

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, June 22, 2017
9:35 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE L. BLACKWELL
COUNCILMAN ALLAN DOMB
COUNCILMAN DEREK S. GREEN
COUNCILMAN WILLIAM K. GREENLEE
COUNCILMAN BOBBY HENON
COUNCILMAN DAVID OH
COUNCILWOMAN CHERELLE L. PARKER
COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN
COUNCILMAN AL TAUBENBERGER

RESOLUTION 170414 - Resolution approving the
appointment of Michael Carroll to the Board of
the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation
Authority.

- - -

1
2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning. We're going to start the
4 hearing. We have a long day. I'd like
5 to get the Committee of the Whole started
6 as soon as possible.

7 This is a public hearing of the
8 Committee of the Whole. The purpose of
9 this public hearing is to hear testimony
10 on Resolution No. 170414.

11 The Clerk will please read the
12 title of the resolution.

13 THE CLERK: Resolution 170414,
14 approving the appointment of Michael
15 Carroll to the Board of the Southeastern
16 Pennsylvania Transportation Authority.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Thank you.

19 Will the witness please
20 approach the table.

21 (Witness approached witness
22 table.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Please state your name.

25 MR. CARROLL: My name is

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2 Michael Carroll.

3 Good morning, Council President
4 Clarke and members of the Committee of
5 the Whole. I'm honored to be here to
6 give you testimony to support my
7 nomination for a seat on SEPTA's Board.

8 Again, my name is Michael
9 Carroll and I serve as the Deputy
10 Managing Director for the Mayor's Office
11 of Transportation and Infrastructure
12 Systems, also known as OTIS. I'd like to
13 thank you for convening this hearing and
14 to express my appreciation to Mayor Jim
15 Kenney for the honor of being nominated
16 to the Board of Directors for the
17 Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation
18 Authority, which we all know is SEPTA.

19 As Deputy Managing Director for
20 OTIS, I'm proud to bring more than 25
21 years of transportation experience, and
22 in this role, I lead a staff that
23 develops strategies and implements
24 policies to build a safe and equitable
25 multimodal transportation system across

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2 Philadelphia's diverse and vibrant
3 neighborhoods. Under my direction, oTIS
4 coordinates and sets policy for critical
5 functions, including the Streets
6 Department, both the transportation and
7 the sanitation side, the Philadelphia
8 Water Department, as well as the newly
9 created Office of Complete Streets. My
10 oversight extends over infrastructure
11 systems that are made up of more than
12 9,500 transit stops, 2,575 miles of
13 streets, 320 bridge structures, 450 miles
14 of bike lanes, 1,000 Indego bikes and 100
15 Indego stations, and 6,500 miles of
16 sewers and water mains. My
17 responsibilities include coordinating
18 with internal City departments and
19 external agencies such as SEPTA, but also
20 PennDOT, Amtrak, the Delaware Valley
21 Regional Planning Commission, as well as
22 with other policymakers on the local,
23 state, and federal level.

24 As you all know, SEPTA is an
25 integral part of what makes our city

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2 function every day. It connects a
3 diverse range of citizens to
4 opportunities throughout the City and the
5 region. For many residents it serves as
6 well as visitors, every SEPTA bus and
7 train they see is like an emblem of our
8 city.

9 SEPTA provides Philadelphians
10 over one million trips per day, and over
11 a quarter of our residents use SEPTA as
12 their primary means to get to work. Our
13 partnership with SEPTA sets the
14 foundation for our city's economic
15 growth, for sustaining cultural
16 diversity, and for ensuring that each of
17 us has the ability to pursue our
18 educational and social aspirations. I
19 understand that the quality and
20 effectiveness of that relationship must
21 propel the quality of the transit service
22 we rely on, and this also must propel and
23 promote our quality of life overall.

24 I also recognize that there are
25 many challenges that we must negotiate in

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2 partnership. This includes achieving a
3 state of good repair for transit
4 infrastructure and modernizing networks
5 and service delivery through innovation.
6 A special focus must be on striving for
7 equity and sustainability in fare and
8 transfer policies as well as in the
9 planning and selection of investment
10 priorities.

11 The issues we take on are
12 varied and complex. Our engagement is
13 not always easy, but we are stronger
14 together, and by focusing on aligning our
15 interests through coordination and honest
16 communication, we will continue to
17 achieve great things.

18 And so with the City Council's
19 consent, I look forward with great
20 enthusiasm to the opportunity to
21 represent the Administration and the City
22 of Philadelphia on SEPTA's Board of
23 Directors.

24 Thanks for your consideration
25 of having me serve on SEPTA's Board of

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2 Directors. I will be happy to answer any
3 questions you have at this time.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you very much for your testimony.

6 Are there any questions by
7 members of the Committee?

8 The Chair recognizes
9 Councilwoman Reynolds Brown.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Good
11 morning and thank you, Mr. President.

12 Good morning.

13 MR. CARROLL: Good morning.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: And
15 welcome to these proceedings in this way.
16 I should also acknowledge the service
17 you've had with the City for so many
18 years.

19 So given this new opportunity,
20 there are always opportunities, and what
21 would you say you bring to this new
22 experience that you believe will serve
23 both where you are professionally as well
24 as the role and mission of SEPTA.

25 MR. CARROLL: Well, I feel like

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2 I have had a background through my
3 education and also in the past few years
4 that I've had the pleasure to serve in
5 City government a number of good
6 opportunities to interact with the
7 technical staff who work at SEPTA. And
8 so I feel like I have the depth of
9 knowledge on the technical issues to
10 communicate, negotiate with SEPTA on
11 issues that are important to the City and
12 to all of our residents.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: How long
14 did you say you've been with the City?

15 MR. CARROLL: I started in
16 2013. So I just finished my fourth year
17 and I'm starting my fifth and look
18 forward to more, if you guys are happy to
19 have me.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Welcome
21 aboard. Congratulations.

22 MR. CARROLL: Thank you.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Thank you, Councilwoman.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

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2 Henon.

3 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
4 Council President.

5 Mr. Carroll, I want to wish you
6 good luck on the Board of SEPTA. I think
7 it's totally appropriate that we have
8 your representation there, and as always,
9 I'm sure you're going to keep
10 Philadelphia in mind, fight for every
11 penny that we can get for economic
12 development and inclusion of the City of
13 Philadelphia in its contribution to our
14 public transit system. So look forward
15 to seeing you serve with dignity and
16 honor representing the City.

17 MR. CARROLL: Thank you very
18 much, Councilman.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Thank you, Councilman.

21 The Chair recognizes Councilman
22 Domb.

23 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Thank you,
24 Council President.

25 And good luck to you on this

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2 new position.

3 MR. CARROLL: Thank you.

4 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Just a few
5 things. I want to join in on my
6 colleagues' comments about representing
7 the City of Philadelphia. It always
8 bothered me that I think in our capital
9 program, we supply like 80 percent or 83
10 percent of the money, yet the Board seats
11 are not allocated based on the amount of
12 money that's allocated. So that's just
13 something I want you to keep in mind as a
14 Philadelphia person.

15 MR. CARROLL: Hopefully I can
16 count for more than just one if I make a
17 big enough noise.

18 COUNCILMAN DOMB: And the other
19 point is, my colleague Councilwoman
20 Cherelle Parker had a hearing yesterday
21 or two days ago -- I'm losing track of
22 time -- about neighborhoods in
23 Philadelphia that are kind of lost, the
24 middle neighborhoods, and the role that
25 SEPTA can play in the development. I'm

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2 going to let her comment about that, but

3 I think SEPTA is a very, very important

4 cog in that wheel in helping those

5 neighborhoods stabilize and improve.

6 Maybe the Councilwoman can speak to that.

7 Good luck to you. Thank you.

8 MR. CARROLL: I appreciate

9 that. Thank you much.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you, Councilman.

12 There being no additional

13 questions, that completes our witness

14 list. We will now conclude the public

15 hearing of the Committee of the Whole.

16 We will go into our public meeting.

17 Thank you. The Chair now

18 recognizes Councilmember Henon for a

19 motion on the resolution.

20 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,

21 Mr. President and Chairman. I move that

22 Resolution No. 170414 be reported from

23 this Committee with a favorable

24 recommendation and further move that the

25 rules of Council be suspended as to

1 6/22/17 - WHOLE - RES. 170414
2 permit consideration of this resolution
3 at our next session of City Council.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you. It has been moved and
7 properly seconded that Resolution No.
8 170414 be reported from this Committee
9 with a favorable recommendation and
10 further moved that the rules of Council
11 be suspended so as to permit first
12 reading of the resolution at the next
13 session of Council.

14 All those in favor of the
15 motion will signify by saying aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
21 motion carries.

22 This concludes the business of
23 the Committee. Thank you all very much.

24 (Committee of the Whole
25 concluded at 9:45 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the
proceedings, evidence and objections are
contained fully and accurately in the
stenographic notes taken by me upon the
foregoing matter, and that this is a true and
correct transcript of same.

MICHELE L. MURPHY
RPR-Notary Public

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