

1

2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3 STATED MEETING

4 - - -

5 Room 400, City Hall
6 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
7 Thursday, March 26, 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

PATRICIA RAFFERTY, CHIEF CLERK

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21 - - -

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Eleven Penn Center
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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Good
3 morning. I note that the hour has come
4 and that a quorum of this Council is
5 present.

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

10 To give our invocation this
11 morning, the Chair welcomes Reverend
12 Daniel Black, Pastor of the Gospel Temple
13 Baptist Church. He is here today as my
14 guest.

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

17 (Members and guests rise.)

18 REVEREND BLACK: Let us pray.

19 Blessed God, our father, we
20 thank you for this day. Thank you for
21 your grace and mercy over each of us, and
22 thank you for last night's rest and this
23 opportunity at life itself.

24 And now we ask that you would
25 be in the midst of us and all that shall

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 be done on today to give glory to your
3 great name to serve the people that you
4 placed us over. We ask for your
5 guidance, for your wisdom, for your
6 protection.

7 In the name of Jesus the
8 Christ, we pray.

9 Amen.

10 (Amen.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
12 Chair thanks Reverend Black for his
13 invocation.

14 Council will be at ease.

15 (Council at ease.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
17 next order of business is the approval of
18 the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
19 March 19, 2009, and the Chair recognizes
20 Councilwoman Tasco.

21 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam
22 President, I move that the Journal of the
23 meeting of Thursday, March 19, 2009 stand
24 approved.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 3/26/09 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
3 has been moved and properly seconded that
4 the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
5 March 19, 2009 stand approved.

6 All in favor will indicate by
7 saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
10 opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
13 ayes have it, and the Journal is
14 approved.

15 The next order of business is
16 requests for leave of absence, and,
17 again, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
18 Tasco.

19 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam
20 President, on behalf of the majority,
21 there are no requests for leave of
22 absence today.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
24 Chair thanks the Councilwoman.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 3/26/09 - STATED - LEAVES

2 Rizzo.

3 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam

4 President, there are no requests for

5 leave of absence from the republicans.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

7 you.

8 The Chair will dispense with

9 the regular order of business to

10 recognize the guests and visitors joining

11 us in Chambers this morning. On behalf

12 of all members of City Council, I welcome

13 you to our Council session. We

14 appreciate your taking the time to join

15 us as we attend to the legislative

16 affairs of our city. We certainly invite

17 you to come again.

18 At this time, the Chair

19 recognizes Councilman Kenney, who will

20 present a resolution on my behalf

21 proclaiming March 2009 as American Red

22 Cross Month in the City of Philadelphia.

23 Will Mr. Thomas Foley and those

24 accompanying him please join the

25 Councilman at the podium.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Councilman Kenney.

3 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
4 Madam President. On your behalf, it's a
5 pleasure to read this resolution
6 proclaiming March 2009 as American Red
7 Cross Month in the City of Philadelphia.

8 Whereas, the American Red Cross
9 is a humanitarian organization led by
10 dedicated volunteers that provides relief
11 to victims of disasters and helps people
12 prevent, prepare for and respond to
13 emergencies; and

14 Whereas, compassion, courage,
15 character, civic duty are inherent in the
16 Red Cross mission to prevent and relieve
17 human suffering, and the City of
18 Philadelphia shares these grand ideals;
19 and

20 Whereas, the Red Cross is
21 chartered and authorized by Congress to
22 act in times of need, providing
23 compassionate assistance to people
24 afflicted by personal, local or national
25 disasters; and

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Whereas, the American Red Cross
3 Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter is the
4 leading volunteer agency meeting the
5 needs of thousands of individuals and
6 families throughout the greater
7 Philadelphia region affected by 858
8 disasters last year, 652 in Philadelphia
9 alone; and

10 Whereas, the American Red Cross
11 Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter
12 provides worldwide emergency
13 communication link and other casework
14 services to members of the United States
15 Armed Forces and their families in the
16 Greater Philadelphia region, 24 hours a
17 day, every day of the year, a total of
18 2,643 times last year; and

19 Whereas, in the Southeastern
20 Pennsylvania region, the American Red
21 Cross trained and certified 108,843
22 people in vital lifesaving skills,
23 including CPR, AED, first aid, water
24 safety and HIV/AIDS prevention, as well
25 as disaster preparedness skills; and

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Whereas, the American Red Cross
3 has been the leader in assistance for
4 victims of national disasters, including
5 Hurricanes Gustav and Ike last year, as
6 well as international relief operations
7 in such instances as the China
8 earthquakes, Georgia conflict and African
9 health initiatives; and

10 Whereas, the American Red Cross
11 Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter knows
12 that blood is truly the gift of life and
13 provides hospitals in the Greater
14 Philadelphia region with thousands of
15 units of blood and blood products or
16 sends them throughout the country,
17 whenever and wherever they are needed;
18 and

19 Whereas, the American Red Cross
20 Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter
21 fulfilled its commitment to spotlighting
22 National Preparedness Month by providing
23 emergency preparedness outreach and
24 education programs free of charge to
25 millions of Southeastern Pennsylvania

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 residents and businesses, including 14

3 Preparedness Summits throughout the

4 region and a Preparedness Guide in the

5 Philadelphia Inquirer and Daily News; and

6 Whereas, the American Red Cross

7 Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter manages

8 the Southeastern Pennsylvania Volunteer

9 Organization Active in Disaster, which

10 has doubled in size to include 268

11 agencies, all trained to respond in the

12 event of a large-scale regional disaster;

13 and

14 Whereas, the American Red Cross

15 Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter

16 operated 15 Red Cross Clubs in the region

17 and trained 33,512 youth in Red Cross

18 Trainings, including HIV prevention,

19 disaster preparedness, first aid and CPR,

20 and international humanitarian law, SEPA

21 youth programs reached over 80,000

22 children last year to strengthen service

23 learning, citizenship and leadership

24 skills.

25 You do a lot of stuff, don't

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 you?

3 Therefore, in special
4 recognition of the humanitarian efforts
5 of the American Red Cross, its staff and
6 volunteers, we, the members of the City
7 Council of Philadelphia, do hereby
8 proclaim March 2009 as Red Cross Month in
9 Philadelphia.

10 I encourage all citizens to
11 recognize and support the invaluable
12 contributions of the American Red Cross.

13 Certification: This is a true
14 and correct copy of the original
15 resolution, adopted by the Council of the
16 City of Philadelphia on the 19th day of
17 March 2009. Introduced by Council
18 President Anna C. Verna and sponsored by
19 all members of Council.

20 Congratulations.

21 (Applause.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
23 Chair recognizes Mr. Foley for remarks.

24 MR. FOLEY: Thank you, Madam
25 President.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Thank you, Jim, for this
3 wonderful proclamation. Thank you for
4 allowing -- these are one of our Red
5 Cross Clubs behind us, some of the kids
6 from Engineering and Science High School.
7 These are also some of the wonderful
8 people who work at our Red Cross House in
9 Southwest Philadelphia in Jannie
10 Blackwell's district, where we recently
11 welcomed our two-thousandth family
12 displaced by disaster.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. FOLEY: It's really not
15 hard to understand the passion that
16 people feel for the Red Cross when you
17 hear some of the numbers that Jim just
18 recited, and those are all just numbers
19 here in Philadelphia. You know better
20 than anybody as City Council members that
21 there are stories behind every single one
22 of those numbers. The day after
23 Christmas, the fire in Southwest
24 Philadelphia in a home occupied by 11
25 Liberian Americans, seven of them killed.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 There were 11 other people who lived in
3 that house, and they came into the care
4 of the Red Cross.

5 Five days later, on New Year's
6 Eve, there was a fire in Northeast
7 Philadelphia at the Bradford Arms
8 Apartments that displaced 113 people, and
9 all of those people came into the care of
10 the American Red Cross.

11 Ten days after that, there was
12 a terrible fire, the Grange Street
13 Apartments in the Ogontz section of the
14 City. Ninety-three people lost their
15 homes that day, and all of those people
16 came into the care of the American Red
17 Cross.

18 It doesn't happen by accident.
19 It happens because there are wonderful
20 volunteers like these people behind me
21 and so many of your constituents who make
22 that happen. Marty Strom is a SEPTA bus
23 driver during the day. He's a disaster
24 action team responder for us at night.
25 Janice Winston retired recently, having

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 gone to work for Verizon right out of
3 high school. She's the one who teaches
4 some of these kids emergency services.
5 Jen Leary is a firefighter during the day
6 and at night she's out there with us
7 responding to any of the 300 fires that
8 we've had to respond to just since the
9 beginning of the year.

10 They're extraordinary people.
11 You know that as well as anybody. We are
12 so grateful that you take the time, Madam
13 President, to recognize this work this
14 morning. We thank you for being our
15 partners, and we appreciate the work that
16 we do with you every single day here in
17 the City of Philadelphia.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

21 Council will be at ease.

22 (Council at ease.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
24 Chair recognizes Councilman Greenlee.

25 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank you

1 3/26/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 very much, Madam President. I'm very
3 pleased to introduce a group of students
4 that are here today, members actually of
5 the Student Council -- so they may be our
6 successors sometime -- from the
7 Truebright Science Academy Charter
8 Schools, which is on 3821 through 33
9 North Broad Street. I'm not sure exactly
10 what councilmanic district that is. And
11 the school is a tuition-free college
12 preparatory school, and just for
13 interest, recently they were the only
14 charter school and the only inner city
15 school to participate in the Science
16 Olympiad at Cabrini College, and they did
17 extremely well there. So we want to
18 congratulate them on that. They are
19 accompanied by their teachers, Yassin
20 Gusin and Andrea Giardinelli. They're
21 right here.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA:

23 Welcome.

24 (Applause.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: The

1 3/26/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 next order of business is communications.

3 The Chair requests that the

4 Sergeant-At-Arms deliver the messages to

5 the Chief Clerk.

6 The Chief Clerk will please

7 read the messages from the Mayor.

8 CHIEF CLERK: To the President

9 and members of the Council of the City of

10 Philadelphia, I am pleased to advise you

11 that on March 25, 2009, I signed all of

12 the bills that were passed by Council at

13 its session on March 12, 2009; and

14 I am transmitting herewith for

15 the consideration of your honorable body

16 an ordinance authorizing the Commissioner

17 of Public Property, on behalf of the

18 City, to enter into an agreement to lease

19 the Lincoln Financial Mural Arts Center

20 at the Thomas Eakins House located at

21 1729 Mount Vernon Street to the

22 Philadelphia Authority for Industrial

23 Development.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

25 you. The messages will be printed in the

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Journal.

3 I would ask the Chief Clerk to
4 please read any other communications in
5 her possession.

6 CHIEF CLERK: That's all I
7 have, Madam President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
9 you.

10 The next order of business is
11 the introduction of bills and
12 resolutions, and the Chair recognizes
13 Councilman Kenney.

14 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
15 Madam President. I offer four
16 resolutions.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
18 you.

19 The Chief Clerk will please
20 read the title of the resolutions.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
22 honoring the life of Edward Burke.

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

25 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move the

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 adoption of the resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

5 has been moved and properly seconded that

6 the resolution be adopted.

7 All in favor will say aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

10 opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

13 ayes have it and the resolution is

14 adopted.

15 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution

16 congratulating Girard College, its

17 outstanding students and alumni, its

18 accomplished academic and residential

19 faculty, and its dedicated staff as

20 Girard begins its 161st year.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

22 Chair again recognizes Councilman Kenney.

23 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move the

24 adoption of the resolution.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 3/26/09 - 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 is
12 adopted.

13 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
14 congratulating Dominic M. Cermele for his
15 enormous contributions and lifetime of
16 service to Girard College and to the City
17 of Philadelphia.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
19 Chair recognizes Councilman Kenney.

20 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move the
21 adoption 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 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 All in favor will indicate by
3 saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
6 opposed?

7 (No response.)

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

11 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
12 welcoming the 2009 World Irish Dancing
13 Championships to Philadelphia.

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

16 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move the
17 adoption of the resolution.

18 (Duly seconded.)

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

22 All in favor will say aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
25 opposed?

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (No response.)

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

6 The Chair recognizes Councilman
7 Greenlee.

8 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
9 you, Madam President. I have no bills or
10 resolutions today.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
12 you.

13 The Chair recognizes
14 Councilwoman Krajewski.

15 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
16 you, Madam President. I have no bills or
17 resolutions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
19 you.

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilwoman Tasco.

22 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam
23 President, I offer one bill.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
25 Chief Clerk will please read the title of

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 the bill.

3 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
4 amending Section 19-2700 of The
5 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sales and
6 Use Tax and Hotel Occupancy Tax," by
7 revising the rate of tax, under certain
8 terms and conditions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: The
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.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA:
18 Please read the title of the bill.

19 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
20 amending Chapter 17-1400 of The
21 Philadelphia Code, entitled
22 "Non-Competitive Bid Contracts; Financial
23 Assistance," by requiring applicants for
24 non-competitive bid contracts to include
25 economic opportunity plans as part of

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 their applications, and requiring
3 non-competitive bid contracts to include
4 a provision requiring compliance with an
5 economic opportunity plan.

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

9 The Chair recognizes
10 Councilwoman Sanchez.

11 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
12 you, Madam President. I have one bill
13 and one resolution.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
15 you.

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

18 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
19 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
20 changing the zoning designations of
21 certain areas of land located within an
22 area bounded by Orthodox Street, Large
23 Street and Adams Avenue.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
25 bill will be referred to the appropriate

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 committee.

3 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
4 recognizing and honoring HIAS and Council
5 Migration Services of Philadelphia, and
6 its 2009 honorees, for outstanding and
7 inspirational work in support of
8 Philadelphia's immigrant community.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
10 Chair again recognizes Councilwoman
11 Sanchez.

12 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
13 you, Madam President. I move for the
14 adoption of the resolution.

15 (Duly seconded.)

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

19 All in favor will say 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 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 adopted.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Green.

5 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Madam
6 President, I have no bills or resolutions
7 today.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
9 you.

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman
11 Goode.

12 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
13 Madam President. I have no bills or
14 resolutions.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
16 you.

17 The Chair recognizes
18 Councilwoman Brown.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
20 Madam President. No bills or resolutions
21 this morning.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
23 Councilman DiCicco.

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
25 Madam President. I offer one bill and

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 one resolution.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
4 Chief Clerk will please read the title of
5 the bill.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
7 amending Section 9-213 of The
8 Philadelphia Code to exempt farmers'
9 markets from the provisions of Chapter
10 11-600 and 11-800 of The Philadelphia
11 Code.

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

15 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
16 honoring and recognizing Ye Olde History
17 Tours for its efforts to promote the
18 image of the City of Philadelphia.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
20 Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

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 3/26/09 - 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 Chair recognizes Councilman
13 O'Neill.

14 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam
15 President, I have no bills or
16 resolutions.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
18 you.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilman
20 Clarke.

21 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
22 Madam President. One resolution.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
24 you.

25 The Chief Clerk will please

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 read the title.

3 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
4 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
5 Property to execute and deliver to the
6 Redevelopment Authority deeds located in
7 the 5th, 16th and 32nd Wards of the City
8 of Philadelphia.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
10 Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

11 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I move for
12 the adoption.

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 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 3/26/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Kelly.

3 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Madam

4 President, I have no bills or resolutions
5 today.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
7 you.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Rizzo.

10 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam
11 President, no bills or resolutions today.

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

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Councilwoman Blackwell.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
17 you, Madam President. Today I have no
18 bills or resolutions.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
20 you.

21 Is Councilman Jones in the
22 room?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Okay.

25 The next order of business is reports

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 from committees.

3 The Chair recognizes

4 Councilwoman Tasco for a report from the

5 Committee of the Whole.

6 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,

7 Madam President. The Committee of the

8 Whole reports nine resolutions with a

9 favorable recommendation.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

11 you.

12 The Chief Clerk will please

13 read the report.

14 CHIEF CLERK: To the President

15 and members of the Council of the City of

16 Philadelphia, the Committee of the Whole,

17 to which was referred Resolution No.

18 090140, reappointing Ray Kaufmann to the

19 Board of Directors of the South

20 Street/Headhouse District of

21 Philadelphia; and

22 Resolution No. 090141,

23 reappointing Wendy Verna to the Board of

24 Directors of the South Street/Headhouse

25 District of Philadelphia; and

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Resolution No. 090142,
3 reappointing John Foy to the Board of
4 Directors of the South Street/Headhouse
5 District of Philadelphia; and

6 Resolution No. 090143,
7 appointing J.C. Sykes to the Board of
8 Directors of the South Street/Headhouse
9 District of Philadelphia; and

10 Resolution No. 090145,
11 appointing Bernadette Brescia to the
12 Board of Directors of the South
13 Street/Headhouse District of
14 Philadelphia; and

15 Resolution No. 090146,
16 appointing Greg DeCandia to the Board of
17 Directors of the South Street/Headhouse
18 District of Philadelphia; and

19 Resolution No. 090147,
20 appointing Robert Drake to the Board of
21 Directors of the South Street/Headhouse
22 District of Philadelphia; and

23 Resolution No. 090148,
24 appointing Al Grafstom to the Board of
25 Directors of the South Street/Headhouse

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 District of Philadelphia; and

3 Resolution No. 090149,

4 appointing Rod Millwood to the Board of

5 Directors of the South Street/Headhouse

6 District of Philadelphia, respectfully

7 reports it has considered the same and

8 returns the attached resolutions to

9 Council with a favorable recommendation.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

11 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

12 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,

13 Madam President. I move that the rules

14 of Council be suspended so as to permit

15 the immediate adoption of a single voice

16 vote -- with a single voice vote of the

17 resolutions just reported from committee.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank

19 you. It has been moved and properly --

20 do I have a second?

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

23 has been moved and properly seconded that

24 the rules of Council be suspended so as

25 to permit the immediate adoption with a

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 single voice vote of the resolutions just
3 reported from committee.

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 motion carries.

12 The Chair again recognizes
13 Councilwoman Tasco for a motion on the
14 resolutions.

15 COUNCILWOMAN TESCO: Thank you,
16 Madam President. I move for the adoption
17 of the nine resolutions just reported
18 from committee.

19 (Duly seconded.)

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

23 All in favor will indicate by
24 saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
3 opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
6 ayes have it and the resolutions have
7 been adopted.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Greenlee for a report from the Committee
10 on Law and Government.

11 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
12 you, Madam President. The Committee on
13 Law and Government reports one bill and
14 one resolution with a favorable
15 recommendation.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
17 you.

18 The Chief Clerk will please
19 read the report.

20 CHIEF CLERK: To the President
21 and members of the Council of the City of
22 Philadelphia, the Committee on Law and
23 Government, to which was referred Bill
24 No. 080748, entitled "An ordinance
25 providing for the submission to the

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 qualified electors of the City of
3 Philadelphia of the proposal set forth in
4 a Resolution approved by Council
5 proposing an amendment to the
6 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to provide
7 within civil service regulations for the
8 posthumous promotion to the next rank of
9 any police officer or firefighter who is
10 killed or who dies in the line of duty";
11 and

12 Resolution No. 080765,
13 "proposing an amendment to the
14 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to provide
15 within civil service regulations for the
16 posthumous promotion to the next rank of
17 any police officer or firefighter who is
18 killed or who dies in the line of duty,
19 and providing for the submission of the
20 amendment to the electors of
21 Philadelphia," respectfully reports it
22 has considered and amended the same and
23 returns the attached bill and resolution
24 to Council with a favorable
25 recommendation.

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

4 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
5 you, Madam President. I move that the
6 rules of Council be suspended so as to
7 permit first reading today of Bill No.
8 080748.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
11 has been moved and properly seconded.

12 All in favor will indicate by
13 saying aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
16 opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
19 ayes have it and the motion carries. The
20 bill just read will be placed on our
21 First Reading Calendar for today.

22 Resolution No. 080765 will be placed on
23 our Second Reading and Final Passage
24 Calendar for our next session of Council.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 DiCicco for a report from the Committee
3 on Streets and Services.

4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
5 Madam President. The Committee on
6 Streets and Services reports 25 bills out
7 with a favorable recommendation.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
9 you.

10 The Chief Clerk will please
11 read the report.

12 CHIEF CLERK: To the President
13 and members of the Council of the City of
14 Philadelphia, the Committee on Streets
15 and Services, to which was referred Bill
16 No. 080645, entitled "An ordinance
17 amending Chapter 12-1100 of The
18 Philadelphia Code, entitled
19 'Miscellaneous Regulations and
20 Penalties,' by adding a new section
21 prohibiting the use of a hand-held mobile
22 telephone by a person operating a motor
23 vehicle"; and

24 Bill No. 090001, entitled "An
25 ordinance authorizing Hossein Elbanna to

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 construct, own and maintain an open-air
3 sidewalk cafe at 3901 Walnut Street"; and

4 Bill No. 090002, entitled "An
5 ordinance authorizing Hardev Singh to
6 construct, own and maintain an open-air
7 sidewalk cafe and planters at 4004
8 Chestnut Street"; and

9 Bill No. 090009, entitled "An
10 ordinance establishing a parking
11 regulation on 27th Street, west side,
12 Allegheny Avenue to Clearfield Street";
13 and

14 Bill No. 090010, entitled "An
15 ordinance establishing a parking
16 regulation on Arnold Street, west side";
17 and

18 Bill No. 090011, entitled "An
19 ordinance establishing a parking
20 regulation on Hirst Street, west side,
21 Arch Street to Market Street"; and

22 Bill No. 090013, an ordinance
23 amending Section 12-918 of The
24 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Parking for
25 Car Sharing Organizations"; and

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Bill No. 090014, entitled "An
3 ordinance amending the provisions of
4 Section 12-918 of The Philadelphia Code,
5 which regulates the provision of
6 on-street parking restricted to vehicles
7 owned by car sharing organizations"; and

8 Bill No. 090015, entitled "An
9 ordinance amending Section 9-212 of The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Newsstands,'
11 to permit the placement of commercial
12 advertising on newsstands and revise the
13 fee for a newsstand license"; and

14 Bill No. 090017, entitled "An
15 ordinance establishing a parking
16 regulation on Moore Street, both sides,
17 12th to 13th Street"; and

18 Bill No. 090018, an ordinance
19 establishing a parking regulation on
20 Morris Street, both sides, Broad Street
21 to 13th Street; and

22 Bill No. 090019, entitled "An
23 ordinance establishing a parking
24 regulation on Ellsworth Street, both
25 sides, 12th to 11th Street"; and

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Bill No. 090020, entitled "An
3 ordinance establishing a parking
4 regulation on Federal Street, both sides,
5 12th to 13th Street"; and

6 Bill No. 090021, entitled "An
7 ordinance establishing a parking
8 regulation on Clarion Street, west side,
9 Federal Street to No Outlet"; and

10 Bill No. 090022, entitled "An
11 ordinance establishing a parking
12 regulation on Sartain Street, east side,
13 McKean to Mifflin Street"; and

14 Bill No. 090023, entitled "An
15 ordinance establishing a parking
16 regulation on 7th Street, both sides,
17 Carpenter Street to Christian Street";
18 and

19 Bill No. 090024, entitled "An
20 ordinance establishing a parking
21 regulation on Packer Avenue, north side,
22 16th Street to 17th Street"; and

23 Bill No. 090025, entitled "An
24 ordinance establishing a parking
25 regulation on Tasker Street, north side,

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 11th Street to 12th Street"; and

3 Bill No. 090026, entitled "An
4 ordinance establishing a parking
5 regulation on Darrah Street, both sides";
6 and

7 Bill No. 090070, an ordinance
8 authorizing the paving of Keely Street
9 from Henry Avenue southwesterly to a
10 cul-de-sac turnaround; and

11 Bill No. 090076, entitled "An
12 ordinance authorizing the revision of
13 lines and grades on a portion of City
14 Plan No. 63 by relocating the northerly
15 housetline and curbline of Harmer Street";
16 and

17 Bill No. 090120, entitled "An
18 ordinance authorizing the revision of
19 lines and grades on a portion of City
20 Plan Nos. 107 and 130 by striking from
21 the City Plan and vacating the legally
22 open portions of 47th Street from
23 Fairmount Avenue to Brown Street"; and

24 Bill No. 090121, entitled "An
25 ordinance establishing a no truck parking

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 regulation on the 5200 block of Marshall
3 Street"; and

4 Bill No. 090126, entitled "An
5 ordinance authorizing Manuel C. and Maria
6 E. Terrivel to construct, own and
7 maintain an open-air sidewalk cafe at
8 1801 South 4th Street"; and

9 Bill No. 090129, entitled "An
10 ordinance establishing a no truck parking
11 regulation on both sides of North Hancock
12 Street between Jefferson Street and
13 Thompson Street," respectfully reports it
14 has considered the same and returns the
15 attached bills to Council with a
16 favorable recommendation.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
18 you.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilman
20 DiCicco.

21 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
22 Madam President. I move that the rules
23 of Council be suspended so as to permit
24 first reading of the bills that have just
25 been read into the record.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
4 has been moved and properly seconded.

5 All in favor will indicate by
6 saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
9 opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
12 ayes have it and the motion carries, and
13 the bills just read will be placed on our
14 First Reading Calendar for today.

15 Councilman Jones, do you have
16 any bills or resolutions today?

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: No bills nor
18 resolutions today, Madam President.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
20 you, sir.

21 The next order of business is
22 the consideration of the Calendar. I
23 note that the bills just reported from
24 committee with suspension of the rules
25 have been deemed to have had a first

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 reading. They will be placed on our
3 Second Reading and Final Passage Calendar
4 for the next session of Council.

5 There are no additional bills
6 on the First Reading Calendar.
7 Therefore, the Chair recognizes
8 Councilwoman Tasco for the purpose of
9 calling up bills on the Second Reading
10 and Final Passage Calendar to be
11 considered today.

12 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
13 Madam President. Madam President,
14 Resolution No. 090179 and Bill 090171,
15 080650 and 080750 are being called up for
16 second reading and final passage. All
17 other bills will be held.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
19 you.

20 The Chief Clerk will please
21 read Resolution No. 179.

22 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
23 proposing an amendment to the
24 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating
25 to how and when required notices shall be

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 published and advertised; and providing
3 for the submission of the amendment to
4 the electors of Philadelphia.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
6 Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke for a
7 motion on the resolution.

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

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: All
13 in favor.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Since
16 Resolution No. 090179 is an amendment to
17 the Home Rule Charter, it requires a
18 two-thirds majority.

19 I would ask the Chief Clerk to
20 please call the roll.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Blackwell.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
25 Clarke.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 DiCicco.
5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
7 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
9 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 Greenlee.
12 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
14 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.
16 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.
17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
18 Kenney.
19 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Krajewski.
22 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Miller.
25 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

3 O'Neill.

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Reynolds Brown.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

9 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Sanchez.

12 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

14 Tasco.

15 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

17 Verna.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

19 The ayes are 17; the nays are

20 zero. A two-thirds majority of members

21 of Council having voted in the

22 affirmative, the resolution is adopted.

23 The Chief Clerk will please

24 read the title of Bill No. 090171.

25 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 providing for the submission to the
3 qualified electors of the City of
4 Philadelphia of the proposal set forth in
5 a Resolution approved by Council
6 proposing an amendment of the
7 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating
8 to how and when required notices shall be
9 published and advertised.

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

14 The Chief Clerk will please
15 call the roll.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Blackwell.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
20 Clarke.

21 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 DiCicco.

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
4 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Greenlee.
7 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.
11 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
13 Kenney.
14 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Krajewski.
17 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Miller.
20 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
22 O'Neill.
23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Reynolds Brown.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

4 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Sanchez.

7 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

9 Tasco.

10 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

12 Verna.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

14 The ayes are 17; the nays are

15 zero. A majority of all members having

16 voted in the affirmative, the bill

17 passes.

18 We will now consider Bill No.

19 080650.

20 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

21 amending Section 9-605 of The

22 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Towing," by

23 amending the requirements required for

24 towing from private lots, private

25 property and driveways, all under certain

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 terms and conditions.

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

7 The Chief Clerk will please
8 call the roll.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Blackwell.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
13 Clarke.

14 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 DiCicco.

17 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

19 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

21 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

23 Greenlee.

24 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.
4 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Kenney.
7 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Krajewski.
10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Miller.
13 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 O'Neill.
16 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Reynolds Brown.
19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
21 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Sanchez.
24 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Tasco.

3 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

5 Verna.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

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

11 We will now consider Bill No.
12 080750.

13 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
14 amending Title 10 of The Philadelphia
15 Code, entitled "Regulation of Individual
16 Conduct and Activity," by providing for
17 the establishment of a daytime curfew for
18 minors of compulsory school age on days
19 when such minors are required to be in
20 school.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This
22 bill having been read on two different
23 days, the question now is shall the bill
24 pass finally.

25 The Chief Clerk will please

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 call the roll.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
4 Blackwell.
5 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 Clarke.
8 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
10 DiCicco.
11 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
13 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
15 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Greenlee.
18 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
20 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.
22 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 Kenney.
25 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
3 Krajewski.
4 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
6 Miller.
7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
9 O'Neill.
10 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Reynolds Brown.
13 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
15 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Sanchez.
18 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Tasco.
21 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
23 Verna.
24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.
25 The ayes are 17; the nays are

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 zero. A majority of all members having
3 voted in the affirmative, the bill
4 passes.

5 This concludes our Calendar for
6 today.

7 Are there speeches on the part
8 of the minority?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Are
11 there speeches on the part of the
12 majority?

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Kenney.

15 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
16 Madam President, for the opportunity to
17 say a few words about the 2009 World
18 Irish Dancing Championships being held in
19 Philadelphia.

20 They are being held in
21 Philadelphia for the first time in the
22 United States from April 5th to 12th at
23 the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts in
24 Center City. The World Irish Dancing
25 Championship is an eight-day event that

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 is expected to attract well over 4,000 of
3 the finest Irish dancers from all over
4 the world, including dancers from
5 Philadelphia and the region here and
6 across the country. This world famous
7 event will draw an enormous amount of
8 national and international attention to
9 Philadelphia and is predicted to attract
10 over 20,000 fans, and they will be
11 staying in our hotels and hopefully
12 spending their euros liberally in our
13 city.

14 The first World Irish Dancing
15 Championship was held in a tiny theatre
16 in Parnell Square in Dublin. Since that
17 time, the Championships have grown into
18 an international event of immense
19 proportions, and I can't stress more how
20 important it is for this city to have
21 attained this championship for the first
22 time out of Europe. It could have gone
23 to New York or Boston or Los Angeles or
24 any large city in the country, Chicago,
25 but it is coming here to Philadelphia,

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 and I urge everyone to take the
3 opportunity to go and see it. And I know
4 Councilwoman Brown, as a former
5 professional dancer herself, will
6 appreciate the fact that these fine Irish
7 athletes and American athletes and
8 European athletes dance in a manner that
9 is very much similar to what you'd see in
10 our American jazz and tap and you can
11 really see the real melding of many dance
12 traditions and great athletes at the same
13 time.

14 So I urge everyone to do their
15 best to come out, see these young people,
16 these young athletes and artists, and
17 also to support the event, because it is
18 very important that we show our happiness
19 and thankfulness that's been brought here
20 to the City.

21 So I thank you, Madam
22 President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
24 you.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Jones.

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

4 Madam President. Tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.

5 I will be joined by Arlene Ackerman, the

6 superintendent of schools, along with

7 Sandra Dungee Glenn at the A. Philip

8 Randolph Career Academy, and we had a

9 briefing by the Superintendent that

10 talked about a lot of wonderful goals and

11 ideas for the public school system, but

12 one of them that struck me most was the

13 pathway to a green economy.

14 In that spirit, a number of

15 unions, local unions, are going to join

16 us in that tour to talk about ways that

17 local public school high school students

18 can participate in that career fair, and

19 I encourage all my colleagues to join us

20 up at the school and see what we can do

21 to help the green economy along its way.

22 Thank you, Madam President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: Thank

24 you.

25 The Chair recognizes

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Councilwoman Blackwell.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
4 you, Madam President. Next week we will
5 introduce a resolution honoring the life
6 and works of John Hope Franklin, who
7 passed away at the age of 94. He was a
8 great American, a true historian, and our
9 world is better for his life and
10 contribution.

11 Thank you.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: Thank
13 you.

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Councilwoman Tasco.

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
17 Madam President. I will be brief, as
18 John Street used to say, no matter how
19 long it takes.

20 I just want to say that in the
21 next few weeks --

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA:
23 Councilwoman, excuse me. Your
24 microphone.

25 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: In the

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 next few weeks, we will be deliberating
3 the budget in City Council, and it's a
4 very hard time for all of us in this city
5 and in this nation because of the
6 financial condition of the country and
7 the world. We will face decisions that
8 we have not had to make before and that
9 it's going to be quite difficult, but we
10 will sit here and we will do what we have
11 to do, and hopefully the outcome will not
12 be as dire as predicted.

13 But this morning I do want to
14 speak to an article which appears today
15 in the Philadelphia Daily News which
16 leads one to believe that the infamous
17 DROP program has something to do with
18 what we have to do relative to the
19 budget. My purpose today is to bring
20 clarity to the issue of DROP as related
21 to budget issues.

22 In 1999, the Pension Board
23 submitted an ordinance to the City
24 Council relative to a program which would
25 be voluntary for City employees to

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 participate in a program that when they
3 decided to retire would freeze their
4 retirement benefits for four years. That
5 money would be put into an escrow
6 account. There would be an interest
7 payment, and at the end of the four
8 years, they would take their money, their
9 money which has been deposited for four
10 years into the pension fund and invested
11 by the pension fund. If they have
12 retired at the end of the four years
13 without going into the DROP, they will
14 have received their pension fund every
15 month of their money.

16 At that time when we had the
17 discussion about the DROP program, we
18 made fun of David Cohen because we told
19 him it was time for him to go into the
20 DROP, but Mr. Herkness and Mr. Hayler
21 both testified that the elected officials
22 could not go into the DROP in 1999. We
23 had to wait until we were reelected and
24 do it the following year. There was
25 never any discussion about the elected

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 officials being in the DROP since the
3 DROP has no impact really on the General
4 Fund.

5 It seems that we are being
6 maligned because we are accepting the
7 money that we have contributed in the
8 DROP program for the four years. None of
9 the money comes from the General Fund.
10 The DROP money can't pay for recreation
11 centers. The DROP fund can't keep
12 libraries open. It is an employee
13 benefit that is a contract between the
14 City employee -- and we are public City
15 employees. It is a benefit and it's a
16 contract that the City has with the
17 employee and in between the City.

18 So as we move through this
19 budget, I hope that people will form
20 their own judgment about this, but I
21 think they need to know the other side,
22 which has not been clearly stated in the
23 media. It is always that we are taking
24 suitcases of money out of the City that
25 somehow will hurt the City, but it's not

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 explained that that money has been paid
3 through the years, and only for 28 years
4 can City elected officials participate in
5 the DROP. There's a determination -- I
6 think it's 30 years for regular City
7 employees. And, Madam President, I
8 resent the fact that they have chosen to
9 malign you. You have been with the City
10 for 50 years. You can only collect 28
11 years of pension. So, in essence, you
12 and some other Councilmembers are
13 actually working for nothing.

14 So we are not taking money out
15 of recreation centers. We're not taking
16 money out of pools or libraries, but we
17 give, we pay every two weeks. There is a
18 deduction taken from the City employee,
19 put in a fund, and that money comes back
20 to the employee. Matter of fact, the
21 interest rate paid to the employee is
22 four and a half percent. During that
23 discussion in 1999, our Councilmember
24 Nutter raised the issue as to why was the
25 interest rate so low.

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 So there's a history. There's
3 a rationale for why we have the DROP
4 program. People may not like it because
5 they don't like us to take the lump sum.
6 At the time that the -- during that
7 hearing Mr. Herkness and Mr. Hayler said
8 that the DROP program was a financial
9 planning tool for City employees, because
10 they decide they're going to leave in
11 four years and they leave.

12 And as to this loophole that
13 people talk about, any employee, City
14 employee, can retire and can come back
15 and work for the City. The fact that
16 elected officials run, it is up to their
17 constituents whether or not they choose
18 them to come back. If they think they
19 are worthwhile to come back in spite of
20 the DROP, they will determine that. And
21 if they don't believe they should come
22 back based on their record, the voters
23 will not return them.

24 So I, for one, just wanted to
25 bring a little clarity and give another

1 3/26/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 perspective as how I see it. Now, people
3 will choose to disagree, but I just
4 wanted to go on the record to say that.

5 Thank you very much.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
7 you very much.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Rizzo.

10 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Thank you,
11 Madam President. Madam President, I was
12 planning also to speak on this, but I
13 want to thank Councilwoman Tasco for her
14 remarks today and making sure that our
15 side of the story is heard, and I believe
16 that there has not been the proper
17 communication on this issue, and, again,
18 I want to thank Councilwoman Tasco for
19 her remarks today.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
21 you.

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

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:

1 3/26/09 - 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 Thursday, April
8 2nd, 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, April 2nd
13 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 11:00 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the
proceedings, evidence and objections are
contained fully and accurately in the
stenographic notes taken by me upon the
foregoing matter on March 26, 2009, and that
this is a true and correct transcript of same.

MICHELE L. MURPHY
RPR-Notary Public

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