

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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December 19, 2019

Start: 10:53 AM

Recess: 11:06 AM

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: DANIEL DROMM
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne E. Adams
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Laurie A. Cumbo
Vanessa L. Gibson
Mark Gjonaj
Barry S. Grodenchik
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Farah N. Louis
Steven Matteo
Francisco P. Moya
Keith Powers
Helen K. Rosenthal
James G. Van Bramer

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

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2 (sound check) (pause) (background
3 comments/gavel)

4 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Okay, good morning
5 and welcome to today's Finance Committee meeting. I'm
6 Council Member Daniel Dromm, and I'm Chair of the
7 committee. This morning we have been joined by
8 Council Member Barry Grodenchik Council Member Karen
9 Koslowitz, Council Member Farah Louis, Council Member
10 Adrienne Adams, Council Member Robert Cornegy,
11 Council Member Keith Powers, and our Minority Leader
12 Steve Matteo. Today, the committee will be voting on
13 nine items: An Expense Budget modification, a
14 Revenue Budget modification, a Capital Budget
15 modification, a transparency resolution, and five
16 Article XI Tax Exemptions. Let's start with the
17 Budget modifications. The Expense Budget
18 modification represents movements of approximately
19 \$984 million of funding between and with city
20 agencies to reallocate appropriations in the city's
21 Expense Budget. A significant portion of the funding
22 is being moved to effectuate the Budget Agreement
23 that the Council fought for this past June. We have
24 several important wins that are being reflected in
25 this mod including \$54 million for indirect rate

2 increases for Human Services contracts so that our
3 non-profit partners can better afford to provide the
4 vital services on which our constituents rely
5 everyday, and pay parity for critical public sector
6 workers including \$29 million for Early Childhood
7 Education providers, and \$7.4 million for legal
8 service providers so that these workers are paid
9 fairly. The Expense Mod also reflects important
10 shifts in Criminal Justice funding to further the
11 goal of closing Rikers and to implement the state
12 enacted bail reforms. \$74.8 million for new
13 headcounts to support discovery reform; \$16.6 million
14 for expanded supervised release capacity to support
15 ail reform, and \$22 million in savings from the
16 Department of Correction for-for the closure of the
17 Brooklyn House of Detention and the Eric M. Taylor
18 Detention Center. The Budget-the Revenue Budget
19 Modification recognizes \$684 million in new revenues
20 in Fiscal 2020, and authorizes the appropriation of
21 that new revenue, and an adjustment to the general
22 reserve to increase the budget stable-stabilization
23 account by \$549.5 million to repay debt services for
24 Fiscal 2021. The Capital Budget Modification moves
25 capital funding between immigrants (sic) and city

2 agencies. All increases are offset by an equal
3 amount of decreases mark-making the next fiscal
4 impact of the modification—Excuse me. Making the net
5 fiscal impact of this modification zero. A
6 representative from the Mayor's Office of Management
7 and Budget is here to answer any questions we may
8 have about the three modifications. Next is the
9 Transparency Resolution, which sets for the new
10 designations, and changes in the designation of
11 certain organizations receiving local and youth
12 discretionary funding and funding pursuant to certain
13 initiatives in the Budget. Organizations appearing in
14 the Resolution that have not yet completed the pre-
15 qualification process conducted by the Mayor's Office
16 of Contract Services, the Council or another entity
17 are identified in the attached charts with an
18 asterisk. As with all transparency resolutions,
19 Council Members will have to sign a disclosure form
20 indicating whether or not a conflict of exists with
21 any of the groups on the attached list. If any
22 Council Member has a potential conflict of interest
23 with any of the organizations listed, he or she has
24 the opportunity to disclose the conflict at the time
25 of their vote. As a reminder, please disclose any

2 conflicts you may have with proposed subcontractors
3 used by organizations sponsored by discretionary
4 funding. These disclosures must be made before the
5 subcontractor can be approved. Benjamin Smith from
6 the General Counsel's Office is here, and can assist
7 you with any questions or concerns regarding
8 disclosures. Next are the five Land Use items. The
9 first is William R. Anderson in Council Member
10 Levine's district, which would receive a full 32-year
11 Article XI exemption to preserve 32 units of
12 affordable rental housing. The second is
13 1632 Hutchinson River Parkway East in Council Member
14 Gjonaj's district, which would receive a partial 40-
15 year Article XI exemption to preserve 44 units of
16 affordable rental housing. The third is 1414 Walton
17 Avenue in Council Member Cabrera's district, which
18 would receive a full 40-year Article XI exemption to
19 preserve 60 units of affordable rental housing. The
20 fourth is 254 East 184th Street in Council Member
21 Torres' district, which would receive a full 40-year
22 Article XI exemption to preserve 24 units of
23 affordable homeownership. The fifth is Evergreen and
24 Tiebout Pillars in Council Member Torres' district
25 and Council Member Salamanca's district, which would

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2 receive a full 40-year Article XI exemption to
3 preserve 120 units of affordable rental housing. The
4 Council Members in the relevant districts are
5 supportive of these actions. Are there any questions
6 on any of the items on the agenda? If not, I'm going
7 to wish all of you a very happy and healthy holiday
8 season, and I'm going to ask Billy Martin, the
9 Committee Clerk the final Finance Committee role of
10 this decade.

11 CLERK: Roll call vote Committee on
12 Finance. All items are coupled. Chair Dromm.

13 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: I vote aye.

14 CLERK: Gibson.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Happy Holidays to
16 all of my colleagues. I vote aye again for the last
17 time in 2019. I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Cornegy.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye

20 CLERK: Koslowitz.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye.

22 CLERK: Grodenchik.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

24 CLERK: Adams.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye.

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2 CLERK: Powers.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

4 CLERK: Luis.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LUIS: Aye.

6 CLERK: Matteo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

8 CLERK: By a vote of 9 in the affirmative,
9 0 in the negative and no abstentions, all items have
10 been adopted by the committee.

11 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Okay, so we're going
12 to keep the vote open for about another 10 minutes to
13 allow the members to come to vote. Thank you very
14 much. [pause]

15 CLERK: Final vote Committee on Finance,
16 all items have been adopted by the committee 9 in the
17 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.

18 Chair Dromm.

19 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Okay, thank you very
20 much, and with that, this meeting is adjourned at
21 11:06 in the morning. [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 December 29, 2019