

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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AUGUST 11, 2022  
Start: 10:29  
Recess: 11:02

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: JUSTIN L. BRANNAN - CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS: DIANA I. AYALA  
CHARLES BARRON  
GALE A. BREWER  
SELVENA N. BROOKS-POWERS  
DAVID M. CARR  
AMANDA FARÍAS  
KAMILLAH HANKS  
CRYSTAL HUDSON  
ARI KAGAN  
FARAH N. LOUIS  
FRANCISCO P. MOYA  
CHI A. OSSÉ  
KEITH POWERS  
PIERINA ANA SANCHEZ  
MARJORIE VELÁZQUEZ  
JULIE WON

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

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: This is a microphone  
3 test for the Committee on Finance. Today's date is  
4 August 11th, 2022. Located in the Chambers. Being  
5 recorded by Danny Huang.

6 SGT. HUANG: Quiet please.

7 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: (Gavel  
8 pounding). Good morning everyone. And welcome to  
9 today's Finance Committee Meeting. My name is  
10 Council Member Justin Brannan. I am the Chair of the  
11 Finance Committee. And today we have two items on  
12 the agenda. A Property Tax Rebate bill which we are  
13 very excited about and a Transparency Resolution. So  
14 let's begin with the Property Tax Bill. This pre-  
15 considered legislation sponsored by Speaker Adams and  
16 myself will provide a rebate of Real Property Taxes  
17 for eligible properties on Fiscal Year '22 Property  
18 Taxes. The rebate would be the lesser of \$150 for  
19 the properties annual real estate tax liability. To  
20 be eligible for the rebate the property must be a  
21 one, two or three family residence or a dwelling unit  
22 in a Co-op or condo and the property must be the  
23 primary residence of the owner. In addition, the  
24 income of all owners for whom the property serves as  
25 their primary residence cannot exceed \$250,000. I

2 have repeatedly said in this Committee and throughout  
3 the FY'23 Budget Process that homeowners have  
4 struggled through the pandemic and are continuing to  
5 struggle now with inflation running high. Any  
6 measures that this Council can take to ease this  
7 burden we are going to do it. We are grateful to our  
8 partners in the State Assembly and the Senate for  
9 passing enabling legislation that allows us to vote  
10 on this pre-considered bill today and this would be  
11 the first property tax rebate from the City in 15  
12 years. So we are proud, very, very proud to get this  
13 done. This is a bi-partisan effort to do something  
14 that hasn't been done in a long time which is put  
15 money back in the hands of working and middle class  
16 New Yorkers. Next, we will turn to transparency  
17 resolution #16. This resolution approves the new  
18 designation and the change in the designation of  
19 certain organizations receiving funding in the  
20 expense budget. As with all transparency  
21 resolutions, Council Members will have to sign a  
22 disclosure form indicating whether or not a conflict  
23 exists with any of the groups in the attached list.  
24 This disclosure form and the accompanying  
25 instructions were emailed to all members by the

2 Finance Division. If any Council Member has a  
3 potential conflict of interest with any of the  
4 organizations listed they have an opportunity to  
5 disclose the conflict at the time of their vote. As  
6 a reminder, please disclose any conflicts you may  
7 have with proposed subcontractors used by the  
8 organization sponsored by the City's discretionary  
9 funding. These disclosures must be made before the  
10 subcontractor can be approved. Disclosure forms must  
11 be completed and submitted prior to the vote on the  
12 Transparency Resolution and may be emailed to Julius  
13 Coronda in the GCs office. I want to give a special  
14 shout out to Jim Carrus on the speaker's team who has  
15 been helping the Finance Committee for months now on  
16 top of his normal duties. Jim we appreciate all that  
17 you have done and continue to do for this body for so  
18 many years. And it's good to have my man Malcolm  
19 Butehorn back riding shot gun if only for a moment.

20 MALCOLM BUTEHORN: Thank you Justin.

21 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: I just want  
22 to correct the record. I said it was Transparency  
23 Reso #16, it's actually Transparency Reso #2. I'm  
24 getting ahead of myself there. And I'll now ask  
25 Billy Martin the Committee Clerk to call the roll.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Good  
3 morning. William Martin Committee Clerk. Roll call  
4 vote Committee on Finance. Both items are coupled.  
5 Chair Brannan?

6 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Proudly vote  
7 aye.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

9 DIANA AYALA: I vote aye.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

11 KEITH POWERS: Aye.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

13 FARAH LOUIS: Aye.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-  
15 Powers?

16 BaSELVENA BROOKS-POWERS: I'd like to  
17 explain my vote.

18 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Go ahead.

19 SELVENA BROOKS-POWERS: Well I want to  
20 really disclose that I am affiliated with the Greater  
21 Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York. I'm a member and  
22 I vote aye on all.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

24 CHARLES BARRON: I'd like to increase the  
25 rebate to \$500. Then I can vote for it. No, I vote

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2 all on all. I'd like to disclose that my son works  
3 as a cameraman for Brick Arts & Media in Brooklyn,  
4 Inc. Aye on all.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank  
6 you. Brewer?

7 GALE BREWER: Aye on all.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Farias?

9 AMANDA FARIAS: I'd like to disclose that  
10 I have a sibling that attends Stringer High School on  
11 27 and that school is receiving a COSO grant from  
12 your organization the disclosure and I vote aye.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks?

14 KAMILLAH HANKS: Aye on all.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson?

16 CRYSTAL HUDSON: Aye on all and I'd like  
17 to disclose that my domestic partner works for  
18 Planned Parenthood for America.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Kagan?

20 ARI KAGAN: Aye. Very excited about tax  
21 rates for homes.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Carr?

23 DAVID CARR: Permission to explain my  
24 vote?

25 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Yes sir.

2           DAVID CARR: I just would like to discuss  
3 that a transparency resolution being voted on today  
4 which includes distribution, post-budget of daily  
5 initiative funding for Staten Island. That with the  
6 subject of ongoing discussions and deliberations that  
7 had not yet ripened and come to a conclusion and so I  
8 think it's unfortunate that this resolution contains  
9 that allocation and so because that conversation was  
10 short-circuited I will be voting no on pre-considered  
11 resolution 288 and aye on introduction 600 and I'd  
12 just like to disclose on the record that the  
13 transparency does include funding for CUNY and my  
14 domestic partner is a student at CUNY.

15           WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: With 12  
16 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no  
17 abstentions the Committee has adopted the pre-  
18 considered introduction and with 11 in the  
19 affirmative 1 in the negative and no abstentions the  
20 Committee has also adopted pre-considered resolution  
21 and the vote will be held open at request of the  
22 Chair.

23           CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: You are all  
24 free to go except Diana Ayala.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Good  
3 morning. Continuation roll call. Committee on  
4 Finance pre-considered introduction and pre-  
5 considered resolution. Council Member Velazquez?

6 MARJORIE VELAZQUEZ: Aye on all.

7 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Aye on  
8 all. The vote is still held open.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:  
10 Continuation of roll call Committee on Finance on  
11 introduction, pre-considered introduction and pre-  
12 considered resolution. Council Member Osse?

13 CHI OSSE: I vote aye.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Final  
15 vote. Committee on Finance. We had a pre-considered  
16 introduction adopted by the Committee with 14 in the  
17 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.  
18 And pre-considered resolution has been adopted by the  
19 Committee with 13 in the affirmative, 1 in the  
20 negative and no abstentions. Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: The Finance  
22 Hearing is adjourned. (gavel pounding).

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