

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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March 23, 2011
Start: 10:30am
Recess: 11:05am

HELD AT: Committee Room
250 Broadway - 16th Fl.

B E F O R E: DOMENIC M. RECCHIA, JR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Gale A. Brewer
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Lewis A. Fidler
Helen D. Foster
Robert Jackson
G. Oliver Koppell
Darlene Mealy
Diana Reyna
Joel Rivera
Albert Vann
Fernando Cabrera
Julissa Ferreras
Karen Koslowitz

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

James G. Van Bramer
Vincent M. Ignizio
James S. Oddo

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2 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, if I
3 could have everyone's attention. Good morning,
4 welcome to today's Finance Committee meeting. My
5 name is Domenic M. Recchia, Jr. I'm the Chair of
6 this wonderful committee and I want to apologize
7 for being late this morning. Today we have a
8 number of items on our agenda. First we have two
9 resolutions relating to the City Council's annual
10 operating budget under the city charter. The
11 Council has until March 10 to submit the Mayor's--
12 its own operating budget for the next fiscal year.
13 This date was extended to March 25th by legislation
14 passed by this Committee in January. Today's vote
15 on the operating budget will be the Council's
16 first fiscal 2012 budget action. This year the
17 Council's budget totaled just over \$52 million.
18 That is a decrease of 1.5% or approximately
19 \$793,000 from last year. The Council's budget
20 reductions will impact central staff's operation
21 and council members office and staffs will not,
22 repeat will not be effected. Next, we have six
23 Land Use items relating to properties that will
24 receive property tax exemptions.

25 The first item is in Council Member

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2 Rosie Mendez's district. [pause] Is Helen Foster
3 having a baby?

4 [laughter]

5 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Is there a
6 doctor in the house? ...in Rosie Mendez's district,
7 the Markham Gardens Manor Senior Housing, which is
8 new construction will consist of 79 units of
9 housing. Oh, excuse me, Debbie Rose's district in
10 Staten Island. I'm going to correct myself.

11 The next item is in Council Member
12 Foster's district. The Robert Fulton Terrace,
13 which consists of 320 units of rental housing for
14 low-income families, will receive a property tax
15 exemption to finance the rehab of the property.

16 The next item is in Council Member
17 Rivera's district. The Bryant Avenue Apartments
18 which consist of 99 units of rental housing for
19 low-income families, and they will receive a
20 property tax exemption to finance the rehab of the
21 property.

22 The next item is also in Council
23 Member Rivera's district. The Fordham Towers
24 rehab, which consists of 68 units of rental
25 housing for low-income families. This will also

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2 receive a property tax exemption to finance the
3 rehab of the property.

4 The fifth is in Council Member Inez
5 Dickens' district in Manhattan. This property,
6 which consists of 33 units of rental housing for
7 low-income families, will receive property tax
8 exemption to finance the rehab.

9 The last item is also in Council
10 Member Dickens' district. This property, which
11 consists of 27 units of rental housing for low-
12 income families, will receive a property tax
13 exemption to finance the rehab of the property.

14 The council members for all these
15 properties are in favor of them. Members of
16 Council Finance are available to answer any
17 questions you may have regarding the Land Use
18 items and Marcello and Ed O'Malley are here to
19 answer any questions regarding the Council's
20 budget and if you want greater detail on any
21 aspect of it, but before we start with the
22 questioning, I want to recognize all the members
23 who are here today: Joel Rivera, Diana Reyna,
24 Leroy Comrie, Lew Fidler, Helen Foster, Robert
25 Jackson, Oliver Koppell, Al Vann, Darlene Mealy,

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2 Fernando Cabrera, Karen Koslowitz, Jimmy Van
3 Bramer, Vinny Ignizio. Did I miss anybody? Oh,
4 Inez Dickens, Liz Crowley and Jimmy Vacca.
5 Alright, and inside comes Jimmy Oddo. Does any
6 council member wish to say anything or have any
7 questions? Without seeing any questions—oh, yes,
8 we have two support letters for the record that we
9 would like to submit. Okay. We have them here.
10 For 300 Manhattan Avenue, this is from HPD--the
11 Deputy Commissioner--RuthAnne Visnauskus, and she
12 supports it. And it is also is the support letter
13 from 315 West 113th Street in Manhattan in Inez
14 Dickens' district from HPD. They both support
15 this. Now, does anybody have any questions?
16 Without seeing any questions, please call the
17 roll.

18 CLERK: Kevin Pin, Committee Clerk,
19 roll call in the Committee on Finance. Council
20 Member Recchia?

21 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I vote aye
22 and encourage all my colleagues to vote aye.

23 CLERK: Rivera?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

25 CLERK: Reyna?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.
3 CLERK: Comrie?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.
5 CLERK: Fidler?
6 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.
7 CLERK: Foster?
8 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.
9 CLERK: Jackson?
10 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on
11 all.
12 CLERK: Koppell?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.
14 CLERK: Vann?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.
16 CLERK: Mealy?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.
18 CLERK: Cabrera?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.
20 CLERK: Koslowitz?
21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.
22 CLERK: Van Bramer?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.
24 CLERK: Ignizio?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

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CLERK: Oddo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

CLERK: By vote of 15 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions, all items have been adopted. Members please sign the Committee reports.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: --thank everyone and just remind everyone tomorrow is the General Welfare Committee hearing. That hearing will take place in the chamber over at the Immigrant Bank Building and it will start tomorrow, so it would be General Welfare tomorrow in the Immigrant because we expect an extremely large turnout. Thank you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Rules Committee is going to meet here immediately.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: We have to leave the vote open, no? You know what? I'm going to leave the vote open for 30 minutes.

[background conversation]

CLERK: Ferreras?

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I vote aye.

CLERK: Brewer?

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye.

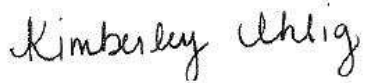
CLERK: Final vote in the Committee
on Finance 17 in the affirmative, zero in the
negative and no abstentions.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: The
meeting is now adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Kimberley Uhlig 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



Date

April 4, 2011