

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CHARTER MEETING  
OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

----- X

January 8, 2014  
Start: 12:43 p.m.  
Recess: 2:09 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E: MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Margaret S. Chin
- Rosie Mendez
- Corey D. Johnson
- Daniel R. Garodnick
- Ben Kallos
- Helen K. Rosenthal
- Mark Levine
- Melissa Mark-Viverito
- Inez E. Dickens
- Ydanis A. Rodriguez
- Andrew Cohen
- Andy L. King
- James Vacca
- Fernando Cabrera
- Ritchie J. Torre
- Vanessa L. Gibson
- Maria Del Carmen Arroyo

Annabel Palma  
Paul A. Vallone  
Peter A. Koo  
Julissa Ferreras  
Costa G. Constantinides  
Mark S. Weprin  
Rory I. Lancman  
Daniel Dromm  
James G. Van Bramer  
I. Daneek Miller  
Ruben Wills  
Karen Koslowitz  
Elizabeth S. Crowley  
Donovan J. Richards  
Eric A. Ulrich  
Stephen T. Levin  
Antonio Reynoso  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.  
Carlos Menchaca  
Bradford S. Lander  
Mathieu Eugene  
Darlene Mealy  
Inez D. Barron  
Vincent J. Gentile  
David G. Greenfield  
Jumaane D. Williams  
Alan N. Maisel  
Mark Treyger  
Chaim M. Deutsch  
Deborah L. Rose  
Steven Matteo  
Vincent M. Ignizo

Michael McSweeney  
Council Clerk

Jason S. Riffe  
Minister of Abyssinian Church

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

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: My name is Michael  
3 McSweeney and I am the City Clerk and Clerk of  
4 the Council, and pursuant to Council rules, the  
5 City Clerk and Clerk of the Council acts as the  
6 presiding officer over the Charter Meeting  
7 until the election of a new Speaker. Would  
8 everyone please rise for the Pledge of  
9 Allegiance?

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

11 [reciting the Pledge of Allegiance]

12 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Please be seated.  
13 Call for the Charter meeting, December 19<sup>th</sup>,  
14 2013, Honorable Michael McSweeney, City Clerk  
15 and Clerk of the Council, 141 Worth Street, New  
16 York, New York 10013. "Dear City Clerk  
17 McSweeney, Pursuant to Section 42 of the New  
18 York City Charter, the Charter meeting of the  
19 2014 Council of the city of New York will be  
20 held on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 12:00  
21 noon, in the Council Chambers, second floor,  
22 City Hall, New York, New York. Sincerely,  
23 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker." I order the call  
24 to be received, ordered, filed and printed.  
25 Pursuant to Section 42 of the New York City

2 Charter, I call this meeting to order and I  
3 will now read the communication from the Board  
4 of Elections. December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013, "Dear Mr.  
5 McSweeney, the Commissioners of Elections at  
6 their meeting held on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>,  
7 2013 certified the November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 General  
8 Election for members of the City Council. The  
9 following have been elected:

- 10 1<sup>st</sup> District, Margaret S. Chin.
- 11 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Rosie Mendez.
- 12 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Corey D. Johnson.
- 13 4<sup>th</sup> District, Daniel R. Garodnick.
- 14 5<sup>th</sup> District, Ben Kallos.
- 15 6<sup>th</sup> District, Helen K. Rosenthal.
- 16 7<sup>th</sup> District, Mark Levine.
- 17 8<sup>th</sup> District, Melissa Mark-Viverito.
- 18 9<sup>th</sup> District, Inez E. Dickens.
- 19 10<sup>th</sup> District, Ydanis A. Rodriguez.
- 20 11<sup>th</sup> District, Andrew Cohen.
- 21 12<sup>th</sup> District, Andy L. King.
- 22 13<sup>th</sup> District, James Vacca.
- 23 14<sup>th</sup> District, Fernando Cabrera.
- 24 15<sup>th</sup> District, Ritchie J. Torres.
- 25 16<sup>th</sup> District, Vanessa L. Gibson.

2 17<sup>th</sup> District, Maria Del Carmen  
3 Arroyo.

4 18<sup>th</sup> District, Annabel Palma.

5 19<sup>th</sup> District, Paul A. Vallone.

6 20<sup>th</sup> District, Peter A. Koo.

7 21<sup>st</sup> District, Julissa Ferreras.

8 22<sup>nd</sup> District, Costa G.

9 Constantinides.

10 23<sup>rd</sup> District, Mark S. Weprin.

11 24<sup>th</sup> District, Rory I. Lancman.

12 25<sup>th</sup> District, Daniel Dromm.

13 26<sup>th</sup> District, James G. Van Bramer.

14 27<sup>th</sup> District, I. Daneek Miller.

15 28<sup>th</sup> District, Ruben Wills.

16 29<sup>th</sup> District, Karen Koslowtiz.

17 30<sup>th</sup> District, Elizabeth S. Crowley.

18 31<sup>st</sup> District, Donovan J. Richards.

19 32<sup>nd</sup> District, Eric A. Ulrich.

20 33<sup>rd</sup> District, Stephen T. Levin.

21 34<sup>th</sup> District, Antonio Reynoso.

22 35<sup>th</sup> District, Laurie A. Cumbo.

23 36<sup>th</sup> District, Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.

24 37<sup>th</sup> District, Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.

25 38<sup>th</sup> District, Carlos Menchaca.

2 39<sup>th</sup> District, Bradford S. Lander.

3 40<sup>th</sup> District, Mathieu Eguene.

4 41<sup>st</sup> District, Darlene Mealy.

5 42<sup>nd</sup> District, Inez D. Barron.

6 43<sup>rd</sup> District, Vincent Gentile.

7 44<sup>th</sup> District, David G. Greenfield.

8 45<sup>th</sup> District, Jumaane D. Williams.

9 46<sup>th</sup> District, Alan N. Maisel.

10 47<sup>th</sup> District, Mark Treyger.

11 48<sup>th</sup> District, Chaim M. Deutsch.

12 49<sup>th</sup> District, Deborah L. Rose.

13 50<sup>th</sup> District, Steven Matteo.

14 51<sup>st</sup> District, Vincent M. Ignizio.

15 Yours very truly, Michael J. Ryan,

16 Executive Director."

17 [applause]

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I order this  
19 communication to be received, ordered, printed  
20 and filed. I will now perform the formal  
21 ceremony of the duly elected Council Members  
22 taking their oath of office. Would all Council  
23 Members please stand? Would everyone please  
24 raise your right hand and repeat after me? I,  
25 state your name.

2 [reciting oath]

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: do solemnly swear  
4 or affirm--

5 [reciting oath]

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: that I will  
7 support the Constitution of the United States--

8 [reciting oath]

9 CLERK MCSWEENEY: and the  
10 Constitution of the State of New York--

11 [reciting oath]

12 CLERK MCSWEENEY: and the Charter of  
13 the city of New York--

14 [reciting oath]

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: and that I will  
16 faithfully discharge--

17 [reciting oath]

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: the duties of the  
19 office of--

20 [reciting oath]

21 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Council Member--

22 [reciting oath]

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: District number--

24 [reciting oath]

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Borough of--



2 [reciting oath]

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: County of--

4 [reciting oath]

5 CLERK MCSWEENEY: and the city of

6 New York--

7 [reciting oath]

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: according to the

9 best of my ability.

10 [reciting oath]

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Council Members,

12 congratulations.

13 [applause]

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I will now call

15 the Roll for the purpose of ascertaining the

16 presence of a quorum. Arroyo?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Barron?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cabrera?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Chin?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cohen?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Constantinides?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cornegy?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Present.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Crowley?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cumbo?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Deutsch?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

12 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dickens?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dromm?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Espinal?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Eugene?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ferreras?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: [off mic]

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Garodnick?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gentile?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gibson?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Present.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Greenfield?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ignizio?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Johnson?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: [off mic]

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Kallos?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

12 CLERK MCSWEENEY: King?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koo?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koslowtiz?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lancman?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Present.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lander?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Levin?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Levine?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Maisel?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mark-Viverito?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Here.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Matteo?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mealy?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Menchaca?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

12 [applause]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Present.

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mendez?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Miller?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Palma?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Present.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Reynoso?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Richards?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rodriguez?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Presente.

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rose?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rosenthal?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Torres?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Treyger?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ulrich?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Still here.

12 [laughter]

13 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Vacca?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Vallone?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Van Bramer?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Weprin?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aqui.

21 [laughter]

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Williams?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thanks to

24 the people of the 45<sup>th</sup> District, I'm still

25 here. Shout out to my mom in the balcony.

2 [laughter]

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Wills?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Present.

5 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. We  
6 have a quorum. Will everyone now please rise  
7 for today's invocation delivered by Minister  
8 Jason S. Riffe Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132  
9 Odell Clarke Place, New York, New York 10031.

10 MINISTER RIFFE: Please bow with me  
11 for a word of prayer. God eternal, we thank  
12 you for this day. Please bless the agenda of  
13 this meeting. Be with this freshman Council  
14 and freshman initiates of 23 Council Members.  
15 We ask for unity among the full Council in  
16 guidance in the vote today. In your name we  
17 pray, amen.

18 [applause]

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I recognize--at  
20 this time, I recognize Council Member Dickens.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you.  
22 Thank you. I want to just take this time to  
23 thank Minister Riffe for the work that  
24 Abyssinian Baptist Church does in the District  
25 and in the entire city of New York, from youth

2 programs to senior programs, for family  
3 programs. I stand up and very proud that you  
4 are in my District and that I attend services  
5 at Abyssinian frequently. Minister Doctor  
6 Butts has been a phenomenal shepherd of that  
7 institution. Thank you. God bless. I move to  
8 spread the invocation in full upon the record.

9 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you.

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I now recognize  
12 Council Member Chin.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I make a  
14 motion that pursuant to Section 46 of the New  
15 York City Charter, the 2010 to 2013 Rules of  
16 the Council as amended, be continue and in  
17 effect until new rules shall be adopted or said  
18 rules shall be otherwise amended or modified.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. They  
20 will be a roll call vote to adopt that motion.  
21 Arroyo?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Barron?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cabrera?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Chin?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

5 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cohen?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Constantinides?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

9 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cornegy?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Crowley?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

13 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cumbo?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Deutsch?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dickens?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dromm?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

21 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Espinal?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Eugene?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ferreras?



2 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Garodnick?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

5 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gentile?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gibson?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Aye.

9 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Greenfield?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ignizio?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

13 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Johnson?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Kallos?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: King?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koo?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

21 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koslowtiz?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lancman?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lander?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Levin?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

5 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Levine?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Maisel?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye.

9 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mark-Viverito?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Matteo?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

13 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mealy?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Menchaca?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mendez?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Miller?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

21 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Palma?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Reynoso?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Richards?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rodriguez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

5 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rose?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rosenthal?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

9 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Torres?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Treyger?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

13 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ulrich?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Vacca?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Vallone?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Van Bramer?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

21 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Weprin?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Williams?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Wills?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: The motion to  
4 continue the Rules of the Council for 2010 to  
5 2013 are carried by a vote of 51 in the  
6 affirmative, zero in the negative, zero  
7 abstentions. I will now open the floor for  
8 nominations for Speaker. I recognize Council  
9 Member Torres.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Thank you  
11 very much, Mr. Clerk. My colleagues, today is  
12 a very special day. We gather today because we  
13 have been honored by the people to represent  
14 them here at City Hall, and in turn, we are  
15 here today to select who among us will lead our  
16 legislative body. I rise today to nominate  
17 someone who has the vision and the record to be  
18 a great leader of our body, someone who has  
19 never hesitated to speak truth to power,  
20 someone who has been able to forge consensus,  
21 to build bridges across communities, and has  
22 unique ability to bring people together.  
23 Melissa Mark-Viverito is someone who has the  
24 strength of character, the wisdom of

2 experience, and the principled values to be our  
3 voice here in the City Council.

4 [applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Melissa is a  
6 smart woman and a hard worker. She served as  
7 the primary sponsor of key legislation that has  
8 been signed into law, covering topics including  
9 tenant rights, building inspections, local  
10 representation on Parks Conservancy Boards, and  
11 the publication of statistics on domestic  
12 violence and hate crimes. Melissa has always  
13 been a voice for the voiceless. In the City  
14 Council, Melissa has worked to advance an  
15 agenda focused on issues affecting working  
16 class and low-income families, people of color,  
17 youth, seniors and immigrant communities.  
18 Ladies and gentleman, this is a historic  
19 moment, a historic moment. Today, we will be  
20 electing the first Latino Speaker of the City  
21 Council.

22 [applause]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: It is an  
24 incredible achievement for the nearly 30  
25 percent of New Yorkers that make up the Latino

2 community to have for the first time a city-  
3 wide elected official. I urge my fellow  
4 members to stand with me and give our Madam  
5 Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito, our undivided  
6 support to move forward and conduct the  
7 business of the people of our great city. I  
8 pledge my support to Melissa, and as a proud  
9 member of the Bronx delegation and as a proud  
10 member of this City Council. I am honored to  
11 nominate you for the Office of the Speaker of  
12 the Council of the City New York, pursuant to  
13 Section 44 of the New York City Charter for the  
14 term commencing January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and  
15 terminating December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

16 Congratulations.

17 [applause]

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I now recognize  
19 Council Member Barron.

20 [applause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.  
22 Thank you. I first say that I give honor to  
23 God who's the head of my life. Secondly, to all  
24 of my colleagues here on the floor and  
25 colleagues of government who are seated on the

2 side, I want to say I give recognition to you  
3 in your positions. And I stand to say that I  
4 enthusiastically second the nomination of  
5 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito to be our  
6 Speaker. We have been elected as has been said  
7 already to be the voice of the people. We're  
8 here to make sure that their concerns are  
9 addressed through the budget, through the  
10 systems that we put in place, and through the  
11 laws that we enact. We bring a variety of  
12 talents. We bring a broad swath of ages, of  
13 experiences, of life interests, of being in  
14 legislation and being in business, and being in  
15 the community. We bring all of that to this  
16 body to represent our diverse communities. We  
17 are in very challenging times. We have a  
18 compressed economic system. We have high  
19 unemployment, which is double in black and  
20 Latino communities. We have increased  
21 homelessness over the last number of years. We  
22 have an inadequate education system that is not  
23 preparing our children to go forth and to  
24 function in our society. We have housing that's  
25 unaffordable to low wage earners and middle

2 class workers, but with all of challenges come  
3 opportunities, and here today we have an  
4 opportunity to select a speaker that will lead  
5 us as we go forth to address the needs of our  
6 community, to address a justice system that we  
7 know has much injustice in it and to correct  
8 those injustices, and to make settlements and  
9 to go forward and to make sure that people are  
10 made whole, to have an economic system of  
11 development in our communities that is  
12 balanced. We have to realize that our  
13 responsibilities to our communities, and as  
14 this budget process will be upon us in the next  
15 few weeks, we must make sure that we pass a  
16 budget that reflects what we say we are about,  
17 and we believe that in Melissa Mark-Viverito,  
18 we will have that kind of acknowledgement and  
19 address the needs of our community and make  
20 sure that we have systems and programs in place  
21 that move all of us forward, and as a  
22 collective, I invite all of my colleagues to  
23 join in nominating and voting for Melissa Mark-  
24 Viverito. Thank you.

25 [applause]



2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I now recognize  
3 Council Member Dromm.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you  
5 very much, Mr. Clerk. It is my great pleasure  
6 to rise today to also second the nomination of  
7 my great friend and colleague, Melissa Mark-  
8 Viverito, as the next Speaker of the New York  
9 City Council. I am honored to have this  
10 opportunity to create history in the city of  
11 New York. Over the last six years I have  
12 gotten to know Melissa, and she has proven to  
13 be a wonderful friend, colleague and mentor.  
14 She is the most progressive elected official I  
15 know. Melissa is someone whose activism is  
16 both passionate and pragmatic. Her independence  
17 is admirable. Her understanding of issues  
18 regarding prejudice and discrimination are  
19 innate, and her support for equal rights for  
20 the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender  
21 community is unparalleled. I have been in the  
22 room with Melissa when she advocated for an  
23 issue that many thought was impossible to  
24 promote. I have witnessed her go up against  
25 powerful forces to do the noble thing. This was

2 particularly true when she advocated for the  
3 ICE on Rikers legislation when the former Mayor  
4 and Speaker were opposed to it originally. She  
5 is a profile in courage. She is a fighter for  
6 our immigrant communities. She is a Latina. We  
7 live in a democracy and the majority of our  
8 colleagues have formed a coalition behind  
9 Melissa Mark-Viverito to be the next Speaker.  
10 Now is the time for us to unite and to get busy  
11 with the business of government. Let's move  
12 this city forward by voting for Melissa Mark-  
13 Viverito as the next Speaker of the New York  
14 City Council. Thank you.

15 [applause]

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I now recognize  
17 Council Member Cornegy.

18 [laughter]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Testing,  
20 testing, testing. Thank you very much, Mr.  
21 Clerk. My colleagues, I stand tall and proud  
22 today to second the motion as well for Council  
23 Member Melissa Mark-Viverito to be nominated  
24 for the office of Speaker of the City Council.  
25 Melissa Mark-Viverito is a dedicated,

2 principled, and inclusive leader. In many  
3 ways, Melissa's career has been building up to  
4 this very moment. From her time as a labor  
5 organizer to a Community Board member to being  
6 elected as the first Latino to represent  
7 Spanish Harlem to her time as Chair of the  
8 Parks Committee and finally, as Co-Chair of the  
9 Progressive Caucus. Melissa's always shown a  
10 unique ability to bring people together toward  
11 a common purpose. Melissa will be  
12 representative of the people. She'll be a  
13 champion of the underdog. Melissa has a long  
14 track record of collaborating with her  
15 colleagues to get results. I look forward to  
16 working with her to serve underprivileged at  
17 risk youth, senior citizens, and small business  
18 owners ensuring their voices are heard,  
19 respected and acted on. As we look at a city  
20 that is becoming increasingly majority minority  
21 it's become increasingly important and  
22 incredibly important to have the new City  
23 Council's leadership be reflective and  
24 representative of that shift. However, my  
25 support for Council Member Mark-Viverito is not

2 solely because she's a woman or a Latina. It's  
3 because she's demonstrated a grasp of the  
4 issues and challenges of the least represented  
5 and underserved communities like parts of the  
6 36<sup>th</sup> District that I represent. Before my  
7 election this year I had the pleasure of  
8 serving as a legislative policy analyst here at  
9 the New York City Council. I know from my  
10 experience as a staff member that Melissa Mark-  
11 Viverito has the respect and the confidence of  
12 the entire institution. There are many  
13 challenges ahead, but I'm confident with  
14 Melissa Mark-Viverito as our next Speaker.  
15 She'll unite the City Council around common  
16 ground and she'll help transform our body into  
17 an effective, productive and strong institution  
18 to better serve the people of not only by  
19 district, but the city of New York.

20 [applause]

21 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I recognize Council  
22 Member Ferreras.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Thank you,  
24 Mr. Clerk. It is with immense pride that I  
25 stand before my colleagues to second the

2 nomination of Melissa Mark-Viverito to the next  
3 Speaker of the City Council. Melissa Mark-  
4 Viverito's vision for the new Council is to  
5 make sure that prosperity shared more equally.  
6 New York City is calling for a more progressive  
7 government, a government that will address  
8 growing problems like unemployment, income  
9 inequality and wage stagnation. Melissa has a  
10 plan to create good jobs, expand opportunities  
11 and keep all New Yorkers safe. Melissa Mark-  
12 Viverito is a leader for improving the way that  
13 the City Council conducts business. She's a  
14 passionate advocate for reform to bring  
15 transparency, hold city government more  
16 accountable and give our membership a greater  
17 say in decision making. We owe it to the  
18 people to elect a strong independent and  
19 principle woman to lead us in making decisions  
20 that affect New Yorkers lives. We stand here  
21 today with a historic opportunity to elect the  
22 first Latino and person of color as Speaker. I  
23 urge all my colleagues to vote for Melissa  
24 because she is smart and a Latina, because she  
25 is accomplished and a Latina, because she's

2 qualified and a Latina. It's moments like  
3 right now that make me think back to when I was  
4 a young girl growing up in Corona looking for  
5 role models and looking for inspiration. With  
6 our vote today we can send a positive message  
7 to every young girl that regardless of where  
8 you come from, so they can know that anything  
9 is possible in our great city. Thank you.

10 [applause]

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: I now call on  
12 Council Member Garodnick.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank you  
14 very much, Mr. Clerk. Over a year ago I  
15 offered myself as a candidate to be the speaker  
16 of this City Council, because I believed that I  
17 could offer progressive leadership and  
18 independence to a body to which I am deeply  
19 committed. In the intervening months I have  
20 enjoyed spending time in the Districts of many  
21 of my colleagues, getting to know your  
22 concerns, the concerns of your constituents and  
23 your own visions for the future. I thank you  
24 for the opportunity to do that. It made me a  
25 better public servant and it certainly deepened

2 my affection for this great city, and you  
3 should know I did it with the support of my  
4 family, my wife Zoe, our two little boys Asher  
5 [phonetic] and Devin [phonetic]. I know Zoe was  
6 sitting in the front over there. Devin started  
7 to cry. I think she escaped at least for the  
8 moment. My dad who is here, David Garodnick.  
9 My mom, who I believe is watching this from New  
10 York Presbyterian Hospital, and Mom, Dad, I  
11 love you both. Mom, I hope you're feeling  
12 better soon. My friend Ander Urlick [phonetic]  
13 and so many others. Today, that process comes  
14 to a conclusion, and in the spirit of  
15 strengthening the Council which animated my  
16 candidacy from the start, I want to formally  
17 concede to the next Speaker of the City  
18 Council, my colleague Melissa Mark-Viverito.

19 [applause]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank  
21 you, and I just want to say that I look forward  
22 to working with Speaker Mark-Viverito and to  
23 helping her ensure that we can deliver a sound  
24 and responsible government for all New Yorkers,  
25 one that is fair, one that is reasoned, and one

2 that serves as a respectful and strong counter  
3 balance to the Mayor, and one where we  
4 ourselves are balanced and respectful of all  
5 ideologies, and a Council where members have  
6 the room to succeed and deliver for their  
7 constituents. As for Melissa, she is a smart  
8 and committed public servant, and we have  
9 worked extremely well together over the years  
10 from immigrant's rights to tenant's rights to  
11 environmental protections. And of course, I  
12 look forward to supporting her work during the  
13 course of this term. I also want my colleagues  
14 to know that it is not lost on me that this  
15 became a tense and grueling process for many of  
16 us. Please know that I will do my part to  
17 resolve any riffs that this process may have  
18 caused among us, and I'm here to take any steps  
19 necessary to help us move forward together, but  
20 today, we say to our new Speaker,  
21 congratulations.

22 [applause]

23 [off mic]

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: At this time, I  
25 call on Council Member Mark-Viverito.



2 [applause]

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: I'd  
4 like to accept the nomination and ask for a  
5 roll call.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. At  
7 this time I would like to ask if there are any  
8 other nominations. Hearing none, I now close  
9 the nominations and I will now take a roll call  
10 vote. Please indicate your selection by  
11 stating the last name of the candidate, and  
12 there is only one candidate, Melissa Mark-  
13 Viverito. So please call her by name. Council  
14 Member Arroyo?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Mark-  
16 Viverito.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Barron?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Melissa Mark-  
19 Viverito.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cabrera?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Melissa  
22 Mark-Viverito.

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Chin?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Can I have a  
25 minute to explain my vote?

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: First, I would  
4 like to thank all the candidate for the Speaker  
5 candidate and for this City Council, and I also  
6 want to say thank you to Dan. I want to say  
7 that I respect you, Dan, tremendously, and I  
8 greatly appreciate your support this past year,  
9 and I enjoy working with you and I look forward  
10 to working with you over the next four years.  
11 And I think you are a smart, capable, caring  
12 leader, and I'm so glad that it all worked out.  
13 And I know Melissa in the City Council and I  
14 know she will be a great Speaker. New York City  
15 is a progressive city, a city that voted loudly  
16 and clearly for progressive future. I think  
17 Melissa will be a true partner as we work  
18 together to ensure that every New Yorker can  
19 build a better life here. And from a personal  
20 note, as a woman of color, I am so excited to  
21 be passing my vote to elect the first woman of  
22 color and a Latina to the City Council Speaker.  
23 So I'm passing my vote for Melissa Mark-  
24 Viverito. Thank you.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Cohen?

1 CHARTER MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 35

2 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Melissa Mark-  
3 Viverito.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Constantinides?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES:

6 Melissa Mark-Viverito.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cornegy?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Melissa

9 Mark-Viverito.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Crowley?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Melissa

12 Mark-Viverito.

13 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cumbo?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Melissa Mark-

15 Viverito.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Deutsch?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Madam

18 Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dickens?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Melissa

21 Mark-Viverito.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dromm?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Very proudly

24 cast my vote for Melissa Mark-Viverito.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Espinal?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Melissa  
3 Mark-Viverito.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Eugene?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Can I  
6 explain my vote, please?

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you  
9 very much. I didn't have any intent to speak,  
10 but I feel compelled to do that. As--first of  
11 all, let me commend and thank Daniel for doing  
12 the right thing for the City Council and for  
13 New York City. And I think this is a very good  
14 example how all of us should behave, come  
15 together to do the business of the city of New  
16 York. As the first Haitian American elected to  
17 the City Council, I feel proud to be part of  
18 the history and to vote for the first Latina  
19 Speaker of the City Council, Melissa Mark-  
20 Viverito. Thank you.

21 [applause]

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ferreras?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Melissa  
24 Mark-Viverito.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Garodnick?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Mark-  
3 Viverito.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gentile?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Melissa  
6 Mark-Viverito.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gibson?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Melissa  
9 Mark-Viverito.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Greenfield?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Melissa  
12 Mark-Viverito.

13 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ignizio?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: MMV.

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Johnson?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Mr. Clerk,  
17 may I explain my vote?

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Mr. Clerk,  
20 I had no intention of speaking as well today,  
21 but I think it's a tremendous occasion and I  
22 rise to whole heartedly support Melissa Mark-  
23 Viverito to be our next Speaker. I want to take  
24 a moment to acknowledge what was said earlier,  
25 which was a spirited contest, one of the most

2 open and I believe transparent processes that  
3 has ever occurred in the race for New York City  
4 Speaker, and Dan Garodnick is a friend, an  
5 abled, principled, smart, progressive elected  
6 official who has shown his medal and has been,  
7 I believe, a star in the New York City Council.  
8 So I appreciate what Dan said, and my hope is  
9 that under Speaker Mark-Viverito's very capable  
10 and talented leadership that this body will  
11 come together, get to work, fight and work on  
12 behalf of every day average New Yorkers who are  
13 trying to make ends meet. As one of six openly  
14 LGBT members of the New York City Council, as  
15 someone whose father was a teamster and who  
16 grew up in public housing, I proudly cast my  
17 vote today to Melissa Mark-Viverito who has  
18 fought on behalf of those who have been  
19 disadvantaged and without a voice in city  
20 government. So I stand today to support her and  
21 to thank Dan for all of his work that he has  
22 done, and I look forward to working with both  
23 of them in the City Council. Thank you.

24 [applause]

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Kallos?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: May I explain  
3 my vote?

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I'd like to  
6 acknowledge a long time friend, colleague, now  
7 colleague, mentor, Dan Garodnick. You're a  
8 model public servant and you're dedicated to  
9 the greater good and think your actions today  
10 speak loud and clear. Thank you. The New York  
11 Times has said that the next Speaker will be  
12 judged by her independence, the ability to  
13 reform Council rules, to introduce transparency  
14 and accountability. Melissa Mark-Viverito is  
15 far and away one of the Council's most  
16 independent. I have worked with her in the  
17 caucus that she founded on drafting rules  
18 reforms and was elected on a platform of  
19 transparency and accountability that I am sure  
20 we can deliver together. I am proud to cast my  
21 vote for Melissa Mark-Viverito.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. King?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Melissa Mark-  
24 Viverito

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koo?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Mr. Clerk, can I  
3 explain my vote?

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: My fellow  
6 colleagues, today we are very happy here to  
7 congratulate Melissa Mark-Viverito to be our  
8 next Speaker. This is a historic moment,  
9 historic day, first Latina, the first woman of  
10 color to be our next Speaker. When we did the  
11 pledge--no, when we did the oath of office  
12 today, when we hold up our right hand and if  
13 you look at this right hand, we have five  
14 fingers. Each finger belong, represents one of  
15 the boroughs. Each finger had to work  
16 together. The hand, if you chop off one finger  
17 or two fingers, it won't be a cohesive body.  
18 So, my saying is from now on, we have to work  
19 together as a cohesive body. New York City is  
20 one of the greatest city in the whole world,  
21 financial center of the whole world. So we have  
22 to do things right. In order for us to strive  
23 and continue to be the greatest city in the  
24 world. So, I hope we will work together from  
25 today on. We forget our past; we work together



2 with full cooperation. And this morning, when  
3 I left my home I told my wife, I say, "Honey,  
4 from now on, we have to start more progressive  
5 soup [phonetic]." Thank you. This is true.  
6 Thank you. So my vote is to Melissa Mark-  
7 Viverito. Thank you.

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you.  
9 Koslowtiz?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Melissa  
11 Mark-Viverito.

12 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lancman?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Mark-  
14 Viverito.

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lander?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request  
17 permission to explain my vote?

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: With deep  
20 admiration and congratulations to my friend and  
21 our new leader who I know will be a smart,  
22 fair, inclusive and transformative Speaker of  
23 this Council. With very real gratitude to our  
24 friend Dan Garodnick for helping to bring this  
25 body together in the best spirit of unity and

2 service, with a hearty welcome to our new  
3 colleagues, whose passion to serve their  
4 districts is already very clear, making some of  
5 us look old and slow, with resolute optimism  
6 that under her leadership we will build a more  
7 transparent, effective, responsive City Council  
8 that enables all of us to represent and serve  
9 our constituents and to create a more just  
10 vibrant and compassionate New York City, I  
11 proudly cast my vote for Melissa Mark-Viverito  
12 as the next Speaker of this New York City  
13 Council.

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Levin?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Melissa Mark-  
16 Viverito.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Levine?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: At which  
19 moment to explain my vote? [off mic]

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Okay, thank  
22 you. I'm new at this. [speaking Spanish]  
23 Melissa Mark-Viverito. I do speak English as  
24 well, and I want to say this moment demands a  
25 fierce determination to advance an agenda of

2 social and economic justice. This is the  
3 philosophy I hold, that I know the vast  
4 majority of you hold, and I know for sure  
5 Council Member Mark-Viverito holds. It's why  
6 I'm proud to support you to be our Speaker.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Maisel?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Melissa  
9 Mark-Viverito.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mark-Viverito?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:  
12 Melissa Mark-Viverito.

13 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Matteo?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Mark-  
15 Viverito.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mealy?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Mark-  
18 Viverito.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Menchaca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: May I have  
21 a few minutes to explain my vote?

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

23 UNKNOWN: A few minutes?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Seconds. I  
25 dedicate my vote to the working families, to

2 immigrants, to LBGT community, and to those who  
3 are still recovering from super-storm Sandy.  
4 [speaking Spanish]. I vote for Melissa Mark-  
5 Viverito. Thank you.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Mendez?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Permission  
8 to explain my vote?

9 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I turned it  
11 off. Thank you. I'm going to do the Robert  
12 Jackson. Colleagues, I rise just 'cause. I  
13 think I've been in a unique position as opposed  
14 to all of my colleagues, because I knew Melissa  
15 and Dan before any of us served in the City  
16 Council. We were friends and we were involved  
17 in struggles. Dan and I working for our  
18 communities that now border what is now our  
19 districts, Kips Bay, Gramercy Park, parts of  
20 Murray Hill, and Melissa and I became good  
21 friends in our struggle to stop the naval  
22 occupation of Vieques, Puerto Rico, and then  
23 we've been involved in many struggles since. I  
24 am very happy we are coming together as a body  
25

2 today, [speaking Spanish]. I vote for Melissa  
3 Mark-Viverito. Thank you.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Miller?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Mr. Clerk,  
6 one moment.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay. On  
9 behalf of the people of the 27<sup>th</sup> district and  
10 the working families throughout the City of New  
11 York, I cast my vote for my good friend and  
12 more than competent leader, Melissa Mark-  
13 Viverito. And to Dan, I'd like to say thank  
14 you for bringing the body together. Thank you  
15 for your efforts of coming out and the support  
16 that you have given myself and the other new  
17 members, and I'm sure that we will collectively  
18 do Yoman's work. Thank you. Melissa Mark-  
19 Viverito.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Palma?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Mark-  
22 Viverito.

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Reynoso?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Sir Clerk,  
25 can I get a moment to explain my vote?

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: [speaking  
4 Spanish] Melissa Mark-Viverito. Gracias.

5 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you.

6 Richards?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Melissa  
8 Mark-Viverito.

9 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rodriguez?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: May I  
11 explain my vote?

12 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: First of  
14 all, I would like to dedicate my vote to the 70  
15 percent of New Yorkers who in the last general  
16 election say that there's two New York, and  
17 that we have the responsibility to close that  
18 gap, that we need to provide middle class and  
19 working class the opportunity to excel, that  
20 every children should start their first line  
21 running a marathon to know what it is, to get  
22 quality education. I would like to thank Dan  
23 for his leadership and his years in services,  
24 but I also would like to dedicate this day to  
25 Ritchie Peres [phonetic], who also was a great

2 champion, some that believed that Latino should  
3 have a place in this city. There's a lot that  
4 we have to do. We as New Yorkers, I am so proud  
5 to say that since they year--since my 18 years  
6 or so I've been living in this city and from  
7 that day on, I've been getting a lot of  
8 opportunity, but I never thought that one day I  
9 would see someone who came from another  
10 country, Puerto Rico, who knows what it is to  
11 be an immigrant, who not necessarily afraid  
12 it's an issue undocumented people, but she  
13 embrace it at her own cost. So [speaking  
14 Spanish]. Today we can say that New York City  
15 will have two more progressive leaders in our  
16 history, in our Mayor Bill de Blasio and our  
17 Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito. I'd also like  
18 to say thank you to Seria [sp?] for believing  
19 this effort and all 31 member who will stick  
20 together and the 20 Council Member who join us  
21 today saying we are one body that and from now  
22 on we'll be moving, closing this gap between  
23 the one percent and the 99 percent. Long live  
24 the Wall Street Occupy Movement.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Rose?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I'd like to  
3 explain my vote.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I'd just like  
6 to say to Dan Garodnick that you are really a  
7 class act, and so gracious.

8 [applause]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: And I can't  
10 thank you enough for bringing this body  
11 together. This could have had a very different  
12 outcome this morning, and it's your leadership  
13 that brought us to this point today. I want to  
14 say to my friend Melissa, expectations are very  
15 high of first and I know that to whom much is  
16 given much is required, and I know that you are  
17 more than capable to do this job, will handle  
18 it well, and hit the ground running, and I want  
19 to say women rock. And I cast my vote for  
20 Melissa Mark-Viverito.

21 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you.  
22 Rosenthal?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: May I  
24 have a moment to speak?

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.



2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Melissa,  
3 as you know I represent the upper west side in  
4 Manhattan which as you know has a tradition of  
5 strong, smart, independent women, and I'm very  
6 proud now to hold the seat, and I'm very proud  
7 to cast my vote for you in that same tradition  
8 of very strong, very smart, very independent  
9 women. Thank you very much.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Council  
11 Member Torres?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Well, I  
13 explained my vote, so Melissa Mark-Viverito.

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Treyger?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission  
16 to explain my vote?

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: What we  
19 witnessed earlier, Clerk, by the embrace by Dan  
20 Garodnick and Melissa Mark-Viverito is further  
21 proof that public service and our democracy is  
22 not a blood sport. It's an honorable  
23 enterprise, and I thank them both for their  
24 leadership and the example they just set for  
25 our entire body and the City of New York. And

2 only in America can the first Russian speaking  
3 member of the City Council help elect the first  
4 Latin American woman to the Speaker of the New  
5 York City Council. I cast my vote to Melissa  
6 Mark-Viverito.

7 [applause]

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: [speaking  
10 Russian]

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ulrich?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Melissa  
13 Mark-Viverito.

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Vacca?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Melissa Mark-  
16 Viverito.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Vallone?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: A brief  
19 moment, Mr. Clerk?

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I have to  
22 tell you, ladies and gentleman, walking through  
23 these doors for the first time with my wife  
24 this morning and seeing history be made, a  
25 unique perspective I have because the shoes,

2 Madam Speaker, that you're about to fill were  
3 first created by my father, the first Speaker.

4 [applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Just God  
6 bless everyone. You've made us all very proud.  
7 Dad, we love you, and we did it. Madam  
8 Speaker, way to go. And Dan, way to go my  
9 brother. Thank you. [off mic]

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Van  
11 Bramer?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: With  
13 permission to briefly explain my vote?

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So odered.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: First of  
16 all, I want to echo all the kind words about  
17 Council Member Dan Garodnick who is one of the  
18 smartest and one of the finest public servants  
19 that I've ever known, and I thank him for  
20 everything that he has done today, and  
21 everything that he will do in public service. I  
22 also want to say I take this voting incredibly  
23 seriously because in many ways I feel like I  
24 wasn't supposed to be here. I vote for Speaker  
25 Melissa Mark-Viverito first and foremost in

2 honor of my mother, and I see Melissa's mother  
3 is here, so she knows [applause] the pride, but  
4 my mother was a cashier at a supermarket and I  
5 was raised by her and my stepfather who was a  
6 janitor and a school cleaner, and everything  
7 that I do, in everything that my public service  
8 career is about is about making lives better  
9 and easier for families like mine, families in  
10 New York City who struggle to pay the rent, who  
11 worry about the welfare of their children, and  
12 I am so clear that to the core that is my  
13 mission. That is why I ran for office. It is  
14 those families that I come from and that I  
15 believe in, and it is with my mother in mind  
16 who is a strong woman, but who none of the  
17 cameras and the press every saw go to work,  
18 that I vote for Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

19 [applause]

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Weprin?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Permission to  
22 explain my vote please, Mr. Clerk?

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: So ordered.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you  
25 very much. Ladies and gentleman, I want to

2 first congratulate all my colleagues for their  
3 re-election and those who are new to  
4 congratulate you all. This has been a long few  
5 months, I have to say, and I'm really proud to  
6 be an elected official and delighted to be a  
7 member of this body. As many of you know, as I  
8 was running for Speaker to the Council as well,  
9 and had the pleasure of meeting will all of you  
10 in your districts and with you and learning  
11 about you and your family. I was very  
12 passionate in what I did, you know, and talked  
13 about and the reforms I talked about for this  
14 body, I met with all sincerity and that's one  
15 thing I'm proud of. Everything I said was the  
16 truth and I spoke from my heart. I sang, I  
17 danced, whatever it took. And we need to work  
18 as a body. I've said that all along. We need to  
19 be a united unit working together, liking each  
20 other, which we're going to work on, and we are  
21 going to like each other, because if we're  
22 unified and respect each other we can get  
23 things done. One of the things I talked about  
24 is we shouldn't be afraid of descent. We  
25 shouldn't be afraid of debate, of discussion.

2 There's really nothing wrong with that. That's  
3 democracy. [applause] So I was going to make,  
4 no matter how the outcome of this went, I was  
5 going to make this same speech, maybe  
6 emphasizing that debate part more, because even  
7 if we were voting for different candidates, I  
8 don't think it would make difference, because  
9 I'm committed to this body and I'm committed to  
10 the hard-working elected officials who are  
11 sitting here, who I've gotten to know and I  
12 like, and I want to fight for that. And I'm  
13 looking forward to working with our new Mayor.  
14 We have a lot in common he and I. you know,  
15 we're about the same age. We're both outer  
16 borough public school parents. He's 6'5", I  
17 was born on 06/05, but we have a job to do to  
18 work to be--work with him on things that are  
19 important to our districts, but also work to  
20 oversight of his agencies and to be an  
21 independent body and to do our charter mandated  
22 job of being the City Council. Let me just  
23 finish up, because I want to just first  
24 compliment all the other Speaker candidates who  
25

2 really all did a wonderful job, and I made a  
3 statement--

4 [applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: I made a  
6 statement at one point that I was impressed  
7 will of them and I could be proud to stand with  
8 any of them. I got to single out Dan first,  
9 just because the last few weeks have been very  
10 tough on a lot of us, but especially tough on  
11 Dan. He has been strong. He has been  
12 incredibly classy in the way he's handled  
13 himself with us, so I want to congratulate him  
14 as well. He's a good friend of mine. We've sat  
15 together. It's been a little awkward  
16 occasionally over the last few months, but it's  
17 been great to be his friend, and then lastly,  
18 Melissa. Melissa, I have the utmost respect  
19 for you. I've said that all along. It's not  
20 inconsistent. [speaking Spanish] in any way  
21 saying that I respect you. I like you. I look  
22 forward to working with you. You are a very  
23 smart, strong-willed woman who's going to run a  
24 very tight ship and a good ship, including us  
25 all, and I know the people around you are going

2 to insist on that, and my commitment is to work  
3 with you, and I'm happy we're together today  
4 because we need to be unified. We need to be a  
5 strong body, because I want to represent my  
6 district to the best of my ability and  
7 represent this city as an independent council  
8 working with our Mayor, but standing up for  
9 what we think is right. So congratulations  
10 Melissa and all the best.

11 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you.

12 Williams?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I was  
14 going to vote for myself, but I remember I  
15 dropped out a while back. First, I just want  
16 to say thank you to Dan Garodnick whom I  
17 consider a friend on this Council. It should  
18 not be lost the leadership that you showed  
19 today. You took this think as far as you  
20 should, as someone who's contending, as someone  
21 fighting. That is what democracy is about, but  
22 to show leadership and said the institution is  
23 stronger than any one person, that should not  
24 be forgotten after today. And I look forward to  
25 continue working on the things as bill moves



2 over. I continue looking forward to working on  
3 the things that we've always been working on,  
4 and I really appreciate you. When I went into  
5 the race a few weeks ago, one of my main things  
6 was to make sure that the issue of diversity  
7 was not lost. I'm very happy. I want to say  
8 thank you to all of us who ran and I'm glad  
9 that it was a good selection of qualified  
10 people who ran, and I'm happy that diversity  
11 question was still discussed. People use to not  
12 listen to Council Member Barron when he talked  
13 about all the paintings that went in here and  
14 the lack of diversity is important to people  
15 who are not represented. So that question has  
16 always got to be asked, and I know that my  
17 mother when I was giving her all the trouble I  
18 was giving her did not think I would grow up  
19 and be the first Canadian-American Council  
20 Member, to not think after all the things that  
21 I was going through with Tourette's Syndrome in  
22 school that I'd be here fighting for justice  
23 issues, but I am in fact here, and I'm proud  
24 that I'm able to vote for someone who is going  
25 to be first person of color ever elected in

2 this body and be the first Latina to be a  
3 leader city-wide. That is very, very amazing,  
4 and I'm so proud to do it for my Haitian  
5 constituents I say tres bien. I don't speak  
6 Spanish, but I know this is muy, muy, muy  
7 Bueno. Right? Did I say that right? And now,  
8 muy bien. What'd I say? Alright, we're going  
9 to work it out. Alright. But I am excited  
10 that we have come together today, and I hope we  
11 all remember now the hard work of responsible  
12 governing that the people who voted us all in  
13 are expecting us to do together to hold the  
14 Mayor accountable but move forward  
15 progressively is now beginning, and I vote for  
16 Melissa Mark-Viverito.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. Wills?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I could just  
19 take my time. I'm the last person to vote, so  
20 this is the only time it benefits me, right?  
21 You know, a few months ago we sat here in this  
22 same chambers and we had a lot of media reports  
23 and things we were debating, the CSA  
24 legislation and they said that the Council was  
25 torn apart and we would never be unified, we

2 would never vote together on a lot of different  
3 things, and once again, it seems like we're  
4 proving not only the city, the state, but  
5 federal wrong. A lot of media outlets and  
6 different things like that, they said we could  
7 not come together over our differences. We  
8 were a typical legislative body, and today, I  
9 think with this unanimous vote, with the  
10 leadership of Dan Garodnick bringing the  
11 Council together behind MMV, I think that we  
12 should have that noted today, and that should  
13 be something that should be noted tomorrow in  
14 every one of these media outlets, whether it be  
15 print or television. So I cast my vote for MMV  
16 today. Congratulations Madam Speaker.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you. By a  
18 unanimous vote of all 51 members of the New  
19 York City Council, the Council Member duly  
20 elected as the Speaker of the Council of the  
21 City of New York for the term commencing  
22 January 1, 2014 and terminating December 31<sup>st</sup>,  
23 2017 is Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito.

24 [applause]

25 [off mic conversation]

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We could ask  
3 the Council Members to take a seat, please.  
4 Pursuant to Section 44 of the New York City  
5 Charter and Rule three of the Rules of the  
6 Council, I would like to designate my good  
7 friend and our former colleague, Public  
8 Advocate Letitia James to be acting President  
9 Pro-Tempore. The acting President shall chair  
10 all stated charter and special meetings.

11 [applause]

12 LETITIA JAMES: It is my honor and  
13 my privilege to now recognize my good friend,  
14 my sister, the Speaker of this now united body,  
15 Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

16 [applause]

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIERITO: Before I  
18 begin, obviously, I'd like to recognize some of  
19 those that are here in the room. I was going to  
20 recognize our Public Advocate, but she has  
21 assumed the chair. The Comptroller of the City  
22 of New York, Scott Stringer, members of  
23 Congress, Nydia Valazquez, a dear friend and  
24 mentor, [applause] Congress Member Joe Crowley.  
25 I'm not sure where he's sitting, [applause]

2 Borough President, Eric Adams of Brooklyn, and  
3 I know our Deputy Borough President, former  
4 colleague, Diana Reyna. Obviously, we said hi  
5 and I was recognized, our former Speaker Peter  
6 Vallone. [applause] Former Council Members and  
7 colleagues, Eric Dilan, Charles Barron, Lou  
8 Fidler, Assemblyman and another fighter who has  
9 been a mentor to me, Assemblyman Jose Rivera. I  
10 know we have our former Council Member Yuna  
11 Clarke [phonetic] that's here as well.  
12 [applause] Former Assemblyman and the Brooklyn  
13 Democratic County Chair Frank Seddio is here.  
14 [applause] And another mentor, someone I've  
15 known for many years is the former Bronx  
16 Borough President Fernando Ferrer who is here  
17 with us. [applause] So, gracias to everybody.  
18 Thank you very much, and before I begin, I'd  
19 like to say a few words in Spanish. [speaking  
20 Spanish] So thank you very much. I'm very  
21 honored and truly humbled by this day. I want  
22 to thank friends, mentors, supporters, members  
23 of the public who have come today and those who  
24 are watching online or on TV to witness our  
25 democracy in action. I have to acknowledge,

2 obviously, first and foremost, very special  
3 guests that are here with me. I have mi familia  
4 that's here, mi ma ma [phonetic] from Puerto  
5 Rico is visiting, and my older brother Anthony  
6 Mark [phonetic] who's there as well.

7 [applause] They provided the foundation and  
8 support that have helped me to arrive at this  
9 moment and I want to thank them for their  
10 constant support and for being here today, and  
11 I also know that my father who never got to see  
12 me as an elected official would also be  
13 extremely proud today. I want to thank every  
14 one of my colleagues. Whether you're from the  
15 Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, or  
16 Manhattan, we all have the pleasure of serving  
17 in the greatest city in the world. I also want  
18 to personally thank someone who has  
19 demonstrated great courage today is my Council  
20 Member and colleague Dan Garodnick. [applause]  
21 Dan, we've been colleagues since we were sworn  
22 in together in 2006 and personally witnessed  
23 your swearing in and I look forward to working  
24 with you these next four years. You are an  
25 important and strong voice in the Council, and

2 we're lucky to have you in these chambers. I'm  
3 proud to say that Council Member Garodnick and  
4 I conducted the most transparent Speaker's race  
5 in New York City history with countless forums  
6 and debates, opening up the process like never  
7 before. And while it was difficult at times,  
8 that only makes today's show of unity even  
9 better. To my colleagues, I pledge you this, I  
10 look forward to working hand in hand with you  
11 in your districts, communities and  
12 neighborhoods. You all have a friend and an  
13 ally in the Speaker's office, and my door will  
14 always be open. We will work together because  
15 that is what New Yorkers expect and that is  
16 what New Yorkers deserve. This council will be  
17 unified--I'm sorry, my--he wasn't here earlier,  
18 but my brother Randy came here as well and I  
19 just want to thank him for being here.

20 [applause] We unite for a more equal and just  
21 New York where everyone, no matter what borough  
22 you are from, what neighborhood you were raised  
23 in, or who your parents were has equal  
24 opportunities. We will unite to create more  
25 affordable housing, improve our educational

2 system and help those who have fallen on hard  
3 times. We'll unite to fight to raise the  
4 minimum wage for low wage workers at fast food  
5 restaurants, car washes and airports.

6 [applause] For our undocumented immigrants who  
7 are fighting for a pathway to citizenship, we  
8 will unite to keep our economy strong whether  
9 you work on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx,  
10 Northern Boulevard in Queens, Flatbush Avenue  
11 in Brooklyn, Victory Boulevard on Staten Island  
12 or on Wall Street. We will unite for our brave  
13 first responders at NYPD, FDNY, EMS and  
14 Sanitation, our teachers, nurses, and everyone  
15 who helps make this magnificent city run. And  
16 yes, we will unite to hold the Administration  
17 and the Mayor accountable. [applause] This is  
18 our vision for this City Council, unity,  
19 independence, integrity, transparency and  
20 accountability. As many of you know, I came to  
21 New York at the age of 18 from Puerto Rico and  
22 I have lived here ever since. I have always  
23 loved the city. It's the place where my mother  
24 and my father were born, the place where I came  
25 to visit my grandfather during the summer time,



2 the place where my abuela who was part of the  
3 early Puerto Rican migration of the 1920's and  
4 30's became active. In many ways, when I came  
5 to New York I was following the in footsteps of  
6 my maternal grandmother who uprooted herself  
7 from Puerto Rico at the age of 18 to come to  
8 New York City in search of a better life,  
9 something unheard of at the time. Her daughter,  
10 my mother, who proudly hails from the Bronx  
11 went on to become a leader in Puerto Rico's  
12 feminist movement, starting one of the first  
13 law firms on the island led by women. So when  
14 I came to New York, it was no surprise that I  
15 found my home in activism. I have worked for  
16 two decades at the grass roots in non-profit  
17 organizations, in labor and as a public  
18 servant. Today marks the culmination of those  
19 years of service. As I stand here as the first  
20 Puerto Rican Speaker, as the first Latina  
21 Speaker, and the first Speaker to come from the  
22 Black, Latino, Asian Caucus, and as the first  
23 person of color, I remember my time working  
24 with young people at Aspida [phonetic] of New  
25 York, a Latino youth leadership development

2 organization. We taught these young people to  
3 embrace their heritage and their identity, to  
4 dream big and to work hard. I hope that as  
5 young Latinas and Latinos are witnessing this  
6 moment, they are able to dream that much bigger  
7 and are inspired to work that much harder  
8 because we have broken through one more  
9 barrier. Over the past few months I have laid  
10 out for all you my vision for Speakership that  
11 is open, inclusive, and transparent, a  
12 leadership style that allows all voices to be  
13 at the table helping to shape the direction we  
14 take as a legislative body, a leadership style  
15 that puts the will of the members and the needs  
16 of their constituents before the ambitions of a  
17 Speaker. Many have stated that giving  
18 additional power to individual members will  
19 undermine the ability of the Council to  
20 function effectively, but I believe that  
21 empowering each member will only mean that all  
22 of us will take greater ownership over this  
23 body and work that much harder to preserve its  
24 power and its integrity. This is our vision for  
25 the new New York City Council, and once again,

2 a major gracias to all of my colleagues. I look  
3 forward to continuing to work with each and  
4 every one of you and to serve the great people  
5 of the City of New York. Thank you.

6 [gavel]

7 [off mic]

8 LETITIA JAMES: Messages and papers  
9 from the Mayor.

10 UNKNOWN: M5, Mayor's Veto,  
11 Introductory Number 172A.

12 UNKNOWN: Finance.

13 UNKNOWN: M6, Mayor's Veto, Intro  
14 Number 859A.

15 UNKNOWN: Public Safety.

16 UNKNWON: M7, Mayor's Veto of Intro  
17 Numbers 867A.

18 UNKNOWN: Environmental Protection.

19 UNKNOWN: M8, Mayor's Veto, Intro  
20 Number 933A.

21 UNKNOWN: Health.

22 UNKNOWN: M9, Mayor's Veto Intro  
23 number 1055A.

24 UNKNOWN: Transportation.

25

2 UNKNOWN: M10, Mayor's Veto, Intro  
3 Number 1208A.

4 UNKNOWN: Civil Service and Labor.

5 LETITIA JAMES: Petitions and  
6 Communications.

7 UNKNOWN: M11, Designation of  
8 Minority Leader.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIERITO: Received,  
10 ordered, printed, and filed. And--

11 LETITIA JAMES: [interposing] And I  
12 recognize Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,  
14 and I want to call on Minority Leader, Vinny  
15 Ignizio to make some remarks.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you  
17 very much. Thank you all, and thank you  
18 Speaker Mark-Viverito, or Speaker MMV. On  
19 behalf of the Republican delegation, Eric,  
20 Steve, and myself we wish you well and we look  
21 forward. This is a great institution. I started  
22 in this institution in 1997 as a staff member,  
23 and I loved it then I love it now, and I think  
24 the press and those that are watching can take  
25 homage and look at this body and see what a

2 truly great body it is. There are people on  
3 both sides who supported Melissa, those who  
4 supported Dan, those who supported Jumaane,  
5 well, Jumaane supported Jumaane. I'm just  
6 kidding. That genuinely--at least it's you  
7 standing and Cornegy. Look at me compared to  
8 Cornegy. Who are genuinely good people, who  
9 gave their word to someone and stuck with it,  
10 who believed in a candidate and stuck with  
11 them, and that's what true democracy is all  
12 about. My colleagues on both sides of this  
13 fight weren't fighting. They believed someone  
14 would be better juxtaposed to the other person.  
15 We had two qualified candidates, and now we  
16 have one Speaker, and we all need to come  
17 together, lay off what occurred and say we have  
18 a job to do, because the people of the City of  
19 New York elected us to go before them and say  
20 we got your back. We understand there is fraud  
21 in the system, and we'll use our oversight  
22 power to get it, get to it. And by the way,  
23 that doesn't always put you at contention with  
24 the Mayor. The mayor wants us to find and root  
25 that out as well. Where we disagree with the

2 Mayor, this body will disagree respectfully.  
3 Where this delegation disagrees with the  
4 majority, this delegation will do it  
5 respectfully. We don't need to become some of  
6 our other colleagues in other jurisdictions  
7 around this country. This is the people's  
8 house. This will remain the people's house.  
9 This is the laboratory of people who want to  
10 see good public policy. We test it out here,  
11 and you know what, more often that's not. Good  
12 pieces of legislation spread from this New York  
13 City Council to the entire nation. And that's  
14 thanks to my colleagues right here. There is  
15 a lot of work to do, but I could tell you, the  
16 Republican Delegation, the more centrist and  
17 the more conservative, well you know what, we  
18 don't kids sleeping on the streets either. We  
19 don't want people in homeless shelters either.  
20 We don't want our seniors, our aging  
21 populations suffering because they can't pay  
22 for their own medicine and they have to choose  
23 between medicine and food. So you have a  
24 partner in us, Madam Speaker. You all know the  
25 Republican delegation in this body has always

2 been one that could work with anyone and will  
3 continue to do so, and I am proud to be elected  
4 by my great colleagues here, the next minority  
5 leader of the City Council. Thank you all very  
6 much. Thank you Madam Speaker.

7 [applause]

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I'd like to  
9 nominate the following Council Members as  
10 members of the Committee on Rules, Privileges  
11 and Elections of the City Council. I'd like to  
12 nominate Donovan Richards, Raphael Espinal,  
13 Margaret Chin, Debbie Rose, Ydanis Rodriguez,  
14 and Brad Lander.

15 LETITIA JAMES: The question on the  
16 floor is whether the Council would agree with  
17 and adopt such nominations. Will the clerk  
18 please call--

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO:  
20 [interposing] Hold on one second. I'm sorry.  
21 And I'd like the Chair of the Committee, Brad  
22 Lander.

23 LETITIA JAMES: Again, for this roll  
24 call, the question on the floor is whether the  
25 Council was--

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO:

3 [interposing] Sorry, we're all learning on the  
4 way here. I also have to nominate myself as a  
5 member of the Rules Committee. So I nominate  
6 myself.

7 LETITIA JAMES: Are we now finished?

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

9 LETITIA JAMES: Thank you. Okay.

10 For this roll call, the question on the floor  
11 is whether the Council would agree with and  
12 adopt such nominations. Will the Clerk please  
13 call the roll?

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Arroyo?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Barron?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cabrera?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Chin?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cohen?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Constantinides?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.



2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cornegy?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Crowley?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cumbo?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Deutsch?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dickens?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

12 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dromm?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Espinal?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Eugene?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ferreras?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Garodnick?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Motion to

22 explain my vote? Permission to explain my

23 vote?

24 LETITIA JAMES: Oh, yes.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank  
3 you. Madam Speaker, thank you for the  
4 nominations for the Rules Committee. I think  
5 we will--I certainly would vote yes, but I just  
6 would like to note that it does not include a  
7 broader coalition of members of the Council  
8 that I think probably should be included on the  
9 list. So I think we should revisit that  
10 question, but certainly we'll support this  
11 nomination today. I vote aye.

12 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gentile?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gibson?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Yes.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Greenfield?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Johnson?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Kallos?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: King?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koo?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koslowtiz?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lancman?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lander?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: With

8 humility and with a commitment to honor the  
9 vision laid out by our new Speaker and with  
10 respect to other comments that have been said  
11 today about the need for unity for transparency  
12 and for reform and a commitment to make those  
13 true of the rules committee and of the body and  
14 with thanks, aye.

15 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Levin?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

17 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Levine?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

19 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Maisel?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye.

21 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Matteo?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

23 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mealy?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

25 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Menchaca?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

3 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Mendez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

5 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Miller?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

7 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Palma?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Permission to  
9 explain my vote?

10 LETITIA JAMES: Yes.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Thank you,  
12 Madam Public Advocate. I also want to echo the  
13 sentiments of our colleague Dan Garodnick in  
14 asking for more inclusiveness in this  
15 committee. I vote aye.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Reynoso?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Richards?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rodriguez?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rose?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rosenthal?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

2 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Torres?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

4 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Treyger?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

6 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ulrich?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

8 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Vacca?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Yes.

10 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Vallone?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye as long

12 as the first rule is to open a window, please.

13 [laughter]

14 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Van Bramer?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

16 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Weprin?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

18 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Williams?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

20 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Wills?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

22 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ignizio?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

24 CLERK MCSWEENEY: Speaker Mark-

25 Viverito?

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye.

3 LETITIA JAMES: All items on today's  
4 General Order Calendar have been adopted by a  
5 vote of 51 in the affirmative, zero in the  
6 negative, no abstentions. We will now have  
7 communications from the Speaker.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I would like  
9 to call this meeting to recess and will be  
10 notified of the upcoming meeting. Thank you.

11 LETITIA JAMES: Thank you. The City  
12 Council is now in recess.

13 [gavel]

14 [applause]

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

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 there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is no interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date 01/13/2014