

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Wednesday, June 5, 2024
4:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILWOMAN NINA AHMAD
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN KENDRA BROOKS
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DRISCOLL
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN JIM HARRITY
COUNCILMAN CURTIS J. JONES, JR.
COUNCILWOMAN RUE LANDAU
COUNCILWOMAN QUETCY M. LOZADA
COUNCILMAN NICOLAS O'ROURKE
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY PHILLIPS
COUNCILMAN MARK F. SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN ISAIAH THOMAS
COUNCILMAN JEFFREY YOUNG, JR.

BILLS: 240179, 240180, 240181, 240182, 240492
RESOLUTIONS: 240193, 240487, 240505, 240168,
240552

1 - - -

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 Good afternoon, everyone.

4 (Good afternoon.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 Good afternoon, everyone.

7 (Good afternoon.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 This is the public hearing of the
10 public meeting of the Committee of
11 the Whole regarding Bill and
12 Resolution Nos. 240487, 240552,
13 240168, 240575 -- 240505, 240179,
14 240180, 240181, 240182, 240193 and
15 240492.

16 Ms. Loughead, will you
17 please call the roll to take
18 attendance.

19 THE CLERK: Councilmember
20 Squilla.

21 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

22 Present.

23 THE CLERK: Councilmember
24 Gauthier.

25 (No response.)

1 THE CLERK: Councilmember
2 Jones.
3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Present.
4 THE CLERK: Councilmember
5 Young.
6 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Present.
7 THE CLERK: Councilmember
8 Driscoll.
9 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
10 Present.
11 THE CLERK: Councilmember
12 Lozada.
13 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
14 Present.
15 THE CLERK: Councilmember
16 Bass.
17 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:
18 Present.
19 THE CLERK: Councilmember
20 Phillips.
21 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
22 Present.
23 THE CLERK: Councilmember
24 O'Neill.
25 (No response.)

1 THE CLERK: Councilmember

2 Gilmore Richardson.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

4 RICHARDSON: Present.

5 THE CLERK: Councilmember

6 Thomas.

7 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

8 Present.

9 THE CLERK: Councilmember

10 Harrity.

11 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

12 Present.

13 THE CLERK: Councilmember

14 Ahmad.

15 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

16 Present.

17 THE CLERK: Councilmember

18 Landau.

19 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

20 Present.

21 THE CLERK: Councilmember

22 Brooks.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

24 Present.

25 THE CLERK: Councilmember

1 O'Rourke.

2 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

3 Present.

4 THE CLERK: Council

5 President Johnson.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

7 Present. Thank you. A quorum of
8 the Committee is present and this
9 hearing is now called to order.

10 Ms. Loughhead, will you
11 please read the titles of the bills
12 and resolutions.

13 THE CLERK: 240487,
14 resolution appointing Cari Feiler
15 Bender to the Board of the
16 Directors of the Old City Special
17 Services District.

18 240552, resolution
19 appointing Briana Wilkins to the
20 Board of Directors for the Old City
21 Special Services District.

22 240168, resolution
23 appointing Madison McCarron to the
24 Board of Directors of the City
25 Avenue Special Services District of

1 Philadelphia and Lower Merion.

2 240505, resolution

3 appointing Mark Jenkins to the

4 Board of Directors of City Avenue

5 Special Services District of

6 Philadelphia and Lower Merion,

7 which is being held.

8 240179, an ordinance

9 adopting the operating budget for

10 Fiscal Year 2025.

11 240180, an ordinance

12 amending Chapter 19-800 of The

13 Philadelphia Code, entitled "School

14 Tax Authorization," to provide for

15 an increase in the tax that the

16 Board of Education of the School

17 District of Philadelphia is

18 authorized to impose on real

19 estate; and amending Chapter

20 19-1300 entitled, "Real Estate

21 Taxes," to establish an equivalent

22 reduction in the tax rate for the

23 City real estate tax; and making

24 technical changes, all under

25 certain terms and conditions.

1 240181, an ordinance to
2 adopt a Fiscal 2025 Capital Budget.

3 240182, an ordinance to
4 adopt a Capital Program for the six
5 Fiscal Years 2025-2030 inclusive.

6 240193, resolution
7 providing for the approval by the
8 Council of the City of Philadelphia
9 of a Revised Five Year Financial
10 Plan for the City of Philadelphia
11 covering Fiscal Years 2025 through
12 2029, and incorporating revisions
13 with respect to Fiscal Year 2024,
14 which is to be submitted by the
15 Mayor to the Pennsylvania
16 Intergovernmental Cooperation
17 Authority pursuant to an
18 Intergovernmental Cooperation
19 Agreement by and between the City
20 and Authority which is being held.

21 240492, an ordinance
22 amending Chap -- Section 19-1301.1
23 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
24 "Homestead Exclusion," to increase
25 the amount of the Homestead

1 Exclusion, under certain terms and
2 conditions.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
4 Ms. Loughead, will you please call
5 the first witness to testify on the
6 Old City Special Services
7 Resolution Nos. 240487 and 240552.

8 THE CLERK: Job Itzkowitz,
9 Executive Director of Old City
10 District.

11 (Witness approached Witness
12 Table.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
14 Good afternoon, Job. Just state
15 your name and title for the record
16 and please begin your testimony.

17 MR. ITZKOWITZ: Good
18 afternoon, Council President
19 Johnson and all members of Council.
20 My name is Job Itzkowitz. I'm the
21 Executive Director of the Old City
22 Special Services District. I know
23 what time of day it is. I know
24 what time of year it is. I've
25 submitted my testimony in writing.

1 Everyone should have a copy and I'm
2 happy to rely on that testimony if
3 you prefer and answer any questions
4 you may have.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 Thank you very much for your
7 testimony.

8 Are there any questions or
9 comments from members of the
10 Committee?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

13 Thank you very much.

14 MR. ITZKOWITZ: Thank you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

16 Are there any other witnesses to
17 testify on Resolution Nos. 240487
18 or 240552?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

21 Ms. Loughhead, are there any other
22 witnesses to testify on the City
23 Avenue Special Services Resolution
24 No. 240168?

25 THE CLERK: No other --

1 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

2 Hearing none, Ms. Loughhead, will
3 you please call the first witness
4 to testify on Budget Bill Nos.
5 240179, 240180, 240181, 240182 and
6 240492.

7 THE CLERK: First person to
8 testify is John McClenny.

9 (Witness approached Witness
10 Table.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
12 John McClenny. How are you doing,
13 John. Just state your name and
14 your title for the record.

15 MR. McCLENNY: My name is
16 John McClenny. Of course I just
17 lost everything right quick. Give
18 me a moment please. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
20 You're welcome.

21 MR. McCLENNY: Good
22 afternoon, members of the
23 Philadelphia City Council. My name
24 is John McClenny, and I'm the proud
25 owner of Yes Dear...Multi-Purpose

1 Improvement Specialist. We
2 specialize in interior architecture
3 and design and general construction
4 located here in Philadelphia.

5 I'm here today to advocate
6 for the continued reduction of the
7 Business Income and Receipts Tax,
8 BIRT, and wage taxes which
9 unfortunately are not included in
10 the FY25 budget, as a minority-
11 owned business navigating the
12 economic landscape in Philadelphia
13 has been both rewarding and
14 challenging.

15 Philadelphia has made
16 strides in fostering a more
17 inclusive business environment, but
18 we still face significant
19 obstacles. The recent reductions
20 of BIRT or wage taxes have been a
21 small but critical lifeline for
22 many of us. The continued
23 reductions in business taxes would
24 enable businesses like mine to
25 invest in our communities, create

1 jobs and contribute to the local
2 economy. Continued reductions in
3 business taxes create goodwill and
4 build trust within the small
5 business community.

6 The current business
7 climate for minority-owned
8 businesses in Philadelphia is one
9 of resilience and determination.
10 However, we often operate with thin
11 margins and less access to capital
12 compared to our counterparts. High
13 taxes exacerbate the challenges
14 making it harder to grow and
15 sustain our businesses. Lowering
16 the BIRT and wage taxes help level
17 the playing field, allowing us to
18 reinvest savings into our
19 businesses and workforce.

20 Moreover, a thriving small
21 business sector is essential for
22 the vitality of our neighborhoods.
23 Minority-owned businesses not only
24 provide goods and services but also
25 serve as a cultural and social hub

1 that strengthens the fabric of our
2 communities. By continuing to
3 reduce these taxes, we can support
4 the growth of minority-owned
5 businesses, foster job creation,
6 stimulate economic growth activity
7 in areas that need it the most.

8 I urge City Council to
9 reconsider the FY25 budget to
10 include further reductions in BIRT
11 and wage taxes. These measures are
12 not just financially a relief.
13 They're also an investment in the
14 future of our city. Let's continue
15 to build a Philadelphia where all
16 businesses regardless of size,
17 ownership have the opportunity to
18 thrive. Thank you for your time
19 and your consideration.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 Thank you very much.

22 Any questions or comments
23 from members of the Committee?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 Thank you very much for your
2 testimony.

3 Ms. Loughhead, will you
4 please call the next person for
5 public testimony.

6 THE CLERK: Gabriella Paez.
7 (Witness approached Witness
8 Table.)

9 THE CLERK: Just state your
10 name and your title for the record
11 and please begin your testimony.

12 MS. GABRIEL PAEZ: My name
13 is Gabriella Gabriel Paez.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
15 Thank you. Please begin.

16 MS. GABRIEL PAEZ: Good
17 afternoon, everyone and members of
18 the City Council. Again, my name
19 is Gabriella Gabriel Paez. I am
20 the owner and founder of BR
21 Hardscape and Landscape Design and
22 here speaking on behalf of small
23 business owners in Philadelphia. I
24 extend my gratitude for the chance
25 to share my views on the 2025

1 budget, Fiscal Year budget. And I
2 commend the efforts of City Council
3 in crafting this budget.

4 Regrettably, I must express
5 my profound disappointment in this
6 budget as a committed entrepreneur
7 deeply invested in both my business
8 and the future of Philadelphia. My
9 disappointment stems from the
10 absence of a reduction in the
11 City's Business Income and Receipts
12 Tax, BIRT.

13 When we started our
14 business in 2021, we knew we had to
15 pay taxes and we were expecting it.
16 We just didn't know how bad it was
17 going to be. So this tax to start
18 with represents a double taxation
19 on businesses, which was a surprise
20 to me when we started our business.
21 That means that we get taxed
22 whether or not we make profits
23 during the year.

24 This burden weighs even
25 heavier on minority-owned

1 enterprises which often lack
2 historical access to sufficient
3 capital. And if you take
4 businesses like our business which
5 is a seasonal landscape, hardscape
6 and masonry company, starting the
7 year with a large tax bill is not
8 fun.

9 A reduction in this tax
10 will empower businesses that are
11 growing to reinvesting funds back
12 into operations, be it through
13 machinery and equipment, expanding
14 their footprints or increasing the
15 marketing efforts. And also, it
16 will allow us to hire more people
17 which of course will help the City
18 and also increase the taxes going
19 into the system.

20 By holding the previous
21 pattern of reducing the BIRT and
22 wage taxes, we have regrettably
23 squandered an opportunity to ease
24 the financial strain faced by small
25 business owners like me. We have

1 missed an opportunity to create
2 goodwill and trust with
3 entrepreneurs who want to create
4 more job opportunities and offer
5 sustainable livelihoods for the
6 residents of Philadelphia.

7 Looking forward, I remain
8 resolute in my commitment to
9 advocating for a more inclusive
10 Philadelphia. And I ask for your
11 support in a reduction of taxes
12 from the City to instill greater
13 certainty and confidence among
14 entrepreneurs like me as we
15 endeavor to establish or expand our
16 ventures.

17 The essence of the matter
18 is undeniable. Eliminating this
19 double tax will not only benefit me
20 as a small business owner but also
21 numerous others like me enabling us
22 to grow and create employment
23 opportunities in Philadelphia.
24 Thank you.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 Thank you.

2 Any questions or comments
3 from members of the Committee?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 Hearing none, thank you very much.

7 MS. GABRIEL PAEZ: Thank
8 you.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

10 Ms. Loughhead, would you please call
11 the next person for public
12 testimony.

13 THE CLERK: Jennifer
14 Rodriguez.

15 (Witness approached Witness
16 Table.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

18 Hello, Jennifer. Just state your
19 name and title for the record and
20 begin your testimony.

21 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you
22 so much. Good afternoon,
23 distinguished members of City
24 Council. My name is Jennifer
25 Rodriguez. I am President of the

1 Greater Philadelphia Hispanic
2 Chamber of Commerce. I am here
3 today on behalf of the Diverse
4 Chambers Coalition of Philadelphia,
5 which is a collaboration of the
6 African American Chamber of
7 Commerce for Pennsylvania, New
8 Jersey and Delaware, the Asian
9 American Chamber of Commerce for
10 Greater Philadelphia, the
11 Independence Business Alliance
12 which is the LGBTQ+ Chamber, and of
13 course the Greater Philadelphia
14 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

15 Today we advocate for the
16 continued reduction of the BIRT and
17 wage taxes. It is with great
18 concern that I stand before you as
19 the prospect of not reducing these
20 taxes for a third consecutive year
21 looms large. Study after study and
22 report after report have
23 consistently concluded that
24 Philadelphia's business taxes are
25 among the highest in the nation.

1 In fact, as it relates to
2 taxes specifically, Philadelphia
3 ranks 76 out of 83 American cities
4 in the most recent Arizona State
5 University East of Doing Business
6 Index. These high taxes
7 significantly hinder our city's
8 potential for business creation and
9 growth, particularly in communities
10 of color.

11 For years when compared
12 with its peers, Philadelphia has
13 underperformed in fostering a
14 vibrant business environment. This
15 is especially true for small
16 business owners like those who are
17 represented by our Chambers of
18 Commerce. The pandemic may be
19 behind us but its effects are still
20 felt. The City's recovery has been
21 uneven, factually leaving one-third
22 of Hispanic residents in poverty
23 according to Pew's State of the
24 City report.

25 Small business owners face

1 ongoing challenges such as high
2 inflation, rising interest rates
3 and a competitive labor market.
4 Despite these obstacles, they
5 continue to persevere, but their
6 efforts are often overshadowed by
7 the burden of high taxes, crime and
8 City bureaucracy. The good news
9 about the economy often masks the
10 reality that small business owners
11 are facing an increasingly
12 challenging business environment.

13 Most small businesses
14 polled by the Diverse Chambers of
15 Commerce have indicated that they
16 would not recommend the City of
17 Philadelphia as a place in which to
18 do business to other entrepreneurs,
19 earning the City a net promoter
20 score of -41 out of a maximum of
21 100 points. This sentiment
22 underscores the urgency of our
23 plea.

24 To support our small
25 businesses, City Council must

1 continue to lower the BIRT and wage
2 taxes. BIRT especially is a burden
3 that businesses must bear
4 regardless of profitability, and
5 reducing or eliminating it would
6 provide significant relief.

7 Similarly, reducing the
8 wage tax will enable businesses to
9 hire more employees and expand more
10 rapidly. These incremental
11 reductions sustained over time will
12 have a substantial positive impact.
13 They will ease the cost and burden
14 of doing business for
15 entrepreneurs, particularly those
16 in our diverse communities who
17 bring vitality and local dollars to
18 our neighborhoods, which will
19 enable them to grow and expand
20 opportunities for all residents.

21 After enduring years of
22 hardship, there are actionable
23 steps within your power that can
24 ease the burden of doing business
25 in Philadelphia. We urge you to

1 support the continued reduction of
2 BIRT and wage taxes to help our
3 small businesses thrive in these
4 challenging times. Thank you for
5 your time and consideration.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
7 Thank you very much for your
8 testimony.

9 Any questions or comments
10 from members of the Committee?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
13 Hearing none, Ms. Loughhead, could
14 you please call the person for
15 public testimony, the next person
16 please.

17 THE CLERK: Will Carter.
18 (Witness approached Witness
19 Table.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 Mr. Carter, just state your name
22 and title for the record. Please
23 begin your testimony.

24 MR. CARTER: Certainly.
25 Good evening. William Carter,

1 Vice-president of Local Government
2 Affairs for the Chamber of Commerce
3 and co-founder of the Inclusive
4 Growth Coalition or IGC. Thank
5 you, Council President Johnson,
6 members of Council and staff for
7 all the work that you all do. As
8 you all know, I used to work in
9 this body so I know it's a whole
10 lot going on at this time and we
11 appreciate your attention and
12 consideration of our request.

13 I speak because this is
14 what I'm about. In 2007 I co-wrote
15 the legislation that requires
16 economic opportunity plans on all
17 City contracts, and I advocated for
18 that when I worked for at that
19 point Councilman Darrell Clarke.
20 Both of my grandfathers were
21 entrepreneurs. My grandfather on
22 my dad's side was the first
23 licensed Black master plumber in
24 the history of Richmond, Virginia
25 and my grandfather on my mother's

1 side built homes in rural Virginia.
2 Although my grandfather on my dad's
3 side was from Philadelphia, he
4 moved to Virginia for more
5 opportunity.

6 They were by no means rich
7 men. Both of them made a decent
8 living, but they just are people
9 who chose to work for themselves.
10 People like them I certainly
11 believe and others should be
12 considered just as any other person
13 who works for someone else. They
14 are no less working families
15 because they decided to work for
16 themselves.

17 In fact, they are working
18 so hard that they are creating work
19 for others. That's what they're
20 doing. That's what happens when
21 they grow. They hire. That's why
22 you see help wanted signs out here.
23 No one hires just to hire. They
24 hire because they need help,
25 because they're growing. And we

1 figure that that is really a
2 prudent investment for the City to
3 invest in those who are growing and
4 then will in turn hire residents
5 from the City of Philadelphia.

6 As matter of fact, it's one
7 of the best investments that the
8 City can make, investing in those
9 who will create more work. So
10 although there were no new
11 investments this year, we
12 appreciate the investments made
13 over the past couple of years, and
14 we also appreciate Council
15 President and Council forming the
16 Tax Reform Commission and we look
17 forward to those recommendations
18 coming from the Tax Reform
19 Commission and look forward to more
20 investments in those who work for
21 themselves and those who work for
22 others in an environment that
23 includes a large and small business
24 ecosystem that grows businesses and
25 jobs inclusively. Thank you.

1 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

2 Thank you.

3 Any questions or comments
4 from members of the Committee?

5 (No response.)

6 MS. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Ms. Loughead, will you
8 please call the next person for
9 public testimony.

10 THE CLERK: Blane Stoddart.

11 (Witness approached Witness
12 Table.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

14 Mr. Stoddart, just state your name
15 and your title for the record and
16 begin your testimony.

17 MR. STODDART: My name is
18 Blane Stoddart. I hope there's not
19 an echo in here. Sounds like there
20 may be. I'm going to try to level
21 my voice so you can hear every word
22 I say. My name is Blane Stoddart.
23 I run BFW Group. BFW Group is a
24 project construction, project
25 management company at the Navy

1 Yard. I can just go ahead?

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 (Nodded affirmatively).

4 MR. STODDART: Okay.

5 Great.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

7 Please begin your testimony, sir.

8 MR. STODDART: Thank you.

9 To the Council President and the
10 Honorable members of City Council,
11 like I stated my name is Blane
12 Stoddart and I am the President and
13 CEO of BFW Construction Project
14 Managers. I am also a small
15 business advocate and job creator
16 in the City of Philadelphia.

17 I want to thank this body
18 for the opportunity to provide
19 testimony on the City's Fiscal Year
20 '25 budget. I want to acknowledge
21 the significant work that you have
22 done along with all the Committees
23 I read about every day that are
24 meeting day and night devoted to
25 the passage of this 2025 budget.

1 We started out with two
2 employees several years ago 2015.
3 Before that I had none for the
4 prior three years except me. Today
5 we employ 30 people at the Navy
6 Yard with salaries ranging from
7 60,000 to 150,000 plus bonus
8 depending on their role and title.
9 The 150,000, Mr. President, does
10 not include benefits, so it's
11 150,000 plus benefits.

12 We're a company that you
13 talk about in these hollowed halls
14 when it comes to a living wage
15 because we pay a living wage.
16 However, for us to thrive and grow
17 we need a city that is business-
18 friendly, a city that is
19 competitive like Bala Cynwyd and
20 can compete with places like Bala
21 Cynwyd, Camden and King of Prussia.
22 We need a city that will attract
23 more Comcast and Lincoln Financials
24 and not drive them out of the city.

25 Less people and jobs in the

1 city leads to more crime and if you
2 look down while you're walking,
3 more trash, filth and doo-doo like
4 I saw when I was walking on 12th
5 Street. I was walking, almost like
6 jaywalking avoiding the doo-doo.

7 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE: The
8 feces.

9 MR. STODDART: The feces,
10 the feces. I'm so sorry,
11 Mr. President, if I used the
12 improper word. The city is at a
13 critical stage where we need to do
14 things that move our city forward
15 to compete in the region and
16 nation. We must reduce the wage
17 and Business and Receipts Tax,
18 which is a double tax that business
19 owners like me must pay whether we
20 make a profit or not.

21 We must reduce taxes so
22 that businesses will have an
23 incentive to move here, to grow
24 here and to thrive here. By
25 halting what has been a regular

1 reduction in the BIRT -- and again,
2 please forgive me, Mr. President
3 and Honorable City Councilpeople,
4 if I make a mistake, I'm just
5 telling you what I read in
6 the paper -- by halting what has
7 been a regular reduction in the
8 BIRT and the wage tax, we have
9 missed an opportunity to alleviate
10 a burden on small businesses and
11 business owners like me.

12 We have missed an
13 opportunity in the 2025 budget to
14 help entrepreneurs hire more
15 employees and provide more family-
16 sustaining jobs so Philadelphians
17 can remain in Philadelphia and
18 thrive in Philadelphia. We missed
19 an opportunity to reduce the cycle
20 of poverty and cultivate a stronger
21 society and a striving economy. I
22 urge you at this late stage in the
23 game to amend the budget to include
24 even a minimal, de minimis
25 reduction in the wage and BIRT tax.

1 It will send a clear message even
2 if it's a small reduction that
3 Philadelphia is open for business.

4 I want to thank you again.

5 Again, I've been around for 30
6 years, Mr. President. And for the
7 first time in City Council, I do
8 not know most of the City
9 Councilmembers. So I want to thank
10 you for giving me this opportunity.

11 Finally, finally, we must be
12 business-friendly because being
13 business-friendly puts more money
14 in the General Fund.

15 And if we don't put money
16 in the General Fund, we will not
17 have money to address the homeless
18 crisis which I know this august
19 body supports the homeless to
20 support the affordable housing
21 crisis, which again I've read that
22 this body really supports
23 affordable housing, to support job
24 training and to support the
25 alleviation of poverty. I am

1 praying and hoping, Mr. President,
2 that somebody asks me a question.
3 Thank you and may God bless you.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
5 Thank you.

6 Any questions or comments
7 from members of the Committee?

8 The Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember Phillips.

10 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: You
11 know, it's interesting I was
12 holding off on questions. But I
13 said since he asked for it I'm
14 going to give it. Just a quick
15 question: I'm curious about this
16 because the business community is
17 the lifeline of our city, and all
18 of us on City Council are very much
19 aware of that.

20 That's why I'm very excited
21 about what Council President has
22 proposed for us to look into having
23 the Tax Reform Commission help us
24 understand what we can do to make
25 this a better tax season for not

1 only just the business community
2 but also for our residents. So the
3 question I just had for you has a
4 lot to do with the fact that just
5 out of curiosity, you're a business
6 owner, BIRT tax, wage tax, do you
7 have a rough estimate on how much
8 money you're losing as a result of
9 these taxes, you know, compared to
10 how much of a deficit is it for
11 you? And I kind of wanted to ask
12 the other folks that, but I didn't
13 get a chance. But I'll ask you
14 today.

15 MR. STODDART: Again, I may
16 not be able to answer this in an
17 objective manner, but I'm going to
18 give you real numbers that I see
19 from my accountant. My taxes in
20 Philadelphia is well over \$100,000
21 as a small business. Now, again
22 I'm paying big wages. That does
23 not include the wage tax. Just my
24 net income tax, my BIRT tax,
25 whatever, it's in the \$50,000 to

1 \$100,000 range. Now, that's a
2 broad streak.

3 I have an office in
4 Harrisburg. And if they charge me
5 \$100 in taxes, I don't know what to
6 say. I have an office in Lower
7 Merion at my house, they probably
8 charge me -- it's de minimis. It's
9 so small that I don't even notice.
10 And so, my point is this, and I
11 thank you for forming the Tax
12 Reform Commission --

13 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Yes.

14 MR. STODDART: -- right.
15 Businesses don't get considered in
16 the budget. It's like we're not
17 considered. And what I'm saying to
18 you is I agree with you that
19 businesses must be considered in
20 every budget and we're like an
21 after -- we feel that we're an
22 afterthought. And you're right, we
23 are the light -- whatever money
24 you're spending, a lot of it comes,
25 if not most of it, comes from real

1 estate taxes and the business
2 community.

3 And I want this body to
4 start considering in your yearly
5 budget -- hi, Councilman --

6 COUNCILMAN JONES: (Nodded
7 head).

8 MR. STODDART: -- in your
9 yearly budget how you can help the
10 business community because all
11 these programs that are in the
12 budget, that money comes from us.

13 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Thank
14 you.

15 Thank you, Council
16 President.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
18 Any other questions or comments
19 from members of the Committee?

20 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Council
21 Prez.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
23 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
24 Young.

25 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: I have a

1 question. I mean, it's unrelated
2 to anything you testified on but
3 you asked the question. And so,
4 I'm just going to stick to me being
5 me. Are you able to tell us your
6 scope of work on 2100 Girard
7 Avenue?

8 MR. STODDART: I'm going to
9 defer to -- I'm going to defer to
10 the Department of Public Property
11 and the Mayor for that question
12 because --

13 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
14 you.

15 MR. STODDART: Councilman
16 Jeff -- I call him Councilman Jeff.
17 Councilman Jeff, I'm in trouble
18 either way.

19 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
20 you. No, I appreciate it.

21 MR. STODDART: And so, I
22 will defer to them.

23 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
24 you.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 All right. Any other questions or
2 comments from members of this
3 robust body?

4 The Chair recognizes
5 Councilmember Cindy Bass and then
6 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas, then
7 Councilmember Curtis Jones.

8 Councilmember Bass.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: I want
10 to redirect, Mr. President.

11 I want to redirect and just
12 say that many moons ago I was an
13 employee of Blane Stoddart. I know
14 of his commitment to Philadelphia.
15 I know that he could have easily
16 packed up his business and gone
17 over to Lower Merion with his
18 business as well. He's made a
19 commitment to the City of
20 Philadelphia and he's done probably
21 more to hire or to make sure that
22 African American developers and
23 professionals have opportunities to
24 work on development projects here
25 in the City of Philadelphia. And

1 anybody who's been around Blane for
2 five minutes knows that that's
3 absolutely accurate and true.

4 So I don't know about
5 Girard Avenue, but I just want to
6 thank you for the work that you've
7 done in West Philadelphia and
8 throughout the entire City of
9 Philadelphia. When I worked with
10 Blane, it was West Philadelphia
11 Partnership CDC and did an
12 outstanding job. And so, I just
13 wanted to say keep up the good work
14 in terms of making sure that
15 minorities have an opportunity to
16 participate in these very important
17 projects that are happening in
18 communities throughout the City.
19 So thank you for your work.

20 MR. STODDART: Responding
21 directly to Councilwoman Bass, we
22 promote for free over 200 Black and
23 Brown -- 250 Black and Brown
24 contractors to get work in
25 construction and in professional

1 services related to construction.
2 And one of the reasons why we're
3 not rich, Council President, is
4 because I spend most of my time
5 advocating instead of trying to
6 build my business.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
8 Thank you, Mr. Stoddart. And also,
9 just provide the Chair a copy of
10 that list for those 250
11 professional services companies and
12 contractors so we can utilize that
13 as we make sure that we're
14 equitably focusing on economic
15 development in the City of
16 Philadelphia. So I'll follow up
17 with you on that. Is that okay?

18 MR. STODDART: I will send
19 that list to you tonight, sir.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 Thank you.

22 Chair recognizes
23 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas and
24 Councilmember Curtis Jones.

25 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Council

1 President, I know we don't have too
2 many more people to testify so I
3 just wanted to first and foremost
4 say thank you for your leadership.
5 And I wanted to also thank
6 everybody who came in today to
7 specifically testify and advocate
8 for some of the tax cuts that we
9 heard folks talking about the
10 importance of.

11 I'm proud to be the sponsor
12 of the legislation that has
13 essentially cut the taxes the last
14 couple years, but it's no secret
15 that there is no bill this year to
16 essentially look at tax cuts. I do
17 want to be clear. We do not want
18 the business community to feel like
19 Philadelphia is not open for
20 business. We very much are open
21 for business.

22 Like a lot of the testimony
23 that we heard today, the tax cuts
24 that we have made have been small,
25 to say the least.

1 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

2 Very small.

3 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: And at
4 the end of the day, we recognize
5 that those cuts do not provide the
6 lifeline that a lot of our Black
7 and Brown businesses need. I think
8 about our restaurants. So many
9 restaurants have closed over the
10 last couple years since the
11 pandemic. Our barbershops, our
12 beauty salons, so many different
13 type of companies across the City
14 of Philadelphia who's struggling
15 right now and we get that advocacy
16 and we hear it all the time.

17 I want to be clear. Myself
18 and some other -- I can't speak for
19 all of Council, but myself and
20 other members of Council we still
21 have that appetite. We still want
22 people to know that Philadelphia is
23 open for business. But we want to
24 approach this in a comprehensive
25 way that puts us in a position to

1 be able to have a holistic
2 solution.

3 And I think right now we're
4 not quite yet at that place, but I
5 do trust our Council President, the
6 Council leadership and the
7 legislators who are here to be able
8 to get this right in collaboration
9 of working with the Mayor. So
10 while we may not have been able to
11 get that bite at the apple that we
12 might necessarily feel like we
13 need, we do anticipate a systemic
14 solution to a structural problem
15 that has made our suburbs
16 financially beneficial, right.

17 It's no secret most people
18 in this legislative body know that
19 my cousin is the Mayor of Camden
20 and we talk often about some of the
21 legislative things they have going
22 on and actually some of the
23 advantages they have based on
24 legislation that we've introduced
25 that limits people's opportunity to

1 propel and excel in certain
2 business atmospheres.

3 So, Council President, I
4 just wanted to put that information
5 on the record because I think it's
6 very important. And I think it's
7 also again important that people
8 recognize that Philadelphia is open
9 for business. This legislative
10 body is open to dialogue, but we
11 want to put ourselves in a position
12 to have sustainable solutions.

13 I think we've had band-aid
14 messaging so far, and I'm proud of
15 every band-aid and every message
16 that have gone out there. But I
17 think we're ready to move into a
18 more robust place and come up with
19 a systemic solution that can really
20 put us in a position to address
21 this problem over the long haul.

22 So thank you, Council
23 President. And more importantly,
24 thank you to everybody who came out
25 to advocate for this important

1 issue because at the end of the
2 day, we know that it's not easy to
3 spend a lot of time down here with
4 us, but this is how government
5 works and when you do it, it
6 matters. Thank you.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 Thank you very much.

9 The Chair recognizes
10 Councilmember Jones.

11 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
12 you, Mr. President.

13 I wanted to take this
14 opportunity to say for the record
15 Blane started this. We were all
16 going to be quiet, but you inspired
17 us to speak our mind. Thank you
18 for that.

19 I want to go on the record
20 and thank Will Carter. The
21 de minimus tax cuts that you have
22 received is your fault. You came
23 in here and educated all of us as
24 to the importance of not having
25 this against that, being for the

1 alleviation of poverty you can also
2 be for the development of
3 businesses. And you took your time
4 and led a cohort of diverse
5 Chambers to convince us and through
6 your legislation get it passed.

7 And I would say to you that
8 when you come into these chambers,
9 know that there are people that are
10 pro people but they're also pro
11 business, pro people because
12 businesses are people too. And we
13 make that -- and we don't have
14 floor fights out here about that,
15 but we have those discussions in a
16 meaningful way thanks to the
17 information you guys provide every
18 day.

19 So to my colleague's point,
20 you might not have got it this time
21 but there'll be a next time up at
22 bat and we have to juxtapose that
23 with some of the other priorities
24 that we have to, like you say, pay
25 for. Mayor Parker, to her credit,

1 in her budget deliberation showed
2 us that the vast majority of our
3 tax revenues don't come from real
4 estate as most people believe.
5 Disproportionately, it's on the
6 backs of small businesses like
7 yours.

8 And what we also understand
9 is that we have to fight for the
10 person that invest their time,
11 their treasury into a small
12 business. They are the most
13 courageous people that I know,
14 because it's one thing to go work
15 for IBM, get a gold watch, your
16 paycheck comes every two weeks
17 predictably.

18 It is another thing to have
19 to balance a ledger and be able to
20 pay your employees first and then
21 pay us second. It is a difficult
22 courageous task. And what I like
23 about your generation, Mr. Carter,
24 being an alumni from here is that
25 they're some of the most courageous

1 people I've ever met.

2 We were taught in my
3 generation being the senior member
4 on deck here today, we were taught
5 go to work for someone else, work
6 20 years, make them rich and then
7 retire. You were taught to believe
8 in yourself, to put your mouth
9 where your treasury is and eke a
10 living in the City of Philadelphia.

11 But for the record every
12 step of the way you age as me. I'm
13 a founding member of the African
14 American Chamber of Commerce
15 advocating for small businesses. I
16 am the former Director of the
17 Minority Business Enterprise
18 Council. I think our tenure under
19 Wilson Goode, we held a record of
20 \$387 million to minority businesses
21 yet to be achieved since.

22 We are a part of that vote
23 that reduced taxes. We care about
24 small businesses in this chamber
25 too. So we appreciate your

1 testimony today, but our leadership
2 is often open to consider those
3 kinds of factors and there's a
4 budget every year, and we hope to
5 be a little more attentive to the
6 needs of small businesses.

7 Thank you, Mr. President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 Thank you very much.

10 Will the Clerk please call
11 the last person for public comment.

12 THE CLERK: Yes. We have
13 Bryan Fenstermaker and they're
14 testifying on Resolution No. 240487
15 and 240552.

16 (Witness approached Witness
17 Table.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

19 Before you begin, Bryan, I also
20 just want to -- Mr. Carter and
21 Mr. Stoddart, I also just want to
22 echo the sentiments of my
23 colleagues. Before we wrap up, the
24 purpose of us putting together the
25 Tax Reform Commission is so we can

1 look at things comprehensively.

2 And I know when you talk
3 about doing cuts it sends the
4 business signal. But when you're
5 talking about small businesses
6 getting a tax cut of \$80, right,
7 something is better than nothing,
8 right. We had discussions on how
9 can we get this comprehensively and
10 move beyond just symbolic gestures
11 of us being open for business.

12 We also have a Special
13 Committee on Diversity, Equity and
14 Inclusion, right, because we all
15 know often too many times that
16 Black and Brown and woman-owned
17 businesses don't even have a seat
18 at the table, right. They always
19 have to come in as a sub and not be
20 the prime.

21 And so, I just want to echo
22 the sentiments of everything that
23 my colleagues talked about because,
24 yes, we do support small
25 businesses. And even with the

1 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
2 Task Force, it's an effort for us
3 to break down the obstacles and the
4 barriers that have prevented us
5 from developing generational
6 wealth.

7 We're the number one big
8 city when it comes to poverty, but
9 yet I see development taking place
10 all throughout the City of
11 Philadelphia. And so, there's a
12 lot of different ways in terms of
13 how we can make sure we're
14 supporting particularly Black and
15 Brown small businesses.

16 And one of the key ways is
17 I know I have a track record as the
18 2nd District Councilperson that any
19 major development project that
20 comes to the 2nd Councilmanic
21 District, we're doing 50 percent
22 minority participation requirement,
23 not just on construction but also
24 professional services as well as
25 procurement, who's getting the

1 lawyer work, who's getting the
2 architect work, who's getting the
3 cleaning contract, who's getting
4 the public relations contract.

5 And so, as a body we try to
6 take a comprehensive approach in
7 making sure we're supporting our
8 Black and Brown businesses, but we
9 definitely hear you. We thank you
10 for taking time out of your
11 schedule and being here today. And
12 so, keep up the good work as well.
13 Thank you.

14 You can begin your
15 testimony, sir. Just state your
16 name and your title for the record.

17 MR. FENSTERMAKER: Sure.
18 Good afternoon. My name is Bryan
19 Fenstermaker. I am the President
20 and CEO of City Avenue Special
21 Services District of Philadelphia
22 and Lower Merion. Good afternoon,
23 President Johnson and
24 Councilmembers.

25 I'm here today to offer my

1 support for Resolution 240168
2 appointing Madison McCarron to the
3 City Ave District Board of
4 Directors. Just as some
5 background, City Ave District is a
6 dual municipality municipal
7 authority operating on both sides
8 of City Avenue. Our Board is made
9 up of nine directors, Philadelphia
10 side and nine on the Lower Merion
11 side. We're a 2.7 mile-long
12 corridor from 63rd Street to the
13 Schuylkill Expressway.

14 Our budget annually funds
15 bike patrol and safety, cleaning
16 and improvements, capital
17 improvements and we've raised over
18 \$16 million since our inception to
19 do capital projects, most recently
20 the reconnection to Presidential
21 Boulevard on the side of Target
22 along Monument Road. We're
23 currently working on a retail
24 strategy and implementation plan.
25 And today we just held a

1 groundbreaking for a six floor
2 mixed-use redevelopment project.

3 Madison -- back to the
4 testimony. Madison McCarron is a
5 dynamic portfolio manager in real
6 estate and represents Rose Valley
7 Management and oversees the
8 financial performance and
9 operations of a multi-family
10 portfolio of assets, including the
11 Mansion at Bala which is on the
12 Philadelphia side of the district.

13 Madison previously held a
14 position as General Manager of Mack
15 Property Management which is the
16 owners of Presidential City, which
17 is over 1,000 units within the
18 City, 4th District. She
19 contributes to the successful
20 acquisition and operation of Class
21 A portfolio valued in excess of \$80
22 million and has worked in a number
23 of different apartment, multi-
24 family use projects within the
25 district as well.

1 She's bringing her
2 expertise in leadership, vendor
3 partnerships and strategic asset
4 management to our district and
5 aligning her professional endeavors
6 with the continued success of City
7 Ave District. Thank you for your
8 time and I'm happy to answer any
9 additional questions on the
10 nomination.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
12 Thank you very much.

13 Any questions or comments
14 from members of the Committee?

15 The Chair recognizes
16 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
17 Richardson.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE
19 RICHARDSON: Well, I just wanted
20 to -- thank you, Council President.

21 I just wanted to thank you
22 for the conversation we had
23 relative to the City Avenue Special
24 Services District. And I want to
25 thank my District member

1 Councilmember Jones for always
2 working with us in the community
3 and for the new trash receptacles
4 that are out, the blue trash
5 receptacles that are out on City
6 Avenue. And just wanted to put on
7 the record that more are coming to
8 the Philadelphia side of the
9 street.

10 In addition to that, I
11 understand that today you all had
12 the groundbreaking for the Bala
13 Cynwyd Shopping Center, the area of
14 Lord & Taylor's. And even though
15 that's on the City Avenue side,
16 it's an important shopping corridor
17 to folks who live on the City side.
18 And so, I congratulate you all on
19 that as well.

20 And finally, I wanted to
21 just put on the record that I'm
22 appreciative of the work that you
23 all have done with WRA and the 52nd
24 ward RCO Mr. Steve, Steve Jones,
25 relative to the proposed sort of

1 restaurant in between Bryn Mawr
2 Avenue and 51st on City Avenue.
3 And I look forward to the continued
4 work you will do with the
5 community.

6 So I just wanted to say
7 thank you for the willingness to
8 speak with us and work with us and
9 work with the property owners
10 relative to everything that's
11 happening on the corridor. And I
12 just wanted to thank Councilmember
13 Jones for all of his help with
14 that. Thank you very, very much.

15 MR. FENSTERMAKER: Great.
16 Thank you. Appreciate it.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
18 Thank you.

19 Any other questions or
20 comments from members of the
21 Committee?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
24 Okay. Thank you.

25 Hearing none, there being

1 no further questions from members
2 of the Committee and no other
3 witnesses on the list to testify, I
4 will ask if there's anyone else
5 present in this hearing who wishes
6 to offer testimony on Bills and
7 Resolutions 240487, 240552, 240168,
8 240179, 240180, 240181, 240182 and
9 240492?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
12 Hearing none, I wanted to thank all
13 the witnesses for their
14 participation today. We definitely
15 value your opinion. We will now go
16 into our public meeting to consider
17 the action to be taken on Bill and
18 Resolution Nos. 240487, 240552,
19 240168, 240179, 240180, 240181,
20 240182 and 240492.

21 Ms. Loughead, will you
22 please call the roll.

23 THE CLERK: Councilmember
24 Squilla.

25 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

1 Present.
2 THE CLERK: Councilmember
3 Gauthier.
4 (No response.)
5 THE CLERK: Councilmember
6 Driscoll.
7 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
8 Present.
9 THE CLERK: Councilmember
10 Lozada.
11 (No response.)
12 THE CLERK: Councilmember
13 Bass.
14 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:
15 Present.
16 THE CLERK: Councilmember
17 Phillips.
18 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
19 Present.
20 THE CLERK: Councilmember
21 O'Neill.
22 (No response.)
23 THE CLERK: Councilmember
24 Gilmore Richardson.
25 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

1 RICHARDSON: Present.
2 THE CLERK: Councilmember
3 Thomas.
4 (No response.)
5 THE CLERK: Councilmember
6 Jones.
7 COUNCILMAN JONES: Present.
8 THE CLERK: Councilmember
9 Young.
10 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Present.
11 THE CLERK: Councilmember
12 Harrity.
13 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
14 Present.
15 THE CLERK: Councilmember
16 Ahmad.
17 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:
18 Present.
19 THE CLERK: Councilmember
20 Landau.
21 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
22 Present.
23 THE CLERK: Councilmember
24 Brooks.
25 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

1 Present.

2 THE CLERK: Councilmember

3 O'Rourke.

4 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

5 Present.

6 THE CLERK: Council

7 President Johnson.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 Present.

10 The Chair recognizes Isaiah

11 Thomas as being present.

12 Before we continue to take

13 action on the bills and

14 resolutions, this Committee will be

15 in recess. We will take a brief

16 recess until 8 o'clock. Thank you

17 very much. I'll see y'all back.

18 I'm sorry. That's

19 8:00 p.m. this evening. And for

20 the record everyone, that's

21 8:00 p.m. this evening.

22 The Chair recognizes

23 Councilwoman Lozada as being

24 present. She's present.

25 (Evening recess.)

1 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

2 Good morning. The Chair recognizes
3 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
4 Richardson for an amendment to Bill
5 No. 240179 -- we will now resume
6 the public meeting. Everybody has
7 a copy electronically of the
8 amendment that was actually
9 circulated. If you need a specific
10 hard copy, we will make sure you
11 get it. But other than that, we
12 want to move forward.

13 The Chair recognizes
14 Councilwoman Katherine Gilmore
15 Richardson for an amendment to Bill
16 No. 240179.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

18 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
19 Mr. Chairman.

20 I offer an amendment to
21 Bill No. 240179. A copy of the
22 amendment has been circulated to
23 all members of the Committee, and I
24 move for its adoption.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

2 The Chair notes for the record that
3 Councilmember Thomas seconds the
4 motion.

5 All in favor will signify
6 by saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 Those opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

12 The ayes have it and the amendment
13 to Bill No. 240179 is adopted.

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
16 Richardson for an amendment to Bill
17 No. 240181.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

19 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
20 Mr. Chairman.

21 I offer an amendment to
22 Bill No. 240181. A copy of the
23 amendment has been circulated to
24 all members of the Committee and I
25 move for its adoption.

1 (Duly seconded.)

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 The Chair notes for the record that
4 Councilmember Thomas seconds the
5 motion.

6 All those in favor will
7 signify by saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

10 Those opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

13 The ayes have it and the amendment
14 is adopted.

15 The Chair recognizes
16 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
17 for an amendment to Bill No.
18 240182.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

20 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
21 Mr. Chairman.

22 I offer an amendment to
23 Bill No. 240182. A copy of the
24 amendment has been circulated to
25 all members of the Committee and I

1 move for its adoption.

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 The Chair notes for the record that
5 Councilmember Thomas seconds the
6 motion.

7 All those in favor will
8 signify by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

11 Those opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

14 The ayes have it and the amendment
15 is adopted.

16 The Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
18 for an amendment to Bill No.
19 240492.

20 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

21 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
22 Mr. Chairman.

23 I offer an amendment to
24 Bill No. 240492. A copy of the
25 amendment has been circulated to

1 all members of the Committee and I
2 move for its adoption.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 The Chair notes for the record that
6 Councilmember Thomas seconds the
7 motion.

8 All those in favor will
9 signify by saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

12 Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

15 The ayes have it and the amendment
16 is adopted.

17 The Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
19 for a motion on Bill Nos. 240179,
20 240181, 240182, 240492 each as
21 amended.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

23 RICHARDSON: Thank you,

24 Mr. Chairman.

25 I move that Bills 240179,

1 240181, 240182 and 240492 each as
2 amended be reported from this
3 Committee with a favorable
4 recommendation and that the rules
5 of Council be suspended as to
6 permit consideration of these bills
7 at our next session of Council.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

10 The Chair notes for the record that
11 Councilmember Thomas seconds the
12 motion. It has been moved and
13 properly seconded that Bill Nos.
14 240179, 240181, 240182 and 240492
15 each as amended be reported from
16 this Committee with a favorable
17 recommendation that the rules of
18 Council be suspended to permit
19 consideration of these bills at our
20 next session of Council.

21 All those in favor will
22 signify by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

25 Those opposed?

1 (No response.)

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 The ayes have it. And Bill Nos.
4 240179, 240181, 240182 and 240492
5 each as amended will be reported
6 from this Committee with a
7 favorable recommendation with the
8 suspension of the rules to permit
9 consideration of these bills at our
10 next session of Council.

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
13 for a motion on Resolution and Bill
14 Nos. 240180, 240487, 240505,
15 240168, 240552.

16 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

17 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
18 Mr. Chairman.

19 I move that Resolutions and
20 Bills numbered 240180, 240487,
21 240505, 240168 and 240552 be
22 reported from this Committee with a
23 favorable recommendation and that
24 the rules of Council be suspended
25 as to permit consideration of these

1 bills and resolutions at our next
2 session of Council.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 The Chair notes for the record that
6 Councilmember Thomas seconds the
7 motion. It has been moved and
8 properly seconded that each of the
9 Resolutions and Bills numbered
10 240180, 240487, 240505, 240168 and
11 240552 be reported from this
12 Committee with a favorable
13 recommendation and that the rules
14 of Council be suspended to permit
15 consideration of these bills and
16 resolutions at our next session of
17 Council.

18 All those in favor of the
19 motion will signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

22 Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

25 The ayes have it and Resolution and

1 Bills Nos. 240180, 240487, 240505,
2 240168 and 240552 will be reported
3 from this Committee with a
4 favorable recommendation with a
5 suspension of the rules to permit
6 consideration of these bills and
7 resolutions at our next session of
8 Council.

9 This concludes the business
10 before the Committee of the Whole
11 today.

12 I'll see y'all I guess this
13 morning. So thank everybody for
14 your patience. Good job everyone
15 for your advocacy as we wrap up
16 this budget session -- the Chair
17 recognizes Councilmember Isaiah
18 Thomas for a motion to adjourn.

19 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
20 you, Mr. Chairman -- thank you,
21 Council President. I move that the
22 Committee of the Whole stand in
23 recess.

24 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: I
25 second that.

1 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

2 All those in favor will say aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 The ayes have it.

9 (Committee of the Whole
10 concluded at 1:25 a.m.)

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

2 I, hereby certify that the proceedings
3 and evidence noted are contained fully and
4 accurately in the stenographic notes taken by
5 me in the foregoing matter, and that this is
6 a correct transcript of the same.
7

8

9

10

11

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Taneha Carroll". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Taneha" and the last name "Carroll" clearly distinguishable.

12

TANEHA CARROLL
Court Reporter - Notary Public

13

14

15

16

17

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

23

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