

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND BUILDINGS

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October 28, 2009
Start: 10:58 am
Recess: 11:04 am

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
ERIC MARTIN DILAN
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Council Member Tony Avella
Council Member Gale Brewer
Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Council Member Elizabeth Crowley
Council Member Inez Dickens
Council Member Lewis A. Fidler
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Rosie Mendez
Council Member James S. Oddo
Council Member Joel Rivera
Council Member James Vacca

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

Name

Position

Organization

CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Alright, if the Chambers could come to order. At this time I'd like to ask if all cell phones could be either turned off or moved to vibration mode, and that all private conversations please happen outside of the Committee room. Good morning. My name is Eric Martin Dilan, and I'm the Chairperson of the City Council's Housing and Buildings Committee, and today the Committee will be considering for the purposes of a vote, Proposed Intro 874-A, which is a local law in relation to methane and radon gas vent piping, the approval of mechanical joint piping systems and the approval of non-code prescribed drainage vent systems. The Council was obviously concerned about the release, when it does happen, of methane and radon gas from underground areas and into the atmosphere during construction. And this bill is intended to allow for new, for the introduction of new methods of ventilation into the marketplace. The bill was amended from the original version as described on page five in the Committee report for the benefit of the members. For the benefit of the public, the amendments are: requirement the Department of

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2 Buildings to establish the acceptance criteria for
3 the installation of mechanical joints; deleting a
4 requirement that computer designed, engineered
5 vent systems comply with the administrative code,
6 and be approved by the Commissioner as this is
7 already required by the plumbing code. It makes
8 several technical corrections throughout the bill,
9 and the changing of the effective date from 90
10 days to 180 days. And I, before I ask the clerk
11 to call the roll, we're joined by the bill's
12 sponsor, Council Member Inez Dickens. I'd like to
13 acknowledge her to make a brief statement.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you,
15 Chair Dilan, for allowing me to provide testimony
16 in support of Intro 874. With the support of the
17 Plumbers Union, at your October 15th hearing, which
18 I was unable to attend due to a family member's
19 funereal, I asked the Chair's permission and was
20 granted such, to submit my written testimony
21 setting forth the reason that make this
22 legislation necessary and important, and ask for
23 your support. Therefore, I won't take the
24 Committee's time to reread my submitted testimony,
25 but I am here to answer any questions, and I do

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2 continue to ask for your support for Intro 874.

3 Thank you, Chair Dilan.

4 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Okay, thank
5 you, Council Member Dickens. I'd like to ask all
6 my colleagues, I'd like to ask all my colleagues
7 to vote for the bill as I recommend a yes vote.
8 And at this time I'd like to ask the clerk to call
9 the roll.

10 CLERK: William Martin, Committee
11 Clerk, roll call on the Committee on Housing and
12 Buildings. Introduction 874-A. Council Member
13 Dilan.

14 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: I vote aye.

15 CLERK: Rivera.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Avella.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Aye.

19 CLERK: Brewer.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

21 CLERK: Comrie.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

23 CLERK: Vacca.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

25 CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

CLERK: By a vote of eight in the affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions, item is adopted. Council Members, please sign the Committee reports. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: 'Scuze me, Mr. Chair, I'm on Housing and Buildings, and I wasn't called.

CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Yes, Council Member Jackson needs to be acknowledged for the purposes of his vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Did you--

CLERK: Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Am I listed there?

CLERK: [off mic] Yeah, I saw you, I just didn't want to.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [laughs] Okay, that's okay. I vote aye on everything.

CLERK: Correction, vote is nine in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [laughs]

3 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member
4 Jackson.

5 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: He treated you
6 like you're a Phillies fan, or something.

7 [background noise] Okay, and we're going to leave
8 the roll open for as long as the rules permit.

9 And at that time, the--this hearing will be
10 closed. And if members need to sign the Committee
11 report, they can do so. And that will conclude
12 the hearing at the end of I believe a 30 minute
13 period. [pause] Alright, Council Member Brewer?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I'd like to
15 add my name as a cosponsor. Thank you very much.

16 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Thank you.
17 [pause, background noise] Council Member Mendez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you,
19 Chair Dilan, I vote aye.

20 [pause, background noise]

21 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Council Member,
22 Council Member Fidler.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I vote aye.

24 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Alright, at
25 this time the Housing and Buildings Committee is

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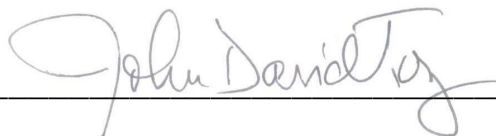
adjourned. [gavel]

CLERK: Final vote is eleven in the
affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, JOHN DAVID TONG 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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John David Tong", written over a horizontal line.

Date November 9, 2009