

1

2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3 STATED MEETING

4 - - -

5 Room 400, City Hall
6 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
7 Thursday, September 17, 2009
8 10:15 a.m.

9 - - -

10

11

PRESENT:

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA
13 COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL
14 COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE
15 COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO
16 COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.
17 COUNCILMAN BILL GREEN
18 COUNCILMAN WILLIAM GREENLEE
19 COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
20 COUNCILMAN JACK KELLY
21 COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY
22 COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI
23 COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
24 COUNCILWOMAN MARIA QUINONES-SANCHEZ
25 COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN
COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO
COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO

19

MICHAEL DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

20

21 - - -

22

23 V A R A L L O Incorporated
24 Litigation Support Services
Eleven Penn Center
25 1835 Market Street, Suite 600
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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Good
3 morning, everyone. I note that the hour
4 has come and that a quorum is present.

5 Council will please come to
6 order. Members will take their seats,
7 and visitors will retire to the seats
8 outside the rails.

9 We are extremely honored this
10 morning to have His Eminence Cardinal
11 Justin Rigali deliver the invocation. He
12 is here today as the guest of
13 Councilwoman Krajewski.

14 I would ask all members and
15 guests to please rise.

16 (Members and guests rise.)

17 CARDINAL RIGALI: Good morning
18 to all of you as we assemble for an
19 invocation this morning. Let us pray.

20 Almighty God and Father, we ask
21 you to be near to us, assembled today for
22 this new session of City Council as we
23 ask your blessing and mercy in these
24 times of special challenge. We seek your
25 heavenly aid to guide all the efforts of

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 these public servants in integrity and
3 dedication as they endeavor to serve
4 those entrusted to their care.

5 We pray for the Mayor and all
6 who assist him in governing the City of
7 Philadelphia to serve with honesty and
8 compassion as they look to you for wisdom
9 and right judgment.

10 We pray for all who live in
11 this great City of Philadelphia,
12 especially those in difficult
13 circumstances, to persevere with
14 diligence and confidence as they depend
15 on the direction and service of their
16 leaders. May you never fail to show us
17 your way of truth and fill us with the
18 grace to have justice and charity as our
19 legacy.

20 We pray for this in the name of
21 Jesus, the Lord.

22 Amen.

23 (Amen.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
25 Chair thanks His Eminence for his very

1 9/17/09 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 inspiring invocation.

3 Council will be at ease.

4 (Council at ease.)

5 (Audience member reading

6 loudly.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

8 Excuse me, sir. I'm sorry. Sir, thank

9 you very much, but you are now out of

10 order and we must proceed with our

11 session. Thank you very much.

12 The next order of business is

13 the approval of the Journal of the

14 meeting of Thursday, June 18, 2009, and

15 the Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,

17 Madam President. Welcome back to the

18 City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly

19 Affection and democracy in action.

20 I move that the Journal of the

21 meeting of Thursday, June 18, 2009 stand

22 approved.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

25 has been moved and properly seconded that

1 9/17/09 - STATED - LEAVES

2 the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
3 June 18, 2009 stand approved.

4 All in favor will indicate by
5 saying aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
8 opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
11 ayes have it and the Journal is approved.

12 The next order of business is
13 requests for leaves of absence, and,
14 again, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
15 Tasco.

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
17 Madam Chair. On behalf of the majority,
18 there are no requests for leave of
19 absence today.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
21 Chair thanks the Councilwoman.

22 The Chair recognizes Councilman
23 O'Neill.

24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam
25 President, on behalf of the minority,

1 9/17/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 there are no requests for leave of
3 absence.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
5 Chair thanks the gentleman.

6 The Chair will dispense with
7 the regular order of business to
8 recognize the guests and visitors joining
9 us in Chambers this morning. On behalf
10 of all members of City Council, I welcome
11 you to our Council session. We
12 appreciate your taking the time to join
13 us as we attend to the legislative
14 affairs of our city. We certainly invite
15 you to come again.

16 The next order of business is
17 communications. The Chair requests that
18 the Sergeant-At-Arms deliver the messages
19 to the Clerk.

20 The Clerk will please read the
21 messages.

22 THE CLERK: From the Mayor to
23 the President and members of the Council
24 of the City of Philadelphia, I am pleased
25 to advise you that on June 19, June 23,

1 9/17/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 June 24, June 25, June 26, July 1 and
3 August 17, 2009, I signed the remaining
4 bills that were passed by Council at its
5 session on June 11, 2009 and all of the
6 bills that were passed by Council on June
7 18, 2009, except Bill No. 090292, which I
8 have returned without my signature; and

9 Pursuant to Section 2-307 of
10 the Home Rule Charter, I am today
11 transmitting to the Council the
12 recommendations of the City Planning
13 Commission on the following bills:

14 090468, 090472 and 090517; and

15 I am transmitting herewith for
16 the consideration of your honorable body
17 a resolution providing for the approval
18 by the Council of the City of
19 Philadelphia of a revised Five-Year
20 Financial Plan for the City of
21 Philadelphia covering Fiscal Years 2010
22 through 2014; and

23 Six resolutions reappointing
24 current members to the Board of Directors
25 of the Center City District; namely,

1 9/17/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Wayne Fisher, Randall Scott, George

3 Burrell, Christopher Terlizzi, Larry

4 Howard and Ernest Jones; and

5 Also three resolutions

6 appointing new members to the Board of

7 Directors of the Center City District;

8 namely, David Marshall, Ahmeenah Young

9 and William Walsh; and

10 Also an ordinance authorizing

11 the revision of lines and grades on a

12 portion of City Plan No. 97 by striking

13 from the City Plan Marshall Street from

14 Bainbridge Street to Kater Street; and

15 An ordinance authorizing the

16 paving of 26th Street from Penrose Avenue

17 to a point approximately 1,832 feet

18 southwardly therefrom; and

19 An ordinance authorizing Vilna

20 Gaston, owner and operator of Festivals

21 Restaurant, to operate and maintain an

22 open-air sidewalk cafe located at 5222

23 through 24 Walnut Street; and

24 An ordinance authorizing the

25 revision of lines and grades on a portion

1 9/17/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 of City Plan No. 42 by placing on the
3 City Plan a right-of-way for drainage
4 purposes extending from 33rd Street to
5 32nd Street, northeast of South Street;
6 and

7 An ordinance authorizing the
8 revision of lines and grades on a portion
9 of City Plan No. 118 by striking from the
10 City Plan the southerly 20-foot-wide
11 portion of Diamond Street from 10th
12 Street to Alder Street; and

13 An ordinance authorizing the
14 vacating of Edom Street from Arendell
15 Avenue to Linden Avenue; and

16 An ordinance amending Section 2
17 of an ordinance, Bill No. 070504,
18 approved July 3, 2007, entitled "An
19 ordinance authorizing and directing the
20 revision of lines and grades on a portion
21 of City Plan No. 197 by striking from the
22 City Plan and vacating the legally open
23 portions of Casper Street from Tioga
24 Street to Russell Street"; and

25 An ordinance authorizing the

1 9/17/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Mayor, on behalf of the City, to execute
3 the "Southeastern Pennsylvania Mutual Aid
4 and Intergovernmental Cooperation
5 Agreement" by and between the City of
6 Philadelphia and Bucks, Chester, Delaware
7 and Montgomery Counties, all under
8 certain terms and conditions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
10 you. The messages will be printed in the
11 Journal.

12 The Clerk will please read any
13 other communications in his possession.

14 THE CLERK: I have none, Madam
15 President.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
17 you.

18 At this time, the Chair
19 recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

20 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Thank you,
21 Madam President. Madam President, I'm
22 pleased to report that U.S. Airways, a
23 significant presence here in
24 Philadelphia, is holding their corporate
25 meetings, and representatives, managers,

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 employees from all over the world are
3 here in Philadelphia, and I'm fortunate
4 to have Jeanette Bislick, who is the
5 station manager of a great place, the
6 country of Aruba, visiting us. So let's
7 welcome Jeanette.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: If
9 she would stand. Welcome.

10 (Applause.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
12 Welcome.

13 The next order of business is
14 the introduction of bills and
15 resolutions, and the Chair recognizes
16 Councilman Kenney.

17 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I have
18 three bills, one on your behalf, and two
19 resolutions.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
21 Clerk will please read the title of the
22 first bill.

23 THE CLERK: An ordinance
24 amending Title 4 of The Philadelphia
25 Code, entitled "The Philadelphia Building

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Construction and Occupancy Code," by
3 amending Subcode "PM," by requiring the
4 periodic inspection of the exterior walls
5 and appurtenances of certain buildings.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
7 bill will be referred to the appropriate
8 committee.

9 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
10 amending Section 9-206 of The
11 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sidewalk
12 Vendors in Neighborhood Business
13 Districts," by creating the Oregon Avenue
14 Business Corridor District.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This
16 bill will be referred to the appropriate
17 committee.

18 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
19 amending Section 19-203 of The
20 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Payroll
21 Deductions," to add the United Service
22 Organizations to the list of designated
23 payees.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This
25 bill will also be referred to the

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 appropriate committee.

3 THE CLERK: And a resolution
4 authorizing the Joint Committees on
5 Legislative Oversight and Commerce and
6 Economic Development to hold public
7 hearings to examine the ongoing leasing
8 procedures at the Philadelphia
9 International Airport.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
11 Chair recognizes Councilman Kenney for a
12 motion on the resolution.

13 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move the
14 adoption of the resolution.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
17 has been moved and seconded.

18 All in favor will say aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
21 opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
24 ayes have it and the resolution will be
25 referred to the appropriate committee.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CLERK: And a resolution
3 recognizing the Society Hill Playhouse on
4 the occasion of celebrating their 50th
5 Anniversary season.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
7 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilman
8 Kenney.

9 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move the
10 adoption of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
13 has been moved and properly seconded.

14 All in favor will say aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
20 ayes have it and the resolution is
21 adopted.

22 The Chair recognizes
23 Councilwoman Blackwell.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
25 you, Madam President. Today I introduce

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 three bills.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
4 you.

5 The Clerk will please read the
6 title of the first bill.

7 THE CLERK: An ordinance to
8 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
9 changing the zoning designations of
10 certain areas of land located within an
11 area bounded by Market Street, Farragut
12 Street, Chestnut Street and 49th Street.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
14 bill will be referred to the appropriate
15 committee.

16 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
17 authorizing Vilna Gaston to construct,
18 own and maintain an open-air sidewalk
19 cafe at 5222 through 24 Walnut Street.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
21 bill will be referred to the appropriate
22 committee.

23 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
24 authorizing the revision of lines and
25 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 42

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2 by striking from the City Plan a
3 right-of-way for drainage purposes
4 extending from 33rd Street to 32nd
5 Street, northeast of South Street.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This
7 bill will also be referred to the
8 appropriate committee.

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman
10 Greenlee.

11 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
12 you, Madam President. I offer one
13 resolution, which I'd like to speak on
14 very briefly.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
16 you.

17 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE:
18 Co-sponsored by Councilwoman Tasco,
19 Councilwoman Krajewski and Councilwoman
20 Sanchez.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
22 Clerk will please read the title.

23 THE CLERK: A resolution
24 opposing the proposed closing of many
25 postal offices in Philadelphia.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
3 Chair recognizes Councilman Greenlee.

4 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
5 you, Madam President. Very briefly. I
6 believe it's very important for Council
7 to go on record showing their concern of
8 the proposed closing of many of these
9 local offices in Philadelphia. As is
10 shown by the list that was distributed in
11 caucus this morning, these closings
12 affect just about every neighborhood in
13 the City of Philadelphia. These proposed
14 closings are particularly injurious to
15 senior citizens and low-income residents
16 who may not be able to drive to a more
17 distant location and/or have ready access
18 to a computer, and I think that should be
19 a real concern for all of us.

20 I also wanted to recognize and
21 welcome and commend the members of the
22 American Postal Workers Union, who are
23 kind of standing out there with all those
24 signs back there, who are here today
25 under the leadership of their President

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Gwen Ivey.

3 Madam President, I move the
4 adoption of the resolution.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
7 has been moved and properly seconded that
8 the resolution be adopted.

9 All in favor will say aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
12 opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
15 ayes have it and the resolution is
16 adopted.

17 (Applause.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
19 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Krajewski.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
21 you, Madam President. I offer two bills
22 and one resolution.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
24 you.

25 The Clerk will please read the

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 title of the first bill.

3 THE CLERK: An ordinance

4 amending Section 2 of an ordinance, Bill

5 No. 070504, approved July 3, 2007,

6 entitled "An ordinance authorizing and

7 directing the revision of lines and

8 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 197

9 by striking from the City Plan and

10 vacating the legally open portions of

11 Casper Street from Tioga Street to

12 Russell Street."

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

14 bill will be referred to the appropriate

15 committee.

16 THE CLERK: And an ordinance

17 authorizing the vacating of Edom Street

18 from Arendell Avenue to Linden Avenue.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This

20 bill will be referred to the appropriate

21 committee.

22 THE CLERK: And a resolution

23 urging the Mayor to consider a Tax

24 Amnesty Program for the City of

25 Philadelphia.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
3 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Krajewski
4 for a motion on the resolution.

5 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: I move
6 the adoption of the resolution.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
9 has been moved and properly seconded that
10 the resolution be adopted.

11 All in favor will signify by
12 saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
15 opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
18 ayes have it and the resolution is
19 adopted.

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilwoman Tasco.

22 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam
23 President, I offer one bill on your
24 behalf.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 you.

3 The Clerk will please read the
4 title of the bill.

5 THE CLERK: An ordinance
6 authorizing the paving of 26th Street
7 from Penrose Avenue to a point
8 southwardly therefrom.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This
10 bill will be referred to the appropriate
11 committee.

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Councilwoman Miller.

14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
15 you, Madam President. Today I offer one
16 bill and seven resolutions.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
18 you.

19 The Clerk will please read the
20 title of the bill.

21 THE CLERK: An ordinance
22 authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the
23 City, to execute the "Southeastern
24 Pennsylvania Mutual Aid and
25 Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement"

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 by and between the City of Philadelphia

3 and Bucks, Chester, Delaware and

4 Montgomery Counties.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
6 bill will be referred to the appropriate
7 committee.

8 THE CLERK: And a resolution
9 authorizing City Council's Joint
10 Committees on Public Health and Human
11 Services and Public Safety to hold a
12 public hearing to investigate current
13 policies, procedures and standards in all
14 schools located in the City of
15 Philadelphia.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
17 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller for
18 a motion.

19 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move
20 for the adoption of the resolution.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It
23 has been moved and properly seconded that
24 the resolution be adopted.

25 All in favor will say aye.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
4 opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
7 ayes have it and the resolution will be
8 referred to the appropriate committee.

9 THE CLERK: And a resolution
10 authorizing City Council's Committee on
11 Commerce and Economic Development to hold
12 a public hearing to assess current
13 policies and procedures utilized by
14 publicly-held and other corporate
15 entities and their efforts to increase
16 diversity and minority inclusion in the
17 workplace.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
19 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller for
20 a motion.

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move
22 for the adoption of the resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
25 has been moved and properly seconded that

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 the resolution be adopted.

3 All in favor will signify by
4 saying aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
7 opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
10 ayes have it and the resolution will be
11 referred to the appropriate committee.

12 THE CLERK: And a resolution
13 proclaiming September 2009 as "National
14 Preparedness Month."

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
16 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

17 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move
18 for the adoption of the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
21 has been moved and properly seconded that
22 the resolution be adopted.

23 All in favor will say aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
5 ayes have it and the resolution is
6 adopted.

7 THE CLERK: And a resolution
8 proclaiming September 2009 as "National
9 Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery
10 Month."

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
12 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
13 Miller.

14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move
15 for the adoption of the resolution.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
18 has been moved and properly seconded that
19 the resolution be adopted.

20 All in favor will say aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
23 opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 ayes have it and the resolution is

3 adopted.

4 THE CLERK: And a resolution
5 recognizing September 2009 as Childhood
6 Cancer Awareness Month in honor of
7 childhood cancer patients, caregivers,
8 survivors and those children who have
9 succumbed to the disease.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
11 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

12 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move
13 for the adoption of the resolution.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
16 has been moved and properly seconded that
17 the resolution be adopted.

18 All in favor will indicate by
19 saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
22 opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
25 ayes have it and the resolution is

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 adopted.

3 THE CLERK: And a resolution
4 proclaiming October 3rd and 4th of 2009
5 as "Praise is the Cure Weekend" in
6 Philadelphia.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
8 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

9 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
10 you, Madam President. I move for the
11 adoption of the resolution.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
14 has been moved and properly seconded that
15 the resolution be adopted.

16 All in favor will say aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
19 opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
22 ayes have it and the resolution is
23 adopted.

24 THE CLERK: And a resolution
25 celebrating 25 years of awareness,

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 education and empowerment, and

3 proclaiming October 2009 as "National

4 Breast Cancer Awareness Month."

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:

6 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman

7 Miller.

8 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move

9 for the adoption of the resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

12 has been moved and properly seconded that

13 the resolution be adopted.

14 All in favor will say aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

20 ayes have it and the resolution is

21 adopted.

22 The Chair recognizes

23 Councilwoman Sanchez.

24 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank

25 you, Madam President. I offer two

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 resolutions.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
4 Clerk will please read the title of the
5 first resolution.

6 THE CLERK: A resolution
7 recognizing September 21st, 2009 as
8 Alzheimer's Awareness Day in the City of
9 Philadelphia.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
11 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Sanchez.

12 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: I move
13 for the adoption of the resolution.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It
16 has been moved and properly seconded that
17 the resolution be adopted.

18 All in favor will say aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
21 opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
24 ayes have it and the resolution is
25 adopted.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CLERK: And a resolution
3 honoring and congratulating the Northeast
4 Times Newsweekly on its 75th Anniversary.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
6 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
7 Sanchez.

8 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
9 you, Madam President. I move for its
10 adoption.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
13 has been moved and properly seconded that
14 the resolution be adopted.

15 All in favor will say aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
18 opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
21 ayes have it and the resolution is
22 adopted.

23 The Chair recognizes Councilman
24 Green.

25 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Madam President. I have two resolutions,
3 one of which I will speak on briefly.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
5 Clerk will please read the title of the
6 first resolution.

7 THE CLERK: A resolution
8 calling upon the Administration to submit
9 to Council immediately a further revised
10 Five-Year Plan that does not include an
11 assumption about the state providing
12 additional court funding and to provide
13 all requested detail regarding such plan.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
15 Chair recognizes Councilman Green.

16 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
17 Madam President. Despite press reports
18 to the contrary, I'd like to make it
19 clear for the record and City Council
20 that we did not approve Plan C. We
21 waived our right to review it so that we
22 spoke with one voice in Harrisburg in
23 seeking approval there.

24 I still support the Mayor's
25 efforts in Harrisburg, and I ask

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Harrisburg to take action immediately on

3 our legislative agenda there. However,

4 Plan C has now been rejected by PICA.

5 They have requested a modified Plan C

6 that complies with the law. This means

7 they will not vote on our current Plan C,

8 the same as a rejection. A modified Plan

9 C will have to be submitted to Council if

10 we don't get approval by the end of the

11 day tomorrow. This resolution requests

12 that a modified Plan C be submitted to

13 Council forthwith so we have time to

14 review it before we would have to take

15 action next Thursday.

16 Thank you, Madam President. I

17 move for the adoption.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Do I

19 hear a second?

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

22 has been moved and properly seconded that

23 the resolution be adopted.

24 All in favor will say aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: I
3 believe you want this to go to committee?

4 COUNCILMAN GREEN: No, ma'am.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: All
6 those in favor will say aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
9 opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
12 ayes have it and the resolution is
13 adopted.

14 THE CLERK: And a resolution
15 authorizing the Committee on Streets and
16 Services to hold hearings to assess the
17 results of the Streets Department's
18 dedicated bike lane pilot program on
19 Spruce and Pine Streets in Center City.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
21 Chair recognizes Councilman Green for a
22 motion.

23 COUNCILMAN GREEN: I move for
24 the adoption.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
3 has been moved and properly seconded that
4 the resolution be adopted.

5 All in favor will say aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
8 opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
11 ayes have it and the resolution will be
12 referred to the appropriate committee.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Jones.

15 COUNCILMAN JONES: Good
16 morning, Madam President. One bill,
17 three resolutions, and I'd like to speak
18 to the resolution on the House of Umoja.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
20 you.

21 The Clerk will please read the
22 title of the bill.

23 THE CLERK: An ordinance
24 amending Section 14-1637 of The
25 Philadelphia Code, entitled "City Avenue

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Regional Center and City Avenue Village

3 Center Special District Controls."

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
5 bill will be referred to the appropriate
6 committee.

7 THE CLERK: And a resolution
8 authorizing the Joint Committee on
9 Housing, Neighborhood Development and the
10 Homeless and Licenses and Inspections to
11 hold the hearings previously authorized
12 by Resolution No. 090306, adopted April
13 16, 2009.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
15 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
17 Madam President. I move for the adoption
18 of the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
21 has been moved and properly seconded that
22 the resolution be adopted.

23 All in favor will indicate by
24 saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
3 opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
6 ayes have it and the resolution will be
7 referred to the appropriate committee.

8 THE CLERK: And a resolution
9 authorizing Council's Committees on
10 Commerce and Economic Development and
11 Public Health and Human Services to hold
12 joint hearings on the lack of retail
13 medical clinics in chain stores within
14 the City.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
16 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Jones.

18 COUNCILMAN JONES: I move for
19 the adoption of the resolution.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
22 has been moved and properly seconded that
23 the resolution be adopted.

24 All in favor will say aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
3 opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
6 ayes have it and the resolution will be
7 referred to the appropriate committee.

8 THE CLERK: And a resolution
9 recognizing and celebrating the House of
10 Umoja on its 41st Anniversary of
11 combatting gang violence in
12 Philadelphia's urban communities.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
14 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

15 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
16 Madam President. Today I introduce a
17 resolution celebrating the House of
18 Umoja's 41st Anniversary in combatting
19 gang violence in the City of Philadelphia
20 and other urban communities. We also
21 have a book here, "No Gang War in '74"
22 written by Stephen Satell, who is also
23 here and I'd like to recognize.

24 But I want to point out a time
25 in the City of Philadelphia's history

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 where the gang violence was such that
3 they had a daily gang count. A lot has
4 changed, but a lot has remained the same.
5 But we thank them for one year where
6 there were zero gang deaths, and we want
7 to replicate that now and forevermore,
8 and I want to recognize Dave Fattah, who
9 is also here, who is a co-founder of the
10 House of Umoja.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: I move for
13 the adoption of the resolution.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It
16 has been moved and properly seconded that
17 the resolution be adopted.

18 All in favor will say aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
21 opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
24 ayes have it and the resolution is
25 adopted.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Chair recognizes Councilman
3 Goode.

4 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
5 Madam President. I offer two bills and
6 one resolution.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
8 Clerk will please read the title of the
9 first bill.

10 THE CLERK: An ordinance
11 amending Chapter 17-1300 of The
12 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Philadelphia
13 21st Century Minimum Wage and Benefits
14 Standard," by providing that those who
15 violate the Chapter may be suspended from
16 receiving financial assistance from the
17 City or from bidding on or participating
18 in future City contracts.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
20 bill will be referred to the appropriate
21 committee.

22 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
23 providing for the submission to the
24 qualified electors of the City of
25 Philadelphia of the proposal set forth in

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 a Resolution approved by Council

3 proposing an amendment of the

4 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter confirming

5 Council's power to enact ordinances that

6 require the City, City contractors and

7 recipients of City financial assistance

8 to provide their employees a minimum

9 level of pay and benefits, and/or that

10 require certain or all City contracts to

11 include provisions mandating compliance

12 with such a requirement.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

14 bill will be referred to the appropriate

15 committee.

16 THE CLERK: And a resolution

17 proposing an amendment to the

18 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter confirming

19 Council's power to enact ordinances that

20 require the City, City contractors and

21 recipients of City financial assistance

22 to provide their employees a minimum

23 level of pay and benefits, and/or that

24 requires certain or all City contracts to

25 include provisions mandating compliance

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 with such a requirement.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
4 Chair recognizes Councilman Goode.

5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
6 Madam President. I failed to mention the
7 legislation was co-introduced by
8 Councilwoman Sanchez. I move for the
9 adoption of the resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It
12 has been moved and properly seconded --
13 it's a Charter change. I'm sorry.

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Councilwoman Brown.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
17 Madam President. I offer one bill today
18 co-sponsored by colleague Councilman
19 Jones and one resolution co-sponsored by
20 Councilmembers Blackwell, Tasco and
21 Green.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
23 you.

24 The Clerk will please read the
25 title of the bill.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CLERK: An ordinance
3 amending Chapter 9-400 of The
4 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Carriers,"
5 by adding a new Section 9-410, entitled
6 "Pedicabs," to provide for the licensing
7 and regulation of businesses operating
8 Pedicabs for hire.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
10 bill will be referred to the appropriate
11 committee.

12 THE CLERK: And a resolution
13 recognizing October as Parent
14 Appreciation Month at the School District
15 of Philadelphia.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
17 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
19 Madam President. I move for the
20 adoption.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
23 has been moved and properly seconded that
24 the resolution be adopted.

25 All in favor will say aye.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
4 opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
7 ayes have it and the resolution is
8 adopted.

9 Councilwoman Brown, did I
10 understand you to say that you had two
11 resolutions?

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I have one
13 resolution, Madam President. I'm actual
14 co-sponsor on the others that we'll hear
15 about later.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Very
17 well. Thank you.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman
19 DiCicco.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
21 Madam President. I have six bills, nine
22 resolutions to be referred to committee,
23 and four privileged resolutions.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
25 you.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Clerk will please read the
3 title of the first bill.

4 THE CLERK: An ordinance to
5 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
6 changing the zoning designations of
7 certain areas of land located within an
8 area bounded by 8th Street, Filbert
9 Street, 9th Street and Market Street.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
11 bill will be referred to the appropriate
12 committee.

13 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
14 authorizing the revision of lines and
15 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 97
16 by striking from the City Plan Marshall
17 Street from Bainbridge Street to Kater
18 Street.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This
20 bill will be referred to the appropriate
21 committee.

22 THE CLERK: And an ordinance to
23 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
24 changing the zoning designations of
25 certain areas of land located within an

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 area bounded by 12th Street, Catharine
3 Street, Fawn Street and Clymer Street.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
5 bill will be referred to the appropriate
6 committee.

7 THE CLERK: And an ordinance to
8 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
9 changing the zoning designations of
10 certain areas of land located within an
11 area bounded by 12th Street, Spruce
12 Street, Camac Street and Manning Street.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
14 bill will be referred to the appropriate
15 committee.

16 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
17 amending Chapter 10-700 of The
18 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Refuse and
19 Littering," by repealing Section 10-726,
20 entitled "Commercial Establishment Waste
21 Management."

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
23 bill will be referred to the appropriate
24 committee.

25 THE CLERK: And an ordinance

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 amending Section 9-205 of The
3 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sidewalk
4 Sales," by prohibiting vending on both
5 sides of Aramingo Avenue, between Lehigh
6 Avenue and Duncan Street.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
8 bill will be referred to the appropriate
9 committee.

10 THE CLERK: And a resolution
11 designating the week of Monday, October
12 5, 2009 through Monday, October 12, 2009
13 as Christopher Columbus Week in
14 celebration of the festivities
15 commemorating Columbus' historic voyage
16 to the new world.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
18 Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
20 Madam President. I move for the adoption
21 of the resolution. This resolution was
22 co-sponsored by myself along with you.
23 Thank you.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 has been moved and properly seconded that
3 the resolution be adopted.

4 All in favor will say aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
7 opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
10 ayes have it and the resolution is
11 adopted.

12 THE CLERK: And a resolution
13 authorizing Philadelphia City Council's
14 Committee on Legislative Oversight to
15 hold public hearings on the Board of
16 Revision of Taxes' governance and
17 assessment methodology.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
19 Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco for a
20 motion.

21 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
22 Madam President. I move for the adoption
23 of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 has been moved and properly seconded that
3 the resolution be adopted.

4 All in favor will say aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
7 opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
10 ayes have it and the resolution will be
11 referred to the appropriate committee.

12 THE CLERK: And a resolution
13 also naming Spring Garden Street -- I'm
14 sorry; Spring Street between 9th and 10th
15 Streets in honor of Maribelle "Mitzie"
16 Mackenzie.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
18 Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
20 Madam President. I move for the adoption
21 of the resolution.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
24 has been moved and properly seconded that
25 the resolution be adopted.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 All in favor will say aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
5 opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
8 ayes have it and the resolution is
9 adopted.

10 THE CLERK: And a resolution
11 proclaiming the week of September 14,
12 2009 as "Mom and Pop Store Week."

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
14 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilman
15 DiCicco.

16 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
17 Madam President. I move for the adoption
18 of the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
21 has been moved and properly seconded that
22 the resolution be adopted.

23 All in favor will say aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
5 ayes have it and the resolution is
6 adopted.

7 THE CLERK: And a resolution
8 reappointing Wayne Fisher to the Board of
9 Directors of the Center City District.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
11 Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

12 COUNCILMAN DiCicco: I move for
13 the adoption -- these are the district
14 resolutions. Don't they get referred to
15 committee, or no?

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Yes.

17 May I suggest to the Clerk that
18 he read them all at one time and we could
19 cast one vote.

20 THE CLERK: A resolution
21 reappointing Wayne Fisher to the Board of
22 Directors of the Center City District and
23 also Randall Scott, George Burrell,
24 Christopher Terlizzi, Larry Howard,
25 Ernest Jones, David Marshall, Ahmeenah

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Young and William Walsh.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: These
4 bills will be referred to the appropriate
5 committee.

6 The Chair now recognizes
7 Councilman O'Neill.

8 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam
9 President, I have no bills or
10 resolutions.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
12 Chair thanks the gentleman.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Clarke.

15 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
16 Madam President. I have four bills and
17 two resolutions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
19 you.

20 The Clerk will read the first
21 resolution.

22 THE CLERK: A resolution
23 proclaiming September 22nd as Business to
24 Business Expo Day in the City of
25 Philadelphia.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
3 Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke for a
4 motion.

5 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I move for
6 the adoption.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
9 has been moved and properly seconded that
10 the resolution be adopted.

11 All in favor will say aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
14 opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
17 ayes have it and the resolution is
18 adopted.

19 THE CLERK: And a resolution
20 proposing an amendment to the
21 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to revise
22 the composition of the Zoning Board of
23 Adjustment by designating the
24 Commissioner of Licenses and Inspections
25 as an alternate member of the Board.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Is
3 that a Charter change?

4 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Yes, it's a
5 Charter change.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: That
7 will be referred to the appropriate
8 committee.

9 The Clerk will please read the
10 first bill.

11 THE CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Chapter 14-1800 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning Board
14 of Adjustment," by amending Section
15 14-1805, entitled "Hearings," by revising
16 the number of members of the Zoning Board
17 of Adjustment that shall constitute a
18 quorum.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
20 bill will be referred to the appropriate
21 committee.

22 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
23 authorizing the revision of lines and
24 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 118
25 by striking from the City Plan the

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 southerly 20-foot-wide portion of Diamond
3 Street from 10th Street to Alder Street.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This
5 bill will be referred to the appropriate
6 committee.

7 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
8 amending Title 4 of The Philadelphia
9 Code, The Philadelphia Property
10 Maintenance Code, by amending provisions
11 relating to Vacant Premises, by allowing
12 for the immediate issuance of code
13 violation notices for unmaintained vacant
14 lots.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
16 bill will be referred to the appropriate
17 committee.

18 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
19 providing for the submission to the
20 qualified electors of the City of
21 Philadelphia of an amendment to the
22 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to revise
23 the composition of the Zoning Board of
24 Adjustment by designating the
25 Commissioner of Licenses and Inspections

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 as an alternate member of the Board who
3 may replace any absent or disqualified
4 appointed member.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
6 bill will be referred to the appropriate
7 committee.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Kelly.

10 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Madam
11 President, I have no bills or
12 resolutions.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
14 you.

15 The Chair recognizes Councilman
16 Rizzo.

17 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam
18 President, I have three resolutions.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
20 you.

21 The Clerk will please read the
22 title of the first resolution.

23 THE CLERK: A resolution
24 honoring Nancy D. Kolbs's 21-year career
25 as President and Chief Executive Officer

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 of Philadelphia's famed "Please Touch
3 Museum."

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
5 Chair recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

6 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam
7 President, I move for the adoption of
8 this resolution.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
11 has been moved and properly seconded that
12 the resolution be adopted.

13 All in favor will indicate by
14 saying aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
20 ayes have it and the resolution is
21 adopted.

22 THE CLERK: And a resolution
23 recognizing, honoring, celebrating and
24 thanking Dr. Wilbur Oaks for his selfless
25 commitment to serving the public in the

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 City of Philadelphia by having
3 established the St. John's Hospice
4 Homeless Soccer Team Program.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
6 Chair recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

7 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: I move the
8 adoption of this resolution.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It
11 has been moved and properly seconded that
12 the resolution be adopted.

13 All in favor will say aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
16 opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
19 ayes have it and the resolution is
20 adopted.

21 THE CLERK: And a resolution
22 recognizing and thanking Frank Punzo on
23 the occasion of his retirement after five
24 years of dedicated and excellent service
25 to the people of the City of

1 9/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Philadelphia.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

4 Chair recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

5 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Thank you,

6 Madam President. I'd like to state that

7 Councilman O'Neill, who has the

8 Technology Committee, and also Councilman

9 Clarke, the Chair of the Public Property

10 Committee, also are co-sponsors of this

11 resolution, and I move for the adoption

12 of this resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

15 has been moved and properly seconded that

16 the resolution be adopted.

17 All in favor will say aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

20 opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

23 ayes have it and the resolution is

24 adopted.

25 As there are no reports from

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 committees, we will consider special

3 business that we have today. The next

4 order of business is the election of the

5 Chief Clerk of the Council of the City of

6 Philadelphia. Nominations are now in

7 order, and the Chair recognizes

8 Councilwoman Tasco.

9 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,

10 Madam President. I nominate Mr. Michael

11 Decker.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

13 Chair thanks the Councilwoman.

14 The Chair recognizes Councilman

15 Clarke.

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,

17 Madam President. I second the

18 nomination.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Are

20 there any further nominations?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:

23 Seeing none, the Chair recognizes

24 Councilwoman Tasco.

25 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 Madam President. I move that the
3 nominations be closed.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
5 Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

6 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
7 Madam President. I second that motion.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
9 has been moved and properly seconded that
10 the nominations be closed.

11 All in favor will indicate by
12 saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
15 opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
18 ayes have it and the motion carries.

19 (Applause.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: I
21 could go on to say there are no further
22 nominations, et cetera, but we all know
23 that Michael has been unanimously voted
24 upon. He has done an outstanding job. I
25 know that he's in every morning at 7:30.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 You could find him in his office at 7
3 o'clock at night. I know he's going to
4 do a tremendous job.

5 And, Michael, I would just like
6 to offer my personal congratulations.
7 Good luck.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I am
10 told that we're going to have to call the
11 roll for the record. Okay. Let's call
12 the roll, Michael.

13 THE CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Blackwell.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

16 THE CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

17 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

18 THE CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

20 THE CLERK: Councilman Goode.

21 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

22 THE CLERK: Councilman Green.

23 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

24 THE CLERK: Councilman
25 Greenlee.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS
2 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.
3 THE CLERK: Councilman Jones.
4 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
5 THE CLERK: Councilman Kelly.
6 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.
7 THE CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
8 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
9 THE CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Krajewski.
11 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
12 THE CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Miller.
14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
15 THE CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
16 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
17 THE CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Reynolds Brown.
19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
20 THE CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
21 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
22 THE CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Sanchez.
24 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
25 THE CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

3 THE CLERK: Council President

4 Verna.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

6 As I said previously, it was by

7 unanimous vote by all members of Council.

8 I now declare Mr. Michael Decker duly

9 elected Chief Clerk of the City Council

10 of Philadelphia.

11 Again, Michael,

12 congratulations.

13 (Applause.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

15 next order of business is the

16 consideration of the Calendar.

17 There are no bills on the First

18 Reading Calendar today. Therefore, the

19 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco for

20 the purpose of calling up bills on the

21 Second Reading and Final Passage Calendar

22 to be considered today.

23 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,

24 Madam President. Bill No. 090121 is

25 being called up for withdrawal. Bill No.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 090128, 090408 and 090405 are being
3 called up for the Second Reading and
4 Final Passage Calendar today. All other
5 bills are being held.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
7 you.

8 I can now say would the Chief
9 Clerk please read the title of Bill No.
10 090121.

11 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 establishing a no truck parking
13 regulation on the 5200 block of Marshall
14 Street.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
16 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

17 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam
18 President, I move that this bill be
19 withdrawn.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It
22 has been moved and seconded that Bill No.
23 090121 be withdrawn at the request of the
24 sponsor.

25 All in favor will say aye.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
4 opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
7 ayes have it and the motion carries.

8 I would ask the Chief Clerk to
9 now read the title of Bill No. 090128.

10 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
11 continuing the East Passyunk Avenue
12 Business Improvement District beyond its
13 termination date.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This
15 bill having been read on two different
16 days, the question now is shall the bill
17 pass finally.

18 The Chief Clerk will please
19 call the roll.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Blackwell.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 Clarke.

25 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
3 DiCicco.
4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
6 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
8 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
10 Greenlee.
11 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
13 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.
15 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Kenney.
18 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Krajewski.
21 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Miller.
24 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 O'Neill.
3 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Reynolds Brown.
6 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
8 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Sanchez.
11 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Tasco.
14 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
16 Verna.
17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.
18 The ayes are 17; the nays are
19 zero. A majority of all members having
20 voted in the affirmative, the bill
21 passes.
22 The Chief Clerk will now read
23 Bill No. 090408.
24 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
25 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 changing the zoning designations of
3 certain areas of land located within an
4 area generally bounded by a line located
5 approximately 220 feet north of
6 Cumberland Street, the Delaware River, a
7 line located approximately 328 feet south
8 of Berks Street, Beach Street, Richmond
9 Street, Schirra Drive, Beach Street and
10 Cumberland Street.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This
12 bill having been read on two different
13 days, the question now is shall the bill
14 pass finally.

15 The Chief Clerk will please
16 call the roll.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Blackwell.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
21 Clarke.

22 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 DiCicco.

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
3 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
5 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 Greenlee.
8 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.
12 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
14 Kenney.
15 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Krajewski.
18 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Miller.
21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 O'Neill.
24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Reynolds Brown.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

5 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Sanchez.

8 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Tasco.

11 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

13 Verna.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

15 The ayes are 17; the nays are

16 zero. A majority of all members having

17 voted in the affirmative, the bill

18 passes.

19 I would ask the Chief Clerk to

20 please read the title of Bill No. 090405.

21 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

22 authorizing the Bond Committee to sell

23 bonds at public or private negotiated

24 sale, to provide funds toward various

25 capital municipal purposes.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This
3 bill having been read on two different
4 days, the question now is shall the bill
5 pass finally.

6 The Chief Clerk will please
7 call the roll.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Blackwell.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
12 Clarke.

13 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 DiCicco.

16 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

18 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

20 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
22 Greenlee.

23 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.
3 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
5 Kenney.
6 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Krajewski.
9 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Miller.
12 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
14 O'Neill.
15 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Reynolds Brown.
18 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
20 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Sanchez.
23 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Tasco.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
4 Verna.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

6 The ayes are 17; the nays are
7 zero. A majority of all members having
8 voted in the affirmative, the bill
9 passes.

10 That completes our Calendar for
11 today.

12 Are there any speeches on the
13 part of the minority?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are
16 there speeches on the part of the
17 majority?

18 The Chair recognizes
19 Councilwoman Blackwell.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
21 you, Madam President. I would like to
22 remind my colleagues that we have our
23 Partnership for Prescription Assistance
24 table outside, and during these days when
25 money is so tight, I hope you'll take

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 advantage to get information and tell
3 your constituents that they can get
4 information or have the van come out to
5 your community so that people can get
6 free prescriptions.

7 Thank you, Madam President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
9 you.

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman
11 Green.

12 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
13 Madam President. A quick review of how
14 we arrived at the current budget
15 situation would be useful, particularly
16 in light of some of the revisionist
17 history in circulation.

18 First, let's recall the budget
19 originally proposed by the
20 Administration. It included a three-year
21 one percent sales tax increase, various
22 reforms to the pension system, both of
23 which measures required state approval,
24 and a 19 percent property tax increase.

25 Council was justifiably

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 concerned that the property tax increase
3 would compound the inequity,
4 non-uniformity and inaccuracy of the
5 existing property valuations. Councilman
6 DiCicco introduced a resolution to look
7 at this very issue today.

8 The Administration and Council
9 were able to find common ground on the
10 sales tax, the one revenue side option
11 the Administration and Council could
12 agree on, but also one that made us more
13 dependent upon state action. In my view,
14 with the benefit of hindsight, we on
15 Council should have adopted our own Plan
16 B, a mix of spending and revenue measures
17 to become effective should the requested
18 state authorizations not be granted by a
19 date certain and that still avoided what
20 many of us view as untenable increases to
21 the property tax. Councilwoman Sanchez
22 had such a proposal that the
23 Administration would not consider as part
24 of our budget compromise.

25 But the important takeaway from

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 last spring's budget process is that
3 Council identified a serious problem;
4 namely, that the proposed budget depended
5 upon a revenue source that lacked
6 legitimacy and would inflict real pain on
7 Philadelphians, and worked
8 collaboratively both within Council and
9 the Administration to address it.

10 We must build on this proactive
11 problem-solving approach. If Harrisburg
12 does not provide the requested
13 authorizations, the budgetary stakes at
14 issue will increase by orders of
15 magnitude. City Council can and must
16 play an active role in budgetary
17 deliberations and preparation. The
18 problems we face collectively are of such
19 enormity that we cannot afford pettiness,
20 isolationism or political posturing.
21 Without change, without action, the
22 future viability of the City we know and
23 love is in jeopardy. All talent must be
24 engaged.

25 In forging the path ahead, we

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 must apply the lessons of the past budget
3 cycles, including necessity of early and
4 frequent communication and collaboration
5 with the Administration. We should heed
6 President Obama's words to Congress last
7 week: Although the politically safe move
8 would be to kick the can down the road,
9 to defer reform for one more year, one
10 more election, one more term, that's not
11 what the moment calls for. That's not
12 what we came here to do. We did not come
13 here to fear the future. We came here to
14 shape it.

15 Council stands ready to work
16 with Mayor Nutter to deliver for our
17 citizens. We're also ready to move
18 forward on our own if collaboration is
19 not forthcoming. But just imagine how
20 much more we can accomplish in
21 partnership. The time for hand wringing
22 is past. We must act.

23 Thank you, Madam President.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
25 you.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 The Chair recognizes

3 Councilwoman Sanchez.

4 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
5 you, Madam President. I wanted to ask my
6 colleagues to join me in wishing our
7 colleague, Councilman Clarke, a happy
8 birthday.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Oh,
10 happy birthday.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: He
13 didn't want everybody to know he's 39.

14 (Laughter.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
16 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
18 Madam President. This summer we lost one
19 of this nation's greatest heroes, the
20 late Senator Edward Kennedy, aptly named
21 the "Lion of the Senate." I was deeply
22 saddened at the loss of Senator Ted
23 Kennedy, who, in my view, was blessed and
24 determined to be a voice that was
25 purpose-driven in living a well-fulfilled

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 life.

3 While glued to my seat watching
4 hours and hours and hours of TV coverage
5 all times of day and night of this
6 amazing statesman, his life, his
7 accomplishments, I reflected greatly on
8 what we do here in this Chamber and what
9 issues really matter to the citizens we
10 serve.

11 Since he took office in 1964,
12 the Senator built alliances on both sides
13 of the aisle to pass milestone
14 legislation that opened doors and gave a
15 voice for women, children, minorities of
16 all stripes and those Americans who have
17 been denied a basic human right
18 guaranteed by the Constitution.

19 Thanks to Senator Kennedy, we
20 have Title IX requiring schools to
21 provide our daughters the same
22 opportunities in sports that we provide
23 our sons.

24 Thanks to Ted Kennedy, we have
25 the Family and Medical Leave Act granting

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 peace of mind to families who no longer
3 have to fear losing their jobs due to
4 illness.

5 Thanks to Senator Kennedy, we
6 have early head start, expanding early
7 childhood development.

8 Thanks to Senator Kennedy, we
9 have the Higher Education Act opening the
10 doors of higher education learning to all
11 Americans. And the list goes on and on.
12 Funding for HIV/AIDS, funding for after
13 school funding, funding for menu product
14 labeling, funding for equal pay for equal
15 work and, most importantly of all,
16 affordable and universal healthcare for
17 all Americans, his number one priority
18 focus.

19 His legislative life work is
20 indeed an instruction lesson for me.

21 Unfortunately in Philadelphia,
22 this type of legislative focus far too
23 often has been referred to as soft or
24 lightweight. I can say this with much
25 authority, for I have been criticized for

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 having a focus on important and relevant
3 issues related to women, children,
4 education and families.

5 Parenthetically, I want to
6 thank Majority Leader Councilwoman Tasco
7 and Councilman Brian O'Neill, who nudged
8 and pushed me for years to become active
9 with the National League of Cities
10 specifically in the area of children,
11 youth and families. My belief in the
12 value of these issues were reaffirmed and
13 best captured by President Obama who
14 said, quote, "Senator Kennedy's ideas and
15 ideals are stamped on scores of laws and
16 reflected in millions of lives, for
17 seniors who now know dignity, for
18 children who know education's promise and
19 for all who seek the American dream."

20 My hope is that the lasting
21 legacies of Senator Ted Kennedy is maybe
22 that these issues will no longer be
23 viewed as soft. My optimism and
24 perseverance on these issues has been
25 reignited, Madam President. I now go

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 forward being very unapologetic about
3 focusing on these issues around women,
4 children and families. And as much as I
5 am excited about sustainability and the
6 environment, when we reflect on the
7 number of bills that were introduced by
8 my colleagues today, it is exceedingly
9 clear that there's still much work to be
10 done.

11 I remain grateful for a chance
12 to be a part of this work process. I
13 remain unapologetically committed to
14 continue to be a voice for women,
15 children and families. As Senator
16 Kennedy said so passionately and
17 famously, Madam President, "The work goes
18 on, the cause endures, the hope still
19 lives, and the dream shall never die."

20 Thank you, Madam President.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
22 you.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
25 Chair recognizes Councilman O'Neill.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: It wasn't
3 that long ago today that Councilman Green
4 was talking about the budget. I'm going
5 to follow up on that, maybe with a little
6 different perspective.

7 I believe that the real story
8 about the budget is the real estate tax
9 that didn't happen. It was 19 percent,
10 then it was going to be 14 percent. And
11 I think people understood those numbers.
12 I think what very few people understood
13 was that there was a trigger in that
14 legislation that would have increased the
15 19 percent to 25 percent, the 14 percent
16 to 25 percent and made it permanent. So
17 if the three-year sales tax did not pass
18 the Senate by budget time -- well, pass
19 the Senate and the House and signed by
20 the Governor -- that sales tax
21 legislation was three years in the
22 initial budget. That sales tax
23 legislation at five years -- and it would
24 have been no different at three years --
25 would not have passed by June 30th. This

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Council would have approved a 25 percent
3 permanent increase in the real estate
4 tax.

5 I think that's the story that
6 people have to understand. You can't
7 disagree on these facts. Council
8 prevented this from happening.

9 The alternative of the sales
10 tax, I think the Mayor's first three-year
11 proposal and Council's counterproposal of
12 five years instead of the real estate tax
13 should be looked at in as positive a way
14 as you can look at an increase in a sales
15 tax, because back in 1991 when PICA was
16 created and the very large bond issue was
17 enacted to restructure the City's
18 finances, this Council and at that time
19 Mayor Rendell I think made a great error
20 that wasn't repeated this time. That
21 sales tax from six to seven percent was
22 permanent even though our borrowing was
23 only for ten years. That was 20 years
24 ago almost. This sales tax is for five
25 years. It sunsets. And the general

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 cynicism is that no tax ever really ends.

3 Well, this one has a much greater chance

4 of ending than any other one would,

5 because we're only going to have three

6 years to spend it. The last two years

7 are going to pay off the deferred pension

8 payments. So we won't have that money in

9 the last -- year four and year five of

10 the five years. And I don't believe the

11 state will give us a sixth year or a

12 seventh year or an eighth year anyway.

13 In terms of the alternatives,

14 the alternatives were cutting starting

15 back in January instead of waiting until

16 the budget. That's the Mayor's

17 prerogative. He exercised his

18 prerogative not to do that back then when

19 a billion point four million was

20 recognized as a future deficit. Instead,

21 rolled it into the budget, waiting for

22 the 2010 budget, which we completed but

23 still has a little piece that hopefully

24 will be filled in next week.

25 I believe the Mayor has had a

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 strong commitment, as solid a commitment
3 as you can have from the Legislature, to
4 pass the sales tax. I believe that that
5 commitment involved passing the sales
6 tax, but not on any particular timetable
7 other than preventing Plan C. Plan C
8 still has two weeks because of the
9 two-week layoff notice.

10 My understanding is -- and I
11 think it's fair just reading the news --
12 that the state is going to pass a budget
13 tomorrow or over the weekend. They're
14 not going to pass our sales tax until
15 after that. But I still think, given the
16 circumstances, that if you didn't start
17 cutting in January what you had to do
18 with this budget, that the five-year
19 sales tax, borrowing the first two years
20 from the pension fund by not making
21 required payments, was a much better way
22 to go than what would have been a 25
23 percent permanent increase in the real
24 estate tax. This is the first Council in
25 my memory and talking to other people

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 going back further than that where City
3 Council has done anything in the way of
4 opposing a real estate tax proposed by a
5 Mayor. Remember, Mayor Street and Mayor
6 Rendell never proposed one, but going
7 back, there were some pretty large ones
8 and some smaller ones. They were all
9 approved and by overwhelming majorities.

10 So I think Council should
11 congratulate itself on preventing what
12 would have been catastrophic for the
13 taxpayers of Philadelphia: A 25 percent
14 permanent increase in the real estate
15 tax.

16 I think Mayor Nutter did the
17 right thing. I disagree with my
18 colleague and any other colleague that
19 thinks that we should raise the wage tax
20 any more than it is already. It is the
21 highest in the country. It makes us
22 totally uncompetitive. We already raised
23 it by not lowering it last year when we
24 came up with our first billion-dollar
25 problem.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Our business tax is the highest
3 in the country. We don't know how many
4 more jobs we'd have in Center City if we
5 didn't have such an uncompetitive
6 situation, both with our wage tax and our
7 business tax.

8 I applaud the Mayor taking a
9 position, both in his campaign and now
10 during the budget, and saying no more in
11 those areas. I don't think there was
12 ever going to be nine votes or 12. In
13 the situation where the Mayor is totally
14 opposed to it, you need 12 for those
15 things. The sales tax idea is the
16 worst -- or the best of all the other
17 worse ideas. It isn't perfect, but
18 compared to a 25 percent increase in the
19 real estate tax, boy, it sure looks like
20 a pretty good idea.

21 Thank you.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
23 you.

24 The Chair recognizes
25 Councilwoman Tasco.

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
3 Madam President. On that note, following
4 Councilman O'Neill, I'd like to thank the
5 Councilmembers for being always available
6 during our recess to deal with the issues
7 of our legislation in Harrisburg. We met
8 several times during the summer to
9 discuss strategy, strategy that was asked
10 by our leadership in Harrisburg to
11 follow, to speak with one voice from the
12 City with the Mayor and City Council,
13 which we tried to do to show that we were
14 unified here on what we were asking for,
15 and contrary to what you were lead to
16 believe, Councilmembers, there was no
17 time that we asked for a meeting of
18 Councilmembers that they were not
19 available. They were all available and
20 they were working.

21 So we followed our leadership
22 in Harrisburg, led by Dwight Evans, and
23 we hope that Bill 1828 will be passed so
24 that we will not have to implement these
25 Draconian cuts and layoffs that will have

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 a devastating impact on the City of
3 Philadelphia.

4 And so I want to say thank you,
5 colleagues, for your time, your
6 commitment and your input and loyalty to
7 the strategy that we chose to take.

8 I also want to thank
9 Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown for
10 her comments. We've tried to get women
11 in elected office for many, many years
12 and worked the past 30 years to encourage
13 women to run, and it was always stated
14 that women only deal with soft issues,
15 but soft issues are people's issues, and
16 having women in elected office has really
17 made a difference in bringing those
18 issues to the forefront, and that's
19 because we've had so many changes,
20 championed by Senator Kennedy and others
21 in the Senate and in the House, as well
22 as by my colleague, Blondell Reynolds
23 Brown. What she did not tell you was
24 that she has been invited by the National
25 League of Cities to present on a panel

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 for the Committee on Families and
3 Children, and that is her involvement
4 because of her limitations to participate
5 fully.

6 But the National League of
7 Cities is our organization in Washington
8 that is lobbying on the Hill to protect
9 the interest of cities and, through their
10 efforts during the campaign dealing with
11 both the democrats and republicans, led
12 the charge to say to the candidates that
13 you cannot forget the cities. The
14 cities' agendas are important, and for so
15 long cities were overlooked. So they
16 were successful in getting that message
17 through.

18 We do have a close
19 collaboration with the President's Office
20 of Urban Affairs and are able to be
21 influential in legislation coming out of
22 Congress. Whether people think that's
23 important or not, but it's important
24 because that legislation affects not only
25 those of us who represent a district but

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 everybody in this country and

3 particularly in this city.

4 So I just want to say thank

5 you, Councilwoman Brown, for your

6 leadership on what you do.

7 And I have an announcement to

8 make. Drum roll. I want to welcome my

9 great grandchild, Lester, who was born on

10 August 14th. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Oh,

12 great.

13 (Applause.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

15 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Krajewski.

16 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank

17 you, Madam President. I may be out of

18 hand here, but I would like to refer to

19 the resolution that I introduced, since I

20 was busy speaking with my colleague here.

21 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Blame me.

22 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

23 Absolutely.

24 But since we were speaking

25 about the budget, in 1986, the City did a

1 9/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 tax amnesty program and we were owed \$83
3 million. We collected 25 million from
4 taxpayers when we waived the interest and
5 penalty.

6 According to Controller Alan
7 Butkovitz, if we have a tax amnesty
8 program now, we can easily collect \$100
9 million. That's a lot of money.

10 As of today, the City is owed
11 1.2 billion in back taxes. We need cash
12 flow to continue services and jobs. A
13 hundred million in taxes would be a
14 lifeline we need.

15 So I'm calling on the
16 Administration to consider this amnesty
17 program, and if not, possibly next week
18 I'll be introducing a bill.

19 Thank you very much.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: Thank
21 you.

22 Are there any other speeches on
23 the part of the majority?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA:

1 9/17/09 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 Seeing none, the Chair recognizes
3 Councilman Clarke for a motion to
4 adjourn.

5 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
6 Madam President. I move that Council
7 stand adjourned until September 24th,
8 2009, 10:00 a.m.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
11 has been moved and seconded that Council
12 stand adjourned until Thursday, September
13 24th, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

14 All in favor will say aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
20 ayes have it and the motion carries.

21 (Stated Meeting adjourned at
22 11:20 a.m.)

23 - - -

24

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