

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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May 10, 2017
Start: 10:48 a.m.
Recess: 11:17 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E:

JULISSA FERRERAS-COPELAND
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ydanis A. Rodriguez
James G. Van Bramer
Vanessa L. Gibson
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Laurie A. Cumbo
Corey D. Johnson
Mark Levine
I. Daneek Miller
Helen K. Rosenthal
Steven Matteo

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

[sound check]

[pause]

[background comments]

CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: Ready? Alright.

Good morning everyone and welcome to today's Finance Committee meeting. My name is Jimmy Van Bramer and I'll be serving as your Acting Chair of the Committee on behalf of Council Member Ferreras-Copeland, who could not be here today.

I want to recognize members of the Committee who are here: Council Member Laurie Cumbo, Council Member Vanessa Gibson, Council Member Helen Rosenthal, Minority Leader Steven Matteo, and Council Member Mark Levine.

Today the Committee will be voting on two very important land use items; the first would provide a partial 40-year Article V tax exemption for the McKinley Manor Apartments in Council Member Gibson's district in the Bronx. This Resolution would extend the project's current tax exemption to preserve 60 units of Section 8 rental housing. Council Member Gibson supports this Resolution.

I want to also recognize we've been joined by Council Member Robert Cornegy.

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2 The second item concerns the Madison
3 Court Apartments located in Council Member Ferreras-
4 Copeland's district in Queens; she is supportive of
5 this Resolution, which would maintain the
6 affordability of the property through a partial 40-
7 year Article XI tax exemption to preserve 60 units of
8 rental housing for low-income individuals and
9 families.

10 Before we vote, I would like to remind my
11 colleagues that the Fiscal 2018 Executive Budget
12 hearing will continue tomorrow, May 11, at 10:00 a.m.
13 in the Council Chambers. The Committee will be
14 joined by the Committee on Housing and Buildings to
15 hear from the Department of Housing Preservation and
16 Development, followed by the Department of Buildings.

17 We will again meet tomorrow at 2:00 p.m.
18 with the Committee on Immigration to hear from the
19 Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs.

20 Before we vote, I would like to turn it
21 over to Council Member Gibson to speak to the issue
22 in her district.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you
24 Mr. Chair. Good morning to all my colleagues; thank
25 you for being here. I wanted to go on record in just

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2 expressing my firm support for the Article V tax
3 exemption proposal before the Committee. McKinley
4 Manor is a longstanding part of the Morrisania
5 community in my district and Bronx Council Member 3,
6 and while we talk about affordability and
7 preservation is really important as we continue to
8 build new construction across the City of New York.
9 And in our borough of the Bronx, and in particular in
10 my district, going through a Jerome rezoning and all
11 of the other efforts that we are embarking on to not
12 only lift families out of poverty but give them long-
13 term housing, which is what they truly deserve. So
14 when I look at McKinley Manor and these 60 units, it
15 is a part of that fabric. And so as you have this
16 proposal before you for an additional 40 years of tax
17 exemption to keep this building affordable, to keep
18 the residents and families that have lived there for
19 a really long time -- this is one of the buildings in
20 my district that has very little turnover, and that's
21 a good thing, because that means that the tenants are
22 happy, they're satisfied and they want to stay in
23 Morrisania. So I'm grateful for that and I want to
24 thank the owner of the building for not only working
25 with our office, but really helping us so that we can

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2 continue to bring families out of shelters and into
3 long-term housing, which is what they truly need. So
4 I'm asking for all of my colleagues' support because
5 I think this is a good project that's obviously in
6 line with our commitment as a Council and with this
7 Administration's commitment, so please vote yes on
8 McKinley Manor so that we can continue to move our
9 city forward. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: Thank you very
11 much Council Member Gibson and congratulations.

12 Unless any of my colleagues have questions on any of
13 these items, we'll ask Bill Martin, Committee Clerk,
14 to call the roll.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning. William
16 Martin, Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on
17 Finance. Council Member Van Bramer.

18 CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Congratulations to
25 Council Member Gibson and I vote aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levine.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Ditto on the
4 congratulations and I'm voting aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rosenthal.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 7 in the
10 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
11 both items have been adopted by the Committee.

12 CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: Thank you very
13 much. We'll keep the roll call vote open for another
14 15 minutes for colleagues who may join us, and with
15 that, we are adjourned.

16 [pause]

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call,
18 the Committee on Finance. Council Member Rodriguez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vote now currently
21 stands at 8 in the affirmative.

22 [pause]

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call,
24 the Committee on Finance, Preconsidered Land Use
25 Items. Council Member Miller.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote in the Committee on Finance is; both items have now been adopted by a vote of 9 in affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay, with that we call this meeting adjourned.

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 June 7, 2017