

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL CHARTER MEETING

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January 4, 2017
Start: 12:24 p.m.
Recess: 12:45 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E:

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
The Speaker of the Council
LETITIA JAMES
The Public Advocate

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Inez D. Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Andrew Cohen
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Laurie A. Cumbo
Chaim M. Deutsch
Daniel Dromm
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras-Copeland
Daniel R. Garodnick

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (CONTINUED)

Vincent J. Gentile
Vanessa L. Gibson
David G. Greenfield
Barry S. Grodenchik
Corey D. Johnson
Ben Kallos
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Darlene Mealy
Carlos Menchaca
Rosie Mendez
I. Daneek Miller
Annabel Palma
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

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

Rev. Michael Easterling [sp?]
Municipal Community Church of New York

TRANSCRIPTION NOTE: Foreign language

time stamps -- Speaker Mark-Viverito [00:11:46];
Deutsch [00:14:33]; Vallone [00:16:21]; Koo
[00:20:30]

SERGEANT AT ARMS: ...Employees, please
leave the main floor of the chambers. There is
additional seating upstairs in the balcony. Thank
you. Madam Public Advocate.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. May
everyone please have their seats. [gavel]
[background comments]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Members, please
take their seats. [background comments] Quiet in
the chamber, please. Quiet in the chambers.
[background comments] May we please close the door
in the back?

All rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

[collective Pledge of Allegiance]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please be seated.
Roll call.

CITY CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Shhhh...

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[background comment]
CITY CLERK: Borelli. Cabrera.
[background comment]
COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.
CITY CLERK: Thank you. Chin.
COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.
CITY CLERK: Cohen.
COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.
CITY CLERK: Constantinides.
COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.
CITY CLERK: Cornegy.
COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Here.
CITY CLERK: Crowley.
COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.
CITY CLERK: Cumbo.
COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.
CITY CLERK: Deutsch.
COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.
CITY CLERK: Dromm.
COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
CITY CLERK: Espinal. Eugene.
COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.
CITY CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND:
Present.
CITY CLERK: Garodnick.
COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.
CITY CLERK: Gentile.
COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I'm here.
CITY CLERK: Gibson. Greenfield.
COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.
CITY CLERK: Grodenchik.
COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Present.
CITY CLERK: Johnson.
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.
CITY CLERK: Kallos.
COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.
CITY CLERK: King.
COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present [sic].
CITY CLERK: Koo.
COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here. Happy New
Year.
[laughter]
CITY CLERK: Happy New Year. Koslowitz.
COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.
CITY CLERK: Lancman.
COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

CITY COUNCIL CHARTER MEETING

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CITY CLERK: Lander. Levin. Levine.
COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.
CITY CLERK: Maisel.
COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.
CITY CLERK: Mealy. Menchaca.
COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.
CITY CLERK: Mendez.
COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.
CITY CLERK: Miller. Palma.
COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.
CITY CLERK: Reynoso.
COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.
CITY CLERK: Richards.
COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.
CITY CLERK: Rodriguez.
COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.
CITY CLERK: Rose.
COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.
CITY CLERK: Rosenthal. Salamanca.
COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.
CITY CLERK: Torres. Treyger.
COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.
CITY CLERK: Ulrich.
COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

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CITY CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

CITY CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

CITY CLERK: Williams. Wills. Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

CITY CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

CITY CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Here.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
chambers please.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Sit down please.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All rise for the
invocation, which... [interpose]

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: which will be
delivered by Michael Easterling, Rev. Michael
Easterling, excuse me, from the Metropolitan
Community Church of New York at 446 W. 36th Street.
Quiet in the chambers please.

REV. MICHAEL EASTERLING: I join you
today on behalf of the Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner,
Senior Pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of New

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2 York, who is unable to attend today due to an
3 unexpected illness, but sends her love and this
4 message.

5 Oh God, thank you for this day and for
6 this governing body gathered here to do the good work
7 of leading our city in the new year. We offer this
8 prayer that you touch their hearts and fill them with
9 your loving spirit to guide them and inspire them.
10 As we enter this new year, let us be joyful and
11 optimistic at the coming of a new start and all the
12 opportunity and promise of 2017. Let us too be aware
13 of the challenges that this year may hold for us as
14 we enter a year of uncertainty. We thank you for
15 this governing body of courage, will and conviction.
16 We lift up their investment in women as leaders,
17 their determined nurturance of women and girls and
18 the elevation of these voices. We thank you for the
19 beautiful diversity in our city reflected by the most
20 diverse Council in our history. We pray that you
21 give them the renewed energy to stand firm in their
22 commitment to our city as a whole, especially the
23 most vulnerable among us.

24 Thank you, New York City Council for your
25 courage and resolve in assuring that New York City

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2 remains a sanctuary for our immigrant, Muslim and
3 LGBTQ brothers and sisters who live and work among us
4 and our beloved neighbors. You are helping our city
5 and nation relearn the lesson of American greatness;
6 that oneness is not about muting our differences, it
7 is not about uniformity or conformity; rather, it is
8 about reciprocity and mutuality and sharing what we
9 have with others who may be different from us on the
10 outside but bear a strong resemblance on the inside
11 as members of the family of God.

12 So today, as we begin this new year and
13 begin your work, let us pray that God will continue
14 to give you the courage and conviction, the stamina
15 and grace it takes to move forward in times of
16 challenge and difficulty and serve as a model for the
17 world what a city of peace with its own diversity
18 looks like and how it is governed. May our focus be
19 on all we have in common as human beings and our hope
20 and prayer be for the day when all people, African
21 American and white people, people of Asian and
22 Hispanic descent, Native Americans and immigrants,
23 all people of every orientation and identity, of
24 every class, culture and creed shall live together in
25 peace; equal not only in the eyes of God, but under

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2 our city's, nation's and world's codes and covenants.
3 I ask this blessing today in the name of all that is
4 good and holy. Amen.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Amen. Please be
6 seated. A motion to spread the invocation, Council
7 Member Johnson.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Pubic
9 Advocate. Happy New Year. I want to thank Rev...
10 [interpose]

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me Council
12 Member. Quiet in the chambers please. [background
13 comments] Quiet in the chambers. I apologize,
14 Council Member.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Happy New Year.
16 I want to thank Rev. Easterling for stepping in for
17 Rev. Bumgardner, who unfortunately couldn't be here
18 today.

19 The Metropolitan Community Church of New
20 York has been serving New Yorkers, specifically LGBT
21 New Yorkers, since 1972; they have been providing a
22 spiritual home for the LGBT community in our city;
23 they do a lot of work with LGBT youth, they serve
24 over 1,000 LGBT runaway homeless youth every single
25 year; they have a soup kitchen and they provide meals

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2 and they have been an inspiration and a really
3 important home in my district. So I'm grateful that
4 they are here to start this new year of 2017 and in
5 this new year we are going to need organizations that
6 provide a spiritual home in the potentially difficult
7 times that lie ahead, and so with that, I make a
8 motion to spread the invocation full and upon the
9 record.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

11 Adoption of Minutes, Council Member Chin.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Motion that the
13 Minutes of the Stated Meeting of November 29, 2016 be
14 adopted as printed. Thank you.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 Messages and papers from the Mayor.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication
19 from City, County and Borough offices.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and
22 communications.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: M 465, Resignation of
24 New York City Council Member Inez Dickens.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the..

[crosstalk]

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received..

Received, ordered, printed and filed.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the

chambers please. Land use call-ups.

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the

chambers. [background comment] As we now hear from the Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam

Public Advocate. And before I start with my brief remarks, obviously we all have heard of the Long Island Railroad derailment this morning and I first and foremost want to thank all the first responders that responded to that; we keep hearing the number of injured or those hurt is increasing -- I think we're at 80 -- thankfully no fatalities, so obviously we do wish everyone a very speedy recovery and again, thank all the first responders for their quick attention to this matter.

So having said that, I want to say good afternoon to everybody and welcome to the City Council Charter Meeting, our first meeting of 2017.

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2 So with that, Feliz Ano Nuevo, Happy New Year to
3 everyone, and I hope -- normally we might say you've
4 had a wonderful, happy and healthy holiday, but those
5 of us that are Latinos and celebrate Three Kings Day,
6 that is so yet to come, so I hope everyone is having
7 a wonderful holiday season. And over the last three
8 years we've supported immigrant communities, we've
9 expanded our police force, we've launched the
10 nation's first Young Women's Initiative and done more
11 to move our criminal justice system forward than any
12 other municipality in this nation, and as we usher in
13 2017 with a renewed commitment to protecting and
14 uplifting all... [interpose]

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Shhhh...

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: New Yorkers
17 across the five boroughs, I really want to thank the
18 partnership of every single one of you in making that
19 a reality.

20 So when I first became Speaker, an honor
21 bestowed to me by all of you in this City Council, I
22 vowed to make this the most open, transparent and
23 productive Council in our history... [interpose]

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Shhhh...

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: and I believe
3 that we've done just that.

4 So we've passed and introduced more bills
5 than ever before, we've created new initiatives to
6 better support New Yorkers and we have taken the
7 Council all across these five boroughs, so I look
8 forward to continuing that all in the work in the
9 year ahead. And as many of us -- obviously we are an
10 inclusive body -- but there are challenges ahead that
11 many of us foresee with this incoming administration;
12 we're going to be very vigilant in continuing to
13 support and defend those initiatives that we've
14 embraced and that we have presented moving forward to
15 the City and ones that we are proud of in this city.
16 So that means that we are a city for everyone, we are
17 a city of inclusive, that we value the contributions
18 that everyone [background comments] continues to make
19 and obviously anyone that is contributing positively
20 has a space here in the New York City.

21 So with that I know we have a very short
22 agenda, as we usually do on our Charter Meetings. I
23 first want to say and welcome someone that I've
24 gotten to know, a young woman, Jeannette Garcia
25 Alonso, who's visiting here from Puerto Rico, who's

1 sitting right behind Mark Levine; [applause] she's a
2 young lawyer, but she's very active in a movement on
3 the island that has been organizing against the
4 Fiscal Control Board -- something that I support,
5 obviously -- **[00:11:46 Spanish]** she leaves [sic] and
6 she's visiting here today, so I welcome her into this
7 space.
8

9 And with that I would like us to get
10 started on the agenda. Again, there are very few
11 items on the agenda; one of those items is passing..
12 [interpose]

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Shhhh..

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: legislation to
15 increase money.. [interpose] [background comment]
16 Guys, this meeting is going to end in like two
17 minutes; [background comments] let's keep it down.
18 [laughter] So we're going to be passing legislation
19 to increase money for a BID in our Majority Leader's
20 district, Jimmy Van Bramer, and would like him to say
21 a few words about that.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you
23 very much, Madam Speaker. Happy New Year to all of
24 you. Very brief, but we are joined by Liz Lusskin,
25 the Executive Director of the Long Island City

1 Partnership here today, I want to thank her, welcome
2 here and congratulate her and all of the residents
3 and business owners of Long Island City for this
4 long-awaited, much anticipated BID expansion.
5 Obviously Long Island City has grown, perhaps faster
6 than just about any other neighborhood, and so the
7 services must also grow to meet the demands of those
8 who live and work and are raising their families in
9 Long Island City; this expansion gets that done. I'm
10 very proud to have supported it and urge all of my
11 colleagues to join me in supporting this very
12 important BID expansion. Thank you.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Jimmy.
15 And obviously she's not here, but we did wish her a
16 fond farewell at the last Stated Meeting that we had,
17 but wishing the best to new Assembly Member in the
18 State Legislature, Inez Dickens, our former
19 colleague, and also to congratulate my new
20 Congressman, Adriano Espaillat, for making history
21 yesterday and obviously thank -- [interpose, cheers,
22 applause] yes -- the outgoing Congressman Charlie
23 Rangel for all his wonderful years of service as
24 well. And with that, I end the communication of the
25 Speaker.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

Discussion of General Orders -- seeing none. Report of Special Committees.

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of Standing Committees.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance, Int. 1314, [background comments] Queens Plaza/Court Square BID.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on General Orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Int. 1415, Budget Extender.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on General Orders with a Message of Necessity.

COMMITTEE CLERK: On the General Order Calendar, resolution appointing various persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on General Orders and at this time I ask for a roll call on all items of the Coupled General Order Calendar.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron... [crosstalk]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet down so we can hear the roll call, please; I know we've got a

1 reality show in the house; just calm down, everybody
2 will get their [[background comment] face time.

3 [background comments]

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Shhhh...

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

10 [background comment]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Deutsch.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: [00:14:33]

24 **Spanish** I vote aye on every bill today.
25

[background comments]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Show-off. Go ahead. Okay.

[laughter]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Grodenchik.

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I want to thank my wife Deborah for putting up with me for 25 years, as of tomorrow and I vote aye on all.

[background comments][applause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Johnson.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.
3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.
5 COMMITTEE CLERK: King.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye on all.
7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.
9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.
11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.
13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.
15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levine.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.
17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.
19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.
21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.
23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.
25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

[inaudible] also too congratulate my **[inaudible]**.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Ah, Si, yes.

Yes.

[background comment][laugh]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

[laughter]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres.

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [00:16:21]

Italian [sic] and aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye. And

it's good to see that Jumaane Williams has made good

on his Tweet to get more face time with Eric Ulrich,

once he found out he was on a reality show.

[laughter] Wow. [laughter][background comments]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Don't get him

started; he'll start singing. [laugh]

I want to congratulate Council Member

Grodenschik on 25 years of marriage bliss. A round of

applause for Council Member. [applause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

[background comments] All items on today's General

Order Calendar were adopted by a vote of 44 in the

1 affirmative, 0 negative and 0 abstentions. Quite in
2 the chambers please. Introduction and Reading of
3 Bills.
4

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are
6 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Shhhh...
8 [background comments] There are no resolutions. And
9 now to General Discussion, with just one member
10 speaking, so far... two. [background comments][laugh]
11 Council Member Barron.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
13 Public Advocate. You know I'm always brief.

14 I just want to say that I'm sorry to know
15 that even though last year we had a reduced number of
16 killings and the crime rate has gone down, that yet
17 another unarmed person has been killed by NYPD, so we
18 look forward to the results of that investigation
19 coming forward.

20 And I'm also pleased to see that perhaps
21 we will be able to get what my predecessor -- now
22 Assemblyman Charles Barron -- and I have been
23 fighting for for so long, which is free tuition;
24 we're yet to see how that's going to happen, and it's
25 very surprising that the person who nine months ago

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2 wanted to raise tuition and for the last three years
3 has raised tuition has now had a change of heart. So
4 I'm very interested in seeing how that came about and
5 to see the nuts and bolts of how we're going to get
6 free tuition for all of those who want to get into
7 college so that they can better themselves, 'cause
8 that's certainly what we want, and I hope that this
9 body will continue the City Council Scholarships.
10 Thank you.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 Council Member Jumaane Williams.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you.

14 First I want to wish my Haitian brothers and sisters
15 a Bon fet lendepandans de Haiti [sic] on their
16 celebration of 213 years of independence. As a black
17 man, I'm very proud of Haiti and what they did for
18 slavery; as an American, I'm very proud of Haiti in
19 helping double this country and giving it its
20 prowess.

21 I do want to just extend my condolences
22 to the family of Hermanda Booker, who was struck and
23 killed in my district on Kings Highway and Ocean
24 Avenue. Kings Highway is a very treacherous place
25 and we're doing many things to try to make it better,

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2 but just continue prayers for her family and also the
3 family of those who are dealing with the injuries on
4 the Atlantic Terminal.

5 I wish everybody a Happy New Year; we
6 know January 20th is coming up, so this country has
7 to brace for impact and we're going to do what we can
8 in New York City to make sure everyone's lives are as
9 good as possible. Thank you.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
11 Koo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: First of all, I want
13 to wish everyone a Happy New Year; may the new year
14 start with punctuality like a rooster. The coming
15 Lunar Year is the Year of the Rooster.. [background
16 comment] yeah, the rooster -- the characteristics of
17 the rooster is they are very punctual, every day they
18 wake you up at 5:30 [laughter] so.. [interpose]

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I hope all our
21 meetings coming year will be very punctual [laughter]
22 everyone comes punctual [sic]. [laughter]

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: And then I want to say Happy New Year **[00:20:30] Chinese** [sic]... [interpose]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Shhhh... [background comments]

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Right? Yeah. Wish everyone have a very good year and thank you... [crosstalk]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Borelli for a vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you so much. The amended vote now stands at 45 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative; 0 abstentions. Seeing none other, we want to close with the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. Again to everyone, Feliz dia de Reyes, which is now this Friday, January 6, as it is every January 6th, and please, hope to see many of you at the holiday party later on. Have a great one everybody. Thank you. Happy New Year... [crosstalk]

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And let us
congratulate President Barack Obama as he leaves
office, eight years of dignity serving our country.
Thank you.

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 5, 2017