

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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June 12, 2013

Start: 10:58 a.m.

Recess: 11:03 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room
City Hall

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio

Council Member James S. Oddo

Council Member Donovan Richards

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

Kevin Pin
Committee Clerk
New York City Council

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2 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Good morning.
3 Welcome to today's Finance Committee Hearing. My
4 name is Domenic M. Recchia, Jr. I'm the Chair of
5 the Finance Committee. At this time I'd like to
6 introduce my colleagues. We have Minority Leader
7 Jimmy Oddo, Council Member Vincent Ignizio,
8 Council Member Oliver Koppell, Council Member Gale
9 Brewer, Council Member Donovan Richard, Council
10 Member Diana Reyna, Council Member Karen
11 Koslowitz, Council Member Leroy Comrie and myself.
12 Today we have three land use items on our agenda.
13 The first item, provide property tax exemptions
14 pursuant to private housing finance law to
15 properties that provide rental housing to low
16 income families. The first item is Seagirt
17 Apartments which is a property located in Council
18 Member Richards district in Queens. This property
19 was formerly under the Mitchell Lama Program
20 [phonetic] which provides 916 units of rental
21 housing for low income families and will receive a
22 35 year partial property tax exemption upon
23 entering the HDFC Program under HPD. The second
24 property taxes action is the Presbyterian HDFC,
25 Burt Ostenhouses [phonetic] property located in

1 Council Member Danny Dromm's district in Queens.
2 This property which provides 151 units of rental
3 housing for low income family and seniors will
4 undergo rehab and will receive a 35 year partial
5 property tax exemption. The last property tax
6 exemption is for 927 Columbus Avenue located in
7 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito's district in
8 Manhattan. This property which provides 12 units
9 of rental housing for low income families will
10 undergo rehab and will receive a 30 year full
11 property tax exemption. Those are all our land
12 use items and all respective members have
13 expressed support. Now we will call the roll. I
14 just want to remind the Council Members that
15 tomorrow's the Finance Committee and the Public
16 Housing Committee will hold an oversight hearing
17 examining proposed NYCHA actions to address the
18 impact of cuts as a result of the Federal
19 sequestration. The hearing will discuss proposed
20 plans to address the shortfalls, including cost
21 cutting and other actions by NYCHA, the take over
22 of some community centers and senior centers by
23 city agencies and the implications of these
24 actions for the FY 2014 budget. Those invited to
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2 testify, a representative from the Housing
3 Authority, the Department of Aging and the
4 Department of Youth and Community Development and
5 the Public and the Unions. The hearing will be
6 held at 10:00 a.m. in the Council's Chambers. All
7 my colleagues must be there. This is a required
8 Finance Committee Hearing. I hope, everybody is
9 invited to attend. Please call the roll. Hold
10 on, before we call the roll, does anyone have any
11 questions? We've been joined by Lewis Fidler and
12 Council Member Jackson [off mic] and Joel Rivera.
13 At this time we recognize Council Member Donovan
14 Richards would like to say a few words.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Well,
16 today is a great day and momentous day for the
17 people of the Rockaway's. As many of you know, we
18 went through the devastation of Hurricane Sandy
19 and we really had an issue trying to locate
20 affordable housing for many of the residents in my
21 district who are, unfortunately, put in the
22 temporary hotel situation. We still have 200
23 families who are trying to find some portion of
24 affordable housing. So today, for us to be, for
25 today for us to now have 916 units of affordable

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2 housing now being added back into the Rockaway's,
3 it is a great day for those families. And one of
4 the things I said I was going to do when I got
5 elected and I remember being elected and seeing
6 Councilman Recchia and we were speaking about
7 this. I said, now is the time, we have to do
8 this. And he was gracious enough to really work
9 with us. So, I just want to thank you on behalf
10 of my community and HPD for certainly trying to
11 meet the need and help us meet the need of the
12 people of the Rockaway's and I urge you all to
13 vote yes.

14 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, thank
15 you, Council Member. You deserve a wonderful job
16 on this because not too many people could. This
17 is a victory when you get an apartment complex to
18 go back into some affordable housing program. And
19 I want to thank you for your support and all you
20 have done. Okay, anybody else have any questions?
21 We've been joined by Council Member Al Vann.
22 Without seeing that, please call the roll.

23 MR. KEVIN PIN: [phonetic] Kevin
24 Pin, Committee Clerk, roll call on the Committee
25 on Finance, Council Member Recchia?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I
encourage all my members to vote with me and vote
aye on all.

MR. PIN: Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

MR. PIN: Reyna?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

MR. PIN: Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

MR. PIN: Comrie?

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

MR. PIN: Fidler?

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

MR. PIN: Jackson?

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on
all.

MR. PIN: Koppell?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

MR. PIN: Vann?

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

MR. PIN: Ferreras?

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

MR. PIN: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

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MR. PIN: Ignizio?

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Based on the encouragement of the Chairman I will vote aye. [laughter] [off mic]

MR. PIN: Oddo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Despite the fact that Council Member Fidler voted yes, I too will vote yes. [laughter]

MR. PIN: By a vote of 13 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions, all items have been adopted. Members, please sign the Committee Reports.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I will hold the vote open for 30, until, are we closing now? [off mic] Open, will keep it open, all right, 11:15. [pause] Hold on, I just want to thank Amy from the Finance staff. She did a wonderful job, Amy and Tenesha [phonetic] [applause]. Thank you.

[pause]

MR. PIN: Foster?

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye on all.

MR. PIN: By a vote on the Committee on Finance, 14 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions. [pause] [off mic]

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Cabrera?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye on
all.

MR. PIN: Final vote on the
Committee on Finance, 15 in the affirmative, zero
in the negative, no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, we'll
do take two. Now it's take [off mic] ready? Take
two. Okay, Committee on Finance is now adjourned
for the second time. Good? [off mic] Okay?

MR. PIN: Van Bramer?

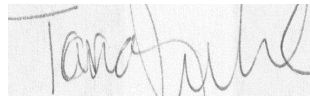
COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on
all.

MR. PIN: Final vote on the
Committee on Finance, 16 in the affirmative, zero
in the negative, no abstentions.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tara Juhl 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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tara Juhl", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Date 6/25/13