

COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES & ELECTIONS

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES AND
ELECTIONS

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June 2, 2022
Start: 9:13 a. m.
Recess: 1:27 p. m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: Hon. Keith Powers, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams
Joseph C. Borelli
Justin L. Brannan
Gale Brewer
Selvena Brooks-Powers
Crystal Hudson
Rafael Salamanca
Pierina Ana Sanchez

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

N/A

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2 SERGEANT LUGO: Pc recording done.

3 SERGEANT BRADLEY: Cloud recording is up.

4 SERGEANT LUGO: Thank you. Good morning everyone,
5 welcome to today's remote New York City Council Vote
6 of The Comptroller's Office Rules, Privileges and
7 Elections.

8 At this time will all panelists please turn on
9 your videos?

10 To minimize disruptions, please place all
11 electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

12 Thank you for your cooperation, Chair Powers, we
13 are ready to begin.

14 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Thank you. Good morning,
15 everyone, and welcome to the Committee on Rules,
16 Privileges and Elections. My name is Keith Powers, I
17 am the Chair of this committee.

18 Before we begin the hearing today, I wanted to
19 introduce the council members on this committee who
20 have joined us today. We are joined by Minority
21 Leader Joseph Borelli; Council Member Justin Brannan,
22 Council Member Gale Brewer; Council Member Crystal
23 Hudson, and Council Member Pierina Ana Sanchez; I
24 believe we will be joined by more shortly.

25

2 I'd like to also acknowledge Rules Committee
3 Counsel Lance Polivy, and the staff members of The
4 Council's Investigative Unit Chuck Davis, Francesca
5 Della Vecchia and Investigators Alycia
6 Vassell and Ramses Boutin.

7 Today our committee will be hearing... will be
8 voting on a resolution pursuant to the State Open
9 Meetings Law regarding the videoconferencing for City
10 Council Meetings. First the resolution provides that
11 the Council and its Committees and Subcommittees may
12 use videoconferencing to conduct meetings provided
13 that a quorum is physically present in the same
14 physical location where the public can attend.

15 A council member can only participate virtually if
16 they are unable to physically present due to
17 extraordinary circumstances as detailed in the
18 resolution.

19 Second, when council members make use of
20 videoconferencing, the public is allowed to attend
21 the meeting by videoconferencing and participate by
22 videoconferencing if it is a meeting during which the
23 public can participate.

24 Third, the resolution enables The Speaker to make
25 any and all determinations pursuant to the State Open

2 Meetings Law during a state disaster emergency
3 declared by The Governor or local emergency declared
4 by The Mayor, including suspension of any and all in-
5 person participation requirements of the State Open
6 Meetings Law because of circumstances necessitating
7 the emergency declaration would affect or impair the
8 ability of The City Council or all of its committees
9 to hold in-person meetings.

10 Before we take a vote today, I want to check with
11 anyone to see if they have any questions or comments
12 on the resolution prior to us voting on it.

13 Okay, seeing no hands up, we will now take a call
14 of the roll vote on this one. I am going to call
15 upon the clerk to take the rollcall vote on this
16 resolution.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, William Martin,
18 Committee Clerk; rollcall vote for The Committee on
19 Rules, Privileges and Elections on the Preconsidered
20 Resolution.

21 Chair Powers?

22 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye, sir.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

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2 Brannan?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks - Powers?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS - POWERS: I vote aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, thank you.

7 Brewer?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [NO AUDIO]

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: You're muted Council Member
10 Brewer.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you, we just
12 voted... I vote aye, and we just voted... (CROSS-
13 TALK)

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you... (CROSS-TALK)

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: in the Manhattan Borough
16 Board on the same topic. And I think it will behoove
17 all of us to ,you know, pay attention to see if this
18 works and what any challenges are in case the Open
19 Meetings Law needs to be tweaked or changed in any
20 way. But, I think it's a compromise that, uh, across
21 the state that we're going to live with, uh, due to
22 COVID. And, I look forward to participating in any
23 analysis.

24 I vote aye, and thank you.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

2 Hudson?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

5 Sanchez?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote no.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 7 in the
10 affirmative, 1 in the negative, and no abstentions,
11 the item has been adopted by The Counsel... (CROSS-
12 TALK)

13 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: And, we're going to have...
14 We're going to... We're going to just recess this
15 meeting, so we can... (CROSS-TALK)

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yep

17 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: keep the vote open and give
18 others an opportunity to... (CROSS-TALK)

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yep.

20 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: uhm, to, uh, uh, come and
21 vote. So, I am just going to ask that we, uh, recess
22 this meeting, and then we will take any final votes
23 and do a final tally at the end of it.

24 Uhm, so, with that The Committee on Rules,
25 Privileges and Elections is hereby recessed, and we

2 will see you guys sometime in the future to continue
3 it.

4 Thanks, everyone.

5 SERGEANT LUGO: Pc recording started. Sergeant
6 Bradley, we are recording.

7 SERGEANT BRADLEY: Cloud recording is up.

8 SERGEANT LUGO: Thank you. Good afternoon,
9 everyone. Welcome to the continuation of Rules,
10 Privileges and Elections.

11 To minimize disruptions, please place all
12 electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

13 Majority Leader Powers, we are ready to begin.

14 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Thank you, Sergeants.

15 Uh, welcome back, we are here convening our
16 recessed meeting from earlier today of The Committee
17 on Rules, Privileges and Elections. I am the Chair,
18 Council Member Keith Powers.

19 We are going to both reopen the vote, but before
20 we do that, we are going to ask for any individuals
21 from the public to come forward. I don't believe we
22 have any signed up at the moment, but if any folks
23 would like to sign up to speak, we will give you a
24 moment to, uh, sign up with us.

2 Okay, I don't believe we have anyone from the
3 public here signed up.

4 We will... I am going to ask if we can... If...
5 the Legislative Clerk if we can keep the vote open to
6 continue the vote if possible? And, we will stand,
7 uh, here waiting for other folks who are welcome to
8 vote.

9 Oh, and we are joined by Speaker Adams, nice to
10 see you. Uh... (CROSS-TALK)

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: I am going to ask the clerk
13 to reopen the vote, uh, allow you an opportunity to
14 vote.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Okay, good afternoon,
16 continuation rollcall; The Committee on Rules,
17 Privileges and Elections.

18 Speaker Adams?

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

21 The final vote on The Committee on Rules,
22 Privileges and Elections on the Preconsidered
23 Resolution is now 8 in the affirmative, 1 in the
24 negative, and no abstentions.

25 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Great, thank you, Clerk.

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2 Uh, with that, uh, we are going to... that's...

3 The Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, uh,

4 the second meeting is adjourned, thanks so much.

5 UNKNOWN: Thanks, guys.

6 [GAVELING OUT] [GAVEL SOUND]

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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 July 7, 2022