

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

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June 26, 2019
Start: 10:58 a.m.
Recess: 11:02 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: RITCHIE J. TORRES
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Diana Ayala
Ben Kallos
Rory I. Lancman
Keith Powers
Carlina Rivera
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Mark Treyg
Kalman Yeger

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

2 [sound check] [pause] [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: Good morning
4 everyone. I'm City Council Member Ritchie Torres,
5 the Chair of Oversight and Investigations. In the
6 interest of time, I'm going to dispense with the
7 opening statement and quickly note that today we're
8 going to vote o Intro No. 1331-B, which would require
9 the Department of Investigations to report on
10 overtime—overtime in contracting in each of the 330
11 NYCHA developments throughout the city. So, with
12 that said, I would love to proceed to a vote.

13 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk.
14 Roll call vote Committee on Oversight and
15 Investigations. Introduction 1331-B, Chair Torres.

16 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Salamanca.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMACA: Aye

19 CLERK: Ayla.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

21 CLERK: Powers.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

23 CLERK: Rivera.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

25 CLERK: Yeger.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: May I be excused
3 to explain my vote, please?

4 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Okay. thank you,
6 Mr. Chairman. I'll just need a second. The whole
7 Parks thing threw me off. So, I'm just getting my
8 notes ready.

9 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: [off mic] It was sad
10 about that.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: It was sad. Is
12 that what that it was. Mr. Chairman, thank you very
13 much. I support this bill, and I intend to vote for
14 here in committee today. However, as I understand it
15 the agenda of the Council will have this bill appear
16 on it for today's Stated. At today's Stated I will
17 not be able to vote in favor of this bill for the
18 following reason: The bill, as I understand, did not
19 lay on the desks properly in accordance with Section
20 36 of the Charter. The Charter requires that bills
21 in this Council in order for them to be—to be adopted
22 by the full Council have to lay on the desks of the
23 members of the Council seven days prior to adoption.
24 When we walked into this room Wednesday for the
25 Stated, the desks of the members of the Council look

2 like they do right now, not a single piece of paper
3 of on them. Now, it's possible sure in theory that
4 bills were put on the desks for Tuesday night prior
5 to midnight, and then a band of eager chipmunks came
6 in and stole them off the desks, but when we walked
7 in here on Wednesday, there was not a single paper on
8 the desks of the members of this Council. That's not
9 just my opinion, and it's not just my presentation of
10 facts, but it's fully backed up by viewing the video
11 of the Stated Meeting of this body that was held last
12 Wednesday when we adopted the budget. You can look
13 at the desks. You can see there's no paper on it.
14 Now, again, as I said it's possible the papers were
15 put on the desks Tuesday night, and then subsequently
16 removed. I don't know what happened, but I will not
17 be able to vote for it later today. However, I
18 commend the Chair because this bill an important
19 bill, and what I would prefer is that the bill be
20 laid over after-after being recommended out of this
21 committee and reported to the Council, but not being
22 voted on today by the Stated, but being voted on at a
23 subsequent Stated, and with that, thank you, Mr.
24 Chairman. I vote aye.

2 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: I Thank you Council
3 Yeger. I just want to quickly note obviously I have
4 no first hand knowledge of what happened, but the
5 Counsel for the O&I Committee assures that's what he
6 did, laid the bill in accordance with the
7 requirements of Charter. So, there is some dispute,
8 but I just wanted to put that out there in response.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Yes.

10 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: So, let's continue
11 the vote.

12 CLERK: By a vote of 6 in the
13 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
14 the item has been adopted by the committee.

15 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: This hearing is
16 adjourned. Thank you. [gavel]

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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 July 3, 2019