

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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May 19, 2022
Start: 10:05 a.m.
Recess: 10:13 a.m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING - VIRTUAL ROOM 2

B E F O R E: Justin L. Brannan, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Diana Ayala
- Charles Barron
- Gale A. Brewer
- Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
- David M. Carr
- Amanda Farias
- Kamillah Hanks
- Crystal Hudson
- Ari Kagan
- Farah N. Louis
- Francisco P. Moya
- Chi A. Osse
- Keith Powers
- Pierina Ana Sanchez
- Marjorie Velazquez
- Julie Won

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2 SERGEANT KOTOWSKI: Computer recording
3 started.

4 SERGEANT SADOWSKY: Thank you.

5 SERGEANT GONZALEZ: Cloud recording has
6 started.

7 SERGEANT SADOWSKY: Thank you. Good
8 morning. Welcome to today's remote New York City
9 Council hearing of the Committee on Finance.

10 At this time, would all Council Members
11 and staff please turn on their video?

12 To minimize disruption, please place
13 electronic devices on vibrate or silent mode. Thank
14 you for cooperation.

15 We are ready to begin.

16 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: Thank you, Sergeant.
17 [GAVEL] Good morning, and welcome to today's Finance
18 Committee meeting. My name is Council Member Joseph
19 Brannan, and I'm Chair of the Finance Committee.

20 Today, we have 4 items on the agenda, an
21 Article 11 property tax exemption, 2 budget
22 modifications, and a transparency resolution.

23 We'll begin with the Land Use item, which
24 is 788 Fox Street, a 5-story building with 52 units
25 located in the Longwood section of the South Bronx in

2 Deputy Speaker Ayala's district. The project closed
3 on a construction loan in 2017 under the HUD
4 Multifamily Program and a RAD conversion. The scope
5 of work was a moderate rehab of the building as well
6 as upgrades to apartment interiors. The current
7 Article 11 is expiring in 2034, and the sponsor is
8 seeing a new 30-year Article 11 to match the loan
9 term and a new HPD regulatory agreement. At 788 Fox
10 Street, there are 52 units, and all are currently
11 rent-stabilized with AMIs ranging from 50 percent to
12 80 percent. Deputy Speaker Ayala is supportive of the
13 project. Malcolm, is she here?

14 COMMITTEE COUNSEL BUTEHORN: She's not
15 going to make any remarks, I think I stated she
16 might, so we can just continue.

17 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: Okay. Next, we'll
18 turn to the transparency resolution, number 13. This
19 resolution approves the new designation and the
20 changes in the designation of certain organizations
21 receiving local discretionary funding and funding for
22 certain initiatives in accordance with the FY-22
23 expense budget and approves new designation and the
24 change in designation of certain organization's
25 funding for initiatives in accordance with the FY-21

2 expense budget. As with all transparency resolutions,
3 Council Members will have to sign a disclosure form
4 indicating whether or not a conflict exists with any
5 of the groups on the attached list. This disclosure
6 form and accompanying instructions were emailed to
7 all Members last night by the Finance Division. If
8 any Council Member has a potential conflict of
9 interest with any of the organizations listed, they
10 have the opportunity to disclose the conflict at the
11 time of their vote. As a reminder, please disclose
12 any conflicts you may have with the proposed
13 subcontractors used by organizations sponsored by
14 discretionary funding. These disclosures must be made
15 before any subcontractor can be approved. Disclosure
16 forms must be completed and submitted prior to the
17 vote on the transparency resolution today, and it may
18 be emailed to Julius Caranda in the General Counsel'
19 office.

20 We now have 2 budget modifications. The
21 first, a revenue budget mod seeks to appropriate new
22 city revenues in FY-22 in the amount of 1.36 billion.
23 The 1.36 billion of new revenues combined with an
24 adjustment to the general reserve will be used to
25 prepay 1.54 billion of FY-23 expenses in FY-22.

2 The second, an expense budget mod
3 represents proposed movements of city funds within
4 and among city agencies in FY-22 to implement changes
5 in the city's expense budget but leaves the overall
6 level of city funds unchanged.

7 Do we have any questions from Council
8 Members on today's items?

9 COMMITTEE COUNSEL BUTEHORN: Yes, Council
10 Member Barron. You should be able to unmute yourself,
11 sir.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you very
13 much. I want my Colleagues to be aware and make sure
14 you read through that money transfer, an interagency
15 transfer, because in that there's 100 million taken
16 from community colleges and there's another about
17 100-some-odd million taken from the police department
18 but if you look at the second page, it says To. It'll
19 first say From then it says To. He's adding another
20 300 million to the police department, but, when you
21 look at from, it adds up to about 100 million taken
22 from the police department so this is going to be an
23 increase internally to the police department. Money
24 is being taken away from health, from education, from
25 CUNY. Just look where it says From and then, if you

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2 add up those numbers and look where it says To, the
3 To numbers are less than many of the From numbers,
4 and this is something that happens in budgets all the
5 time when you look at something like that, unless we
6 carefully analyze that, I think we should vote no on
7 that. That transfer of money is going to benefit the
8 police department. Some of it will be taken from
9 education, health, medical, all kinds of stuff.
10 That'll be a no vote for me.

11 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: Do we have anyone
12 else with questions or comments?

13 COMMITTEE COUNSEL BUTEHORN: I don't see
14 any hands raised, Chair.

15 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: Okay. With that, I
16 will now ask William Martin, the Committee Clerk, to
17 call the roll.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Good
19 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
20 vote Committee on Finance. All items are coupled.
21 Chair Brannan.

22 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: I vote aye.

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

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
3 you. Moya.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
6 you. Powers. Council Member Powers. Okay, we'll come
7 back to Council Member Powers. Council Member Louis.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
10 you. Brooks-Powers.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
13 you. Barron.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote no on, is
15 it M5, Mr. Chair? The transfer of monies is M5?

16 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: Malcolm, right, M5?

17 COMMITTEE COUNSEL BUTEHORN: Give me one
18 second. Yes, it's M5.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I'm voting no on
20 that and aye on all the rest.

21 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
22 you.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye. I
24 respect Charles, but we'll fight in the current
25

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2 budget. I appreciate his comments, however, but I
3 vote aye.

4 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
5 you. Farias.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye.

7 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
8 you. Hanks.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
11 you. Hudson.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
14 you. Kagan.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: I vote aye.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
17 you. Osse.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: I vote aye.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
20 you. Sanchez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
23 you. Velazquez.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: Aye on all.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
3 you. Won.

4 COMMITTEE COUNSEL BUTEHORN: Council
5 Member, you will be able to unmute yourself, Council
6 Member Won.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Yes. Aye.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
9 you. Carr.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Out of an abundance
11 of caution, in the expense budget modification we're
12 changing funding for CUNY and my partner is a student
13 at CUNY, and I vote aye on all.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
15 you. Powers.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye. Thanks.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
18 you. With a vote of 17 in the affirmative, 0 in the
19 negative, and no abstentions, all items are adopted
20 with preconsidered M in relation to MN5 is adopted by
21 the Committee with a vote of 16 in the affirmative, 1
22 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

23 Mr. Chair, that is a full Committee. You
24 can close at your convenience.

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2 CHAIRPERSON BRANNAN: Thank you. Thank you
3 all. This meeting is adjourned. [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 12, 2022