2 STATE OF NEW YORK CITY OF YONKERS
3 ---------------------------------------X Yonkers Economic Development Corporation Board Meeting
November 28, 2017, 9:58 A.M. City Hall
40 South Broadway
Yonkers, New York 10701
PRESENT:
MAYOR MIKE SPANO - CHAIRMANPETER KISCHAK - VICE CHAIRMAN
IDA STAFF

JAIME McGILL - IDA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARY LYRAS - IDA/YEDC CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER

17 DAVID ROTHMAN, ESQ. - HARRIS BEACH, PLLC
DAVID ROTHMAN, ESQ. - HARRIS BEACH, PLLC
SHAWN GRIFFIN, ESQ. - HARRIS BEACH, PLLC PATRICK SERENSON, IDA ACCOUNTANT

A L S O P R E S E N T:

## PROCEEDINGS

THE MAYOR: Roll call.
MS. LYRAS: Mayor Spano?
MAYOR SPANO: Here.
MS. LYRAS: Peter Kischak?
MR. KISCHAK: Here.
MS. LYRAS: Cecile Singer?
MS. SINGER: Here.
MS. LYRAS: Wilson Kimball?
MS. KIMBALL: Here.
MS. LYRAS: And Melissa
Nacerino is not here.
We have a quorum.
MAYOR SPANO: We have the
minutes for the October 24th, 2017
meeting. Everyone has them.
Are there any questions?
MS. KIMBALL: I'll make a motion.

MAYOR SPANO: Wilson has made a motion that we except the minutes.

Second by Cecile.
All in favor?
(Chorus of Ayes.)
MAYOR SPANO: Any negatives?

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The minutes have passed.
Item 3.
MS. LYRAS: For the month of
October the Yonkers Economic
Development Corp. received 5,000 on agency fees on two refinances.

Our cash on hand is 62,500 and we have our accountant, Pat Serenson, on hand should anybody have any questions.

MAYOR SPANO: Everyone has financial statements in front of them. Are there any questions? Does anyone want to make a motion? Pete made a motion. Second by Cecile.

All in favor?
(Chorus of Ayes.)
MAYOR SPANO: The financial statement for October 2017 has passed.

Let's go to resolutions for consideration. MS. MCGILL: The first resolution for consideration is the

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resolution authorizing mortgage recording tax for 411 Bronx River Road Development, LLC, Harris Beach. MR. GRIFFIN: I'll touch on this.

MS. SINGER: You know this is an interesting pass.

MR. GRIFFIN: Well, I thought you --

MS. SINGER: It's your football
field. You tell it.
MR. GRIFFIN: Well, the CPG in particular is an interesting story because they date back -- These kind of projects go way back. If you look through the stack of financing, you get a headache. We've got six layers of funding and financing. So, there's a credit.

MS. SINGER: Six layers of --
MR. GRIFFIN: As we talked and I just want to visit it again as we are transitioning with our New Deputy Mayor. We talked to him about this.

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It's important for us to understand how we want to handle these projects because the projects that we're counting on do not have a source for a mortgage recording tax. Both these projects fall into that.

MS. SINGER: I understand we don't have a source. I'm trying to understand how YEDC becomes the source.

MR. GRIFFIN: The YEDC is
formed under which was originally a membership corporation law and then merged into the not-for-profit corporation law, under a special section 1411. The 1411 was originally generated to help New York City recreate or reposition and take title to the Brooklyn Navel Yard back in the '60s. This entity probably would have been fine to use for a lot of the things we do. Since '54 this type of entity can be a bonding agency.

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So, remember in 2007 when the
State Legislature took the right from IDAs to help not-for-profits away we said okay, sister entity step up and do bonding for the not-for-profits we want done.

We've typically been using it
also for four projects for low income housing projects that came through here.

This entity never got the ability to do a property tax exemption. It's not exempt like an MTA or a private parcel. It's not exempt. It's a very rare thing to have that type of exemption.

So, given the locally controlled IDA at the Mayor level to the cities, there's always been a controversy.

MS. SINGER: So, is there any precedence for this kind of a thing?

MR. GRIFFIN: Yes. We have around -- we work for up to 40 IDAs

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and maybe 25 to 30 are active entities for the year. You're a very active one. We had one that did not have a sister entity offer this exemption.

Particularly ones that went to a public hearing and the whole world was told they were going to get a hundred percent exemption, and now they are at their final closing. This would be a big hole in some of these budgets.

We can look at them
individually, but the concept was if we said we'd provide full benefits, we'll follow through and we can always make judgments later. It's probably a good discussion point that we'll talk about, what do we do going forward. Do we have the MTA portion of the mortgage tax paid. We can do that and we should also check to see the new administration in the county, what they are going to do with their

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IDA because that would put you at a disadvantage vis-a-vis them for a portion not going to the City.

We also have one IDA upstate that's been doing this for a while where they'll charge an impact fee equal to the local share so the community picks that and doesn't lose that. That's kind of a bone of contention.

This all culminated in John DeFrancesco's bills that's been sitting around for years. He's very high up. He's in the Senate finance. He's had this bill on the table to promote to help his local transit authority.

MS. SINGER: How does this give us precedence for doing this?

MR. GRIFFIN: We have an opinion that we gave last time and we'll do it here, if that's what you're looking for.

MS. SINGER: So, we'll read it

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into the record?
MR. GRIFFIN: Yes. We will
provide an opinion. It will be in the minutes next month.

MS. SINGER: So, it has to be.
MS. MCGILL: Each meeting we'll
provide the opinion.
MS. SINGER: As our counsel and we are going forward based on our counsel's advice and precedent.

MR. GRIFFIN. Correct.
And we'll freshen up the same thing we did last time in the minutes. We'll put these two references in there. We'll get that over to Jamie right away so you can look at the minutes next month. You have our opinion that this is authorized to do.

MR. KISCHAK: We've done this before.

MR. GRIFFIN: Sure. Yes.
You've done it on every project since last -- this kind of transition a

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year ago but the Governor tried to put it off till the summer, and in fact, it really started about a year ago.

MS. SINGER: If there's a question about the EDC, then there's a question about what we are doing within EDC.

MR. GRIFFIN: Okay.
MAYOR SPANO: So, you will have the legal opinions for us.

MR. GRIFFIN: The first one is 411 Bronx River. This development, housing development, you provided all the other benefits for. You said, as much of a mortgage tax exemption as IDA can, this would finish that. In fact, what we do documenting wise is YEDC typically is just providing all deductions and easier to account for for their annual reports.

We have YEDC in the project only through the end of the fiscal year we are in. So, we only have to

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deal with it once. It has two projects; one in YEDC and one in IDA. That's the structure we've been using, and we'll continue to use that until we get a different direction from the board.

MAYOR SPANO: Okay. Questions?
MS. SINGER: I make a motion.
MAYOR SPANO: Cecile made a motion; second by Wilson. All in favor?
(Chorus of Ayes.)
MAYOR SPANO: Any negatives?
The item has passed. Item II.
MS. MCGILL: The next item is a resolution authorizing mortgage recording tax for CPG Phase III, Harris Beach.

MR. GRIFFIN: Similar, a longer story but similar arguments. We will have an opinion in your minutes recommending to the board and showing the legal basis about which you can grant the exemption.

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MR. KISCHAK: Where is this
located?
MS. MCGILL: Cottage Point.
MR. GRIFFIN: Yes.
MR. KISCHAK: I'll make a
motion on this.
MS. SINGER: Second.
MAYOR SPANO: Pete made a
motion; Second by Cecile.
All in favor?
(Chorus of Ayes.)
MAYOR SPANO: Any negatives?
The item is passed.
Any other legal updates? Any
other business?
MS. MCGILL: No.
MAYOR SPANO: Will someone make a motion to adjourn? Wilson and second by Pete. All in favor?
(Chorus of Ayes.)
MAYOR SPANO: We are adjourned.
(Whereupon, the proceedings
concluded at 10:07 A.M.)
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