

Today's Headlines: Scandal Raises Questions About Member Items

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Scandal Raises Questions About Member Items

A recording of a wiretap featuring Councilman Dan Halloran bragging that he could extract tens of thousands of dollars from the City Council to use as a bribe has brought [attention back to oversight of the council's member items](#)

. Although there isn't evidence Halloran did what he bragged a number of mayoral candidates are using the issue to attack fellow candidate Council Speaker Quinn. Bill de Blasio blasted Quinn at a press conference saying, "these things happened under her watch." Bill Thompson and Sal Albanese

[also attacked](#)

Quinn's record on member items. Republican Mayoral hopeful Joe Lhota called for an inspector general to oversee the council in an interview with

[The Wall Street Journal](#)

. Lhota has attacked Quinn's proposal for an NYPD inspector general. "There have been so many accusations over the last four to six years about the abuse of member items," Lhota

[told the Journal](#)

. "I think it's about time that the council seriously consider having an inspector general for itself, to oversee what is obviously an area that is ripe for people with bad character."

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