

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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May 22, 2013

Start: 10:47 a.m.

Recess: 10:53 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E:

KAREN KOSLOWITZ  
Chairperson (Acting)

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Gale A. Brewer  
Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley  
Council Member Julissa Ferreras  
Council Member Lewis A. Fidler  
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio  
Council Member Robert Jackson  
Council Member Darlene Mealy  
Council Member James S. Oddo  
Council Member Diana Reyna  
Council Member Joel Rivera  
Council Member James G. Van Bramer

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2 CHAIRPERSON KOSLOWITZ: I'm Chair  
3 of the day, you ever hear of Queen for the day,  
4 I'm Chair for the day.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: You're  
6 queen for life.

7 [pause]

8 CHAIRPERSON KOSLOWITZ: Call the  
9 Committee on Finance. Good morning. Welcome to  
10 today's Finance Committee Hearing. My name is  
11 Council Member Karen Koslowitz. Today, my  
12 colleague and Chairman of the Finance Committee,  
13 Domenic M. Recchia, Jr., had an important  
14 engagement and he has asked me to conduct this  
15 hearing in his absence. It is my pleasure to do  
16 so. Today we have three land use items on our  
17 agenda. These items provide property tax  
18 exemptions pursuant to the Private Housing Finance  
19 Law, to properties that provide rental housing to  
20 low income families. The first item is 500  
21 Trinity Avenue, which is a property located in  
22 Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo's district  
23 in The Bronx. This property, which provides 188  
24 units of rental housing for low income families  
25 throughout four buildings, will undergo

1  
2 rehabilitation and will receive a 32 year, full  
3 property tax exemption. The second property tax  
4 exemption is the Longwood Residence which is a  
5 property also located in Council Member Maria del  
6 Carmen Arroyo's district in The Bronx. This  
7 property, which provides 359 units of rental  
8 housing for low income families throughout nine  
9 buildings, will undergo rehabilitation and will  
10 receive a 37 year, full property tax exemption.  
11 The third property tax exemption is for Terrace  
12 Gardens, located in Council Member Deborah Rose's  
13 district in Staten Island. This property, which  
14 provides 198 units of rental housing for low  
15 income families will undergo rehabilitation and  
16 will receive a 30 year partial property tax  
17 exemptions. Those are all of our land use items  
18 and all respective members have expressed support.  
19 Now, before we call the role, I just want to  
20 remind Council Members and the public that  
21 tomorrow, the Finance Committee will resume its  
22 Executive Budget hearings for Fiscal Year 2014 at  
23 10:00 a.m. The Finance Committee will first be  
24 joined by the Committee on Public Safety, Chaired  
25 by my colleague, Council Member Peter Vallone, to

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2 hear from the NYPD, the five district attorneys,  
3 the Special Narcotics Prosecutor, and the Civilian  
4 Complaint Review Board. The public will have an  
5 opportunity to voice their comments and concerns  
6 regarding the Executive Budget on June 5th, which  
7 is the last day of budget hearings. The public  
8 session starts at approximately 3:30 p.m. That  
9 wraps up our housekeeping items. Does anyone have  
10 any questions on the items on today's agenda? If  
11 not, Billy, will you call the roll?

12 CLERK: William Martin, Committee  
13 Clerk, roll call vote, Committee on Finance.  
14 Council Member Koslowitz.

15 CHAIRPERSON KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye.

16 CLERK: Vann.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [off mic]

18 Aye.

19 CLERK: Rivera.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

21 CLERK: Reyna.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: [off mic]

23 Aye.

24 CLERK: Brewer.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [off mic]

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2 Yes.

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CLERK: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic]

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Aye on all.

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CLERK: Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic]

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Aye on all.

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CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: [off mic]

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Aye on all.

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CLERK: Van Bramer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: [off

14

mic] Aye on all.

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CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I just

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want to commend the new Chairwoman and think you

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should consider taking over the helm fulltime.

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And I proudly vote aye. [background comments]

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[pause]

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CLERK: Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

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Yes.

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CLERK: By a vote of 11 in the

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affirmative, zero in the negative and no

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abstentions, all items have been adopted.

Members, please sign the Committee reports. Thank  
you.

[pause]

Mark Weprin, he's moving on.

What's your name again? So, Council Member--

KATAYA JONES: Kataya Jones

[phonetic]. My name's Kataya Jones. [cheers]

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: And she  
represents Queens. [applause] She's the youngest  
Council Member in the City of New York. I  
remember at one point in time Joel Rivera was the  
youngest Council Member. Joe, you came in at  
what, 21?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: 22.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: 22. And  
now, you're coming in at what age?

KATAYA JONES: 11.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Oh, my  
gosh. Well, thank you, everyone.

[pause]

CLERK: How do you vote?

KATAYA JONES: I don't know!

[laughs]

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Oh, no! I

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don't know.

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KATAYA JONES: I don't know.

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[pause, background noise]

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CHAIRPERSON KOSLOWITZ: Finance

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Committee is now adjourned. [gavel]

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[pause]

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CLERK: Continuation of the roll

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call, Committee on Finance. Council Member

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Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [off mic]

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Aye.

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CLERK: Final vote in the Committee

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on Finance is 12 in the affirmative, zero in the

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negative, and no abstentions. Thank you.

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[pause]

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CHAIRPERSON KOSLOWITZ: Committee

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on Finance recognizes Council Member Lew Fidler

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for a vote.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I - -

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[pause, background noise]

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CHAIRPERSON KOSLOWITZ: Okay.

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Finance Committee is now closed. [gavel]

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, JOHN DAVID TONG certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John David Tong". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the printed word "Signature".

Date June 6, 2013