

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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SEPTEMBER 29, 2022
Start: 11:06 A.M.
Recess: 11:16 A.M.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: JUSTIN L. BRANNAN, CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS: DIANA I. AYALA
CHARLES BARRON
GALE A. BREWER
SELVENA N. BROOKS-POWERS
DAVID M. CARR
AMANDA FARÍAS
KAMILLAH HANKS
CRYSTAL HUDSON
ARI KAGAN
FARAH N. LOUIS
FRANCISCO P. MOYA
CHI A. OSSÉ
KEITH POWERS
PIERINA ANA SANCHEZ
MARJORIE VELÁZQUEZ
JULIE WON

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

2 SERGEANT SADOWSKY: This is a microphone
3 check. Today's date is September 29th, 2022. And
4 the Committee on Finance located in the Council
5 Chambers. Recorded by Steven Sadowsky.

6 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Okay. Good
7 morning everybody and welcome to today's Finance
8 Committee Meeting. I'm Council Member Justin
9 Brannan. I have the privilege of chairing the
10 Committee on Finance. I'd also like to officially
11 introduce and welcome Kathleen Ahn our new Counsel to
12 the Finance Division. Kathleen returns to the City
13 Counsel having worked here previously and we're happy
14 to have her back. Thank you so much Kathleen. Okay.
15 Today the Committee will be voting on two items. A
16 BID-related resolution and everyone's favorite a
17 transparency resolution. The BID resolution concerns
18 the public hearing required to increase the amount to
19 be expended annually on July 1, 2022 for five
20 business improvement districts of BIDS as follows:
21 Fifth Avenue Association for \$8 million
22 approximately, 125th Street for approximately \$1.6
23 million, Columbus/Amsterdam BID for \$650,000, the
24 DUMBO BID for \$2.5 million and the Court-Livingston-
25 Schermerhorn \$1.8 million. It sets the date for a

2 public hearing on October 12th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in
3 the City Council Committee Room on the Second Floor
4 of City Hall, right next to us here. At that public
5 hearing we will consider a local law that would
6 increase the annual expenditures of the five BIDs I
7 just mentioned. Next, we have the Transparency
8 Resolution. The Transparency Resolution sets for a
9 new designation and changes and the designation of
10 certain organizations receiving local, aging, anti-
11 poverty and youth discretionary funding and funding
12 pursuant to certain initiatives in the City Budget.
13 As with all Transparency Resolutions, Council Members
14 will have to sign a disclosure form indicating
15 whether or not a conflict exists with any of the
16 groups on the attached list. If any Council Member
17 has a potential conflict of interest with any of the
18 organization listed the have the opportunity to
19 disclose the conflict at the time of their vote. As
20 a reminder, please disclose any conflicts you may
21 have with proposed subcontractors used by
22 organizations sponsored by discretionary funding.
23 These disclosures must be made before the sub-
24 contractor can be approved. Disclosure forms must be
25 completed and submitted prior to the vote on a

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2 Transparency Resolution. They may be emailed to
3 Julius Caranda who is also present today in Chambers
4 to answer your questions. Are there any questions on
5 these items from the members here today? Okay.
6 Seeing none. I will now ask our Committee Clerk, the
7 immortal Billy Martin to call the role. Billy.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Good
9 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
10 vote Committee on Finance. Items are coupled. Chair
11 Brannan?

12 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: I vote aye
13 on all.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

15 DIANA AYALA: I vote aye on all.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya?

17 FRANCISCO MOYA: I vote aye.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
19 you. Power?

20 KEITH POWERS: I vote aye.

21 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

22 FARAH LOUIS: I vote aye.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-
24 Powers?

25 SELVENA BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

3 CHARLES BARRON: Aye on all.

4 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

5 GALE BREWER: I vote aye and particularly

6 want to commend the Columbus/Amsterdam, Peter

7 Arndtsen who is the Director and his Open Street. He

8 has been there for many, many years and the BID is

9 terrific. I vote aye.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Farias?

11 AMANDA FARIAS: I vote aye on all.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks?

13 KAMILLAH HANKS: Aye on all.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson?

15 CRYSTAL HUDSON: Aye on all.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Kagan?

17 ARI KAGAN: Aye on all.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ose?

19 CHI OSE: Aye on all.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

21 Sanchez?

22 PIERINA ANA SANCHEZ: Permission to

23 explain my vote?

24 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Yes.

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2 PIERINA ANA SANCHEZ: Thank you Chair. I
3 vote, I'm going to vote aye on the BID the BID
4 increase and I have to abstain following some
5 unclarities in changes in groups that were funded
6 previously in my District and now not following my
7 maternity leave so I will abstain from the
8 Transparency Resolution until a later day. Thank
9 you.

10 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Thank you.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
12 you. Velazquez?

13 MARJORIE VELAZQUEZ: Aye on all.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Won?
15 Carr?

16 DAVID CARR: I'd like to disclose on the
17 record that my spouse is a student at CUNY and we are
18 funding CUNY in this Transparency Resolution and wit
19 that I'm going to be voting no on Pre-Considered
20 Resolution 327 and aye on the rest. Thank you.

21 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
22 you. Proposed Resolution Number 306-A has been
23 adopted by the Committee with 16 in the affirmative,
24 zero in the negative and no abstentions. And Pre-
25 Considered Resolution in relation to the Transparency

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2 has been adopted by the Committee with 14 in the
3 affirmative, one in the negative, and one abstention.

4 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Did we get
5 Council Member Barron's vote?

6 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Yes
7 sir.

8 CHARLES BARRON: Yes. But I just wanted
9 to disclose on the record that my son Jalane Johnson
10 works for BRICK Brooklyn Arts Media. I wanted to
11 disclose that.

12 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Council
13 Member Velazquez has a disclosure?

14 MARJORIE VELAZQUEZ: I'd like to disclose
15 my brother is a Board Member at Meridans and my
16 husband is the Deputy Commission at DP.

17 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Yes.
18 Council Member.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Council
20 Member Kagan?

21 ARI KAGAN: Yes. I would like to
22 disclose that my daughter is a student of CUNY
23 college and we're funding CUNY for this resolution.
24 Thank you.

25

2 AMANDA FARIAS: I'd like to disclose on
3 the record that my sibling attends middle school 127
4 in the Casa Hills School and it is being funded on
5 this Transparency Resolution.

6 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Billy. I
7 think we're going to hold it open. You guys can all
8 go. Unless you want to hang out with me. You can
9 stay. Okay. We're going to close this out but
10 Committee Clerk Billy Martin is going to read the
11 final roll and then we'll close this out.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:
13 Committee on Finance Proposed Resolution 306 is
14 adopted by the Committee with 16 in the affirmative,
15 zero in the negative and no abstentions. And Pre-
16 considered Resolution Transparency is adopted by the
17 Committee with 14 in the affirmative, one in the
18 negative and one abstention.

19 CHAIRPERSON JUSTIN BRANNAN: Thank you.
20 With that this meeting is adjourned.

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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 October 10, 2022