

1

2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3 STATED MEETING

4 - - -

5 Room 400, City Hall
6 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
7 Thursday, February 12, 2009
8 10:05 a.m.

9 - - -

10

11

PRESENT:

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

18

19 MICHAEL DECKER, THE CLERK

20

21 - - -

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

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

10 To give our invocation this
11 morning, the Chair welcomes Pastor Rob
12 Burns from the Real Life Ministry of
13 Bridesburg. He is here today as the
14 guest of Councilwoman Krajewski.

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

17 (Members and guests rise.)

18 PASTOR BURNS: Thank you,
19 President of the Council, Verna, for
20 inviting me today and special thank-you
21 to Councilwoman Krajewski for her
22 invitation and also for all the service
23 to the 6th District and specifically to
24 the neighborhood I live in, Bridesburg.
25 We also want to extend our sympathy and

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 prayers in the home-going of your
3 brother, Sam Kline. Know that we're with
4 you and we're praying for you through
5 that.

6 I'd like to read you a short
7 excerpt from a letter from Ben Franklin
8 that he sent to President George
9 Washington at a point where it seemed
10 they may not be able to come to agreement
11 and finish the Constitution.

12 He writes this: He says, In
13 this situation of this assembly, groping
14 is a war in the dark to find political
15 truth and scare able to distinguish it
16 when presented to us. How does it
17 happen, sir, that we have not once
18 thought of humbly applying to the Father
19 of Lights to illuminate our
20 understanding? And have we now forgotten
21 that powerful friend or do we imagine
22 that we no longer need his assistance?

23 I have lived, sir, a long time,
24 and the longer I live, the more
25 convincing proofs I see of this truth,

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 that God governs in the affairs of men.

3 And if a sparrow cannot fall to the

4 ground without his notice, is it probable

5 to think that an empire cannot rise

6 without his aid?

7 We have been assured, sir, the

8 sacred writings that accept the Lord

9 build the house. They labor in pain to

10 build it.

11 Let's pray.

12 Father in heaven, creator of

13 all that we see and all that exists, we

14 come before you this day to ask that you

15 grant wisdom to this Council as they wave

16 through the matters at hand. We ask that

17 you remind us continually of our need for

18 you. Not just to impart wisdom in

19 difficult times, but also our need for a

20 savior at all times.

21 Thank you for the wonderful

22 diversity and prosperity that you have

23 blessed this city and its people with

24 over its history. We pray that you would

25 give this city a renewed sense of purpose

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 and give its people a renewed
3 consciousness of those around them that
4 are in need, and then give them the
5 courage and compassion to act in the
6 interest of those in need, as you have
7 called all men to do.

8 We pray that in these difficult
9 financial times, that you would provide
10 the resources and ability for the
11 leadership of this city and of this City
12 Council to assist those that are most
13 helpless, provide for those in greatest
14 need, in the process that Philadelphia
15 would weather the storm of this crisis
16 and that you would use it to build unity
17 and not division.

18 We pray for the government
19 officials and law enforcement that face
20 and fight crime and evil in our city each
21 day. Give them strength and endurance to
22 bring about the safety we desire for all
23 people of this city.

24 Bless these proceedings. Help
25 them to be prosperous, always reminding

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 each of us that God does govern in the
3 affairs of men. Help this Council to
4 lead with courage, humility, wisdom,
5 mercy and brotherly love.

6 In the name of your son Jesus
7 Christ, who came to earth and died for
8 the sins of each of us and for the whole
9 world, that we bring these prayers to
10 you. We pray as you taught us to pray:
11 Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed
12 be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will
13 be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
14 Give us this day our daily bread, and
15 forgive us our sins, as we forgive those
16 who sin against us. Lead us not into
17 temptation, but deliver us from evil, for
18 thine is the kingdom, the power, and the
19 glory, forever and ever.

20 Thank you.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
22 Chair thanks Pastor Burns for his very
23 inspiring invocation.

24 Council will be at ease.

25 (Council at ease.)

1 2/12/09 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
3 next order of business is the approval of
4 the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
5 February 5, 2009, and the Chair
6 recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

7 COUNCILWOMAN TESCO: Thank you,
8 Madam President. I move that the Journal
9 of the meeting of Thursday, February the
10 5th, 2009 stand approved.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
13 has been moved and properly seconded that
14 the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
15 February 5, 2009 stand approved.

16 All in favor will indicate by
17 saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
20 opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
23 ayes have it and the Journal is approved.

24 The next order of business is
25 requests for leave of absence, and,

1 2/12/09 - STATED - LEAVES

2 again, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
3 Tasco.

4 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
5 Madam President. On behalf of the
6 majority, a leave of absence is requested
7 for Councilmember DiCicco.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
9 you. Leave will be granted.

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman
11 O'Neill.

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

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
17 Chair thanks the gentleman.

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

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 affairs of our city. We certainly invite
3 you to come again.

4 At this time, the Chair
5 recognizes Councilwoman Tasco, who will
6 present a resolution declaring February
7 12, 2009 as "NAACP Day" in the City of
8 Philadelphia.

9 Will Mr. Jerry Mondesire and
10 those accompanying him please join the
11 Councilwoman at the podium.

12 Councilwoman.

13 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
14 Madam President.

15 Today we stand here 100 years
16 later after the founding of the NAACP, an
17 outstanding organization that has led the
18 fight for freedom and justice in this
19 country for all people, and it is my
20 distinct honor to present this resolution
21 to the local leadership, which will
22 present it to the national leadership,
23 saying thank you for all the wonderful,
24 wonderful work that has been done, and
25 wishing them well for the work to be

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 done.

3 So I present this resolution
4 honoring the National Association for the
5 Advancement of Colored People on their
6 Centennial Anniversary and declaring
7 February 12, 2009 "NAACP Day" in the City
8 of Philadelphia.

9 Whereas, the City Council of
10 Philadelphia is pleased to honor and
11 recognize the NAACP on the centennial
12 anniversary of this most important
13 organization; and

14 Whereas, the early 1900's were
15 turbulent times for African Americans in
16 the United States. They were subject to
17 political, voting and economic
18 disenfranchisement, segregation, and
19 often violent attacks such as lynching
20 and race riots against their communities;
21 and

22 Whereas, in early 1909, a group
23 of concerned civil rights activists
24 decided to issue a "call" for a national
25 conference on the civil and political

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 rights of African Americans on the
3 centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birthday,
4 February 12, 1909; and

5 Whereas, this "call" led to the
6 formation of the National Negro
7 Committee, which organized the permanent
8 body known as the National Association
9 for the Advancement of Colored People, or
10 the NAACP; and

11 Whereas, the mission of the
12 NAACP is to ensure the political,
13 educational, social and economic equality
14 of rights of all persons and to eliminate
15 racial hatred and racial discrimination;
16 and

17 Whereas, the vision statement
18 of the organization is to ensure a
19 society in which all individuals have
20 equal rights and there is no racial
21 hatred or racial discrimination; and

22 Whereas, the strategic plan
23 initiatives of the NAACP are as follows:
24 Membership, Advocacy Training, Legal
25 Capacity, Policy Advocacy Capacity,

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Criminal Justice, Civil Rights

3 Compliance, Economic Empowerment,

4 Educational Excellence, Health Advocacy

5 and Political Empowerment; and

6 Whereas, for 100 years the

7 NAACP has been built and grew on the

8 collective courage of thousands of

9 people. People of all races,

10 nationalities and faiths unite on one

11 premise - that all men and women are

12 created equal; and

13 Whereas, the membership of the

14 NAACP has reflected everyone from school

15 children to laborers to professionals to

16 presidents to just ordinary men and

17 women, those who decided to champion

18 what's right and just; and

19 Whereas, the nation's oldest

20 civil rights organization has changed

21 history in America and Philadelphia,

22 Pennsylvania. For example, the NAACP led

23 the charge for the integration of Girard

24 College, and the opening of jobs, retail

25 stores and entertainment venues that were

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 previously closed to African Americans.

3 Despite violence, intimidation and

4 hostile government policies, the NAACP

5 and its grassroots membership has

6 persevered; and

7 Resolved, that the City Council

8 of Philadelphia, declares and recognizes

9 February 12, 2009 as "NAACP Day" in the

10 City of Philadelphia to recognize the

11 Centennial Anniversary of the National

12 Association for the Advancement of

13 Colored People.

14 Further resolved, that an

15 engrossed copy of this resolution be

16 presented to the representatives of the

17 NAACP as evidence of the sincere

18 sentiment of this legislative body.

19 This is a true and correct copy

20 of the original resolution, adopted by

21 the Council of the City of Philadelphia

22 on the 29th day of January 2009. It is

23 signed by President Verna, introduced by

24 Marian Tasco and sponsored by all 17

25 members of this City Council.

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Thank you and congratulations.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
5 Chair recognizes Mr. Mondesire for
6 remarks.

7 MR. MONDESIRE: Madam
8 President, Council Majority Leader Marian
9 Tasco, all the members of City Council
10 and to all of our friends and members and
11 supporters in this room, we thank you for
12 this recognition. And today is actually
13 the NAACP's birthday. Don't we look 100?
14 I know Duckie does. I try not to.

15 But it is a glorious day.
16 February 12th, as you heard Ms. Tasco
17 tell you, on Lincoln's birthday in New
18 York City, the original Charter of the
19 NAACP was signed and Lincoln's birthday
20 was chosen for obvious reason. Remember
21 that in 1909 when the NAACP was formed,
22 it was just 44 years after what? The
23 Emancipation Proclamation.

24 As I look across this room and
25 look across the City, I see a lot of the

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 advancement of the NAACP and a lot of the
3 contributions that have been made by the
4 organization long before I became
5 President in 1996. In fact, some of you
6 in this room sitting as members of this
7 great legislative body are here because
8 of the contributions of organizations
9 like the NAACP.

10 There are so many individual
11 friends that I'd like to name, but that
12 would be improper to tie you up with that
13 much time, but a couple of people have to
14 be recognized. One is behind me. His
15 name is William Tucker. Of course, he
16 was married to the diverse, the dynamic
17 Dr. C. Delores Tucker.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. MONDESIRE: She was Miss
20 NAACP in Pennsylvania for more than half
21 a century. I wish she were here today to
22 see this hundredth anniversary.

23 And then I look across the room
24 and I see another young woman who is
25 going to be a great leader in our city

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 and she's going to recognize the NAACP
3 statewide later in the early part of
4 March, and that's Vanessa Brown. She's
5 the new state rep.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. MONDESIRE: The story is
8 not new. Obviously we're 100 years old.
9 Desegregation has been crushed and we now
10 live in the age of Obama, which really
11 sums up what the NAACP began the original
12 struggle for in 1909. And so we also
13 though must never forget that elections
14 of individuals is not the sum total of
15 the civil rights struggle. It is in fact
16 a human rights struggle. And remember
17 that on January 20th when we celebrated
18 the inauguration of Barack Obama, the
19 first President of color in these United
20 States, more than, more than a half a
21 dozen African American young men were
22 probably shot, stabbed or hurt in this
23 city, and that's one of the reasons that
24 this branch has been so active with
25 Mothers in Charge. And their President

1 2/12/09 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 is in the room, Dorothy Johnson Speight.

3 Would you please stand.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. MONDESIRE: There are
6 numerous causes that we have taken up in
7 modern times, and we continue to take up
8 that cause to making sure that our people
9 stay alive and that we've got to come to
10 grips with this problem.

11 Finally, I would say to you
12 again that on this anniversary, let us
13 remember the many soldiers we lost,
14 people like Cecil Moore, Delores Tucker,
15 Ms. Gladys Reese and Alfonso Deil. Some
16 of these names will reverberate with you
17 and some of them will not. But there are
18 many -- and Leon Higginbotham, Duckie
19 just reminded me. Judge A. Leon
20 Higginbotham was a leader of this branch
21 for many years and went on to great
22 achievements in the legal field and as a
23 federal judge.

24 Many, many people sacrificed
25 their lives, their fortunes to make the

1 2/12/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 civil rights struggle a reality, to make
3 it possible for us to see the great day
4 on January 20th of this year, to see
5 people like Oprah Winfrey on television,
6 to see people do well in business and so
7 forth and all across this great American
8 landscape. A lot has been achieved in
9 the first hundred years. Let us hope
10 that we can put ourselves out of business
11 during the second century.

12 God bless you and thank you
13 again.

14 (Applause.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:

16 Council will be at ease.

17 (Council at ease.)

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

23 The Clerk will please read the
24 messages from the Mayor.

25 THE CLERK: To the President

1 2/12/09 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 and members of the Council of the City of
3 Philadelphia, I am pleased to advise you
4 that on February 11, 2009, I signed all
5 of the bills that were passed by Council
6 at its session on January 29, 2009; and

7 I am transmitting herewith for
8 the introduction and consideration of
9 your honorable body three resolutions
10 reappointing current members to the Board
11 of Directors of the South
12 Street/Headhouse District of
13 Philadelphia; namely, Ray Kaufmann, Wendy
14 Verna, John Foy; and

15 Seven resolutions appointing
16 new members to the Board of Directors of
17 the South Street/Headhouse District of
18 Philadelphia; namely, JC Sykes, Shana
19 Vitoff, Bernadette Brescia, Greg
20 DeCandia, Robert Drake, Al Grafstom and
21 Rod Millwood; and

22 Also an ordinance authorizing
23 the Department of Public Property to
24 enter into an agreement with the School
25 District of Philadelphia for the School

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 District's use of the City's 800
3 megahertz public safety radio
4 communications system, all under certain
5 terms and conditions.

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

9 I would ask the Clerk to please
10 read any other communications in his
11 possession.

12 THE CLERK: I have none, Madam
13 President.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
15 you.

16 The next order of business is
17 the introduction of bills and
18 resolutions.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilman
20 Kenney.

21 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
22 Madam President. I offer one resolution.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
24 you.

25 The Clerk will please read the

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 title of the resolution.

3 THE CLERK: A resolution

4 honoring the memory of Octavius V. Catto

5 on his birthday February 22nd.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

7 you.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman

9 Kenney.

10 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move the

11 adoption of the resolution.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

14 has been moved and properly seconded that

15 the resolution be adopted.

16 All in favor will indicate by

17 saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

20 opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

23 ayes have it and the resolution is

24 adopted.

25 The Chair recognizes

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Councilwoman Blackwell.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
4 you, Madam President. I have no bills or
5 resolutions today.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
7 you.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Greenlee.

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

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

15 The Chair recognizes
16 Councilwoman Krajewski.

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

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
21 you.

22 The Chair recognizes
23 Councilwoman Tasco.

24 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam
25 President, I offer one privileged

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 resolution and one resolution on your
3 behalf.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
5 you.

6 The Clerk will please read the
7 title of the first resolution.

8 THE CLERK: 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 lots or
15 pieces of ground situate in the 36th and
16 40th Wards of the City of Philadelphia.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
18 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
19 Tasco.

20 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: I move for
21 the adoption of the resolution.

22 (Duly seconded.)

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

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 All in favor will say aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
5 opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
8 ayes have it and the resolution is
9 adopted.

10 THE CLERK: And a resolution
11 honoring Dr. Frank "Tick" Coleman,
12 esteemed educator, advocate and athlete.

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 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

5 The Chair recognizes
6 Councilwoman Miller.

7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
8 you, Madam President. Today I offer one
9 resolution.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
11 you.

12 The Clerk will please read the
13 title.

14 THE CLERK: A resolution
15 approving a final plan for the
16 continuation of the Chestnut Hill
17 Business Improvement District.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
19 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

20 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move
21 for the adoption of the resolution.

22 (Duly seconded.)

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

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 All in favor will say aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
5 opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
8 ayes have it and the resolution is
9 adopted.

10 The Chair recognizes
11 Councilwoman Sanchez.

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

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
16 you.

17 The Chair recognizes Councilman
18 Green.

19 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
20 Madam President. I have no bills or
21 resolutions today.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
23 you.

24 The Chair recognizes Councilman
25 Jones.

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
3 Madam President. I have one resolution
4 co-sponsored by Councilwoman Blackwell
5 and Councilman Green.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
7 you.

8 The Clerk will please read the
9 title.

10 THE CLERK: A resolution
11 honoring and acknowledging the "Living
12 History Makers" program for their
13 commitment to breaking the traditional
14 barriers amongst African American organ
15 donors on the occasion of Black History
16 Month.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
18 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilman
19 Jones.

20 COUNCILMAN JONES: I move for
21 the adoption of the resolution.

22 (Duly seconded.)

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

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 All in favor will say aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
5 opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The
8 ayes have it and the resolution is
9 adopted.

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman
11 Goode.

12 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
13 Madam President. I offer one bill.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
15 you.

16 The Clerk will please read the
17 title.

18 THE CLERK: An ordinance
19 amending Title 17 of The Philadelphia
20 Code, entitled "Contracts and
21 Procurement," by creating new
22 requirements relating to the submission
23 of an Economic Opportunity Plan.

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

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 committee.

3 The Chair recognizes

4 Councilwoman Brown.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,

6 Madam President. I offer two resolutions

7 and one bill.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

9 you.

10 The Clerk will please read the

11 title of the bill.

12 THE CLERK: An ordinance

13 providing for the submission to the

14 qualified electors of the City of

15 Philadelphia of an amendment to the

16 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter

17 authorizing City Council to provide, by

18 ordinance, for bid preferences on City

19 contracts either for bidders offering

20 environmentally preferable products or

21 services or for businesses whose

22 products, services and operations

23 demonstrate a high level of environmental

24 stewardship.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 bill will be referred to the appropriate
3 committee.

4 THE CLERK: And a resolution
5 proposing an amendment to the
6 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
7 authorizing City Council to provide, by
8 ordinance, for bid preferences on City
9 contracts either for bidders offering
10 environmentally preferable products or
11 services or for businesses whose
12 products, services and operations
13 demonstrate a high level of environmental
14 stewardship.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This
16 resolution will be referred to the
17 appropriate committee.

18 THE CLERK: And a resolution
19 authorizing City Council's Committee on
20 Public Safety to hold public hearings to
21 evaluate fire safety requirements and
22 procedures in the City for the protection
23 of senior citizens and persons with
24 impaired hearing, vision or mobility.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,

4 Madam President. That bill is

5 co-sponsored by Councilwoman Donna Reed

6 Miller and I move for the adoption.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

9 has been moved and seconded that the

10 resolution be adopted.

11 All in favor will say aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

14 opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

17 ayes have it and the resolution will be

18 referred to the appropriate committee.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilman

20 O'Neill.

21 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam

22 President, I have no bills or

23 resolutions.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

25 you.

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Chair recognizes Councilman
3 Clarke.

4 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
5 Madam President. Two bills, one
6 resolution.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
8 you.

9 The Clerk will please read the
10 title of the first bill.

11 THE CLERK: An ordinance
12 renaming and designating the Fotteral
13 Square Playground as the "James Young
14 Memorial Playground."

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

18 THE CLERK: And an ordinance
19 authorizing the Department of Public
20 Property of the City of Philadelphia to
21 enter into an agreement with the School
22 District of Philadelphia for the School
23 District's use of the City's 800
24 megahertz public safety radio
25 communications system.

1 2/12/09 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This
3 bill will be referred to the appropriate
4 committee.

5 THE CLERK: And a resolution
6 recognizing and honoring the Strawberry
7 Mansion Athletic Association.

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

10 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I move for
11 the adoption.

12 (Duly seconded.)

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

16 All in favor will say aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
19 opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
22 ayes have it and the resolution is
23 adopted.

24 The Chair recognizes Councilman
25 Kelly.

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

2 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Madam

3 President, I have no bills or
4 resolutions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
6 you.

7 The Chair recognizes Councilman
8 Rizzo.

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

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank
12 you.

13 Since there are no reports from
14 committees, the next order of business
15 will be the consideration of the
16 Calendar.

17 There are no bills listed on
18 the First Reading Calendar, to my
19 knowledge. Therefore, the Chair
20 recognizes Councilwoman Tasco for the
21 purpose of calling up bills on the Second
22 Reading and Final Passage Calendar to be
23 considered today.

24 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
25 Madam President. Bill No. 080945 is

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

2 being called up for second reading and
3 final passage. All other bills are being
4 held.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
6 you.

7 The Clerk will please read the
8 title of Bill 080945.

9 THE CLERK: An ordinance
10 amending Chapter 12-2400 of The
11 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Towing and
12 Immobilizing of Parked or Abandoned
13 Vehicles," by changing the fees for
14 damage to vehicle booting devices.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This
16 bill having been read on two different
17 days, the question now is shall the bill
18 pass finally.

19 The Clerk will please call the
20 roll.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Blackwell.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
25 Clarke.

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

1 2/12/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Reynolds Brown.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

6 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Sanchez.

9 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Tasco.

12 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Verna.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

16 The ayes are 16; the nays are

17 zero. A majority of all members having

18 voted in the affirmative, the bill

19 passes.

20 That concludes our Second

21 Reading and Final Passage Calendar for

22 today.

23 Are there speeches on the part

24 of the minority?

25 (No response.)

1 2/12/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Are
3 there speeches on the part of the
4 majority?

5 The Chair recognizes
6 Councilwoman Brown.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
8 Madam President.

9 Again, I would like to offer a
10 friendly reminder to my colleagues to
11 please join us in the invitation offered
12 by the African American Museum of
13 Philadelphia, Ramona Riscoe Benson, where
14 they will host all Councilmembers and/or
15 a staff representative next Thursday,
16 February 19th, all in the occasion of
17 African American History Month and with
18 particular attention to the newest
19 exhibit there at the Museum.

20 Thank you, Madam President.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:
22 You're welcome.

23 The Chair recognizes
24 Councilwoman Blackwell.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank

1 2/12/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 you, Madam President.

3 Just yesterday we had a
4 workshop at the Convention Center. I
5 would like to thank all those who
6 participated, your office, Councilman
7 Greenlee was there, everyone on our
8 Housing, Neighborhood Development and the
9 Homeless Committee. All the workshops
10 were well attended. We had one on
11 emergency housing issues; one on tangled
12 titles, fraudulent deeds and squatters
13 issues; a third workshop on housing
14 preservation and programs; and a fourth
15 workshop on housing foreclosure
16 prevention. The only criticism was that
17 people wanted to be in all the workshops
18 and obviously they couldn't, and it was
19 for Council staff.

20 So I would like to thank
21 everyone. Herb Wetzel did a good job on
22 pulling it together for this Council. I
23 would like to thank again your office,
24 Councilman Greenlee, Councilwoman Tasco
25 and all who participated, all the offices

1 2/12/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 who participated in this workshop. It
3 was quite wonderful. And we will say,
4 next week we will have certificates like
5 these. We've started printing those for
6 all who participated.

7 All things are possible when
8 you work together, Madam President.

9 Thank you all again.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: Thank
11 you.

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Councilwoman Tasco.

14 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
15 Madam President.

16 For two days, Tuesday and
17 Wednesday, I attended a lobbying session
18 at the National League of Cities with the
19 National Black Caucus and local elected
20 officials. We had briefings by the
21 legislative staff of the NLC and spent
22 some time on the Hill yesterday with some
23 of the congressional representatives to
24 talk about the stimulus bill. As of last
25 night, the bill had -- the conference

1 2/12/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 committee had approved the bill, and we
3 hope that the Senate and the House will
4 vote on the stimulus package.

5 It's not all that we want, but
6 hopefully that it will make a change in
7 our country, because we are suffering
8 financially and a lot of people are
9 losing their homes and their jobs and we
10 need something to relieve the chaos and
11 the pain.

12 Our National League of Cities
13 staff asked us and -- they didn't have to
14 ask us, but they were praising our
15 Senator Specter for his vote, which made
16 it possible for us to have the stimulus
17 package, and I would like to say thank
18 you to Senator Specter for voting with
19 the President on the stimulus package.
20 It will do us well. So I encourage my
21 colleagues to send him letters or e-mail
22 him and thank him for his leadership.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank
24 you.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 2/12/09 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Jones.

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

4 Madam President.

5 Yesterday we had some hearings

6 here in the Committee of Public Safety

7 chaired by Councilwoman Donna Reed

8 Miller. The subject was Community Court,

9 an alternate type of court, expanded upon

10 the Center City model to neighborhoods.

11 Five of the DA candidates came out to

12 those hearings, talked about their

13 commitment to expanding this concept.

14 This concept is often also

15 called problem-solving court. It is a

16 holistic approach to dealing with the

17 crime and punishment issue in the City of

18 Philadelphia.

19 One thing that I noticed when I

20 came here as Councilman, the old

21 Commissioner of Police and the new

22 Commissioner of Police both agreed on one

23 thing, that we cannot arrest our way out

24 of some of the issues involved in crime

25 in the community. But through this

1 2/12/09 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 approach, we can do a win, win and win
3 scenario by reducing the amount of people
4 incarcerated in our city and reducing the
5 tax burden to the City of Philadelphia.

6 Thank you.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:

8 You're welcome.

9 Are there any other speeches on
10 the part of the majority?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna:

13 Seeing none, the Chair recognizes
14 Councilman Clarke for a motion to
15 adjourn.

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
17 Madam President. I move that Council
18 stand adjourned until February the 12th,
19 Thursday, 10:00 a.m., 2009.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: I'm
21 sorry. What date, Councilman?

22 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: February
23 26th. Sorry about that.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Do I
25 hear a second? Is there a second?

1 2/12/09 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It
4 has been moved and seconded that Council
5 stand adjourned until Thursday, February
6 26th at 10:00 a.m.

7 All in favor will say aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: I'm
10 up here alone.

11 Those opposed?

12 (No response.)

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

15 Thank you.

16 (Stated Meeting adjourned at
17 10:45 a.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 February 12, 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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