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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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August 27, 2020
Start: 10:22 a.m.
Recess: 10:31 a.m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING

B E F O R E: Daniel Dromm,
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Adrienne E. Adams
- Alicka Ampry-Samuel
- Diana Ayala
- Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
- Laurie A. Cumbo
- Vanessa L. Gibson
- Mark Gjonaj
- Barry S. Grodenchik
- Karen Koslowitz
- Rory I. Lancman
- Farah N. Louis
- Steven Matteo
- Francisco P. Moya
- Keith Powers
- Helen K. Rosenthal
- James G. Van Bramer

1 COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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2 SERGEANT DAUTAJ: To minimize disruption, please
3 place electronic devices on vibrate or silent mode.

4 Thank you for your cooperation and we are ready
5 to begin.

6 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Good morning and welcome to
7 today's meeting of the Committee on Finance. I am
8 Council Member Daniel Dromm, I am the Chair of the
9 Committee.

10 This morning we have been joined by Council
11 Members Cumbo Majority Leader, Minority Leader
12 Matteo, Council Members Koslowitz, Adams, Ampry-
13 Samuel, Ayala, Gibson, Grodenchik, Lancman, Louis,
14 Moya, Powers, Rosenthal, Van Bramer, Gjonaj, and
15 Council Member Cornegy.

16 Today , the Committee will be voting on one
17 item, a transparency resolution. The transparency
18 resolution sets forth the new designation and changes
19 in the designation of certain organizations receiving
20 local aging, anti-poverty and youth discretionary
21 funding and funding pursuant to certain initiatives
22 in the budget. Organizations appearing in the
23 resolution that have not yet completed the pre-
24 qualification process conducted by the Mayor's Office
25 of Contract Services, the Council, or another entity

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2 are identified in the attached charts with an
3 asterisk.

4 As with all transparency resolutions, Council
5 Members will have to sign a disclosure form
6 indicating whether or not a conflict exists with any
7 of the groups on the attached list. If any Council
8 Member has a potential conflict of interest with any
9 of the organizations listed, he or she has the
10 opportunity to disclose the conflict at the time of
11 their vote.

12 As a reminder, please disclose any conflicts you
13 may have with proposed subcontractors used by
14 organizations sponsored by discretionary funding.
15 These disclosures must be made before the
16 subcontractor can be approved. Disclosure forms must
17 be completed and submitted prior to the vote on the
18 transparency resolution and may be emailed to Charles
19 and Davis. Are there any questions?

20 Hearing none, I will now as Billy Martin,
21 Committee Clerk to call the roll.

22 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Good morning. William Martin
23 Committee Clerk roll call vote Committee on Finance
24 on Preconsidered Resolution. Chair Dromm?

25 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: I vote aye.

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COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Gibson? Council Member
Gibson?

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Thank you. Cornegy?

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye, sorry,
technical issues, good morning.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Thank you Council Member
Gibson. Council Member Cornegy?

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Cumbo?

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Lancman?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Rosenthal?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Grodenchik?

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I vote aye and I'm
disclosing on the record that my son is a student,
although I think he just graduated. His course work
is done at Queens College CUNY which is funded in the

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budget and my son, my wife Deborah and my son David and I are volunteers for TSQ Incorporated, which is also funded in the budget.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Adams?

COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Ampry-Samuel.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Hi, I'm disclosing on the record of the Council proceedings that Department of Education is funded in the budget and my brother is employed with this entity and I vote aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Ayala?

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Hello?

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Yes, Council Member Ayala.

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Yes, aye, I vote aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Thank you. Gjonaj? I believe the Council Member currently lost the speaking ability. Council Member Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Matteo?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: I'm just disclosing that
3 my son is a TPS 30 that's in this Resolution that
4 we're funding and I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member Gjonaj is
6 present however, I do not believe he has audio. The
7 current vote now stands at 16 in the affirmative,
8 zero in the negative and no abstentions. The item
9 has been adopted by the Committee. Council Member
10 Dromm, Chair Dromm?

11 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Just, what I think we will do
12 is we will keep the vote open for Council Member
13 Gjonaj and for at least 10 more minutes but I do
14 understand that Council Member Barron has her hand
15 raised for a question or a statement.

16 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Yes.

17 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Council Member Barron?
18 Council Member Barron, did you want to ask a
19 question?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes, thank you so much.
21 Thank you to the Chair. It's not regarding - can you
22 hear me?

23 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay, it's not regarding
25 the matters on the calendar. It is regarding

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2 however, a budget item and since BNT I don't believe
3 is continuing to meet, I thought I would start here
4 with finance.

5 It regards the money that my understanding was in
6 the budget. That there would be \$20 million returned
7 for the ASAP, along with \$14 million, which would be
8 a total of \$34 million. Yesterday, it was said to me
9 that there was an error or discrepancy recording this
10 amount and that the 24 ASAP is not in fact in the
11 budget.

12 So, I am raising this question now with Finance,
13 hoping that I can get some clarity and some clear
14 understanding. I was told that it was 54 that CUNY
15 was requesting and not the 34. So, I would like some
16 clarity. I know this is the first time that you are
17 hearing about it. Council Member Dromm, I didn't get
18 a chance to talk to you previously but I want someone
19 to give me some clarity on the funding that is in
20 fact in this budget for ASAP and how that money is
21 designated.

22 I know you don't have an answer now but please.

23 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Thank you Council Member
24 Barron. I don't know the answer right now but we
25

1
2 will follow up with you and make sure that you get an
3 answer to your questions.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you very much Mr.
5 Chair.

6 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Okay, thank you and have we
7 been able to reconnect with Council Member Gjonaj?

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Yes sir, Councilman, I have
9 Councilman Gjonaj on the phone. He is going to
10 respond and vote through my phone.

11 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Okay.

12 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Mark, you are on.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Thank you Chair, I vote
14 aye.

15 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Committee Clerk, did you get
16 that?

17 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Yes, final vote now on the
18 Committee on Finance's Preconsidered Resolution has
19 been adopted by the Committee. 17 in the
20 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Thank you very much and with
23 that, this meeting is adjourned and we will see you
24 all later at the Stated this afternoon. Thank you
25 very much.

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 AUGUST 28 , 2020