## COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



## STEVE LEVY SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

#### FARMLAND COMMITTEE

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.

Thomas A. Isles, A.I.C.P.
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Suffolk County Farmland Committee will convene a regular public meeting at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at the L.I. Horticultural Research and Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, N.Y. Pursuant to the Citizens Public Participation Act, all citizens are invited to submit testimony, either orally or in writing at the meeting. Written comments can also be submitted prior to the meeting to the attention of:

Thomas A. Isles, Director Suffolk County Planning Department P.O. Box 6100 Hauppauge, N.Y. 11788

Suffolk County Farmland Committee Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.

## **COUNTY OF SUFFOLK**



## STEVE LEVY SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE

BENNETT S. ORLOWSKI, JR. CHAIRPERSON

THOMAS A. ISLES, AICP DIRECTOR

#### MEETING NOTIFICATION

Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 22, 2011 6:00 PM

Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY 11901

#### **AGENDA**

- I. ORDER OF BUSINESS
  - A. Call to Order by Chairman Orlowski
  - B. Approval of January 25, 2011 meeting minutes
  - C. Review of general correspondences sent/received since last meeting
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Each speaker shall be limited to three minutes of testimony.
- III. POLICY MATTERS
  - A. 2011 Agricultural Districts Open Enrollment Period
  - B. Suffolk County Aquaculture Lease Program
- IV. STANDARD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES DETERMINATIONS
  - A. RUTH POLLIO REVOCABLE TRUST

10765 Middle Road (CR 48), Mattituck, Town of Southold

Tax Map #: 1000-108.00-01.00-001.001 (19.7± acres)

The Committee shall provide an interpretation pursuant to \$8-4(G)(4) of the Suffolk County Code of whether or not the activities conducted on the subject property constitute standard agricultural practices.

- V. PERMITS
  - A. THEODOROS A. TOUMAZOU

558 West Lane, Northville, Town of Riverhead

Tax Map #: 0600-045.00-01.00-013.005 (11.0± acres)

The applicant seeks an Agricultural Development Permit for the installation and maintenance of one livestock barn, one well, and underground electric utility infrastructure and also seeks a Special Use Permit for the installation and maintenance of the aforementioned underground electric utility infrastructure in association with a

proposed commercial agricultural operation. (Application No. 2011004)

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

#### **NEXT SCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING:**

Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 6:00 PM Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY

# MINUTES OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE Suffolk County Planning Department

DATE: March 22, 2011

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr., Chairman (At-Large)

Russell K. Barnett (Smithtown)

Ronald Bush (At-Large)

Nate Corwin (At-Large)

Lee Foster (Southampton)

Thomas A. Isles (At-Large)

Howard Johnson (Huntington)

Ann Marie Jones (Babylon)

Joseph Krukowski (Southold)

Dale D. Moyer (At-Large)

Jeffrey Rottkamp (Riverhead)

Charles F. Scheer, Jr. (At-Large)

Albert Schmitt (At-Large)

John Turner (Brookhaven)

Mark Zaweski (At-Large)

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Daniel Fricke (At-Large)

Olney M. Gardiner (East Hampton)

Alfred J. Kilb, Jr. (Shelter Island)

Eugene Murphy (Islip)

#### **ADVISORS PRESENT:**

Joseph M. Gergela, III, Long Island Farm Bureau

William Sanok, Cornell Cooperative Extension (Retired)

Paul TeNyenhuis, SC Soil & Water Conservation District Office

#### **COUNTY STAFF PRESENT:**

John H. Corral, Planner, SC Planning Department (Committee Staff)

Lauretta Fischer, Principal Environmental Analyst, SC Planning Department

Jessica L. Kalmbacher, Planner, SC Planning Department (Committee Staff)

Janet M. Longo, Acquisition Supervisor, SC Real Property Acquisition & Mgmt. Division

Karen Timlin, Clerk Typist, SC Planning Department (Committee Staff)

Thomas Young, Assistant County Attorney, SC Law Department (Committee Counsel)

Robert J. Zaher, Land Management Specialist, SC Real Property Acquisition & Mgmt.

Division

#### **GUESTS:**

Andrews, Marie R & M Andrews Farms
Andrews, Denise R & M Andrews Farms

Bennett, Leslie Leslie R. Bennett LLC (Ruth Pollio Revocable Trust)

Carucci, Casmo Carucci Greenhouses & Joe Pollio Farms (Ruth Pollio Revocable Trust)

DiGiuseppe, John Calverton Homeowner DiGiuseppe, Lynne Calverton Homeowner

Kaufold, Ken Prospective Buyer of Shoreline Development Corp.

Kaufold, Richared Relative of Ken Kaufold Kaufold, Susan Relative of Ken Kaufold

Klouvas, Ellen LI Garden of Eden Farm (Theodoros A. Toumazou)

Scalzo, Joseph Wading River Resident
Schembri, Charles Shoreline Development Corp.
Schembri, Peter Shoreline Development Corp.

Spiro, Melissa Peconic Land Trust

Toumazou, Theodoros LI Garden of Eden Farm (Theodoros A. Toumazou)

Zabolotny, Ed Riverhead Township

#### I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### Call to Order

Chairman Orlowski called the meeting of the Suffolk County Farmland Committee ("Committee") to order at 6:08 PM at the Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, New York.

#### Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2011

A motion was put forth by Howard Johnson and seconded by Lee Foster to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2011 meeting of the Committee, as outlined in Committee Resolution FC-6-2011. Motion carried: 15-0-0 [See Exhibit "A" for Committee Resolution FC-6-2011]

#### Correspondences

The Committee was not in receipt of any general correspondences unrelated to items on the agenda.

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Orlowski opened the meeting for public comments. None were made; therefore, Chairman Orlowski closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

#### III. POLICY MATTERS

#### 2011 Agricultural Districts Open Enrollment (pursuant to NYS AML §303-b)

In the 2011 Agricultural District Open Enrollment Period the Suffolk County Planning Department received 11 applications for 33 parcels from the Towns of Brookhaven, East Hampton, Southampton, Southold and the Village of Asharoken.

#### Suffolk County Aquaculture Lease Program

The Suffolk County Aquaculture Lease Program has been organized into three cycles. In Cycle One there are 21 applications moving forward of which 5 applications have executed leases and 16 are pending. Of the 16 pending applications the Planning Department has recently received 9 surveys and is working with the 7 other applicants to complete the surveys. In Cycle Two the Planning Department is working with 6 applicants on the next steps in their conditional approvals for lease execution. In Cycle Three the Planning Department received 28 applications by the March 4, 2011 submittal deadline. The County is now working to send out public notices to begin the public comment period.

Joseph M. Gergela stated that the Long Island Farm Bureau met in Albany with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to discuss the problematic policy recommendations issued by the

NYSDEC, Bureau of Marine Resources. This discussion included the restriction of mechanical harvesting which is adversely impacting County Aquaculture lease owners. Mr. Gergela intends to continue to work with the NYSDEC and the New York State Legislature to address this matter.

#### IV. STANDARD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES DETERMINATION

#### RUTH POLLIO REVOCABLE TRUST

10765 Middle Road (CR 48), Mattituck, Town of Southold

*Tax Map #: 1000-108.00-01.00-001.001 (19.7±acres)* 

The Committee shall provide an interpretation pursuant to  $\S8-4(G)(4)$  of the Suffolk County Code of whether or not the activities conducted on the subject property constitute standard agricultural practices.

Suffolk County Planning Department Staff (Staff) briefed the Committee on the property's recent history including a March 16, 2011 site inspection attended by Staff, a Committee Member, a Committee Advisor and the Landowner's Representative and Agricultural Tenant. Staff reported that on said site inspection material comprised predominately of leaves but also mixed throughout with non-agricultural debris was observed to have been deposited over approximately 7.5 acres of the property.

After the Staff presentation the landowner's representative, Leslie Bennett, and the property's agricultural tenant, Casmo Carucci, gave statements and took questions from the Committee.

Following the testimony of Mr. Bennett and Mr. Carucci the Committee expressed concern over how the recent activities on the property differed from standard agricultural composting practices.

A motion was put forth by Charles F. Scheer, Jr. and seconded by Howard Johnson determining that the activities conducted on the premises do not constitute standard agricultural practices and that the dumped material should be removed from the property, as outlined in Committee Resolution FC-7-2011. Motion carried: 15-0-0 [See Exhibit "B" for Committee Resolution FC-7-2011 and Exhibit "C" for the verbatim transcript of the Committee's Standard Agricultural Practice Determination for the Ruth Pollio Revocable Trust]

#### V. PERMITS

#### THEODOROS A. TOUMAZOU

558 West Lane, Northville, Town of Riverhead

*Tax Map #:* 0600-045.00-01.00-013.005 (11.0± acres)

Application #:2011004

The applicant seeks an Agricultural Development Permit for the installation and maintenance of one livestock barn, one well, and underground electric utility infrastructure and also seeks a Special Use Permit for the installation and maintenance of the aforementioned underground electric utility infrastructure in association with a proposed commercial agricultural operation.

A motion was put forth by Russell K. Barnet and seconded by Nate Corwin to conditionally approve the application for the installation of one livestock barn, one well, and underground electric utility infrastructure, as is outlined in Committee Resolution FC-8-2011. Motion carried: 15-0-0 [See Exhibit "D" for Committee Resolution FC-8-2011]

#### VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Public comments to the Committee on proposed plan for a SCPDR property

The landowner of the Shoreline Develop Corp. property Peter Schembri introduced Kenneth Kaufold to make public comments to the Committee. Mr. Kaufold discussed with the Committee his proposal for a Horse Farm on said SCPDR property. These public comments were informational in nature and did not represent a formal application before the Committee.

Suffolk County Farmland Committee Certificate of Appreciation to Thomas A. Isles
Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr., Chairman of the Suffolk County Farmland Committee presented Thomas A. Isles,
Director of The Suffolk County Department of Planning with a certificate of appreciation for his ten years of dedicated service to the Committee.

#### VII.ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Howard Johnson and seconded by John Turner. Motion carried: 15-0-0 [See Exhibit "E" for Committee Resolution FC-09-2011]

#### **NEXT SCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING**

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 24, 2011, at the Long Island Horticultural Research & Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, New York 11901.

#### **EXHIBIT A**

RESOLUTION NO. FC-6-2011 OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 8 OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE LOCAL LAWS, ADOPTING THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 25, 2011 SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE MEETING

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Suffolk County Administrative Local Laws, the Suffolk County Farmland Committee ("Committee") convened a regular meeting on January 25, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the minutes of said meeting were considered by the Committee at its meeting on March 22, 2011; now, therefore, be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Committee hereby approves said minutes.

Motion by: Howard Johnson Seconded by: Lee Foster

Committee Vote: Ayes 15

Nays 0 Abstentions 0

Committee Member	Appointment	Yay	Nay	Abstention	Not Present
BARNETT, Russell K.	Town of Smithtown	X			
BUSH, Ronald	At-Large	X			
CORWIN, Nate	At-Large	X			
ISLES, Thomas A.	At-Large	X			
FOSTER, Lee	Town of Southampton	X			
FRICKE, Daniel	At-Large				X
GARDINER, Olney M.	Town of East Hampton				X
JOHNSON, Howard	Town of Huntington	X			
JONES, Ann Marie	Town of Babylon	X			
KILB, Alfred J., Jr.	Town of Shelter Island				X
KRUKOWSKI, Joseph	Town of Southold	X			
MOYER, Dale D.	At-Large	X			
MURPHY, Eugene	Town of Islip				X
ORLOWSKI, Bennett S., Jr.	At-Large	X			
ROTTKAMP, Jeffrey	Town of Riverhead	X			
SCHEER, Charles F., Jr.	At-Large	X			
SCHMITT, Albert	At-Large	X			
TURNER, John	Town of Brookhaven	X			
ZAWESKI, Mark	At-Large	X			
	Totals			0	4

Dated: March 22, 2011

Location: Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY

#### **EXHIBIT B**

RESOLUTION NO. FC-7-2011 OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE, PURSUANT TO §8-4(G)(4) OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE LOCAL LAWS, DETERMINATION OF STANDARD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES – RUTH POLLIO REVOCABLE TRUST PROPERTY (1000-108.00-01.00-001.001), OF WHICH THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK OWNS THE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

**WHEREAS**, the property owned by Ruth Pollio Revocable Trust is located on land situated north of Middle Road (CR 48), south of Wickham Avenue, east of Mill Lane, and west of Elijah's Lane in the hamlet of Mattituck, identified by Suffolk County Real Property Tax Map ("SCRPTM") number 1000-108.00-01.00-001.001 ("premises"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to §8-4(G)(4) of the Suffolk County Administrative Local Laws, the Suffolk County Farmland Committee ("Committee") shall provide an interpretation of whether or not the activities conducted on the premises constitute standard agricultural practices; and

WHEREAS, the Committee considered said matter at its meeting on March 22, 2011; now, therefore, be it

1<sup>st</sup> **RESOLVED**, that the Committee hereby finds and determines that this proposal constitutes a Type II action pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(3) and (20), which completes the SEQRA review; and be it further

2<sup>nd</sup> RESOLVED, that the Committee hereby approves and adopts the report of its staff, as may be amended; and be it further

**3<sup>rd</sup> RESOLVED**, that the Committee hereby determines that, given the excessive quantity of the material, the unconfirmed original of the material, and the inferior quality of the material, the activities conducted on the premises do not constitute standard agricultural practices; and be it further

**4<sup>th</sup> RESOLVED**, that the Committee hereby directs the landowner to remove immediately the dumped material, including, but not limited to, leaves, timber, landscape debris, and household refuse, from the premises to the satisfaction of the County of Suffolk; and be it further

5<sup>th</sup> **RESOLVED**, that the Committee hereby directs the landowner to dispose of said material at an appropriate and legal disposal site in conformance with all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and guidelines; and be it further

**6**<sup>th</sup> **RESOLVED**, that the landowner shall be responsible for compliance with the deed of development rights, the contract of sale, and all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and guidelines.

Motion by: Charles F. Scheer, Jr. Seconded by: Howard Johnson

Committee Vote: Ayes 15 Nays 0 Abstentions 0

Committee Member	Appointment	Yay	Nay	Abstention	Not Present
BARNETT, Russell K.	Town of Smithtown	X			
BUSH, Ronald	At-Large	X			
CORWIN, Nate	At-Large	X			
ISLES, Thomas A.	At-Large	X			
FOSTER, Lee	Town of Southampton	X			
FRICKE, Daniel	At-Large				X
GARDINER, Olney M.	Town of East Hampton				X
JOHNSON, Howard	Town of Huntington	X			
JONES, Ann Marie	Town of Babylon	X			
KILB, Alfred J., Jr.	Town of Shelter Island				X
KRUKOWSKI, Joseph	Town of Southold	X			
MOYER, Dale D.	At-Large	X			
MURPHY, Eugene	Town of Islip				X

ORLOWSKI, Bennett S., Jr.	At-Large	X			
ROTTKAMP, Jeffrey	Town of Riverhead	X			
SCHEER, Charles F., Jr.	At-Large	X			
SCHMITT, Albert	At-Large	X			
TURNER, John	Town of Brookhaven	X			
ZAWESKI, Mark	At-Large	X			
	Totals	15	0	0	4

Dated: March 22, 2011

Location: Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY

#### **EXHIBIT C**

# SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE STANDARD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES DETERMINATION

Ruth Pollio Revocable Trust Property Tax Map No. 1000-108.00-01.00-001.001 Review No.: RSAP-1-2011

#### - VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT -

Prepared by Suffolk County Department of Planning Staff from a digital recording of the March 22, 2011 Suffolk County Farmland Committee Meeting

#### BEGINNING OF DISCUSSION ON RUTH POLLIO REVOCABLE TRUST PROPERTY –

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: Standard agricultural practices determinations Ruth Pollio Revocable Trust, Middle Road in Mattituck, NY. The Committee shall provide an interpretation pursuant to Section 8 of the Suffolk County Code as to whether or not the activities conducted on the subject property constitutes standard agricultural practices. John H. Corral: The property is a 19.7 acre property on the north side of County Road 48 west of Wickham Avenue in the hamlet of Mattituck in the Town of Southold. The County purchased the development rights to this property on July 10, 2002 from the Ruth Pollio Revocable Trust. Just a summary of what's happened on the property recently that's brought this forward. The County received complaints regarding continuous dumping of debris on the property in December of 2010. The County in a site inspection on December 6 confirmed on the site inspection that large amounts of material had been placed on the property on approximately six (6) acres in the southwestern portion of the property. On December 9 Suffolk County issued a Cease and Desist Order telling the owner of the property to halt the continuous dumping of the material. That continued and a second letter was sent to the applicant in December of 2010. On March 16 of this year 2011, the County and members of the Farmland Committee, a representative of the applicant and the agricultural tenant had a second site inspection. On that site inspection it was observed that there was approximately 7.5 acres of land where material had been placed on the property. Again in that same location of the first site inspection, it appeared it had been spread a little bit further to

the east, which is the difference in the acreage likely. To the east there is about 2 foot piles approximately spread and then in the western portion of the property about 5.5 acres, there is about 4-10 foot piles of material. The material, it is primarily composed of leaves, but there is some grass. It was also noted that there are tree branches, tree logs and stumps in diameter, in significant diameters. Also observed throughout the material is plastic pieces of bags and food wrappers. That was in our site inspection, we walked the whole property, you know, walked all the way around and that was observed throughout. The agricultural tenant was present on the property and stated that the material would be windrowed and composted and then added to improve the poor soil of the property. It is Suffolk County's recommendation that these activities do not constitute standard agricultural practice and that because the removal of the non-agricultural debris seems impractical and it's not possible to really determine the make-up of the material, it is County's belief that the material should be removed so the staffs' recommendation is that, that it does not constitute standard agricultural practice and that the material should be removed from the site. **Thomas A. Isles:** If I could just add to the staff presentation, just a couple of points on this, number one is that as John has indicated, there was dumping of this material on the property that did occur in the Fall going into the Winter. The issue before the Committee at this point is specifically on the question as to whether (as John indicated) this is a standard agricultural practice. It is the contention of the property owner and the agricultural tenant has indicated this is for the purpose of fostering ag production. The inspection that was conducted by the department along with the representative from the Soil and Water Conservation District as well as other representatives to the County Farmland Committee was the basis of the staff recommendation we feel that was not established. Part of the purpose of today's meeting is to hear from the applicant, obviously. But, this is relatively new in terms of Chapter 8 in terms of your determination now, is to make the determination, is this farming, is this an agricultural activity that is conventional, is it not? So just to give you this context because I think this is the first application of

activity that is conventional, is it not? So just to give you this context because I think this is the first application of this kind we've had here, we've had them kind of indirectly in the past, but the Legislature has now made it explicit that this is within your authority, within this Committee's authority to make this determination.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Ok, is there anyone here representing the applicant?

**Leslie Bennett:** Yes, I represent the owner and this is the tenant of the property.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: Please state your name for the record.

**Leslie Bennett:** Sure, Leslie Bennett. Let me give you my card.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: Ok, would you like to say anything?

**Leslie Bennett:** Yes, would you like me to sit here or stand?

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: You can stand up and say what you'd like.

Leslie Bennett: Sure I have some notes here, if you don't mind me referring to some notes. Good evening, as I stated I represent the Ruth Pollio Trust, which is the owner of the property. The representative for the trust lives in Florida. The tenant who has been farming the land and has done so for many years is Casmo Carucci. Mr. Carucci is here with me today. Casmo is the nephew of Ruth Pollio and whose name the trust was created. Casmo also owns the property across the road and he farms both his own property and the trust property and has done so for many years. As I understand it and I think Mr. Isless stated it that the central question before the Committee is whether the leaves that Casmo arranged to have deposited at the property are being used for an agricultural purpose. It is also my understanding, however, that this Committee has previously, before the new Article 8 was adopted, approved the use of composting as an agricultural use on a number of occasions. This was recognized most recently in the May 26, 2009 meeting of the Committee relating to the Detmer property. In that instance, the composting material was described also as primarily existing of leaves. I have copies of the relative excerpts of those minutes that I can provide to the Committee if you wish, I can do that at the end of these remarks. In the current instance, obviously neither I nor the Trust representatives can speak definitively of Casmos' intentions or his plans with respect to the property. Casmo can speak to those issues and he will do so.

Based on his comments to me, however, and my own observations, Casmo made a significant effort to remove the extraneous materials in these piles of leaves. He has a truckload of plastics, he also has a skid, skid load of wood on the property which represents materials he began extracting from the leaves. I actually have some pictures of the skid of wood materials and his truck which contains I think primarily plastics which he did

remove and started removing before the County intervened and told Casmo to cease until this matter could be resolved before the Farmland Committee. There is also reference I think in the correspondence to Casmo about some hole in the property. I don't know if that's really before the Committee, but I think that was a misunderstanding or miscommunication. There is no hole; I think what the representatives of the Committee saw

when they went to the site the other day is significant sloping of the property and that is causing difficulties in farming that portion of the property.

I also want to backtrack for a minute, I guess it is my understanding based on conversations that Casmo had with my predecessor counsel upstate who represents the Trust and I was brought in afterward as local counsel once the Farmland Committee that Casmo intends to use the leaves for composting as was stated because the soil on the property was depleted and the propreil was very poor. He can speak to that. That understanding is set forth in correspondence between the Lavell & Finn firm upstate and I think primarily Mr. Isles and William Harris wrote two letters December 14 and 29 to Mr. Isles explaining at least the Trust's understanding of what was transpiring on the property. I have copies of those if those aren't in your files. After, as I mentioned, after the matter was referred to the Committee, the Trust retained me as local counsel about 3 weeks ago and I went out and met Casmo. I looked at the material and tried to gain a better understanding of what his plans were and maybe he can speak to that. I saw the material which is clearly in plain sight because it abuts County Road 48, you can't miss it. From my own observations, which I believe were confirmed by the members of the Committee, I think it was referred to primarily consist of leaves although there are also tree stumps, there are branches and there are some plastics that are noticeable throughout the piles of leaves. I also, as part of my investigation spoke to Millennium, the company who delivered the leaves to Casmo. They said the material consisted only of leaves which they obtained from the Town of Hempstead facility in Oceanside.

Millennium further advised that the Town was supposed to segregate the material from landscapers before releasing it to companies like Millennium. Despite the supposed obligations of the Town to segregate material and Millennium's contention that it only consisted of leaves, it's obvious that Casmo got much more than leaves. In terms of the position of the Trust, at this point, we would like to resolve this matter to the best of everyone's satisfaction, including the County, the Committee and of course Casmo, who is trying to develop the property. And at this point unless you have any questions of me, I'd be happy to turn this over to Casmo and he can describe a little bit more about what has happened to the property, what prompted this effort to compost the material and what he's tried to do and plans to do with the material going forward.

Russell K. Barnett: I have a question. Do you have any representations from Millennium on the amount of

yardage that was transported?

Leslie Bennett: No I actually asked them and they claimed they have no record of the amount of the material.

**Russell K. Barnett:** Do they have any records on the dates that they picked it up from Hempstead?

**Leslie Bennett:** I'm not sure I asked them that question, but I generally probed as much as I could as to what it was

and I couldn't get a definitive answer. But it is a lot of material and we haven't at this point made any effort to

determine how much it is and what it is. I think the point of at least my remarks is again I represent the Trust, we

really didn't know what was going on until we heard about this from the County, I spoke to Casmo about it, is that,

he was really trying to do it to improve the soil. I think his intentions were good and as I stated that I think the

Committee has previously approved this as an agricultural use; I was a little surprised by Mr. Isles' comments, but,

that this is the first time the Committee will be considering this issue. Although granted, I understand there is a new

Article 8, but I don't think this is any different from any prior considerations of using material consisting primarily

of leaves and determining that that's for an agricultural purpose.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Do you represent Mr. Carlucci?

**Leslie Bennett**: No, I don't represent him (Mr. Carucci), I represent the Trust.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Okay, reference to question by Mr. Barnett, so you don't know the quantity of materials that

Millennium brought to the property, do you know the number of truckloads that were brought to the property?

**Leslie Bennett:** No. I don't know the number of truckloads.

**Thomas A. Isles:** We'll ask Mr. Carucci the question.

**Leslie Bennett:** Sure, you can ask him anything you want.

**Thomas A. Isles:** There is no question that composting in and of itself can be considered as standard

agricultural practice. When the Department observed the massive quantities of materials on this site, the nature of

the materials that were deposited and so forth certainly in our investigation and consultation with agricultural

experts, the question was seriously raised as to whether this was a standard agricultural practice, practice where

potentially something else described in Chapter 8 which is a solid waste disposal facility, so there was a serious

question raised, hence the appearance today before this Committee.

**Leslie Bennett:** I understand it and I guess part of my comments, where it says this is noticeable from the road, it is clearly noticeable that there are piles of leaves there. I can't see how someone can determine, well I guess I can see anything, but I quite frankly, I don't see how it can be determined he intended to just take this material and have it dumped here; everybody can see it.

**Thomas A. Isles:** That's immaterial, what is material is what is there and what happened. The question being is that permissible in a case where Suffolk County taxpayers have expended a substantial sum of funds for the purpose of protecting this resource. So the fact that it can be observed or not observed is not material, the fact is what happened, what is the impact to the resource. Has the County's interest in this property now been violated and what is the recourse in terms of, if it is a violation, what needs to be done to rectify it?

**Leslie Bennett:** I understand what you're saying, Mr. Isles, and my only point was I don't think he intended to just have it dumped there; he wanted to use it for as we believe for an agricultural purpose, but I can't speak to that since we didn't really know until you wrote the letter, which ultimately went to the trust and then we spoke to Casmo. My own personal impressions, which I think I've kind of conveyed here, but you'll have to determine based on what Casmo says whether you think this is for an agricultural purpose or not and whether you are satisfied with his plan to proceed. Does anyone else have any other questions?

**John Turner:** Yeah, I have just a few. Do you acknowledge receiving the two cease and desist orders from the County and were those responded to by the letters you indicated?

**Leslie Bennett:** Yes, and the response was basically well, I think there was an initial response that we did not know what was going on, can you elaborate further and I think we did elaborate further. I believe all the correspondence is with you Mr. Isles. And then after the representatives of the Trust through the law firm upstate, clients down in Florida and out of state owner spoke to Casmo and basically we then provided the explanation to Mr. Isles as Casmo conveyed to us he was trying to compost this material.

**John Turner:** Can I just ask out of curiosity. Why when you got the first letter that the operations there didn't cease and desist until it was clarified to determine it was consistent with County policy?

**Leslie Bennett:** I think the first letter we really didn't know what was going on and we asked for clarification. I think at some point there was an understanding to stop doing anything. I don't know. All I know is what's in the

correspondence and the inquiries made by the people upstate to try and find out what was going on. And at some point I don't know when Casmo actually stopped, but obviously we were concerned that something was happening on the property that may not be appropriate under the deed and that was the objective of the owner as to when Casmo actually stopped either spreading or conducting activities. I don't know, but I don't think, well he'll have to speak, as to when he received all the material. I really can't speak for him.

John Turner: Follow up question to Staff. Can you just probably try to characterize better the one photograph that was provided, the nature of the compost materials. It looks to me, and again I know photographs can be deceiving it looks to me that it is less leaves and more fibrous material and wooded material that would certainly seem to be too much lend itself not to be a soil amendment material that's going to take a long, long time to break down. Was that your belief when you went out to the site and actually observed first hand, was it more fibrous material than leaves?

John H. Corral: I felt observing it that it was mostly leaves, but there is some definitely fibrous material. I think the way the photograph. See the fibrous material is being highlighted in that photo.

Mark Zaweski: There is a fair amount of leaves out there; there is a lot of leaves.

**Russell K. Barnett:** I understand your report to say that there is a significant amount of branches, tree stumps, plastic bags.

**John H. Corral:** Basically at every location where you look you would see those things.

**Russell K. Barnett:** So it's not an isolated pocket of material, of extraneous material.

**Mark Zaweski:** Has the company that was bringing it out -- have they come out to see what was actually delivered there?

**Leslie Bennett:** I don't know I guess Casmo can answer that. Did they come out?

Casmo Carucci: No.

Mark Zaweski: From what you said they were saying it was supposed to be clean.

**Leslie Bennett:** Yes, I spoke to the gentlemen I guess who Casmo dealt with and he said these were all leaves, I had already been there and I saw there wasn't just leaves, but I wasn't going to get into a debate with them. I also just as it happened, I received a call from his Counsel the other day who basically explained to me the large part of the scenario about what transpires with the town of Hempstead and I had a similar conversation with Mr. Mullen, who is

the actual representative who Casmo dealt with as to what he supposedly got. Again I didn't get into a debate with them, but obviously we're not happy that we got more than what we thought we were getting.

Mark Zaweski: You got more than what you thought you were getting.

**Leslie Bennett:** There is a ton of leaves there. There is also other material; there's no question about that. For me it was hard to believe that they couldn't have seen that when they picked it up, the Town, despite their claim that it was only leaves.

**Russell K. Barnett:** Is there any documentation whatsoever from the Town of Hempstead regarding the loading of this material and it actually coming from Hempstead?

Leslie Bennett: Not that I've seen or I'm aware of and I don't recall if I asked Millennium about that.

Howard Johnson: Did any money changes hands? Was he paid to take it or did he pay to get it?

**Leslie Bennett:** As I understand Casmo received money to take it, which I think is customary.

Joseph M. Gergela, III: No, it's not.

**Leslie Bennett:** It's not?

Joseph M. Gergela, III: It's not.

**Leslie Bennett:** It's not, alright well that was the understanding I had but I stand corrected if that's the case.

**Lee Foster:** That's the problem.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** We receive a lot of leaves from the Town of Huntington and it is all gratis.

**Leslie Bennett:** Well, I can't respond to that.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Probably paying for the plastic and wood that was in there.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Casmo, do you want to explain what you're going to do with this problem?

**Leslie Bennett:** I'll disseminate this to you later.

Casmo Carucci: Well like he said uh my intention, the ground there is poor it's depleted over a period of years you can't grow anything the yields are bad, the water seeps right into the ground, it can't hold any fertilizer, there's nothing to cling to it so I brought a lot of this stuff in. I don't know how many loads cause I didn't care. I just wanted it I didn't care; I just wanted it they gave it to me for free and it didn't cost me nothing. I took it in because in the long run it shrinks down 80%, whatever you get, every truckload you get, is 80%, it's going to shrink when it

rots and turns into mulch. My intention is to build up the soil so it's no sense having this ground, you're protecting the land, but I have to preserve the land for future generations and then what good is it having land and farmland that your preserving if you can't grow on it. I have to grow on it and I have to do it because I'm doing a lot of work for the Agricultural Department and without that land for me to produce a good crop and then I can't pay my bills. So my intention is to build up the soil and make that there farm useable again. There is a part of the soil on the top on the road it's great, but where it slants down the erosion takes the soil away and when you even try to plow and most farmers who have been in ground that is poor, your tractor goes right into the ground, you're gonna be sittin on your chassy and that happens over there. On the other side where the seven acres is, on the top it's great, but you start coming down the slope there's nothing, the bottom has all the top soil that the erosion came down, grows very good stuff. So the ground has to be built up and that's my intentions.

They brought me in stuff; it was supposed to be leaves, 100%, they said if there are stumps you take them out. DEC came over when I was doing it. When I was doing it, they came over, they said listen if you see any plastics in there you have to pull them out, if you see any stumps you have to pull it out. I said yeah I wouldn't want to plow it anyway so I started doing that and as far as me getting a notice of stopping, I didn't get a stop notice. The only notice I got was from the DEC that day on the 16<sup>th</sup> I think it was. He said Casmo you have to stop doing what you're doing I said ok; he said don't take anymore loads and I said alright, so I didn't take any more loads.

When I got the summons it was on the 23rd of January and I got it from Southold Town. They gave it to me they said here are you familiar with this. I said no it's the first time I seen it and they gave it to me but I already stopped on the 16<sup>th</sup> and I had no one else told me before that and there was no notice. They told me, they said you're taking too much and I said well, it's gonna shrink. It's quite a bit, there's about 6,7 acres that need this.

In fact when I was working with Natural Resources, they told me - they said there are two things you can do -- you can either build up the soil or you can make it into a bird sanctuary. A bird sanctuary doesn't make any money -- so this is my intention. I have to build up that farm and I mean and if I got stuck with a bad lot, then I have to clean it up.

I had called up Millennium and I told them after I, after they came over and they inspected it, and I told them you have a lot of big stumps in there and so he said alright listen, if you want pick it out, put in on the side, I'll bring the

truck out and he says whatever you don't want, you know, you can't use on the farm we'll take it back. I said fine,

that's good. I already pulled out before I got the summons when I talked to the DEC in the beginning when I first

started getting truckloads. I've already pulled out bags and bags of stuff and I still got them, they're in my box truck

cause I wanted to give it back to them. You know so this is my intention and my intentions are all good and if I got

stuck you know it wasn't my fault.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: Okay, Paul do you have any comments on it?

Paul A. TeNyenhuis: Nothing different than what the County already wrote in their letter there.

Leslie Bennett: Mr. Chairman if I can just leave you with exhibits and pictures. There are about 5 sets of

documents.

**Dale D. Moyer:** The issue with leaves over the last 20 years has been you know when you get it from the Town it

especially has been garbage. That's what the farmers have to deal with in terms of monitoring what comes in and

it's been an issue I know down the street here with some growers and I just, you know, it's something that I'm sure

he's trying to build up the soil but that's been the biggest issue with bringing in leaves.

I guess the other thing I'd be concerned about if you're going to compost them, it should be in windrows. It looks

like it's just dumped out in the field and I guess the question is, is it direct application? I know Jeff does direct

application of leaves, has done it for more years than I've been around here. His father has, so the question is, is it

for direct application of leaves or are you doing composting? Those are two acceptable practices that can be done.

And so but the problem is, is the garbage you have which comes in all the time from towns and it's been the biggest

issues in terms of farmers getting into the composting and accepting this and I'm sure Charlie's dealt with it and I'm

sure Jeff has. And so, how do you manage that and if you gotta watch the first load and if it comes in lousy you

gotta say that's it, or have them take it away. But I guess the question is, good intentions, but, what is the purpose of

the leaves is it for direct application where you usually spread it out with a manure spreader and incorporate it or

you're gonna compost it and you need windrows, which are not in this picture.

Mark Zaweski: There is a windrow in the back.

**Dale D. Moyer:** There is a windrow?

**Leslie Bennett:** I apologize, I meant to include that in the presentation, but overlooked it. Casmo can address that.

Casmo Carucci: I started with the windrows and I started, because we started spreading it out so you could go through it easier rather than start piling it up, and as we went we started with the windrows, but then we had to stop. DEC told me to stop and then we stopped so we couldn't do anything. But we did, we got a bulldozer in there leveling it out so we could get in there and pick the stumps out if there was plastic or anything that doesn't belong in there we were pulling it out and as this way as we were windrowing them. Then we would do it like every 15 days and then as we would do it we would keep cleaning it up and that's what our intentions are. In the back we had started that.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Mr. Carlucci, do you have an agreement with Millennium?

**Casmo Carucci:** An agreement. No. I do Green Markets and I happened to meet him down there and he bought some tomatoes from me and we were talking and he said do you ever use leaves and I says I wish I could get them. So he told me yeah we deliver them, I said well I wish I could get them because I have one part of the property no matter what I do I planted zucchini there, 2 acres of zucchini and if I got 10 bushels out of there I was lucky.

**Thomas A. Isles:** When you spoke to them about bringing leaves on how many leaves. What kind of quantity? **Casmo Carucci:** They said we can give them to you but you can't take them in bags, he says you have to take them from the landscapers he said how many trucks do you want I says just bring them. Bring um.

**Thomas A. Isles:** How many leaves was he going to bring on? What kind of quantity? He said how many trucks do you want and what did you answer?

**Casmo Carucci:** I said bring them, just bring them, I'll put them in the back and then I'll work it and then what happened, they kept bringing it. Sometimes I wasn't there and they kept putting it there ya know.

**Thomas A. Isles:** So you were not aware of how many truckloads that were brought in necessarily.

Casmo Carucci: No, no.

**Thomas A. Isles:** So this is the property you lease from the Trust?

**Casmo Carucci:** I don't lease it I was actually was buying that property years ago when my uncle bought it and from that day on 30 something years ago I've been farming it.

**Thomas A. Isles:** So you weren't overseeing when the trucks got there, what they had on the trucks, how many truck loads were being dumped on the property, what quality of material. How many trucks would you say they put in there?

**Casmo Carucci:** No but they put a lot they - they put a lot of trucks - maybe 35 maybe, maybe more. I don't know.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Over what period of time were the trucks coming to the site?

**Casmo Carucci:** They came from October. No. They came, I think. He couldn't give them to me early; he said because; he said, "I can't give them to you now in September or the beginning of October." He said because the landscapers, they have to pile it up to get them.

**Thomas A. Isles:** So when did they start then, October?

Casmo Carucci: Yeah, the end of October.

**Thomas A. Isles:** When did they end?

**Casmo Carucci:** I stopped on the 6<sup>th</sup> or the 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

**Howard Johnson:** What size truck were they bringing it in?

**Casmo Carucci:** They're 80 yards, I think.

**Thomas A. Isles:** I didn't hear the answer to that question.

Casmo Carucci: 80 yards.

**Thomas A. Isles:** 80 yards per truckload.

**Casmo Carucci**: Yeah, what happens is they're packed and when it comes out and when they're loose they look like more than what they are.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Mr. Bennett made a statement that, I don't think you were 100% sure of the answer, but there was compensation for this, but then you made a statement they were free.

**Casmo Carucci:** They were free. I didn't pay for them.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Did they pay you for them?

Casmo Carucci: Yes.

**Thomas A. Isles:** They did pay you for them...to dump this material on the property.

**Casmo Carucci:** They gave me money enough to get fuel because I need fuel. And I heard that guys were getting money for it, the farmers. So they said so what do you want a truckload? I said give me \$50.

**Thomas A. Isles:** So you were given \$50 a truckload?

Casmo Carucci: Yeah, this way I can pay for fuel, and I can spread it.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Do you have any records of this?

**Casmo Carucci:** No, they probably cheated me on it anyway so.

**Thomas A. Isles:** You talked about the intent to improve the soils. Did you estimate what the quantity would be necessary to improve the soils?

Casmo Carucci: I figured it out.

**Thomas A. Isles:** What did you figure out?

Casmo Carucci: I figured out the whole thing, I figured out that if I needed 3 inches of um, let's see on 40,000 sq. ft., say 43,000 sq. ft., at 3 inches I would need 16 truckloads, probably about 400 yards probably, or 80-80 ya know about 400 yds. to bring 3 inches. Now when that rots 80% per acre and in fact 43,000 sq. ft., an acre is 40,000 so it's a little more, but it would come down to about 1/16 of an acre when its rotted. That's what it would come down to 3 inches, that's what I was figuring, that's why I told them I need a lot of truckloads. You're not going to do it overnight, but the thing is if you're gonna put it in, but if you're not going to get enough out of it, what's the sense, working all that soil for nothing.

**Thomas A. Isles:** It's been brought out today that in the photographs as well as the statements we heard today, as you said so yourself that there's a lot of debris inside this material. You've indicated that there's some pallets you put on the site where you've pulled some of the material out and stacked it on the pallets.

**Casmo Carucci:** Yeah we packed it on the wagon, the farm wagons.

**Thomas A. Isles:** In terms of the here again the plastic wrappers the garbage bags, things like that, how do you propose to....

**Casmo Carucci:** No the garbage bags, there all in bags, the plastics all in bags and I've put them in my truck.

**Thomas A. Isles:** So how are you going thru this quantity of material and pulling out this material what are you doing exactly, hand picking?

Casmo Carucci: Yeah, yeah hand picking, all by hand. I had five guys out there, me and my two sons. We all grab

a bag and go through it then I have the bulldozer come in and start pushing it out, leveling it.

Thomas A. Isles: I think one of our concerns is,

Number one you don't have permission to do anything until this is resolved and I assume you're not.

Number two is the given the material, in the foreign material that's intermixed with the leaf material that once it

starts to get into the mixed in with the top soil as you start mixing it in, if its contaminated material with the plastic

material, with the wood material, it may be very difficult to reverse this, in terms of it's not a good material, hence

the reason why the experts and this Committee have to make that determination; so your method of removing the

material and ensuring that it is of decent quality is one that is important here. I'm not an expert on this and I don't

profess to be an expert on it, but we would certainly want our experts to tell us to advise us in terms of is this method

going to work or is it not going to work.

-- The first issue is the quantity of material.

-- The second issue is the quality of the material.

-- The third would be the method of handling the materials.

Casmo Carucci: I'm very particular. I haven't used any pesticides, insecticides, herbicides or anything, fungicides,

in 18 years, right.

**Thomas A. Isles:** You don't know what's in the material that's coming to you?

**Casmo Carucci:** This year, that's why we are going through it.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Were you doing any testing of the material?

Casmo Carucci: Testing it, no, it's mostly leaves ya know and the bags are easy to pick up, you pick up a bag its

mostly bags from stores.

**Thomas A. Isles:** When you talked about the 400 yards per acre, how many acres are you talking about in covering

it, is that just the 6 acres you're talking, the 6 ½ acres, or the whole site?

Casmo Carucci: No, well if I have to do it I'll do the whole site, but for now I have to rot it first, make sure it's

good and then.

**Thomas A. Isles:** So you're talking about 2400 acres, then 2400 cubic yards.

Casmo: You know if you're going to do you have to do it all otherwise the other one is going to be depleted too. You can't take out of the farm and not put nothing back and that was the problem for many years with farms. They keep taking out and not putting nothing back and you can't keep using fertilizer because you're only going to poison the water with all the more fertilizer you use.

**Thomas A. Isles:** I'm not sure if I agree with that.

**Casmo Carucci:** Well nothing's holding onto the fertilizer. It leaches into the soil. I'm sitting on top of the water shed so with me it's not a ton of fertilizer per acre and its very costly at \$800 a ton.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Ok does anybody have any questions?

**Lee Foster:** I'd like to know in terms of your 30 years of working this soil, what your best practice has been as far as returning organic matter up until now?

**Casmo Carucci:** Organic matter, in the beginning when I first bought it on my side, I put down horse manure and it was very good, and I also used fertilizer because fertilizer works good with horse manure instead of using a ton to the acre of fertilizer, you're only using a couple of hundred pounds.

**Lee Foster:** No I'm talking about organic matter in other words in terms of the residual of your crops the kinds of cover crops that you've used.

Casmo Carucci: No I didn't use chemicals.

**Lee Foster:** No I'm not talking chemicals. I'm talking organic matter, how have you...

**Casmo Carucci:** what I did; I put down rye grass.

**Lee Foster:** So there's a covered crop that's plowed down, harvested?

Casmo Carucci: Well sometimes I harvest it when I arrested the ground. Last year I harvested that whole side because it was a waste to even plant on the end on the bottom......so I harvested all of it, but the other times we put down rye grass, turn it under, rye grass, it's just going to give you nitrogen, it's not gonna give you no body, ya need something that's heavy that's going to bring the soil back. For millions of years, natural, the leaves fertilized the forest and that's what it did; it was a recycle, ya know, it's a great way to recycle, is leaves.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Paul, I don't intend to put you on the spot, but if you do have any comment though on the material the quantity of 2400 cubic yards is what Mr. Carucci said he put down?

**Paul A. TeNyenhuis:** I believe there were a lot more number of truckloads there than 35 truckloads dumped there, many, many more.

**Thomas A. Isles:** And then, you weren't monitoring it full time?

Casmo Carucci: No

**Paul A. TeNyenhuis:** As far as the composition of the material, it's very easy to get out the branches, the stumps, the logs and that type of thing. I don't know of any practical way to remove the trash that's in there. And there's many kinds of trash in there, different plastic bottles, bags we saw all kinds of things in there and then there's also broken down wood chips and stuff that's also in it.

**Thomas A. Isles:** In your experience, would you view this is a standard agricultural practice?

Paul A. TeNyenhuis: If it were only leaves, sure.

**Thomas A. Isles:** But with the material that's in it?

Paul A. TeNyenhuis: But with the material that's in it, I don't see a practical way of getting it out.

**Thomas A. Isles:** And the quantity appears to be in excess of what was stated in terms of the estimate of the 2400 cubic yards.

**Paul A. TeNyenhuis:** I believe so, considering the number of piles that are there, yes I would say there is a lot more truckloads.

**Leslie Bennett:** Can I just comment Mr. Isles. I can't speak for what Mr. I can't pronounce his name is it Tenenhouse? Is that close? I'm sorry TeNyenhuis. Said about the practicality of doing it, I mean our position would just be we want to resolve this some way and if you determine that his proposal doesn't work and if there is some other proposal or way of segregating the material so he can do what he wants to do I that would be fine if we could do it, I can't speak for Casmo, but I assume that would be his position.

**Thomas A. Isles:** But we just heard from our soil expert that he's not aware of a method and that concerns me.

**Leslie Bennett:** I understand, I hear that and I understand this but if there is some way, obviously we would abide by that.

**Dale D. Moyer:** Is there any kind of screening method, I know it's expensive, but then again they have screeners that take out plastics and wood from compost, I don't know if it would be practical or not.

**Russell K. Barnett:** I'd like to speak to that. I handle that type of operation for the Town of Smithtown and I can tell you that the Town of Islip has expended a tremendous amount of time and money on their compost operation that in fact dwarfs ours and they have been unsuccessful in achieving the type of removal that you would be looking for.

Dale D. Moyer: ...to get the plastic out.

Russell K. Barnett: Yeah.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** So I take there is no way to get that out other than removing everything do we agree with that or we don't. We're looking at is this is a standard agricultural practice? This material is not a standard material that is being used. I don't know.

**Howard Johnson:** I might have missed it while I was out of the room but how many loads did he get paid for brought into the property?

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: He doesn't know.

**Howard Johnson:** He doesn't know? How much money did he get? That would tell you how much...if at \$50 a load...

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Casmo, how much did you get for all of that?

Casmo Carucci: \$10,000.00. But I think I got ripped off...because I wasn't there.

**Joseph M. Gergela, III**: Benny, I have to excuse myself. (Joe Gergela paid tribute to Tom Isles, who is retiring, before he left).

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Ok you've heard everything; we got the staff report in front of us pretty much says it should be removed. The DEC also has involvement. I don't know what the Town of Southold is doing. When you got it spread out like that and you got plastic and wood and everything else in the whole wide world there; I wouldn't want it on my farm if I was farming.

**Dale D. Moyer:** What's DEC's...what are they doing?

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** It's pending investigation.

**Paul A. TeNyenhuis:** Well, they would put Solid Waste on it.

Bennett S. Orlowski: Yeah...

Charles F. Scheer, Jr.: You need a permit. When you exceed 3000 yards, you need a DEC permit. Because I know for all our locations, even though we're farmers, we have permits. Anytime, you have to...and they do inspect them periodically so.

**Howard Johnson:** Charlie, when a load comes in, do you look at it and see what's in it?

Charles F. Scheer, Jr.: We have a pay loader there, and if the load doesn't look good, it gets loaded back on the truck and the guy is told to hit the road and never return. And that's the bottom line. We make sure there is a man there sitting with the pay loader and usually it scares the operator enough; he won't dump the load.

**John Turner:** Charlie would you say that is standard agricultural practice to supervise what's coming in?

Charles F. Scheer, Jr.: You have to trust your people. We for a number of years took leaves from Huntington; they were very good we take leaves from down west we did have problems early on from Garden City and we just. I mean they would ship wood chips and tree trunks and we would just either if they hadn't dumped we would send them packing. You have to have a man on the site constantly and we do have men on the site and they do just sit there; which is a waste of money, but usually the towns give you the leaves and there is no exchange of money whatsoever. I think you got the same thing Jeff, right?

**Jeffrey Rottkamp:** Well about 20 years ago, they came to us and there were words going around that farmers could take leaves and everything was going to be clean and everything was going to be fine. So my father said alright, "we'll try a couple of loads." So we did, and they were really nice. Then all of a sudden when we weren't there, load comes in the yard and the guy dumped and that was the last load we ever got. Told them to come back and get it - ok we'll be back - they never showed up.

**John Turner:** So supervision, in your experience, supervising the load coming in is standard.

**Jeffrey Rottkamp:** Every single load, climb up on top of the truck put your face right in it and look at it that what we do; we don't do it anymore that way. So we spread it in the farm and when the springtime came and we started getting our help, we went out there with a pick-up truck and we picked up all the garbage; put it in the dumpster and we got it out of the field. What we do right now is get a little bit of leaves from the town few landscapers that's about it; not a big deal, goes through those grinders of chippers when they suck them up off the road and there all chewed up and I leave it sit for a year and next year when I go there, it's black peat moss it's beautiful whatever we spread on the field right about now when I start getting some help. I'll put it out there with a pick-up truck and garbage barrels and walk along and pick up all the water bottles, coffee cups, sneakers, tennis balls, whatever. I mean it gets a little tough after a while. Sometimes when you're spreading and you see it's going out the back you kind of tell yourself, am I doing the right thing or aren't I. We get a lot of horse manure it's always clean. Very little leaves any more. I don't know what the town does with their leaves -- they're taking them somewhere else, but I don't know where they go.

**Russell K. Barnett**: I can tell you that running that operation for Smithtown we dealing with the magnitude of material cannot, in my opinion and experience, keep it as clean as you would want it for your field. What we do with it is we go out to bid -- we long haul it to Pennsylvania for coal mine reclamation. We pay \$50.00 a ton. **Jeffrey Rottkamp:** I've told people if it's not clean don't bother coming back, that's it.

**Russell K. Barnett**: Well, I do note, though, that we have no documentation that this material actually came from the town. Maybe a private contractor brought the material and alleges it came from a town. It could have come from anywhere.

**Jeffrey Rottkamp:** What we do is if we get some leaves like I said we spread it with our manure spreader probably an inch thick and then we go through and walk after they're uniform and we pick up all the garbage, takes a few days, and then we can plow, but if you don't get rid of it then it never goes away.

**Russell K. Barnett**: But you're not talking about the volumes that we see here either.

**Thomas A. Isles:** \$10,000 at \$50/truckload, 200 truckloads at 80 yards a truckload is 16,000 yards.

Charles F. Scheer, Jr.: One of the problems, Tom, in not turning leaves we have to turn them about 3 or 4 times during the winter if you don't they compost anaerobically and they build up toxins, and they will actually kill your crop so you have to constantly turn them and aerate them so that they have enough oxygen in them to break down and then they break down so they can be used, so if you have big piles the chances are the bottom of the pile if its wet will be composting anaerobically and it will have toxins in it by the time it rots and be not usable.

**Nate Corwin:** If anybody noticed Artie Warner's is composting. He gets it from LI Compost. They had 3 huge piles in there; they must have been 15 feet high, I guess something like that, and maybe 300 ft. long. They come

thru, and they mix it every so often. And when they get it all done, it's supposed to be composted, they come thru with a screen and the pile wound up being half the size of what it started out with. But they took truckload after truckload of garbage out of there. I know there were plastic bags and bottles and they screened it and what he's got left there looks pretty nice.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** Long Island Compost uses rollers; they flip it. Up in Massachusetts, I've been up there to look at some of their compost operation, they actually put pipes underneath the piles and they are pushing air up into it so you are constantly pushing air up into the pile. If you do it properly you can take leaves in and have them turn to compost in less than three months. They will be completely rotted.

William J. Sanok: In the summertime.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** In the summertime if you are properly handling them if you're turning them and actually even during the winter Bill you turn them 3-4 times and the pile ----you will see those pile smoking.

**John Turner:** There is a system that works.

**Howard Johnson**: I remember one time in the Town of Huntington, they had a heap of leaves in their highway department, I farmed right next to it they had a fire, spontaneous combustion and I know it because I know because they asked Tony Brandon to set up his irrigation gun because the Fire Department could not put it

out to put his gun up on it for 24 hours and they had a bulldozer going moving it around they had a mountain had to

be 50 - 60 feet high.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Okay, I think we kind of know what the problem is here, what is the solution? Do you want to go along with the staff recommendations? I think that's the only thing we can do right now.

**William J. Sanok:** Ben, I think the real role for this Committee is to decide yes or no, is it a standard agricultural practice and then let him figure out how he is going to solve it along with the County Planning Dept. just whether they have to get rid of it get somebody in to screen it and make it agri-useable, it's up to somebody else.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** How long do you want to leave it there?

**William J. Sanok:** I said, I think the real role for this Committee is to decide yes or no, is it a standard agricultural practice if it's not, then he has to solve it.

**Russell K. Barnett:** By keeping it there for a protracted period of time, can harm the soil?

Unidentifiable Speaker: Right.

Lee Foster: Sorry didn't hear your comment.

Russell K. Barnett: By keeping it there for a protracted period of time can harm the soil.

**John Turner:** The recommendation is to remove immediately.

Mark Zaweski: What do you say Paul?

Paul A. TeNyenhuis: Remove it.

**Howard Johnson:** It's the volume that's the problem.

**Nate Corwin:** The volume and the quality, quality and the quantity. That's what Tom had said before. It's a serious issue, especially when the DEC is involved.

**Howard Johnson:** Does DEC have jurisdiction over it or is it this committee?

John Turner: I think both.

Thomas A. Isles: Both.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** Benny, in view of what was just said, I'll make a motion that this is, I agree with Bill 100%. I think this Committee just vote. This is not a standard agricultural practice, that's my motion.

**Howard Johnson:** I'll second that.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** So at this moment, is there any, you're not going....you're going to let it sit there.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** I think it's up to the Planning Department to handle it.

**Howard Johnson:** Based on the info we have I think this is the way we go.

**Nate Corwin:** So you're saying not to compost at all.....or just in this one case?

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** I'm saying we were asked to make a decision what Bill is saying is right we were asked to make a decision is this or is it not a standard agricultural practice that's what it says in......so all I'm doing is making a motion saying is that it is not a standard agricultural practice...and I have a second on it.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: And we have a question.

**Nate Corwin:** Would LI compost, could they be contacted would they be interested in coming in here and rework that?

**Howard Johnson:** Not at this point.

Mark Zaweski: Doubt it very much.

**John Turner:** Question -- I have on it...is that I agree with that conversation but we do have staff recommendations; I've read the recommendations, I think all four makes sense. I guess I'll ask Counsel......is it appropriate that we actually amend that to also include adoption of these four recommendations or should we just have a simple resolution that we agree that it is not an acceptable agricultural practice.

**Mark Zaweski:** Can we make a recommendation to have it removed being as the DEC is also involved now cause they're probably not going to want it touched until they make a decision or they're not going to care?

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** If you make that recommendation that will automatically kick it into court, I mean then we gotta go after them you know and litigate cause it's against the rules so that's what we're saying. Either thing is going to happen. We can do this resolution and it will be the same thing I doubt that stuff is going to sit there. Unless he comes up with another plan quickly that is going to clean up that mess of leaves.

**Thomas Young:** The recommendations if you are in agreement with them saying it is not a standard practice and accepting the recommendation will limit the issues as to if this has to be litigated as to what has to be done because then were saying we've laid out these four things, this is what we expect for compliance.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** I think it's more complex because I, having dealt with DEC on compost issues, his cubic yardage is over their permit requirements, so they are probably going to be looking at DEC finds.

**Howard Johnson:** They'll take jurisdiction over it.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** I think DEC will step in on this one.

**Thomas A. Isles**: But their jurisdiction is in addition to your jurisdiction.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.**: I agree, I'm just saying, it's hard to say, I don't know if that is what DEC is going to recommend. Is that going to be a problem legally if DEC comes up with a different set of recommendations?

Mark Zaweski: That was my question.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.**: That's what I think Mark was riding at. Where do we stand?

**Dale Moyer**: Well DEC is ultimately going to determine whether it's for compost or it's actually solid wastes for solid waste disposal. That's a big concern they addressed at the Ag Forum and so forth of solid waste disposal on

farms and so that the determination if it's going to be solid waste or not and is it too high a quantity for compost, both issues.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** If we pass my motion, Tom can your staff work out the thing with DEC because I think really you've got to sit down and decide what they're going to want to do.

Thomas A. Isles: We certainly can. We can certainly speak to DEC. I think it's important to have clarity in terms of the FC decision certainly the simple question of, is this a standard agricultural practice or not? The Committee answering that question is very important to the County going forward. Staff feels that whether these recommendations are conditions or whether they're comments, here in the effort is to move this along. So it seems to me that if it's just the agricultural determination, yes or no, then we would obviously advise the County Attorney's office through Tom. We would work with the Litigation Bureau and take action accordingly because then there's a determination that this is not permitted and the County would seek compliance. We just felt this gave a little more directive. I understand the point Bill and Charlie are making on this one. My only suggestion is here again we can either do these we can make them conditions if you want to or we can make them comments. It might be stronger as conditions. It might help the clarity from the Farmland Committee and the clarity from the property owner.

**Nate Corwin:** My concern with Charlie's motion is it all composting that can't be done or is it just this one instance, the way the material is there?

**John Turner:** We're just ruling on this one activity.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** I understand what he is saying, we don't want to say that composting is something we don't want done. In Chapter 8, we covered composting, right?

**Howard Johnson**: Right, in accordance with the DEC regulations, maybe this does not constitute composting in those conditions, in the DEC regulations, we can amend it.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** Tom, Ben, I will accept Howard's suggestion we that add the wording to it, "in compliance", what was that?

**Howard Johnson**: In compliance with the DEC regulations on composting organic material.

Russell K. Barnett: In speaking from experience, DEC will often times allow you to compost material that this

Committee might not find acceptable for agricultural practices and then you can finish it by screening at the end and

you can use it on ornamentals or you can do something else with it. I'm concerned that this Committee is probably

the best source of agricultural expertise that people trying to enforce this thing is going to have available to it so if

this Committee thinks that that material by its nature and volume is bad for the soil to allow it to remain there. I'd

like to see this Committee say so and provide direction. That's why DEC might come up with a proposed resolution

of their regulations that aren't necessarily targeted towards best practices on preserving farmland and soil.

**Howard Johnson:** That's why we are trying to adjust the amendment or the motion to cover the DEC regulations

on composting for agricultural use both in materials used and quantities used.

**Thomas A. Isles**: I would just like to ask our Counselor if it's advisable to link this with DEC's actions.

**Thomas Young:** Right, we don't know what DEC is actually is going to consider what conditions they are going to

put on it we only know what's here before us today and we should just be acting on that rather than saying what

another agency may do. They have their own investigation going on and that will continue. It may result in

something different than this and that will have to be reconciled at that time. If this is what you want and think is

the proper proceeding, I would not --- not do it because you think DEC might want something different. That would

be my advice.

Charles F. Scheer, Jr.: Mark just made a good suggestion to me here. He says that maybe I should withdraw the

motion let it go, but, it's that this particular incident on this particular parcel does not constitute the best agricultural

practice.

**Thomas Young:** Right, that's the question, it's not composting in general, it's how it's being done on this site.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: And at this point until there is a viable alternative, the recommendation would be to

remove it as part of the same resolution. The only other thing I'm a little worried about is a good plow could

probably get it under before we get there so there is something about not tilling land. I know but just think about it.

Mark Zaweski: They got stump plows that will plow it under.

Nate Corwin: No, I don't think so.

**Thomas A. Isles:** So, Charlie, you're making a motion to determine that this is not a standard agricultural practice and then to recommend the removal or the issue be corrected.

**Howard Johnson:** That it be cleaned up; the issue be corrected.

Charles F. Scheer, Jr.: That the issue be corrected.

**Thomas A. Isles:** That the issue be corrected.

Howard Johnson: And I'll second that.

**Jessica L. Kalmbacher:** What do you mean by corrected?

**John Turner:** Why don't we just adopt the four recommendations; they're well written; they're clear.

**Jessica L. Kalmbacher:** Should it be modified in any way to indicate that the problem is the quantity and the quality because it doesn't say that in the resolution now, so maybe it should say given the quantity of the material and given the quality of the material it's determined that this isn't a standard agricultural practice so we can amend the resolution to say so that it's clear that it is specific to this property and issues on this property.

**Thomas A. Isles:** And ultimately the enforcement.

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Ok, did you get that Jess?

Jessica L. Kalmbacher: Yes.

**Thomas A. Isles:** Excessive quantity and the inferior quality... motion by Charlie Scheer second by Howard Johnson.

**John Turner:** How about unknown origin; I find that very disturbing.

Mark Zaweski: That's a good point.

**Leslie Bennett:** What is the correction -- is the correction removal -- was the correction some other option?

**Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.:** Right now it's removal.

**Leslie Bennett**: Ok, that's what I wanted to get clear.

Thomas A. Isles: If it's contaminated.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: Ok, can you say that again.

**Charles F. Scheer, Jr.:** Do we need a SEQRA on this?

**Howard Johnson:** Does Karen have it written down?

Karen Timlin: Yes.

Karen Timlin: Jessica has it in her resolution, but I don't know.

Howard Johnson: Charlie, maybe she can read it.

Karen Timlin: Jessica has it.

**Jessica L. Kalmbacher**: The draft resolution has the additional comments that if given the excessive quantity of the material the unknown origin of the material and the inferior quality of it, it is determined this is not a standard agricultural practice. And then, in terms of the recommendations that Staff has reported in the staff report, are all of them being included in the resolution, or no?

Charles F. Scheer, Jr.: Include them all. Howard went along with it.

Howard Johnson: Yes second it.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: And including the proposed as they constitute a Type II action in regards to SEQRA

Charles F. Scheer, Jr.: Yes, definitely.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: And seconded by Howard Johnson.

Bennett S. Orlowski, Jr.: Any questions on the motion all those in favor, Aye; opposed...motion carries.

- END OF DISCUSSION ON RUTH POLLIO REVOCABLE TRUST PROPERTY -

#### **EXHIBIT D**

RESOLUTION NO. FC-8-2011 OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 8 OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE LOCAL LAWS, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO THE THEODOROS A. TOUMAZOU PROPERTY (0600-045.00-01.00-013.005), OF WHICH THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK OWNS THE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Suffolk County Administrative Local Laws ("Chapter 8"), a proposal to modify the property owned by Theodoros A. Toumazou has been received by the Suffolk County Farmland Committee ("Committee"); and

**WHEREAS**, the property owned by Theodoros A. Toumazou is located on land situated east of West Lane, south of Chris Court, and north of Silver Village Boulevard, identified by Suffolk County Real Property Tax Map ("SCRPTM") number 0600-045.00-01.00-013.005 ("premises"); and

WHEREAS, the applicant seeks an Agricultural Development Permit for the installation and maintenance of one livestock barn, one well, and underground electric utility infrastructure and also seeks a Special Use Permit for the installation and maintenance of the aforementioned underground electric utility infrastructure in association with a proposed commercial agricultural operation; and

WHEREAS, said application was considered by the Committee at its meeting on March 22, 2011; now, therefore, be it

1<sup>st</sup> **RESOLVED**, that the Committee hereby finds and determines that this proposal constitutes a Type II action pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(3) and (11), which completes the SEQRA review; and be it further

2<sup>nd</sup> **RESOLVED**, that the Committee hereby approves and adopts the report of its staff, as may be amended; and be it further

3<sup>rd</sup> **RESOLVED**, that the Committee hereby approves said application subject to the following conditions:

- The landowner shall demonstrate proof, to the satisfaction of the Suffolk County Farmland Committee, that a
  commercial goat husbandry operation has been established and is operating on the premises within nine months of
  permit issuance;
- 2. One livestock barn shall be sited in a location that is approximately 390 feet northeast of West Lane and ten feet southeast of the northern boundary of the premises;
- 3. The livestock barn shall not exceed a footprint of 60 feet by 180 feet;
- 4. The livestock barn shall not exceed a height of 27 feet;
- 5. The livestock barn shall be made of steel;
- 6. The livestock barn shall be used to house approximately 60 goats;
- 7. The livestock barn shall contain stalls for the goats, a milking area, a feeding area, and a birthing area;
- 8. The livestock barn shall contain electricity and shall be connected to underground electric utility infrastructure;
- 9. One well shall be sited in a location that is approximately 713 feet northeast of West Lane and five feet southeast of the northern boundary of the premises;
- 10. The well shall be connected to underground electric utility infrastructure;
- 11. The underground electric utility infrastructure shall run parallel to the northern boundary of the premises and shall extend not more than 330 feet from the eastern boundary of SCRPTM lot 0600-045.00-01.00-013.004 to the aforementioned well;
- 12. The underground electric utility infrastructure shall extend southeasterly five feet to the aforementioned livestock barn:
- 13. The landowner shall prepare and implement a stormwater mitigation plan in consultation with Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District and/or Natural Resources Conservation Service to address any and all stormwater runoff issues associated with the aforementioned improvements;

- 14. The landowner shall submit to the Suffolk County Planning Department within one year of permit issuance the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District- and/or Natural Resources Conservation Service-approved stormwater mitigation plan;
- 15. The landowner shall submit to the Suffolk County Planning Department within one year of permit issuance the asbuilt survey depicting the aforementioned improvements; and
- 16. The landowner shall be responsible for compliance with all conditions of this approval, the deed of development rights, the contract of sale, and all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and guidelines.

Motion by: Russell K. Barnett Seconded by: Nate Corwin

Committee Vote: Ayes 15

Nays 0

Abstentions 0

Committee Member	Appointment	Yay	Nay	Abstention	Not Present
BARNETT, Russell K.	Town of Smithtown	X			
BUSH, Ronald	At-Large	X			
CORWIN, Nate	At-Large	X			
ISLES, Thomas A.	At-Large	X			
FOSTER, Lee	Town of Southampton	X			
FRICKE, Daniel	At-Large				X
GARDINER, Olney M.	Town of East Hampton				X
JOHNSON, Howard	Town of Huntington	X			
JONES, Ann Marie	Town of Babylon	X			
KILB, Alfred J., Jr.	Town of Shelter Island				X
KRUKOWSKI, Joseph	Town of Southold	X			
MOYER, Dale D.	At-Large	X			
MURPHY, Eugene	Town of Islip				X
ORLOWSKI, Bennett S., Jr.	At-Large	X			
ROTTKAMP, Jeffrey	Town of Riverhead	X			
SCHEER, Charles F., Jr.	At-Large	X			
SCHMITT, Albert	At-Large	X			
TURNER, John	Town of Brookhaven	X			
ZAWESKI, Mark	At-Large	X			
	15	0	0	4	

Dated: March 22, 2011

Location: Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY

#### **EXHIBIT E**

# RESOLUTION NO. FC-9-2011 OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 8 OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE LOCAL LAWS, ADJOURNING THE MARCH 22, 2011 SUFFOLK COUNTY FARMLAND COMMITTEE MEETING

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Suffolk County Administrative Local Laws, the Suffolk County Farmland Committee ("Committee") convened a regular meeting on March 22, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Committee heard all items on the meeting agenda; now, therefore, be it

1<sup>st</sup> **RESOLVED**, that the Committee hereby adjourns the March 22, 2011 meeting.

Motion by: Howard Johnson Seconded by: John Turner

Committee Vote: Ayes 15

Nays 0 Abstentions 0

Committee Member	Appointment	Yay	Nay	Abstention	Not Present
BARNETT, Russell K.	Town of Smithtown	X			
BUSH, Ronald	At-Large	X			
CORWIN, Nate	At-Large	X			
ISLES, Thomas A.	At-Large	X			
FOSTER, Lee	Town of Southampton	X			
FRICKE, Daniel	At-Large				X
GARDINER, Olney M.	Town of East Hampton				X
JOHNSON, Howard	Town of Huntington	X			
JONES, Ann Marie	Town of Babylon	X			
KILB, Alfred J., Jr.	Town of Shelter Island				X
KRUKOWSKI, Joseph	Town of Southold	X			
MOYER, Dale D.	At-Large	X			
MURPHY, Eugene	Town of Islip				X
ORLOWSKI, Bennett S., Jr.	At-Large	X			
ROTTKAMP, Jeffrey	Town of Riverhead	X			
SCHEER, Charles F., Jr.	At-Large	X			
SCHMITT, Albert	At-Large	X			
TURNER, John	Town of Brookhaven	X			
ZAWESKI, Mark	At-Large	X			
	Totals	15	0	0	4

Dated: March 22, 2011

Location: Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY