

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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October 24, 2013
Start: 11:05 a.m.
Recess: 11:20 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm,
16th Fl.

B E F O R E:

INEZ E. DICKENS
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MARIA DEL CARMEN ARROVO
CHARLES BARRON
LEROY G.COMRIE, JR.
DANIEL R. GARODNICK
SARA M. GONZALEZ
VINCENT M. IGNIZIO
ROBERT JACKSON
PETER A. KOO
BRAD S. LANDER
JESSICA S. LAPPIN
STEPHEN T. LEVIN
ROSIE MENDEZ
ANNABEL PALMA
DIANA REYNA
JOEL RIVERA

COUNCIL MEMBERS CONTINUED:

ALBERT VANN

MARK S. WEPRIN

JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS

RUBEN WILLS

[gavel]

CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Good morning. This opens the Committee on Land Use of October 24, 2013. I am Inez E. Dickens and I will be chairing the committee hearing this morning. Obviously I'm not Chair Leroy Comrie, I'm better looking than him.

We've been joined by council members Diana Reyna, Charles Barron, is Charles Barron here?

COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Here. Here.

CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Robert Jackson, Al Vann, Sara Gonzalez, Annabel Palma, Maria Del Carmen Arroyo, Dan Garodnick, Jessica Lappin, Rosie Mendez...

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: ...rolling your R's...

CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: I said Ro, Rosie, I prefer Rosie.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Alright.

CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Peter Koo, with Councilmember Brad Lander, Steve Levin, Councilmember Mark Weprin, Jumaane Williams, and Vincent Ignizio.

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2 The entire agenda this morning will be
3 coupled on a vote to approve where I, unless I
4 indicate otherwise. All items on the agenda have
5 been vetted in their respective subcommittees. Land
6 Use number 456 reconsidered seat primary school
7 approving a motion to file, per letter of
8 withdrawal... Is there a problem down there at that
9 end? ...by the school construction authority.
10 Application number 20145046-SCQ. Are there any
11 council members who want to have anything to say.
12 Say none.

13 The next Land Use item 75 Morris Street
14 School, Morton Street School. Application number
15 20145059-SCM, 75 Morton Street School in the
16 district of Speaker Christine Quinn.

17 Land Use item 918, the West End-
18 Collegiate Historic District Extension. Application
19 number 20145020-HKM. Second application is N140005-
20 HKM. It's approving with modifications to exclude
21 two properties from the historic district and it's
22 in Councilmember Gale Brewer's district. Land Use
23 item 922 is being laid over and that's the
24 Waterfront Revitalization Program.

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2 In Councilmember Vincent Ignizio's
3 district we have Land Use item numbers 929 through
4 933 which are all related. The Charleston Project.
5 Land use item 929 is application C130279-ZMR. Land
6 Use item number 930 also the Charleston in
7 Councilmember Ignizio's district. Application
8 number C130229-MMR. Charleston Project Land Use
9 item 931. Application C130288-PQR. Application
10 number C130289-PSR, Land Use item number 932 also
11 the Charleston Project. And lastly in Councilmember
12 Ignizio's district, Land Use item 933, also the
13 Charleston Project. Application C130290-PQR.
14 Councilmember Ignizio is stepped out for the
15 moment. I was going to give him an opportunity if
16 he had something to say about it.

17 In councilmember Mendez's district we
18 have Land Use item numbers 936 and 937 which are
19 related. Land Use item number 936 adapt NYC.
20 Application number C130236-HAM. And related Land
21 Use item number 937 adapt NYC. Application C130235-
22 ZMM. Councilmember Mendez has approved... Where is
23 she? Councilmember Mendez do you have anything you
24 want to add?
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2 COUNCILMEMBER MENDEZ: Yes. We got to a
3 much better place on this project though if I'd
4 have known I would have asked you and Charles
5 Barron to help me negotiate more permanently
6 affordable units. We got up to 35 percent which is
7 pretty good but nothing compared to what you guys
8 have done. So I want to thank the administration
9 and I wonder where... You were helping him. That's
10 why I didn't get more affordable, permanently
11 affordable units out of this deal. Thank you Madam
12 Chair.

13 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Thank you
14 Councilmember. In Councilmember Diana Reyna's
15 district Land Use item number 938, the UTD Bushwick
16 Early Learning Childcare Center. Application number
17 C130162-PQK. And Land Use item number 939, also the
18 Bushwick United Early Learning Center. Application
19 number C130126-PQK. Councilmember Reyna do you have
20 anything you want to add to that?

21 COUNCILMEMBER REYNA: No, thank you
22 Madam Chair.

23 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Thank you. The
24 next Land Use item numbers is in... Let me see whose
25 district this is. I believe this is Councilmember

2 Charles Barron. Is that correct? Land Use item
3 numbers 940 through 942 which are related. Land Use
4 item number the 940, the Livonia Commons.
5 Application C130375-HUK. Also Land Use item number
6 941, also the Livonia Commons. Application C130376-
7 HAK. Land Use item number 942, Livonia Commons.
8 Application number C130374-ZMK. And we'll move on
9 from that. Councilmember is there anything you want
10 to add?

11 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Oh.

12 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: See nothing. Thank
13 you.

14 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Oh, oh, thanks,
15 thanks for suggesting that. Yes I do have something
16 to say. Alright I just wanted to say on a very
17 serious note to my colleagues we're very, very
18 proud in east New York that we got 100 percent
19 affordability on this project. There is nothing
20 over 60 percent of the AMI which is those making
21 30, 24 to 34 thousand dollars a year. Can you
22 imagine? Excuse me. Excuse me. Excuse me. Madam
23 Chair there's some rudeness occurring at this..

24 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Rudeness?

25 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: ...end of the table

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2 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Well thank you
3 Councilmember. And the next item number...

4 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: No, get out of
5 here... So I just want to say that where in the city
6 can you get a three bedroom for 749 dollars a month
7 rent making 28 to 39 thousand dollars a year?

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: East New York.

9 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Say that again.

10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: East New York.

11 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Thank you very
12 much.

13 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Please don't add
14 to this.

15 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: So I just want to
16 say that this is 100 percent affordability and
17 there's a four story, four story, no market rate,
18 there is none.

19 [crosstalk]

20 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Shall we pass on
21 that one?

22 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Well somebody
23 must not be speaking to me. Anyway, I'm almost
24 finished they keep interrupting me.
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2 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Well we're about
3 to end this.

4 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: And I'm very
5 nervous. This is a very nervous emotion time for
6 me. We also...

7 [clapping]

8 Please stop the hand... Stop it. Stop it.
9 I'm not finished. There's also a four story, a four
10 story boys and girls club that goes with it. Four
11 stories where they'll have a swimming pool, an
12 auditorium, and a gymnasium and a bunch of classes.
13 Four story boys and girls, on the bottom floor boys
14 and girls. Bottom floor, don't try to add something
15 to make it look bad, the bottom floor will be
16 retail and there will also be community space. And
17 this is the most important part; all of this was
18 done by a black radical revolutionary, anti-
19 capitalist, anti-imperialist, elected official.
20 Thank you very much. I seek your support. Thank
21 you. Thank you very much.

22 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Now Councilmember.

23 [crosstalk]

24 [gavel]

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2 Councilmember I have one question on
3 that.

4 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Yes.

5 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: I see it's 100
6 percent affordable for the residential. Now what
7 happened with the commercial strip? Is that too
8 affordable? Please don't answer. Thank you.

9 Land Use item number 944 of the quarter
10 in Councilmember, in the Speaker's office, and
11 we're approving the motion to file application
12 number 20145048-TCM. Land Use item 947 East
13 Elmhurst rezoning and Councilmember Julissa
14 Ferreras district. Application number C130344-ZMQ.
15 And also in Councilmember Mendez's district. Land
16 Use item number 948304-948306 East 8th Street.
17 Application number 20145126-HAM. And I recommend
18 that as Chair, temporary Chair, the, don't laugh,
19 the yes vote on all. Oh well now let us give some
20 consideration because we did not get an answer on
21 the commercial strip but that's alright.

22 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: That wasn't four
23 bedroom.

24 [crosstalk]
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2 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Jealousy will get
3 y'all nowhere. Jealousy and Envy will get you
4 nowhere.

5 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: [interposing] May
6 we have a roll...

7 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Accept that I am
8 the champ. I am number one.

9 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Wait a minute.

10 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: [interposing] I'm
11 the greatest...

12 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Nope. Wait one
13 minute.

14 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: [interposing] ...of
15 all time

16 [gavel]

17 Give an exception to that. Give an
18 exception to that. Alright may we please have a
19 roll call vote.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin
21 Committee Clerk. Roll call vote in Committee on
22 Land Use. Councilmember Dickens?

23 [pause]

24 Councilmember Dickens?

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2 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: Aye on all. And
3 congratulations to all my colleagues but
4 particularly to Councilmember Barron of Brooklyn. I
5 congratulate him on getting 100 percent
6 affordability.

7 WILLIAM MARTIN: Reyna?

8 COUNCILMEMBER REYNA: I vote Aye on all.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN: Barron?

10 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: May, I explain my
11 vote. No. Aye on all, aye on all, aye on all. And I
12 congratulate Charles Barron for a job well done.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN: Jackson?

14 COUNCILMEMBER JACKSON: Aye on all.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN: Vann?

16 COUNCILMEMBER VANN: Aye.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN: Gonzalez?

18 COUNCILMEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on all.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN: Palma?

20 COUNCILMEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

21 WILLIAM MARTIN: Arroyo?

22 COUNCILMEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN: Garodnick?

24 COUNCILMEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

25 WILLIAM MARTIN: Lappin?

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COUNCILMEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Mendez?

COUNCILMEMBER MENDEZ: Aye. And you know people can give me a little congratulations because these are micro units so you'll have to keep the thank you very small.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Koo?

COUNCILMEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Lander?

COUNCILMEMBER LANDER: Where are the micro units on...

WILLIAM MARTIN: Levin?

COUNCILMEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Weprin?

COUNCILMEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Williams? [pause]

COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: A small congratulations to Rosie and to all; you do alright. 100 percent if that's all you can do I mean congratulations. I vote aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Ignizio?

COUNCILMEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote of 17 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no

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2 abstentions all items have been adopted. Members
3 please sign the committee report. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON DICKENS: An announcement
5 please. May I have your attention?

6 [gavel]

7 There will be an additional meeting of
8 the Zoning and Franchises Subcommittee and the Land
9 Use Committee on Wednesday October the 30th. The
10 day I stated. It will likely be, likely, Zoning
11 will start at 9:45 a.m. with all due hope and 10:00
12 a.m. for Land Use also in great hope, respectively
13 at City Hall Chambers. But please look out for
14 emails and notifications that, you'll be, we will
15 call to confirm the exact time and locations at
16 your offices.

17 [crosstalk]

18 Yeah right. Yeah. Thank you. The Land
19 Use meeting of October the 24th is hereby adjourned
20 but I'm leaving the roll call open for 10
21 additional minutes.

22 [gavel]

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