

1

2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3 STATED MEETING

4 - - -

5 Room 400, City Hall
6 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
7 Thursday, December 17, 2009
8 10:25 a.m.

9 - - -

10

11

PRESENT:

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

19

MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

20

21 - - -

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

10 To give our invocation this
11 morning, the Chair welcomes Brother Kip
12 Ledger from St. John's Hospice. He is
13 here today as the guest of Councilman
14 Rizzo.

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

17 (Members and guests rise.)

18 BROTHER LEDGER: Good morning.

19 (Good morning.)

20 BROTHER LEDGER: Almighty and
21 Eternal God, as this Council of our great
22 city, Philadelphia, the City of Sisterly
23 and Brotherly Love, gathers in its final
24 deliberation of the year 2009, bestow
25 your grace and blessings upon them.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 Bless their decisions so that all are
3 able to see without a doubt the love and
4 deep concern they have for this city and
5 for their true diverse family of
6 Philadelphians who live here, especially
7 the poor and the homeless, whom you love
8 so much.

9 Omnipotent God, help us to end
10 the war in our streets, especially the
11 chemical warfare, those chemicals that
12 destroy the lives and families of our
13 beautiful city. Help protect the law
14 officials, those brave women and men who
15 put their lives on the line every day to
16 protect us. Help us to calm the racial
17 tensions that have crept into our city
18 boundaries.

19 Bless this Council, Heavenly
20 God, that they may develop laws that are
21 fair and just in our contemporary
22 society, laws that will help our city
23 develop in this upcoming decade in which
24 this great City of Philadelphia, the city
25 which gave birth to a great nation, a

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 nation that pledged and still pledges its
3 allegiance under you, God of all
4 people's, God above our nation, that as
5 our city was the impetus of freedom and
6 example for the rest of the nation to
7 follow, allow us again in this next
8 decade to be the impetus and example of
9 your love, of your peace, of your justice
10 and of your freedom on which this country
11 was founded.

12 Let us have a moment of silence
13 for the officers and men and women and
14 children who died in our streets this
15 past year, those whose names were known,
16 those whose names were unknown.

17 (Moment of silence.)

18 BROTHER LEDGER: Please repeat
19 after me.

20 Lord, make me an instrument of
21 your peace.

22 (Councilmembers and guests
23 repeat.)

24 BROTHER LEDGER: Where there is
25 hatred, let me so love.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 (Councilmembers and guests

3 repeat.)

4 BROTHER LEDGER: Where there is

5 injury, pardon.

6 (Councilmembers and guests

7 repeat.)

8 BROTHER LEDGER: Where there is

9 doubt, faith.

10 (Councilmembers and guests

11 repeat.)

12 BROTHER LEDGER: Where there is

13 sadness, joy.

14 (Councilmembers and guests

15 repeat.)

16 BROTHER LEDGER: Oh, Divine

17 Lord.

18 (Councilmembers and guests

19 repeat.)

20 BROTHER LEDGER: Grant that I

21 may not so much seek to be consoled as to

22 console.

23 (Councilmembers and guests

24 repeat.)

25 BROTHER LEDGER: To be

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INVOCATION
2 understood as to understand.
3 (Councilmembers and guests
4 repeat.)
5 BROTHER LEDGER: To be loved as
6 to love.
7 (Councilmembers and guests
8 repeat.)
9 BROTHER LEDGER: For it is in
10 giving that we receive.
11 (Councilmembers and guests
12 repeat.)
13 BROTHER LEDGER: It is in
14 pardoning that we are pardoned.
15 (Councilmembers and guests
16 repeat.)
17 BROTHER LEDGER: And it is in
18 dying that we are born to eternal life.
19 (Councilmembers and guests
20 repeat.)
21 BROTHER LEDGER: Amen.
22 (Amen.)
23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
24 Chair thanks Brother Ledger for his very,
25 very inspiring invocation.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 Council will be at ease.

3 (Council at ease.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
5 next order of business is the approval of
6 the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
7 December 10th, 2009, and the Chair
8 recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

9 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
10 Madam President. I move that the Journal
11 of the meeting of Thursday, December
12 10th, 2009 stand approved.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
15 has been moved and properly seconded that
16 the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
17 December 10th, 2009 stand approved.

18 All in favor will indicate by
19 saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
22 opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
25 ayes have it and the motion carries.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - LEAVES

2 The next order of business is
3 requests for leave of absence, and the
4 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

5 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
6 Madam President. On behalf of the
7 majority, there are no requests for leave
8 of absence today.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
10 Chair thanks the Councilwoman.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 O'Neill.

13 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam
14 President, on behalf of the republicans,
15 there are no requests for leave of
16 absence.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
18 Chair thanks the gentleman.

19 The Chair will dispense with
20 the regular order of business to
21 recognize the guests and visitors joining
22 us in Chambers this morning. On behalf
23 of all members of City Council, I welcome
24 you to our Council session. We
25 appreciate your taking the time to join

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2 us as we attend to the legislative
3 affairs of our city. We certainly invite
4 you to come again.

5 The Chair now recognizes
6 Councilwoman Brown, who will present a
7 resolution congratulating Harrisburg
8 Mayor-Elect, Linda Thompson, and also
9 York Mayor-Elect, Kim Bracey.

10 Will Mayor-Elect Thompson and
11 those accompanying her please join the
12 Councilwoman at the podium.

13 I see that Councilwoman Brown
14 is being accompanied by Councilman Jones
15 and Councilwoman Tasco.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
17 Madam President.

18 For those of us who knew State
19 Representative David Richardson, standing
20 before us is one of his former mentors
21 who went to serve on his staff and now
22 has elevated and earned her way to
23 represent the City of Harrisburg.

24 This morning we will be
25 congratulating Harrisburg Mayor-Elect

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2 Linda Thompson on her historic election
3 as the first African American Mayor of
4 Harrisburg.

5 COUNCILMAN JONES: In the
6 recent election of Barack Obama, we heard
7 glass ceilings breaking, but in small
8 municipalities like Harrisburg, glass
9 window panes are breaking every day, and
10 today we honor one of those breakings and
11 one of those window panes cracking.

12 Resolution congratulating
13 Harrisburg Mayor-Elect Linda Thompson and
14 York Mayor-Elect Kim Bracey on their
15 historic elections as the first African
16 American mayors in those cities.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Whereas,
18 on Tuesday, November 4th, 2009,
19 Pennsylvania became a more diverse
20 Commonwealth with the election of two
21 African American women as mayors of the
22 cities of Harrisburg and York; and

23 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL:
24 Whereas, the Honorable Linda Thompson, a
25 Harrisburg native, who has been serving

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2 as President of the Harrisburg City
3 Council, will become the first new mayor
4 in 27 years as well as the first female
5 mayor in Harrisburg's history; and

6 Whereas, Kim Bracey brings a
7 wealth of public service to her new
8 position as the Mayor of York, including
9 serving as that city's Director of
10 Community Development as well as being an
11 Air Force veteran; and

12 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Whereas,
13 in addition to her experience as an
14 elected City Councilwoman, a very fiery
15 City Councilwoman, Linda Thompson will
16 bring considerable government experience
17 to her new position as Harrisburg's Chief
18 Executive, including work with the United
19 States Department of Justice and
20 Philadelphia State Representative Frank
21 T. Oliver and the late David P.
22 Richardson; and

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Whereas,
24 by breaking gender and racial barriers,
25 these elections represent important steps

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2 in achieving our nation's highest ideals
3 of equality and will serve as an
4 inspiration to the many women and
5 minorities throughout our Commonwealth.

6 COUNCILMAN JONES: Be it
7 resolved by the Council of the City of
8 Philadelphia, that it hereby
9 congratulates Linda Thompson of
10 Harrisburg and Kim Bracey of York on
11 their historic elections as the cities'
12 first African American mayors.

13 Further resolved, that an
14 engrossed copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Mayors-Elect Linda Thompson
16 and Kim Bracey as evidence of our deep
17 admiration, sincere sentiments of this
18 legislative body.

19 Let the glasses and the windows
20 and the ceilings continue to break.

21 (Applause.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
23 Chair recognizes Mayor-Elect Thompson for
24 remarks.

25 MAYOR-ELECT THOMPSON: Good

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2 morning.

3 (Good morning.)

4 MAYOR-ELECT THOMPSON: To God
5 be the glory.

6 I am honored to be in the
7 present of this august body, bright men
8 and women who just have a heart for the
9 City of Philadelphia. I have traveled
10 your streets and certainly enjoy when I
11 do come, and I want to commend you on the
12 way that you execute business and keep
13 tourists coming to your city, like me.

14 I won't be a stranger to your
15 city when I become the mayor, and I am so
16 honored and thankful for the men and
17 women who I look up to on this City
18 Council body as the great men and women
19 who stand behind me.

20 The Bible says that he gives
21 you gifts and he makes room at the table
22 for you and puts you before great men and
23 women, and I can stand here today to say
24 that I'm before great men and women. So
25 I encourage you to move on, move upward

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2 and always have the people's will at your
3 heart and keep God first in all that you
4 do. Be honorable and you shall do great
5 things for the City of Philadelphia. I
6 know you have some challenges ahead of
7 you. So do I in Harrisburg, and I will
8 look to you as a way of getting through
9 the tough days. But, again, let's stand
10 together in unity, because people are
11 important, more important than politics,
12 policies and procedures.

13 May God continue to bestow his
14 power, anointing and blessings upon all
15 of you.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

19 Council will be at ease.

20 (Council at ease.)

21 MAYOR-ELECT THOMPSON: To this
22 great woman of honor who presides over
23 this august body, it always takes a good
24 President to lead. From one President to
25 another, I present this commemorative

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2 calendar. You know, Harrisburg came into
3 existence in 1860, and we are going to be
4 celebrating in 2010, which is such an
5 historic moment, not only that I am the
6 first African American woman and the
7 first woman, I stand beside and stand on
8 the shoulders of some of the greatest
9 mayors that have come before me. And I
10 give you this because I'm proud of it,
11 because we'll be celebrating our
12 sesquicentennial next year for 2010, and
13 we have our commemorative calendar, and I
14 brought each and every one of you
15 Councilmembers a calendar, and I am the
16 brightest spot on the calendar at the
17 very last. So I'm expecting great things
18 out of myself.

19 Again, thank you very much for
20 having me today.

21 (Applause.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: At
23 this time, the Chair recognizes
24 Councilman Kenney, who will present a
25 resolution congratulating Major General

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2 Wesley Craig.

3 Will Major General Craig --

4 (Applause.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: --

6 and those accompanying him please join
7 the Councilman at the podium.

8 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Madam

9 President, if we ever had an example of a
10 surprise party in Council, it's today,
11 because he had no clue we were doing this
12 for him.

13 MAJOR GENERAL CRAIG: You're
14 right.

15 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Come
16 forward.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:
18 Please join the Councilman.

19 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
20 Madam President. This is a resolution
21 congratulating Major General Wesley E.
22 Craig for his immeasurable contributions
23 and lifelong service to his country,
24 community and the USO of Pennsylvania and
25 Southern New Jersey.

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2 Whereas, Major General Wesley
3 E. Craig was born on September 13th in
4 Germantown, Pennsylvania and grew up in
5 Cheltenham Township; and

6 Whereas, in 1968, Major General
7 Craig graduated from Temple University
8 with a Bachelor's in Business
9 Administration and was commissioned as a
10 distinguished military graduate from
11 Temple University's Army Reserve Officer
12 Training Corps; and

13 Whereas, Major General Craig
14 served the Pennsylvania Army National
15 Guard from January 1971 to 2006; and

16 Whereas, during that time,
17 Major Craig oversaw the selection,
18 organization, mobilization, deployment
19 and redeployment of over 6,000 soldiers
20 to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Kuwait and
21 Saudi Arabia on multiple rotations; and

22 Whereas, Major Craig was the
23 Commanding General, 28th Infantry
24 Division, Pennsylvania Army National
25 Guard. He assumed this position in

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2 October 2003 and commanded 14,000
3 soldiers located in 85 communities and
4 three states; and

5 Whereas, while under his
6 command, the 56th Brigade was awarded the
7 Governor's Meritorious Unit Citation for
8 Excellence in training, strength
9 management and emergency response to
10 natural disasters; and

11 Whereas, for his exemplary
12 service in the United States Army
13 National Guard, Major Craig was
14 recognized with the following awards:
15 Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service
16 Medal with three oak leaf clusters; Army
17 Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster;
18 Army Achievement Medal; Army Reserve
19 Components Achievement Medal with eight
20 oak leaf clusters; National Defense
21 Service Medal with two bronze service
22 stars; Global War on Terror Service
23 Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with
24 gold hourglass; Army Service Ribbon and
25 Army Reserve Components Overseas Training

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2 Ribbon with numeral three; and

3 Whereas, in his civilian role,

4 Major General Craig worked for

5 Strawbridge and Clothier Department Store

6 in Philadelphia in various positions for

7 31 years before retiring in 2002; and

8 Whereas, Major Craig presently

9 serves as Vice-Chairman of the Board of

10 Directors of the USO of Pennsylvania and

11 Southern New Jersey, member of the Board

12 of Directors of the US Army War College

13 Alumni Association, State Chairman of

14 Employer Support of Guard and Reserve,

15 Vice-Chairman of the Union League of

16 Philadelphia's Armed Services Committee,

17 Chairman of the Combat Vehicle Task Force

18 with the National Guard Association of

19 the United States, and is involved in the

20 Associate of US Army, 28th Infantry

21 Division Association and Military

22 Officers Association of America; and

23 Whereas, twice, at the request

24 of the Liberty USO Board of Directors,

25 Major Craig has served as Interim

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2 President and remains a leading
3 spokesperson for the organization; and

4 Whereas, appointed the liaison
5 for the Liberty USO's unplanned and
6 unexpected relocation from Terminal D to
7 Terminal A, Major General Craig served a
8 vital role in coordinating requirements
9 and logistics to support the build-out of
10 the new Liberty USO Service Center and
11 served a vital role in its capital
12 campaign to raise the funds necessary to
13 complete the transition; and

14 Whereas, Major Craig is a
15 member of Christ's Lutheran Church in
16 Oreland, Pennsylvania and serves on the
17 Church Council as Chairman of the
18 Property Committee and sings in the
19 choir; and

20 Whereas -- very talented.

21 Whereas, along with his wife of
22 37 years, Marda, Major General Craig
23 resides in Oreland, Pennsylvania. Major
24 General Craig and Marda have a son, Matt,
25 and a daughter, Joy, who is married to

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2 Micah Rampulla.

3 Now, therefore, be it resolved

4 by the Council of the City of

5 Philadelphia, that City Council does

6 hereby congratulate Major General Wesley

7 E. Craig for his immeasurable

8 contributions and lifelong service to his

9 country, community and the USO of

10 Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey.

11 Thank you and congratulations.

12 (Applause.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

14 Chair recognizes Major General Craig for

15 remarks.

16 MAJOR GENERAL CRAIG: Well, I'm

17 not normally at a loss for words, but I

18 thank the Council, my friends at the USO

19 that are here, Employer Support of the

20 Guard and Reserve, and the veterans that

21 I've served with in the military. You

22 caught me completely by surprise. My

23 family, thank you for coming, and I'll

24 get you later for not telling me.

25 But what drives my passion is

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2 the soldiers that I've had the privilege
3 to serve with. Thirty-eight years in
4 uniform, many times away from home, in
5 dangerous places, these young men and
6 women who are in the 28th Division, who I
7 know so well, mean a heck of a lot to me.
8 And so as I retired, it became natural
9 that I would have joined Employer Support
10 of the Guard and Reserve and the USO here
11 in Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey,
12 because they are the epitome, the best of
13 what our country has to offer. We who
14 may have been in uniform or may not have
15 been in uniform reach out to those in
16 uniform through these two fine
17 organizations, and I am indeed humbled,
18 as well as surprised, to receive this
19 award from the City Council and this
20 recognition, and I thank you all for your
21 support of these two fine organizations.

22 Thank you very much.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:

25 Council will be at ease.

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2 (Council at ease.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: At
4 this time, the Chair recognizes
5 Councilman DiCicco, who will present a
6 resolution honoring a dear friend and an
7 outstanding public servant for many
8 years, the Honorable Lynne Abraham.

9 (Applause.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Will
11 Ms. Abraham and those accompanying her
12 please join the Councilmembers at the
13 podium. I would also ask that Judge
14 Dembe, who will also be making a
15 presentation, also join the District
16 Attorney.

17 I would request those who are
18 leaving, please do so quietly. Thank
19 you.

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman
21 DiCicco.

22 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
23 Madam President.

24 This morning I'm pleased and
25 proud to be part of the resolution

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2 honoring and thanking the Honorable Lynne
3 Abraham for her years of dedicated public
4 service.

5 Whereas, Lynne Abraham was
6 elected in 1991 as Philadelphia's
7 District Attorney. She was the first
8 woman to serve as the City's top law
9 enforcement official, and she
10 successfully won reelection in 1993,
11 1997, 2001 and 2005. As District
12 Attorney, Ms. Abraham oversees the
13 largest district attorney's office in
14 Pennsylvania, prosecuting approximately
15 75,000 cases every year. The office has
16 a professional staff of 300 attorneys and
17 275 support staff. As District Attorney,
18 Lynne has always been a strong voice for
19 victims of crime and has worked to
20 improve her office and the criminal
21 justice system in our city and state
22 through innovative programs and
23 legislation to help crime victims and law
24 enforcement; and

25 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Whereas,

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2 District Attorney Abraham has combatted
3 violent crime through aggressive and
4 effective prosecutions of the most
5 dangerous criminals and by reorganizing
6 the District Attorney's Office for
7 maximum effectiveness. She formed the
8 Repeat Offender Unit to target the most
9 dangerous serial felons and she created
10 the FAST, Federal Alternative to State
11 Trials, Unit to punish firearms offenders
12 in the federal court system, where gun
13 offenders receive stiffer sentences under
14 federal guidelines. She also partnered
15 with legislators and community groups to
16 draft and implement the Blueprint for a
17 Safer Philadelphia, a comprehensive
18 response to violent crime; and

19 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Whereas,
20 Lynne created the Family Violence and
21 Sexual Assault Unit to take advantage of
22 the high level of specialization
23 necessary to fight child abuse, sexual
24 assault and domestic violence. Lynne's
25 Latina Domestic Violence Project has

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2 formed and strengthened partnerships with
3 Women Organized Against Rape, Lutheran
4 Settlement House and Women in Transition
5 to deal with the unique challenges posed
6 by intra-family violence in the Latina
7 community. Lynne promotes collaboration
8 with victim advocacy groups as a
9 participant in Philadelphia's Domestic
10 Violence Task Force, Sexual Assault
11 Advisory Council and Law Enforcement
12 Child Abuse Project. Lynne set aside a
13 user-friendly waiting room in the
14 Criminal Justice Center for victims and
15 their families and included a
16 child-friendly play room for children who
17 are required to go to court; and

18 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Whereas, by
19 creating the Elder Justice Project, she
20 made sure that our seniors get extra
21 attention and assistance if they become
22 victims of crimes. For children who are
23 victims of or witnesses to crime, Lynne
24 created Court School, which is an
25 education program to help prepare

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2 children for the daunting task of
3 testifying in the adult world of the
4 criminal justice system. Lynne's
5 Economic and Cyber Crime Unit tackles
6 cases in which savvy criminals use
7 technology to prey upon their victims;
8 and

9 Whereas, the Public Nuisance
10 Task Force is another unit that Lynne
11 created to help improve the quality of
12 life for Philadelphians by closing
13 hundreds of nuisance bars and drug houses
14 throughout our city. Lynne was also the
15 driving force behind the creation of
16 Philadelphia's Drug Treatment Court,
17 which helps drug-addicted offenders beat
18 their addiction and change their
19 behavior. She created a specialized Gun
20 Court to help stem the tide of deadly
21 handgun violence in our city, and she is
22 currently working for the establishment
23 of a specialized DUI Court, to repeat the
24 success of Drug Treatment Court in the
25 area of drunk driving;

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Whereas,
3 Lynne pioneered and expanded several
4 important programs to help at-risk youth,
5 such as the Youth Aid Panels for
6 first-time offenders. Her Youth Violence
7 Reduction Partnership is a program
8 involving a number of criminal justice,
9 City and non-profit agencies designed to
10 lower homicide rates in the most violent
11 parts of Philadelphia by focusing on
12 those young people under the age of 25
13 who are most at risk of killing or being
14 killed. Lynne also developed and
15 implemented a juvenile justice
16 educational curriculum for school
17 students and a truancy reduction program;
18 and

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Whereas, to
20 ensure the District Attorney's Office
21 reflects the diversity of our community,
22 Lynne formed the office's Minority
23 Recruitment Committee, which works with
24 the hiring committee to find the
25 best-qualified applicants. Lynne also

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2 created the position of Hate Crimes
3 Coordinator to work collaboratively with
4 organizations and agencies to combat hate
5 crimes. She also appointed a liaison to
6 the gay, lesbian, bisexual and
7 transgender community to address unique
8 needs of these groups. With the
9 formation of Urban Genesis, Incorporated,
10 Lynne became the first District Attorney
11 in the country to form a 501(c)(3)
12 non-profit foundation that operates in a
13 district attorney's office to promote
14 leadership, provide grants to fund
15 projects to improve our neighborhoods and
16 help the needy; and

17 Whereas, Lynne's legislative
18 accomplishments are substantial. Since
19 her election, she has served as the
20 Legislative Chair on the Executive
21 Committee of the Pennsylvania District
22 Attorneys Association and she is a member
23 of the Legislative Subcommittee of the
24 National District Attorneys Association.
25 Lynne has built strong relationships in

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2 the General Assembly, has drafted,
3 lobbied and promoted hundreds of bills
4 for the benefit of crime victims and the
5 law enforcement community; and

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL:

7 Whereas, in addition to serving as the
8 City's chief law enforcement officer
9 since 1991, Lynne has committed her
10 entire career to serving our community.
11 Lynne was born and raised in
12 Philadelphia -- West Philadelphia, I
13 note -- and educated in its public
14 schools. After graduating from Temple
15 University Law School in 1965, she worked
16 as an attorney in the Regional Counsel's
17 Office of the United States Department of
18 Housing and Urban Development, where she
19 prepared federal loans, grants and
20 contracts for urban renewal projects.
21 She received an appointment as a
22 Philadelphia Assistant District Attorney
23 in 1967 and was assigned principally to
24 Major Trial and Homicide units until she
25 left the office in 1972. She next became

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2 the Executive Director of the
3 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority,
4 where she was responsible for over \$100
5 million of urban renewal projects in
6 Philadelphia including planning and
7 condemnation work, managed a staff of
8 400, and testified before City Council of
9 Philadelphia for the Authority's budget
10 and programs; and

11 Honoring and thanking the
12 Honorable Lynne Abraham for her years of
13 dedicated public service -- this is you.

14 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

15 Whereas, Lynne Abraham was
16 elected -- no. That's the first one.

17 Whereas, Lynne Abraham served
18 as the legislative consultant for the
19 City Council of Philadelphia, where she
20 assisted Council in conducting
21 investigations, drafted legislation,
22 testified at public hearings, met with
23 citizens groups and revised portions of
24 the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter.
25 After that, she worked as a research

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2 assistant to Philadelphia Common Pleas
3 Court Judge Alexander F. Barbieri. Lynne
4 was elected Judge of Philadelphia
5 Municipal Court in 1977 and she was
6 elected to the Court of Common Pleas in
7 1980, where she presided over criminal
8 trials until she became District Attorney
9 in 1991. Lynne was happily married for
10 many years to the late broadcast pioneer
11 Edward Felbin.

12 Now, therefore, be it resolved,
13 that the Council of the City of
14 Philadelphia honors and thanking the
15 Honorable Lynne Abraham for her years of
16 dedicated public service.

17 Further resolved, that an
18 engrossed copy of this resolution be
19 presented to Lynne Abraham as evidence of
20 the sincere sentiments of this
21 legislative body.

22 This was introduced by myself,
23 Council President Anna C. Verna,
24 Councilman Bill Green and co-sponsored by
25 all members of City Council.

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2 Congratulations.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: At
5 this time, I would like to recognize
6 Judge Pamela Dembe, who will also make a
7 presentation.

8 JUDGE DEMBE: I don't have 15
9 friends to share the reading with, so
10 this will be a lot shorter.

11 In her spare time in between
12 all the many things that you just heard
13 about, Lynne chose to become an active
14 participant in the Criminal Justice
15 Advisory Board, which really got rocking
16 and rolling about a year and a half ago.
17 And she knew she was coming toward the
18 end of her tenure as District Attorney
19 and she really could have either let it
20 slide by or been a figure head member,
21 but she approached it the same way she's
22 approached everything in her illustrious
23 career. She jumped in with both feet.

24 She has always been a
25 tremendous person for new ideas and for

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2 practical steps to get problems solved
3 rather than standing around and
4 complaining. And, of course, she's great
5 at calling other people when they stand
6 around and complain as opposed to getting
7 things moving. And as a result, the
8 Criminal Justice Advisory Board has made
9 tremendous steps in many of the programs
10 that you've heard about and in reducing
11 the local jail population both by sending
12 people to state prison if they need to go
13 there or getting them out of prison --
14 out of the county jail if that's what
15 needs to be done and a whole range of
16 other things that are providing better,
17 faster justice and saving the taxpayers a
18 significant amount of money.

19 So the CJAB will also be
20 presenting an award to Lynne so that
21 she'll have more things to dust on her
22 furniture when she leaves us, but we just
23 wanted to join with everyone in saying
24 how much we will miss what she has
25 traditionally done.

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2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: At
5 this time, the Chair recognizes District
6 Attorney Abraham.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. ABRAHAM: Thank you,
9 Council President Verna and all of the
10 members of City Council and ladies and
11 gentlemen in the audience, guests, all.
12 This is a great honor and a singular
13 moment in my career.

14 Having been a public servant
15 for 44 years is no small feat, and I want
16 to welcome to their extended capacity as
17 public servants two new Mayor-Elects,
18 Mayor-Elect Bracey and my friend, Linda
19 Thompson, over there, who is waving at
20 me. I congratulated her previously, but
21 it was such a joy seeing you come to this
22 wonderful Chamber to be welcomed by
23 fellow Councilmembers, some of whom have
24 also aspired to and become mayors of
25 Philadelphia. So this is a good day for

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2 you and to all the other award recipients
3 this morning.

4 You know, when I was a young
5 kid, I always was fascinated by the
6 stars. My father bought me charts, and I
7 used to go out on the front lawn and
8 watch the stars in the middle of the
9 night. And then he bought me a small
10 telescope, and I used to watch the
11 constellations and the movements of the
12 stars, and every once in a while you'd
13 see a shooting star, and it was a great
14 excitement to see one of those things. I
15 never knew in my entire life that one of
16 those great shooting stars would
17 literally come out of the sky and land
18 right in my two hands and become the
19 greatest gift that I have ever received
20 from anyone, short of the life that my
21 mother and father gave me, and, that is,
22 the star, the bright star, of public
23 service.

24 I can't think of anything more
25 important that we do, members of this

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2 body and every person else who is serving
3 in a public capacity, than to give true
4 public service to the citizens of
5 Philadelphia and to the citizens of the
6 state or the nation or wherever true good
7 public servants are working. To work for
8 the public good, to see things
9 accomplished, through the tussles,
10 through the fights, through the pain of
11 legislation, and just moving the ball
12 forward is an extraordinary pleasure.

13 I have had the great pleasure,
14 Madam President and members of Council,
15 to come before this body many, many
16 times, and you have sought my advice and
17 counsel. I have given you the best
18 advice and counsel I could give you based
19 on the law and the facts that I knew
20 them. Sometimes we agreed. Sometimes we
21 disagreed, but at least every time I left
22 this Chamber, I felt that we had a frank
23 and open discussion of the problems that
24 beset the City, and they are aplenty.

25 It is a very difficult job that

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2 you, members of City Council, do every
3 day in serving the public, and I have had
4 the joy of working with you, moving the
5 agenda of a great city forward. This is
6 a great city, and the people in it are
7 fantastic, and I salute all of them for
8 giving me the wonderful opportunity to
9 serve them.

10 If I have one more moment, I do
11 want to say one thing about the District
12 Attorney's Office. I have headed the
13 Redevelopment Authority with over 450
14 people in it, moving this city's urban
15 renewal projects on a tremendously fast
16 track. The one thing that I really,
17 really, really have treasured is being
18 the head of the largest law firm in the
19 City of Philadelphia and to have had the
20 opportunity to work with the greatest
21 group of advocates that this city has
22 ever seen. These people are unsung.
23 Probably you don't even know any of their
24 names. Even if you took them to court
25 and you watched them work and you had

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2 somebody work on your case, the name of
3 the assistant district attorney is almost
4 always forgotten. However, the way they
5 fight for our victims and our citizens,
6 the way that they stand up to all of the
7 forces that are raid against us, the way
8 that they do their job is magnificent.

9 It is a shame really that the true record
10 and the true facts of the District
11 Attorney's Office have yet to be
12 revealed, but they will, because the men
13 and women of the office know the truth
14 and I know the truth and you, ladies and
15 gentlemen of this body, who have called
16 upon me so many times, really know the
17 truth of what the district attorney is.

18 And, finally, let me observe
19 that because I have the privilege of
20 serving all of the citizens all of the
21 time, one thing gives me strength.
22 Obviously when I come to this body and
23 they have helped me in innumerable ways
24 with budgets when budgets were tough,
25 with projects which we worked through

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2 together, this has been a great source of
3 pride and a great source of satisfaction
4 to all of us, but if I have one thing
5 that keeps me fixed on the polestar of
6 true public service, it's something that
7 has made me a better human being and a
8 better person, and it's something that I
9 didn't say but something that Winston
10 Churchill said. Never give in. Never
11 give in. Never, never, never, never. In
12 nothing, great or small, large or petty,
13 never give in, except to convictions of
14 honor and good sense. Never yield to
15 force. Never yield to the apparently
16 overwhelming might of the enemy. And
17 this is something that I keep in front of
18 me all of the time, because there are
19 forces that are raid against all of us.
20 We must clear our path of these obstacles
21 so that we can be true public servants,
22 faithful to our oath and so that we may
23 serve the City of Philadelphia with true
24 fidelity.

25 I bring you seasons greetings,

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2 Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, a great,
3 prosperous, healthy, happy and productive
4 new year. And I promise you that I will
5 find other ways to serve you in the years
6 ahead.

7 God bless you all.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Madam
10 DA, we want to say thank you, thank you,
11 thank you, and we want to wish you every
12 success in your future endeavors. God
13 bless.

14 MS. ABRAHAM: Thank you very
15 much.

16 (Council at ease.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
18 next order of business is communications.
19 The Chair requests that the
20 Sergeant-At-Arms deliver the messages to
21 the Chief Clerk.

22 The Chief Clerk will please
23 read the messages from the Mayor.

24 CHIEF CLERK: To the President
25 and members of the Council of the City of

1 12/17/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Philadelphia, pursuant to Sections 4-604
3 and 2-307 of the Home Rule Charter, I am
4 today transmitting to the Council the
5 recommendations of the City Planning
6 Commission regarding the following bills:

7 090735, 090741, 090835, 090836, 090837,
8 090847, 090851, 090852 and 090876; and

9 I am pleased to advise you that
10 on December 16, 2009, I signed all of the
11 bills that were passed by Council at its
12 session on December 3rd, 2009, and that
13 on December 16, 2009, I signed the
14 following bills that were passed by
15 Council at its session on December 10,
16 2009: 080025, 090736, 090737, 090738,
17 090739, 090740, 090780 and 090831; and

18 I am transmitting for the
19 consideration of your honorable body a
20 resolution amending Resolution No.
21 090509, entitled "A resolution approving
22 the redevelopment contract and
23 disposition supplement of the
24 Redevelopment Authority of the City of
25 Philadelphia for the redevelopment and

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2 urban renewal of a portion of the Model
3 Cities Urban Renewal Area, designated as
4 Parcel Nos. 679, 680, 681 and 682," by
5 revising the metes and bounds
6 descriptions of certain properties; and

7 A resolution approving the
8 redevelopment contract and disposition
9 supplement of the Redevelopment Authority
10 of the City of Philadelphia for a portion
11 of the Model Cities Urban Renewal Area,
12 designated as Parcel No. 683; and

13 A resolution approving the
14 redevelopment contract and disposition
15 supplement of the Redevelopment Authority
16 for the redevelopment and urban renewal
17 of the West Fairhill/East Tioga/Hunting
18 Park Urban Renewal Area, designated as
19 Parcel Nos. 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53,
20 54 and 55; and

21 A resolution approving the
22 redevelopment contract of the
23 Redevelopment Authority of the City of
24 Philadelphia for the redevelopment and
25 urban renewal of a portion of the Sarah

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2 Allen Urban Renewal Area, identified by
3 house number and street address for
4 Parcel No. 4 as 4033 through 4043 Ogden
5 Street; and

6 A resolution approving the
7 redevelopment contract and disposition
8 supplement of the Redevelopment Authority
9 for the redevelopment and urban renewal
10 of a portion of the 44th and Aspen Urban
11 Renewal Area, designated as Parcel No.
12 112; and

13 An ordinance authorizing the
14 revision of lines and grades on a portion
15 of City Plan No. 248 by placing on the
16 City Plan Saybrook Avenue from Lloyd
17 Street to Seventy-Second Street; and

18 An ordinance authorizing the
19 paving of Saybrook Avenue from Lloyd
20 Street to Seventy-Second Street; and

21 An ordinance authorizing the
22 revision of lines and grades on a portion
23 of City Plan No. 55 by striking from the
24 City Plan and vacating the legally open
25 portions of Adams Avenue from Aramingo

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2 Avenue to the northwesterly right-of-way
3 line of the Delaware Expressway, all
4 under certain terms and conditions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
6 you. The messages will be printed in the
7 Journal.

8 The Chief Clerk will please
9 read any other communications in his
10 possession.

11 CHIEF CLERK: I have none,
12 Madam President.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
14 you.

15 The next order of business will
16 be the introduction of bills and
17 resolutions, and the Chair recognizes
18 Councilman Kenney.

19 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
20 Madam President. I offer one bill.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
22 you.

23 The Chief Clerk will please
24 read the title of the bill.

25 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

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2 amending Title 4 of The Philadelphia
3 Code, entitled "The Philadelphia Building
4 Construction and Occupancy Code," by
5 amending Subcode "B" by adding a
6 provision requiring that certain
7 buildings have roof coverings that are
8 white in color or Energy Star rated as
9 highly reflective.

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

13 The Chair recognizes
14 Councilwoman Blackwell.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
16 you, Madam President. Today I introduce
17 three resolutions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
19 you.

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

22 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
23 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
24 Property to execute and deliver to the
25 Redevelopment Authority of the City of

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2 Philadelphia, without consideration, deed
3 conveying fee simple title to certain
4 City-owned lots or pieces of ground with
5 the buildings and improvements thereon,
6 situate in the Third, Sixth and
7 Twenty-Seventh Wards of the City of
8 Philadelphia.

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

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

14 (Duly seconded.)

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

18 All in favor will signify by
19 saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
22 opposed?

23 (No response.)

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

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 adopted.

3 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution

4 approving the redevelopment contract and

5 disposition supplement of the

6 Redevelopment Authority of the City of

7 Philadelphia for the redevelopment and

8 urban renewal of a portion of the 44th

9 and Aspen Urban Renewal Area, designated

10 as Parcel No. 112.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

12 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell

13 for a motion.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank

15 you, Madam President. I move for

16 adoption of the resolution.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

19 has been moved and properly seconded that

20 the resolution be adopted.

21 All in favor will say aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

24 opposed?

25 (No response.)

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
3 ayes have it and the motion carries.

4 Again, the Chair recognizes
5 Councilwoman Blackwell.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
7 you, Madam President. Today I introduce
8 three resolutions. This is my third.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Yes.

10 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
11 approving the redevelopment contract of
12 the Redevelopment Authority of the City
13 of Philadelphia for the redevelopment and
14 urban renewal of a portion of the Sarah
15 Allen Urban Renewal Area, identified by
16 house number and street address for
17 Parcel No. 4 as 4033 through 43 Ogden
18 Street.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
20 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell
21 for a motion.

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

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
3 has been moved and 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
11 ayes have it and the resolution is
12 adopted.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Greenlee.

15 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
16 you, Madam President. I have no bills or
17 resolutions today.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
19 Chair thanks the gentleman.

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilwoman Krajewski.

22 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
23 you, Madam President. I offer one bill
24 and one resolution.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 you.

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

5 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
6 authorizing the revision of lines and
7 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 55
8 by striking from the City Plan and
9 vacating the legally open portions of
10 Adams Avenue from Aramingo Avenue to the
11 northwesterly right-of-way line of the
12 Delaware Expressway.

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

16 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
17 honoring the Father Judge High School
18 Soccer Team on winning the PIAA AAA State
19 Championship.

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

22 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: I move
23 for the adoption of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

4 All in favor will say aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
7 opposed?

8 (No response.)

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

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Councilwoman Tasco.

14 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
15 Madam President. I offer one resolution
16 and two bills on your behalf.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
18 you.

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

21 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
22 authorizing the revision of lines and
23 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 248
24 by placing on the City Plan Saybrook
25 Avenue from Lloyd Street to

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Seventy-Second Street.

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

6 CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
7 authorizing the paving of Saybrook Avenue
8 from Lloyd Street to Seventy-Second
9 Street.

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

13 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
14 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
15 Property to execute and deliver to the
16 Redevelopment Authority of the City of
17 Philadelphia, without consideration,
18 deeds conveying conditional fee simple
19 title to property in the 36th Ward of the
20 City of Philadelphia.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
22 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

23 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: I move for
24 the adoption of the resolution.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

5 All in favor will 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 resolution is
13 adopted.

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Councilwoman Miller.

16 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
17 you, Madam President. Today I offer one
18 resolution.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
20 you.

21 The Chief Clerk will please
22 read the title.

23 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
24 recognizing, honoring and celebrating
25 Laura Morris Siena on her retirement as

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Executive Director of West Mt. Airy

3 Neighbors and her 20 years of dedication

4 and commitment.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

6 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move

8 for the adoption of the resolution.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

11 has been moved and properly seconded that

12 the resolution be adopted.

13 All in favor will say aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

16 opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

19 ayes have it and the resolution is

20 adopted.

21 The Chair recognizes

22 Councilwoman Sanchez.

23 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank

24 you, Madam President. I have two

25 privileged resolutions.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
3 you.

4 The Chief Clerk will please
5 read the title.

6 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
7 approving the redevelopment contract and
8 disposition supplement of the
9 Redevelopment Authority of the City of
10 Philadelphia for the redevelopment and
11 urban renewal of a portion of the West
12 Fairhill/East Tioga/Hunting Park Urban
13 Renewal Area, designated as Parcel Nos.
14 47 through 55.

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

17 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: I move
18 for the adoption.

19 (Duly seconded.)

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

23 All in favor will indicate by
24 saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
3 opposed?

4 (No response.)

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

8 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
9 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
10 Property to execute and deliver to the
11 Redevelopment Authority of the City of
12 Philadelphia, without consideration,
13 deeds conveying conditional fee simple
14 title to certain City-owned property,
15 situate in the Seventh, Eighteenth,
16 Twenty-Third and Forty-Third Wards of the
17 City of Philadelphia.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
19 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
20 Sanchez.

21 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
22 you, Madam Chair. I move for the
23 adoption.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

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 resolution is
12 adopted.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Green.

15 COUNCILMAN GREEN: I have no
16 bills or resolutions today, Madam
17 President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
19 Chair thanks the gentleman.

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman
21 Jones.

22 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
23 Madam President. This morning I have two
24 resolutions.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 you.

3 The Chief Clerk will please
4 read the title of the first resolution.

5 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
6 congratulating Mayor-Elect Dana L. Redd
7 on her election as Mayor for Camden, New
8 Jersey.

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

11 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
12 Madam President. I move for the
13 adoption.

14 (Duly seconded.)

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

18 All in favor will indicate by
19 saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
22 opposed?

23 (No response.)

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

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 adopted.

3 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution

4 recognizing and honoring the shared

5 contributions and legacy of John Brown,

6 the Quakers and Frances Ellen Watkins

7 Harper in the fight against slavery,

8 violence, injustice and inequality and

9 calling for the posthumous pardon of John

10 Brown.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

12 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

13 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

14 Madam President. I move for the adoption

15 of the resolution.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

18 has been moved and properly seconded that

19 the resolution be adopted.

20 All in favor will please say

21 aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

24 opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman
6 Goode.

7 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
8 Madam President. I offer no bills or
9 resolutions today.

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

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Councilwoman Brown.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
15 Madam President. One resolution this
16 morning.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
18 you.

19 The Chief Clerk will please
20 read the title.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
22 calling on Governor Rendell and Mayor
23 Michael Nutter to support funding for a
24 united Family Court Building.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,

4 Madam President. I move for the

5 adoption.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

8 has been moved and properly seconded that

9 the resolution be adopted.

10 All in favor will say aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

13 opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

16 ayes have it and the resolution is

17 adopted.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman

19 DiCicco.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,

21 Madam President. I offer one resolution.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank

23 you.

24 The Chief Clerk will please

25 read the title.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
3 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
4 Property to execute and deliver to the
5 Redevelopment Authority of the City of
6 Philadelphia, without consideration,
7 deeds conveying conditional fee simple
8 title to certain City-owned lots or
9 pieces of ground with the buildings and
10 improvements thereon, situate in the
11 Thirty-First Ward of the City of
12 Philadelphia.

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

15 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
16 Madam President. I move for the adoption
17 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 indicate by
23 saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

5 ayes have it and the resolution is

6 adopted.

7 The Chair recognizes Councilman

8 O'Neill.

9 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam

10 President, I offer one bill.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

12 Chief Clerk will please read the title of

13 the bill.

14 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to

15 amend the Institutional Development

16 District Master Plan of the Fox Chase

17 Cancer Center, located at 333 Cottman

18 Avenue.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

20 bill will be referred to the appropriate

21 committee.

22 The Chair recognizes Councilman

23 Clarke.

24 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,

25 Madam President. I have two resolutions.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

5 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
6 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
7 Property to execute and deliver to the
8 Redevelopment Authority, without
9 consideration, deeds conveying
10 conditional fee simple title to
11 properties located in the Twentieth,
12 Twenty-Eighth and Forty-Seventh Wards of
13 the City of Philadelphia.

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

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I move for
17 the adoption.

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 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (No response.)

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

6 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
7 amending Resolution 090509, entitled "A
8 resolution approving the redevelopment
9 contract and disposition supplement of
10 the Redevelopment Authority of the City
11 of Philadelphia for the redevelopment of
12 a portion of the Model Cities Urban
13 Renewal Area, designated as Parcel Nos.
14 679, 680, 681 and 682 by revising the
15 metes and bounds descriptions of certain
16 properties.

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

19 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I move for
20 the adoption.

21 (Duly seconded.)

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

25 All in favor will say aye.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
4 opposed?

5 (No response.)

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

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman
10 Kelly.

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

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
15 you.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Rizzo.

18 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam
19 President, I have two resolutions today.
20 One of them is honoring Dave Roberts,
21 well known and beloved veteran member of
22 WPVI Action News team at 6ABC, on the
23 occasion of his retirement after 31
24 years.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank

1 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 you.

3 The Chief Clerk will please
4 read the title of the first resolution.

5 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
6 recognizing, honoring, celebrating and
7 thanking Dave Roberts on the occasion of
8 his retirement as Action News Weatherman
9 and Broadcaster.

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

12 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam
13 President, I move for the adoption of the
14 this 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 12/17/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 adopted.

3 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
4 recognizing, honoring, celebrating and
5 thanking Dr. Joseph F. Ruggiero on the
6 occasion of his retirement as CEO of Self
7 Help Movement, Inc.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
9 Chair recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

10 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam
11 President, I move for the adoption of
12 this resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

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

17 All in favor will indicate by
18 saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
21 opposed?

22 (No response.)

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

1 12/17/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 The next order of business is
3 reports from committees.

4 The Chair recognizes
5 Councilwoman Tasco for a report from the
6 Committee of the Whole.

7 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam
8 Chair, the Committee of the Whole reports
9 four resolutions with a favorable
10 recommendation.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
12 you.

13 The Chief Clerk will please
14 read the report.

15 CHIEF CLERK: To the President
16 and members of the Council of the City of
17 Philadelphia, the Committee of the Whole,
18 to which was referred Resolution No.
19 090890, entitled "A resolution appointing
20 Stephanie Wall to the Board of Directors
21 for the Old City Special Services
22 District"; and

23 Resolution No. 090891, entitled
24 "A resolution appointing Arthur Holst to
25 the Board of Directors for the Old City

1 12/17/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Special Services District"; and

3 Resolution 090892, entitled "A

4 resolution reappointing Sheryl Bar to the

5 Board of Directors for the Old City

6 Special Services District"; and

7 Resolution No. 090893, entitled

8 "A resolution reappointing Harvey Spear

9 to the Board of Directors for the Old

10 City Special Services District,"

11 respectfully reports it has considered

12 the same and returns the attached

13 resolutions to Council with a favorable

14 recommendation.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

16 you. The resolutions just reported from

17 committee will be considered at the end

18 of today's Calendar.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilman

20 Greenlee for a report from the Committee

21 on Law and Government.

22 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank

23 you, Madam President. The Committee on

24 Law and Government reports one bill with

25 a favorable recommendation.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
3 you.

4 The Chief Clerk will please
5 read the report.

6 CHIEF CLERK: The Committee on
7 Law and Government, to which was referred
8 Bill No. 090467, entitled "An ordinance
9 amending Title 19 of The Philadelphia
10 Code, entitled 'Finance, Taxes and
11 Collections,' by adding a new Chapter
12 providing for the recovery of enhanced
13 monetary damages from persons who file
14 false or fraudulent claims with the City,
15 providing a procedure for persons with
16 knowledge of such claims to inform the
17 City and authorizing the City, in certain
18 circumstances, to allow such persons to
19 commence civil actions on behalf of the
20 City and to share in the proceeds
21 awarded, and providing for civil
22 penalties, attorneys' fees and costs, all
23 under certain terms and conditions,"
24 respectfully reports it has considered
25 and amended the same and returns the

1 12/17/09 - STATED - REPORTS

2 attached bill to Council with a favorable
3 recommendation.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
5 you.

6 The Chair recognizes Councilman
7 Greenlee.

8 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
9 you, Madam President. I move that the
10 rules of Council be suspended so as to
11 permit first reading this day of Bill No.
12 090467.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
15 has been moved and properly seconded that
16 the rules of Council be suspended so as
17 to permit first reading this day of the
18 bill just reported from committee.

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 bill just read will

1 12/17/09 - STATED - SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

2 be placed on our First Reading Calendar
3 for today.

4 We have a special order of
5 business. Council will now proceed under
6 a special order of business, a motion to
7 discharge Bill No. 090522.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Clarke.

10 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
11 Madam President.

12 Madam President, I move that
13 Bill No. 090522 be discharged from
14 committee. I think I have got to pretty
15 much every member. It's essentially the
16 earlier proposed pension change that was
17 introduced on behalf of the
18 Administration.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
21 has been moved and properly seconded.

22 All in favor will indicate by
23 saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those

1 12/17/09 - STATED - SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

5 ayes have it, and, again, the Chair

6 recognizes Councilman Clarke.

7 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam

8 President, I move that Bill No. 090522 be

9 withdrawn.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Do I

11 hear a second?

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: All

14 in favor will please say aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

20 ayes have it, and Bill No. 090522 has

21 been withdrawn.

22 The next order of business is

23 the consideration of the Calendar. I

24 note that the bills just reported from

25 committee with suspension of the rules

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 have been deemed to have had a first
3 reading and will be placed on our Second
4 Reading and Final Passage Calendar for
5 our next session of Council. There are
6 no additional bills on the First Reading
7 Calendar today.

8 The Chair now recognizes
9 Councilwoman Tasco for a motion
10 concerning the bills on the Second
11 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

12 Councilwoman Tasco.

13 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I'm sorry.
14 Madam President, I move that the rules of
15 Council be suspended to permit the use of
16 a Consent Agenda to consider the
17 following bills on the Second Reading and
18 Final Passage Calendar.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: We're not
21 ready yet. I thought you were David
22 Cohen over there.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Is
24 that Dave Cohen I heard?

25 (Laughter.)

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: Bill Nos.

3 090714-A, 090691-AA, 090851-A, 090777,

4 090782, 090842, 090686, 090849, 090707,

5 090750, 090786, 090835, 090836, 090713,

6 090741, 090742, 090743, 090745, 090747,

7 090748, 090749, 090771, 090772, 090775,

8 090779, 090781, 090809, 090810, 090811,

9 090812, 090827, 090832, 090848, 090875,

10 090876, 090877 and 090841 are being

11 called up for today's Consent Agenda.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I

13 could hear a second now.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

16 has been moved and seconded that the

17 rules of Council be suspended to permit

18 the use of a Consent Agenda.

19 All in favor will please

20 indicate by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

23 opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 ayes have it and the motion carries.

3 We will consider the Consent
4 Agenda shortly.

5 The Chair again recognizes
6 Councilwoman Tasco for the purpose of
7 calling up the bills on our regular
8 Second Reading and Final Passage
9 Calendar.

10 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
11 Madam President. In addition to the
12 bills being considered on the Consent
13 Agenda, Bill Nos. 090706, 090773, 090774
14 and 090735 are being considered for
15 Second Reading and Final Passage. All
16 other bills are being held. Thank you
17 very much.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
19 you.

20 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam
21 President, Bill No. 090586 is being
22 withdrawn.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
24 you.

25 We will now consider today's

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Consent Agenda. After each title is
3 read -- please listen -- any member may
4 object to the inclusion of the bill on
5 the Consent Agenda. Upon such an
6 objection and without debate, the bill
7 will be immediately removed from the
8 Consent Agenda and placed on our regular
9 Final Passage Calendar.

10 At this time, the Clerk will
11 now read the title of the bills on the
12 Consent Agenda.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Bill No.
14 090714-A, entitled "An ordinance amending
15 Chapter 12-2400 of The Philadelphia Code,
16 entitled 'Towing and Immobilizing of
17 Parked or Abandoned Vehicles,' by
18 reducing the amount towing companies can
19 charge owners of recovered stolen or
20 illegally used vehicles"; and

21 Bill No. 090691-AA, entitled
22 "An ordinance amending Section 9-605 of
23 The Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Towing,'
24 and Section 12-2405, entitled 'Removal or
25 Immobilization of Parked Vehicles;

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Notice,' to prohibit the towing of
3 vehicles identified as reported stolen
4 unless an attempt has been made by the
5 Police Department to give the vehicle
6 owner an opportunity to recover the
7 vehicle"; and

8 Bill No. 090851-A, entitled "An
9 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
10 Public Property to execute and deliver a
11 deed conveying fee simple title to
12 certain parcels of land, located at 745
13 through 47 North 19th Street; 801 through
14 35 North 19th Street; 1825 through 45
15 Wylie Street; and 1851 Wylie Street"; and

16 Bill No. 090777, entitled "An
17 ordinance amending Title 9 of The
18 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Regulation
19 of Businesses, Trades and Professions,'
20 to eliminate and revise various licensing
21 and enforcement requirements"; and

22 Bill No. 090782, entitled "An
23 ordinance amending Section 11-603 of The
24 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Projections
25 Over the Street,' to revise the

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 permitting requirements for the erection
3 or maintenance of canopies and marquees";
4 and

5 Bill No. 090842, entitled "An
6 ordinance amending Subcode 'A' of Title 4
7 of The Philadelphia Code, to revise
8 various fee provisions and provide an
9 exception to certain permitting
10 requirements"; and

11 Bill No. 090686, entitled "An
12 ordinance amending Chapter 19-500 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Taxes and
14 Rents - General,' by providing for a
15 temporary tax amnesty program under which
16 delinquent taxpayers may satisfy their
17 past due tax obligations with forgiveness
18 of all or a portion of accrued interest
19 and penalties"; and

20 Bill No. 090849, entitled "An
21 ordinance amending Section 10-1001 of The
22 Philadelphia Code relating to fees
23 charged by the Commissioner of Records by
24 modifying the amount of such fees"; and

25 Bill No. 090707, entitled "An

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 ordinance authorizing the Water
3 Commissioner to enter into an agreement
4 for a license from the Pennsylvania
5 Department of Environmental Protection to
6 occupy certain submerged lands of the
7 Commonwealth in the Schuylkill River";
8 and

9 Bill No. 090750, entitled "An
10 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
11 Public Property to execute and deliver to
12 the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial
13 Development a deed conveying fee simple
14 title to certain parcels of land located
15 at 5201 Frankford Avenue"; and

16 Bill No. 090786, entitled "An
17 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
18 Public Property to accept from the School
19 District of Philadelphia conveyance of
20 title to a portion of the land bounded by
21 Susquehanna Avenue, North 15th Street,
22 Diamond Street and North 16th Street";
23 and

24 Bill No. 090835, entitled "An
25 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Public Property to execute and deliver to
3 the Redevelopment Authority a deed
4 conveying fee simple title to certain
5 parcels of land located at 928 South 17th
6 Street, 1009 South 17th Street, 1011
7 South 17th Street and 1035 South 17th
8 Street"; and

9 Bill No. 090836, entitled "An
10 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
11 Public Property to execute and deliver a
12 deed conveying fee simple title to
13 certain parcels of land located at 917
14 South 18th Street; 1023 South 18th
15 Street; 1030 South Bouvier Street; 1633
16 Carpenter Street; 1635 Carpenter Street;
17 1542 Christian Street; 1833 Christian
18 Street; and 1834 Christian Street"; and

19 Bill No. 090713, entitled "An
20 ordinance granting permission to Bharat
21 Patel, owner of the newsstand at the
22 southwest corner of Broad and Arch
23 Street, to construct, use and maintain an
24 electrical conduit"; and

25 Bill No. 090741, entitled "An

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 ordinance authorizing the revision of
3 lines and grades on a portion of City
4 Plan No. 296 in the area laying northwest
5 of Shawmont Avenue and southwest of Eva
6 Street"; and

7 Bill No. 090742, entitled "An
8 ordinance authorizing the installation of
9 all-way stop signs at the intersection of
10 Eva Street and Summit Avenue"; and

11 Bill No. 090743, entitled "An
12 ordinance establishing a no parking
13 regulation on the 5000 block of Nevada
14 Street"; and

15 Bill No. 090745, entitled "An
16 ordinance authorizing the installation of
17 all-way stop signs at the intersection of
18 Lare Street and Summit Avenue"; and

19 Bill No. 090747, entitled "An
20 ordinance amending Section 9-213 of The
21 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Farmers'
22 Markets,' by adding as a permissible
23 location the west side of North 12th
24 Street from Cuthbert Street to Arch
25 Street"; and

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Bill No. 090748, entitled "An
3 ordinance amending Section 9-204 of The
4 Philadelphia Code relating to sidewalk
5 vendors in Center City by eliminating
6 previously designated vendor locations on
7 the east side of 5th Street, from Market
8 Street to Ludlow Street and from Ranstead
9 Street to Chestnut Street"; and

10 Bill No. 090749, entitled "An
11 ordinance amending Section 11-301 of The
12 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Street
13 Improvements,' to revise the method by
14 which the Board of Surveyors may approve
15 supplemental plans relocating the
16 curblines"; and

17 Bill No. 090771, entitled "An
18 ordinance authorizing the University City
19 Science Center to construct, own and
20 maintain benches, trash receptacles and
21 bike racks on the north and south footway
22 of Market Street, from 34th Street to
23 41st Street"; and

24 Bill No. 090772, entitled "An
25 ordinance authorizing Nicole and Daniel

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Dizio, owners of Wit or Witout
3 Cheesesteaks, to construct, own and
4 maintain one table, four chairs and one
5 trash receptacle on the sidewalk located
6 at 7352 Frankford Avenue"; and

7 Bill No. 090775, entitled "An
8 ordinance authorizing the Philadelphia
9 Housing Authority to construct, own and
10 maintain a handicap ramp and stairs at
11 2201 through 07 West Venango Street"; and

12 Bill No. 090779, entitled "An
13 ordinance establishing a no truck parking
14 regulation on Lancaster Avenue, between
15 North 61st Street and North 62nd Street";
16 and

17 Bill No. 090781, entitled "An
18 ordinance authorizing New Kensington
19 Community Development Corporation to
20 construct, own and maintain bus shelters,
21 decorative signs and benches and trash
22 receptacles on the east and west footway
23 of Frankford Avenue, from East Columbia
24 Avenue to York Street"; and

25 Bill No. 090809, entitled "An

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 ordinance authorizing Brandywine Cira

3 Post Office to construct, own and

4 maintain various encroachments at 2970

5 Market Street"; and

6 Bill No. 090810, entitled "An

7 ordinance authorizing the People's

8 Emergency Center to construct, own and

9 maintain one bench and one parking sign

10 on the north and south footway of

11 Lancaster Avenue, between 40th Street and

12 41st Street"; and

13 Bill No. 090811, entitled "An

14 ordinance authorizing the Korean

15 Community Development Services Center to

16 construct, own and maintain three benches

17 near the northeast corner of West Tabor

18 Road and North Fifth Street"; and

19 Bill No. 090812, entitled "An

20 ordinance amending Section 9-203 of The

21 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Street

22 Vendors,' by permitting street vending on

23 designated streets"; and

24 Bill No. 090827, entitled "An

25 ordinance amending Section 9-605 of The

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Towing,' to
3 provide a private right of action for
4 persons aggrieved by certain violations
5 of that Section"; and

6 Bill No. 090832, entitled "An
7 ordinance authorizing John Byrne, owner
8 of Pasiano's, 7100 Tulip Street, to
9 legalize the construction, operation and
10 maintenance of an existing enclosed set
11 of stairs"; and

12 Bill No. 090848, entitled "An
13 ordinance authorizing the installation of
14 all-way stop signs at the intersection of
15 Lawndale Street and Bleigh Avenue"; and

16 Bill No. 090875, entitled "An
17 ordinance amending Section 9-206 of The
18 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Sidewalk
19 Vendors in Neighborhood Business
20 Districts,' by expanding the Oregon
21 Avenue Business Corridor District to
22 include both sides of Front Street from
23 Oregon Avenue to Pattison Avenue"; and

24 Bill No. 090876, entitled "An
25 ordinance authorizing the revision of

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 lines and grades on a portion of City
3 Plan No. 307 by striking from the City
4 Plan and vacating Cherry Street from
5 Broad Street to Carlisle Street"; and

6 Bill No. 090877, entitled "An
7 ordinance amending Section 9-203 of The
8 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Street
9 Vendors,' and Section 9-205, entitled
10 'Sidewalk Sales,' by prohibiting street
11 and sidewalk vending within the area
12 bounded by Broad Street, Oxford Street,
13 13th Street and Jefferson Street"; and

14 Bill No. 090841, entitled "An
15 ordinance amending Title 4 of The
16 Philadelphia Code by adopting the '2009
17 Pennsylvania Uniformed Construction Code'
18 through adoption of the 2009 edition of
19 certain International Codes.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
21 you.

22 These bills having been read on
23 two different days, the question for each
24 bill now is shall the bills pass finally.

25 The Clerk shall call the roll,

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 and upon being called, each Councilmember
3 shall vote aye on each of the bills, nay
4 on whichever bill they would like to or
5 indicate those bills for which the member
6 is voting aye and those bills for which
7 the member is voting nay. So I would
8 suggest if you're voting for all of the
9 Consent Agenda bills, you would say aye
10 on all bills.

11 The Chief Clerk will please
12 call the roll.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Blackwell.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye on
16 all bills.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
18 Clarke.

19 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye on all
20 bills.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
22 DiCicco.

23 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye on all
24 bills.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye on all

3 bills.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

5 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye on all

6 bills.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Greenlee.

9 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye on

10 all bills.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye on all

13 bills.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.

15 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye on all

16 bills.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

18 Kenney.

19 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye on all

20 bills.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

22 Krajewski.

23 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye on

24 all bills.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Miller.

3 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye on

4 all bills.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

6 O'Neill.

7 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye on all

8 bills.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Reynolds Brown.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye on all

12 bills.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

14 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye on all

15 bills.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

17 Sanchez.

18 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye on

19 all bills.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

21 Tasco.

22 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye on all

23 bills.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

25 Verna.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Aye
3 on all bills.

4 A majority of the members
5 having voted in the affirmative for each
6 of the bills, the bills on the Consent
7 Agenda are passed.

8 We will now consider bills on
9 the regular Second Reading and Final
10 Passage Calendar.

11 I would ask the Chief Clerk to
12 please read the title of Bill No. 090586.

13 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
14 amending Chapter 10-700 of The
15 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Refuse and
16 Littering," by repealing Section 10-726,
17 entitled "Commercial Establishment Waste
18 Management."

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

21 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
22 Madam President. I enter in a motion to
23 withdraw this bill.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 has been moved and seconded.

3 All in favor will say aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
6 opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
9 ayes have it and the motion carries.

10 The Chief Clerk will please
11 read the title of Bill No. 090706.

12 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
13 amending Title 2 of The Philadelphia
14 Code, entitled "City-County
15 Consolidation," by abolishing the Board
16 of Revision of Taxes, by creating an
17 Office of Property Assessment which shall
18 have the powers, functions and duties of
19 the Board of Revision of Taxes with
20 respect to the initial making of property
21 assessments.

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

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 The Chief Clerk will please
3 call the roll.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Blackwell.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: No.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
8 Clarke.

9 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 DiCicco.

12 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

14 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

16 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

18 Greenlee.

19 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

21 COUNCILMAN JONES: No.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.

23 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

25 Kenney.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Krajewski.

5 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Miller.

8 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 O'Neill.

11 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Reynolds Brown.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

16 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

18 Sanchez.

19 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

21 Tasco.

22 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

24 Verna.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 The ayes are 15; the nays are
3 two. A majority of all members having
4 voted in the affirmative, the bill
5 passes.

6 The Chief Clerk will please
7 read the title of Bill No. 090773.

8 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
9 amending Chapter 19-600 of The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Amusement
11 Tax," to revise the fee for an amusement
12 license.

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

17 The Chief Clerk will please
18 call the roll.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Blackwell.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 Clarke.

24 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 DiCicco.

3 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

9 Greenlee.

10 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.

14 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

16 Kenney.

17 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

19 Krajewski.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

22 Miller.

23 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

25 O'Neill.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Reynolds Brown.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

7 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

9 Sanchez.

10 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Tasco.

13 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

15 Verna.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

17 The ayes are 17; the nays are

18 zero. A majority of all members having

19 voted in the affirmative, the bill

20 passes.

21 I would ask the Chief Clerk to

22 please read the title of Bill No. 090774.

23 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

24 amending Title 6 of The Philadelphia

25 Code, entitled "Health Code," to

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 eliminate licensing requirements and
3 revise fees with respect to certain food
4 establishments.

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

9 The Chief Clerk will please
10 call the roll.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Blackwell.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 Clarke.

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
18 DiCicco.

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

21 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

23 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
25 Greenlee.

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

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Tasco.

5 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

7 Verna.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

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

13 The Chief Clerk will please
14 read the title of Bill No. 090735.

15 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
16 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
17 changing the zoning designations of
18 certain areas of land located within an
19 area bounded by Market Street, 48th
20 Street, Haverford Avenue and 49th Street.

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 12/17/09 - 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 12/17/09 - 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 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

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

5 The next bill to be called for
6 consideration will be Bill No. -- is that
7 it? That was fast.

8 The Chief Clerk will please
9 read the title of Resolution No. 090890.

10 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
11 appointing Stephanie Wall to the Board of
12 Directors for the Old City Special
13 Services District.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
15 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco for a
16 motion on the resolution.

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

19 (Duly seconded.)

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

23 All in favor will indicate by
24 saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
3 opposed?

4 (No response.)

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

8 The Chief Clerk will please
9 read the title of Resolution No. 090891.

10 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
11 appointing Arthur Holst to the Board of
12 Directors for the Old City Special
13 Services District.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
15 Chair again recognizes Councilwoman Tasco
16 for a motion.

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

19 (Duly seconded.)

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

23 All in favor will indicate by
24 saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
3 opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
6 ayes have it and the resolution is
7 adopted.

8 The Chief Clerk will please
9 read the title of Resolution No. 090892.

10 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
11 reappointing Sheryl Bar to the Board of
12 Directors for the Old City Special
13 Services District.

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

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I move for
17 the 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 indicate by
23 saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

1 12/17/09 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

5 ayes have it and the resolution is

6 adopted.

7 The Chief Clerk will please

8 read the title of Resolution No. 090893.

9 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

10 reappointing Harvey Spear to the Board of

11 Directors for the Old City Special

12 Services District.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

14 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

15 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I move for

16 the adoption of the resolution.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

19 has been moved and properly seconded that

20 the resolution be adopted.

21 All in favor will say aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

24 opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 12/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

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

5 Are there speeches on the part
6 of the minority?

7 (No response.)

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

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Kenney.

13 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
14 Madam President. I appreciate being
15 recognized. I'd like to take a moment, a
16 brief moment, to say a few words about
17 South Philadelphia High School.

18 As a resident of South
19 Philadelphia lifelong, a neighbor of the
20 high school, about four blocks away, as a
21 person who represents the area, along
22 with Councilman DiCicco and yourself, I
23 want to give you a little historic
24 context.

25 I remember growing up down

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2 around 3rd and Snyder and back in the
3 '70s when the Italian kids were battling
4 with the African American kids and when
5 the Irish kids were battling with the
6 Italian kids and when the Italian and
7 Irish kids were battling with the African
8 American kids. All of that was wrong
9 then and it's wrong now, and there's two
10 things that I think should be rules of
11 thumb in this whole discussion.

12 Number one, no one has a right
13 to put their hands on anyone in a violent
14 way for any reason, whether you like
15 them, whether you don't like them,
16 whether you don't understand them. I
17 don't care. You keep your hands to
18 yourself.

19 The second rule is racial
20 epithets like the N word, the C word, the
21 G word and every other word we can think
22 of that we have to describe with a letter
23 because we hate the sound of it are
24 unacceptable. Racism is racism is
25 racism, and it's wrong. It's wrong then;

1 12/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 it's wrong now.

3 The third thing is, with the
4 exception of 20 or so knuckleheads who
5 have caused all this problem, the vast
6 majority of the children in that school
7 are decent, law-abiding, honorable kids
8 who certainly just want what everyone
9 else wants, and that's an education. And
10 the vast majority of those kids, black,
11 white, Hispanic, Asian and anything else,
12 were painted with a brush that was
13 undeserved.

14 We have a responsibility as
15 adults -- and I have confidence that the
16 Superintendent of the schools, her staff,
17 the Police Department, the staff of the
18 school, community members, community
19 leaders will all work together in a
20 positive way to protect the vulnerable,
21 to eliminate the thugs and to allow the
22 rest of the children to get along and
23 learn about each other's cultures and to
24 get a good education and a good
25 experience in our South Philadelphia High

1 12/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 School.

3 I know that this is possible,
4 because just 12 blocks away in Councilman
5 DiCicco's district is a high school, a
6 public high school, called Furness High
7 School. Furness High School has
8 approximately the same basic demographics
9 as South Philadelphia High School. It is
10 a very diverse student body of African
11 Americans, of Asians, of Latinos, of
12 white kids, and it is a family over
13 there. I went there yesterday to do a
14 ribbon cutting for a training facility
15 for their football team, and I'll tell
16 you, the school is well managed, well
17 behaved, and those kids have respect for
18 each other, are learning and are having a
19 great experience. This is possible to be
20 done.

21 If cooler heads will prevail,
22 if adults will act like adults and
23 protect our children, and if we give our
24 kids the opportunity to understand each
25 other's cultures, our histories and where

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2 we've come from and where we're going, I
3 think that in the spirit of Christmas, we
4 all need to dedicate ourselves in the
5 next year to making South Philadelphia
6 High School the great school that it has
7 always been and the great school that it
8 is today, and they need our help and in a
9 positive way, we need to pull together
10 and make that happen.

11 Thank you, Madam President.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

13 You're welcome.

14 (Applause.)

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

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
18 you, Madam President. We concur with the
19 comments made by my colleague, Councilman
20 Kenney, and, in fact, are representing as
21 Chair of the City Council Committee on
22 Education, are representing all of us on
23 the Superintendent's Task Force dealing
24 with South Philadelphia High School. We
25 did attend the meeting a few days ago,

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2 maybe Monday or Tuesday, and there were
3 even students from the school at the
4 meeting as well as stakeholders across
5 the City, from Kenny Gamble to the NAACP
6 head to leaders just across the City who
7 were there and who were involved in this
8 issue. So we're happy to keep Council
9 advised and informed and are happy to
10 represent our body there.

11 Number two, our Partnership for
12 Prescription Assistance table is
13 available with discount prescription
14 information that we all need.

15 And, finally, number three, I
16 wanted to take a moment to thank everyone
17 involved in our holiday party for the
18 homeless. For the first time, I dare say
19 in the history of this city, we fed 5,500
20 people at the Convention Center, and
21 certainly we are grateful to people who
22 volunteered here, everyone. I mean,
23 Danny Hines from the -- people from the
24 Masonic Hall, like Danny Hines
25 volunteered, Stephanie Marsh's mother

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2 here, all of my office and certainly
3 members from other offices who
4 volunteered. We had senior citizens,
5 those who work, those who don't, people
6 from all walks of life and all income
7 levels volunteered.

8 We also want to thank the
9 Pennsylvania Convention Center.
10 Obviously we couldn't have it were we not
11 there, because no other place in the City
12 is large enough to accommodate such a
13 crowd.

14 We're still in the process of
15 giving out toys. We've given out
16 thousands of toys. We're still in the
17 process of doing that, and we feel
18 blessed to be able to serve, especially
19 at this holiday season where so many
20 people are in need and so many people
21 need support.

22 In addition to the Convention
23 Center, we thank Kevin Parker Companies.
24 You know he's Ms. Tootsie's Soul Food
25 Cafe and the 3801 Cafe. He is certainly

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2 that company owner, that chef.

3 We thank Universal Companies,
4 Comcast. The Philadelphia Housing
5 Authority contributed in a big way and
6 used their resources to solicit other
7 funds for us. Tenant Support Services,
8 Inc., their tenant group supported us.
9 Drexel University; the University of
10 Pennsylvania; the Temple Group;
11 Coca-Cola; Linebarger Law Offices; Penn
12 Mutual Company; Powelton Village Civic
13 Association; MASCO, Mantua Aspen Street
14 Community Organization, and Norman Ellis.

15 We want to thank the
16 Sergeant-of-Arms, Madam President. They
17 worked. And we are grateful to all of
18 City Council who worked so hard. We
19 couldn't move all of this. We just
20 couldn't do what we do.

21 Lui Cruz and AP Construction;
22 Terry McNair. We mentioned Danny Hines
23 from the Masonic Hall across the street.
24 The School District of Philadelphia; the
25 Delaware River Port Authority; Lisa

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2 Downey for taking pictures; Keith Conrad.
3 He was the gentleman who we worked with
4 last year when we had all those housing
5 hearings under the former Mayor, and his
6 job was saved, and he always contributes
7 and buys enough candy canes for everyone.

8 Tastykake Baking Company. We
9 mentioned the University of Pennsylvania;
10 Brandywine Realty Trust; Dennis Cook and
11 Joanne Bell; the Bravo Group; Pepsi Cola;
12 SEPTA; Local 394. They gave -- water
13 union. They gave bikes and toys. Local
14 690, the plumbers were here with all
15 kinds of toys. Local 332 donated labor.
16 We couldn't get tables set up. You never
17 have enough to pay everybody everything.
18 We thank them.

19 We thank the stage hands, Local
20 8; Local 98 for all that they do to
21 provide electricity. The Fraternal Order
22 of Police was fabulous and all the police
23 officers who helped us keep order. State
24 FOP, Jim Harrity, Sr., who gives us toys;
25 Wal-Mart; the Philadelphia Federation of

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2 Teachers, you know my former union. In
3 addition to so many school teachers
4 teaching, they must have given a thousand
5 gifts themselves. We thank teachers
6 across the City who realize in addition
7 to teaching their classes, there's so
8 many people in need, and they gave.
9 Across the City they gave. We thank the
10 Philadelphia Federation of Teachers.
11 We're so grateful.

12 Thelma Peak, Peak's Little
13 Angels. She always gives us our Santa
14 suit, and I won't say anymore, it's close
15 to Christmas. Connie of Green Things for
16 all the balloons; Liz Campion from Campus
17 Real Estate. She always donates and
18 gives face painting. And everybody I
19 didn't mention that I should mention.
20 Universal Companies, we thank them. All
21 the folks across the board whom I didn't
22 mention, I hope they know how much we
23 appreciate them. I'm just so moved. I'm
24 just so grateful for the privilege of
25 service.

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2 Thank you.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

4 Congratulations to you on a job well
5 done.

6 (Applause.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
8 you.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
10 Chair recognizes Councilman Green.

11 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
12 Madam President. I too want to commend
13 Councilman Kenney on his comments about
14 South Philadelphia High School and say
15 that I certainly concur in his sentiment
16 and have the same wish for this holiday
17 season.

18 Madam President, today City
19 Council took bold and decisive action to
20 bring fundamental change to
21 Philadelphia's property tax system. The
22 reform legislation, which was
23 co-sponsored by 15 Councilmembers, will
24 bring accountability, professionalism and
25 transparency to a broken assessment and

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2 appeals process. The bill abolished the
3 BRT and created two new agencies - the
4 Office of Property Assessment and the
5 Board of Property Assessment Appeals.

6 The Office of Property
7 Assessment will take over property tax
8 assessment and appeals functions from the
9 BRT as of October 1st, 2010, assuming the
10 voters approve the Charter change in May.

11 Both the bill as introduced and
12 the amended version before Council today
13 benefited immensely from the significant
14 input of numerous Councilmembers and
15 their staff. Today, City Council took
16 the crucial step to ensure that citizens
17 of Philadelphia will have a property tax
18 system that they can trust, that adheres
19 to the highest standards of
20 professionalism and under which all
21 citizens are treated equally.

22 When voters step into the
23 polling places next May, they will have
24 the opportunity to implement long overdue
25 reform to Philadelphia's property tax

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2 system. In fact, this reform has been
3 attempted since the Administration of Joe
4 Clark in the early 1950s, and it is City
5 Council that brought this reform to the
6 citizens of Philadelphia to ensure a fair
7 property tax system.

8 Thank you, Madam President.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

10 You're welcome.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Jones.

13 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
14 Madam President. There's a play called
15 "In What the Wine-Sellers Buy," and the
16 quote that comes to mind is, by the time
17 the suckers catch on to the game, the
18 players have disbursed.

19 In each attempt, whether we're
20 in the federal government or in private
21 sector and in Roman times when the mob
22 calls for blood and calls for some
23 action, they go to the dungeons and drag
24 up some prisoners and feed them to the
25 lions and call them reform and call them

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2 progress, without ever dealing with the
3 critical issue of providing bread to the
4 masses.

5 In this case, I was a
6 co-sponsor of that bill, and I support
7 reform. I ran without party support and
8 won. I have often gone against the tide,
9 but all too often when we call ourselves
10 fixing a thing, we find the poorest of
11 us, the working person, and say if we
12 slaughter them, this will fix the
13 problem. But I consider that a quick
14 fix. The true heavy lifting will come
15 when we come to full valuation.

16 Before we declare victory of
17 reform, those things need to happen, and
18 as a former supporter of that
19 legislation, it saddens me that we often
20 do it on the backs of the people. It's
21 wrong when Enron does it, it's wrong when
22 AIG does it, and it's wrong when we in
23 the City of Philadelphia in order to deal
24 with a long-term problem, a quick fix on
25 the backs of the people.

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2 Thank you.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
4 you.

5 The Chair recognizes
6 Councilwoman Tasco.

7 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
8 Madam President. I'd just like to say
9 that I thank Councilman Kenney for his
10 comments and for his vigilance on the
11 issue in South Philadelphia High School,
12 and I certainly want to thank
13 Councilwoman Blackwell for her hard work
14 in keeping true to her commitment to the
15 least of these. She has taken on the
16 issue of the homeless and those who are
17 without for the many years -- the number
18 of years she's been on this Council and
19 has worked diligently to see that they
20 are provided services wherever those
21 services are needed. What she does each
22 year is a Yeoman's job, and it takes a
23 lot of work and effort to recruit all
24 those people who help. So I want to
25 thank her.

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2 I also want to say
3 congratulations -- I mean to say happy
4 holidays to all my colleagues and wish
5 them well and that we look forward to
6 year 2010 and the actions and behaviors
7 of this Council next year. We wish
8 everybody a happy holiday.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
10 you.

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Councilwoman Blackwell.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
14 you, Madam President. I had opted not to
15 speak on this issue until my colleague
16 did, but let me say that as we know, the
17 numbers were the School District
18 currently employs 76 people. The numbers
19 were 80 to 88. They tell me now it's 76,
20 who deal with -- who are affected by this
21 bill today. These employees participate
22 in a benefits program provided by the
23 School District to its employees,
24 including a pension plan, medical
25 insurance and other benefits. This bill

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2 does not assure that these workers who
3 take the test are assured a job at the
4 new assessment office and does not assure
5 that all of them will be unemployed.
6 We've seen it many, many times in the
7 past. And those that are retained are
8 not assured that their employment with
9 the new office will be under the same
10 terms and conditions of employment
11 compensation or the right to participate
12 in political activities on their own
13 time, which I strongly believe is a
14 violation of their constitutional right
15 to free speech guaranteed by the First
16 Amendment.

17 BRT reform should not come,
18 Madam President and my colleagues, at the
19 expense of the low-level employees at the
20 Board of Revision. They're low level
21 because they're not paid the -- we talk
22 about it all the time. These are people,
23 in spite of an editorial that said these
24 well-paid employees, these are employees
25 who make \$22,000, \$23,000 a year and who

1 12/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 retire at the high level of 36,000, if
3 they last more than 20 years.

4 I do not believe that when
5 there are budget problems, when there are
6 organizational problems, when there are
7 any problems dealing with departments in
8 the City, dealing with how departments
9 are run, that they should be corrected on
10 the backs of those least able to defend
11 themselves and least able to pay.

12 I believe this is the wrong way
13 to go. I have from the beginning. If we
14 wanted to talk about who runs BRT, if we
15 wanted to talk about how all of that is
16 operated, all of that should be done and
17 corrected. This bill does not ensure job
18 protection for those least able to defend
19 themselves. I will never support, never
20 support -- and I can hear Lucien
21 Blackwell saying it, Look out for the
22 poor and see that they get justice.

23 I will never support
24 legislation that victimizes people who
25 did not cause a problem but do a good job

1 12/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 trying to protect our city, to provide
3 information, to provide all kinds of
4 jobs, whether it be in the street
5 assessing properties, whether it be at
6 their desks on their computers doing the
7 job they're required to do. I think it
8 is unfair, unconscionable, dishonest and
9 immoral to victimize people who are doing
10 a good job because we feel that the
11 agency has not been run correctly.
12 Therefore, I'm sorry that my colleagues
13 did not agree with me, but we feel it is
14 important that somebody has to speak up.
15 Somebody has to speak out for those who
16 can't speak out for themselves, and I
17 think it is my moral responsibility to do
18 that.

19 Thank you, Madam President.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:

21 You're welcome.

22 The Chair recognizes Councilman
23 Green.

24 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
25 Madam Chair. I want to thank my

1 12/17/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 colleagues for expressing their opinions
3 on the significant reform that City
4 Council undertook today. I'm very proud
5 of this legislation. If only the
6 legislation had dealt with the issues
7 they discussed. It did not, and I think
8 that City Council took a significant move
9 forward today for the citizens of
10 Philadelphia, and I want to thank my
11 colleagues who supported it.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
13 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

14 COUNCILMAN JONES: In the
15 spirit of the holidays, I'm not going to
16 respond, and say happy holidays.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
18 you.

19 Anyone else would like to be
20 recognized?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:
23 Seeing no one and in the spirit of the
24 holidays, I'm going to recognize
25 Councilman Clarke.

1 12/17/09 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
3 Madam President. I move that Council
4 stand adjourned until January 28th, 10:00
5 a.m., 2010.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It
8 has been moved and seconded that Council
9 stand adjourned until Thursday, January
10 28th, 2010.

11 All in favor please say aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
14 opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
17 you.

18 (Stated Meeting adjourned at
19 12:10 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the

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proceedings, evidence and objections are

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contained fully and accurately in the

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stenographic notes taken by me upon the

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foregoing matter on December 17, 2009, and

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that this is a true and correct transcript of

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same.

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MICHELE L. MURPHY

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RPR-Notary Public

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