

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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October 29, 2015
Start: 10:41 a.m.
Recess: 11:24 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: Julissa Ferreras-Copeland

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

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

2 [sound check, pause]

3 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Good
4 morning and welcome to today's Finance Committee
5 hearing. I'm Council Member Julissa Ferreras-
6 Copeland. I'm the Chair of the committee. We've
7 been joined by Minority Leader Matteo, Council
8 Members Johnson, Miller, Cornegy and Levine. Today
9 we have six items on the agenda, a budget
10 modification, a transparency resolution and four land
11 use items. Let's start with the budget modification.
12 This modification represents movement of
13 approximately \$7.5 million of funding between and
14 within city agencies to reallocate appropriations in
15 the city's expense budget to fund the City Council's
16 local initiatives as well as other discretionary
17 programs. The appropriates that will be affected are
18 those reflected in the five transparency resolutions
19 that the Council has already voted on in Fiscal 2016,
20 as well as those in the transparency resolution that
21 are going--that we are voting on today. The net
22 fiscal impact of this modification is zero.

23 Next, we have the transparency
24 resolution, which sets forth some new designation and
25 changes in the designation of certain organizations

2 receive local, aging and new discretionary funding.
3 And funding pursuant to certain initiatives in the
4 budget. Organizations appearing in the resolution
5 that have not yet completed the pre-qualification
6 process conducted by the Mayor's Office of Contract
7 Services, the Council or another entity are
8 identified in the attached chart with an asterisk.
9 As with all transparency resolutions council members
10 will have to sign a disclosure form indicating
11 whether or not a conflict of interest exists with any
12 of the groups on the attached list. If a council
13 member has a potential conflict of interest with any
14 of the organizations listed, he or she has the
15 opportunity to discuss the conflict of interest at
16 the time of their vote. As a reminder, please
17 disclose any conflicts you may have with the proposed
18 subcontractors that are used by organizations
19 sponsored by discretionary funding. These
20 disclosures must be made before the subcontractor can
21 be approved. Logan Grant (sic) from the General
22 Counsel's Office can assist you with any questions or
23 concerns regarding disclosure.

24 Lastly, we have the four LU items. First
25 is the French Apartments located in Council Member

2 Johnson's District of Manhattan. This project will
3 preserve 175 units of housing for low-income
4 households and will receive a partial 30-year
5 property tax exemption through the city's HDFC
6 program. Council Member Johnson is in support of
7 this project. The second LU item is in John--is the
8 John Paul II Apartments located in Council Member
9 Dickens' district in Manhattan. This project will
10 preserve 69 units of housing for low-income seniors,
11 and will receive a partial 40-year property tax
12 exemption through the city's HDFC program. Council
13 Member Dickens supports this project. The third LU
14 item is in Central Harlem Mutual Housing Association
15 located in Council Member Mealy's district in
16 Brooklyn. This project will preserve 16 units of
17 housing for low-income household and will receive a
18 partial 35-year property tax exemption through the
19 city's HDFC program. Council Member Mealy supports
20 this project. The fourth LU item is the Ahi Ezer
21 Apartments in Council Member Treyger's district in
22 Brooklyn. This project will preserve 74 units of
23 housing for low-income seniors, and will receive a
24 partial 35-year property tax exemption through the
25 city's HDFC program. Council Member Treyger supports

2 this project. Council Member Johnson, I don't know
3 if you want to say a few words on your HDFC.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Yes. Thank you,
5 Chair Ferreras-Copeland. The French Apartments, as
6 you mentioned, consists of two buildings with 175
7 units of rental housing for low-income households.
8 It is located on 30th Street between 8th and 9th
9 Avenues in my district. I fully support his project.
10 I'm glad that related made some changes to be able to
11 continue to keep this project affordable in the
12 future. I think this is going to be good for the
13 folks that live there who are going get much needed
14 improvements for their building, things that are
15 going to make them even happier to live in this
16 building. And then a fun fact, one of my
17 predecessors, someone who used to serve in this
18 Council, former State Senator and Council Member Tom
19 Duane was born in this building when it was the
20 French Hospital before it was the French Apartments.
21 So I ask my colleagues to vote in favor of this
22 today. Thank you very much.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
24 you, Council Member. Does any other council member
25 have anything they would like to add? Those are the

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2 four items for today. Are there any questions on
3 these specific items? If none, I will now ask the
4 Bill Martin, Committee Clerk to call the roll.

5 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk.

6 Roll call vote Committee on Finance. Chair Ferreras-
7 Copeland.

8 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I vote
9 aye.

10 CLERK: Cornegy.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

12 CLERK: Johnson.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

14 CLERK: Levine. Miller.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

16 CLERK: Matteo.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

18 CLERK: By a vote of 6 in the
19 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions all
20 items have been adopted.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: We will
22 keep the roll open until 11:15. If staffers are here
23 of missing council members, please have them get here
24 before then. Thank you. Thank you, council members.

25 [pause]

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2 CLERK: Continuation roll call Committee
3 on Finance. Council Member Rodriguez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

5 CLERK: The vote now currently stands at
6 7 in the affirmative.

7 [pause]

8 CLERK: Continuation roll call Committee
9 on Finance. Council Member Cumbo.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye and I
11 thank the committee for helping me very much resolve
12 the issue with the Black Veterans for Social Justice,
13 and I'm so glad that their resources will be made
14 available to them expeditiously. I vote aye.

15 CLERK: Rosenthal.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I vote aye.
17 Thank you.

18 CLERK: The vote currently stands at 9 in
19 the affirmative.

20 [pause]

21 CLERK: Continuation roll call Committee
22 on Finance. Council Member Van Bramer.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye.

24 [pause]

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2 CLERK: The final vote Committee on
3 Finance now stands at 10 in the affirmative, 0 in the
4 negative and no abstentions.

5 [pause]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I adjourn this
7 meeting.

8 [gavel]

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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 November 1, 2015