

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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November 2, 2023
Start: 11:20 a.m.
Recess: 11:24 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Justin L. Brannan, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Diana Ayala
Charles Barron
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
David M. Carr
Amanda Farías
Kamillah Hanks
Farrah N. Louis
Francisco P. Moya
Chi A. Ossé
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Althea V. Stevens
Marjorie Velázquez
Nantasha M. Williams

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a prerecorded
3 test for the Committee on Finance. Today's date is
4 November 2, 2023, and it's being recorded by Dane
5 Hope (phonetic).

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and
7 welcome to the New York City hybrid hearing of the
8 Committee on Finance.

9 Please silence all electronic devices.
10 Chair, we are ready to begin.

11 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: Thank you, Sergeant.
12 [GAVEL] Good morning and welcome to today's Finance
13 Committee meeting. I'm Council Member Justin Brannan.
14 I have the privilege of Chairing the Committee on
15 Finance. We've been joined this morning by Council
16 Members Barron, Ossé, Louis, Farías, Brooks-Powers,
17 Carr, Hanks, Sanchez, Ayala, and Stevens and Moya on
18 Zoom, and Marjorie Velázquez and Nantasha Williams in
19 the cheap seats.

20 Today, the Committee will be voting on
21 the following items, Intro. 1208 and a Transparency
22 Resolution.

23 First, Intro. 1208 sponsored by Deputy
24 Speaker Ayala would extend the current rate of 5.875
25 percent for the additional tax on the occupancy of

2 hotel rooms through November 30, 2027, to maintain
3 the status quo. It's estimated by the Council Finance
4 Division that the tax if extended at the current rate
5 beyond November 30, 2023, would generate
6 approximately 50 million dollars in FY-24 and
7 approximately 99 million in FY-25.

8 Lastly, Transparency Resolution sets
9 forth the new designation in changes and the
10 designation of certain organizations receiving local
11 aging and youth discretionary funding and funding
12 pursuant to certain initiatives in the budget. As
13 with all Transparency Resolutions, Council Members
14 will have to sign a disclosure form indicating
15 whether or not a conflict exists with any of the
16 groups on the attached list.

17 If any Council Member has a potential
18 conflict of interest with any of the organizations
19 listed, they have the opportunity to disclose the
20 conflict at the time of their vote. As a reminder,
21 please disclose any conflicts you may have with
22 proposed subcontractors used by organizations
23 sponsored by discretionary funding. These disclosures
24 must be made before the subcontractor can be
25 approved. Disclosure forms must be completed and

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2 submitted prior to the vote on the Transparency
3 Resolution and may be emailed to Everton Smith who is
4 also present today in Chambers to answer of your
5 questions.

6 Are there any comments or questions from
7 my Colleagues on these items today?

8 Seeing none, we're going to call Billy
9 Martin, the Committee Clerk, to call the roll.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
11 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
12 vote Committee on Finance, items are coupled. Chair
13 Brannan.

14 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ayala.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Moya.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
20 you. Powers. Louis.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Brooks-
23 Powers.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Barron.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Brewer.

4 Farías.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye, and
6 I'm especially excited to congratulate Deputy Speaker
7 Ayala. We need as much help and consistency for the
8 hotels as we can so thank you for putting this
9 forward.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanks.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hudson.

13 Ossé.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Sanchez.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Stevens.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

20 Velázquez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: I'd like to
22 disclose my spouse works at DEP, my brother is a
23 board member of Samaritans of New York, and aye on
24 all.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

3 Williams.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I'm disclosing

5 for the record that I'm a student at CUNY. I vote aye

6 on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Won.

8 Carr.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I'd like to disclose

10 on the record that this Transparency Resolution is

11 funding CUNY, and my spouse is a student at CUNY, and

12 I'll be voting no on Introduction 1208 and aye on

13 Preconsidered Resolution 834.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a

15 vote of 14 in the affirmative, zero in the negative,

16 and no abstentions, we have the Preconsidered

17 Resolution adopted by the Committee, and with a vote

18 of 13 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative, and no

19 abstentions, Committee has adopted Introduction 1208.

20 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: With that, this

21 meeting is adjourned. [GAVEL]

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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 November 7, 2023