  
 23 I'm telling you, if contaminated soil would -- if I  
 24 would not allow that and I stood on that Board it will  
 25 not go there. Okay. Anybody that knows me in this

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1 exactly what the purpose of this meeting is because  
 2 we're not getting questions to our answers. We have  
 3 no idea what's really going on. Nobody has proposed  
 4 what land is being swapped. So to be honest, other  
 5 than us giving you options I don't understand the  
 6 purpose of this meeting.

7 MS BECK: Could I ask, I've been through  
 8 many, many hearings. It really is important to keep  
 9 the civility and the respect. And the applause,  
 10 really, please hold your applause. We're trying to be  
 11 as forthcoming as possible. The purpose of this  
 12 hearing is to discuss the possible usage of county  
 13 property that is on the Registry of Open Space for a  
 14 drying site for dredge materials. That is the narrow  
 15 scope of this hearing. If we move forward and it is  
 16 agreed that we can use that site to dredge, to dry the  
 17 dredge materials, then DEP will force us, as they  
 18 should, to go through a series of permitting processes  
 19 that will include public hearings. That will include  
 20 testing the materials. That will include testing the  
 21 waterways. Making sure that wildlife is protected.  
 22 DOT will also go through a series of public hearings  
 23 about their engineering drawings, the type of different  
 24 mechanics that can be used, maybe different paths that  
 25 the piping would take. So we are at the very, very,

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| <p style="text-align: right;">53</p> <p>1 very beginning and simply looking at a place to dry<br/> 2 this material because we have money allocated to dredge<br/> 3 the State channels. And we're trying to find a place<br/> 4 to dry the dredge materials. That's it.</p> <p>5 MR. EICHENOUR: If we take this 16 plus<br/> 6 or minus acres is it a 2 to 1 ratio or a 3 to 1 ratio<br/> 7 that we have to replace?</p> <p>8 MR. GADALETA: Actually, the<br/> 9 determination on that will be up to the State House<br/> 10 Commission. And if I may to just answer the next step<br/> 11 here, beyond this hearing would be a pre-application to<br/> 12 the DEP to Green Acres and the State House Commission<br/> 13 for their review of a possible diversion of this site.<br/> 14 So this is just the initial step. And the State House<br/> 15 Commission will determine what that compensation would<br/> 16 be for this site. I think it's important to note the<br/> 17 map shows a total area of 22 plus or minus acres which<br/> 18 I think I mentioned initially. And potentially<br/> 19 16 acres could be diverted if necessary for this<br/> 20 proposed project. It has yet to be determined exactly<br/> 21 what size this CDF would be. So we don't know at this<br/> 22 juncture just how many acres of that site would be<br/> 23 utilized. I can say, and I can say it from position of<br/> 24 the county as well and also in our preliminary<br/> 25 discussions with State representatives, that if you</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">54</p> <p>1 look at the map you will see a flat area there which in<br/> 2 fact includes a couple of structures. And that this<br/> 3 site is really a maintenance site used by the county.<br/> 4 It's not primarily an active or even passive recreation<br/> 5 area. It's used as a maintenance facility for the<br/> 6 county as part of the county park system to have and so<br/> 7 forth. It's adjacent to our sewer authority property<br/> 8 as well. So how much of the site is actually going to<br/> 9 be used that 16 acres is still yet to be determined.<br/> 10 And at that point we will know what that compensation<br/> 11 will have to be.</p> <p>12 THE WITNESS: Okay. And if it's 2 to 1<br/> 13 or 3 to 1 or 4 to 1 is there free space in Neptune<br/> 14 available to compensate for that?</p> <p>15 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Yes.</p> <p>16 MR. GADALETA: Mr. Mayor, may I?</p> <p>17 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Yes.</p> <p>18 MR. GADALETA: We actually have, the<br/> 19 township has a 16-acre parcel of land located adjacent<br/> 20 to New Jersey Route 66 and Jumping Brook Road. Okay.<br/> 21 That is a -- would be a protected stream corridor area.<br/> 22 That that would be part of the potential compensation<br/> 23 for this site. That's a 16 acres site under the<br/> 24 control of the Township of Neptune currently, yes.</p> <p>25 THE WITNESS: So that would be 1 to 1.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">55</p> <p>1 But if it's 2 to 1 or 3 to 1 or more is there available<br/> 2 space elsewhere?</p> <p>3 MR. GADALETA: Well, again, we have to<br/> 4 look at, number one, what that compensation is going to<br/> 5 be. If, for example, we only need five acres then we<br/> 6 have it with the 16 potentially. If we need more than<br/> 7 that we would have to look at other areas within the<br/> 8 township and the county with regard to compensation.</p> <p>9 THE WITNESS: Okay. And I know at this<br/> 10 point I don't think I can get an answer to this, but I<br/> 11 just want it to be on the record. We have no idea how<br/> 12 the dredge material is going to get from Shark River to<br/> 13 this facility?</p> <p>14 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: At this point we<br/> 15 know it will be pumped but we don't not have a design.<br/> 16 And I'd just like to clarify one thing, we're having<br/> 17 this meeting because we're required to for Green Acres<br/> 18 and for a land swap. That is the purpose of this<br/> 19 meeting. We have to have it. And I know you may be<br/> 20 little frustrated by this process but this is the first<br/> 21 step in the process. Thank you.</p> <p>22 MR. EICHENOUR: Some of the frustration<br/> 23 comes from I was expecting the DEP and the DOT to be<br/> 24 here because they were referenced in a letter that we<br/> 25 received. And them not being here doesn't give us any</p>                                                        | <p style="text-align: right;">56</p> <p>1 opportunity to get questions answered or even hear what<br/> 2 they have to say because apparently they are more in<br/> 3 charge of this project, I guess.</p> <p>4 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Once we have the<br/> 5 thing they will be in charge of the project.</p> <p>6 MR. EICHENOUR: Thank you. Last thing<br/> 7 is I was doing some research on dredging and how you<br/> 8 dispose of the material. And one of the things that<br/> 9 has even been used at the inlet there in Belmar is<br/> 10 ocean disposal. Has that been considered?</p> <p>11 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Yes.</p> <p>12 MR. EICHENOUR: Was that denied?</p> <p>13 MR. BISHOP: Yes.</p> <p>14 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: You only can put<br/> 15 sand in the ocean.</p> <p>16 MR. BISHOP: There's too much silt.</p> <p>17 MR. EICHENOUR: Thank you.</p> <p>18 MR. SCJARAPPA: Bill Sciarappa,<br/> 19 S-C-I-A-R-A-P-P-A. I'm long time resident of Neptune<br/> 20 City and Bradley Beach beforehand. And have been a<br/> 21 member of the Shark River Roundtable in the late 90's<br/> 22 and the Shark River Cleanup Coalition to today's<br/> 23 present day. We've been through these issues many<br/> 24 times and heard a lot of discussions. And just when we<br/> 25 think we have things halfway going they're been</p>                                                                                                          |

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1 stopped. These things have been going for 60 years  
2 when the fishermen wanted to dredge. They did want to  
3 make an island, but the law was at that time only 20 or  
4 25 percent of a mass of the water body could be rebuilt  
5 into islands. And we have used that up with Seagull  
6 Island. If you ever want to look at contamination  
7 that's where everybody dropped their lead paints and  
8 other debris.

9 We have been monitoring as path of  
10 Rutgers University some of the contaminants. Some of  
11 our Shark River Cleanup Coalition people have been  
12 doing that as volunteer actions. Typically, the  
13 sediment and the salt are the main problems. We find e  
14 coli sometimes at levels of 1,000 to 2,000 colonies per  
15 millimeter, which is in excess but it's not an  
16 especially bad pollutant. In fact, even occasionally  
17 in the water those clam beds will be harvested and  
18 brought to the de-preparation tanks. So it's not so  
19 extraordinary. The e coli's line in the water column  
20 not so much in the sediment. They're not anaerobic.  
21 So we would certainly also like to see the results of  
22 sampling. Previous sampling along the marina in Belmar  
23 show that water to be pretty darn clean. The PCP's  
24 that were referenced along the Army base are definitely  
25 there in the plants and the crabs, but that's not where

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1 economic benefits to our whole community trumps that.  
2 And we should not try to make a huge environmental  
3 issue possibly where none may exist, but we need more  
4 data in the future. And we look forward to working  
5 together with the council and everybody else.

6 MR. FENTON: Hello, everybody. My name  
7 is John Fenton, F-E-N-T-O-N. I don't think anybody  
8 here, you know, doesn't want to dredge the river.  
9 Okay. Obviously, that's important. Question is using  
10 this piece of land to dewater and taking land away from  
11 the first county park. This park was established in  
12 1965 initially and land was added to it over time. And  
13 to take this land away from the park, what's next? You  
14 know? And so I'm concerned about it. The fact the  
15 site is the only upland meadow in that half of the  
16 park. Okay. The park maintenance area if I could show  
17 on the map takes up these two buildings out to the road  
18 and some scattered picnic tables in back. So that site  
19 is largely habitat for deer, fox, ground hogs and  
20 raptors. Hawks hunt in that meadow. And you know, I  
21 guess, you know, as far as alternatives, I cannot  
22 believe that, you know, seven places are the only  
23 places that this stuff could be stored. I realize that  
24 there are other factors involved including cost. And I  
25 think that's the main barrier why this is being

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1 the dredging is going to take place. These are the  
2 channels I understand, the north channel and south  
3 channel. They're relatively clean of sand and even the  
4 sediment. You might find an airplane down there, I  
5 think.

6 So we are an environmental organization,  
7 Shark River Cleanup Coalition. And we are very  
8 environmentally concerned. We're glad in retrospect  
9 because we did support the dewatering site in Wall.  
10 The eagle was not there at the time of the decision.  
11 The decision was made because of truck traffic  
12 politics. We hope that doesn't happen again here. One  
13 of the Neptune people mentioned a few trucks. Having  
14 that number would be good to calm the residents if it  
15 goes forward. But we're glad the eagle's there. And  
16 the key indicator of a bio assay is those eggs hatched  
17 again two baby chicks this year. Looking good. If  
18 there were pesticides in there, they feed on every  
19 slimy eel in that basin. Those eggs would not have  
20 hatched. That's the best bio assay you can ask for.  
21 We need that river to come back for recreational  
22 commercial activity as well as environmental. I think  
23 the environmental risk as a biologist Ph.D. I think the  
24 risk is minor all around. Even if it were moderate,  
25 because we don't know some things, I believe the

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1 considered. My suggestion is to use a barge to  
2 dewater. Apparently, some places do that. But you're  
3 trading off here. You're depolluting one place and  
4 polluting another because the mud no matter what is  
5 going to destroy the meadow. And that along with the  
6 salt in the water. That's all I got. Thanks.

7 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you.

8 MR. CROTTY: Hello, my name is Dave  
9 Crotty, C-R-O-T-T-Y. I live on Remsen Mill Road. And  
10 I had probably live couple hundred feet away from the  
11 proposed site. So everybody in this room I think all  
12 agree that they want to save the river. Everybody's  
13 lived around the river. I lived on the river for  
14 50 years. I remember I lived in Neptune City. I lived  
15 on the river. When that river's low tied it smells.  
16 You can't eat the clams. You haven't been able to eat  
17 the clams because it's contaminated. The gentleman up  
18 here before, Mr. Sciarappa, he mentioned about the  
19 clams being harvested. They have to be sent out.  
20 Correct? To be what? Cleaned. Because they're  
21 contaminated because. They're contaminated with fecal  
22 coliform and whatever else is in that river. Again,  
23 everybody wants to save the river. I like the idea. I  
24 think it needs to be looked at further about pumping  
25 out to the ocean. I'm kind of not on to that about not

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1 being able to pump. What is in the river? Is it sand?  
 2 Is it mud? What is it? I think there's got to be  
 3 another testing. There should be a lot more testing  
 4 done before this thing. Before it even gets to the  
 5 Scoping Hearing it should have been found out what is  
 6 in the river, what is actually in the mud before we're  
 7 even getting this far. Why are we talk about this when  
 8 we don't know what's in the mud? That's my biggest  
 9 fear. I think if you have this and you're going to be  
 10 air drying there's going to be a lot of pollutants in  
 11 the air. Everything else. You're going to be having  
 12 people with breathing difficulties. There are people  
 13 here who are already sick in that area. Like the  
 14 gentleman here said before, they've been dealing with  
 15 the sewer plant issue for years. They finally got it  
 16 cleaned up. They did a great job. But let's find out  
 17 what really is the plan before you even do the scoping.  
 18 I just don't buy it. I mean, trucks. How many trucks?  
 19 You're talking hundred thousand cubic yards? How much  
 20 is that? Give us a proportion. Give us a size. How  
 21 many trucks? Right down Old Corlies they're going to  
 22 be going passed softball fields. You're going to be  
 23 going down all the way down to Tinton Falls. And this  
 24 is going to take -- the airborne's going to be all  
 25 over. You're going to have stuff coming off the

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1 lot with these people here because that's what their  
 2 concerns are. There's a lot of stuff that happens.  
 3 But that's what I feel. And I think a lot of people  
 4 that would help with this whole process. What are we  
 5 dealing with? That's what the people want to know.  
 6 And I strongly suggest that maybe you look at some of  
 7 these alternative sites along the river and out to the  
 8 ocean. Because I don't understand because you're  
 9 piping three, two miles up the channel, from the  
 10 channel up to this site. You should be able to pump  
 11 out to the river out to the ocean. Are these pumping  
 12 going to be running 24 hours a day? That's the thing  
 13 we got to know because I don't want hear a pump because  
 14 these pumps they're going to be running a long time.

15 And I'm just going to end on this one  
 16 thing. Now, nobody knows how long. Correct? Now,  
 17 this is going to be a temporary site for drying. So  
 18 whenever they're going to be any kind of routine  
 19 maintenance and dredging in the future where is it  
 20 going to be pumped to? Where is it going to be --  
 21 again, this is permanent site. And I don't think it's  
 22 going to be a temporary site.

23 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: That hasn't been  
 24 determined.

25 MR. CROTTY: I think it's going to be if

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1 trucks. You're not going to be able to guarantee these  
 2 trucks are going to be totally clean to come down the  
 3 river. Can anybody guarantee that? No.  
 4 MR. ARNONE: Can I answer that? David  
 5 and I have known each other for a very long time. I  
 6 will tell you that, Dave, you're absolutely right with  
 7 everything that you're suggesting, but this is the  
 8 process. I kind of agree, but they mandate us to have  
 9 this Scoping Hearing before we could preliminary put an  
 10 application in for them to do that testing.

11 MR. CROTTY: I think they need to have a  
 12 little bit more testing.

13 MR. ARNONE: We don't make those rules.  
 14 You know that.

15 MR. CROTTY: DEP, they should have this  
 16 testing. At least let us know what we're dealing with  
 17 before they even deal -- this river's contaminated. We  
 18 all know that. We all want to save the river. Let's  
 19 do something about it. Let's be proactive. Let's be  
 20 positive. Let's not, like, pollute another area part  
 21 of town. Let's take it out someplace else. I agree,  
 22 you can put it in different parts.

23 MR. ARNONE: They make you do this  
 24 process first before you find out.

25 MR. CROTTY: I think this would help a

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1 you're going to have to do routine maintenance on this  
 2 channel. This is going to be a permanent site for  
 3 drying. Thank you very much.

4 MS BECK: Mayor, may I just, sir?

5 Thanks, Dave. And I do appreciate your comments. So  
 6 in terms of the drying, we haven't dredged, I guess,  
 7 close to 30 years. And we're narrowly doing just the  
 8 State channels. So it's not the entire Shark River.

9 It's just the channels. And if we haven't done it in  
 10 30 years I think the chances that you'll be doing this  
 11 again, annually or anything else, is slim to none. I  
 12 mean, you're going to get a chance to dredge those  
 13 State channels for once and get the material out. And  
 14 then we'll not be in a fight for funding to do it again  
 15 it will probably take another ten years. So you're  
 16 going to have that material dry and then taken to the  
 17 landfill in Neptune and taken to the landfill at  
 18 Monmouth County and Tinton Falls. And then that site  
 19 will basically sit. So this isn't as if -- I mean, you  
 20 have to get the funds to dredge. We've really had to  
 21 fight to get a place in line for funding to dredge  
 22 these State channels. And the chances that we get this  
 23 opportunity again are going to be very slim because so  
 24 many other people are looking to dredge their  
 25 waterways.

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| <p style="text-align: right;">65</p> <p>1 MR. BEEKMAN: Thank you. Jeffrey<br/> 2 Beekman, 19 Fremont Drive in Neptune. I've been a<br/> 3 resident here for 30 years. I've lived near Shark<br/> 4 River for 30 years. I used to as a preteen go to the<br/> 5 river. And now you can walk across where I used to<br/> 6 fish, I used to crab. I think what we're forgetting<br/> 7 here, obviously, this is the process. I understand all<br/> 8 the questions about answers to many of the questions of<br/> 9 contamination. How long is it going to be there? Is<br/> 10 this going to be permanent? Those are fair questions.<br/> 11 But the fact of the matter is not only did Mr. Golub<br/> 12 talk about the development adding to the pollution but<br/> 13 the people in Neptune, the people in Tinton Falls, the<br/> 14 people in Wall Township are adding to what's in the<br/> 15 river now. And that's pollution and that's the<br/> 16 sediment that we're talking about dredging. And I<br/> 17 think it's important that everyone realize all of us<br/> 18 are contributing to the problem. It's not just a local<br/> 19 area. Everyone's contributing to it. The other point<br/> 20 I just wanted to make is you've been through the<br/> 21 diversion process. I was Assistant Township attorney<br/> 22 back in 2004 when a lot of this was being discussed. I<br/> 23 appreciate the Mayor's and Mr. Bishop's efforts and<br/> 24 obviously Mayor Arnone now Freeholder Director Arnone<br/> 25 Thank you, gentlemen, for coming on board because</p>                               | <p style="text-align: right;">66</p> <p>1 you're certainly an ally. And it gives us an open door<br/> 2 to talk to the State because at the end of the day<br/> 3 they're the ones that have the authority to do this.<br/> 4 But going back to the diversion process, there's a cost<br/> 5 to do all of the testing. There's a cost associated<br/> 6 with the environmental. And the reason why I think the<br/> 7 process is this way, let's have the Scoping Hearing, is<br/> 8 they don't want to spend hundreds of thousands of<br/> 9 dollars doing the testing if we're not going to go any<br/> 10 further from this point forward. So again, I<br/> 11 appreciate the comments, but at the same time I think<br/> 12 that everyone has to understand that the process is<br/> 13 important. And everyone's going to be heard. And I<br/> 14 think there was a question of perhaps being able to<br/> 15 submit questions to the board. Obviously, you did<br/> 16 receive some questions. And I think that would be a<br/> 17 wise decision moving forward to allow the public their<br/> 18 ability to speak. Thank you.<br/> 19 MR. KELLY: My name is Chris Kelly. I<br/> 20 live at 12 Jagger Avenue. I came to this. I don't<br/> 21 really have a suggestion. Nor do I have any questions.<br/> 22 I think enough has been said already tonight that<br/> 23 really are a lot of the questions that have been on my<br/> 24 mind. But I did come here with a somewhat open mind to<br/> 25 try and hear what you all had to talk about for the</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">67</p> <p>1 Scoping Hearing. Understand that a lot of the<br/> 2 questions still remain to be answered, et cetera. But<br/> 3 I do come here as a resident. Bought my first house<br/> 4 here. I'm actually neighbors with Dave. Live just on<br/> 5 the other side. I'm sure that you guys did go through<br/> 6 the proper channels to make sure that this was sent<br/> 7 out, but I never received a letter on this. And I'm a<br/> 8 block over. Nor did most of the people on my side. So<br/> 9 I came in a little suspicious. I'm going to be honest<br/> 10 with you. And then you bring up school children to tug<br/> 11 at our heart strings and give us this malarky of a<br/> 12 presentation. None of them have advanced Ph.D.'s or<br/> 13 any kind engineering. I don't have any of that myself<br/> 14 but I'm an educated man. I'm also a family man. I<br/> 15 have my first child was just born in this house. And<br/> 16 now I'm going to be left with what? Your know, you<br/> 17 talk about the economic benefits, which I think you<br/> 18 know, I'm in business. You know, I get the economic<br/> 19 portion of this. But if we're going to pin our hopes<br/> 20 and dreams for this area on the Shark River I got to<br/> 21 say I'm a little frightened about that. Furthermore,<br/> 22 what about the property values? What about everybody<br/> 23 who lives even remotely close to that? There are still<br/> 24 days I wake up I still can catch a whiff of that sewage<br/> 25 plant. On a good steamy summer afternoon I assure you,</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">68</p> <p>1 Senator, it's not sunshine and lollipops coming out of<br/> 2 there, you know. And so, you know, I'm only worried<br/> 3 about the health of my family. I'm worried about my<br/> 4 property values. And I'm worried about what this<br/> 5 effect is going to be for the air quality. I'm also a<br/> 6 huge fan of the Shark River golf course. And I'm<br/> 7 shocked that the county is going to go along with this<br/> 8 in the sense that this is going to drive people away<br/> 9 from an area that is really one of the gems on the<br/> 10 circuit of golf courses around here. So you know, I'm<br/> 11 going to let you guys know, I think it's no surprise to<br/> 12 you, but you guys, you got a fight on your hands for<br/> 13 this one. And we're all going to bring it. I just<br/> 14 hope you guys are prepared to, you know, handle that.<br/> 15 I'm sure you will be. And just want to put you on<br/> 16 notice. All right.<br/> 17 MS BECK: I want to be honest, I'm not<br/> 18 looking for a fight. I'm looking to try to resolve an<br/> 19 issue that has been a long standing issue in your<br/> 20 township. And we do have an opportunity to do that.<br/> 21 As more information is forthcoming from DEP and DOT we<br/> 22 will be able to in a more fair way evaluate the<br/> 23 project. This is as we have said several times the<br/> 24 very preliminary. They just want to know if they<br/> 25 provide us with the funds to dredge that there's a</p>                        |

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| <p>69</p> <p>1 place to dry the material for the handful of months<br/>2 that it needs to dry before they take it to the<br/>3 landfill. And so I'm definitely not looking for a<br/>4 fight. I'm really looking to try to resolve an issue.<br/>5 MR. HAWTIN: My name is Joseph Hawtin,<br/>6 H-A-W-T-I-N. I live on Remsen Mill Road. I'm also<br/>7 neighbors with Dave, Chris. My house is like 50 feet<br/>8 where the proposal is. I'm currently a federal<br/>9 employee. I went to work today for free. And I grew<br/>10 up in Toms River. I moved here about seven years ago.<br/>11 I swam in the rivers of Ciba Geigy. All that. So I'm<br/>12 sorry if I sound sarcastic, but I don't really believe<br/>13 in the powers that may be. I was a social science<br/>14 major. So I know how government works and towns work.<br/>15 Now, has anything been proposed how far this stuff can<br/>16 go out? Because I only heard it in the local towns.<br/>17 How many far can it go? Can it go out of state and be<br/>18 dried out? Can it go out of town? Can it go out go<br/>19 into Ocean, Monmouth? Where is the boundaries of this<br/>20 stuff it can taken because I only heard it locally?<br/>21 And there's more area the further west you go. Could<br/>22 it go to Ohio? What are the boundaries of this?<br/>23 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: It has to get there.<br/>24 MR. HAWTIN: I understand that. So<br/>25 you're willing to sacrifice people's health, people's</p> | <p>70</p> <p>1 properties for money. So we have a dollar sign on our<br/>2 heads. It all comes down to dollars again. That's<br/>3 bothering me I have a price tag on my head so everybody<br/>4 can live comfortably in Shark River Hills and I could<br/>5 be jeopardized, my family can be jeopardized, too.<br/>6 That's what it boils down to.<br/>7 MS BECK: If the material is not clean<br/>8 the DEP will not allow it to go to the site. And<br/>9 neither the Neptune Township landfill nor the Monmouth<br/>10 County landfill will take it. So the material must be<br/>11 clean. It must meet all of the standards. We have the<br/>12 toughest environmental standards in the country by far.<br/>13 And so if we do not meet those standards the material<br/>14 can't be taken. And frankly, the projects over. We<br/>15 just simply won't be able to dredge.<br/>16 MR. LEAHY: My name is Simon Leahy. I<br/>17 live on 3 Chapman Avenue, Neptune, New Jersey. What<br/>18 about the smell alone? Just in the summertime you've<br/>19 all been down the ocean what it smells like. This is<br/>20 the bay we're digging up. Dredging all that crap up in<br/>21 our backyard.<br/>22 MS BECK: So keep in mind it's not there<br/>23 forever. It is there for a couple of months.<br/>24 MR. LEAHY: How long? You haven't told<br/>25 us that. You keep saying it's not there forever but</p> |
| <p>71</p> <p>1 you can't give that date.<br/>2 MS BECK: Vito, do you want to answer<br/>3 because you've had the experience?<br/>4 MR. GADALETA: Yes, if I may, Mayor. I<br/>5 think it's very important, and many of you are aware of<br/>6 this, that over the years the township has dredged its<br/>7 own marina basin. And in fact, just recently after<br/>8 Sandy dredged our marina basin as a result of the<br/>9 siltation from the storm. And that material was tested<br/>10 and tested clean. So our basin was clean for us to be<br/>11 permitted to dredge. And additionally, that material<br/>12 was stockpiled in containers on South Riverside Drive<br/>13 at that marina until it had a chance dewater and then<br/>14 moved off the site with zero complaint from the<br/>15 residents that were living within a hundred feet. We<br/>16 had no complaints whatsoever.<br/>17 THE WITNESS: Why don't we share the<br/>18 towns? Let Shark River Hills. Let Wall Township. Why<br/>19 isn't Wall taking it?<br/>20 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: I'm not speaking for<br/>21 Wall Township.<br/>22 MR. LEAHY: I know you're not, but they<br/>23 turned it down, didn't they?<br/>24 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: We can't put it<br/>25 dumpsters because the quantity is too great.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>72</p> <p>1 MR. LEAHY: Again, we're talking very<br/>2 small quantity. We're talking a small dredge. This is<br/>3 a deep dredge. You don't know how it's going to smell.<br/>4 You don't know what it's going to be like in August.<br/>5 Do you live anywhere near it?<br/>6 MR. GADALETA: Do I live anywhere near<br/>7 the site?<br/>8 MR. LEAHY: Yes.<br/>9 MR. GADALETA: No, I do not.<br/>10 MR. LEAHY: I just think this is<br/>11 upsetting that you're just going to dump it in our<br/>12 backyard.<br/>13 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: We're not saying<br/>14 we're going to dump it. This the beginning of a long<br/>15 step.<br/>16 MR. BURDGE: Bill Burdge, B-U-R-D-G-E.<br/>17 Just they made A statement before that they can't take<br/>18 it out to the ocean. Well, I've been a fisherman for<br/>19 30 years. There's a place called the mud dump which is<br/>20 up off Sandy Hook. All the stuff out of New York comes<br/>21 in there. And there's all kind of mud. And they worry<br/>22 about fishing. Best fishing around. This issue with<br/>23 trying to dry it in town is a big problem. I grew up<br/>24 on that river. I watched them when they filled up the<br/>25 island over there and built the condos on top of it.</p>                                                                                                                                                        |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">73</p> <p>1 Really and truly, they need to take it out in the<br/> 2 ocean. They need to put it on a barge and take it out<br/> 3 of there. And it would alleviate all this nonsense.<br/> 4 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: We have no control<br/> 5 over it.<br/> 6 MR. BISHOP: We wish they would. We<br/> 7 tried.<br/> 8 MR. BURDGE: I don't understand when it<br/> 9 comes to the environmentalists if there's so much worry<br/> 10 about contamination and stuff. I'm not saying take it<br/> 11 out there, heap it up in one big pile. I was telling<br/> 12 Mike before they do a survey on that mud once a month<br/> 13 to check the depth. At one point they filled it up so<br/> 14 much that a ship couldn't even go over it. And they<br/> 15 had to go out and remove all the stuff around. And<br/> 16 that's stuff out of New York. So what kind of<br/> 17 contamination might be there? Okay.<br/> 18 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, Mr.<br/> 19 Burdge. Yes, sir.<br/> 20 MR. KURPIECKI: My name is William<br/> 21 Kurpiecki, K-U-R-P-I-E-C-K-I. I'd just like to thank<br/> 22 you for taking this opportunity to let me speak my<br/> 23 mind, speak my peace. I've been coming down to the<br/> 24 Shark River my whole life. I used to live up in South<br/> 25 Amboy and I would travel all the way down here to go</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p style="text-align: right;">74</p> <p>1 flounder fishing which had to me and a lot of other<br/> 2 people had the best flounder fishing on the east coast.<br/> 3 My wife and family and I moved down here about 17 years<br/> 4 ago. And we also own a boat. And we've been watching<br/> 5 this river. And I understand everyone's concerns. And<br/> 6 I'm fully on board with if there's any type of<br/> 7 materials in the, I'll call it, sand and the debris<br/> 8 that's in the water and the mud, if you will. But my<br/> 9 experience in this river with my family, my children<br/> 10 has been swimming, water skiing, fishing, crabbing.<br/> 11 We've eaten the fish out of that river. None of us has<br/> 12 ever gotten sick. We've caught the crabs. We've eaten<br/> 13 the crabs. We've been watching this river for years<br/> 14 now just deteriorate and deteriorate and deteriorate.<br/> 15 And it is drying up and it's dieing. At low tide there<br/> 16 are weeds and reeds starting to come up out of the<br/> 17 bottom. You can't even get back through the back of<br/> 18 the river two hours before or two hours after low tide.<br/> 19 I ran aground out there first thing after Super Storm<br/> 20 Sandy in the Spring. Two years ago I was getting sea<br/> 21 horses in my green crab trap. This year no sea horses.<br/> 22 There has not been a starfish in that river this year.<br/> 23 Last year that river was loaded with starfish. That<br/> 24 river is dying. If we don't do something with that<br/> 25 river and do something with that river soon.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">75</p> <p>1 All the businesses, also, that are in<br/> 2 that area, the yacht clubs, the bait shops, the Cracker<br/> 3 Barrel, all those people are going to suffer and<br/> 4 everyone's going to go out of business. The whole<br/> 5 society here in Neptune and adjoining towns stand to<br/> 6 lose a lot if we do not correct this dredging problem.<br/> 7 Because not only does it allow the boating to go in and<br/> 8 out it also has fresh water that comes in with the<br/> 9 ocean with high tide and replenishes all the nutrients<br/> 10 and everything in the back of the river to feed the<br/> 11 crabs, the clams, the mussels, the starfish, the fluke,<br/> 12 the flounder that's in that river. And if we don't<br/> 13 find a way to take care of that river and dewater these<br/> 14 spoils we might as well just put a closed, out business<br/> 15 sign on that river. And there's going to be thousands<br/> 16 of people not just hundreds of people out of work. And<br/> 17 you won't be able to boat, fish, jet ski, waterski.<br/> 18 You can hardly waterski down there now at half tide<br/> 19 because of all the mud and the sand that's sticking up<br/> 20 out off the water. You're taking your life in your<br/> 21 hands. And I understand everyone's concern about it<br/> 22 being in along their house and everything, but I'll<br/> 23 tell you what, if I could and I had 16 acres I'd give<br/> 24 it to you. I'd let it dewater on my property. Thank<br/> 25 you very much for your time.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">76</p> <p>1 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: You've already had a<br/> 2 chance to speak.<br/> 3 MR. CROTTY: I just want to touch on the<br/> 4 subject. I'm sorry, sir. Name, sir?<br/> 5 MR. GADALETA: Vito Gadaleta.<br/> 6 MR. CROTTY: You were touching on the<br/> 7 subject about dredging at the marina.<br/> 8 MR. GADALETA: Right.<br/> 9 MR. CROTTY: Doing that. And then Mr.<br/> 10 Burdge just brought up a very good point about the mud<br/> 11 dump. I think, again, it needs to be examined about<br/> 12 different ways of how to do this. It may not be just<br/> 13 pumping it up there. It may be. Drying it out on<br/> 14 barges. Drying it out along the beds. Pumping it out<br/> 15 to the ocean. I think there needs to be some more<br/> 16 evaluations and looking at some other areas. Let's<br/> 17 think out the box. Let's not think in the box anymore.<br/> 18 Let's open up and look at outside the box. You brought<br/> 19 up a very good point about dredging. Maybe let's do it<br/> 20 down again at the river. Let's do dumpsters all along<br/> 21 the river and dry it there all over along different<br/> 22 spots in the channels. You're not taking anybody --<br/> 23 you're going to dry it in there. Let's think out of<br/> 24 the box. That's all I want to say.<br/> 25 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, Mr.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">77</p> <p>1 Crotty. Yes, sir.</p> <p>2 MR. SANDRO: Steven Sandro, S-T-E-V-E-N</p> <p>3 S-A-N-D-R-O. At any point in this process are we the</p> <p>4 people that live in the area that are going to be</p> <p>5 affected going to be able to vote on whether you guys</p> <p>6 do this? It seems to me you're just telling us what</p> <p>7 you want to talk to us about and we just got to stand</p> <p>8 here and take it.</p> <p>9 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: We're not really</p> <p>10 telling you much of anything. We're having a hearing</p> <p>11 what we can do.</p> <p>12 MR. SANDRO: At any point in this</p> <p>13 process are we going to have a vote?</p> <p>14 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Right now.</p> <p>15 MR. SANDRO: This is all I get?</p> <p>16 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: In every step of the</p> <p>17 way there will be a public hearing all along the way.</p> <p>18 Every step.</p> <p>19 MR. SANDRO: Like this?</p> <p>20 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Probably more in</p> <p>21 depth. The further we go and the more people come on</p> <p>22 board you'll get more information. And one of the</p> <p>23 things we will always know if there's contamination.</p> <p>24 Will always be a priority. That will be something that</p> <p>25 will stop this process.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p style="text-align: right;">78</p> <p>1 MR. SANDRO: We were already told it</p> <p>2 wasn't contaminated.</p> <p>3 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Well, it's not</p> <p>4 officially because we have not had it thoroughly</p> <p>5 checked.</p> <p>6 MR. ARNONE: We're going through the</p> <p>7 process. Once we put the application in then all the</p> <p>8 steps that Senator Beck said will take place. And then</p> <p>9 there will be a report out there for everybody to see.</p> <p>10 And then as Senator Beck said before, it could be a</p> <p>11 dead project as soon as that report comes back. But</p> <p>12 this is the process to at least get the report and then</p> <p>13 continue to hear maybe alternatives that could taken</p> <p>14 rise in between there. That's all the Scope Hearing</p> <p>15 is. It's called scoping for a reason. And we don't</p> <p>16 make the rules here. The Governing Body, the Mayor,</p> <p>17 Randy, myself, Senator Beck, okay, we just adhere on</p> <p>18 what rules that they implement on us and process that</p> <p>19 they make us take. I can't emphasize that as much that</p> <p>20 I agree with you. If I was sitting on your side and in</p> <p>21 my process I would want them same answers, but to get</p> <p>22 them answers this meeting had to be held. And it's not</p> <p>23 a municipal county rule. It's a State mandated rule.</p> <p>24 And you absolutely should be getting that information.</p> <p>25 And you will get that information, but this meeting had</p>                                         |
| <p style="text-align: right;">79</p> <p>1 to take place first. And I totally agree with</p> <p>2 everything.</p> <p>3 MR. SANDRO: The information comes in.</p> <p>4 At what point is there -- at any point is it going to</p> <p>5 go to vote or is it going to be you guys get the</p> <p>6 information and decide what's the best?</p> <p>7 MR. ARNONE: Let's get the information</p> <p>8 back first. And we could be talking about a totally</p> <p>9 moot point when the data comes back.</p> <p>10 MR. SANDRO: All right.</p> <p>11 MR. BERARDI: Good evening, everyone.</p> <p>12 Louis Berardi, 700 Fletcher Drive, Neptune.</p> <p>13 B-E-R-A-R-D-I. Good evening, everyone. Senator, you</p> <p>14 said the right thing at the very beginning. Very great</p> <p>15 turn out. And I got to say I'm very proud of the town</p> <p>16 I live in when we have something important as this to</p> <p>17 have a big turn out like this. And I waited until the</p> <p>18 very end because all good things were said. And at the</p> <p>19 very beginning you had us do the pledge of allegiance.</p> <p>20 And that's what we're looking for, justice for all.</p> <p>21 And I really feel that the board took this a little</p> <p>22 lightly. I don't think you guys were very well</p> <p>23 prepared for this meeting. It's true that you're</p> <p>24 looking for preliminary approval, but you should have</p> <p>25 had another example of an area where they did the</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">80</p> <p>1 dredging, whether you had witnesses to say if you get</p> <p>2 any smell out of this, or is the contamination there.</p> <p>3 You know, I mean everything is up in the air. And how</p> <p>4 could -- you know, all the people who have very good</p> <p>5 questions here. And you need to be better prepared.</p> <p>6 You need to have better answers for us because we're</p> <p>7 concerned about our neighborhoods, our families, our</p> <p>8 children that play in the area. I mean, if you lived</p> <p>9 in that backyard where we live would you want all this</p> <p>10 stuff in your laps? It's true what a lot of people</p> <p>11 said, we've been living all these years with the smell</p> <p>12 from the sewerage authority. Now we got to live with</p> <p>13 another problem all over again? I don't think it's</p> <p>14 fair. And I think you need to do a lot more homework,</p> <p>15 a lot more preparation and we need a lot more answers.</p> <p>16 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, Mr.</p> <p>17 Berardi.</p> <p>18 MR. DEMPSEY: My name is John Dempsey</p> <p>19 from the Shark River Beach and Yacht Club. I'm</p> <p>20 Chairman of the Board over there. And on a personal, I</p> <p>21 want to thank everybody for the cooperation between the</p> <p>22 county, the State, the cities. It's a big thing to</p> <p>23 have everybody together on the same page trying to get</p> <p>24 this done. We were totally destroyed by the Super</p> <p>25 Storm Sandy here. We're in the process of trying to</p> |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">81</p> <p>1 rebuild. It's going to cost us over \$2,000,000 to get<br/> 2 our club back to where it was before. Okay. And that<br/> 3 has a lot to do with the river not being dredged<br/> 4 before. There was a surge in water that came up. So I<br/> 5 mean, we're talking about some values, property values.<br/> 6 We lost over \$2,000,000 here. And we have 220 members<br/> 7 that have been paying for this. We also had our soil<br/> 8 tested to be dredged in the basin and we found no<br/> 9 contaminants in our soil, also. We went through the<br/> 10 whole process with DEP. We spent the money to do that.<br/> 11 So we got to get done. I know nobody wants it in their<br/> 12 backyard, but, I mean, based on things that have<br/> 13 happened, based on the property values, look at all the<br/> 14 homes that were destroyed along the Shark River. If<br/> 15 you don't dredge you're going to have the same problem<br/> 16 with the next storm that comes along. And I know that<br/> 17 there's different property values all over, but that's<br/> 18 a major hit that we took along with all of the other<br/> 19 homeowners in that area. And we need to get this done.<br/> 20 So thank you.<br/> 21 MR. DEGRAW: Hi. Bruce Degraw,<br/> 22 D-E-G-R-A-W. I understand everyone's concerns, you<br/> 23 know, with destroying the spoils near their homes, but<br/> 24 as a boat owner in the marina that borders Shark River<br/> 25 you have to dredge. The smell that comes out of the</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">82</p> <p>1 river is not that bad. It dissipates very quickly.<br/> 2 There's no contaminants in it. We've had no issues<br/> 3 with it in dredging before. Thank you very much.<br/> 4 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you, sir.<br/> 5 MR. MCCARTHY: Good evening. My name is<br/> 6 Pete, P-E-T-E. Last name is McCarthy M-C-C-A-R-T-H-Y.<br/> 7 And I live at 24 Marcy Drive in Neptune. I just have<br/> 8 one question. And that is, how did we get to this<br/> 9 site? Is it because it's a Green Acres site or was it<br/> 10 the location? Could you guys give me a little bit of a<br/> 11 background on how that occurred?<br/> 12 MR. ARNONE: It's probably because of<br/> 13 the proximity to the river. That's probably why this<br/> 14 site because obviously they look at where it's close<br/> 15 for drying, drying site. That's probably why this<br/> 16 site. It has to return back to the river, the water.<br/> 17 MR. MCCARTHY: Okay. So the run water<br/> 18 does need to return to the river. I understand that.<br/> 19 The second question is, does it have to be Green Acres?<br/> 20 MR. ARNONE: No, absolutely not.<br/> 21 THE WITNESS: It does not. So the issue<br/> 22 with Green Acres is if you take Green Acres space then<br/> 23 you have to do the swap out?<br/> 24 MR. ARNONE: And it has to be approved.<br/> 25 THE WITNESS: And it has to be approved</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">83</p> <p>1 obviously by the State. Okay. Thank you.<br/> 2 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you. Okay.<br/> 3 Is there anybody else? Yes, sir.<br/> 4 MR. INKEIES: Richard Inkeies,<br/> 5 I-N-K-E-I-E-S, 115 Hawthorne Street. My neighbor,<br/> 6 Russell Armstead, he and I have been there for -- I've<br/> 7 been there 40 years. And I remember going back to the<br/> 8 sewer authority when they had spill and the smells.<br/> 9 You could not go out in the summertime in your<br/> 10 backyard. Okay. My house was -- we wanted to put it<br/> 11 up and sell it. We couldn't even get rid of it. We<br/> 12 lived like this for five years while this was<br/> 13 undertaking with the sewer authority and finding out<br/> 14 what the problems are. Now, the dredging is all well<br/> 15 and good. You say that you don't know yet if it's<br/> 16 toxic or you have problems. This press release in the<br/> 17 Coast, who put that in there?<br/> 18 MR. GADALETA: The notice? The notice<br/> 19 was put in by the township.<br/> 20 MR. INKEIES: Oh, but proposed a<br/> 21 dewatering site for rivers and dredging?<br/> 22 MR. GADALETA: You're talking about the<br/> 23 official public notice?<br/> 24 MR. INKEIES: I'm talking about the<br/> 25 article.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p style="text-align: right;">84</p> <p>1 MR. GADALETA: I don't know about the<br/> 2 article.<br/> 3 MR. INKEIES: Because in the article,<br/> 4 okay, it's a little disingenuous. It says 1.5 million<br/> 5 cubic yards. You just talked about 100,000.<br/> 6 MS BECK: It's 100.<br/> 7 MR. INKEIES: I'm saying -- let me read<br/> 8 it so you understand.<br/> 9 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: We don't know who<br/> 10 wrote that.<br/> 11 MR. INKEIES: "There is proposal on the<br/> 12 table to dredge about 1.5 cubic yards of silt from<br/> 13 Shark River. Shark River borders five municipalities.<br/> 14 Stymied for more than years because of adequate site<br/> 15 dewatering dredge spoils have not been approved by the<br/> 16 State Department of Environmental Protection." Now,<br/> 17 you said DEP is the best in the world. EPA would say<br/> 18 something different. You know, they're the regional<br/> 19 out of New York. And as a matter of fact, DEP comes<br/> 20 under them. I remember the junior high and the<br/> 21 hospitals doing some kind of drainage. I think, Peter,<br/> 22 did you know about that a while back? I think Birdsall<br/> 23 had the contract, but it was around \$2 to \$3,000,000.<br/> 24 And they were taking it from the school area in the<br/> 25 hospital and then coming down to Bernie (phon) Avenue</p>                                                            |

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1 to a tributary to Shark River. Now, what I found  
 2 interesting about this, I walked the site. And this  
 3 had to be about ten years ago, I believe. And I seen  
 4 all this stuff. Did you know that that was a junkyard  
 5 where that school was built, the municipality, the  
 6 school? The hospital, the back of the hospital. Okay.  
 7 Now, when I walked by I seen all this steam coming up  
 8 from ground. I seen all this stuff. I seen the  
 9 garbage when they dug up for the pipe. Then they  
 10 filled it back in. And guess what? The engineer  
 11 wasn't even there. When they filled it in the garbage  
 12 and everything was on top of the ground. I made calls  
 13 to the DEP, the EPA in New York. They said that  
 14 shouldn't be. There's got to be an engineer there.  
 15 They brought in big gray stone, watering stone. Put it  
 16 on top of there so kids could go to the junior high  
 17 because they were stepping over it to get into the  
 18 junior high. All right. So let me say something about  
 19 DEP. They're not the best. Okay. That's my  
 20 experience.  
 21 Now, that's the next step, all right,  
 22 that you're going to. What bothers me about this  
 23 16 acres, the people. I just put \$60,000 in my home  
 24 fixing it up. All right. I'm going to go through -- I  
 25 wish I would have known that you proposed it. You

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1 80 something.  
 2 MR. BISHOP: That was to do everything  
 3 start to finish.  
 4 MR. INKEIES: We came out about that.  
 5 We talked about that. Randy, if you remember, too,  
 6 when we got the marina we needed that. And you said,  
 7 "Well, we'll go there and we'll sue the State." I  
 8 said, "That ain't going to go nowhere." Okay. It  
 9 didn't. We know that. Because they got to do it for  
 10 us they got to do it for everybody. That ain't going  
 11 to happen. Plain and simple. Fact of life. What I'm  
 12 concerned about is what we're going to do with the  
 13 spoils. And somebody said barging it out of here.  
 14 That's great. If we can channel it out through pipes,  
 15 that's fine. Put it out there in the ocean. Okay.  
 16 But I don't think we should have it in our backyard.  
 17 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you. Anybody  
 18 else?  
 19 MS FEY: Beverly Fey, F-E-Y. And I live  
 20 on 505 Old Corlies Avenue. And my mother and father  
 21 built the house. And I moved back in there in '92. So  
 22 I have a long standing history in the township on that  
 23 street. I also have a boat at the marina. And I'm  
 24 also in the Harbor Commission. So I wear many hats as  
 25 I sit here. But I think the biggest part that we all

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1 know, if you let it out maybe I wouldn't have put the  
 2 money in there. I would have sold before. Okay.  
 3 Because to me this project's going to be a long time.  
 4 Okay. I don't know if you know how much -- a cubic  
 5 yard like a single cubic yard truck, okay, you're  
 6 talking a lot here going day and night off this  
 7 property when they got to take it out. All right. Now  
 8 you're saying it's got to dry. That's the same kind of  
 9 process they use at the gas stations, right, for the  
 10 dirt. They pile it up that you see when they dig up  
 11 the tanks.  
 12 MR. ARNONE: They pile it up to have it  
 13 tested.  
 14 MR. INKEIES: But they also pile it.  
 15 And they call it doing that, drying out. And that's  
 16 toxic material as well just going air dry. Okay. So  
 17 what I'm trying to say what they allow. Okay. Tom.  
 18 All I'm saying is we're being exposed to this. And  
 19 you're saying that's the next step. So we're  
 20 concerned. And the other thing is there was an  
 21 engineer's report, Birdsall engineering, about ten  
 22 years ago for the marina. And it was one million cubic  
 23 yards at that time.  
 24 MR. ARNONE: One million?  
 25 MR. INKEIES: One million. It's on page

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1 understand is that, yes, the marina needs to be -- the  
 2 river needs to be dredged. The question is where the  
 3 spoils are going to go. It's in my backyard. How do I  
 4 feel about that? I came here with a lot of questions  
 5 hoping for answers not realizing that this was a very  
 6 preliminary hearing. And I think that there are a lot  
 7 of residents that came with the same expectations.  
 8 What I would like to say is you alluded to the fact,  
 9 Senator Beck, that if we go the next step which is  
 10 there a timeframe applying to the DEP for the necessary  
 11 permits to have the soil tested? What is that  
 12 timeframe?  
 13 MS BECK: So once we have -- once we  
 14 know that we have a site to dry the material. And I  
 15 know a couple people have said storage. It's no  
 16 storage. It gets dried which is usually the average is  
 17 eight months. So dries. And then it's moved to the  
 18 landfill. It does not stay there permanently. Just  
 19 dried there. Then the DEP will begin its permitting  
 20 process and testing process. So we are somewhat at the  
 21 mercy of the State House Commission and the Green Acres  
 22 folks for how they review our application and whether  
 23 they believe that diverting open space to dry these  
 24 materials is an appropriate use or not. If they say  
 25 yes, you can and how you're replacing that and they're

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| <p style="text-align: right;">89</p> <p>1 okay with that then DEP will begin its testing process.<br/> 2 Then there will be many, many more public hearings.<br/> 3 Almost exhaustive public hearings.<br/> 4 MS FEY: In the end of things if it<br/> 5 comes back that the soil is in fact contaminated and it<br/> 6 then becomes a moot point of Old Corlies being a<br/> 7 dewatering facility, the mud dump or whatever you want<br/> 8 to call it offshore is the answer. So you bypass the<br/> 9 steps of using this as a potential site. If it comes<br/> 10 back contaminated you said it's a done deal. We're<br/> 11 dead in the water. Then what happens to the Shark<br/> 12 River? You let it dry up?<br/> 13 MS BECK: I was not around when Mayor,<br/> 14 at that time I think Mayor Randy Bishop and Freeholder<br/> 15 Director Tom Arnone explored the issue of the ocean<br/> 16 dump. I'm not sure why that was rejected, but the<br/> 17 environmentalists -- I know the Clean Ocean Action and<br/> 18 DEP were very opposed to it. I'm not sure why. I'm<br/> 19 still a little bit new to the town.<br/> 20 THE WITNESS: My question then becomes<br/> 21 what happens if the soil does come back contaminated?<br/> 22 MS BECK: Then the project's dead.<br/> 23 THE WITNESS: The project is dead. What<br/> 24 happens to Shark River. That's the end of it?<br/> 25 MS BECK: And then so if the material is</p>                  | <p style="text-align: right;">90</p> <p>1 contaminated then it really would require completely<br/> 2 different processes for it being disposed of which are<br/> 3 incredibly expensive. So contaminated material<br/> 4 especially 100,000 cubic yards of it I think we'd<br/> 5 probably be dead in the water. I think they would take<br/> 6 the money that's allocated for dredging this river and<br/> 7 apply it to another location where they didn't have the<br/> 8 same challenges. That's my instinct.<br/> 9 MR. BISHOP: Senator, if I may, years<br/> 10 ago the reason we were given is there's too much soil<br/> 11 content in the dredge materials for it to be placed in<br/> 12 the ocean. And we were all saying the ocean's really<br/> 13 big. Why would it make a difference? And it is a rule<br/> 14 of the EPA that says we could not place anything that<br/> 15 was over a certain content of soil in the ocean. It's<br/> 16 not allowed. And their reasoning was because it would<br/> 17 be placed in such a manner that it could be pumped back<br/> 18 onto the beaches. Therefore, you can't put dirt on the<br/> 19 beaches. That's why they're very clear on what you can<br/> 20 and cannot use for beach replenishing. The soil<br/> 21 content was too high. Therefore, it could not be ocean<br/> 22 dumped. Period.<br/> 23 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you.<br/> 24 MR. EICHENOUR: I'm sorry. Roger<br/> 25 Eichenour. I'm still a little confused. After</p>                             |
| <p style="text-align: right;">91</p> <p>1 tonight's meeting will the township be submitting an<br/> 2 application to the DEP to use this site as the CDF?<br/> 3 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: No.<br/> 4 MR. EICHENOUR: Will we will have<br/> 5 another opportunity to give our opinion as to if this<br/> 6 site should be used?<br/> 7 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Well, the next step<br/> 8 is once we go through this hearing we're still going to<br/> 9 accept written questions and proposals.<br/> 10 MR. GADALETA: If I may, one thing I was<br/> 11 going to make the comment at the closing that, you<br/> 12 know, after direction by the Mayor, but the open<br/> 13 comment period as the Mayor pointed out runs through<br/> 14 the 15th of October. And as it was discussed in the<br/> 15 notice and was brought up tonight about the ability to<br/> 16 send in comments via e-mail, we're going to set that<br/> 17 up. I will assure you we'll set that up on the website<br/> 18 tomorrow so that we can receive public comment and<br/> 19 suggestions on alternatives through the 15th. DEP will<br/> 20 also be receiving comments through the 15th as per this<br/> 21 process. At the end of that comment period both the<br/> 22 township and the county will have to meet to review the<br/> 23 public comments and make a determination based on that<br/> 24 what the next step would be after that public comment<br/> 25 period is closed.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">92</p> <p>1 MR. EICHENOUR: So will the public have<br/> 2 an opportunity before somebody votes or decides that<br/> 3 this piece of property can be used?<br/> 4 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Yes.<br/> 5 MS BECK: That is tonight's purpose. So<br/> 6 you're weighing in today, tonight formally. And as<br/> 7 everyone's -- I mean, that's why there's a stenographer<br/> 8 here recording for the record your opinion, your name,<br/> 9 your address. Right? So that becomes part of the<br/> 10 public record. That's then reviewed by the county and<br/> 11 the township. And then a determination is made whether<br/> 12 or not to file an application to continue the process<br/> 13 of seeking to take this off the ROSPI. But even if<br/> 14 this property is taken off of the Registry of Open<br/> 15 Space Inventory that is still just the beginning<br/> 16 because then we have a whole DEP process that we have<br/> 17 to go through which includes public comment and public<br/> 18 hearing and testing and review. And secondarily,<br/> 19 there's a DOT process that is public comment, public<br/> 20 review, engineering designs that everyone would have a<br/> 21 chance to talk about. So we have a good ways to go.<br/> 22 My biggest fear is that we have dollars set aside to<br/> 23 dredge and we will only have them for so long. And<br/> 24 that if we do not find a drying site, if there is no<br/> 25 location allocated to dry the material for the eight</p> |

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1 months that we need to dry it before it goes to the  
2 landfill it just -- we'll lose our shot. We just won't  
3 get the Shark River dredged.

4 MR. EICHENOUR: I understand, but I  
5 still don't think that I completely understand the  
6 process. So after October 15th somebody in Neptune  
7 Township is going to decide.

8 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Green Acres has to  
9 decide whether they'll accept this or not.

10 MR. EICHENOUR: But you're going to  
11 submit an application to them saying we're proposing to  
12 use this facility.

13 MR. ARNONE: Proposing. Proposing for  
14 their review.

15 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: They have to agree.  
16 The county has to agree.

17 MR. EICHENOUR: Who decides in Neptune  
18 Township that you're proposing that you use this for  
19 the CDF after this meeting?

20 MS BECK: Your elected officials.

21 MR. EICHENOUR: Based on the comments  
22 that are from tonight?

23 MR. ARNONE: I can speak on the county  
24 side. There hasn't even been a hundred percent  
25 assurance because this process needed to be go to take

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1 a look at the material there from the county side.

2 Okay. We have a very good park system. I have four  
3 other Boards of Chosen Freeholders that has to look at  
4 to see if that move would want to be made, but this

5 process had to go to even look if they would even  
6 accept the process, the next process. I mean, we know  
7 you're dealing in some cases -- we're in government.

8 We're dealing with government. I can tell you I  
9 question it numerous times myself. So it's the  
10 process. And that's all it is. You don't even have an

11 assurance from the county. You don't even have an  
12 assurance from the municipality, at least until they

13 see that material because this is what they're  
14 mandating us to do to go through this process first.

15 MR. EICHENOUR: I understand. I just  
16 want to be clear for myself and everybody else who's  
17 left in the room that after October 15th which is your  
18 last opportunity to send in an e-mail the township is  
19 going to decide that we're submitting this piece of  
20 property to the DEP to be diverted from Green Acres?

21 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: For consideration.

22 MR. EICHENOUR: You're submitting it to  
23 DEP?

24 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: No, it's going to  
25 the Green Acres.

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1 MR. ARNONE: What the process is going  
2 to be is then its going to be submitted to them to go  
3 through the process to see if the site is a site that  
4 can be used. And then the county will have to make a  
5 decision. Okay. Then more importantly the county will  
6 not even entertain a decision, okay, until that site is  
7 even tested. Because let me state one thing and, also,  
8 I think was not brought up tonight. As Senator Beck  
9 said, the material goes to the county landfill. If  
10 you're familiar with the county landfill, that's  
11 regulated on a daily basis by DEP. Our rules and  
12 regulations we have to have coverup every day. We have  
13 to put a cover of a two-inch base over the landfill  
14 every day. That obviously costs taxpayers money but  
15 for that material. In some cases clean, clean material  
16 can be used as coverup, but as soon as that material is  
17 brought it's tested. Not only was it tested to see if  
18 this process through the Shark River was clean, okay,  
19 but then it's tested as it goes to the Monmouth County  
20 landfill, which we would not accept. Not even if we  
21 wanted to accept it. It's mandated and regulated by  
22 DEP. So under no uncertain terms I can definitely tell  
23 you if you ever saw a truck or any mechanical devise  
24 dredging there I could assure you it has to be clean  
25 because there's no place for this material to go fog if

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1 it's not. And that's just the process to see if this  
2 material is clean. This is the early stage. Because I  
3 know we keep emphasizing going back to this, but this  
4 is what we're told we have to do. And that's as far as  
5 it is. And the comment on 15th is just as your public  
6 comment for the council to review and take a look at  
7 the concerns which were great concerns tonight. Okay.  
8 And it's going to be -- but most of those answers are  
9 going to be answered with the report. Then we can come  
10 back. And I'm sure the Governing Body, more  
11 importantly the county will definitely entertain all  
12 your discussions. I can promise you that speaking on  
13 the county's behalf.

14 MR. BISHOP: We both have to agree that  
15 we'll move forward.

16 MR. ARNONE: I just wanted to see if the  
17 material's clean. And you know what? We can put this  
18 17-year discussion, okay, that I've had for 17 years it  
19 can be put to rest because as far as the county's  
20 concerned, as Senator Beck said before, if it's  
21 contaminated material it's a moot point. And it's a  
22 done issue. And as far as on the county side, it's  
23 nothing we'll even entertain because we can't. We  
24 don't have the ability.

25 MR. EICHENOUR: I would just like to go

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| <p style="text-align: right;">97</p> <p>1 on the record and then give you my last comment that I<br/> 2 don't understand how the township could decide to even<br/> 3 propose this land to the DEP not knowing any<br/> 4 engineering, any of the technical details, how the<br/> 5 dredge material is going to get from the Shark River to<br/> 6 this location, how it's going to get from this location<br/> 7 to the landfill. Without knowing any of that<br/> 8 information I don't see how the township can submit<br/> 9 this to the DEP.</p> <p>10 MS BECK: Because at any moment that the<br/> 11 township does not want to participate, at any moment<br/> 12 that they decide they don't want to go forward we can<br/> 13 take the multiple millions that have been allocated to<br/> 14 dredge the Shark River and it will go somewhere else.<br/> 15 So there is anytime in the process where if Neptune<br/> 16 Township does not want to participate they can pull<br/> 17 out. They're not being forced. This is really from<br/> 18 the State's perspective they are stepping up to fulfill<br/> 19 their statutory responsibility to dredge the State<br/> 20 channels. And they're providing funding for it. And<br/> 21 it is up to us to figure out where to dry the material<br/> 22 for the eight-month window. It needs to be dried<br/> 23 roughly. And also, where do we take it to. And that's<br/> 24 why the county is involved looking at their landfill.<br/> 25 The town's involved. So yes, this is preliminary.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">98</p> <p>1 They're looking to see if we can use this site. And<br/> 2 then we'll do some testing with DEP. Then we'll do<br/> 3 some work with DOT. And if at the very 9th hour the<br/> 4 DOT proposal, they're engineering is not acceptable to<br/> 5 the township, they can walk away.</p> <p>6 MR. EICHENOUR: Thank you.</p> <p>7 MR. HICKEY: Good evening. Al Hickey,<br/> 8 H-I-C-K-E-Y, Neptune. I'm a resident of Neptune for<br/> 9 22 years. And within those 22 years I saw three<br/> 10 examples of dredging of the Shark River. That Beach<br/> 11 and Yacht Club did it and dried their spoils on private<br/> 12 property. The Neptune basin did it recently. Dried it<br/> 13 on private property. Or the Neptune municipal marina<br/> 14 property. Belmar basin dredged their's. Dried it on<br/> 15 their property. Don't you have enough sample size to<br/> 16 find out what is in that soil?</p> <p>17 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: We can tell you what<br/> 18 we found in our soil. And it's clean. It didn't<br/> 19 smell. That's what we know. That's what I can tell<br/> 20 everybody in this room. It was clean. It did not<br/> 21 smell. That's what I know.</p> <p>22 MR. HICKEY: Where can we find the facts<br/> 23 of levels, smell levels, water runoff effects?<br/> 24 Anything like that that can help us decide.<br/> 25 MR. ARNONE: Once you submit this</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">99</p> <p>1 process.</p> <p>2 THE WITNESS: But there's enough soil<br/> 3 already outside of the river that can be tested.</p> <p>4 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: There's been a lot<br/> 5 tested. There's been a lot checked. There's been no<br/> 6 problems with what has been checked. As the Mayor of<br/> 7 this town I can say what's in the channel is okay? I'm<br/> 8 not saying that. What I'm saying is this: Neptune<br/> 9 Township is not going to hold us up. We're going to<br/> 10 provide to the county and the State a drying facility<br/> 11 because we feel that that river needs to be dredged.<br/> 12 And we will not do anything to hurt any of our<br/> 13 residents in this Township. And that's a guarantee.<br/> 14 I'll tell you that right now. I'll guarantee right now<br/> 15 that Neptune will not move forward if we don't feel<br/> 16 this is a safe project. And the county will not and<br/> 17 the State will not. These are assurances that we're<br/> 18 going to give you. You can walk away from here however<br/> 19 you feel, but I'm going to tell you right now I've<br/> 20 lived in Neptune my whole life. So has Vito Gadaleta,<br/> 21 so has Tommy Arnone. You're not talking to people who<br/> 22 just moved into this town and trying to bring something<br/> 23 over on anybody. You're talking to people that lived<br/> 24 in this town, that know that Shark River, that know<br/> 25 what -- I don't know exactly what's in that channel.</p>                       | <p style="text-align: right;">100</p> <p>1 I'm not telling you that I do. But I'm telling you<br/> 2 what I know. We dredged our marina. It was good.<br/> 3 Belmar dredged their marina. It was good. Shark River<br/> 4 Yacht Club dredged their marina and it was good.<br/> 5 That's what we know. And we know that he we have a<br/> 6 spot that we can do this. It's not an easy spot.</p> <p>7 This is not a very easy thing for us to<br/> 8 do to sit up here and have our residents against us<br/> 9 because we feel we're trying to do as best in the long<br/> 10 run for our town and not to hurt any of our residents.<br/> 11 And I'll tell you right now, it's not going to happen.<br/> 12 We need to move because we have limited time with<br/> 13 funding. If we cannot get the funding the river will<br/> 14 not -- will stay as is.</p> <p>15 MR. HICKEY: My point is I am a Shark<br/> 16 River resident. I lived through both Beach Yacht Club<br/> 17 dredging. I had no problem with it. There was no<br/> 18 smell. There was no disruption. And I think they did<br/> 19 a wonderful job doing it, but what I'm asking for is<br/> 20 the data from that stuff to let people --</p> <p>21 MR. GADALETA: We can make that data<br/> 22 available. Absolutely. Absolutely.</p> <p>23 MR. BISHOP: We can make the data<br/> 24 available.<br/> 25 MR. HICKEY: They're worried about this</p>        |

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| <p>101</p> <p>1 information. You already did it. We did it three<br/>2 times in a row. I thought it was very successful.<br/>3 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you very much.<br/>4 MR. ARMSTEAD: Russell Armstead.<br/>5 Senator, you mentioned real quick about this drying<br/>6 process takes eight months to dry?<br/>7 MS BECK: I asked someone the same<br/>8 questions that you asked. And the question that I had<br/>9 posed to one of the DEP representatives was what is the<br/>10 average time it takes to dry. And they said, well, it<br/>11 can be a range. Sometimes it can be six months. It<br/>12 can be eight months. The eight month mark is probably<br/>13 the median. It could take the most maybe a year. But<br/>14 the average is really eight months.<br/>15 MR. ARMSTEAD: For a pile of this stuff<br/>16 to dry?<br/>17 MS BECK: Well, it's not dry like<br/>18 completely dry. They just need it dry enough that they<br/>19 can transport it to the landfill.<br/>20 MR. ARMSTEAD: I understand it's not<br/>21 going to be dust. I walk that site simply because<br/>22 that's where I spend my walks in the evening time with<br/>23 my camera. You're going to fill that up eight times<br/>24 with the dredge amount of material from the Shark<br/>25 River. Eight times the amount of dredge material</p> | <p>102</p> <p>1 you're going to need for that site. You're going to<br/>2 need a bigger basket. And if it takes 18 months or<br/>3 eight months to dry you're going to have one pile eight<br/>4 months. Now you've got another eight months for that<br/>5 next pile to dry. You can't put wet on top of dry. It<br/>6 ain't going to happen.<br/>7 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Continuous process.<br/>8 We don't know all the process.<br/>9 MR. ARMSTEAD: My only other thing is I<br/>10 notice that we have a stenographer here who's taken<br/>11 down everybody's name and our questions. I<br/>12 respectfully submit that this go into the public record<br/>13 and be submitted on the 15th so we don't miss our date.<br/>14 All these questions I want it to be considered official<br/>15 questions that are required official answers.<br/>16 Everything that's gone on the record.<br/>17 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: This is an official<br/>18 record.<br/>19 MR. ARMSTEAD: So there will be a record<br/>20 that we can all get to, the answers that everybody<br/>21 wants to hear we can see in writing. And we've already<br/>22 said them in writing today via this method. We don't<br/>23 have to come and write it down and give it to you<br/>24 again?<br/>25 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: If you have more</p>                                                                                 |
| <p>103</p> <p>1 questions you can do that.<br/>2 MR. ARMSTEAD: Again, thank you, Mayor,<br/>3 for your guarantee. Whatever that guarantee is I'd<br/>4 like to see it in writing and maybe backed up in<br/>5 writing.<br/>6 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: It's in writing<br/>7 right now.<br/>8 MR. ARMSTEAD: What does the guarantee<br/>9 consist of? Do you have any possibility that you could<br/>10 be wrong?<br/>11 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: I'm not going to<br/>12 argue like we tried to do last night. I'm trying to<br/>13 deal with a very professional matter. And we're going<br/>14 to take this step -- we're going to try to take this<br/>15 step to move forward and dredge the river.<br/>16 MR. ARMSTEAD: I hope you do.<br/>17 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: There were<br/>18 assurances by everybody up here that we're not going to<br/>19 hurt you. That's assurances. Is there any other<br/>20 questions out there? Okay. We really appreciate<br/>21 everybody coming out here. Does anybody have any<br/>22 closing remarks they'd like to make? Mr. Bishop?<br/>23 MR. BISHOP: I'm good, Mayor. Thank<br/>24 you.<br/>25 MR. GADALETA: All I would just like to</p>                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>104</p> <p>1 say in response, if I may, to Mr. Armstead, the<br/>2 official record that's being taken today, in addition<br/>3 to it being an official record for us, that document is<br/>4 required to be submitted to the DEP as well. So they<br/>5 will have a copy. Their requirement was to have a<br/>6 formal transcript of this session tonight. So they<br/>7 have every commentary on the record.<br/>8 MR. ARMSTEAD: And we'll get answers<br/>9 from our questions.<br/>10 MR. GADALETA: That is correct.<br/>11 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: As we move forward,<br/>12 yes.<br/>13 MS BECK: Mayor, I just wanted to say a<br/>14 quick thank you to all the residents that took the time<br/>15 to come out. Took time out of their own lives and away<br/>16 from their families to come and weigh in on the issue.<br/>17 That is the purpose of the public hearings is so that<br/>18 you all can voice your opinions and your concerns. And<br/>19 again, we are at the beginning of this process. It is<br/>20 a unique opportunity for us in Neptune Township. We<br/>21 have only three other -- we're one of four sites in the<br/>22 entire State of New Jersey that's getting these dollars<br/>23 to dredge our State channels. And I really -- I'm<br/>24 working hard to make sure that we do this in the<br/>25 absolutely right way so that residents are satisfied</p> |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">105</p> <p>1 and are protected. Thank you so much for taking the<br/> 2 time. And thank you to the high school students who<br/> 3 I'm sure had other homework and so forth to do tonight,<br/> 4 but it was nice that we saw some young people taking<br/> 5 time to come and watch their democracy in action.<br/> 6 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Thank you. I would<br/> 7 just like to in closing -- yes, sir?<br/> 8 MR. CROTTY: I just want to --<br/> 9 MR. HOUGHTALING: We're closing now.<br/> 10 MR. CROTTY: I know. Dave Crotty again.<br/> 11 You guys had mentioned something in the beginning about<br/> 12 alternative sites. We really didn't touch on those.<br/> 13 Is there any other alternative sites?<br/> 14 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: It was the<br/> 15 presentation from the audience for alternative sites.<br/> 16 MR. BISHOP: If you guys had alternative<br/> 17 sites for us.<br/> 18 MR. CROTTY: I though you guys had<br/> 19 alternative sites. So this is it?<br/> 20 MR. ARNONE: No, that's not true. If<br/> 21 you have alternative sites submit them to us via the<br/> 22 website because we want other ideas.<br/> 23 MR. CROTTY: I thought my understanding<br/> 24 that you guys had some other sites.<br/> 25 MR. BISHOP: We're hoping you guys can</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p style="text-align: right;">106</p> <p>1 see something we haven't seen.<br/> 2 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: In closing I want to<br/> 3 say thank you for everybody coming out. If you feel<br/> 4 that your questions were not taken seriously I would<br/> 5 strongly disagree with that. Everything we heard<br/> 6 tonight will go into consideration. This Township<br/> 7 Committee has worked very hard. I'm just in the<br/> 8 beginning of this, but it's something that we will feel<br/> 9 that needs to be done. And we will definitely not hurt<br/> 10 any one part of our town to improve another part of our<br/> 11 town. And I'm going to make that perfectly clear to<br/> 12 everybody. Some people maybe walk away from here with<br/> 13 a lot little bit of comfort level that's not going to<br/> 14 happen. The next step would be when things move<br/> 15 forward to have that dredge material tested. And that<br/> 16 will be a whole other hearing where you'll get to speak<br/> 17 upon whether the validity of it, whether you think it's<br/> 18 real, the results, but the county and the State have<br/> 19 told you they will not touch the material if it's<br/> 20 contaminated. Neptune Township will not allow it, any<br/> 21 of that on our property as well. And we would hope<br/> 22 that everybody would be a little bit patient, little<br/> 23 bit understanding. And again, I want to thank<br/> 24 everybody for coming out.<br/> 25 MR. ARNONE: I'd like to add one more</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">107</p> <p>1 thing, Mayor. I also want to thank everybody for<br/> 2 coming to night. And you know, I have an obligation to<br/> 3 the county. And as I did when I was Mayor of Neptune<br/> 4 City, now I do have that obligation to the county. I<br/> 5 tell you like I said before, I have the utmost respect<br/> 6 and loyalty to my fellow four Freeholders and to the<br/> 7 park system. And by no means has this discussion been<br/> 8 approved and engaged with both of those entities<br/> 9 together. Okay. But I'm not going to go out there and<br/> 10 get into a situation -- if I agree with the situation<br/> 11 and, say, some of the other Board members don't, I'm<br/> 12 not even going to engage in it. Okay. Actually, it<br/> 13 could never happen because when it came back in it was<br/> 14 a moot point anyway. I just at least want to gather<br/> 15 the data to see the material and the scope and the<br/> 16 mechanics and the engineering that was brought up<br/> 17 before by a gentleman that you don't have those<br/> 18 answers. And you're absolutely right. But you have to<br/> 19 do this to get those answers first because they will<br/> 20 not entertain that. So this is the process we're<br/> 21 doing. I have Board members here from the park system<br/> 22 that are very interested. And they have their<br/> 23 concerns. Okay. And Freeholder members that have<br/> 24 their concerns. But more importantly, the biggest<br/> 25 concerns are probably the questions that you asked</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">108</p> <p>1 tonight. So let us get that information first and then<br/> 2 engage a little more into this. You know, I lived here<br/> 3 my whole life, too. And contrary to being on Old<br/> 4 Corlies Avenue that's part of where I hung out, too. I<br/> 5 would never. I have family members that live in that<br/> 6 area there. Okay. I have people that live in Shark<br/> 7 River Hills. I would never engage in anything that<br/> 8 would be detrimental to that area. I would never put<br/> 9 the park system or the county in that predicament. So<br/> 10 this is a process that has to go through. I know we<br/> 11 said before there's no faith in the system now. Have a<br/> 12 little faith in the system. That's all I could ask.<br/> 13 And you could chuckle and laugh. And that's all fine<br/> 14 and good. But until you at least give us the<br/> 15 opportunity to show that then come back and chuckle and<br/> 16 laugh, okay, to me then.<br/> 17 MAYOR HOUGHTALING: Okay. And I'll<br/> 18 close this meeting. I'd like to thank everybody for<br/> 19 coming out.<br/> 20 (Whereupon the matter concludes at 8:35<br/> 21 p.m.)<br/> 22<br/> 23<br/> 24<br/> 25</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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CERTIFICATE

I, CARMEN WOLFE, a Certified Court  
Reporter and Registered Professional Reporter and  
Notary Public of the State of New Jersey hereby certify  
the foregoing to be a true and accurate transcript of  
the proceedings as taken stenographically by me on the  
date and place hereinbefore set forth.

*Carmen Wolfe*  
CARMEN WOLFE, C.C.R., R.P.R.

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