

**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**

Minutes

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March 15, 2021

**TOWN COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING**

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Paterna called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

3. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Andrew Paterna
Deputy Mayor Liz Pendleton
Councilor Erica Evans
Councilor Mary Justine Hockenberry
Councilor Philp Koboski
Councilor Cesar Lopez
Councilor Karen Lydecker
Councilor Lisa Maneeley
Councilor Janice Snyder

Others Present: Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager
Vanessa Perry, Asst. Town Manager/Director of H.R.
Scott Roberts, Asst. Town Manager/CIO/Emergency Mgmt.

After roll call was complete, a Moment of Silence was taken in honor of the lives lost in the past year due to COVID-19 and for Linc Street, who had passed away.

4. Mayor's Remarks

Councilor Hockenberry informed the Council that the Constitution of the United States came into force on March 4, 1789, and has been in effect for 232 years.

Councilor Hockenberry also informed the Council that Women in History is celebrated on March 8th of each year and gave examples of the different roles women are in.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Evans made a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilor Hockenberry seconded the motion.

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ITEM:

5. Adoption of Agenda (Continued)

Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to amend the agenda to move Item 17. A. (Executive Session) after Item 6 (Communications and Reports from Town Manager). Councilor Hockenberry seconded the amendment, and it was approved unanimously.

Mayor Paterna called for a vote on the amended motion; it was approved unanimously.

6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager

Town Manager Maniscalco reported on the following:

- There have been 1,496 cases of COVID-19 reported in South Windsor, with 1,445 of those cases past quarantine. There have been 51 people that have passed away due to COVID-19.
- The clinic that has been run every week has vaccinated 3,911 individuals. South Windsor has 24.5% of its residents vaccinated.
- The CDC released a protocol related to individuals who have become vaccinated. It is important to recognize that even after you have been vaccinated, you should still wear a mask, limit gathering sizes, and continue social distancing.
- Before opening the Town Hall, the Town would like to give the employees the opportunity to be vaccinated. The younger staff will not be eligible for vaccination until approximately May or June, so the Town Hall would probably not be open to the public until July.
- The Town has learned more about the COVID-19 Relief Bill that was passed at the federal level. South Windsor will receive approximately \$2,500,000, and the Board of Education will receive approximately \$1,300,000. The guidance from the Department of Treasury came out today and has been emailed to the Council. Those funds cannot be used to lower taxes. The distributions will come out in two phases, with the first coming within 30 to 90 days. A report will be put together for the Council. All of the funds have to be expended by 2024.
- The Town is moving forward with the next stage of the tax sale. Title searches are being done for all 24 properties that are slated for the tax sale. After the title searches are complete, a date will be set for the auction.

(Town Manager's Report Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

- The South Windsor Police Department announced their new K9 Program. The Town of South Windsor would like to welcome K9 Officer Mason, whose first day of training was today. Town Manager Maniscalco thanked Hartford Evergreen Masonic Lodge #88 for their donation to make this program a reality.
- A Grand Opening for Aldi was held on March 11, 2021. The Town has both the distribution center as well as a retail store at this time.

Answering questions from the Council, Town Manager Maniscalco explained that the guidance he reviewed today said that the COVID-19 Relief Funds would be distributed to municipalities within 60 days. On the statewide call last week, it was stated that it would be 90 days.

17. Executive Session

At 7:21 p.m., Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation (460 Miller Road) pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-210(b)(4) and §1-200(6)(E). Councilor Maneeley seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The following individuals went into Executive Session: Mayor Paterna, Deputy Mayor Pendleton; Councilor Evans; Councilor Hockenberry; Councilor Koboski, Councilor Lopez; Councilor Lydecker, Councilor Maneeley; Councilor Snyder; Scott Roberts, Assistant Town Manager/CIO/Emergency Management; Vanessa Perry, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Human Resources; Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager, and Attorney Richard Carella from Updike, Kelly & Spellacy.

At 7:52 p.m., the Executive Session adjourned.

7. Public Input

Nancy Yario (**Exhibit A**)

Keshav Ramesh (**Exhibit B**)

Bernard Thomas, 175 Main Street, Hartford, CT (**Exhibit C**)

Amit Karnik, 53 Jessica Drive (**Exhibit D**)

Tara Holton (**Exhibit E**)

(Public Input Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

7. Public Input (Continued)

Bart Pacekonis (**Exhibit F**)
Olivia Porcello (**Exhibit G**)
Stephen Straight, 427 Abbe Road (**Exhibit H**)
Alan Cavagnaro (**Exhibit I**)
Christopher Bernard (**Exhibit J**)
Thomas Rippchen (**Exhibit K**)
Jeff Holcombe (**Exhibit L**)
Beverly Bulkley-Herb (**Exhibit M**)
Kurt Scimone, Kathleen Lux-Scimone, and Emma Scimone (**Exhibit N**)
Dave MacDonald, 79 Laurel Street (**Exhibit O**)
Elizabeth McGuire, 89 Heritage Drive (**Exhibit P**)
Kevin Mead (**Exhibit Q**)
Anurag Joshi (**Exhibit R**)
Lisa Schwartz (**Exhibit S**)
Linda Holcombe (**Exhibit T**)
Peter and Daria Plummer, 235 Orchard Hill Drive (**Exhibit U**)
Jocelyn Lessard (**Exhibit V**)
Emma Luxemburg, 74 Rugby Lane (**Exhibit W**)

Dan Edwards, 131 Hilton Drive, stated he believes it is time for the Town Council to meet in-person in the Town Council Chambers. Mr. Edwards questioned the purchase of property at 810 Clark Street, which already seems like it has been purchased. He also questioned the discussion item on Executive Session regarding the purchase of 200 Nevers Road.

Mitchell Marks (**Exhibit X**)
Aarav Nair, 48 Jessica Drive (**Exhibit Y**)
Craig Zimmerman, 5A Amato Drive (**Exhibit Z**)
Dawn Holcombe (**Exhibit AA**)
Elizabeth Malone (**Exhibit BB**)
Braden Migneault and Noah Frank (**Exhibit CC**)
Tina Ragusa (**Exhibit DD**)
Rajeev and Punita Ranjan, 53 Spinners Run (**Exhibit EE**)

(Public Input Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

7. Public Input (Continued)

Eric Mahan, 50 Henry Road, stated that the proposed referendum for the sports facility is a project that has been discussed for many years. This field will be a multi-purpose field and will be used by multiple sports and will not just be used for night games, but will be used for practice also. This facility should be within walking distance of the high school. It should not be put in a different location in Nevers Park because it could eliminate another necessary field. There is no land around the high school available. The loudspeakers would be used for the five football games and before some games to announce the players or play music. The lights do not go beyond the reach of the field. Most games will be during the fall and the spring. Mr. Mahan urged residents to vote yes for this project.

8. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the following Town Council Meetings: Regular Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2021.

Was made by Councilor Lopez
Seconded by Councilor Snyder
The motion was approved unanimously

9. Communications from Liaisons, Officers, and Boards Directly Responsible to Council

Deputy Mayor Pendleton reported that the Senior Advisory Board met on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. It was enlightening to know what our seniors are doing. There was a baked potato drive-thru with 255 people who came and received a baked potato. The Human Services Department continues to meet the needs of our seniors. If anyone has certain needs, they should contact Human Services.

Deputy Mayor Pendleton then informed the Council that she attended the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee's meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2021. The Committee is planning to hold Fireworks on September 17th and a parade and Jubilee on September 18th. A tree planting will also be held.

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ITEM:

9. Communications from Liaisons, Officers, and Boards Directly Responsible to Council (Continued)

Councilor Hockenberry explained that the South Windsor Alliance for Families held a meeting today. They have been holding counseling sessions for anyone in need. There is a program called Strides for Positivity where they go for walks in local parks. They are holding a program for the summer called The Rising Star for middle school students. A Lucky Star program will be held for middle school and high school students. The Teen Center will be applying for a grant for the construction of a back patio. If anyone would like to donate anything to the Teen Center, please contact Liz Langevin.

10. Reports from Committees

None

11. Consent Agenda

a. First Reading

None

Councilor Snyder made a motion to approve Agenda Item 11.b.A. as a Second Reading on the Consent Agenda. Councilor Maneeley seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

b. Second Reading

A. Resolution Appointing Robert Burns (R) an Alternate to the Economic Development Commission

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Robert burns (R) an Alternate to the Economic Development Commission for a term ending November 30, 2024, to fill the expired term of Shailesh Verma.

c. Miscellaneous

None

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ITEM:

12. Unfinished Business

A. Resolution Adopting a Budget Policy Statement for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget (*Postponed from the March 1, 2021, Town Council Regular Meeting*)

WHEREAS, the South Windsor Town Council, in preparation for the upcoming budget, would like to establish a Budget Policy Statement; and

WHEREAS, the policy has been presented to the Town Council for their review; and

WHEREAS, the Budget Policy Statement for the Town of South Windsor will give direction to all Town departments and the Board of Education as they formulate their budgets

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby adopts the Budget Policy Statement for the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget as shown in attached **Exhibit FF-A**.

Was made by Councilor Lydecker
Seconded by Councilor Maneeley

Councilor Lydecker stated that the concerns that she voiced at the last meeting had been addressed.

Councilor Maneeley made a motion to amend Exhibit FF-A, letter H, eliminate "The Town will realistically." Councilor Snyder seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to amend Exhibit FF-A as follows:

- In number 1, change earliest to early.
- In letter E, add "where possible" after costs.
- In letter H, after consider add "the state's" and then eliminate "state" before funding.

Councilor Snyder seconded the amendments, and they were approved unanimously.

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ITEM:

12. A. (Continued)

Mayor Paterna called for a vote on the motion as amended; it was approved unanimously.

The following items in Exhibit FF-A were changed and will read as follows:

Objective

1. The budget will be presented to the Town Council and residents as early as possible.

2021-2022 Budget Goals

- E. Maintain or reduce personnel service costs, where possible, through the possibilities of reorganization, attrition, and/or labor negotiations (ref - #4 Strategic Plan).
- H. Estimate state revenues and consider the state's possible reductions in funding (ref - #1 Strategic Plan).

Exhibit FF-B, shows the Budget Policy Statement with all of the changes.

B. Discussion Item: The Creation of a Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission through Ordinance *(requested by the Black Lives Matter Sub-Committee)*

Councilor Evans stated that after reading the Town Attorney's opinion, she would recommend that members be required to be residents of the Town of South Windsor. The other item she would like included in the Ordinance is a Liaison who could be a business person in Town, perhaps through the Chamber of Commerce, as a non-voting representative on the Commission.

Town Manager Maniscalco suggested that the proposed Ordinance be sent to the Town Attorney for review, and at the next Town Council meeting, a public hearing be set.

Council members discussed the length of time the public hearing should be kept open to give the public ample time to give input. It was decided to allow the public hearing to remain open for approximately one week because the Council will have meetings weekly in April.

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ITEM:

13. New Business

A. Discussion Item: Review of Boards/Commissions/Committees Relative to Overlapping Duties (*requested by Councilor Snyder*)

Councilor Snyder explained that she had requested this item so Council members could review the functions of different Boards/Commissions/Committees to see if there is any overlapping functions within the Boards/Commissions/Committees. If there are overlapping, the Council could hold discussions to see if they should be combined. Councilor Snyder explained that any Board or Commission established through the Charter cannot be combined with any other Board or Commission at this time or until the Charter is opened up. There are Boards/Commissions/Committees that have a hard time making their quorums. Councilor Snyder gave some examples of Commissions she feels there may be some overlapping functions which are the Open Space Task Force and Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission, as well as the Human Relations Commission and the proposed Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission. She explained that she is not saying the Council needs to combine these Commissions, but would like the Council to review the functions to see if there are any overlapping functions between Boards/Commissions/Committees.

Councilor Evans explained that she is surprised to hear the suggestion of combining the Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission with the Human Relations Commission. The Council just unanimously passed a Statement of Support that creates the Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission. Councilor Snyder responded by explaining that during the meetings of the Black Lives Sub-Committee, the Sub-Committee had spoken about adding some more responsibilities and even more individuals under the Human Relations Commission. Councilor Snyder stated that she supports creating a Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission but has noticed a lot of the duties and functions are overlapping with the Human Relations Commission's duties and functions. Councilor Evans stated that at the last meeting, Councilor Snyder had stated that the reason the Sub-Committee wanted the Social Justice and Racial Equity to be a Commission was to give it its own teeth. Councilor Evans said she appreciated those comments and feels that the Social Justice and Racial Equity needs to remain its own Commission.

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ITEM:

13. A. (Continued)

Councilor Maneeley explained that she feels Councilor Snyder is just pointing out there may be Boards/Commissions/Committees that have overlapping functions. There may be the possibility of merging different Boards/Commissions/Committees. She used the examples of certain Commissions because they are fresh in our minds.

Councilor Lydecker pointed out the differences between the Human Relations Commission and Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission, explaining that the Human Relations Commission is about community relations, civil rights, and relations among those who reside and work in South Windsor. The Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission will be promoting policy changes and training within Town Government and the Police Department.

Councilor Snyder stated that she supports the Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission and explained that she merely brought it up to show where overlapping could be happening. This is just the first look to see if there are any opportunities to reduce Boards/Commissions/Committees, but there may not be any opportunities.

B. Discussion Item: The Creation of a Memorial Garden to Honor Residents Who Have Passed Away Due to COVID-19 *(requested by Councilor Evans)*

Councilor Evans explained that she would like the Council to discuss a way to recognize the lives lost during the COVID-19 pandemic. She suggested a memorial garden or something permanent to recognize the impact it has had on the community.

Councilor Maneeley stated that she wholeheartedly supports the desire to recognize those who have passed away with some sort of memorial. There have been so many people who have passed away in the past year, and some may not be related to COVID-19. Councilor Maneeley suggested that the memorial be more inclusive and not just related to the COVID-19 epidemic. Councilor Maneeley said she would love to support a memorial garden in Town.

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ITEM:

13. B. (Continued)

Mr. John Caldwell, Superintendent of Parks, came before the Council and offered a suggestion of a heart-shaped patio in Nevers Park where three trails come together, as shown in attached **Exhibit GG**. Also, he proposed two additional trees and two benches that could be placed near the patio. A granite memorial or raised monument could be placed on the patio. Other ideas such as a row of trees or a trellis have also been discussed but require more maintenance than the heart-shaped patio. Mr. Caldwell also informed the Council that wildflowers would be planted in the field nearby.

Councilor Evans felt that the memorial could be for those whose lives were significantly impacted by COVID-19 instead of exclusively stating those who have lost their lives in the past year due to COVID-19 and stated that she likes the idea of a row of trees and would like to know if flowering trees could be planted.

Mr. Caldwell explained that he would like a hearty tree planted, but it could be discussed what type of tree should be selected. Wildflowers will be planted in the field behind the memorial.

Deputy Mayor Pendleton said that she likes the idea of the heart-shaped patio. The Council will have to decide on the project to move forward with and suggested that Councilor Evans write something up that could be reviewed by the Council.

Councilor Hockenberry stated that she likes where the patio is being proposed and also likes the idea of a plaque. Councilor Hockenberry said she would like a pink flowering tree.

Mayor Paterna informed the Council that Councilor Evans would do some type of write-up, discuss the project with Mr. Caldwell, and come back to the next Town Council meeting with a plan.

Town Manager Maniscalco suggested that when this proposal comes back before the Council, a budget be drafted as well.

Mayor Paterna asked Council members if they would like to see this project move forward. Council members all gave consensus.

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ITEM:

13. New Business (Continued)

C. Resolution Setting a Time for a Virtual Public Hearing to Receive Citizen Input on the Proposed Board of Education Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby sets **Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 8:00 p.m.**, as the time for a Virtual Public Hearing to receive citizen input on the proposed Board of Education Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022. The public is welcome to email comments to TownCouncilComments@southwindsor-ct.gov.

Was made by Councilor Hockenberry
Seconded by Councilor Snyder

Councilor Hockenberry stated that the Council holds a public hearing every year for the Board of Education Budget to hear from the public.

Mayor Paterna called for a vote on the motion; it was approved unanimously.

D. Resolution Authorizing the Sale, Donation, or Disposal of Surplus Vehicles

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby declares the following vehicles to be "Surplus Equipment," as shown in attached **Exhibit HH**, and authorizes Town Manager Michael Maniscalco to sell, donate, or otherwise dispose of these vehicles.

Was made by Deputy Mayor Pendleton
Seconded by Councilor Maneeley
The motion was approved unanimously

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ITEM:

13. New Business (Continued)

E. Discussion item: In-Person/Hybrid Meetings (*requested by Town Manager Michael Maniscalco*)

Town Manager Maniscalco informed the Council that discussions have begun regarding holding hybrid meetings. The Council has received two memos in their packet. The first memo provides guidance and procedures in developing a hybrid public meeting with recommendations from the Health Department (**Exhibit II**). The second memo shows how the Council Chambers would need to be set up and how the public would give public input (**Exhibit JJ**). To allow for public input, the six-foot distance between individuals would need to be adhered to, as well as having to wear a mask the entire meeting. Anyone who enters the building would need their temperature checked and would need to give their names and address for contact tracing. The appropriate cleaning processes would need to take place after each meeting is held.

Answering questions from the Council, Town Manager Maniscalco explained that there would be five Council members sitting in the audience.

Councilor Snyder requested that tables be provided to the Council members who would be sitting in the audience. Town Manager Maniscalco said he would look into getting tables.

Town Manager Maniscalco explained that all of the criteria to hold a public meeting would be monitored every week.

Mr. Roberts informed the Council that the Council Chambers is all setup to hold hybrid meetings. He explained that he would like to hold training for anyone who will be using this setup to explain how it will work. A WebEx session will be running inside the Council Chambers for any Councilor joining the meeting virtually and will be shown on a big screen in the Council Chambers. Mr. Roberts explained to the Council how the camera would capture Council members and those on WebEx.

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ITEM:

13. E. (Continued)

Town Manager Maniscalco explained that five members of the public would be allowed to stay in the Council Chambers during each meeting. Mr. Roberts added that any other public that would like to speak at the podium during a meeting would be waiting in the lobby. After they speak at the podium, they would exit the Town Hall.

Town Manager Maniscalco explained further to the Council that the Governors Executive Order that allows for virtual meetings will expire on April 20th unless extended. This is an item that is being discussed and debated.

Mr. Roberts confirmed that the public would have options on how they would like to give their public input. They can come and speak in-person, or they can give public input over the phone or through email. The public will enter the Town Hall at the lower level (basement). They will sign in for contact tracing, have their temperature taken, walk down the hall towards the Registrar's Office, go up the stairs and wait in line at the appropriate distance from others. After they are done speaking, they will exit the Town Hall from the lower level. If someone needs to use the handicap ramp at the front of the Town Hall, they will be let in through the front door, have their temperature taken, and write down their name and address for contact tracing. They will then be brought to the cue, where they will wait their turn to speak. The doors in the lobby that lead into the Council Chambers will have a barricade in front of them.

Town Manager Maniscalco reiterated that the Governor's emergency powers that he put into place would end on April 20th. If those emergency powers are not extended, or the Legislature doesn't take some type of action, the Executive Order that allows for virtual meetings will end on April 20th. This would require the Town to hold in-person meetings. In these meetings, you could still have Council members who would be meeting virtually, but you would need to have five Council members in-person to make up a quorum. As long as there is a quorum, all members can vote, whether in-person or virtual.

Councilor Lydecker questioned, so if there are six members in-person and one member who is virtual, the member who is virtual can vote, and their vote can be counted even if they are not in-person and counted in the quorum? Town Manager Maniscalco answered yes.

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ITEM:

13. E. (Continued)

Councilor Lydecker then asked if there are four Council members in-person and the rest of the Council members are calling in; since there is no quorum of members in-person, the meeting could not go any further. Town Manager Maniscalco answered correct.

Councilor Lydecker questioned if five Council members are in-person, every other member could participate virtually? Town Manager answered yes; this is his understanding, but he stated he would double-check on this. Council members would be screened before entering the building and would need to wear a mask for the entire meeting. If Council members and Town staff were exposed to someone with COVID-19 during the meeting, everyone would have to quarantine for 14 days. If this were to happen, meetings might have to be canceled.

Town Manager Maniscalco told Council members that if the Council would like an extension, you should contact your State Representatives and Senators.

Answering further questions from the Council, Mr. Roberts explained that if a Council member needs to use a restroom, the restrooms on the lower floor could be used. If an Executive Session is needed, the Madden Room and Sprenkel Room could be set up for video conferencing.

Council members discussed writing a letter to the Town's State Representatives and Senators requesting the Governor extend the Executive Order to hold virtual meetings. Town Manager Maniscalco stated that he would draft a letter for the Council to review and approve at their next meeting.

F. Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Philip Koboski (R) from the Public Building Commission

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts with regret the resignation of Philip Koboski (R) from the Public Building Commission effective March 1, 2021; and

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ITEM:

13. F. (Continued)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council extends its thanks to Philip Koboski for the time he has dedicated to serving his community by his membership on the Public Building Commission.

Was made by Councilor Maneeley
Seconded by Councilor Snyder

Councilor Maneeley and Mayor Paterna thanked Mr. Koboski for his service on the Public Building Commission.

Councilor Koboski stated that he is very proud of the accomplishments of the Public Building Commission.

Mayor Paterna called for a vote on the motion; it was approved unanimously.

G. Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Philip Koboski (R) from the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts with regret the resignation of Philip Koboski (R) from the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission effective March 1, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council extends its thanks to Philip Koboski for the time he has dedicated to serving his community by his membership on the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission.

Was made by Councilor Snyder
Seconded by Councilor Maneeley

Councilor Snyder, Mayor Paterna, and Councilor Hockenberry thanked Councilor Koboski for his service on the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission.

Councilor Maneeley noted that when an individual becomes a Council member, they cannot be on other Boards and Commissions as stated in the Town Charter.

Mayor Paterna called for a vote on the motion; it was approved unanimously.

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ITEM:

13. New Business (*Continued*)

H. Resolution Appointing Miguel Proano (R) to the Public Building Commission and Postponing Consideration of this Motion until the Town Council's Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Miguel Proano (R) to the Public Building Commission for a term ending November 30, 2023, to fill the unexpired term of Philip Koboski and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

Was made by Councilor Koboski
Seconded by Councilor Snyder
The motion was approved unanimously

I. Resolution Approving a Refund of Taxes to Three (3) South Windsor Taxpayers

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves a refund of property taxes to three (3) South Windsor Taxpayers, the total of said refunds being \$668.41 and as more fully described on attached **Exhibit KK**.

Was made by Councilor Lopez
Seconded by Councilor Snyder
The motion was approved unanimously

J. Discussion Item: Budget Calendar/Budget Process (*requested by Councilor Snyder*)

Councilor Snyder requested that the Town Manager review the budget calendar related to the meeting on March 22nd, 25th, and 29th.

Town Manager Maniscalco explained that on March 22nd, the General Government Budget and Board of Education Budget would be presented to the Council. The General Government Budget will review the revenues, expenditures, and what the tax increase looks like for residents. The new budget dashboard will also be presented. A Joint Work Session between the Town Council and Board of Education will be held at 7:00 p.m. on March 25,

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ITEM:

13. J. (Continued)

2021, and a Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m. for the Board of Education's budget. At the Public Hearing, the public will have the ability to comment on the Board of Education's budget. On March 29, 2021, the Council will hold a Special Meeting if needed.

14. Passage of Ordinance

None

15. Public Input

None

16. Communications from Council

Councilor Snyder informed the Council that the Town received a request to fly the Thin Blue Line Flag to celebrate Police Appreciation Week. It is being requested to fly that flag from May 1 thru May 15th. This request will be brought to the next Town Council meeting as a discussion and then a resolution.

Deputy Mayor Pendleton stated that the Town also received a request to fly the Public Works Flag from May 16th thru May 22nd in observation of Public Works Week. Deputy Mayor Pendleton said that she would be bringing this request forward at the next Town Council meeting as a discussion.

17. Executive Session

At 10:57 p.m., Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the possible purchase of real estate for the Town pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-210 (b)(7) (200 Nevers Road). Councilor Maneeley seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The following individuals went into Executive Session: Mayor Paterna, Deputy Mayor Pendleton; Councilor Evans; Councilor Hockenberry; Councilor Koboski, Councilor Lopez; Councilor Lydecker, Councilor Maneeley; Councilor Snyder; Scott Roberts, Assistant Town Manager/CIO/Emergency Management; Vanessa Perry, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Human Resources; and Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager.

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ITEM:

17. Executive Session (Continued)

At 11:04 p.m., the Executive Session and Regular Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

[External]Referendum.

Exhibit A

nancy yario [nyario@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 7:14 PM

To: TownCouncilComments

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

I have many issues with tomorrow's referendum. I am just addressing a few points in the proposed stadium at Nevers park.

I have issue with the lack of information on the explanatory text sent to the SW voters. I am telling you that many voters of South Windsor are not informed as to the location of the stadium in the northern Nevers Park walking trails. They are also not informed that the proposed project has been divided into phases. We are voting tomorrow on phase I. I understand that phase 2 plans to add more parking lots and paving the new roadway that will cut thru the park.

Over the weekend I talked to people who were walking the trails. Many have no idea that the location of the sports stadium was in those beautiful natural fields. Can someone tell me why a map showing the location not provided to the voter? Most residents told me that they assumed that the development was hugging Sand Hill Rd or Nevers Rd. The voters are misinformed.

I have asked the town and still have not received an answer as to what is the full list of 24 items that the school accreditation agency reported South Windsor is deficient in? When does the BOE/town plan on telling the voter the 23 other items? Missing information should be disclosed to the SW voter before the referendum.

I am basically for a stadium. But, maybe we could build this attached to a school. This would get us state reimbursement. Maybe the town could look at the 23 other items and also take care of some of them - at the same time.

IMO the referendum should be postponed. There is no way I would support a stadium replacing the beautiful northern Nevers Park walking trails. Please vote no to this \$4M proposal.

Nancy Yario

Sent from my iPhone

[External]Statements 3/15 pt 8

Future Leaders in Politics [flips.w.ct@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments; Maniscalco, Michael](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 7:50 PM

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Final statement from FLIP Treasurer Keshav Ramesh

Dear Members of the Town Council and South Windsor Voters,

My name is Keshav Ramesh. I am a senior at South Windsor High School and the Treasurer of Future Leaders in Politics, an organization that champions youth voices and youth representation across the political atmosphere in our wonderful town of South Windsor. Today I'd like to discuss why I support this referendum, and why I encourage the people of South Windsor to vote yes on the items at hand. First of all, an investment into the various aspects of these proposals will be largely representative of an investment into our town's infrastructure and physical capital, a key facet of not only economic growth but also societal progress. Furthermore, this strategic spending will be an important demonstration of the town's commitment to fiscal sustainability, because this plan considers the negative long-run implications and high opportunity cost of trying to work with the limited offerings of the town's facilities and buildings. Additionally, there are numerous teams at the high school that don't have adequate space in our current facilities for practices and night games, and we are falling behind towns that don't have these issues. As a member of the boys' tennis team at the high school, I count myself lucky that we have access to six tennis courts, but it is incredibly disappointing to see the lack of investment that has gone into improving and expanding facilities for many other sports. Furthermore, repairing Pleasant Valley Road and Buckland Road, as well as the roofs at the middle school and Community Center, is a necessary step toward technological advancement and sustained growth in our town. Many might argue for delaying such projects, but they have long been needed and we need to recognize that the benefits of accomplishing this now outweigh the costs of putting this off for later. If this referendum is successful, not only will it result in all of the positive impacts previously mentioned, but it will also contribute to successful government investment into our town's real estate market over the next decade, demonstrating that South Windsor is a town that pushes for economic growth and makes decisions for the financial well-being of our local economy. I strongly urge South Windsor voters to take a moment to reflect on the amazing outcomes this referendum would have on the future of our town if passed.

Thank you for your time,
Keshav Ramesh

[External]Racial Diversity

Bernard Thomas [bthomas@wellflowersfarm.com]

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 7:35 PM

To: TownCouncilComments

Exhibit C

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Over the last 55 years, I've seen and notwithstanding the impact of the civil rights movement. The constant of the American education going down, back in the early 60s America was 3rd in education in the world now we're over 35th for majority of my life I've seen the lack of respect for a black man the many opportunities that we're giving to other people and getting a good dose of what white privilege is. **If you believe that Black and Brown people has been treated fair in this country , then stop reading this.**

Key to my thinking about this intractable problem has been the need to distinguish the role played by discrimination against black people from that played by counterproductive behavioral patterns among blacks.

This puts what is a very sensitive issue rather starkly. Many vocal advocates for racial equality have been loath to consider the possibility that problematic patterns of behavior could be an important factor contributing to our persisting disadvantaged status. Some observers on the right of American politics, meanwhile, take the position that discrimination against blacks is no longer an important determinant of unequal social outcomes. I have long tried to chart a middle course—acknowledging antiblack biases that should be remedied while insisting on addressing and reversing the patterns of behavior that impede black people from seizing newly opened opportunities to prosper. I still see this as the most sensible position.

These two positions can be recast as causal narratives. One is what I call the “bias narrative”: racism and white supremacy have done us wrong; we can't get ahead until they relent; so we must continue urging the reform of white American society toward that end.

The other is what I call the “development narrative,” according to which it is essential to consider how a person comes to acquire those skills, traits, habits, and orientations that foster successful participation in American society. To the extent that African-American youngsters do not have the experiences, are not exposed to the influences, and do not benefit from the resources that foster and facilitate their human development, they fail to achieve their full human potential. This lack of development is what ultimately causes the persistent, stark racial disparities in income, wealth, education, family structure, and much else.

In terms of prescribing intervention and remedy, these causal narratives point in very different directions. The bias narrative says that we need to have a “conversation” about race: white America must reform itself; racism must end; we need more of this or that, whatever the “this” or “that” is on the agenda of today's race reformers. One hears this kind of talk, one reads these exhortations, in newspapers and other media every day.

The development narrative puts more onus on the responsibilities of African-Americans to develop our human potential. It is not satisfied with wishful thinking like: "If we could only double the budget for some social program, the homicide rate among young African-American men would be less atrocious." Or, "If we can just get this police department investigated by the Department of Justice, then....What , Will everybody will feel safe I doubt it.

Exhibit C

Bernard H. Thomas
Executive Director/Founder
Hartford Knights Youth Organization
175 Main St 3rd Floor
Hartford, CT 06106
O 860-756-5527
C 860-982-6690
www.hartfordknights.org



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[External]My Opinion to be heard in Town Council meeting scheduled on Monday 3/15/2021

Amit Karnik [karnikamit78@gmail.com]

Exhibit D

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 6:53 PM

To: TownCouncilComments

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Hi

Town Council,
South Windsor, CT.

I am Amit Karnik, citizen of the USA and resident & taxpayer of South Windsor (53 Jessica Dr.) since Oct. 2014.

I would like to express my opinion to be heard during the South Windsor Town Council meeting scheduled on Monday 3/15/2021.

- Acquisition, renovation, improvement, equipping, and furnishing of 1645 Ellington Road, South Windsor, CT, 06074.
 - The Town has an existing Town Hall & Annexe buildings. The Town should find a possibility to construct another floor on top of existing Annexe or use defunct old Orchard Hill School or available space in old Wapping School buildings with required optimal renovation.
 - Steps to create space in the existing Town Hall,
 - Move the vault to one of these buildings.
 - Move non public facing departments & staff to one of these buildings.
 - Steps to avoid footfall to the Town Hall building,
 - Implement / improve digitization & virtualization.
 - Currently many residents visit the Town Hall to pay taxes as huge charges get levied on taxpayers during online payment using Credit Cards. The Town should find a credit card payment provider with minimum transaction charges.
 - Above steps will void acquisition, renovation, improvement, equipping, and furnishing of 1645 Ellington Road, South Windsor, CT, 06074
- Planning, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, and furnishing of the Nevers Park Sports Facility.
 - South Windsor town has plenty of play grounds & facilities. How many towns are in CT which have 2 Turf & Fields ?
 - Installing High Mast / Lights at existing SWHS Turf & Field will enable schools to host games at night too.
 - The Town can make SWHC Turf & Field dedicated for Football & Athletic. To practice & host Football, Rye ST Park has a well developed facility where games can be hosted at night too.
 - To practice Soccer / Lacrosse, SWHC can use Nevers Park / Rye ST Park and to host games. Installing High Mast / Lights at these grounds will enable schools to host games at night too.
 - To that matter TE has a field which can be used for Soccer / Lacrosse .
 - Lawrence Park located on Dart Hill has less foot fall. The town should find a possibility to use this park to practice & host Soccer / Lacrosse games.
 - Implementation of above steps as well as professional maintenance and management will optimize their usage. This will avoid planning, design, acquisition, construction,

equipping, and furnishing of the Nevers Park Sports Facility.

- South Windsor is blessed with trails around Nevers Park which is used by most of its residents. Avoiding construction of new Sports Facility will save taxpayers money as well as will save flora & fauna from destruction.
- In this COVID-19 economic downturn, somany families have lost bread & butter jobs or providers. We might have such families, brothers or sisters in our town too. The Town should concentrate on reducing expenses to bare minimum and avoid increasing tax burden on fellow residents.

Thanks

Amit Karnik

Cell # 1-425-749-1983

The essence of excellence is constant improvement.

[External]Monday Town meeting question

Exhibit E

Tara Holton [ttunesldg@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 6:58 PM

To: TownCouncilComments

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I'm an avid walker on the trails at Nevers Park. I recall back in January there was large machinery digging large holes on the upper and middle corn fields at Nevers Park. As I walked the trails even days after the machinery was gone I could still smell an overwhelming chemical

smell. Even 4 days after the site was dug up it still smelled awful. I keep asking why? Have soil samples been taking? If yes what are the results. I feel the residents need more information before voting. Why is the being RUSH????

Where will this new road be placed?

Will there be a need of a traffic light there??

Nevers road has a lot of traffic especially when the seniors are able to be back into the center.

Will the road be on the property of 200 Nevers Road? It seems that property isn't for sale but it's noted that house is now vacant.

These are strong concerns for the proposed site of the new sports fields on top of Environmental concerns for the wetlands behind proposed fields.

Fondly a new resident that has many concerns and hasn't had enough information to vote on these items.

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit F

[External]Hybrid meetings

Bart Pacekonis [bartswpz@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 6:54 PM

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To the Town of South Windsor Town Council,

The majority of the members of the South Windsor Planning and Zoning Commission would like to return to in person meetings as soon as possible. This decision is not unanimous amongst Commissioners as there are some members who would like to continue on line meetings. The draft proposal for Hybrid meetings is a step in the right direction. I would hope that any plan approved would allow for all commissioners who wish to attend in person meetings be given that opportunity in the same room. Thank you for your time and service.

Bart Pacekonis
Chairman
South Windsor Planning and Zoning Commission.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 3:05 PM

To: TownCouncilComments; Maniscalco, Michael

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

I am Olivia Porcello, a 4 year varsity member of the South Windsor High School field hockey team and now

I play club field hockey at UConn. I am writing to you today to share my support for question 5 on the March 16th Referendum. South Windsor athletics have always been competitive and it's because of the great South Windsor athletics program that I am able

to play club at a D1 school. Not only did I improve my athletic and competitive skills, being involved in South Windsor athletics has made me a better leader, a better team player, and a more well rounded human. I am in support of the new multipurpose turf

field in Nevers Park because going to sports games in high school are some of the most fond memories I have. When I look back, I remember traveling to many other schools around the state for Friday night games under the lights.

It's sad that I never got to experience a home night game as a field hockey player for South Windsor. For the sport of field hockey, it is nearly impossible to play on grass. When the turf field behind the high school would be in use by football or soccer, we would have to practice on the multi-purpose field. The game is so much slower on grass, and in those

practices, it was incredibly hard to improve our skills. Adding another turf field to South Windsor will only elevate our sports programs and create more ease for scheduling games and practices for ALL sports teams, spring and fall seasons. Even in the summer,

there have even been times that I have considered going to another town's turf just to practice due to the field at the high school being in use. Having another turf field is a necessity, and the nevers park location is in walking distance to the high school

which is a must.

I know a lot of people are concerned about the walking trails being interrupted. Training for field hockey,

I would (and still do) run on the nevers trails and go for walks with my family and friends. I love the walking trails and being around nature and I feel that adding this turf field will only improve the experience I get from training and walking around Nevers

park. There will be a clear sense of community and a lively atmosphere that reminds you of why you choose to live in South Windsor.

I only hope that in the future, more student athletes are able to experience the thrill of a night game. Not only does this positively impact a student athlete's experience, it brings the community together. When traveling to night games in high school, I would look at the stands and see all the community members cheering on their home team, wishing our town

had something similar like this to experience. My dad and I love watching field hockey games together, and I can only hope that in 5 years my dad and I can go to a South Windsor Field Hockey game under the lights and see the results of the community coming

together. Vote YES to the multi use sports field tomorrow.

[External]Nevers Park Stadium Proposal

Exhibit H

Stephen Straight [wordsongfarmer@cox.net]

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 2:51 PM

To: TownCouncilComments

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Stephen Straight

427 Abbe Road

Putting aside the significant costs of the five referendum questions, the one that affects the people of South Windsor the most is the proposal to build a huge stadium complex at Nevers Park in what are now pristine fields. If built, it would forever change the nicest park in town, used by thousands of people.

The problem is that the town did little to explain it to the citizens and seemingly rushed it onto the ballot without even much discussion. When walking the park trails every day, I can't tell you how many people I meet who have no idea it is even being proposed. Their jaws drop when I tell them. You can't expect the average citizen to scour town council minutes to find such a huge change on town lands. If you aren't on Facebook on one of the South Windsor pages specifically, you might never know about it at all.

Indeed, the Council is lucky the Journal Inquirer did a long, front-page piece on it last Saturday. At least a few more people can see it for what it is: An outrageous development of land that should instead be preserved for all the generations to come.

To add insult to injury, the ballot question describes the area as "unused land." Tell that to the hundreds of daily walkers, joggers, and cross-country skiers. Tell that to the nesting barred owls and great-horned owls now in the park. Tell it to the hawks, to the foxes, to the coyotes, and all the others members of the thriving ecosystem the stadium complex would destroy.

Ideally, this plan would have been discussed at an open town hall meeting, with advocates and critics presenting their sides, filmed and then publicized so all could study it in detail. Of course this would have included soil tests, planning and zoning discussions, assessment of the chemicals in the artificial turf, presentations by wildlife experts, etc.

The town council should pull this half-baked, ever-changing, destructive plan off the referendum until townspeople can all make an informed decision. I believe that if residents knew how big this is as planned, and what other stages are being planned without notifying people, they would vote it down and save our beautiful park. The field may well be needed, but NOT THERE.

[External]3/15 TC Comment

Exhibit I

Alan Cavagnaro [alancavy@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 3:14 PM

To: TownCouncilComments

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Dear Town Councilors, Town Manager

Maniscalco, and the town of South Windsor,

My name is Alan Cavagnaro and I am a resident of South Windsor. I write today in support for the purchase of 1645 Ellington Road, The Sports Complex at Nevers, and other referendum items. I would like to reiterate with one day till the referendum to citizens listening tonight that we are presented with an opportunity to purchase 1645 Ellington Road for a reduced price than it actually would be worth pre-covid. The purchase can allow the town to save millions based on renovation costs for the current town hall, which would amass costs for buying and renovating 1645 Ellington Road.

The Sports Complex would become a vital part of Nevers Park. I also hope people understand that Nevers Park already has fields and baseball parks to utilise, and those do not make it any less of a park than it already is. The park would

not

be destroyed, trails would be rerouted to follow the current path, and remember this is a proposed football field with 1200 seats, not a stadium. Anyone who takes a walk down to the open space area will realise besides the trails which are lightly travelled, the open area space is rarely used by citizens up to this point. This opportunity to finally meet

NEASC recommendations and provide the next generation of South Windsor playing turf with lights to allow more teams playing time, and increased attendance for games, will in the long run guarantee success for the

town and the school, as well as the citizens

who can use the field when it is not being used.

Finally,

I would like to support item 13B, which is the discussion of a memorial garden to commemorate lives lost during the Covid-19 pandemic. During these unprecedented times, it is important to recognize the lives lost during 2020 due to Covid-19. It is an important

time to bring the town together to remember all of those who we have lost.

Thank you for your time Town Councilors,

Town Manager Maniscalco, and citizens of South Windsor,

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit J

[External]Mil rate

Christopher Bernard [cbernard8344@outlook.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Thursday, March 04, 2021 6:31 PM

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Wow!!!

So South Windsor in the past few years has some of the largest companies that came to this town Coca-Cola Home Depot Aldi's Costco among many many others yet our mill rate is going up It makes you have to ask who's pockets are are being filled with our tax dollars I think we all know there are some players in this town that are getting rich off people who work for a living

Christopher J Bernard LLC

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

[External]Re: Message From Congressman John B. Larson

Thomas Rippchen [tjrippchen@yahoo.com]

To: [Congressman John B. Larson \[ct01ima@mail.house.gov\]](#); [Greg Kelly Website \[wordpress@gregkellypodcast.com\]](#); [epochtimes \[newsletter@epochtimes.com\]](#); [friends@foxnews.com](#); [Fox \[newsteam@fox61.com\]](#); [Snyder, Janice](#); [Kevin Sen. Witkos \[kevin.witkos@cga.ct.gov\]](#); [Kenneth Raymo \[kenraymo@aol.com\]](#)

Saturday, March 06, 2021 10:12 PM

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Where is the common sense with our so called leaders. Dems are allowing covid positive illegals into our country & still maintaining American Citizens to where masks, social separations & stay home. In CT we don't need higher taxes run this state like a business. Democrats want HR1 passed so they can have more votes from illegals. Their cancel culture is INSANE even Dr. Seusse books banned. I can go on & on but being 73, retired and going down the other side of the mountain I won't be around when the Radical Left absolutely destroys AMERICA.

Beijing Biden is hiding-won't give a state of the union, has problems communicating & when will he fly the Chinese Flag over the White House. We will see The Kamal become President and she got less than 2% approval from the Dems.

They want the power and they don't give a crap about AMERICA or the AMERICAN LEGAL CITIZENS. They have made AMERICA LAST. I don't respect them anymore. The Beijing Biden Cronies have SOLD AMERICA OUT.

TJ Rippchen

On Friday, March 5, 2021, 4:43:38 PM EST, Congressman John B. Larson <ct01ima@mail.house.gov> wrote:

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit L

[External]Playing Field

jeff holcombe [pxlman@yahoo.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Sunday, March 14, 2021 12:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Dear Town Councillors,

The plan to add a premium football field near to the high school is understandable. The proposed location, though, is too destructive. The walking trails provide a rare sanctuary from traffic, and have splendid views of sunsets across pastoral agricultural fields.

I lived on Abbe Rd. Ext. for 17 years and ran on the trails in the park for most of that time. Frequently, I encountered two of our iconic former mayors walking on the same trails- John Mitchell and Ed Havens. They clearly enjoyed, as I did, the full mile and a half loop that these scenic trails provide for rejuvenation and healthy exercise. The north end is quiet, while the southern half has the active recreation.

There are better places for a new athletic field. I did walk the entire area today, and around the high school itself. While I didn't measure any possible areas, there are several that should be large enough for this project, all with expandable parking nearby. These include:

1. a third field across from the police station at the Gazebo

The field could fit with some excavation of the gravel bank and slight relocation of the hiking trail and memorial trees there.

This seems the perfect spot for the project.

2. a lacrosse field north of the high school driveway

Lacrosse could be moved to the police station area.

3. a big open field north of the Community Center and south of the proposed field area.

Isolated from the woods and the peaceful north corner of Nevers Park.

The senior housing project would likely not support a football field at this location.

But this spot is close to the high school and Nevers Road

Both soccer fields from the police station area might be exchanged for this spot.

Probably less objectionable to nearby residents.

Chance to develop premium new soccer fields at the same time.

4. With some excavation and leveling, a field might fit just west of the skate park and playground along Nevers Rd.

In conclusion, I support the effort to produce a new football field near the high school, but NOT IN THIS LOCATION.

Cordially,
Jeff

Jeff Holcombe

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit M

[External]Members Park

Beverly Bulkley-Herb [beverlyherb@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Sunday, March 14, 2021 8:46 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Nevers Park creates joy for those who enjoy a natural South Windsor. Open space, peace, and natural habitat are all elements this year especially we have all found we crave. Perhaps youth could enjoy this space in a different way than an athletic complex, learning about their environment and history in this local gem. Though I no longer live in South Windsor, my entire youth was spent both on athletic complexes around town, and in the beauty of the park. Children need both. Please do not change what exists in Nevers Park.

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit N

[External]Dear SW Town Council,

Kurt Scimone [gebr.alex68@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Sunday, March 14, 2021 11:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

We are contacting you today in regards to the referendum vote happening on Tuesday, March 16. We are opposed to two of the items on the agenda.

For us, the sports complex/field is a non starter. There is a perfectly good football field at the high school. Put lights there. The field and stands are already built. Put up lights there. Why on earth would you want to ruin a perfectly good natural park area that is a major draw for residents?! We will vote against this proposal. The other no voter for us is the purchasing of the bank building. Zoning already voted no and we agree with them. If the town purchases the building there will be a loss of property taxes and you still have to upgrade the existing building.

Respectfully,
Kurt Scimone
Katheen Lux-Scimone
Emma Scimone

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

[External]laurel street speeding (3/15/2021)

D & T MacD [dtmac01@sbcglobal.net]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Sunday, March 14, 2021 1:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Mayor, Councilors,

As a result of no action by either the Town Council members or the Town Agencies, the speeding continues on Laurel Street.

To support our statement we conducted speed surveys from Tuesday, Mar 9th through Friday, Mar 12th and hereon, summarize our readings:

-There were ninety-three cars, of which sixty-one percent were traveling at speeds of thirty miles per hour to forty-seven miles per hour or equivalent speeds of seventy-eight to one hundred twenty-two miles per hour on I-84.

-Our surveys were conducted between 7:30 AM and 8:30 AM, as that time period is well within the 6:30 AM to 9:00 AM time period that we were led to believe by the Town agencies that enforcement efforts would be made to control the speeding.

As our representatives, your inaction supports our belief that you condone the speeding and also indicates your complicity in our Town Agencies refusal to enforce the speed limits set for our protection.

Your continued refusal to either contact us concerning this issue or have a meaningful dialogue of any sort about this issue is extremely disappointing.

Dave MacDonald
79 Laurel Street

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit P

[External]Elizabeth McGuire South Windsor

erm999@aol.com

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Sunday, March 14, 2021 2:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Elizabeth McGuire
89 Heritage Drive
South Windsor, CT

Good evening, town council members-

I am writing in reference to Item 12B on tonight's agenda, to support the creation of a town commission on racial diversity and equity. I believe our town should be engaged in an ongoing effort to create a climate of inclusion in our schools, town government and the community at large. Many surrounding towns have taken the lead on establishing similar commissions and South Windsor should do the same. A permanent commission would give us the opportunity to study, review, and implement policies to show our commitment to creating a more diverse community.

Regards,
Elizabeth McGuire

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

[External]Comments to be read during the meeting of March 15, 2021

Kevin Mead [kevin@mead.me]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 1:32 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Good

Evening. My name is Kevin Mead and I graduated from South Windsor High School in 2016. I am making a comment here today to voice my concerns about the proposal to spend an estimated \$500,000 for the renovation of our police department, which includes the construction of a women's locker room. This summer during the Black Lives Matter marches in South Windsor, I had the opportunity to hear my black peers detail their horrifying and dehumanizing experiences at the hands of South Windsor Police. I've also had the opportunity to witness the incompetence, brashness and intolerance that the SWPD are prone to exhibiting in the mental health crises of my friends and peers. It is extremely concerning to me that we are considering spending extra tax dollars to build more infrastructure to hire more officers. While the police chief claims this expenditure will be used to create a more equal police force, it has not been properly explained how our current force has been able to hire and accommodate women up to this point without a women's locker room. There is also no persuasive research that suggests that making departments more diverse significantly reduces use of force incidents, or improves the highly toxic culture of American policing that enforces and deepens prejudice and violence in our communities. Therefore, it is my view that our town should strongly oppose spending any extra taxpayer money improving or expanding our current police infrastructure, and instead seek professional outside council to properly reallocate funds from our police force and build a set of cutting edge community resources to better address our community's needs. While this future is not on Tuesday's ballot, the very least the voting progressives of this town can do is vote against this unnecessary and notably large \$500,000 expenditure, and pursue common sense steps towards this future, such as permanently removing school resource officers from South Windsor High School, and creating a trained mental health response team to begin changing and shrinking the responsibilities of our officers. If we dedicate ourselves to a future with less policing, it is nonsensical to renovate or add more locker space to our current police station, and I hope, like as will be brought about from the more urgent expenditures on this ballot, we can use our tax dollars to achieve our long term goals of being a healthy, safe and welcoming community for everyone. Thank you.

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit R

[External]Please help save Nevers Park

Anurag Joshi [anurag.vjoshi@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 8:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Respected members of town council,

I would like to bring to your attention the concerns that thousands of residents of our town have regarding the proposed stadium at Nevers Park.

Our town already has two football fields and it will be great if the town can look at promoting other sports in our town. An indoor swimming pool or a bike trail or badminton courts can all help promote different sports in our community.

If there is a reason that we need an additional football stadium why do we want to concentrate everything near Nevers park. Leveraging unused land around the Jon Fitch Blvd will not only be cheaper but also diversify the facilities within the town.

Building a stadium in Nevers park will permanently cause environmental damage and also disturb the peaceful and serene surrounding that the Park trails currently offer. Please also understand the amount of sound & light disturbance that will be caused to the residents around Nevers Park and the impact to the wild life there.

There are countless permanent residents & tax payers around the town who are not yet registered as voters but would like their voice to be heard and counted before the town imposes this decision on them.

Thanks for hearing our concerns and hoping we get the necessary consideration.

Anurag Joshi

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit S

[External]Stadium Project

Schwartz, Lisa [Lisa_Schwartz@cinfin.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 10:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

I have been a resident of SW for 25 years and have never had to get involved in the choices the town has made. I have had two children go through the school system and are doing well thanks to the investments we make in our schools. I am very disappointed on the rushed referendum to put a large sports complex in an open space that is used by many for walking, snow shoeing, x country skiing and just relaxing and enjoying nature. This property was bought with the expectation to keep it as passive recreation. During the pandemic, many people found a release in getting out into open space as most of the town parks were well used with full parking lots. Our town is ranked high because of the investment in our schools and our quality parks. The mis information on the referendum with a picture including a track, no location information, no information on the phases to follow, no information on environmental impact or how much will be needed for chemical abatement. I hear from a few that this has been looked at for years. If this is true, why the rush with no transparency and no time for people to attend an in person town meeting to discuss. Why are just a few people making this decision. This is being directed by the Board of Education. Craig is the one organizing the yes group. Has this been discussed and passed by the board of Ed? So much wrong with the referendum. Most of us do agree with a need for more fields and we should find a adequate space for them. Not an open park. We have lights at Rye, the teams could go for a couple of night games a year there. No need for transportation as these would be night games and parents are responsible for getting them there. Not in this open space. Not in this location!! There have been a lot of other suggestions being brought up. Lets take the time to have more people look into the possibilities and vote on this when more thought by more people have the time to look into it. Never at Nevers!!

[External]Public Comment for March 16th Referendum

Exhibit T

Linda Holcombe [lindakholcombe@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 11:21 AM

To: TownCouncilComments

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

To whom it may concern,

Speaking as an environmental and political science scholar, including a masters in environmental science from Yale, I wish to note that the proposed Nevers Park Sports Facility is a failure of responsible governance on multiple levels and does not represent the best of South Windsor. Not only was this project opaque in every level of formation, there was no environmental impact assessment completed for construction in a public natural area, no alternatives offered to the public, and no account for hosting a referendum during a global pandemic.

The lack of an independent environmental impact assessment alone is enough to disqualify this project from consideration. The Nevers Park reserve has been a source of natural beauty, habitat, and recreation for the town for generations. Countless residents have spent their childhood and now parenthood using these trails to escape the bustle of development. Part of the beauty of this part is the wildlife and quiet that comes with it - both of which would be severely (and possibly irrevocably) disrupted by the proposed sports facility. The use of artificial turf alone has sweeping impacts throughout a biome, degrading the environment and potentially killing native plants and animals. Pavement has immense and well-known repercussions on ecosystems, throwing entire water and plant growth cycles out of whack. These are just small pieces of the proposed project, but each alone is sufficient to undermine it. The failure to do an environmental impact assessment shows a complete lack of long-term thinking or planning and blatant disregard for the impact on South Windsor natural space, ecosystems, and neighborhoods in the area.

The lack of information publicly available is a travesty of transparency. Hosting such a sweeping proposition during a global pandemic without the option of absentee voting for personal health suggests underhanded tactics designed to exclude and minimize the voices of South Windsor. Not being provided sufficient information to inform a proposition vote is a disservice to the people of South Windsor and an insult to our intelligence. Why were we not made aware of alternative sites for this project, such as Rye Street Park or modifying existing fields such as the numerous baseball fields across the street? There are alternatives that do not have the same impact that can accomplish similar goals, but these do not appear considered and were definitely not made available to the public to allow them to make informed decisions.

Why is no one asking why \$3.9 million is best invested in yet another athletic field when study after study shows that the best way to get into and get funded in college is through academics? Such a project suggests South Windsor leadership is prioritizing flashy quick-fixes and image over integrity and real measures of support for South Windsor kids and youth. What are our goals? Are we suddenly less prestigious because we don't have a flashy astroturf stadium in walking distance? Or does this fancy project obscure that what we desperately need is investment in educational opportunities for our students to become more competitive for higher learning?

The parents advocating for this project frame it in terms of supporting children. This is short-sighted and factually incorrect. Athletic scholarships are few and often inadequate to support studies, whereas merit scholarships are far more accessible. Even from the athletic standpoint - any good athlete knows it's the training and not the field that makes the game. Were we not supported when we played on less fancy fields growing up? Were our athletics weaker or less substantial? Were we hurt by getting grass stains instead of astroturf burns? Were we less able to play sports throughout the entire history of South Windsor and public education because we didn't have this expensive facility? To say this yes is both absurd and insulting to the rich history of our town. High school athletics is meant to be fun, an amazing opportunity to bond among peers, and to learn self-discipline. None of this requires astroturf, any more than it did my generation in the '90's or my parent's generation in the 60's.

Let's call this what it is: poorly thought out window dressing. What we need is a real investment in our kids, not astroturf. Show us how you're actually taking care of our communities and not how you're degrading them by destroying what little natural space we have left to preserve our peace and distracting us by flashy facilities instead of hard, meaningful investment in our futures.

Signed- a concerned resident of South Windsor and active user of Never Park nature trails of over 3 decades

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

[External]Comments to the SW Town Council, Monday, March 15, 2021

dariap@aol.com

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 11:24 AM

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Good Evening. Thank you for your continued accommodations to residents during this safety Covid shutdown and for allowing for virtual comments.

We wish to address briefly the Council's discussion item, 12 B, regarding the establishment of a Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission. Over our 54 years as residents, South Windsor has changed from a small rural suburb to one declared six months ago by American Money Magazine as the 12th best community in which to live. We personally have witnessed expansion in many areas, including being privileged to live in a town with growth in racial and ethnic diversity. The establishment of a justice and equity commission comes to you as a unanimous recommendation from your bi-partisan subcommittee. Thank you to those members for their work.

National events of the past, but most dramatically from the last year, make the establishment of this commission both timely and forward thinking. Essential to any community is representation of its diversity on community boards and commissions, as well as among town employees.

The Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission needs to be its own stand alone commission, not a sub-set of another commission. It is important for all living in South Windsor that this commission have continued and sustained authority for greater influence in making recommendations.

Thank you.

Peter and Daria Plummer
235 Orchard Hill Drive

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit V

[External]Statements 3/15

Future Leaders in Politics [flipsw.ct@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments; Maniscalco, Michael](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 1:58 PM

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Here is the statement from FLIP member Jocelyn Lessard

Good Evening, my name is Jocelyn Lessard and I am writing in favor of question 5 of the referendum, which is the new sports field behind the barn at nevers park.

This will be very beneficial to our community as it will give sport's teams more chances to play, as it will be lit for night games. Up to now, we have only seen morning and day football games, with Varsity and JV having to play on the same field. With this new sports field, times and sections of players will be way more flexible.

Many are worried about the lights being distracted to the town, but this sports field will not be close enough to cause intense distraction to neighboring houses and buildings.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Referendum Comment

Hello! My name is Emma Luxemburg of 74 Rugby Lane. I am a lifelong resident of South Windsor and a proud member of FLIP SW, or Future Leaders in Politics South Windsor. I am writing to express my support for all questions asked on tomorrow's referendum ballot. Not only will the passage of all questions result in the betterment of our town properties and facilities, but it will also directly improve the quality of our community.

Over the last few weeks, I have had the incredible opportunity to research, evaluate, and inform others of the benefits that this referendum entails. Through my work as a FLIP member, I have been able to speak with local elected officials, experts, and concerned citizens. Throughout all of my research and discussions around tomorrow's referendum, my support for the passage of all questions has yet to waiver.

As a town, we will be presented with a unique opportunity tomorrow at the polls. We as residents of South Windsor have the chance to vote for something that, on paper, will benefit our facilities and utilities. But most importantly, the passage of all questions will benefit our town's quality of education, prioritize gender equality in the workplace, ensure greater accessibility to our local government, and improve our South Windsor community as a whole. I urge everyone to make a voting plan, know where your voting location is, and plan when and how you will get there. Thank you again for considering my thoughts and I look forward to seeing everyone at the polls tomorrow!

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit X

[External]Statements 3/15

Future Leaders in Politics [flipsw.ct@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments; Maniscalco, Michael](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 1:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Here is the statement from FLIP Member Mitchell Marks

Distinguished Town Councilors and Citizens of South Windsor,

Hello, my name is Mitchell Marks and I am a member of SW FLIP (Future Leaders in Politics). We should be compelled to put aside partisan politics and ignore the plethora of misinformation that is being purposely and maliciously spread on social media. Rather than focus on the politics associated with this referendum tomorrow, we must consider the numerous beneficial economic effects that all five items will have on the future of South Windsor, a town that is becoming increasingly enticing to those looking to live here and is experiencing accelerated economic development, even amid an unprecedented pandemic. First, the purchase of a new Town Hall at 1645 Ellington Road is a rational and financially viable opportunity that will ensure the continued economic expansion of South Windsor and will support the success of our town's ongoing efforts to increase its commitment to smart growth. Furthermore, this purchase will benefit future generations of politicians and government officials, such as members of SW FLIP, that wish to lead South Windsor and facilitate its development into a town that guarantees economic and social equality and opportunity for all of its citizens. Along with the purchase of a new Town Hall, the renovation of the current Town Hall at 1540 Sullivan Avenue into a small business welcome center will allow businesses to be confident that they will experience continued support from, and a close partnership with the Town of South Windsor. Secondly, the construction of a new field at Nevers Park will inevitably provide a boost to South Windsor's revenue and will enable our town to become more athletically and financially competitive with various other towns that have had these large fields for years. Although I do understand some people's concerns that the middle of a pandemic is not the time for the purchase of a new field, I also can see how this purchase and the revenue earned from the events held at this field will serve our town in overcoming any potential ramifications that may arise in the future from the struggles of this pandemic. To continue, the expansion of the women's locker room at the South Windsor Police Department will allow us to pursue our town-wide goal of gender equality and will guarantee that women continue to have a valuable presence in our police department. Not much needs to be said about the roads and roofs because they are commonsense infrastructural improvements that are essential for any town, regardless of its economic climate. To conclude, it is vitally important that all five questions pass on the referendum tomorrow as they will ensure that South Windsor remains a nationally-ranked town for its quality of life and that we experience economic prosperity, immense success, and smart growth for years in this exceptionally successful town.

Thank you,

Mitchell Marks

580 Miller Road

My name is Aarav Nair and I live on 48 Jessica Drive. I am currently a junior at South Windsor High School. I write in support of the measures on the referendum tomorrow. As a community, it is our responsibility to leave South Windsor in the best possible way for future generations. By addressing the issues that face our town now, we shift that responsibility away from our children. South Windsor's commitment to our children was evidenced by our decision to rebuild all four of our elementary schools. Fixing our roads and roofs, building a multi-use field, renovating our police department, and purchasing a new town hall are steps to continue this commitment.

While these measures will cost us in the short term, they promise long-term gains. All of the changes on this referendum are necessities. To continue our growth and maintain our spot as one of America's best towns, we must be willing to make these investments. We are fortunate enough to have access to historically low interest rates. It would be fiscally irresponsible to hold off and not take advantage of them to make these much needed changes.

I thank the Town Council for their time.

March 15, 2021

To: Town Manager Maniscalco, Mayor Paterna & the Town Council

From: Craig Zimmerman, 5A Amato Drive

As I have stated before, while I am a member of the Board of Education, I am commenting tonight just as a private citizen and resident of South Windsor.

First of all, I would like to thank each of you for voting in a bipartisan, almost unanimous manner to send each of the projects to referendum – which ultimately lets the majority of the voters decide.

After a long and sometimes “interesting” discussion period, tomorrow is the referendum vote. I am asking everyone to:

- 1) Please **VOTE YES** for an additional synthetic field for both games and practices that can be used even when grass fields are wet and unplayable, primarily for youth and high school soccer, football, lacrosse & field hockey players - that will also be available for use by the general public.
- 2) Please **VOTE YES** for a field location that is within walking distance of the high school, in a park intended to include this type of field.
- 3) Please **VOTE YES** for lights which will allow practices & games to happen in the fall when it gets dark early between 5:30-7:00PM, and for regular night games which give the families and the community the opportunity to watch and support their children and teams.
- 4) Please **VOTE YES** for this needed field, which has been discussed in great detail since at least 2013.

Please remember that your regular voting locations will be open from 6:00AM to 8:00PM. The bottom line, is please **VOTE YES** tomorrow, Tuesday, March 16th.

[External]concern about March 16 Referendum and Nevers Sports Facility Proposal

DAWN HOLCOMBE [dawnho@aol.com]

Exhibit AA

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 2:44 PM

To: TownCouncilComments

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Greetings,

I am writing to express strong objections to the March 16 referendum and, in particular, to the Nevers Sports Facility Complex on that referendum.

In the middle of a pandemic, when there are no in person Town Council meetings, and no opportunity for town resident conversations in public forums about issues, it is unconscionable to put forth a referendum for millions of dollars. Both town residents and businesses are suffering financially, and this referendum shows our town going on a spending spree. Not a wise move when every seat on the council is up for election in just a few months.

The Nevers Sports Facility Complex is an embarrassment that should never have been brought forward at all. The history of this project, and the location go back decades. This town manager and town council have run roughshod over the legitimate history of that parcel, and put forth a misleading ballot question and explanatory notes.

- This Sluzkanis parcel of land was purchased in 1987/88. the town council at the time was extensively covered and documented as to their intention for this particular parcel.
 - "Town Council members agreed Monday that the Sluzkanis property, 58 acres north of Nevers Road park, would best be used for passive recreation. 'Our desire is to keep the property as wild as possible, as untouched as we possibly can, yet get people in there so they can see it.' Council member Linda Sagnese said. "
- Further discussions in 2012/2013 and in 2018 argued that active recreation should be allowed. But what is being proposed in this sports complex is major development, a far cry from recreation.
- From 1988 until now, that northern parcel of land has evolved into the crown jewel of the towns park system. Hundreds of town residents and guests use it regularly, in all weather. With the town's only accessible trails, residents of all mobility can enjoy moving through the fields and woods. It is a haven for wildlife, including deer, rabbits, coyote, birds, and other animals. Great horned owls nest in those woods and feed on the fields. This is a parcel of Nevers Park that is separated from the other development activity elsewhere in Nevers Park. It has a vivid presence in the hearts and minds of South Windsor residents of all ages.
- The sports facility complex was defeated in 2012/2013, and unable to reach any viable status in succeeding years. This appeared suddenly as a fully developed and modeled multiphase project in January 2020. The TM declined to put it on the referendum due to its costs. Then in February, it resurfaces, has millions cut from the total, and is abruptly placed on the March 16 referendum.
- The explanatory notes created to explain the project to voters do not include a site plan, do not reference exactly where in Nevers Park the project is planned, do not reference any information regarding scope of the project (1,200 seat bleachers, 9,200 sq feet of buildings, utilities, a 2,300 foot access road, and over 200 parking spaces plus overflow grass parking), and show only a picture of a football stadium from a different town complete with a track (which is in the second phase of the project). This project was not ready to be presented to the voters.
- There was no discussion regarding the location and alternatives. Subsequent social media threads have made it clear that the location is one of the primary objections to the project. Placement of a sports complex in the heart of what is now a quiet natural town park would destroy that entire section of the park for the use of the trails and the ecosystem.
- The project was rushed through to vote without the courtesy of public debate. in 2012/2013, the sports proposal was discussed over months, in a public forum. Such an obviously sensitive issue should have been treated with the same transparency this time, not pushed through during a pandemic with virtually no public input.
- Voters have not been given a site plan by the town for review and consideration. It is unconscionable for town leadership to ask voters to consider spending almost \$4 million dollars without showing, in detail, the plans and the scope of the project, including the planned multiple phases and footprint of the project for each phase. That omission alone should invalidate this question on the ballot.
- No environmental impact studies - this location is in the heart of a much loved, heavily used natural park. This is not a simple field being proposed...it is major development, with construction of buildings, parking, roads, and synthetic turf the size of a small neighborhood. Even after construction, the lasting environmental impact of the synthetic turf, the noise, the loudspeakers, the lights, the traffic, and the footprint on the surrounding trails, fields and woods will be enormous. Failure to recognize that and study it before just deciding to plop this major development

into land originally and always intended for preservation is abominable, and shows no respect for the town or its residents.

- Contaminated soil. Soil testing has been done on those fields, and contamination found. There was zero discussion made public to voters of the impact of those findings on the park or the proposal. That is unacceptable.
- State funds - state land preservation funds were used to purchase this parcel of land. There are state statutes that restrict what can be done to such lands. Major development, construction, bulldozing, tree cutting, land removal, noise and soil pollution, synthetic turf and its toxins, are all far in excess of such allowable activities. The state will not act until violation actually happens, but do we really want to put the town and this park through that scenario?

The Town Manager and Town Council have acted in bad faith with the voters by placing the Nevers Sports Facility on the March 16 referendum. The lack of transparency, public debate, explanatory notes that have glaring omissions of critical information related to scope, location, multiple phases, and size, do not meet the criteria for a town project vote or disclosure.

To allow such major development/construction/destruction to ever be proposed for this jewel of the town, this natural park, walking trails, woods and fields shows a utter disregard for the town, its history, its legacy and its voters. To move forward with a proposal without even alerting town residents that use that park or accurately providing information prior to the vote to make it clear to every town voter that this was the planned location is unworthy of any town official. To consider any major development in such a well established natural town park without first conducting an environmental impact study should be a career limiting move on that part of any town official. To attempt to take such actions in such an rushed and non-transparent manner, should be a career limiting move on the part of any town official.

All town council seats are up for election this year. The town officials are up for annual reviews. Residents of this town have long memories, and respect their town parks and legacy. This is a complete embarrassment that shows lack of respect for the town, for its lands, and worse, lack of ingenuity in seeking the many obvious alternatives to the course of action that was proposed.

If proximity to the high school is needed, a careful review of all the fields along Nevers Road should be considered. There is a high volume of town sports that do not involve high school students. Those could be relocated and the stadium put there, probably across from the police station. Preserve Nevers Park, and act smarter for our town.

Thanks, Dawn

Dawn Holcombe FACMPE MBA ACHE
33 Woodmar Circle
cell/main 860-305-4510,
dawnho@aol.com (main)

Exhibit AA

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)**[External]Statements 3/15 pt 5**

Exhibit BB

Future Leaders in Politics [flipsw.ct@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments; Maniscalco, Michael](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 3:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

The following is a statement from FLIP member Elizabeth Malone

To the South Windsor Town Council,

My name is Elizabeth Malone, and I am a graduate of the South Windsor High School Class of 2020. Although I am at college in North Carolina now, I wanted to stay connected to the South Windsor community, so I joined the Future Leaders in Politics organization.

Membership in this organization has enabled me to learn about the town politics, particularly as a member of the Media and Expansion subcommittees, in charge of the social media accounts and sharing information with our followers.

In

terms of the upcoming referendum, I wanted to show my support for the various policies on the table. I previously expressed my support for the multipurpose turf field in Nevers Park and the creation of women's locker rooms in the South Windsor Police Station.

I would now like to show support for the purchase of the bank building on Ellington Road and the renovation of the current town hall building. Purchasing the bank would cost the town \$3.9 million, and the renovations would cost \$1.3 million for a total of

\$5.2 million. However, if the town does not approve these referendum items, it can cost upwards of \$14 million to renovate the current town hall. Not only is this nearly triple the cost of the alternative option, but it also wastes the generous amount of space

offered by the empty bank building and inhibits the current town hall from being used for other services.

I

hope that you will take some of my thoughts into consideration as you move forward on these referendum items. In my mind, the best option is clear, as it is the most cost effective and enables the town to expand on its resources. It has been a tough year,

but I am excited to see how our town can grow and am especially grateful that through FLIP, I can keep in touch with my South Windsor roots.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Malone



**South Windsor Future Leaders in Politics
March 15th, 2021**

Town Councilors, Town Manager and Members of the Public,

Tomorrow, South Windsor has the opportunity to support smart growth for our community's future. There has been much debate regarding the upcoming five-item referendum to fix our roads, support local sports teams, and improve facilities for our town's government.

Future Leaders in Politics (FLIP) provides real opportunities and service experiences to South Windsor's youth that unite our community around a shared vision. Therefore, we believe that the passage of all five referendum items is critical to ensuring that South Windsor continues to be a nationally-ranked place to live.

With the current town hall's state of disrepair, and restoration estimates totalling \$14 million, South Windsor's residents will be relieved to know there is another option on the table. The proposal to purchase and renovate a new property on Ellington Road not only saves the town millions, but also real dollars at a minimal cost to taxpayers. Repairing roofs for our schools, updating locker rooms for female police officers, and creating modern sports facilities to bring thousands together will prioritize residents years into the future.

Regarding conversations on the referendum, we must not misinformation divide and distract us from what is most important: ensuring that South Windsor continues to be a great place to grow up.

Residents should be encouraged by the efforts of our local leaders to work diligently toward putting our town on the path to success. There is no better time to act, so we can enhance, empower, and expand the future of South Windsor.

Thank you for your time, and to all community members, regardless of your position on these questions please be sure to vote tomorrow and make your voice heard.

Braden Migneault, FLIP Vice-Chair
Noah Frank, FLIP Chair

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit DD

[External]Nevers Park

Tina Brunelli [neptune385@aol.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 4:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Good Afternoon,

I am writing in regards to the Stadium/Sports complex referendum proposed in Never Park. Although I would support the athletes of South Windsor getting an additional area to use, I do not agree on this area for a few reasons. One being the quiet area of which this location is for those that use it as a walking area. I personally use this area to walk my dog. And it is a beautiful spot that offers respite from the other areas of the park where the soccer fields are, play grounds etc. If this stadium should get approved and go in, part of the trail will need to be moved, meaning while construction goes on, the trail will be unusable, and the area itself will be unusable even if the trail is moved prior. This will bring cars deep into the park for a parking lot, which cars have never been allowed this far into the park. This is noted as "Phase one". What is "Phase Two", or three, or four for that matter. How much of this park is going to be developed for athletic recreation? This area of the park as it lays now is available for everyone to use. Once developed into a stadium, it's only available for athletes. I won't ever use it. Nobody in my household will. But we do use the trails. What about wildlife in that area of the park? The noise and development will push them out into the surrounding neighborhoods. Residents already complain about the critters out and about, all of this development around town does not help. I see a lot of wildlife when I walk depending on the time of day. Nevers park walking trails are always bustling with walkers and families. I've seen babies in strollers, individuals in wheelchairs even. No other parks offer walking trails that can accommodate individual needs such as those. This area is very important to so many in town that walk and enjoy nature and can't manage a difficult hike. There have been so many varying/conflicting bouts of information around this as well that without the ability to be heard at a town council meeting, this whole thing should've been tabled until November.

Thank You
Tina Ragusa

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#)

Exhibit EE

[External]No for Sports Stadium Complex

rajeev ranjan [rajeevranjanrana@gmail.com]

To: [TownCouncilComments](#)

Monday, March 15, 2021 5:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Hello

We as residents of South Windsor oppose the move to build a stadium complex in town at the expense of natural playground as well as increase in tax amount.

We think this is not right priority for us at the same time causing permanent damage to our green patches, those beautiful natural playgrounds.

Regards

Rajeev & Punita

53 Spinners Run

South Windsor

Sent from my iPhone

**TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR
FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022
Town Council Budget Policy Statement
(DRAFT)**

GENERAL STATEMENT

The Town of South Windsor's annual budget is a document that creates a financial plan for the fiscal year and determines the financial impact on property owners. Per the Town Charter Section 704, the Town Council will review and approve or amend the proposed Board of Education Budget, General Government Budget, Capital Budget and Debt. The purpose of this budget policy statement is to provide guidance to the Town Manager concerning the creation and presentation of the proposed annual budget.

OBJECTIVE

1. The budget will be presented to the Town Council and residents as earliest as possible.
2. The proposed budgets shall be presented utilizing the safest method possible during the COVID-19 Pandemic consistent with guidance from DPH and the DCD.
3. Ensure taxpayers have input in the budget process by utilizing public hearings (WebEx Virtual), Town website, local newspaper notices, Citizens Guide to the Budget (website) and Town Council and Board of Education meetings/public input.
4. Maintain transparency through various forms of distribution of the budget documents in a safe manner.
5. Budgets presented should reflect the guidelines and goals presented here as well as projected revenue, anticipated State of CT funding, and current economic conditions, including COVID-19 related expenses.
6. Propose a budget that maintains or increases the current level of services.
7. Utilize additional revenue realized from the Grand List to offset tax increases to taxpayers.

2021-2022 BUDGET GOALS

- A. Continue to ensure public safety, health and welfare for all residents of all ages and to meet the diverse needs of our community (ref - #5 & #6 strategic plan).
- B. Sustain the financial stability of the Town with a continued effort to strive for a AAA credit rating (ref - #1 strategic plan).
- C. Preclude using the "Fund Balance" to lower the annual mill rate or pay for the Town operating expenses (ref - #1 strategic plan).

- D. Realize efficiencies and cost savings through review and analysis of the current operational practices that may be redundant, no longer necessary or can be delivered in a cost-efficient manner (ref - #4 strategic plan).
- E. Maintain or reduce personal services costs through the possibilities of reorganization, attrition and/or labor negotiations (ref - #4 strategic plan).
- F. Appropriate sufficient funding for the Capital Improvement Plan after, the Town Council evaluates and approves the proposed budget and projects for maintenance, service or repairs (ref - #3, #4, #6 strategic plan).
- G. Continue to support investments and updates in Information Technology for efficiencies and enhancements of services to the staff and public.
- H. The Town will realistically estimate state revenues and consider possible reductions in state funding (ref - #1 strategic plan).
- I. Seek cost-savings by pursuing regional sharing of services.
- J. Support the continued efforts to grow the tax stabilization fund (ref - #1 strategic plan).
- K. Work to realize efficiencies and cost savings for taxpayers.

Date Approved by Town Council: _____

**TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR
FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022
Town Council Budget Policy Statement**

GENERAL STATEMENT

The Town of South Windsor's annual budget is a document that creates a financial plan for the fiscal year and determines the financial impact on property owners. Per the Town Charter, Section 704, the Town Council will review and approve or amend the proposed Board of Education Budget, General Government Budget, Capital Budget, and Debt. The purpose of this budget policy statement is to provide guidance to the Town Manager concerning the creation and presentation of the proposed annual budget.

OBJECTIVE

1. The budget will be presented to the Town Council and residents as early as possible.
2. The proposed budgets shall be presented utilizing the safest method possible during the COVID-19 Pandemic consistent with guidance from DPH and the CDC.
3. Ensure taxpayers have input in the budget process by utilizing public hearings (WebEx Virtual), Town website, local newspaper notices, Citizens Guide to the Budget (website), and Town Council and Board of Education meetings/public input.
4. Maintain transparency through various forms of distribution of the budget documents in a safe manner.
5. Budgets presented should reflect the guidelines and goals presented here as well as projected revenue, anticipated State of CT funding, and current economic conditions, including COVID-19 related expenses.
6. Propose a budget that maintains or increases the current level of services.
7. Utilize additional revenue realized from the Grand List to offset tax increases to taxpayers.

2021-2022 BUDGET GOALS

- A. Continue to ensure public safety, health, and welfare for all residents of all ages and to meet the diverse needs of our community (ref - #5 & #6 Strategic Plan).
- B. Sustain the financial stability of the Town with a continued effort to strive for a AAA credit rating (ref - #1 Strategic Plan).
- C. Preclude using the "Fund Balance" to lower the annual mill rate or pay for the Town's operating expenses (ref - #1 Strategic Plan).

- D. Realize efficiencies and cost savings through review and analysis of the current operational practices that may be redundant, no longer necessary, or can be delivered in a cost-efficient manner (ref - #4 Strategic Plan).
- E. Maintain or reduce personnel service costs, where possible, through the possibilities of reorganization, attrition, and/or labor negotiations (ref - #4 Strategic Plan).
- F. Appropriate sufficient funding for the Capital Improvement Plan after the Town Council evaluates and approves the proposed budget and projects for maintenance, service, or repairs (ref - #3, #4, #6 Strategic Plan).
- G. Continue to support investments and updates in Information Technology for efficiencies and enhancements of services to the staff and public.
- H. Estimate state revenues and consider the state's possible reductions in funding (ref - #1 Strategic Plan).
- I. Seek cost-savings by pursuing regional sharing of services.
- J. Support the continued efforts to grow the tax stabilization fund (ref - #1 Strategic Plan).
- K. Work to realize efficiencies and cost savings for taxpayers.

Date Approved by Town Council: March 15, 2021

150-220 Nevers Rd

2 Memorial Trees

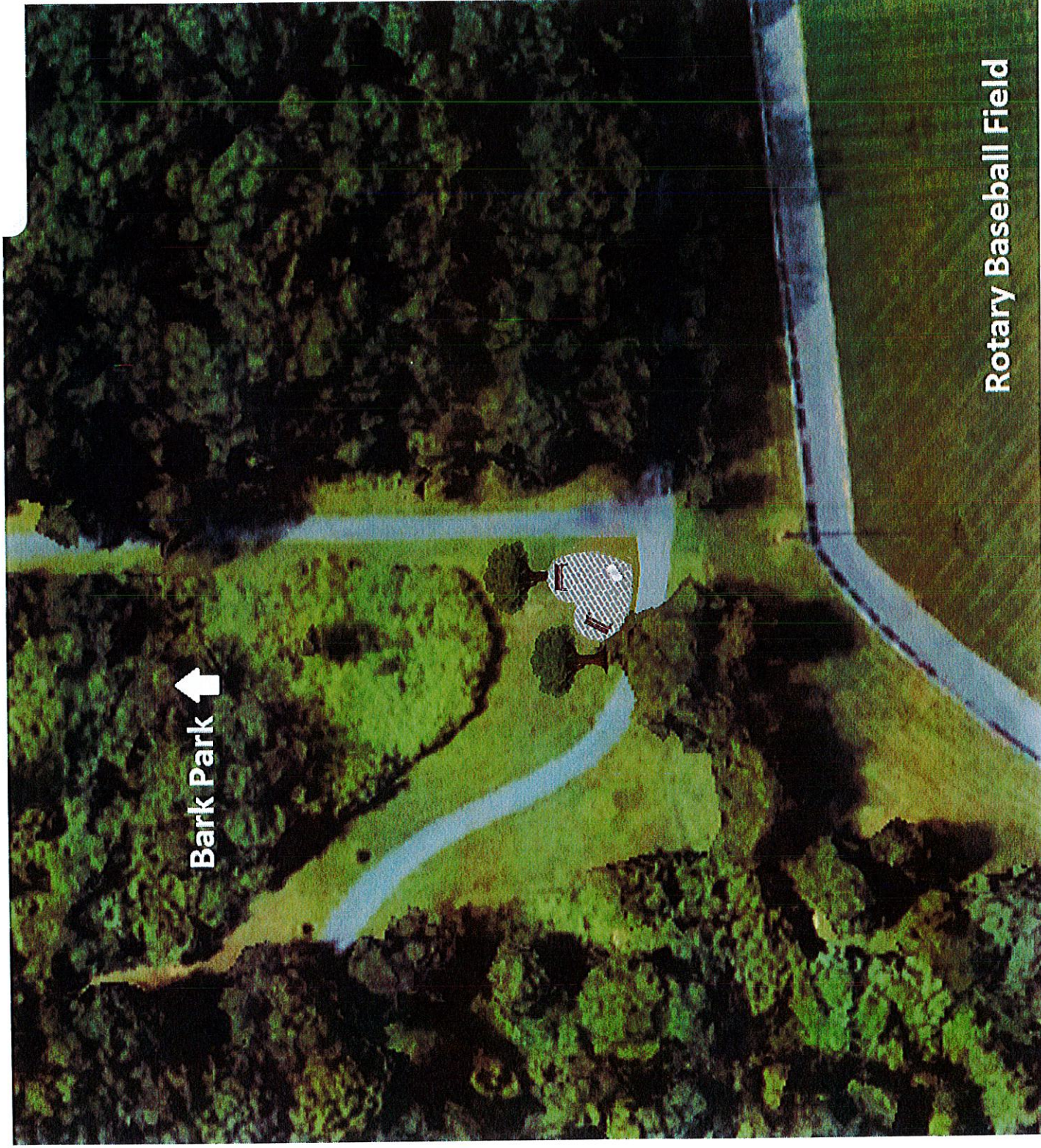
2 Benches

Heart shaped paver
patio

Granite memorial in
patio
or raised monument

Bark Park ↑

Rotary Baseball Field



VEHICLE SURPLUS

[illegible]

MEMO

DATE: March 1, 2021
FROM: Heather Oatis, REHS/RS
TO: Michael Maniscalco, MPA
SUBJECT: Hybrid Public Meetings
CC: Scott Roberts
OF PAGES: 2



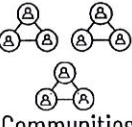


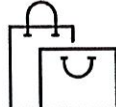
In an effort to provide guidance in the development a hybrid public meeting procedure, the Health Department makes the following recommendations:

1. The 14-day average of new cases per 100,000 population in South Windsor shall be in the yellow alert level (attached) of 5-9 new cases prior to commencing hybrid public meetings.
2. The town's population shall have a first dose vaccination rate, at minimum, of 30% as reported by the Department of Public Health prior to commencing hybrid public meetings.

— This baseline guidance may need to be adjusted or amended based on Department of Economic and Community Development Sector Rules, the Governor's Executive Orders, or other circumstances that may arise. It is imperative that the procedures outlined for hybrid public meetings be adhered to once the meetings commence to ensure that the meetings can continue with this model as long as necessary.

Please note that messages to and from the Town of South Windsor may be subject to public release in accordance with applicable laws.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TOWN-LEVEL COVID RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

	Yellow 5-9 cases per 100k per day	Orange 10-14 cases per 100k per day	Red 15+ cases per 100k per day
 DPH Response	Outreach to Local Health Department	ENCOURAGE TESTING FOR ASYMPTOMATIC RESIDENTS	
		Weekly calls with Local Officials	Issue Public Health Alert
 Individuals	Masks, distancing, extra precautions for high risk	Avoid larger events, limit time with non-family members	Limit trips outside home, avoid gatherings with non-family members
 Communities	Scale up public awareness, social media	Scale back public events	Cancel public events and limit community gathering points; Reverse 9-1-1
 Organized Group Activities	Move activities outdoors where possible	Limit group sizes; Postpone indoor activities where mask wearing or social distancing cannot be maintained	Postpone all indoor activities; Postpone outdoor activities where mask wearing or social distancing cannot be maintained
 Pre K-12 Schools	Re-Enforce and monitor safety measures with staff, students and families	Maximize spacing, mask wearing, ventilation and hygiene to support in-person learning	In collaboration with Local Health Department and Superintendent, consider more distance learning above 25
 Business & Sector Rules	REMAND STAFF TO ASSESS THEIR SYMPTOMS DAILY AND NOT REPORT TO WORK IF THEY ARE ILL		
	Phase 3 with enhanced enforcement	Phase 3 with enhanced enforcement	Municipal option to revert to Phase 2

**CT DPH would like to remind everyone of the 3 W's:
Wear your mask, Wash your hands, and Watch your distance!**

Exhibit JJ

MEMO

DATE: March 1, 2021
FROM: Scott Roberts
TO: Michael Maniscalco
SUBJECT: Hybrid Meeting Procedures
CC: File
OF PAGES: 9

Consulting with the staff from the Fire Marshal, Health, Building Maintenance and IT Departments we have developed a procedure to offer hybrid meetings using the Town Council Chambers. We cannot use any other room at this time due to the complexity of mixing our existing broadcast system with WebEx.

Due to COVID rules and following a six feet separation distances we can only accommodate 4 councilors at the dias. The other councilors will be seated in the gallery with mic stands. The Clerk of the Council and Town Manager will have their own tables. We will accommodate up to five presenters or members of the public to watch the meeting from within the chambers.

Any of the public that would like to speak will enter from the basement entrance, be signed in for contact tracing, have their temperatures checked, and queued in the hallway by the Madden Room maintaining a six-foot separation. The public will not be allowed to roam the building. This public queue will proceed past the Registrar's Office, up the front stairwell, exit at the Tax Office, and stop at the entrance of the Caucus Room. Chairs will be available for anyone requiring them. A staff member will be placed at the elevator to assist the public during public participation. The public will only enter and exit through the Council Chamber doors near the elevator. They will leave the building, immediately after comment, through the back stairwell near the elevator. We will be requesting a police officer to assist with large crowds to enforce COVID rules.

The Town Hall will remain locked at all times to ensure we control those entering and exiting the building per CIRMA requirements for contact tracing. Additionally, CIRMA requires everyone to wear masks, remain 6 feet apart and abide by room capacity limits. Should ADA assistance be requested we will make the front entrance available and provide staff assistance with the doors. Please remember the elevator is under construction.

All existing virtual meeting opportunities will remain including the ability to call in and provide public comment.

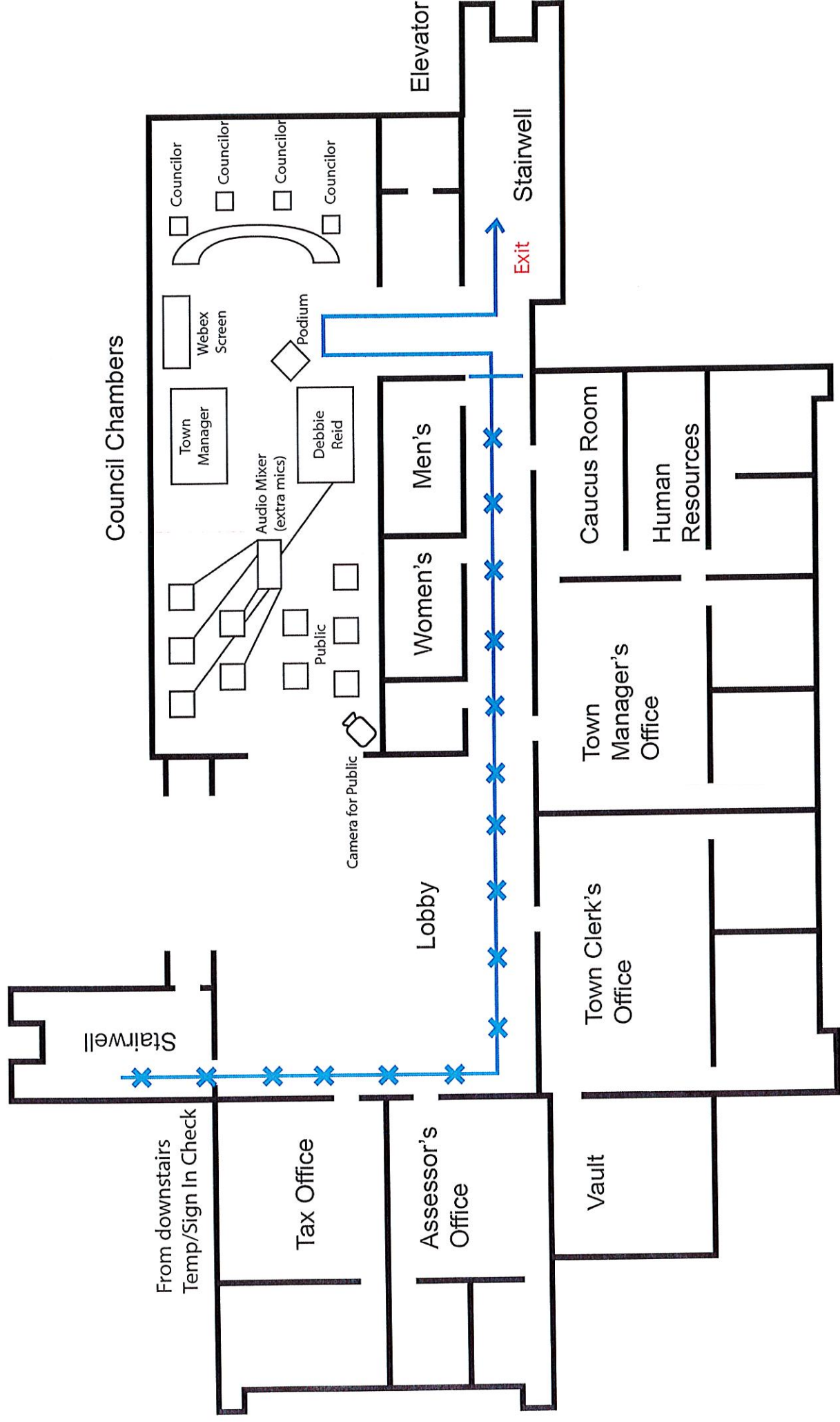


Exhibit JJ

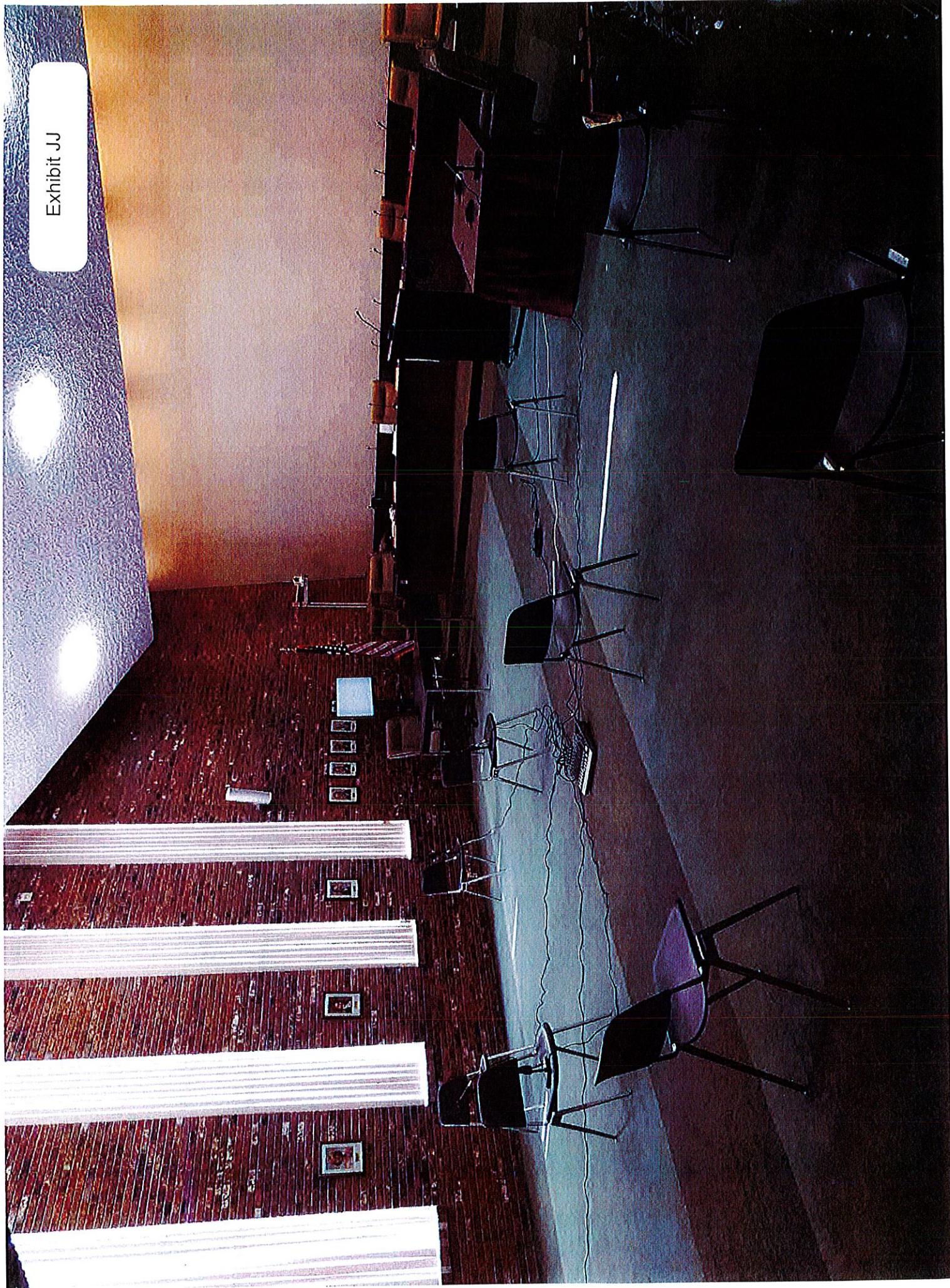


Exhibit JJ

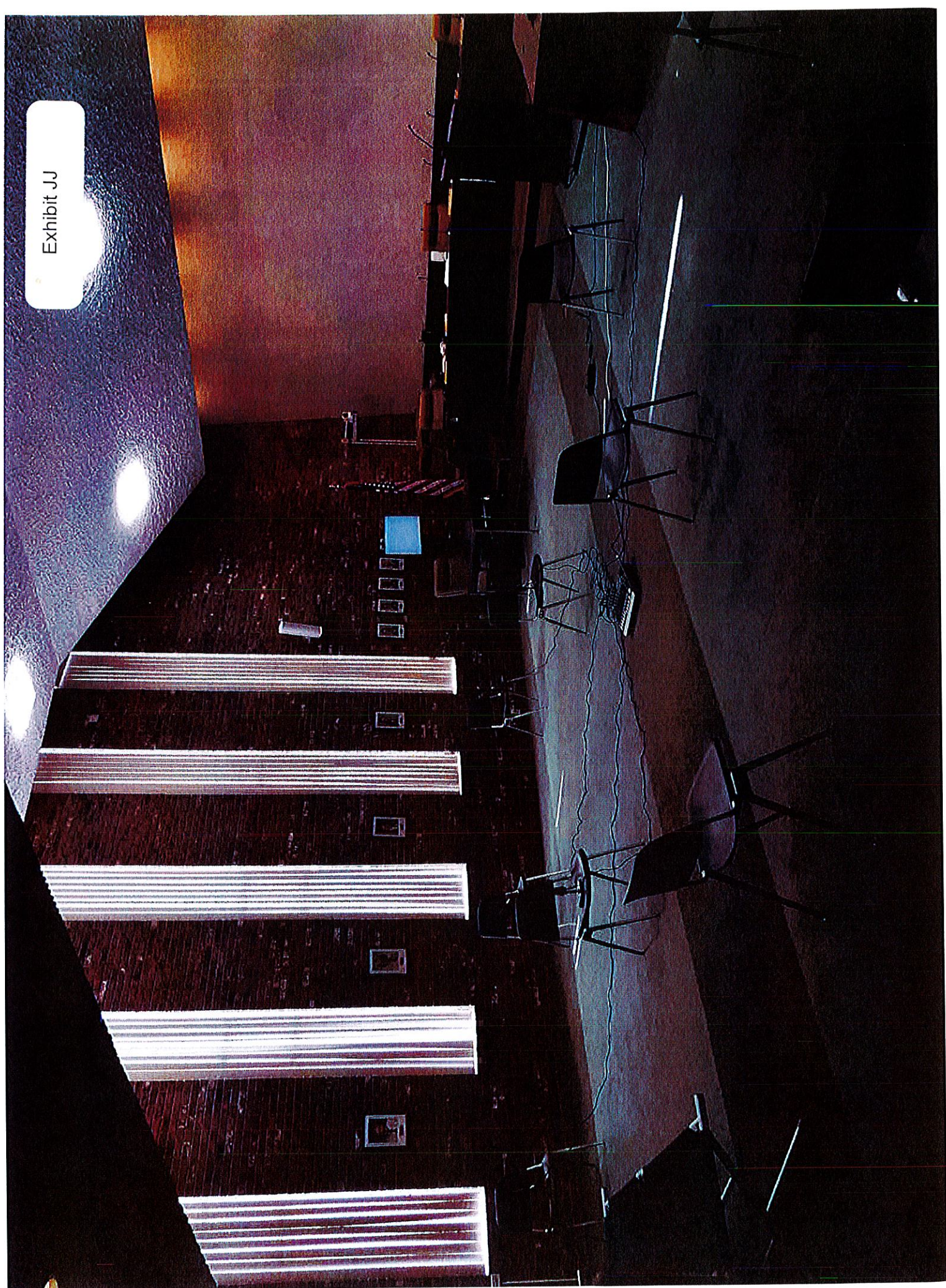


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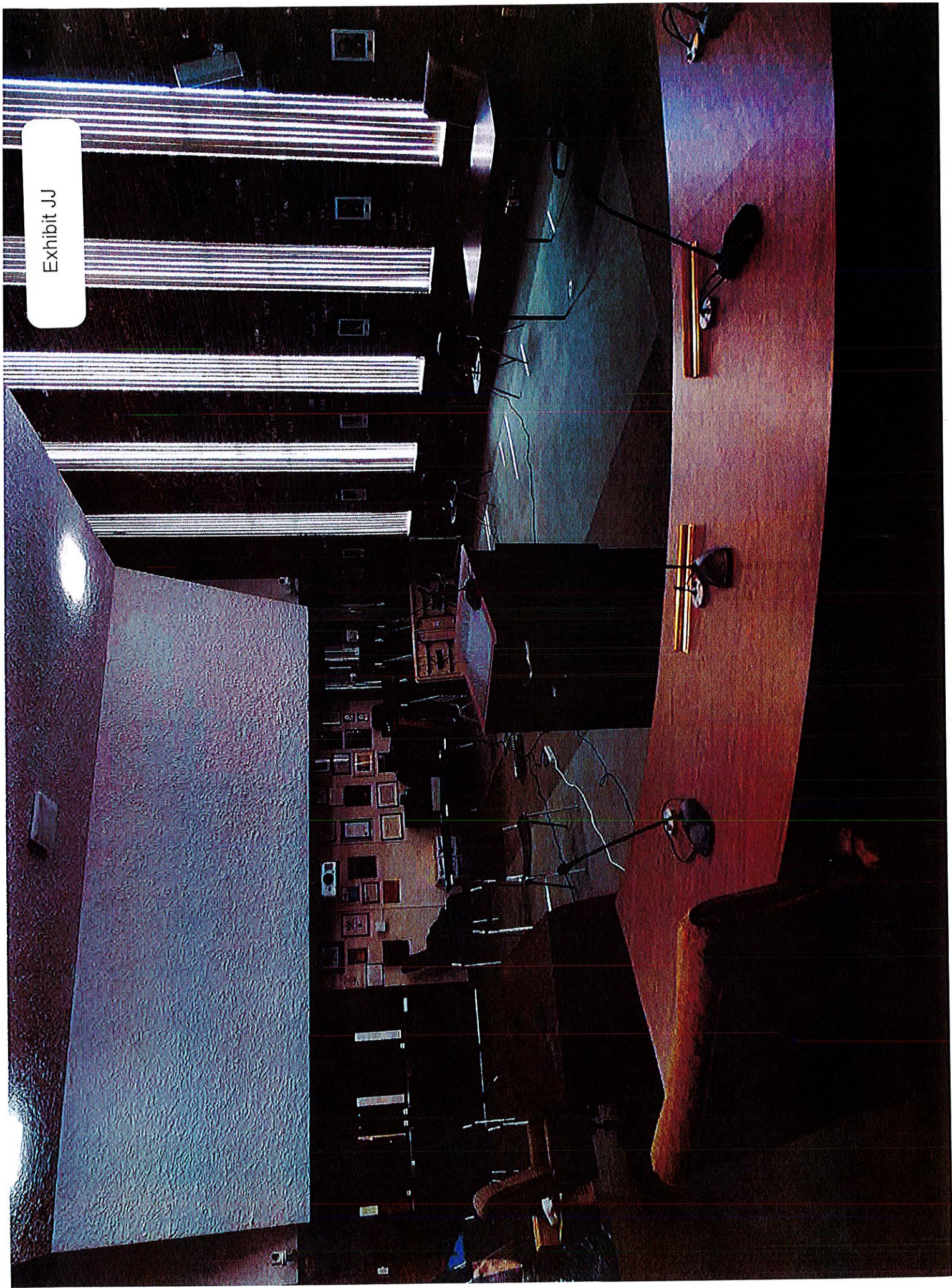


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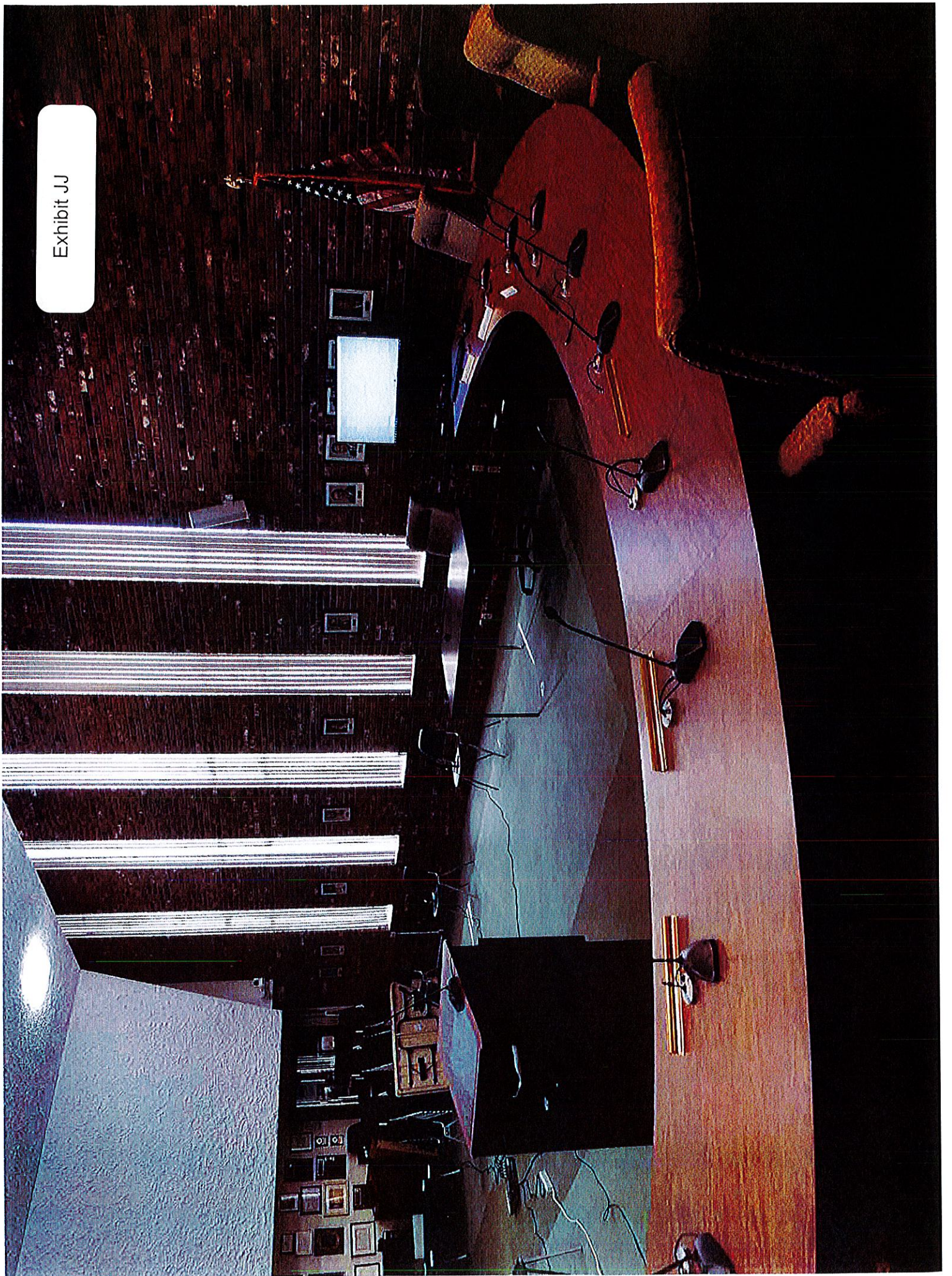


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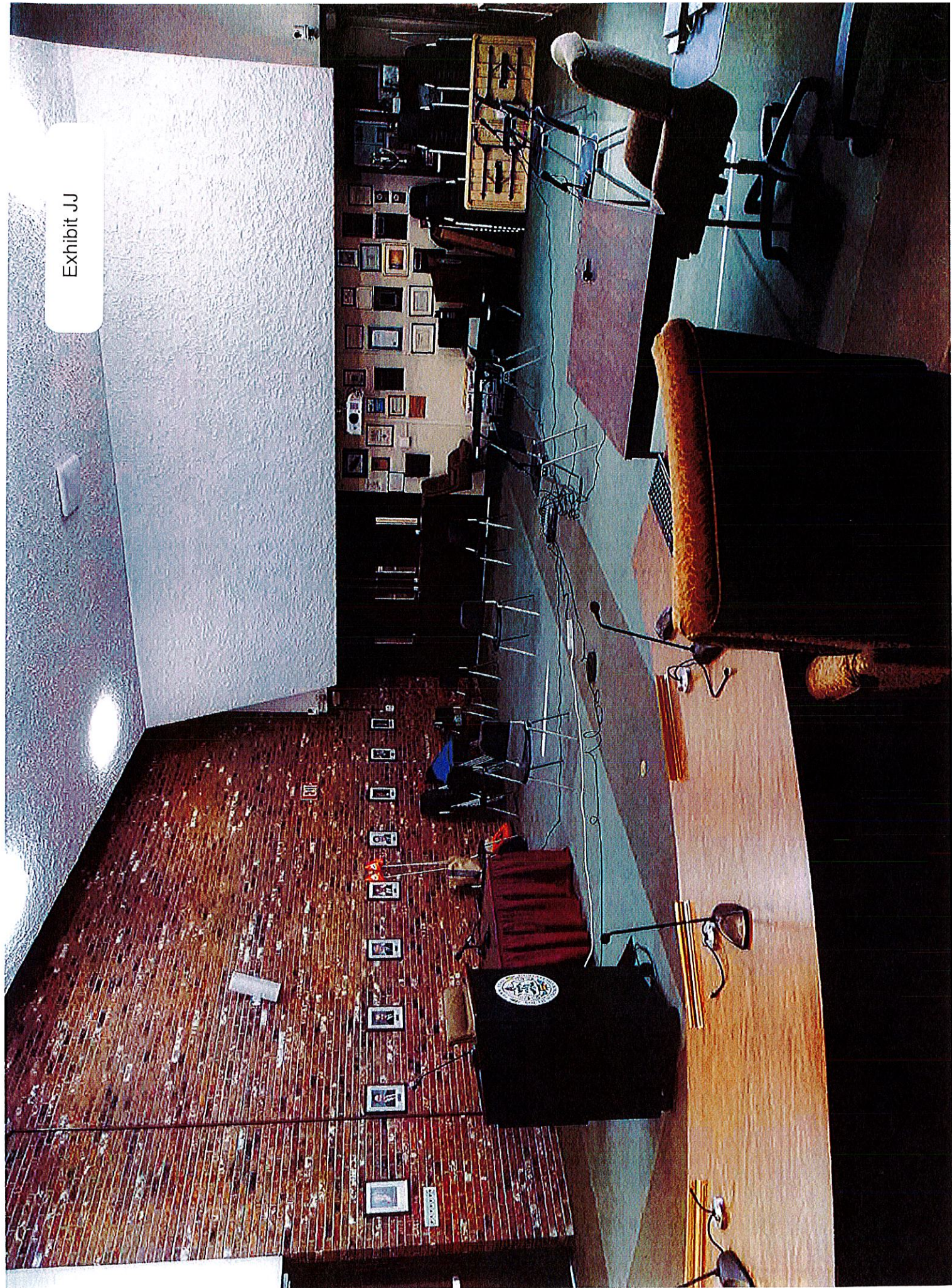


Exhibit JJ

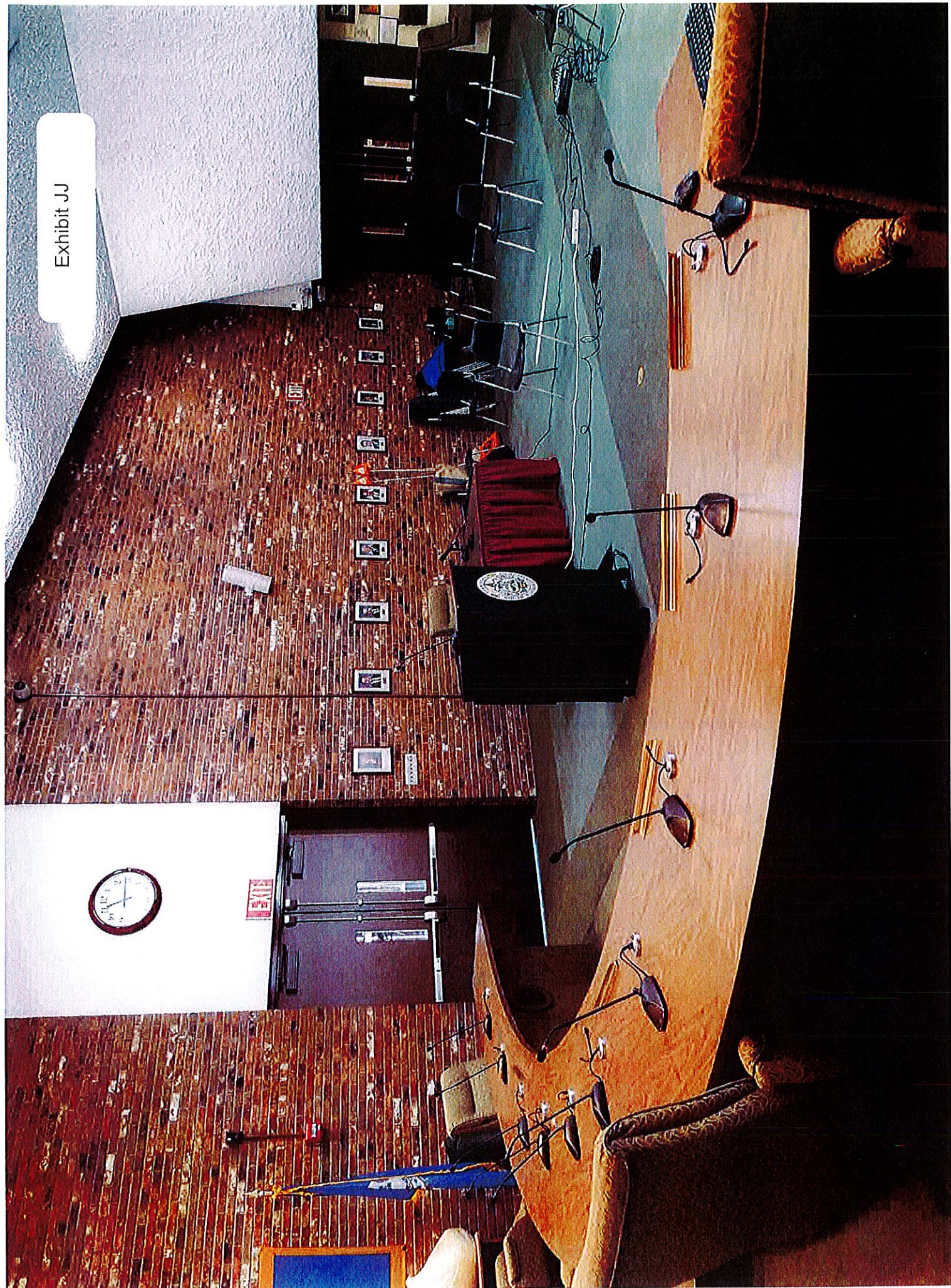


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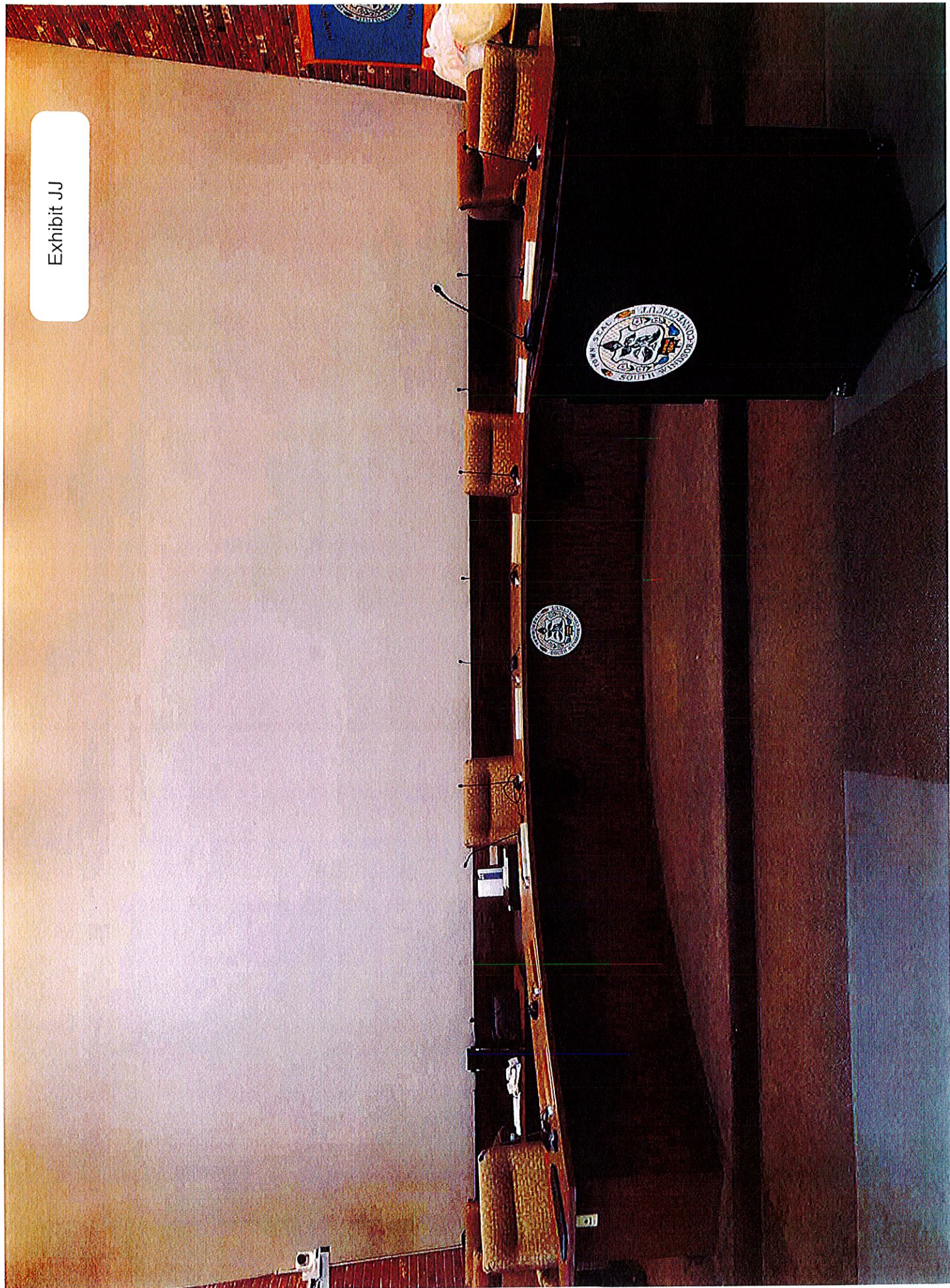


Exhibit KK

Refund Batch 21 FY 2021

Collector of Revenue

March 15, 2021 Meeting

Name	Bill	Prop. Loc./Vehicle Info.	Reason	Over Paid
HYUNDAI LEASE TITLING TRUST	2019-03-5011081	2017/US1200/KMHG54JH8HJ024655	Sec. 12-71c Pro rata credit for property tax on motor vehicle when sold, totally damaged, stolen etc.	(593.61)
MARSALISI BARBARA & MICHAEL	2019-03-5014953	2005/673TXL/2HKYF18485H559465	Sec. 12-71c Pro rata credit for property tax on motor vehicle when sold, totally damaged, stolen etc.	(12.23)
SULTAN HAIDER	2019-04-8002923	2013/AK9244J/JN1CV6AR4DM769309	Sec. 12-71c Pro rata credit for property tax on motor vehicle when sold, totally damaged, stolen etc.	(82.57)
Total of 3 Refunds				<u>(688.41)</u>

3/13/21

Carlene Andruat

Drafted by:

Date:

Carlene Andruat
Revenue Clerk

Approved by:

Jennifer R. Hillinski-Shirley 3/14/21
Jennifer R. Hillinski-Shirley
Collector of Revenue, CCMC, CCMO