
Committee Meeting

of

JOINT LEASING AND SPACE UTILIZATION COMMITTEE

LOCATION: Committee Room 3
State House Annex
Trenton, New Jersey

DATE: May 24, 2012
11:00 a.m.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Senator Nicholas P. Scutari, Chair
Assemblyman Albert Coutinho
Deputy Treasurer Robert Romano



ALSO PRESENT:

Carl T. Costantino
Committee Aide

Mark S. Kaminski
Secretary

Gary Kotler
Counsel

Ed Oatman
*Senate Majority
Committee Aide*

Meeting Recorded and Transcribed by
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SENATOR NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI (Chair): Good morning, everyone. And actually, for the record, we're a week early.
(laughter)

Roll call, please.

MR. COSTANTINO (Committee Aide): Sure. Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Here.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Here.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Here.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator, you have a quorum.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

Would you do the Open Public Meetings Law?

MR. COSTANTINO: Notice of this meeting of the State House Leasing and Space Utilization Committee was provided to the Secretary of State, the Trenton *Times*, and the State House Press on May 22, 2012, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

SENATOR SCUTARI: First order of business will be the approval of the December 12, 2011 meeting minutes.

I will move the approval of those minutes.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Seconded.

Roll call, please.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Sir, the motion to approve the December 12, 2011 minutes carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay, Mr. Sutkin.

S T E V E N M. S U T K I N: Yes, we have 14 notices of proposed lease for your consideration today. They're detailed in the binder which we have provided.

The first item for your consideration is Notice of Proposed Lease 3940. It's for the Division of Youth and Family Services, Department of Children and Families. And it's a six-year extension of an existing lease in Randolph at a reduced lease rate, which we submit for approval.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Any questions on the first agenda item?

(no response)

Seeing none.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So moved.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator, you have three votes in the affirmative. The motion to approve NPL 3940 carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Next.

MR. SUTKIN: The next item is for the Judicial Branch, the General Equity Court, Chancery Division, in Woodbury, where we'll be renting from the County. The terms are described in the binder, and we submit it for approval.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Any questions on the Woodbury location? (no response)

Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So moved.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator, you have three votes in the affirmative. The motion to approve NPL 4303 carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Next we have the parking deck.

MR. SUTKIN: Yes, it's actually surface parking at the Justice Complex, and hopefully one day there will be a parking deck.

It's a parking lease with the City of Trenton -- 15-year lease. We currently lease 1,000 spots there now. This is a continuation of that agreement. It was the subject of a lawsuit brought by the redeveloper which has rights to the site. And this was the resolution to the lawsuit. We're agreeing to lease for a period not to exceed 15 years. At the end of year seven, beginning of year eight we'll have the option to purchase what we call the *footprint* which would be suitable for the State to build a parking garage of about 1,000 to 1,200 spots. That's the nature of the--

SENATOR SCUTARI: Is that the plan?

MR. SUTKIN: That is the plan.

SENATOR SCUTARI: That would be a good solution at some point in time.

MR. SUTKIN: Yes. Naturally we don't have money or debt service lined up to pay for that presently.

SENATOR SCUTARI: You've got seven years to work on that.

MR. SUTKIN: But we have seven years to work on it.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Any other questions? (no response)

Motion?

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So moved.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator, you have three votes in the affirmative. The motion to approve NPL 3413 carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

Next is the California location.

MR. SUTKIN: Yes, the next two items are the Division of Taxation items. We had some conversation about those leases last meeting.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. SUTKIN: I was able to get some additional information which I'm prepared to read to you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Let's talk about that first before we approve.

MR. SUTKIN: Okay.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Do you want to do that?

MR. SUTKIN: I think it would be easiest if I just took two or three minutes and read from what I've been provided.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay. Go right ahead.

MR. SUTKIN: The New Jersey Division of Taxation maintains offices in Chicago, Illinois and Anaheim, California. Chicago was opened in 1984, and Anaheim in 1986. The Division also has audit staff working from home-based offices in Denver, Dallas, and Atlanta. Anaheim currently has four employees: a supervisor and three auditors. Chicago currently has seven employees: an acting chief, two supervisors, administrative assistant, and three auditors. There are two auditors in Atlanta, one in Dallas, and one in Denver who all report to the supervisors in Chicago. The Division is

currently expanding its out-of-state operation by adding three auditors in Chicago, one in Houston, and one in the Southeast.

The duties of the staff are to audit companies that conduct business in New Jersey that are headquartered in locations all over the United States. As well as conducting audits locally, the auditors travel overnight approximately 10 weeks per year to conduct audits that bring in substantial assessments. They audit corporation business tax, sales and use tax, gross income tax, and excise taxes.

In addition to auditing, the audit staff educates taxpayers to ensure future compliance with New Jersey tax statutes while maintaining positive professional relations with taxpayers.

I have some general information about the costs of these out-of-state offices. The Chicago lease costs are \$72,424; the lease costs in Anaheim are \$24,000.

That's what I have.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I would assume that if there is any legislation to make you have to live in New Jersey to work for the State of New Jersey, these people have to be exempt.

MR. SUTKIN: I have some information on that too. I was trying not to bore you too much.

SENATOR SCUTARI: This isn't boring. You want to get them passed, right? (laughter)

MR. SUTKIN: This is provided by Tax. In response to Senator Scutari's query regarding consistency with the New Jersey First Act: First, the Act does not require existing employees as of September 1, 2011, to relocate to New Jersey. This team has been in place since 1984/1986.

Second: Section 4B of the Act provides an exemption from the relocation requirement for anyone “who is employed full-time by the State who serves in an office, employment, or position that requires the person to spend the majority of his or her working hours in a location outside of the state.”

It is important that New Jersey, like many other states, have a presence in major, out-of-state locations.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

Item No. 4 is the Anaheim location. Any questions? (no response)

I'll entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So moved.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO: Are we approving both here?

SENATOR SCUTARI: No. 4, and then we'll do No. 5, and then we'll do No. 6.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the motion to approve NPL 4288, Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator, you have three votes in the affirmative. The motion to approve 4288 carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Next is-- You said Chicago, but it looks like it's some other spot.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: It's in Des Plaines, yes.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Any questions on the "Chicago" location? (no response)

Motion please.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So moved.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative.

The motion to approve NPL 3835 carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: No. 6.

MR. SUTKIN: The next five lease proposals have to do with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The first one is a new 10-year lease for the One-Stop Services and Vocational Rehabilitation Office in Rio Grande. We have cancellation options after years five and seven on those leases. We submit it for approval.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Do you want to talk about all the ones out of Labor?

MR. SUTKIN: Yes, we also have No. 7. Notice of Proposed Lease 3716 is for the Division of Income Security and Workforce Development in Sussex, and that is a two-year holdover agreement pending No. 8, which is the long-term solution, which is NPL 4646, which is a new 10-year lease that is going to be located in Newton, New Jersey.

No. 9 is 4647, which is for Workforce Development, Income Security, Disability Services, and Labor Standards and Safety Enforcement -- which should make for a large acronym -- and that's in Randolph New Jersey.

And No. 10 is a consolidated building for Labor's offices, and that is in New Brunswick, and that is NPL 4167.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Any questions on any of those?

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes, just one question, Mr. Chairman.

A lot of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development funding comes in partnership with the Federal government. Do you know -- let's say the lease payments -- things that are covered as part of those recaptures? Does the Federal government treat leases versus, you know, let's say, building ownership differently?

MR. SUTKIN: There are percentages. They do cover leases. It's not always 100 percent. It's case-specific. If you had a specific question we could track it down. But we do look for as much as we can from the Feds for lease reimbursement.

On the second question, we found that it's always better, money wise, to put Labor in leased space than owned space. The Feds are

more generous in refunding lease costs than they are for building ownership, management, design and construction costs.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Okay.

The other thing -- this is a small, technical question on, actually, all of these. I see on the DAG certification -- and I don't know if it's just somebody typing it up -- typed it up differently, but you have it as if the Attorney General himself is certifying it. But then I believe it's the-- Is it Mr. Kotler who is signing these certifications?

MR. SUTKIN: No, Mr. Kotler represents your Committee. And we have a Deputy from the Division of Law who represents the Executive Branch in our Division.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So who is it who is signing these certifications? Is it Mr. Chiesa himself?

MR. SUTKIN: No, it's--

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Because if you look at them-- Right? Do you see that?

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: That's a different person. That's Tom Edenbaum, I think. Right?

MR. SUTKIN: That's just the protocol of the--

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: All right. But who is the person who is signing--

MR. KOTLER (Counsel): That's the standard way that Deputies sign on behalf of--

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: That's fine. Do we know who that Deputy is?

MR. SUTKIN: Yes, Tom Edenbaum.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Okay. Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Why don't we do--

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Six through 10?

SENATOR SCUTARI: --6 through 10?

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Mr. Chairman, I'll move 6 through 10 together.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: And I'll second 6 through 10.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Sir, you have three votes in the affirmative. The motion to approve NPL 4645, 3716, 4646, 4647, and 4167 carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay, next is the Department of Corrections.

MR. SUTKIN: Yes, this is a Parole District Office in New Brunswick. It's an extension -- reduction to the existing rental rate. And in exchange for that, we've agreed to do an early renewal extension. So we had extensions available to us. We said, "Before the term expires, we're going to agree to extend it and, in exchange, give us a lease reduction in the present original term."

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay. Any questions on the New Brunswick location? (no response)

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So moved.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative.

The motion to carry (*sic*) NPL 4359 carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Public Safety.

MR. SUTKIN: The next lease is for the Division of State Police in the Department of Law and Public Safety. It is a new three-year lease with the Township -- with Gloucester Township.

SENATOR SCUTARI: What's the situation down in Gloucester with that? I know you had been moving toward the State Barracks -- purchasing and building. Correct?

MR. SUTKIN: We had purchased-- I think last year we had purchased-- In partnership with the Economic Development Authority, we purchased five State Police Barracks. So that is done. We went to closing, and that's all completed.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Right. How about this one?

MR. SUTKIN: I don't believe this is a barracks.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: It's offices.

SENATOR SCUTARI: It's just offices?

MR. SUTKIN: I don't know if it's completely appropriate to discuss the details of this unit. It's a New Jersey State Police operation in the township.

SENATOR SCUTARI: All right. Any other questions on 12 or 13? (no response)

I'll entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So moved.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call on 12 and 13.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative. The motion to approve NPL 4648 and 4097 carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: All right, the last-- I see that we have one last one for--

MR. SUTKIN: The next one we have identified under the Department of Law and Public Safety. The Office of the Public Defender, I believe, is actually in but not of the Department of the Treasury.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Say again?

MR. SUTKIN: For 4097, No. 13, I have it under Law and Public Safety.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: We approved that already.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: We approved 13 along with 12.

SENATOR SCUTARI: We already did that.

MR. SUTKIN: Okay, No. 14. (laughter) Thank you, Committee.

We have the Office of the Governor--

SENATOR SCUTARI: Now we come to the real controversial one. (laughter)

MR. SUTKIN: --in Washington. This is a lease extension to 2020 at a reduced rate. It's a location for the Governor's Office in the building that houses many of the representatives of state governments across the country. And we negotiated and received a reduction in the current rental rates in this Washington, D.C. location and have extended the lease out to 2020.

SENATOR SCUTARI: The State is facing a deficit, you know.

This lease-- The Governor's Office has the right to utilize three parking spaces, at \$228 per space, per month. Correct?

CRAIG S. BRUCH: Yes, there are three.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I just want it to be noted publicly and for the record that the Governor's Office will be getting three spaces per month for almost \$700 a month.

How often are those things utilized, those parking spaces? I mean, there's no one down there regularly, right?

MR. SUTKIN: It's not just for him personally.

SENATOR SCUTARI: No, I know that. But the Governor's made some statements that people should pay for their own parking spaces. Now, he hasn't made State employees do that yet. But I just want there to be a certain-- I want it to be the same for everyone.

Who is down in this office?

MR. SUTKIN: We have a representative here.

MR. BRUCH: We have a representative here, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Bring him up.

N E D N U R I C K: Good morning, Senator.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Good morning.

MR. NURICK: I'm actually here in Trenton. My name is Ned Nurick. I work in the Governor's Policy Office.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Where do you work?

MR. NURICK: I work here in Trenton.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Oh, you work here in Trenton. So what is going on down there in Washington?

MR. NURICK: I work very closely with four members of the Governor's staff who work out of this office. There is a Director and three policy advisors.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Who work there full-time?

MR. NURICK: Yes, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I guess they carpool. (laughter)

MR. NURICK: I have no idea, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Well there's only three spaces and four people working there.

MR. NURICK: I can't speak to their commuting, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Well, if you want this approved, I'd like to know where they park and if they're utilizing the spaces.

MR. NURICK: I honestly couldn't tell you, sir. I don't know how they commute.

SENATOR SCUTARI: We're going to hold this agenda item on that then.

MR. COSTANTINO: Okay, so we're going to just hold.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Senator, if we were able to obtain that information in a couple of minutes, would that satisfy you?

SENATOR SCUTARI: It might.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Can we contact them quickly?

MR. NURICK: Yes, I can give them a call.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: All right. If we could do that, I would appreciate that.

SENATOR SCUTARI: This is the last agenda item.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: I understand. But if we're able to have a brief recess and then come back in a couple of minutes.

SENATOR SCUTARI: How brief are we talking about?

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: How long when you get it?

MR. NURICK: I'll make a call.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: We'll come back in a couple of minutes and let you know one way or the other. Is that okay with you?

SENATOR SCUTARI: We'll give you a couple of minutes.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Thank you, Senator. I appreciate that.

(RECESS)

AFTER RECESS:

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

MR. NURICK: Thank you, Senator.

I was able to determine that three of our members of our Office use the three spaces.

SENATOR SCUTARI: What does the other guy do?

MR. NURICK: I think he pays for his own spot. There is a garage that the public can park in as well.

SENATOR SCUTARI: The one guy can pay, but the other three get free parking.

Does the Governor ever use this office?

MR. NURICK: I believe he does, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: For what purpose?

MR. NURICK: He uses it as an office when he goes to Washington.

SENATOR SCUTARI: How often is he down there?

MR. NURICK: I couldn't say, sir. I don't work in scheduling.

SENATOR SCUTARI: How many other governors in the country have offices in Washington, D.C.?

MR. NURICK: I believe 49 out of 56 do, and I'm counting territories, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Who doesn't have one?

MR. NURICK: That's a good question: Nebraska, I believe South Dakota, and a couple others.

SENATOR SCUTARI: What kinds of things are the-- I mean, who are the-- Give me ideas of the titles of the people who are down in Washington.

MR. NURICK: There's a Director, and then the other three are Assistant Directors of the Office.

SENATOR SCUTARI: What do they do?

MR. NURICK: They cover policy areas. So it's divided up -- like transportation, health care, and whatnot. They work with the Federal government as well as Congressional staff.

SENATOR SCUTARI: To do what?

MR. NURICK: For instance, they were working on an issue with respect to the National Guard recently -- to take meetings and help promote the State's interest. They also interface with the State's departments and agencies.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Isn't that what we have United States Senators and Congressmen to do down there?

MR. NURICK: They are advocating on behalf of State government, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Well, I want to find out more about what they do down there. I'm not prepared to support that right now.

MR. COSTANTINO: Okay, so pending additional information.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I'll have to formulate some more questions, and I will submit them.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Thank you, Senator.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: If I could-- I don't know if we're going to hold this-- This expires in 2014. How did it come about for us to extend it now? Was this an offer they made to different people? Did we reach out to them?

MR. BRUCH: (speaking away from microphone) We reached out to them and--

MR. SUTKIN: Craig, you have to--

HEARING REPORTER: Excuse me.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: I was going to say, is there a current savings as a result of doing this?

MR. BRUCH: (speaking away from microphone) Yes, there's a current savings. We negotiated with them, and the savings start 2/1 of this year, and we reduced the rent by about \$7.

Our normal process is to be out two years in advance to start discussions with owners so we can be in a favorable position.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Okay. So this is a strategy your office uses to go, within two years, and see if you can get the--

MR. BRUCH: On the smaller leases, yes; on the larger leases it could be three years out, maybe three-and-a-half. Newark is a good three years away. We haven't started it.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Okay.

MR. SUTKIN: What would happen if we never renewed this lease? They'd have to leave, right?

MR. BRUCH: It would expire.

MR. SUTKIN: Right. How much does this lease cost right now? I mean, the parking alone is \$8,000.

MR. BRUCH: The annual cost is \$108,000 a year, almost \$109,000 a year.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Plus salaries for four full-time employees and parking.

I want to find out more about what they do.

MR. COSTANTINO: Okay. So we need a motion to hold pending additional information.

SENATOR SCUTARI: We don't need a motion for that.

MR. COSTANTINO: I think we do.

SENATOR SCUTARI: All right. I'll move to hold it for me to get more information.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: I'll second the motion.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the motion to hold NPL 2903 pending additional information, Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: I'll abstain.

MR. COSTANTINO: So you have two votes in the affirmative, one abstention. The motion carries, actually.

MR. SUTKIN: No, it has to be unanimous.

MR. KOTLER: We need three votes.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: But do you-- I mean, it just can't be passed because the Senator wants to table it? We need a motion to table?

SENATOR SCUTARI: Of course. You need a unanimous decision to release it, to approve it.

MR. KOTLER: No, there are three things that this Committee can do: approve, disapprove, or send it back for more information. And the votes of the Committee need to be unanimous.

SENATOR SCUTARI: We've had abstentions before.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes, can't the Senator just say he's pulling -- as Chairman, just pull the item until he gets more information?

MR. KOTLER: That's different. If you want to remove that.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I'll remove the item. How is that?

MR. KOTLER: You're just going to table the item. It will be brought back by--

SENATOR SCUTARI: The next meeting.

MR. KOTLER: --the next meeting by DPMC.

MR. COSTANTINO: So there's nothing here that has to take place then, correct?

MR. KOTLER: Correct.

SENATOR SCUTARI: That's what I said before.

Do we have any other-- (no response)

Motion to adjourn.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: So moved.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Coutinho.

ASSEMBLYMAN COUTINHO: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Treasurer Romano.

DEPUTY TREASURER ROMANO: Yes.

(MEETING CONCLUDED)