

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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December 20, 2010

Start: 2:03pm

Recess: 3:18pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
SPEAKER QUINN
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo
- Council Member Charles Barron
- Council Member Gale A. Brewer
- Council Member Fernando Cabrera
- Council Member Margaret S. Chin
- Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley
- Council Member Inez E. Dickens
- Council Member Erik Martin Dilan
- Council Member Daniel Dromm
- Council Member Mathieu Eugene
- Council Member Lewis A. Fidler
- Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick
- Council Member Vincent J. Gentile

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez
Council Member David G. Greenfield
Council Member Daniel J. Halloran III
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Letitia James
Council Member Peter A. Koo
Council Member G. Oliver Koppell
Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Council Member Brad S. Lander
Council Member Jessica S. Lappin
Council Member Stephen T. Levin
Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito
Council Member Darlene Mealy
Council Member Rosie Mendez
Council Member Michael C. Nelson
Council Member James S. Oddo
Council Member Annabel Palma
Council Member Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Council Member Diana Rivera
Council Member Joel Rivera
Council Member Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Council Member Deborah L. Rose
Council Member James Sanders, Jr.
Council Member Larry B. Seabrook
Council Member Eric A. Ulrich
Council Member James Vacca
Council Member Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
Council Member James G. Van Bramer
Council Member Albert Vann
Council Member Mark S. Weprin
Council Member Jumaane D. Williams
Council Member Ruben Wills

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

Raymond Kelly
Police Commissioner
New York City Police Department

Ferris Jones
Detective
New York City Police Department

LGBTQ Youth
Representative
LGBTQ Community

Ray Bagnuolo
Reverend
Jan Hus Presbyterian Church

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: All right, we're
3 going to start our ceremonials, if I could ask the
4 Police Commissioner and Council Members Vallone
5 and James and Detective Jones to join us here in
6 the middle. M. Detective, Council Member James.
7 Let me turn the microphone over to Commissioner,
8 why don't you--to the Chair of our Public Safety
9 Committee, Council Member Vallone.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you,
11 Madam Speaker. It's my honor to have worked with
12 the Speaker and our other Council Members today to
13 present this proclamation to a true New York hero.
14 Now, we've all heard by now that Detective
15 Jonesie, as she likes to be called [laughter] shot
16 the gun out of a, out of a robber's hands. Now we
17 don't know that wasn't her first option, the first
18 option was actually to shoot the chandelier down
19 on top of his head, but there was no chandelier,
20 so she took the second option and just shot the
21 gun out of this hand. But you don't need to go to
22 the movies to see "True Grit," we have it right
23 here in the New York City Council. So I want to,
24 I'm not going to go into any specifics, 'cause I
25 want the Police Commissioner to be able to do

1
2 that, and we're honored to have him with us here
3 today. Commissioner Kelly?

4 [applause]

5 RAYMOND KELLY: Thank you very
6 much, Peter. I want to thank the City Council for
7 recognizing the exceptional heroism of Detection
8 Jones. As Peter said, the facts are pretty much
9 known by everybody, there was a article in New
10 York Magazine just last week, and I'm sure you
11 saw. But let me just go over them again. On
12 October 23rd, Detective Jones, then Police Officer
13 Jones, was in having her hair done, it was a
14 Saturday afternoon, in the [laughter, crosstalk]
15 in the location, I think it was Sabine's Hallway
16 Salon, and it was literally in the hallway. It
17 was only about ten feet across and about maybe 30
18 feet in length. So, the quarters were very tight.
19 When an individual, first a woman came in and sort
20 of scouted the place out, left, and left the door
21 open, the door had normally been locked. And she
22 was followed in by a man armed with a gun who
23 announced a hold up, told everybody to move to the
24 back, move into the bathroom, where he, then he
25 started to go through purses and take money.

1
2 Officer Jones was in the, in the back in the
3 bathroom with other customers. She told one of
4 them to call 911, she told them to stay down, that
5 she was going to go out into the main part of the
6 store and confront this individual. She did, she
7 opened the door, she identified herself as a
8 police officer. This individual started shooting.
9 And if you look at where the, his bullets landed,
10 it came very, very close to Officer Jones. She
11 fired back, struck him in the hand, and also
12 struck the lock on the front door. And he started
13 to crawl out, and he, he couldn't open the door,
14 so he had to go through the under part of the
15 door, kick out the under slats of the door. She
16 followed him out in the street, made certain she
17 knew which direction he, he left in or which
18 direction he fled in, and that enabled detectives
19 to trace a blood trail, ultimately apprehend this
20 individual, Detective Jones identified him in a
21 photo array. So, she did absolutely an
22 outstanding job, and for her heroism and good
23 work, I was honored with Mayor Bloomberg to
24 promote Officer Jones to Detective, just three
25 days after that. [applause, cheers] So let me

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2 thank you, Detective Jones, for your great work
3 and congratulations. Thank you. [applause]

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Do you just want to
5 add anything before--

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: So,
7 obviously, we celebrated Jonesie in the Great
8 Borough of Brooklyn, the Borough President hailed
9 her. And as I said at the time, the salon is
10 actually in Council Member Vann's district, it's
11 two blocks outside of my district, but I know
12 Sabine, I know the salon, and I know where the
13 incident happened. And what I said then is, was
14 true then and it's true today, and that is don't
15 mess with a woman while she's getting her hair
16 made up. [laughter] That's the most dangerous
17 position to be in. So, after she shot him, point
18 blank, then they went on to finish her hairstyle
19 and it's absolutely beautiful. Congratulations
20 Jonesie, you made us all proud. [applause]

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Can the Clerk
22 please read the proclamation?

23 CLERK: Council, City of New York
24 Proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the City of
25 New York is proud to honor NYPD Police Officer

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2 Ferris Jones for her courageous off-duty rescue on
3 October 23, 2010. And whereas, originally from
4 Barbados, Officer Ferris Jones is a 20 year
5 veteran of the New York City Police Department.
6 On Saturday, October 23rd, New York City Police
7 Officer Ferris Jones was off duty in Sabine,
8 Sabine's Hallway, a beauty salon in Brooklyn, when
9 a young man walked in and demanded everyone's
10 money. Shouting death threats and brandishing
11 gun, he forced Officer Jones and three other
12 women, the owner, a worker and another client,
13 into a bathroom in the back of the shop; then
14 returned to the front in search of the owner's
15 wallet. And whereas, Officer Jones instructed the
16 other women to lie on the floor, out of the likely
17 line of fire; then drew her .38 caliber revolver,
18 stepped through the bathroom door, identified
19 herself as a cop, and told the gunman to drop his
20 weapon. The gunman pulled the trigger of his
21 Ruger .44 caliber magnum, but his bullet missed.
22 Fortunately, Officer Jones had perfect aim. One
23 of her bullets hit him in the hand and forced the
24 weapon loose. Although she had been a member of
25 the NYPD for 20 years, this was the first incident

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2 in which she had ever fired her weapon. And
3 whereas, when the bleeding gunman realized who he
4 was up against and fled by crawling through
5 [laughter] a lower panel in the door, Officer
6 Jones pursued the man onto the street and relayed
7 his direction to a 911 operator. The NYPD
8 followed a trail of blood to a nearby apartment,
9 belonging to the man's mother and he was arrested
10 a short time later. And whereas, noting her
11 incredible reserve under fire, as well as her
12 marksmanship, NYPD Police Commissioner Raymond
13 Kelly promoted Ferris Jones to the rank of
14 Detective on October 26th. It is a great
15 privilege to publicly thank her once again for her
16 bravery, her professionalism and her composure.
17 She is truly one of New York City's finest. Now
18 therefore be it known that the Council of the City
19 of New York gratefully honors Detective Ferris
20 Jones for her valiant, off-duty rescue on October
21 23, 2010. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
22 Entire Council; Peter F. Vallone, Jr., Chair,
23 Committee on Public Safety, Council Member 22nd
24 District Queens.

25 [applause]

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: And just before I
3 say a few words and then give the microphone to
4 Detective Jones, let me call on the Council Member
5 whose district this happened in, somebody who
6 knows a little bit about bravery himself as a
7 former Marine, Council Member Al Vann.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Thank you. I
9 would only say that we are very, very proud of
10 you. And I just hope that your family will have a
11 great holiday season. You set such an example for
12 young people, and I'm pleased that you're in the
13 Bed-Stuy area, and I'm glad that we had an
14 opportunity to pay respect to you. God bless.

15 [applause]

16 SPEAKER QUINN: And Detective, I
17 just want to add, thank you so much. You know,
18 thank you for joining the Police Department, thank
19 you for 20 years of service, thank you for doing
20 your job 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365
21 days a year. You were not working when you were
22 getting your hair done that day, but you're always
23 working, 'cause that's what is true about every
24 New York City Police Officer. And thank you also
25 for going into a field that still doesn't have a

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2 lot of African or Caribbean American women in it.
3 And every day, you're out there, you're a role
4 model to other women and girls in this City, and
5 you inspire more than we probably can ever count,
6 by the coverage of your bravery that day. So,
7 thank you so much for being, not only brave, but a
8 trail blazer in our City. Thank you so very much,
9 and I call on you to say a few words.

10 FERRIS JONES: This isn't really
11 just only for me, this is for NYPD, all the
12 officers who caught their defendant, and thank
13 you.

14 RAYMOND KELLY: Thank you.

15 [applause]

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you,
17 Detective. And I am now going to pull the
18 prerogative, you get as the first female Speaker,
19 which is that all the Council Women [background
20 noise] and the Detective, with the Police
21 Commissioner, we'll let him in as an honorary gal,
22 are going to take a picture if the Detective will
23 allow. [background noise] Mike Nelson, get out!
24 James Sanders, get out!

25 [pause, background noise]

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: All right, we're
3 going to just ask folks if they can step to the
4 side, we're going to do our next ceremonial.
5 Thank you very much Detective, and thank you
6 Commissioner. Next we're going to ask the folks
7 from, representing the LGBTQ Youth Centers to come
8 on up front, please.

9 [pause, background noise]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Okay, if we can get
11 Council Member Fidler for the ceremonial, please?
12 [background noise] And if the young people, once
13 you get your proclamation, if you just lined up
14 right in front here, that would be great. [pause,
15 background noise] Just, we're just waiting for
16 Council Member Fidler. Oh, boy. Give us one sec,
17 sorry. [pause, background noise] Right and as
18 the Chair of Youth Services Committee is making
19 his way up, I want to thank everybody from all of
20 the different organizations who are here today,
21 Green Chimneys and Ali Forney, and the Yes
22 Program, and the Hetrick Martin Institute, and the
23 Metropolitan Community Church of New York, and let
24 me hand the mic over to the Chair of our Youth
25 Services Committee and Assistant Majority Leader

1

2 Lew Fidler.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Well, I have to tell you, we try and empower young people in our City every day. Some come with greater challenges than others. And sometimes, we put extra obstacles in front of young people and they manage to surmount them anyway. The young people that are here have surmounted those obstacles, obstacles that shouldn't be there, in a way that really says that every young person in the City of New York ought to be able to do what they want to do and be who they are no matter who they are. And I know this Council has stood for that proposition, these young people have succeeded and they are, they are role models to all young people whatever their background is. As evidence of the fact that you can be who you are in this City, you can be accepted for who you are in this City, and still make it in New York wherever you come from and whatever your background is. So I am very pleased to join them here today for this proclamation, and I guess I'll turn it back to the Speaker.

25

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

1
2 much, and I just want to say a couple things in
3 addition to what Council Member Fidler just said,
4 I want to just take a moment to thank Council
5 Member Fidler, 'cause the Council, a number of
6 years ago, really spearheaded the funding in the
7 budget for shelter beds for homeless and runaway
8 and LGBTQ youth. And you might assume that that
9 effort was spearheaded by one of the openly LGBT
10 Council Members at the time. That's actually not
11 true. That was spearheaded by Lew Fidler. And
12 this is an issue that probably, if you surveyed
13 all of his constituents, it wouldn't make the top
14 100 issues in his district. But he has taken this
15 issue on with a depth of conviction and commitment
16 unparalleled by any member of our community. And
17 nothing actually makes me prouder about this City
18 Council than I can say our leader on LGBTQ youth
19 is Lew Fidler. So, thank you very, very much, Lew
20 for that great work. [applause] And I also want
21 to thank Council Member Rosie Mendez and Council
22 Member Jimmy Van Bramer, and Danny Dromm, the
23 other members, as myself, of the LGBT Caucus, and
24 thank them and Lew and Eric Bocher [phonetic], my
25 LGBT liaison for participating in a roundtable

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2 with some of the young people and others who are
3 here today to talk about, at that event not just
4 how we can prevent losing what we have, but how we
5 can do more for LGBTQ young people in the City of
6 New York. And I just want to thank all of you as
7 Lew said, at times in the face of great, great
8 obstacles and great challenges, for never losing
9 faith in yourself, in your community, or in the
10 City, and you really are, I hope you know, an
11 inspiration to all of us in the City Council on a
12 daily basis, an inspiration to other young people,
13 LGBT and those who aren't, and I just want to
14 thank you so much. And before we read the
15 proclamation, I think you've chosen a
16 representative, so I want to ask you to speak.
17 Oh, okay, I was given misinformation. [laughter]

18 LGBT YOUTH: Thank you, City
19 Council Members, for this opportunity. I would
20 also like to thank all the other organizations
21 that are here today. And thank you, Christine
22 Quinn, for all you have done for the LGBT
23 Community. Especially what you have done with
24 the, with the youth homeless shelters, and
25 programs like the Yes Center. And if there's

1
2 anything more that we can do as youth, please let
3 us know, and we will gladly put that in action.

4 [laughter]

5 SPEAKER QUINN: I'm very clear,
6 this is not a group you have to ask twice. So, if
7 I could ask the--thank you very much--and if I
8 could ask the Clerk to please read the
9 proclamation.

10 CLERK: Council, City of New York,
11 proclamation. In 2010, New Yorkers like all
12 Americans were saddened by the deaths of several
13 young people who were bullied for being gay, and
14 who ultimately took their own lives. Hate crimes
15 against LGBT individuals or those who simply, who
16 are simply perceived to be LGBT, dominated the
17 headlines in New York City. On this occasion, the
18 Council of the City of New York is proud to honor
19 the young people who are addressing these issues
20 by getting involved in LGBT organizations and
21 empowering their peers and future generations.
22 They are all to be commended for being great
23 sources of pride and sources of strength, and they
24 have all demonstrated that the future gets better
25 by making it so. And whereas, in October, the

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2 Council Speaker, Christine C. Quinn, joined by
3 Mayor Bloomberg in declaring October LGBTQ
4 Empowerment Month. A short time later, Speaker
5 Quinn and Council Members Danny Dromm, Jimmy Van
6 Bramer, Rosie Mendez and Lew Fidler, called
7 together LGBTQ youth groups and advocates for a
8 roundtable meeting to address the difficulties
9 facing our City's youth. There, these, these
10 young people shared their firsthand experiences
11 and expressed their own ideas for promoting
12 greater safety and respect in our City. They
13 discussed ways for all parties, including
14 government, community groups and the young people
15 themselves, to work together to ensure that our
16 youth remain proud and productive members of our
17 City. And whereas, today we reaffirm our
18 commitment to building upon these efforts, we are
19 proud to pay tribute to the many young New Yorkers
20 who have inspired us all by getting involved,
21 standing up to injustice, fostering a safer
22 community, and being the change that we want to
23 see in the world. They're all doing phenomenal
24 work on behalf of our City and show others that
25 the LGBTQ youth are not only proud, but powerful.

1
2 Now, therefore, be it known that the Council of
3 the City of New York, gratefully honors the young
4 people of the Ali Forney, Bronx Pride, Brooklyn
5 Community Pride Center, the Door, Fierce,
6 Generation Q, Green Chimneys, the Hetrick Martin
7 Institute, Make the Road New York Globe,
8 Metropolitan Community Church of New York, Staten
9 Island LGBT Center, the Trevor Project, the Yes
10 Program at the LGBT Community Center, for their
11 outstanding services to the LGBTQ young people and
12 their many allies in New York City. Christine
13 Quinn, Speaker; Rosie Mendez, Daniel Dromm, Jimmy
14 Van Bramer and Lewis A. Fidler.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay, okay, thank
16 you. [applause] And now, I just pulled the
17 first, first woman Speaker card before, I'm now
18 pulling the first openly gay Speaker card, and if
19 we could get, also get a picture with the young
20 people and their representatives, Danny, Jimmy,
21 Rosie, me and Lew--who's honorable.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: And I know
23 we'll see everybody at 3:00 o'clock on the steps
24 of City Hall tomorrow, at the rally, right?

25 SPEAKER QUINN: That was a yes,

1

2 right?

3

[pause, background noise]

4

SPEAKER QUINN: Wait, is Erik in

5

the picture, where's Erik? Erik, come on.

6

[laughter] He's tall, thank god.

7

[pause, background noise]

8

SPEAKER QUINN: Thanks, you guys.

9

See everybody tomorrow. Thank you. [applause]

10

All right. [background noise] We're next going

11

to ask the Brooklyn folks to come on up, 'cause we

12

have a proclamation for Tupper Thomas. Tish, here

13

we go.

14

[pause, background noise]

15

SPEAKER QUINN: Yay, we love

16

Tupper! Well, who would ever have thought this

17

day could come, in the Borough of Brooklyn or the

18

City of New York, that Tupper Thomas is not

19

spearheading our Prospect Park efforts, but I will

20

have you know, Tupper, that you had not even

21

resigned and we were trying to brainstorm names of

22

people to put on different City boards, and you're

23

name was burning up the City Council internet.

24

So, if you're thinking of retiring, get over it,

25

yeah, or forget about it, as Marty would say. But

1
2 before I give the mic to Tish, I just want to
3 thank you. You have brought such amazing growth
4 and rebirth to Prospect Park, and you've done it
5 with the most amazing energy and upbeat nature and
6 positive attitude and great hats and a wonderful
7 sense of style and terrific accessories, and
8 you're just a joy to work with, and I want to
9 thank you so much for everything you've done. And
10 wish you the briefest of rests, 'cause we have
11 other things for you to do. And here, let me give
12 the mic to Tish.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I can't
14 believe you're retiring. So, Tupper Thomas has
15 been celebrated not only in Brooklyn but all
16 throughout the City of New York. [cheers,
17 applause] And we love her dearly. And if anyone
18 who loves Prospect Park or has visited Prospect
19 Park, you should be joining us here, up here.
20 Tupper Thomas has spent 30 years in service to the
21 Prospect Park Alliance and the City of New York.
22 As Prospect Park administrator, Tupper is widely
23 credited with headlining Prospect Parks
24 revitalization into an urban oasis. And one of
25 the most beautiful public spaces in the City.

1
2 With the establishment of the Prospect Park
3 Alliance in 1987, Ms. Thomas was able to do
4 financial outreach to corporations and procure
5 much needed grants for park development. She's
6 also referred to as a fundraising monster. As an
7 urban planner, Ms. Thomas had the vision of a
8 multiuse public space that rivaled Central Park.
9 Ha! And in both beauty and recreational use.
10 When Ms. Thomas took the job, fewer than 2 million
11 people, people visited the park annually while
12 totally more than 9 million visited annually
13 today. [applause] With Ms. Thomas's assistance,
14 the Prospect Park Alliance annual budget has grown
15 to eight to \$o million annually, up from \$200,000
16 in 1987. That's saying a lot. And I'm glad
17 you're retiring because we would like be looking
18 at that now, but anyway [laughter] Having served
19 under four Park Commissioners and four Mayors,
20 Tupper has secured a highly respected reputation
21 as a progressive thinker and fundraising and
22 marketing giant of the Prospect Park Alliance.
23 Tupper's contributions have made a lasting
24 impression upon the surrounding neighborhoods of
25 Park Slope, Crown Heights, Prospect Heights, as

1
2 well as Brooklyn and the entire City of New York.
3 Tupper, we love you, but we know you're going to
4 rest, we've got a lot of boards for you to serve
5 on. Thank you that all for, that you have done,
6 particularly for the children and those who have
7 been underserved. And thank you for making our
8 Borough greener. Thank you, god bless you.

9 [applause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: If the Clerk could-
11 -if the Clerk could please read the proclamation,
12 I couldn't get that out.

13 CLERK: Council, City of New York
14 proclamation. Whereas, in 1980, New York City
15 responded to community pressure to stop Prospect
16 Park's severe decay by committing funds to create
17 the Prospect Park Administrator's Office, and
18 Tupper Thomas became Prospect's, Prospect Park's
19 first Administrator. Over the last 30 years, she
20 has overseen all of the operations for Brooklyn's
21 580 acre, flagship park, as well as its
22 multimillion dollar restoration. And whereas, Ms.
23 Thomas has also served as the President of the
24 Prospect Park Alliance since it was founded in
25 1987. The Prospect Park Alliance, formed in

1
2 partnership with the City of New York, has played
3 a major role in reviving, enriching and preserving
4 the Park. The Prospect Park Alliance manages an
5 in-house design and construction office that
6 handles all of the park's capital projects. Its
7 Visitor Service Department operates numerous park
8 concessions in-house, that grossed over \$3 million
9 last year. There are also 65 community
10 organizations in the Alliance Community Committee,
11 and in partnership with Autobahn New York, the
12 Alliance opened the Prospect Park Autobahn Center
13 with nature trails, a visitor center, and
14 educational programs. Other recent
15 accomplishments include the opening of the
16 restored parade ground sport complex, a tennis
17 center and restoration of many of the Park's
18 natural areas. And whereas, during Ms. Thomas's
19 career, Prospect Park's annual usership has
20 increased from 1.7 to more than 9 million
21 visitors. In 2010, more than 6,000 volunteers
22 contributed more than 30,000 hours, and the
23 Alliance privately raised over \$7 million from
24 5,000 donors. And whereas, Tupper has also
25 provided excellent service as Co-Chair of the

1
2 Development Commitment of the City Parks Alliance,
3 a national organization to advocate for Parks.
4 She has previously been recognized for her
5 passionate dedication and generous insight with
6 numerous awards, and has been a true champion for
7 parks groups throughout the United States and
8 abroad. Now, therefore, be it known that the
9 Council of the City of New York gratefully honors
10 Tupper Thomas for her career of outstanding
11 service and contributions to Prospect Park,
12 Brooklyn. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
13 Entire Council; Letitia James, Council Member,
14 35th District, Brooklyn.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Yaaaay! [applause]
16 And here's Tupper!

17 TUPPER THOMAS: [laughs] Thank you
18 so much, this is very, very thrilling, and when I
19 think back at how much the Council has actually
20 contributed to this fabulous park from Tom Cute
21 [phonetic], who was my very first person who
22 really kept me on my toes, I can ima--you know, as
23 you can imagine, [background comment] exactly.
24 All the up to Christine, it's just been fabulous
25 to, to work with the Council, all of our Council

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2 Members who have taken Prospect Park to their
3 hearts, and have contributed and, and helped and
4 advised and gotten involved. Thank you so, so
5 much, this means a lot to me. Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you
7 very much.

8 [applause]

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you . Thank
10 you very much. All right, one more. We have
11 Annabel, Councilman Annabel Palma with our final
12 ceremonial. [pause, background noise] And if the
13 folks from, if Robert and the rest of the folks
14 from Episcopal Social Services can make their way
15 up. [pause, background noise] Folks, why don't
16 some folks come on over here, we'll have a more
17 balanced picture. Go ahead, get--well, let me
18 get--So, while folks are making their way up, I
19 want to first thank Chairperson Palma, the Chair
20 of our General Welfare Committee, for making sure,
21 Robert, that we noted, I guess there's two in a
22 row retirements here. And I know that you, you've
23 just heard us kind of hail Tupper for everything
24 she has done for parks and open space. As it's
25 probably fair to say, you were the Tupper of the

1 social services world, which is a big compliment.
2 But I really want to, Episcopal Social Services is
3 an organization that serves people in all five
4 boroughs. You take everyone as they show up at
5 your door, and find a way to help them get what
6 they need to get to the point in their life that
7 they want to be at. And you're not one of those
8 organizations that picks the easy clients, you're
9 not one of those organizations that says, "Oops,
10 I'm sorry, your life is just a little too messy
11 for us to help." You're there for everyone who
12 needs help and at times like this, we should be
13 grateful every day, but at times like this we are
14 even more grateful, at a time when so many people
15 need so much. This is really, really hard work,
16 you've done it for a lifetime, and we just really
17 want to say, from the bottom of our hearts, thank
18 you so much for taking care of so many people who
19 with just a little bit of extra help you gave
20 them, went on to have most amazing of lives. So
21 thank you so very, very much. And let us give you
22 this proclamation, and let me call on the great
23 chair of our General Welfare Committee, Annabel
24 Palma.
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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Thank you.
I, I wanted, first, thank you Madam Speaker, for allowing us to, myself and, and my colleagues on the General Welfare Committee, to give Robert Gutheil this proclamation. I think, you know, once the Clerk reads the proclamation, folks will get a sense of all the good work that you have done. And the Speaker has highlighted the many, many, many years of service that you have given, you know, to not only my community but all the communities throughout the City of New York. And we will miss you at Episcopal Social Services, but we know that you're going to go on higher ventures and continue to be a partner to our community. So I look forward to continuing to work with you.
And I just, I want to share with folks, I received Robert's sort of farewell letter, and I think the highlight of the letter was, you know, how he pointed out that his wife says, "You can't retire, you just can't go do work without getting paid."
So [laughter] I said, I told Robert that that's a very smart woman he married. But whether the work is paid or volunteered, you have dedicated your life to, to, you know, making sure that people in

1
2 lower income neighborhoods and people in need,
3 really just get the services that, that they
4 deserve. And, and we can, you know, never say too
5 many thank yous for that. Thank you.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: And if the Clerk
7 could please read the proclamation.

8 CLERK: Council, City of New York,
9 proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the City of
10 New York is proud to honor Gutheil upon his
11 retirement, in recognition of his stellar
12 leadership, to Episcopal Social Services and for
13 his outstanding service to the community at large.
14 And whereas, when Mr. Gutheil joined Episcopal
15 Social Services, as Executive Director in 2004, he
16 arrived with more than 30 years of experience in
17 New York Social Services. Over the course of the
18 last six years, he has developed significant
19 expansion services, especially in early childhood
20 education and after school programs, and has
21 served as a coach and mentor to his staff members,
22 to the public, and to many other professionals in
23 his field. He has provided guidance and
24 leadership that makes a difference on a daily
25 basis for young children and their families. And

1
2 whereas, prior to ESS, Mr. Gutheil served as the
3 Executive Director of the Salvation Army Social
4 Services for Children, where he oversaw the
5 expansion of quality programs and to homes for
6 adolescents, residences for individuals with
7 development disabilities, foster boarding home
8 daycare--I'm sorry, foster boarding home care,
9 daycare centers, family preservation programs, and
10 the support services for people with HIV/AIDS.

11 And whereas, Mr. Gutheil has been previously
12 recognized with many distinguished honors,
13 including the leadership award from Life Services
14 for the Handicapped, the Unsung Heroes Award from
15 the Daycare Council of New York, and the National
16 Award for Excellence in Social Work from the
17 Salvation Army, and the Lifetime Achievement Award
18 from the Center for Children's Initiatives for
19 many years of excellent service in promoting the
20 highest quality of services for young children.

21 And now, therefore, be it known, that the Council
22 of the City of New York honors Robert H. Gutheil
23 for his career of outstanding service and
24 contribution to the community. Christine C.
25 Quinn, Council for the Entire Speaker, Speaker for

1

2 the Entire Council.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, close enough. Robert, thank you very much, as Annabel said, that, that laid out even more details than I think most of us knew, so again thank you very much, and best of luck. And let me give you the microphone.

ROBERT GUTHEIL: Well, thank you very much, Speaker Quinn, and Council Member Palma, Council Member Arroyo, the members of the General Welfare Committee. It has just been a great privilege to do this, this work, in this City in which I was born and raised and will spend the rest of my life. This great City that we, we all love so much. I have to, this is really recognition of me, which I'm grateful of, but it's also my staff. [cheers] Just a few of whom are, are up here. All of us who have the privilege of leadership know that, that it's really the staff who is there doing the work day-in and day-out. So, I, I love the recognition but I have to pass it along to these good folks who, who are up here. So, thank you so very much, it's been a great privilege doing this work.

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you and thank
3 all of you, and happy holidays and happy new year
4 to everybody. And this concludes our ceremonials.
5 Thank you. [applause] [pause, background noise]
6 Let's start--

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Everyone
8 please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

9 [Pledge of Allegiance]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Roll call.

11 CLERK: Arroyo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

13 CLERK: Barron.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

15 CLERK: Brewer.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

17 CLERK: Cabrera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

19 CLERK: Chin.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

21 CLERK: Comrie. Crowley.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

23 CLERK: Dickens. Dilan. Dromm.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

25 CLERK: Eugene.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

2

3

CLERK: Ferreras. Fidler. Foster.

4

Garodnick.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

6

CLERK: Gennaro. Gentile.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

8

CLERK: Gonzales.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALES: [off mic]

10

Here.

11

CLERK: Greenfield. Halloran.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Present.

13

CLERK: Ignizio.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

15

CLERK: Jackson.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

17

CLERK: James.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

19

Here.

20

CLERK: Koo.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.

22

CLERK: Koppell.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

24

CLERK: Greenfield. Koslowitz.

25

Lander.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

2

3

CLERK: Lappin.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

5

CLERK: Levin.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

7

CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off

9

mic] Here.

10

CLERK: Mealy.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic]

12

Here.

13

CLERK: Mendez.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

15

CLERK: Nelson.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [off mic]

17

Here.

18

CLERK: Palma.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic]

20

Here.

21

CLERK: Recchia.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [off mic]

23

Here.

24

CLERK: Reyna.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

1

CLERK: Rodriguez.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

3

CLERK: Rose.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

5

CLERK: Sanders.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Present.

7

CLERK: Seabrook.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: [off mic]

9

10 Here.

CLERK: Ulrich.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

12

CLERK: Vacca.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic]

14

15 Here.

CLERK: Vallone.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

17

CLERK: Van Bramer.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

19

CLERK: Vann.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

21

CLERK: Fidler.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [off mic]

23

24 Here.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Fidler?

25

1

CLERK: Weprin.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

3

CLERK: Williams.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic]

5

6 Here.

CLERK: Wills.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Here.

8

CLERK: Dickens.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]

10

11 Here.

CLERK: [pause] Koslowitz.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off

13

14 mic] Here.

CLERK: [pause] Oddo.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

16

17 Here.

CLERK: Rivera.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

19

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

20

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Here.

21

CLERK: We have a quorum.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

23

24 very much. Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,

25

1

2 thank you my colleagues, I vote aye on all and I
3 wish all of you a Feliz Navidad, happy, Merry
4 Christmas and Happy New Year, and I'll see you
5 back in January. And I, I vote on all General
6 Orders and all call-ups. Thank you.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
8 very much. At this point in time, my colleagues
9 please rise for the invocation being delivered by
10 Reverend Ray Bagnuolo.

11

RAY BAGNUOLO: Am I on? There we
12 go. Good afternoon, everyone. I commend you on
13 your courage in giving the microphone to a
14 preacher in a packed house. It's a risk, but I
15 promise to honor it. My name is Bagnuolo and I am
16 the pastor of Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and
17 Neighborhood House on East 74th Street and 1st
18 Avenue. About a year ago, a gentleman came into
19 our office downstairs, it was late at night, I was
20 sitting in my office. Our receptionist called up
21 on the phone, she said, "Pastor, there's a man
22 down here without any pants on." I went, "Oh my
23 god," and I went down the steps. Well, he had his
24 pants on, they were hospital pants. He had on a
25 light shirt, he had an IV hanging out from his

1
2 arm. He had been in detox and decided that wasn't
3 for him, disconnected himself and came walking
4 over to Jan Hus in hospital sandals, in frigid
5 teen temperature weather. We got him some socks,
6 we got him some pants, we got him something to
7 eat, we found a place for him to stay. And at one
8 point we called the hospital, we found out where
9 he was from, and said, "How do we help him to get
10 this out of his arm?" I thought of it because
11 today before I came here, he was leaving a twelve
12 step meeting at our church. We have more than 50
13 a week. And shortly after that event, I saw him
14 and I said, "Jimmy, what brought you to Jan Hus
15 that night?" And he said, "I knew God was there."
16 And to him, that night God was a welcome. It was
17 a pair of socks, it was a pair of pants, it was
18 food, it was someone who didn't turn him away.
19 And so in this prayer today before this Council,
20 that I am so privileged to stand here on behalf of
21 Jan Hus, but in the presence of these
22 commendations that were given to so many different
23 groups, to feel so at home in this place where
24 people's hearts are so committed to justice and
25 equality in this City for all. As an openly gay

1
2 pastor, to be in this City, and to be in a place
3 where that can represent to others not only the
4 path that Speaker Quinn spoke about to the young
5 people that were here, but to the resistance, the
6 refusal to accept any oppression, any
7 marginalization, at any level. Not to erase the
8 differences, but to bridge them. And so with that
9 god in mind, whatever the god is that brings you
10 here to this place today, that calls you to be who
11 you are in this City, to bring good government,
12 good church, good neighbors to Jimmy and others
13 that are just looking for a welcome, because that
14 to them is God. And in all the ways that you may
15 hold those traditions tight and close to your
16 heart, and share them here, we share the same
17 resources in service to one another in this City.
18 And we are truly blessed to be in this City, as am
19 I to be in your company. There is an old saying,
20 and old Sanskrit I believe saying, that goes way
21 back. And it's "Namaste." And one of the
22 translations is, "The spirit in me greets the
23 spirit in you." And in this place, and in the
24 work before this Council, before all of us that we
25 share in this City, I offer you that greeting and

1

2 I invite you to share it back in return. Namaste.

3 Amen.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council

5 Member Lappin.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Thank you,

7

Reverend Bagnuolo for all that you do to guide,

8

feed, clothe and serve our community. I move to

9

spread the invocation in full upon the record.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

11

very much. Adoption of the minutes, Council

12

Member James.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Motion that

14

the Minutes of the Stated Meetings of October 27th

15

and November 17, 2010, be adopted as printed.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

17

Messages and papers from the Mayor?

18

CLERK: None.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

20

Communication from City, County and Borough

21

Offices?

22

CLERK: None.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions

24

and communications?

25

CLERK: None.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Use

3

Call-Ups.

4

CLERK: M333, an enclosed sidewalk

5

café.

6

SPEAKER QUINN: If we get a roll

7

call on the Land Use Call-Up, please.

8

CLERK: Dickens.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I'd like

10

to vote aye on all Land Use Call-Ups, and with

11

permission I'd like to vote aye on all coupled

12

General Orders.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: May all of

15

us have a blessed holiday with continued good

16

health, happiness, peace and prosperity, all in

17

abundance. God's blessings.

18

CLERK: Arroyo.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

20

CLERK: Barron.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I express,

22

request unanimous consent to vote aye on all Land

23

Use items and aye on all general order items, and

24

Happy Holiday to all.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

1

CLERK: Brewer.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [off mic]

3

Aye. [laughter]

4

CLERK: Cabrera.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission

6

to vote on all items and couples and resolution,

7

I vote aye.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

9

CLERK: Chin.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

11

CLERK: Comrie. Crowley.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

13

CLERK: Dilan. [pause] Dromm.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

15

CLERK: Eugene.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

17

CLERK: Fidler.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

19

CLERK: Garodnick.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

21

CLERK: Gennaro. Gentile.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes.

23

CLERK: Gonzales.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALES: Aye on

25

1
2 the Call-Up and aye on all General Orders with
3 permission to do so. Thank you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

5 CLERK: Greenfield.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

7 CLERK: Halloran.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye.

9 CLERK: Ignizio.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

11 CLERK: James.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

13 Aye.

14 CLERK: Koo.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

16 CLERK: Koppell.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: [off mic]

18 Aye.

19 CLERK: Koslowitz.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

21 CLERK: Lander.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

23 CLERK: Lappin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: [off mic]

25 Aye.

1

CLERK: Levin.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

3

CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off

5

mic] Aye.

6

CLERK: Mealy.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

8

CLERK: Mendez.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

10

CLERK: Nelson.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [off mic]

12

Aye.

13

CLERK: Palma.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

15

CLERK: Recchia.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [off mic]

17

Aye.

18

CLERK: Reyna.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

20

CLERK: Rodriguez.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

22

CLERK: Rose.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

24

CLERK: Sanders.

25

1

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Present.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER JUMAANE: Present?

4

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: And I vote

5

aye. [laughter]

6

CLERK: Seabrook.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes, with

8

unanimous consent, I'd like to vote aye on all

9

Land Use Call-Ups and all general call-ups and

10

vote aye.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Thank

13

you.

14

CLERK: Ulrich.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

16

CLERK: Vacca.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

18

CLERK: Vallone.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

20

CLERK: Van Bramer.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

22

CLERK: Vann.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

24

CLERK: Weprin.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

1

CLERK: Williams.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

3

CLERK: Wills.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all,

5

permission to vote aye on General Orders.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

7

CLERK: [pause] Oddo.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

9

Yes.

10

CLERK: Rivera.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

12

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

13

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Aye.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Today's

15

Land Use Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of 46 in

16

the affirmative, with zero in the negative.

17

Communications from the Speaker?

18

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. First,

19

I want to note Intro 442, which we are passing

20

today, I want to thank Una Peterson, Sal Larona,

21

Alex Pistilnik and Rob Newman and Margaret Nelson

22

for their long and hard work on this piece of

23

legislation. I want to thank the Chair of our

24

Education Committee, Robert Jackson, who is the

25

1
2 lead sponsor of the bill. The Chair of our Public
3 Safety Committee, one of the two Committees that
4 passed the bill, Peter Vallone. I also want to
5 thank Chair Vallone for reading Chair Jackson's
6 statement, he had to leave already. I want to
7 thank Chair Gonzales for conducting the hearings
8 on this bill as well. Quite simply, 442-A, 442,
9 excuse me, is a piece of legislation that is going
10 to greatly expand the information that we as the
11 Council, that parents and that students have about
12 the activities of school safety agents and police
13 personnels in our school system. It's going to
14 require transparency, reporting with a number of
15 different factors broken out, so we can finally
16 move [gavel] beyond anecdotes about what is
17 happening with police and school safety agents in
18 our schools, and have hard, data-drive facts. One
19 of the most important guarantees we can give a
20 child when they walk into school is that they will
21 be kept safe. This piece of legislation will help
22 us live up to that obligation throughout all of
23 our schools, and I want to thank everyone who
24 worked so long and hard on this bill, and worked
25 to make sure it got passed by the end of this

1
2 year. I also want to thank the staff of the
3 Department of Education, the staff at the Police
4 Department, particularly Sue Petino [phonetic] in
5 the Police Commissioner's Counsel Office. I also
6 want to thank the Members of the Student Safety
7 Coalition, in particular Made the Road New York
8 and the New York Civil Liberties Union for their
9 great work. And really want to thank the young
10 people in this Coalition who were some of the best
11 lobbyists that I have ever met with, and worked
12 incredibly hard and long to come up with a fair
13 and balanced compromise. They could teach all of
14 us about negotiating legislation. So let me now
15 call on the Chair of our Public Safety Committee
16 to make his own and Robert Jackson's statement,
17 Chairperson Vallone.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you,
19 I, I did not have one, but I will just read
20 Council Member Jackson--

21 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get a
22 little quiet.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: "On behalf
24 of--on behalf of all students in the New York City
25 Public School System, I'd like to thank Speaker

1
2 Quinn and my colleagues, Chairman Vallone, Chair
3 of the Public Safety Committee; and Chairman
4 Gonzalez of the Juvenile Justice Committee for
5 your support in getting this bill passed. Let us
6 also recognize the hard work of our respective
7 Committee staff, but most of all the collaboration
8 between the DOE, NYPD and the Student Safety
9 Coalition is to be commended. In passing this
10 bill today, we're communicating to our City
11 students they have a right to a safe school
12 environment, that is conducive to learning rather
13 than criminal behavior. And that safety does not
14 equal being over policed." Again, I'm just a
15 messenger reading this here. [laughter] "This
16 legislation, this legislation is a necessary step
17 to creating a safe and supportive learning
18 environment for all students by providing
19 transparency around student safety and discipline.
20 Chairman, Council Member Jackson." Thank you.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Let the record
22 reflect delivered by Peter Vallone. No, only
23 kidding. Today we are voting on an important Land
24 Use action, Riverside South. I want to thank
25 Chairperson Comrie, Chairperson Weprin and Council

1
2 Member Brewer for their long and hard work on this
3 Land Use item. I in particular want to thank
4 Ramon Martinez, Gail Benjamin and Danielle
5 DeCerbo, they really do deserve a round of
6 applause [applause] for all of their work on
7 Riverside South. I also want to single out
8 Community Board Seven who were really terrific
9 community partners in the efforts of getting us to
10 a Land Use action we could vote on today, which is
11 certainly not perfect, they never are, but is a
12 good compromise which addresses many of the
13 important concerns raised by Council Member Brewer
14 and the community, most notably a school that is
15 of a size that is appropriate and is guaranteed,
16 affordable housing, a portion of it on site, and
17 important contributions to make the public open
18 space there truly public and truly usable. That
19 is in no way, shape or form all that was
20 accomplished in this, but some of the significant
21 developments, and I want to thank everyone who
22 worked so long and hard up until the very last
23 minute to get it done. Let me now call on the
24 Chair of our Zoning Subcommittee, Council Member
25 Weprin, and then the Council Member whose district

1

2 this is in, Council Member Gale Brewer.

3

4

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7

8

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Well, thank you very much, Madam Speaker. It's, I'm delighted to be here and have this compromise finally reached. If Council Member Brewer had lost her voice a couple of weeks ago, we might have been here sooner. But [boos] No.

9

10

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I like that. I like that.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Well, she has today. But I do want to compliment her on her terrific advocacy. And I must say, the, both the, both sides, Extel [phonetic] and the Community Board really had a very civilized debate, although prolonged but serious issues were worked out, and this plan does include 100,000 square feet for new school, \$20 million for open space, 135,000, and 180 to 220 affordable housing units, an increase in parking and some agreements in trying to increase business in the area, working with the developer. This was a real victory for all sides, I've heard both sides use the expression, "It was a win-win," although it was a hard fought one, it was one good for the community, good for the City

1
2 of New York, creating jobs, and looking forward to
3 the future of this City, and I compliment Council
4 Member Brewer in particular, and the staff for
5 working so hard and so many hours on this, as well
6 as the members of the Community Board and the
7 group from Extel who spent so many hours
8 negotiating this. Thank you Madam Speaker.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
10 much. Council Member Brewer.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
12 very much. I certainly want to thank all those
13 who have been involved, it's a big development,
14 it's the last piece of open property in our
15 neighborhood, and it has very new and long term,
16 near and long term impacts on our community. So
17 bringing a project of this size into reasonable
18 compliance with the scale and values of the Upper
19 West Side, it has required a long process of
20 analysis and negotiation, with or without a voice.
21 And I, it is too big, but there were lots of pros
22 that enabled us to come to a compromise. And I
23 want to thank the Speaker. I want to add not only
24 the staff members she mentioned, but also
25 Christian Hilton was very helpful, and I want to

1
2 say that Council Member Weprin, Council Member
3 Comrie and Council Member Dickens was always
4 hovering in the background. And also, I think the
5 Community Board enjoyed meeting with the 26
6 members personally, to go through the specifics of
7 the project. I want to thank the Manhattan
8 Delegation and The Bronx Delegation in particular,
9 because they were very, very supportive. There
10 were a lot of agencies involved, School
11 Construction Authority, HPD and Parks, in
12 particular. And there were consultants to the
13 Community Board: John West and Michael Corler
14 [phonetic] in particular. And there were many
15 experts from the agency: Paul Willin [phonetic],
16 Dan Gutman [phonetic], Paul Easton, Cray Whitaker,
17 Bacha Lutin [phonetic], Olive Freud, who's never
18 happy, but I'm glad she's here, Anne Weisberg and
19 Steven and Mara Gavios [phonetic] 10 West End
20 Avenue. And all of the parents who came out time
21 and time and time again: Noah Gottbaum, Michele
22 Lipkin, Helen Rosenthal and many other. I want to
23 thank the unions, they would build to the sky if
24 they could. But they do appreciate that there are
25 neighborhood concerns. I want to thank Gary

1
2 Barnett and his team. But most of all, more, I
3 would like them to stand up: Mel Whymore, Chair,
4 Board Seven; Ethel Scheffer [phonetic], Chair of
5 the Riverside Central Working Group; Mark Diller,
6 Chair of the Education Committee; Richard Ash,
7 Chair of the Land Use Committee; and Jessie Bodine
8 from my staff. Please have them stand and thank
9 them. [applause] As well as Gail Benjamin and
10 her team, and Ramon.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: And Danielle.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: And
13 Danielle DeCerbo, absolutely. Thank you very
14 much, Madam Speaker, it's a long haul.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank--yeah, yes it
16 was. Thank you, and thank you again everybody
17 from Community Board Seven. Next, I want to make
18 note, we are not voting today, but we have voted
19 numerous times in the past on Resolutions urging
20 the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." And to
21 quite frankly some of our surprise, that great day
22 came this weekend, with the repeal of "Don't Ask,
23 Don't Tell." [applause] And I want--to thank all
24 of my colleagues in the City Council for their
25 long support of that position, particularly the

1
2 other members of the LGBT Caucus, Council Members
3 Van Bramer, Dromm and Mendez. I want to single
4 out the work of our United States Senator Kirsten
5 Gillibrand, who I don't think it goes too far in
6 saying that it was her entry into the United
7 States Senate and her agitation of this issue as I
8 understand it on a daily basis, that really helped
9 propel this day forward. And I just want to call
10 on the prime sponsor of the most recently passed
11 Resolution, Council Member Van Bramer, to say a
12 few words.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank
14 you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank everyone in
15 this Council who voted for our Resolution this
16 past June, and just note that Saturday was an
17 incredible day, an incredible step forward towards
18 this nation's long march for full equality for
19 LGBT citizens. And we're thrilled that no young
20 man or woman will ever have to endure a witch hunt
21 and an expulsion in silence and in shame. And I
22 hope that the vote that happened, and the
23 President's signature this week will also include
24 an acknowledgement and deep appreciation of the
25 over 13,000 men and women who were expelled from

1
2 the military, simply because of who they loved.
3 All of their service was honorable, and all of it
4 was courageous, and all of it should be
5 appreciated by a grateful nation, especially that
6 of my partner Dan Hendrick. Thank you.

7 [applause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
9 much, Council Van Bramer, and I want to also make
10 note that this Council is on record urging the
11 passage of the Dream Act, which unfortunately did
12 not happen out of the Senate this weekend, and are
13 also on record urging the passage of the Zadroga
14 Bill which will hopefully happen before the Senate
15 goes home for recess. And I want to on a much
16 lighter note congratulate Council Member Reyna for
17 breaking all Council dinner records, as I
18 understand it, this weekend. [applause] I was
19 not there, but I hear tell of 16 members and
20 spouses and reports of salsa dancing and a
21 mechanical bull. But we are not going to go any
22 further on that topic, on the record. Any
23 discussions will be off the record. I look
24 forward to seeing everyone at the holiday party
25 later on at Woolworth, and I wish everybody a

1

2 happy holidays and a wonderful happy and healthy
3 New Year. And that concludes communications from
4 the Speaker.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much, Madam Speaker. Discussion of General
7 Orders. Seeing none, we'll move on. Council
8 Member James? General orders or general
9 discussion?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: General
11 discussion.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay. So,
13 move on to reports of special committees.

14 CLERK: None.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Reports of
16 standing committees.

17 CLERK: Report on the Committee on
18 Education, Intro 442, reports on school
19 discipline.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
21 Orders.

22 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
23 Finance, Intro 437, Business Improvements
24 Districts.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

1

2 Orders.

3

4

CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 607,
Organization Funding.

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6

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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8

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Land Use, LU 256 through 266 on page five.

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11

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SPEAKER QUINN: Approved with
modifications and referred to the City Planning
Commission pursuant to Rule 11.70(b) of the Rules
of the Council and Section 197(d) of the New York
City Charter.

14

15

CLERK: LU 272 and Reso 610,
Landmark Designation.

16

17

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

18

19

CLERK: LU 273 and Reso 611, and LU
274 and Reso 612, unenclosed sidewalk café.

20

21

SPEAKER QUINN: Cou--pardon me,
coupled on General Orders.

22

23

24

CLERK: LU 275 and Reso 613.
SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be, to
be filed pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

25

CLERK: Report of the Committee on

1

2 Public Safety, Intro 442.

3 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
4 Orders.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General
6 Order calendar.

7 CLERK: LU 256 and Reso 614 through
8 LU 266 and Reso 624, Riverside South.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
10 Orders.

11 CLERK: Resolution appointing
12 various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
14 Orders and at this point I ask for a roll call on
15 all items that have been coupled on the General
16 Order Calendar.

17 CLERK: Arroyo.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

19 CLERK: Brewer.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye. And
21 again, thank you very much for everybody who
22 worked so hard on Riverside Center. Thank you,
23 Board Seven, Jessie Bodine, staff of Land Use and
24 everybody else. Thank you.

25 CLERK: Chin.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

2

3

CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

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CLERK: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Like to

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request unanimous consent to vote on all Land Use

8

Call-Ups.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I vote aye

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and aye on all items on today's General Order

12

calendar.

13

CLERK: Dromm.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all

15

items.

16

CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

18

CLERK: Fidler.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Yes.

20

CLERK: Garodnick.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

22

CLERK: Gentile.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

24

CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

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CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye.

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CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

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CLERK: James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

7

Aye.

8

CLERK: Koo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yes.

10

CLERK: Koppell. [pause]

11

Koslowitz.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on

13

all.

14

CLERK: Lander.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

16

CLERK: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

18

CLERK: Levin.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye

20

on all.

21

CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off

23

mic] Aye on all.

24

CLERK: Mealy.

25

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic]

3

Aye.

4

CLERK: Mendez.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

6

CLERK: Nelson.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [off mic]

8

Aye on all.

9

CLERK: Palma.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

11

CLERK: Recchia.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

13

CLERK: Reyna.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye, and

15

happy holidays to all of my colleagues and staff.

16

CLERK: Rodriguez.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

18

CLERK: Rose.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

20

CLERK: Sanders.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Happy

22

holidays to all. Aye.

23

CLERK: Ulrich.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

25

CLERK: Vacca.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

2

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CLERK: Vallone.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

5

CLERK: Van Bramer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: [off

7

mic] Aye on all.

8

CLERK: Vann.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

10

CLERK: Weprin.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all.

12

CLERK: Williams.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Happy,

14

happy holidays and aye on all.

15

CLERK: Koppell.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Like to

17

briefly explain my vote and say that I was delayed

18

in voting because I've been joined by my three

19

grandsons who are here in the back, Benjamin,

20

Theodoro and Alessandro. [applause] Want to

21

stand up, boys? Stand up, stand up. And I vote

22

aye on all.

23

CLERK: [pause] Oddo.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

25

Yes.

1

2 CLERK: Rivera.

2

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

3

4 CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

4

5 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Aye.

5

6 [pause]

6

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items

7

8 on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by

8

9 a vote of 47 in the affirmative with zero in the

9

10 negative. And Land Use Call-Ups were adopted by a

10

11 vote of 47, revised, voted by, adopted by a vote

11

12 of 47 in the affirmative and zero in the negative.

12

13 Introduction and reading of the bills.

13

14 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are

14

15 referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

15

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Discussion

16

17 of Resolutions? There are none. Moving onto

17

18 general discussion. We have Council Member

18

19 Vallone.

19

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you,

20

21 my colleagues, I'd like you to meet a young man

21

22 and a young woman in the back of the room, Rebecca

22

23 Wax and Allende Sandy, please stand up. Over

23

24 there. These are two candidates who took the Fire

24

25 Department exam in 2007, scored at the top of the

25

1
2 class out of over 22,000 people. The most diverse
3 and largest class that ever took that test. They
4 have been in limbo for four years, as this court
5 has wound through, the case has wound through the
6 courts. Worse than that, they have now both
7 what's called "aged out." They can no longer take
8 the exam however the court case winds up. If we
9 appeal, the City appeals and loses, they will be
10 over 29 years old. They realized their life's
11 dreams, studied hard, passed the test, were about
12 to be hired; and now, at this point, if we don't
13 help them, can never take that test again. So I
14 have introduced an Introduction today, which would
15 raise the age to take the Fire Test from 29 to 35,
16 which would make it equivalent with the Police
17 Department, has the full support of the Fire
18 Commissioner, and almost everyone I've spoken to
19 today, including the Fire and Criminal Justice
20 Chair, who's also on the, on the bill with me. I
21 know that many of you have already indicated your
22 support, but I wanted, if you hadn't yet, I wanted
23 you to meet these two young, these two young
24 people, and with, and thank you, thank both of you
25 for the work that you've done to bring this to,

1
2 issue to our attention. Thank you. [applause]
3 And Merry Christmas, everyone.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
5 very much. Council Member Fidler.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you,
7 Majority Leader Rivera. From time to time, I, I
8 take the opportunity to remind everyone in the
9 chambers that 3,800 kids who will be homeless
10 without their family are going to be sleeping on
11 our streets tonight. And I, I usually do it
12 around the holiday season, and just want to first
13 ask, that as you go home tonight, as we celebrate
14 our holiday, and then you go home to your family,
15 that you keep every one of those kids in your
16 prayers. This year, I have to ask you to do a
17 little bit more than that. I'm sure you know,
18 that amongst the November PEGs the Mayor has
19 proposed cutting shelter bed services. As a, an
20 elected official, words can't express my
21 disappointment and as a human being, words can't
22 express my disgust that anyone would think that no
23 matter how bad the budget is, that we would
24 balance it on the backs of children sleeping on
25 subway gratings. This Council has made enormous,

1
2 enormous progress on behalf of these young people
3 over the last nine years. I thank each and every
4 one of you, for the support that you've given in
5 helping to provide shelter, a safe harbor for
6 these children. And I don't think that Joseph
7 Stalin has ever been quoted on the floor of the
8 City Council before, but I think we need to take
9 the words "not one step backwards" to heart.

10 Tomorrow, at 3:00 o'clock on the steps of City
11 Hall, we're going to be rallying with those kids.
12 And I'm asking you all, each and every one of you,
13 to find the time to come tomorrow, to express our
14 solidarity that we will take not one step backward
15 as a society, when it comes to children sleeping
16 on the streets of our City. There are 3,800 of
17 them, we have 114 crisis beds. That alone is a
18 shame. To cut it back further is beyond words.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
20 very much. Council Member James.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I read this
22 letter on behalf of the Vulcan Society,
23 representing African-American Firefighters, in
24 regards to the introduction of Intro 450. And it
25 reads as follows: "On behalf of the Vulcan

1
2 Society, I'd like to thank the Council for
3 allowing the Vulcan Society the opportunity to
4 express our view. It has been brought to our
5 attention that the Commissioner of FDNY or his
6 representative will ask the City Council to
7 support and assist with the increase of the age
8 requirement for the FDNY Firefighter position. If
9 the Commissioner would have this change become
10 permanent, then the Vulcan Society is in support
11 of the age change and request it be the same as
12 NYPD age requirement. We are aware that this may
13 assist the Commissioner and the FDNY with
14 diversity of the rank of a firefighter. There is
15 however a question which must be asked: If
16 Commissioner Cassano was truly concerned about
17 diversity, then why not convey this to the Mayor
18 and follow the ruling and institute one of the
19 ways, as a ways to hire off this current list of
20 firefighters? The list, by the admission of Mayor
21 Bloomberg on November 27th, is the most diverse
22 Department has ever had. If the answer is there's
23 quotas. Then perhaps this Administration needs to
24 take a closer look at the firefighter ranks that
25 is already a quota, and it is white males.

1
2 Certainly there is a need to do better, and it is
3 clear that if this Council were to approve the
4 eight points for New York City high school
5 graduates, or NYCG--or GED recipients, then the
6 City would go a long way to increase diversity;
7 otherwise, this is no more than mindless talk."
8 From the President of the Vulcan Society, John
9 Coombs. On another matter, let me go on to talk
10 about City Time. As most of you know, on
11 Wednesday, December 15th, four City Time
12 consultants were charged with embezzling \$80
13 million from the City of New York, through
14 steering public funds to consulting firms who
15 funneled the money to shell companies controlled
16 by the consultants and their families.
17 Ironically, City Time is a timekeeping system used
18 by some City agencies to monitor payroll fraud and
19 abuse. Clearly joining with members of DC37 and
20 Local 375, the Local that is most adversely
21 affected, we have complained for years--

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
23 Member.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: --that City
25 Time was a money pit. We would urge all of you to

1
2 join us and ask for a full investigation and audit
3 of the City Time contracts. Thank you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
5 very much. Council Member Brewer.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
7 very much. I just want to mention a topic
8 regarding technology and education. The
9 Department of Education received more than \$20
10 this year to work on technology and middle
11 schools. And they've been going around to the
12 different districts in working with 100 middle
13 schools, and a 100 percent of the parents and the
14 students show up in a school, and then all day
15 work with the parents and the students to learn
16 best practices for a computer, with amazingly free
17 software that you have to pay a lot fore, under a
18 normal circumstance. So this past weekend, I
19 participated in one such event with 500 parents.
20 So I'm just urging you to participate if possible,
21 find out if you want from us or Department of
22 Education, which one of the hundred schools is in
23 your district. Every family goes home with a
24 brand new learning center, which is a computer
25 with a wonderful free software, free connection

1
2 through Time Warner or Cable Vision, and the
3 opportunity to learn. And that's what I think
4 we're all about. So I just want to mention it and
5 make sure that you participate. Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.
7 Council Member Williams.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
9 you. I too just wanted to impress upon everyone
10 to please--well, first, can I get my time on the--
11 [background comment] Okay, thank you. [laughter]
12 I just want to press for my colleagues to sign
13 onto the bill that increases the age for the
14 firefighters. I too had met with Allende and a
15 friend of his in my office who impressed upon the
16 situations they were going through. I'm happy to
17 be cosponsoring this bill. I think it's very
18 important. I do hope that we also ask the Mayor
19 to go one step further and use one of the choices
20 that a judge decided was good enough to choose
21 from the most diverse class ever. There's no
22 reason, the judge asked the Mayor to show case law
23 where it's a quota, and he couldn't. And instead
24 of showing, has refused to. We don't know when
25 this test is going to occur, and the judge has

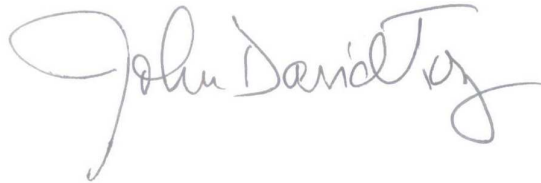
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given five options, five ways that we can use to hire from this group, and I think there's no reason why we shouldn't. Also, as far as the City Time, I just want to call, actually, my colleague, Council Member Dromm, who said the embezzlement actually cost more than it was supposed to cost in the beginning. Supposed to cost about \$63 million; they embezzled \$80 million. The Mayor has said, he never said that he can save programs, he never said that he could save jobs, but he did say he could manage finances. He's done none of those things. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Seeing no others, this meeting is adjourned. [gavel] Happy holidays, everyone.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, JOHN DAVID TONG 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John David Tong". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the typed text.

Signature Date January 17, 2010