

Committee on Technology and Information Services
December 4, 2019

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

Room 400, City Hall
1400 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
Wednesday, December 4, 2019
1:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCILMAN BRIAN O'NEILL, CHAIR
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA, VICE-CHAIR
COUNCILWOMAN HELEN GYM

BILL: 190912

- - -

1 - - -

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Good
3 morning. Good afternoon I should say.
4 This hearing is called to order. I
5 recognize the presence of a quorum. I
6 have to my left, Councilwoman Helen Gym
7 and to my right, Councilman Mark
8 Squilla. So there's a quorum present
9 and this is a public hearing of the
10 Committee on Technology and Information
11 Services.

12 The purpose of this public
13 hearing is to hear testimony on Bill
14 No. 190912. If the Clerk will please
15 read the title of the bill.

16 THE CLERK: Bill No. 190912,
17 an Ordinance authorizing the City
18 Solicitor on behalf of the City to
19 enter into a multi-year contract with a
20 provider of codification, editing and
21 marketing services to produce printed
22 and electronic versions of the
23 Philadelphia Code and related service
24 and material, all under certain terms
25 and conditions.

1 (Witness approached
2 Witness Table.)

3 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: We
4 really packed the chamber on this one.
5 Could the witness please state your
6 name for the record and proceed with
7 your testimony?

8 MS. ROSENBERGER ALTMAN:
9 Thank you. Jo Rosenberger Altman.
10 Good afternoon, Chairman O'Neill, and
11 Members of the Committee. My name is
12 Jo Rosenberger Altman. I'm a senior
13 attorney in the Legislation and Legal
14 Counsel Unit of the Law Department.
15 I'm here to testify on behalf of the
16 Law Department in support of Bill
17 190912.

18 One of our unit's
19 responsibilities is to manage editing
20 and publication of the Philadelphia
21 Code and the City's Home Rule Charter.
22 Bill No. 190912 would authorize the Law
23 Department to enter into a multi-year
24 contract for such editing and
25 publication services. We have found

1 that a four-year contract is the most
2 efficient approach because it
3 guarantees the publisher and the City
4 continuity of service for a reasonable
5 time period, while requiring us to
6 revisit the contract at the time
7 planned publication -- at the time of
8 planned publication of the new hard
9 copy editions of the Code and Charter.

10 The contemplated contract
11 will provide for publication of the
12 12th edition of the Philadelphia Code,
13 a current reprint of the Charter and
14 annual or regular hard copy supplements
15 to both as well as monthly updates to
16 the electronic versions of the Code and
17 Charter.

18 As you are aware, City
19 Council frequently makes changes to the
20 Philadelphia Code and occasionally with
21 the approval of voters, the Home Rule
22 Charter. We contract with a Code
23 publishing company to make sure these
24 changes get put in the Code in the
25 right place with appropriate

1 footnoting, and the current Code and
2 Charter is available online for public
3 access at no charge.

4 Courts, attorneys, personnel
5 throughout this city, Council itself
6 and most importantly, the public also
7 rely on access to up-to-date and
8 accurate versions of the City's Home
9 Rule Charter and Code. We have
10 established a strong record of
11 publishing and updating these documents
12 on a consistent and predictable
13 schedule.

14 Indeed we are very proud of
15 the fact that no online municipal code
16 is more up-to-date or easy to use than
17 the Philadelphia Code. We plan to
18 continue this practice and the bill
19 before Council will allow us to do so
20 in an efficient and cost-effective
21 manner. Our current contract with
22 American Legal Publishing will expire
23 January 31, 2020.

24 On September 27, 2019, we
25 issued an RFP for a contract for the

1 next four years. The Law Department
2 therefore respectfully request the
3 Committee's favorable consideration of
4 Bill No. 190912 and further suspension
5 of the rules in order to allow first
6 reading at the next session of Council.
7 Thank you for your time and I am of
8 course available for any questions the
9 Committee may have.

10 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Any
11 questions for this witness?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No, well
14 thank you for your testimony.

15 MS. ROSENBERGER ALTMAN:
16 Thank you very much.

17 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Any
18 comments from the Committee?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Okay.
21 Moving right along here, this completes
22 the witness list. I would ask if
23 there's anyone else here in the
24 chambers to testify on -- that's hiding
25 to testify on Bill No. 190912?

1 (No response.)

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Seeing
3 none, this now concludes the public
4 hearing of the Committee on Technology
5 and Information Services. We will now
6 go into our public meeting. The Chair
7 recognizes Councilmember Mark Squilla
8 for a motion on Bill No. 190912.

9 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank
10 you, Mr. Chairman. I move that Bill
11 No. 190912 be approved with the
12 suspension of rules be read at the
13 first session of Council.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: It has
16 been moved and properly seconded that
17 Bill No. 190912 be reported from this
18 Committee with a favorable
19 recommendation and further moved that
20 the rules of Council be suspended to
21 permit first reading of this bill at
22 the next session of Council. All those
23 in favor of the motion will signify by
24 saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Those
2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: The ayes
5 have it and the motion carries. Bill
6 No. 190912 will be reported from this
7 Committee with a favorable
8 recommendation with a request that the
9 rules of Council be suspended to permit
10 first reading at the next session of
11 Council. This concludes the business
12 of this Committee for today. Thank you
13 all very much, particularly our one
14 witness and our two Committee members,
15 Councilwoman Gym and Councilman
16 Squilla.

17 (Committee on Technology and
18 Information Services concluded at
19 1:20 p.m.)
20
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, hereby certify that the
proceedings and evidence noted are contained
fully and accurately in the stenographic
notes taken by me in the foregoing matter,
and this is a correct transcript of the
same.

Court Reporter - Notary Public

(The foregoing certification of
this transcript does not apply to any
reproduction of the same by any means,
unless under the direct control and/or
supervision of the certifying reporter.)

Committee on Technology and Information Services
December 4, 2019

Page 1

A	called 2:4 carries 8:5 certain 2:24 certification 9:19 certify 9:2 certifying 9:23 Chair 1:10 7:6 Chairman 3:10 7:10 chamber 3:4 chambers 6:24 changes 4:19 4:24 charge 5:3 Charter 3:21 4:9,13,17 4:22 5:2,9 city 1:1,4 2:17,18 4:3 4:18 5:5 City's 3:21 5:8 Clerk 2:14,16 code 2:23 3:21 4:9,12 4:16,20,22 4:24 5:1,9 5:15,17 codification 2:20 comments 6:18 Committee 1:2 2:10 3:11 6:9,18 7:4,18 8:7 8:12,14,17 Committee's 6:3 company 4:23 completes 6:21 concluded 8:18 concludes 7:3 8:11 conditions 2:25 considerati...	6:3 consistent 5:12 contained 9:3 contemplat... 4:10 continue 5:18 continuity 4:4 contract 2:19 3:24 4:1,6 4:10,22 5:21,25 control 9:22 copy 4:9,14 correct 9:6 cost-effective 5:20 Council 1:1 4:19 5:5,19 6:6 7:13,20 7:22 8:9,11 Councilman 1:10,11 2:2 2:7 3:3 6:10,13,17 6:20 7:2,9 7:15 8:1,4 8:15 Councilme... 7:7 Councilwo... 1:11 2:6 8:15 Counsel 3:14 course 6:8 Court 9:12 Courts 5:4 current 4:13 5:1,21	easy 5:16 editing 2:20 3:19,24 edition 4:12 editions 4:9 efficient 4:2 5:20 electronic 2:22 4:16 enter 2:19 3:23 established 5:10 evidence 9:3 expire 5:22	F F 1:5 9:1 fact 5:15 favor 7:23 favorable 6:3 7:18 8:7 first 6:5 7:13 7:21 8:10 footnoting 5:1 foregoing 9:5 9:19 found 3:25 four 6:1 four-year 4:1 frequently 4:19 fully 9:4 further 6:4 7:19	G go 7:6 Good 2:2,3 3:10 guarantees 4:3 Gym 1:11 2:6 8:15	H Hall 1:4 hard 4:8,14 hear 2:13 hearing 2:4,9 2:13 7:4 Helen 1:11 2:6	hiding 6:24 Home 3:21 4:21 5:8	I importantly 5:6 Information 1:2 2:10 7:5 8:18 issued 5:25	J January 5:23 Jo 3:9,12 John 1:5	K Kennedy 1:5	L Law 3:14,16 3:22 6:1 left 2:6 Legal 3:13 5:22 Legislation 3:13 list 6:22	M manage 3:19 manner 5:21 Mark 1:11 2:7 7:7 marketing 2:21 material 2:24 matter 9:5 means 9:21 meeting 7:6 members 3:11 8:14 monthly 4:15 morning 2:3 motion 7:8 7:23 8:5 move 7:10 moved 7:16 7:19 Moving 6:21 multi-year 2:19 3:23 municipal	5:15 N N 9:1 name 3:6,11 new 4:8 Notary 9:12 noted 9:3 notes 9:5	O O 9:1 O'Neill 1:10 2:2 3:3,10 6:10,13,17 6:20 7:2,15 8:1,4 occasionally 4:20 Okay 6:20 online 5:2,15 opposed 8:2 order 2:4 6:5 Ordinance 2:17	P p.m 1:6 8:19 packed 3:4 particularly 8:13 Pennsylvania 1:5 period 4:5 permit 7:21 8:9 personnel 5:4 Philadelphia 1:1,5 2:23 3:20 4:12 4:20 5:17 place 4:25 plan 5:17 planned 4:7,8 please 2:14 3:5 practice 5:18 predictable 5:12 presence 2:5 present 1:9 2:8 printed 2:21 proceed 3:6	proceedings 9:3 produce 2:21 properly 7:16 proud 5:14 provide 4:11 provider 2:20 public 2:9,12 5:2,6 7:3,6 9:12 publication 3:20,25 4:7 4:8,11 publisher 4:3 publishing 4:23 5:11 5:22 purpose 2:12 put 4:24	Q questions 6:8 6:11 quorum 2:5,8	R R 9:1 read 2:15 7:12 reading 6:6 7:21 8:10 really 3:4 reasonable 4:4 recognize 2:5 recognizes 7:7 recommen... 7:19 8:8 record 3:6 5:10 regular 4:14 related 2:23 rely 5:7 reported 7:17 8:6 reporter 9:12 9:23 reprint 4:13 reproduction 9:21 request 6:2	8:8 requiring 4:5 respectfully 6:2 response 6:12 6:19 7:1 8:3 responsibili... 3:19 revisit 4:6 RFP 5:25 right 2:7 4:25 6:21 Room 1:4 Rosenberger 3:8,9,12 6:15 Rule 3:21 4:21 5:9 rules 6:5 7:12 7:20 8:9	S saying 7:24 schedule 5:13 seconded 7:14,16 Seeing 7:2 senior 3:12 September 5:24 service 2:23 4:4 services 1:2 2:11,21 3:25 7:5 8:18 session 6:6 7:13,22 8:10 signify 7:23 Solicitor 2:18 Squilla 1:11 2:8 7:7,9 8:16 state 3:5 stenographic 9:4 strong 5:10 supervision 9:23 supplements 4:14 support 3:16
----------	--	--	--	---	--	--	--------------------------------------	--	---	-------------------------	--	---	--	--	---	---	---	---	--	--

Committee on Technology and Information Services
December 4, 2019

Page 2

sure 4:23	X						
suspended							
7:20 8:9	Y						
suspension	years 6:1						
6:4 7:12							
	Z						
T							
T 9:1,1	0						
Table 3:2							
taken 9:5	1						
Technology	1:00 1:6						
1:2 2:10	1:20 8:19						
7:4 8:17	12th 4:12						
terms 2:24	1400 1:5						
testify 3:15	190912 1:16						
6:24,25	2:14,16						
testimony	3:17,22 6:4						
2:13 3:7	6:25 7:8,11						
6:14	7:17 8:6						
thank 3:9 6:7	19107 1:5						
6:14,16 7:9							
8:12	2						
time 4:5,6,7	2019 1:6 5:24						
6:7	2020 5:23						
title 2:15	27 5:24						
today 8:12							
transcript	3						
9:6,20	31 5:23						
two 8:14							
	4						
U	4 1:6						
Unit 3:14	400 1:4						
unit's 3:18							
up-to-date							
5:7,16							
updates 4:15							
updating							
5:11							
use 5:16							
V							
versions 2:22							
4:16 5:8							
VICE-CH...							
1:11							
voters 4:21							
W							
Wednesday							
1:6							
witness 3:1,2							
3:5 6:11,22							
8:14							