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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETING

4

BEFORE THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Tuesday, October 5, 1999
2:17 p.m.

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10 BILL NO. 990361 - Held to the call of the Chair.

11 BILL NO. 990463 - An ordinance amending Section
12 19-2034 of The Philadelphia Code entitled "Payroll
Deductions" by permitting City employees to
13 authorize payroll deductions for the
German-American Police Association

14

15 PRESENT: COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL, Chair
COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO
16 COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILMAN W. THACHER LONGSTRETH
17 COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

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1 /99 FINANCE COMM.

2 I N D E X

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Bill No. 990463

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7 Linda Orfanelli 4
Deputy Director of Finance

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9 Officer Rudolph Muller. 5
Philadelphia Police Department

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(Bill No. 990361 being held till the call of the
Chair.)

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1 /99 FINANCE COMM.

2 P R O C E E D I N G S

3 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Good

4 afternoon. Sorry for the delay. The City Council
5 Committee on Finance is being called to order.

6 We'll have the clerk read the title of the bill as
7 soon as I introduce those present.

8 We have a quorum. To my left is
9 Councilwoman Tasco, who's Vice President of the
10 Committee. To her left is Thatcher Longstreth. To
11 my right, Councilman O'Neill. And to his right is
12 Councilman Rizzo, who, for the purposes of this
13 committee hearing, will be made a member of the
14 committee.

15 Thank you very much. Clerk, would you
16 read the -- you can read both and --

17 THE CLERK: Bill No. 990361, an
18 ordinance amending Title 22 of The Philadelphia
19 Code entitled "Public Employees Retirement Code"
20 by amending Section 22-1303 entitled "Exemption
21 From Attachment" to add public employees' benefits
22 services to the list of designated payees to whom
23 a member may direct deductions from benefits
24 payments.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: All right,

1 10/5/99 FINANCE - BILL 990463

2 this bill is being held subject to the call of the
3 chair. All parties involved were not ready to
4 proceed.

5 Next bill?

6 THE CLERK: Bill No. 990463, an
7 ordinance amending Section 19-2034 of The
8 Philadelphia Code entitled "Payroll Deductions" by
9 permitting City employees to authorize payroll
10 deductions for the German-American Police
11 Association.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: All right.
13 Are there any comments by members of the
14 committee?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: All right,
17 thank you.

18 Then we will ask those prepared to
19 testify to identify yourself for the record and to
20 proceed with your testimony.

21 MS. ORFANELLI: Thank you,
22 Councilwoman. My name is Linda Orfanelli. I'm
23 Deputy Director of Finance. I'm here to testify
24 in support of Bill No. 990463.

25 This bill would amend The Philadelphia

1 10/5/99 FINANCE - BILL 990463

2 Code pertaining to payroll deductions and it would
3 permit City employees to authorize payroll
4 deductions to be paid to the German-American
5 Police Association as an annual dues deduction.
6 As you're aware, we've done this similar type of
7 deduction for other organizations, most recently
8 SALA, which is the Spanish-American Legal
9 Association.

10 The way it works is, an employee signs
11 a card that authorizes the Director of Finance to
12 retain money from their paycheck for the purpose
13 of paying the dues for this organization. If at
14 any time they change their mind and they wish to
15 revoke that, they notify us and we stop taking the
16 dues out. This is normal procedure for us, we're
17 very happy to do this.

18 And I'll be glad to answer any
19 questions about this if you ever any.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Sir, would you
21 like to testify?

22 OFFICER MULLER: Surely. Good
23 afternoon, members of Council and Chairwoman
24 Blackwell.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

1 10/5/99 FINANCE - BILL 990463

2 OFFICER MULLER: My name is Rudolph
3 Muller, Jr., I'm a police officer here with the
4 City of Philadelphia and am the current first vice
5 president for the German-American Police
6 Association.

7 Briefly, our association was formed in
8 1976 to help cultivate a spirit of fraternalism,
9 not only in our profession, but our heritage and
10 background for police officers and law enforcement
11 officials in the City that have some German
12 decent. At one time, our organization was the
13 largest ethnic police organization in the City,
14 with over 1200 members. Through the years, our
15 membership has dwindled to about 500. Myself
16 personally have met with various other ethnic
17 police organizations here in Philadelphia, and
18 they have found that the payroll deductions help
19 not only with the membership quality with the
20 organization, but also it adds -- providing a
21 better service to its members.

22 We -- I am here to ask for your support
23 with this bill. If you have any questions, I'd be
24 glad to answer them.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

1 10/5/99 FINANCE - BILL 990463

2 Are there any questions from members of
3 the committee?

4 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: Just one
5 question. Do we deduct -- is this a process where
6 we deduct for other membership groups?

7 MS. ORFANELLI: Yes.

8 OFFICER MULLER: If I may add real
9 fast. With closing, I would like to thank an
10 honorary member, Councilman Frank Rizzo, for his
11 support with this and the support of his office
12 staff, and that is on behalf of our executive
13 board directors and general membership, and it's
14 also extended to the committee as well.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

16 OFFICER MULLER: You're welcome.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: All right. If
18 there are no questions, then this will end our
19 committee hearing.

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21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: We'll now
22 enter our stated meeting, and I will entertain a
23 motion, Councilman Rizzo, that this be reported
24 out with a favorable recommendation.

25 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: With a favorable

1 10/5/99 FINANCE - BILL 990463

2 recommendation, yes, Madam Chair. I'd like to
3 report out of committee Bill No. 990463 with a
4 favorable recommendation.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

7 It's been moved and properly seconded.

8 All in favor, aye?

9 Opposed?

10 All right. The ayes have it, it is
11 passed.

12 And we certainly thank you for coming.

13 And I want to thank the committee members, and
14 this committee hearing is adjourned.

15 (Adjourned at 2:22 p.m.)

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RE: COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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BILL NO. 990463

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JOSEPHINE CARDILLO,

Registered Professional Reporter