

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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August 22, 2013
Start: 10:00 a.m.
Recess:

HELD AT: Committee Room
City Hall

B E F O R E: Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Gale A. Brewer
Leroy G. Gomrie, 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
James G. Van Bramer
Vincent M. Ignizio
James S. Oddo

1 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Alright, are
3 we ready, are we ready? Okay. Good morning.
4 Welcome to today's Finance Committee hearing. My
5 name is Council Member Karen Koslowitz. Today my
6 colleagues and Chairman of the Finance Committee,
7 Domenic M. Recchia, Jr., could not chair today's
8 meeting so he has asked me to conduct this hearing
9 in his absence. I'd like to introduce my
10 colleagues at this time. To my right is Council
11 Member Lew Fidler of Brooklyn, Council Member
12 Robert Jackson of Manhattan, and...

13 EMILIO SANCHEZ: Emilio Sanchez, a
14 future Council Member.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Oliver
16 Koppell from the Bronx, Leroy Comrie from Queens,
17 Julissa Ferreras from Queens, Jim Caris [phonetic]
18 sitting in as Council, Jimmy Van Bramer from
19 Queens, Diane Foster from the Bronx, Diana Reyna
20 from Brooklyn, and Joel Rivera from the Bronx and
21 Al Vann from Brooklyn.

22 Today we have two items on our agenda.
23 We have a Land Use item and a Transparency Reso.
24 Let's start with the Land Use item. This Land Use
25 item is a revision to the resolution this committee

1 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

2 previously adopted on June 12th that provided a
3 property tax exemption to Seagirt Apartments, which
4 provides 916 units of rental housing for low income
5 families in Council Member Richards' district in
6 Queens. The prior resolution provided for a full
7 exemption from real property taxation followed by
8 payment of a shelter rent tax and an additional
9 amount equal to the shelter rent tax. However,
10 such additional amount was to be deferred during
11 the initial years of tax exemption. The owner of
12 Seagirt Apartments has asked that the prior
13 resolution be amended to waive the deferral period
14 to allow the payment of the shelter rent tax to
15 commence at the same time the tax exemption is
16 provided to the property. Council Member Richards
17 supports this item. Representative from HPD are
18 also here to answer any questions you may have on
19 this Land Use item.

20 Now, let's move on to the Transparency
21 resolution. This resolution sets forth new changes
22 in the designation of certain organizations
23 receiving local, aging and youth discretionary
24 funding as well as new changes in the designation
25 of certain organizations receiving funding pursuant

1 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

2 to certain initiatives in the budget.

3 Representatives from Council Finance are here to
4 answer questions you may have on the Transparency
5 resolution. Organizations approaching in the
6 resolution that have not yet completed the
7 prequalification process conducted by the Mayor's
8 office of Contract Services, the Council or another
9 entity are identified in the attached charts with
10 an asterisk. As with all Transparency resolutions,
11 Council Members will have to sign a disclosure form
12 indicating whether or not a conflict exists with
13 any of the groups on the attached list. If any
14 Council Member has a potential conflict of interest
15 with any of the organizations listed, he or she has
16 the opportunity to disclose the conflict at the
17 time of the their vote. As a reminder, please
18 disclose any conflicts you may have with proposed
19 subcontractors that are used by organizations
20 sponsored by discretionary funding. These
21 disclosures must be made before subcontractors can
22 be approved. Members will be contacted by the
23 council's Ethics and Employee Counsel Nadir Joshua
24 to complete disclosure forms as necessary.

1 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

2 These are all our items for today. If
3 no one has any questions... any questions, anybody
4 have any questions? Billy will call the roll.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin,
6 Committee Clerk. Roll call vote Committee on
7 Finance. Council Member Koslowitz?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote Aye on
9 both.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I vote Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I pass.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

1 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I vote Aye, and

8 I hope the future speaker candidates saw how
9 flawless Chairwoman Koslowitz did at ruining
10 Finance so just put in their minds.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I just need
17 another minute to finish my list to make sure that
18 I don't have a conflict, but I'm going to vote Aye,
19 but I just need to... give me another minute.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 13 in the
21 affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
22 abstentions, items have been adopted. Members,
23 please sign the committee reports. Thank you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Okay. I'm
25 going to leave the record open for 20 minutes.

1 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Madam Chair,
3 I'm ready. Billy, recall my vote please.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member
5 Jackson?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote Aye on
7 all.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote currently
9 stands now at 14 in the affirmative.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Okay. We're
11 holding the meeting open for 20 minutes. It's Jeff
12 Rodis's [phonetic] birthday. Where is Jeff?
13 [applause] Oh there he is.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Committee on Finance,
15 Council Member Brewer?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now stands at
18 15 in the affirmative. Final vote in the Committee
19 on Finance is now 15 in the affirmative, zero in
20 the negative, and no abstentions.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date 08/26/2013

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COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION