

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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June 24, 2013

Start: 12:22 p.m.

Recess: 12:39 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway  
Committee Rm, 14<sup>th</sup> Fl.

B E F O R E:  
DANIEL R. GARODNICK  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Council Member G. Oliver Koppell  
Council Member Michael C. Nelson  
Council Member Julissa Ferreras  
Council Member Karen Koslowitz

## A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Kevin Pin  
Committee Clerk  
New York City Council

CHAIRPERSON GARODNICK: Good

afternoon and welcome to today's meeting of the Consumer Affairs Committee of the New York City Council. Today is Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> and my name is Dan Garodnick. I have the privilege of Chairing this Committee. I am joined today by Council Members Oliver Koppell, Leroy Comrie and Karen Koslowitz. And today we're going to be voting on Intro 1048-A, a bill that would raise the maximum allowable price of good sold at newsstands from \$5.00 to \$10.00. This Committee held a hearing on Intro 1048-A on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Newsstands primarily sell newspapers, magazines and other periodicals but they may also sell other miscellaneous items as long as they come in under the price limit. The law explicitly prohibits newsstands from selling certain categories of items including apparel, jewelry, hair ornaments, handbags and video cassettes, times that are more properly reserved for brick and mortar stores. Bumping up the price limit for newsstands is a straightforward change meant to help the industry keep up with the times. In fact, the last time this cap was raised was in 2002 and the sponsor of

1  
2 the bill at that time was none of than the sponsor  
3 of the bill this time, Council Member Karen  
4 Koslowitz. I think this would be a good moment to  
5 turn the microphone over to the sponsor of the  
6 Bill that we're hearing that voting on today and  
7 that's Council Member Koslowitz. And with that,  
8 Council Member, the floor is yours.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank  
10 you, Mr. Chair. I'm really happy to be here to be  
11 able to do this again. And the \$5.00 that we did  
12 the last time in 2002 when I started the Council  
13 in 1991 it was \$2.00 that they were allowed to  
14 sell and then it went up to \$5.00 and now \$10.00  
15 and I think they certainly deserve it. They work  
16 hard, they're out there every day, rain, snow,  
17 sleet and the hot weather and I think this bill is  
18 excellent and I thank you very much for hearing it  
19 and passing it.

20 CHAIRPERSON GARODNICK: Terrific.  
21 Well, thank you, Council Member Koslowitz. And  
22 with that, at this point I think I'd like to ask  
23 the Clerk to call the vote and I recommend an aye  
24 vote.

25 MR. KEVIN PIN: Kevin Pin,

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2 Committee Clerk, roll call on the Committee on  
3 Consumer Affairs, Intro 1048-A. Council Member  
4 Gardonick?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: I vote  
6 aye.

7 MR. PIN: Comrie?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I vote aye.

9 MR. PIN: Koppell?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: I,  
11 unfortunate, if I may explain my vote. It's  
12 regrettable that newspaper sales have declined so  
13 much but that is a reason to allow for more items  
14 to be sold and we hope that newspapers will still  
15 be sold because at least I and, I guess I'm older  
16 than many people here, still appreciate reading  
17 the newspaper, real newspaper, not a computer  
18 screen.

19 CHAIRPERSON GARODNICK: Sorry, what  
20 is that Council Member?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: A real,  
22 yeah, [laughter] a real newspaper, what is that?  
23 So, I'm happy to support this. I vote aye.

24 MR. PIN: Koslowitz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote

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aye.

MR. PIN: By a vote of four in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions the item has been adopted. Members, please sign the Committee Report.

CHAIRPERSON GARODNICK: Thank you very much. And we will keep the roll open for about 15 minutes and after that time this Committee will be adjourned. Thanks everybody for your participation. [pause] [off mic]

MR. PIN: Nelson?

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

MR. PIN: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: All right, aye on all.

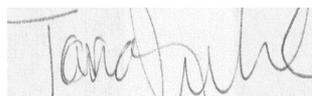
MR. PIN: Final vote on the Committee on Consumer Affairs, six in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON GARODNICK: And I officially adjourn the meeting. [off mic]

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tara Juhl 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 rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara Juhl".

Date 7/17/13