

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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November 30, 2009
Start: 2:03 pm
Recess: 3:04 pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
CHRISTINE C. QUINN
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Tony Avella
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth Crowley
Bill de Blasio
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Mathieu Eugene
Simcha Felder
Julissa Ferreras
Lewis A. Fidler

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Helen D. Foster
James F. Gennaro
Vincent J. Gentile
Alan J. Gerson
Vincent M. Ignizio
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
G. Oliver Koppell
Jessica S. Lappin
John C. Liu
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Darlene Mealy
Rosie Mendez
Kenneth C. Mitchell
Michael C. Nelson
James S. Oddo
Annabel Palma
Domenic M. Recchia
Diana Reyna
Joel Rivera
James Sanders
Larry B. Seabrook
Helen Sears
Kendall Stewart
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
Albert Vann
David I. Weprin
Thomas White, Jr.
David Yassky
Ydanis A. Rodriguez

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

Bobbie Sackman
Director of Public Policy
Council of Senior Centers and
Services for New York City

Pastor David Wright
Grace Tabernacle Christian Church

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. We're
3 going to get our ceremonials started. If I could
4 ask Council Members Melissa Mark-Viverito and
5 Maria Arroyo to come up.

6 [Pause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: And the person
8 we're honoring, Bobbie Sackman, is somebody well
9 known to the City Council, so if everybody can
10 come on up, that would be great.

11 [Pause]

12 SPEAKER QUINN: And let me hand the
13 mic over to Maria to get us started.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Thank you,
15 Madam Speaker. My colleagues, please join us.
16 Those of you who don't know this lady, you've
17 probably been under a rock. This little dynamo
18 here, who leads the advocacy voice for our City's
19 seniors is a very special person in our City,
20 since I've been chairing the Committee on Aging,
21 has become a very special person in my life, and
22 certainly has helped the Council to shape its
23 agenda around how we are handling senior issues
24 and the concerns that we were sharing last year or
25 last June around the cuts in the budget.

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2 And I'm happy to say, Bobbie, that
3 with your input and your leadership, you certainly
4 have made us all look really, really good, because
5 you keep us informed, you take the time to make us
6 worry, and that is priceless. And a proclamation,
7 I think, is the least that we can do for you. And
8 we love you and may God give you many, many more
9 years of this work.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Maria.
11 And let me just turn the mic over to the Chair of
12 our subcommittee on Senior Centers, Melissa Mark-
13 Viverito.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:
15 Thank you, Christine, and Maria. And I think
16 Maria has mentioned a lot with regard to the
17 importance that Bobbie Sackman has played in the
18 Senior Advocacy community. And it's a real true
19 partnership that we've been able to establish and
20 I feel that I've been able to establish on the
21 Committee with Bobbie and all of those that
22 advocate on behalf of quality of life for our
23 seniors and services. And as mentioned, due to
24 that advocacy, which really is grass roots, you
25 know, it really helps keep us as a Council in tune

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2 with the needs of our elderly, and this City—to be
3 able to age in place with dignity and to be sure
4 that we didn't have a severe cut in services for
5 our elders in last year's budget; and moving
6 forward will continue to help us shape in what
7 direction services are aligned in this City.

8 So this is just a reflection of the
9 years of service. It's again a very small token
10 of appreciation. But we look forward, and I
11 personally look forward to continuing to work very
12 closely with you and your organization and all the
13 advocates to really make sure that we do justice
14 to those that have given so much to us in the City
15 of New York.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: And Bobbie, I think
17 you will accept what I'm going to say next in the
18 spirit I mean it. You are a big pain in the neck
19 and other places lower on the body. And that does
20 deserve a round of applause.

21 [Applause]

22 SPEAKER QUINN: And I mean that
23 with the greatest level of appreciation and
24 thanks. And you are tenacious and hardworking and
25 occasionally we pray you would take more vacation,

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2 especially around budget time, but for the good of
3 the seniors, that prayer is never answered. So
4 thank you for everything you have done for our
5 City for such a long time. And thank you also for
6 being one of the earliest, but always loudest,
7 voices for LGBT seniors in the City of New York.
8 You really raised that cry before really very few
9 other people had done it, and it's made a big
10 difference—reminding us that one group is good,
11 but never enough. So thank you. And may the
12 Clerk please read the proclamation.

13 CLERK: Council City of New York
14 Proclamation. Whereas the Council of the City of
15 New York is proud to honor Bobbie Sackman for 20
16 years of outstanding service to the of New York
17 City. Bobbie Sackman has been the Director of
18 Public Policy with Council of Senior Centers and
19 Services of New York City since 1989. Prior to
20 Ms. Sackman's arrival at CSCS, she spent ten years
21 delivering direct services to the elderly and also
22 served as a Legislative Analyst in the New York
23 City Office of Management and Budget; and whereas
24 at CSCS, Ms. Sackman has provided a strong voice
25 for older New Yorkers, advocating for and winning

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2 millions of City, State and federal dollars for
3 services for seniors, both in new funds as well as
4 the restoration of budget cuts, she has also
5 shared her expertise with others to empower
6 seniors and service providers to engage elected
7 officials directly; and whereas, over the course
8 of her 20 year tenure, Ms. Sackman has created a
9 lengthy legacy of achievements, she coordinated
10 the CSCS Senior Center Study, the largest study of
11 its kind nationally with responses from over 3,600
12 seniors in three languages, in addition to
13 coverage in national and local media, she writes
14 The Power Of Aging blog on CSCS website and she
15 has authored or edited numerous public policy
16 papers including No Time To Wait: The Case for
17 Long Term Care Reform, in 2009 and Hunger Hurts: A
18 Study of Hunger Among Elderly in New York City, in
19 2007; and whereas in 1996 Ms. Sackman co-founded
20 Pride Senior Network, an organization advocating
21 on behalf of LGBT Seniors, serving as its
22 president and as an editor of The Networker, the
23 first national newspaper covering LGBT issues, she
24 was also a contributing editor to Outing Age, the
25 first publication on aging from the National Gay

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2 and Lesbian Taskforce, and initiated and co-edited
3 the organizations first paper on elder care
4 giving; and whereas Ms. Sackman has truly
5 distinguished herself in this work and she is
6 worthy of the esteem of all New Yorkers, now
7 therefore be it known that the Council of the City
8 of New York most gratefully honors Bobbie Sackman
9 on the occasion of her 20th anniversary as the
10 Director of Public Policy with the Council of
11 Senior Centers and Services for New York City.
12 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the entire
13 Council; Melissa Mark-Viverito, Council Member, 8th
14 District, Manhattan; Maria del Carmen Arroyo,
15 Council Member, 17th District, the Bronx.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay.

17 [Applause]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: And Bobbie,
19 one of the things that got left out of the many
20 accomplishments is that she's also a songwriter.
21 And I hear recently she did a number at an event
22 that CSCS hosted and you were a hit.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Well there you go.
24 Something for us to file away for when we need it.
25 But Bobbie, thank you very much and let me give

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you the mic.

BOBBIE SACKMAN: Just briefly.

It's overwhelming to hear everything I've done. I really want to thank Speaker Quinn and all the Council Members, Chairs Arroyo and Viverito and everybody, because I know—it's my job to be the pain in the butt and every other part of the body. But we try to do it in a thoughtful way, even though we're tenacious. And I love including the seniors. We have a constituency we can mobilize. And your response—you've saved us. Every year there's cuts being proposed and every year it's City Council that does the restorations. You've added money on in good years for the food and other items. And so I want to say on behalf of not only the particular people in your district, but seniors all over the City who don't always get to see what you do, I want to thank a big roaring thank you, because you've saved lives and saved services and kept the doors open of senior centers, NORCs, you know, on and on. So thank each and every one of you. And I look forward to working with you.

[Applause]

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: I know we have a
3 few other senior advocates here if they just want
4 to come up quickly and we'll take a picture with
5 Bobbie and some of the members and some of the
6 other advocates. Okay. Come on. Move it. Let's
7 go.

8 [Pause]

9 SPEAKER QUINN: And that concludes
10 our ceremonials. Alrighty [phonetic].

11 [Pause]

12 CLERK: Ladies and Gentlemen, can I
13 have your attention please? Can I have your
14 attention, please? At this time, can you please
15 place all cell phones and pagers to vibrate. Will
16 all non-Council employees and lobbyists please
17 leave the main floor of the lobby? Thank you.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Ladies and
19 Gentlemen Please rise for the Pledge of
20 Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the flag of
21 the United States of America, and to the Republic
22 for which it stands, one nation, under God,
23 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

24 Roll call.

25 [Pause]

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STATED MEETING

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

CLERK: Avella.

COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Here.

CLERK: Baez.

[No response]

CLERK: Barron.

[No response]

CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

CLERK: Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Present.

CLERK: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

CLERK: de Blasio.

[No response]

CLERK: Dickens.

[No response]

CLERK: Dilan.

[No response]

CLERK: Eugene.

[No response]

CLERK: Felder.

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

CLERK: Ferreras.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.
3 CLERK: Fidler.
4 [No response]
5 CLERK: Foster.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.
7 CLERK: Garodnick.
8 [No response]
9 CLERK: Gennaro.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
11 CLERK: Gentile.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.
13 CLERK: Gerson.
14 [No response]
15 CLERK: Gioia.
16 [No response]
17 CLERK: Gonzalez.
18 [No response]
19 CLERK: Ignizio.
20 [No response]
21 CLERK: Jackson.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I'm here.
23 CLERK: James.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.
25 CLERK: Katz.

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Here.

[No response]
CLERK: Koppell.
COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.
CLERK: Lappin.
COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.
CLERK: Liu.
[No response]
CLERK: Mark-Viverito.
COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:
CLERK: Mealy.
COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Here.
CLERK: Mendez.
[No response]
CLERK: Mitchell.
[No response]
CLERK: Nelson.
COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.
CLERK: Palma.
COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.
CLERK: Recchia.
[No response]
CLERK: Reyna.
COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

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2 CLERK: Sanders.
3 [No response]
4 CLERK: Seabrook.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Here.
6 CLERK: Sears.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Here.
8 CLERK: Stewart.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: Here.
10 CLERK: Ulrich.
11 [No response]
12 CLERK: Vacca.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.
14 CLERK: Vallone.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.
16 CLERK: Vann.
17 [No response]
18 CLERK: Weprin.
19 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.
20 CLERK: White.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: Here.
22 CLERK: Yassky.
23 [No response]
24 CLERK: Eugene.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

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[Pause]

CLERK: Dilan.

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

[Pause]

CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

CLERK: Mitchell.

COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL: Here.

[Pause]

CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

CLERK: Fidler.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: We have
quorum. Ladies and gentlemen, please rise for the
invocation being delivered by Pastor David Wright

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2 form the Grace Tabernacle Christian Center in
3 Brooklyn, New York.

4 PASTER DAVID WRIGHT: Father God we
5 come, before we ask you for anything, we want to
6 thank you for life, health and strength. We thank
7 you for allowing us to come together one more time
8 in your name, and we ask that you give us guidance
9 and lead us in the right direction. We ask for
10 wisdom to make the right choices and the right
11 decisions, in the name of our god and our father,
12 and we all say Amen.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: And if I could just
14 ask my colleagues to remain standing for a moment.
15 Just before we move on with the rest of the day's
16 Stated, I wanted us to stand for a moment and
17 remember the four police officers—not members of
18 the New York Police Department—but the four police
19 officers who were shot and killed at 8:15 Sunday
20 morning in Lakewood in Washington State. Two
21 officers, as I think you've seen from the press
22 reports, the four officers were sitting at a table
23 at a diner working on their laptops preparing to
24 go out to work. Two officers were shot and killed
25 immediately, another attempted to go after the

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2 gunman and shot him before he was shot; the fourth
3 officer struggled to the parking lot to fire a few
4 more rounds before collapsing. The officers
5 worked on a patrol team for the Police Department
6 of Lakewood, Washington, a suburb of 58,000
7 people. The force was formed in 2004 after the
8 city took over law enforcement for the Sheriff's
9 office, it has almost 100 officers. The officers
10 who were killed were Sergeant Mark Renninger,
11 Sergeant Renninger was 39 years old, he had 13
12 years of law enforcement experience and is
13 survived by a wife and three children; Ronald
14 Owens, who was 37, had 12 years of law enforcement
15 experience, he is survived by a daughter and an
16 ex-wife; Tina Griswold, she was 40 years old, had
17 14 years of law enforcement experience, she is
18 survived by her husband and two children; Greg
19 Richards, who was 42, had eight years of law
20 enforcement experience, and he is survived by his
21 wife and three children. And although they are
22 not members of the New York Police Department,
23 this was obviously a horrible attack that resulted
24 in the loss of four experienced police officers
25 and I just wanted to add them to our thoughts and

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prayers while we stand after the invocation.

Thank you, Reverend.

[Pause]

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council Member Vann to spread the invocation.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: My colleagues, you may recall earlier in the year we paused in the deliberations of our House to note the passing of a great man, a great New Yorker—

SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Council Member Vann, I'm sorry. Could we get some quiet, for Council Member Vann. Particularly these are important statements he is making about the Wright family, as he's spreading the invocation, so if we could get quiet.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. You may recall earlier in the year we paused in the deliberation of our House to note the passing of a great man, a great New Yorker, and indeed a great pastor, Reverend Timothy Wright. We expressed our condolences to the family and to the church and to New Yorkers.

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2 Today we are honored to have is son here with us,
3 who provided the invocation. I want to thank him
4 for the contributions of your dad, and we know
5 that you will follow that legacy. I am—stand to a
6 motion to spread the invocation full upon the
7 record.

8 [Pause]

9 SPEAKER QUINN: And before we move
10 on with the rest of the day's agenda, we have a
11 great moment for us in the City Council, we get to
12 welcome our newest colleague, Council Member
13 Ydanis Rodriguez, so if we could have the Majority
14 Leader, the Deputy Majority Leader, the Minority
15 Leader and the Bronx—excuse me—Manhattan
16 delegation chair welcome him in for swearing in.
17 And just while we have everyone waiting, just stay
18 up there in front, if we could have the adoption
19 of the minutes, please.

20 [Pause]

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Is Council Member
22 Vacca here?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I make a
24 motion to adopt the minutes.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you.

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Messages and papers from the Mayor?

CLERK: None.

SPEAKER QUINN: Communications from
City, County and Borough Offices?

CLERK: M 1657, certification of
election of Ydanis A. Rodriguez, Council Member
10th District.

SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
printed and filed.

CLERK: M 1658, swearing in of
Ydanis A. Rodriguez, Council Member 10th District.

SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
printed and file. And we will now have the City
Clerk and the Clerk of the Council perform the
formal ceremony of swearing in Council Member
Ydanis A. Rodriguez, and he will take his oath of
office.

CLERK: Okay, thank you. Okay, if
you're using the microphone, please raise your
right hand.

[Pause]

CLERK: Thank you. Thank you Madam
Speaker.

SPEAKER QUINN: No problem.

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CLERK: I.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I.

CLERK: Ydanis Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Ydanis Rodriguez.

CLERK: Do solemnly swear.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Do solemnly swear.

CLERK: That I will support the Constitution of the United States of America.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: That I will support the Constitution of the United States of America.

CLERK: And the Constitution of the State of New York.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: And the Constitution of the State of New York.

CLERK: And the Charter of the City of New York.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: And the Charter of the City of New York.

CLERK: And that I will faithfully discharge.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: And that

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I will faithfully discharge.

CLERK: The duties of the office
of.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: The
duties of the office of.

CLERK: Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Council
Member.

CLERK: In the 10th District.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: In the
10th District.

CLERK: Borough of Manhattan.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Borough
of Manhattan.

CLERK: Of the City of New York.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Of the
City of New York.

CLERK: According to the best of my
abilities.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ:
According to the best of my ability.

CLERK: Council Member,
congratulations. All the best.

[Applause]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I just
3 want to dedicate this day to my father, who is 85,
4 who showed me that a human being has value,
5 depending on what we do. And he teach me that the
6 best thing anyone can do is to live their life
7 with honesty, dignity and transparency. So anyone
8 outside there that would think about trying to
9 corrupt me, those values, I will have my father
10 backing me up, saying you will not be able to do
11 it. So I dedicate this day to my father. Second,
12 I dedicate this day to any young person here,
13 especially Black and Latino and poor students who
14 are here, that you should know that this office
15 also belongs to you. I've been in the street
16 marching for peace in - - I've been in the street
17 fighting for affordable housing and quality
18 education, and I was there and I will continue
19 being the same person, working hard - - to improve
20 the quality of life of all New Yorkers of this
21 City. I'm tired to see districts in New York City
22 such as mine, 562 Academy Street, three years
23 without gas. I'm tired to see communities such as
24 mine; we don't have one indoor pool in the whole
25 district. I'm tired to know that American

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2 Federation of Teachers say, Black and Latino kids,
3 when we turn five, we have a deficits on not being
4 exposed to one million words in the vocabulary.
5 So, I hope that we're going to be working together
6 with the great leadership that we have here, and
7 with Speaker Christine Quinn and the Manhattan
8 Delegation and the rest of the colleagues. I am
9 the type of person when I can agree with something
10 I will say, yes, I will. If I cannot I will say
11 no, I cannot. And if we try together, I will put
12 my effort to try together. One thing that I have
13 to do in my life is keep my word. If I give you
14 my word as my colleague, as New Yorkers, you can
15 be sure that I will honor my words. Because when
16 I honor my words, I honor my father. Thank you.

17 [Applause]

18 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. Let's
19 get back to business.

20 [Pause]

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Mr. Majority
22 Leader, just before we go back to the agenda, I
23 just wanted to make another announcement, which is
24 that we have some additions to the Council family.
25 We have two new fathers that are with us today,

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2 John Liszyanskiy, so I wanted to congratulate him
3 on his new baby; and one of our terrific
4 Sergeants-At-Arms, Ralphie—is Ralphie on the
5 floor? Ralph in the balcony. Ralph is back from
6 paternity leave and the father of a beautiful baby
7 boy. So Ralphie and John, congratulations. If
8 they both look tired, you know why. Thank you
9 very much and congratulations Council Member
10 Rodriguez, and go ahead, Majority Leader.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much, Madam Speaker. Communication from
13 City, County and Borough Offices.

14 CLERK: M 1659 through M 1684 on
15 page 5, base station licenses.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

17 CLERK: I'll check that. M 1685.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Land Use.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Use
20 Call Use Call-Ups.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Petitions and
22 Communications.

23 CLERK: None.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay. Now
25 we're at Land Use Call-Ups.

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CLERK: M 1686 and 1687.

SPEAKER QUINN: Both of those will be coupled on a Land Use Call-Up vote and if we could please have a roll call on the Land Use Call-Ups.

CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

CLERK: Avella.

COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Aye, and I ask unanimous consent to vote on all combined general orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Thank you.

I vote Aye.

CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

CLERK: Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

CLERK: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

CLERK: Dickens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye, and I'm present.

CLERK: Dilan.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.
3 CLERK: Eugene.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.
5 CLERK: Felder.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.
7 CLERK: Ferreras.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.
9 CLERK: Fidler.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Yes.
11 CLERK: Foster.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Yes.
13 CLERK: Garodnick.
14 [No response]
15 CLERK: Gennaro.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.
17 CLERK: Gentile.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes.
19 CLERK: Gerson.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: Yes.
21 CLERK: Gioia.
22 [No response]
23 CLERK: Ignizio.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.
25 CLERK: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.

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CLERK: Koppell.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

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CLERK: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

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CLERK: Liu.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: Yes.

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CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

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CLERK: Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

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CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Mitchell.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL: Aye.

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CLERK: Nelson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

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CLERK: Palma.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

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CLERK: Recchia.

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[No response]

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CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Sanders.

[No response]

CLERK: Seabrook.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye.

CLERK: Sears.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye.

CLERK: Stewart.

COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: First of all, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to vote on all Land Use Call-Up and all general orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: I vote Aye on all and I would like to use this opportunity to—

SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Can we get a little quiet in the chambers, please?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: I would like to use this opportunity to at least thank all my friends and all my family at the City Council,

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2 and also to remind you that try not to save up the
3 love in your heart, because it means then that you
4 may have to have surgery like I did last week.
5 The fact is, brothers and sisters, those of you
6 who called I want to say thank you very much. I
7 want to thank the Speaker and the staff for
8 reaching out to me. You know, I am doing well now
9 and for your concerns, I greatly appreciate that.
10 Thank you and hope that we can all continue to be
11 the type of people making sure that the City of
12 New York is taken care of. Thank you and God
13 bless you.

14 [Applause]

15 CLERK: Seabrook.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes.

17 With unanimous consent I'd like to vote Aye on all
18 coupled and general orders. I vote aye.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

20 CLERK: Ulrich.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

22 CLERK: Vacca.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

24 CLERK: Vallone.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

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CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

CLERK: White.

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: I vote Aye
and ask for unanimous consent to vote on all
general orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: I vote Aye.

CLERK: Yassky.

COUNCIL MEMBER YASSKY: Aye.

CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote Aye.

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

[No response]

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Today's
Land Use Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of 42 in
the affirmative with 0 in the negative.
Communication from the speaker.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
3 much. I want to recognize that we are joined
4 today by Council Members-Elect Steve Levin and
5 Brad Lander. I think they are both in the back of
6 the chamber, so welcome.

7 [Applause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member
9 Ulrich seems to have returned in one piece from
10 his honeymoon, so I hope it was a good break and
11 congratulations again. And today we are voting on
12 a couple of different important pieces of
13 legislation. The first one is Intro 935-A, it's
14 out of the Environmental Protection Committee,
15 sponsored by the Chair of our Committee, Jim
16 Gennaro. I want to than Samara Swanston, Siobhan
17 Watson and Jeff Haberman for their work on this
18 piece of legislation. And this bill quite
19 literally makes sure that the water we drink is
20 separated from water we shouldn't be drinking, and
21 that when there are properties that have both
22 residential water supplies in the building as well
23 as commercial water supplies, that there are clear
24 rules, regulations and reporting in place to make
25 sure that the devices that are necessary to make

1
2 sure that the used commercial waters do not
3 backflow into the residential drinking water
4 supplies in this building. It's a little
5 technical, it's a little icky, but very important
6 piece of legislation in making sure that our water
7 supply and our drinking supply stays sound. This
8 is an issue that Chairperson Gennaro has been
9 working on literally his entire career. So
10 whether it's a huge issue like preventing drilling
11 in the watershed or something technical like this,
12 like honing in on our plumbing code, we are very
13 lucky to have a Chair who is so diligent. So let
14 me call on Chairperson Jim Gennaro.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARRO: Thank
16 you, Madam Speaker. And yes, I certainly join you
17 in thanking the staff that worked very hard on
18 this, Jeff and Samara and Siobhan. And very
19 important that we do this, because if we don't do
20 this then as you said, Madam Speaker, we could
21 have contaminants from buildings go into the water
22 supply. Those of you that may be scratching their
23 heads, this is due to the fact that when you have
24 sometimes within a building sometimes the water
25 pressure can be greater than the feed line coming

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2 in, so it is possible for water that's been used
3 to sort of flow into the system. We certainly
4 don't want that to happen.

5 Some may recollect an event that
6 happened a couple years ago in Council Member
7 Comrie's district with a carwash where it did
8 backflow into the water supply and it was quite a
9 situation. We certainly want to prevent that.
10 This bill will get us there. I'd like to thank
11 Leroy for his support of the bill, too; he's the
12 number two on the bill; and all the other sponsors
13 on the bill. And thank you, Madam Speaker, for
14 your leadership in getting this done and getting
15 this done now, getting a bill that we could all
16 support. I'd like to thank the Bloomberg
17 Administration for working with us in a very
18 cooperative way to get us to this good day. Thank
19 you Madam Speaker.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Jim. We
21 are also voting today out of the Housing and
22 Buildings Committee on Intro 138-A. I want to
23 thank Chairperson Dilan and Peter Vallone, Jr.,
24 the sponsor of the bill. This is a bill that will
25 require a change in security gates in the City of

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2 New York. A lot of staff have worked on this for
3 a long time, so I have a long list of people to
4 start off by thanking. Samara Swanston, Rob
5 Calandra, Will Hangach, Siobhan Watson, Baaba
6 Halm, Ben Goodman, Jeff Haberman, Alix Pustilnik,
7 as well as Council Member Vallone's legislative
8 staff. This is a piece of legislation that will
9 require that over the next few years, as building
10 owners replace security gates, those hard security
11 gates that you cannot see through will have to be
12 instead replaced by see-through security gates.
13 Why are we making this change? Because anybody
14 who has walked around the City of New York knows
15 that in many places those hard, non-see-through
16 security gates often get covered with graffiti and
17 become a very problematic neighborhood eyesore, a
18 real quality of life program that can often lead
19 to other problems in a neighborhood.

20 The see-through gates are much less
21 appealing to people who are putting up graffiti.
22 They have not had that same level of problem, and
23 we believe by changing and requiring all future
24 security gates to be see through gates, we will
25 reduce the amount of graffiti in our neighborhoods

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2 and leave a living legacy of making the City of
3 New York a more beautiful place that suffers from
4 less graffiti. I want to again thank the Chair of
5 the Committee for his work, Chairperson Dilan. I
6 really want to thank the sponsor of the bill,
7 Peter Vallone, who has worked on this legislation
8 to find the right balance between his crusade
9 against graffiti, with the needs of small business
10 people. I think we have found that balance. And
11 this is another example of Council Member Vallone
12 working hard to rid our City of graffiti. Let me
13 start again with Chairperson Erik Dilan and then
14 the sponsor of the bill, Council Member Vallone.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: The speaker
16 always seems to find my favorite word, and that's
17 balance. And I think we managed to do this
18 without having a negative impact on small
19 businesses, which was what my major concerns were
20 at the beginning. And I think that with the
21 discussion that we had in caucus a few weeks ago,
22 a lot of members had input and made this a better
23 bill so that it wouldn't have the negative impacts
24 on small business that I initially feared.

25 To Council Member Vallone, I know

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2 you've been waiting for this day a very long time,
3 and I'm truly proud of you and proud of the final
4 product that we are about to pass here today. And
5 I'll end my comments there because I know Peter
6 will get into a lot of what this bill really,
7 really does for him. But my concern was to play
8 devil's advocate with Peter a little bit and think
9 about the small businesses, while also being
10 concerned about graffiti. And I think this bill
11 does both. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you
13 Mr. Devils' Advocate Chair. It's been a pleasure
14 to work with you and the Speaker on this. Because
15 of your input we have a bill here that is more
16 effective, I believe, more targeted and easier for
17 small businesses to comply with, so thank you
18 both. I'd also like to thank my legislative
19 director, Jonathan Chung [phonetic], who has
20 spoken to everybody on your list. Yeah, let's
21 hear it for Jonathan.

22 [Applause]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: He's
24 spoken to everybody on your list, Madam Speaker,
25 including Rob Newman probably every day for three

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2 or four years now. Today the City Council again
3 leads the way when it comes to graffiti and safe
4 streets. I don't know of another major city our
5 country anywhere that's taken this action. But
6 now you can rest assured that many will. No
7 longer will our streets look like graffiti-strewn
8 war zones after closing time. This bill will make
9 our Police and Fire Fighters safer when they show
10 up and respond to an alarm. This will make our
11 streets safer by eliminating over half of the
12 graffiti and make our City even more beautiful and
13 really affect the cityscape. This bill is
14 supported by Police and Fire, by business
15 districts, by our businesses, by the people of
16 this City. You know, we pass many bills here at
17 the City Council, but not too many where we will
18 actually make a significant difference in the
19 Cityscape that we view every day.

20 You know when we are walking down
21 the street eight years from now when we're all out
22 of office except Ydanis, and we're walking down
23 the street with our child or our grandchild, and
24 they point to one of these disgusting gates and
25 say what is that thing; we'll be able to say to

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2 them, our City was filled with that until we at
3 the New York City Council did something about it.
4 So again, I want to thank you all for your help
5 and look forward to a vote.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
7 much, Council Member Vallone. Lastly we're voting
8 today on the final piece of legislation in the
9 packet of bills we introduced on the tragic
10 Deutsche Bank fire. Let me start by thanking the
11 staff who worked on this, Baaba Halm, Ben Goodman,
12 Jeff Haberman and Rob Newman. I also want to
13 thank the Mayor's Office, in particular Deputy
14 Mayor Ed Skyler and his staff. These dozen bills
15 that we introduced were really a packet of
16 legislation where the Council and the Bloomberg
17 Administration worked hand-in-hand. We did this
18 work together after the Deutsche Bank fire to make
19 sure that we did everything we possibly could in
20 the memories of Fire Fighters Robert Beddia and
21 Joseph Graffagnino, did everything we could in
22 their memory, to try to prevent such a tragedy
23 from happening again and to make it more likely
24 that if there ever is a fire of the type at
25 Deutsche Bank again, that the men and women who

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2 rush into that building to try to save lives and
3 property have the greatest likelihood possible of
4 going home to their family.

5 The bill we are voting on today
6 will change the construct in the City of New York
7 around demolition and asbestos abatement. Prior
8 to this law, you were allowed on a regular basis
9 to conduct major demolition while you were at the
10 same time abating asbestos. Now think of it, when
11 you do asbestos abatement, one of the main things
12 you do is put plastic sheeting around to try to
13 contain the asbestos that you are abating. When
14 you are demolishing a building, you are using high
15 temperature tools and other things to demolish the
16 building. Those actions of demolition, those
17 actions of using torches and high temperature
18 tools right next door to plastics and abatement,
19 it is a recipe for fire and disaster. Now in the
20 City of New York the assumed posture will be you
21 cannot do demolition and asbestos abatement at the
22 same time. The only way you'll be allowed to do
23 it is if you're granted permission by the
24 Department of Environmental Protection, the
25 Department of Buildings and the Fire Department.

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2 By doing this, we greatly reduce the likelihood of
3 a demolition-building that is being demolished
4 going up in flames because there was also asbestos
5 abatement going on at the same time.

6 I want to thank everyone who has
7 worked on this entire package, which in addition
8 to the staff is a long list of members. This bill
9 we're voting on today comes out of our
10 Environmental Protection Committee. I want to
11 thank Chairperson Jim Gennaro and the sponsor of
12 the bill, Alan Gerson. I also want to thank
13 Chairperson Dilan. Many of the bills also came
14 out of the Buildings Committee. But these are 12
15 bills we should all be incredibly, incredibly
16 proud of, and this one in particular, which I
17 believe will prevent many a tragedy in the future.
18 Let me first call on Chairperson Gennaro and then
19 Council Member Gerson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you,
21 Madam Speaker. Thank you for your leadership not
22 only with this bill but the whole package. I was
23 proud to play a small role in getting this passed.
24 Certainly it is critical that we do this in the
25 memory of those firefighters that lost their lives

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2 and certainly we have an obligation to make sure
3 that this doesn't happen again. This bill is a
4 great effort and will make a much safer city. And
5 I'm pleased and proud to have been able to play a
6 small role in this. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

7

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. And
8 we're going to take a pass on Council Member
9 Gerson. And that concludes Communications from
10 the Speaker.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much, Madam Speaker. We're now going on to
13 Discussion of General Orders. Seeing no one-
14 beautiful-we'll move on. Reports of Special
15 Committees.

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CLERK: None.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Reports of
18 Standing Committees.

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CLERK: Report of the Committee on
20 Environmental Protection Intro 935-A Backflow
21 Prevention.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
23 on General Orders.

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CLERK: Intro 998-A Demolition and
25 Asbestos Abatement.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
3 on General Orders.

4 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
5 Finance, Preconsidered LUs 79 and Reso 2272
6 through 1281 and Reso 2274.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
8 Orders.

9 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
10 Housing and Buildings Intro 138-A Security Grills.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
12 on General Orders.

13 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
14 Land Use LU 1244.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Approved with
16 modifications and referred to the City Planning
17 Commission pursuant to the Rule 11.70 B of the
18 Rules of the Council and Section 197 D of the New
19 York City Charter.

20 CLERK: LU 1251 and Reso 2275
21 through 1252 and Reso 2276.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be filed
23 pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

24 CLERK: LU 1253 and Reso 2277
25 through LU 1272 and Reso 2280, various

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applications.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled under
General Orders.

CLERK: LU 1273.

SPEAKER QUINN: Approved with
modifications and referred to the City Planning
Commission pursuant to the rule 11.70 B of the
Rules of the Council and Section 197 D of the New
York City Charter.

CLERK: LU 1274 and Reso 2281
through LU 1278 and Reso 2285, various
applications.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Rules, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered
Reso 2286 approving changes to certain committees.

CLERK: Coupled on General Orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General
Order Calendar.

CLERK: Resolution appointing
various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders and at this point I ask for a roll call on

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2 all items that have been coupled on the General
3 Order Calendar, please.

4 CLERK: Arroyo.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

6 CLERK: Barron.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

8 CLERK: Brewer.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

10 CLERK: Comrie.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

12 CLERK: Crowley.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

14 CLERK: de Blasio.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DE BLASIO: Aye.

16 And I, with permission, would like to vote Aye on
17 all Land Use Call-Ups.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

19 CLERK: Dickens.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

21 CLERK: Dilan.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.

23 CLERK: Eugene.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

25 CLERK: Felder.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

CLERK: Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

CLERK: Fidler.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

CLERK: Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

CLERK: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr. Acting
Public Advocate, I'd like to speak on my vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes, you
may.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I just
want to thank Peter Vallone for his great work on
the gates bill. There have been so many bills
that he's done with regard to the scourge of
graffiti. And everybody hates graffiti and talks
about it, but Peter really does something about
it, so I'd like to thank Peter for his latest,
greatest, very good work in trying to stamp out
this scourge. So thank you, Peter. And with that
I vote Aye.

CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

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2 CLERK: Ignizio.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.
4 CLERK: Jackson.
5 [No response]
6 CLERK: James.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.
8 CLERK: Koppell.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.
10 CLERK: Lappin.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.
12 CLERK: Liu.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: Yes.
14 CLERK: Mark-Viverito.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye
16 on all.
17 CLERK: Mealy.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Here.
19 CLERK: Mendez.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.
21 CLERK: Mitchell.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL: Aye on
23 all.
24 CLERK: Nelson.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

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2 CLERK: Palma.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.
4 CLERK: Recchia.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.
6 CLERK: Reyna.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.
8 CLERK: Rodriguez.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Abstain.
10 CLERK: Sears.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye.
12 CLERK: Ulrich.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.
14 CLERK: Vacca.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.
16 CLERK: Vallone.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.
18 CLERK: Vann.
19 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.
20 CLERK: Weprin.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all.
22 CLERK: Yassky.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER YASSKY: Aye.
24 CLERK: Oddo.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

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CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote Aye.

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Yes.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote of 43 in the affirmative with 0 in the negative and 1 abstention. And the revised Land Use Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, with 0 abstentions. Introduction and reading of the bills.

SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay. We will now move down to general discussion. Council Member Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, thank you. I just want to speak on a resolution that I put into the Council a couple of months back regarding this apple called the New Town Pippin, which has been very prominent throughout the colonial era. And it's one of the best apples in the world and it was bred, cultivated in New

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2 York City actually about 300 years ago. So it was
3 born right here in Queens and it is green, which
4 we certainly all like and it certainly creates the
5 kind of connection to our agricultural past that I
6 think is very helpful for school kids to know that
7 once upon a time we were a farming community.

8 Anyway, I just wanted to let folks know that in
9 your mailboxes will be samples of the New Town
10 Pippin, so eat and enjoy. And we're going to try
11 to figure out a way, I would hope, for the Council
12 to declare this apple the official apple of New
13 York City. We are the Big Apple, and this should
14 be the Big Apple's apple. I'd like to thank Eric
15 Bard [phonetic], who is a very green guy, who
16 founded this New Town Pippin restoration, and for
17 Green Apple Cleaners, for funding all of the tree
18 plantings that we've done around the City to make
19 this apple once again popular in New York City.

20 And so you'll be hearing more about the New Town
21 Pippin. They are in your mailboxes. Eat and
22 enjoy. And you'll see that this should be the
23 official apple of New York City. How about that?
24 Thank you.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

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2 Council Member Brewer. And if we could get some
3 silence in the chambers as well. Thank you very
4 much.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Me? Hi.
6 I'm just here to introduce Carson Poole
7 [phonetic], who works for the company that
8 produces the apple, who is my cousin. He's up
9 there and he's never been to City Hall before.
10 And he is originally from Geneva, New York, a
11 graduate of Cornell University, and very
12 interested in being in the food industry. So
13 thank you all for recognizing my little cousin.
14 Thank you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
16 Member Felder. Did you want—

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER:
18 [Interposing] Thank you. Thank you very much. I
19 just wanted to take the opportunity to welcome our
20 new colleague, Council Member Rodriguez, and to
21 say that it's the first day and he has already set
22 the standard to keep his word. He abstained on
23 the votes today because it would have been
24 impossible for him to vote in any way without
25 having been present at hearings that have taken

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2 place; and without having had the ability to be
3 informed. So I just wanted to say, it's a
4 wonderful, wonderful breath of fresh air to have
5 you here and keep your word. I will try to break
6 you as time goes on, but in the meanwhile, we're
7 really very happy to have you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Madam
9 Speaker.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: I don't know if
11 he's still here, but I just wanted to recognize
12 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito's brother,
13 who was with us before. Did he leave? Well Randy
14 is around somewhere. And I have been lucky enough
15 to get Melissa's invitation to go see some of the
16 films he made. He's a very impressive documentary
17 filmmaker and other filmmaker. So anyway, I just
18 wanted to welcome Melissa's brother Randy to the
19 floor. So now that I've embarrassed him fully.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.
21 Council Member Barron.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you
23 very much, Mr. Chair. You know I was thinking
24 about this apple symbol until you said it was back
25 during the colonial period. So I don't want

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2 anything to exist that was way back then during
3 the colonial period. So we might have to revisit
4 that apple. And until we can get a real big bite
5 of it, Blacks, Latinos and Asians, we might have
6 to change the fruit or change it to some other
7 kind of symbol. Maybe a clenched fist. How about
8 a clenched fist representing unity? Unity amongst
9 all of us. Anyhow. I have a resolution in and I
10 would ask you to support Reso 2269, calling on the
11 governor to restore the cuts to higher education.
12 We cannot afford another hit in CUNY. I think no
13 matter what the economic crises is, I think
14 education should be a sacred cow. It should be
15 off the table for balancing budgets, particularly
16 at a time when we're in an economic crises and a
17 lot of CUNY students, or students to CUNY to
18 increase their skills during this period. This
19 kind of devastating cut will hurt CUNY students
20 who are already struggling. They are proposing
21 cuts in TAP and other kinds of CUNY programs. So
22 I'm asking you all to support this resolution
23 calling on the governor to increase the PIT
24 surcharge of the richest in this state so much so
25 that we can take care of that \$3.2 billion

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2 deficit. And they do have a rainy day fund in the
3 State, they also have a reserve tax fund in the
4 State that can easily balance this budget without
5 taking it out on SUNY and CUNY. Because what's
6 going to happen, there will be a raise in the
7 tuition of \$90 at the senior colleges and \$60 and
8 the community colleges. We can ill afford another
9 raise in a state that has a \$130 billion budget,
10 in a City that has a \$60 billion budget. Hands
11 off CUNY. Support this resolution. Thank you
12 very much.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
14 Member Sanders for a vote.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Permission
16 to vote on all Call-Ups and general items.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: I vote
19 Aye.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
21 very much. We'll just announce the new tally.

22 [Pause]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items
24 on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by
25 a vote in 44 in the affirmative with 0—we'll hold

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2 that for a second. Council Member Gerson for a
3 vote.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: Aye on all.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much. Let me just read the tally. Now we
7 have all items on today's General Order Calendar
8 were adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative, 0
9 in the negative with one abstention, and revised
10 Land Use Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of 46 in
11 the affirmatives with 0 in the negative. I will
12 now call on Council Member Mealy for general
13 discussion.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I want to
15 just say I hope all my colleagues had a great
16 Thanksgiving, and I want to thank our Speaker also
17 for being her. And I just want all of us to know
18 on December 7th we have to remember our Pearl
19 Harbor—our soldiers that we lost. And I'm having
20 an event on December 7th from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.,
21 and I hope that all of us just think about that
22 and say a prayer, because they are saving our
23 lives that we can have the freedom here. And
24 thank you. Have a blessed one.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

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very much. Seeing no others, this meeting is now

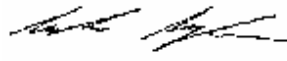
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adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Erika Swyler 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  _____

Date December 7, 2009 _____