## In The Matter Of:

*IDA - Town of Montgomery* 

## USEF SAILFISH, LLC January 6, 2020

**COVERING ALL UPSTATE NEW YORK** 



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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ASSIGNMENT APPLICATION FOR A PROJECT AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED AND APPROVED BY THE AGENCY RELATING THERETO

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing pursuant to Section 859-a(2) of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York (the "Act") will be held by the Town of Montgomery Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020 at 5:30 o'clock p.m., local time, at the office of the Agency located at 110 Bracken Road in the Town of Montgomery, Orange County, New York in connection with the following matters:

USEF Sailfish, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the "Company"), has presented an assignment of the application previously submitted by Bluewater I, LLC (the "Assignment Application") to the Agency, a copy of which Assignment Application is on file at the office of the Agency, requesting that the Agency consider approval of the proposed assignment of the project (the "Project") for the benefit of the Company, said Project consisting of the following: (A) (1) the acquisition of an interest in an approximately 187 acre parcel of land located at NYS Route 17K and 747, AKA 635 International Drive in the Town of Montgomery, Orange County, New York (tax map numbers 31-1-64; 31-1-65.22; 31-1-70.2 and 31-1-89) (collectively the "Land"), (2) the construction on the Land of an approximately 1,010,880 square foot facility with related site work and exterior improvements (the "Facility"), and (3) the acquisition and installation therein and thereon of related fixtures, machinery, equipment and other personal property (collectively, the "Equipment"), all of the foregoing to constitute a warehouse/distribution facility (the Land, the Facility and the Equipment being collectively referred to as the "Project Facility"); (B) the assignment and granting of certain "financial assistance" (within the meaning of Section 854(14) of the Act) with respect to the foregoing, including potential exemptions from certain sales and use taxes, real property taxes, real estate transfer taxes and mortgage recording taxes (collectively, the "Financial Assistance") all as approved by the Agency for the benefit of Bluewater I, LLC on November 12, 2019; and (C) the lease (with an obligation to purchase) or sale of the Project Facility to the Company or such other person(s) or entities as may be designated by the Company and agreed upon by the Agency.

The Agency is considering whether (A) to undertake the Project, and (B) to provide to the Company certain exemptions from taxation with respect to the Project (as determined by the Agency on behalf of Bluewater I, LLC for the Project and Project Facility on November 12, 2019), including (1) exemption from mortgage recording taxes with respect to any documents, if any, recorded by the Agency with respect to the Project in the office of the County Clerk of Orange County, New York or elsewhere, (2) exemption from deed transfer taxes on any real estate transfers, if any, with respect to the Project, (3) exemption from sales taxes relating to the acquisition, construction, renovation and installation of the Project Facility, and (4) in the event that the Project Facility would be subject to real property taxation if owned by the Company but shall be deemed exempt from real property taxation due to the involvement of the Agency therewith, exemption from real property taxes (but not including special assessments and special ad valorem levies), if any, with respect to the Project Facility, subject to the obligation of the Company to make payments in lieu of taxes with respect to the Project Facility. If any portion of the Financial Assistance to be granted by the Agency with respect to the Project is not consistent with the Agency's uniform tax exemption policy, the Agency will follow the procedures for deviation from such policy set forth in Section 874(4) of the Act prior to granting such portion of the Financial Assistance.

If the Agency determines to proceed with the Project, the Project Facility will be acquired, constructed, reconstructed and installed by the Agency and will be leased (with an obligation to purchase) or sold by the Agency to the Company or its designee pursuant to a project agreement (the "Agreement") requiring that the Company or its designee make certain payments to the Agency.

The Agency will, at said time and place, hear all persons with views on either the location and/or nature of the proposed Project, or the Financial Assistance being contemplated by the Agency in connection with the proposed Project. A copy of the Assignment Application filed by the Company with the Agency with respect to the Project, including an analysis of the costs and benefits of the Project, is available for public inspection during business hours at the offices of the Agency. A transcript or summary report of the public hearing will be made available to the members of the Agency and posted to the Agency website – www.montgomeryida.com.

The Agency previously held the first public hearing on the proposed Project on February 12, 2019 for consideration under the application filed in December, 2018 by Bluewater I, LLC. Bluewater I, LLC and the Company have submitted the Assignment Application for the Project and Project Facility. The Agency has determined that the Assignment Application requires the holding of a public hearing pursuant to this notice.

Additional information can be obtained from, and written comments may be addressed to: Jeffrey D. Crist, Chairperson, Town of Montgomery Industrial Development Agency, 110 Bracken Road, Montgomery, New York 12549; Telephone: 845-457-2600.

Dated: December 13, 2019.

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

/s/ Jeffrey D. Crist, Chairperson
BY:

Jeffrey D. Crist, Chairperson

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5	USI	EF SAILFISH, LLC
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8		X
9		PUBLIC HEARING
10		Date: January 6, 2020
11		Time: 5:30 p.m. Place: Town of Montgomery Town Hall
12		110 Bracken Road
13		Montgomery, New York
14		
15	BOARD MEMBERS:	JEFFREY D. CRIST, Chairman MATTHEW P. STODDARD JOHN W. DICKSON
16		ROBERT SANTO
17		EDWIN WILLIAMS STEPHEN RAINALDI
18		
19	ALSO PRESENT:	ROBERT McLAUGHLIN, ESQ. SUZANNE HADDEN
20		SUZANNE HADDEN
21	DEDODTED DV.	MIGHELLE I GONERO
22	REPORTED BY:	MICHELLE L. CONERO
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1	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Good evening,
2	everybody. I'm showing 5:30. I'd like to
3	open the meeting of the Town of Montgomery
4	IDA Board. We welcome your attendance. We
5	look forward to hearing everybody's comment.
6	I have a document on hearing
7	procedures to read to you in a moment, but
8	first I'd like to inform you this meeting is
9	being live streamed as pursuant, I believe,
10	to New York State Law starting the beginning
11	of this year. If anyone has questions on
12	that, raise your hand and I'll do my best to
13	answer them.
14	Yes, Don.
15	MR. BERGER: Is this going to be part
16	of your standard live streaming with acquisitions
17	or is this a test run?
18	CHAIRMAN CRIST: We expect to do it at
19	every meeting.
20	MR. BERGER: With acquisitions?
21	CHAIRMAN CRIST: The supervisor
22	arranged the live streaming, so I'm not sure I'm
23	informed to answer your question.
24	We do have one housekeeping item before
25	we open the public hearing. Our Counsel tonight,

Robert McLaughlin, has left his firm, Hodgson,
Russ. At our December 3rd meeting, under our
housekeeping document, we appointed Hodgson,
Russ, and specifically Robert McLaughlin, to be
our Counsel. So that means the Board needs to
make a decision on how we want to proceed. I
would suggest the Board consider appointing
Robert McLaughlin under his current firm P.C.
Is that the appropriate way to describe
it?
MR. McLAUGHLIN: Correct.
CHAIRMAN CRIST: For the moment. I
would ask for any discussion or comments from the
Board.
MR. SANTO: Is it a one-year
appointment?
CHAIRMAN CRIST: I would describe it as
a not more than one year.
And what would be appropriate to say
here, Bob, as far as your intentions?
MR. McLAUGHLIN: I expect to be at a
new firm that's very similar to my old firm
within a few weeks.
MR. SANTO: So we make the appointment
for an indefinite period of time?

1	MR. McLAUGHLIN: No. The appointment
2	would be for a year, and then I expect when I
3	finalize my arrangements we'll come back and ask
4	that the new firm be considered for the
5	appointment.
6	MR. SANTO: Very good.
7	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Bob carries our
8	institutional knowledge, as all of you on the
9	Board know, at least for the terms of your
10	service. He's done a very fine job assisting
11	myself and the Board in carrying on the
12	Montgomery IDA activities. I've confirmed with
13	Bob that he's willing and able and has the time
14	to continue serving us as Counsel.
15	MR. STODDARD: Do you need a motion?
16	CHAIRMAN CRIST: I need a motion.
17	MR. STODDARD: I'll make the motion.
18	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Motion by Matt.
19	MR. RAINALDI: Second.
20	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Second by Steve. Any
21	other discussion on the motion?
22	(No response.)
23	CHAIRMAN CRIST: All in favor, please
24	say aye.
25	MR. STODDARD: Aye.

1	MR. SANTO: Aye.
2	MR. DICKSON: Aye.
3	MR. WILLIAMS: Aye.
4	MR. RAINALDI: Aye.
5	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Aye.
6	Opposed the same.
7	(No response.)
8	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Motion carried.
9	MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you.
10	CHAIRMAN CRIST: I look forward to
11	continuing to work with you, Bob.
12	Moving on to the public hearing
13	document. The intention of this meeting tonight
14	is to hold a public hearing, and I have a number
15	of details to go over. It would be by this
16	Agency, the Town of Montgomery IDA. The project
17	beneficiary is USEF Sailfish, LLC, after which
18	I'll consider the company, and the location is
19	here in the Town of Montgomery. The hearing was
20	scheduled and noticed for tonight at 5:30.
21	I'm Jeff Crist, the Chairman of the
22	Town of Montgomery IDA Board in connection with
23	the project which is the subject of this public
24	hearing.
25	I might take this moment to introduce

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our Board so everybody is acquainted with them. Starting on my right, John Dickson, Ed Williams. To my left is Robert Santo, Steve Rainaldi. And lastly but not least, Matt Stoddard on my far left. Thank you for being here, Board.

Tonight I am holding this public hearing to allow citizens to make a statement for the record relating to the involvement of the Agency with the project hereafter known as the proposed project for the benefit of USEF Sailfish, LLC, the company.

The proposed project consists of the following: (A)(1), the acquisition of an interest in an approximately 187 acre parcel of land located at New York State Route 17K and 747, also known as 635 International Drive, in the Town of Montgomery, Orange County, New York; the construction on the land of an approximately 1,010,880 square foot facility with related site work and exterior improvements; and the acquisition and installation therein and thereon of related fixtures, machinery, equipment and other personal property (collectively, the equipment), all of the foregoing to constitute a warehouse/distribution facility which will

1	collectively be known as the project facility.
2	(B), the assignment and granting of certain
3	financial assistance within the meaning of
4	Section 854(14) of the Act with respect to the
5	foregoing, including potential exemptions from
6	certain sales and use taxes, real property taxes,
7	real estate transfer taxes, and mortgage
8	recording taxes (collectively known as the
9	financial assistance), all as approved by the
10	Agency for the benefit of Bluewater I, LLC on
11	November 12, 2019. And finally, (C), the lease
12	or sale of the project facility to the company or
13	such other persons or entities as may be
14	designated by the company and agreed upon by the
15	Agency.
16	I have more to go, unfortunately. I
17	think there are a couple more seats if you want
18	to squeeze in anywhere, people who are standing.
19	Is Brian here? Could we move a couple
20	seats if we need to, Brian.
21	MR. MAHER: Absolutely.
22	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you.
23	As disclosed at the special meeting of
24	the Agency held on December 3, 2019, the
25	company's predecessor, Bluewater I, LLC, assigned

the application submitted to the Agency in 1 2 January 2019 to the company. The company and the company's representatives discussed the assigned 3 application at that time. After such disclosure, 4 5 the Agency scheduled this public hearing pursuant to the Act. The Agency is considering whether, 6 7 (A), to undertake the project as assigned to the 8 company; (B), whether to provide to the company 9 certain exemptions from taxation with respect to 10 the project as determined by the Agency on behalf of the company's predecessor, Bluewater I, for 11 12 the project and project facility on November 12, 13 2019, including, (1), exemption from mortgage 14 recording taxes with respect to any documents, if 15 any, recorded by the Agency with respect to the project in the office of the County Clerk of 16 Orange County, New York or elsewhere. Exemption 17 18 from -- this is (2), exemption from deed transfer taxes on any real estate transfers, if any, with 19 20 respect to the project. (3), exemption from sales 2.1 taxes related to the acquisition, construction, 22 renovation and installation of the project 23 facility. And (4), in the event that the project 24 facility would be subject to real property 25 taxation if owned by the company but shall be

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deemed exempt from real property taxation due to the involvement of the Agency therewith, exemption from real property taxes, if any, with respect to the project facility, subject to the obligation of the company to make payments in lieu of taxes with respect to the project facility. If any portion of the financial assistance to be granted by the Agency with respect to the project is not consistent with the Agency's uniform tax exemption policy, the Agency will follow the procedures for deviation from such policy set forth in Section 874(4) of the Act prior to granting such proportion of the financial assistance.

I intend to provide general information on the Agency's general authority and public purpose to provide assistance to this project that's proposed. I will then open the public comments to receive comments from all present who wish to comment on either the proposed project or the financial assistance contemplated by the Agency with respect to the proposed project.

The legal authorization and powers of the Agency's of -- of this Agency are provided by the provisions of Chapter 1030 of Laws of 1969 of

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New York, and those laws authorize the Agency to promote, develop, encourage and assist in acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, improving, maintaining and equipment — correction — equipping and furnishing of manufacturing, warehousing, research, commercial and industrial facilities, among others.

I'm getting there. Thank you for your patience.

The purpose of this public hearing.

Pursuant to Section 859-a(2) of General Municipal

Law of New York, prior to the Agency providing

any financial assistance of more than \$100,000 to

any project, the Agency, among other things, must

hold a public hearing pursuant to section 859-a

of the Act. This proposed project may exceed

\$100,000.

I better not skip too much here.

Since the proposed financial assistance to be provided by the Agency with respect to the proposed project may exceed \$100,000, prior to providing any financial assistance of more than \$100,000 the Agency must hold a public hearing on the nature and location of the proposed project and the proposed financial assistance to be

provided by the Agency with respect to the proposed project.

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After consideration of the application received from the company, the Members of the Agency adopted a resolution on December 3, 2019, the public hearing resolution, authorizing the Chair of the Agency, myself, to conduct this public hearing with respect to the proposed project pursuant to the Section 859 of the Act.

The Chairperson of the Agency has caused notice of this public hearing to be, (A), mailed on December 13, 2019 and on December 16, 2019 to the chief executive officers of Orange County, the Town of Montgomery, the Valley Central School District and, (B), published on December 18, 2019 in The Wallkill Valley Times, a newspaper of general circulation available to the residents of the Town of Montgomery, Orange County, New York. In addition, the Chairperson caused notice of this public hearing to be posted on December 19, 2019 on the Agency's website and also on a public bulletin board located here in this building at 110 Bracken Road. Copies of this notice of public hearing are available on the table up front.

Unless there's any objection, I am 1 2 going to suggest waiving the full reading of the notice of this public hearing and instead request 3 that the full text of the notice of this public 4 5 hearing be inserted into the record of this public hearing. 6 7 Does anyone object to the waiving of 8 the public hearing notice? 9 (No response.) 10 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Seeing none, I will 11 dispense with reading that. 12 The comments received today at this 13 public hearing will be presented to the Members 14 of the Agency at or prior to the meeting at which 15 the Members of the Agency will consider whether to approve the undertaking of the proposed 16 project by the Agency and the granting by the 17 18 Agency of any financial assistance in excess of \$100,000 with respect to the proposed project. 19 20 Concerning written comments. 2.1 notice of this public hearing indicated that 22 written comments could be addressed to myself, 23 Chairperson of the Agency. So far we know of 24 written comments have been received prior to 25 tonight have included an e-mail from Beverly

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Mertz, an e-mail from Nina Snyder, an e-mail from Ceal Van Zandt, an e-mail from Ursula Leitner, a letter from the Valley Central School District, an e-mail from Virginia Osterhout. These written comments will be attached to the transcript of this public hearing.

Before I open the public hearing to public comment, I would like to introduce Don Chase of the company who will describe the project in further detail, as well as identifying the intended tenant for the project and project facility.

Don, welcome.

MR. CHASE: Good evening, Chairman.

Good evening, Chairman Crist and Members of the
Board. My name is Don Chase, partner with
Bluewater Property Group. As you know, we are the
developer for Project Sailfish and applied to
this Board back in December of 2018 for financial
assistance relative to the project, which, as
Chairman Crist just said, was ultimately granted
this past November 2019.

We are here today to discuss the assignment of that financial incentive package to USEF Sailfish, LLC, a subsidiary of USAA Real

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Estate which will own the property going forward. The assignment was highlighted in our original application and the material economic aspects of the project are unchanged. We will continue as Bluewater to be involved in this project through the development.

As a brief update, since our last discussion we fully completed our permitting process on a state, local and national level, including site plan approval granted by this Planning Board in the Town of Montgomery in November, and we're prepared to begin development of the project.

At the request of the Chairman I have with me today representatives from our partner, USAA Real Estate, as well as from the project occupant and long-term tenant, Amazon.com. Although Bluewater has been the face of Project Sailfish on a local level, we have been working with USAA and Amazon since July of 2018.

Paul Segreto is the manager of industrial asset management for USAA Real Estate. Brad Griggs is senior manager of economic development with Amazon. Each are prepared to make a remark or two to the Board this evening.

1 Paul. 2 MR. SEGRETO: Good evening. Paul Segreto, managing director, industrial asset 3 management at USAA Real Estate. 4 5 USAA is an insurance company. We are a wholly owned subsidiary of that insurance company 6 7 and we invest in real estate to keep insurance 8 premiums low for military members and their families. 9 10 We will be the owner of this project. We'll be here for a long time. It's important for 11 12 us to be here for the assignment of the incentive 13 package which is customary in a development of this nature. We've completed upwards of forty 14 15 transactions with Amazon across the country and we have a strong relationship with them as well 16 as Bluewater. 17 18 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Paul. 19 MR. GRIGGS: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, IDA Board. Thank you for having me this 20 2.1 evening. My name is Brad Griggs, I am a senior 22 manager on the economic development team with 23 Amazon. We are the prospective tenant for this 24 facility pending the completion of our ongoing 25 due diligence as well as completion of lease

1 negotiations with USAA. 2 If this facility does move forward with us as the prospective tenant, it would be a 3 fulfillment center in our national -- our global 4 5 network. It would be a non-sortable facility, meaning that it would contain products of a 6 7 larger nature, patio furniture, appliances, 8 things like that. 9 We are prospectively going to employ 10 800 full-time employees at the site as per the 11 application. Those employees will all have a 12 minimum of \$15 an hour and comprehensive 13 benefits. 14 Thank you very much for your time this 15 evening and thank you for the consideration. CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Brad. 16 I will now open this public hearing for 17 18 public comment, and it's -- I'm supposed to document the time -- 5:49. Bob has me well 19 20 trained. 2.1 By way of operating rules, if you wish 22 to make a public comment, please raise your hand 23 and I will call on you. Please wait to be 24 recognized. Once recognized, please stand and

state your name and address for the record.

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Please keep your comments to five minutes or less so all those present today may have a chance to comment for the record if they so choose. If your comments mirror those of someone who has already spoken, you may so indicate and then relinquish the podium to another speaker so that all views represented at this hearing may be heard. When everyone has had the opportunity to speak, I will conclude this public hearing. A record of this public hearing will be prepared and reviewed by the Members of the Agency in connection with the Agency's consideration of the proposed project.

Again, the purpose of this public hearing is to solicit public comment. We are not here to answer questions. However, we will, in the course of this public hearing, consider questions if we have the information to answer the questions and there is sufficient time to consider such questions.

I will now ask if there's anyone in attendance who wishes to comment on either the nature and location of the proposed project or the proposed financial assistance being contemplated by the Agency with respect to the proposed project. For the record, please state

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your name and indicate your comments on either
the proposed project or the proposed financial
assistance being contemplated by the Agency with
respect to the proposed project.

Brian, would you like to start?

MR. MAHER: Absolutely. Good evening, everybody. This is my first meeting as Town Supervisor in front of you, the Industrial Development Agency.

The first thing I want to say is thank you for your service to the Town. It is really appreciated.

My comments are based on a discussion that we had at my reorganization meeting which took place last Thursday. We had a discussion as a board on a number of topics. Obviously I think we all know and have seen how advertised it's been that the Town is in need of a comprehensive plan. That was a big part of our discussion.

Also part of our discussion was your public hearing this evening. It was felt by a majority of the board that we wanted to make some statements regarding what you'll be talking about this evening. So I'm going to read this letter and then I'm going to have some more comments

afterwards.

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I write on behalf of the Montgomery Town Board. As you are aware, a newly constituted Town Board was seated as of January 1, 2020. We are aware that the first public hearing with respect to the above-referenced application submitted by USEF Sailfish, LLC is being held before the Town Industrial Development Agency on this date. The application relates to the approximately 100,000,000 square foot warehouse to be considered on New York State Route 17K. Set forth in the application and the notice of public hearing dated December 13, 2019, the Town Board is also aware that this application seeks assignment of the approvals and benefits previously granted by the Agency from Bluewater to Sailfish.

The purpose of this letter is to raise certain points for consideration by the Agency prior to any vote on the current assignment application. It is the opinion of the Town Board that the Agency should reconsider its participation in the project and whether Sailfish should be granted any financial assistance or incentives by the Agency.

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In the first instance, it is now essentially common knowledge that the contemplated project being assigned to Sailfish is the Amazon company warehouse and distribution facility. The assigned financial benefits sought by Sailfish include but are not limited to exemptions from certain sales and use taxes, real property taxes, real estate transfer taxes and mortgage recording taxes. Page 4 of the application states that the estimated value of the total requested financial assistance is in excess of \$25,000,000. According to a recent Bloomberg report, Amazon's approximate market value is near or exceeds \$1,000,000,000,000. The financial assistance at issue here therefore represents approximately 0.0025 percent of the company's value. Conversely, the real property tax exemptions, if granted, total \$21,500,000. Obviously these exemptions would have massive and detrimental long-term financial consequences to the local taxing authorities. Secondly, the Agency is reminded that Medline Industries, a nationwide manufacturer and distributor of medical equipment and supplies, recently withdrew the application for the same

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types of financial assistance it previously submitted to the Agency and is nevertheless proceeding with its development project. Although Medline is an extremely large and profitable company, Sailfish/Amazon is exponentially larger and certainly will not suffer any consequences to its existence and operations should the instant application be denied.

Finally, the Agency is respectively advised that Sailfish is in the process of applying for building permits with the Town's Building Department. The Town Board believes that the company is moving forward with its plans to commence construction by virtue of the approvals already granted by the Town. In the opinion of the Town Board, the primary purpose of granting benefits by an industrial development agency is to attract new businesses to an area when it is critical that financial assistance is the only way to facilitate a project. Due to the inherent geographical benefits of the Town of Montgomery, as well as the substantial financial strength of the applicant, Sailfish, like Medline, should proceed with the project without Agency involvement. Accordingly, it is simply

unnecessary for the instant application to be 1 2 granted. For the foregoing reasons and others 3 which will undoubtedly be placed in the record 4 5 before you by other stakeholders within the Town at this public hearing, the Town Board 6 7 respectfully urges of the Agency to take the 8 following actions: Keep this evening's public hearing open 9 10 for multiple sessions to afford those who can not 11 appear this evening an opportunity to be heard on this issue of great importance. 12 13 Upon due deliberation, determine that 14 the application for assignment of the approvals 15 previously granted by the Agency on November 12, 2019 should be denied. 16 And upon further deliberation, 17 18 determine that the November 12, 2019 Agency 19 approvals should be withdrawn. 20 Thank you for your consideration. 2.1 I just want to add one other note. 22 There was a -- there was a notice by Kristen 23 Brown, a councilwoman on our boards -- on our 24 Town Board, that there was a difference in 25 language as opposed to the SEQRA financial

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Statement. I'm going to submit this to you,
Chairman. It actually speaks to the sewer
treatment plant and that the language
specifically states that it would be developed
and deeded to the Town at our request but the
actual language is different. I'm going to show
this to you and submit it for the record.
Hopefully we can take a look at that language.

From a procedural standpoint, this is the last thing that I want to be doing. Because we just took office and the Board felt strongly, we felt it was important to air this concern. But in a perfect world and in the world that we're going to create here in the Town of Montgomery, we're going to have a comprehensive plan that's updated, we're going to have all the rules set forth, and we're going to make sure that our zoning is the way that it's supposed to be and the way that we want it to be as a community with a conversation that's going to include a town with public participation so that we don't have this issue, so that we are one team moving forward together.

The last thing that I want to do is be up here and be in a situation with two years of

1	work being done by both the applicant and all of
2	you up here and have a statement like this made
3	from a Town Board. That's certainly not something
4	that I want to see happen in the future.
5	Hopefully working together this is the last time
6	something like this happens.
7	I hope that you take into consideration
8	the comments today. I will submit them to you,
9	Mr. Chairman, for the record.
10	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Brian.
11	Mike.
12	MR. ANAGNOSTAKIS: Thank you, Chairman
13	Crist. Thank you, Board. IDA Board. My name is
14	Mike Anagnostakis, A-N-A-G-N-O-S-T-A-K-I-S. I am
15	an Orange County Legislator representing the Town
16	of Newburgh and the Town of Montgomery. I'm a
17	legislator representing this district where this
18	project is moving forward, and I want to make it
19	very clear I am here tonight speaking on behalf
20	of myself as an Orange County Legislator
21	representing this district, no one else. Except
22	that I am also speaking, I think, on behalf of
23	the taxpayers of the Town of Montgomery.
24	So I think, believe it or not, most all
25	of us will be in agreement on just about

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everything. We want the project to move forward. We think it's a good location for such a project. It probably is going to give us a lot of jobs. It will give us construction jobs. It will enhance the economy going forward. It's everything we want.

The company will actually get many benefits. It will get mortgage deductions, and sales tax exemptions, and 485(B) exemptions which they can automatically apply for. So they will get tax relief also.

Where we disagree is on that final step. Do we move forward with that final tax dollar, which is the IDA grant of a PILOT for this particular company, or any particular company.

You're in a very tough position because you have people telling you a lot of different things. I've heard people tell you it's an automatic coupon. Everyone gets it. Well if you owned a restaurant, I ask you would you stand at that door and hand a fifty-percent off coupon to every single person that walked in there? I bet you wouldn't do that. I bet you would take each case individually and study it individually.

Let me give you two examples before I 1 2 go on to this particular case. A few years ago in the Town of Newburgh there was an auto dealership 3 that wanted to move forward with building another 4 5 huge showroom. A lot of construction jobs, a lot of future sales jobs, a lot of impact for the 6 7 town. The same people that will pitch to you that 8 they ought to get a PILOT, that every company ought to get a PILOT, pitched that that company 9 10 should get a PILOT. Well, the politicians, the 11 elected officials of the Town of Newburgh stood 12 up and they backed down. They didn't get that 13 PILOT. That dealership was a four-generation 14 dealership that had been there on the same spot 15 forever, making plenty of profits, and that new showroom was a mandate by corporate headquarters 16 that said you must break the two brands into two 17 18 different showrooms. They were going to do it. They weren't going to go anywhere. They wanted 19 20 the taxpayers to foot the bill of that new 2.1 construction. They were turned down because of 22 the pressure. 23 This year you have an example that you 24 know a lot better, the Medline situation. Here's

a company, and again it's always preached if you

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don't give them these breaks they're going to 1 2 leave, they won't build, they'll go somewhere else. Dealership, Medline. Medline was in 3 Hamptonburgh the year before they came to you. 4 5 They said if we don't get the breaks, if we don't get the zoning approvals, we're leaving the 6 7 state. They didn't get the zoning approvals. What 8 did they do? They turned around and bought a property in Montgomery, and then they came to you 9 10 and said give us the PILOT otherwise we're going 11 to leave the state. Well, for whatever reason the 12 PILOT wasn't granted. They weren't going 13 anywhere. They had bought that property. 14 built the property. The differential on that 15 PILOT that you didn't give them was an extra \$1,000,000 a year for the taxpayers of the Town 16 of Montgomery or the school district. 17 18 Let me put in proportion what 1,000,000 19 a year means. The Town of Montgomery budget that 20 they just voted on is a \$10,000,000 budget. That 2.1 1,000,000 means a lot to the taxpayers. 22 Now we have this situation. If you 23 don't give it to them they won't come here, they won't build. Well first of all, I don't think you 24 25 should be giving it to them because when I read

the original documents, under the projected 1 2 profit I couldn't find where the company was listed. It actually said please provide the 3 projected profits. It says applicant views this 4 5 information as proprietary for its confidential 6 applicant. 7 I ask you, please show of hands, how 8 many of you knew it was Amazon? I only saw one 9 or two hands go up. That means the other ones 10 didn't know it was Amazon. I say that you decline 11 it on that basis alone if you don't know who it 12 is. 13 Now we know it's Amazon. Okay. 14 what do we know about Amazon if we study the case 15 individually. We know that Amazon, as was mentioned, is a huge company. Does anyone know 16 17 what the highest market valued company in the 18 world is? It's not Amazon. Apple is the highest. 19 Amazon is right behind them at just under 20 \$1,000,000,000,000. Anyone know who the richest 2.1 man in the world is? That's right. I hear it. 22 Jeff Bezos at \$113,000,0000. 23 VOICE: Billion. 24 MR. ANAGNOSTAKIS: Billion. Correct. 25 So the company isn't going anywhere. Their goal

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is right now a twenty-four hour fulfillment, but they've stated that their ultimate goal is sameday fulfillment. If you read their literature, they need to be at locations that are as close to interstate highways as possible. Their own words. They need to take, their own words, as many miles out of the travel of that package as possible. You can't find a better location than this. I could throw a stone from the location to 84. I bet if they were offered the property at a premium tax they would accept it because it's so good. All right. So they're not going anywhere. They've committed 1,500,000 already on it. They've got the building approvals that they're going through. They're going to be here.

The question becomes where does that extra 1,000,000 on average a year go. I'm going to tell you. A few years ago the richest man in the world was asked, because they are notorious for getting tax breaks and using every trick in the book to get tax breaks, he was asked how come you always ask for these breaks, and his answer, and I'm going to paraphrase, was I'd rather have the money in my pocket than someone else's pocket. I'm going to tell you I'd rather have

that 1,000,000 a year in the taxpayers of Montgomery's pockets and not the richest man in the world, and I hope you agree with me.

Thank you very much.

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CHAIRMAN CRIST: Shaun.

MR. MERES: Good evening, Board. I'm the newly elected Highway Superintendent, Shaun Meres.

Sitting down to go through budget process and things we have going on in the Town of Montgomery, we currently have three bridges that have been written up, one is closed down, we have two other ones that are shutdown. that the highway fund, full pay for this project, is about \$130,000 a year. Two of the projects come out to about 110,000. So just this one year would pay to fix two of our bridges, and we could set something up to where we could actually get things in place to take care of a bridge a year, box culverts, replacing things, repaving our I feel with a company like this, roads. twenty-four hours a day, pounding on our roads, whether they say it's 84 or not. It's like LegoLand coming in. I know the back roads of Goshen. Am I going to take the main road and deal

with all the traffic or take the back road. All 1 2 the people here are going to take the back road. It's just going to increase traffic on our roads. 3 I would really appreciate if you'd 4 5 consider making the highway tax pay full to make up for the amount of traffic that's going to hit 6 7 our roads. 8 Thank you for your time. 9 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Shaun. 10 Mike. 11 MR. SUSSMAN: Good evening. I'm 12 Michael Sussman from Goshen. I represent a number 13 of the community members who have come to the 14 office and asked for assistance with regard to 15 this project. I address you in that context. First of all, I wanted to compliment 16 the new town supervisor for his presentation, and 17 18 Mr. Agnastakis. While he and I disagree to some 19 extent on this, I think the essential point that 20 you've heard is critical. Subsidization for the 2.1 wealthiest in the society with the profound 22 inclement equality, which we have in our society, 23 is fundamentally wrong. 24 The IDAs have broad authority, and that 25 authority should be utilized to rectify inclement equality, not perpetuate it.

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I heard the gentleman from Amazon say that the jobs would pay \$15 an hour as a starting salary. If you aggregate that to a 40 hour week, that's \$30,000 a year. What family in Orange County can reasonably survive on that sort of wage? Where is the housing in our communities for individuals earning that sort of wage?

I also heard the gentleman say 800 jobs. That's nonsense. I'll tell you why it's nonsense. The industry he represents is one of the fastest automated industries in the United States. Those who know anything about warehousing will tell you that 800 jobs today are 200 jobs in five years. That's the nature of that industry. High levels of automation, extraordinary levels of automation which are not being explained to this Board, and are in fact all over the country being operationalized.

Now the fact of the matter is that your community's comprehensive plan, as the new supervisor mentioned, has not been reviewed for literally a generation. The studies which have been done by this entity fail miserably to analyze cumulative impacts which are impacts that

are going to derive from the plethora of like 1 2 projects in a similar geographic area. None of the environmental studies look at cumulative 3 impact, including that by one of the wealthiest 4 5 corporations in the world. They're trying to get away by cutting corners, and those will be 6 7 legally challenged because they are factually 8 inadequate. Factually inadequate. I agree that you've spent years looking 9 10 at the project, and I understand there's been a 11 change in the political climate in your 12 community, and I think at this point it's important for you all to recognize that, but also 13 14 recognize the objective reasons why this sort of 15 subsidy for the wealthiest in the society is inappropriate. It's fundamentally wrong. 16 17 Thank you. 18 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Mike. 19 Kristen. 20 MS. BROWN: My name is Kristen Brown, 2.1 Browns Road, and technically a Council Member of 22 the Town of Montgomery Town Board. 23 First I'd like to say I echo Brian's 24 sentiment in his letter. I think it was very well 25 done and I absolutely stand behind him a hundred

percent on that.

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2 Just for points of clarity, just 3 because I'm a little bit more specific on things, in regards to the wastewater treatment plant, the 4 5 application states in section 3 on page 10 that the plant will be developed and deeded to the 6 7 Town of Montgomery. Similarly, paragraph 11 on 8 page 14, the application states, "will be deeded to the Town of Montgomery and to be formed sewer 9 10 district for the purpose of future municipal 11 service, " and it continues. This is not an 12 accurate representation of the current state of 13 the project. The SEQRA findings adopted by the 14 Town Planning Board and the Town Board by prior 15 resolutions which has been submitted to the Agency notes in paragraph 17 on page 32, "While 16 17 an offer of dedication will be made by the 18 applicant, the Town is under no obligation to accept the offer of dedication." At this time 19 20 the Town has not been presented with an offer of 2.1 dedication and has certainly not taken any 22 affirmative action to indicate future acceptance 23 of this facility. So I ask this be removed from 24 the application as it is in direct conflict with 25 the SEQRA findings that have been adopted by

prior boards. 1 2 Thank you. 3 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Kristen. 4 Susan. 5 MS. COCKBURN: Susan Cockburn, Town of 6 Montgomery. 7 The same thing, I want to echo what 8 Kristen just said about the sewer treatment 9 plant. 10 I also wanted to point out New England 11 Industrial Wastewater TR-16 standards designates 12 and identifies a wastewater treatment plant is the single largest, most expensive asset in any 13 14 community and it is solely at the taxpayers' 15 expense. The proposed Sailfish project is utilizing the entire parcel, leaving no room for 16 17 subsurface land treatment technology which is 18 superior to any wastewater treatment plant. This 19 project is relegated to devising an on-site sewer 20 treatment plant due to lack of space and then 2.1 dumping it in the taxpayers' laps by deeding it 22 to the Town. This is much like the failed water 23 system at Lake Vue Drive which was done by a 24 developer and given over to the Town and it is 25 nothing but an endless taxpayer nightmare. This

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is not how you site what will become the most expensive asset in any community. When you're building a wastewater treatment facility, you site it and you plan it and you establish it based on sewer, sanitary sewer engineering plans. You don't just take it from someone else and then deal with it. It's a huge mistake.

The clean water is a finite resource that needs to be protected for future generations, and the Tin Brook is identified as receiving water for the mega warehouse sewage flow, and it's also a source water for drinking water in Walden. The right thing to do would be Walden and the Town working together to upgrade it to an A rating, not a B rating, because it's a source of drinking water going into the aquifer.

Successful project design should have one priority above all others, the long-term protection of precious clean water in our lakes, rivers and streams. Giving multi millions in tax breaks to an unknown entity skirts the very criteria that protects our Town now and in the future.

The documents do not show where this megalithic box is a benefit to our Town. The

business of mega warehouses, and now we know who 1 2 it is, is replete with labor violations of the worst kind. I think this is a big mistake. 3 I also do not see anywhere about 4 5 decommissioning bonds. Where are the plans and bond dialogue for decommissioning? When this 6 building is empty, it's huge, it will become our 7 8 Town's problem. It is the tax permanently 9 polluted. It is the problem that will permanently 10 pollute our aquifer. 11 I mention this because the other 12 similar problem like this on a much smaller scale 13 is the subdivision on the Zibitskie site where if 14 they subdivide off that part with the landfill 15 and stop paying the taxes, the Town will be stuck with it. This is just a much larger scale. 16 I wrote this up in letter form to turn 17 18 it in because I was dismayed when I saw the pro 19 Sailfish letters. I looked at them personally. 20 They were a form letter. Three came from within 2.1 one household. I thought we should have some 22 authentic dialogue about the project. 23 Thank you. 24 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Susan. 25 MS. MIELE: Good evening. My name is

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Chris Miele, M-I-E-L-E. I'm the President of Concerned Citizens for the Hudson Valley.

Many of the members of our organization, which is in excess of 120 people, are people from Montgomery as well other areas, although I reside in Hamptonburgh.

I look at this application that you have before you and I have very specific reasons as to why you can't even consider it. Basically I look at it in three different ways. One of them is competency. One of them is ethics. We have to keep in mind in ethics is you're not the one who gets to judge, we do. Full disclosure is imperative. I go to many, many conferences. A full CV on each member would go a long way here, especially considering the public has no say as to who gets on the IDA. In addition, the public has no input on the IDA as to who gets the contracts and who gets the tax breaks. This is actually a very good thing. Most IDAs don't even have a public forum like this. School boards have no seat at the table, which in the case of the IDA actually increases the school tax for the community. In fact, this is taxation without a voice. Lawyers often work for the applicants or

1	their sponsors and couldn't possibly give solid
2	advice to anybody as they have a vested financial
3	interest in the outcome. I don't know if that's
4	the case. I don't assume that it's not the
5	case with you but it's very common on many of the
6	IDA boards.
7	MR. McLAUGHLIN: I represent the
8	Agency.
9	MS. MIELE: Pardon me?
10	MR. McLAUGHLIN: I represent the
11	Agency.
12	MS. MIELE: Okay. Regarding the new
13	application, this is far from a mere name change.
14	On page 5, the applicant will not have any FTE
15	jobs. The project will provide blah, blah,
16	blah, blah. It's transparency. We know now it's
17	Amazon, but it wasn't divulged in the original
18	application so the application is no longer
19	valid.
20	USEF equals USAA Real Estate in San
21	Antonio, Texas. They did the Amazon warehouse in
22	Beaumont, Texas.
23	On page 6, item 2, all IDA benefits
24	will pass directly to the occupant. How do you
25	have the power to assign these benefits to an

unknown entity? Prior to this night you didn't 1 2 know for sure who it was. On page 7 there's a question on 3 criminal offense, bankruptcies for the people 4 5 named above. There are no people named, only 6 LLCs. Competency. 7 Page 9, 2C, are existing buildings 8 abandoned? Yes. If yes, describe how the house will be removed. There's nothing said. No 9 information. Information in the DEIS states that 10 11 this house will be moved and restored. They gave 12 a significant boost to their UTEP number which 13 must be adjusted downward. 14 2D, photographs is exhibit A. It states 15 that it's exhibit B. Another error. 16 Page 10, wastewater treatment plant. I think that's been covered. I don't need to go 17 18 into that. Page 11, between item 1 and 2 there's a 19 20 paragraph omitted that was in the original 2.1 application which states that occupancy will 22 apply separately to Town of Montgomery IDA for 23 it's personal FFEs specific to it's use. Why did 24 this disappear? It's not the same as the 25 original one at all.

Page 14, will the project be sold or 1 2 leased to a municipality? Yes. Then it goes on to talk about the wastewater treatment plant 3 again. The Planning Board didn't recommend this. 4 5 Who is paying for the new sewer district, creation, hook up, et cetera? Have you asked any 6 7 of these questions or are you just accepting it's 8 going to happen? And that is to your benefit, which it isn't. 9 10 Does the company intend to lease, 11 et cetera? The answer is yes. The remaining 12 required information, it says required 13 information on your application, it's blank 14 or confidential. No transparency again. 15 The applicant will not add local employees. How can you possibly -- that's 16 what it says in your application that's 17 18 sitting in front of you. How can you possibly use any employment statistics that were 19 20 provided to you unless you have a statement 2.1 from the company that will be hiring those 22 employees? It's transparency again. It 23 totally defies logic. The \$4,000,000,000 on page 22 in 24

State programs disappeared. That figure got

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rolled into private sector financing. Why is it different, the original application and 4,000,000 in State programs?

Page 45 notes a new and separate agreement with the fire district. Again transparency. Did you even know about this? Has the Board seen this?

The real kicker for me is the multiplier which is on the last page. I think they've applied some of Merlins magic here. I estimate that the multiplier, using the Upjohn Institute study, is something like a 1.4 in this instance. There's a publication, which all of you should read, or should have read, and I urge the Town Board to read it as well. Actually everyone in Montgomery should read it. It was done by the World Pennsylvania which is a legislative agency of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. It's called the Economic and Transportation Impact of Warehouses on Rural Pennsylvania. This publication is a very good source of information on the effect of warehousing. Has anyone sought out this type of information? That's part of your due diligence. It is part

1	of it, but transparency tells us that the
2	Partnership came up with that multiplier.
3	This publication says that the research also
4	revealed that in 2004 warehousing activities
5	in Pennsylvania produced 2.9 billion in
6	direct output and nearly 7.3 billion of
7	additional activity, yet warehousing is
8	strongly tied to household spending and
9	consumption, and any change that affects that
10	portion of the national economy, such as
11	rising fuel or food prices we're facing,
12	which could definitely affect this will
13	likely affect this industry as well.
14	Also, warehousing has some of the
15	lowest income and job multiplier of any
16	sector in the Pennsylvania economy. Although
17	Pennsylvania gained warehousing jobs,
18	warehousing displays relatively weak
19	purchasing links, stimulated few additional
20	jobs and spurred little wage and income
21	growth in other sectors of our economy.
22	Warehousing growth by itself
23	produces very little in the way of broad
24	ripple effects to positively affect and
25	influence other economic indicators.

1	You as a Board are not considering
2	the impact on the highway system which,
3	according to one study, truck traffic
4	increased 216 percent, this is really
5	important, while the capacity of the
6	interstate highway system only increased 18
7	percent since 1980. How are you going to
8	handle these trucks? They're going to be
9	sitting there.
10	Economic growth in warehousing and
11	trucking can provide jobs for people and new
12	tax bases for municipalities unless tax
13	deferments or tax incentive are used.
14	With respect to infrastructure and
15	the environment, however, these activities
16	place additional burdens on an already
17	overburdened highway system and generate air
18	quality, water quality and land use impacts
19	that can reach far beyond their surveyed
20	footprints.
21	The results indicate that
22	warehousing displays relatively weak
23	purchasing links to other sectors. This is my
24	argument against this.
25	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Chris, can you wrap up

1	shortly? Your time is up.
2	MS. MIELE: In this case an argument
3	can be made that both warehousing and trucking
4	are passive industries that can not produce the
5	desired effects that you want. I really urge you
6	to read that particular thing. I'll give you a
7	copy of my comments.
8	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you.
9	Anybody else? Barbara I think. Is
10	that your hand?
11	MS. LERNER: Good evening. I'm Barbara
12	Lerner, I own the property on the corner of Route
13	747 and 17K. We've owned that property since the
14	`70s.
15	I'd like to remind the Board that
16	you've been served with a complaint petition
17	regarding the zoning of one of the properties
18	included in this project. It would be
19	inappropriate to even entertain any IDA benefit
20	for this project until a decision has been
21	rendered by the court. Since you're proceeding
22	with this public hearing, I have the following
23	comments.
24	MR. McLAUGHLIN: I'm sorry, I'd like to
25	interrupt.

1	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Go ahead, Bob.
2	MR. McLAUGHLIN: This Board has not
3	been served with any complaint.
4	MS. LERNER: The IDA is listed.
5	MR. McLAUGHLIN: It is not. I'd love to
6	see it if that's the case.
7	MS. LERNER: I believe I have a copy of
8	it.
9	MR. McLAUGHLIN: I would love to see
10	that.
11	MS. LERNER: After my comments I will
12	make sure you receive that.
13	I've been trying to connect the dots on
14	this company's representatives, the people, the
15	companies that are listed, since 2018. With each
16	iteration it becomes more and more complicated.
17	It's like trying to connect the dots on a George
18	Sueurat painting, except that when you step back
19	from one of his paintings everything comes into
20	focus. Here everything becomes more confusing.
21	We finally know that Amazon it's
22	been verified, I should say, that Amazon will be
23	the ultimate occupant. Prior to that, and this
24	goes back to transparency again, there was
25	Bluewater Industrial Partners, then there was

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Bluewater I, then there was Bluewater Property Group, but I was told about this in March of 2019. They never bothered to tell the Planning Board until July. Then you had Bluewater I transfer everything to USEF Sailfish, and then that winds up going to USAA Eagle Real Estate Multi Sector Partnership and US Real Estate Limited Partnership. No names, no addresses initially, and then just the addresses but no contacts within the application itself.

On page 16 the assignee finally states this site will be subleased. Now we know that it is being subleased to Amazon.

This is a Fortunate 100 company. In other words, this for-profit company who has a greater financial basis than the entire Town of Montgomery is asking the residents, taxpayers and businesses to subsidize their business so that they can make a greater profit.

This project anticipates hiring 800 people with 25 of those being managerial positions. The wage isn't enough to support a family or even an individual in this Town. Will these be really new jobs or will they just be transferred from the other warehouses that are

along Neelytown Road that still have for hire 1 2 signs in front of them? Your typical commuter, since it was 3 stated in the FEIS that these jobs would likely 4 5 come from outside the area, buys gas, coffee and sometimes an occasional lunch. 6 7 The follow-up benefits on page 37 are 8 laughable. Caterers and restaurants for people who make little more than minimum wage. Office 9 10 and janitorial supplies for a company that 11 carries these products. Local hotels. Even the 12 transportation benefit is almost nil as Amazon is increasing their own delivery fleet and would 13 14 rarely use local services. 15 Even more troubling is the fact that the Orange County Partnership did prepare the 16 multiplier. Since the Partnership brought this 17 18 project to the Town, it's not an unbiased source. 19 The original application from 2018 was 20 to the current tax payment of \$44,639. The 2019 2.1 application still uses the same number. It's just 22 sloppy. 23 The FEIS states that there is no bulk 24 storage of fuel but the application for 25 assignment lists hydrogen fuel storage tanks as

something for which they're looking for a sales tax abatement.

We've addressed the wastewater treatment plant.

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The expense that's stated, \$1,500,000, is a cost of doing business. When I prepare a bid for a project I have an expense incurred and it includes engineering and legal along with all of the other ancillary items. This is the cost of doing business. It's not really applicable.

The number of related parties continues to expand. I'm wondering if you have really done your due diligence prior to tonight, finding out who these companies are, what their reputations are, who the individuals are, and verifying whether the information presented is actually true.

Exhibit E is honestly funny because it notes that it was updated with 2019 mileage rates. Added to all of the other errors, this can not be excused as a simple typo. The number of errors and omissions should automatically disqualify this from even being considered. The fact that you're bringing this forward is inexcusable. As a business person, if I went to

my bank with a business plan that had this many 1 2 errors, omissions and uncorroborated statements, my application would be rejected. 3 You have a moral obligation to every 4 5 resident, every business and every taxpayer in the Town of Montgomery, and I expect you to do 6 7 the same. Thank you. 8 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Barbara. 9 Don. 10 MR. BERGER: Don Berger, Village of 11 Montgomery. I'm just going to rehash a few of the 12 things a few of the people have already spoken 13 about. I want to reiterate what I had talked to 14 you, this Board, about here last month, and 15 that's my objections of Mr. Stoddard sitting on this Board today or making any decisions. We know 16 we have an ethics complaint with him that's being 17 18 completed. He shouldn't be sitting here. He shouldn't be rendering any decisions. He 19 shouldn't be voting. 20 2.1 With that being said, my concern in 22 part to Mr. Stoddard is that we have a local law 23 that was created that was penned by Mr. Stoddard. 24 That was back in March. As you know, this

applicant came here and asked them to reduce the

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local law from 85 to 60 percent. Mr. Stoddard was 1 for that. So you figure, you know, you do a one 2 time what about it. All of a sudden, this past 3 December, at your December 3rd meeting, Stewart 4 5 Holdings shows up. What happened at Stewart Holdings? Everybody might know that that is -- I 6 7 don't know what that is over there by Shop Rite. 8 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Don, we're talking 9 about the project --10 This is about the project. MR. BERGER: 11 This is about the project. If you'll let me continue. 12 13 We're worried about the local labor. 14 Over at the Stewart Holdings they had no local 15 labor when it came to the steelworkers and you allowed them to pursue it. I object to that. 16 17 Furthermore, this Amazon, now that we 18 know who they are -- I was going to hold off on this but since we know who they are I guess I'm 19 20 going to bring it up. All you union guys that sit 2.1 on this Board here, you should be really 22 concerned about Amazon. In the past quarter of 23 this past year, 2019, there's been many, many, 24 many complaints about Amazon and working 25 conditions in their facilities. Not only that, we

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have letters sent from the United States Congress to Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon, about new reports of rate of serious injuries at the Amazon fulfillment centers. I have here a whole list of different fulfillment centers throughout the United states, and not only the United States, throughout Europe. It has here in the Amazon plant down in south New Jersey, in Robinsville Township, Amazon warehouse workers strike to protest inhumane conditions. Have any of you folks gone online and looked up Amazon and seen how they treat their employees? Have you done that? Have you, Mr. Stoddard? You're a union guy and you want to allow a corporation like that to come in here. I'm a union guy. We can't have stuff like that. Not to mention the low salaries. I mean I've been saying that to you guys for a long time now. \$31,000 a year, come on guys. We know that the median salary here in Montgomery is \$49,000. No one can live here on \$31,000 a year, Mr. Crist. You know that. No one can live here. What I'm going to do is I'm going to present this here to the Board. Hopefully you guys will look through it. These are the

complaints filed with different fulfillment 1 2 centers against Amazon. 3 Thank you. CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Don. 4 5 MR. BYSTRAK: I'm Richard Bystrak, I'm at 465 State Route 17K, Rock Tavern. 6 7 First I want to -- I made a point about 8 this previously over and over, and I got 9 confirmation from the Planning Board that this 10 plant that they're putting in for sewage was not 11 going to be taken over by the Town of Montgomery. 12 They said that to me twice at the Planning Board 13 just before they approved this project. Now I 14 hear well it's still in there, it's going to be 15 transferred by Bluewater to the Town. I hope it is not. That would be the dumbest thing that ever 16 the Town Board would do or the Planning Board, to 17 18 take over that facility. There's no reason to do 19 it. You can take it over at any time you want, ten years or whatever. You don't need to take it 20 2.1 over at the beginning. Let these guys deal with 22 all of the headaches that that thing is going to 23 cause. 24 Now, when I was at your IDA meeting the 25 other day back in September, the one you tried to

1	hide, you know, you didn't tell anybody. It was
2	a snowy day and you let the whole town hall go
3	and then you held the meeting. Not many people
4	showed up at that meeting.
5	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: February.
6	MR. McLAUGHLIN: Excuse me. September?
7	MR. BYSTRAK: September
8	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: February.
9	MR. BYSTRAK: Was it February?
10	MR. McLAUGHLIN: It was February. The
11	first public hearing for Bluewater was February.
12	MR. BYSTRAK: All right. Okay.
13	MR. McLAUGHLIN: There were over fifty
14	people in the room that night.
15	MR. BYSTRAK: There weren't fifty
16	people in the room when I was here.
17	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There weren't
18	fifty people in the room.
19	MR. McLAUGHLIN: Excuse me. Don't
20	insult me.
21	MR. BERGER: Don't insult us.
22	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Hold on. Hold on. We
23	have a speaker and our Counsel is making a
24	comment.
25	MR. McLAUGHLIN: It was February of

2019. There were plenty of people here.

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2 MR. BYSTRAK: The meeting --Just to correct the 3 MR. McLAUGHLIN: record, we said several times on behalf of the 4 5 Agency that the public comment period remained 6 open for written comments. There were plenty of 7 opportunities to submit written comments. In 8 addition, the Chair opened the meeting in November for additional public comments. So there 9 10 have been plenty of opportunities for public 11 comments. 12 MR. BYSTRAK: I'm not going to argue 13 that point.

Now, at the meeting that I was at, here's the notes for it, I don't know if there's a date on it, but at the meeting I was at I said that there will be no sewer lines run down from that sewer plant. I said mark my words. Anybody want to bet their job on it, and Mr. Winchell raised his hand, "I will." I said well we'll see. We'll see. And where is Mr. Winchell? He bet his job on it. He's gone. I hope the letter that I wrote in October regarding Mr. Winchell's circus that he had here with the Planning Board, with all of the union carrying Sailfish signs -- I

1	wrote that letter in The Wallkill Times and I
2	hope it had something to do with him not getting
3	his re-election. I hope it did. I don't know if
4	it did.
5	CHAIRMAN CRIST: You have a minute,
6	Richard.
7	MR. BYSTRAK: I've got a minute?
8	That's it?
9	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Yes.
10	MR. BYSTRAK: All right. Here's what
11	I'm going to give you in a minute. You see this?
12	This is on the internet, Town of Montgomery
13	Development Board Article 1, your Agency. This
14	tells you everything about how you guys operate.
15	All right. I'm going to tell you what I think
16	about it. (Ripping paper). That's what I want
17	done with this Agency.
18	Note that I just ripped this up.
19	I want this Agency done with. We're
20	through. I still have faith in capitalism. I
21	don't want this approach that everybody needs
22	social help to get going here. So I want to do
23	away with your Agency because we don't need it.
24	You guys can look for other jobs. We don't need
25	you. All right.

1	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Ma'am.
2	MS. MERTZ: Also as a point of
3	correction, I have a copy right here in front of
4	me, the minutes from
5	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Your name? Your name,
6	ma'am?
7	MS. MERTZ: My name is Beverly Mertz, I
8	live at 237 Frieda Street in Montgomery.
9	I have a copy of the minutes from
10	February 12, 2019. That comment that the previous
11	person just spoke about is right here in these
12	minutes. You want a copy? It's here.
13	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Which comment is that?
14	MS. MERTZ: The comment about the
15	wastewater treatment plant where he said mark my
16	words, anybody want to bet their job on it, and
17	Mr. Winchell said sure, I will. Those are right
18	here in these minutes.
19	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Okay.
20	MS. MERTZ: Now on to what I want to
21	talk about. I want to talk to you in regards to
22	the Planning Board's findings statement for
23	Project Sailfish. I'm hoping by now that
24	everyone has taken the opportunity to read that
25	document. There are several areas, in my opinion,

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that would bring into question the advisability of granting any long-term abatement to an applicant, which we now know is Amazon, that have outstanding pending items that need to be resolved. I'm only going to speak to three of them. There's a ton of them.

On page 65, item GG, part of the stormwater mitigation, why would you grant long-term tax abatements when this applicant, Amazon, will only be required to post a maintenance bond for two years upon completion and the subsequent occupancy certificate being given? Two years? And you're thinking of giving them \$25,000,000 over fifteen years. That's just ludicrous.

The second item is on page 74, item N, it's a wetlands impact. I quote, "All disturbance activities in wetlands and spanning the Tin Brook require permits from the DEC and the Army Corp of Engineers."

On that same page, item P, the following permits are required for the project's wetlands and wetland buffer disturbances and for crossing the Tin Brook: A protection of waters permit, freshwater wetlands permit, Section 401 quality -- water quality certification.

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My question to the Board is this: Why would you consider giving any abatement to someone without knowing for sure that these permits are going to be issued to some company, what we now know is Amazon? And they have changed their name at least three times. We didn't even know before tonight that they would qualify.

And number 3 is in my opinion the biggest one. It goes back to that wastewater treatment plant. I have one question to each and every member of this Board. Are you willing to swim in or have someone you love swim in the effluent from that wastewater treatment plant? We have farmers whose livelihoods depend on the water from that Tin Brook. Are you willing to go in it? Are you willing to put their livelihood at risk? To allow Amazon, the richest man in the world, \$25,000,000? And take it away from the school district? That's ridiculous and ludicrous.

So based on the facts alone, and my own opinion which you have clearly heard notwithstanding, this applicant -- and this was written before it was confirmed it was Amazon --

1 whomever it is, and their unknown confidential 2 tenant, which is totally ridiculously absurd considering this amount of money, should not be 3 given any tax breaks at all. I pay my taxes. I 4 5 hope you pay your taxes. Let these people pay their damn taxes. 6 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Ma'am. 7 8 MS. ZAHAKOS: Hello. Good evening, 9 Board. My name is Cheri Zahakos, I live on Lake 10 Vue Drive and I'm a resident of Montgomery. 11 I'm here to speak on the Sailfish IDA 12 application, and I appreciate you taking into consideration what I'm about to say. 13 14 Greetings to each member of the Board 15 and I extend a wish that the year unfolding before us is a healthy and successful one. 16 To create success, personal and in 17 18 business, there needs to be an honest evaluation 19 of issues being faced. There needs to be an 20 alignment between the needs and the wants and 2.1 what is the cost, the benefit for the choices 22 being made. 23 The application for this project in 24 search of approximately 25,000,000 taxpayer 25 funded dollars in IDA relief is one of those

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issues needing to be evaluated honestly in order for the Town to be successful.

Health. Health is balanced on the system working correctly. It is where what is taken in needs to bring quality to the whole, and things that fail to fully support this need to be abandoned. I would believe all understand that a healthy engine supports success and a good quality of life. This application in search of IDA relief is one that fails to supply what is needed for this Town to be healthy, hence needing abandonment.

There has been so much exposed about this Town and its boards, it is truly an embarrassment to its residents. It has eroded any trust in the fair execution of our business. There has been brought to light business dealings and communications that appear to exhibit power plays, manipulation and avoidance of the true open negotiations where all have fair representation.

Quoting from Exhibit P in the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations,
Senator Skoufis the Chair, quoting, "Opposition is getting momentum. They are angry and getting

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pushy and uncivil. We need a good number of supporters to reassure the Board that the project is supported."

I am a member of this community and I'm also a proud member of RPM and find becoming angry with not being fairly represented a very justifiable outcome. An angry response to such treatment with not being fairly represented is a very -- excuse me. An angry response to such treatment really should take very little education to understand. As to pushy, if actively participating in our community's business our governance is pushy, I would willingly add the word pushy to the dictionary under citizen. to residents of this Town or community being defined uncivil, I find that one is not conductive to civic harmony and welfare is not the resident but those who work without transparency. Creating false realities fails in all aspects to those factually and ethically driven. In fact, I've found the opposite among those I have come to know and have been active in the search for honest representation. They are compassionate, vested, educated, often in fact too kind, and respectful to a fault.

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Continuing with Exhibit P, "We need a good number of supporters to reassure the Board the project is supported." And in another correspondence in that exhibit, "Are you working with Todd and the trades?" "Absolutely, and I have spoken with Todd several times." Though this communication involves other business -another business applicant, it is predominantly the same identities involved here. There is a saying that a leopard never changes its spots. The investigation covers interactions that appear to be compromising. Are we being compromised The Montgomery IDA was the least here? forthcoming with requested documents in that investigation. As a resident I find that appalling and portend a distinct possibility of bad business dealings are a fact. Honesty is transparent. It is healthy.

This application fails to offer any long-term benefit to the Town. The school district stands to lose 2,000,000 a year for the first five years. No benefit other than some possible snow removal and catering work. Workers paid a salary that is not one that sustains living here. Temp work. No growth potential in an

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employment field. Salary level sustaining only poverty. An industry that the demand to fill vacancies is problematic. Montgomery is in fact saturated with this one singular rateable, so instead of organic growth and sustainment, a net is being cast far and wide to support it's existence. Sadly, the workers with this level of salary will need to be bussed in, it is said, as to own a reliable car is not a very realistic possibility. \$31,000 a year offers no real disposable income, no money to truly support the smaller businesses in the Town.

The newly revised document submitted has multiple errors. An example, a historic building is now to be removed, not moved. Let's hope that is a sloppy irresponsibly drafted document and not true. And, if so, should we be accepting such a carelessly crafted document? An application that can not state any true benefit to the Town, only the proposition of a sewer by their design, their dime with no choice, no say from the taxpaying, the 65 percent taxpaying resident who would be left maintaining the applicant, the LLC's choice of what is best for this Town. There is no elevation to the financial

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health to this Town with this applicant. No long-term benefit. Those who would live only for service of themselves fail to elevate everything and only increase the burden of others. That is important.

There is a tomorrow in every new year. In that tomorrow will there only be the bill or will there be a benefit? So with a wish for success and health comes a responsibility to see to the diversification of our revenue sources, for the ability to remain solvent in an economic downturn, a need to create a location that gives every resident a return on their investment by ensuring a quality environment. An action that will drive tax revenue, not erode it. The engine needs to be sound. Transparency is imperative to evoke trust. While I believe all can think on their own and look out for their view of what is best in the interest of this Town, that is not a decision to be based on a single entity. It is not a decision to be based on falsely created scenarios meant to sway. It is not a decision to be made in back door arrangements that may be viewed in circumvention of legal statutes. It is not a decision to be made because the back I

1	scratch will scratch mine.
2	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Ma'am, are you almost
3	done?
4	MS. ZAHAKOS: I'm done. Two sentences.
5	Thank you, sir. Thank you for your patience.
6	It is one that should be made to drive
7	this Town to a long-term financial position where
8	the school is funded by a balanced town economic
9	engine, the 65 percent of the taxpayers pay
10	fairly but receive fairly, where newspapers,
11	residents, senators and others view our ability
12	to make critical decisions without the now seeded
13	skepticism about that ability. Where our
14	reputation in the valley, the state is one to be
15	proud of, not ashamed. One where a corporation,
16	or in this case an LLC, to state only a
17	leaseback, sublease for a fifteen-year commitment
18	with no benefit is told to pay their taxes in
19	full.
20	Give no approval to this IDA
21	application. No healthy, successful business puts
22	their self in the red.
23	Thank you. I would like to present
24	this.
25	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you.

Bill. 1 2 MR. FIORAVANTI: Thank you, Mr. 3 Chairman. My name is Bill Fioravanti, I'm the director of Economic Development for Orange 4 5 County. I will say that my comments reflect the 6 7 views of my department. Somebody has got to give 8 the other side of the story, right? 9 We're here because we support this 10 project, as we have since day one frankly. Exit

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We're here because we support this project, as we have since day one frankly. Exit 5A off Route 84, Interstate 84, I think it's exit 32 now, was made for this project. As your fine legislator already said, it's a stone — the site is a stone's throw from Route 84, so the truck impacts are minimal. You've got the airport within a mile, so — and there's potential cargo to come out of here, which would continue to maximize the airport, which is really what our vision is. And you're talking about a quality company that's coming here and will be relevant for decades.

The impacts that are -- we're concerned with have all been addressed through SEQRA. The New York State's environmental quality review is one of the most stringent in the land, and

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Sailfish, Bluewater and their consultants have had to answer to all of that, as is the process as it should be in this area.

The transportation sector has been a viable sector for Montgomery forever, for generations, and it continues to be and will be for many more generations. It's not relevant yet. When a town looks to revamp their comp plan, they're going to have to — take a look at your Town seal. Again, if you take a look at this, this Town was based upon that. It's important. It is.

Lastly the point I want to make is that neither Amazon's profitability nor the viability of the Sailfish site negate the necessity of incentives like this. This company and all others can and will go elsewhere unless we can compete by providing short-term relief to the onerous property taxes and costly regulations that define our regional business environment. Financial incentives simply level the playing field so that we can attract these premier companies, like our neighboring states, with more business friendly policies and cost structures. That's why IDAs exist and that's why you are empowered with the

powers that you have.

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We respect that, we appreciate the work that you do and we know that you'll do the right thing. I appreciate the opportunity to speak.

Thanks very much.

CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Bill.

In the back of the room. You're next.

MS. TIPTON: Hi. Karina Tipton, Town of

-- Village of Montgomery. I'm going to submit

these comments by e-mail to you after I speak.

My comments on this application are specific to the stated or perceived benefits of this project to the Town of Montgomery. The IDA is required to evaluate the benefit of the applicant project to the Town of Montgomery as the impact of any tax benefit has a reciprocal impact on the taxpayers in the Town that must be offset by us.

The application states that it will include at least 800 long-term operational jobs. On page 4 the salary range of these jobs is stated to be between \$31,200 to \$60,000. The average salary of these jobs is stated to be \$31,156. On page 18 of the application, and backing up how you can get an average that is so

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close to the minimum of this range, it is stated that 25 of these jobs will be professional and 775 of these jobs will be unskilled, which I expect to be the minimum of the range. Only 3 percent of the jobs anticipated to be required to operate this warehouse will be at the professional level with the associated salary of approaching \$60,000.

The reason this is important is because there is no expectation or quarantee that these will be local jobs, by which I mean local to the Town of Montgomery. The environmental impact statement, which was adopted by the IDA in full and was with reference to the Planning Board's findings statement, part of the SEQRA process that the previous speaker referenced, does not make any guarantee that these will be jobs from the Town of Montgomery, identifying the local workforce as coming from the tri-state area. Chapter 6 of the environmental impact statement states under effects of local economy that most of the projected employees anticipated from the proposed action are anticipated to live within 30 minutes of the project site. Statements under section B-1, local labor markets, states that

county labor force is drawn from an area
including Orange, Dutchess, Rockland, Sullivan
and Ulster Counties in New York, Pike and Wayne
Counties in Pennsylvania, and Sussex County in
New Jersey. This workforce pool expands over
hundreds of square miles. The conclusion in the
section is that this entire area of potential
workers can provide only 30,000 persons actively
seeking work. If that's true, what percent will
be from Orange County? What percent will be from
the Town of Montgomery? The section continues
that with over 20 percent of the county
workforce, which refers to the eight counties I
just listed, commutes to Orange County. Note this
is not necessarily job seekers identified in that
30,000 people but the number of people who are
commuting into Orange County to work currently.
Further, this section states that these employees
will generate income that would positively impact
the local community as businesses provide goods
and services to the proposed facility and its
employees. The prior section offers that the
generated income will be spent in Orange County,
not in the Town of Montgomery.
While it's possible that we could

scrape together 775 people in the Town of
Montgomery who would like to work full time for
\$15 an hour in one of the most dangerous types of
distribution facilities in the world, see
previous comments I've submitted and others have
mentioned today related to the hazards of working
in Amazon distribution facilities, the
transportation studies presented in the EIS
continue to reinforce that these will not be
local jobs. There are several pages in the EIS
outlining bus services to and from Middletown or
Newburgh and the project site. The traffic study
which is attached as an appendix to the
environmental impact statement includes a
thorough evaluation of traffic patterns pre and
post-build conditions. Page 19 of the traffic
study includes a table with arrival and departure
distributions by percent of total traffic to and
from the site. For car distributions, which will
compromise the majority of those 800 workers
coming to the site, it lists direction by route
to and from. 85 percent of the traffic, according
to this table, arguably comes from areas outside
to this table, arguably comes from areas outside of the Town of Montgomery. The routes they will

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east and west, International Boulevard, Routes 207 east and west. These are not roads that most Town residents will take to get to work at the corner of 747 and 17K.

Concluding this summary of where workers are going to come from is a statement on page 3-233 stating, "Since this project does not involve any residential construction and no school age children, there would be no costs to the Valley Central School District." This information is important because it has direct impact on the evaluation of benefits that the IDA must complete as part of their responsibilities to the taxpayers, including residents and existing businesses that are in the Town of Montgomery. In fact, the UTEP policy requires the use of a rubric that provides points summarizing the benefit to the Town. This rubric is highly subjective, and without any backup or explanatory detail it's impossible to know how the prior application reached the level 3 benefit. Several of the twelve categories do result in a minimum score of 1 instead of 0 because the rubric includes statements such as less than or at least at the lowest level of criteria, automatically

getting you points. It's possible that without 1 2 evaluating the project against this rubric critically, the UTEP score for this project can 3 only be as low as 7 which hits the level 2 4 5 benefit. Level 2 out of 3. It's not great. That's why we're asking you, the IDA Board, to take a 6 7 hard look at the actual benefits, or the lack of, 8 that the applicant has promised and stated in other documents. 9 10 For example, as has been mentioned 11 earlier and stated in the application, that the wastewater treatment plant will be deeded to the 12 Town, which is not true. In fact, the Planning 13 14 Board engineer has recommended against it. 15 Another downgrade to the promised benefits to the Town. 16 The applicant does not plan to 17 18 construct a green building that meets LEED standards, another UTEP rubric criteria. 19 How does the UTEP evaluate the 20 2.1 potential for spin-off jobs or the use of local 22 suppliers and services at a community level? 23 The superintendent of Valley Central 24 has submitted a letter to you which was mentioned 25 earlier. I spoke to him today and he noted that

he objects to awarding this PILOT, indicating 1 2 that Sailfish stopped negotiating with him for any educational benefits to the local community, 3 which is another criteria on the UTEP form, 4 5 getting a 0. Other UTEP categories. 6 There's no 7 local ownership in this property or operation of 8 the facility. Farmland will not be preserved, and in fact the Town of Montgomery will lose a 9 10 valuable wildlife corridor between the Catskills, 11 which I'm proud to say hold the oldest fossilized forests in the world, and Stewart Forest. 12 13 The cost benefit analysis posted to the 14 Town of Montgomery IDA website includes an 15 evaluation of benefits to the region and to the State but not to the Town. 16 On the other side of the coin, the 17 18 application states that the historic Arnott-Haber 19 house will not be preserved while the SEQRA 20 documents indicate it's going to be relocated and 2.1 preserved, including repairs and maintenance to 22 prevent the structure from being demolished by

the place and it can't really be trusted.

CHAIRMAN CRIST:

neglect. Honestly, this application is all over

Karina, can you wrap

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1 up, please? 2 MS. TIPTON: At this point I'm not seeing any benefit to the Town except for the 3 taxes. If the IDA awards this applicant any 4 5 benefits, they're doing the residents and the current businesses in this Town a grave 6 7 disservice and they're failing in the due 8 diligence required of you as a fiduciary entity 9 in this Town. 10 Thank you. 11 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you. 12 MS. WESCOTT: Hi. I'm Leigha Wescott from the Village of Montgomery. I am here to 13 14 speak of not only any decisions for Amazon but 15 the general health and decision making of the IDA Board in general. 16 I would like to read this and submit 17 18 this in for the public record, and then I just have a few comments if I still have time. 19 20 New York State Investigations and 2.1 Government Operations Committee, for immediate 22 release December 16, 2019. Press release. Skoufis 23 releases investigative report on public authorities and IDAs, finds urgent need for 24 25 reform. In March of 2019 Senator James Skoufis,

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Chair of the Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, opened an investigation into the compliance and practices of public authorities, including industrial Development agencies (IDAs) across New York State. The committee issued information and document requests to 143 public authorities, including state authorities, local authorities, Industrial development agencies and local development corporations.

The nine-month investigation found a significant need for stronger enforcement of existing laws in order to ensure compliance.

Additionally, new laws and oversight tools are urgently needed to better protect taxpayers amidst billions of dollars in annual public authority spending.

In an effort to recognize best practices as well as expose fraud, the investigations team developed two case studies within the report. In particular, the Medline Industries warehouse IDA application in the Town of Montgomery, Orange County, revealed unethical, if not illegal, behavior and serves as an example of how financial incentives can be abused to the

1	detriment of local taxpayers.
2	The committee's document requests
3	produced evidence of potential collusion between
4	these quasi governmental agencies and the
5	governmental entities that consider local
6	approvals for a project.
7	If there is one takeaway from our
8	investigation it's that taxpayers deserve far
9	more accountability and responsibility with their
10	money, said Senator Skoufis.
11	The results of this report acknowledged
12	the important role that public authorities play
13	in our state but also pulls back the curtain on a
14	system that's desperate for wholesale reform.
15	It goes on to say what his findings are
16	as well as any recommendations for improvement.
17	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Could I ask you to
18	focus on the project here tonight?
19	MS. WESCOTT: I am focusing on the
20	project.
21	CHAIRMAN CRIST: It doesn't sound like
22	it.
23	MS. WESCOTT: I am focusing because it
24	is based on your decision making skills in terms
25	of corporations and what they are requesting to

do within our Town. 1 2 I do not feel that your loyalties lie within the local taxpayers but with other 3 entities that do not involve us, and I am asking 4 5 please do not make any decisions on anything until your Board is healthy and has made the 6 7 definite changes that are necessary to be loyal, 8 to be fair to the local taxpayers. 9 That's all I'm asking. Thank you. 10 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Sir. 11 MR. MERTZ: Fred Mertz, Village of 12 Montgomery. I'm going to reiterate a little bit what the previous lady said about the report. 13 14 The Town of Montgomery IDA is one of 15 six in Orange County, which is one of only five in New York State, that had authorized IDAs with 16 17 five or more that operate within one county. This 18 is all -- Senator Skoufis's report is right here. 19 This is just footnotes from that. 20 IDAs are established by the State at 2.1 the request of the municipality by be it 22 counties --23 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Sir, sir, this was 24 just discussed and it's not directly related to 25 the project tonight.

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MR. MERTZ: I understand that. Part of that is also creating permanent positions. The definition of permanent is lasting, or intended to last, or remain unchanged. Fifteen years is not permanent. In two years jobs are supposed to disappear according to their DEIS and FEIS. How is that permanent? So that decision has to be put on hold.

The applicant, through the course of time, has changed names, this will be the third time. We now know who it is, but it's also who is going to be -- who is the PILOT going to? Is it going to Amazon, or is it going to USEF, or whoever else they want to put out there now? So that question is there as well.

Let's see. The facts revealed in Skoufis's report, in my opinion as a Town of Montgomery resident and a taxpayer affected by the IDA and the Planning Board's decision is that any and all applications before both of these Boards be halted and the IDA Board be dissolved completely until the issues of these devastating findings be dealt with.

I would also strongly urge a moratorium be enacted on all future projects until the

necessary changes and safeguards be enacted. No 1 2 one knows the total impact traffic wise of all of these projects. Sixteen major warehouses in 3 front of the Planning Board right now totaling 4 5 4,500,000 square feet of use. Farmland now going to a building and getting tax breaks on them. 6 7 My dollars are very valuable to me. I 8 don't mind paying the school tax because it benefits the kids and everything else. But when a 9 10 business comes in bullying their way in, what it 11 seems like is happening now, and getting a tax 12 break on top of that, my dollars go up while the 13 richest man in the world gets more money in his 14 pocket, that's absurd. That's not right. I'm sure 15 that if you pay your taxes as well you would think it's not right either. 16 17 Thank you. 18 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Fred. 19 MS. GREENE: I'm going to try to make 20 sense of my doodles here. I'm Randi Greene. I 2.1 live and operate a small business in the Village 22 of Montgomery. 23 I'd like to start off by saying the 24 investigation by Skoufis to me is of no 25 importance because we already know all of the

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problems that we now paid his team to announce in the report. What he did is failed to give us solutions. You maybe can call me naive but I think the solutions lie right here in this room between the applicants, the residents and the IDA.

The definition of an IDA, for the applicants, not to be rude to you guys because I know you know your job, is an industrial development agency is a public benefit corporation of the State of New York and is formed by the State at the request of a particular municipality for the benefit of such municipality.

I know that the school board has put a statement in via e-mail, and I was asked to read a couple notes and I just have one or two.

According to a 1028 economic policy institute report on the effects of Amazon fulfillment centers, investments in public services are more effective than tax incentives at generating long-term economic growth. Another key downside of tax incentives is that they deprive states and localities of resources needed to invest in public goods such as transportation

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or education. The research literature indicates that public spending and the expansion of public services increases local economic activity and that such public investment is obviously hamstrung by policies like offering tax incentives at reduced resources available to state and local governments.

Investments and public services,
particularly early childhood education and
infrastructure, are much stronger recipes for a
long-term economic development than providing tax
increases to existing national employers.

It is the opinion of the district that given the \$16,000,000 in school tax breaks that Sailfish and Amazon will be receiving over the fifteen-year period if the IDA considers issuing them a PILOT, it must be contingent upon both Sailfish and/or the project occupant entering into a CVA over a period of which, for instance, Sailfish and/or the project occupant would be minimally required to support the expenditures that are necessary to provide students with a quality educational program and facilities that must be modernized to incorporate the latest technology to ensure children are educated in a

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safe and secure environment, which is what we held Medline to. That's my issue.

So nice to meet you, Mr. Segreto and Griggs. I don't know if I butchered that. Sorry. I heard you say that PILOTS are customary for a project of this size. That's nice, and I -- it's nice to always get what you're accustomed to, but I'm accustomed to a lot of things that I don't get to enjoy every year because that's life in business. Sorry, it's true.

This is not all or nothing, so why is that the only option given to us? Why does it seem so binary here?

I'm not against Amazon or automation or development. I'm not against a median income of \$31,000 a year. I make that and I live here.

Let's be fair, though. My sales this year were \$304,000. My payroll was \$77,000. My taxes were \$20,000. My property taxes for the Village and Town were \$9,200. I'm sure if we put that into some kind of program, the ratio of the income versus the taxes that I'm paying would more than qualify me for a PILOT program, which I'm sure I wouldn't get.

I can also assure you that I can show

you on paper that I spend almost all of my entire 1 income locally on purpose. That's not -- again, a 2 PILOT is not an option for me. 3 We raked Medline over the coals at 4 5 countless meetings and they were, from the start, more approachable and forthcoming than Amazon. 6 7 After months Medline finally came back with a 8 reasonable attitude and dropped their PILOT for their as-of-right 485-B, which you are also 9 10 entitled to. If Medline had received the PILOT, 11 they were also obligated to pay \$300,000 to the school and \$300,000 in medical supplies. Why 12 13 isn't Amazon being held to the same standard? 14 I wonder if the applicant's hesitancy 15 to be named in the application could maybe be due to the negativity that they know will fester 16 because of the adversarial relationship that the 17 18 IDA has all but encouraged between residents and 19 applicants due to their lack of negotiations on 20 behalf of their own communities. 2.1 Why are we playing a game of chicken 22 with Amazon? Why are we not negotiating 23 reasonably with the community? This is business 24 101. 25 I encourage you to keep public comment

open and hold off on any decision. We've done 1 2 this to Medline countless times and we really need to hold Amazon to the same standard. 3 If the IDA won't negotiate on behalf of 4 5 the community, shame on them. If Amazon won't 6 negotiate directly with the community, shame on 7 you. 8 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Who else would like to 9 speak tonight? Maureen. 10 MS. HALLAHAN: Good evening. My name is 11 Maureen Hallahan, I'm the President and CEO of 12 the Orange County Partnership. 13 I just want to rewind a little bit. 14 When Bluewater Partners first came here to Orange 15 County it was because they were seeking out sites wherever in the county that would handle a 16 17 project of this caliber, not knowing who the end 18 user would be. 19 When they were looking at sites 20 throughout the county, they needed accessibility, 2.1 they wanted to make sure that this distribution 22 center, because that's what they build for, large 23 companies like this, would be able to have easy 24 access -- easy highway access to the major 25 interstates, and this site was the perfect

location. They went and did their due diligence. 1 2 They came to the Town and went through the environmental process and were very transparent 3 and forthcoming throughout the entire process. 4 5 In the end, when speculators do something like this, then they get a company that 6 7 might have interest in the site. This is no 8 different, I want to just remind you, of many of the companies that came along Neelytown Road and 9 10 came before the IDA over the course of many 11 years. Those companies that started with PILOTs 12 have paid taxes in perpetuity throughout for 13 many, many years and are some of the largest 14 taxpayers in the school district and in the 15 municipality. I just want to make sure that we keep 16 in mind the benefits go on, they move forward. 17 18 Projects like Amazon bring other projects on the heels of their companies. There could be promise 19 20 for other projects throughout the county. 2.1 hope that you will vote appropriately as you did 22 earlier. 23 Thank you so much. 24 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Maureen. 25 Sir. Chris.

1 MR. PENNINGS: Good evening. My name is 2 Chris Pennings, I'm a lifetime resident of Orange County, Berea Elementary through Valley Central. 3 I wear three hats, I like to think, 4 5 when I speak at these. I do understand the frustrations of farmland leaving. I'm a fourth-6 7 generation farmer, not in this community, in 8 Crawford. I'm in my fifth year in business. My taxes went from \$14,000 to now close to 30. 9 10 Now, that's because Pine Bush can't get any 11 ratables. 12 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Chris, we can't hear 13 you too well unless you speak into the speaker a 14 little bit. Thank you. 15 MR. PENNINGS: I'm standing here before you, I'm having trouble surviving as a farm, as 16 I'm sure Mr. and Mrs. Pem have and the other 17 18 properties surrounding there. Mr. Pem set up my grandfather's first milk parlor. Very close 19 friends of ours. 20 2.1 All I can say I quess is as a family of

farms and landowner, you should have ponied up and bought the land before this happened. You can't survive as farmers. I don't know what else to tell you. We live in an industrial location.

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I was fortunate enough to purchase my only commercial property. I'm not a commercial realtor or commercial investor. It borders the property of this property. I'm at 469 17K. I'm a business owner there. I'm a recruiter of 28 years.

The young lady, and I'm sorry people

overlook the \$15 and \$16 an hour jobs because those dollars are paying people's household bills. It's kind of sad or a little disrespectful to those who do earn 15, 16, 17, 18. I speak to thousands of candidates per year. They need those jobs. There's great healthcare behind it.

There's stability. People at Cardinal, when you all fought Cardinal twenty years ago when it was Baxter because it was \$12, \$13, \$14 an hour jobs, I know tons of people that I placed, some I went to school with, that are making \$25, \$26 an hour now. I mean they've earned that way. They've not left. It's just the way it goes.

We are a transportation hub. We've always been identified as it as far as I can always remember the minute cardinal came here.

From a recruiter's standpoint and those who I have helped in many of the distribution

1	companies, it's important to them. There's a lot
2	of jobs at stake here and there's many people
3	that have, even executives, left this area to go
4	work for Amazon in Pennsylvania or something like
5	that. Those people can come back now.
6	From a standpoint of feeling the
7	pressure of taxes as a landowner in, again, Pine
8	Bush, I think these kinds of properties these
9	kinds of properties have to be developed properly
10	in good communication. I think there would be
11	enough on the radar that smaller companies can
12	sometimes do a lot worse that you don't even know
13	that's in your backyard than companies that are
14	on the radar like this kind of project. I can
15	guarantee you that it is in your backyard,
16	whether it's tires or oil or whatever.
17	I remember when my grandfather used to
18	get people complaining about manure going too
19	close to streams.
20	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could you please
21	talk to the Board. Thank you.
22	MR. PENNINGS: I'd rather talk to you.
23	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. I
24	appreciate it.
25	MR. PENNINGS: In closing, I just feel

1	like we've seen enough of these projects come and
2	go. We do live on a highway. I used to. I moved
3	out to Pine Bush because I decided I wanted more
4	rural property.
5	So with that, I think people have to
6	take a little bit of an understanding of a farmer
7	like Mr. Pem that dedicated his life to farming
8	has to make a choice. Many times it's a
9	difficult choice because we don't have the PDR
10	that you're buying out the farms.
11	I just very much support this project
12	and I hope to see it through. Thank you.
13	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Chris.
14	How many more people would like to
15	speak tonight? Let me catch the people that
16	haven't spoken.
17	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's directly
18	related to what he just said as a point of
19	clarification.
20	CHAIRMAN CRIST: This is addressing the
21	Board and I need to maintain an appropriate
22	procedure.
23	Jim Taylor.
24	MR. TAYLOR: Good evening, Chairman and
25	Board Members. Tonight is the night once a year

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where you guys earn your money. All that money that --

CHAIRMAN CRIST: What money?

MR. TAYLOR: -- I don't think you get paid to sit for. Anyway, nights like tonight are tough. It's tough for you people that are going to vote as Board Members. It's tough for the public.

Montgomery Town has taken a beating in the last couple of years. For what reason. know, they say it's preservation of agricultural. They say it's no growth. They say it's green, it's this, that and the other thing. It's about the people that live here, and it's the people that work here, and it's about the people that play here. We've just gone through an election. We've got a brand new team, management, operating this Town. The IDA Board has taken a beating for its Board Members. I don't think it matters whether a union member or non union, whether you're black, or white, or Irish, or English, or an insurance salesman, or a real estate broker, you have ethics, you have morals and you've got a job to do, and a lot of it has ethic codes that you're obligated to. When it comes to the law,

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we've got to be confident that you guys are going to do the right thing.

I, for the last nine years, was appointed by the governor to serve on the Mid-Hudson Regional Council as a voting member. I remember when this project came to Regional Council, they were awarded money. They were an ideal candidate for that location. New York State taxpayers, Orange County taxpayers, Town of Montgomery taxpayers paid in excess of \$75,000,000 to do that 747 corridor, the gateway to Montgomery, the future entrance to the future Stewart Airport. So these people have been eying this project, working this project for a number of years. They spent a lot of money.

The Town of Montgomery government, the Town of Montgomery residents, the Town of Montgomery taxpayers have contributed to this project getting to the twelfth hour of where it is tonight. So at five minutes to 12 we're going to turn our back on them after everything that's been discussed, negotiated, permitted, approved, discussed? You can't do that. It's like false advertising. For two or three years they've been spending money to come to the gateway of

1 Montgomery, to come to the entrance of Stewart 2 Airport. 747, an improved roadway, to transport maybe ground to air, air to ground. Who knows 3 what the future will hold. We know they're going 4 5 to have to adjust to local market conditions. 6 They are smart business people. Whether the quy 7 is rich or poor doesn't matter. That's what 8 disturbs me most. Rich people now are penalized. It's like quid pro quo. What's in it for me. What 9 10 are you going to give me. I don't get it. It's 11 almost like extortion where what are you going to 12 give me to allow you to come to my town. That's 13 crap. That's not American. That's not business. 14 We welcome business to come. 15 As was said earlier, a few minutes ago about the Pem brothers farm, you know the guy 16 17 struggled. That family struggled for years to 18 hold that land, to pay the taxes, and now he made a transaction. He's going to make a profit, now a 19 bad word. It's disgusting. We can't --20 2.1 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Pardon me. Please be 22 quiet in the audience as a courtesy to this 23 speaker. With reference to Pem all 24 MR. BYSTRAK: 25 the time, Pem's been dead for ten years.

1	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Excuse me. You do not
2	have the floor. Mr. Taylor is speaking.
3	MR. TAYLOR: Thank you.
4	CHAIRMAN CRIST: I would ask for
5	respect.
6	MR. TAYLOR: I hate this because it
7	creates animosity amongst our friends, our
8	neighbors. Whenever we come in this room you get
9	a bad feeling about it. We shouldn't. We should
10	be able to open, have discussion out loud.
11	I don't think anybody is happy about
12	giving anybody a tax free ride, but nobody comes
13	in to New York getting a tax free ride. You pay
14	to come into New York, and it's a lot more
15	expensive a price than going into a lot of other
16	states.
17	We should be very thankful, very happy
18	that we've got people that want to locate their
19	business here. I just again, I hate to see
20	that. I hate to see this amongst our friends and
21	family and community members. And you folks, as
22	appointed Board Members, having to make a
23	decision.
24	But to turn our backs on these guys now
25	would be like we've been false advertising for

1	the last couple of years, welcome to the gateway,
2	to the Town of Montgomery, welcome to 747
3	corridor, welcome to Stewart Airport. Millions of
4	dollars have been invested, as I said, and to
5	turn our back on them at this point would be a
6	big mistake.
7	Although I wouldn't want to be in your
8	seat tonight to have to make a vote, you don't
9	have a choice because you're here from the
10	economics incentive side of this thing.
11	Senator Skoufis wrote this report
12	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Jim, could you wrap
13	up? Your time is about up.
14	MR. TAYLOR: The Skoufis report, I read
15	it three times, nothing was done wrong. Medline
16	did nothing wrong. They did the normal business
17	procedural practice to get the best deal. There's
18	nothing wrong with that despite some people
19	wanting to make it wrong. Because if they did a
20	crime or you guys made a criminal infraction, you
21	would have been in handcuffs by now, so
22	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Jim.
23	MR. TAYLOR: Thank you very much.
24	CHAIRMAN CRIST: John. Did you have
25	your hand up, John?

1 MR. BROWN: Yes. 2 CHAIRMAN CRIST: That's what I thought. My name is John Brown, I 3 MR. BROWN: live on Browns Road, Town of Montgomery. I also 4 5 live downstream of the major problems that will be created by the Sailfish project. 6 7 As I've stated on November 12th when I 8 presented before this Board, I am firmly opposed 9 to any kind of benefit given to an applicant that 10 helps to destroy the value of our historic farm 11 which goes back five generations. The Tin Brook 12 goes through our farm and the increased runoff 13 from this and the potential pollution in the Tin 14 Brook directly affects us. I have documented 15 that. You've heard tonight from a number of 16 local people. A lot of local people who care 17 18 about our community. It's important to point out that the representatives for this applicant don't 19 20 live in our community, nor does the lobbying 2.1 organization from Orange County Partnership or 22 from the County. I believe that our local people 23 should have a key say in what goes on. 24 I fully support all of the arguments 25 that have been brought forward by our local

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people. I do have a letter I'll submit which basically confirms my agreement with those key points.

I think a key point that really needs to be understood by this Board is the point that Chris made before. You shouldn't even be considering this application because on its surface it has significant errors in it.

Now look at this group of people supporting it and their lobbyists. I wish they had read the application that's put in, because, as Bill said, this is not in agreement with SEQRA. It is in direct conflict with the SEQRA findings.

The SEQRA findings say they're going to restore the house, move it. Their application, directly in that application says they're going to remove it. Now what will they do? Maybe they'll bring in a big machine, tear it down and put in a dumpster and say oh, we're sorry, we didn't pay attention to that SEQRA application.

We've heard many times tonight about the wastewater treatment plant which I think everybody has well documented and is in SEQRA that it will not be deeded to the Town in the

1 SEQRA document, yet their application has that in 2 two places. These aren't typos. I mean these guys 3 combined are making \$2,000 an hour sitting here 4 5 and they can't even get this application correct. 6 How can you expect them to ever follow up on any 7 of the obligations that are needed when they 8 can't even get the application correct? 9 These aren't typos. 10 In fact, if our lobbyists and our 11 Partnership spent their time reading the SEQRA 12 documents and the applications, they should have 13 found the same things. 14 In addition to that, there are other 15 errors within this application. They're not even consistent on the tax benefit granted, and you 16 17 can look that up and in two places you have 18 different amounts. Their assessments have never 19 been verified by the town assessor. 20 So in closing I would say you should 2.1 reject this application out of hand because of 22 the significant errors in it. 23 Thank you. CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you. 24 25 Would anyone else like to speak tonight

1 to the subject? 2 MR. BYSTRAK: I think you should give 3 more than one try. CHAIRMAN CRIST: Hold on. I'm asking 4 5 for people that haven't spoken yet. Ma'am. 6 7 MS. FIERO: Good evening. I'm Jane 8 Fiero of Lake Osiris Road in the Town of Montgomery. I have attended several meetings over 9 10 the last year from the Planning Board, the Town 11 Board and a couple of the IDA meetings. A lot of 12 it was new to me. 13 As far as the money that the company 14 has already invested in this process, I can 15 appreciate it's a lot. It's really unfortunate there wasn't transparency from day one, like what 16 the goal was, what you were hoping to do, what 17 18 could be possible things, and that it wasn't 19 openly shared with the community. The community, 20 when they started to find what was going on, came 2.1 on board, and I've heard a lot of excellent 22 testimony from different community members about 23 the concerns for the environment, the Tin Brook, 24 the water for Walden and such. I think things 25 like that are much more important than the money

that's been invested up to this point. In the 1 2 future we want people to be able to have clean water to drink and such. 3 I'm very concerned that nobody in the 4 Town has considered overall traffic studies for 5 what it's going to be like in our community going 6 7 from point A to point B during commuting time. 8 It's bad already, and with hundreds of more cars from all these different projects, this is one 9 10 more, so it's just going to make it worse. 11 I would just like to say that I'm so 12 glad we have many pushy, "pushy" citizens in our 13 Town. Certainly historically if it wasn't for 14 pushy citizens women never would have had the 15 right to vote, there never would have been civil rights, there never would be worker benefits. 16 17 Thank God for pushy people. 18 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Anyone else who hasn't spoken yet tonight? 19 Kristen, did you have a quicky? 20 2.1 MS. BROWN: Yes. Kristen Brown, Browns 22 Road. 23 Just a point of clarification. On page 24 10, according to the application, present legal 25 owner of the project site parcel 1 is LDL Realty,

Parcel 2, Deborah Drake, Thomas Tracey 1 2 Junior, Michael Drake and Dan Stein. is Patricia Haber. Parcel 4 is Patricia Haber. I 3 believe the comment that Mr. Pennings made was on 4 5 the wrong land parcel. 6 Thank you. 7 CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you. 8 Richard, did you have something else 9 quick? 10 MR. BYSTRAK: Real quick. First of all, 11 Mr. Pem has been dead for ten years. It sounds like they're talking he's alive and that. He's 12 13 gone. 14 There's a lot of ambiguity here. Mr. 15 Taylor spoke but I didn't quite understand what he really wanted. I'll tell you what I want. I 16 want -- I would prefer that they didn't come at 17 18 all. But, but if they are going to come, then let them pay the taxes, okay. That would make me 19 20 feel better. They're going to pay \$350,000 a year 2.1 to this Valley Central School District. How much 22 do you think that that's going to reduce my 23 taxes? Nothing. It's not going to reduce my Town 24 taxes. So if this building was on the border of 25 your properties, don't you think you would say

well what benefit am I getting from these guys?

What benefit? I'm getting nothing. Welcome. I

just -- let me repeat it. If they're going to

come, let them pay the taxes. Okay. It has to be.

They have to pay the taxes.

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CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Richard.
Ma'am.

MS. ZAHAKOS: Cheri Zahakos again, 308 Lake Vue Drive.

After listening to some of the speakers I would like to tell this Board as a resident I believe you're an independent thinking, hopefully ethical, transparent Board. Because other people have dealt and said things doesn't necessarily mean that that is applicable to you nor to this Town. The destiny of this Town as being a home rule state is up to us, the people. You control a piece of that destiny in controlling who comes by offering or not offering that finance.

Farms are dying but the next generation — my children are 25 and going forward they look forward to the things that this Town actually did offer. Farm to table is growing. There are many things, just like Sears & Roebuck. They were a dynamo. They're no longer applicable. So to say

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the farms are dying, maybe they are, maybe some still will, but some will actually survive and create a future for our children, our destiny.

I take exception to the fact that there's an appearance. I'm a capitalist, I'm a Republican. I like things to go forward. I like people with money. I like people who pay their taxes so I too can have a quality of life.

What I find really important is to insinuate that because we discuss a low minimum wage of \$31,000 and they say you can live on that, well I made 27,000 back in 1980 and I barely lived on that. This is 2019. I am not here to degrade nor suppress, and I don't think any of the residents are here when we discuss that wage.

What we're asking this Board to do is consider an opportunity for people who truly bring the ability for people to make a working wage. If this company wants to make their minimum wage at \$25 as an hour, now we can talk some parlay because this Town is loosing an awful lot by giving up this property. Regardless of what the state, who romanced who, who stroked who, who scratched whose back, the fact of the matter is it's a home rule state.

A comprehensive plan is due. Our 1 2 destiny is in our hands and in your hands. Nobody has the right any more than I do to tell you that 3 because somebody else made a promise, you must 4 5 fulfill it. No. That was their words. Our words is what's important to this Town. 6 Just like because I was born a woman 7 8 doesn't mean suddenly I have to be a part of the handmaid's tale. So if you think about the 9 10 values of what people are saying, we're asking 11 for an ethical, high quality set of jobs to come 12 in here that raises those people that are looking 13 to do more than living hand to fist. That's your 14 decision. That's a decision for you to make, not 15 somebody else that's trying to tell you because they made a commitment you have to. 16 I worked at Stewart Airport in 17 747. 18 1981 as a groundsman. My background is around 19 aircraft. There was a lot, a lot of basic 20 general aircraft but it was in freight. So I 2.1 understand the destiny of Stewart Airport. 22 747 was not built for the benefit of 23 Montgomery, for heaven's sake. It was built for 24 the Stewart International Airport. Don't dare

they lay the responsibility of their investment

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1	and frame our destiny and hold us accountable for
2	<del>-</del>
	that. How dare they.
3	And I ask you to take the higher order,
4	deny this.
5	If you want to come, Amazon, and I use
6	Amazon at Christmastime, I ask you to pay your
7	taxes. I ask you to be good citizens. I ask you
8	to be transparent.
9	I thank you.
10	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you.
11	Sir.
12	MR. DEVINE: Good evening, Board. My
13	name is William Devine, I'm the adjacent property
14	owner to the Amazon site. Just for the record, I
15	pay my taxes.
16	Some of the things I heard tonight were
17	a lot of assumptions based on if they don't get
18	the tax exemption or abatements, that they're
19	going to leave. You did say that if you can
20	answer questions that you would. Have any of the
21	Board Members actually asked them that if they do
22	not get the IDA tax abatement, if they would
23	leave?
24	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: At the last
25	meeting. They said they would.

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1	MR. DEVINE: They would. Thank you.
2	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you.
3	Board Members, any comment? Any
4	comment, Board Members?
5	(No response.)
6	CHAIRMAN CRIST: I'm going to suggest
7	that we consider Barbara.
8	MS. LERNER: Yes.
9	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Briefly, please.
10	MS. LERNER: Very, very briefly.
11	I wanted to give you a copy of the
12	petition. You're right, the IDA is not named on
13	this. But if my petition succeeds and the court
14	grants
15	MR. McLAUGHLIN: I don't need it. I
16	have that.
17	MS. LERNER: You have that?
18	MR. McLAUGHLIN: I have that. I was
19	just clarifying that the IDA is not named.
20	MS. LERNER: It is not named.
21	MR. McLAUGHLIN: Nor has it been
22	served.
23	MS. LERNER: No.
24	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Can you speak in the
25	mic, please?

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MS. LERNER: I'm sorry. Yes, Mr.

McLaughlin is correct, the IDA is not named in
this case. However, if the -- depending on the
judgment at finalization once this is heard, this
could prevent this project from going forward
forever. So I would strongly urge you to not have
to go back on any decision that you make
regarding benefits until after a decision by the
judge has been made.

CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Barbara. Fred, briefly.

MR. MERTZ: The gentleman saying that he represents people trying to find jobs, well you're bringing in two bookend mega warehouses in the Town of Montgomery coming in and leaving as you travel west. Guess what? You travel the road in between, on Neelytown Road, there are warehouses looking for people. Why bring something else in and you still don't have the people there to fill the places — the positions they need. Why? You're going to bus them in from somewhere else, so that adds to the traffic impact. Something you should consider because they need to fill the jobs on Neelytown Road before you bring somebody else in.

1	Thank you.
2	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Thank you, Fred.
3	I'm going to suggest to the Board that
4	we consider leaving the public hearing open, to
5	be continued on February 11th. There's a lot of
6	information we received tonight. There's
7	certainly some issues.
8	Any comment on that consideration?
9	MR. RILEY: Leave it open until the
10	next meeting?
11	I'm sorry. Steven Riley representing
12	the applicant.
13	CHAIRMAN CRIST: The next meeting is
14	next week on January 14th. I think that's too
15	soon.
16	MR. BERGER: Yes.
17	CHAIRMAN CRIST: I would ask the Board
18	for a motion to continue on February 11th. If
19	someone would care to make that motion.
20	MR. SANTO: So moved.
21	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Motion by Bob.
22	MR. RAINALDI: I'll second it.
23	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Second by Steve. Any
24	other discussion?
25	(No response.)

1	CHAIRMAN CRIST: All in favor, please
2	say aye.
3	MR. STODDARD: Aye.
4	MR. SANTO: Aye.
5	MR. DICKSON: Aye.
6	MR. WILLIAMS: Aye.
7	MR. RAINALDI: Aye.
8	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Aye.
9	Opposed the same?
10	(No response.)
11	CHAIRMAN CRIST: Motion carried.
12	The public hearing is adjourned for
13	tonight. Thank you all for coming and the
14	courtesy you exhibited.
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16	(Time noted: 7:45 p.m.)
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4	CERTIFICATION
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7	I, MICHELLE CONERO, a Notary Public
8	for and within the State of New York, do hereby
9	certify:
10	That hereinbefore set forth is a
11	true record of the proceedings.
12	I further certify that I am not
13	related to any of the parties to this proceeding by
14	blood or by marriage and that I am in no way
15	interested in the outcome of this matter.
16	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
17	set my hand this 15th day of January 2020.
18	
19	
	Michelle Conero
21	MICHELLE CONERO
22	
23	
24	
25	

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