

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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November 29, 2016  
Start: 10:56 a.m.  
Recess: 11:26 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: Helen K. Rosenthal  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ydanis Rodriguez  
James G. Van Bramer  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Corey D. Johnson  
Mark Levine  
I. Daneek Miller  
Helen K. Rosenthal  
Steven Matteo

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

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: We good to go?  
There he is, great. We're starting. Good morning  
and welcome to today's Finance Committee hearing.  
I'm Council Member Helen Rosenthal substituting for  
the Chair Julissa Ferreras Copeland to take care of  
today's vote. Today, we have three items on the  
agenda, two Land Use items and a bid item, and we're  
going to start with the two Land Use items. If we  
could have-- I know that I'm the substitute, but--

UNIDENTIFIED: [off mic]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: and I know  
there are going to be some spitballs and paper  
airplanes, but Laurie if we could--

UNIDENTIFIED: [off mic]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Yeah, just  
pretend for a second that I'm Julissa, and if we  
could have some, you know, order here. Corey?

UNIDENTIFIED: [off mic]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I see how this  
is gonna go. So let's start with the two Land Use  
items, both of which are in Council Member Dickens'  
district in Manhattan. The first is E. M. Moore  
Housing for the Elderly. This property will receive  
a partial 35-year property tax exemption to preserve

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2 88 units of affordable housing through the City's  
3 HDFC program. Steve, and I'm sure you are thrilled  
4 about that. The second property is for 77 Lennox  
5 Avenue which will receive-- Steve-- a 35-year partial  
6 property tax exemption to preserve--

7 UNIDENTIFIED: [off mic]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Of course.

9 [Cross talk] [Laughter]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: To receive a  
11 35-year partial property tax exemption to preserve 12  
12 units of affordable housing through the City's HDFC  
13 Program. The Council Member, Dickens, is supportive  
14 of both of these projects. Next, we have the  
15 Business Improvement District Item. The Pre-  
16 considered Resolution sets forth December 15th, 2016  
17 at 10:00 a.m.-- busted-- in this room as the date,  
18 time and place to hold a public hearing considering  
19 the Local Law that would expand the boundaries and  
20 authorize an increase in the budget of the Dumbo  
21 Business Improvement District in Council Member  
22 Levine's district. The bid is currently-- I didn't  
23 want to give up my substitute. It's hard being a  
24 substitute teacher. The bid is currently requesting  
25 that the Council approve the following changes to its

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2 district plan. One: An extension of its boundaries  
3 by adding an area east of the existing bid known as  
4 Dumbo Heights, and two: \$185,000 increase in its  
5 annual assessment from \$650,000 to \$835,000. You  
6 will be quizzed on this, so just putting that out  
7 there for those on their Blackberries now. The  
8 Council Member is supportive of both of these  
9 proposed changes to the bid's district plan. More  
10 specific information regarding the proposal can be  
11 found in the Committee report prepared by the Finance  
12 Division with an attached City Planning Commission  
13 report. Are there any questions on these agenda  
14 items that I'm fully prepared to answer? Alright,  
15 I'm now going to ask Billy Martin, the Committee  
16 Clerk, to call the roll, and prior to giving your  
17 vote, I'm going to ask you to say the increase in the  
18 dollar amount of the assessment on the bid, okay? So  
19 that's, that's that. So, and I-- do I get to vote  
20 first 'cause I'm me? Alright.

21 WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin,  
22 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Finance.  
23 Council Member Rosenthal?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I vote aye on  
25 all.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Gibson?

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye, and especially for the \$185,000 assessment increase for the Dumbo Bid. I vote aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Cornegy?

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye, and I'm opposed to the suck-up of my colleague, but I vote aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Cumbo?

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye and you've done a fantastic job today Council Member Rosenthal. Thank you.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Johnson?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: I wish the 10:00 a.m. Finance Committee hearings could always be this fun. I vote aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Matteo?

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: I vote aye. I have nothing else further to say. [Laughter]

WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote of 6 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions, all items have been adopted by the Committee.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Great, I'm  
3 gonna hold this Committee hearing open for 15 more  
4 minutes. Thank you.

5 [Pause]

6 WILLIAM MARTIN: Continuation roll call,  
7 the Committee on Finance. Council Member Van Bramer?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote now currently  
10 stands at 7 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and  
11 no abstentions.

12 [Pause]

13 WILLIAM MARTIN: Continuation roll call,  
14 the Committee on Finance. Council Member Rodriguez?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN: Final vote, Committee on  
17 Finance. All items have been adopted on today's  
18 agenda by a vote of 8 in the affirmative, 0 in the  
19 negative and no abstentions.

20 [gavel]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date December 15, 2016