

BERGEN COUNTY  
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS  
HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY  
WORK SESSION  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018  
COMMENCING AT 4:33 P.M.

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FREEHOLDERS PRESENT:

- THOMAS J. SULLIVAN, CHAIRMAN
- GERMAINE M. ORTIZ, VICE CHAIRWOMAN
- MARY J. AMOROSO, CHAIRWOMAN PRO TEMPORE
- DAVID L. GANZ
- DR. JOAN M. VOSS
- STEVEN A. TANELLI

FREEHOLDERS ABSENT:

- TRACY SILNA ZUR

KIM O. FURBACHER, C.C.R., R.M.R.  
P.O. BOX 213  
ROCHELLE PARK, NEW JERSEY 07662-0213  
201-336-6200

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ALSO PRESENT:

JAMES J. TEDESCO III  
BERGEN COUNTY EXECUTIVE

LARA RODRIGUEZ  
CLERK TO THE BOARD

LAURIE BIANCHI  
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD

JULIEN X. NEALS, ESQUIRE  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

EDWARD J. FLORIO, ESQUIRE  
COUNSEL TO THE BOARD

JARED LAUTZ  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & POLICY

MICHAEL SHEINFELD  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & POLICY

KIM O. FURBACHER, C.C.R., R.M.R.  
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I N D E X

PAGE NO.

4:36 PM PRESENTATION: COMMENDATION TO  
AMERICAN RED CROSS OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY  
IN RECOGNITION OF MARCH IS RED CROSS MONTH 6

Jocelyn Gilman, Executive Director  
American Red Cross of Northern New Jersey

4:43 PM - PRESENTATION: COMMENDATION TO  
THE NORTHERN NEW JERSEY GIRL SCOUTS IN  
RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL GIRL SCOUT WEEK 10

Nichole Osborne  
Girl Scout Troop Leader

4:51 PM PRESENTATION: 2018 COUNTY BUDGET 15

Joseph Luppino, CFO  
County Treasurer  
  
Michael V. Bellucci  
Deputy County Administrator

5:44 PM REVIEW OF RESOLUTIONS 52

5:50 PM REVIEW OF ORDINANCES 56

5:50 PM CLOSED SESSION 56

1                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I call the meeting  
2 to order at 4:33 p.m.

3                   Before we begin our meeting, I ask that  
4 everyone please take a minute to silence their  
5 phones.

6                   Thank you.

7                   Will the Clerk please read the Sen.  
8 Byron Baer Open Public Meetings Act.

9                   MS. RODRIGUEZ: In accordance with  
10 Section 5 of the Sen. Byron Baer Open Public Meetings  
11 Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been  
12 provided in the Annual Notice Schedule, which  
13 contained the time, date, and location of this  
14 meeting, copies of which Notices were forwarded to  
15 the official County newspapers, to wit: The Herald  
16 News; The Record; and the Star Ledger; and a copy of  
17 which was posted on the bulletin board in the Bergen  
18 County Justice Center and Administration Building,  
19 One Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, New Jersey, and  
20 filed with the Office of the Bergen County Clerk.

21                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Will the Clerk  
22 please call the roll.

23                   (At this point in the proceeding roll  
24 call is taken with Freeholders Amoroso, Ganz,  
25 Tanelli, Voss, Vice-Chairwoman Ortiz, and Chairman

1 Sullivan present, with Freeholder Silna Zur absent.)

2 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Evidence of a  
3 quorum is present.

4 Will you all please rise and join in  
5 the Pledge of Allegiance.

6 (At this point in the proceeding all  
7 rise for a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.)

8 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Everyone kindly  
9 remain standing.

10 I ask everyone to remain standing for a  
11 Moment of Silence for River Edge Councilman Vito  
12 Acquafredda, who passed last week.

13 Mr. Acquafredda was an architect by  
14 trade, and served on the council for six years. He  
15 was a resident of the Borough of River Edge for over  
16 30 years, and is survived by his wife, Maria  
17 Francesca; his son, Anthony; daughter-in-law,  
18 Rosalba; and daughter, Emanuela.

19 We would also like to acknowledge the  
20 passing yesterday, at age 97, of a former North  
21 Arlington Councilman and a true American hero,  
22 Lt. Col. James Ferriero. A veteran of World War II,  
23 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for  
24 his efforts in the Invasion of Normandy.

25 Jim was first elected to the

1 North Arlington Council in 2002 and reelected in  
2 2005. He also served as Council President.

3 May we please have a Moment of Silence.  
4 (Whereupon, a Moment of Silence is  
5 observed.)

6 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

7 4:36 PM - PRESENTATION: COMMENDATION TO AMERICAN RED  
8 CROSS OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY IN RECOGNITION OF "MARCH  
9 IS RED CROSS MONTH"

10 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Before we begin our  
11 meeting tonight, I would like to acknowledge two  
12 groups who are the focus of resolutions we have  
13 before the Board tonight.

14 The first: March is American Red Cross  
15 Month.

16 In the Public Session tonight, we will  
17 vote to accept Resolution #210-18, recognizing  
18 March 2018 as "American Red Cross Month."

19 Today we have with us Jocelyn Gilman,  
20 the Executive Director of American Red Cross of  
21 Northern New Jersey. I'd like to ask her to join us  
22 as I read, on behalf of the Freeholder Board, the  
23 following commendation.

24 We have from the Bergen County Board of  
25 Chosen Freeholders a lot of whereases, so I'll just

1 read the last one and the therefore.

2 "Whereas, March is American Red Cross  
3 Month, a special time to recognize and thank the  
4 Red Cross volunteers and donors who give of their  
5 time and resources to help members of the community.

6 "The Red Cross depends on these local  
7 heroes to deliver help and hope during a disaster.  
8 We applaud our heroes here in New Jersey who give of  
9 themselves to assist their neighbors when they need a  
10 helping hand.

11 "Now, therefore, be it resolved that  
12 the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders hereby  
13 proclaims March 2018 as 'American Red Cross Month.'

14 "We encourage all Americans to support  
15 the organization and its noble humanitarian mission."

16 Thank you very much.

17 (Applause.)

18 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Can we have all the  
19 Freeholders to take a picture with this lovely  
20 commendation.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. GILMAN: Thank you very much.

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Don't go too far,  
24 because our County Executive also has a proclamation  
25 for you.

1                   FREEHOLDER AMOROSO:   And his is in a  
2 frame!

3                   COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO:   So, I've had  
4 the pleasure of knowing Jocelyn for quite sometime.  
5 I served on the Board of Directors of the Red Cross  
6 prior to it becoming the North Jersey Red Cross, when  
7 there were a few different groups throughout Northern  
8 New Jersey, and on the Ridgewood chapter of the Red  
9 Cross, I was honored to serve.

10                   But I've known Jocelyn for a long time,  
11 and I have a very special place in my heart for the  
12 folks from the Red Cross, because they are all over.  
13 Very seldom do you hear a whole lot about them. You  
14 hear of them, you know, in big natural disasters and  
15 things like that, but every day they are out in our  
16 communities helping our communities, every day.

17                   So, I'm very honored to be able to, on  
18 behalf of the 1 million people who live in Bergen  
19 County, recognize American Red Cross Month here in  
20 Bergen County, and I'll just read the last paragraph.

21                   "Whereas, on behalf of the nearly one  
22 million residents of Bergen County, I'm proud to  
23 celebrate the everyday heroes of the American Red  
24 Cross, and thank the organization, its staff and its  
25 volunteers for their service to all of us.



1                   "Now, therefore, be it proclaimed that  
2 I, James J. Tedesco III, Executive of the County of  
3 Bergen of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim  
4 March 2018 as 'American Red Cross Month.'"

5                   Jocelyn, thank you.

6                   (Applause.)

7                   COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Freeholders,  
8 can we have everybody. Come on up, please.

9                   (Whereupon, the presentation is made.)

10                  MS. GILMAN: I'm so pleased that all of  
11 you turned out tonight. Thank you on behalf of the  
12 American Red Cross, Bergen County and all of its  
13 residents who support us. I'm not the hero here,  
14 truly it's our volunteers and those who donate and  
15 also donate blood.

16                  So, you know, it's a privilege to be  
17 able to work with the county to make sure that you're  
18 all prepared and more resilient. And it isn't just  
19 the Superstorm Sandys, at the moment we have a whole  
20 team who is deployed up to Massachusetts, and we had  
21 3 or 4 shelters in New Jersey, just as a result of  
22 the storms recently.

23                  So we really appreciate that. We  
24 encourage each and everyone of you, as well, to be  
25 prepared and resilient.

1                   At this time also, we appreciate you  
2 donating blood, but when there are storms, our blood  
3 drives are canceled, so they also generate a greater  
4 need for blood.

5                   So, again, I would encourage you all to  
6 go out, if you can, and donate. Every two seconds,  
7 someone needs blood somewhere.

8                   I encourage to you do the CPR training.  
9 Young ladies and gentlemen, if you are unemployed, if  
10 you want to do baby-sitting training, please remember  
11 that, it's really important. You can do lifeguard  
12 training, etc.

13                   We also support our military, both all  
14 those who serve, our veterans, and our homeless  
15 veterans.

16                   So, again, on behalf of the American  
17 Red Cross, just thank you, the County Executive,  
18 Freeholders, and everybody else who supports us.

19                   (Applause.)

20 4:43 PM - PRESENTATION: COMMENDATION TO THE NORTHERN  
21 NEW JERSEY GIRL SCOUTS IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
22 GIRL SCOUT WEEK

23                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Next we have  
24 the Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey.

25                   106 years ago, on March 12th, Juliette

1 Gordon Low organized the very first Girl Scout troop.

2 In recognition of this anniversary,  
3 tonight, we will vote to accept Resolution #209-18,  
4 recognizing March 11th-17th, 2018, as "Girl Scout  
5 Week" in the County of Bergen.

6 As such, we are pleased to have with us  
7 from the Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey, its  
8 president and CEO, Ms. Betty Garger.

9 I'd like to ask Ms. Garger and the Girl  
10 Scout representatives here tonight to join us for the  
11 presentation of this commendation.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. OSBORNE: I don't believe Betty is  
14 here.

15 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay.

16 So at this time, I'm going to ask the  
17 County Executive to come up with us right away, so I  
18 don't forget him.

19 MS. OSBORNE: I'm a troop leader, so...

20 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: We're happy to  
21 have you!

22 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: So, again there's a  
23 lot of whereas' and therefores, so I'll just read the  
24 last one.

25 "Whereas, more than 3.2 million current

1 Girl Scout members nationwide will be celebrating  
2 106 years of this American tradition, with more than  
3 59 million women who are former Girl Scouts and  
4 living proof of the impact of this amazing movement.

5 "And, now, therefore be it resolved  
6 that the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders  
7 hereby applauds the commitment Girl Scouting has made  
8 to America's girls, and proudly recognizes the week  
9 of March 11th-17th, 2018, as 'Girl Scout Week' in the  
10 County of Bergen.

11 "Be it further resolved that the Bergen  
12 County Board of Chosen Freeholders commends the Girl  
13 Scout troops of Bergen County for their commitment to  
14 community service and civic engagement, thus,  
15 enriching the lives of Bergen County residents."

16 Congratulations.

17 MS. OSBORNE: Thank you.

18 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: I actually  
19 have a little story to tell to you.

20 My mother was the Director of Girl  
21 Scouting in Bergen County back in the 1960s, and she  
22 went on to be the Director of Girl Scouting for the  
23 State of New Jersey. And as a young boy, my brother  
24 and I, during the summers, never got to go to Boy  
25 Scout Camp, we went to Girl Scout Camp!

1 (Laughter.)

2 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Lucky guy!

3 MS. OSBORNE: My son can appreciate  
4 that.

5 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: And so it  
6 was a very valuable experience for my brother and I,  
7 because while we were part of Boy Scouting, it gave  
8 us the opportunity to see what was done on the Girl  
9 Scout side, and the role models and the folks that  
10 were helping develop the young ladies of our county  
11 and of our state.

12 And as a former mayor and as the County  
13 Executive, I've been able to go to the awards and  
14 recognize the young ladies as they've gone through  
15 the ranks of scouting and gotten the Gold Award,  
16 which is equal to the Eagle Scout in Boy Scouting.

17 And they work just as hard, if not  
18 harder, to attain that Gold Star rank.

19 So, ladies, congratulations. You are  
20 going to be the future of this country. You are  
21 going to be the next County Executive, the next  
22 Governor, the next President of the United States,  
23 and this is the base that it will all start from,  
24 from your Girl Scouting career.

25 So, on behalf of the people of

1 Bergen County, I want to say congratulations and  
2 congratulate Girl Scouts all over the State of New  
3 Jersey and all over Bergen County for participating  
4 in such a wonderful organization.

5 And it says:

6 "Whereas, on behalf of the nearly  
7 1 million residents of Bergen County, I am pleased to  
8 recognize and celebrate Girl Scouts' 106th birthday,  
9 and applaud the role that current and former  
10 Girl Scouts play in service to each other and to all  
11 of us.

12 "Now, therefore, be it resolved that I,  
13 James J. Tedesco III, Executive of the County of  
14 Bergen in the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim  
15 March 11th through March 17th, 2018, as 'Girl Scout  
16 Week.'"

17 (Applause.)

18 (Whereupon, the presentation is made.)

19 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Before we go  
20 further, would any Freeholder like to make any  
21 comments about these presentations? Anybody?

22 Dr. Voss.

23 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Okay.

24 I was a Girl Scout, and I can't tell  
25 you what a wonderful foundation it gives you for

1 going into public service.

2 I want to congratulate all of young  
3 ladies, and hopefully you will follow in the steps of  
4 many women would come before you. We are 53% of the  
5 population, so make 53% of the difference.

6 MS. OSBORNE: Thank you.

7 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: That's right!

8 (Applause.)

9 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Thank you  
10 very much.

11 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Bye, girls.

12 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We applaud the Red  
13 Cross and the Girl Scouts. Thank you very much.

14 4:51 PM PRESENTATION: 2018 COUNTY BUDGET

15 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We will now have a  
16 presentation of the 2018 County Budget from our  
17 County Executive, James Tedesco, accompanied by our  
18 Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Joseph Luppino, and  
19 Deputy County Administrator, Mr. Michael Bellucci.

20 Whenever you're ready, sir.

21 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you,  
22 Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you.

24 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Members of  
25 the Freeholder Board, good evening. I'm here tonight

1 to present the 2018 Bergen County Budget. This will  
2 follow the State of the County Address, and this will  
3 continue the building a better Bergen.

4 For the last three years, we've sat and  
5 worked together to allow us to get where we are today  
6 by getting the financial house in order for Bergen  
7 County.

8 That was done with all of us working  
9 together to make this happen. This isn't the  
10 Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch, this is  
11 the branches working together.

12 This is the culmination of months of  
13 work that went into the 2018 Budget. I can say that  
14 there are many ways you can present the budget, and,  
15 in the past, you've known me to be able to present a  
16 budget that is about the people, and this budget will  
17 continue to be about the people.

18 When I say "the people," that means  
19 everybody, that means our residents, that means our  
20 businesses, that means services that we provide to  
21 the people, but it's about people.

22 There's many ways that you can  
23 accomplish preparing a budget. When we came into  
24 office, we needed to fix and repair some of the  
25 things that had happened in the past.



1                   While the previous administration  
2 talked about having a flat budget, it was done at the  
3 expense of the people, and it was done at the expense  
4 of students, and it was done at the expense of those  
5 that needed the help the most.

6                   While you can balance a budget by  
7 cutting services, firing people, and eliminating  
8 services and programs, that's not about the people.

9                   And, so, when we took office, we said  
10 that we were going to make a budget that was about  
11 the people, address the needs of the people, the  
12 taxpayers, the residents, and start down a path with  
13 the Freeholder Board to accomplish changing the  
14 fiscal policies and the physical picture of Bergen  
15 County, while always putting the people first.

16                   So, this budget in 2018, that I will  
17 speak about, accomplishes that. It will meet the  
18 needs of the people of Bergen County. It will meet  
19 the needs of the taxpayers of Bergen County. It will  
20 address those needs of the most vulnerable and the  
21 most needy of Bergen County. It will address the  
22 youngest to the oldest. I am very confident, by the  
23 end of this presentation, you will be proud to be  
24 able to sit here and work together to have this  
25 budget represent all of the people in Bergen County.

1                   For three years, we've worked to make  
2 the Bergen County budget a budget that will fund and  
3 meet the needs that we all believe are important.

4                   Over the past three years, when I've  
5 sat with you and I've talked with you, you've made  
6 the recommendations and you've made the suggestions  
7 about where our priorities should be as a county.

8                   I believe that this budget represents  
9 those things tonight, and building a better Bergen  
10 County will be something that we will all be proud of  
11 but we will all continue to work on, because every  
12 day we need to continue to build a better Bergen  
13 County.

14                   So, the hard work that was put in by  
15 many, many people is reflected tonight.

16                   We're going to change the way we  
17 present it a little bit, Chairman, if you'll indulge  
18 us. We're going to sit here together and present the  
19 budget to you. I will talk some, the CFO will talk  
20 in a little bit greater detail on the financial side,  
21 and the Deputy Administrator will kick me, when he  
22 needs to.

23                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: It's your show,  
24 County Executive. However you want to do it.

25                   COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you,

1 Freeholder Chair.

2 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Just don't kick me!

3 (Laughter.)

4 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Too great a  
5 distance.

6 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: And, so, why  
7 don't we get started. Certainly I hope you can all  
8 follow along.

9 This is a pretty good-looking guy up  
10 here. I hope you all know him. I thank you for  
11 giving us the opportunity. And, as I said before,  
12 proven leadership and fiscal responsibility will  
13 allow us to continue to build a better Bergen County,  
14 and that's what we're going to present to you  
15 tonight.

16 The first slide, which is, I believe,  
17 very important and very telling for all of us,  
18 Bergen County has the second lowest tax rate in the  
19 State of New Jersey. The largest county in the State  
20 of New Jersey. It has 70 municipalities that no one  
21 has. It has to help support and fund and meet the  
22 needs of those almost 1 million people that live  
23 here, and yet we have the second lowest tax rate in  
24 the state.

25 MR. LUPPINO: The county is able to

1 achieve the second lowest tax rate in the State of  
2 New Jersey by properly managing the taxes with fiscal  
3 responsibility, combined with strong real estate  
4 values. And that's the formula, keeping it low.

5 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: This is  
6 something that we talked about, and, over the last  
7 three years, it's something that we've worked very  
8 hard to achieve. And it doesn't happen just by  
9 itself, it happens with a lot of hard work.

10 There's only five counties in the State  
11 of New Jersey that have AAA bond ratings, and it's  
12 one of the reasons why the BCIA and some of our other  
13 agencies, especially the BCIA, is able to offer the  
14 financial services that it does for many of the  
15 municipalities and also for New Bridge Medical Center  
16 and others.

17 Joe will talk a little bit more in  
18 detail about how we continue to retain a AAA bond  
19 rating.

20 MR. LUPPINO: Thank you, County  
21 Executive.

22 This next slide is actually excerpts  
23 from our latest report from Moody's. And, again, as  
24 Jim said, we've been able to maintain this over the  
25 last three years. And part of the rationale is,

1 there's a Moody's score card and there's different  
2 elements in there, and the first one is the  
3 management and conservative budgeting. That's 20% of  
4 our bond rating. We score very high in that area.  
5 "Management" is the Executive and also the Freeholder  
6 Board on that. So kudos to everybody on that.

7           We have a strategic, well-executed debt  
8 and capital plan, which allows Bergen County to  
9 maintain a stable debt service. They get all the  
10 information that you get. You know, we send them the  
11 budget. They have a copy of the six-year capital  
12 plan. So they're very impressed with all of that  
13 documentation, and that ties into the management.

14           They're also very impressed with our  
15 shared service agreements.

16           Over the last couple of years, you've  
17 seen a big tick-up in revenue in shared services.  
18 That brings revenue in and helps stabilize our tax  
19 levy.

20           The strengths mentioned in the Moody's  
21 report is our growth in our fund balance. This year  
22 we were able to grow it 18%, where our fund balance  
23 is \$45.5 million. So, again, almost 20% of our  
24 credit score is the fund balance and our balance  
25 financial operation, which is the next bullet point.

1                   They look at our trust reserves. We  
2 have healthy trust reserves, \$75 million.

3                   I want to thank the Freeholder Board,  
4 we do get special pluses. We passed the accumulated  
5 absence trust account for terminal leave. That's  
6 definitely a positive for us. And, also, the Board  
7 at the end passed the storm recovery trust account.  
8 So what we're doing is we're putting aside monies.  
9 If we have extra monies in our regular budget  
10 appropriation, we set it aside, and that's something  
11 that Moody's looks for.

12                   The two other pieces to the credit is  
13 our diverse tax base and favorable location. Again,  
14 we're right by New York City. We have excellent mass  
15 transit. And they look at, again, we're not a  
16 factory town, we have different commercial, real  
17 estate, and businesses, so that's a big plus. The  
18 other is the economic profile. Again, we're one of  
19 the wealthiest counties in America. Our wealth is  
20 158% of the national median, so that's another big  
21 plus for a rating.

22                   So, as a result, by having this AAA, we  
23 save millions of dollars of interest, and we also  
24 pass it along to our municipalities.

25                   As the County Executive mentioned, in

1 the last four years, the county and the  
2 municipalities that came into our program, we saved  
3 over \$9.8 million in interest costs on that. So,  
4 thank you again. You're part of that, passing those  
5 resolutions, and it's very important.

6 Thank you.

7 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: The other  
8 thing that we talk about is supporting our neighbors,  
9 our municipal partners. And, so, this is an example  
10 of that, where we can offer them the opportunity to  
11 pool their money for their bonding and give them the  
12 benefit of our rate.

13 So, not only do we benefit from that,  
14 but the local municipal taxpayer benefits from that  
15 too. So they're saving both, by having the county  
16 save on its bonding rate and the municipality saving  
17 on their bonding rate. So, again, this is this  
18 partnership that we've talked about that we've tried  
19 to create with our municipal partners, that county  
20 government needs to work for everybody. And we, as a  
21 group, are doing that by helping our municipal  
22 partners with the shared services, with the  
23 financing, and many others that you'll see.

24 The next slide is the growth of Bergen  
25 County's equalized real estate values. And one of

1 the beautiful things that's happening within Bergen  
2 County, and I'm happy that we as a group will take  
3 credit for this, is we're helping people continue to  
4 invest in Bergen County. We're making sure that the  
5 quality of life for the people that are living here,  
6 they want to stay here. We're looking at bringing  
7 business to this county, and we've been very  
8 successful.

9 I met with an engineering firm just the  
10 other day. They're relocating out of Rockland County  
11 into Bergen County. They're a New York engineering  
12 firm. They're bringing hundreds of employees here  
13 into Bergen County.

14 And, so, the picture that this shows is  
15 that the value of the real estate in Bergen County  
16 continues to go up. And that's a sign of people  
17 wanting to invest in Bergen County, to be part of  
18 Bergen County.

19 And, so, this is the graphic picture of  
20 where we started and where we are. Joe will talk a  
21 little bit more in detail about where we actually  
22 even see 2018 going.

23 MR. LUPPINO: Yes.

24 So, as the County Executive said, we  
25 see a nice trend line, '14, \$163 billion; then



1 \$165 billion; now we're at \$172 billion in 2017. And  
2 I spoke with our County Tax Administrator, Bob  
3 Layton. Again, he's waiting for some final numbers,  
4 but he's estimating that with another growth in '18,  
5 that we would be over \$173 billion in assessed  
6 valuations on that. So, that's very important. And  
7 on the bottom there in red, this actually comes from  
8 the Moody's handbook, growth in tax rateables is an  
9 important factor, and it demonstrates stability in  
10 our tax base. And a larger tax base allows the  
11 county to be more flexible, a diverse pool, which we  
12 can draw revenues to help stabilize our taxes.

13 Just as a little sidenote, like I said,  
14 we are the largest county, and this year, when we did  
15 our budget online with the state, we had to wait for  
16 the state to do a budget modification for their  
17 program, because they couldn't fit \$172 billion in  
18 their online program. So we were happy to make that  
19 adjustment.

20 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Next is  
21 where your tax dollars go. And you'll see the 2018  
22 budget allocation of \$530,821,019.

23 But one of the things that is important  
24 to note is that we work hard at trying to balance the  
25 budget. And this year, we also took some additional

1 steps to help us with managing the financial picture  
2 of the county.

3 I asked Michael and Joe to create an  
4 internal fiscal control audit team, and it's  
5 something that's never happened here before. What  
6 we've done is we've taken all the Fiscal Analysts  
7 from all the departments, and we've now coalesced  
8 them all together in one group.

9 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Wow!

10 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: And they now  
11 report out to Michael and Joe.

12 They still work for the departments  
13 that they're assigned to and the Department Head, but  
14 on a daily basis and a weekly basis and a monthly  
15 basis, the finance group now is able to look at how  
16 the finances are happening through each department,  
17 making sure that we account properly for where the  
18 funds should be, how the accounting of those funds  
19 are going, and bringing some consistency and  
20 cohesiveness to all of the fiscal disciplines within  
21 the county.

22 It was a little bit, you know, bumpy in  
23 the beginning. Everybody still wanted to hold onto  
24 their own folks and their own things, and we've tried  
25 to make it as seamless as possible for them to run

1 their business right, run their department, but also  
2 make sure that the internal controls and internal  
3 audits that we need are in place.

4 I want to say that that has started  
5 this year and really put us on a good track.

6 The other thing that we did is, two  
7 years ago I asked Michael Kaplan to take on a project  
8 where he would take the budget, and, on a monthly  
9 basis or quarterly basis, depending on how active the  
10 department was, to sit down with the Department Head  
11 and the Fiscal Analyst and go over the budget and get  
12 a snapshot of what was happening with that department  
13 budget during that month and the preceding months, so  
14 that if we started to find that there were  
15 abnormalities or there were gaps, we could address  
16 them right away. Instead of waiting until November  
17 or instead of waiting till July, and, all of a  
18 sudden, "Wow, how did this happen? Why did this  
19 happen?" we now knew why it was happening. And  
20 Michael would report back, and then we could sit with  
21 the Department Head and we could better understand  
22 what was happening.

23 So, the internal audit team that we've  
24 instituted for 2018 and the work that Michael  
25 Kaplan's been doing has continued to help us refine

1 our fiscal control and allowed us to ensure that the  
2 way the budget's moving is in a direction that we  
3 want it to be or we could put things in place to  
4 address those issues.

5 And, so, today you see the 2018 budget  
6 of \$530 million. And Joe's going to talk a little  
7 bit about the makeup of that allocation.

8 MR. LUPPINO: So, going to the slide,  
9 you'll see the breakouts of where we're spending our  
10 dollars.

11 Education, as you can see is -- again,  
12 this is the operating portion -- \$62.7 million in  
13 education funding. It goes to the college and the  
14 high schools that we have and the various different  
15 county departments, which includes the Health, the  
16 Clerk departments, Public Works, 911, that's the  
17 makeup of \$100 million. And, you know, when you look  
18 at it, I guess, in the whole, the average house  
19 spends less than \$100 a month in county taxes, and  
20 they get all these services. It's all outlined here,  
21 what we do for the people of Bergen County.

22 The next slide is our budget  
23 highlights.

24 We start off with a balanced budget.

25 This budget has millions of dollars

1 dedicated for infrastructure improvements, including:  
2 Bridges, roads, culverts, drainage, dams throughout  
3 the county. And once we get to the capital slide,  
4 you'll see some dollars associated with that.

5 We mentioned before, we had a  
6 27% increase in revenues through our shared services  
7 in one year. We've been very aggressive with that.

8 And I mentioned this before,  
9 anticipation under future retirement for our county,  
10 we proactively established this dedicated trust for  
11 terminal leave. You've probably been reading, some  
12 municipalities, they don't do that, and they get  
13 caught and they have to bond. You know, we're not  
14 bonding, we're setting monies aside every year for  
15 that.

16 And through the use of smart budgeting  
17 and planning, the county will commit expanding the  
18 public recreation areas and flood stabilization, and  
19 we're preserving more and more open space every year.

20 So that's what's in this budget.

21 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: So, one of  
22 the areas that we all agree that we need to continue  
23 to make investment in is in education.

24 You've heard us talk about education  
25 quite a bit and you heard me talk about the Girl

1 Scouts, right, and what Girl Scouting does for young  
2 women, the same thing as Boy Scouting. Well,  
3 education is no different. And, so, the commitment  
4 that I know this Freeholder Board has had, for the  
5 four years that I've been part of this organization,  
6 has been to continue to invest in education. And  
7 when we came into office, we knew that we had faced  
8 the previous administration cutting millions and  
9 millions of dollars out of education.

10 The commitment of my administration,  
11 and I know the Freeholder Board, was to restore those  
12 cuts and then move on to adding money to the  
13 education system in Bergen County so that the schools  
14 and the college could continue to do the good things  
15 that they do every day.

16 And if you look at it, you know that  
17 the investment we're making in the Academies is just  
18 remarkable. I had have the pleasure of going there  
19 quite often, and seeing the work that those students  
20 are doing at the Academy is just overwhelming. And  
21 when you look at the work that the Special School  
22 District is doing with our brand new high school and  
23 junior high school, and then you look at what  
24 Bleshman is doing and all the other schools, and then  
25 you look at Bergen Community, under Dr. Redmond now,

1 and the things that are happening there, that's  
2 because we've continued to invest in education. And  
3 we're going do continue to invest in it, and we  
4 wanted to take an opportunity to show you the  
5 commitment that we have in education.

6 Joe is just going to give you a couple  
7 of figures and talk to you a little bit more about  
8 it.

9 MR. LUPPINO: These figures include the  
10 operating budget, but also the debt service and  
11 capital.

12 Bergen Community College is  
13 \$24.2 million.

14 Then we have the appropriation for the  
15 high schools, the Hackensack, the Teterboro, the  
16 Paramus Applied Technology School, and the Special  
17 Services School, that is at \$49,327,000, and then we  
18 have an appropriation for the Superintendent of  
19 Schools for the administration for our local school  
20 districts, \$427,000.

21 So our educational appropriation or  
22 investment is \$73.9 million, almost \$74 million,  
23 that's a \$4.4 million increase from last year, which  
24 is about a 6.3% increase in just over one year.

25 And, again, the highlights:

1                   Bergen Community College, again,  
2 they're getting results. Bergen Community College  
3 ranked No. 1 for associate's degrees, and 26 in the  
4 nation, according to the Middle States Commission on  
5 Higher Education.

6                   USA Today rated Bergen Community  
7 Academies No. 1, the best high school in the State of  
8 New Jersey, with an average SAT score of 1440 for  
9 math and English.

10                   In 2017, US News ranked Bergen Tech  
11 High School in Teterboro the No. 3 high school in New  
12 Jersey, 63 in the nation.

13                   And just a little blurb. The County  
14 Executive mentioned the Applied Technology School.  
15 It's a four-year school. It's an innovative  
16 partnership with Bergen Community College and the  
17 Technical Schools. It's at the campus of Bergen  
18 Community College. It provides rigorous academics  
19 with technical skills needed for employment in the  
20 areas of manufacturing and healthcare. And, as we  
21 all know on the Freeholder Board, the students  
22 graduate the high school with 30 college credits for  
23 their associate's. So it's a big step up on that.

24                   MR. BELLUCCI: And just on the Applied  
25 Schools, we're now in our fourth year, so there's now



1 a freshman, sophomore, junior, and a senior level in  
2 that school.

3 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: And,  
4 Chairman, I just wanted to say that we had come to  
5 you and the Board about two months ago with  
6 Dr. Redmond to ask you about some funding. And I  
7 want to thank the Board for the support. We've  
8 included that in this budget so that the college can  
9 continue with the support on the IT side and  
10 everything.

11 So, again, I want to thank the  
12 Freeholder Board for giving us that support and that  
13 okay, so that we could include that in here. So  
14 everyone is continuing to be there, to work there,  
15 and they'll be able to accomplish the upgrading of  
16 the IT program that they need so desperately.

17 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We thank you,  
18 County Executive and Dr. Redmond, for your guidance  
19 on that. Thank you very much.

20 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Yes.

21 MR. LUPPINO: The anticipated revenue,  
22 as you can see from the pie chart, the county has a  
23 multitude of various revenue sources.

24 Again, there's the long-term planning  
25 on the appropriations side, but also on the revenue.

1 Revenues are so important for our stability, and we  
2 track them, and, again, about 25% of the budget comes  
3 from our revenue sources.

4           Again, just to highlight a few. I'll  
5 start with the ones that I'm familiar with. We have  
6 the Justice Center parking garage and the interest on  
7 investments, that's controlled through my department,  
8 and we've had some big increases in the parking and  
9 the interest.

10           Interest; last year we budgeted  
11 \$450,000. We actually collected over \$1 million in  
12 interest income, through some tough negotiations with  
13 the banks. So we're really happy with that, and I  
14 set myself a goal to go for \$1.5 million for this  
15 year.

16           FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Wow!

17           MR. LUPPINO: So that's my goal.

18           Again, the other fees, the Health  
19 Department brings in revenue of \$11 million, and that  
20 includes interlocal services and the Health Care  
21 Center.

22           Park fees, \$9.7 million, and that's  
23 regular park fees and golf fees included.

24           Their interlocal is \$4.5 million on  
25 that.

1                   And our grant, we had a grant in state  
2 aid, we're at 17.9.

3                   So that's just nice. Again, this makes  
4 up about 25% of our revenue. So we're not funding  
5 the whole budget with property taxes, we're using  
6 other fees, because we always try to lessen the  
7 burden on real estate taxes.

8                   COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: So, you  
9 heard Joe talk about our aggressiveness in  
10 investment, right?

11                   One of the things over the last two  
12 years, Joe has taken on a challenge of better  
13 managing our assets, and, more so, our financial  
14 assets.

15                   We have not bonded, we've gone to  
16 short-term notes. We've taken some of the funds that  
17 we have, we've put them into some very lucrative  
18 short-term returns. And what it does is it allows us  
19 to be able to pay for many of the services that we  
20 provide, based on using the talent that we have in  
21 our Treasury Department and in our CFO's department  
22 to manage money.

23                   So, like you have fund managers that  
24 manage some of your 401(k)s and some of your stock  
25 portfolios, we have a fund manager here that's

1 managing hundreds of millions of dollars that we have  
2 that flow in and out of the county. And what he's  
3 able to do, with the support of his team, is now look  
4 at how do we best invest that money.

5 And what you're seeing is the return on  
6 that investment.

7 We'll sit here next year, and we'll be  
8 telling you that right now we've invested some of our  
9 money, and the returns that we're getting, I think,  
10 have not been seen in many, many years in government.  
11 And so this is that whole package we're trying to put  
12 together for everybody, so that we get grants. We're  
13 out there with Millennium and our grants people.  
14 We're having Joe and his folks do revenue and things  
15 like that. All of that is contributing to our  
16 ability to provide these programs and services for  
17 the people, without an impact to the taxpayer.

18 ACTING COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR NEALS:  
19 County Executive, if I can just bring up a quick  
20 example of the reinvestment.

21 The dollars that were authorized for  
22 New Bridge Medical Center for the IT and for the  
23 infrastructure, Joe was actually able to reinvest  
24 some of those dollars. So when it came due to make a  
25 debt service payment, I think it was maybe \$800,000,

1 he had earned \$600,000.

2 MR. LUPPINO: \$250,000.

3 ACTING COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR NEALS:

4 \$250,000.

5 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: We want your  
6 returns!

7 ACTING COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR NEALS: So  
8 just to illustrate that point, he had the dollars  
9 working for us as well, so the county actually saved  
10 \$250,000 off the necessary funds that we had to use  
11 to expend the debt service back.

12 MR. LUPPINO: At the beginning of the  
13 year, the Freeholders passed the cash management  
14 plan. And in there also, it allows us, this year the  
15 state gave us authorization to also invest in  
16 municipalities, invest in notes of municipalities.  
17 We actually have our first deal coming up soon. That  
18 will help, we'll get a little more interest, and also  
19 will help the municipalities because then they don't  
20 have to spend money on bond costs or note costs. So,  
21 the taxpayers will benefit on both ends, the county  
22 taxpayers and the local taxpayers, so it's kind of a  
23 win/win for that. So that's another thing that the  
24 Freeholders, you know, what you allow us to do.

25 Okay. The next chart is the

1 anticipated. Again, that's a line graph. The green  
2 is the '18. So, as you can see, the green is above  
3 the red, which is 2017. So this year, again,  
4 remember this number, it's going to come up later on,  
5 we collected \$10 million more in revenue in '17, the  
6 actual collection versus the budget. So that extra  
7 \$10 million gave us the ability to do something  
8 special, which will be in the future slides.

9 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: It's all  
10 about the buildup.

11 MR. BELLUCCI: The foreshadowing.

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: So here's  
13 the capital side. And, again, this is before we take  
14 grants and we take anything out of this. So this is  
15 the hard dollars, right, that each of the departments  
16 are looking for.

17 Again, this is about meeting the needs  
18 of the people and providing the services that the  
19 people of Bergen County want and expect.

20 So, on the capital side, we're doing a  
21 real good job of managing this. When I came in, I  
22 started the six-year look on the capital. That's  
23 never been done before here. You now have a capital  
24 book that has a six-year look at all of the capital  
25 needs for each department in the county. It gives us

1 a window into what the future looks like and a better  
2 way to manage our finances.

3 We also started to go back into old  
4 ordinances that went back into the '90s that were  
5 sitting there, that we said, you know what, we got to  
6 cleanup. And we've been working on cleaning those up  
7 and utilizing some of those funds, so that we don't  
8 have to introduce new funds.

9 So, again, it's about a mindset change.  
10 It's about the way we change and do the fiscally  
11 prudent thing for the people of Bergen County. And,  
12 again, it's all part of a team effort between the  
13 Administration, our Department Heads, the Treasury  
14 and CFO department, and our Freeholders.

15 Joe, just talk a little bit more in  
16 detail about the total of capital dollars.

17 MR. LUPPINO: Okay.

18 Well, the first one I'm going to  
19 emphasize is the Public Works. \$24 million out  
20 there. That's our gross appropriation on that. We  
21 already met with Ray, and we're going to fix those  
22 potholes that we need to do.

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Tomorrow, Ray.

24 MR. LUPPINO: Ray already has plans  
25 going on for that.

1 MR. DRESSLER: Tonight. We got lights.

2 MR. LUPPINO: So that's important.

3 Parks, you know, we have \$12 million on  
4 golf and education, \$12 million.

5 Again, our gross is \$73 million, but of  
6 that gross of \$73 million, we're going to offset that  
7 by \$25 million of aid and grants. So that will be  
8 net.

9 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: The next  
10 slide is a slide that's very, very telling and very  
11 important, the tax levy analysis between 2018 and  
12 2017.

13 I'll let Joe talk a little bit about  
14 the numbers, and then I'll have a few things to say  
15 about that.

16 MR. LUPPINO: So, the budget  
17 appropriations, they grew about 2%, so the difference  
18 is 10.891.

19 As you remember, that number, the  
20 anticipated revenues, our revenues grew 10.8%. So  
21 the impact is 0. And I'll let the CE go into that.

22 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: The budget  
23 is made up of many components, but the majority of  
24 the stuff that we deal with are increases that we  
25 really don't have a lot of control over. So they're



1 statutory in nature. There's increases to pension,  
2 to health care costs, our collective bargaining  
3 agreements that we negotiate, and all of the other  
4 things that really are more fixed than they are our  
5 ability to do very much with.

6 But the news here is that because of  
7 the good financial operation and the financial  
8 prudence of what we've done over the last three  
9 years, it's allowed us to absorb the \$10.8 million  
10 increase by offsetting that with the revenues and the  
11 things that you just heard Joe talk about.

12 So, from a tax levy standpoint, the  
13 number stays exactly the same as last year.

14 ACTING COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR NEALS:  
15 County Executive, if I can just make a quick point.

16 That differential in the revenue number  
17 is not constituted by what we'll call in a budget  
18 "one-timers." There's actually structural balance  
19 built in between that arrangement with the hospital  
20 and other things. Naturally, there's always  
21 recurrent one-timers that will happen in any  
22 particular budget cycle, but from a structural  
23 standpoint, in terms of forecasting into this year,  
24 we have real dollars behind it and even going forward  
25 into '19, '20, and subsequent years.

1 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: And now for  
2 the good news.

3 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Drum roll, please.

4 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: For 2018, I  
5 present to you a flat 2018 tax levy.

6 (Applause.)

7 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: I love it!

8 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Could we angle that  
9 a little bit this way, so everyone can see it.

10 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: So, not only  
11 what you saw in this presentation is a reduction in  
12 the tax rate, you saw the amount of money to be  
13 raised by taxes flat and no increase to the overall  
14 county tax rate for 2018.

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: And I say  
17 this because, I say it as I started, this is about  
18 the people and this is about making sure that we do  
19 the right thing for the people of Bergen County. And  
20 as I said, that word "people" makes up everybody.

21 As we sit here tonight and present this  
22 budget to you, I'm confident that this budget meets  
23 the true needs of the people of Bergen County. I am  
24 extremely happy to be able to present this to you. I  
25 know that you will continue to do your due diligence,

1 as you have over the last three years with the  
2 budgets that we've presented, and we're going to come  
3 away with a budget that will benefit all of the  
4 people of Bergen County.

5 And, so, it's what I committed to you  
6 three years ago: That we would be able to balance  
7 the budget, get down to 0, once we got our financial  
8 house in order. And I'm happy to sit here tonight  
9 telling you that our financial house is in order and  
10 we're able to give you no county tax rate increase.

11 Let me say that this couldn't have  
12 happened without a lot of help. It just couldn't  
13 have happened.

14 Michael has been tenacious in meeting  
15 with the Department Heads, meeting with everybody to  
16 make this happen, to be able to get in front of you  
17 today and present this budget.

18 You see the folks in Treasury and the  
19 Division of Budget. I talked about the folks there.  
20 Not only do they put the budget together, but they  
21 help us from a financial standpoint in making this a  
22 sound financial county.

23 People say that government should be  
24 run like a business. And since the day I got  
25 elected, I said, that's wrong, because government

1 can't be run like a business, that's illegal, right?  
2 We can't generate a profit. But, it doesn't mean  
3 that you can't take business principles and bring  
4 them to government. And so what I've asked everybody  
5 to do is to do that, to bring business principles to  
6 government so that we can deliver to the people of  
7 Bergen County what they deserve.

8           We've talked so much tonight about the  
9 financial piece of that model, where business looks  
10 at their investments and wants a return on those  
11 investments. We're doing that on the financial side,  
12 where we're getting a financial return on those  
13 investments but we're doing that on the department  
14 side.

15           We're asking people to do more shared  
16 services and promote more shared services so we get  
17 more revenue.

18           We're investing in our parks, so that  
19 more people take advantage of our parks and our golf  
20 courses.

21           We bought a golf course. Why? So that  
22 we can offer more people an opportunity to afford to  
23 play golf. And it generates revenue.

24           We're investing in open space. What  
25 does open space do? It allows for quality of life.

1 It allows for people to, on a Saturday or a Sunday or  
2 during the week, go to a place where all they see are  
3 trees and blue sky and get away from the work that's  
4 done every day.

5 So, when I say we run this, we run this  
6 for the people of Bergen County. And with your help,  
7 we're going to continue to deliver to the people what  
8 they deserve, what they require, but, most of all,  
9 what's to their benefit.

10 And, so, Freeholder Chair, thank you  
11 for allowing us to present this budget to you  
12 tonight. The people of Bergen County are better  
13 tonight for what we've done than they were a few  
14 years ago.

15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: We'll  
18 certainly entertain any questions, Freeholder Chair.

19 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: First, let me just  
20 say, on behalf of the Freeholder Board, and I know  
21 everyone is going to make their own comment, thank  
22 you. Thank you for including us in the process.  
23 Thank you for being a team player. Thank you for  
24 having such great vision for the County of Bergen.

25 When you took over as the County

1 Executive, there's a few things that you stated.

2           You stated you needed to get your house  
3 in order, and we have.

4           You stated that Bergen County could  
5 become a medical hub for the county, and that's  
6 proven to becoming true.

7           Your vision is phenomenal!

8           This budget is not an accident.  
9 There's no accidents. This is what has been done  
10 under your leadership with your colleagues here on  
11 the Freeholder Board, but, mostly under your  
12 leadership.

13           The reason this budget is no accident  
14 is because we continue to find ways to do shared  
15 services. We continue to find ways to have  
16 interlocal agreements. We continue to find revenue  
17 and reinvest that revenue out of New Bridge Medical,  
18 when everyone told us it couldn't be done. It  
19 couldn't be done, yet we got the payment that was  
20 owed to us, that was said would never be collected,  
21 and you used it for the betterment of the people in  
22 the county.

23           (Applause.)

24           CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Creating, here you  
25 go again, you're creating another auditing

1 department, just like you realigned all the  
2 departments when you became the County Executive, so  
3 all the money was transparent and we all knew where  
4 the money was going to be spent and it wasn't hidden  
5 and it was allocated properly.

6 County Executive, thank you for  
7 allowing me to be part of it. I know my colleagues  
8 on the Freeholder Board are probably going to say  
9 some more things that I forgot, but it's hard to  
10 remember everything that you've done.

11 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: And I don't mean  
13 that in a terrible way.

14 (Laughter.)

15 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: It's really a  
16 betterment for Bergen County. This is not a gimmick  
17 budget. This is no accident.

18 Thank you very much.

19 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Freeholder Tanelli.

21 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Thank you,

22 Chairman.

23 I'd just like to congratulate you, Jim,  
24 on a tremendous job and your administration.

25 I, for one, am extremely encouraged

1 with the whole structure of the budget now as it  
2 lays, and for the consistency and accountability that  
3 we can now expect every year to be able to come in  
4 here.

5 I'm glad that Julien spoke up, because  
6 that slide kind of didn't really do it any justice as  
7 far as it kind of looked like a one-timer, but we  
8 know that there's so many different things built into  
9 this budget that makes it recurring and gives us the  
10 stability that we're going to need moving forward.

11 I know that some of our colleagues that  
12 have been here a while have worked hard on budgets  
13 for many years to get to this consistent point, and,  
14 I mean, sitting here, you're making it very easy to  
15 vote yes on a lot of things that come through our  
16 desk, because of the hard work you guys are doing  
17 before it gets here. So I would just like to say  
18 thank you to you and your whole team.

19 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you,  
20 Freeholder.

21 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Anybody else?

22 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: I want to thank  
23 you so much, County Executive, to you, your  
24 administration, the directors, my colleagues,  
25 everyone that worked together to bring this



1 responsible budget. This is my second year, and I'm  
2 just so happy to see how we all are working together.  
3 And especially, I know it affected me at Bergen  
4 Community College when I sat on the Trustee Board, I  
5 saw \$5 million cut and the poor kids had to really  
6 take the brunt of that. So I appreciate you for  
7 investing in the children and the future of our  
8 county and our state. So thank you so much, again,  
9 for everything.

10 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you,  
11 Freeholder.

12 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Freeholder  
13 Dr. Voss.

14 FREEHOLDER VOSS: "Phenomenal," that's  
15 the first word that comes to mind.

16 I've been working on budgets for more  
17 than 25 years, and this has been, without question,  
18 the best budget I have ever seen, and I thank you so  
19 much. And you know that education is the passion of  
20 my life, and you when you first came into office, so  
21 much had been cut out and nothing was being done for  
22 the special needs kids and for so many things, and  
23 now I am so proud, because I go all over this place  
24 and I say what a phenomenal educational system we  
25 have on the county level, and hopefully we'll grow it

1 more and more in the future. God bless you all,  
2 because you did a phenomenal job!

3 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you,  
4 Freeholder.

5 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Freeholder Amoroso.

6 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Yes.

7 I want to focus on some of these  
8 wonderful financial things.

9 The internal audit team, isn't that  
10 great!

11 Just the notion of Joe Luppino getting  
12 on the phone and dialing for dollars looking for the  
13 best return on our investments, God bless!

14 The trust reserve. A brilliant idea.  
15 Something I would love to take back to my hometown!

16 You know, we talked last year and we  
17 were so pleased that you are now putting forth a  
18 multiyear capital improvement budget, so we can see  
19 not only what we're spending next year but what the  
20 long range plans for improvement are. And that's all  
21 on the financial side.

22 On the quality of life side, I just  
23 love your emphasis on the parks, Jim. You know, they  
24 are our frontyard, our backyard, our shared living  
25 room, and it's where we come together as a gigantic

1 community of Bergen County. And I am so pleased that  
2 we are moving forward with the Master Plan, and,  
3 that, of course, is in our capital improvement  
4 budget. So great job!

5 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you,  
6 Freeholder.

7 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Anyone else?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Once again, thank  
10 you and your entire staff, everyone who worked on the  
11 budget, a phenomenal job from the Freeholder Board.

12 Thank you.

13 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you,  
14 Freeholders.

15 MR. LUPPINO: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. BELLUCCI: Thanks, Mike Kaplan.

18 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: If you'll  
19 excuse me, I have to go to a town hall and introduce  
20 the Governor.

21 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: That's exciting.  
22 Tell him we said hello.

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I think your job is  
24 done here, County Executive. A great job! Thank  
25 you.

1 FREEHOLDER GANZ: Great job!

2 5:44 PM REVIEW OF RESOLUTIONS

3 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay. We will now  
4 review the Resolutions to be voted on tonight.

5 Clerk.

6 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Resolutions #163-18  
7 through #211-18.

8 Chairman, which would you prefer to  
9 review, so everybody is on the same page?

10 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Which one?

11 MR. FLORIO: This is the new, this is  
12 the old.

13 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: What are the  
14 numbers?

15 MR. FLORIO: The numbers are the same,  
16 the format is different. This is the new version,  
17 this is 2018, this is 2017.

18 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Just so everybody is on  
19 the same page.

20 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I think, without  
21 any objection, we'll go to the newer version.

22 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: Makes sense.  
23 We got to get used to it.

24 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Page 1.

25 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Chairman?

1 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Yes.

2 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: I was wondering if  
3 we could promulgate #164-18 through #168-18, all  
4 Community Development related items, as Body of the  
5 Whole.

6 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Any objection?

7 FREEHOLDER GANZ: No objection.

8 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We shall do them as  
9 the Body of the Whole.

10 That will bring us to page, yes -- you  
11 have something, Freeholder?

12 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Just, this new  
13 format is really great, much more detail than what we  
14 are used to, I would just ask that if there's a  
15 possible way when we get these is that maybe we can  
16 bold out some of the important things, No. 1, whether  
17 it's a grant or not, what the dollar amount is, and  
18 maybe the title. I don't know if there's a way in  
19 the system that you can actually change that.

20 MS. RODRIGUEZ: We will look into that.

21 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: Highlight it.

22 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Okay.

23 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Page 5, starting at  
24 #169-18.

25 Page 6.

1 Page 7.

2 Page 8.

3 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Chairman, I'd like  
4 to sponsor #176-18, please.

5 FREEHOLDER VOSS: I'll co-sponsor with  
6 you.

7 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: That's Tanelli and  
8 who?

9 FREEHOLDER GANZ: Voss.

10 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Dr. Voss, okay.

11 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: You know what, to  
12 be honest with you, being that it's collective  
13 bargaining, we've always done that as a Body of the  
14 Whole, so maybe we can do it as a Body of the Whole?

15 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: #176-18,  
16 Freeholder?

17 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Yes.

18 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Is there any  
19 objection?

20 FREEHOLDER VOSS: No.

21 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay, Body of the  
22 Whole for #176-18.

23 Page 9.

24 Page 10.

25 Page 11.

1 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Chairman?

2 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Yes.

3 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: Can we go back to  
4 Page 10, maybe do #183-18 as a Body of the Whole,  
5 shared service agreement?

6 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Any objection?

7 FREEHOLDER GANZ: No.

8 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: No.

9 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Thank you,  
10 Freeholder.

11 We're on Page 11 now.

12 Page 12.

13 Page 13.

14 Page 14.

15 Page 15.

16 Page 16.

17 Page 17.

18 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: Chairman, can  
19 we do #197-18 and #198-18 as a Body of the Whole?

20 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Yes. This is  
21 Irish Heritage, and Developmental Disabilities Month.

22 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: I would certainly  
23 love to do that as a Body of the Whole.

24 Any objection?

25 (No response.)

1 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Page 17.

2 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: I would like,  
3 Chairman, to sponsor #201-18.

4 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay.

5 FREEHOLDER TANELLI: I'll co-sponsor  
6 that.

7 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Page 18.

9 Page 19.

10 Page 20.

11 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: Chairman, if we  
12 could do #209 and #210 as well as Body of the Whole.

13 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: #209 and #210 as  
14 Body of the Whole, any objection?

15 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: No.

16 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay.

17 5:50 PM REVIEW OF ORDINANCES

18 MS. RODRIGUEZ: On Page 20, we have the  
19 following ordinances to be voted on:

20 First Reading and Introduction of  
21 Ordinance 18-01, which is various capital  
22 improvements.

23 18-02 is various capital improvements  
24 for Bergen Community College.

25 18-01 was Public Works.



1                   And 18-03 is capital improvements,  
2 Bergen County Community College.

3                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Any  
4 questions?

5                   (No response.)

6 5:50 CLOSED SESSION

7                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We will now go into  
8 Closed Session for approximately 20 minutes, and then  
9 we will return to the Public Session.

10                   Will the attorney briefly state the  
11 matter for which we will be discussing in Closed  
12 Session.

13                   MR. FLORIO: Thank you, Chairman.

14                   We will receive an update on Resolution  
15 #205 from the County Counsel.

16                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: May I have a motion  
17 to go into Closed Session?

18                   FREEHOLDER TANELLI: So moved.

19                   FREEHOLDER GANZ: So moved.

20                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Second?

21                   FREEHOLDER VOSS: Second.

22                   VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: Second.

23                   CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: All in favor?

24                   (All present Freeholders respond in the  
25 affirmative.)

1 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Motion carries,  
4 we're in Closed Session.

5 (Whereupon Closed Session is held.)

6 (Open Session resumes at 5:59 p.m.)

7 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: We are now back in  
8 open.

9 We will reconvene for our Public  
10 Meeting at 7:30.

11 There being nothing further to come  
12 before the meeting, may I have a motion to adjourn to  
13 7:30?

14 FREEHOLDER GANZ: So moved.

15 FREEHOLDER AMOROSO: Moved.

16 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ORTIZ: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: All in favor?

18 (All present Freeholders respond in the  
19 affirmative.)

20 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: Opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIRMAN SULLIVAN: 6:00.

23 (Whereupon, the Work Session is  
24 adjourned at 6:00 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, KIM O. FURBACHER, License No. XIO1042, a Certified Court Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Realtime Court Reporter, and Notary Public of the State of New Jersey, hereby certify that the foregoing is a verbatim record of the testimony provided under oath before any court, referee, board, commission or other body created by statute of the State of New Jersey.

I am not related to the parties involved in this action; I have no financial interest, nor am I related to an agent of or employed by anyone with a financial interest in the outcome of this action.

This transcript complies with Regulation 13:43-5.9 of the New Jersey Administrative Code.

\_\_\_\_\_  
KIM O. FURBACHER, CRCR, CCR, RMR  
License #XIO1042, and Notary Public  
of New Jersey

My Commission Expires:  
7/11/19