

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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May 15, 2012  
Start: 10:53 a.m.  
Recess: 11:19 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E: DOMENIC M. RECCHIA, JR.  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Gale A. Brewer  
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Lewis A. Fidler  
Helen D. Foster  
Robert Jackson  
G. Oliver Koppell  
Darlene Mealy  
Diana Reyna  
Joel Rivera  
Albert Vann  
Fernando Cabrera  
Julissa Ferreras  
Karen Koslowitz

## A P P E A R A N C E S

## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

James G. Van Bramer  
Vincent M. Ignizio  
James S. Oddo

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2 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Just so  
3 everyone knows tomorrow morning there is an Aging  
4 and Parks hearing starting at 10 o'clock. Okay,  
5 so everybody knows. You ready?

6 [background conversation]

7 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Good morning  
8 and welcome to today's Finance Committee Hearing.  
9 My name is Domenic M. Recchia, Jr. and I'm the  
10 chair of this wonderful committee. I welcome  
11 everyone to today's hearing. Before I proceed  
12 forward, I'd like to introduce all of my  
13 colleagues who have joined us here today. To my  
14 left, from Staten Island we have Vincent Ignizio,  
15 sitting next to him is Julissa Ferreras from  
16 Queens, Council Member Joel Rivera, Council Member  
17 Gale Brewer, Council Member Leroy Comrie, Council  
18 Member Helen Foster. To my far right, Fernando  
19 Cabrera, Al Vann, Council Member Karen Koslowitz,  
20 Lew Fidler, Jimmy Van Bramer, and myself, Domenic  
21 M. Recchia, Jr.

22 Today we only have one item on our  
23 agenda. We have proposed Intro 18-A, otherwise  
24 known as the prevailing wage bill, sponsored by my  
25 colleague Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito.

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2 The intent of this bill is to require certain  
3 developers who receive government funding and  
4 certain building owners who lease space to the  
5 city to pay their building service employees the  
6 prevailing wage. If you remember, we had the  
7 first hearing on this bill almost two years ago on  
8 May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010. After hearing from the  
9 Administration, opponents and supporters of the  
10 bill on march 28, 2012, the Committee and the full  
11 Council passed an amended version of the bill. On  
12 April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012 the Mayor issued a message of  
13 disapproval vetoing the legislation. Today the  
14 Committee will vote to repass proposed Intro 18-A  
15 and file the Mayor's veto No. M-798. Since we  
16 voted on this bill a little less than two months  
17 ago and in the interest of time, I will not go  
18 into great detail on the bill, but I will remind  
19 my colleagues that the building service workers  
20 have traditionally been viewed as a gateway to the  
21 middle class for New York City residents  
22 particularly for immigrants. By providing  
23 prevailing wage to building service employees, the  
24 Council has taken a big step toward protecting the  
25 middle class. Council Member Melissa Mark-

1  
2 Viverito is the prime sponsor of the wonderful  
3 bill and I thank her for all her—for sponsoring  
4 this bill, and I want to thank my staff for all of  
5 their hard work. Now in order to override the  
6 Mayor's veto of this bill a question must be posed  
7 to the Committee that asks whether proposed Intro  
8 No. 18-A should be repassed notwithstanding the  
9 objections of the mayor. So when my colleagues  
10 vote on this bill, they are voting to repass the  
11 legislation notwithstanding the objection of the  
12 mayor and voting to file the mayor's veto, I  
13 encourage my colleagues to vote yes on both.  
14 Before we vote, I just want to remind everyone  
15 that tomorrow we will resume budget hearings at  
16 10am. We will hear from the Department of Aging  
17 and then at noon, we will hear from Parks and  
18 Recreation. Please try to be on time. We'll  
19 start at 10 o'clock sharp. Now if there are any  
20 questions, okay, you can raise your hands and we  
21 will answer your questions. Does anyone have any  
22 questions? Seeing no questions, I ask Billy to  
23 please call the roll.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin,  
25 Committee Clerk. Roll call vote Committee on

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Finance. Council Member Recchia?

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie?

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler?

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster?

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann?

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras?

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio?

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: No.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: By vote of 11 in  
3 the affirmative, 1 in the negative and no  
4 abstentions, items are adopted. Members, please  
5 sign the Committee Reports.

6 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I'll keep the  
7 vote open for 30 minutes.

8 [pause]

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll  
10 call, Committee on Finance. Council Member Oddo?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: No.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now  
13 stands at 11 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative  
14 and zero abstentions.

15 [pause]

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member  
17 Jackson?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on  
19 all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now in  
21 the Committee on Finance stands at 12 in the  
22 affirmative, 2 in the negative and zero  
23 abstentions.

24 [pause]

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Committee on

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2 Finance. Council Member Reyna?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now...

5 [pause]

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: ...13 in the

7 affirmative, 2 in the negative and zero

8 abstentions.

9 [pause]

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member

11 Mealy?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote in the

14 Committee on Finance now stands at 14 in the

15 affirmative, 2 in the negative and zero

16 abstentions.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: This

18 Committee on Finance is adjourned.

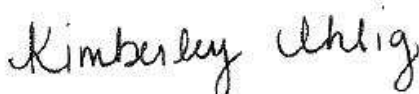
19 [gavel]



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Kimberley Uhlig 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_5/25/12\_\_\_\_\_