

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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September 24, 2012
Start: 10:47 a.m.
Recess: 11:15 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: Good morning
3 and welcome to today's Finance Committee hearing.
4 My name is Domenic M. Recchia, Jr. I am the chair
5 of this wonderful committee, and I welcome you all
6 to our Finance Committee hearing. Today I'd like
7 to introduce all my colleagues who have joined us.
8 We have Council Member Helen Diane Foster, Council
9 Member Joel Rivera, Council Member Gale Brewer,
10 Council Member Vincent Ignizio, Council Member Al
11 Vann, Council Member Cabrera, Council Member
12 Julissa Ferreras, Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer,
13 Council Member Leroy Comrie, and myself.

14 Today we have three items on our
15 agenda. We have a transparency reso and two Land
16 Use items. We will start with the transparency
17 reso. The resolution sets forth new change in the
18 designation of certain organizations receiving
19 local aging and youth discretionary funding, as
20 well as new change in the designation of certain
21 organizations receiving funding pursuant to
22 certain initiatives in this budget. Organizations
23 appear in the reso that have not yet completed
24 prequalification process by the Mayor's Office of
25 Contracts, the Council or any other entity are

1 identified in asterisks. Additionally as with all
2 transparency resos the Council Members will have
3 to sign a disclosure form indicating whether or
4 not a conflict exists with any of the groups that
5 are attached on the list. If any member has a
6 potential conflict of interest with any of the
7 organizations listed, he or she might want to
8 disclose the conflict at the time of the vote.

9 Council Members are now required to disclose any
10 conflict with the proposed subcontractor that are
11 used by organization they sponsor for
12 discretionary funding. This disclosure must be
13 made before the subcontractor be approved.

14 Members will be contacted by the Council's Ethics
15 and Employment Counsel, Nadir, to complete
16 disclosure forms as necessary.

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18 Next we have two Land Use items.

19 The first property is the Kelly Street Apartments,
20 which is a property located in Council Member
21 Maria del Carmen Arroyo's district in the Bronx.

22 The property which consists of five buildings and
23 provides 81 units of rental housing to low income
24 families will receive a full property tax
25 exemption and undergo a rehab. Council Member

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Arroyo supports this item.

The next and last Land Use item is Ahi Ezer Kings Highway, a property located in my district. This property consists of one building of 50 units of rental housing to elderly and low income individuals, and they will receive a partial tax exemption and undergo a rehab. Of course, I support this item. These are the only items on the agenda today and members of counsel of Finance are available to answer any questions if you have a question regarding the Land Use or the transparency resos. Representatives from HPD are also here to answer any questions on the Land Use items. Does anybody have any questions? Seeing nobody have any questions, call the roll.

COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call vote Committee on Finance. Council Member Recchia?

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I vote aye and encourage all of my members to vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Because of your encouragement, I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Having
3 nothing to do with encouragement, I vote aye, but
4 I also want to say that we love the CASA program.
5 Thank you, Mr. Chairman and my husband works very
6 part time at the New York Historical Society,
7 which is one of the recipients, and they do a
8 great job regarding CASA. Thank you very much.

9 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I just have
10 to put—I forgot—my conflict. I have to go back.
11 One of the groups, one of the schools that are
12 getting the CASA program is a school which two of
13 my daughters attend, and so I just want to put
14 that on the record.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie?

16 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: [Interposing]
17 And it's Mark Twain Middle School. Okay, and
18 they're getting a CASA grant.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member
20 Comrie?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Pass.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio?

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, I

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don't know if I need to disclose this because I

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don't know if they are getting funding, but my

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daughter attends P.S. 36 in Staten Island and the

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YMCA camp. Thank you. I vote aye.

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[background conversation]

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CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: What? Do you

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need more time, Council Member? Do you need more

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time?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I pass and

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I'm not finished looking at the list.

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CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay. So

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call the vote, and then we will come back to him.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 11
3 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, no
4 abstentions, all items have been adopted.
5 Members, please sign the Committee Reports.

6 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay. I also
7 before we end today I just want to make one
8 announcement today. One of our staff members are
9 leaving the Finance staff, and I just have to say
10 Shadawn and I go way back for many, many years
11 when I was Chairman of Cultural Affairs. She is
12 going to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and I
13 just have to tell you, it's our loss here at the
14 City Council. Shadawn, stand up.

15 [applause]

16 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I wish you
17 many years of happiness and good luck 'cause you
18 are a wonderful person and I enjoyed the years
19 working with you. Thank you very much. Okay, we
20 will leave the vote open.

21 [background conversation]

22 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Alright.
23 Hold on. Jackson is...

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member
25 Jackson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote
aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now
currently stands at 12 in the affirmative.

[background conversation]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member
Oddo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now
currently stands at 13 in the affirmative, zero in
the negative and no abstentions.

[pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll
call Committee on Finance. Council Member Reyna?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye
on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler?

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I need to
disclose that in the transparency resolution there
is money being moved to the Furman Center, which
is a division of NYU Law School, where my son
attends, and I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote in the
Committee on Finance now stands at 15 in the

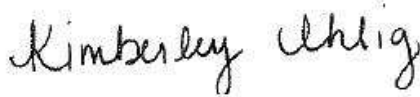
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affirmative.

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 _____10/7/12_____