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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

STATED MEETING

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5

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, January 22, 2004
10:20 a.m.

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PRESENT:

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA

12

COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL

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COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE

14

COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN

15

COUNCILMAN FRANK J. DICICCO

16

COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.

17

COUNCILMAN JACK KELLY

18

COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY

19

COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI

20

COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO

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COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER

22

COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER

23

COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL

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COUNCILMAN JUAN RAMOS

25

COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

26

COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO

27

PATRICIA RAFFERTY, CHIEF CLERK

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V A R A L L O Incorporated

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1 01/22/03 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Good
3 morning, everyone. I note that the hour has
4 come and that a quorum of this Council is
5 present. Council will please come to order.
6 Members will please take their seats.

7 To give our invocation this morning,
8 the Chair welcomes the Reverend Julius W.G.
9 Jackson of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. He is
10 here today at my invitation. I would ask all
11 members and guests to please rise.

12 REVEREND JACKSON: Let us pray.

13 Oh, God, the creator and preserver
14 on all that is good and lovely. Look upon
15 your children gathered here today at the
16 opening of this Council. Give them wise and
17 discerning hearts to do for Philadelphia and
18 all who live in this City your grace and your
19 glory. Be also present with the Mayor of this
20 City, Council President Verna, and all the
21 Members of the Council. Give them also the
22 knowledge and wisdom to lead with great
23 humility and love. Grant them also that as
24 they are lead in your labor and love, they
25 will do greater things in your will. Also

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 give them your patience not to be overwhelmed
3 by what they cannot do, but be overwhelmed by
4 your love which you give for us by dying on
5 Calvary. All this we ask through the name of
6 your son and savior Jesus Christ and the power
7 of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
9 thanks Father Jackson for his very inspiring
10 invocation.

11 Council will be at ease.

12 (Council at ease.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: To
14 commemorate the special occasion of our
15 returning to go our Council Sessions, I would
16 like to welcome world renown saxophonist Mr.
17 Bayard Lancaster. Mr. Lancaster has played
18 all over the world and for Presidents Bill
19 Clinton and George Bush. He will now perform
20 our National Anthem. And I would request
21 everyone to please rise.

22 (National Anthem.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you
24 so much for sharing your talent with us this
25 morning.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 The next order of business the
3 approval of the Journal of the Meeting of
4 Monday, January 5, 2004.

5 And the Chair recognizes
6 Councilwoman Blackwell.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
8 Madam President. I move that the Journal of
9 the Meeting of Monday, January 5, 2004, stand
10 approved.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
13 been moved and properly seconded that the
14 Journal of the Meeting of Monday, January 5,
15 2004 stand approved.

16 All in favor will please indicate by
17 saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
20 opposed, nay.

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
23 have it. The motion carries, and the Journal
24 of the Meeting of Monday, January 5, 2004, is
25 approved.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - LEAVES OF ABSENCE

2 The next order of business is
3 request for leave of absence.

4 And the Chair again recognizes
5 Councilwoman Blackwell.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
7 Madam President. On behalf of the majority, a
8 leave of absence is requested for
9 Councilmember Reynolds Brown.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you,
11 Councilwoman. Leave will be granted.

12 The Chair recognizes Councilman
13 O'Neill.

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

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

19 The Chair will dispense with the
20 regular order business to recognize the guests
21 and visitors joining us in Chambers this
22 morning.

23 At this time it gives me great
24 pleasure to welcome two new Councilmembers to
25 our legislative body. Juan Ramos and Jack

1 01/22/03 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Kelly.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: And to all
5 of my colleagues, I say, welcome home.
6 Doesn't the Chamber look absolutely beautiful.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I do think
9 that we do owe a special thanks to the crafts
10 people and Public Property for the work that
11 they did in restoring our magnificent
12 Chambers.

13 To the public who have been so
14 faithful in attendance while we were in
15 temporary Chambers, know that we appreciate
16 your taking the time to join us as we attend
17 to the legislative affairs of our City. And
18 we certainly always invite you to come again.

19 The next order of business is
20 communications.

21 The Chair requests that the
22 Sergeant-at-Arms deliver the messages from the
23 Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

24 The Chief Clerk will please read the
25 messages from the Mayor.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President
3 and Members of the Council of the City of
4 Philadelphia, I am you pleased to advise you
5 that on December 21, 2003, I signed all of the
6 bills that were passed by Council at its
7 Session on December 11, 2003, except 030730.

8 And I am also pleased to advise you
9 that I signed all of the bills that were
10 passed by Council at its Session on
11 December 18, 2003, except 030769.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.
13 The messages will be printed in the Journal.

14 The Chief Clerk will please read any
15 other communications in her possession.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: I have none, Madam
17 President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

19 The next order of business is the
20 introduction of bills and resolutions.

21 And the Chair recognizes
22 Councilwoman Blackwell for a motion.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
24 Madam President. I move that the Rules of
25 Council be suspended so as to permit immediate

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 consideration of resolutions at their time of
3 introduction.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
6 been moved and properly seconded that the
7 Rules of Council be suspended so as to permit
8 immediate consideration of resolutions at the
9 time of introduction.

10 All in favor of the motion will
11 please indicate by saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
14 opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
17 have it and the motion carries.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman
19 Kenney.

20 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
21 President. I offer one bill and one
22 resolution cosponsored by Councilwoman Miller.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

24 The Clerk will please read the title
25 of the bill.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
3 amending Chapter 20-600 of the Philadelphia
4 Code, entitled "Standards of Conduct and
5 Ethics," to limit the receipt of contributions
6 by elected City officers or candidates for
7 City offices from individuals or businesses
8 who are applicants for or recipients of City
9 contracts or financial assistance if they have
10 made political contributions within a certain
11 time frame to elect City officers or
12 candidates for City offices.

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

15 The Clerk will please read the title
16 of the resolution.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
18 authorizing the City Council's Committee on
19 Legislative Oversight and Committee on Public
20 Safety to hold joint hearings to investigate
21 the alarming high number of incidents in which
22 our school children are struck by vehicles on
23 their way to and from school.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
25 recognizes Councilman Kenney.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move the
3 adoption of the resolution.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
6 been moved and properly seconded that the
7 resolution be adopted.

8 All in favor will signify by saying
9 aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
12 opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
15 have it, and the resolution will be referred
16 to the joint Committees of Legislative
17 Oversight and Public Safety.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
19 Blackwell.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
21 Madam President. Today, I introduce four
22 bills, one resolution on your behalf and one
23 on my own.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

25 The Clerk will please read the title

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 of the first bill.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
4 amending Title 14 of the Philadelphia Code,
5 Zoning and Planning, by amending Chapter
6 14-2007, (Historic, Buildings, Structures,
7 Sites, Objects and Districts) to require
8 Historical Commission may recommendations to
9 City Council and the Mayor regarding the
10 designation of certain districts of the City
11 as historic.

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

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
15 creating the Mill Creek Tax Increment
16 Financing District.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
18 will also be referred to the appropriate
19 committee.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
21 directing the Commissioner of Public Property
22 to rely upon the recommendations of the
23 Recreation Department's Mural Arts Program to
24 operate the City's Art in City Hall Program,
25 under certain terms and conditions.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill
3 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
5 amending Title 9 of The Philadelphia Code by
6 amending Section 9-205 by prohibiting vending
7 on certain portions of Chester Avenue,
8 Kingessing Avenue, 53rd Street and 54th
9 Street.

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

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
13 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
14 Property to execute and deliver to the
15 Redevelopment Authority of the City deeds
16 located in the 6th and 27th Wards of the City
17 of Philadelphia.

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

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

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
25 been moved and properly seconded that the

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 resolution be adopted.

3 All in favor will signify by saying
4 aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
7 opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
10 have it, and the resolution has been adopted.

11 The Clerk will please read the title
12 of the second resolution.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
14 authorizing the Commission of Public Property
15 to execute and deliver to the Redevelopment
16 Authority deeds located in the 40th Ward of
17 the City of Philadelphia.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
19 again recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

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

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
25 been moved and properly seconded that the

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 resolution be adopted.

3 All in favor will say aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
6 opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
9 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

10 The Chair recognize Councilman
11 Cohen.

12 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you, Madam
13 President. I offer one resolution.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Clerk
15 will please read the title of the resolution.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
17 honoring the Pennsylvania Association of
18 Student Financial Aid Administrators and
19 proclaiming January 2004 Financial Aid
20 Awareness Month in the City of Philadelphia.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
22 recognizes Councilman Cohen.

23 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you, Madam
24 President. I move the adoption of the
25 resolution.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Councilman
4 Nutter, did you want to be recognized? Your
5 light is on.

6 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: No.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Councilman
8 O'Neill, is your light on, sir?

9 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: I'm sorry.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: That's
11 okay.

12 I'm sorry, sir, do you mind making
13 your motion again?

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I move the
15 adoption of the resolution.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
18 been moved and properly seconded that the
19 resolution be adopted.

20 All in favor will say aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
23 opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 have it, and the resolution has been adopted.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
4 Krajewski.

5 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
6 President, I offer one bill.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

8 The Clerk will please read the title
9 of the bill.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
11 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing
12 the zoning designations of certain areas of
13 land located within an area bounded by Tacony
14 street, Barnett street, Levick Street, the
15 Delaware River, Cottman Avenue and New State
16 Road.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill
18 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilman
20 Mariano.

21 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Madam
22 President, I have two resolutions, one
23 privileged which I ask after it's read we take
24 a moment of silence, and one RDA one.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
5 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
6 Property to execute and deliver to the
7 Redevelopment Authority deeds located in the
8 7th, 18th, 19th and 33rd Wards of the City of
9 Philadelphia.

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

12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Move for the
13 adoption.

14 (Duly seconded.)

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

18 All in favor will indicate by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
22 opposed?

23 (No response.)

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

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Clerk will please read the title
3 of the second resolution.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
5 mourning the loss of Tug McGraw.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
7 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

8 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Madam
9 President, I move for the adoption. I ask
10 that we stand for a moment of silence for Mr.
11 McGraw.

12 (Moment of silence)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The
14 resolution has been adopted.

15 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
16 Tasco.

17 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
18 Madam President. I offer one resolution,
19 Madam President, that should be referred to a
20 Committee, which is noted at the end of the
21 resolution; and then one resolution on behalf
22 of you.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

24 The Clerk will please read the title
25 of the first resolution.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
3 designating February as American Heart Month
4 in the City of Philadelphia.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
6 recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

7 COUNCILWOMAN TESCO: Madam
8 President, I move the adoption of the
9 resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

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

14 All in favor will signify by saying
15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
18 opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
21 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

22 The Clerk will please read the title
23 of the second resolution.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
25 calling on the Pennsylvania Attorney General,

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 the Secretary of Banking, and the General
3 Assembly to carefully scrutinize the conduct
4 of tax preparers in connection with refund
5 anticipation loans and to take appropriate
6 action to ensure that these business practices
7 are consistent with state law.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
9 recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

10 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: Madam
11 President, could I speak before I move?

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Please.

13 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: This resolution
14 was passed at our December 18th meeting, and
15 we reintroduced it this time and we thank all
16 those who have signed on to it. We're also
17 asking that public hearings be held by the
18 Public Health and Human Services Committee.

19 Move for the adoption of the
20 resolution.

21 (Duly seconded.)

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

25 All in favor will indicate by saying

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
5 opposed?

6 (No response.)

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

9 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
10 Miller.

11 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you,
12 Madam President. I offer one bill and three
13 resolutions, one resolution cosponsored by
14 Councilman Clarke, Councilman Mariano and
15 Councilwoman Blackwell.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

17 The Clerk will please read the title
18 of the bill.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
20 establishing a neighborhood improvement
21 district in an area that generally includes
22 both sides of Germantown Avenue from 7640 to
23 8705, both sides of Bethlehem Pike from 10 to
24 104 and certain blocks of streets that
25 intersect the portion of Germantown Avenue to

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 be known as the Chestnut Hill Business
3 Improvement District.

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

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
7 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
8 Property to execute and deliver to the
9 Redevelopment Authority deeds located in the
10 11th, 12th, 13th and 49th Wards of the City of
11 Philadelphia.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
13 recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move for the
15 adoption of the resolution.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
18 been moved and seconded that the resolution be
19 adopted.

20 All in favor will indicate by saying
21 aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
24 opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

4 The Clerk will please read the title
5 of the second resolution.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
7 honoring and recognize Men United For a Better
8 Philadelphia on the occasion of its 2nd
9 anniversary and for making December 2003 as
10 the Month of Peace.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
12 recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

13 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move for the
14 adoption of the resolution.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has
17 been moved and properly seconded that the
18 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 ayes
25 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Clerk will please read the third
3 resolution.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
5 initiating action to establish a neighborhood
6 improvement district in an area that generally
7 includes both sides of Germantown Avenue from
8 7640 to 8705 to be known as the Chestnut Hill
9 Business Improvement District.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
11 again recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

12 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move for the
13 adoption of the resolution.

14 (Duly seconded.)

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

18 All in favor will say aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
21 opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
24 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Nutter.

3 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
4 President. Madam President, I offer 14 bills
5 and 2 resolutions; the 2 resolutions I wish to
6 be heard on. The bills, many of which are
7 cosponsored by Councilman Goode and I, are
8 offered on behalf of the citizens and
9 taxpayers of Philadelphia and the Tax Reform
10 Commission.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.
12 The Clerk will please read the titles of the
13 bills.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
15 amending Chapter 19-1500 of The Philadelphia
16 Code, entitled "Wage and Net Profits Tax,"
17 decreasing the rates of the tax by making
18 technical amendments changing the effective
19 dates for rate changes and repealing certain
20 provisions, all under certain terms and
21 conditions.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill
23 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
25 amending Section 19-2604 of The Philadelphia

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Code relating to tax rates, credits and
3 alternative tax computation for business
4 privilege tax, by reducing certain tax rates,
5 all under certain terms and conditions.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
7 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
9 amending Title 2 of the Philadelphia Code
10 entitled "City-County Consolidation," by
11 removing the authority of the Board of
12 Revision of Taxes to hear appeals and
13 reassigning that authority with the power,
14 functions and duties of hearing and deciding
15 appeals from the Board of Revision of Taxes.

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

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
19 amending Chapter 19-2600 of The Philadelphia
20 Code, entitled "Business Privilege Taxes," by
21 amending the definition of "net income" to
22 determine the net income of unincorporated
23 businesses by allowing deductions of payments
24 to certain proprietors or partners.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
4 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The Philadelphia
5 Code, entitled "Real Estate Taxes," by
6 specifying a rate for tax year 2004,
7 specifying the rates thereafter be dependent
8 on the total taxable assessed values certified
9 by the Board of Revision of Taxes.

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

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
13 amending Chapter 19-2600 of The Philadelphia
14 Code entitled "Business Privilege Taxes," by
15 providing a minimum number of estimated tax
16 payments in the last six months of the City's
17 fiscal year and authorizing additional
18 estimated payments in the first six months of
19 the subsequent fiscal year.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill
21 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
23 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The Philadelphia
24 Code, entitled Real Estate Taxes, to mandate a
25 phase-in of equal percentages of the Target

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Tax Billings to be imposed upon lands and
3 buildings for real estate tax purposes.

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

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
7 amending Chapter 19-2600 of The Philadelphia
8 Code, entitled "Business Privilege Taxes" by
9 amending the definition of "Net Operating
10 Loss" with respect to carryforward period for
11 net operating losses.

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

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
15 amending 19-1302 of the Philadelphia Code,
16 entitled "Installation Payments" to provide
17 for the Department of Revenue to accept
18 payment of real estate taxes in four equal
19 payments, all under certain terms and
20 conditions.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill
22 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
24 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The Philadelphia
25 Code, entitled "Real Estate Taxes," by

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 providing discounts and penalties related to
3 the installation payments and new fiscal year
4 billing and to guarantee that payments are
5 applied to current year tax first to avoid
6 accumulation of additions and penalties.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
8 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
10 amending Chapter 19-1400 of The Philadelphia
11 Code, entitled "Realty Transfer Taxes," by
12 amending the definition of "Value" to include
13 deeds in lieu of foreclosure.

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

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
17 amending Chapter 19-500 of The Philadelphia
18 Code, entitled "Taxes and Rents General," by
19 providing for uniform time limitations on
20 collections, examinations and assessments,
21 under certain terms and conditions.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill
23 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
25 repealing Chapter 19-2500 of The Philadelphia

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2 Code, entitled "Real Estate Non-Utilization
3 Tax," effective January 2005, all under
4 certain terms and conditions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
6 will also be referred to the appropriate
7 committee.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
9 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The Philadelphia
10 Code related to "Real Estate Taxes," by
11 providing that no change by the Board of
12 Revision of Taxes to the ratios it uses to
13 calculate assessed value shall be effective
14 unless Council by ordinance adjust real estate
15 tax rates so that such change is revenue
16 neutral or unless Council otherwise approves
17 such change by ordinance, all under certain
18 terms and conditions.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill
20 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

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

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
24 authorizing the Committee Commerce and
25 Economic Development to hold hearings to

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2 investigate the proposed closure of the
3 Medical College of Pennsylvania by Tenet
4 Healthcare Corporation and the devastating
5 impact that such a closure would have on the
6 patients and employees of MCP, the East Falls
7 community and City of Philadelphia; and
8 further authorizing the Committee to
9 furtherance such investigation to issue
10 subpoenas as may be necessary to compel the
11 attendance of witnesses and the production of
12 documents to the full extent authorized under
13 Section 2-401 of the Home Rule Charter.

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

16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
17 President. I wish to move the adoption of the
18 resolution and I also wish to speak very
19 briefly on the resolution.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
22 recognizes Councilman Nutter.

23 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
24 President.

25 Madam President, this resolution is

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2 a reintroduction of a resolution that was
3 introduced and approved by this Council at our
4 last Session last year on December 18, 2003.
5 I wish to say very briefly, one, I appreciate
6 this body's support of that previous
7 resolution, and I would also say that
8 notwithstanding my passion on that particular
9 day and a sense of calm that I may have today,
10 there is no difference between my feelings on
11 December 18th and today with regard to the
12 proposed closure of MCP. But I do thank the
13 Council for its support and also wish to thank
14 Councilman Goode who is Chair of the commerce
15 and Economic Development Committee who is
16 supporting the resolution as well as helping
17 us coordinate the public hearings that we
18 propose to have by these resolutions. We
19 anticipate those hearings to be next Thursday
20 at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. I wish to
21 thank the Councilman for his tremendous
22 support and assistance in making that happen.
23 The state legislature, Philadelphia Delegation
24 also anticipates participating in these
25 hearings, State Senator Vincent Hughes,

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2 Representative Jewell Williams, Representative
3 Kathy Manderino, and many others are very
4 supportive of our efforts to get to the bottom
5 of what's going on with MCP, with Tenet, it's
6 agreement with the City, and whether there are
7 any material or factual violations of that
8 particular agreement.

9 Healthcare is a very important issue
10 in Philadelphia and certainly in the East
11 Falls community, and so I ask my colleagues
12 for their continued support in this effort,
13 and move the adoption of the resolution.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you
16 it has been moved and seconded that the
17 resolution be adopted.

18 All in favor will indicate by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
22 opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
25 have it, and the resolution will be referred

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2 to the Committee on Commerce and Economic
3 Development.

4 The Clerk will please read the title
5 of the second resolution.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
7 commemorating the work of the Philadelphia Tax
8 Reform Commission.

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

11 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
12 President. I move the adoption of the
13 resolution, and I also wish to speak even
14 briefer than I did before.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
17 recognizes Councilman Nutter.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
19 President.

20 Madam President, as is our general
21 practice, I will not speak with regard to the
22 bills that were introduced earlier. There
23 were 14 bills, 13 of which represent the work
24 of the Tax Reform Commission. And while many
25 of us have, I think, appropriate concerns and

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2 questions about the actual details of the work
3 of the Tax Reform Commission, one, I believe
4 that they have done their job and they have
5 done it well and should be recognized for
6 their effort; two, the introduction of those
7 bills hopefully will ensure that there are
8 good public hearings and a great public
9 discussion about the issues. But when all the
10 discussion is over, I think we do have to take
11 action to reform the tax structure of
12 Philadelphia.

13 I know that there is a lot of debate
14 and discussion about "the package" and that
15 all of the bills should be considered as a
16 package. They've certainly been introduced
17 that way, but as we go through our process in
18 working with the Administration and Mayor
19 Street, I'm not sure what we will finally do
20 at the end of the process. But there should
21 be a full engaged public hearing about all of
22 these matters and on behalf of the citizens of
23 the City.

24 So, hopefully, the process has
25 started with the introduction of these bills.

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2 I'm not sure at the end of the day where any
3 of us, including myself will be on each and
4 every proposal, but I look forward to the
5 discussion. And, again, on behalf of the
6 citizens, I think it's the right thing to do.

7 The Tax Reform Commission was
8 supported overwhelmingly by the citizens of
9 Philadelphia. I think they met their charge
10 and exceeded it. They've given us the
11 framework for reforming taxes in Philadelphia,
12 and that debate should start today.

13 Thank you, Madam President. And I
14 ask for support for this resolution.

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

18 All in favor will say aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
21 opposed??

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
24 have it, and the resolution is adopted.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Goode.

3 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
4 President. I offer one bill and one
5 resolution. The bill is co-introduced by
6 Councilman Nutter. The resolution is to be
7 referred to Committee, but I believe it
8 requires a vote.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

10 The Clerk will please read the title
11 of the bill.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
13 amending Section 19-2604 of The Philadelphia
14 Code relating to tax rates, credits and
15 alternate tax computation for the business
16 privilege tax by reducing certain tax rates,
17 all under certain terms and conditions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill
19 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
21 authorizing the Committee on Commerce and
22 Economic Development to hold hearings to
23 review annual community reinvestment goals
24 submitted by City depository and the role of
25 the City depository banks in leverage private

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2 investment from the proposed 500 million
3 Economic Development Capital Fund, and further
4 authorizing the Committee to issue subpoenas
5 to compel the attendance of witnesses and the
6 production of documents and other evidence.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
8 recognizes Councilman Goode.

9 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
10 President. I move for the adoption.

11 (Duly seconded.)

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

15 All in favor will say aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
18 opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
21 have it, and the resolution is adopted. The
22 resolution will be referred to the Committee
23 on Commerce and Economic Development.

24 At this time, the Chair recognizes
25 Councilman Ramos.

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2 COUNCILMAN RAMOS: Madam President,
3 I offer one privileged resolution.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.
5 The Clerk will please read the title
6 of the resolution.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
8 honoring Judge Nelson L. Diaz.

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

11 COUNCILMAN RAMOS: Madam President,
12 I move for the adoption of the resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

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

17 All in favor will signify by saying
18 aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
21 opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
24 have it, and the resolution has been adopted.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 DiCicco.

3 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you,
4 Madam President. I offer five bills and one
5 resolution.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.
7 The Clerk will please read the title of the
8 first bill.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
10 amending Section 14-1200 of The Philadelphia
11 Code, entitled "Pending Public Acquisition
12 District," by designating a Pending Public
13 Acquisition District in the area bounded by
14 the east North 13th Street, on the north by
15 Race Street, on the west by North Broad Street
16 and on the south by Arch Street.

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

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
20 granting permission to Nahal Desai and Raju
21 Desai, owners of the newsstand at the corner
22 of 13th and Market Streets, to construct, use
23 and maintain an electrical conduit with an
24 electrical service line and a
25 telecommunication conduit with a telephone

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2 service line.

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

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
6 amending Section 1(a) and (c) of an ordinance
7 (Bill No. 030344) approved July 31, 2003,
8 entitled an ordinance granting permission to
9 Ride the Ducks International, to remove an
10 existing wood and metal newsstand located on
11 the west sidewalk of Independence Mall West.

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

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
15 granting permission to Robert Bitros, owner of
16 the property 931-933 North Second Street, to
17 operate and maintain an open air sidewalk cafe
18 on the east sidewalk of North Second Street,
19 under certain terms and conditions.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill
21 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
23 granting permission to 900 South Front Street,
24 owner of the property 900 South Front Street,
25 to operate and maintain an open air sidewalk

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 cafe on the southwest corner of Front and
3 Christian Streets, under certain terms and
4 conditions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill
6 will also be referred to the appropriate
7 committee.

8 I would ask the Clerk to please read
9 the title of the resolution.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
11 approving the redevelopment contract of the
12 Redevelopment Authority of the City of
13 Philadelphia for the redevelopment and urban
14 renewal of a portion of the Washington Square
15 West Urban Renewal Area.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
17 recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

18 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you,
19 Madam President. I move for the adoption of
20 the resolution.

21 (Duly seconded.)

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

25 All in favor will signify by saying

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2 aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those
5 opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes
8 have it, and the resolution has been adopted.
9 The Chair recognizes Councilman
10 O'Neill.

11 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam
12 President, I offer four bills.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Thank you.

14 The Clerk will please read the title
15 of the first bill.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
17 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing
18 the zoning designations of certain areas of
19 the land located in the vicinity of McNulty
20 and Townsend Roads, under certain terms and
21 conditions.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill
23 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
25 to amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 changing the zoning designations of certain
3 areas of land located within an area bounded
4 by Roosevelt Boulevard, Southampton Road,
5 Carter Street and Poquessing Creek.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill
7 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
9 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
10 Property, on behalf of the City of
11 Philadelphia, to purchase fee simple title to
12 a certain parcel of land with the buildings
13 and improvements thereon, situated on the
14 northwest side of Algon Avenue at Fox Chase
15 Road, all under certain terms and conditions.

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

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
19 repealing an ordinance (Bill 030249),
20 authorizing and directing of lines and grades
21 on a portion to City Plan No. 253 of the area
22 lying generally northwardly from the
23 intersection of Unruh Avenue and Oakley
24 Street.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill

1 01/22/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Clarke.

5 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
6 President. I offer two bills.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

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

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
11 authorizing 111 South 15th Street,
12 Philadelphia, PA, its successors and assigns,
13 to construct and maintain a marquee, raised
14 planters and rigid awnings on and over the
15 public footways on Chestnut Street, South 15th
16 Street and Sansom Street.

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

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
20 requiring the Philadelphia Authority for
21 Industrial Development to enter into a certain
22 agreement with the City regarding Authority
23 transactions involving non-City government
24 agencies as a condition of Council approval of
25 future Authority transactions, under certain

1 01/22/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 terms and conditions.

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

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman
6 Kelly.

7 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Madam President,
8 I have no bills or resolutions today.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
10 thanks the gentleman.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Rizzo.

13 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam President,
14 no bills or resolutions today.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

16 We have neither reports from
17 committees nor bills on the First or Second
18 Reading Calendars today.

19 At this time, I would ask if there
20 are any speeches on of the part of the
21 minority?

22 The Chair recognizes Councilman
23 Kelly.

24 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Yes. Madam
25 President, it's great to be back; I want to

1 01/22/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 tell you right now. I want to thank you for
3 your warm welcome. And I just want to thank
4 you publicly for the very helpful way that
5 you've been to me not only when we worked
6 together in Council but, of course, I worked
7 for you over the last few years, and I want to
8 thank you for your direction and guidance over
9 those years.

10 I'd be remiss if I didn't thank two
11 people, two other former colleagues of mine in
12 this Council who have been very supportive of
13 me. And that is our Minority Leader,
14 Councilman Brian O'Neill, and Councilwoman
15 Joan Krajewski. I think they have been
16 supportive of me over many, many years. And I
17 think that there's no doubt in my mind that
18 without their help and support, I would not be
19 sitting in this seat today.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: You're
21 right about that.

22 (Laughter.)

23 COUNCILMAN KELLY: I can tell you
24 one thing, she really knows how to push a
25 person and she's pushed me back in this

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2 Council. And I cannot find the words that
3 really express the gratitude that I have both
4 of them. I want to thank them very, very
5 much. And maybe some day I can repay them.

6 Another person I would like to
7 really thank, and we go back a ways, is our
8 Majority Leader, Councilwoman Jannie
9 Blackwell. Jannie and I go back a long ways
10 when she was chief of staff for her husband,
11 the late and great Lu Blackwell. I had the
12 utmost respect for them then and, of course, I
13 know we had a great relationship then and I
14 think we'll have better one now.

15 A couple Councilpeople that I'm
16 very, very familiar with and have been with
17 here before and I've worked with them before,
18 and that's Majority Whip, Councilwoman Marian
19 Tasco, and Councilman Dave Cohen. They've
20 been here many, many years. And I think that
21 when it comes to Councilman Dave Cohen --
22 well, not Marian, but I know Dave Cohen has
23 been here. I'm try to get out of this one. I
24 can just say that Councilman Cohen, I think
25 many people think he's been here since the

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2 days of Mayor Bernard Samuel.

3 And speaking of mayors, I had the
4 privilege of working, of course, under Mayor
5 Wilson Goode. And now I have the opportunity
6 to work with his son Wilson Goode, Jr. And I
7 think I had the utmost respect for the Mayor
8 then and I have the same respect for his son.
9 And while, of course, I didn't have of
10 privilege of working under Mayor Frank Rizzo,
11 I also have the opportunity to work with his
12 son, Frank Rizzo, Jr. I think that this is a
13 unique Council where we have the sons of two
14 prominent and former mayors in our midst. And
15 I think that, who knows, someday one or
16 perhaps the both of them might be mayors
17 themselves some day.

18 I also want to take this time to
19 welcome my good friend and neighbor Councilman
20 Juan Ramos to this Council. I think that Juan
21 and I are very close. We even share an
22 office. And I think that we are going to be
23 not only be close in proximity but I think
24 we're going to be close on many of the issues
25 confronting this Council.

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2 I know I'm glad to be back and
3 working with Councilman Mariano. I'm very
4 familiar with Rick and his district, since I
5 represented the 7th Councilmanic District
6 before. And I know that many times people
7 have come up to me with problems and requests
8 for service that reside in this district. And
9 I will say to you now that anytime I had this,
10 I would give it to Rick. And between him and
11 his staff, those requests or those problems
12 would be handed efficiently and promptly. For
13 that, I'm very, very grateful.

14 Those two women that I've been
15 following in this Council for many years, for
16 the last few years. And I think that Blondell
17 Reynolds Brown and Donna Miller have done an
18 exceptional job. I think they represent their
19 districts and the citizens of Philadelphia in
20 a very, very professional manner. And I think
21 they are great advocates for the children's
22 and women's issues today and I think they
23 deserve the support of Council in many, many
24 of their issues.

25 I just want to say that I'm also

1 01/22/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 glad to be back working with Councilman
3 DiCicco again. I know Frank and I go back
4 many, many years when we were in the judicial
5 system together. We always had a great
6 rapport then. I think Frank was very, very
7 fair. He treated me with respect. And I can
8 tell you right now that we're going to in the
9 next four years treat each other with respect
10 again.

11 I know that I'm anxious to work
12 with, of course, two Councilman that have been
13 outspoken on many, many issues confronting
14 this Council, and that's Councilman Nutter and
15 Councilman Kenney. And I'm anxious to get on
16 with the debate and to listen to their
17 opinions on many, many of the issues
18 confronting this Council. I may not agree
19 with them in all these issues, but, again,
20 looking forward to hearing their side on many
21 of them.

22 I will take exception to some people
23 who probably think I'm a newcomer to this
24 Council. But I can tell you now that I am
25 not, and I don't like that description because

1 01/22/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I've been working in this Council, I've been
3 working with this Council, and I've been
4 working for this Council for the last 15
5 years. I know how it works, and I want to be
6 part of it.

7 I think that we have to remember
8 that our objective in this Council and our
9 goals in this Council are the same, to make
10 this City a better City. Now, the methods and
11 uses that we try to achieve these goals, I
12 think, can be debated and I'm looking forward
13 to that debate. But, again, I'm glad to be
14 back. And I think it's one of the ways, of
15 course, that we have to resort from time to
16 time is that we have to use the art of
17 diplomacy and compromise to accomplish our
18 goals. And I think I'm willing to do that and
19 willing to work with this Council. That's the
20 only way we're going to move legislation.

21 Speaking of moving, I remember when
22 John Street moved out of this Council to run
23 for Mayor. I don't think he could have left
24 the 5th Councilmanic District in better than
25 Councilman Darrell Clarke. I think he has

1 01/22/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 done an exceptional job. I'm looking forward
3 to working with him. I know not only has he
4 done a great job for his constituents in that
5 district, but he has helped many of these
6 Councilpeople over the years. And in fact, in
7 my short term right now back in this Council,
8 he has been very, very helpful to me. I know
9 he's going to be -- I think he has the
10 capabilities of being a great leader not only
11 in this Council but of the City.

12 And finally, Madam President, I am
13 sitting here today unfortunately because of
14 the loss of one Philadelphia's political
15 legends, and that is Councilman Tacher
16 Longstreth. There's no doubt that Tacher was
17 not only a great statesman, legislator,
18 politician and sports enthusiast, but he was a
19 great friend. I know when I was in this
20 Council before, we sat side by side. He
21 shared many of his stories with me, but he
22 also gave me some great advice. And he had a
23 wealth of wisdom which he shared with anyone
24 who asked. I know I will miss him. I know
25 many of the people in this Council will miss

1 01/22/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 him. And I know people in Philadelphia
3 already miss him. But I can tell you, Madam
4 President, that I will do everything that I
5 can to make not only make Thacher proud but
6 also to repay and justify the confidence that
7 the people of Philadelphia have given me in
8 placing me in this Council to keep on the
9 traditions and keep Tacher's memory alive.
10 And I will do everything I can, I will work as
11 hard as I can to keep this City the first
12 class City that it is and to make the lives of
13 all of our citizens a little bit better. And
14 with, of course, God's help, your help, and
15 the help of this Council, we can do just that.

16 Madam President, it's great to be
17 back, and thank you very much.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: We welcome
19 you.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Councilman
22 O'Neill, is your light on?

23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Yes. Madam
24 President.

25 I'd like to thank Councilman Kelly

1 01/22/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 for those kind remarks on behalf of everyone.

3 But I would note that my recollection is that

4 Jack just spoke longer than he did the entire

5 four years he was here and representing the

6 7th District.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I was

8 thinking the same thing.

9 (Laughter.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair

11 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: I was

13 waiting until you called for speeches on the

14 part of the Minority. Thank you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are there

16 any other speeches on part of the Minority?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Seeing

19 none, are there speeches on the part of the

20 Majority?

21 Councilwoman Blackwell.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,

23 Madam President.

24 I wanted to let the public and

25 certainly my colleagues to know they are

1 01/22/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 invited to attend a reception for Ambassador
3 Dr. Simbi Muboko from Zimbabwe next Wednesday,
4 the 28th from 2 to 4 in the Mayor's Reception
5 Room. This event is sponsored by the African
6 Americans United Fund of Pennsylvania and the
7 City's Commerce Department. Thank you. We
8 hope you'll join us. Thank you.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
10 recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

11 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
12 Madam President.

13 On January 12, 2004, consumer
14 advocate Lance Haver, the Director of the
15 Mayor's Office of Consumer Affairs and I sent
16 a letter to the Secretary of Banking,
17 Secretary Schenck, regarding Cash Today. This
18 check cashing or loan center which is located
19 throughout the City has not been abiding by
20 the rules by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
21 And we have circulated a copy of this letter
22 to our colleagues. Again, in keeping with our
23 whole notion of protecting our citizens
24 against predatory lending, we notice again our
25 good friends the Daily News, who supported us

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2 just 100 and 1,000 percent on the issue of
3 predatory lending, still carries these ads.
4 This company is charging high interest rates
5 above the law, and they have to apply for a
6 legal license to become either consumer
7 discount company or an alternative company.
8 So they're just breaking the law, and it just
9 pains me to see that the Daily News continues
10 to carry their ad which does not help the
11 citizens of this City. And I ask the Daily
12 News to discontinue carrying their ad until
13 they comply with the law. I hope they will
14 never carry it again, but that's America. But
15 thank you very much.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

17 The Chair recognizes Councilman
18 Ramos.

19 COUNCILMAN RAMOS: I want to take
20 this opportunity to thank the people of
21 Philadelphia for give me this great honor to
22 serve them in this historic and great Council.
23 I want to make a promise, and that promise is
24 I will work very hard for the people of this
25 City and I will work very hard with my

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2 colleagues here on this Council all in the
3 best interest of Philadelphians. Muchos
4 gracias.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.
6 Again, we welcome you.

7 Are there any other speeches on part
8 of the Majority?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Seeing
11 none, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco
12 for a motion to adjourn.

13 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I move that
14 Council stand adjourned until Thursday,
15 January 29th at 10:00 a.m.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has
18 been moved and properly seconded that Council
19 stand adjourned until Thursday, January 29th,
20 at 10:00 a.m.

21 All in favor will indicate by saying
22 aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those
25 opposed?

1 01/22/03 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT
2 (No response.)
3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes
4 have it and the motion carries.
5 Thank you all very much.
6 (Council adjourned at 10:59 a.m.)
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RE: STATED MEETING

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Lisa C. Bradley, RPR

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