

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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OCTOBER 29, 2020  
Start: 9:18 A.M.  
Recess: 9:24 A.M.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING

B E F O R E: DANIEL DROMM, CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS: ADRIENNE E. ADAMS  
ALICKA AMPRY-SAMUEL  
DIANA AYALA  
ROBERT E. CORNEGY, JR.  
LAURIE A. CUMBO  
VANESSA L. GIBSON  
MARK GJONAJ  
BARRY S. GRODENCHIK  
KAREN KOSLOWITZ  
RORY I. LANCMAN  
FARAH N. LOUIS  
STEVEN MATTEO  
FRANCISCO P. MOYA  
KEITH POWERS  
HELEN K. ROSENTHAL  
JAMES G. VAN BRAMER

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

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2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: At this time,  
3 Sargeant in charge of recording, if you can please  
4 start your recording.

5 SARGEANT BIANO: Recording started.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

7 SARGEANT AT ARMS: Backup is good.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

9 SARGEANT AT ARMS 2: Recording started.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you and  
11 Sargeant Bianco, you can start with your opening.  
12 Thank you.

13 SARGEANT BIANO: Good morning everyone  
14 and welcome to today's remote New York City Council  
15 Hearing on the Committee of Finance council vote. At  
16 this time, would all panelists please turn on their  
17 video. Once again, all panelists please turn on your  
18 video. Please place all electronic devices on silent  
19 or vibrate. Chair, we are ready to begin.

20 CHAIRPERSON DANIEL DROMM: Okay and thank  
21 you very much and thank you very much, good morning  
22 and welcome to today's meeting of the Committee on  
23 Finance. I am Council Member Daniel Dromm and I am  
24 chair of the committee and we have been joined by:  
25 Council Members Cornegy, Koslowitz, Rosenthal,

2 Grodenchik, Adams, Ampry-Samuel, Ayala, Gjonaj,

3 Powers, Louis, Matteo, Moya, Cumbo and Van Bramer.

4 (clearing throat). Excuse me. Today the committee

5 will be voting on two items, the transparency

6 resolution and a BID resolution. The transparency

7 resolution sets forth the new designation and changes

8 in the designation of certain organizations receiving

9 local, aging, anti-poverty and youth discretionary

10 funding and funding pursuant to certain organizations

11 in the Budget. Organizations appearing in the

12 resolution that have not yet completed the pre-

13 qualification process conducted by the Mayor's Office

14 of contract services, the council or another entity

15 are identified in the attached charts with an

16 asterisk. As with all transparency resolutions,

17 Council Members will have to sign a disclosure form

18 indicating whether or not a conflict exists with any

19 of the groups on the attached list. If any Council

20 Member has potential conflict of interest with any of

21 the organizations listed, he or she has the

22 opportunity to disclose the conflict at the time of

23 their vote. As the release disclosed with any

24 conflicts that you have any proposed subcontractors

25 used by an organization and sponsored by

2 discretionary funding. These disclosures must be made  
3 before the subcontractor can be approved. Disclosure  
4 form must be completed and submitted prior to the  
5 vote on the transparency resolution and may be  
6 emailed to Charles Davis. The BID item that we are  
7 voting on is a resolution setting forth November 19,  
8 2020 at 9 a.m. on the City Council Virtual Hearing  
9 Room 1 to hold a public hearing considering the local  
10 law that would authorize an increase in the budgets  
11 of two existing BIDs, increase the amounts that they  
12 pay expend annually. The budget increases have been  
13 requested by the property owners within the  
14 boundaries of each BID and they are the Bryant Park  
15 BID in Council Member Powers District and the  
16 Flatbush-Nostrand Junction BID in Council Member  
17 Louis' District. Each of the Council Members have  
18 indicated that they support the requested budget  
19 increases. More information regarding the specific  
20 amounts of the assessments, the assessment increases  
21 and the reasons for the request can be found in the  
22 Committee Report prepared by the Finance Division  
23 Staff. Those are all of today's items, are there any  
24 questions? Seeing none, I will now Mr. William  
25 Martin, the Committee Clerk to call the role but we

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2 have also been joined by the subcommittee Chair,  
3 Council Member Vanessa Gibson.

4 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Good  
5 morning, William Martin, the Committee Clerk, roll  
6 call vote Committee on Finance. The items are  
7 coupled. Chair Dromm?

8 CHAIRPERSON DANIEL DROMM: Aye.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson?

10 VANESSA GIBSON: Good morning everyone, I  
11 vote aye.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank  
13 you. Cornegy?

14 ROBERT CORNEGY: Aye.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo?

16 LAURIE CUMBO: I vote aye.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

18 Koslowitz?

19 KAREN KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

21 Rosenthal?

22 HELEN ROSENTHAL: With congratulations to  
23 the new BIDs it is very exciting, I vote aye.

24 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank  
25 you. Van Bramer?

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2 JAMES VAN BRAMER: Aye.

3 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

4 Grodenchik?

5 BARRY GRODENCHIK: Aye.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

7 ADRIENNE ADAMS: I vote aye.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ampry-

9 Samuel?

10 ALICKA AMPRY-SAMUEL: Do we have to  
11 disclose again, I wasn't quite listening? Disclose  
12 for the record?

13 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Council  
14 Member if you have any disclosures that you need to  
15 make, you can make them on the record now and if not  
16 just send in your signed disclosure form to Jeff  
17 Davis.

18 ALICKA AMPRY-SAMUEL: Okay, I disclose on  
19 the record that for today's vote that we are voting  
20 in uhm there is a potential conflict with Department  
21 of Education and my brother is a teacher at DOE. And  
22 with that I vote aye.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank  
24 you, Ayala?

25 DIANA AYALA: Aye.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Gjonaj?

3 MARK GJONAJ: For the record, I would  
4 like to make the following disclosures, my wife is a  
5 school nurse at Department of Education school, my  
6 sister is an administrator with the Department of Ed  
7 my son may enroll as a student and my brother owners  
8 a property related to the New York Public Library in  
9 the Bronx and with that I vote aye.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank  
11 you, Moya?

12 FRANCISCO MOYA: I vote aye.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

14 KEITH POWERS: I vote aye.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

16 FARAH LOUIS: I would like to disclose  
17 for the record that my sister works for CUNY and I  
18 vote aye.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank  
20 you. Okay, Matteo? I'm sorry, Council Member?

21 STEVEN MATTEO: Aye.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Oh,  
23 thank you. By a vote of 16 in the affirmative, zero  
24 in the negative and no abstentions, both items have  
25 been adopted by the committee, thank you.



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2 CHAIRPERSON DANIEL DROMM: Okay and with  
3 that this meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

4 SARGEANT: Live as ended.

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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 NOVEMBER 17, 2020