COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
PUBLIC MEETING
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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Wednesday, 4/10/02
1:43 p.m.
Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, PA

- - -

BILL NO.'s: 020030, 020035, 020092, 020116, 020144, 020145 (re taxes)

(Full text of all ordinances attached hereto.)

PRESENT: COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA, Chair
COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE L. BLACKWELL
COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN
COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN
COUNCILMAN FRANK J. DICICCO
COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.
COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY
COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI
COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO
COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ
COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO
COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO

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VINCENT VARALLO ASSOCIATES, INC.
Registered Professional Reporters
Eleven Penn Center, Suite 600
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 561-2220

4/10/02 - WHOLE - PUBLIC MEETING - TAX BILLS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good afternoon, everyone. I want to thank everyone for their patience. This is a continued public hearing of the Committee of the Whole regarding Bill No.'s 020030, 020035, 020092 --

(Applause.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: -- 020116, 020144, 020145, and 020182.

To the best of my knowledge, we do not have anyone that wishes to testify on these bills.

The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen regarding Bill No. 020145.

COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I move to hold this bill. I'm asking that this bill be held.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

The Chair also recognizes Councilman Cohen regarding Bill No. 020182.

COUNCILMAN COHEN: I also ask that this bill be held.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you. As the sponsor, you have that right.

COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Is

Councilwoman Blackwell in the audience, in the room? Is she coming?

(Councilmembers confer among themselves off the record.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair recognizes Councilman Nutter regarding Bill No. 020092.

(Applause, cheers.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: 020092.

COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, thank you.

Madam President, I move that Bill 020092 be reported out of this committee with a favorable recommendation and a further recommendation that the rules of Council be suspended so as to permit first reading at our next session.

(Applause, cheers.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Do I hear a second?

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been moved and seconded that Bill No. 020092 be reported out of committee with a favorable recommendation

and also a recommendation that the rules of Council be suspended so as to permit first reading at our next session of Council.

All in favor will signify by saying aye.

Those opposed?

The ayes have it and the motion carries. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell regarding Bill No. 020032.

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam President.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I'm sorry, it's 020030.

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It's my understanding, Councilwoman, that you have an amendment to be offered?

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam President. I understand that the proposed amendments to Bill No. 020030 have been circulated.

(Amendment attached hereto.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT BLACKWELL: And so we

move that the amendments to this bill be reported out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I'm sorry, the amendment would have to be adopted first.

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam President. I move for the adoption of the amendment.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: All those in favor of the adoption of the amendment will signify by saying aye.

Those opposed?

The ayes have it and the amendment has been adopted

The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam President. I move that Bill No. 020030, as amended, be reported out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are we asking for a suspension of the rules?

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Yes, also for a

suspension of the rules.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

It has been moved and properly seconded that Bill No. 020030 be reported out of committee with a favorable recommendation and also a recommendation that the rules of Council be suspended so as to permit first reading at our next session Council.

All those in favor will signify by saying aye.

Those opposed?

The ayes have it and the motion carries.

(Applause.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair recognizes Councilman Goode regarding Bill No. 020116.

COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam President. I've circulated technical amendments to Bill No. 020116.

(Technical amendments attached hereto.)

COUNCILMAN GOODE: I move for the adoption of the amendments.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been moved and seconded that the amendments be adopted.

All those in favor will signify by saying aye.

Those opposed?

The ayes have it, and the amendments have been adopted.

The Chair recognizes Councilman Goode.

COUNCILMAN GOODE: Think Madam, President. I move that Bill 020116, as amended, be reported out of committee with a favorable recommendation and also that the rules of Council be suspended to allow for first reading at our next Council session.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 020116 be reported out of committee with favorable recommendation, as amended, and also a recommendation that the rules of Council be suspended so as to permit first reading at the next session.

All those in favor will signify by saying aye.

Those opposed?

The ayes have it and the motion carries.

(Applause.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The next bill to be called for consideration is Bill No. 020035, and the Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam President. I move that Bill --

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Just a moment, please. I'm sorry, whose bill is it?

Oh, Councilman Nutter, I believe you wanted to make a statement on this bill, 020035.

COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I would like to request that Bill No. 020035 be held in committee, given the movement of Bill 020092 that had taken place previously.

There would be a conflict between Bill 020092 and 020035 because that is also a wage-tax bill, but it only sets the wage-tax rate for one year. I have received legal advice that the passage of both the bills would create a technical problem and, therefore, I'm asking, Madam

President, that this bill be held.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Okay, is there a second?

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been moved and seconded that Bill No. 020035 be held in committee.

All those in favor will signify by saying aye.

Those opposed?

The ayes have it and the motion carries.

(Applause.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell regarding Bill No. 020144.

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam President. May I be considered for remarks at this time?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Certainly.

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

Introducing Bill 020144 was done to focus attention on the affordability and to add to the debate. As soon as this bill was introduced, meetings were held certainly with the Controller

and others to talk about coming up with a compromise. In spite of these meetings, a compromise did not happen.

All who were also concerned with this bill also had to consider it with the issue of funding for schools. Certainly, with all of the labor contracts we have to consider, with the issues dealing with PGW, and with one issue that I'd like to talk about, and that is the issue of neighborhoods versus businesses.

As I've said, and continue to say, in our city, we have to be careful that we let the public, as well as every segment of our city and community, know that we have to work in cooperation with one another. We cannot send a message forth that certainly the neighborhoods and the businesses do not work in concert to have our city move forward.

Having said all of these things and given our concerns even for all of the contracts that have to be let in our city, I am calling on all my colleagues at this time, for the sake of unity, which is always my position in Council -- I believe that we as body should be together in what

we do -- we are saying that we want to hold this bill.

(Applause.)

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: And I'm certainly calling on my colleagues to support this.

Thank you, Madam President.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: You're welcome.

Is that a form of a motion?

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Yes, I so move.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: All those in favor of holding the bill at the request of the sponsor will say aye.

Those opposed?

The ayes have it and the motion carries.

This concludes our public meeting.

Again, I want to thank you all for your patience and thank you for coming in.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Just a minute

(Council President Verna strikes gavel.)

4/10/02 - WHOLE - PUBLIC MEETING - TAX BILLS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I would like to remind my colleagues that we have a 2 o'clock public hearing for the schools. So I would ask you to please remain in the courtroom.

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(Proceedings end at 1:55 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing proceedings of the Council of the City of Philadelphia's meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Wednesday, April 10, 2002, are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me, and that this is a true and correct transcript of same.

RE: Ordinance No.'s: 020030, 020035, 020092
020116, 020144, 020145

_____,

Josephine Cardillo

Registered Professional Reporter
and Notary Public

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