

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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January 8, 2013  
Start: 10:18 a.m.  
Recess: 10:42 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway  
Committee Room, 16th Floor

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

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2 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Good morning,  
3 welcome to today's Finance hearing. My name is  
4 Domenic M. Recchia Jr., and I am the Finance  
5 chairman and I welcome everyone to today's hearing  
6 and back from the happy new--or everyone have a  
7 happy and healthy New Year. And I'd just like to  
8 thank the whole Finance Committee for doing a  
9 spectacular job, they've been working throughout  
10 this whole holiday. I'd like to thank under the  
11 leadership of Preston Niblack and the Director and  
12 the Deputy Director Jeffrey Rodus, and, of course,  
13 I always have to thank the entire Finance staff,  
14 but especially my attorney Tanisha Edwards, who's  
15 always doing a spectacular job.

16 Today we have two items on our  
17 agenda: A preliminary budget extender and a reso  
18 relating to the Gun Trafficking Prevention Act and  
19 the Fix Gun Checks Act. Let's first start with  
20 the resolution.

21 This resolution, sponsored by  
22 Speaker Quinn, calls upon the President's  
23 Interagency Task Force to reduce gun violence to  
24 support the Gun Trafficking Prevention Act and the  
25 Fix Gun Checks Act, sponsored by New York State

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Senators Schumer and Gillibrand.

The Gun Trafficking Prevention Act will make it illegal for an individual to knowingly ship, transport, transfer, or receive two or more firearms if the individual has reason to believe that the gun will be used to commit a felony. The act would also make it unlawful for an individual to knowingly make materially false statements to a licensed manufacturer, importer, manufacturer, or dealer of two or more firearms.

The Fix Gun Checks Act ensures that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a gun are listed in the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check system and would require background checks for all firearm sales.

These acts are in direct response to the recent Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting and I applaud the Speaker for introducing this resolution.

Now let's move on to the budget item that kicks off the fiscal year 2014 budget cycle. We will begin the cycle by considering a piece of legislation that we typically consider at this time of the year, which is a legislation to

1  
2 extend the date for when the Mayor releases the  
3 preliminary budget. Under the Charter, the  
4 Administration has until January 16th of each year  
5 to submit the preliminary budget to the Council.  
6 If the Mayor does not believe he can comply with  
7 the Charter-mandated date, then he must submit  
8 legislation to Council to amend the Charter dates.  
9 The Mayor has requested an extension to allow time  
10 for the administration to review end of year tax  
11 receipts and time to review the governor's budget,  
12 which is expected to be released on or before  
13 January 22nd.

14 Today's intro would give the Mayor  
15 an additional 22 days until February 7th to submit  
16 the preliminary budget. The intro would also  
17 extend the dates for preliminary budget actions  
18 taken by other agencies, such as IBO, Department  
19 of Finance, as well as city officials, such as  
20 borough presidents. The legislation also extends  
21 the deadline for the Council's budget response  
22 from March 25th to April 12th. For the complete  
23 list of extended dates, please review the briefing  
24 paper prepared by my counsel, Tanisha Edwards,  
25 which is attached to the intro. The Council's

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2 budget hearings are expected to begin the first  
3 week of March and conclude the first week in  
4 April, so please plan your schedule accordingly.

5           Representatives from OMB are here  
6 to answer any questions on the preliminary budget  
7 extended. But before we hear from OMB, I want to  
8 remind all my colleagues that tomorrow is the  
9 Council's Charter meeting so there will not be a  
10 Finance Committee hearing, that will begin  
11 promptly at 12 o'clock. Our next Finance hearing  
12 will be held Wednesday, the 23rd day of January.

13           At this time, I'd like to introduce  
14 all my colleagues who have joined us here today.  
15 We have Al Vann, Robert Jackson, Joel Rivera,  
16 Helen Diane Foster, Leroy Comrie, Lewis Fidler,  
17 Jimmy Oddo, Julissa Ferreras, Karen Koslowitz.  
18 Did I miss anybody?

19           [Off mic]

20           CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Oh, Oliver  
21 Koppell, sorry, Ollie, I missed you.

22           COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: It's all  
23 right.

24           CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: All right,  
25 now does anybody have any questions about this

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budget extender or about any of the resos?  
Without seeing any questions, please call the  
roll.

[Pause]

WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin,  
Committee Clerk, roll call vote, Committee on  
Finance. Council Member Recchia.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I vote aye,  
and I encourage all my colleagues to vote aye.  
Oh, in addition to that, please add my name as a  
co-sponsor on those two resolutions.

[Pause]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I vote aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Fidler.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I vote aye,  
and I'd like my name added on the preconsidered  
reso on the gun task force, Gun Trafficking  
Prevention Act.

[Pause]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye.

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Please add my name on the preconsidered resolution  
concerning the--

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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Koppell.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Vann.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye, add to

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guns.

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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye,

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please add my name to the--

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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Koslowitz.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye, and

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please add my--

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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes on the

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intro and I abstain on the reso.

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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Preconsidered

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2 Intro was adopted by a vote of 11 in the  
3 affirmative, zero in the negative, and no  
4 abstentions. And preconsidered resolution is  
5 adopted by a vote of ten in the affirmative, zero  
6 in the negative, and one abstention. Council  
7 Members, please sign Committee Reports, both items  
8 are adopted.

9 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: We're going  
10 to keep the vote open for ten minutes.

11 [Pause]

12 WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member  
13 Reyna.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye.

15 [Pause]

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please;  
17 keep it down, please.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member  
19 Mealy.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye  
21 on all. Meeting is adjourned?

22 MALE VOICE: No.

23 FEMALE VOICE: Yes, can you close  
24 it out?

25 MALE VOICE: Oh, we're adjourned?



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[Pause]

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Final vote on the

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Committee on Finance, Preconsidered Intro is now

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adopted by a vote of 13 in the affirmative, zero

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in the negative, and no abstentions; and

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Preconsidered resolution is now adopted by a vote

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of 11 in the affirmative, zero in the negative,

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and 1 abstention.

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[Pause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Finance

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meeting is now adjourned.

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[Gavel]

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tammy Wittman, 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 *Tammy Wittman*

Date January 21, 2013