

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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JANUARY 15, 2020

Start: 11:02 A.M.

Recess: 1:04 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

1 COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS AND ETHICS

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2 PEDRO LUGO: Sound check. Sound check.

3 This is a sound check for the Committee on Standards
4 and Ethics. Today's date is January 15, 2020.

5 Located on the 16th floor of Committee Room.

6 Recording done by Pedro Lugo.

7 Good morning everyone. My name is Steven

8 Matteo I am Chair of the Standards and Ethics

9 Committee. I am joined today by my colleagues

10 Margaret Chin and Karen Koslowitz. The Committee on

11 Standards and Ethics is meeting today pursuant to

12 section 10.80 of the Council Rules and to address

13 additional and unrelated Committee Business because

14 it is necessary for the Committee to discuss

15 confidential personnel issues, I am making a motion

16 for the Committee to move into Executive Session

17 pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Office Law. Do I

18 have a second?

19 KAREN KOSLOWITZ: Second.

20 STEVEN MATTEO, CHAIRPERSON: A motion has

21 been made and seconded by Karen Koslowitz that the

22 Committee move into Executive Session. All of those

23 in favor of said motion, say aye?

24 ALL: Aye.

25

STEVEN MATTEO, CHAIRPERSON: Noting that the ayes have it I am not going to close this portion of the meeting and reopen it in Executive Session. Before we proceed into Executive Session, I will note for the public that the Committee may vote on certain items of business during this session and as a result there may be an additional open session of the committee later today. Thank you. (gavel pounding). Alright everyone, thank you for your patience. We are back. Again, I am Steven Matteo, I am Chair of the Committee on Standards and Ethics. I am joined by my colleagues, Vanessa Gibson, Karen Koslowitz, Margaret Chin, Stephen Levin and his adorable little daughter. Uhm, also Ben Smith our Committee Counsel and Jim Carras our General Counsel. The Committee on Standards and Ethics opened a meeting earlier today pursuant to section 10.80 of the Council Rules concerning allegations of potential Council Member misconduct. We also met to discuss additional and unrelated committee business. Because it was necessary for the committee to discuss confidential personnel issues in conjunction with a pending disciplinary matter, the Committee voted to move into Executive Session pursuant to article 7 of

Public Offices Law. We are now returning to open session to make public the outcome of today's votes. During today's closed session meeting, the Committee received information from the Counsel's Office of the General Counsel regarding potential violations of Council Rules and City Law by a Council Member. The Counsel's Office of the General Counsel has undertaken preliminary inquiries into these potential violations and based upon these inquiries this Committee voted today to open a new matter and authorize a full investigation into the matter. As with all newly opened matters, the subject Council Members identity will not be revealed at this time and their identity will only be made public if the potential violations are found to be substantiated and charges are issued by this Committee. Finally, last year this Committee voted to open a matter pursuant to Council Rule 10.80, in the intervening period the Counsel took institutional action to address this reported conduct by a Council Member. Upon review, the Committee is satisfied with the sufficiency of the action by the Counsel and voted today to close this matter. This concludes our

1 COMMITTEE ON STANDARD AND ETHICS 5

2 summary of the Committee's votes during today's
3 meeting and the meeting is now adjourned, thank you.

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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 January 24, 2020