

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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April 24, 2013  
Start: 10:45 am  
Recess: 11:13 am

HELD AT: 250 Broadway  
Committee Room, 16th Fl.

B E F O R E:  
PETER F. VALLONE, JR.  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Helen D. Foster  
Daniel R. Garodnick  
James F. Gennaro  
Vincent J. Gentile  
David Greenfield  
Eric Ulrich

CHAIRPERSON VALLONE: Okay.

Welcome to the people who have been sitting here for a long, long time. Today, we're discussing and voting on the Preconsidered Resolution recognizing June as Gun Violence Awareness Month. We've been joined by Council Members Foster, Greenfield, Ulrich, Garodnick, some others are on their way.

And as we know, the issue of gun violence has garnered national attention in the past few months due to the tragic events that have unfolded in Tucson, AZ; Aurora, CO; Newton, CT. While it's heartening to see these events have sparked public outrage, it is important that the general public be aware that gun violence does not only take place in large-scale, highly publicized events. In reality, gun violence affects New Yorkers on a daily basis. For example, in 2012, there were nearly 1,375 shooting incidents where a person was either fatally or non-fatally injured in New York City. Additionally, 57% of all murders in our city in 2012 were attributed to gun violence.

Going to throw in an editorial

1  
2 point here that we're at the lowest level of  
3 murders in New York City in the recorded history  
4 of New York City.

5 While crime has been declining  
6 across much of the city, gun violence continues to  
7 plague many communities. This, unfortunately, is  
8 something that is especially true during the  
9 summer months of July and August.

10 For that reason, today we're here  
11 to vote on a resolution that would recognize the  
12 month of June as Gun Violence Awareness Month.  
13 Together with similar resolutions being passed in  
14 the assembly and senate and in many other counties  
15 across the state, we can make sure that the public  
16 remains aware of this very real problem. With  
17 awareness will hopefully come constructive  
18 discussions to help identify the root causes of  
19 gun violence and the common sense steps we could  
20 take to stop it.

21 Again, thanks, everybody, for  
22 joining us. Not turning the floor over to anyone,  
23 there'll be no testimony, so we'll just call the  
24 vote.

25 MALE VOICE: Chair's recommendation

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on the vote?

CHAIRPERSON VALLONE: The chair recommends an aye vote. A very quick aye vote is what the chair recommends with no talking or editorializing at all.

KEVIN PIN: Kevin Pin, Committee Clerk. Roll call on the Committee on Public Safety. Council Member Vallone.

CHAIRPERSON VALLONE: I vote aye.

KEVIN PIN: Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

KEVIN PIN: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

KEVIN PIN: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank the chair for introducing Casual Wednesday.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Vote aye.

KEVIN PIN: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: May I be excused to explain my vote?

CHAIRPERSON VALLONE: No, you may not.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye.

CHAIRPERSON VALLONE: This is not--

KEVIN PIN: [Interposing] By a vote of five in the affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstention, the item has been adopted. Members, please sign the committee report.

CHAIRPERSON VALLONE: And this is not Casual Wednesdays, I was instructed by Julissa Ferreras, Chair of our Women's Committee, that today was wear denim in support of awareness against violence against women, so that's what this is about.

And so we'll hold this vote open for as long as the Council rules allow for Council Members who are on their way from other committees. Thank you all, and this will be adjourned--what do we say?

MALE VOICE: Just keep it open for now.

CHAIRPERSON VALLONE: And it will be kept open for now.

[Pause]

KEVIN PIN: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I vote

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aye.

KEVIN PIN: Vote stands at six in  
the affirmative.

[Pause]

KEVIN PIN: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

KEVIN PIN: Final vote on the  
Committee on Public Safety, seven in the  
affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: And no  
other members left to vote? Okay. So with that  
vote, this meeting is adjourned.

[Gavel]

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tammy Wittman, 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 *Tammy Wittman*

Date May 8, 2013