1	STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ALBANY
2	Town OF COLONIE
3	**********
4	AGENDA SESSION
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6	THE STENOGRAPHIC MINUTES of the above
7	entitled matter by NANCY L. STRANG, a
8	Shorthand Reporter commencing at 6:12 PM on
9	October 22, 2020 at Memorial Town Hall, 534
10	New Loudon Road, Latham, New York
11	
12	Board MEMBERS:
13	PAULA A. MAHAN, SUPERVISOR
14	LINDA MURPHY, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR
15	MELISSA JEFFERS
16	DANIELLE FUTIA
17	RICHARD FIELD
18	JILL PENN
19	DAVID GREEN
20	
21	ALSO PRESENT:
22	MICHAEL C. MAGGUILLI, ESQ., Town ATTORNEY
23	JULIE GANSLE, Town CLERK
2 4	P. CHRISTOPHER KELSEY, COMPTROLLER
25	JOHN CUNNINGHAM, COMMISSIONER, DPW

MR. MAGGUILLI: We have two personnel matters.

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This is a simple civil service matter.

Mr. Stamas is being permanently promoted to
his Sewage Treatment Plant Maintenance

Mechanic, grade 25 position. His salary stays
at \$61,811. The permanent civil service status
will go into effect on the 23rd of this month.

Then we have 392B - Ms. Wright is requesting a leave of absence without pay from October 13th to November 1st. Any leave more than five days requires Town Board approval.

Resolution 393 is referring to Sean Maguire a request to amend the Canterbury Crossings PDD to allow a deck to be constructed at 25 Preston Drive.

MR. GREEN: Don't we have that other
Resolution that allows them to apply for that
and not have to have it come back to Town
Board for approval?

MR. MAGGUILLI: This is it.

MS. JEFFERS: Yes, we still have to refer it.

MR. MAGGUILLI: You guys are making the decision to send it to the Planning

Cepartment for them to do instead of making these people go through public notice in a public hearing.

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SUPERVISOR MAHAN: David, remember if we did not get these, then we wouldn't know what they were about. So, we wanted to make sure that the Board is included. Say one comes up we have questions about it. Rather than have Sean review it, it may have to go to the whole Planning Board. So, this gives us a place to review it and see whether or not it can go through or it's really involved.

MR. MAGGUILLI: It allows the Board to continue to have ultimate authority and control over these things. You decide whether to refer to him or not.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: That was one of the abilities of making sure that we still had that oversight.

MR. MAGGUILLI: Resolution 394 is authorizing Paula to sign an agreement with CDPHP and this is for our Medicare Advantage Health Program. This is the same rate as 2020 at \$309.12 per month, per participant.

Resolution 395 is authorizing Paula to

reimburse \$4,833.70 to ACOB properties at 18 Spring Avenue for overestimated water usage.

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Resolution 396 is authorizing the General Services Director to advertise for bids for a trailer mounted pump with hose. This is part of the Albany/Colonie emergency interconnection project.

Resolution 397 is authorizing the settlement of the Macy's tax or at 19 Wolf Road. The Town refund will be \$9,307.34. The school refund will be \$105,949.88.

Resolution 398 is in agreement with Clough Harbor and this is for professional services to prepare and submit our local solid waste management plan. The compliance report is something we do every year. This is not to exceed \$7,800.

Resolution 399 is awarding the bid for our aluminum sign blanks to AllMac Signs. They were the low bidder at \$20,620.

Resolution 400 is awarding the bid for completed signs to Vulcan. Again, they were the low bidder at \$9,578.75. This will have a renewal clause through 2024 at the same amount.

Resolution 401 is a sales and purchase agreement with North Colonie Schools. Again, this is something that we do every year. They don't have any place to put their salt and so we let them buy ours and store it.

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Resolution 402 is an extension of the lease and maintenance agreement with Ricoh for Town copiers. This is going month-to-month until we can negotiate new agreements.

Resolution 403 is rejecting the bid for the Mohawk View Water Pollution Control aeration blower number one rebuild project. The bids that we received were over the Town amount budgeted for that amount. They came in at \$79,500. This is rejecting the bid and it is not authorizing him to renew or rebid it.

So, we don't know what we're going to do. This is how it came in. They didn't ask to do anything other than reject the bid that came in.

MR. GREEN: What were we authorized to do on this one?

MR. MAGGUILLI: I don't know what the line was. It was less than \$79,500. That was the bid that exceeded what the budgeted line

item was.

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MR. KELSEY: Chreit didn't really talk to me about it.

MR. MAGGUILLI: I don't have anything in the file showing what the line item was for that. The only thing they say is that it exceeded the amount.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: I just want to fill everybody in on an update from the Building Department - we learned very late on Tuesday night that there was an individual that had tested positive for Covid - the Corona Virus. That next morning about 6:30 we got a hold of everyone who works there and kept them home and also learned that one member of Planning also had been there.

They had code schools going on and because of Covid, they were doing it in their office building at Public Ops. They were doing it remotely through Zoom because they couldn't go someplace else because of Covid. They learned that there was a case and confirmed that. Rosemary confirmed that.

So, we had the people that would have had

direct exposure stay home and we had the building professionally disinfected. We had started with Building and Planning in the common areas and then said well, let's just do the whole Public Ops because we don't know.

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This is an old building and the ventilation in their office is not great and so everybody is breathing the same air. They had some bagels, so you don't know if anyone was talking to each other with the masks down or what it was.

Anyway, yesterday we were able to get some direction from the Albany County Health Department. They are the ones that determine if there is a need for them to be quarantined for the 14 days. So, they did come back with the decision of the people in the Building Department other than one woman who was not there Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Actually, it would be Monday and Tuesday because the individual was not there on Wednesday. So, she was not there. So, she was not exposed. Technically she can come back now that the office is clean. We are hoping that she will come back so that she doesn't have any

problems because that would be great and that would be helpful for someone so they could answer the phones.

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There's only one person from Planning that was in the Building Department office. So, yesterday out of caution and out of the need to have that cleaned as well, Planning had to stay home.

Now, the county has determined that just one person - they would consider that direct exposure and they have to stay home. So, he will work from home, as well. It is a 14-day period. So, we have looked into all of that and it seems that is what it is going to be; 14 days from the 21st.

MR. KELSEY: Even if they get tested?

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Even if they get tested.

My husband and I did get tested because my son works in the Building Department. So, we got tested. I feel fine and everything.

By going through that exercise, we learned how long it takes to get the county to come through. They were very good. One woman was excellent. I don't remember what her name

or her title was. They moved the investigation of the case through quickly - as quickly as they could so they could get back to us so we would know what to do. There are going to be - some things that we learned through that exercise.

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Tom Breslin sent out a press release. I thought he sent it to everybody. Usually that's what he does. Melissa said she didn't get it. I am assuming that he missed that.

Also, Julie needs to know too because people call the Town Clerk's office when they can't get the Building Department, or whatever.

Jack was going to have the calls transferred to the Engineering office where Michelle is and he is, but hopefully Rosemary made contact with Lisa and she can be back tomorrow and she can take the calls.

It's very difficult because you have to be tracking everybody because Fire Services is part of the Building Department. So, if they had gone to the Fire Departments, then you have -- it's all these things - it was between Tuesday night, yesterday morning and yesterday

all day and we got it all done.

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Part of that exercise - and I call it that because it's the first time we've really gone through it like that - it's going to go into that plan for the Governor's office and that has to be in April.

We have two things going on; the Police Policies and Practices Report. That has to be done by April. Mike is finishing up the draft and that is coming along nicely. The committee is great. So, they will be back together, I think, on November 4th and then wee have their drafts the beginning of next week so they will have plenty of time to review that.

The second plan is the one to prepare for pandemic in the future. It's all about who's going to make the final decision and not knowing who everyone else has contact with. It's like one person to the next, to the next. It's not an easy situation.

What we did learn is that the most practical way - the Town can always say this is the recommendation, but this is what we are going to do. We want to do this. We could have said well, we have a lot to get done and no

one is showing symptoms so we're going to bring everybody back. That wouldn't be a smart idea. Although you can do it, it wouldn't be a smart idea.

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So, by talking with the Health Department directly about a legitimate case, they are the ones that make that decision on the 14-day quarantine which seems like that's the most logical step of the plan that should be on our plan for the Governor's office because we have some people who feel comfortable with bringing people back and then you have other people that don't feel comfortable bringing people back. Then, if you learn something new and change something the next time it happens in another department, that could raise union issues and all kinds of things.

The whole thing is to get something that is a hard copy and consistent plan that we can easily follow and keep everybody safe.

That's what went on yesterday and Tuesday night. We're just hoping and praying that no one else came in contact with this person who is sick.

MR. FIELD: Can I ask if anybody

received calls - from the storm a couple of weeks ago? I get a call from a lady on Patroon and evidently a tree fell on her house and it is still on the house with a hole in the roof. I went down there and I looked at it and it's a horrible site. It's on a cul-de-sac -

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MR. GREEN: Whose tree is it? Is it a Town tree?

MR. FIELD: No, it's just a tree that fell on the house.

MR. GREEN: We have nothing to do with that.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: If it's her tree, she's got to call her insurance company.

That's her tree on her property and she has to call her insurance company.

We did get calls during the storm about things like the traffic isn't going through. There's a wire down and there's trees or branches on it. Our people are not allowed to go near those until National Grid does their work. They have to remove the wires and do all of that stuff. Even if it stops traffic, or people have to go another route, or they can't

get out - we can't touch those wires. That is something that people don't understand. They just want to be able to get out. Obviously, if they have an emergency they should dial 911. The fact is, there's nothing we can do.

MR. FIELD: Did you get calls from Laurel Drive there - off of Osborne Road.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Yes.

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MR. FIELD: They were blocked in there and I guess they couldn't get out for three days.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: We did and we contacted National Grid. That's what we do. We go back and forth with National Grid.

One of the things that came out of that -- for the Capital Plan we are going to need a new generator for this building and then through the years each building should be upgraded for that because the storms are coming all the time now. National Grid was working around the clock and that was a real tough one. We got hit hard. We were one of the areas that got hit the hardest with a number of wires down and people out of power and things like that. We get calls and luckily we

were able to get calls. We had no power except downstairs where we had the temporary generator. The other one was kicking, but we had the temporary one there just in case. The phone was working. So, we were able to answer people's calls and get back and forth that way with National Grid and all of that. They do send updates continually. National Grid does send all of that information. They work on that.

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If this was the middle of winter and it was freezing cold and people that didn't have heat and things like that, there's an emergency management team for the Town and I meet them over at Public Ops and there's an emergency operation center and the police are there. Fire is there and volunteer fire and EMS. Mike is there for a good portion of the time. We are there until everything is over.

One of the longest times we were there - I think it was two or three days and that was that big ice storm back in 2008, or whatever. We had a ton of people out of power. We have lists of vulnerable seniors that maybe are alone and they need medication and they can't

go anywhere and if they have no power, we have to look at the shelters.

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There are certain shelters that are set up throughout the Town. You have some around here. You have usually have one set up at the Village of Colonie, if need be. I think we set up Public Ops one time. It's whatever we have to do to keep people warm and safe.

MR. FIELD: What department got the most calls?

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Highway. They were going as fast as they could and they are going around Town with the trucks and the clippers and people are supposed to -- it's typically supposed to be a certain size - the limbs and things like that are supposed to be a certain size. They have something like a rope or something to keep them together. They have been taking as much as they can. They can't take a whole tree. They can't do that. They have been working and I think after the storm in order to get out there I think the estimated time was at least two weeks to get through the Town, if not more. That's how much was down.

MR. FIELD: Are the leaf - the bags still on the same schedule?

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MR. KELSEY: No, that is completely derailed.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: There's only so many people and so many trucks. So, they have to - the first priority was the cleanup from the storm because cars could run over and people could trip. They just have to get rid of that. I don't know how many chippers they have, but I know they were getting the chippers to grind it up. Highway has been trying to update their site.

She wants to put up another notice but she doesn't want to mix it with the yard waste because the schedules mixed gets mixed up. The fact is that there's just a ton of leaves in the bags. It's not an easy task. There covering 57 square miles and it's really tough. In Loudonville what happens a lot is because the lots are so large and there's lots of trees, there's tons and tons of bags at one house. Sometimes they will have landscapers, but they don't take them away. They leave them there for the Town to pick up and as soon as

the truck is filled up, they've got to go to one of the sites to dump the truck. They can't keep going if it's filled up. That's why Newtonville and Loudonville got hit so hard with the storm because it's just loaded with trees - older trees and they just came down. They're working very hard.

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MR. KELSEY: Melissa just brought up a good point. We are talking about the seasonals that we have been hiring the past couple years because we cut that back from Covid.

MS. JEFFERS: I remember talking to Jack about paving question that a resident had and he said he was down seasonals and a couple part-timers and they are doing the best that they can. I can't imagine how much the storm probably impacted that.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: It didn't help, that's for sure. Part of not having the seasonals - we didn't have seasonals for the summer programs, the camp and pool and the leaf pickup. We may have a few, but not like we normally have. That's because the money.

MR. KELSEY: David, I texted Chreit to

get your answer on the budget for the blower. It was a \$35,000-line in his operating budget. His comment was that a new blower is about \$50,000, plus installation. So, this repair didn't make sense.

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SUPERVISOR MAHAN: So, that's why he didn't follow up.

I know the school districts have a case here and there.

MR. KELSEY: Has South Colonie had one?

MS. PENN: We have had a few here and
there.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: They have one on my granddaughter' school bus. So, she's also in quarantine for 14 days.

MS. PENN: The school bus ones generally impact more than one school because they share runs.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: I'm not sure if it was one of the students, or could have been the bus driver because he hasn't been there since Friday.

MS. PENN: We had a similar situation with the bus driver where there was multiple rounds.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Jack, just a quick question. Te calls from the Bilding Dpartment to Highway - were they able to get moved over?

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: We worked on the phone tree today. So, anybody who calls into Building Department can get into anybody's voicemail and leave a message. We've had a problem with people requesting inspections and we corrected that issue this afternoon. We updated the message on the thing to just say leave a message. Everybody's checking their voicemail.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Julie's office and my office - we are the ones who get hit with that. We did find out that Lisa who works in Building -

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yes, she can come in.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: She can come in. She
was not there, so she wasn't exposed. That
will really help with the phones.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Also, I was thinking because we want to be able to move plans - move paper back and forth, she will be able to coordinate that within the office.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Yes, she can coordinate that and the courier or somebody that delivers it can just leave it on a doorstep and they can get some work done at home.

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: I talked a little bit to Wayne today. I haven't talked to him since I found out about the quarantine.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: I told you about the next Zoning Board which is November 5th - if everything is done for that, they will be back right around that time.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: The release date is the fifth.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: I'm hoping that's all done because otherwise we'll have to cancel.

MR. FIELD: How long does it take now to get a building permit for a building lot from start to finish?

MR. GREEN: It depends upon how quickly the contractor cooperates, really.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: I'm not 100% sure because I know with Covid it did back up some things in Building and then we had also the Building Manager who is out for surgery. We

were down one person. Is it about three weeks now.

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: Once we have all the plans, it doesn't take long at all. A lot of times you get plans in and then you've got to have them revised. It depends upon how responsive the resident is or the developer is. For example on the subdivision it usually doesn't take more than a week or two because we just have to inspect the plants. A lot of those plans are repetitive so it's not as long.

For an individual who's never done this before or a new contractor or someone who just wants to try to skirt the system, it takes a lot longer.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: They would miss a whole step that they have to do.

MR. FIELD: There's a 1/2 acre lot on Mill Road. It's a couple doors away from the entranceway to the Mill Road Golf Course, coming back toward Route 7.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Does someone have a permit request in?

MR. FIELD: It's contingent upon getting

the permit. It's been a building lot for about 35 years.

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SUPERVISOR MAHAN: I talked to you guys and there's a couple questions on the budget and those were all answered.

Does anybody else have a question about the budget?

MR. KELSEY: I haven't heard very much.

I've had no public phone calls. There are

some minor changes. We came across them

today. There were transpositions.

In Senior Resources we had the Senior Resource Specialist and it should have been the Caseworker.

Chris Cary had another resignation in her office. So, I worked with her to tweak that because she's going to fill a caseworker; now versus next July. So, she's going to wait with her specialist. There are no number changes.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: I haven't received any calls.

MR. KELSEY: We usually have a few resident phone calls on it but like I said, you cut a million three out of sales tax income, it's a 2% impact on the residents

with a two dollar a month overall impact for everything. It's difficult to find something to complain about, I guess.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: The actual property increase is how much?

MR. GREEN: In cents.

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MR. KELSEY: In cents? I don't remember.

I've had so many numbers in front of me

today. I can't remember. I think it was six

cents or seven cents per thousand.

MR. GREEN: About \$20 for an average household.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: What I remember the last time, it was six cents.

MR. KELSEY: Actually Chreit came back and his increase will be down a few more fractional cents because he had to tweak somebody that resulted in a change. It doesn't impact very much.

MR. GREEN: Jack, these aren't horrible. I'm looking at the data on Homestead Avenue.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: It is consistent with the last one we did. It's not horrible. These people keep insisting that we're doing it differently or we're doing it at the wrong

time or whatever they can come up with to say -

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SUPERVISOR MAHAN: What is this?

MR. GREEN: This is the amount of cars that are traveling on Homestead. On average we did 12 days with the data. We can throw out the last one because it was just picked up in the mornings. So, it was 11 days of data and it looks like we averaged just over 300 vehicles going from Fiddlers Lane to Route 9. If we reverse it, and go from Route 9 to to Fiddlers, it's slightly higher; about 325, on average. It's about 625 cars on that road during the day. Those are 625 trips that are being made. I guess that's a lot - 625. If you break it down by the hour -

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Well, it is broken down by the hour, or by the speed.

MR. KELSEY: Jack, with school not being in session, does that impact it much?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: That's what they pulled.

MR. KELSEY: I'm just wondering - is that something that would impact it significantly?

1 MR. CUNNINGHAM: We have all these 2 dates -3 MR. GREEN: There's something wrong with these dates. We did this in September. These 4 5 are all in August. 6 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I just noticed that. 7 This is what he handed me today. 8 MR. GREEN: There's something wrong with 9 this because we specifically did this -- I 10 didn't even look at the date until just now. 11 I just noticed it was the 10th of the month 12 through the 22nd. I think this should all be 13 9/10 through 9/22. There something wrong with 1 4 this. 15 MR. CUNNINGHAM: We will do it over 16 again. MR. GREEN: No - we didn't do it in 17 18 August. 19 SUPERVISOR MAHAN: They may have done 20 one then, too. 21 MR. GREEN: We did this in September. 2.2 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Let me follow up with 23 them. 24 MR. GREEN: We specifically said we 25 wanted to wait until school came back. I know

we did.

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: Well, we will do another one.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Just another couple clarifications because there's a lot of junk that people put on this website and stuff.

There is stuff out there about the Pine Bush cutting down trees and things like that. The Pine Bush - they have a management plan. They have to manage all the wooded areas. They have to be thinned out, in order for things to grow properly. It's all in their plan and they do a great job of managing all of it. The stuff about people cutting trees in the Pine Bush and stuff - there are questions they should ask the Pine Bush management.

The other thing is: These rumors about we don't know what we are doing when we are paving. We paved Latham Ridge Road and now we are ripping it all up. National Grid discovered that there were a couple houses — at least one house that was — there was a line there that was put in years and years ago when the house was built and they had discovered that line was too close to the house.

Was it one house that was affected, or two?

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: There's a couple of houses. This all goes back to that house in Salem that blew up a couple of years ago.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: It's a dangerous situation. They discovered this and they explained to us. So, they had to repair that. It's their job to work with the neighbors and everything, which they did. You can't dig up the line without having to disrupt the road that was paved. What can we do? We're not going to tell National Grid not to fix the line. We're going to get it fixed. I want to let them know that we appreciate them telling us what they're doing but yes, we did pave the road and unfortunately these things happen.

It's just like if you pave a road and you get a water break. You have to fix the water break. So, you have to get under the road. So, unfortunately they have to do that. The Highway Department knows what they are doing with the paving. They do it every year.

They've been doing the paving plan for 12

years straight. They have all their timing and all their plans in place.

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October and beginning of November -- if you can keep going and there are still funds to do that, they work on that - the contractors.

When it ends, it opens up back up again in the spring and we have to wait for the asphalt companies to open up at the end of April.

It's at the end of April, Jack?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: As soon as it starts to warm up.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Once they open up, then we can start the plan again. Again, it gets a little irritating when they bash these guys and they know their jobs and they're doing them well.

Those are just a couple of the clarifications.

MR. KELSEY: Then you have stupid people like me that decide to change to natural gas after their street was paved.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: And he knew he was getting his road paved.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: If anybody has

questions about any of those things - if you ask questions, there are people that can answer all those questions and I think they're doing a great job.

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: I will pass that along.

I went on an interesting tour today. Mike Crisafulli built that warehouse across the street from our office at Chris's Coffee. So, I went over to see the building. They do coffee processing and they have these huge furnaces. It was really a fascinating operation. He explained the whole thing. This guy just started this out of nowhere. He imports these beautiful Italian coffee machines that you can buy for \$3,800. It's really something that you want to go take a tour of some time. It's really amazing. He does all of the business for Green Mountain Coffee and all these other coffee companies. It's all coming out of his shop.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: Precision Valve, the one on Mustang Drive - when they moved here from Clifton Park - talk about a fascinating industry - that fellow Tony Hines who owns that - he started it in his garage. I think

it was actually in Latham or somewhere close

Watervliet or Latham. He started that in

his garage. That's a fascinating tour.

Phillips is another one. There has been some really neat manufacturing companies. PVA is the ones that manufactured ventilators that were needed.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Phillips is over on Old Niskayuna and they manufacture most of the MRIs for the whole world. They've been adding on the last few years.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN: It's the industrial part of old Niskayuna that is set back.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: It backs up to the airport. It's pretty amazing some of the stuff. Plug Power is moving into the rest of that building across the street from my office.

(Whereas the above entitled proceeding was concluded at 6:43 PM)

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CERTIFICATION I, NANCY L. STRANG, Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of New York, hereby CERTIFIES that the record taken by me at the time and place noted in the heading hereof is a true and accurate transcript of same, to the best of my ability and belief. Date:\_\_\_\_\_ Nancy L. Strang Legal Transcription 2420 Troy Schenectady Road Niskayuna, NY 12309 1 8