

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES AND  
ELECTIONS

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May 25, 2023  
Start: 11:52 a.m.  
Recess: 11:57 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Keith Powers, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams  
Joseph C. Borelli  
Justin L. Brannan  
Gale A. Brewer  
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers  
Crystal Hudson  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.  
Pierina Ana Sanchez

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone  
3 check for the Committee on Rules, Privileges and  
4 Elections. Recorded on May 25, 2023, in the City Hall  
5 Chambers by Giselle Rivera.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and  
7 welcome to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and  
8 Elections.

9 At this time, we ask if you could please  
10 place phones on vibrate or silent mode. Thank you.

11 Chair, we are ready to begin.

12 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Good morning and  
13 welcome to the meeting of the Committee on Rules,  
14 Privileges and Elections. I'm Council Member Keith  
15 Powers, Chair of the Committee.

16 Before we begin, I'd like to introduce  
17 the other Members of the Committee who are present  
18 here today. We are joined by Speaker Adrienne Adams,  
19 Minority Leader Joe Borelli, Justin Brannan, Council  
20 Member Gale Brewer, Council Member Selvena Brooks-  
21 Powers, Council Member Crystal Hudson, Council Member  
22 Rafael Salamanca, Council Member Pierina Sanchez.

23 I'd like to acknowledge the Counsel of  
24 this Committee, Jeff Campagna, and Committee Staff  
25 that worked on the appointments we'll hear today.

2 Chief Ethics Counsel Pearl Moore, Director of the  
3 Public Integrity Division Francesca Della Vecchia,  
4 and Deputy Director Alycia Vasell.

5 By letters dated April 28, 2023, Mayor  
6 Eric Adams requested the advice and consent of the  
7 Council regarding the appointments of Kenneth Chan,  
8 Sarah Kaufman, Paul Bader, and Thomas Sorrentino to  
9 the New York Taxi and Limousine Commission.

10 Pursuant to Section 2301 of the Charter,  
11 Paul Bader was recommended for appointment by the  
12 Queens Delegation to the Council, and Thomas  
13 Sorrentino was recommended by the Brooklyn Delegation  
14 to the Council.

15 On May 8th, the Committee held a public  
16 hearing on all four nominations. Today, the Committee  
17 will vote on whether to recommend to the Council  
18 whether to provide its advice and consent to these  
19 nominations.

20 We will vote on M149, the proposed  
21 appointment by the Mayor of Kenneth Chan as a member  
22 of the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission to  
23 serve the remainder of a seven-year term that expires  
24 on January 31, 2024.

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2 Council Member Salamanca, can you mute  
3 yourself?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I'm sorry.

5 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Thank you. M150, the  
6 proposed appointment by the Mayor of Paul Bader as a  
7 member of the New York City Taxi and Limousine  
8 Commission to serve the remainder of a seven-year  
9 term that expires on January 31, 2029, M151, the  
10 proposed appointment by the Mayor of Thomas  
11 Sorrentino as a member of the New York City Taxi and  
12 Limousine Commission to serve the remainder of a  
13 seven-year term that expires on January 31, 2029, and  
14 M152, the proposed appointment by the Mayor of Sarah  
15 Kaufman as a member of the New York City Taxi and  
16 Limousine Commission to serve the remainder of a  
17 seven-year term that expires on January 31, 2026.

18 Before we vote, I want to invite any of  
19 my Colleagues to offer any statements on the  
20 nominations before us today.

21 Seeing none, the Clerk will now call the  
22 roll.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good  
24 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call

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2 vote Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections.

3 All items are coupled. Chair Powers.

4 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

6 Salamanca.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank

9 you. Brannan.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Brooks-

12 Powers.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye

14 on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank

16 you. Brewer.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye. I want

18 to add that all of the nominees were impressive at

19 the hearing that we had. As we go into congestion

20 pricing, I know they have an important job to think

21 about the yellow cabs, and I want to urge them to

22 support the fact the yellow cabs should not pay for

23 congestion pricing. Thank you.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank

25 you. Hudson.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: I am aye on all  
3 with the exception of M0149 for which I abstain.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
5 you. Sanchez.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Borelli.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Speaker  
10 Adams.

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote  
13 of nine in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and  
14 no abstentions, all items are adopted by the  
15 Committee with M149 being adopted by the Committee  
16 eight in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and  
17 one abstention.

18 Mr. Chair, that is a full Committee.

19 CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Thank you. That  
20 concludes today's business.

21 Thanks to my Colleagues, Staff, and  
22 Sergeant-at-Arms.

23 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 May 31, 2023