

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ZONING AND FRANCHISES

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July 24, 2012
Start: 10:02 a.m.
Recess: 10:20 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
MARK S. WEPRIN
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Daniel R. Garodnick
Robert Jackson
Jessica S. Lappin
Diana Reyna
Joel Rivera
Larry B. Seabrook
James Vacca
Albert Vann
Vincent M. Ignizio

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2 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Good morning,
3 everyone. My name is Mark Weprin. I am the chair
4 of the Zoning and Franchises Subcommittee of the
5 Land Use Committee. We are going to have back to
6 back Subcommittees and then the Land Use Committee
7 following that. We are joined by the following
8 members of the Subcommittee: Jessica Lappin, who I
9 saw on Channel 5 last night—very nice, Diana
10 Reyna, Robert Jackson, Vincent Ignizio, and his
11 daughter, Lena [phonetic], and Leroy Comrie. Did
12 I miss anyone from the Subcommittee? We're joined
13 by other members of the Land Use Committee. I
14 said Robert, right? Okay, good. We in our
15 Subcommittee yesterday recessed pending one café,
16 Café Select, which is Land Use number 637. There
17 was a fire regulation issue and in order to
18 address that issue I'd like to call up Matt
19 Viggiano [phonetic] from Council Member Margaret
20 Chin's office. You don't have to give him a round
21 of applause, but he's very happy to be here.
22 Matt, if you'd state your name for the record and
23 discuss what it is you've learned since yesterday.

24 MATT VIGGIANO: Thank you, Council
25 Member. My name is Matt Viggiano. I represent

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2 Council Member Margaret Chin as her director of
3 Land Use and Planning. There was as you stated a
4 question regarding Fire Department regulations.
5 We reached out to the FDNY at this point have
6 gotten their FAQ in response to my question as to
7 the radius allowed around a fire escape drop
8 ladder. I believe a couple of Council Members had
9 a question about this yesterday, so we reached
10 out. At this point, we've gotten their FAQ, but I
11 think that this is an issue that we need further
12 clarification on, and I will work with counsel of
13 Land Use to sort of get that final determination
14 and at this point, we would recommend approval. I
15 would just like to say for the record, we heard
16 from a couple folks and Oliver has—I've talked to
17 Oliver, and we are going to reach out to his
18 neighbors to make sure that some of those concerns
19 that were mentioned yesterday and addressed and
20 look forward to an operation that adheres to the
21 rules and I think that's pretty much where we are
22 at at this point.

23 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Great. Thank
24 you. For those of you who don't know FAQ is
25 frequently asked questions. He was not

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2 disparaging the panel. Anyway, I'd like to now
3 say that now that Council Member Chin's on board,
4 we're going to move to a vote on this thing.
5 Thank you for at least seeing where I went with
6 that. I take that one back. So I'm not going to
7 call-one second..

8 [pause]

9 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: We also have
10 been joined by Council Member Dan Garodnick. I'd
11 like to call on Christian Hilton now to call the
12 roll on this one item.

13 COUNSEL: Council Member Weprin?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

15 COUNSEL: Council Member Reyna?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

17 COUNSEL: Council Member Comrie?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

19 COUNSEL: Council Member Jackson?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye.

21 COUNSEL: Council Member Garodnick?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

23 COUNSEL: Council Member Lappin?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: May I be
25 excused to explain my vote?

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CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Good job,

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Lena. I'm going to vote in favor of this; however

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given the inadequate response from the Fire

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Department and given the concerns from the

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community, I certainly hope that this does get

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followed up on and worked out, both from a good

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neighbor standpoint, but also from a sort of

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moving forward, a clearer understanding of what is

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and is not permissible under the FDNY rules and

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certainly hope that when this next comes up for

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approval in two years that it is voted down if

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these issues are not dealt with satisfactorily.

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Aye.

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COUNSEL: Council Member Ignizio?

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

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COUNSEL: By a vote of seven in the

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affirmative, none in the negative, no

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abstentions, L.U. 637 is approved and referred to

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the full Land Use Committee.

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CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Okay. That's

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all our business today. The Subcommittee on

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Zoning and Franchises is now adjourned. We will

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hold the rolls open until the next Subcommittee

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begins. Thank you.

COUNSEL: Council Member Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

COUNSEL: The vote now stands eight
in the affirmative, none in the negative, no
abstentions on L.U. 637. Council Member Vacca?

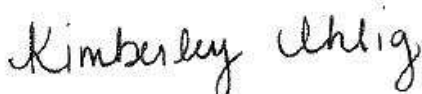
COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye.

COUNSEL: The vote now stands at
nine in the affirmative, none in the negative, no
abstentions on L.U. 637.

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 _____

8/5/12