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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

STATED MEETING

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Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, December 2, 2004
10:50 a.m.

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PRESENT:

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA

COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL

COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE

12

COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN

COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.

13

COUNCILMAN JACK KELLY

COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY

14

COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI

COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO

15

COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER

COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER

16

COUNCILMAN JUAN RAMOS

COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN

17

COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

18

PATRICIA RAFFERTY, CHIEF CLERK

19

20

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22

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1 12/02/04 - STATED - INVOCATION

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3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Good
4 morning. I note that the hour has come and
5 that a quorum of this Council is present. The
6 Council will please come to order. Members
7 will take their seats, and visitors will
8 retire to the seats outside the rails.

9 To give our invocation this morning,
10 the Chair welcomes Bishop Christopher Clark,
11 Jr., from Mount Mariah Pentecostal Church. He
12 is here today as the guest of Councilwoman
13 Tasco and Councilwoman Miller.

14 Will all guests and members please
15 rise?

16 BISHOP CLARK: We honor this morning
17 the President of the Council, to all
18 Councilmen that are gathered. Shall we bow
19 our heads.

20 Eternal Father, our God, we stand
21 this morning before you, pray that these, your
22 people, have called to represent different
23 parts of this great city. Lower your mantle
24 of wisdom and understanding and guide them
25 today. Help them to remember they are always

1 12/02/04 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL
2 in your presence. Give them the knowledge and
3 wisdom as they embark about the business of
4 today of this great City. Guide them to make
5 right decisions. Do this, Father, because you
6 have promised to grant this to your people.
7 In your name we ask and believe that to be so.
8 We thank you with all of our soul, our hearts,
9 our spirits. Let the words of my mouth and
10 the meditation of my heart be acceptable in
11 thy sight, oh, Lord, my strength and my
12 redeemer. Amen, amen and amen.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
14 thanks Bishop Clark for his very inspiring
15 invocation. Council will be at ease.

16 (Council at ease.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: I'm going
18 to call a very brief recess because I guess
19 we're all trying to rush to get to our
20 session, we did not go over the Calendar.

21 (Brief recess.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: We will
23 now reconvene our Council Session.

24 The next order of business is the
25 approval of the Journal of the meeting of

1 12/02/04 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL
2 Thursday, November 18, 2004. And the Chair
3 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
5 Madam President. I move that the Journal of
6 the meeting of Thursday, November 18, 2004,
7 stand approved.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
10 been moved and properly seconded that the
11 Journal of the meeting Thursday, November
12 18, 2004, stand approved.

13 All in favor indicate will indicate
14 by saying aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
20 have it. The motion carries, and the meeting
21 of Thursday, November 18, 2004, is approved.

22 The next order of business is
23 requests for leaves of absence.

24 And the Chair recognizes
25 Councilwoman Blackwell.

1 12/02/04 - STATED - LEAVES

2 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
3 Madam President. Today a leave of absence is
4 requested for Councilwoman Tasco and for
5 Councilman DiCicco.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.
7 A leave will be granted.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Rizzo.

10 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam President,
11 leave is requested for Councilman O'Neill.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Leave will
13 be granted. Thank you.

14 The Chair will dispense with the
15 regular order of business to recognize the
16 guests and visitors joining us in Chambers
17 this morning. On behalf of all Members of
18 City Council, I welcome you to our Council
19 Session. We appreciate your taking the time
20 to join us as we attend to the legislative
21 affairs of our City. We certainly invite you
22 to come again.

23 The next order of business is
24 communications.

25 The Chair requests that the

1 12/02/04 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Sergeant-at-Arms deliver the messages from the
3 Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

4 The Chief Clerk will please read the
5 messages from the Mayor.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President
7 and Members of the Council of the City of
8 Philadelphia, I am returning herewith without
9 my signature Bill NO. 040760, passed by the
10 Council on November 18th.

11 And I am transmitting herewith for
12 the consideration of your honorable body a
13 resolution approving a revised Five-Year
14 Financial Plan for the City of Philadelphia
15 covering Fiscal Years 2005 through 2009.

16 And I am transmitting herewith for
17 the introduction and consideration of your
18 honorable body an ordinance consenting to the
19 transfer of control of Area 2 Cable Television
20 franchise from Urban Cable Works of
21 Pennsylvania to Time Warner Cable, Inc.

22 And an ordinance authorizing the
23 President of Fairmount Park Commission, the
24 Executive Director of Fairmount Park and the
25 Public Property Commissioner on behalf of the

1 12/02/04 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Philadelphia to enter into a ground lease with
3 the School District Philadelphia under which
4 the school district will lease from the City
5 certain land in West Fairmount Park.

6 And an ordinance authorizing the
7 Commissioner of Public Property on behalf of
8 the City of Philadelphia to accept a deed from
9 the School District of Philadelphia for that
10 certain parcel of land commonly known as 8730
11 Old Lion Road.

12 And an ordinance authorizing the
13 Commissioner of Public Property on behalf of
14 the City of Philadelphia to acquire by
15 purchase condemnation or other means the
16 properties located the 314 North 19th Street.

17 And an ordinance authorizing the
18 revision of lines and grades on a portion of
19 City Plan No. 63 by striking from the City
20 Plan and vacating Carlton street from 20th
21 Street.

22 And an ordinance authorizing the
23 Commissioner of Public Property and the
24 Director of Commerce on behalf of the City of
25 Philadelphia to enter into a ground lease

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 agreement with the Philadelphia Authority for
3 Industrial Development providing for the
4 leasing by the City to PAID of certain parcels
5 of land and the improvements thereon.

6 And an ordinance authorizing the
7 Philadelphia Authority for Industrial
8 Development to file an application with the
9 Office of the Budget, Commonwealth of
10 Pennsylvania, under the Redevelopment
11 Assistance Capital Program in an aggregate
12 amount not to exceed \$113,770,000.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

14 The messages will be printed in
15 the Journal.

16 The Chief Clerk will please read any
17 other communications in her position.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: That's all I have,
19 Madam President.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

21 The next order of business is the
22 introduction of bills and resolutions.

23 And the Chair recognizes
24 Councilwoman Blackwell for a motion.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Madam President. I move that the Rules of
3 Council be suspended so as to permit the
4 immediate consideration of resolutions at
5 their time of introduction.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
8 been moved and properly seconded that the
9 Rules of Council be suspended so as to permit
10 immediate consideration of resolutions at the
11 time of introduction.

12 All in favor of the motion will
13 indicate by saying aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
16 opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
19 have it, and the motion carries.

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman
21 Kenney.

22 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
23 President. I have no bills or resolutions
24 today.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 thanks the gentleman.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
4 Blackwell.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
6 Madam President. Today, I have six
7 resolutions and one bill; two are on your
8 behalf and one on the Administration's behalf.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

10 The Chief Clerk will please read the
11 title of the bill.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
13 authorizing the Philadelphia Authority for
14 Industrial Development to file an application
15 with the Office of the Budget, Commonwealth of
16 Pennsylvania, under the Redevelopment
17 Assistance Capital Program in an aggregate
18 amount not to \$113,770,000.

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

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
22 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
23 Property to execute and deliver to the
24 Redevelopment Authority deeds located in the
25 6th and 44th Wards of the City of

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Philadelphia.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
4 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
6 Madam President. I move for the adoption of
7 the resolution.

8 (Duly seconded.)

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

12 All in favor will say aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
15 opposed?

16 (No response.)

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

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
20 authorizing the Commissioner Public Property
21 to execute and deliver to the Redevelopment
22 Authority deeds located in the 36th ward of
23 the City of Philadelphia.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
25 again recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
3 Madam President. I move for the adoption.

4 (Duly seconded.)

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

8 All in favor will say aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
11 opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
14 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
16 authorizing Commissioner of Public Property to
17 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment
18 Authority deeds located in 36th Ward of the
19 City of Philadelphia.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
21 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
23 Madam President. I move for the adoption of
24 the resolution.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
3 been moved and properly seconded that the
4 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 ayes
11 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
13 urging the Administration to do everything
14 possible to avoid laying off Philadelphia
15 Police officers.

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

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

20 (Duly seconded.)

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

24 All in favor will say aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Councilman
3 Kenney, do you want to be recognized?

4 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I'm very happy
5 to support this resolution as long as in the
6 spirit we can concern ourselves with the fire
7 fighters also, both police and fire. Thank
8 you.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: That
10 request was made. We were afraid to change
11 the title today given --

12 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I'm fully IN
13 supportive of it from the police officers'
14 standpoint but I also want to make sure we
15 mention our fire fighters, too. Thank you.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: We support
17 that, Madam President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
19 been moved and second.

20 All in favor will indicate by saying
21 aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
24 opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
3 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
5 authorizing the Committee of the whole to
6 conduct hearings to create an umbrella
7 organization called Cap, Coordinated Approach
8 Program, to handle criminal activity in our
9 City.

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

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
13 Madam President. We move for the adoption.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
16 been moved and properly seconded that the
17 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 ayes
24 have it, and the resolution will be referred
25 to the Committee of the Whole.

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
3 approving a revised Five-Year Financial Plan
4 for the City of Philadelphia, covering Fiscal
5 Years 2005 through 2009.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
7 resolution will be referred to the appropriate
8 committee.

9 Thank you.

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman
11 Cohen.

12 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President,
13 I have no bills or resolutions.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
15 thanks the gentleman.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
17 Krajewski.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
19 President, I have one resolution and one bill.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

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

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
24 providing for the submission to the qualified
25 electors of the City of Philadelphia of the

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 proposed set forth in a resolution approved by
3 Council proposing an amendment to the
4 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to
5 rights over or in real estate by providing
6 that Council may direct the City to replace
7 any City-owned business closed because of
8 condemnation by a government entity.

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

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
12 proposing an amendment to the Home Rule
13 Charter relating to rights over or in real
14 estate by providing that Council may direct
15 the City to replace any City-owned building
16 closed because of condemnation by a government
17 entity.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This
19 resolution will be referred to the appropriate
20 committee.

21 The Chair recognizes Councilman
22 Mariano.

23 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Madam
24 President, I have no bills other resolutions.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
3 Miller.

4 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you,
5 Madam President. I have one resolution.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Clerk
7 will please read the title of the resolution.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
9 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
10 Property to execute and deliver to the
11 Redevelopment Authority deeds located in the
12 13th Ward of the City of Philadelphia.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
14 again recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

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

17 (Duly seconded.)

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

21 All in favor will say aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
24 opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
3 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

4 The Chair recognizes Councilman
5 Nutter.

6 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
7 President. Madam President, I have three
8 resolutions and three bills. The first
9 resolution I'd like to be heard on.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

11 The Clerk will please read the title
12 of the first bill.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
14 authorizing the President of Fairmount Park,
15 the Executive Director of Fairmount Park and
16 the Public Property Commissioner on behalf of
17 the City of Philadelphia to enter into a
18 ground leases with the school difficulties
19 describing of Philadelphia.

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

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
23 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
24 Property on behalf of the City of Philadelphia
25 to accept a deed from the School District of

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Philadelphia for that certain parcel of land
3 commonly known 8730 Old Lion Road.

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

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
7 authorizing the revision of lines and grades
8 on a portion City Plan No. 299 by striking
9 from the City Plan Domino Lane from Henry
10 Avenue to Hagert Street, under certain terms
11 and conditions.

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

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
15 commending Joseph R. Syrnick for his 34 years
16 of service to the City of Philadelphia.

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

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

22 (Duly seconded.)

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

1 12/02/04 - 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 ayes
8 have it and the resolution is adopted.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
10 authorizing the commissioner of public
11 property to execute and deliver to the
12 redevelopment deeds located in the 34th and
13 38th Wards of the City of Philadelphia.

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

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

19 (Duly seconded.)

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

23 All in favor will say aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
5 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
7 honoring the life and mourning the death of
8 Obra S. Kernodle, III.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
10 again recognizes Councilman Nutter.

11 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
12 President.

13 First, Madam President, let me
14 correct the record. I should have indicated
15 that the first two bills regarding the
16 Microsoft High School, School of the Future, I
17 introduced on behalf of myself, Councilwoman
18 Blackwell and Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds
19 Brown. Those first two bills are related to
20 the high school, I'd like to correct the
21 record on that.

22 The second, Madam President, it is
23 with a tremendously heavy heart that this
24 resolution is offered recognizing a great
25 friend and a mentor, someone very special to

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 all of us. And while he may not have been
3 elected, he may not have been appointed,
4 possibly at times self-appointed to a variety
5 of positions, the one thing that we all knew
6 about Obra was that he could bring people
7 together and we know that there will be many
8 other occasions where we will be brought
9 together by either in his memory or to respond
10 to the many issues that he left us to deal
11 with.

12 So I know that generally we pass
13 these resolutions in a variety of ways and we
14 reserve the way we do that as we did a couple
15 weeks ago for the late Ambassador Foglietta.
16 As I indicated, he may have not been elected
17 nor appointed but meant a great deal to many
18 people in this room and worked with many of us
19 on our various issues and in our careers.

20 So I would only ask that as I call
21 for passage of this resolution if we might
22 recognize a good friend by standing.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

24 Those standing are voting in favor
25 of the adoption of the resolution.

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (Councilmembers stand.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
4 resolution is adopted.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
6 Brown.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
8 Madam President. I offer no bills or
9 resolutions this morning.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Goode.

13 COUNCILMAN GOODE: THANK you, Madam
14 President. I offer two resolutions.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

16 The Chief Clerk will please read the
17 title of the first resolution.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
19 authorizing the Committee on Commerce and
20 Economic Development to hold hearings to
21 review the status of neighborhood commercial
22 revitalization in Philadelphia.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
24 recognizes Councilman Goode.

25 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Move for the

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 adoption.

3 (Duly seconded.)

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

7 All in favor will indicate by saying
8 aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
11 opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
14 have it, and the resolution will be referred
15 to the Committee on Commerce and Economic
16 Development.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
18 authorizing the Committee on Transportation
19 and Public Utilities to hold hearings
20 regarding the Philadelphia transit system
21 lease between the City of Philadelphia and
22 Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation
23 Authority and authorizing the Committee to
24 issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of
25 witnesses in the production of documents and

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 other evidence.

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

5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Move for the
6 adoption.

7 (Duly seconded.)

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

11 All in favor will indicate by saying
12 aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
15 opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
18 have it, and the resolution has been adopted
19 and will be referred to the Committee on
20 Transportation and Public Utilities.

21 The Chair recognizes Councilman
22 Ramos.

23 COUNCILMAN RAMOS: Thank you, Madam
24 President. I have no bills or resolutions
25 today.

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
3 thanks the gentleman. The Chair recognizes
4 Councilman Clarke.

5 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
6 President.

7 Madam President, first, before I
8 introduce by bills, I'd like to recognize a
9 group from the Community College of
10 Philadelphia. It's a policy group. They're
11 here to see what we do for a living and
12 running the great City of Philadelphia, Ms.
13 Gloria Bradley and members of the policy
14 group. We'd like to ask them to stand.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: If they
16 would stand, we'd like to recognize you and
17 say welcome.

18 (Applause.)

19 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam President,
20 I offer four bills, one cosponsored by
21 Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds and myself.
22 And I have one resolution that I must ask you
23 for a suspension of the Rules because I missed
24 the 24-hour deadline.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: When it's

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 read, you'll ask for the suspension at that
3 time.

4 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you.

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

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
8 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
9 Property and the Director of commerce on
10 behalf of the City of Philadelphia to enter to
11 a ground leases agreement with the
12 Philadelphia Authority for Industrial
13 Development providing for the leasing by the
14 City to Paid certain parcels of land and the
15 improvements thereon to be acquired by the
16 City.

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

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
20 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
21 Property on behalf of the City of Philadelphia
22 to acquire by purchase, condemnation or other
23 means the properties located at 314 North 19th
24 Street.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
4 amending Bill No. 990728, approved December 6,
5 1999, entitled an ordinance authorizing the
6 Commissioner of Public Property to the convey
7 to the Redevelopment Authority of Philadelphia
8 certain premises located at 1823-35 Callowhill
9 Street.

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

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
13 authorizing the revision of lines and grades
14 on a portion of City Plan No. 63 by striking
15 from the City Plan and vacating Carlton Street
16 from 20th Street eastwardly approximately 94
17 feet, 4 inches to the dead-end and by placing
18 on the City Plan a certain right-of-way.

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

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
22 authorizing City Council's Committee on Public
23 Property and Public Works to hold public
24 hearings on the development and implementation
25 of public and private strategies for the

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 renovation and use of the underutilized areas
3 of City Hall.

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

6 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
7 President. Madam President, I ask for a
8 suspension of the Rules to allow for
9 consideration of this resolution today.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: I believe
12 this resolution was circulated yesterday.

13 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I missed 24-hour
14 deadline.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Oh, how
16 could you?

17 (Laughter.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: You're
19 asking for suspension the Rules.

20 Is there a second?

21 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Second.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: All those
23 in favor will indicate by saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
5 have it and we now have a suspension of the
6 Rules.

7 The Chair recognizes Councilman
8 Clarke.

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

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
14 been moved and properly seconded that the
15 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 ayes
22 have it, and the resolution is adopted and
23 will be referred to the Committee on Public
24 Property and Public Works.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 12/02/04 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Kelly.

3 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Madam President,

4 I have no bills or resolutions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

6 The Chair recognizes Councilman

7 Rizzo.

8 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam President,

9 I have one resolution.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chief

11 Clerk will please read the title of the

12 resolution.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

14 recognizing, honoring and celebrating the

15 Pennsylvania Academy Fine of Arts, home to

16 American artists for its invaluable

17 contributions to the arts as the oldest art

18 school and museum of fine arts in the nation

19 on the occasion of its 200th anniversary.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair

21 recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

22 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: I move for the

23 adoption of this resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 been moved and properly seconded that the
3 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 ayes
10 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

11 The next order of business is
12 reports from committees.

13 And the Chair recognizes
14 Councilwoman Blackwell for a report from the
15 Committee of the Whole.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
17 Madam President. The Committee on the Whole
18 reports out one bill with a favorable
19 recommendation.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

21 The Chief Clerk will please read the
22 report.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President
24 and Members of the Council of the City of
25 Philadelphia, the Committee of the Whole to

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 which was referred Bill No. 040759, entitled
3 an ordinance amending Chapter 20-300 of the
4 Philadelphia Code by changing the annual
5 salaries of members of the Board of Revision
6 of Taxes and members of the Board of Viewers,
7 all under certain terms and conditions,
8 respectfully reports it has considered the
9 same and returns the attached bill to Council
10 with a favorable recommendation.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
12 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
14 Madam President. I move that the Rules of
15 Council be suspended so as to permit first
16 reading this day of Bill No. 040759.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
19 been moved and properly seconded that the
20 Rules of Council be suspended so as to permit
21 first reading this day of Bill No. 040759.

22 All in favor will indicate by saying
23 aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
5 have it, and the bill just read will be placed
6 on the First Reading Calendar for today.

7 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
8 Krajewski for a report from the Committee on
9 Appropriations.

10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
11 President, the Committee on Appropriations
12 reports two bills a with a favorable
13 recommendation.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.
15 The Chief Clerk will please read the report.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President
17 and Members and Council of the City of
18 Philadelphia, the a Committee on
19 Appropriations to which was referred Bill No.
20 040872, entitled an ordinance authorizing
21 transfers in appropriation for Fiscal Year
22 2005 within the General Fund from the Council
23 to the Director of Finance;

24 And Bill No. 040994, entitled an
25 ordinance authorizing transfers in

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 appropriation for Fiscal Year 2004 within the
3 General Fund from certain or all City offices
4 departments, boards and commissions to certain
5 or all city offices, departments, boards and
6 commissions, respectfully reports it has
7 considered the same and returns the attached
8 bills to Council with a favorable
9 recommendation.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Krajewski.

12 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
13 President, I move that the Rules of Council be
14 suspended so as to permit first reading of
15 Bills 040872 and Bill 040994.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
18 been moved and properly seconded that the
19 Rules of Council be suspended so as to permit
20 first reading this day of Bill Nos. 040872 and
21 0409494.

22 All in favor will indicate by saying
23 aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
5 have it, and the bills just read will be
6 placed on today's First Reading Calendar.

7 At this time, the Chair recognizes
8 Councilman Mariano for a report from the
9 Committee on Licenses and Inspections.

10 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Thank you,
11 Madam President. The Committee on Licenses
12 and Inspections reports five bills with a
13 favorable recommendation.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

15 The Chief Clerk will please read the
16 report.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: To President and
18 members of the Council of the City of
19 Philadelphia, the Committee on Licenses and
20 Inspections to which was referred Bill No.
21 040134, entitled an ordinance amending Title 4
22 of the Philadelphia Code entitled, "The
23 Philadelphia Building Construction and
24 Occupancy Code," by adding the East Passyunk
25 Business Improvement District as deleted in

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Bill No. 020431;

3 And Bill No. 040869 entitled an
4 ordinance amending Section 9-601 of the
5 Philadelphia Code entitled, "Garages Parking
6 Lots and Sale Show Rooms," to add a ne section
7 regarding private parking lots and making
8 certain technical changes;

9 And Bill No. 040870, entitled an
10 ordinance repealing Section 10-813 of the
11 Philadelphia Code entitled "Swimming Pools,"
12 to include provisions for the safety and
13 maintenance of swimming pools and enforcement
14 of the same, under certain terms and
15 conditions;

16 And Bill No. 040871, entitled an
17 ordinance amending Section 9-703 of the
18 Philadelphia Code entitled "Dance Halls," and
19 changing the name of the license to a special
20 assembly occupancy license;

21 And Bill No. 040907, entitled an
22 ordinance amending Section 9-618 of the
23 Philadelphia Code entitled "Sale of Spray
24 Paint Containers, Indelible Markers and
25 Etching Acid," all under certain terms and

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 conditions, respectfully reports it has
3 considered and amended the same and returns
4 the attached bills to Council with a favorable
5 recommendation.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
7 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

8 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Thank you,
9 Madam President. I move that the Rules of
10 Council be suspended so as to permit first
11 reading this day of Bill Nos. 040134, 040869,
12 040870, 040871, and 040907.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
15 been moved and properly seconded that the
16 Rules of Council be suspended so as to permit
17 first reading this day of Bill Nos. 040134,
18 04869, 040870, 040871, and 040907.

19 All in favor will indicate by saying
20 aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
23 opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 have it and the bills just read will be placed
3 on today's First Reading Calendar.

4 The next order of business is the
5 consideration of the Calendar. The Chief
6 Clerk will please read the bills on the First
7 Reading Calendar.

8 Bill No. 040759, an ordinance
9 amending Chapter 20-300 of the Philadelphia
10 Code by changing the annual salaries of the
11 members of the Board of Revision of Taxes and
12 members of the Board of Viewers.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
14 agrees.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No.
16 040872, an ordinance authoring transfers in
17 appropriation for Fiscal Year 2005 within the
18 General Fund from the Council to the Director
19 of Finance.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
21 agrees.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No.
23 040994, entitled an ordinance authorizing
24 transfers in appropriation for Fiscal Year
25 2004 within the General Fund from certain or

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 all city offices, departments, boards and
3 commission to certain or all city offices,
4 departments, boards and commissions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
6 agrees.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No.
8 040134, an ordinance amending Title 4 of the
9 Philadelphia Code, entitled "The Philadelphia
10 Building Construction and Occupancy Code," by
11 adding the East Passyunk Business Improvement
12 District.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
14 agrees.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No.
16 040869, an ordinance amending Section 9-601 of
17 the Philadelphia Code entitled "Garages,
18 Parking Lots and Sale Showrooms," to add a new
19 section regarding private parking lots and
20 making certain technical changes.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
22 agrees.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: And bill 040870,
24 an ordinance repealing section 10-813 of the
25 Philadelphia Code entitled "Swimming Pools,"

1 12/02/04 - STATED - REPORTS

2 to include provisions for the safety and
3 maintenance of swimming pools and enforcement
4 of the same, under certain terms and
5 conditions.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
7 agrees.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: And bill No.
9 040871, an ordinance amending Section 9-703 of
10 the Philadelphia Code, entitled dance halls by
11 changing the names of the license to a special
12 assembly occupancy license, all under certain
13 terms and conditions.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
15 agrees.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No.
17 040907, an ordinance amending Section 9-618 of
18 the Philadelphia Code entitled "Sale of Spray
19 Paint Containers, Indelible Markers and
20 Etching Acid" all under certain terms and
21 conditions.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
23 agrees.

24 We do not have any bills on the
25 Second Reading and Final Passage Ca lander to

1 12/02/04 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 be considered today.

3 Are there any speeches on the part
4 of the Minority?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are there
7 any speeches on the part of the Majority?

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Nutter.

10 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
11 President.

12 Madam President, I had the occasion
13 earlier to speak about a great person and a
14 great friend and his death. At this part of
15 the session, I'd like to talk about a
16 different type of death, the death of our
17 young people in our City.

18 There have been a variety of
19 newspaper accounts recently about a public
20 discussion and a debate with regard to school
21 safety. We've had a number of Councilmembers
22 through our legislative process take to this
23 issue and try to raise awareness. There was
24 just a hearing yesterday about our social
25 service network and services provided to young

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2 people in Philadelphia, a resolution
3 introduced by Councilwoman Reynolds Brown. I
4 think another resolution came through today
5 going to the same topic by Councilwoman
6 Blackwell. The more public discussion over
7 the course of the holiday continuing into one
8 of today's papers is a discussion between the
9 Mayor, the school CEO, and the Police
10 Commissioner.

11 And I will not make any particular
12 opinion about that discussion. These are all
13 recognized, highly regarded, hard-working
14 public servants. They have a right to their
15 views, and one day we'll get to the bottom of
16 which way that debate should go. But what I'm
17 more concerned about at the moment is as that
18 debate plays out, the message that goes out to
19 the citizens of this City and, more
20 importantly, the young people, the discussion
21 seems to go that it's possibly someone else's
22 responsibility, depending on the speaker, as
23 to what is to be done. Is it a school
24 problem, is it a City problem, is it a problem
25 out on our streets, is it an issue for the

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2 Police Department to deal with, is it an issue
3 for the school police officers to deal with?
4 And if you're caught in the cross-fire, if you
5 will, of that discussion, you could be
6 confused as to is anyone responsible.

7 This is not a problem just for the
8 Mayor; it is a problem for all of us. It's
9 not a problem for the school CEO; it's a
10 problem for all of us. It's not just a
11 problem for the Police Commissioner; it's a
12 problem for all of us. And we have a
13 collective responsibility in this regard. We
14 can have a debate, but then we need to take
15 action. I'm not sure what the right answer is
16 at the moment. I think all the parties make
17 their cases somewhat clear. I'd like to hear
18 more information. But I think the bottom line
19 is that our their young people and their
20 parents and the citizens in general have a
21 right to feel safe, whether going to school or
22 not going to school, whether in the school
23 building or a block or two away. We all end
24 up dealing with the same constituents on the
25 same issues at the same time. So it's a

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2 collective issue of responsibility. We are
3 all responsible and we will all be held
4 accountable regardless of what our positions
5 are on the matter.

6 Many years ago in this City, there
7 was a meeting, a meeting attended by some of
8 the greatest minds in the country. It was a
9 long time ago. It was an all-male affair.
10 There was a lack of diversity from a variety
11 of standpoints, but those were not the issues
12 of the day. But in this City, a group of
13 people met. And they ultimately came up with
14 a document called the Declaration of the
15 Independence. We live by it today. We try to
16 adjust to the changing times. I want to talk
17 a little bit about that in the current
18 context.

19 Now, what they said then was, "We
20 hold these truths to be self-evident, that all
21 men are created equal, that they are endowed
22 by their Creator with certain unalienable
23 Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and
24 the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure
25 these rights, Governments are instituted among

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2 Men, deriving their just powers from the
3 consent of the governed, That whenever any
4 Form of Government becomes destructive of
5 these ends, it is the Right of the People to
6 alter or to abolish it, and to institute new
7 Government, laying its foundation on such
8 principles and organizing its powers in such
9 form, as to them shall seem most likely to
10 effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence,
11 indeed, will dictate that Governments long
12 established should not be changed for light
13 and transient causes; and accordingly all
14 experience hath shewn, that mankind are more
15 disposed to suffer, while evils are
16 sufferable, than to right themselves by
17 abolishing the forms to which they are
18 accustomed. But when a long train of abuses
19 and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same
20 Object evinces a design to reduce them under
21 absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is
22 their duty, to throw off such Government, and
23 to provide new Guards for their future
24 security. Such has been the patient
25 sufferance of these Colonies."

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2 They went on to talk about the king
3 of Great Brittain, George, and all his
4 inadequacies. And they continue with, "This
5 repeated history injuries and usurpations, all
6 having in direct object the establishment of
7 an absolute Tyranny over these States. To
8 prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid
9 world.

10 Let me reassure my colleagues that
11 I'm not talking about changing our form of
12 government. I love our form much government.
13 I don't have any dispute with what we are
14 trying to do to make things right in this
15 City. But there is a body of evidence to
16 indicate that there are some problems, and we
17 all have a responsibility. I would submit
18 these facts to the candid world:

19 We have 28 young people under the
20 age of 18 killed in this City this year, with
21 a month to go. We read about these stories on
22 an infrequent basis an as they happen over a
23 period of time. If 28 people were killed in a
24 day, it would be a national crisis. It's more
25 than double the number of young people killed

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2 in one day at Columbine. And we see these
3 stories and we read them and we shake our head
4 and then we go on to conducting the business
5 of the people. Well, I think that they need
6 to be heard in a context.

7 The first was on January 13, 2004.
8 It was Maurice Brown, a 16-year-old black
9 male; cause of death, gunshot wound; weapon, a
10 handgun.

11 On January 24, 2004, Gregory White,
12 17, a black male; cause, gunshot wound;
13 weapon, handgun.

14 January 25th, Alex Carl Morales, 15,
15 white Morales, gunshot wound, handgun.

16 February 11th, Faheem Thomas-Child,
17 10 years old, black male, gunshot wound,
18 handgun.

19 February 29th, Thiayanna Son, 10
20 years old, Asian, female, arson, fire.

21 March 23rd, Ramone Valentine, 16
22 years old, black male, gunshot wound, handgun.

23 March 23rd, Brelyn Seals, 5, black
24 female, unknown cause of death.

25 April 7th, Tyree Cohen, 17, black

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2 male, gunshot wound, handgun.

3 April 10th, unknown name, white

4 male, less than 1, blunt force trauma, unknown
5 weapon.

6 May 27th, Ruri Alston, 17, black

7 male, gunshot wound, handgun.

8 June 1st, Champaigne Vessels, 16,

9 black female, cutting; weapon, a knife.

10 July 1st, Malik Upchurch, 15, black

11 male, gunshot wound, handgun.

12 July 23rd, Anthony Oliver, 14, black

13 male, gunshot wound, handgun.

14 July 25th, Josiah Cruz, less than 1,

15 white female, gunshot wound, handgun.

16 August 2nd, Miya Burrell, 3 years

17 old, black female, blunt force trauma, hands.

18 Ameri Walter, 7, black female, blunt

19 force trauma unknown weapon.

20 August 6th, Nicholas Busa, 17, black

21 male, gunshot wound, handgun.

22 August 16th, Tyrone Blue, 16, black

23 male, gunshot wound, handgun.

24 August 24th, Nicole Rielly, 15,

25 white female, physical assault; weapon, a

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2 rock.

3 August 24th, Luis Rivera, 3 years
4 old, white male, blunt force trauma, unknown
5 weapon.

6 September 23rd, Lamont Adams 16,
7 black male, gunshot wound, handgun.

8 September 25th, Marquis Harris, 13,
9 black male, gunshot wound, handgun.

10 October 9th, Khadjah Nash, 10, black
11 male, arson, fire.

12 October 9th, Damir Jenkins, 1 year
13 old, black male, arson, fire.

14 October 9th, Tahj Porchea, 12, black
15 male, arson, fire.

16 October 9th, Sean Rodriquez, 15,
17 black male, arson, fire.

18 November 22nd, Jalil Speaks, 16,
19 black male, gunshot wound, handgun.

20 November 24th, Brian Fields, 17,
21 black male, gunshot wound, handgun.

22 Madam President, I'm just asking
23 what are we prepared to do? What are we
24 prepared to do?

25 We're all elected leaders; many in

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2 this room, others in other rooms, city, state
3 federal.

4 I talked about the meeting back a
5 couple hundred years ago. Ultimately, there
6 was action taken. We need a new meeting, not
7 just to talk about the problems, because many
8 of us know what the problems are; but we need
9 to develop solutions and strategies and a new
10 plan.

11 I have less to worry about at 56th
12 and Master or many other places in my district
13 from the terroristic threat from across the
14 ocean. And as we run around in somebody
15 else's country, and we recognize and respect
16 the men and women trying to do a job, I'm only
17 asking what are we doing here? I don't have
18 to worry about al Quida at 56th and Master.
19 I'm worried about al Gangster. Osama bin
20 Laden is not a big threat in most of the parts
21 of my district. But I've got Osama bin Drug
22 Dealers runing all over the place and all over
23 this City. We have an Office of Homeland
24 Security. Do we really feel that much more
25 secure?

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2 We all have a responsibility.

3 They're running around in Iraq looking for
4 weapons of mass destruction. We have plenty
5 of weapons of mass destruction right here in
6 Philadelphia. Any teenager who wants one can
7 get one, anywhere. Talk about terroristic
8 threats. These are domestic terrorists who
9 threatened our life, our liberty, and our
10 pursuit of happiness. How can we talk about
11 life with so much death? How can we talk
12 about liberty when many of our constituents
13 are afraid to come out of their houses? How
14 can we talk about the pursuit of happiness
15 with so death and destruction around us.

16 So I'm only asking that we think
17 about what the late Governor Bob Casey used to
18 remind many of us. He would say, "What did
19 you do with the power when you had it?"

20 We have a fair amount of power, not
21 only in this body, we have a General Assembly,
22 we have a Governor, we have an Attorney
23 General for this state, we have a
24 Congressional Delegation and a President of
25 the United States. He says he's concerned

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2 about our safety. I don't see it.

3 So I'm only suggesting to you, Madam
4 President, that in the course of a year -- 11
5 months, with now 28 young people dead, that
6 that kind of carnage taking place on a day,
7 we'd have a city-wide, a county-wide, a
8 southeastern Pennsylvania, a Commonwealth of
9 Pennsylvania, we'd have a national strategy
10 and plans to deal with these issues. We
11 cannot allow this kind of activity to keep
12 happening while the debate is "Who's
13 responsible? Whose system?" It's not just a
14 school problem. It's not just a police
15 problem. It's a problem for all of us.

16 So I'm encouraging all of our
17 leaders, elected, appointed, self-appointed,
18 be whoever you want to be, let us try to
19 collectively get together and come up with a
20 plan somewhere in the next 90 days to address
21 these particular issues. I know some
22 discussions are underway. We all need to be a
23 part that have dialog, not just read about it
24 in the newspaper.

25 I appreciate this time, Madam

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2 President, and I know it is much longer than
3 normal. But these things were on my mind, and
4 I think I have a responsibility to say
5 something about them.

6 Thank you very much.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are there
9 any other speeches on the part of the
10 majority?

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Clarke.

13 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
14 President.

15 Madam President, I concur with
16 everything that my good friend and colleague
17 Councilman Nutter has said. As you know,
18 members of this body have been very aggressive
19 and very vocal about this whole gun violence
20 issue. We have several bills on our Calendar
21 you reference every week that you think we
22 will be holding them, and, in fact, we will
23 hold them because the reality is that the
24 discussions with the State Legislature has not
25 been as fruitful as we would have like it to

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2 have been. I actually had a meeting with one
3 of the leaders on the State Legislature as
4 recent as two nights ago. Somewhat
5 encouraging.

6 The one thing that -- and I don't
7 like to use the term -- disagree with my
8 colleague in terms where we think the
9 responsibility lies, but I do think we have a
10 clear sense of where the responsibility lies.
11 As recent as today, the State of Massachusetts
12 and its Legislature have announced the first
13 electronic fingerprinting program that will
14 allow law enforcement to aggressively seek the
15 purchaser of these weapons of mass
16 destruction. As you know, in Virginia, years
17 ago, a state that probably had more gun
18 proliferation than any other state in the
19 union, implemented a one gun a month program
20 and has substantially reduced gun violence in
21 that particular state. Los Angeles on its one
22 implemented a one gun a month policy years and
23 subsequently was followed by the State of
24 California.

25 I think it is time -- it is past

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2 time for this State Legislature to be
3 proactive to implement some reasonable gun
4 policy. I'm not against guns. I happen to
5 own a couple of guns, and they are registered.
6 In the event anybody wants to call the police,
7 they are registered. I'm not against
8 responsible people holding guns. But the
9 reality is that the proliferation of these
10 weapons has gotten out of hand.

11 Recently, in the Daily News, there
12 was a story that documented how individuals
13 are using females to go in and purchase guns
14 at 10, 20, 30 at the clip while the person was
15 sitting outside who ultimately would have
16 those weapons in their hands, sat there and
17 waited until they brought those guns out and
18 conveyed them, because there is no appropriate
19 monitoring process in place to determine where
20 those weapons are going.

21 So along with my good friend and
22 colleague Councilman Nutter, we should get
23 together and we should focus on a strategy.
24 But in all due respect, I'm tired of all of
25 the summits. I'm tired of all of the marches.

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2 I'm tired of all of the meetings. I think we
3 know where the responsibility lies. The
4 responsibility lies with the General Assembly
5 and the Governor who has supported the one gun
6 a month as a Mayor. That's where the
7 responsibility lies. And I think it's time
8 for them to step to the plate and take some
9 action so we can stop this violence not only
10 in our school but throughout the City of
11 Philadelphia.

12 Thank you, Madam President.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: You're
14 welcome.

15 Are there any other speeches on the
16 part of the Majority?

17 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
18 Brown.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
20 Madam President.

21 I first need to say thank you to
22 Councilman Nutter for acknowledging
23 yesterday's hearings wherein we had everyone
24 from frontline service providers to the
25 Commissioners from both DHS, Health

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2 Department, Rec Commissioner and others. And
3 I need to underscore Councilman Nutter's
4 challenge in that one revelation out of those
5 hearings is that it will require a collective
6 will. No single government agency can single
7 handedly make a difference in what Councilman
8 Nutter has eloquently outlined. So I will go
9 on record to say to you and to Councilman
10 Nutter and Councilman Clarke, because we
11 actually got into a heavy conversation around
12 the issue guns with Members of Committee and
13 District Attorney Lynne Abraham, and make it
14 clear that a collective will is required. It
15 can no longer be an option and that I stand
16 ready to join with Nutter, Clarke, and others
17 who want to look at the transcript, which was
18 only a beginning, and work through a strategy
19 we think may begin to make a difference in the
20 number of lives we see lost on the streets for
21 no good reason.

22 Thank you, Madam President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: You're
24 welcome.

25 Are there any other speeches on the

1 12/02/04 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 part of the Majority.

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Seeing
5 none, the Chair recognizes Councilman
6 Councilwoman Blackwell for a motion to.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
8 Madam President. I move that Council stand
9 adjourned until Thursday, December 9, 2004, at
10 10:00 a.m.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
13 been moved and seconded that Council stand
14 adjourned until Thursday, December 9th at
15 10:00 a.m.

16 All in favor will say aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
19 opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
22 have it, the motion carries, and Council
23 stands adjourned until Thursday, December 9th.
24 Thank you.

25 (Council adjourned at 11:45 a.m.)

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

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of Thursday, December 4, 2004,
were reported fully and accurately by me, and
that this is a correct transcript of the same.

RE: STATED MEETING

Lisa C. Bradley, RPR