

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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October 4, 2011
Start: 10:15am
Recess: 10:44am

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:

JOEL RIVERA
Acting Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Council Member Charles Barron
Council Member Inez E. Dickens
Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick
Council Member Sara Gonzalez
Council Member Daniel J. Halloran III
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio
Council Member Jessica S. Lappin
Council Member Annabel Palma
Council Member Diana Reyna
Council Member Larry B. Seabrook
Council Member James Vacca
Council Member Albert Vann

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Mark S. Weprin

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams

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

N/A

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[background noise]

COUNSEL: Oh, god, this chair's high, this is great.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So how do you want to start?

COUNSEL: Okay.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I'll introduce members and then just go through that.

COUNSEL: Yeah, introduce the members to establish that we have twelve. And then, then just go through the items, you know, with the number and maybe what it is, and this number. And then recommend an aye vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay.

COUNSEL: You'll do it just as perfectly as you've done every single time.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

[pause, background noise]

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Testing one, two, one, two. I'm calling the Land Use meeting to order. Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, my name is Joel Rivera. I'll be the acting Chair of today's [laughs] no--the acting Chair for today's Land Use Committee. Before we

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2 begin, let me just introduce the members who are
3 here with us today. We have, to my left, we have
4 Council Member Mark Weprin, Council Member Al
5 Vann, Council Member Larry Seabrook, Council
6 Member Jessica Lappin, Council Member Dan
7 Garodnick; we have to my right, Council Member
8 Maria del Carmen Arroyo, Council Member Diana
9 Reyna, Council Member Vincent Ignizio, Council
10 Member, and welcome back, Annabel Palma, and
11 Council Member Jimmy Vacca, and Council Member
12 Charles Barron. Today we have several items to be
13 voted on. I'll read them by their Land Use
14 numbers. Land Use No. 468--want me to read all
15 this?

16 COUNSEL: No.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: No?

18 COUNSEL: You just say that--

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Read this?

20 COUNSEL: --a sidewalk café - -

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: It's a
22 sidewalk café within Speaker Quinn's district, and
23 it's Item No. 20115790 TCM. We also have another
24 sidewalk café in Speaker Quinn's district, Land
25 Use No. 484, 20115826 TCM. And then we also have

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2 Land Use Nos. 485 through 490 are related, in my
3 district, and also Council Member Maria Carmen
4 Arroyo's district. It is C100310 ZMX. Then we
5 also have Land Use No. 486, N100311 ZR6. And we
6 have a special permit, Land Use No. 487, C100312
7 ZSX. And we also have another special permit,
8 Land Use No. 488, C100313 ZSX. Turn the page.
9 [background noise] What happened out there?
10 [background comment] Yeah. I do that too often,
11 I think out loud and then I have to catch myself.
12 [background comments] Then we have--yes, it's
13 [laughs] then we have another special permit, Land
14 Use No. 489, C110297 ZSX. And then we have a
15 ULURP and UDAP, LU No. 490, C110234 HAX. And then
16 we also have another Land Use No. 491, in Council
17 Member Seabrook's district, C110384, ZMX. And
18 then we have a lease for a day care center, LU No.
19 493 in Council Member Arroyo's district, C110260
20 PQX. Does anybody have [break in audio] Okay.
21 We're back on. I break it, I buy it. Does any
22 members have any comments or statements they want
23 to make for the record? Maria Carmen Arroyo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I won't
25 break it.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Not going
3 to follow my lead?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I'm very
5 gentle. Good morning. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and
6 I'm sorry I missed the Zoning Subcommittee this
7 morning, but I wanted to take a moment to say, a
8 special thank you to the Chair of the
9 Subcommittee, Council Member Weprin, and you, my
10 colleague, who shares a rezoning district in, in
11 both of our districts that are, that are on the
12 calendar today, six related items. A lot of
13 discussion, a special thank you to the
14 development team that I, I think they're here.
15 Yeah. For their work with the community to bring
16 together a project that I think we can be very
17 excited about being developed in the long run.
18 And to the staff, in particular Gail Benjamin, for
19 not letting up on the Parks Department. Thank
20 you, Gail, for the letter that we got from the
21 agency, with their commitment to work with us to
22 make sure that, as this project gets developed,
23 the open space mitigation actions happen, timely,
24 so that as a community we do not experience any
25 negative outcomes from what I think will be a

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2 really good development in both of our districts,
3 so thank you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

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Does anybody else have any statements they would like for the record, would like to make for the record. Seeing none, as Acting Chair, I recommend an aye vote and I'd just like to also echo the remarks by my colleague, Maria del Carmen Arroyo, and I want to thank the entire team, as signature, and the Parks Department, and of course all Land Use division here, for the fine work that they did in resolving all the pertinent issues that were brought to the table. And looking forward to seeing a great project be developed within Maria Carmen Arroyo's district and my district, that will be a huge benefit to both of our communities. So again thank you, everyone, and Acting Chair recommends an aye vote. Can the Counsel to the Committee please call the roll? [background noise, laughter] Can I get an amen?

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MALE VOICE: Yes.

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COUNSEL: Carol Shine, Counsel to the Committee. Acting Chair Rivera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

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And thanks again to everybody.

COUNSEL: Council Member Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye.
Congratulations to my colleague.

COUNSEL: Council Member Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I have a
inquiry I'd like to make.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: [laughs]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Is there
anyone involved in your project that was like a
formal speaker or anything like that? [laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And former
Land Use Chair.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And, and
former Land--So, I get a double shot, if I knock
this one down, I get a double..

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Yeah, I
think, I think you get three.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Three? Oh,
my. Oh, man. [laughter] Oh, man, this is a
conspiracy.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: The Council
Member salary, if you can, if you can't tell.
[laughs]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Oh. On the
3 recommendation of the Chair, and [laughter] the
4 Acting Chair, and because of the strong arming of
5 this fine young lady here, I'm forced to say a
6 painful aye on all.

7 COUNSEL: Council Member Seabrook.

8 [laughter]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: [laughs]
10 I vote aye on all.

11 COUNSEL: Council Member Vann.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

13 [laughter]

14 COUNSEL: Council Member Palma.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic]

16 Aye on all.

17 COUNSEL: Council Member Arroyo.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: [off mic]

19 Amen. I mean, aye.

20 COUNSEL: Council Member Garodnick.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

22 COUNSEL: Council Member Lappin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

24 COUNSEL: Council Member Vacca.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic]

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Aye.

COUNSEL: Council Member Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

COUNSEL: Council Member Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [off mic]

Aye.

COUNSEL: By a vote of twelve in the affirmative, none in the negative, and no abstentions, the aforementioned items are approved and referred to the full Council.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay, we will leave the vote open for another ten minutes to allow other members who are within close proximity. We've been joined by Council Member Inez Dickens.

[pause, background noise]

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: As much as things have changed, they all stay the same, right Gifford?

[pause, background noise]

COUNSEL: Council Member Dickens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on-- now what is it, Council Member? Aye on all.

COUNSEL: Vote stands at 13 in the

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affirmative, none in the negative and no abstentions.

[pause]

COUNSEL: Council Member Gonzalez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on all.

COUNSEL: The vote stands at 14 in the affirmative, none in the negative, and no abstentions.

[pause]

COUNSEL: Council Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on all, with the exception of Land Use No. 485 to 490, which I'd like to abstain so I can get some further information. Thank you.

COUNSEL: The vote stands at 15 in the affirmative, none in the negative, and no abstentions, with the exceptions of LUs 485 through 490, on which the vote stands at 14 in the affirmative, none in the negative and one abstention.

[pause]

COUNSEL: Council Member Halloran.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye on

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COUNSEL: The vote stands at 16 in the affirmative, none in the negative and no abstentions, with the exception of LUs 485 through 490, on which the vote stands at 15 in the affirmative, none in the negative, and one abstention.

[pause, background noise]

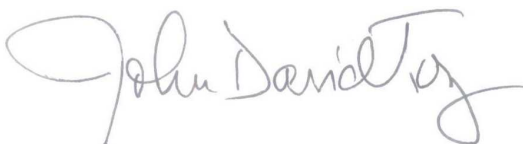
COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much, Gail and Carol, this Land Use Committee Hearing is adjourned.

[gavel]

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.

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John David Tong". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the printed word "Signature".

Date October 19, 2011