1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY  PLANNING BOARD  IN THE MATTER OF: SOUTH SEASIDE PARK HOMEOWNERS ADDITION PETITION HEARING  Pinewald Keswick Road BAYTIS P.M. September 6, 2018  B E F O R E: Bobert Winward, Chairman.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	NAME OF WITNESS  JAMES FILLCOMER  BORD AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN	INDEX PAGE 24 33 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34	
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Robert Winward, Chairman. John A. Bacchione, Councilman John A. Bacchione, Councilman Wick Mackres, Member Richard.callahan, Member Richard.callahan, Member Brian Gingith, Member Jack Wiegartner, Member	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	NUMBER P-1 P-2 P-3 P-4	DESCRIPTION  Display of council meeting times  Minutes and meeting notices from Berkeley Township and Seaside Park  Display of photographs Department of Education Spreadsheet	PAGE 10 12 13 22
21 22 23 24 25	LINDA SULLTVAN-HILL & ASSOCIATES  CART FOR FAREVIEW DRIFES  JACKSON 833-0001  0001	21 22 23 24 25	P-5 P-6	spreadsheet Police report dated 6/27/10 Photographs	41 50

2 1 2 APPEARANCES: 3 4 5 6 SURMAN & MICHELINI, ESQS. 7 8 9 10 11 12 ALSO PRESENT: 13 Kelly Hugg, Secretary James Oris, Planner Stuart Wiser, Planner 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

23

24

25

MR. WINWARD: South Seaside Park. If 2 everybody could take their seat, we'd like to get started. I'd like to get started.

We're going to have a two-hour time limit. And we're going to have anybody that was not a petitioner can come up, has the right to come up and speak first that didn't sign the petition. If there's time after that, then we'll permit that. Our board attorney, Mr. McGuckin, has

10 some additional instructions. And I believe the 11 South Seaside Park attorney, Mr. Michelini, would 12 like to say a quick couple words.

MR. McGUCKIN: Thank you, Mr. 14 Chairman. Yeah, I did have discussions with 15 Mr. Michelini this week regarding tonight's 16 proceedings. And I advised him that, in our 17 opinion, the members of the public who would be 18 allowed to speak tonight would be those who are not 19 his clients.

20 The petitioners had numerous months 21 to present their case and testimony and presented a 22 tremendous amount of testimony. So, if there's 23 anyone here's who's a signer of the petition, after 24 anyone else has spoken, then we'll see what time it 25 is, but the board has a two-hour limit with respect

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1 to these proceedings. Doesn't mean we're not --
                                                                1 essentially ruled that Mr. Wiser would go last and
2 we're coming back. But for purposes of this
                                                                  my experts would go before that.
 3 evening, it would be for testimony of people who
                                                                                 We then also discussed and touched on
 4 have not signed the petition and are members of the
                                                                4 briefly, that there were members of the petition
 5 public.
                                                                 signers who also wanted to speak. And my
                  I believe Mr. Michelini wanted to put
                                                                6 understanding is that the nonpetition signers will
 6
   something on the record.
7
                                                                7 go, as a result of our discussion, over my
8
                  MR. MICHELINI: Just briefly.
                                                                8 objection, that the nonpetition signers would go
9 Joseph Michelini for the petition signers. I did
                                                                9 first and then the petition signers that have
10 communicate with Mr. McGuckin this week. At the
                                                               10 something to say -- and I will make sure that my
11 last hearing, I understood that members of the
                                                               11 clients, to the extent that I'm able, because
12 public would have the opportunity to speak. And
                                                               12 there's hundreds of them, so it's hard to get to
13 that my clients, as petition signers, would also
                                                               13 know every one of them -- but to the extent that I'm
14 have an opportunity but that we would discuss
                                                               14 able, I've advised them to keep their comments brief
15 parameters around that, because we already had an
                                                               15 for the sake of moving this right along.
16 opportunity. But I represent several hundred
                                                               16
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: Well, let's get
                                                               17 through the non --
17 people. And some of them have only been here
18 through me each meeting. They haven't been here
                                                               18
                                                                                 MR. MICHELINI: Right.
19 physically. And some of them do want to speak. So,
                                                               19
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: -- the people who are
20 I understand, essentially, what is a ruling that has
                                                               20 not your clients, let's get though that and see
21 come from Mr. McGuckin that the nonpetition signers
                                                               21 where we're at.
22 will speak first. And then, after that, if there's
                                                               22
                                                                                 MR. MICHELINI: All right. Very
23 time tonight, the petition signers who wish to
                                                               23 good. Thank you.
                                                               24
24 speak, will speak. I understand there's about 75 or
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: Thank you.
25 80 people here from South Seaside Park. Some of
                                                               25
                                                                                 MR. CAMMARATO: Just so I understand,
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8

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1 them are petition signers, some of them are not.
2 I'm not sure of the breakdown. Suffice it, all the
 3 petition signers will wait until the nonpetition
 4 signers have spoken first.
                  MR. McGUCKIN: Well, I think the
 6 only -- and perhaps we didn't quite finalize this.
 7 My understanding was that the public was going to go
8 and then the petitioners would have an opportunity
 9 to present their final, and I think we discussed
10 this as well, your final position and final
11 arguments, rebuttal testimony. And I understood
12 that to mean any additional live testimony you
13 wanted to present from your clients, petition
14 signers. I didn't quite understand that you meant
15 this evening or before you submitted, you prepared
16 and submitted your rebuttal testimony, which I
17 thought was going to be when we would -- setting
18 another meeting to establish that.
                  MR. MICHELINI: Yeah. Actually, I
20 think what we talked about at the last meeting is my
21 rebuttal -- we talked about rebuttal testimony in
22 terms of expert witnesses. And we were talking
23 about I was objecting to Mr. Wiser going last. And
24 I was saying my rebuttal testimony of experts should
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25 be able to go after him. And the rule -- the board

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1 what you're saying is that anyone who signed the
   petition --
                  (Off the record.)
 3
                  MR. WINWARD: As far as the procedure
 5 is, if you want to speak, you come to the mike and
 6 you're a nonpetitioner, state that you're a
 7 nonpetitioner, and spell your name for the court
 8 reporter who has to type every word you say. So,
   you got to have respect for the person. It's a very
10 hard job. Most of us could not do that.
11
                  MR. CAMMARATO: I just want to make
12 sure I understand --
13
                  MR. WINWARD: Sit down.
14
                  MR. CAMMARATO: No.
15
                  MR. WINWARD: Sit down, please. We
16 got to have a procedure here.
17
                  I believe you're a petition signer.
18
                  MR. FULCOMER: No.
19
                  MR. WINWARD: You aren't?
20
                  MR. FULCOMER: Check the record.
21
                  MR. McGUCKIN: You're not a signer,
22 you're under --
23
                  MR. FULCOMER: I'm under oath.
24
                  MR. WINWARD: You're under oath.
```

25 Okay.

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1
                  MR. FULCOMER: Or will be under oath.
2
                  MR. WINWARD: State your name for the
 3 record.
                  MR. FULCOMER: Jim Fulcomer, 356
 4
 5 Roberts Avenue, Seaside Park, zip code of
   Berkeley Township.
 6
 7
                  There are several points I wish to
 8
   make.
9
                  MR. McGUCKIN: I'm sorry. Swear him
10 in.
11
   JAMES FULCOMER, sworn.
12
                  MR. FULCOMER: Okay. There are a
13 number points I'd like to make, which have not been
   made before. And also certain reaction to some
   comments made by board members and the attorney.
16
                  First thing I'd like to mention is
17 that the times at which Berkeley council meetings
18 start are a serious barrier to the right of working
19 South Seaside Park homeowners to participate fully
20 in council meetings. However, the times when the
21 Seaside Park council meetings start are much better
22 for South Seaside Park homeowners. I'd like to
23 demonstrate that to you with a display that I put
24 together, which you can pass among yourselves.
25
                  MR. McGUCKIN: We're going to have to
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1 the rush hour. On the other hand, the regular 3 council meetings in Seaside Park are at seven o'clock. So, if I get out of work at five, and I come from Elizabeth, for example, where I used to work, I can make those meetings. And I can even have supper. Now, that's a big difference. And, of course, many of our -- many of our people don't actually live in South Seaside Park year-round. 10 They constitute the majority of the homeowners. So, 11 you're pretty much kicking out these people from the 12 proceedings on a regular basis, or making it very 13 difficult for them, which shouldn't happen. But in 14 Seaside Park, which is much closer, they start their meetings at seven o'clock, big difference. 16 All right. Now, the other thing, of 17 course, very important, council meetings are when you hold your budgets. Now, starting in 2015, the 19 hearings on the budget in Berkeley Township have 20 been at six p.m., 9:30 in the morning, ten o'clock 21 in the morning, six p.m., ten o'clock in the 22 morning, eleven o'clock in the morning, six o'clock 23 at night and 5:30 at night. All these times are

10

17

25 Park. I think you'd have to realize that.

1 mark that. MR. FULCOMER: Yes. You want to mark 2 3 it now or later? 4 (The Display of council meeting times 5 was marked as P-1 for identification.) MR. FULCOMER: All right. Ever since 6 7 after the petitioners filed their petition, the municipal council has been holding its meetings --Since, after the petitioners filed 10 their petition, the following four years the council 11 meetings have started at six p.m. Now, this is very 12 difficult for people who work up north and in other 13 areas who travel an hour and a half, two hours or 14 more away from Berkeley Township. They simply, if 15 they get out of work at five o'clock, cannot make 16 the council meetings on time. That was not a 17 problem when it was seven o'clock. Assuming they 18 didn't eat supper, they could make it by seven. I 19 used to, for example, not only teach but I also 20 tutored in Elizabeth. And by the time I got out, it 21 took me an hour and a half to get here. If the 22 meetings were at seven, I can make it, no problem. 23 I might not eat supper, but I can make it. But six 24 o'clock, out of the question. You cannot do that

25 during the rush hour. And six o'clock is part of

I realize that some people will say, 1 2 as one person on this body once said when I complained about this, well, you're retired. I'm 4 retired. But when I worked, I couldn't go to those 5 council meetings. And I'll tell you something else. 6 The people who are working now are supporting the people who receive social security. So, I think those who work should be given the same respect as 9 those who are retired. 10 Now, in Seaside Park, their public

24 extremely inconvenient for people of South Seaside

11 hearings on the budget and on amendments to the 12 budget are all at seven p.m. So, just about 13 everybody in South Seaside Park who works during the 14 day can make those meetings and even have, in many cases, supper before they go. So, I hand this in. 16 Here you are.

Now, I very carefully documented 18 these items. I have here the minutes and meeting 19 notices that document all those times from both Berkeley Township and Seaside Park. And I didn't go 21 to the internet for it. I made sure that I picked 22 them up in the municipal clerk's office. All right.

23 (The Minutes and meeting notices from 24 Berkeley Township and Seaside Park was marked as P-2 25 for identification.)

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16

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1
                  MR. FULCOMER: Now, a second point I
                                                                1 list of the exhibits?
2 would like to make is that since the start of these
                                                                                 MR. FULCOMER: I don't think -- I
 3 board meetings, over four years ago, there were
                                                                3 don't remember whether I submitted a --
 4 more -- there were a large number of eyesores in
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: There was a question
 5 South Seaside Park that easily could be remedied.
                                                                 whether you were an expert. You sent a letter to
 6 But still, over four years later, are not corrected.
                                                                  the 9th district.
                                                                6
 7 And they're not that expensive to correct. And I
                                                                7
                                                                                 MR. FULCOMER: I spoke on state aid.
 8 just want to show some of them to you so you can
                                                                  And I volunteered to speak on state aid.
9 appreciate this. Maybe it's the distance and the
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: The point is, you
10 administrative -- people who work for the
                                                               10 testified already as part of the petitioner's case.
11 administration find it relatively inconvenient to go
                                                               11 I understand you didn't sign the petition.
12 to South Seaside Park and check these things out.
                                                               12
                                                                                 MR. FULCOMER: I did not sign the
13 But it's good to see what you may have seen four
                                                               13 petition.
                                                               14
14 years ago, or more. And see what they're like now.
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: You were called as a
15 I'll have to mark it.
                                                               15 witness in the petitioner's case, that's what I'm
16
                  (The Display of photographs was
                                                               16 trying to confirm. And my recollection --
17 marked as P-3 for identification.)
                                                               17
                                                                                 MR. FULCOMER: Yes.
18
                  MR. FULCOMER: In this display, on
                                                               18
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: -- if that's the
19 the left-hand side, you can see photos taken over
                                                               19 case --
                                                               20
20 four years ago on West Central Avenue. They are
                                                                                 MR. FULCOMER: That is true.
21 photos of street signs that haven't been painted
                                                               21
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: -- and, therefore, it
22 perhaps since the days that the railroad used to be
                                                               22 would seem it would be inappropriate for you to
23 in South Seaside Park, they're in such bad
                                                               23 testify again at this time. You've already had the
24 condition. And when you take a look at them, you
                                                               24 chance to testify in this matter.
25 wonder why they're still there.
                                                               25
                                                                                 MR. FULCOMER: No, if I had a chance
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14

1 MR. McGUCKIN: Excuse me, Mr. 2 Fulcomer. 3 MR. FULCOMER: Yes. 4 MR. McGUCKIN: I'm sorry, I don't 5 mean to interrupt. But I just want to -- looking 6 through my notes, you said you're not a signer of 7 the petition. I recall that. Because you said that the last time you testified. 9 MR. FULCOMER: That is correct. MR. McGUCKIN: But you've already 10 11 testified in this matter, it seems. 12 MR. FULCOMER: No. 13 MR. McGUCKIN: Yes, you have. 14 MR. FULCOMER: I made a comment on 15 state aid. I'm not a signer of the petition. MR. McGUCKIN: I didn't --16 17 MR. FULCOMER: You can't change the 18 rules in the middle. MR. McGUCKIN: Mr. Fulcomer, did you, 20 in fact, testify before this proceeding, before this 21 board, in fact, introduced your CV, your curriculum 22 vitae? 23 MR. FULCOMER: Introduced what? MR. McGUCKIN: Exhibit A-55, is that 25 Mr. Fulcomer's curriculum vitae? Do you have the

1 to testify, I would have said some of the things
2 that I've said already, which I have not done so. I
3 merely volunteered to correct a mistake that had
4 been made, which I felt as a good citizen I should

5 do. Okay. And nobody seemed to object. And you
 6 didn't object either.
 7 MR. McGUCKIN: I didn't object to --

8 MR. FULCOMER: No.
9 MR. MCGUCKIN: -- your testimony

10 because you were offered as a witness by the

11 petitioners. Mr. Michelini is the one who called 12 you as a witness.

13 MR. MICHELINI: May I be heard

14 briefly?

15 MR. McGUCKIN: Do you represent him,

16 Mr. Michelini?

17 MR. MICHELINI: Only in the -- only

18 in the -- for the purpose of calling him as a

19 witness on the education issue. I only called him 20 for a very limited purpose. I didn't call him for

21 any other purpose. It was only to address state 22 aid, because that issue had been raised. And

23 Mr. Fulcomer had some experience with that. I would

24 think that the board would want to hear as a member

25 of the public all of his comments and would want to

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1 accommodate his testimony as a citizen of
                                                                1 is correct, he represents the persons who signed the
2 South Seaside Park with regard to any other matter.
                                                                   petition.
 3 I think it's reasonable. I think the board wants to
                                                                                 MR. MICHELINI: That's correct.
                                                                3
 4 hear that from any of the citizens. I only called
                                                                4
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: And Mr. Fulcomer has
 5 him for a very limited purpose within my case. Yes,
                                                                5 said under oath, and I certainly believe him, that
 6 I did call him, but for a very limited purpose, and
                                                                6 he did not sign the petition. In fact, that's what
7 his testimony was very short. I didn't open him up
                                                                7 he testified when he testified three years ago.
8 to talk about any other matter. So, I would say
                                                                8 That he did not sign the petition because, I recall,
9 it's appropriate to say, now, he shouldn't talk
                                                                   he was a member of the board of ed. I believe at the
10 about state aid, because he did that before, but in
                                                               10 time or something like that.
11 terms of anything else. I would think that the board
                                                                                 MR. MICHELINI: And I concur with Mr.
                                                               11
12 would welcome and want to hear his comments as they
                                                               12 Wiser. It's the registered voters that sign the
13 would any other member of the public.
                                                               13 petition, according to the statute.
                  MR. McGUCKIN: I'm sure they might.
14
                                                               14
                                                                                 MR. FULCOMER: Mr. Michelini, however
15 It's just a question of the timing, that's all,
                                                               15 excellent he may be, does not represent me.
16 whether he should go now or after the conclusion of
                                                               16
                                                                                 MR. MACKRES: Okay. So, the South
17 other members of the public who have not yet been
                                                               17 Seaside ---
18 called as a witness.
                                                               18
                                                                                 MR. FULCOMER: May I continue?
19
                  MR. MICHELINI: He's already started.
                                                               19
                                                                                 MR. MACKRES: -- Park de-annexation
                  MR. McGUCKIN: Well, it's up to the
                                                               20 is based on the registered voters, who --
20
21 board. It's not just because he started.
                                                               21
                                                                                 VOICE: Don't we have two hours to
                  MR. WINWARD: I just want to make
                                                               22 speak?
23 sure you don't take up the whole two hours.
                                                               23
                                                                                 MR. MACKRES: -- if they do that,
                  MR. FULCOMER: No, I'll try not to.
24
                                                               24 then the people who are property owners don't have
25
                  MR. WINWARD: I want to make sure we
                                                               25 their voice?
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18

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1 have to spread this out fairly so people --
                  MR. FULCOMER: Right. It's just
2
 3 there are facts that you should be aware of, which
 4 you may not be aware of.
 5
                  MR. MACKRES: Mr. McGuckin, I have a
 6 point of order here. The petitioners, when they
 7 sign, did they sign as a voting resident or are they
 8 signing as a block for their property?
                  MR. McGUCKIN: The petitioner --
9
10
                  MR. MACKRES: So, if a spouse or
11 whoever owns a percentage of that property, do they
12 sign for the whole entire property as a single
13 voice?
14
                  MR. McGUCKIN: The answer to that
15 would be no. The property owner is the one who
16 signs the petition, as I recall. Any property owner
17 may sign it.
18
                  MR. WISER: If I may, the -- it's the
19 percentage of the registered voters that triggers
20 the operation of the petition.
21
                  MR. McGUCKIN: So, the signature
22 number is based on the number of registered voters,
23 however, a spouse signing the petition does not mean
24 a person who's not -- who didn't sign it does not
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25 have the right to speak about it. So, Mr. Michelini

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1
                  MR. McGUCKIN: I believe --
 2
                  MR. MACKRES: If they're not voters
 3 in town or residents in town, but they own the
   properties?
 5
                  MR. McGUCKIN: Anyone can speak
 6 before, before the board on this issue. You don't
   have to be a resident of either town, quite frankly,
   number one.
 8
                  Number two, the question for
10 tonight's purposes was, if you're a petitioner, or
11 represented by Mr. Michelini, you've already had the
12 opportunity to present your case. In this case, he
13 was called as a witness, but it was on a specific
14 issue. It's for the board to decide if you think
15 it's appropriate for him to go further now or on the
16 petitioner's rebuttal case, which they intend to
17 present.
18
                  MR. MACKRES: All right. Thank you.
19
                  MR. McGUCKIN: Mr. Chairman, whatever
20 the board would decide.
21
                  MR. FULCOMER: May I proceed?
22
                  MR. WINWARD: How long do you
23 anticipate your testimony?
                  MR. FULCOMER: As soon as I can get
24
25 it over.
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1 MR. WINWARD: Okay. 2 MR. FULCOMER: And the less 3 interruptions, the faster. Okay. The left side shows what West Central 4 5 Avenue is like with the signs. They're very rusty 6 and falling apart, four years ago, over four years 7 ago. And then the right side photograph that I 8 took -- not I took -- my wife took, a couple days 9 ago, yesterday, actually, you will see that they are 10 the same or worse. And it's very easy to remedy the 11 problem. Get rid of them, paint them, repair them, 12 whatever. But it shouldn't be a junkyard of 13 municipal waste. 14 Underneath, in the center, you can 15 see the entrance to Seaside Park and the entrance to 16 South Seaside Park. The entrance to Seaside Park is 17 much more impressive and really nice. The entrance 18 to South Seaside Park really looks like a junkyard. 19 At the bottom, there are pictures of three unpainted 20 signs on Bayview Avenue, which can very easily be 21 painted, were not painted as they should have been 22 four years, over four years ago. And I'm just

Now, sometimes we had problems with 2 emergency vehicles. And I don't recall this being 3 mentioned. But emergency vehicles from the mainland 4 cannot get to South Seaside Park quickly sometimes, because of construction on the bridge and because 6 the bridge is opened for sailing vessels frequently. I would point out that, on occasion, we've had to go north to a bridge far north of South Seaside Park because the bridge was closed. 9 Now, one thing that you as board

10 11 members should appreciate very much, is that if 12 South Seaside Park left Berkeley Township, the 13 township no longer would spend hundreds of thousands 14 of dollars analyzing and fighting de-annexation of 15 South Seaside Park. Because I predict that even if 16 we failed with this de-annexation effort, it would 17 happen again. It happened years ago. We won in 18 court. And I would say, why go through this over 19 and over again when you would be much better off 20 saving the money.

21 Now, a board member asked the 22 question, if you want to be near the municipal 23 building, why not buy a house within a block of the 24 municipal building. The answer is, we bought our 25 homes in South Seaside Park because we wanted to be

22

24

1 raised the issue of my presentation on state aid. 2 And I just, the board attorney seemed to say that 3 hundreds of school districts do not receive state 4 aid. Now, that is not the case at least during the 5 last five years. And I have documents here to prove 6 it.

23 saying that the progress that should have been made

All right. Now, the board attorney

24 in light of these hearings has not been made.

MR. McGUCKIN: I never said that hundreds of districts don't receive state aid.

MR. FULCOMER: Well, good.

10 MR. McGUCKIN: I know that's not the

11 case.

7

9

25

12 MR. FULCOMER: Check the transcript. 13 That's the impression I got, and I could be 14 mistaken. That's why I said seemed to say.

15 MR. McGUCKIN: Okay.

16 MR. FULCOMER: All right. So, I'm 17 just going to hand in these documents, to indicate 18 that that is not the case.

19 MR. McGUCKIN: So, that will be P? 20 (The Department of Education 2015/16 21 state aid spreadsheet state aid was marked as P-4 22 for identification.)

23 MR. FULCOMER: And the documents also

24 indicate an increase in state aid to

25 Berkeley Township school year every single year.

1 able to walk to the ocean and to Barnegat Bay from 2 our homes. This municipal building is not near the

3 bay and not near the ocean. Also, there are no

4 homes within a block of the Berkeley municipal

5 building. And it is illegal to build a home within

6 a block of this building because Pineland

regulations outlaw the building of such homes.

Now, there was one item which I quite

9 frankly found a little offensive, because it

10 referred to race in the administrator's report. The

11 administrator reports complained that South Seaside

12 Park is mostly white. But so is mainland

13 Berkeley Township mostly white. Maybe the

14 percentage isn't as high, but it's still mostly

15 white. I also point out, even though you may not be

16 aware of this, that both Seaside Park and

17 South Seaside Park have African-American residents,

18 and people of all ethnicities can buy homes in both

19 Seaside Park and South Seaside Park, and they're 20 welcome to do so. So, I think we should keep race

21 out of this. And that is all I have to say.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. WINWARD: Thank you very much.

24 SAMUEL CAMMARATO, sworn.

25 MR. CAMMARATO: I'd like to express

1 my concerns to this board why South Seaside Park's 2 request for de-annexation be denied.

3

17

25

First, I will address South Seaside 4 Park's complaints, as I understand them, which I 5 feel are not valid. And then explain the financial 6 hardship the remaining Berkeley Township residents would have to endure if this de-annexation were approved.

9 Now, their complaints, again, as I 10 understand them, one, the lack of amenities and 11 township services. South Seaside Park's 12 geographical remoteness from the mainland. The 13 belief they have a very small voice in what happens 14 in Berkeley Township. And they claim 60 percent of 15 South Seaside Park residents signed the petition 16 asking to leave Berkeley Township.

Now my response to these complaints. 18 First, the lack of amenities and service issues. 19 The amenities and services provided to South Seaside 20 Park, as outlined in the April 3 de-annexation 21 report, are not less than the mainland, just 22 different. For example, they have the ocean and the 23 beaches. Our town services and maintains these 24 beaches at considerable cost. Even though --

(Audience all talking at once.)

1 mainlands.

Now the geographic remote issue. 3 Towns that encompass a large land mass will always have sections that are remote geographically from other sections of that town. This certainly is not unusual. However, as previously mentioned, the services provided South Seaside Park is what they require, sometimes as noted at additional cost than that of the mainlands. 9

10 Now, the very small voice as to what 11 happens in Berkeley Township. There are various 12 other sections in Berkeley Township such as Holly 13 Park, Glen Cove, Sandpiper Beach and others. And 14 when those sections are compared to the senior 15 population of Holiday City, those less populated 16 sections can also claim a small voice as to what 17 happens in Berkeley Township. My question is, 18 should these other less populated sections of our 19 town also request de-annexation?

20 To continue this small voice issue, 21 let's compare North Jersey to South Jersey. Due to 22 the population of Essex, Hudson, Passaic and Bergen

23 Counties, we in Ocean County also have a small voice 24 as to our needs and wants. If we can persuade

25 60 percent of our Ocean County residents, will that

26

1 MR. McGUCKIN: All right. You got to 2 stop this.

MR. WINWARD: Excuse me. We can't 4 have this. It's taking up a lot of time. Everybody 5 has a right to opinion. We're going to try to hear 6 from as many people as possible. He's bringing up 7 maybe some -- a perspective that maybe not everybody 8 shares. But that's what the purpose of a public 9 forum is. And he should be free to express his 10 point without ridicule and laughter. So, please

11 refrain from that. 12 MR. CAMMARATO: As I said, they have 13 the beaches. They have the ocean and the beaches. 14 And our town services and maintains those beaches at 15 considerable cost, even though those amenities are 16 very convenient to South Seaside Park residents and 17 not so for residents of the mainland. Because of 18 the influx of summer vacationers and visitors to 19 South Seaside Park, more security and safety 20 measures such as police, lifeguards and cleanup 21 workers are required during those months than 22 otherwise necessary on the mainland, again, at 23 considerable cost to our town. Allowable weekly, 24 monthly and summer vacation homes rentals are

25 permitted, where not always the same on the

1 give us the right to secede from New Jersey? 2 The claim that 60 percent of

3 South Seaside Park residents signed the petition to 4 leave Berkeley township issue. Once again, using 5 this very small voice argument, what about the 6 remaining 40 percent of residents that did not sign 7 the petition? Should their rights be trampled on and be forced to leave Berkeley Township?

When the residents of South Seaside 10 Park purchased their properties, they understood the 11 amenities they would enjoy and the services our town 12 would provide them are different than those offered 13 on the mainland. Also, due to the desirous location 14 and remoteness of their properties afforded them, 15 they still chose to purchase their properties in 16 Berkeley Township. If the issues presented by those 17 wishing secession was of such importance to them, my 18 question is, why did these residents purchase their 19 property in Berkeley Township?

20 I should also mention, the only major 21 changes to South Seaside Park, Berkeley Township, 22 since your property was purchased, was a major 23 improvement to a now well managed town, and our 24 Mayor Amato, along with our town council, lowering

25 our property tax rate, which is now one of the

1 lowest in Ocean County. And we haven't even 2 mentioned Berkeley Township's very low crime rate, 3 because of the dedication of our police officers to 4 keep us safe.

5 I'd like to briefly address the 6 de-annexation report submitted by John A. Camera, 7 Berkeley Township administrator, on April the 3rd of 8 this year. Although this report, I feel, confirms 9 my reasons for denial of South Seaside Park's 10 request for de-annexation, I would like to comment 11 on several points made within that report, such as, 12 since our town will still need to service and 13 maintain Pelican Island, any monies thought to be 14 saved by de-annexation of South Seaside Park is 15 simply not true. Our property values may very well 16 decrease with the loss of one of Berkeley Township's 17 premier high income sections due to de-annexation, 18 since the average income throughout Berkeley 19 Township will be much less, therefore, making our 20 town a less desirable town to live or to purchase 21 property in.

Also, I believe the additional taxes 22 23 needed to be raised, due to the loss of 24 South Seaside Park's ratables, will be much higher 25 than the average \$275 per year, as shown in that

1 am enrolled in the New Jersey Senior Tax Freeze 2 Program. I was recently told by them, my senior tax 3 freeze base will be increased by thousands of 4 dollars because they will not allow the additional 5 assessment I received due to the elevation and 6 repair of my flood damaged home. Now, I wonder, and 7 I'm not sure, I wonder if this de-annexation 8 additional taxes will also not be allowed for seniors and their tax base freeze will also be 10 increased.

11 In closing, I would like to share 12 this board with my final thoughts. I wonder if any 13 of the South Seaside Park residents asking to secede 14 from Berkeley Township have any thoughts or concerns 15 as to the rights of not only the 40 percent of 16 South Seaside Park residents that do not wish to 17 secede, and the financial hardship the vast majority 18 of mainland residents will now have to endure if 19 this de-annexation is approved. Perhaps we should 20 just ignore all Berkeley Township residents' rights 21 and financial hardships, just as long as this small 22 group wanting de-annexation has their wants 23 satisfied.

24 I want to thank this board for taking 25 the time to listen to me.

30

1 de-annexation report. And it will be a substantial 2 financial hardship to Berkeley Township residents if de-annexation is permitted.

Now, let me explain. I will use my 5 home as an example of the additional taxes residents 6 who live in waterfront communities will be required 7 to pay. In October of 2012, Superstorm Sandy caused 8 substantial damage to our waterfront communities, 9 including my home. I was required by town ordinance 10 to either elevate and repair the damage or demolish 11 my home. I chose to elevate and repair, like so 12 many other homeowners. When all the repairs were 13 completed and I finally moved back in my home, my 14 home was assessed at almost \$800,000.

15 Recently, I contacted a realtor. And 16 was told, most waterfront homes on the mainland in 17 Berkeley Township are assessed at approximately 18 somewhere between 600,000 and well over 800,000. 19 Using the town's calculation, as shown in the 20 de-annexation report, I will now have to pay about 21 \$1,100 more every year in taxes, and every homeowner 22 living in a waterfront community will be taxed well 23 over the \$275 per year as shown in the de-annexation 24 report.

25

I mention the storm Sandy, because I

MR. WINWARD: You're welcome.

1 2 MR. WISER: Mr. Cammarato, if I could 3 just -- one quick question for the record, sir. Do you live on main -- where do you live, sir? 5

MR. CAMMARATO: I live in Glen Cove.

6 MR. WISER: So, that's on the

7 mainland --

9

10

8 MR. CAMMARATO: Yes.

MR. WISER: -- for the record.

MR. CAMMARATO: Yeah.

11 MR. WISER: Okay. Thank you.

12 MR. CAMMARATO: I was going to say,

if anyone has any questions, I would be more than -have to answer them, but you would have to use your

15 microphone.

16 MR. WINWARD: Okay. And I also want 17 to remind everybody, please refrain from your 18 comments, laughter, guffaws to his opinion. We've 19 been sitting here for four years going through this 20 testimony. And we didn't make any faces at you when

21 you had your testimony done. We didn't give you

22 thumbs down or laugh or anything like that. So, we 23 have to be fair here. There's going to be people

24 who are going to be for this, there are going to be

25 people against it. And we want to hear as many

1 people as possible. Please proceed. 2 MR. RING: Thank you. 3 MR. MICHELINI: Just briefly, I 4 concur with the chairman's comments. I know that I 5 don't represent all you people. But those who 6 signed the petition, please abide by what the chairman said. Thank you. MR. RING: Good evening. My name is 9 Bobby Ring, R-i-n-g. BOBBY RING, sworn. 11 MR. RING: Good evening, my name, as 12 I said, is Bobby Ring, and along with my wife, Pam, 13 I own a home at 119 Surf Drive. I'm a part-time 14 resident, but a full-time taxpayer in Berkeley 15 Township. I spend about 45 percent of my time in 16 Berkeley since my wife and I bought our home here in 17 2012. We plan to eventually retire in South Seaside 18 Park. 19 First, I'd like to thank all of you 20 for your kind attention while you listened to these 21 hearings regarding this application. I realize that 22 you're all volunteers serving our community. And 23 for that, I again say thank you. 24 I've attended approximately 90 25 percent of the 35 planning board meetings and

1 his testimony and get his position on the record. I only wish the board had thought of that -- thought 3 that what he had to say was important as it was to allow the township's CFO to testify as many times as necessary to correct his error laden report. During the course of these 6 7 proceedings, we've heard testimony indicating that members of this board have spoken publicly about these proceedings and actually given warnings to 9 10 other residents that their taxes may go up if this 11 de-annexation application is approved. 12 We've learned of conflicts of 13 interest with professionals representing the 14 planning board and the township. And even learned 15 that the township engineer represents both Berkeley 16 Township and the Borough of Seaside Park. Yet, gave 17 neither party notice of the potential conflict of 18 interest. And we heard the township administrator. 19 Mr. Camera, refer to a group of citizens petitioning 20 its government for a change as a group of elitists. 21 Thanks to the Open Public Records 22 Act, we have learned that there were, apparently, 23 numerous e-mails between township officials and 24 planning board professionals, and even several 25 meetings that included discussion of preparing

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de-annexation proceedings over the last three years and nine months. And I'd to make a couple of comments on the processes that I've observed.

I've recently observed the board exhibit great interest in making sure they have all of the information that they need to make a decision about this application. This included letting the township CFO revise his report, including several additional testimonies, and included the township administrator, Mr. Camera, asking the school superintendent and the school board administrator if they would like to appear before this board and testify in any potential impact to the school district.

I respect the board wanting to hear
all of this information and get all the information
that it needs to make an informed decision. But
then, unfortunately, I'm reminded of the very first
evening that this board heard testimony from the
petitioners some three or four years ago. Members
this board interrupted the testimony of one of
this board interrupted the testimony of one of
the petitioners, stating that they didn't feel it
was necessary to hear what he was testifying to.
And then this board actually voted as to whether or

25 not they wanted to allow him to continue to provide

witnesses for these proceedings. Witnesses were even given annotized copies of transcripts of prior witnesses' testimony, which included notes prepared to help them understand the author's opinion on that testimony. One can only assume for the purpose of influencing their own testimony.

At last month's meeting, this board actually debated limiting public comment on this application. And after nearly four years of testimony, the public finally gets a chance to let you know what we think about this process, and you considered limiting not only who could speak but for how long. I'm pleased that Attorney McGuckin advised you otherwise.

I was also very disappointed in your decision to instruct this public hearing into the process before the professional you've hired makes his report and offers his professional opinion to the board. The public has a right to comment on his recommendations and opinion before you consider them.

22 For the record, I support 23 de-annexation. And in addition to many of the 24 reasons that the petitioners have testified to, I 25 believe a significant reason to support

1 de-annexation is the South Seaside Park community's 2 identification and association with the people, 3 culture and civic organizations of the other beach 4 communities that make up the barrier peninsula. For my fellow township residents who 6 are here tonight concerned that their property taxes 7 may go up if South Seaside Park successfully 8 de-annexes from Berkeley, you should know that the 9 Berkeley Township CFO testified that the increased 10 ratables in the remainder of Berkeley Township would 11 offset the loss of ratables from South Seaside Park 12 within a few years, negating any projected tax 13 increase. More importantly, you should also know 14 that part of the testimony that was offered at these 15 hearings over the last several years was from a 16 certified municipal finance officer, who testified 17 that with the savings from the services that would 18 be no longer required, that Berkeley Township would 19 actually save money following de-annexation. In business, if you have fewer 21 customers and less revenue, then you must reduce 22 your costs and your workforce to reflect those 23 changes in order to balance the books and survive.

1 numerous meetings. Came to township hall for OPRA 2 reports, requests and to speak with officials, 3 obtain police reports. And speak not only before 4 the two boards but also before the mayor and council. 6 As I said, the trip runs 7 approximately 40 to 45 minutes each way. And, quite 8 frankly, it's too far when you have an issue that 9 has to be dealt with. I heard people speak about 10 the -- about, well, why would you buy here, if --11 buy there, if it's so far from where you have to go. 12 Well, the reason is, as I believe people did 13 testify, I personally did not know until the title 14 search was done. And our attorney called and said, 15 the location is not in Seaside Park, it's in 16 Berkeley Township. So, that was how I realized I 17 was moving to Berkeley Township. 18 Another issue, and I believe it has 19 been corrected -- thankfully, I haven't had the 20 chance to encounter it -- I had to apply for a full

21 restraining order. I did have to call the police on 22 June 27 of, back in 2010. The Berkeley police

23 responded. But, sadly, it took them 21 minutes.

24 Now, this is -- this restraining order was obtained

25 due to violence. And it was a very frightening

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2 elimination of positions through attrition. De-annexation would require elected 4 officials to make some tough choices, and it's the 5 citizens' responsibility to hold their elected 6 officials accountable to do so. 7 Thank you very much for your time. 8 MR. WINWARD: Thank you. 9 MS. LUCIANO: Good evening.

1 ways, including the reduction of overtime and the

24 The same is true in government. Testimony was given

25 showing that savings can be accomplished in many

10 Carol Luciano. 103 23rd Avenue. South Seaside 11 Park.

12 CAROL LUCIANO, SWORN.

13 MR. McGUCKIN: Carol, just for the 14 record, you're not a signer of the petition,

15 correct?

16 MS. LUCIANO: No, I'm not. At the 17 time, I did not live here.

18 MR. McGUCKIN: Thank you. MS. LUCIANO: I do now. I have just 20 a few points to make regarding travel time. Over --21 between the years 2013 and 2016, I had the pleasure, 22 actually, to speak before the two boards. And have 23 contact with everyone. And I spent a great deal of 24 time making trips across the bridge, at a time of 25 approximately 40 to 45 minutes each way. I attended

1 experience for me. In my opinion, this situation, 2 21 minutes is too long.

And that's it. Those are my comments 4 for the board. And thank you very much for 5 listening.

MR. WINWARD: You're welcome. 6

7 MS. LUCIANO: And if you would like the police report, I do have it with the times. 8

MR. McGUCKIN: I'd rather not put

10 that in the record, ma'am --

11 MS. LUCIANO: Okay. That's fine.

12 MR. McGUCKIN: -- especially if it 13 was a domestic violence incident.

14 MS. LUCIANO: That's -- well, the 15 violence didn't occur that date, but that was the

16 reason for the restraining order.

17 MR. McGUCKIN: You can certainly --18 if that's the case, then there's no problem with the 19 report --

20 MS. LUCIANO: Okay.

21 MR. McGUCKIN: -- especially if

22 you're offering it for the times.

23 MS. LUCIANO: All right. Thank you,

24 Mr. McGuckin.

25 MR. WINWARD: Who would like to go

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1 next?
2
                  (The Police report dated 6/27/10 was
3 marked as P-5 for identification.)
 4 MARY ANN MENEGHIN, sworn.
5
                  MS. MENEGHIN: My name is
6 Mary Ann Meneghin. I'm at 1493 Barnegat Avenue in
   South Seaside Park.
7
                  MR. McGUCKIN: I'm sorry, Mary Ann.
9
  Could you spell your last name again.
                  MS. MENEGHIN: M-e-n-e-g-h-i-n. And
10
11 I will also be honest and tell you, I don't know, I
12 can't remember whether I signed the petition or not.
13 But I'm -- you know, I thought, oh, dear God -- but
14 I'm here because of the letter that came with the
15 tax bill, what was it, two weeks ago. And the mayor
16 said at the bottom of the letter, if you have any
17 questions, please feel free to call. So, I did.
18 Because in the letter with the tax bill, came this
19 letter that, about senior bus trips.
20
                  Now, when I moved into Berkeley
21 Township 20 years ago, I didn't need this
22 (indicating) and but these days I do. I need this
23 and I do need some assistance. So, I was really
24 interested in the senior bus trips. And it said
25 there was a registry. So, I called, I did call the
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1 glad my house was not burning down. It was just the 2 deck, the grill outside. But we do lack services. 3 And, at this point, I would greatly appreciate 4 having some kind of senior services for us. Because, although I am a bit incapacitated, I'm still an active senior. And I would like to get some services on that end. 8 Thank you. 9 MR. WISER: Ma'am, before you sit 10 down, if I may. 11 MR. WINWARD: Yes, please. 12 MR. WISER: Just wondering. You've 13 talked eloquently about services. Are you for or 14 against de-annexation? 15 MS. MENEGHIN: I am for 16 de-annexation, yes, because I believe that a lot 17 of -- I go to church on the barrier island. I shop 18 on the barrier island. Much of my activity is 19 confined to the barrier island because I have 20 difficulty getting around. I said, 20 years ago, I 21 was not. I was quite active. And I'm still trying 22 to maintain it. But, like I say, I am limited these 23 days, but I'm slowed down but not knocked down. 24 Thank you. 25 SHARON RUSNAK, sworn.

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2 sorry, I didn't get her name. And, you know, it was 3 about ten-dollar registration, plus the cost of the 4 trips. And online, which I'm not, you know, used 5 to, it says, but in person registration is August 6 16, from nine to three. This arrived on August the 7 20th. So, I said to her I, obviously, couldn't come 8 down and register even if I wanted to. So, she 9 said, oh, I'm so sorry. Okay. 10 Then it went on. It says, busing 11 provided from all clubhouses. So, I said, well, 12 where's our clubhouse? And she went, oh. And she 13 said, wait a minute, let me -- she left me. You 14 know, she came back and she said, well, she said, 15 we're working on it. She said, they're working on 16 getting a clubhouse over there. She said, we're 17 turning this over to the recreation department. And 18 she said, please give me your name and phone number 19 and someone will call you. 20 Now, that was like a week or so, 21 nobody's called me. So, my complaint is, along with 22 some of the other comments that were made, that I've 23 had to call Tri-Boro first aid. One time I called 24 the fire department. They told me that I had to

25 call Berkeley Township Fire Department. I said I'm

1 mayor's office and I talked to a lovely person. I'm

MS. RUSNAK: Sharon Rusnak. 1497
Barnegat Avenue. We are part-time residents, but
we've owned our property for 22 years. And in those
22 years, when we first purchased the property, I
was a little leary because we have a storm sewer
right on the corner. And my husband's family had
problems with one of those when he was growing up.
However, being very familiar with the area, my
family has had a home in Midway since the 1950s. I
have friends who've had houses around the corner
from us since the 1970s. I'm very familiar with the
neighborhoods.

12 neighborhoods.

13 Since Hurricane Sandy, we have had
14 multiple incidents of where a ten-minute downpour
15 causes the water to rise above and over the curbs
16 and halfway up our properties. We've never had that
17 before. Back in 2015, I believe, I took some
18 pictures and we called Berkeley Township. Because
19 at the time, we weren't sure how to go about making
20 the complaint. And the person that we spoke to said
21 that Barnegat Avenue is actually a county road and
22 that the County Road Department would have to take
23 care of that. They would put in a request for
24 someone to come out to check and, you know, evaluate
25 the situation. Well, about 30 to 60 days later, we

1 did spot a county truck. They came out, took a 2 couple pictures and we never saw them again. 3 Then back in September 6 of 2017 --4 my house is on the corner of Kathryn and Barnegat 5 Avenue -- we had some rain. It wasn't an all day 6 rain. Doesn't have to be an all day rain. And the entire corner -- my house, my lot goes back 70 feet. Well, 70 feet of Kathryn was flooded up to the 9 curbs. I have pictures.

10 At that time, I also sent pictures to 11 the Ocean County Road Department. I made a phone 12 call. There was no answer. I left a voice mail. 13 And then I thought, well, you know, they may get 14 back to me, they may not get back to me. So, I 15 faxed the pictures to that department. Made another 16 phone call. A gentleman answered the phone. He 17 said, I'm not the supervisor, I can't help you, but 18 I will tell him. Never heard from him.

19 July 17, 2018, the pictures are very 20 much disturbing, in my opinion. There were cars 21 going by that the water like flooded over the cars. 22 Again, it was not an all day rain. And the whole 23 street was flooded, and up through Sprague, Kathryn 24 and Midway. With those pictures, I sent a e-mail 25 to -- actually, let me go back. I ended up taking

1 flooding, I really do believe that Berkeley Township 2 should be fighting with the county to make sure that 3 the sewers are cleaned out so that Barnegat Avenue 4 doesn't cause the side streets to flood. And the 5 flooding is also down on Bayview, down near Miller's 6 and up further by 22nd, 23rd. It's always flooded 7 there. And no one's been doing anything about it. 8 So, you know, to say we have services, yeah, they're 9 limited.

10 And as far as, you know, us being 11 elitists. We're not elitists. We bought the house 12 22 years ago with anticipation of retiring there. 13 My taxes have more than quad -- whoops, never mind. 14 It's just -- it's just frustrating, you know, to go 15 outside and find that the water has come up. And I 16 have pictures of after the water receded and how far 17 up the water came. And it went up halfway on most 18 of the properties. I only have three pictures, but 19 you can see where the debris line is on the 20 properties.

21 So, I really do think that they need 22 to get their priorities in order. And I can leave 23 these pictures. I have the dates and the streets 24 that are involved in the pictures. And I don't know 25 if you want the e-mails and the fax reports.

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1 the pictures, making composites of them. And 2 yesterday, my husband noticed a county truck up the 3 street. And it was the pumping truck. And we 4 thought, oh, great, they're going to come out and 5 clean the storm sewers. They moved from one block

6 to the next block to the next block with no one 7 getting out of the truck. So, he called Ocean County Road 9 Department. Spoke to a very nice young lady, Randi 10 Zupco, explained the situation. And she said she 11 would look into it. Well, she did. We've had 12 multiple back and forth communication with her. And 13 she said she got in touch with the supervisor, and 14 he said, well, it was high tide so they couldn't 15 clean out the storm sewers. Well, if you know that 16 you're in a barrier island situation and you have 17 the tide to deal with, you would look at the tide 18 tables before you sent your crew out to sit in a 19 truck for the better part of a day, because the tide 20 doesn't shift in half an hour, to do this. So, now, 21 the response we got was that they will be back when 22 the tide is low. Okay.

23 Like I said, I sent her the pictures. 24 We have communication. I think the pictures speak 25 for themselves. The fact that the side streets are 48

MR. McGUCKIN: Whatever you want to 1 2 present, you can present. But you understand that 3 if de-annexation went through, it would still be a county road. It would be still be a county 5 responsibility.

6 MS. RUSNAK: I understand that,

7 but --

8 MR. McGUCKIN: I just want to make

sure you did. I wasn't sure.

10 MS. RUSNAK: No, I understand that.

11 I'm also a realtor of 40 years, so I know the area.

MR. McGUCKIN: Okay. If you want to 12 13 admit those, we'll mark them.

14 MS. RUSNAK: Yes.

MR. McGUCKIN: Whatever you what to 15

16 submit. So, that will be P-6.

17 MR. WISER: Ma'am, for the record,

18 are you for or against?

19 MS. RUSNAK: I am for the

20 de-annexation.

21 MR. WISER: Thank you.

22 MS. RUSNAK: Someone mentioned the

23 police presence. I knew there was something else. 24 A couple of weeks ago, there were fireworks going

25 off all over. And it wasn't Fourth of July. And it

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1 was an hour and a half of steady fireworks. And I
2 did call the police department. I had to make three
3 separate contacts before I got Berkeley Township
 4 Police, because I dialed 911. They took all my
5 information. Well, let me put you through to so and
6 so. Okay. They took my information. Then,
7 finally, the Berkeley Township Police. So, you
8 know, I agree with the lady who said it took 21
9 minutes for the police to get there.
10
                  We've only started seeing a presence
11 of -- an added presence of the Berkeley Township
12 Police since we started the de-annexation process.
13 Before that, if we saw one police officer drive
14 through once or twice a day, we were lucky.
                  MR. WINWARD: What time of day was
15
16 that fireworks?
17
                  MS. RUSNAK: It was like --
                  MR. WINWARD: Supposedly, they're
18
19 legal now.
20
                  MS. RUSNAK: -- between 9:30 and
21 quarter after 11. I let it go and let it go and let
22 it go, p.m., hoping that they would stop. And it's
23 you know, it's ongoing.
24
                  MR. WINWARD: It's becoming a problem
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25 now because there's some legality now with

1 In 1999, I retired and we moved down full-time. So, 2 I've been there. And like I said, back in the day, 3 there was Barnegat Avenue, say, from 20th to 20 --4 from 20th up to 14th was nothing but sand and poison 5 ivy. There was no houses there. So, the 6 development was due to two people that owned all 7 that property, which was Joseph Citta and 8 Mr. William Hiering. They owned all that property. 9 That's how all the houses got developed. 10 Now, in reference to Hurricane Sandy. 11 I had no damage to my house other than losing two 12 sections of stockade fence. But being we had no 13 electricity and when they shut the gas off and the 14 water off, I went to Toms River to live with my son. 15 We moved back into our house on December 21st. It 16 was a day or two later, I took a walk up the beach 17 with my dog to see what it looked like. And it was 18 low tide. So, I was walking along the water's edge 19 looking for sea glass. Nobody around to the north 20 of me or south of me. All of a sudden, here comes 21 two quads, with two Seaside Park police officers on 22 them. They stopped probably from me to you away. 23 Throw sand all over me and the dog. Get off the 24 beach. Get off the beach. Seaside Park beaches are 25 closed. I said, excuse me. He says, I said Seaside

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1 fireworks. 2 Okay. Next resident? 3 MR. McGUCKIN: She's got to mark it. 4 MR. WINWARD: Just hold off until our 5 court reporter marks. (The Photographs were marked as P-6 6 7 for identification.) 8 JOHN BUDISH, sworn. 9 MR. BUDISH: John Budish, 10 B-u-d-i-s-h. 11 Okay. I'm 75 years old. I've been, 12 one way or another, I've been a resident of 13 South Seaside Park for 74 years. So, I seen a lot 14 of development. From 1944 to 1966, my parents had a 15 house on Third Lane and Midway. '66, they bought 16 the house where I'm residing now on Anchor Drive. 17 MR. McGUCKIN: I'm sorry, John. I 18 just want to put on the record. You did not sign 19 the petition; is that correct? 20 MR. BUDISH: I did not sign the 21 petition. 22 MR. McGUCKIN: Okay. 23 MR. BUDISH: And I'm not in favor of 24 de-annexation. 25 Okay. I lost my train of thought.

1 Park beaches are closed. And I said, excuse me, 2 this is not Seaside Park. See the end of the boardwalk? He goes yeah. I said, that's the end of 4 Seaside Park. This is Berkeley Township. Get the 5 you know what out of here. And they left. 6 But then, another thing. If it --7 due to Sandy, Seaside Park wasn't going to give us 8 access for six months to get in. And if it wasn't 9 for Chief DiMichele's fighting to get us in, you 10 know, you don't know how many houses would have been 11 broken into, because there was -- I know of two 12 times that people came over by boat and were looking 13 to be break into houses. So, I am not for 14 de-annexation. 15 Thank you. 16 MR. WINWARD: You're welcome. 17 MR. MICHELINI: I have a question. 18 MR. MCGUCKIN: No, no. No, 19 Mr. Michelini. We're not cross-examining any 20 witnesses. They're giving opinions in almost every 21 instance. We're not going to be here -- we'll be 22 here for three more meetings just on this. No one 23 is cross-examining. 24 MR. MICHELINI: Well, I object to

25 that procedure --

1	MR. McGUCKIN: I understand.	1	A	No, I don't.
2	MR. MICHELINI: especially since	2	Q	You don't recall that?
3	Mr. Wiser has been asking questions.	3	À	No, but Mr. Gingrich and I grew up
4	MR. McGUCKIN: He asked one question.	4		orth Brunswick.
5	Are you in favor or opposed, that's it.	5	Q	Right.
6	MR. MICHELINI: And he's asked a few	6	Ä	SO
7	other questions, too.	7	Q	So you don't deny that you went up
8	MR. McGUCKIN: I don't believe so.	8	and talked to	him in the middle of the hearing?
9	MR. MICHELINI: I just want it on the	9	A	I wouldn't say it was the middle of
10	record. Okay. If these people are getting up and	10	the hearing.	It might have been during a break.
11	entering their opinion or making statements, I	11	Q	So, you do admit that you did that?
12	should have the right to cross-examine them. And I	12	Α	Yeah, I probably did, but it wasn't
13	think it's a departure from proper procedure to	13	during the he	aring. It was during a break.
14	disallow me that cross-examination. Now, you can	14	Q	The record will reflect when it was.
15	make whatever ruling you want. But I'm making it	15	Do you rememb	er what was said?
16	very clear on the record that that's improper.	16	Α	No, I don't.
17	MR. McGUCKIN: Well, that's fine.	17	Q	And you live next to Mr. Callahan,
18	Then all you were talking about then is	18	correct?	
19	cross-examining of any witnesses also in favor.	19	Α	Yes, I do.
20	MR. MICHELINI: Anybody can be	20	Q	And you're friends with him, correct?
21	cross-examined.	21	Α	Most likely, yes.
22	MR. McGUCKIN: That's up to the board	22	Q	And the sign that's the sign
23	if that's what they want to do. I did not	23	that's the	South Seaside Park sign with the red
	understand that to be the process we were following	24	arrow through	it, that's on your property line with
25	this evening. But it's up to the board what they	25	his property	line, correct?

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25

24 to say something.

1 want to do. 2 MR. MICHELINI: I never mentioned --3 I never gave up my right of cross-examination. I 4 never indicated that that was being waived. What I 5 was doing, I refrained from cross-examining some of 6 the witnesses that were not in favor of 7 de-annexation, because I'm trying to allow this process to be sped along. But I have one or two 9 very important questions of Mr. Budish. 10 MR. WINWARD: Why don't we allow one 11 question. 12 MR. McGUCKIN: Absolutely, Mr. 13 Chairman. MR. WINWARD: I think it's fair to 14 15 allow one question. Because, like I said, you're questioning somebody's opinion. **EXAMINATION BY MR. MICHELINI:** 18 Mr. Budish, you've been here for 19 several of these hearings, correct? 20 All but two. 21 Okay. And during one of those 22 hearings, in the middle of the hearing, you actually 23 went up and started talking to Mr. Gingrich during 24 the hearing while the hearing was going on. Do you 25 recall that?

Yes, it is. Α And if you're looking at it, you see 3 his house behind it, correct? Yes. A 5 Q But it's your sign? No, it's our sign. 6 A 7 It's yours and Mr. Callahan's? Q 8 MR. MICHELINI: Thank you very much. 10 MR. BUDISH: Well, I'd like to tell you how that sign arrived there. MR. MICHELINI: Well, I'm just --13 my question --14 MR. WINWARD: Go ahead. 15 MR. BUDISH: You want to 16 cross-examine me, I want to cross-examine you. MR. MICHELINI: I'm not testifying. 18 If I was testifying, you could. 19 MR. McGUCKIN: John, you want to add 20 something, John, you can add something. Go ahead. 21 MR. MICHELINI: There's no question 22 pending. Let me just state that.

MR. McGUCKIN: Understood. He wants

MR. BUDISH: Three or four years ago,

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1 I got up in the morning to go out on the beach to go
                                                                                 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Oh, geez. I only
2 striper fishing. The sign was there. So, I thought
                                                                2
                                                                  have a couple of things to say.
3 it was Mr. Callahan's. So, I came home later in the
                                                                3
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: Sir, I'm sorry. We
 4 day. I saw Mr. Callahan. I said, is that your
                                                                  want to hear from anyone who has not yet had an
 5 sign? He said no, I thought it was yours. So,
                                                                  opportunity to present any testimony or comments.
 6 being that we're -- are not in favor of
                                                                                 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: I haven't had an
 7 de-annexation, I put the red line through it.
                                                                  opportunity to say anything.
8 BY MR. MICHELINI:
                                                                8
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: Sir, if you signed the
9
                  And when did -- being that you and
                                                                9
                                                                  petition, you're represented by Mr. Michelini. And
          Q
10 Mr. Callahan are not in favor of de-annexation, you
                                                               10 he has presented months and months of testimony, in
11 put the red line through it. When did you put the
                                                               11 fact, years of testimony and exhibits. So, yes, you
12 red line through it?
                                                               12 have been represented. I know you will get an
13
                                                               13 opportunity, it just won't be this evening.
          Α
                  Probably a week or two after it was
                                                               14
14 there.
                                                                                 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Well, I can't
15
                  And this is a couple years ago?
                                                               15 guarantee that I signed the petition. I think I
          Q
16
                                                               16 did. I'm not sure.
          A
                                                               17
17
                  So, you knew back then Mr. Callahan
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: That's good enough for
   wasn't in favor of de-annexation, correct?
                                                               18 us. You're under oath and you believe you signed
18
19
                                                               19 it. You're going to have another opportunity. It
                  Right.
                  MR. MICHELINI: Thank you.
                                                               20 just won't be this evening, sir.
20
21
                  MR. WINWARD: Okay. I hate to do
                                                               21
                                                                                 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Okay.
22 this to you, but our court reporter needs a quick
                                                               22
                                                                                 MR. McGUCKIN: We want to hear from
23 break. Would you be willing to wait a few minutes?
                                                               23 people who have not signed who are not parties to
                  (Off the record.)
                                                               24 the litigation.
24
25
                  (Recess was taken.)
                                                               25
                                                                                 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Well, I
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1

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13

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18

19

17 testify.

2 ALAN SCHOENWIESNER, sworn.

your last name, please.

10 S-c-h-o-e-n-w-i-e-s-n-e-r.

25 beginning of the meeting.

12 sign the petition?

6 her parents owned the house before us.

MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Pardon?

MR. WINWARD: Let us proceed. MR. SCHOENWIESNER: My name is 4 Alan Schoenwiesner. I live on 22nd Avenue with my 5 wife, Carol. We've got 65 years of presence because MR. McGUCKIN: Alan, could you spell MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Okay. It's MR. McGUCKIN: And, Alan, you did not MR. SCHOENWIESNER: I signed the 14 petition, yes. And I am for de-annexation. MR. McGUCKIN: Alan, if you signed 16 the petition, this is not the night for you to MR. McGUCKIN: If you have signed the 20 petition, this is not the night for you to testify. 21 You have already had the chance through your 22 attorney, but you'll have another opportunity when 23 the petitioners present their rebuttal case. So, we said that at the very 25

60

1 understand what you're saying. And I don't think 2 it's fair because I'm not here a good part of the 3 year. I have a residence here in Seaside Park or 4 South Seaside Park, and I also have a residence in 5 Florida. And it's impossible for me to come back up 6 here from Florida to testify at these meetings. MR. McGUCKIN: Alan, we said this at 8 the beginning of the meeting. You are represented 9 by Mr. Michelini, who's not standing up and not 10 saying anything. 11 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: I didn't hear 12 that. I can't --13 MR. McGUCKIN: He's letting you do it 14 for him. But that is the case. You are represented 15 by him. He's presented months of testimony. We 16 said this at the beginning of the meeting. If you 17 are represented or signed the petition --18 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Okav. MR. McGUCKIN: -- then you don't get 19 20 the chance to go tonight. You will get another 21 opportunity. 22 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Well, there's 23 some safety issues which I'm not being given a 24 chance to discuss --MR. McGUCKIN: You will have the

```
1 opportunity. Just not this evening, sir.
                                                                                 I'm 75, and I go to the beach with --
                  MR. SCHOENWIESNER: And --
                                                                2 a lot with senior citizens. And walking an extra
2
 3
                  MR. MICHELINI: If -- are you a
                                                                3 50 feet, through the sand, gets to be a little
   registered voter in --
                                                                4 difficult, because I have two bad knees. And we
 4
 5
                  MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Yes, I am.
                                                                5 have some people that don't even go to the beach
 6
                  MR. MICHELINI: -- in Berkeley?
                                                                6 anymore. That's one quick issue. So, we'd
7
                                                                  appreciate it if you could lengthen the walkway.
                  MR. SCHOENWIESNER: In Berkeley.
8
                  MR. MICHELINI: Then you probably
                                                                8
                                                                                 Another thing is, on the top of the
   signed the petition. So --
                                                                9 railings that are on the beach, there's an opening.
9
10
                  MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Yes.
                                                               10 Okay. Now, I have seen children walking through
                  MR. MICHELINI: -- they're going to
                                                               11 that walkway and hanging on a wall, which is
11
12 give you another opportunity on another night. I
                                                               12 probably about six inches wide. And one of these
                                                               13 days, one of those kids is going to fall off and
13 know that --
                                                               14 fall onto the bike rack. Okay. And it would only
14
                  MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Yeah, another
15 night, then I'm going to be in Florida.
                                                               15 take a few pieces of wood to fix that and make it so
16
                  MR. MICHELINI: Okay. Well, we'll
                                                               16 the kids can't get through that.
17 talk about it. Okay. I'll talk to you about it
                                                               17
                                                                                 The last thing I want, I'll talk
18 after the meeting. Okay?
                                                               18 about then is the -- I have one complaint about, you
19
                                                               19 know, a few years ago when they were redoing the
                  MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Okay.
20
                                                               20 boardwalk after Sandy, they were putting up a new
                  MR. MICHELINI: Sorry about that.
21
                  MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Well, again, I
                                                               21 walkway. And they were putting up new railings.
22 sort of protest. I don't think it's fair, because
                                                               22 Okay. They never finished the railings before the
23 I'm not here all the time.
                                                               23 season, the summer season started. I called up
                                                               24 Berkeley Township, and I had a very difficult
24
                  MR. McGUCKIN: I understand, sir.
25
                  MR. MICHELINI: If he's not here next
                                                               25 conversation with the lady I spoke with. And she
                                                                                                                64
                                                 62
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1 meeting. Are you going to be here --2 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: I won't be here 3 next meeting. MR. MICHELINI: Well, it's to the 5 discretion of the board, then. It's up to the 6 board. 7 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Okay. Because I 8 think I have some things to say that I think are 9 very important from a safety standpoint. 10 MR. McGUCKIN: It's up to you, Mr. 11 Chairman. 12 MR. WINWARD: Can you be really 13 brief, because we want to make sure everybody gets 15 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Okay. It won't 16 take me more than five minutes. 17 MR. WINWARD: Okay. MR. SCHOENWIESNER: One of the things 18 19 that I'd like -- thank you very much for allowing me 20 to speak. 21 One of the things I wanted to discuss 22 very quickly was the walkway going to the beach. We

23 appreciate the fact that you people put up a new

25 the walkway that we used to have.

24 walkway this year. But it's about half the size of

1 just told me that they didn't have time to do it. 2 And I, you know, told her it was a safety issue. 3 And I said, well, what kind of services are we getting from Berkeley Township? And I was told, 5 well, we pick up your garage. That's all I have to 6 say. 7 Thank you. 8 MR. WINWARD: Thank you. 9 MR. SCHOENWIESNER: Thank you very 10 much for your time. 11 MR. WINWARD: You're welcome. 12 LISA MUSCI, sworn. 13 MS. MUSCI: Lisa Musci, M-u-s-c-i. 14 Okay. I have a home on Two First Lane, 15 South Seaside Park, Midway Beach. I'd like to bring 16 up an incident that occurred on August 2, 2 --17 MR. McGUCKIN: Lisa, just -- you 18 didn't sign the petition? You're not a registered 19 voter? 20 MS. MUSCI: No, I'm not a registered 21 voter. 22 MR. McGUCKIN: Thank you very much. 23 MS. MUSCI: I live in Pompton Plains, 24 New Jersey.

(Off the record.)

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1
                  MS. MUSCI: Okay. So, August 2,
                                                               1
2 2013, an incident occurred in Midway Beach, where
                                                                2
 3 two young men, under the influence, tried to enter a
                                                                3 Alisanne Skeffington. I live at 108 Beach Drive in
 4 home my niece was renting on Third Lane. My sister,
                                                                  South Seaside Park.
                                                                5 ALISANNE SKEFFINGTON, sworn.
 5 who lives across the street on Third Lane, happened
 6 to be at that residence. She opened the door. She
7 heard shouting and commotion. So, you know, it's
                                                                7 complaints. I have some comments. And one of the
8 pretty safe place. You don't really -- she opened
                                                                8 first ones was, I heard banter in the beginning of
9 the door. And these two men were trying to enter
                                                                9 the evening about, if you signed the petition, are
10 the home. Okay. So, at this point, my nephew,
                                                               10 you a registered voter, back and forth. I did sign
11 trying to push them out, closed the door. You know,
                                                               11 the petition. I am not a registered voter in
12 we don't know what's going to happen. So, I mean,
                                                               12 New Jersey. I have not been a registered voter in
13 this was a very frightening experience. My nieces
                                                               13 New Jersey for ten years, although I did just get
14 were crying. They just didn't know what was going
                                                               14 summoned for jury duty in Ocean County. So, anyway.
15 on. These men were really under the influence,
                                                               15 So, I am --
16 incoherent. Okay.
                                                               16
                                                               17 interrupt you for a second.
17
                  So, at that point, a neighbor called
18 the police. We didn't call the police, but someone
                                                               18
19 called the police. So, immediately, Seaside Park
                                                               19
                                                               20 petition, whether you're a resident or not, if you
20 police came, two police cars. And Tri-Borough came,
21 two ambulances, within minutes. The police took
                                                               21 signed the petition, you are represented by
22 care of the situation. When it was over,
                                                               22 Mr. Michelini. And we're going to continue the
23 Berkeley Township police arrived. Okay. So, to me,
                                                               23 hearing with people who have not yet had a chance to
24 that's just not acceptable. Okay. That's number
                                                               24 present any testimony to the board.
25 one.
                                                               25
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Thank you.

MS. SKEFFINGTON: Hello, my name is

MS. SKEFFINGTON: I don't have

MR. McGUCKIN: Ma'am, I'm sorry to

MR. McGUCKIN: If you signed the

MS. SKEFFINGTON: Well, I also am a

MS. SKEFFINGTON: Yes.

Number two, I have a very disabled 1 2 adult child. And when you hear things like police 3 responding after so long. And someone else said 4 that they were told, well, you have to call 5 Berkeley. If something should happen to my child, 6 so what are we going to say? Oh, well, Berkeley 7 couldn't get there. Okay. That should be on the 8 record. 9 And then, my cousin, who's a resident 10 of Midway Beach, has been calling regarding garbage 11 cans. Are we entitled to garbage cans as 12 Berkeley Township residents? I mean --13 **VOICE:** Robo cans. 14 MS. MUSCI: Are we entitled to those? 15 MR. McGUCKIN: There's been extensive 16 testimony on that already in the proceedings. 17 MS. MUSCI: Excuse me? 18 MR. MCGUCKIN: There has been 19 extensive testimony with respect to that already in

MS. MUSCI: Okay. So, are we

MS. MUSCI: Okay. All right. So,

MR. WINWARD: Absolutely.

20 the proceedings.

22 entitled to them?

25 that's all I have to say.

21

23

1 resident of South Carolina. I am here --2 MR. McGUCKIN: I --3 MS. SKEFFINGTON: Excuse me. My 4 turn. I am here two months, and you let the other gentleman who lives in Florida say a couple of 6 words. 7 MR. MCGUCKIN: That's the discretion 8 of the board. I understand. And you can make that 9 same request. But I'm telling you that that is not 10 what we agreed to do this evening. And, again, it 11 will be up to the board if that's what they want to 12 do. MS. SKEFFINGTON: Well, I ask you. 13 14 The other gentleman was allowed to speak. I'm not 15 complaining. I have some comments. 16 MR. WINWARD: Do you have one point 17 to make? Because we do want to hear from all the 18 other people who aren't represented by 19 Mr. Michelini. 20 MS. SKEFFINGTON: I just have a 21 couple of points to make. But my one question is, 22 since I am not a registered voter, do my opinions 23 count as much as everybody else, since I do pay 24 taxes and so on? Would I be allowed to vote --25 MR. WINWARD: Please just make your

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1 regional school district --
1 point.
                                                                                 MS. SKEFFINGTON: And
2
                  MS. SKEFFINGTON: Okay. All right.
 3 But I would like to find that out.
                                                                3 Berkeley Township doesn't have to pay individuals
                  In regard to the ambulance and
                                                                4 for -- because I know from being on the board up in
 5 response time, and there was a comment about it
                                                                 North Jersey, if they couldn't provide busing, you
 6 costs money for us to use Seaside Park services, I
                                                                  had to provide $600 a month for transportation.
 7 understand that. Can you put a price on a life?
                                                                                 MR. WINWARD: Okay. You're taking up
8 That's all.
                                                                  a lot of time. Please make your point --
9
                  As for notifications, as I said, I
                                                                                 MS. SKEFFINGTON: All right. Well,
10 live here two months a year. Two years ago, I
                                                               10 I'm just answering. You asked me a question. I'm
11 believe, I got one notification in the summer about
                                                               11 just giving you something.
12 the park music fest, that's it. We get nothing
                                                               12
                                                                                 MR. WINWARD: Make factual points.
13 except our tax bills. I have all my mail forwarded.
                                                               13
                                                                                 MS. SKEFFINGTON: And when I bought
14 I get nothing from you. I have no notifications --
                                                               14 my house, I wasn't given anything that said there
15 pardon me -- about anything.
                                                               15 was a difference in services. Mr. Cammarato said
16
                  As for the price of taking care of
                                                               16 there's different services offered to the people at
17 the beaches. I think everybody knows that you pay
                                                               17 the beach as opposed to people in Berkeley Township
18 for badges to go on these beaches, so it doesn't
                                                               18 proper. Well, not only didn't I receive something
19 totally fall on the taxpayer. There is a charge,
                                                               19 about the services in Berkeley, but I never received
20 and I believe all of Berkeley Township is allowed to
                                                               20 anything that anything was different with the ocean
21 come over and use the Berkeley Township beach. So,
                                                               21 people. And it just seems to me that it's not quite
                                                               22 fair.
22 it's not just for the people that live there.
                                                               23
23
                  In regard to school kids. I don't
                                                                                 And one last thing. All right. The
24 honestly know how many children there are. I know
                                                               24 gentleman, I'm sorry, Mr. Callahan, I think you live
25 there's barely any. But there's a lot of money
                                                               25 over in South Seaside Park, if you have a sign with
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1 spent on busing to come and get those kids and so 2 on. And, you know, prices are a little bit better 3 here in South Jersey than North Jersey. And Mr. Cammarato, I believe, made a 5 statement about more kids moving in. Well, I know 6 that two years ago down the street, family with kids 7 moved in. I know that right next door to me, 8 there's a family with two kids that moved here. 9 They were going to move here full-time this fall. 10 So, that's something to consider as well. If you 11 don't want to --12 MR. WINWARD: Actually, I don't want 13 to interrupt you --14 MS. SKEFFINGTON: Yes. 15 MR. WINWARD: -- but it's the same 16 school district that services the entire barrier 17 island from Ortley Beach South, so --18 MS. SKEFFINGTON: Okay. But --19 MR. WINWARD: That won't change. 20 MS. SKEFFINGTON: But is the busing 21 also included in Ortley Beach? MR. WINWARD: That won't change. 23 It's all the same. 24 MS. SKEFFINGTON: Okay. 25 MR. WINWARD: It's a school district,

1 an arrow through it on your property, and you're hearing all of this --3 MR. McGUCKIN: Ma'am --MS. SKEFFINGTON: -- it just seems to 5 me that you should recuse yourself --6 MR. McGUCKIN: No, ma'am --7 MR. WINWARD: You're out of line now. 8 MS. SKEFFINGTON: -- from the hearing 9 and voting. 10 MR. WINWARD: Hold on. 11 MS. SKEFFINGTON: I'm done. MR. WINWARD: Now, please, if you're 13 not -- if you did not sign the petition, you may 14 speak. We are getting near the end of the evening. 15 And we want to hear as many people as possible. It 16 doesn't matter if you're for or against, we just 17 want to make sure you're not a petition signer. 18 DON MERKER. sworn. MR. MERKER: My name is Don Merker, 20 M-e-r-k-e-r, at 208 Sprague Ave in beautiful 21 South Seaside Park. And I do mean beautiful. 22 Thank you, gentlemen and ladies also, 23 for all your time that you have dedicated. You 24 probably recognize my face. I'm one of the ones

25 that's been here probably 90 percent of the

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1 meetings. And I do live in Edison. I did not sign 2 the petition. I'm not a voter. And I am in favor of de-annexation. 3 4 The reason, I really just want to get a real brief 5 point out, is, I don't admire the elected officials, 6 the job that they have to do. Because, really, with 7 such a large town and so many different little 8 communities in the town, everyone has a little bit 9 of a special need maybe. And you guys, elected 10 officials and volunteers, realize that there's only 11 so many pieces of the pot, that not everyone can get 12 everything or taxes would even go up more, 13 obviously. 14 With that being said, I just feel 15 that Seaside Park, being a smaller township, and 16 having a beach culture, will suit our needs a lot 18 Thank you. That's it. 19 GAIL LEIBOWITZ, SWORN. MS. LEIBOWITZ: Gail Leibowitz, 21 L-e-i-b-o-w-i-t-z. 22 Okay. My name is Gail Leibowitz. I 23 reside at 11 20th Avenue in South Seaside Park, 24 ocean block.

What I'd like to talk to you about

25

1 inspectors only visit the island on Tuesday and 2 Thursday. And the construction had to be stopped 3 this summer for two weeks waiting for the inspector 4 who went on vacation. There was no replacement 5 inspector that was assigned. When I called the 6 town, I was told that the mainland has inspectors out five days a week, but in South Seaside Park, 8 they only come on Tuesday and Thursday, when they're not on vacation. 9 10 Thank you for the opportunity to 11 voice my concerns. 12 JOANN PACIFICO, sworn. MS. PACIFICO: Joann Pacifico. Just 13 14 like the ocean. 15 MR. WINWARD: Could you say your name 16 again, please? I didn't hear. 17 MS. PACIFICO: Joey Pacifico. 18 MR. WINWARD: Pacifico? 19 MS. PACIFICO: Yes, like the ocean. 20 I have -- I've owned property in 21 Seaside Park at 103 23rd Avenue for over 25 years. 22 And I have another property at the end of the street 23 at 250 that I share with my sister, 23rd Avenue, 250

24 23rd Avenue. I am now a resident of Seaside Park,

25 but just in the last year I retired here. So, I

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17

23

2 adequate coverage from the building department. The 3 walkway to the beach is steeply sloped Trex and very 4 slippery when covered with sand. A volunteer not 5 associated with Berkeley Township sweeps it 6 occasionally, out of the goodness of his heart. I 7 have never seen anyone from Berkeley clean the ramp. 8 Not to mention that 20th Avenue ocean block has not 9 been repayed, actually ever repayed, for at least 50 10 years. To give you an idea of its vintage, it is 11 tar and stone, not macadam. And no one alive 12 remembers it being refinished. 13 My neighbor over there, cannot 14 testify, has a terrible time pushing his wife in a 15 wheelchair on the macadam -- I mean, on the rocks 16 and the gravel and the sand. Occasionally, we do 17 call, complain. And one time this summer, they did 18 come and send a street cleaner so that he was able 19 to push the wheelchair. 20 Also, on 11 20th Avenue, I have a 21 garage now being built. It took over a year to 22 secure the permits to begin construction. And 15 or 23 more trips, I lost count, to Berkeley town hall,

24 which is about a 45 minute trip. Now that

25 construction has finally begun on the garage, the

1 today is the condition of our road and lack of

76 1 guess what I have to say, I did not sign the petition and I am for de-annexation. I'm one of those 40 percent. What I -- I guess what I have to 5 really say is that even people who are arguing 6 against de-annexation are pointing out how different 7 this community, Seaside Park, is from the mainland 8 communities, in my opinion. It just seems to me 9 that the culture differences are more aligned with 10 what goes on in Seaside Park. And like 11 Carol Luciano, who spoke earlier, I didn't know my 12 property when I bought was in Berkeley Township. 13 But when I bought 25 years ago, it came up in the --14 it came up in the reviews with the attorneys. So, I 15 thought it was part of it, because it seemed like it 16 should be. So, I, too, have experienced the 18 problems with delays in the police coming on time 19 and having to drive a sister to the airport -- to 20 the emergency room myself. It was very terrifying. 21 And when the police did come, they were polite, they 22 were helpful, but they were late.

24 back and forth over the bridge after Sandy, trying

25 to get things done with the engineering departments

I, too, have experienced all of the

1 and see what I can do to make repairs to the home. 2 It's 40 minutes easy, plus tolls. 3 I, too, have experienced when you're 4 trying -- you're at work and you're trying to make 5 it to a township meeting here, because it's 6 important that as citizens, we show up. I mean, 7 local government's the most important kind, I think. 8 And so, it is hard and sometimes impossible to get 9 your dog to your house over in South Seaside Park 10 after work and then get here. So, those are the points I'd make. 11 12 And I'd ask that nobody's wrong here in terms of 13 wanting the best community for both sides. And I 14 appreciate all Berkeley Township has tried to do for 15 us. 16 Thank you. 17 MR. WINWARD: You're welcome. 18 EDWARD LIPMAN, sworn. 19 MR. LIPMAN: My name is Edward 20 Lipman, L-i-p-m-a-n.

22 about the gentleman who bragged about running his

25 Berkeley Township has is the quality of the white

23 dog on the beach. I am here tonight to make an

24 observation that one of the best assets

I would like to make a clarification

21

1 Park, that I wasn't referring to Seaside Park. They suggested that I reach out to the Borough of 3 Seaside Park and speak to the local police department. And I had to educate the gentleman on the phone that I am a Berkeley Township taxpayer. My family has grown cranberries in 6 7 Berkeley Township since 1951. I have a great deal 8 of respect for the community. But I do not respect members of an organization who pay homage to a 10 concept, but don't put their money where our tax 11 dollars are, especially on assets as important. I 12 cannot get an enforcement official to even stand 13 over on the beach and see what I see every single 14 day. So, I would simply bring to the attention of 15 this committee, that you need to be more attentive 16 to the assets that you have in your portfolio, because my children are in a litter box and their 18 grandchildren do not understand where the dogs go and where the dogs do not go. 20 Thank you for the opportunity. 21 MR. WINWARD: You're welcome. 22 MR. WISER: Sir, are you for or 23 against de-annexation? 24 MR. LIPMAN: I am for de-annexation. 25 MR. WISER: Thank you.

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1 sands on our beaches. And I am a very blessed 2 resident to be able to sit on a second floor of my 3 condominium and watch people walk their dogs up onto 4 the beach. This summer, I have counted over 200 5 dogs, 18 of which were on the beach during beach 6 hours. Three of which, because the lifeguards 7 didn't now how to handle the situation, that the resident was claiming they were service dogs. Now, a community that claims one of 10 its best portfolio assets is white sand, we are 11 turning that beach, regardless of the outcome of 12 this decision tonight, gentlemen, into a giant dog 13 depository. And, for the records, there are signs 14 placed on every entryway to the Berkeley Township 15 beaches on the island, ordinance number 26-1-16, 16 that very clearly articulates whether or not you 17 happen to be a member of this community or are a 18 quest, no walking of dogs on the beach or using the 19 waters to service your dogs. 20 If we care so much about the 21 decisions of these people behind me, why is it that 22 on three separate occasions, over the last two 23 summers, I have been given the proverbial runaround

24 by members of the animal enforcement unit, who did

25 not know when I mentioned the term South Seaside

80 MR. WINWARD: I just wanted to 2 clarify a comment Mr. Lipman made. There is no vote 3 tonight. This is an ongoing hearing. And there'll probably be several more meetings and stuff. So, 5 there's no vote tonight. 6 MICHAEL MacDERMOTT, sworn. 7 MR. MacDERMOTT: Michael MacDermott. Hi, good evening. I'm not a 9 resident. I stay at my in-laws' place on 22nd Ave 10 every year for about two weeks. My only testimony 11 would be to an experience I had three years ago. We 12 come down for two weeks every summer. And August of 13 2015, it was a problem with fireworks on the beach. 14 And I -- we called it in. Went on for about an 15 hour. And there was no police response at all. So, 16 myself and a couple other family members went down 17 to the beach to try and get them to stop. And what 18 resulted was an intoxicated group down there. And 19 it became kind of an unpleasant situation. I called 20 again to the police to report a dispute that was --21 that resulted from this. We had waited about an 22 hour for the first before we went out to the beach. 23 So, the situation evolved, but not too much. 24 Anyway, eventually, that intoxicated group left the

25 beach. But the police never responded. I mean, we

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1 were right there on 22nd Ave at the beach. And it 2 was over an hour and a half and we had no response 3 at all. I would think that if fireworks 4 5 doesn't generate a response, a dispute should. And 6 the people here should expect better than that. 7 And, I mean, that was our experience. And it would 8 be unsatisfactory at home and I thought it was 9 unsatisfactory here. 10 MR. WISER: Are you for or against 11 de-annexation? 12 MR. MacDERMOTT: For de-annexation. 13 MR. WISER: Thank you. 14 KATHLEEN PRICE, sworn. 15 MS. PRICE: My name is Kathleen 16 Price. I live at 243 22nd Avenue. 17 I'm just one of the 40 percent. I 18 moved down here full-time last year. So, I'm one of 19 the 40 percent that hasn't been counted. That's all 20 I have to say, because everything else has been 21 covered. And now it's up to whomever. 22 Thank you. 23 MR. WISER: Are you --24 MS. PRICE: Oh, I'm definitely for

1 got an assistant there who assured me that it would 2 be picked up. And Friday, it was not picked up. 3 So, by Saturday, it had still not been touched. And 4 it was the weekend. People would be coming. So, I 5 took the thing and put it back on my property. And 6 decided that I'd have to wait till the next 7 regularly scheduled pickup. So, we don't get 8 service. And, yes, I'm for de-annexation. MR. BACCHIONE: Through the Chair. 10 If I can ask Mr. MacDermott a question. Sorry to 11 bother you after you testified. 12 I'm just curious. You mentioned that 13 you called the police. Are you calling 911? Are 14 you calling Berkeley? Who are you calling? 15 MR. MacDERMOTT: We called 911. 16 MR. BACCHIONE: 911. Okay. That 17 goes to the county, just so you know that. I know 18 you're not from the town. But 911 calls goes to the 19 county. And then the county sends the calls to the 20 municipalities. But I appreciate your comments. 21 Thank you.

22 MR. MacDERMOTT: I think it was 911.

23 Might have been --

24 MR. BACCHIONE: I'm curious.

25 Because, I mean, I'm hearing a lot of testimony

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1 DAVID MCKEE, sworn.
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25 de-annexation.

2 MR. MCKEE: David McKee, 100B Beach 3 Drive, Seaside Park.

Couple different items. One is,
safter every big snowstorm -- and I consider anything
above six inches a big snowstorm -- after lunch, I
go out, look at my street, it's still not plowed.

8 Then I go in my house, go to the third floor and I 9 can look north at Seaside Park. And doggone, all 10 the side streets are all plowed. The main street's

11 plowed. And that's like two o'clock in the

12 afternoon. And maybe by the end of the day, my

13 street will get plowed in Seaside Park south.
 14 And the other thing is that I called

15 this spring, one Tuesday morning when we got our 16 recycling collection, my garbage can, my recycling

17 can goes out Monday night. So, it's out on the 18 street plenty of time. It was never emptied. So,

19 that afternoon, I called the collection over here.

20 And I was told, yes, somebody would pick up that

21 can. By the end of Wednesday, it still hadn't been

22 picked up. So, I called again and talked to the

23 Department of Public Works manager, and was assured 24 it would be picked up. And Thursday, it was not

25 picked up again. I called the mayor's office and

1 tonight about the police not showing up. And as an 2 elected official here in Berkeley Township, I know

3 there are two police cars in Berkeley Township. And

4 I'm just curious as to what's going on. So, I'm

5 going to -- I will talk to the chief in the morning 6 to find out. Because I took down some dates of the

7 previous testimony that you guys have made. And I'm 8 going to ask what happened that day. But I

9 appreciate your answering the question.

10 MR. MacDERMOTT: It was a Saturday 11 night, so it would be busy. And it was 2015. But 12 it should generate a response.

(Off the record.)

14 MR. BACCHIONE: Mr. MacDermott, I

15 thank you for coming back up.

MR. MacDERMOTT: Sure.

17 MR. BACCHIONE: A Saturday night

18 shouldn't be an excuse that should be a busier

19 night. 20

13

MR. MacDERMOTT: I agree.

21 MR. BACCHIONE: Especially over there

22 on the barrier islands.

23 MR. MacDERMOTT: Yeah, and it should 24 be anticipated that it's going to busy on a Saturday

25 night. But this went on for more than hour and a

1 h	nalf. And we never saw a police car come down.	1	
2	MR. BACCHIONE: I believe you. I	2	CERTIFICATE
3 ј	just want to confirm with the chief what happened.	3	
4 I	want to know exactly what happened.	4	I, LINDA SULLIVAN-HILL, a Notary
5	MR. MacDERMOTT: Yeah. I don't	5	Public and Certified Court Reporter of the State of
6 r	recall if I dialed 911 or if I called	6	New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is
7	MR. BACCHIONE: Do you remember the		a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings as
8 d	date? You said 2015. You don't remember?		taken stenographically by and before me at the time,
9	MR. MacDERMOTT: Berkeley.		place and on the date hereinbefore set forth.
10	MR. BACCHIONE: Was it the	10	
11 s	summertime?	11	
12	MR. WINWARD: He said August.	12	
13	MR. MacDERMOTT: It was August.	13	Notary Public of the State of New Jersey
14	MR. BACCHIONE: Oh, August. Okay.	14	My Commission expires January 26, 2021
15	MR. MacDERMOTT: Yeah. August of	15	
16 '		16	Patride Cartember 2C 2010
17	MR. WINWARD: So you have a choice of	17	Dated: September 26, 2018
18 f	Four Saturdays.	18	
19	MR. MacDERMOTT: Yeah, which one I	19	
20 d	don't know.	20	
21	MR. BACCHIONE: All right. Thank	21	
22 y	/OU.	22	
23	MR. MacDERMOTT: Okay.	23	
24	(Off the record.)	24	
25	MR. WINWARD: Is there we might	25	

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1 have time for maybe one more, two more. Is there
2 anybody else that would like to have a -- that's not
 3 a petitioner?
                  All right. Seeing there's no one
 5 approaching, I thank you all for coming.
6
                  MRS. FULCOMER: Question. Could you
7 take petition signers now or not?
                  MR. WINWARD: I think because of,
9 we've almost went the whole time anyway, I think --
                  MRS. FULCOMER: That's fine.
10
11
                  MR. WINWARD: -- there would be
12 another night for that. You're always here. You're
13 not in other states like some of the other people.
14 I've bent the rule a little bit because of their
15 locations.
16
                  MR. MICHELINI: Thank you for doing
17 that.
18
                  MR. WINWARD: All right. Well, thank
19 you all for coming. The meeting is adjourned.
20
                  All in favor say aye.
21
                  ALL: Aye.
22
                  (The meeting was adjourned.)
23
24
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	64/25 66/13 66/16 66/20 66/23	<b>23rd [5]</b> 38/10 47/6 75/21 75/23 75/24
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