1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
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4	ADDITION FOR ZONING WARTANGE
5	APPLICATION FOR ZONING VARIANCE
6	IN THE MATTER OF
7	YAAKOV AKERMAN 353 Roselle Avenue
8	Applicant.
9	
10	200 Cedarhurst Avenue
11	Cedarhurst, New York
12	
13	January 18, 2024
14	7:04 p.m.
15	
16	B E F O R E
17	MEIR KRENGEL, Chairman
18	MICHAEL BLEIBERG, Board Member
19	JARED CLARK, Board Member
20	SHIFRA EDELMAN, Board Member
21	DAVID SHTEIERMAN, Board Member
22	YOEL GOLDFEDER, Village Attorney
23	WAYNE YARNELL, Supt. Bldg. Dept.
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	Proceedings -	Yaakov Akermar
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CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Good evening,
everyone. The first case on the calendar
tonight has been assigned Case Number 25 of
2023. It's the application of Yaakov Akerman
for the parcel known as 353 Roselle Avenue,
designated as Section 39/Block 342/Lot 90
through 92. The applicant proposes a
two-story addition with the attached garage.
The applicant seeks a variance from Cedarhurst
Code 265-41, side yards.

This Board has determined that the application is a Type II Action pursuant to Section 617.3 of the New York State Department of Environmental Control Regulations and does not require an Environmental Impact Statement. The village attorney will now read a statement into the record.

MR. GOLDFEDER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, for the record, we have been provided with proof of the mailing and publication in the local newspaper of record, of all notices of this hearing as required by law. Accordingly, jurisdiction has been obtained over all necessary parties, and this

1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
2	Board has jurisdiction to hear this appeal.
3	Pursuant to New York State General
4	Municipal Law Section 809, on October 22,
5	2023, a non-collusion affidavit has been duly
6	executed by the applicant, Yaakov J. Akerman,
7	wherein he stated that there are no other
8	persons or entities involved in this
9	application that are employed by or connected
10	to the Village of Cedarhurst, its officers, or
11	employees, which would in any way constitute a
12	conflict under the law.
13	Pursuant to an agreement between the
14	Village of Cedarhurst and Nassau County
15	Planning Commission, the Nassau County
16	Planning Commission has been given notice of
17	this application and has waived consideration
18	thereof. Mr. Chairman, members of the Board.
19	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: With that, will its
20	representative please step forward.
21	MR. O'CONNELL: Good evening, chairman
22	and members of the record. For the record, my
23	name is Todd O'Connell, architect, doing
24	business at 1200 Veterans Highway, Hauppauge,

New York, architect for the Akermans who are

l Proc	eedings -	Yaakov	Akerman
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here with me this evening, and what we have before you this night is the Akermans are looking to eliminate their detached garage that's on the back of the house. They are looking to build an attached garage that they get access from inside their home. They do like to use their garage, and being a detached garage with all the elements and snow and ice, it's just, you know, difficult to use.

Now, the detached garage that they are actually getting rid of is nonconforming in terms of setbacks. It only yields -- 20 by 20 massive structure only yields 1 foot 9 inches on the northerly property line and only 5 inches actually on the westerly property line. So that's all coming out. So we are actually bringing the property into a bit more compliance, and you know, basically creating more space around the yard. And the neighbors are not part of it, but unfortunately because of where the house currently sits, if we want to get an attached garage and be able to use it, we have to come before this Board and ask for a variance to be able to fit that garage

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and you can see that's the section of the

house that's right over here is where we are

building that garage space.

The -- essentially this strip right here which has a mudroom for all the children, a way to get into the garage, and then a small study on the back of the garage but that garage maintains a 6-foot side yard setback which is the minimum required. We are not exceeding what the minimum setback is, but nonetheless there is an aggregate side yard setback which only yields about 11 and a half. The southerly property line, we are not touching that. You know, that's preexisting. It yields -- actually at the front of the house it yields 5.4, but it goes to 5.9 at the rear of the house and that's preexisting. are not changing anything there. That's the preexisting house, but you know, the garage is only 11 and a half wide. It's a minimum garage. If you ever try to go into a garage smaller than that and try to open your doors, we feel that, you know, having a garage that is functional, for the Akermans they could

1 Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman

2 actually get in and out of their cars. As
3 well as from a construction standpoint.

You know, the new hurricane codes to keep it all practical to build, they do require what they call a sheer wall on the corner wall which requires a space of 18 inches, so all that helps the construction aspect as well on the garage to keep the structure safe. So we felt, you know, with the removal of this massive garage in the back that, you know, is in substantial noncompliance to its position to property lines, and we are requesting a minor aggregate variance, not a minimum variance but an aggregate variance was the best application to put before this Board which would answer the Akermans' goals and what they are looking for.

They have -- before they started this project, they did approach the neighbor on the northerly side, telling them that they were looking to put a garage on that part of the house, and they had no objection from him.

The other neighbor on the southerly side, we spoke with them. They are not being affected

1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
2	at all on that side but they just want were
3	interested and they have no objection to what
4	we are proposing. So we didn't feel it was
5	going to have a negative impact on the
6	community because we are actually giving
7	something back that was substantially more in
8	noncompliance and felt that, you know, it
9	won't have a negative environmental impact.
10	If you saw the way the house looks from
11	the front, you know, we are matching the
12	character of the home. It fits in, you know,
13	its character matches, we are not diminishing
14	the character of the neighborhood. We are
15	keeping the Tudor style of the home that's
16	been there since the 1930s and felt this would
17	really, you know, enhance the character of the
18	neighborhood itself, and with that, I would
19	love to answer any questions this Board may
20	have.
21	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Questions? Any
22	questions? Any comments? Is that your case,
23	sir?
24	MR. O'CONNELL: Yes, sir.
25	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Any comments from

1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
2	anybody in the audience for or against? Just
3	you did acknowledge that the garage is 11 and
4	a half feet wide, I think, correct?
5	MR. O'CONNELL: Correct.
6	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Can you bring it down
7	to 10 feet wide, which is the minimum garage
8	size for the garage?
9	MR. O'CONNELL: Have you ever pulled a
10	car into a 10-foot garage and tried to get out
11	of it?
12	MR. GOLDFEDER: Except for all the
13	applicants who ask for a narrower garage
14	because they don't want to take the space for
15	a garage and ask for less than 10 feet.
16	MR. O'CONNELL: A garage is required so
17	they are giving you the minimum that a code
18	allows, but it's just not practical.
19	MR. GOLDFEDER: It's more difficult.
20	Everything is practical if you could make it
21	work. The bottom line is the Board has taken
22	a position where we require a 10 by 20 minimum
23	standard garage. By bringing it down to the
24	10 feet, you are reducing the side yard impact
25	by a foot and a half. That's why it's being

1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
2	asked.
3	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Can you bring the
4	house to 7 feet? Could you shift just in the
5	front there is a new living room, right?
6	The living room doesn't exist today?
7	MR. O'CONNELL: Look, is it possible to
8	do? You know, sure. Anything is possible.
9	You know, it's obviously going to make the
10	garage much more difficult for them to
11	utilize.
12	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: No, I am saying if
13	you go into the next page. It says new living
14	room. New living room. Does that currently
15	exist at all?
16	MRS. AKERMAN: Shana Akerman. It does
17	exist. It's just not a living room.
18	MR. O'CONNELL: Just to speak to that a
19	little bit. Where that wall is the dividing
20	wall between the garage and the living room is
21	actually a structural wall. There is
22	foundation at that point. So that's where we
23	are going from that point out as opposed to
24	cutting into an existing foundation wall.
25	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Perfect. Thank you.

1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
2	Thank you.
3	MR. SHTEIERMAN: I don't have any
4	questions.
5	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: We will take a
6	five-minute break and come back with a
7	decision.
8	(Recess taken.)
9	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: We are going to make
10	a motion to increase the proposed side yard
11	variance on the north side to a minimum of 7
12	and a half feet.
13	MR. O'CONNELL: Seven and a half?
14	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: To the minimum of 7
15	and a half feet, a foot and a half over 11 and
16	a half to 10.
17	MR. O'CONNELL: That's making the garage
18	almost impossible to utilize. It's a 10-foot
19	garage.
20	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Mr. Shteierman, you
21	want to address that?
22	MR. SHTEIRMAN: So the Board feels that
23	a 10-foot garage is indeed useable, and B, if
24	you really wanted the garage wider, take it
25	off the living room A 3-foot variance on the

l Proc	eedings -	Yaakov	Akerman
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aggregate width is substantial, and we have tried to shy away from those. I don't know if we have given them at all, but regardless we try to shy away from that and it's still a substantial variance. Especially considering that the garage here is 25 percent of your total extension approximately. So based on the garage and the width of the garage, you are asking for an overall extension of the second floor, 20 feet behind the garage, two stories high. So if you took the square footage of this garage, it actually comprises 25 percent of this extension, and based on that, you are asking for quite a substantial variance.

MR. O'CONNELL: If I can just make a suggestion, I know the Board spoke -- like I said, they like to use their garage. The garage is very important to them. Would it be possible to keep the first floor but reduce the second floor 18 inches where, you know, we could work with that? You know, so it's only a one-story mass, you know, that would encroach as opposed to a full two-story mass

1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
2	and that obviously, you know, helps the
3	density quite a bit.
4	MR. GOLDFEDER: The whole justification
5	for the second story is based on the garage.
6	Let's call a spade a spade. The reason you
7	are asking for the variance is because the
8	garage requirement. So now you are saying
9	that you are not going to extend to the full
10	extent on the second floor. Then take back
11	the entire width of the garage for the second
12	floor as well because there is really no
13	justification for it. The only reason the
14	second floor is being considered and granted
15	is because of the necessity of the garage.
16	MR. O'CONNELL: Yes.
17	MR. GOLDFEDER: So if you are saying you
18	are going to push back the second floor, then
19	let's push it back the full 11 and a half
20	feet.
21	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: We are allowing you
22	to keep the line because of the garage. You
23	are gaining the second floor because of the
24	first floor.
25	MR. O'CONNELL: Okay. Understood.

1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
2	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: So make a motion to
3	approve as modified.
4	MR. SHTEIERMAN: Approved as modified.
5	MR. CLARK: Approved as modified.
6	MR. BLEIBERG: Approved as modified.
7	MS. EDELMAN: Approved as modified.
8	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Thank you. Have a
9	good night, everyone. Go straight to the next
10	case.
11	(Time noted: 7:29 p.m.)
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1	Proceedings - Yaakov Akerman
2	CERTIFICATE
3	STATE OF NEW YORK)
4	: SS.
5	COUNTY OF QUEENS)
6	
7	I, YAFFA KAPLAN, a Notary Public
8	within and for the State of New York, do
9	hereby certify that the foregoing record of
10	proceedings is a full and correct
11	transcript of the stenographic notes taken
12	by me therein.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
14	set my hand this 29th day of January,
15	2024.
16	
17	
18	YAFFA KAPLAN
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20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

1	92 [1] - 2:8	bit [3] - 4:18, 9:19, 12:3	considered [1] - 12:14 considering [1] - 11:6	extension [3] - 11:8, 11:10, 11:14
1 [1] - 4:14	Α	Bldg [1] - 1:23 - BLEIBERG [2] - 1:18,	constitute [1] - 3:11 construction [2] - 6:3,	extent [1] - 12:10
10 [5] - 8:7, 8:15, 8:22, 8:24, 10:16	able [2] - 4:23, 4:25	13:6	6:8	F
10-foot [3] - 8:10, 10:18, 10:23	access [1] - 4:7 accordingly [1] - 2:24	Board [14] - 1:18, 1:19, 1:20, 1:21,	Control [1] - 2:15 corner [1] - 6:7	feet [9] - 8:4, 8:7, 8:15,
11 [5] - 5:13, 5:21, 8:3,	acknowledge [1] - 8:3	2:12, 2:20, 3:2, 3:18,	correct [3] - 8:4, 8:5,	8:24, 9:4, 10:12,
10:15, 12:19 1200 [1] - 3:24	Action [1] - 2:13 addition [1] - 2:9	4:24, 6:17, 7:19, 8:21, 10:22, 11:18	14:10 County [2] - 3:14, 3:15	10:15, 11:11, 12:20 felt [3] - 6:10, 7:8, 7:16
18 [3] - 1:13, 6:7,	address [1] - 10:21	bottom [1] - 8:21	COUNTY [1] - 14:5	first [3] - 2:3, 11:21,
11:22 1930s [1] - 7:16	affected [1] - 6:25 affidavit [1] - 3:5	break [1] - 10:6 bring [2] - 8:6, 9:3	creating [1] - 4:19 cutting [1] - 9:24	12:24 fit [1] - 4:25
	_ aggregate [4] - 5:12,	bringing [2] - 4:18,	Cutting [1] - 9.24	fits [1] - 7:12
2	6:14, 6:16, 11:2	8:23 build [2] - 4:6, 6:5	D	five [1] - 10:6 five-minute [1] - 10:6
20 [4] - 4:13, 8:22,	_ agreement [1] - 3:13 AKERMAN [2] - 1:6,	building [1] - 5:4	DAVID [1] - 1:21	floor [9] - 11:11,
11:11	9:16	business [1] - 3:24	decision [1] - 10:7	11:21, 11:22, 12:10,
200 [1] - 1:10 2023 [2] - 2:5, 3:5	Akerman [3] - 2:5, 3:6, 9:16	С	. density [1] - 12:3 Department [1] - 2:14	12:12, 12:14, 12:18, 12:23, 12:24
2024 [2] - 1:13, 14:15	Akermans [3] - 3:25,	-	Dept [1] - 1:23	foot [3] - 4:14, 8:25,
22 [1] - 3:4 25 [3] - 2:4, 11:7,	4:3, 5:25 Akermans' [1] - 6:18	calendar [1] - 2:3 car [1] - 8:10	designated [1] - 2:7 detached [3] - 4:4,	10:15 footage [1] - 11:13
11:14	allowing [1] - 12:21	cars [1] - 6:2	4:8, 4:11	FOR [1] - 1:4
265-41 [1] - 2:11 29th [1] - 14:14	allows [1] - 8:18 almost [1] - 10:18	case [3] - 2:3, 7:22, 13:10	determined [1] - 2:12 difficult [3] - 4:10,	foregoing [1] - 14:9 forward [1] - 3:20
	= answer [2] - 6:17, 7:19	Case [1] - 2:4	8:19, 9:10	foundation [2] - 9:22,
3	appeal [1] - 3:2 - applicant [4] - 1:8,	Cedarhurst [5] - 1:10, 1:11, 2:10, 3:10,	diminishing [1] - 7:13 dividing [1] - 9:19	9:24 front [3] - 5:16, 7:11,
3-foot [1] - 10:25	2:8, 2:10, 3:6	3:14	doors [1] - 5:23	9:5
342/Lot [1] - 2:7 353 [2] - 1:7, 2:6	applicants [1] - 8:13	certify [1] - 14:9 Chairman [3] - 1:17,	down [2] - 8:6, 8:23	full [4] - 11:25, 12:9, 12:19, 14:10
39/Block [1] - 2:7	APPLICATION[1] - 1:4	2:19, 3:18	duly [1] - 3:5	functional [1] - 5:25
5	- application [5] - 2:5,	chairman [1] - 3:21 CHAIRMAN [15] - 2:2,	E	. G
	2:13, 3:9, 3:17, 6:16 approach [1] - 6:20	3:19, 7:21, 7:25, 8:6,	EDELMAN [2] - 1:20,	
5 [1] - 4:15 5.4 [1] - 5:17	approve[1] - 13:3	9:3, 9:12, 9:25, 10:5, 10:9, 10:14, 10:20,	13:7	gaining [1] - 12:23 garage [45] - 2:9, 4:4,
5.9 [1] - 5:17	approved [3] - 13:4, 13:5, 13:6	12:21, 13:2, 13:8	elements [1] - 4:9 eliminate [1] - 4:4	4:6, 4:8, 4:9, 4:11,
6	Approved [1] - 13:7	changing [1] - 5:19	employed [1] - 3:9	4:23, 4:25, 5:4, 5:7, 5:8, 5:9, 5:20, 5:22,
-	architect [2] - 3:23, - 3:25	character [4] - 7:12, 7:13, 7:14, 7:17	employees [1] - 3:11 encroach [1] - 11:25	5:24, 6:9, 6:11, 6:22,
6-foot [1] - 5:9 617.3 [1] - 2:14	aspect [1] - 6:9	children [1] - 5:6	enhance [1] - 7:17	8:3, 8:7, 8:8, 8:10, 8:13, 8:15, 8:16,
	assigned [1] - 2:4 attached [3] - 2:9, 4:6,	CLARK [2] - 1:19, 13:5 Code [1] - 2:11	entire [1] - 12:11 entities [1] - 3:8	8:23, 9:10, 9:20,
7	4:23	code [1] - 8:17	Environmental [2] -	10:17, 10:19, 10:23, 10:24, 11:7, 11:9,
7 [3] - 9:4, 10:11,	Attorney [1] - 1:22 attorney [1] - 2:17	codes [1] - 6:4 collusion [1] - 3:5	2:15, 2:16 environmental [1] -	10.24, 11.7, 11.9, 11:11, 11:13, 11:19,
10:14 7:04 [1] - 1:14	audience [1] - 8:2	coming [1] - 4:17	7:9	11:20, 12:5, 12:8,
7:29 [1] - 13:11	Avenue [3] - 1:7, 1:10,	comments [2] - 7:22, 7:25	especially [1] - 11:6 essentially [1] - 5:5	12:11, 12:15, 12:22 General [1] - 3:3
•		Commission [2] -	evening [3] - 2:2,	given [2] - 3:16, 11:4
8	_ В	3:15, 3:16 community [1] - 7:6	3:21, 4:2	goals [1] - 6:18 GOLDFEDER [6] -
809 [1] - 3:4	based [3] - 11:8,	community[1] - 7:6 compliance[1] - 4:19	exceeding [1] - 5:11 except [1] - 8:12	1:22, 2:19, 8:12,
		comprises [1] - 11:13	executed [1] - 3:6	8:19, 12:4, 12:17
9	11:14, 12:5			granted [1] - 12:14
	11:14, 12:5 behind [1] - 11:11 best [1] - 6:16	conflict [1] - 3:12 connected [1] - 3:9	exist [3] - 9:6, 9:15, 9:17	granted [1] - 12:14
9 [1] - 4:14 90 [1] - 2:7	behind [1] - 11:11	conflict [1] - 3:12	exist [3] - 9:6, 9:15,	granted [1] - 12:14

Н

half [10] - 5:13, 5:21, 8:4, 8:25, 10:12, 10:13, 10:15, 10:16, 12:19 hand [1] - 14:14 Hauppauge [1] - 3:24 hear [1] - 3:2 hearing [1] - 2:23 helps [2] - 6:8, 12:2 hereby [1] - 14:9 hereunto [1] - 14:13 high [1] - 11:12 Highway [1] - 3:24 home [3] - 4:7, 7:12, 7:15 house [9] - 4:5, 4:22, 5:3, 5:17, 5:18, 5:20, 6:23, 7:10, 9:4 hurricane [1] - 6:4

ı

ice [1] - 4:9

II [1] - 2:13 impact [3] - 7:5, 7:9, 8:24 Impact [1] - 2:16 important [1] - 11:20 **impossible** [1] - 10:18 IN [2] - 1:5, 14:13 inches [4] - 4:14, 4:16, 6:8, 11:22 increase [1] - 10:10 indeed [1] - 10:23 inside [1] - 4:7 interested [1] - 7:3 involved [1] - 3:8 itself [1] - 7:18

J

January [2] - 1:13, 14.14 **JARED** [1] - 1:19 jurisdiction [2] - 2:24, justification [2] - 12:4, 12:13

K

KAPLAN[2] - 14:7, 14:18 **keep** [4] - 6:5, 6:9, 11:21, 12:22 keeping [1] - 7:15 known [1] - 2:6 KRENGEL [16] - 1:17, 2:2, 3:19, 7:21, 7:25, 10:5, 10:9, 10:14, 10:20, 12:21, 13:2, 13:8

8:6, 9:3, 9:12, 9:25,

L

law [2] - 2:24, 3:12 Law [1] - 3:4 less [1] - 8:15 line [5] - 4:15, 4:16, 5:14, 8:21, 12:22 lines [1] - 6:14 living [7] - 9:5, 9:6, 9:13, 9:14, 9:17, 9:20, 10:25 local [1] - 2:22 look [1] - 9:7 looking [4] - 4:4, 4:6, 6:18, 6:22 looks [1] - 7:10

M

love [1] - 7:19

mailing [1] - 2:21

mass [2] - 11:24,

11:25

6:11

maintains [1] - 5:9

massive [2] - 4:14,

matches [1] - 7:13

matching [1] - 7:11 MATTER [1] - 1:5 MEIR [1] - 1:17 Member [4] - 1:18, 1:19, 1:20, 1:21 members [3] - 2:19, 3:18, 3:22 MICHAEL [1] - 1:18 minimum [9] - 5:10, 5:11, 5:21, 6:15, 8:7, 8:17, 8:22, 10:11, 10:14 minor [1] - 6:14 **minute** [1] - 10:6 modified [5] - 13:3, 13:4, 13:5, 13:6, motion [2] - 10:10, 13:2 MR [22] - 2:19, 3:21, 7:24, 8:5, 8:9, 8:12, 8:16, 8:19, 9:7, 9:18, 10:3, 10:13, 10:17, 10:22, 11:17, 12:4, 12:16, 12:17, 12:25, 13:4, 13:5, 13:6 MRS [1] - 9:16

MS [1] - 13:7 mudroom [1] - 5:6 Municipal [1] - 3:4

Ν

name [1] - 3:23

narrower [1] - 8:13

Nassau [2] - 3:14, 3.15 necessary [1] - 2:25 necessity [1] - 12:15 negative [2] - 7:5, 7:9 neighbor [2] - 6:20, 6:24 neighborhood [2] -7:14, 7:18 neighbors [1] - 4:20 New [5] - 1:11, 2:14, 3:3, 3:25, 14:8 **NEW** [1] - 14:3 new [4] - 6:4, 9:5, 9:13, 9:14 newspaper [1] - 2:22 next [2] - 9:13, 13:9 night [2] - 4:3, 13:9 non [1] - 3:5 non-collusion [1] -3:5 noncompliance [2] -6:13, 7:8 nonconforming [1] -

4:12

6:21

0

nonetheless [1] - 5:12

north [1] - 10:11

Notary [1] - 14:7

noted [1] - 13:11

notes [1] - 14:11

notice [1] - 3:16

notices [1] - 2:23

Number [1] - 2:4

northerly [2] - 4:15,

O'CONNELL [12] -3:21, 7:24, 8:5, 8:9, 8:16, 9:7, 9:18, 10:13, 10:17, 11:17, 12:16, 12:25 O'Connell [1] - 3:23 objection [2] - 6:23, 7:3 obtained [1] - 2:25 obviously [2] - 9:9, 12:2 October [1] - 3:4 **OF** [3] - 1:5, 14:3, 14:5 officers [1] - 3:10

one [1] - 11:24 one-story [1] - 11:24 open [1] - 5:23 opposed [2] - 9:23, 11:25 overall [1] - 11:10

Ρ

p.m [2] - 1:14, 13:11 page [1] - 9:13 parcel [1] - 2:6 part [2] - 4:21, 6:22 parties [1] - 2:25 percent [2] - 11:7, 11:14 perfect [1] - 9:25 persons [1] - 3:8 Planning [2] - 3:15, 3:16 point [2] - 9:22, 9:23 position [2] - 6:13, 8:22 possible [3] - 9:7, 9:8, 11:21 practical [3] - 6:5, 8:18, 8:20 preexisting [3] - 5:15, 5:18, 5:20 proceedings [1] -14:10 project [1] - 6:20 proof [1] - 2:21 property [5] - 4:15, 4:16, 4:18, 5:14, 6:13 proposed [1] - 10:10 proposes [1] - 2:8 proposing [1] - 7:4

Pursuant [1] - 3:13 pursuant [2] - 2:13, 3:3

push [2] - 12:18, 12:19

provided [1] - 2:21

publication [1] - 2:22

Public [1] - 14:7

pulled [1] - 8:9

put [2] - 6:17, 6:22

Q

QUEENS[1] - 14:5 questions [4] - 7:19, 7:21, 7:22, 10:4 quite [2] - 11:15, 12:3

R

read [1] - 2:17

really [3] - 7:17, 10:24, 12:12 rear [1] - 5:18 reason [2] - 12:6, 12:13 recess [1] - 10:8 record [6] - 2:18, 2:20, 2:22, 3:22, 14:9 reduce [1] - 11:21 reducing [1] - 8:24 regardless [1] - 11:4 Regulations [1] - 2:15 removal [1] - 6:11 representative [1] -3:20 requesting [1] - 6:14 require [3] - 2:16, 6:6, 8:22 required [3] - 2:23, 5:10, 8:16 requirement [1] - 12:8 requires [1] - 6:7 rid [1] - 4:12 room [7] - 9:5, 9:6, 9:14, 9:17, 9:20, 10:25

S

safe [1] - 6:10

Roselle [2] - 1:7, 2:6

saw [1] - 7:10 second [8] - 11:11, 11:22, 12:5, 12:10, 12:11, 12:14, 12:18, 12:23 **Section** [3] - 2:7, 2:14, 3:4 section [1] - 5:2 see [1] - 5:2 seeks [1] - 2:10 set [1] - 14:14 setback [3] - 5:9, 5:11, 5.13 setbacks [1] - 4:13 seven [1] - 10:13 **Shana** [1] - 9:16 sheer [1] - 6:6 SHIFRA [1] - 1:20 shift [1] - 9:4 SHTEIERMAN[3] -1:21, 10:3, 13:4 Shteierman [1] - 10:20 SHTEIRMAN[1] -10:22 shy [2] - 11:3, 11:5 side [9] - 2:11, 5:9, 5:12, 6:21, 6:24, 7:2, 8:24, 10:10, 10:11 sits [1] - 4:22

size [1] - 8:8 11:25 **small** [1] - 5:7 **Type**[1] - 2:13 **ZONING** [1] - 1:4 smaller [1] - 5:23 **snow** [1] - 4:9 U southerly [2] - 5:14, under [1] - 3:12 6:24 understood [1] space [4] - 4:20, 5:4, 12:25 6:7, 8:14 unfortunately [1] spade [2] - 12:6 4:21 **square** [1] - 11:12 useable [1] - 10:23 ss [1] - 14:4 utilize [2] - 9:11, 10:18 standard [1] - 8:23 standpoint [1] - 6:3 ٧ started [1] - 6:19 **STATE**[1] - 14:3 variance [10] - 2:10, **State** [3] - 2:14, 3:3, 4:25, 6:15, 6:16, 14:8 10:11, 10:25, 11:6, Statement [1] - 2:16 11:16, 12:7 statement [1] - 2:17 **VARIANCE**[1] - 1:4 stenographic [1] -Veterans [1] - 3:24 14:11 village [1] - 2:17 step [1] - 3:20 Village [3] - 1:22, still [1] - 11:5 3:10, 3:14 stories [1] - 11:12 story [4] - 2:9, 11:24, W 11:25, 12:5 straight [1] - 13:9 waived [1] - 3:17 **strip** [1] - 5:5 wall [6] - 6:6, 6:7, structural [1] - 9:21 9:19, 9:20, 9:21, structure [2] - 4:14, 9:24 6:10 **WAYNE** [1] - 1:23 study [1] - 5:8 westerly [1] - 4:16 style[1] - 7:15 wherein [1] - 3:7 substantial [4] - 6:12, WHEREOF [1] - 14:13 11:2, 11:6, 11:15 whole [1] - 12:4 substantially [1] - 7:7 wide [3] - 5:21, 8:4, suggestion [1] - 11:18 8:7 Supt [1] - 1:23 wider [1] - 10:24 width [3] - 11:2, 11:9, Т 12:11 WITNESS [1] - 14:13 terms [1] - 4:13 **THE** [1] - 1:5 Y therein [1] - 14:12 thereof [1] - 3:18 YAAKOV [1] - 1:6 today [1] - 9:6 Yaakov [2] - 2:5, 3:6 Todd [1] - 3:23 YAFFA [2] - 14:7, tonight [1] - 2:4 14:18 took [1] - 11:12 yard [5] - 4:20, 5:9, total [1] - 11:8 5:12, 8:24, 10:10 touching [1] - 5:15 yards [1] - 2:11 transcript [1] - 14:11 YARNELL [1] - 1:23 tried [2] - 8:10, 11:3 yields [5] - 4:13, 4:14, try [3] - 5:22, 5:23, 5:13, 5:16, 5:17 11:5

YOEL [1] - 1:22

YORK [1] - 14:3

York [5] - 1:11, 2:14,

3:3, 3:25, 14:8

Tudor [1] - 7:15

11:25

two [3] - 2:9, 11:11,

two-story [2] - 2:9,

Ζ

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	APPLICATION FOR ZONING VARIANCE
3	
4	IN THE MATTER OF
5	HACHAIM VESHALOM 125 Cedarhurst Avenue
6	Applicant.
7	
8	200 Cedarhurst Avenue
9	Cedarhurst, New York
10	
11	January 18, 2024
12	7:30 p.m.
13	
14	B E F O R E
15	MEIR KRENGEL, Chairman
16	MICHAEL BLEIBERG, Board Member
17	JARED CLARK, Board Member
18	SHIFRA EDELMAN, Board Member
19	DAVID SHTEIERMAN, Board Member
20	YOEL GOLDFEDER, Village Attorney
21	WAYNE YARNELL, Supt. Bldg. Dept.
22	
23	
24	
25	

l Proceedin	ngs - Hachaim Veshalom
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2.1

CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: The second case on the calendar tonight has been assigned Case Number 23 of 2023. It's the application Hachaim Veshalom, the applicant of a parcel known as 125 Cedarhurst Avenue, Section 39/Block 263/Lot 120. The applicant proposed structural changes on the use of the property from business to religious. The applicants seeks variances from Cedarhurst Code 265-94A, onsite parking.

This Board has determined that the application is a Type II Action pursuant to Section 617.3 of the New York State Department of Environmental Control Regulations and does not require an Environmental Impact Statement. The village attorney will now read a statement into the record.

MR. GOLDFEDER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, for the record, we have been provided with proof of the mailing and publication in the local newspaper of record, of all notices of this hearing as required by law. Accordingly, jurisdiction has been obtained over all necessary parties, and this

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	Board has jurisdiction to hear this appeal.
3	Pursuant to New York State General
4	Municipal Law Section 809, on November 15,
5	2023, a non-collusion affidavit has been duly
6	executed by the applicant, Rabbi Doniel
7	Obadia, wherein he stated that there are no
8	other persons or entities involved in this
9	application that are employed by or connected
10	to the Village of Cedarhurst, its officers, or
11	employees, which would in any way constitute a
12	conflict under the law.
13	Pursuant to an agreement between the
14	Village of Cedarhurst and Nassau County
15	Planning Commission, the Nassau County
16	Planning Commission has been given notice of
17	this application and recommended that the
18	village of Cedarhurst take action as it deems
19	appropriate.
20	Mr. Chairman, members of the Board.
21	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Applicant or their
22	representative.
23	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Good evening, Mr.
24	Chairman, members of the Board. My name is
25	Albert D'Agostino. I am a member of the firm

2.1

of Minerva & D'Agostino PC, 107 South Central

Avenue, Valley Stream, New York, and we are

the attorneys for the applicant.

As was indicated with respect to the reading of the notice and the variance which is before you, this variance has been occasioned by a change of use of the subject property. The subject property previously consisted of a portion which was used as a bank and two retail uses, two retail stores to a place of public assembly, to a house of worship. The space requirements as I understand it for the bank and retail are parking is one space per 200 square feet. Which is almost identical to the requirement for the public assembly with the exception that there is also one space per four seats.

The subject property is located a couple of doors away from an existing house of worship, which is also part of the applicant's property and that has been in use as I understand it for the last three or four years and that's at 127 -- 137. I make that mistake. I'm sorry. 137 and I think that's a

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	clear indicator of the type of use and the
3	parking needs of that type of use. I have
4	and right now if everything were calculated
5	out, there is a deficiency of what I
6	understand to be 19 spaces. I have a parking
7	expert here
8	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Sir, just for the
9	record, how many spots is the requirement
10	according to your calculations?
11	MR. D'AGOSTINO: The requirement
12	MR. YARNELL: Is mul
13	MR. D'AGOSTINO: The print is rather
14	small.
15	MR. SHTEIRMAN: Fifty-seven required
16	total. It says 57 on the plan; is that
17	correct?
18	MR. MULLER: Yes, that's correct.
19	Fifty-seven.
20	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Requirement is 57.
21	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Fifty-seven and we have
22	a deficiency of 21.
23	MR. MULLER: Yes.
24	MR. D'AGOSTINO: We had different
25	figures on two different plans.

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: The deficiency is due
3	to a previous credit of 36 spaces. You
4	grandfathered 36 and now you don't have
5	either. There is zero. It requires 57, there
6	is zero parking. There is 36 previously
7	that's grandfathered in and that's 21. You
8	are seeking a variance of 21 spots.
9	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Yes.
10	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Perfect. Thank you.
11	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Before I introduce Mr.
12	Muller, I indicate to you that I personally
13	went to the premises this afternoon and at
14	least and I am not the parking expert, he
15	is, but just as far as my observation, my
16	observation, I had no difficulty parking and
17	there were vehicles pulling in, pulling out
18	there that there seem to be a surplus of
19	parking, but at this point I will introduce
20	Wayne Muller.
21	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Before we get to the
22	parking, just sum up for the record, just
23	state what the operation of the Shul is.
24	MR. D'AGOSTINO: You are talking about
25	how it's operated?

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Just
3	MR. D'AGOSTINO: In terms of timing, I
4	have the rabbi here who can do that. Would
5	you like
6	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Let's do that first
7	before the parking. The rabbi can step
8	forward.
9	MR. D'AGOSTINO: As far as of the
10	operation of the Shul, could you explain it to
11	the chairman and the Board?
12	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Just could the rabbi
13	please say his name and address?
14	RABBI OBADIA: Doniel Obadia.
15	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Which address?
16	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: The Shul address is
17	fine.
18	RABBI OBADIA: 125 Cedarhurst Avenue.
19	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Okay. You are the
20	rabbi of the Shul, correct?
21	RABBI OBADIA: Something like that.
22	MR. GOLDFEDER: So the last time that
23	the Shul was in front of the Board, you
24	explained the timing of the Minyanim and the
25	schedule and things like that. So what is

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	intended for this property? How is it
3	currently being used? How is it going to be
4	used?
5	RABBI OBADIA: For the parking, so as
6	you know, it's nonstop Minyanim, so Mincha and
7	Maariv approximately 12 minutes or less
8	depending on the Chazan. And so there is
9	always space between now and when there is
10	maybe 80 percent empty.
11	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: The operations start
12	from 6:00 in the morning?
13	RABBI OBADIA: It start in the main
14	building.
15	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Not the main
16	building; this building.
17	RABBI OBADIA: It starts 9:00.
18	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: And ends
19	approximately 12:30?
20	RABBI OBADIA: Eleven.
21	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: So it's an all-day
22	operation?
23	RABBI OBADIA: Yes, all-day operation.
24	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Thank you.
25	RABBI OBADIA: So and that's it.

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: And the service is
3	taking place in one room and the bank building
4	is going to be used as
5	RABBI OBADIA: With the bank building.
6	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: The bank building,
7	the corner?
8	RABBI OBADIA: The corner. Which one?
9	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Where the old HSBC
10	building will be used for.
11	RABBI OBADIA: That's for the nonstop
12	building and for the front we are doing a
13	Minyan. They found our Zeman and the plaque,
14	sunset, sunrise.
15	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Thank you.
16	MR. D'AGOSTINO: So at this time I would
17	introduce Wayne Muller who is our parking
18	expert. I believe Mr. Muller has testified
19	before this Board previously, and I would ask
20	that you accept his testimony as that of an
21	expert. Thank you very much. Mr. Muller?
22	MR. MULLER: Good evening. For the
23	record, Wayne Muller with the firm of Robinson
24	& Muller Engineering. Our offices are at 50
25	Elm Street, Huntington, New York. I would

	10
1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	like to submit copies of a brief analysis we
3	did dated January 18, 2024. I have copies to
4	be handed up to the Board and would like to
5	briefly discuss the results contained therein.
6	As indicated by Mr. D'Agostino, as a proposed
7	change, the permitted or the approved use of
8	the building known as 125 Cedarhurst Avenue
9	from the bank and retail facility to a
10	religious institution as indicated on the
11	plans prepared by John F. Capobianco dated
12	October 20, 2023, and as discussed previously,
13	a total of 57 parking spaces are required.
14	Thirty-six of those are grandfathered, so

October 20, 2023, and as discussed previously, a total of 57 parking spaces are required.

Thirty-six of those are grandfathered, so there is an additional deficiency of 21 spaces. The site provides no onsite parking, and the activity at the facility solely relies on the municipal parking field which is located directly adjacent to the subject property. That municipal parking lot, commonly known as Cedarhurst Municipal Parking Field Number 9, contains metered stalls that have regulations from 12-hour and 4-hour depending on the row that you are parked in.

To determine the level of activity in

the parking field, we performed observations on Thursday, January 4th, between the hours of 1:00 and 3:00 in the afternoon, 5:00 to 7:00 in the evening, and 9:00 to 11:00 at night, and then we returned again on Sunday, January 7th, and observed the activity in the lot from 1:00 to 5:00.

Our report contains an exhibit which we labelled Ex-1, and that just shows the parking field in relationship to the subject property and all the parking rows that we observed the vehicles that were parked in. Next, attached to the report are a series of six tables, 1 through 6. The first three tables summarize the data that was collected on Thursday, and the last three tables summarize the data that was collected on Sunday.

I would like to draw your attention, the Board's attention to Table 2. Table 2, excuse me. That contains a summary of the activity that was observed parked in Municipal Field Number 9 in the hours that I discussed, and as you can see between 1:00 and 3:00, there were a total of it ranged from 46 vacant spaces to

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	50. Between 5:00 and 7:00, the number of
3	vacant spaces ranged between 51 63, 73,
4	went up to 81 and then in the evening at 9:00,
5	there were 50 vacant spaces.
6	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Where are you reading
7	off of?
8	MR. MULLER: Table 2.
9	The last series of columns, that's the
10	summary of the weekday observations. So at
11	all the times that we observed, there were
12	vacant spots in the lot.
13	MR. GOLDFEDER: This is just to
14	clarify for the record, this is while the
15	property is being utilized as an existing
16	synagogue?
17	MR. MULLER: That's correct, yes. And
18	then turning the Board's attention to the
19	Sunday observations which are summarized here
20	in Table 4, similarly to the Thursday, you can
21	see at 1:00 there were 42 vacant spaces and
22	then it went to 60 at 1:30, 48 at 2:30, 2:00,
23	then 45, 51, and 29 vacant spots, and then you
2 4	can see as you approached sunset, there were

20 vacant spots, 23 at 4:30 and then at 5:00

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	it started to increase again to 56.
3	So during our observations of the
4	existing activity within the parking field,
5	there was always an abundance of available
6	parking in that lot to support the activity
7	that's currently being generated by the
8	facility. So therefore, it is my professional
9	opinion that by granting the relief that the
LO	applicant is seeking, in order to change what
11	the use of the property what was previously
12	approved to what he proposes, there would be
13	no significant impact upon the parking
L 4	conditions within the village in the areas
L5	that we observed.
16	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Thank you.
L7	MR. MULLER: Thank you.
L8	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Anybody have any
19	questions on the traffic study?
20	MR. SHTEIRMAN: No.
21	MR. MULLER: As Mr. D'Agostino
22	indicated, there was one correction I would
23	like to make in the report, and that is in the
24	bullet point number 1. We inadvertently had
25	an older set of plans that showed the

	± 4
1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	deficiency at 19 spots, but the actual
3	deficiency is 21 as I testified previously.
4	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: It does not change
5	your conclusions?
6	MR. MULLER: It does not change my
7	conclusion. Thank you.
8	MR. D'AGOSTINO: And just for the
9	record, just to supplement what Mr. Muller
10	testified to, while I am not a traffic expert
11	or parking expert, I went to view the property
12	today, and there was a significant number of
13	vacant parking spaces. People were coming in,
14	leaving and I didn't find any problem but I
15	did not actually count the number of vacant
16	spots.
17	I would respectfully suggest that while
18	the uses have changed and that triggered the
19	requirement for this variance application that
20	the current use, religious use in terms of
21	parking is not any more onerous than the
22	previous retail and banking use and that we
23	would respectfully request that the Board
24	favorably consider the variance request that's

before you.

Τ	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	I believe we do have some congregants
3	who are here who may speak in favor or
4	indicate that they are in favor, but I leave
5	that to you. In the event that there is
6	anybody in opposition, I reserve my right to
7	respond to any points that are raised, and I
8	do believe that Wayne, the statutory criteria
9	for the granting of this variance, that we
10	would meet those criteria.
11	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: What were the
12	criteria and why?
13	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Well, that there is no
14	there is no change. There is no
15	significant adverse impact. What we are
16	requesting is not significant but there is no
17	there is no environmental impact which are
18	different from what has always existed and
19	there is no significant change, adverse change
20	in the nature of the conditions in the
21	neighborhood.
22	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Thank you.
23	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Thank you.
24	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Just take a poll.
25	MR. SHTEIRMAN: Mr. D'Agostino, sorry.

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	I do have a question on the program. Not sure
3	if you can answer this or the rabbi. This
4	room is proposed for praying services?
5	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Yes. Rabbi, yes?
6	Correct.
7	MR. SHTEIRMAN: Is there anything else
8	proposed in this room other than
9	RABBI OBADIA: The social room on
10	Shabbos if there is not any service there
11	so
12	MR. SHTEIRMAN: Respectfully, do you
13	mind speaking?
14	RABBI OBADIA: Again, for Kiddush on
15	Shabbos or when you have the occasion when
16	it's not when it's not service, the Shul on
17	137, going there going to 137.
18	MR. SHTEIRMAN: On weekends, it's a
19	Kiddush room on weekends only?
20	RABBI OBADIA: We don't do Kiddush
21	during the week, but we maybe if there is a
22	Simcha in the Minyan. It's very difficult to
23	do a Kiddush.
24	MR. SHTEIRMAN: So it's going to be used
25	as a Simcha room for during the week?

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	RABBI OBADIA: We cannot use for Simcha
3	room right now because we have Minyanim, but
4	in the case the Shul has something we would
5	like to use for Kiddush or for Hillula for
6	Baba Sali or something.
7	MR. SHTEIRMAN: So it would be used as a
8	party room?
9	RABBI OBADIA: Occasionally because
10	there are Minyanim all the time, so we cannot
11	have any in case we have a moment in the
12	night if we can figure out, we will do Kiddush
13	or Hillula or something like that.
14	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Is there anybody here
15	who is in opposition to this application?
16	Okay. So anybody would like to speak in favor
17	of this application? Just a couple of people.
18	We don't need everybody to speak.
19	Raise of hands, who here is in favor of
20	the application? Let the record show that all
21	the anybody here in the audience is in
22	favor of the application, and there isn't
23	anybody in opposition of the application.
24	There is nobody here in opposition. So
25	MR. GROSSMAN: Eli Grossman. 216 Smith

1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	Street, Woodmere. I attend Baruch Hashem
3	every day very early in the morning like 6:00,
4	6:30, but also during the my sometimes I
5	come for prayers. I always have parking.
6	There is no problem for parking. Even when we
7	go to HSBC, same thing. Always have parking.
8	Many of the people who come to pray are local
9	people that they walk towards the Shul so
10	that's why that's one of the things in the day
11	during Mincha, et cetera, many people don't
12	have to drive. So it doesn't have an impact
13	on parking. That's it.
14	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Anyone else would
15	like to say something?
16	MR. SAFANIEV: Good evening, everyone.
17	Boris Safaniev. I own a few restaurants here,
18	Havtali Group. One thing I can say the
19	community is growing in the last nine years
20	since I stood before you guys, and my variance
21	building out the community has grown. It's
22	growing. There is restaurants, supermarkets,
23	liquor stores. There is always, you know, a

need for people moving in COVID brought a lot

of people from Queens, Brooklyn, et cetera.

24

1	Proceedings	-	Hachaim	Veshalom

2.1

Our community is growing. The Shul has provided an abundance of different Minyanim to accommodate everyone for the schedules like there is a business owner directly behind. I can attest there is another restauranteur behind us that the parking has never been an issue for my customers or anybody else, so again we do 2, 300 covers a night. One thing I can tell you there has never been a complaint for us, and I think that the community needs this, more than ever, right? We need to be accommodated on the level the rabbi is providing for us. Thank you.

RABBI KALISH: Joshua Kalish. My
address is 122 Harborview South. Three years
I have had the privilege of teaching and
praying in these grounds. And I can say it's
a tremendous service. Cedarhurst is now on
the map in the United States.

(Applause.)

RABBI KALISH: Thanks to Rabbi Obadia providing the right way right near the parking lot, nobody is affected. I am there every day. Never have a problem finding a spot.

1	Proceedings -	Hachaim	Veshalom

And the amount of people you meet, everyone is friends and neighbors. It's created a tremendous unity and feeling of community in this community, the idea that we can get together and pray in this place. I just want to put my -- on the record to say how much I support and appreciate, appreciate you for allowing this and Rabbi Obadia for building this. Thank you.

MR. BESS: My name is Chaim Bess, otherwise known as Mark Bess. I just want to say I am the landlord -- I own the building across the street. So I also never hear any parking issues even though we have no parking in our building. We only use the city parking. This is a community center. It's a center -- people have been attracted to our buildings more because of this center since Rabbi Obadia came and he -- more than davening, he provides food for everybody too. So you know, in the back he helps everyone out everybody that wants to come. It's a real community center. It's a real community for Cedarhurst, and I think it's a big benefit.

	21
1	Proceedings - Hachaim Veshalom
2	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Thank you.
3	MR. HASAN: Good evening. My name is
4	Avraham Hasan. I am an active member of the
5	Shul. I also help out in the accounting
6	department so that the synagogue is in
7	compliance for the bank loan. I am at the
8	synagogue almost daily, and I walk from my
9	home. I hardly ever bring my car. As well as
10	my neighbors. Just wanted to let you know
11	that.
12	MR. DONCHI: Good evening, everybody. I
13	do not live locally. But I work on Central
14	Avenue. Yoel Donchi, 1035 Bay 32nd in
15	Bayswater or Far Rockaway. I work at 315
16	Central Avenue and I work in Hashgacha and
17	sometimes it's not because with the ongoing
18	Minyanim at Hachaim Veshalom, it makes because
19	I cannot necessarily always catch davening or
20	praying at the times that I want in my
21	community and I work locally sometimes, so I
22	most of the time I have to end up praying
23	here and I find parking as soon as I get there

and once I am done, I am out, and look, I

never had any difficulty finding parking, and

24

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2	I also want to say about the congregation of
3	the Shul that it's very, very convenient for
4	people in the community, not just for people
5	who live locally but people like myself who
6	work here and basically that.
7	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Anybody else?
8	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Mr. Chairman, members
9	of the Board, I really have nothing to add to
10	what the congregants and neighbors have said
11	to you. And I would respectfully request that
12	you favorably consider this application.
13	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: We will take a
14	five-minute break and come back.
15	(Recess taken.)
16	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Back on the record.
17	There is just one concern that was brought up
18	about garbage. Because there is food service
19	happening at certain times, there is garbage
20	cannot be stored outside. All garbage must be
21	kept inside the building.
22	RABBI OBADIA: Inside the Shul?
23	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Inside the building.
24	There is a storage room, a proposed storage
25	room in the back. You should use that for

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2	garage because you have no property outside
3	your building. It's all municipal. It's all
4	village property.
5	RABBI OBADIA: I have a little bit. I
6	have on the side garbage cans.
7	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: But you can't keep
8	garbage garbage needs to be kept inside
9	until pickup.
10	MR. YARNELL: Especially if there is any
11	food if whether a Kiddush or a function has to
12	be stored inside.
13	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Also this is not for
14	here, but the exterior, you have to go before
15	the Architectural Board for any exterior
16	changes. And also that again, not the purview
17	of this Board but I would believe it's in the
18	code for parking, village code provides that
19	any parking, any variance on parking is a
20	\$7,000 fee per spot.
21	RABBI OBADIA: It went up?
22	MR. D'AGOSTINO: That's before the board
23	of trustees.
24	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: It's a village code.
25	MR. GOLDFEDER: It's part of village

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2	code.
3	MR. D'AGOSTINO: Well, obviously this is
4	and I know that you whatever the code
5	says you are stuck with, but just for the
6	record, this is a religious organization and
7	\$7,000 a spot is obviously quite onerous for
8	the synagogue but I recognize this is not the
9	place.
10	MR. GOLDFEDER: This is the fee that has
11	been assessed every religious organization
12	that's coming for a variance.
13	MR. D'AGOSTINO: I understand.
14	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: I make a motion to
15	approve the application.
16	MR. SHTEIERMAN: Approved.
17	MR. CLARK: Approved.
18	MR. BLEIBERG: Approved.
19	MS. EDELMAN: Approved.
20	CHAIRMAN KRENGEL: Thank you very much.
21	We are adjourned.
22	(Time noted: 8:07 p.m.)
23	
24	
25	

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2	CERTIFICATE
3	STATE OF NEW YORK)
4	: ss.
5	COUNTY OF QUEENS)
6	
7	I, YAFFA KAPLAN, a Notary Public
8	within and for the State of New York, do
9	hereby certify that the foregoing record of
10	proceedings is a full and correct
11	transcript of the stenographic notes taken
12	by me therein.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
14	set my hand this 29th day of January,
15	2024.
16	
17	
18	YAFFA KAPLAN
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

\$	4	according [1] - 5:10 accordingly [1] - 2:24	attached [1] - 11:13 attend [1] - 18:2	23:3 buildings [1] - 20:19
\$7,000 [2] - 23:20,	4 [1] - 12:20	accounting [1] - 21:5	attention [3] - 11:19,	bullet [1] - 13:24
24:7	4-hour [1] - 10:23	action [1] - 3:18	11:20, 12:18	business [2] - 2:9,
	42 [1] - 12:21	Action [1] - 2:13	attest [1] - 19:6	19:5
1	45 [1] - 12:23 - 46 [1] - 11:25	active [1] - 21:4 activity [6] - 10:17,	attorney [1] - 2:17 Attorney [1] - 1:20	С
1 [2] - 11:14, 13:24	48 [1] - 12:22	10:25, 11:7, 11:21,	attorneys [1] - 4:4	
1035 [1] - 21:14	4:30 [1] - 12:25	13:4, 13:6	attracted [1] - 20:18	calculated [1] - 5:4
107 [1] - 4:2	4th [1] - 11:3	actual [1] - 14:2	audience [1] - 17:21	calculations [1] - 5:10
11:00 [1] - 11:5		add [1] - 22:9	available [1] - 13:5	calendar [1] - 2:3
12 [1] - 8:7	5	additional [1] - 10:15	Avenue [8] - 1:5, 1:8,	cannot [4] - 17:2,
12-hour [1] - 10:23	50 0.04 40.0	address [4] - 7:13,	2:6, 4:3, 7:18, 10:8,	17:10, 21:19, 22:20
120 [1] - 2:7 122 [1] - 19:16	50 [3] - 9:24, 12:2,	7:15, 7:16, 19:16	21:14, 21:16	cans [1] - 23:6 Capobianco [1] -
125 [4] - 1:5, 2:6, 7:18,	12:5 51 _[2] - 12:3, 12:23	adjacent [1] - 10:19 adjourned [1] - 24:21	Avraham [1] - 21:4	10:11
10:8	56 [1] - 13:2	adverse [2] - 15:15,	В	car [1] - 21:9
127 [1] - 4:24	57 [4] - 5:16, 5:20, 6:5,	15:19		case [3] - 2:2, 17:4,
12:30 [1] - 8:19	10:13	affected [1] - 19:24	Baba [1] - 17:6	17:11
137 [4] - 4:24, 4:25,	5:00 [4] - 11:4, 11:8,	affidavit [1] - 3:5	bank [7] - 4:11, 4:14,	Case [1] - 2:3
16:17	12:2, 12:25	afternoon [2] - 6:13,	9:3, 9:5, 9:6, 10:9,	catch [1] - 21:19
15 [1] - 3:4		- 11:4	21:7	Cedarhurst [13] - 1:5,
18 [2] - 1:11, 10:3	6	agreement [1] - 3:13	banking [1] - 14:22	1:8, 1:9, 2:6, 2:10,
19 [2] - 5:6, 14:2	6 [1] - 11:15	- Albert [1] - 3:25	Baruch [1] - 18:2	3:10, 3:14, 3:18, 7:18, 10:8, 10:21,
1:00 [4] - 11:4, 11:8,	60 [1] - 12:22	all-day [2] - 8:21, 8:23	Bay [1] - 21:14 Bayswater [1] - 21:15	19:19, 20:25
11:24, 12:21 1:30 [1] - 12:22	617.3 [1] - 2:14	allowing [1] - 20:9	behind [2] - 19:5, 19:7	center [4] - 20:17,
1.50[1] - 12.22	63 [1] - 12:3	almost [2] - 4:16, 21:8 amount [1] - 20:2	benefit [1] - 20:25	20:18, 20:19, 20:24
2	6:00 [2] - 8:12, 18:3	analysis [1] - 10:2	BESS [1] - 20:11	Central [3] - 4:2,
	6:30 [1] - 18:4	answer [1] - 16:3	Bess [2] - 20:11, 20:12	21:13, 21:16
2 [4] - 11:20, 12:8,		appeal [1] - 3:2	between [6] - 3:13,	certain [1] - 22:19
19:9	7	applause [1] - 19:21	8:9, 11:3, 11:24,	certify [1] - 25:9
20 [2] - 10:12, 12:25	73 m 10.0	applicant [7] - 1:6,	12:2, 12:3	cetera [2] - 18:11,
200 [2] - 1:8, 4:15	73 [1] - 12:3 7:00 [2] - 11:4, 12:2	2:5, 2:7, 3:6, 3:21,	big [1] - 20:25	18:25
2023 [3] - 2:4, 3:5, 10:12	7:30 [2] - 11:4, 12:2	4:4, 13:10	bit [1] - 23:5	Chaim [1] - 20:11 chairman [1] - 7:11
2024 [3] - 1:11, 10:3,	7th [1] - 11:7	applicant's [1] - 4:21	Bldg [1] - 1:21 BLEIBERG [2] - 1:16,	Chairman [5] - 1:15,
25:15		applicants [1] - 2:9 APPLICATION [1] -	24:18	2:19, 3:20, 3:24,
21 [5] - 5:22, 6:7, 6:8, 10:15, 14:3	8	1:2	board [1] - 23:22	22:8 CHAIRMAN [40] - 2:2,
216 [1] - 17:25	80 [1] - 8:10	application [12] - 2:4,	Board [17] - 1:16, 1:17, 1:18, 1:19,	3:21, 5:8, 5:20, 6:2,
23 [2] - 2:4, 12:25	809 [1] - 3:4	2:13, 3:9, 3:17, 14:19, 17:15, 17:17,	2:12, 2:20, 3:2, 3:20,	6:10, 6:21, 7:2, 7:6,
263/Lot [1] - 2:7	81 [1] - 12:4	17:20, 17:22, 17:23,	3:24, 7:11, 7:23,	7:12, 7:16, 7:19,
265-94A [1] - 2:10	8:07 [1] - 24:22	22:12, 24:15	9:19, 10:4, 14:23,	8:11, 8:15, 8:18,
29 [1] - 12:23	•	appreciate [2] - 20:8	22:9, 23:15, 23:17	8:21, 8:24, 9:2, 9:6,
29th [1] - 25:14 2:00 [1] - 12:22	9	approached [1] -	Board's [2] - 11:20, 12:18	9:9, 9:15, 12:6, 13:16, 13:18, 14:4,
2:30 [1] - 12:22	9 [2] - 10:22, 11:23	12:24	Boris [1] - 18:17	15:11, 15:22, 15:24,
	9:00 [3] - 8:17, 11:5,	appropriate [1] - 3:19 approve [1] - 24:15	break [1] - 22:14	17:14, 18:14, 21:2,
3	12:4	approved [6] - 10:7,	brief [1] - 10:2	22:7, 22:13, 22:16,
		13:12, 24:16, 24:17,	briefly [1] - 10:5	22:23, 23:7, 23:13,
300 [1] - 19:9	Α	24:18, 24:19	bring [1] - 21:9	23:24, 24:14, 24:20
315 [1] - 21:15	abundance [2] - 13:5,	Architectural [1] -	Brooklyn [1] - 18:25	change [8] - 4:8, 10:7, 13:10, 14:4, 14:6,
32nd [1] - 21:14	19:3	23:15	brought [2] - 18:24,	15:14, 15:19
36 [3] - 6:3, 6:4, 6:6 39/Block [1] - 2:7	accept [1] - 9:20	areas [1] - 13:14	22:17	changed [1] - 14:18
3:00 [2] - 11:4, 11:24	accommodate [1] -	assembly [2] - 4:12,	building [16] - 8:14, 8:16, 9:3, 9:5, 9:6,	changes [2] - 2:8,
2.44 [-] 11.1, 11.4T	19:4	4:17	9:10, 9:12, 10:8,	23:16
	accommodated [1] -	assessed [1] - 24:11 assigned [1] - 2:3	18:21, 20:9, 20:13,	Chazan [1] - 8:8
	19:13		20:16, 22:21, 22:23,	city [1] - 20:16

clarify [1] - 12:14 CLARK [2] - 1:17, 24:17 clear [1] - 5:2 code [5] - 23:18, 23:24, 24:2, 24:4 Code [1] - 2:10 collected [2] - 11:16, 11:18 collusion [1] - 3:5 columns [1] - 12:9 coming [2] - 14:13, 24:12 Commission [2] -3:15, 3:16 commonly [1] - 10:21 community [11] -18:19, 18:21, 19:2, 19:12, 20:4, 20:5, 20:17, 20:24, 21:21, 22:4 complaint [1] - 19:11 compliance [1] - 21:7 concern [1] - 22:17 conclusion [1] - 14:7 conclusions [1] - 14:5 conditions [2] - 13:14, 15:20 conflict [1] - 3:12 congregants [2] -15:2, 22:10 congregation [1] connected [1] - 3:9 consider [2] - 14:24, 22:12 consisted [1] - 4:10 constitute [1] - 3:11 contained [1] - 10:5 contains [3] - 10:22, 11:9, 11:21 Control [1] - 2:15 convenient [1] - 22:3 copies [2] - 10:2, 10:3 corner [2] - 9:7, 9:8 correct [6] - 5:17, 5:18, 7:20, 12:17, 16:6, 25:10 correction [1] - 13:22 count [1] - 14:15 **COUNTY** [1] - 25:5 County [2] - 3:14, 3:15 couple [2] - 4:19, 17:17 covers [1] - 19:9 COVID [1] - 18:24 created [1] - 20:3

credit [1] - 6:3

criteria [3] - 15:8,

15:10, 15:12 current [1] - 14:20 customers [1] - 19:8

D d'AGOSTINO [1] - 6:9 D'AGOSTINO [19] -3:23, 5:11, 5:13, 5:21, 5:24, 6:11, 6:24, 7:3, 7:9, 7:15, 9:16, 14:8, 15:13, 15:23, 16:5, 22:8, 23:22, 24:3, 24:13 D'Agostino [5] - 3:25, 4:2, 10:6, 13:21, 15:25 daily [1] - 21:8 data [2] - 11:16, 11:17 dated [2] - 10:3, 10:11 davening [2] - 20:21, 21:19 **DAVID**[1] - 1:19 deems [1] - 3:18 deficiency [6] - 5:5, 5:22, 6:2, 10:15, 14:2, 14:3 department [1] - 21:6 Department [1] - 2:14 Dept [1] - 1:21 **determine** [1] - 10:25 determined [1] - 2:12 different [4] - 5:24, 5:25, 15:18, 19:3 difficult [1] - 16:22 difficulty [2] - 6:16, 21:25 directly [2] - 10:19, 19:5 discuss [1] - 10:5 discussed [2] - 10:12, 11:23 **DONCHI** [1] - 21:12 Donchi [1] - 21:14 done [1] - 21:24 Doniel [2] - 3:6, 7:14 doors [1] - 4:20 draw [1] - 11:19

Ε

16:21, 16:25, 18:4,

drive [1] - 18:12

during [5] - 13:3,

due [1] - 6:2

duly [1] - 3:5

18:11

early [1] - 18:3 EDELMAN [2] - 1:18, 24:19 either [1] - 6:5 eleven [1] - 8:20 Eli [1] - 17:25 Elm [1] - 9:25 employed [1] - 3:9 **employees** [1] - 3:11 empty [1] - 8:10 end [1] - 21:22 ends [1] - 8:18 Engineering [1] - 9:24 entities [1] - 3:8 Environmental [2] -2:15, 2:16 environmental [1] -15:17 **especially** [1] - 23:10 et [2] - 18:11, 18:25 evening [7] - 3:23, 9:22, 11:5, 12:4, 18:16, 21:3, 21:12 event [1] - 15:5 Ex-1 [1] - 11:10 exception [1] - 4:17 excuse [1] - 11:20 **executed** [1] - 3:6 exhibit [1] - 11:9 existed [1] - 15:18 existing [3] - 4:20, 12:15, 13:4 expert [6] - 5:7, 6:14, 9:18, 9:21, 14:10, 14:11 explain [1] - 7:10 explained [1] - 7:24 exterior [2] - 23:14,

F

23:15

facility [3] - 10:9, 10:17, 13:8 far [2] - 6:15, 7:9 Far [1] - 21:15 favor [5] - 15:3, 15:4, 17:16, 17:19, 17:22 favorably [2] - 14:24, 22:12 fee [2] - 23:20, 24:10 feet [1] - 4:15 few [1] - 18:17 field [4] - 10:18, 11:2, 11:11, 13:4 Field [2] - 10:22, 11:22 fifty [3] - 5:15, 5:19, 5:21 fifty-seven [3] - 5:15, 5:19, 5:21 figure [1] - 17:12 figures [1] - 5:25 fine [1] - 7:17

firm [2] - 3:25, 9:23 first [2] - 7:6, 11:15 five [1] - 22:14 five-minute [1] - 22:14 food [3] - 20:21, 22:18, 23:11 FOR [1] - 1:2 foregoing [1] - 25:9 forward [1] - 7:8 four [2] - 4:18, 4:23 friends [1] - 20:3 front [2] - 7:23, 9:12 full [1] - 25:10 function [1] - 23:11

G

garage [1] - 23:2 garbage [6] - 22:18, 22:19, 22:20, 23:6, 23:8 General [1] - 3:3 generated [1] - 13:7 given [1] - 3:16 GOLDFEDER [6] -1:20, 2:19, 7:22, 12:13, 23:25, 24:10 grandfathered [3] -6:4, 6:7, 10:14 granting [2] - 13:9, 15:9 GROSSMAN[1] -17:25 Grossman [1] - 17:25 grounds [1] - 19:18 Group [1] - 18:18 growing [3] - 18:19, 18:22, 19:2 grown [1] - 18:21 guys [1] - 18:20

Н

HACHAIM[1] - 1:4 Hachaim [2] - 2:5, 21:18 hand [1] - 25:14 handed [1] - 10:4 hands [1] - 17:19 Harborview [1] - 19:16 hardly [1] - 21:9 HASAN[1] - 21:3 Hasan [1] - 21:4 Hashem [1] - 18:2 Hashgacha [1] - 21:16 Havtali [1] - 18:18 hear [2] - 3:2, 20:14 hearing [1] - 2:23 help [1] - 21:5 helps [1] - 20:22

hereby [1] - 25:9 hereunto [1] - 25:13 Hillula [2] - 17:5, 17:13 home [1] - 21:9 hours [2] - 11:3, 11:23 house [2] - 4:12, 4:20 HSBC [2] - 9:9, 18:7 Huntington [1] - 9:25

ı

idea [1] - 20:5 identical [1] - 4:16 II [1] - 2:13 impact [4] - 13:13, 15:15, 15:17, 18:12 Impact [1] - 2:16 IN [2] - 1:3, 25:13 inadvertently [1] -13:24 increase [1] - 13:2 indicate [2] - 6:12, 15:4 indicated [4] - 4:5, 10:6, 10:10, 13:22 indicator [1] - 5:2 inside [5] - 22:21, 22:22, 22:23, 23:8, 23:12 institution [1] - 10:10 intended [1] - 8:2 introduce [3] - 6:11, 6:19, 9:17 involved [1] - 3:8 issue [1] - 19:8 issues [1] - 20:15

J

January [5] - 1:11, 10:3, 11:3, 11:6, 25:14 JARED [1] - 1:17 John [1] - 10:11 Joshua [1] - 19:15 jurisdiction [2] - 2:24, 3:2

K

KALISH [2] - 19:15, 19:22 Kalish [1] - 19:15 KAPLAN [2] - 25:7, 25:18 keep [1] - 23:7 kept [2] - 22:21, 23:8 Kiddush [7] - 16:14, 16:19, 16:20, 16:23,

17:5, 17:12, 23:11 known [4] - 2:6, 10:8, 10:21, 20:12 KRENGEL [41] - 1:15, 2:2. 3:21. 5:8. 5:20. 6:2, 6:10, 6:21, 7:2, 7:6, 7:12, 7:16, 7:19, 8:11, 8:15, 8:18, 8:21, 8:24, 9:2, 9:6, 9:9, 9:15, 12:6, 13:16, 13:18, 14:4, 15:11, 15:22, 15:24, 17:14, 18:14, 21:2, 22:7, 22:13, 22:16, 22:23, 23:7, 23:13, 23:24, 24:14, 24:20

L

labelled [1] - 11:10 landlord [1] - 20:13 last [5] - 4:23, 7:22, 11:17, 12:9, 18:19 **law** [2] - 2:24, 3:12 **Law** [1] - 3:4 least [1] - 6:14 leave [1] - 15:4 leaving [1] - 14:14 less [1] - 8:7 level [2] - 10:25, 19:13 **liquor** [1] - 18:23 live [2] - 21:13, 22:5 loan [1] - 21:7 local [2] - 2:22, 18:8 locally [3] - 21:13, 21:21, 22:5 located [2] - 4:19, 10:19 look [1] - 21:24

M

Maariv [1] - 8:7 mailing [1] - 2:21 main [2] - 8:13, 8:15 map [1] - 19:20 Mark [1] - 20:12 MATTER [1] - 1:3 meet [2] - 15:10, 20:2 **MEIR** [1] - 1:15 member [2] - 3:25, 21:4 Member [4] - 1:16, 1:17, 1:18, 1:19 members [4] - 2:19, 3:20, 3:24, 22:8 metered [1] - 10:22 MICHAEL [1] - 1:16 Mincha [2] - 8:6, 18:11 mind [1] - 16:13

Minerva [1] - 4:2 minute [1] - 22:14 minutes [1] - 8:7 Minyan [2] - 9:13, 16:22 Minyanim [6] - 7:24, 8:6, 17:3, 17:10, 19:3, 21:18 mistake [1] - 4:25 moment [1] - 17:11 morning [2] - 8:12, 18:3 most [1] - 21:22 motion [1] - 24:14 moving [1] - 18:24 MR [51] - 2:19, 3:23, 5:11, 5:12, 5:13, 5:15, 5:18, 5:21, 5:23, 5:24, 6:9, 6:11, 6:24, 7:3, 7:9, 7:15, 7:22, 9:16, 9:22, 12:8, 12:13, 12:17, 13:17, 13:20, 13:21, 14:6, 14:8, 15:13, 15:23, 15:25, 16:5, 16:7, 16:12, 16:18, 16:24, 17:7, 17:25, 18:16, 20:11, 21:3, 21:12, 22:8, 23:10, 23:22, 23:25, 24:3, 24:10, 24:13, 24:16, 24:17, 24:18 MS [1] - 24:19 mul [1] - 5:12 MULLER [8] - 5:18,

5:23, 9:22, 12:8,

14:6

12:17, 13:17, 13:21,

Muller [8] - 6:12, 6:20,

9:17, 9:18, 9:21,

9:23, 9:24, 14:9

Municipal [3] - 3:4,

10:20, 23:3

10:21, 11:22

municipal [3] - 10:18,

must [1] - 22:20 Ν 13:3 name [4] - 3:24, 7:13, 20:11, 21:3 Nassau [2] - 3:14, 13:15 3:15 nature [1] - 15:20 near [1] - 19:23 24:7 necessarily [1] - 21:19 necessary [1] - 2:25 need [3] - 17:18, 18:24, 19:13 needs [3] - 5:3, 19:12,

23:8 neighborhood [1] -15:21 neighbors [3] - 20:3, 21:10. 22:10 never [5] - 19:7, 19:10, 19:25, 20:14, 21:25 **NEW** [1] - 25:3 New [6] - 1:9, 2:14, 3:3, 4:3, 9:25, 25:8 newspaper [1] - 2:22 next [1] - 11:13 night [3] - 11:5, 17:12, 19:9 nine [1] - 18:19 nobody [2] - 17:24, 19:24 non [1] - 3:5 non-collusion [1] -3:5 nonstop [2] - 8:6, 9:11 Notary [1] - 25:7 noted [1] - 24:22 notes [1] - 25:11 nothing [1] - 22:9 notice [2] - 3:16, 4:6 notices [1] - 2:23 **November** [1] - 3:4 number [4] - 12:2, 13:24, 14:12, 14:15 Number [3] - 2:4, 10:22, 11:23

0 Obadia [5] - 3:7, 7:14,

19:22, 20:9, 20:20

7:18, 7:21, 8:5, 8:13,

OBADIA [20] - 7:14,

8:17, 8:20, 8:23,

8:25, 9:5, 9:8, 9:11, 16:9, 16:14, 16:20, 17:2, 17:9, 22:22, 23:5, 23:21 observation [2] - 6:15, 6:16 observations [4] -11:2, 12:10, 12:19, observed [5] - 11:7, 11:12, 11:22, 12:11, obtained [1] - 2:25 obviously [2] - 24:3, occasion [1] - 16:15 occasionally [1] - 17:9 occasioned [1] - 4:8 October [1] - 10:12 **OF** [3] - 1:3, 25:3, 25:5

officers [1] - 3:10 offices [1] - 9:24 **old** [1] - 9:9 older [1] - 13:25 once [1] - 21:24 one [9] - 4:15, 4:18, 9:3, 9:8, 13:22, 18:10, 18:18, 19:9, 22.17 onerous [2] - 14:21, 24:7 ongoing [1] - 21:17 onsite [2] - 2:11, 10:16 operated [1] - 6:25 operation [4] - 6:23, 7:10, 8:22, 8:23 operations [1] - 8:11 opinion [1] - 13:9 opposition [4] - 15:6, 17:15, 17:23, 17:24 order [1] - 13:10 organization [2] -24:6, 24:11 otherwise [1] - 20:12 outside [2] - 22:20, 23:2 own [2] - 18:17, 20:13 owner [1] - 19:5

P

p.m [2] - 1:12, 24:22

parcel [1] - 2:5 parked [3] - 10:24, 11:13, 11:22 parking [39] - 2:11, 4:15, 5:3, 5:6, 6:6, 6:14, 6:16, 6:19, 6:22, 7:7, 8:5, 9:17, 10:13, 10:16, 10:18, 10:20, 11:2, 11:10, 11:12, 13:4, 13:6, 13:13, 14:11, 14:13, 14:21, 18:5, 18:6, 18:7, 18:13, 19:7, 19:23, 20:15, 20:17, 21:23, 21:25, 23:18, 23:19 Parking [1] - 10:21 part [2] - 4:21, 23:25 parties [1] - 2:25 party [1] - 17:8 **PC** [1] - 4:2 people [12] - 14:13, 17:17, 18:8, 18:9, 18:11, 18:24, 18:25, 20:2, 20:18, 22:4, 22:5 per [3] - 4:15, 4:18,

23:20 percent [1] - 8:10 perfect [1] - 6:10 performed [1] - 11:2 permitted [1] - 10:7 personally [1] - 6:12 persons [1] - 3:8 pickup [1] - 23:9 place [4] - 4:12, 9:3, 20:6, 24:9 **plan** [1] - 5:16 Planning [2] - 3:15, 3:16 plans [3] - 5:25, 10:11, 13:25 **plaque** [1] - 9:13 point [2] - 6:19, 13:24 points [1] - 15:7 poll [1] - 15:24 portion [1] - 4:10 pray [2] - 18:8, 20:6 prayers [1] - 18:5 praying [4] - 16:4, 19:18, 21:20, 21:22 **premises** [1] - 6:13 prepared [1] - 10:11 previous [2] - 6:3, 14:22 previously [6] - 4:9, 6:6, 9:19, 10:12, 13:11, 14:3 print [1] - 5:13 privilege [1] - 19:17 problem [3] - 14:14, 18:6, 19:25 proceedings [1] -25:10 professional [1] - 13:8 program [1] - 16:2 proof [1] - 2:21 property [13] - 2:8, 4:9, 4:19, 4:22, 8:2, 10:20, 11:11, 12:15, 13:11, 14:11, 23:2, 23:4 proposed [5] - 2:7, 10:6, 16:4, 16:8, 22:24 proposes [1] - 13:12 provided [2] - 2:21, 19:3 provides [3] - 10:16, 20:21, 23:18 providing [2] - 19:14, 19:23 public [2] - 4:12, 4:17

Public [1] - 25:7

pulling [2] - 6:17

publication [1] - 2:22

Pursuant [1] - 3:13 pursuant [2] - 2:13, 3:3 purview [1] - 23:16 put [1] - 20:7

Q

QUEENS [1] - 25:5 Queens [1] - 18:25 questions [1] - 13:19 quite [1] - 24:7

R

Rabbi [4] - 3:6, 19:22,

20:9, 20:20

rabbi [7] - 7:4, 7:7, 7:12, 7:20, 16:3, 16:5, 19:14 RABBI [22] - 7:14, 7:18, 7:21, 8:5, 8:13, 8:17, 8:20, 8:23, 8:25, 9:5, 9:8, 9:11, 16:9, 16:14, 16:20, 17:2, 17:9, 19:15, 19:22, 22:22, 23:5, 23:21 raise [1] - 17:19 raised [1] - 15:7 ranged [2] - 11:25, 12:3 rather [1] - 5:13 read [1] - 2:17 reading [2] - 4:6, 12:6 real [2] - 20:23, 20:24 really [1] - 22:9 recess [1] - 22:15 recognize [1] - 24:8 recommended [1] -3.17 record [13] - 2:18, 2:20, 2:22, 5:9, 6:22, 9:23, 12:14, 14:9, 17:20, 20:7, 22:16, 24:6, 25:9 regulations [1] - 10:23 Regulations [1] - 2:15 relationship [1] -11:11 relief [1] - 13:9 relies [1] - 10:17 religious [5] - 2:9, 10:10, 14:20, 24:6, 24:11 report [3] - 11:9, 11:14, 13:23 representative[1] -3:22 request [3] - 14:23,

requesting [1] - 15:16 require [1] - 2:16 required [3] - 2:23, 5:15, 10:13 requirement [5] -4:16, 5:9, 5:11, 5:20, 14.19 requirements [1] -4.13 requires [1] - 6:5 reserve [1] - 15:6 respect [1] - 4:5 respectfully [4] -14:17, 14:23, 16:12, 22:11 respond [1] - 15:7 restauranteur[1] -19:6 restaurants [2] -18:17, 18:22 results [1] - 10:5 retail [5] - 4:11, 4:14, 10:9, 14:22 returned [1] - 11:6 Robinson [1] - 9:23 Rockaway [1] - 21:15 room [10] - 9:3, 16:4, 16:8, 16:9, 16:19, 16:25, 17:3, 17:8, 22:24, 22:25 row [1] - 10:24

14:24, 22:11

S

rows [1] - 11:12

SAFANIEV [1] - 18:16 Safaniev [1] - 18:17 Sali [1] - 17:6 schedule [1] - 7:25 schedules [1] - 19:4 seats [1] - 4:18 second [1] - 2:2 Section [3] - 2:6, 2:14, 3:4 see [3] - 11:24, 12:21, 12:24 seeking [2] - 6:8, 13:10 seeks [1] - 2:10 seem [1] - 6:18 series [2] - 11:14, 12:9 service [5] - 9:2, 16:10, 16:16, 19:19, 22:18 services [1] - 16:4 set [2] - 13:25, 25:14 seven [3] - 5:15, 5:19, 5.21

Shabbos [2] - 16:10,

16:15 SHIFRA [1] - 1:18 show [1] - 17:20 showed [1] - 13:25 **shows** [1] - 11:10 SHTEIERMAN[2] -1:19, 24:16 SHTEIRMAN[8] -5:15, 13:20, 15:25, 16:7, 16:12, 16:18, 16:24, 17:7 **Shul** [12] - 6:23, 7:10, 7:16, 7:20, 7:23, 16:16, 17:4, 18:9, 19:2, 21:5, 22:3, 22:22 side [1] - 23:6 significant [5] - 13:13, 14:12, 15:15, 15:16, 15:19 Simcha [3] - 16:22, 16:25, 17:2 similarly [1] - 12:20 site [1] - 10:16 six [2] - 10:14, 11:14 small [1] - 5:14 Smith [1] - 17:25 social [1] - 16:9 solely [1] - 10:17 sometimes [3] - 18:4, 21:17, 21:21 soon [1] - 21:23 **sorry** [2] - 4:25, 15:25 South [2] - 4:2, 19:16 space [4] - 4:13, 4:15, 4:18. 8:9 **spaces** [9] - 5:6, 6:3, 10:13, 10:16, 11:25, 12:3, 12:5, 12:21, 14:13 speaking [1] - 16:13 spot [3] - 19:25,

23:20, 24:7

14:2, 14:16

ss[1] - 25:4

square [1] - 4:15

stalls [1] - 10:22

started [1] - 13:2

starts [1] - 8:17

STATE [1] - 25:3

state [1] - 6:23

25.8

start [2] - 8:11, 8:13

State [3] - 2:14, 3:3,

Statement [1] - 2:16

statement [1] - 2:17

States [1] - 19:20

statutory [1] - 15:8

spots [7] - 5:9, 6:8,

12:12, 12:23, 12:25,

Т

12:16, 21:6, 21:8,

25:11

23:12

18:23

12:19

12:10

12:24

20:8

24:8

11:18, 12:19

sunrise [1] - 9:14

sunset [2] - 9:14,

supermarkets [1] -

support [2] - 13:6,

Supt [1] - 1:21

surplus [1] - 6:18

synagogue [4] -

supplement [1] - 14:9

Table [2] - 11:20, 12:20 table [2] - 11:20, 12:8 tables [3] - 11:14, 11:15, 11:17 teaching [1] - 19:17 terms [2] - 7:3, 14:20 testified [3] - 9:18, 14:3, 14:10 testimony [1] - 9:20 **THE** [1] - 1:3 therefore [1] - 13:8 therein [2] - 10:5, 25:12 thirty [1] - 10:14 thirty-six [1] - 10:14

stenographic [1] three [4] - 4:23, 11:15, 11:17, 19:16 step [1] - 7:7 Thursday [3] - 11:3, stood [1] - 18:20 11:16, 12:20 storage [2] - 22:24 timing [2] - 7:3, 7:24 stored [2] - 22:20, today [1] - 14:12 together [1] - 20:6 stores [2] - 4:11, tonight [1] - 2:3 total [3] - 5:16, 10:13, Stream [1] - 4:3 11:25 Street [2] - 9:25, 18:2 towards [1] - 18:9 street [1] - 20:14 traffic [2] - 13:19, **structural** [1] - 2:8 14:10 transcript [1] - 25:11 stuck [1] - 24:5 tremendous [2] **study** [1] - 13:19 subject [5] - 4:8, 4:9, 19:19, 20:4 4:19, 10:19, 11:11 triggered [1] - 14:18 submit [1] - 10:2 trustees [1] - 23:23 suggest [1] - 14:17 turning [1] - 12:18 two [3] - 4:11, 5:25 **sum** [1] - 6:22 summarize [2] **type** [2] - 5:2, 5:3 11:15, 11:17 Type [1] - 2:13 summarized [1] -U summary [2] - 11:21, under [1] - 3:12 United [1] - 19:20 **Sunday** [3] - 11:6,

unity [1] - 20:4 **up** [6] - 6:22, 10:4, 12:4, 21:22, 22:17, 23:21 uses [2] - 4:11, 14:18 utilized [1] - 12:15

V

vacant [9] - 11:25,

12:3, 12:5, 12:12,

12:21, 12:23, 12:25, 14:13, 14:15 Valley [1] - 4:3 **VARIANCE** [1] - 1:2 variance [9] - 4:6, 4:7, 6:8, 14:19, 14:24, 15:9, 18:20, 23:19, 24:12 variances [1] - 2:10 vehicles [2] - 6:17, 11.13 **VESHALOM**[1] - 1:4 **Veshalom** [2] - 2:5, 21:18 view [1] - 14:11 village [7] - 2:17, 3:18, 13:14, 23:4, 23:18, 23:24, 23:25 Village [3] - 1:20, 3:10, 3:14

W

walk [2] - 18:9, 21:8 wants [1] - 20:23 Wayne [4] - 6:20, 9:17, 9:23, 15:8 **WAYNE** [1] - 1:21 week [2] - 16:21, 16:25 weekday [1] - 12:10 weekends [2] - 16:18, 16:19 **wherein** [1] - 3:7 **WHEREOF** [1] - 25:13 **WITNESS** [1] - 25:13 **Woodmere** [1] - 18:2 worship [2] - 4:13, 4:21

Υ

YAFFA [2] - 25:7, 25:18 YARNELL [3] - 1:21, 5:12, 23:10 years [3] - 4:23, 18:19, 19:16 Yoel [1] - 21:14 YOEL [1] - 1:20 YORK [1] - 25:3 York [6] - 1:9, 2:14, 3:3, 4:3, 9:25, 25:8

Z

Zeman [1] - 9:13 **zero** [2] - 6:5, 6:6 **ZONING** [1] - 1:2