

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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June 11, 2014  
Start: 10:15 a.m.  
Recess: 10:35 p.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E:  
JULISSA FERRERAS  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Corey D. Johnson  
Helen K. Rosenthal  
I. Daneek Miller  
James G. Van Bramer  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Mark Levine  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Vincent Ignizio  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez

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2 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS: Good morning and  
3 welcome to today's Finance Committee hearing. I am  
4 Council Member Julissa Ferreras and I chair this  
5 committee. I'd also like to introduce the new  
6 Assistant Counsel to the Finance Division, Rebecca  
7 Chasen. Rebecca has served as the Counsel to the  
8 NYPD and the DOA for the last seven years, and we're  
9 happy to have her join us at the Council. Welcome.  
10 I'd also like to welcome as Manar Amar [sp?], who is  
11 with us as council member for the day. She is...  
12 Yes, she is from middle school. She's a middle  
13 school student at I.S. 227 Louis Armstrong in Queens  
14 just across the street from my district office. So  
15 welcome, Manar.

16 Today, we're going to have three items on  
17 our agenda. We have two Land Use items and a  
18 Transparency Resolution relating to the designation  
19 of certain organizations to receive funding in the  
20 Expense Budget. Let's start with the Land Use Items.  
21 The first is Christopher Court Apartments in Council  
22 Member Rodriguez's district in the Bronx. This  
23 property provides 160 units of affordable housing for  
24 low-income families. It is refinancing its mortgage,  
25 and will need a new regulatory agreement with HPD

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2 that is coterminous with the HUD Mortgage. The  
3 property's new property tax exemption would be  
4 partial exemption, which it will receive for 40  
5 years.

6           The next Land Use Item is Greenpoint  
7 Landing in Council Member Levin's district in  
8 Brooklyn. This property will provide 98 units of  
9 affordable housing for low-income families. The  
10 property will receive a full property tax exemption  
11 for 40 years through HPD's HDFC Program. The Council  
12 Members support these projects, and representatives  
13 from HPD are here to answer any questions you may  
14 have on these Land Use Items.

15           Lastly, we have a Transparency  
16 Resolution. This resolution sets forth new changes  
17 in the designation of certain organizations receiving  
18 local aging and youth discretionary funding, as well  
19 as new changes in the designation of certain  
20 organizations receiving funding pursuant to certain  
21 initiatives in the budget. Organizations appearing  
22 in the Resolution that have not yet completed pre-  
23 qualification process conducted by the Mayor's Office  
24 of Contract Services, the Council or other entities  
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2 are identified in the attached charts with an  
3 asterisk.

4           As with all transparency resolutions,  
5 Council Members will have to sign a disclosure form  
6 indicating whether or not a conflict exists with any  
7 of the groups of the attached list. Thank you. If  
8 any Council Member has a potential conflict of  
9 interest with any of the organizations listed here,  
10 she has the opportunity to disclose the conflict at  
11 the time of the vote. As a reminder, please disclose  
12 any conflicts you may have with the proposed  
13 subcontractors that are used by organizations  
14 sponsored by discretionary funding. These  
15 disclosures must be made before the subcontractors  
16 can be approved. Jeremy Parker from the General  
17 Counsel's Office can assist you with any questions or  
18 concerns regarding the disclosure. This will be the  
19 last transparency resolution for Fiscal 2014. So  
20 please review the charts carefully. Does anyone have  
21 any questions related to the Land Use or the  
22 Transparency?

23           We have been joined by Majority Leader  
24 Van Bramer, and his Council Member for a Day, Janay -  
25 - Janaia [sp?], yes? Janaia Bonhan [sp?].

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JANAIA BODHAN: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS: Very nice to see you Janaia. Welcome to the Council. Council Member Johnson, Council Member Rosenthal, Council Member Rodriguez, Council Member Levine, Council Member Miller and we will have other members joining us. If no one has any questions, I will have Billy Martin, the Committee Clerk call the roll.

CLERK: Bill Martin, Committee Clerk.

Roll call vote Committee on Finance. Council Member Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I vote aye.

CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to explain my vote. I just want to thank Chair Ferreras for recognizing our Council Member for the Day Janaia Bonhan, who is a student at P.S. 111 in Ravenswood, and she won our essay contest, and she is a star pupil. Her mom is here celebrating the day with her. So we're just thrilled that Janaia could be here. And because she is the Council Member representing

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2 the 26th District today, she is going to vote. So I  
3 vote aye.

4 JANAIA BONHAM: I vote aye. [chuckles]

5 CLERK: Johnson.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

7 CLERK: Levine.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

9 CLERK: Miller.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

11 CLERK: Rosenthal.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

13 CLERK: Ignizio.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

15 CLERK: By a vote of eight in the  
16 affirmative, zero in the negative, and no  
17 abstentions, items have been adopted. Members please  
18 sign the Committee Reports. Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS: And we will keep  
20 the vote open for the next 20 minutes.

21 [Pause]

22 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS: We have now been  
23 joined by Council Member Miller's Council Member for  
24 the Day. Council Member Miller.

25 [Pause]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Good morning,  
3 ladies and gentlemen. I would like to introduce the  
4 Council Member for the Day from the 27th Council  
5 District, and I have voted on your behalf. So if you  
6 will just introduce yourself to the rest of the  
7 Council.

8 BENZLE MARSALAS: Hello, my name is  
9 Benzle Marsalas [sp?]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Benzle  
11 Marsalas for being Council Member for the Day. He's  
12 another outstanding young man from I.S. 192, and we  
13 love having you here today. Looking forward to  
14 exciting things.

15 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS: So this is Council  
16 Member for the Day Delegation Day for Queens. So we  
17 all brought council members from Queens to the City  
18 Council. So I guess we will be doing our photo op  
19 shortly. So the vote will be -- remain open until  
20 10:35. Thank you.

21 [Pause]

22 CLERK: Council Member Gibson.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye on  
24 all.

25 [Pause]

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CLERK: Council Member Cornegy.

COMUNCIL MEMBER: Hey, I thought you were here. I've been calling you. Rob, we're calling you.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye on all.

CLERK: The final of the Committee on Finance is now 11 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no abstentions.

[Pause]

CLERK: The meeting is adjourned.



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 June 14, 2014