

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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December 20, 2023
Start: 10:18 a.m.
Recess: 10:24 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Justin L. Brannan, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Diana Ayala
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
David M. Carr
Amanda Farías
Kamillah Hanks
Crystal Hudson
Farrah N. Louis
Francisco P. Moya
Chi A. Ossé
Keith Powers
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Althea V. Stevens
Marjorie Velázquez
Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone
3 check for the Committee on Finance, recorded in the
4 committee room on December 20, 2023, by Layla Lynch.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning,
6 everybody, and welcome to the Committee on Finance.

7 At this time, we ask you to please place
8 phones on vibrate or silent mode. Thank you.

9 Chair, we are ready to begin.

10 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: [GAVEL] All right,
11 good morning. Welcome to today's Finance Committee
12 meeting. I'm Council Member Brannan. I have the
13 privilege of Chairing the Committee on Finance.

14 We've been joined this morning by Council
15 Members Barron, Brooks-Powers, Powers, Carr, Farías,
16 Ayala, Stevens, Velázquez, Sanchez, Ossé, Won,
17 Williams, and Brewer. On Zoom, we've got Hanks,
18 Hudson, and Louis.

19 Today, the Committee will be voting on
20 the following items, three property tax exemption
21 resolutions and a transparency resolution. First two
22 resolutions are an amendment and a renewal of an
23 existing partial 40-year Article V Reso. for three
24 buildings in Council Member Abreu's District. The
25 amendment will adjust the taxes due for FY-24 under

2 the existing Article V to reflect HPD's term sheet
3 requirements.

4 Next is a full 40-year Article XI for
5 eight buildings in Council Member Richardson Jordan's
6 and De La Rosa's Districts. As part of the exemption,
7 the new owner will enter an HPD regulatory agreement
8 restricting rents as well as conducting
9 rehabilitation, including replacement of the roof and
10 the windows, repairs to the façade, stairways and
11 doors, and conversion to LED lighting.

12 Lastly, the Transparency Resolution sets
13 forth the new designation and changes in the
14 designation of certain organizations receiving local
15 aging and youth discretionary funding and funding
16 pursuant to certain initiatives in the budget. As
17 with all transparency resolutions, Council Members
18 have a chance to sign a disclosure form indicating
19 whether or not a conflict exists with any of the
20 groups on the attached list.

21 If a Council Member has a potential
22 conflict of interest with any of the organizations
23 listed, they've got the opportunity to disclose the
24 conflict at the time of their vote. As a reminder,
25 please disclose any conflicts you may have with

2 proposed subcontractors used by organizations
3 sponsored by discretionary funding. These disclosures
4 must be made before the subcontractor can be
5 approved. Disclosure forms must be completed and
6 submitted prior to the vote on the transparency
7 resolution may be emailed to Everton Smith, who is
8 also present today in the Chambers to answer your
9 questions.

10 Just an FYI for Members, this
11 transparency resolution has nothing to do with the
12 Mayor's budget modification. This is just a
13 Transparency Reso. for money being moved around as
14 per B&T and various other discretionary funding
15 maneuvers. Got nothing to do with the budget mod.

16 Are there any questions from my
17 colleagues?

18 No questions.

19 Francisco Moya is also on Zoom.

20 I'll now ask the inimitable Billy Martin,
21 Committee Clerk, to call the roll for the final time.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Not ever
23 though, right? Just today. Not my final vote ever?

24 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: That's it, Billy.
25 You're out of here.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: What's in
3 the Transparency Reso?

4 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: For the final time
5 for the Finance Committee of 2023.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Oh, okay.
7 Thank you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee
8 Clerk. Roll call vote, Committee on Finance, all
9 items are coupled. Chair Brannan.

10 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: I vote aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ayala.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Moya.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
16 you. Powers.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Louis.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye, and I
20 would like to disclose for the record that CUNY is
21 being funded and my sister is a student at CUNY.
22 Thank you.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
24 you. Brooks-Powers.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Barron.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: For my final vote
4 on the Finance Committee, I do have a 30-minute
5 speech that I must make so I can explain to them how
6 we should've really used our finances in the City,
7 but I'm going to spare you that this morning, and I'm
8 going to uncharacteristically say aye on all, and
9 this is the last time you will ever hear that.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
11 you, Council Member Barron. Brewer.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Farías.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanks.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
18 you. Hudson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
21 you. Ossé.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Sanchez.
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2 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: I vote aye, and
3 I'd like to disclose on the record that my sibling is
4 an adjunct lecturer at CUNY.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Stevens.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all, and I
7 would like to disclose for the record that my
8 daughter is a CUNY student and an employee for
9 Presbyterian Hospital.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:
11 Velázquez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: I vote aye on
13 all and disclose that my brother is a board member of
14 Samaritans of New York and my husband is a Deputy
15 Commissioner at DEP. Gracias.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Williams.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye and
18 disclosing for the record that I'm a CUNY student and
19 fellow.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Won.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Carr.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I'd like to disclose
24 on the record that my husband is a student at CUNY,
25 and we're funding CUNY in this transparency

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2 resolution, and I vote no on Preconsidered Resolution
3 864 and aye on the rest.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
5 you. All items have been adopted by the Committee
6 with 18 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and
7 no abstentions with the exception of Preconsidered
8 Resolution 864 adopted by the Committee with 17 in
9 the affirmative, 1 in the negative, no abstentions.
10 Mr. Chair, that is a full Committee.

11 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: Billy, we're going
12 to miss you... [GAVEL] during Christmas vacation.

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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 22, 2023