

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS AND ETHICS

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February 7, 2018
Start: 11:11 a.m.
Recess: 12:25 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm.
16th Fl.

B E F O R E: STEVEN MATTEO
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Margaret S. Chin
Vanessa L. Gibson
Karen Koslowitz
Stephen T. Levin

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

2 [sound check, pause]

3 CHAIRPERSON MATTEO: Good morning

4 everyone. I am Steve Matteo. I'm the new Chair of
5 the Committee on Standards and Ethics, and I want to
6 welcome everyone to our first meeting of 2018. I
7 want to sec-take a second to introduce the new
8 members of this committee. We have Karen Koslowitz
9 of Queens, Steven Levin of Brooklyn and Margaret Chin
10 of Manhattan. I want to introduce and personally
11 thank Charles Davis our Committee staff member and
12 Counsel Serena Longley for all their hard work and
13 dedication to this committee. I also want to thank
14 members of the Office of the General Counsel for
15 their assistance on this matter. It certainly does
16 not go unnoticed. The Committee on Standards and
17 Ethics is meeting today regarding an open matter
18 involving alleged violation of Section 10.80 of the
19 Council Rules. Since this is a new committee, it is
20 necessary for the members to review and discuss
21 confidential personal issues in relation to this
22 matter. Therefore, I believe this committee should
23 move into executive session to proceed. With that
24 said, I am making a motion to move into executive
25 session pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers

2 Law. I am asking for a second. I recognize Council
3 Member Koslowitz for a second. A motion has been
4 made and we will--

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [interposing]
6 I-I second the motion.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATTEO: A motion has been
8 made and seconded and we move into executive session.
9 All those in favor say aye?

10 COUNCIL MEMBERS: [in unison] Aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATTEO: Noting that the ayes
12 have it, I am now going to close this portion of the
13 meeting and re-open executive session. I ask that
14 members of the committee, the committee staff follow
15 me to a private room for deliberations. We will
16 return to this room before we--to re-open the meeting
17 [committee in executive session]

18 CHAIRPERSON MATTEO: Okay, we're going to
19 re-open the meeting. I just want to begin by saying
20 that we were joined by--in executive session by
21 Vanessa Gibson of the Bronx, and as we continue the--
22 the hearing, I will now read for the record a summary
23 of executive session and the description of the
24 matter. In executive session, the committee reviewed
25 an open matter regarding an alleged violation of

2 Council Rule 10.80 by Council Member Andy King. When
3 the committee last met on December 15, 2017, the
4 committee considered allegations from a Council
5 employee that Council Member King paid unwelcomed
6 attention to her, that Council Member King repeatedly
7 asked the employee to smile more—smile more while
8 shaking her hand and keeping an extended grip on her
9 hand until she smiled, and then on one occasion after
10 a committee hearing, Council Member King asked the
11 employee for a person phone number in connection with
12 the Council Member inviting her to a winter ball
13 fundraising gala, and stating he would like to see
14 her in a beautiful gown at the event. Upon reviewing
15 the allegations, the committee unanimously voted to
16 open the matter and directed committee staff to
17 conduct a preliminary inquiry, and prepare report for
18 the committee. Today, the committee reviewed the
19 report, and after deliberation, decided to schedule
20 another meeting with the—where the committee will
21 hear additional information relevant to this matter.
22 There's a confidential—confidentiality motion that I
23 would like to discuss, and before we adjourn, I
24 hereby move with respect to all considerations,
25 deliberations, files and records of the Council's

1 COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS AND ETHICS

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2 Committee on Standards and Ethics that are carried
3 out, created or reviewed during executive session
4 that this term be confidential that no member or
5 staff of the committee may reveal any fact or item of
6 information relevant to the deliberations of the
7 committee except pursuant to a majority vote of the
8 entire committee, and that a breach of
9 confidentiality with respect to this matter be
10 considered unethical conduct. With that, I will ask
11 for a second.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic] I
13 second it.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATTEO: Council Member
15 Koslowitz a second. All in favor say aye.

16 COUNCIL MEMBERS: [in unison] Aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON MATTEO: All opposed say nay.
18 The motion is passed 4/0, and with that, I will
19 adjourn the meeting. [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 February 26, 2018