

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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July 28, 2011
Start: 2:46 pm
Recess: 4:10 pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:

JOEL RIVERA
President Pro Tempore

CHRISTINE C. QUINN
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Charles Barron
Council Member Gale A. Brewer
Council Member Fernando Cabrera
Council Member Margaret S. Chin
Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley
Council Member Inez Dickens
Council Member Eric Martin Dilan
Council Member Daniel Dromm
Council Member Mathieu Eugene
Council Member Julissa Ferreras
Council Member Lewis A. Fidler
Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member James F. Gennaro
Council Member Vincent J. Gentile
Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez
Council Member David G. Greenfield
Council Member Daniel J. Halloran III
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Letitia James
Council Member Peter A. Koo
Council Member G. Oliver Koppell
Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Council Member Brad S. Lander
Council Member Jessica S. Lappin
Council Member Stephen T. Levin
Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito
Council Member Darlene Mealy
Council Member Michael C. Nelson
Council Member James S. Oddo
Council Member Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Council Member Diana Reyna
Council Member Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Council Member Deborah L. Rose
Council Member Eric A. Ulrich
Council Member James Vacca
Council Member Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
Council Member James G. Van Bramer
Council Member Mark S. Weprin
Council Member Jumaane D. Williams
Council Member Ruben Wills

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Whoopsie. Now I
3 have to say, this first ceremonial, I'm going to
4 call on Council Member Wills, but this is the
5 Southeast Queens Kids Wrestling Association.
6 Now, [applause] I just want to say, and I think
7 the facts are right about this. Well, first of
8 all, the fact is you took RJ down. [laughter] So
9 that is the fact. But we've had basketball teams,
10 football teams, softball teams, soccer teams. I
11 don't know that we ever before have had wrestlers
12 here at the City Council. Right? Does anybody
13 remember? So, you guys are the first time we have
14 ever honored a wrestling team. [cheers, applause]
15 So give yourselves a big hand for that, and let me
16 thank everyone who is part of this great
17 association. And give the mic to Council Member
18 Wills.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I just
20 wanted to make sure that everybody understood how
21 important this group is to our district. This
22 group was put together by Mr. Joe Evans, his son,
23 [applause] his son, Gene Castro. These are the
24 leaders from Rochdale Village, which is a
25 cooperative that has 28,000 people in it.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Yay,
3 Rochdale Village!

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Rochdale
5 Village! [cheers, applause] Madam Speaker, they
6 incorporated in '06/'07, but they only had one
7 year to actually start their program physically.
8 Assemblywoman Cook gave them some capital money to
9 start them up, and they formed a room in Rochdale.
10 And within the last year-and-a-half of
11 competitions, they've taken second and third place
12 in every wrestling even that they've done in the
13 State. [applause] So. So, I just wanted to have
14 Mr. Evans say, which one, junior or senior, who's
15 going to say? Junior? Is going to say something
16 really quickly about the Southeast Queens
17 Wrestling Association.

18 JOE EVANS, JR.: Thank you very
19 much. First of all, I'd like to thank Speaker
20 Quinn very much for having us here, and of course
21 our Council Member Ruben Wills, and Councilman
22 Comrie, I really appreciate you. Thank you very
23 much. The Southeast Queens Wrestling Association,
24 of course, like Councilman said earlier, is
25 located in Rochdale Village, Queens, New York. We

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2 are actually the only kid wrestling program in the
3 five boroughs of New York City.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Is that
5 right?

6 JOE EVANS, JR.: Yes, ma'am, we
7 are.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] That
9 could be why you're the first one - -

10 JOE EVANS, JR.: Yes. [laughs]
11 [applause]

12 MALE VOICE: [off mic] That's
13 Brooklyn, too, right?

14 JOE EVANS, JR.: That's Brooklyn,
15 Queens, everywhere, Staten Island. Right.
16 [background comments] Right, right. So, this
17 program is, is very important, not just to our
18 community, but to the whole City of New York
19 itself. Of course, we all know wrestling is
20 really big outside the five boroughs, which is
21 Suffolk, Nassau, upstate in New York. And Jersey,
22 there's like that--actually we have a wrestling
23 meet on the 14th in New Jersey, at Fort Lee. But
24 we're coming, New Jersey. But--

25 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] All

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right.

JOE EVANS, JR.: [laughs] Yeah, but, it's very important, because there's high school wrestling now in New York City. And it's very important, it's very important for us to compete at the next levels, but only way we can do that is actually starting our wrestling program at the ages of five, six, seven years old.

[applause] Right. So, in upcoming years, we hope to see a New York State High School State champion out of New York City of New York. [cheers, applause] Thank you. And again, of course, it takes a lot. And our motto is strength in what?

KIDS: Family!

JOE EVANS, JR.: Strength in what?

KIDS: Family!

JOE EVANS, JR.: And that's what we think, family's very important. So [cheers, applause] right. All right, thank you.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, and if we could ask our Clerk to read the proclamation.

CLERK: Council, City of New York Proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the City of New York is proud to honor Southeast Queens Kids

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2 Wrestling Association, SEQKWA, for instilling the
3 spirit of sportsmanship in young athletes, that
4 will help them become champions in all areas of
5 life. And whereas, SEQKWA is dedicated to
6 promoting and teaching the sport of wrestling in
7 the Southeast Queens area, to minority and
8 disadvantaged youth, between the ages of six and
9 18. The program is housed in Rochdale Village
10 Community Center, which offers a wide range of
11 recreational sports program and community services
12 which complement the mission and objectives of the
13 SEQKWA program. Today, SEQKWA is one of the
14 hundreds of charter clubs supported by USA
15 Wrestling, the national governing body of US
16 Amateur and Olympic Wrestling, whose mission is to
17 foster development for sport of wrestling. And
18 whereas, SEQKWA was founded in 2006 by Joe Evans,
19 a longtime coach and devoted father of seven
20 active kids, who envisioned [cheers, applause] who
21 envisioned an organization that could benefit the
22 entire community by offering every child the
23 opportunity to play regardless of cost. SEQKWA
24 has had a very positive influence in the
25 community, It has helped many young men and women

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2 reaffirm their ambition while nurturing their
3 winning attitudes. By providing them with the
4 tools of balanced physical and mental discipline,
5 temperament and attitude, each young person can
6 discover his or her own path of individual
7 achievement and success. Now, therefore be it
8 known, that the City of New York gratefully honors
9 the Southeast Queens Kids Wrestling Association
10 for its long and outstanding services and
11 contributions to the community. Christine C.
12 Quinn, Speaker for the Entire Council; Ruben
13 Wills, Council Member 28th District, Queens; Leroy
14 Comrie, Deputy Majority Leader, Council Member
15 27th District, Queens.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Well, thank you,
17 guys, very much. I want to thank all of the
18 coaches and volunteers and parents and founder,
19 first of all. And I'll just say, make note of
20 these faces, 'cause one of these young men is
21 going to be back as the New York State Wrestling
22 Champion, very, very soon. So, congratulations,
23 and keep up the good work, everybody. [background
24 comment] Sure.

25 [pause, background noise]

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Okay, next we're
3 going to have our second of three ceremonials, led
4 by Council Member Robert Jackson. So if we could
5 ask the folks from the Big Apple Greeter
6 organization to come on up, that would be
7 terrific. Thank you very much, wrestlers.

8 [pause, background noise]

9 SPEAKER QUINN: All right, Big
10 Apple Greeter, and who, if you were to think, of
11 who is the most greetery oriented City Council
12 Member? Very quickly, you would say Robert
13 Jackson. So, I am not at all surprised that our
14 Big Apple Greeter ceremonial, a group that's a
15 terrific group, led by someone from my district, I
16 will say, very proud of Lynn, that this would be
17 brought to us by RJ. So, I want to turn the mic
18 over to Robert Jackson. I want to thank Lynn
19 Brooks and everybody at Big Apple Greeter. And
20 want to welcome our visitors from the United
21 Kingdom who are with us today.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Well,
23 thank you, Speaker Quinn, my colleagues, good
24 afternoon. I want to introduce you to an
25 organization that, the organization is a great

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2 organization for New York City. It is called the
3 Big Apple Greeters. And if you don't know, people
4 from all over the world come to visit our great
5 city, New York City. And the Big Apple Greeters
6 has individuals that live all over the City, that
7 sign up, take training, and when someone wants to
8 see their great community, then they partner them
9 with a Big Apple Greeter. And so, I volunteered
10 today to be a Big Apple Greeter for City Hall, and
11 so may supervisor today is with Phyllis, where's
12 Phyllis? Phyllis Hoffman is my supervisor, she's
13 a Big Apple Greeter. And Ruth, where's Ruth? And
14 Ruth is taking a picture. She's a Big Apple
15 Greeter, and we're here by the founder, Lynn
16 Brooks, who is the husband of Stan Brooks, he's
17 the radio announcer, but let--wife. Lynn Brooks
18 started the Big Apple Greeter many years ago, and
19 now they have Big Apple Greeters in Paris and many
20 other cities throughout our great country. I've
21 asked my colleagues of the City Council, those
22 individuals that have, who have one way or the
23 other, supported the Big Apple Greeters, to sign a
24 proclamation honoring Big Apple Greeters. And as
25 you know, in New York City, tourism is a huge part

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2 of our economic survival. And the Big Apple
3 Greeters is a part of that. I want to introduce
4 you to three individuals. First time in the
5 United States of America, first time in New York,
6 visiting from England, they arrived yesterday,
7 Lana, who is a high school graduate; her mother
8 Jillian, who's a special education teacher; and
9 Lillian's mother, Olivia, she saw this in a
10 program about traveling about a year ago on TV.
11 And so she brought her family here today, this
12 couple of days, and she says she's going to tell
13 everyone she knows around the world about New York
14 City and what a great time she had. And about
15 Gale Brewer and everyone else, so they can come
16 back and visit New York City and enjoy themselves,
17 and spend millions of dollars for our beautiful
18 city. So with that, I would like to say thank you
19 to all of the members that are here with me, but I
20 would like for Lynn Brooks, the founder of Big
21 Apple Greeters to say a word. Lynn?

22 [applause]

23 LYNN BROOKS: I didn't know you
24 were going to ask me to say a word, but okay. The
25 first thing I want to say is thank you to the City

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2 Council. There's no way that Big Apple Greeter
3 could do what we do for the City of New York
4 without the Council people who are up here with
5 me, with Robert Jackson, without Christine Quinn,
6 and I just marvel at the City of New York. I
7 think it's the greatest place in the world.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Yes.

9 LYNN BROOKS: I love the fact that
10 we have 300 volunteers--[cheers, applause] yay!--
11 who have agreed to spend three or four hours with
12 a visitor in New York, to show them the real New
13 York. And we take people to neighborhoods in all
14 the five boroughs, often neighborhoods that don't
15 normally see tourism dollars. So, thank you all
16 for supporting us. Thank you, Robert, for being
17 Greeter for a day. And thank you, New York City.

18 [applause]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Okay, hold
20 on. The mom wants to say something.

21 JILLIAN: No, I [laughs] I just
22 want to say thank you to Big Apple Greeter, and
23 thank you to Ruth, for just giving us the best
24 day. We've all thoroughly enjoyed it. It's been
25 fantastic. Thank you.

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2 LYNN BROOKS: Ruth is their Greeter
3 for the day. Shoe met them this morning, took
4 them around to Brooklyn, and then brought them to
5 Robert Jackson. And, oh, they've been on the
6 subway! How about that? [laughs] And that's
7 what it's all about. Oh, they've been on the
8 subway. Thank you, Robert.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Well,
10 thank you. We're going to ask the Clerk to read
11 the proclamation. Thank you.

12 CLERK: Council, City of New York,
13 Proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the City of
14 New York is proud to honor the volunteers and
15 staff of Big Apple Greeters for their
16 extraordinary contributions to tourism in New York
17 City. And whereas, established in 1992 as the
18 first welcome visitor program of its kind in the
19 United States, Big Apple Greeter, a group from
20 Friendly Exchanges, that its visionary founder
21 Lynn Brooks had, with people she met on her own
22 vacation travels around the world. Ms. Brooks
23 realized that our City suffered from an image
24 problem. At that time, almost everyone she spoke
25 to wanted to visit New York City, but thought the

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2 city was too dangerous, expensive and
3 overwhelming. Undeterred, Ms. Brooks wanted the
4 world to know New York City as she did, a great
5 small town with diverse neighborhoods, mom and pop
6 stores, fun places to dine, and friendly
7 restaurants who do out of their way to help an
8 out-of-towner feel welcome. And whereas, today
9 there are more than 300 Big Apple Greeters, all of
10 them volunteers. Each year they bring
11 approximately 7,000 visitors to 114 neighborhoods
12 throughout our City. Since its start in 1992, Big
13 Apple Greeter has welcomed nearly 100,000 visitors
14 from all 50 states, and 124 countries, with visits
15 conducted in more than 20 languages. And whereas,
16 Big Apple Greeters office is staffed by six paid
17 staff and about 35 volunteers, who work in every
18 aspect of the program, from answering visitors'
19 questions, and matching visitors with greeters to
20 computer tech support and special events. Each
21 year, over 10,000 requests are received and a
22 dedicated team makes sure the right volunteer is
23 speaking the right language is meeting the right
24 visitors at the right time and venue. Despite the
25 economic challenges facing the nation, New York

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2 City drew a record breaking 48.7 million visitors
3 in 2010, upholding our status as the United States
4 city with the most number of tourists for a second
5 year in a row. Last year, those visitors
6 generated \$31 billion for our city, which
7 supported restaurants, shops, hotel rooms, and
8 cultural institutions. The higher than projected
9 6.8 percent increase in visitors over 2009 keeps
10 the city on pace to meet its goal of attracting 50
11 million annual visitors by 2012. Now, therefore
12 be it known, that the Council of the City of New
13 York most gratefully honors the volunteers of Big
14 Apple Greeter for their outstanding service and
15 contributions to the City. Christine C. Quinn,
16 Speaker for the entire Council; Robert Jackson,
17 Council Member, 7th District, Manhattan; Gale A.
18 Brewer, Council Member 6th District, Manhattan;
19 Maria del Carmen Arroyo, Council Member 17th
20 District, The Bronx; Mark Weprin, Council Member
21 23rd District, Queens; Daniel Dromm, Council
22 Member 25th District, Queens; David G. Greenfield,
23 Council Member 44th District, Brooklyn; Domenic M.
24 Recchia, Jr., Council Member 47th District,
25 Brooklyn.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Well, thank you
3 very much, I got a little confused there. So,
4 thank you, Lynn. [applause] 300! I had no idea
5 it was so many. So, 300 volunteers, that's huge.
6 I had no idea. Now, I know. All right, happy
7 bagging, everybody. Alrighty, let's keep it
8 moving. All right, the last and final ceremonial,
9 as we ask the folks from Big Apple Greeters to
10 just step out, is one that's going to be led by
11 Council Member Danny Dromm, so let me turn the mic
12 over to him.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you
14 very much, Speaker Quinn.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: A little quiet,
16 shhh, for our final ceremonial, thank you.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I'd like to
18 bring up the representatives from the various
19 organizations who are here today, representing
20 torture victim organizations, to honor them. June
21 was Torture Victim Month, and although this is
22 July, I did not want the opportunity to pass
23 without recognizing the tremendous work that they
24 are doing. [pause] [off mic comments] All
25 right, today, I'm grateful to honor these

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2 organizations that do work with torture victims
3 here in New York City. Health Right
4 International, the Libertas Center for Human
5 Rights, and the Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors
6 of Torture, each have provided vital care for
7 thousands of torture survivors. These
8 organizations assist thousands of victims of
9 torture who have fled persecution in their home
10 countries. Health Right International was founded
11 in 1990 to create sustainable programs that
12 promote--

13 SPEAKER QUINN: I'm sorry, shhh! I
14 just think that all the ceremonials are important,
15 but this is one, what Danny is talking about, I
16 think we'll learn a lot from. So folks,
17 completely--

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Very serious
19 topic. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Health Right
20 International was founded to create sustainable
21 programs that promote and protect health and human
22 rights in the United States and abroad. Through
23 its human rights clinic, Health Rights provides
24 clinical examinations for survivors, documents the
25 physical and psychological signs of abuse, and

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2 prepares affidavits for use as expert evidence in
3 immigration proceedings. The Libertas Center for
4 Human Rights provides services to survivors of
5 torture at Elmhurst Hospital, right in my own
6 district, which is comprised of over 65 percent
7 recent immigrants. Many of my constituents are
8 from Tibet, Nepal, India, China and a wide swatch
9 of Latin America. Areas where police and other
10 authorities routinely use torture. The location
11 of Libertas Center is in my extraordinarily
12 diverse district, and it means that it is present
13 in the very community in which many torture
14 victims live. Many refugees and asylees from all
15 over the world get care at Elmhurst Hospital, so
16 the location of Libertas inside this facility is
17 profoundly important in helping it to effectively
18 serve its clients. And finally, the Bellevue/NYU
19 Program for Survivors of Torture, has provided
20 vital services to survivors of torture for over 16
21 years. This program is unique in the country, in
22 that it offers the only treatment services
23 designed specifically for lesbian, gay, bisexual
24 and transgender survivors of torture. Another
25 strength at Bellevue/NYU's program is that many

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2 former clients have distinguished themselves by
3 contributing to the artistic, educational and
4 economic life of New York. So it is a deep honor
5 today to be able to present proclamations to all
6 three of these organizations; however, the
7 constraint of time, we're now going to here just
8 from one to represent all three, but we will be
9 making special presentations of the proclamations
10 at the other sites at a later date, as well, to
11 recognize their contributions in a special way.
12 And now, I'd like to turn the mic over to Dr.
13 Allen Keller, of Bellevue/NYU. Thank you.

14 [applause]

15 ALLEN KELLER: Thank you, thank you
16 so much, Council Member Dromm. Thank you so much,
17 Speaker Quinn, for your courage, your compassion,
18 and your dedication to speaking out about what is
19 right, what is fair. Be it for vulnerable
20 communities, for immigrants, so thank you from the
21 bottom of our hearts and the individuals we care
22 for. So, torture survivors are everywhere among
23 us. They are among the most vulnerable of new New
24 Yorkers, immigrants who flee persecution, and come
25 to this great city of ours seeking safety, and to

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2 build a new life. And it's a privilege for my
3 colleagues at Libertas, at Health Right
4 International, and at the Bellevue/NYU Program, to
5 play a part in rebuilding these lives. It's the
6 Tibetan monk who was persecuted for chanting "Long
7 live the Dalai Lama, free Tibet"; it's the African
8 student activist beaten because he tried to
9 advocate for more democracy; it's the individual
10 persecuted because of their sexual orientation,
11 driven from their country and from their
12 community. They come to us and we help them
13 rebuild their lives through medical, mental
14 health, social and legal services. So, what can
15 you do? First of all, you've done so much by
16 helping us today. By the support we receive from
17 NYU, from Bellevue Hospital, from HHC, the
18 greatest public hospital system in the country.
19 [applause] But unfortunately, the lines outside
20 of all of our doors are much longer than they can
21 and should be. And so we ask, even in these
22 difficult times, for your continued support. So,
23 on behalf of the individuals we care for, I thank
24 you, and look forward to working together.

25 [applause]

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
3 much, and thank you all for--before being elected
4 to this City Council, I was the Executive Director
5 of a crime victims assistance agency. And the
6 folks that you work with have often suffered much
7 more dramatic injuries than even the folks that we
8 had worked with. And I know from having worked
9 there, for three years, how difficult it is, and
10 how draining it is, to work with people who have
11 been victims of crime or suffered terrible acts of
12 violence, or humiliation. So, I just want to
13 thank all of you for doing this work. I know some
14 of you, like the doctor, have been doing this for
15 literally a lifetime. So, I just want to thank
16 you very, very much, it is some of the hardest
17 work I know, from the three brief years I did
18 crime victims work, that I think anybody can do,
19 it really is God's work. So, thank you all very,
20 very much. And if we could ask the Clerk to
21 please read the proclamation.

22 CLERK: Council, City of New York
23 proclamation. The Council of the City of New York
24 is proud to honor three special organizations that
25 address the needs and concerns facing survivors of

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2 torture, 75,000 to 90,000 of whom live in and
3 around New York City. The Bellevue/NYU Program
4 for Survivors, Health Right International's Human
5 Rights Clinic, and the Libertas Center for Human
6 Rights. Although each one of these New York based
7 organizations has a unique mission, they all
8 deserve our profound thanks for easing the
9 suffering of torture survivors and helping them
10 heal and hope once again. Whereas, since 1995,
11 the Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture
12 has been providing survivors of torture many vital
13 services, including evaluations which are often
14 crucial parts of the torture survivor's asylum
15 claims. And whereas the Bellevue/NYU Program for
16 Survivors of Torture is comprised of a team of
17 physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, social
18 workers, nurses, administrative staff, community
19 liaisons, and volunteers such as English teachers
20 and client chaperones. And whereas, the
21 Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture is
22 the only program in the nation that offers
23 treatment services for lesbian, gay, bisexual,
24 transgender survivors of torture. And whereas,
25 out of the estimated 400,000 torture survivors

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2 living in the United States. The Bellevue/NYU
3 Program for Survivors of Torture has provided
4 vital assistance to roughly 2,000 of those in the
5 New York area. Now therefore be it known that the
6 Council of the City of New York honors the
7 Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors and Tortures,
8 Health Right International's Human Rights Clinic
9 and the Libertas Center for Human Rights, for
10 their outstanding service and contributions to
11 survivors of torture and to the efforts to end
12 torture around the world. Christine C. Quinn,
13 Speaker for the entire Council; Daniel Dromm,
14 Council Member 25th District, Queens; Maria del
15 Carmen Arroyo, Council Member 17th District,
16 Bronx; Margaret S. Chin, Council Member 1st
17 District, Manhattan; Daniel R. Garodnick, Council
18 Member 4th District, Manhattan.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all very
20 much. Thank you all again for your work. Danny,
21 thank you [applause] for reminding us what June
22 was, and this concludes our ceremonials for the
23 day.

24 [applause]

25 [pause, background noise]

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Ladies and
3 gentlemen, can I have your attention, please. At
4 this time, please place all cell phones and pagers
5 to vibrate. Thank you.

6 [pause, background noise]

7 [gavel]

8 PRESIDENT RIVERA: My colleagues,
9 please rise for the pledge of allegiance.

10 [pledge of allegiance]

11 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Roll call.

12 CLERK: Arroyo. Barron.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Can I be
14 excused to vote on all member items on all general
15 order--

16 PRESIDENT RIVERA: No, no.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you
18 very much.

19 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes, go ahead.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye
21 on all--

22 SPEAKER QUINN: No, Council Member
23 Barron, we need to establish a quorum before
24 anyone can vote.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Oh, sorry,

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2 sorry.

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: So the answer is

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no.

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SPEAKER QUINN: So, this is roll

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call.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Gotcha,

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gotcha.

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CLERK: Brewer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

11

CLERK: Cabrera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

13

CLERK: Chin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

15

CLERK: Comrie.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Present.

17

CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

19

CLERK: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]

21

Here.

22

CLERK: Dilan.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

24

CLERK: Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

1

CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: [off mic]

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Here.

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CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

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CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

8

CLERK: Foster. Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

10

CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [off mic]

12

Here.

13

CLERK: Gentile.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

15

CLERK: Gonzales.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALES: [off mic]

17

Here.

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CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off

20

mic] Here.

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CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Here.

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CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [off mic]

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Here.

CLERK: Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

CLERK: James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

CLERK: Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

CLERK: Lappin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off

mic] Here.

CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Here.

CLERK: Mendez. Nelson.

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Present.

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CLERK: Palma. Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [off mic]

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Present.

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CLERK: Reyna.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

7

CLERK: Rodriguez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

9

CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

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CLERK: Sanders. Seabrook.

12

Ulrich.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

14

CLERK: Vacca.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic]

16

Here.

17

CLERK: Vallone.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

19

CLERK: Van Bramer.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

21

CLERK: Vann. Weprin.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

23

CLERK: Williams.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

25

CLERK: Wills.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Present.

2

3

Present.

4

CLERK: Thank you. [pause] Oddo.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

6

Here.

7

CLERK: Rivera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

9

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

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SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Here.

11

CLERK: We have a quorum.

12

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Quorum is

13

present, my colleagues please rise for the

14

invocation that's going to be delivered by our

15

colleague, Council Member Fernando Cabrera.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Let's bow

17

our heads, please. Father, we come before you,

18

asking you as Council Members, to truly do this

19

work from the bottom of our hearts. We ask you

20

for favor, we ask you that your presence will be

21

among us, Lord. That in everything we do, we will

22

do it with a consciousness. The people in this

23

City are counting upon every decision that we

24

make. Lord, we thank you that you have given us

25

the power and the grace to do it. We pray these

1
2 things in the mighty name, and everyone says:
3 Amen.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could ask my
5 colleagues to remain standing, please. On July
6 17, 2011, Lance Corporal Jabbar Thompson, 22, of
7 Brownsville, Brooklyn, passed away of wounds
8 sustained on July 13th, while conducting combat
9 operations in the Helmand Province in Afghanistan.
10 Lance Corporal Thompson was assigned to the Third
11 Battalion, Second Marine Regiment, based out of
12 Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. On July 13th,
13 Lance Corporal Thompson, while rushing to an
14 injured friend's, while rushing to an injured
15 friend's aid, stepped on a landmine and was
16 injured very badly and lost both of his legs.
17 With his family at his side at a military hospital
18 in Germany, he succumbed to his injuries. He was
19 a graduate of South Shore High School in Canarsie.
20 He dreamed of following his father's footsteps in
21 joining the Marines. His aunt recalled that he
22 kept a special picture album and asked her to take
23 care of it, "As my whole life is in that book,
24 please protect it for me." She promised to do so.
25 Lance Corporal Thompson lost his mother when he

1
2 was a young boy, and is survived by his father,
3 Gregory, his stepmother Nija [phonetic], his
4 sister, his fiancée, other relatives and many
5 friends, and our thoughts and prayers go out to
6 his entire family. I think our thoughts and
7 prayers also go out today to the scores of victims
8 and their families of the just unthinkably heinous
9 massacre carried out in two attacks by a crazed
10 madman in Norway. Most of the victims were killed
11 unbelievably at a youth camp for young people,
12 ages 13 to 16. If we could stand in a moment of
13 silence for Lance Corporal Thompson and all of the
14 victims of the Norway massacres.

15 [moment of silence]

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Mr.
17 Majority Leader.

18 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you, Madam
19 Speaker. Council Member Nelson. [pause] Just to
20 make a - - , sorry, motion.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Okay, make
22 a motion to spread the invocation in full upon the
23 record.

24 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
25 much, Council Member.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Uh-huh.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Adoption of the minutes.

CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Messages and papers from the Mayor?

CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Communication from City, County and Borough Offices?

CLERK: M-566, submitting Orlando Marin, for appointment to the New York City Planning Commission.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

CLERK: Preconsidered M-567, submitting Maria R. Guastella, for appointment as the Richmond County Democratic Commissioner of Elections.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

CLERK: Preconsidered M-568, transfer of funds between agencies.

SPEAKER QUINN: Finance.

CLERK: M-569 and 570, Third Party

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Transfer Program.

SPEAKER QUINN: Housing and
Buildings.

CLERK: M-571 through M-616 on page
eight, Base Station License Applications.

SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Petitions and
communications?

CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Land Use Call
Ups?

CLERK: M-617 through M-620,
Sidewalk Cafés.

SPEAKER QUINN: We could couple all
of those, please, and have a roll call on the
coupled Land Use call ups.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

CLERK: Arroyo. Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I be
excused to explain, to vote on all general order
items?

PRESIDENT RIVERA: No. Yes, go
ahead. [laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you

1
2 very much for your kindness and generosity. I
3 vote aye on all general order items. Thank you
4 very much.

5 PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

7 CLERK: Brewer.

8 PRESIDENT RIVERA: And how do you
9 vote on Land Use? Land Use?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye, aye on
11 all.

12 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Okay.

13 CLERK: Brewer.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

15 CLERK: Cabrera.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

17 CLERK: Chin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

19 CLERK: Comrie.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Permission
21 to vote on all items on today's Land Use agenda,
22 and all items on the general order calendar.

23 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye on all.

25 I do want to, sorry, taking a minute to

1
2 acknowledge my interns, but that are with me this
3 summer: Domenic Hall, Isaiah Hardy, Bear Gray,
4 J.C. Canal, Ronnie Sebreng [phonetic] and Jamie
5 Vernon. And I want to thank all of the interns
6 that have been working with me this summer. Aye
7 on all. Thank you for your indulgence.

8 CLERK: Crowley.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Yes.

10 CLERK: Dickens.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]

12 Aye.

13 CLERK: Dilan.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

15 CLERK: Dromm.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Eugene.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

19 CLERK: Ferreras.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I'd like
21 to vote aye on all the Land Use call ups and with
22 permission, I'd like to vote aye on all coupled
23 general orders and resolutions?

24 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Thank

1

2

you.

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CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Yes.

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CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [off mic]

9

Yes.

10

CLERK: Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

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CLERK: Gonzales.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALES: Aye.

14

CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

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CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye on

18

all.

19

CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [off mic]

21

Aye.

22

CLERK: Jackson.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

24

all.

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CLERK: James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

CLERK: Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Mr.

Majority Leader, I vote aye on all Land Use Call
Ups, request unanimous consent to vote aye on all
bills on the general orders calendar, and also to
vote aye on all resolutions with the exception of
Resolution 627, I've left my negative vote at the
desk.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered. Can
we get silence in the back?

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

CLERK: Lappin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: [off mic]

Aye.

CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: I'd

1
2 like to vote aye on all and with permission vote
3 aye on all general orders and resolutions.

4 PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

6 Thank you.

7 CLERK: Mealy.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

9 CLERK: Nelson.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I vote aye
11 on all Land Use Call Ups and with permission, I'd
12 like to vote aye on all gen--coupled general
13 orders and resolutions.

14 PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Recchia. [pause] Reyna.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Rodriguez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I vote
20 aye on all Land Use Call Ups, and with permission
21 I'd like to vote aye on all coupled general orders
22 and resolutions.

23 PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

25 CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

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CLERK: Sanders. Recchia.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

5

CLERK: Seabrook. Ulrich.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

7

CLERK: Vacca.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye

9

on all, but I would like to recognize Krista

10

Rinaldi [phonetic] and Christopher Vohopolose

11

[phonetic] who are Council Members for the day,

12

with me here today, from my district. And I'd

13

like to thank the intern that are here with me

14

today from my district, Christopher Sacco

15

[phonetic], Julio Gomez, Geordian Davis [phonetic]

16

and Hannah Beller. [applause]

17

CLERK: Vallone.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on

19

all.

20

CLERK: Van Bramer.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on

22

all.

23

CLERK: Vann. Weprin.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: I'd like to

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vote aye and I'd also like to seek permission to

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vote on all coupled general orders and
resolutions.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I'd like to
vote aye on all, and have consent to vote aye on
all coupled general orders and resolutions.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I'd also
like to take a minute to thank Mr. Moyer, who
stayed up with me on Saturday, well past 1:00
o'clock in the morning, to make sure that Con
Edison restored power to the seniors in my
district. [applause]

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]
Yes.

CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Aye.

1

[pause, background noise]

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3

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Today's Land Use

4

Call Ups are adopted by a vote of 44 in the

5

affirmative, with zero in the negative.

6

Communications from the Speaker?

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SPEAKER QUINN: Yes, first let me

8

call on Council Member Lander to make kind of a

9

brief recognition. Council Member Lander. Shhh!

10

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I hope he's

11

still here, I just wanted to give a quick shout

12

out to Mike Casertano [phonetic] who's at his last

13

City Council meeting, and has been the

14

Administration's liaison to our [applause] Mike's

15

been the Administration's liaison to the Land Use

16

Committee and the Housing Committee and some of

17

the other infrastructure committees, and has

18

endured a lot of our yelling and ranting and

19

sometimes even been helpful to us. So, he's going

20

to UCLA Law School in the fall, and we wish you

21

well. [applause, cheers]

22

SPEAKER QUINN: Congratulations,

23

best of luck, thank you, Brad. We are voting on a

24

number of different pieces of legislation today

25

that deal with many of the key components of the

1
2 Council's Food Work Plan. As I think most folks
3 know, Food Works is the first comprehensive
4 ground-to-garbage can look at the City's food
5 system. It seeks to use our food system to put
6 people to work, to end hunger, to decrease
7 obesity, and to improve the environment in New
8 York City. We have legislation ranging from
9 reporting, on how much local food the City buys,
10 in an effort to increase local productions; bills
11 on reporting around different metrics relating to
12 our whole food system. And it's important to note
13 that New York City is the second largest
14 institutional purchaser of food, second only to
15 the federal Department of Defense. We have an
16 enormous power in the food economic market that we
17 don't use, because we don't understand it. And we
18 don't know what we are purchasing, and what we
19 aren't purchasing. Which is why this food metrics
20 bill is so important. We have legislation dealing
21 with pack--reducing the packaging in the
22 legislation. And the--reduce them, reduce the
23 packaging in the legislation, that means that we'd
24 have to talk less. Reducing the packaging in the
25 food that we're purchasing. Legislation to

1
2 encourage vegetative roofs, to encourage
3 greenhouses. Legislation to make sure we have a
4 registry of all the publicly owned space in this
5 City, so we can open more public gardens, have
6 more urban agriculture, more green spaces. So, I
7 want to thank all of the Council Members who have
8 worked on these pieces of legislation. Let me
9 first call on Council Member Brewer, the sponsor
10 of Intro 452; then Council Member Mealy, the Chair
11 of the Committee which it went through; and then
12 if any of the other sponsors of the Food Works
13 legislation would like to speak, please just let
14 us know.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
16 very much, Madam Speaker. I am delighted to be
17 here. It's been a great day, because we had a
18 press conference with all our fruits and
19 vegetables at CSA. I want to thank Rhianna
20 Kolsovik [phonetic] from our office, who really
21 got us involved in this. And to thank the staff
22 from the Government Operations and the folks from
23 Contracts. The bill that I am focused on, looks
24 at local sourcing. The issue that we want to
25 encourage City agencies to make their best efforts

1
2 to produce and to purchase New York State food.
3 As the Speaker mentioned, it's not only the
4 Department of Education, but it's also homeless,
5 and HRA, and seniors. There are many, many places
6 where we could have the kind of food that is
7 healthy and helps the farmers at the same time.
8 To that end, I was delighted that on July 7th that
9 I put this on everyone's desk, a summary of our
10 farm tour. We went to farms and we went to
11 processing. And the bottom line is that with DCAS
12 and with the Economic Development Corporation, we
13 can see very clearly that the farmers in New York
14 can produce all the fruits and vegetables, farm
15 fresh, that were mentioned by the Speaker, number
16 two in the country. The issue is to make sure
17 that there is a market. And to make sure that
18 they can be processed accordingly. And we saw
19 small processing plants, they need to grow. And I
20 think working with our IBZs in the City and with
21 our Economic Development, they will. So local
22 sourcing is important. I also have a bill on
23 greenhouses, we want to make sure that we can have
24 greenhouses in the City of New York. One example,
25 on a school in my district, we have a greenhouse,

1
2 8,000 pounds of lettuce hydroponically made every
3 single year, enough for the entire school and the
4 community. So, the issue is it's very exciting to
5 follow up on the Speaker's initiative on Food
6 Works, and to be part of local sourcing, to be
7 part of making the City green, it is so good for
8 the economy, so good for our health, and so good
9 for our farmers. Thank you very much.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
11 much, Council Member Brewer. Let me next call on
12 our Deputy Majority Leader, Council Member Inez
13 Dickens, whose sponsor of Intro 615-A, the Food
14 Metrics Bill. Let me just also recognize Council
15 Member Palma who's not with us today, but was the
16 sponsor of Intro 461-A and thank her, thank
17 Council Member Fidler, who is the sponsor of Intro
18 248-A. I also want to thank Council Member Dilan,
19 who's the Housing and Buildings Committee,
20 shepherded some of this legislation around the
21 greenhouses and one of the Brewer's bills through
22 that Committee, so thank you all. And let me now
23 call on Council Member Dickens.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you,
25 Madam Speaker, for the opportunity to state just a

1
2 few of the reasons why I have supported and why I
3 Intro'd 615-A. And why I'm asking for the
4 affirmative votes this afternoon from my
5 colleagues. This Intro seeks to regulate most
6 reporting aspects of the food cycle in New York
7 City, which includes the production, processing,
8 distribution and consumption of foods in and to
9 the City of New York. It establishes a reporting
10 guideline that consists of 19 metrics that shall
11 be included in a report, such as the total dollar
12 amount of expenditures by the Department of
13 Education, on milk and other food products, that
14 are subject to the United States Department of
15 Agriculture country of origin labeling
16 requirements. Food allergies and other ailments
17 related to food have become more prevalent over
18 time.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Can I get a little
20 quiet, please?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: We need to
22 distinguish the source of the foods we consume and
23 the ingredients contained within. Also,
24 considering the dire economic climate, we need to
25 see if our local farms, vendors and manufacturers

1
2 are being utilized to their fullest capacity,
3 instead of importing our foods from other
4 countries and other regions of our nation. We
5 should concentrate on consuming foods produced,
6 processed and distributed by our fellow residents
7 of this great City and State of New York, so that
8 the local economy blossoms in that aspect. Once
9 again, I want to thank the Speaker and the
10 Speaker's staff, Gov Ops Chair Gale Brewer, Gov
11 Ops Attorney Seth Grossman, Policy Analyst Tim
12 Matuso [phonetic], Legislative Director Rob
13 Newman, and the Legislative staff. I ask my
14 colleagues to vote in favor of this Intro. Thank
15 you.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
17 much, Council Member Dickens. Let me call on
18 Council Member Mealy. As you can see, this
19 legislation went through Gov Ops, Contracts,
20 Housing and Buildings, lots of members worked on
21 this in a very comprehensive package, so I want to
22 thank everyone. Council Member Mealy.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I rise
24 today, the Council will vote on two Introductions
25 and two Resolutions, concerning the procurement of

1
2 local foods and the reduction of packaging
3 materials for food and other goods. Those pieces
4 of legislation, Proposed Intro No. 452, sponsored
5 by Council Member Gale Brewer, regard local good,
6 local food procurement. Proposed Intro No. 461-A,
7 sponsored by Annabel Palma, regarding the
8 development and implementation of packaging waste
9 reduction guidelines. Reso 627, sponsored by
10 Council Member Rosie, Debbie Rose, regarding the
11 procurement of regional food. Resolution 628,
12 sponsored by Council Member James Sanders,
13 regarding the minimization of packaging waste by
14 the State and its localities. Taken together, the
15 legislation package intends to bring cost savings
16 to the City, improvements to the environment and
17 increase support to regional farmers. As a Chair
18 of the Committee on Contracts, I am especially
19 proud to support the proposed procurement related
20 legislation, furthering the goals of the Speaker's
21 Food Works program. This is a win-win for local
22 farmers and the City of New York. I ask all my
23 colleagues to sponsor this legislation, vote on
24 it. Thank you.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

1
2 much, Chair Mealy. Let me just say as it relates
3 to both, to all of the Food Works legislation,
4 there was a tremendous amount of work that had to
5 go into all this legislation, a lot of policy
6 development, a lot of negotiations. And I just
7 want to thank Laura Popa, Alex Pistilnik, Jeff
8 Haberman, Baba Hom, Seth Grossman, Shannon
9 Manigault, Jared Hova, Tyne Matsuva [phonetic],
10 Sara Brannon, who is now no longer the Council's
11 Food Policy Analyst in Policy, but is now the
12 Director of Policy for the Center for the Urban
13 Future. So, we wish her well. Rob Newman,
14 Margaret Nelson, David Preston, and all the rest
15 of the staff, who worked on this legislation, if
16 we could give them a round of applause, please.
17 [applause] Want to note that we are voting on a
18 budget mod and a transparency resolution today,
19 and I want to thank the great Chair of our Finance
20 Committee, Lieutenant Domenic--oops, did I say
21 that?--Domenic M. Recchia, Jr. I also want to
22 thank Chair Comrie, the Chair of our Land Use
23 Committee, and the Subcommittee Chairs,
24 particularly Mark Weprin, for their work on the
25 items that we are voting on today. Two of which

1
2 are very, very significant to Council Member Van
3 Bramer, important pieces of land use action that
4 will protect the low rise nature of Sunnyside and
5 Woodside, but also create the opportunity for some
6 new affordable housing that would be appropriately
7 developed among, around the wider avenues. Stop
8 the inappropriate development that has been going
9 on in some parts of the district; and also another
10 action around a gateway development that will
11 create a wonderful new entryway, so to speak, to
12 that part of the great borough of Queens. So let
13 me thank all of the Land Use staff who worked on
14 this, Chair Comrie, Ramon Martinez, Gail Benjamin,
15 and the rest of the Land Use staff, and call on
16 Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank
18 you very much, Madam Speaker. The
19 Sunnyside/Woodside rezoning has been a long time
20 coming, and has been one of my top priorities
21 since taking office in January 2010. It's been a
22 collaboration of many, many people, community
23 groups, City Planning, our community board, my
24 office and many, many more. This 130 block
25 rezoning goes a long way towards preserving the

1
2 character of our neighborhoods for generations to
3 come. The previous zoning completed over 50 years
4 ago, all too frequently allowed smaller, one- and
5 two-family homes to be torn down in favor of
6 unsightly and out of scale buildings, that hurt
7 the stability of these great neighborhoods. The
8 population of Sunnyside and Woodside is growing in
9 both number and diversity. The pace of
10 development in Sunnyside and Woodside has
11 increased in recent years, for many reasons,
12 including its attractive and well-kept
13 streetscapes, bustling commercial corridors, and
14 convenient mass transit to and from Manhattan. By
15 taking this action today, we will prevent
16 development that is out of character, while
17 protecting its low density nature. One of the
18 most exciting aspects of this rezoning is the
19 lifting of restrictions of sidewalk cafés along
20 Queens Boulevard, while also allowing for small,
21 unenclosed cafés on portions of Skillman Avenue.
22 This will aid small businesses along those two
23 thoroughfares by increasing the walkability of
24 those streets, bringing added vibrancy to these
25 commercial strips, while increasing foot traffic,

1
2 which will support the surrounding stores and our
3 local economy. I'm proud to be a part of this
4 rezoning, and proud to help preserve the character
5 of these two great neighborhoods. The plan was
6 developed through extensive collaboration between
7 all those folks that we mentioned before, I thank
8 all of them. I particularly want to thank my
9 constituents for sharing their views, including
10 the over 100 who attended my town hall meeting on
11 this rezoning last June. I'd like to thank the
12 Speaker and her staff, particularly Ramon
13 Martinez, Land Use--

14 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Yeah,
15 let's give - - [applause, cheers]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: --Land
17 Use Chair Leroy Comrie; our Zoning and Planning
18 Subcommittee Chair, Mark Weprin; the Land Use
19 staff, particularly Danielle Decerbo and Gail
20 Benjamin; our Community Board Chair, Joe Connolly,
21 and its Land Use Chair Lisa Deller [phonetic]; and
22 City Planning Commissioner Amanda Burden--I'd like
23 to thank her for working with me on this--and our
24 Queens Planning Team, John Young, Tom Smith and
25 Penny Lee; and finally, my staff, Joe Kenton and

1

2 Matt Wallace, who gave a lot to this effort. And
3 then it's okay to talk on Gotham Center?

4 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Sure!

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: And
6 then, just very briefly, the second piece of
7 really big news in my district is we are approving
8 Phase II of Gotham Center, a 900,000 square foot
9 commercial tower, that will include fantastic
10 retail on the ground floor. This will create over
11 5,000 jobs, 1,600 construction, 3,600 permanent,
12 and it will continue to rebirth and transformation
13 of Queens Plaza, which is going to be terrific
14 news for the City, joining Phase I, which now is a
15 beautiful skyscraper in place of the dreaded
16 municipal garage, which was an awful, awful
17 entryway to Queens for many years. That's now
18 gone. In its place is the Department of Health's
19 new headquarters, and its 2,700 employees who are
20 now shopping at our local restaurants, and
21 increasing all of the wonderful things that are
22 going on in Dutch Kills. I'd like to thank the
23 Speaker, and again, Ramon Martinez, who did
24 terrific work on this issue. Also the Land Use
25 staff, Gale Benjamin, Carol Shine and Amy Levitan.

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2 I'd like to thank my colleagues, Chair Steve
3 Levin, and Councilman, and Chair Leroy Comrie, and
4 the members of those Committees for their patience
5 on this process, which took some time. And I'd
6 also like to thank the members of organized labor
7 who took the time to come to the hearings and
8 raise their voices on this issue. I am proud to
9 support Gotham Center, as well. Thank you very
10 much.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
12 much, Council Member Van Bramer. Let me just make
13 note, quickly, of two other things. One, I want
14 to recognize former Finance Chair, Council Member
15 Herb Berman, who is with us today, and I want to
16 thank him because he has taken on a very
17 important, yet truly thankless job, which is
18 Chairing the lobbying commission for us, reviewing
19 the implementation of the lobbying law, 'cause
20 nothing says good government like Herb Berman.
21 So, [laughs] thank you Council Member Berman, for
22 being with us today. [applause] And we will meet
23 very soon to review your recommendations. I keep
24 rescheduling him. Lastly--but not because I don't
25 love him--lastly, I just wanted to take a moment

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2 to thank all of my colleagues, and more
3 importantly, all of the Council staff, and most
4 importantly, the City Clerk, Mike McSweeney, and
5 all of his staff across the City. If I could just
6 get a little quiet for a second. I think
7 everybody knows that Sunday was the day that the
8 Marriage Equality Law went into effect in New York
9 City. And that does deserve a round of applause.
10 And [applause] first, I want to thank all of my
11 colleagues. All of my colleagues who have been
12 supporters of this measure, who have gone to
13 Albany, who have spoken to your Assembly Members,
14 who have spoken to your State Senators, who have
15 been supportive and encouraging and hopeful to all
16 of us in the LGBT community, as we move this issue
17 forward. We could not have done it if all of you
18 as elected officials had not created a climate in
19 the neighborhoods you represent, where this was
20 seen as the right thing to do. I also want to
21 thank my colleagues who did not support this
22 measure, because the members of the City Council
23 who did not support marriage equality did it in a
24 respectful and dignified and appropriate way, that
25 cannot be said at every legislative body. And I

1
2 want to thank you for always being respectful, and
3 always going out of your way whenever you felt you
4 had to speak out about marriage equality, to
5 calling me or my staff first, so I was never
6 blindsided. And that meant a lot to me
7 personally, and I speak, think speaks volumes
8 about what we think of each other in this
9 institution, and how we try to always disagree
10 agreeably when we cannot find a way to agree. So,
11 thank you so much for that. [applause] We sent
12 out an email last week saying, "You know, we could
13 have a few thousand people showing up for a party
14 at the City Clerk's Office, help." And almost
15 like that, Council staff immediately responded.
16 Council staff, that don't get overtime, many who
17 don't even get comp time, and said, "We'll be
18 there." How long will you be available, "All
19 day," most of them said. What borough will you go
20 to? "We don't care." What do you, what will you
21 do? "I don't care. I'm a lawyer, I'll, you know,
22 clean the bathroom, I don't care, whatever you
23 need done." And our staff showed up in every
24 borough and were, I know Mike would agree with me,
25 a key help to making sure that Sunday was a

1
2 perfect day, and leading up to Sunday, when we
3 heard from Mike he needed extra help answering the
4 phones, he needed extra help at a senior level, we
5 sent staff over from many different departments.
6 Shanique [phonetic] went over, Torrance Allen went
7 over, Rich Persky [phonetic], who else went over?
8 Joanie Pavoni [phonetic] went over. And then, and
9 were critical, I know 'cause Mike's told me a lot,
10 to making sure everything worked well going up to
11 Monday. Our press office, and particularly Jamie
12 McShane, was an adjunct press secretary to the
13 City Clerk's office, which made an enormous
14 difference. So, I just want to thank our staff.
15 And I was so proud every time I walked into one of
16 the Clerk's offices and I was able to go to three
17 of the five boroughs on Sunday, to see our staff
18 there welcoming people and doing such a great job.
19 So, thank you guys, so much. You made Monday, you
20 made Sunday a perfect day for people, some of whom
21 had waited a lifetime. But the biggest staff
22 goes--thank you--should go to Mike McSweeney and
23 his staff. They [applause] they deserve and
24 enormous round of applause. Let me, but just
25 before I say a few words about Mike and his staff,

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2 I also want to thank the Mayor's Office, Deputy
3 Mayor Wolfson, First Deputy Mayor Patty Harris,
4 Anthony Crowell, Katie and Vicky, everyone in the
5 Big Events Office, or I think that's what it's
6 called, everyone on the Mayor's staff who really
7 worked long and hard to get this right, as well.
8 But Mike and the City Clerk's office were amazing.
9 They worked incredibly--Oh, oh, Domenic and DoITT,
10 we love Domenic and DoITT. You don't know
11 Domenic, you want to know Domenic and DoITT. He
12 is unbelievable, really made a whole bunch of
13 computer stuff that I don't even understand
14 happen, so let's, big round of applause for--And
15 Domenic got married on Sunday, too. He was the
16 last couple in Manhattan to get married, 'cause he
17 couldn't get married earlier, 'cause if the
18 computers went down, and he had left, we would've
19 had a big problem. So we made him wait to be the
20 last couple. But to Mike and his staff. They
21 worked tirelessly, they conducted themselves with
22 tremendous professionalism, with the greatest
23 level of dignity and respect, and I just want to
24 thank you, Mike, so much. I could not have been
25 prouder than when I heard you on Sunday, to that

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2 lovely couple, say "Now, with the authority vested
3 n me, by the laws of the State of New York," you
4 and your staff made us all so very, very proud on
5 Sunday. So thank you so much. And please convey
6 to every member of your staff in every borough,
7 and it was as lovely in Queens and Brooklyn, as
8 well, what a great job you did. And as I told you
9 Saturday, I just want to say publicly, you made
10 Tom Manton very, very proud on Sunday, Mike. So
11 thank you very, very much. [applause] And that
12 concludes Communications from the Speaker.

13 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
14 much, Madam Speaker. We'll now move on to
15 discussion of General Orders. Council Member
16 Greenfield.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Vote
18 aye on alternate orders and permission to vote aye
19 on resolutions, as well.

20 PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank
22 you.

23 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Seeing no
24 others, we'll move on to reports of the Special
25 Committees.

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CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Reports of
Standing Committees.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Contracts, Intro 452-A, Food Purchases.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

CLERK: Intro 461-A, Packaging
Guidelines for Contractors.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Finance, Preconsidered M-568 and Reso 963,
Transfer of City Funds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 960,
Organization Funding.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: Preconsidered LU 435 and
Reso 965, and 436 and Reso 966, Tax Abatements.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Governmental Operations, Intro 248-A, Reporting
4 Requirements for City Owned Property.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
6 on General Orders.

7 CLERK: Intro 615-A, Food Reporting
8 Requirements.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
10 on General Orders.

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
12 Housing and Buildings, Intro 338-A, Greenhouses.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
14 on General Orders.

15 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
16 Land Use, LU 389 and Reso 967, UDAAP Brooklyn.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
18 Orders.

19 CLERK: LU 429, Zoning Amendment.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Approved with
21 modifications and referred to the City Planning
22 Commission, pursuant to Rule 11.70(b) of the Rules
23 of the Council, and Section 197(d) of the New York
24 City Charter.

25 CLERK: LU 430 and Reso 968, Zoning

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Amendment.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: LU 431 and Reso 969,
through 433 and Reso 971, Landmark Designations.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: LU 434 and Reso 972, ULURP
Queens.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: Preconsidered LU 437 and
Reso 973, through Preconsidered LU 440 and Reso
976, School Facilities.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Rules, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered M-
567 and Reso 977, Approving the Appointment of
Maria R. Guastella, Commissioner of Elections.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: Preconsidered M-621 and
Reso 978, Approving the Appointment of Damian

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Griffin, New York City Soil and Work Conservation Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: General Order Calendar.

CLERK: LU 421 and Reso 979 through LU 423 and Reso 964.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: Resolutions appointment various person Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders and if I could get a roll call on all items that have been coupled on the General Order Calendar, and just remind my colleagues that there are four Resolutions we're taking action on today, after the General Order Calendar.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I'm

certainly going to vote aye. I wanted to mention that at the hearing today on appointments, that I did ask of the appointment nominee to the Board of

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2 Elections from Staten, Maria Guastella, and she
3 did answer my questions. My main one is to make
4 sure that anybody she has oversight over in terms
5 of appointments is qualified for the job. And she
6 said she would do that. I just want very quickly
7 say that we have wonderful interns here, N. Wong
8 is from New York University, Ben Schneider's from
9 Cornell, Mike Exer [phonetic] is from Columbia,
10 Jordan Gratch [phonetic] is from Wesleyan, Hannah
11 Messinger, University of Chicago--you know her
12 grandmother, Ruth Messinger--Nadia Chat is from
13 NYU, Katie Yee is from Hunter High School. Thank
14 you all interns and make sure you give a big round
15 of applause. And Hannah is just like her
16 grandmother, she's fabulous.

17 [cheers, applause]

18 CLERK: Cabrera.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

20 CLERK: Chin.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

22 CLERK: Crowley.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on
24 all.

25 CLERK: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]

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Aye.

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CLERK: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

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CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: May I be

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briefly excused to explain my vote?

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I'm going

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to be voting no on Intro 338-A and aye on all the

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others, and I just--it's not that I'm not for

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greenhouses, I think greenhouses are great, but

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unfortunately the Brooklyn Office of Department of

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Buildings told me a year-and-a-half ago that the

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new scam in Brooklyn is to submit plans for a

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greenhouse when you're actually building an

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illegal unit. To my most direct and personal

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chagrin, I find out that even when such use is

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open and notorious, the Buildings Department

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doesn't check, they don't follow up when they're

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2 told about it, there's little to nothing they can
3 do about it, and I trust that this Council will
4 come back and look at issues of enforcement at the
5 Department of Buildings, as we've been trying to
6 do for, oh, say, ten years. But I have difficulty
7 encouraging the use of something that is being
8 blatantly abused without remedy until we have a
9 remedy in place. On a much more positive note, we
10 are also today allocating the Council's
11 restoration of money for runaway and homeless
12 youth shelter beds and street outreach. It is
13 probably the only area in the budget where we not
14 only restored City tax levy money, but most of the
15 State and federal cuts as well. And I just want
16 to reiterate my tremendous gratitude to the
17 Speaker, to the Finance Chairman, to each and
18 every one of you, for making sure that these most
19 vulnerable population--kids sleeping on subway
20 gratings at night--have at least the level of
21 services in this City that they had last year. I
22 thank you all for that again.

23 CLERK: Foster. Garodnick.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

25 CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.

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Leader, I wish to vote yes on the items, and I

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wish to vote yes on the Resolutions.

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you.

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CLERK: Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

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CLERK: Gonzales.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALES: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye on

14

all.

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CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, just

17

to briefly explain my vote, I actually want to

18

make two quick points. One is that the public at

19

large should take note that Domenic from DoITT,

20

who's a good City servant, but he had to wait till

21

he was last? What kind of pull does he have?

22

They don't tell you he's last to get married.

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[laughs]

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SPEAKER QUINN: You know, it's the

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price of being indispensable.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I guess.

And wanted to also point out our Board of Elections Commissioner on Staten Island, Maria Guastella, a woman whom I've known since I'm a baby, since she lived literally across the street from me, and I wanted to speak both to her integrity, her work ethic and how I believe she will represent the interests of all Staten Islanders in the most sacred of processes--

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: She's a smart woman.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: --that being the election process. So, I'm happy to support her and I think she will--

SPEAKER QUINN: Tell her I said thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: --she will actually make us all proud. That being said, I vote aye on all and have a good month, everybody.

CLERK: Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote aye on all and may I request permission to vote on all Resolutions?

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you.

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Aye on all.

4

CLERK: James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Koo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Koslowitz.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: May I be

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excused to explain my vote?

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: First, I

13

would like to recognize two of my interns,

14

Margaret Borokova [phonetic] and Zachary Night.

15

And I vote aye on all coupled general orders.

16

CLERK: Lander.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic]

18

Aye on all.

19

CLERK: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: I also have

21

three of my great interns here today, Oliver,

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Colin and Katie, and I wanted to thank them for

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their work this summer, and vote aye on all.

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CLERK: Levin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

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CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: May I be excused to explain my vote? Before I vote--

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: --I just want to thank my intern, Houston, from Tennessee, from Columbia Law School, he's leaving me today. He was a great intern, I just want to thank you, and I hope you learned about the budget. I just want to vote aye on all.

CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all, and I'd like to congratulate Maria Guastella for her appointment to the Board of Elections.

CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I want to take this opportunity first to vote aye on all, but I also would like to note and wish all the

1
2 best to my former Deputy Chief of Staff, Brett
3 Collazzi, who has left and he did a great job.
4 And he is now on his way to Cornell in a masters
5 MBA program, and I wish him success. And I thank
6 you for all your help. I vote aye on all.

7 [clapping]

8 CLERK: Vallone.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on
10 all.

11 CLERK: Van Bramer.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on
13 all.

14 CLERK: Williams.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
16 excused to explain my vote?

17 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: First,
19 congratulations to everyone bill who is being
20 passed, and the Speaker on the legislation. I
21 also want to ask my intern, Lauren Pezzoa
22 [phonetic] to please stand up. Is she here,
23 Lauren, stand up, stand up. She's leaving in a
24 little while, she's been indispensable since
25 October, so I want to give her a round of applause

1
2 and say thank you. [applause] I'm very sad she's
3 going to be leaving, but Georgia, Georgia Tech
4 actually is going to be taking her, she'll be
5 studying City Regional Planning, so I want to say
6 thank you Lauren for everything you did. And I
7 vote aye on all.

8 CLERK: Oddo.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

10 Yes.

11 CLERK: Rivera.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

13 CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Aye.

15 PRESIDENT RIVERA: All items on
16 today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a
17 vote of 44 in the affirmative, with zero in the
18 negative, and zero abstentions, with the exception
19 of Intro 338-A, which was adopted by a vote of 4--
20 43 in the affirmative, one in the negative, and
21 zero abstention. We'll now go into Introduction
22 and Reading of the Bills.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills have been
24 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

25 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Discussion of

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2 resolutions. We're going to first, we have four
3 resolutions today, so the first one we're going to
4 speak on will be Resolution 627, it's a resolution
5 calling upon the New York State Legislature to
6 amend the general municipal law to allow New York
7 City to institute procurement preferences for the
8 purchase of food originating within the New York
9 region. All interested in speaking on Resolution
10 627, please raise your hand so you can be
11 recognized. Okay, so we'll move on to the second
12 resolution, is Res--yeah. [background comment]
13 Okay, we're going to vote on, roll call, vote for
14 Resolution 627, all in favor say aye.

15 COUNCIL: Aye.

16 PRESIDENT RIVERA: All opposed say
17 nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. That
18 Resolution passes. We'll now talk about
19 Resolution 628, a resolution calling upon the New
20 York State Legislature to pass and the Governor to
21 enact legislation that regulates the amount and
22 type of packaging used to encase goods procured by
23 the State and all localities. All interested in
24 speaking on Resolution 628, please raise your
25 hands to be recognized. Seeing none, we'll just

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call for a vote. All in favor say aye.

COUNCIL: Aye.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: All opposed say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. The next Resolution is Reso 507, a resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to amend Section 499-AAA of the New York State Real Property Tax Law to allow the green roof tax abatement to extend to owners who produce live food producing plants. Anyone interested in speaking on this item? Seeing none, we'll just call for a vote. All in favor say aye.

COUNCIL: Aye.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: All opposed say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. That Resolution passes. The final, the final Resolution is Preconsidered Resolution 962, Resolution authorizing the Council of the City of New York to intervene or file an amicus brief in Chelsea Business and Property Owners Association v. City of New York, for the purpose of defending provisions of the New York City Administrative Code, that limit the size of homeless shelters for adults to 200 persons. Anyone interested in

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2 speaking on this Resolution? Council Member Tish
3 James.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Obviously, I
5 support this piece of litigation. All throughout
6 the City of New York, and particularly in
7 communities of color, there have been a
8 significant number of homeless shelters that have
9 been place and sited in our districts. Obviously,
10 this legislation does not address that issue, but
11 it will go a long way in assisting communities,
12 communities of color, who unfortunately have been
13 dumped on for too long. I hope all of my
14 colleagues join me in supporting this piece of
15 legislation. Thank you.

16 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
17 much. Any others? Seeing none, we'll just vote
18 on the Resolution. All in favor, say aye.

19 COUNCIL: Aye.

20 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Anyone opposed?
21 Say nay. Any abstentions? Seeing none, the
22 Resolution passes. We'll now move forward to
23 general discussion. We have Council Member
24 Halloran.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Thank

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2 you, Mr. Sp--I'd like to at this point address two
3 issues. The first is that John Granlavelle
4 [phonetic], who was born on July 24, 1926, in Park
5 Slope, Brooklyn, to John and Mary Granlavelle,
6 known to his family as Shawn, served in the United
7 States Navy in World War II, from 1944 to 1946.
8 He thereafter enlisted in the Army and served
9 again, his nation, in the Korean War in 1950. He
10 was a member of Company B, Second Engineering
11 Battalion, Second Infantry Division. He was taken
12 prisoner of war while fighting the enemy near
13 Kunri in North Korea, in December, 1950. He died
14 a prisoner of war, June 20, 1951, his body was not
15 returned. This week, the Department of Defense
16 announced the return of his body to the United
17 States. He was 24 years old when he died, he's
18 survived by his sisters who live in the City of
19 New York, Dolores Lavelle-Mapes [phonetic] and
20 Gloria Shorty Lavelle-Weber. Three nieces, two
21 nephews, seven great nieces and three great-
22 grandnephews. There will be a funeral service for
23 him at 10:00 a.m. at Marine Park Funeral Home, at
24 3024 Quentin Road; then proceeding to Calverton
25 National Cemetery in Suffolk, on Monday, August

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2 1st. On July 31st, the Marine Park Funeral Home
3 will hold two sessions from 2:00 to 5:00 and 7:00
4 to 9:00, for this private in the United States
5 Army, who served his nation, died in foreign
6 lands, and has just been returned home. He is the
7 great uncle of my former Deputy Chief of Staff.
8 I'd also like, at this time, to mention that as we
9 approach the anniversary of 9/11, that in my
10 district we will be having a screening at Flushing
11 Town Hall, of the movie, "September 11th Memories,
12 Then and Now," on August the 22nd, at the Town
13 Hall. It will take place at 7:00 o'clock in the
14 evening. It is free to the public. It will be a
15 reflection on the 2,752 victims in the tower, in
16 addition to the 343 firefighters and police
17 officers. Myself, Congressman Mike Grimm will be
18 appearing in the film. And I know that they're
19 going to be going around to various other boroughs
20 to show the film as well. And I would encourage--
21 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Council Member.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: --people
23 to see the film.
24 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
25 much. Next we have Council Member Garodnick.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank
3 you very much. Today I'm introducing a bill,
4 Intro 638, which would eliminate the daily permit
5 fee for farmers markets in low income
6 neighborhoods. A 2008 study by the Department of
7 City Planning identified a number of low income
8 neighborhoods in New York City, in which residents
9 lack sufficient opportunities to purchase fresh
10 foods, particularly fruits and vegetables, due to
11 a shortage of supermarkets. On a Council Stated
12 Meeting day when we talk a lot about food policy,
13 it bears reminding that community based farmers
14 markets can help bridge the gap between access to
15 and availability of fresh foods in some of our
16 City's most underserved neighborhoods. So, let's
17 make it really easy, and waive the \$15 a day
18 permit fee in those neighborhoods. Eliminating
19 that fee would provide some incentive for more
20 community based farmers to bring their produce to
21 market, thus increasing the selection of fresh
22 fruits and vegetables in currently underserved
23 communities. And it sends a signal that this is
24 important to the Council and it is important to
25 the City. So I encourage my colleagues to join me

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2 in signing on to this legislation. Again, it is
3 Intro 638. Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

4 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
5 much, Council Member. Next we have Council Member
6 Williams.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
8 you. Yesterday, I was at another crime scene in
9 my district, there was a 13 year old young man who
10 was shot in the back. Two weeks before that,
11 there was a 13 year old and a 15 year old who were
12 shot in a park in my district. The 15 year old,
13 Daquan Mercurius, died. Two weeks before that,
14 Nicholas Telemaque, was shot and killed in my
15 district. He was a cousin of rapper Nicky Minaj.
16 I try to go to each of these families after it
17 happens, and it's very draining standing there,
18 and hugging and consoling parents who have just
19 lost their children, very young children. And
20 without any disrespect to other districts, I
21 firmly believe if this were happening in areas
22 like Chelsea or Upper East Side or Upper West
23 Side, there would be an uproar, there would be
24 taskforce, there would be action plans to figure
25 out what's going on and how we can stop it. This

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2 is not normal activity, and should not be
3 happening to anyone in anyone's district. This is
4 unacceptable. I never thought I'd say this, but
5 the people who've been the most responsive have
6 been the police in my district, and indeed
7 Commissioner Kelly, who has responded greatly to
8 many of my asks. But I just really want to say
9 that the young men and women in my district are as
10 important as anyone else in this City, and I'm
11 hoping that we find some way to stop this. Thank
12 you.

13 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you.
14 Council Member Gentile.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you.
16 I speak on Intro 640, which I'm introducing today,
17 with my colleagues Councilman Gennaro and
18 Koslowitz. The purpose of this bill is to help
19 businesses adopt ecofriendly practices that are
20 sustainable, as well as profitable, while allowing
21 consumers to easily recognize a certified green
22 business. Currently, there are hundreds of so-
23 called "sustainability" certification schemes for
24 businesses and consumers to choose from, which has
25 led to confusion and sometimes deception. And

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2 this bill helps establish a citywide standard.
3 The bill would require the New York City
4 Department of Small Business Services to work in
5 conjunction with the Department of Consumer
6 Affairs, and the Department of Environmental
7 Protection, to create a set of guidelines which
8 would define what a business must achieve to be
9 certified as environmentally friendly. Businesses
10 that meet these standards would then be officially
11 recognized as green by the City of New York, and
12 be given a certificate and window sticker to
13 display to their customers. A similar program of
14 this type was very, has been very successful in
15 the City of San Francisco. And what it has shown
16 there is that going green will not only help small
17 businesses save money on utilities, but it will
18 also give them a significant marketing edge over
19 their competition. More and more consumers want
20 to patronize businesses that are doing their part
21 for the environment, and businesses who meet the
22 agreed upon standards will be recognized as
23 environmental leaders by the City of New York. A
24 standardized citywide certification system and
25 official signage will allow consumers to quickly

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2 and easily identify businesses which meet the
3 established environmental standards. It's an
4 exciting prospect for the City of New York, and so
5 I join Council Members Koslowitz and Gennaro in
6 seeking your sponsorship.

7 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
8 much, Council Member. Seeing no others--oh, we
9 have Council Member Levin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you.
11 I just wanted to also acknowledge my great interns
12 that are working with me this summer: Kendall
13 Randolph, Sierra Sieta Zelterman [phonetic], Will
14 Voight [phonetic], Amy See [phonetic], Amy Vagese
15 [phonetic], Aidan Keever [phonetic], Alania Flores
16 [phonetic], and, and Casia Kelly [phonetic].
17 Thank you very much.

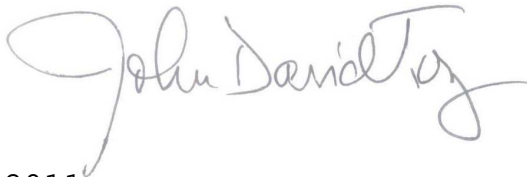
18 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you.
19 Anyone else? Seeing none, this meeting is
20 adjourned.

21 [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 August 18, 2011