

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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August 24, 2010
Start: 10:14 am
Recess: 10:54 am

HELD AT: Hearing Room
250 Broadway, 16th Fl.

B E F O R E:
LEROY G. COMRIE, JR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Daniel R. Garodnick
Sara M. Gonzalez
Robert Jackson
Rosie Mendez
Annabel Palma
Diana Reyna
Joel Rivera
James Sanders, Jr.
Larry B. Seabrook
James Vacca

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Albert Vann
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams
Daniel J. Halloran III
Vincent M. Ignizio
Peter A. Koo

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2 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: We are here
3 today, the full Land Use Committee meeting for
4 August 24th, 2010. We have a few items on the
5 agenda. First is the siting of a school in Queens
6 West, Community Board 2 in Queens, item 20085696
7 SCQ, a 665 seat primary/intermediate school in
8 Councilman Van Bramer's district.

9 Preconsidered LU number and item
10 number 20115135 HAK, an amendment to a previously
11 approved UDAAP in Council Member Dilan's district
12 in Brooklyn Community Board 5 for a property at 37
13 Van Siclen Avenue.

14 We have the items on 15 Penn Plaza
15 are still in the subcommittee and they are laid
16 over.

17 We have an individual landmark
18 property in Council Member Reyna's district, the
19 William Ulmer Brewery, item number 2010575 HKK,
20 Brooklyn Community Board 4. The William Ulmer
21 Brewer is located at 31 Belvidere Street.

22 We have another landmark in Council
23 Member Chin's district, the SoHo Cast Iron
24 Historic District designation in Manhattan
25 Community Board 2, 20105716 HKM.

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2 We also have some sidewalk cafés,
3 two in Speaker Quinn's district, item number
4 20105571 TCM, petition for Groove Enterprises to
5 do a sidewalk café at 125 Macdougall Street and
6 also Land Use item 167, item number 20105585 TCM
7 for a sidewalk café at 283 West 12th Street, known
8 as Smorgas Chef.

9 Then a sidewalk café in Council
10 Member Vallone's district, item number 20105611
11 TCQ in Community Board 12, on 3310 Ditmars
12 Boulevard, item known as Watawa.

13 Then we have the citywide
14 authorization legislation. You guys are not only
15 talking, but you're blocking the camera to look at
16 me, so please get out of the way. Just talking is
17 one thing, but gee whiz. That's for everybody.

18 We have Resolution number 191,
19 authorizing resolution for mobile
20 telecommunication services citywide. It was
21 amended to address our concerns that were raised
22 about the inclusion of MWBE. The agency did
23 provide some information to show their
24 improvements in it. It's item number 20105618
25 GFY.

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2 Then we have some UDAAPs. One in
3 Council Member Foster's district, item number
4 20115131 HAX. It's an asset control at 1341
5 Chisholm Street in the Bronx, Community Board 3.
6 Item number 20115113 HAK, Council Member Levin's
7 district. It's a rehab, section 577 project at 31
8 Saint Mark's Place in Brooklyn in Council Member
9 Levin's district, as I said.

10 And finally, in Council Member
11 Dilan's district, we have more properties, item
12 number 20115134 HAK, low income rentals in
13 Community Board 5, 315 Jerome, 521 Linwood, 525
14 and 527 Linwood and 535 Linwood Street in
15 Brooklyn.

16 Does anybody have any comments on
17 any item on today's calendar? I will not read it
18 again. Seeing no questions, I would recommend a
19 yes vote to all items on today's calendar and I'd
20 ask the clerk to call the roll.

21 There will be a full committee
22 meeting tomorrow as we have not voted the Penn
23 Plaza project. There will be a Zoning
24 Subcommittee meeting tomorrow and a full committee
25 meeting tomorrow, times to be determined. So

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2 please have your staff be flexible and be alert
3 for the call so we can lock in the time. Those
4 are going to be new meetings. So you will not
5 have credit for showing up. If you're not at that
6 meeting, you will be marked absent.

7 Also, while we're waiting to call
8 the roll, we did get a letter from Vornado
9 regarding the MWBE. It is not satisfactory to me
10 and I will be conveying that to the Vornado
11 people. They went out of the room.

12 With that, the clerk can call the
13 roll. I recommend a yes vote on everything on
14 today's calendar.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin,
16 Committee Clerk, roll call vote on the Committee
17 on Land Use. Council Member Comrie?

18 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: Aye on all.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN: Rivera?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye
21 on all.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN: Reyna?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Thank you,
24 Mr. Chair. I just wanted to thank the Landmarks
25 Commission as well as the Landmarks Committee

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2 under the leadership of our chair, Brad Lander, on
3 a favorable vote for William Ulmer Brewery. I
4 know that we've been joined by the Landmarks
5 Commission, Jennie, who has been very remarkable
6 in just making sure that this application was
7 sought through from beginning to end.

8 It gives me great pleasure to know
9 that we are putting Bushwick on the map of
10 landmarking for the City of New York. The William
11 Ulmer Brewery is best known for its German
12 history. The 12 German brewers that established
13 what was considered to be the lager beer of
14 Brooklyn produced in the north Brooklyn area of
15 Williamsburg, Greenpoint and Bushwick.

16 This particular site on Belvidere
17 is now going to be a landmarked destination
18 welcoming everyone internationally to come and
19 visit and walk through what was known to be a
20 product that was manufactured in north Brooklyn in
21 my district. I'm very proud of this 19th to early
22 20th century industry, an industry that we no
23 longer see, other than Brooklyn Brewer. We
24 welcome you to have Brooklyn Lager and in the name
25 of William Ulmer Brewery, we are very much in

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2 favor of this landmarks application and we hope to
3 see more of them so that we can begin to create
4 the history and remind ourselves of the history of
5 what industry employed and how much it was a part
6 of the fabric of Brooklyn. Thank you so much. I
7 vote aye.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN: Barron?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Mr. Chair?
10 Is the mobile to spy on me? Is it going to be any
11 spying on me with the mobile?

12 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: I'm sure
13 that's already been done and logged already.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Well in
15 that case, I vote aye on all.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN: Jackson?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote aye
18 on all.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN: Seabrook?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye on
21 all.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN: Gonzalez?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on
24 all.

25 WILLIAM MARTIN: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Garodnick?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Mendez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Vacca?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Lander?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Explain my

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vote? First, as I said yesterday, I repeat today,

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Council Member Reyna, that I'm disappointed that

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we don't have any samples from the Ulmer Brewery

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to consider as we are doing the preservation of

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this brewery.

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Second, I want to praise the chair

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on pushing more on the MWBE on Vornado. I had

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occasion to be looking at the MWBE report that's

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available from the administration for the first

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six months of last year and it is abysmal. It's

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an embarrassment and we need to be doing more, not

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always in Land Use, but this was an important

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opportunity. I thank you for taking it. With

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that, I vote aye on all.

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CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: I have to give

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2 the credit to Council Member Vann. There was a
3 really stupid, inconsiderate, idiotic statement
4 that was made by Vornado yesterday. What they
5 presented today actually did not address any of
6 their personnel internally. For him to make that
7 kind of statement, he's going to have to do much
8 better with what he presented today. If you were
9 here Charles, you would still be peeling him off
10 the walls.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN: Weprin?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN: Williams?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN: Ignizio?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you.

17 I vote no on Reso 191 and aye on all others.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN: Koo?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on
20 all.

21 WILLIAM MARTIN: All items on
22 today's agenda are adopted by a vote of 16 in the
23 affirmative, zero in the negative and no
24 abstentions, with the exception of Resolution 191
25 which is adopted by a vote of 15 in the

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2 affirmative, 1 in the negative and zero
3 abstentions.

4 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: We're going to
5 hold the vote open until 4:30. I'm just kidding.
6 I was waiting for Carol's head to pop up.

7 [Laughter]

8 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: We'll hold the
9 vote open until 11:50. We had two members that
10 called and said they were on their way. We are
11 meeting tomorrow, the Subcommittee for Zoning. We
12 don't know the times, but we are meeting tomorrow.
13 With that, I'll say the Land Use meeting is
14 adjourned.

15 [Pause]

16 WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member
17 Vann?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Where are we?

19 WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member
20 Vann?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

22 [Pause]

23 WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member
24 Levin?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye

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2 on all.

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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member

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Sanders?

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: I vote aye

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on all because that's the way my chair went.

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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member

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Halloran?

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye to

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all.

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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member

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Arroyo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Final vote on the

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Committee on Land Use. All items are adopted by a

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vote of 21 in the affirmative, zero in the

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negative and no exceptions; except for Reso 191

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which is adopted by a vote of 20 in the

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affirmative, 1 in the negative and zero

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abstentions.

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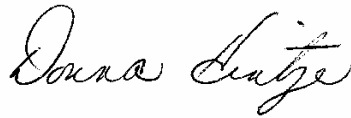
COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Can I

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adjourn? Meeting adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Donna Hintze certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.



Signature_____

Date September 9, 2010