

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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September 12, 2012

Start: 2:40 p.m.

Recess: 3:24 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
CHRISTINE C. QUINN
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras
Lewis A. Fidler

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

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

Rosie O'Reilly
Coach
New York Ladies Gaelic Athletic Association

Sister Claudia Bradshaw

Marilyn Arroyo
FDNY EMT

Jimmy Guailacela
FDNY EMT

Yi Huang
Officer
New York City Police Department

Reverend Darren Ferguson
Mount Carmel Baptist Church

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SPEAKER QUINN: Alright. We are going to get the ceremonials started, so let's-

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MALE VOICE: [Interposing] Quiet please.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Alright, so it's a long line up here. Scootch [phonetic] over to the right a little. Alright. Everyone who is here for the Ladies' GAA presentation, let's get started. Let me move this. Who gets this? Oh, that's for me. I thought that was medal for-oh jeez, look at me. Okay. Well, we will get to that part that. Gary, can you hold onto that? Well, let me ask other council members to come on up and join me and Council Member Halloran and others here. We have here today the members of the New York Gaelic Athletic Association, so let's hear it for the ladies' GAA.

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[applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: And they're all holding medals we just presented to them 'cause the ladies' GAA from New York made it to the All Ireland Finals, which is a huge thing. To put it in New Yorkisms [phonetic] it's as if a baseball team from another country came and ended up in the

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2 World Series playing the Yankees, so this is a
3 huge accomplishment. They came in second, right?
4 Runners up, which is winning, but the great thing
5 about ladies' GAA, and I want to thank all the
6 ladies and Larry McCarthy [phonetic] and their
7 coaches, in particular Rosie O'Reilly [phonetic].
8 What we have seen with the ladies' GAA is really a
9 really big step forward in getting women and girls
10 and young women involved in Gaelic athletics—not
11 just Irish women, but a very diverse group of
12 women, and that is incredibly important because it
13 means more women and girls are being active. More
14 women and girls are being on teams. Learning how
15 to work well together. Learning sportspersonship
16 [phonetic] and I have to tell you, I think
17 particularly young girls and young women being on
18 teams is an incredibly important part of
19 leadership development for women. I was a
20 horrendous athlete, but I loved being on a team.
21 I loved being a member of the team. I loved the
22 camaraderie. I loved what you learned. I loved
23 the discipline and the focus, so I want to thank
24 all of you for expanding the GAA so much to women
25 and girls and thank you for being such great role

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2 models to all of the girls who are part of this
3 league, so thank you guys very much. Dan, you are
4 blocking the ladies, so move it back. I'm just
5 saying--Tish backs me up on that, so let me now ask
6 our clerk, Mike McSweeney [phonetic]--keeping it a
7 theme of Gaelicness [phonetic] to read the
8 proclamation and then we will hear from Rosie or
9 anybody else from the ladies' GAA, but first,
10 let's give a big New York round of applause to the
11 All Ireland runners up.

12 [applause]

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Go ahead, Mike.

14 CLERK: Council, City of New York
15 Proclamation. The Council of the city of New York
16 is proud to honor the New York Ladies' Gaelic
17 Athletic Association for their outstanding
18 teamwork and history making achievements. And
19 whereas, founded in October 1991 the New York
20 Ladies' GAA has become one of the most prominent
21 sports organizations in the Irish Diaspora. Now
22 in its 21st year, it boasts five senior clubs and a
23 growing underage program--

24 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Yay.

25 CLERK: --and is now more than 500

1 registered players strong. And whereas, the New
2 York Ladies' GAA has been affiliated with Kumon
3 Pell Gale Lamon [phonetic] since 1995 and
4 participated in the all Ireland series until 2002.
5 With the steady growth in the youth program, the
6 New York Ladies' GAA enters a team annually in the
7 - - and competed in this year's competition in - -
8 in June. And whereas, the New York Ladies' GAA
9 reached a junior all Ireland final in 1999 and
10 again in 2011. Last year, the team headed to
11 Ireland with the scores of zero to nine and zero
12 to eight. They were just seconds away from a
13 groundbreaking victory winning the all Ireland
14 junior football crown when the opposing team
15 spoiled their party with two late points. We have
16 no doubt that the crown will be theirs in an
17 upcoming season. And whereas, both on and off of
18 the field the members of the New York Ladies' GAA
19 have truly distinguished themselves by playing
20 influential roles in the Irish and Irish American
21 community that extend far beyond promoting Gaelic
22 games. Now therefore be it known that the Council
23 of the City of New York gratefully honors the New
24 York Ladies' Gaelic Athletic Association for their
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1
2 outstanding teamwork and achievements and wishes
3 them continued success in the years ahead.

4 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the entire
5 Council.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay.

7 [applause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: So I don't know.
9 Who wants to speak on behalf of the ladies, of the
10 girls in the league? Alright. Rosie.

11 ROSIE O'REILLY: Thank you,
12 Christine. To City Council and to Christine,
13 thank you guys very much for having us down here.
14 It's an absolute honor and a privilege for us.
15 It's almost a year since we made this fairytale
16 trip to Ireland three times in six weeks, and made
17 it to the finals, which it's basically unheard of
18 for an out of town team to go over there and
19 make it that far, so it was an unbelievable
20 experience, and there was no prouder bunch in
21 Croke Park on that day running out onto the field
22 in our red, white and blue jerseys representing
23 New York, the greatest city in the world, and we
24 were very proud to don the New York jersey, so
25 this is a fantastic ending to our whole trip for

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2 you guys to bring us down here and recognize us on
3 behalf of the city. Thank you so much from all of
4 us.

5 [applause]

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
7 much, Rosie.

8 ROSIE O'REILLY: I have a small
9 presentation for Christine. It's a statuette of a
10 ladies' footballer.

11 [applause]

12 SPEAKER QUINN: My teams did well.
13 I just didn't do well. I think you guys should
14 have gotten a jetlagged dispensation. I think it
15 was rigged you had to go back and forth for six
16 weeks. You'd really won hands down if you had
17 been able to sleep enough, so I don't know if we
18 want to hear from anyone from the GAA. Well,
19 thank you all very much, and congratulations and
20 we can't wait to have you back next year when you
21 are not the number two, but the number one, which
22 is what you already are for us. You'll get a key
23 to the City Council and someday, a key to the
24 city. Thank you all very much. Thank you.

25 [background conversation]

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you guys, and
3 thank you for the statute. She is really
4 terrific. Thank you very much. Bye everybody.
5 Thank you very much. Congratulations. Thank you.

6 Alright, and our next ceremonial is
7 going to be led by Council Member Crowley, and it
8 is honoring two EMT workers who rescued an 86 year
9 old woman who was a nun and three others from
10 drowning after a flash flood in Queens, so if I
11 could ask Council Member Crowley and the folks who
12 are here for this ceremonial to make their way to
13 the front.

14 [background conversation]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Okay.
16 Good afternoon. If I could have everybody's
17 attention please. In the spirit of this week and
18 honoring those that have given so much, you know,
19 yesterday was September 11th and we remember all of
20 our emergency service workers, those that made the
21 ultimate sacrifice and those that risk their lives
22 every day for the safety of the people in the city
23 of New York. There are two people that I'd like
24 to recognize and the Council recognize today, who
25 have gone above and beyond. They are EMT workers

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2 that are fire department personnel that came to
3 the rescue of three individuals during a
4 torrential rainstorm—over seven feet of rain
5 filled an underpass in Glendale, and within
6 seconds, a car carrying Sister Claudia Bradshaw—
7 Sister, come up please too—Sister Claudia Bradshaw
8 and also Joseph and Mary Lawrence. These were the
9 three individuals in the car that was quickly
10 submerging itself in water when the call for help
11 came through 911, and EMT worker Marilyn Arroyo
12 and EMT worker Jimmy Guailacela came to the rescue
13 just in the nick of time, and so I'd like to have
14 Sister Claudia say a few words about her
15 experience that day. And oh goodness, we are so
16 glad that you were saved.

17 SISTER CLAUDIA BRADSHAW: Thank
18 you. Well, we certainly felt that Marilyn Arroyo
19 and Jimmy Guailacela was an answer to our prayers.
20 We were very grateful to them. They came just in
21 the nick of time because the water was coming into
22 the car very quickly and we couldn't get out. We
23 are very grateful and we thank God for them, hope
24 that He will bless them, and we are thankful to
25 all of our firefighters and policemen who put

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2 their lives on the line every day to protect the
3 people of the city of New York. Thank you.

4 [applause]

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
6 much, Liz. Thank you, Sister. Michael or one of
7 the city clerks, if we could read the proclamation
8 and then we'd love to hear from our two EMTs and
9 the others they saved. I'm sure the two EMTs will
10 say they have nothing to say, they were just doing
11 their jobs, which is what heroes say, but we are
12 going to ask you when you are listening to the
13 proc to just think about whether you could give us
14 a few more words than that. Thank you.

15 CLERK: The Council, City of New
16 York Proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the
17 city of New York is proud to honor FDNY EMTs
18 Marilyn Arroyo and Jimmy Guailacela for their
19 courageous rescue on August 15th-

20 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Can
21 we get a little quiet?

22 CLERK: --and whereas, around 1
23 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15th, 2012, Sister
24 Claudia Bradshaw, who lives in the convent at St.
25 Margaret's Catholic Church in middle village was

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2 in a car with her close friends, Mary and Joseph
3 Lawrence. They were driving to a restaurant in
4 Glendale to have lunch when the sky darkened and
5 sent forth a blinding, torrential downpour. As
6 the car they were in continued on its way under an
7 overpass, the engine gave out and the swirling
8 puddle beneath them quickly grew into a lake.
9 They were trapped. At first, the car began to bob
10 floating uneasily, but then water started pouring
11 in through the air conditioner vents, filling up
12 the vehicle up to their shoulders. Sister
13 Bradshaw prayed for deliverance while her friends
14 called 911. Fortunately, both calls were
15 answered. And whereas, with the flash flood
16 turning the puddle into a vortex seven feet deep,
17 enveloping the car, there was not a second to
18 lose. As the water rose toward their necks, FDNY
19 EMTs Marilyn Arroyo and Jimmy Guailacela reached
20 the vehicle moments before the car submerged
21 entirely, pulled all three passengers and saved
22 them from drowning. And whereas, Jimmy Guailacela
23 was born in Manhattan and grew up in Corona,
24 Queens. A father of a three year old son, he has
25 been an EMT for the FDNY since January 2008.

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2 After honing his skills at Station 4 in Lower
3 Manhattan for a year and a half, he transferred to
4 Queens where he strives each day to give back and
5 make a positive impact in his community. He is
6 currently working toward becoming an FDNY
7 firefighter. And whereas, New York City native
8 Marilyn Arroyo is a single mother of five and
9 grandmother of two. Despite her own admission of
10 being a poor swimmer, Ms. Arroyo stayed with the
11 sinking car as each passenger was plucked out one
12 by one. As a tireless EMT for the FDNY since
13 2010, she has applied her extensive training to
14 provide the best emergency medical care to
15 countless New Yorkers. She hopes to be involved
16 in emergency medical services as a lifetime career
17 and is currently working towards becoming a
18 paramedic. And whereas, Marilyn Arroyo and Jimmy
19 Guailacela have excelled in their roles as FDNY
20 EMTs and are truly among New York City's bravest.
21 Now therefore be it known that the Council of the
22 City of New York gratefully honors Marilyn Arroyo
23 and Jimmy Guailacela for their lifesaving rescue
24 on August 15th, 2012. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker
25 for the entire Council, Elizabeth Crowley, Council

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2 Member 30th District Queens and many other council
3 members.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
5 much, and—

6 [applause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: I want to thank
8 Marilyn and Jimmy so very much, and see if either
9 of you want to say a few words.

10 JIMMY GUAILACELA: I just want to
11 say that this is my city, New York, where I was
12 born and raised and any one of us would have done
13 the same. We all work hard every day, and this is
14 just something we do, so I was glad I was able to
15 make a positive impact in three people's lives and
16 this is something we've had to do every day.

17 [applause]

18 MARILYN ARROYO: Like Jimmy said,
19 this is my city, and I just want to do the best I
20 can and we do this every day. It's nice to be
21 recognized, you know, 'cause we have other members
22 that put their lives out there also. So thank you
23 so much.

24 [applause]

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you both

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2 very, very much. Thank you. Thank you, Council
3 Member Crowley. Alright. Our next ceremonial is
4 going to be led by Council Member Vinny Gentile to
5 honor another one of our terrific public servants,
6 police officers. If I could ask Vinny Gentile to
7 make his way up please. He's already up. Watch
8 out for the bag, Vinny. Alright. If we could
9 just ask folks from the last ceremonial to just
10 clear the way so the next ceremonial can make its
11 way up.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Officer
13 Wang and his family to make their way up front
14 along with the family members, the members of the
15 PBA that are here with us today, Frank
16 Trammantanno [phonetic], George Winkler, Tom
17 Parker and we were joined earlier by PBA President
18 Pat Lynch, who had to leave.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: I am so sorry. I
20 just want to recognize Israel Miranda, president
21 of the uniformed EMT paramedics and inspectors of
22 the FDNY. I didn't know he was here with us
23 before. Thank you very much, Mr. President, for
24 being with us. We appreciate it very, very much.
25 Thank you. Sorry about that, Vinny.

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[background conversation]

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: - -

council members sign on to the proc also. Those from Staten Island and Margaret Chin also. Okay. Great. We are here today to honor Office Yi Huang, who is really an example of New York's finest. On July 23rd, there was a call that came in that a man had stopped his car on the middle of the Verrazano Bridge and had gotten out and went to the edge of the bridge. When police responded, they realized that the gentlemen did not speak English, and they needed someone who knew Cantonese and so the call went out in the NYPD to find someone who could speak to this individual and they went to the 5th precinct in Chinatown to Councilwoman Chin's district and they found police officer Yi Huang, who was born in China in the Guangdong province, right in Taishan? And when he got to the bridge, he lo and behold, the gentleman that was about to jump, and he was on the edge, he finds out he is from his same hometown in the same province, and they immediately had a connection, and yet it took some time because the gentleman was distraught over his daughter and the new

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2 culture that she was growing up in America, so
3 Officer Huang spent four hours of intense
4 negotiation in the middle of a rainstorm with
5 lightning and thunder to talk down this gentleman
6 and after four hours gained his confidence and he
7 came down and Officer Huang literally saved his
8 life, so we want to thank him-

9 [applause]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: And so
11 I'll ask now for the clerk to read the
12 proclamation.

13 CLERK: The Council, City of New
14 York Proclamation. The Council of the city of New
15 York is proud to join the citizens of this great
16 city in honoring New York City police officer Yi
17 Huang. And whereas, after graduating from
18 Stonybrook University with a degree in computer
19 science-

20 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] If we
21 could get quiet, and let's close the door to the
22 committee room please.

23 CLERK: --Officer Yi Huang joined
24 the New York City Police Department. Beginning in
25 2002, Officer Huang spent his first two years on

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2 the force at Manhattan South. Today Officer
3 Huang, a ten year veteran, proudly protects and
4 serves Manhattan's fifth precinct in Chinatown,
5 home to one of the largest Asian populations
6 within the city of New York. And whereas, at
7 around 12:30 in the afternoon on Monday, July 23rd,
8 police received a call that a man had parked his
9 car on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, got out and
10 stepped over the railing. When the emergency
11 service unit arrived, they found the main
12 despondent and standing on the outer edge of the
13 upper level of the bridge and threatening to jump
14 into the water about 400 feet below. As police
15 tried to talk the man down, they discovered he
16 only spoke Cantonese. ESU [phonetic] pulled out a
17 radio call for an officer who could speak
18 Cantonese and that is when Officer Yi Huang
19 answered the call. He noticed he and the man
20 shared a similar accent and soon realized they
21 both hailed from the same village, the village of
22 Taishan, a coastal city in China's southern
23 Guangdong province. And whereas, as the dark sky
24 threatened to downpour and dozens of fellow
25 officers looked on, Officer Huang spoke to the man

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2 from ten feet away and in his native language
3 found out that the man was worried about his
4 finances and was also upset over arguments he had
5 been having with his 18 year old American born
6 daughter. Having immigrated to America from China
7 when he was just four years old, Officer Huang
8 could empathize with the man and what he was going
9 through as a father trying to understand the clash
10 of tradition Asian cultures and his daughter's
11 American value and relating his own family's
12 experience. Huang urged the man to look to the
13 future and think of his daughter getting married
14 and meeting his grandchildren. And whereas, after
15 four hours of negotiating as wind, rain and
16 lightning started to move in, the distraught man
17 finally allowed officers to pull him to safety.
18 Now therefore be it known that the Council of the
19 city of New York proudly honors New York City
20 Officer Yi Huang for his outstanding service and
21 for going above and beyond the call of duty.
22 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the entire
23 Council, Vincent Gentile, Council Member 43rd
24 District Brooklyn, James Oddo, Minority Leader 50th
25 District Staten Island, Margaret Chin, Council

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2 Member 1st District Manhattan, Vincent Ignizio,
3 Council Member 51st District Staten Island and
4 Deborah Rose, Council Member 49th District Staten
5 Island.

6 [applause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
8 much, Vinny, and all of the other council members
9 for organizing this ceremonial. I just have to
10 say, Officer, I mean that is—if you wrote this in
11 a movie script, somebody would tell you to take it
12 out 'cause it just is impossible the series of
13 events, but thank God you've committed your life
14 to serving the people of New York. Thank God you
15 were there that day to respond to the call, but
16 most significantly, thank God you are someone who
17 has such tremendous patience and concern for other
18 human beings that you could be so focused and
19 attentive in such a difficult and harrowing
20 situation for four hours. That really is beyond
21 most people—even really, really good people—
22 ability to give and to serve and to be focused.
23 So we're just incredibly grateful for your overall
24 service and even more grateful for this particular
25 act of service. Thank you very, very much, and

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we'd love it if you'd say a few words.

OFFICER YI HUANG: I'm not used to being in the spotlight. I'm sweating more than when I was on the bridge. I'd like to first off thanking the Council Members Gentile and Chin here for giving me the opportunity to receive the award. I'd like to thank my parents. They provided me the best of both worlds. I was able to understand the cultural clash between the jumper and his daughter. I had the same clashes with my parents, and also I'd like to thank my wife for supporting me and finally learning to accept my weird schedule I have. I'd like to say the NYPD, we are always ready to do exactly what is needed. I'm pretty sure any officer would have done the same thing. I'd like to also thank the PBA member [phonetic] who is here. Thank you. Thank you all.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much, We also want to thank your family and the PBA as well. Thank you very much, and that concludes today's ceremonials.

MALE VOICE: Okay. Could we clear

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2 the floor please? Please clear the floor. Can I
3 have your attention please? At this time, please
4 place all cell phones and pagers to vibrate.
5 Please place all cell phones and pagers to
6 vibrate. Will all non Council employees please
7 leave the main floor of the chambers? Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: My
9 colleagues, please rise for the pledge of
10 allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the flag of
11 the United States of America and to the Republic
12 for which it stands, one nation under God,
13 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

14 Roll call?

15 CLERK: Arroyo?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

17 CLERK: Barron?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [no audible
19 response]

20 CLERK: Brewer?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

22 CLERK: Cabrera?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [no
24 audible response]

25 CLERK: Chin?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.
3 CLERK: Comrie?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: [no audible
5 response]
6 CLERK: Crowley?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.
8 CLERK: Dickens?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [no
10 audible response]
11 CLERK: Dilan?
12 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: [no audible
13 response]
14 CLERK: Dromm?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
16 CLERK: Eugene?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
18 CLERK: Ferreras?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.
20 CLERK: Fidler?
21 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.
22 CLERK: Foster?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.
24 CLERK: Garodnick?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

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2 CLERK: Gennaro?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
4 CLERK: Gentile?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.
6 CLERK: Gonzalez?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.
8 CLERK: Greenfield?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.
10 CLERK: Halloran?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Here.
12 CLERK: Ignizio?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [no
14 audible response]
15 CLERK: Jackson?
16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.
17 CLERK: James?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.
19 CLERK: Koo?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.
21 CLERK: Koppell?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.
23 CLERK: Koslowitz?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.
25 CLERK: Lander?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

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CLERK: Lappin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

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CLERK: Levin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

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CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

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Here.

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CLERK: Mealy?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [no audible

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response]

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CLERK: Mendez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

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CLERK: Nelson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.

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CLERK: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [no audible

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response]

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CLERK: Recchia?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Here.

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CLERK: Reyna?

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

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CLERK: Rodriguez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: [no

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audible response]

CLERK: Rose?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

CLERK: Sanders?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [no

audible response]

CLERK: Ulrich?

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

CLERK: Vacca?

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

CLERK: Vallone?

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

CLERK: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

CLERK: Vann?

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

CLERK: Weprin?

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

CLERK: Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

CLERK: Wills?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Present.

CLERK: Rodriguez?

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

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CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

CLERK: Oddo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

CLERK: Rivera?

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Here.

CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.

Quorum is present. My colleagues, please rise for the invocation being delivered today by Reverend Darren Ferguson from Mount Carmel Baptist Church.

REVEREND DARREN FERGUSON: Let us pray. Creator of all things, we come before you with our heads bowed and our hearts humbled, and we ask for you to touch each and every member of this Council. We ask for you to guide their minds and guide their hearts as they contemplate the things that are best for our city. We ask you, oh creator, that you would bless them with wisdom and with insight and with compassion. We ask oh God that you would continue to bless them and not just bless them within these chambers, but bless them in their homes and in their communities and as

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2 they walk and talk with their families and their
3 children. We ask you to continue to bless our
4 city. We ask you to help us stem the tide of
5 violence that has erupted in our city, and as we
6 walk and talk in our city, let us be beacons of
7 light to let the city know that someone does seek
8 its welfare. We thank you, and it's in your
9 mighty and matchless name we pray. Amen.

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council
11 Member Foster?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Yes, it
13 gives me great pleasure in the absence of Council
14 Member Sanders to spread the invocation in full by
15 my friend who I've known for years, Reverend
16 Darren Ferguson, thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
18 ordered.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could ask my
20 colleagues to please stand. If I could also ask
21 council members and those in the audience to turn
22 their cell phones off or to silent please. Just
23 this morning we learned of the death of The United
24 States Ambassador to Libya, J. Christopher
25 Stevens, and three other Americans in a rocket and

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2 gunfire attack yesterday on the U.S. consulate in
3 Benghazi. After angry Islamists stormed the U.S.
4 embassy in Cairo, hundreds of armed demonstrators
5 in Benghazi, Libya stormed the consulate after
6 rocket propelled grenades were fired onto the
7 consulate grounds. Ambassador Stevens was the
8 first U.S. ambassador to be killed in an attack
9 since 1979. Prior to serving as ambassador to
10 Libya, he was the U.S. envoy to the Libyan rebel
11 movement that overthrew Gaddafi last year. We
12 stand here today thinking of Ambassador Stevens
13 and the other three Americans who were killed and
14 their families. Our thoughts and prayers go out
15 to them and of course, our voice goes out
16 condemning this murderous attack on any diplomat,
17 but in this case an American diplomat.

18 Sadly, on August 31st, 2012 Diane
19 Rivera - - at 55, sister of our Majority Leader,
20 Joel Rivera, and Assemblywoman - - Rivera and
21 daughter of Assemblyman Jose Rivera passed away in
22 her New Jersey home with her husband and mother at
23 her side after a long battle with ALS. She was
24 first diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease in 2007.
25 Diane became a tireless advocate for those

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2 suffering from ALS, even in 2010 with her father
3 testifying at state senator committees about the
4 importance and the need for medical marijuana and
5 the difference between medical marijuana and
6 illegal drugs. In a statement released by the
7 Rivera family, they said while Diane worked hard
8 to bring light to her debilitating disease she
9 also dedicated her life to raising money and funds
10 for many causes. After the 9/11 terrorist attack,
11 she volunteered to cook for rescue workers at
12 Ground Zero and for many years Diane even
13 volunteered at a senior medical day center. Her
14 husband Paul said that, "She fought very hard and
15 now she doesn't have to fight anymore." Diane's
16 funeral was held this past Saturday and our
17 thoughts and prayers go out to our wonderful
18 Majority Leader, Joel Rivera, to Diane's husband,
19 to her parents and the entire family. Thank you,
20 Mr. Majority Leader.

21 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
22 very much, Madam Speaker. Adoption of the
23 minutes. Council Member Wills?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I make a
25 motion that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of

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June 28th, 2012 be adopted as printed.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
ordered. We will now move on to messages and
papers from the mayor.

MALE VOICE: M881 submitted the
name Susan Bellingson [phonetic] reappointment.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges
and elections.

MALE VOICE: M882 submitted the
name Paula Berry [phonetic] reappointment,
Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges
and elections.

MALE VOICE: M883 submitted the
name Henry Wang [phonetic], reappointment
Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges
and elections.

MALE VOICE: M884 submitted the
name Susan Grossman [phonetic], reappointment New
York City Tax Commission.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges
and elections.

MALE VOICE: M885 Mayor's veto and

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disapproval message of Introductory number 730-A.

SPEAKER QUINN: Housing and
buildings.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:
Communications from city, county and borough
offices?

MALE VOICE: None.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Petitions
and communications.

MALE VOICE: None.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Land use
call ups.

MALE VOICE: M886 through M889.

SPEAKER QUINN: If we could couple
those please and have a roll call on the coupled
Land Use call ups.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
ordered.

CLERK: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye. I
vote aye and I ask for permission to vote on all
general coupled orders, and I vote aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
ordered.

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CLERK: Arroyo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I vote aye and request consent to vote on the general order calendar.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on all and I ask unanimous consent. I vote aye on all general order-

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:
[interposing] So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --calendar items. Thank you.

CLERK: Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

CLERK: Cabrera?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [no audible response]

CLERK: Chin?

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: [no audible response]

CLERK: Crowley?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote aye and I ask consent to vote aye on all general calendar orders.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you.

CLERK: Dickens?

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [no audible response]

CLERK: Dilan?

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: [no audible response]

CLERK: Dromm?

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

CLERK: Eugene?

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

CLERK: Ferreras?

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye. - -

[off mic]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I vote aye and with permission I'd like to vote aye on all coupled general orders and resolutions.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

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ordered.

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CLERK: Fidler?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

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CLERK: Foster?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: I vote aye

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on all the Land Use call ups and I'd like

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permission to vote aye on all general order

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calendars.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

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ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Thank you.

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CLERK: Garodnick?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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CLERK: Gennaro?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.

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Leader, I vote yes and I ask permission to vote on

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the general order calendar.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

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ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote

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yes.

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CLERK: Gentile?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

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CLERK: Gonzalez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Greenfield?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [no

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audible response]

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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: [no

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audible response]

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CLERK: Jackson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: James?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: - - . My

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condolences to Majority Leader Rivera and his

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family. I vote aye to all Land Use call ups and

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unanimous consent to all general order calendar

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orders and resolutions, I vote aye.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you

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and so ordered.

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CLERK: Koo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

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CLERK: Koppell?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: [no
3 audible response]

4 CLERK: Lander?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

6 CLERK: Lappin?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

8 CLERK: Levin?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

10 CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

12 CLERK: Mealy?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I vote
14 on all Land Use call ups with permission to vote
15 on all general calendar orders?

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you,
18 Majority Leader. I vote aye.

19 CLERK: Mendez?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Permission
21 to vote on all Land Use call ups and the general
22 order calendar?

23 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you.
25 I vote aye.

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CLERK: Nelson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I vote aye

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- - on the general calendar?

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: - - .

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CLERK: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [no audible

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response]

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CLERK: Rechhia?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

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CLERK: Reyna?

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Rodriguez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: With

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permission, I'd like to vote aye on all general

17

orders.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

20

CLERK: Rose?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

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CLERK: Ulrich?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

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CLERK: Vacca?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: - -

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CLERK: Vallone?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

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CLERK: Van Bramer?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

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CLERK: Vann?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

7

CLERK: Weprin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

9

CLERK: Williams?

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[pause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Sorry.

12

My condolences to the Majority Leader. I vote aye
and a happy birthday, Stephan Ringle [phonetic],
26, my community relations director.

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CLERK: Wills?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: - - . I

17

vote aye on all call ups and with consent ask to
vote aye on all calendar-

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:

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[interposing] Yes.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Thank you.

22

CLERK: Oddo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes. - - .

24

CLERK: Rivera?

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2 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: I vote
3 aye.

4 CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Yes.

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Alright.

7 Today's Land Use call ups were adopted by a vote
8 of 42 in the affirmative with zero in the negative
9 and no abstentions. At this point in time, we
10 will move on to communication from the speaker.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. I want
12 to thank the Land Use staff for the various items
13 that we are working on today in particular the
14 landmarking of three firehouses in the city—one in
15 Melissa Mark-Viverito's district, one in Maria
16 Arroyo's district and one in Karen Koslowitz's
17 district. I want to thank Arronzo Carr
18 [phonetic], Amy Levitan [phonetic], Pete Janosik
19 [phonetic] and Danielle Decervo [phonetic] and the
20 entire Land Use staff for their work. I want to
21 take a moment to speak about Intro 404-A. I want
22 to thank Chair Dilan for moving the bill through
23 his committee, the main sponsor of the bill
24 Council Member Gale Brewer. I want to thank Laura
25 Rogers, Ben Goodman, Ed Atkin [phonetic] and Bob

1
2 Eham [phonetic] for their work on this
3 legislation. We have had in many neighborhoods of
4 New York City over the past few years a problem of
5 apartment buildings being converted in hotels. We
6 have seen individuals love for a long time in a
7 residential rent protected apartment building and
8 slowly but surely landlords empty those buildings
9 out, convert them into transient hotels. We have
10 seen some entire buildings be lost in this way, We
11 have seen individuals—one we heard from at our
12 public hearing on the bill and at today's press
13 conference—live in the building where he didn't
14 really have a lot of neighbors anymore. The
15 people who were coming in and out of his building
16 literally yelling at him for the poor service he
17 was getting from the hotel staff, even when he
18 claimed he was not a hotel staff member. He was
19 in fact a tenant of that building. In May of
20 2011, the state legislature strengthened the law
21 in this state to deal with it—a court lack of
22 clarity and made it very clear that residential
23 apartments were not designed to be used as
24 transient rental apartments, transient hotels.
25 This piece of legislation follows on the heels of

1
2 the work of Senator Krueger, Senator Duane,
3 Assembly Member Rosenthal and Assembly Member
4 Gottfried and will expand and increase the fines
5 for illegal conversions of residential dwelling
6 units into transient hotels. I want to thank
7 Council Member Brewer for her work on this. I
8 want to note that the piece of legislation is
9 supported by a broad array of community based
10 organizations, by the Hotel Association and by the
11 Hotel Trades Council. Let me again thank Chair
12 Dilan and call on Council Member Brewer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
14 very much, Madam Speaker, and I want to also thank
15 the individuals you mentioned, all of the
16 advocates, the tenants, certainly Council Member
17 Dilan, who shepherded this through, the staff and
18 the hotel union and certainly the Hotel
19 Association, and there are really just three
20 reasons; one, of course is we need every
21 stabilized unit possible, and in some cases, not
22 all, by having this particular illegal hotel
23 situation, you do take away rent stabilized units
24 desperately needed in the city of New York.
25 Number two, when I first heard about this problem

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2 some years ago, one of the first agencies to bring
3 it to my attention was the fire department because
4 when you are in an illegal hotel situation the
5 fire department is concerned. The sprinklers are
6 not correct. They are not up to the standards of
7 a hotel. The issue of where are the walls, where
8 are the bunk beds, where is the second egress—all
9 aspects of a hotel that are very stringent and are
10 adhered to by the hotel industry are not in an
11 illegal hotel. And finally, there is just the
12 issue of the experience of the tenant who is
13 living next door to somebody who is in an illegal
14 hotel situation. The problem is in some cases,
15 not all, the walls are very thin, the individuals
16 I call them the backpackers, they are students,
17 they're having a great holiday in New York. Thank
18 goodness they are here, but they can be noise.
19 They have different hours than a working person,
20 and the elevator in that building in many cases is
21 stressed. You've got a lot of bags, you've got a
22 lot of people, you've got a lot of traffic in the
23 lobby. It's just a different kind of experience,
24 and so I'm very clear that the need is there for
25 the tourists and we need perhaps more quality, but

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2 lower cost tourist accommodations, but it
3 shouldn't be at the expense of safety, it
4 shouldn't be at the expense of stabilized units,
5 and it shouldn't be at the expense of individuals
6 who have to get up in the morning. I want to
7 thank Ann Cunningham, who is here who is a long
8 time tenant activist who brought this issue to my
9 attention originally and again, I want to just
10 thank everyone who has worked hard to keep
11 permanent residential units safe in our city and
12 who understand it is not good to reward illegal
13 behavior. I also want to thank the Mayor's
14 Office, Ms. McGee [phonetic] is head of it now.
15 Ms. Hyman [phonetic] was head of it before. They
16 both have done a great job of looking at
17 enforcement and I'm sure they will continue to do
18 so. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Council
20 Member Brewer, and that concludes communications
21 from the Speaker.

22 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
23 very much, Madam Speaker. We now move on to
24 discussion of general orders. We have none, so we
25 will move on from there. Reports of special

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committees.

MALE VOICE: None.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Reports of standing committees?

MALE VOICE: Report of the Committee on Housing and Buildings, Intro 404-A. Fines for illegal conversions of dwellings.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

MALE VOICE: Report of the Committee on Land Use, L.U. 627 and Reso 1498, UDAP Manhattan.

SPEAKER QUINN: Motion to file pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

MALE VOICE: L.U. 666 and Reso 1499 through L.U. 671 and Reso 1503 on page four landmark designations.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

MALE VOICE: L.U. 672 and Reso 1504 and L.U. 673 and Reso 1505 on page five, the Marco Savo [phonetic] irrevocable trust.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

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2 MALE VOICE: L.U. 674 and Reso 1506
3 through L.U. 676 and Reso 1508, zoning map and
4 zoning resolution amendments.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
6 orders.

7 MALE VOICE: L.U. 677 and Reso 1509
8 through L.U. 679 and 1511, HPD submissions.

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Coupled on
10 general orders.

11 MALE VOICE: L.U. 682 and Reso
12 1512, amendment to the maritime lease Brooklyn.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
14 orders.

15 MALE VOICE: L.U. 683 and Reso 1513
16 proposed disposition of real property.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
18 orders.

19 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: General
20 order calendar.

21 MALE VOICE: Resolution appointing
22 various persons commissioner of deeds.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
24 orders, and at this time I'd like to ask for a
25 roll call on all items coupled on general order

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calendar.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So orders.

CLERK: Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

CLERK: Chin?

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: - -

CLERK: Dromm?

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

CLERK: Eugene?

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye,

CLERK: Fidler?

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: - - .

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you.

First I feel compelled to note for the record that reports of my demise have been greatly exaggerated. I've always wanted to say that. I never thought it would be appropriate and relevant. More seriously I intend to vote no on Intro 404-A and aye on the others. I'm not all that sanguine about the law that is going to be enforced here. I think it's kind of vague. I am certainly not sanguine about the ability of the Department of Buildings. It is barely apt at

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2 doing the job, which they are already tasked. To
3 give them the power to fine someone in a range of
4 \$25,000 on this statute to me is irresponsible,
5 and it will sure as heck be an incentive to this
6 department to meet their next - - letter by
7 raising revenue by doing this instead of illegal
8 occupancies, cubicle livings, zoning violations or
9 my personal pet peeve illegal blatant greenhouses.
10 At last, I do believe this bill will have a
11 chilling effect on a growing segment, on a new
12 segment of our tourist industry so having said all
13 of that I vote no on Intro 404-A and aye on all
14 the rest.

15 CLERK: Garodnick?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

17 CLERK: Gentile?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

19 CLERK: Gonzalez?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

21 CLERK: Greenfield?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I vote
23 no one 404-A and aye on all coupled and general
24 orders.

25 CLERK: Halloran?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: I vote
3 aye on all except for 404-A, which I will join my
4 esteemed colleague, Mr. Fidler, in voting no on.

5 CLERK: Ignizio?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, I
7 vote yes on all Land Use call ups, no on 404 and
8 aye on all others. Thank you.

9 CLERK: Jackson?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: May I be
11 excused to explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you.
14 I rise, my colleagues, in order to speak in favor
15 of 404-A and I ask you to support that. In fact
16 our colleague, Gale Brewer, has basically said
17 from day one how this was brought to her
18 attention. In fact, if you don' live in an
19 apartment building, then maybe you should
20 experience it because clearly, as someone that
21 lived in an apartment building we don't want--when
22 I say we, people who live in apartment buildings
23 do not want people that do not actually live
24 there, transient people running in and out like
25 there is no tomorrow, and so for a landlord or

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2 owner that runs a business like that they're
3 making money. All they are concerned about is
4 money. The bottom line is the only way to stop
5 them if we find them to the point where they're
6 not going to do it. It doesn't make economic
7 sense, and in fact, Gale Brewer and the Speaker,
8 we were all at a press conference earlier where I
9 believe the head of the hotel association was
10 there in support of the bill, so everyone to my
11 knowledge except the greedy landlords that want to
12 profit from this are the only ones that want it to
13 continue, so I ask all of you to consider that and
14 put yourself in a place of the tenant that spoke
15 at the press conference who said that people were
16 yelling at him like he was an employee of the
17 building about services. It was absolutely
18 ridiculous, so I ask, and I stand in favor of 404-
19 A, full supportive of it, knowing that hitting
20 them with heavy fines are going to be the only way
21 to stop what they're doing. Thank you. I vote
22 aye.

23 CLERK: Koo?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on
25 all.

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2 CLERK: Lander
3 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye on all.
4 CLERK: Lappin?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.
6 CLERK: Levin?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.
8 CLERK: Mark-Viverito?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.
10 CLERK: Recchia?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.
12 CLERK: Reyna?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.
14 CLERK: Rose?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.
16 CLERK: Ulrich?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye,
18 CLERK: Vacca?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.
20 CLERK: Vallone?
21 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: - -
22 CLERK: Van Bramer?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.
24 CLERK: Vann?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

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CLERK: Weprin?

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

CLERK: Oddo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: May I be temporarily excused to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Thank you. I just want to repeat some of the comments I made in the Housing and Buildings Committee hearing and I preface my comments by saying I think it's pretty well established how highly I regard Council Member Brewer. I think she does this job the way it should be done and I know she knows her district better than anyone. I don't mean to question that with my vote and I do have—

SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] If we could just get a little quiet for the Minority Leader. A little time back there. Sorry.

CLERK: I share some of the concerns that Council Member Fidler alluded to, but I think I'll be voting no on this bill, and it's more just to as a sign of sort of solidarity with the short stay rental industry. Their relief has to come from the state legislature, not from

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2 this body. They need to be carved out of the
3 existing state bill or they need the industry
4 regulated. This is \$150 million dollar industry
5 and growing and as Greg David of Cranes [phonetic]
6 makes the argument in his book that tourism has
7 replaced manufacturing as a vital part of our
8 economy, and I think that this bill is not
9 necessarily—it's not designed to hurt this
10 industry. I know this Council wants to be helpful
11 to small business. I just think that a no vote
12 helps sort of bring attention to their cause, and
13 I think that in an era when all of us regardless
14 of party affiliation, regardless of level of
15 government are talking about jobs and small
16 business and the need to grow this economy. I
17 think we need to do everything we can to foster
18 these businesses and help grow them, and
19 hopefully, however this bill is voted out, we as
20 an institution need to go to our colleagues in
21 Albany and say regulate them, put rules in place,
22 but let's help turn that \$150 million industry
23 into a \$300 million industry, et cetera, et
24 cetera, so I'll be voting yes on all with the
25 exception of Intro 404-A, on which I will vote no.

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CLERK: Williams?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

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CLERK: Rivera?

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: I vote

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aye.

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CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

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SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.

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All items on today's general order calendar were adopted by a vote of 43 in the affirmative, with zero in the negative and zero abstentions, with the exception of Intro 404-A, which was adopted by a vote of 38 in the affirmative, five in the negative and zero abstentions. The revised land use call ups were adopted by a vote of 43 in the affirmative with zero in the negative. We now move on to introduction and reading of the bills.

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SPEAKER QUINN: If all bills could

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be referred to Committees as indicated on the

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agenda.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

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ordered. Since there are no resolutions, we will

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now move on to general discussion. Council Member

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Jackson following by Council Member Vallone.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise and ask
4 you to consider signing on to Intro 925. 925 will
5 bring about a requirement that the Department of
6 Education to provide data regarding the provisions
7 of the art instructional requirements. Under the
8 state education law, the Department of Education
9 is required depending on the grades that your
10 children are in to have certain amount of time
11 dedicated to the arts. We want to report out on
12 that to ensure that that minimum requirement is
13 taking place. Also, Resolution 1492 which is
14 basically asking for a pilot program to house
15 incarcerated adults closer to their primary
16 residence so that their children would not have to
17 travel 8, 10 hours by bus to go see their parents
18 and basically you're building a relationship so
19 that when these incarcerated individuals come out
20 whether it's a mother or a father, that they will
21 have a better relationship with the family. That
22 is extremely important. Research has shown that
23 when families are closer towards incarcerated
24 individuals it bonds the family a lot closer and
25 that is a bill in the assembly bill that is

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2 sponsored by Naomi Rivera and senate bill
3 sponsored by our colleague, Gustavo Rivera. And
4 the last one is Resolution 1493 calling upon the
5 New York State Liquor Authority to improve public
6 and police access to liquor license information by
7 posting online the method of operation for each
8 and every liquor license issued by the State of
9 New York. Pretty simple and clear. Make it
10 transparent so that the police and the public will
11 have access to know what your methods of operation
12 are, so I ask you to sign on to Intro 925, Reso
13 1492 and Reso 1493. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council
15 Member Vallone?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you.
17 My colleagues, today I'm introducing a bill which
18 would create an animal abuse registry, which is
19 similar to the sex offender registry that exists
20 right now. Right now these abusers can be working
21 among us and we don't know it, but more
22 importantly pet stores don't know it and animal
23 shelters don't know it. Those dogs we saw
24 recently on TV, kicking a dog in an elevator or
25 throwing a dog out a window like happened in my

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2 district, they can go and get a new dog from a
3 shelter tomorrow, and there is nothing preventing
4 that. We need to prevent that. We need to be a
5 beacon for the protection of helpless animals for
6 the whole country to see. They will follow our
7 lead as they have in so many other bills. This is
8 a bill that exists now in Suffolk, and I want to
9 thank them for their actions and groups like the
10 Animal Legal Defense Fund that's working for this
11 throughout the country, but as I said, we should
12 lead the way here to protect these helpless
13 animals. We all know that people who abuse
14 animals, that is just the beginning. They wind up
15 doing much worse, much worse, and at a minimum, we
16 should stop them from getting another animal.
17 This bill will put them on a list. If they adopt
18 another animal, that would be a crime, and they
19 could go to jail for up to a year. So I ask you
20 in joining me in this very simple protection for
21 animals, who can't protect themselves. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
23 very much. Next we have Council Member Recchia
24 followed by Council Member Gentile.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Yeah.

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2 Good afternoon. I ask you to sign onto 928, which
3 is when we passed the plumbers' code, in there was
4 a provision that plumbers had so many days to
5 renew their licenses. What happened was there was
6 a large number of plumbers that were not aware
7 that they had a certain amount of time if their
8 license expired—of course, under the old rules,
9 you had as long as you needed to renew your
10 license, and there are literally hundreds of
11 plumbers out there who lost their license just
12 because no one notified them of the change in the
13 plumbing code, and this would give them an
14 opportunity, a window, to renew their plumbers'
15 license, so we can get them back and working and
16 go back into business. That's 928. Intro 927 I
17 would ask that you all would sign onto. This is
18 where for pilot programs that the administration
19 loves to do to give the community boards all
20 notice. For example, under the booting program,
21 the Department of Finance told me they were going
22 to do a pilot program. First, they said it was
23 going to be Staten Island. Then, they changed the
24 pilot program to Brooklyn, right? So now they do
25 a pilot program in Brooklyn. Before you know it,

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2 they're expanding through the whole city. Well,
3 they never told us. We never had a chance to have
4 a hearing on the booting program, never had a
5 chance to analyze what was going on, so now this
6 is where before they go forward with the pilot
7 programs, they have to lay it off for all of the
8 community boards, so people in our communities
9 know what exactly is going on. Not that they walk
10 outside and they see a boot on their car. They
11 have no idea what this is--what's happening. No
12 one gave them prior notice. This has to stop.
13 These pilot programs have to get under control
14 because they are trying to abuse the process.
15 Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council
17 Member Gentile?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you.
19 As a co-prime sponsor to Intro 933 with Councilman
20 Vallone, Councilman Crowley, I ask you to also
21 sign on because in story after disturbing story
22 abusers repeat their violent crimes against
23 helpless animals and have a proclivity to even
24 become violent towards people. The animal abuse
25 registry will keep our animals safe and with

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2 proper screening will actually help make sure that
3 animals who have survived any cruelty or neglect
4 will find safe homes in which they'll be treated
5 with respect for the rest of their lives. It has
6 been said that if society is based on how-it's
7 judged based on how it treats its most vulnerable,
8 then this bill Intro 933 is a leap in the right
9 direction. I ask your support. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
11 very much, Council Member Dromm followed by
12 Council Member Oddo.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you
14 very much. I'd like to ask my colleagues to sign
15 on to resolution 1491. This resolution is calling
16 upon the American Psychological and American
17 Psychiatric Association to immediately pass
18 resolutions declaring the practice of curative
19 therapy where they take someone who is gay and try
20 to force them to become straight, and to condemn
21 this practice. It is immoral. It is incorrect,
22 and homosexuality was removed from the list of
23 mental disorders in 1973. For some psychiatrists
24 or psychologists to continue to cure people of
25 their homosexuality is outrageous and wrong, and I

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2 would like to ask my colleagues to sign on to this
3 resolution urging the American Psychological and
4 Psychiatric Associations to demand a stop to these
5 practices. Thank you.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
7 very much. Council Member Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yeah, I just
9 have a quick thing I want to say to my colleagues.
10 I'm looking at my schedule here and it's kind of
11 packed, a busy council member, but it seems here
12 that I have time to have lunch with any of you.
13 My lunch time is open. I would be proud to have
14 lunch with any of you and the significant person
15 in your life—your husband, your wife. My lunch.
16 I'll fit it in.

17

[applause]

18

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: That works
19 for dinner too, so if you guys and gals have the
20 time and the desire to have lunch with me, I would
21 absolutely be proud to have lunch with you. Thank
22 you.

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[applause]

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
25 very much. Seeing no others, that concludes

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STATED MEETING

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today's meeting. This meeting is adjourned.

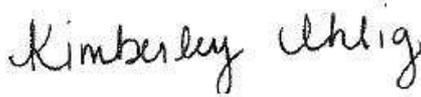
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[gavel]

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 _____

9/23/12