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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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Room 696, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, May 15, 2003
9:47 a.m.

- - -

BILL 030222 - an Ordinance creating the Progress
Plaza Tax Increment Financing District...

- - -

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA, Chair
COUNCILMAN DARRELL CLARKE
COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.
COUNCILMAN RICHARD MARIANO
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL NUTTER
COUNCILMAN ANGEL ORTIZ
COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN

- - -

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I N D E X

BILL 030222	PAGE
COUNCILMAN DARRELL CLARKE	3

1 05/15/03 - WHOLE - BILL 030222

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Good morning,
3 everyone. This is the continued public hearing on
4 Bill No. 030222.

5 Do we have anyone to testify on this
6 bill?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Seeing none, the
9 Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

10 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam President, I
11 just wanted for the record for the members that
12 weren't here yesterday with respect to the Economic
13 Opportunity Plan and with respect to issue on the
14 residential housing. I just want to state for the
15 record today, we will hope to amend the Economic
16 Opportunity Plan in the document either on the 29th
17 or the 5th to allow passage on the 12th. The
18 organizations who are developing the facility have
19 agreed to have a community meeting prior to any
20 legislative action on the amendment and get a
21 consensus as it relates to the residential component
22 on this development. And hopefully, it will be
23 okay. So I just wanted to put that on the record.

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

25 Councilman Goode.

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2 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
3 President. I'm going to ask Councilman Clarke if he
4 could actually, before we amend the Economic
5 Opportunity Plan, amend this bill to include the
6 present Economic Opportunity Plan so that there is
7 an Economic Opportunity Plan attached to this
8 legislation.

9 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Yes.

10 COUNCILMAN GOODE: I'm saying, can we
11 include this Economic Opportunity Plan as part of
12 this bill that we're passing out now?

13 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: You want to put that
14 version in?

15 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Put this version in
16 now and then amend it later if we have to.

17 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: The other version?

18 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Yes.

19 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: We can do that.
20 Okay. I mean, my preference is to do the plan after
21 everyone has reviewed it and is comfortable with it.
22 But, it's okay. That's fine with me.

23 Does everybody have a copy of the
24 current plan?

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: We don't.

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2 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: There were plans
3 passed out yesterday, and I don't know if anyone has
4 a copy.

5 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Councilman, if I may.
6 I think Councilman Goode is saying it has to be part
7 of the legislation in order for it to be amended
8 later on. We need to have something that we can
9 amend later on.

10 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: It's my
11 understanding after talking to our people that we
12 can amend that into the plan. But if people are
13 okay with it, it's okay with me.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Nutter.

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I'm sorry, Madam
16 Chair. I apologize. What's the issue? Putting the
17 EOP in the bill and then amending it later?

18 (Pause.)

19 (Discussion off the record.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Excuse me.

21 Councilman Clarke, what is the issue, please? Or
22 can somebody explain what the issue is?

23 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: The question on the
24 table now is whether or not to simply the
25 legislation now to incorporate the Economic

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2 Opportunity Plan at this point prior to reporting it
3 out of committee or to do at a later date when the
4 Bill is on the Calendar. I mean, I don't care.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I'm advised that it
6 can be done either way. It can be done either today
7 or the 29. So it's your call.

8 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: My preference is to
9 do it when it's corrected. I just don't like
10 putting a plan in and --

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: If it's not
12 completed?

13 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: It's not completed.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It's not a
15 completed document.

16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Councilman Clarke,
17 if the will of the Body is to have a plan, with the
18 acknowledgment that the plan is probably going to be
19 changed, incorporated into the bill today, we can
20 certainly do that. And I think if you're in a
21 position prior to any proposed amendment to that
22 plan to circulate it to Members. I mean you have --
23 if the Bill comes out today with a suspension,
24 you're going to have until Thursday June 5th to make
25 your amendment with a corrected plan. And I think

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2 as long as the members have some adequate time to
3 see what the corrected plan is, we would be in a
4 position to be ready to go at that late date. Or
5 you could possibly have it ready for the 29th. I
6 mean, you have it whenever you have it. You could
7 take it with the plan, acknowledging on the record
8 that it's not complete. And I think you've said
9 that and acknowledged that and you're working on
10 trying to fix the components. But if the Members
11 are concerned that there been a plan even if it's
12 not correct, then why don't we just do that?

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Goode,
14 your light is on.

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Is the plan in the
16 Bill yet?

17 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: No.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: The plan is not in
19 the Bill yet?

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: No.

21 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: So you could amend
22 it in this morning.

23 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: If that's what the
24 Members choose, then...

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair

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2 recognizes Councilman Goode.

3 COUNCILMAN GOODE: The issue I raise is
4 not an issue of legislative process. The issue I
5 raise is whether it's the will of this Council not
6 to approve any project that doesn't have an Economic
7 Opportunity Plan. And I don't think that we should
8 even move anything out Committee without an Economic
9 Opportunity Plan ever.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: You don't have
11 a problem with that?

12 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: No.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are there any
14 questions or comments by Members of the Committee?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Seeing none, this
17 will conclude our public hearing.

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1 05/15/03 - WHOLE - BILL 030222
2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
3 PUBLIC MEETING
4 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

5 - - -

6 Thursday, May 15, 2003

7 - - -

8 Public Meeting conducted by the
9 Committee of the whole, held in Room 696, City Hall,
10 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the above date, to
11 consider action on the following:
12 Bill 030222.

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15 PRESENT:

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA, Chair
17 COUNCILMAN DARRELL CLARKE
18 COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.
19 COUNCILMAN RICHARD MARIANO
20 COUNCILMAN MICHAEL NUTTER
21 COUNCILMAN ANGEL ORTIZ
22 COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: We will go
3 into our public meeting.

4 The Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

5 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam President, I'd
6 like to offer an amendment. The Economic
7 Opportunity Plan that has been circulated to
8 Members, with the understanding that there will
9 probably be some corrections in that plan and we
10 will probably amend it again on the 5th, but in
11 order to have a document prior to the passage out of
12 this committee, I offer that amendment and request
13 approval of the amendment, as circulated.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: It has been moved
16 and seconded that the amendment be adopted.

17 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
22 it.

23 The Chair, again, recognizes Councilman
24 Clarke.

25 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam

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2 President. I make a motion that Bill No. 030222, as
3 amended, be reported out of this Committee with
4 favorable recommendation.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: It has been moved
7 and seconded that Bill No. 030222 be reported out of
8 Committee, as amended, with a favorable
9 recommendation.

10 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
15 it and the motion carries.

16 This concludes our public meeting.

17 Thank you all very much.

18 (Council adjourned at 9:55 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 May 15, 2003, were reported fully
and accurately by me, and that this is a correct
transcript of the same.

RE: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Lisa C. Bradley, RPR
and Notary Public