

1

2

3

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

4

STATED MEETING

5

Thursday, September 18, 1997
10:30 a.m.

6

7

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

8

- - -

9

PRESENT:

10

COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHN F. STREET

11

COUNCILWOMAN ANNA CIBOTTI VERNA
COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE L. BLACKWELL

12

COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER
COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI

13

COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCIO
COUNCILWOMAN AUGUSTA A. CLARK

14

COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN
COUNCILWOMAN HAPPY FERNANDEZ

15

COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY
COUNCILMAN W. THACHER LONGSTRETH

16

COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ
COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

17

COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO
COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO

18

COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER

19

MARIE B. HAUSER, Chief Clerk

20

- - -

21

22

23

VINCENT VARALLO ASSOCIATES, INC.
Registered Professional Reporters

24

Eleven Penn Center Plaza, Suite 600
Philadelphia, PA 19103

25

(215) 561-2220

1 INVOCATION

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

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Good
4 morning, ladies and gentlemen. The Chair notes that
5 the hour has come and that a quorum is present.

6 Council will come to order. Members
7 will take their seats, visitors will retire to the
8 seats outside the rail.

9 To give our invocation this morning,
10 the Chair welcomes Reverend Vito Carbone of Our Lady
11 of Loretto Church.

12 Reverend Carbone is here today as the
13 guest of Councilwoman Verna.

14 Members and guests will please rise.

15 REVEREND VITO CARBONE: Let us pray.

16 Oh God of wisdom, all that lies ahead
17 of us is yet unseen. May we come to know one
18 another and the service we have been called to.

19 Let us not forget that you ask us to
20 be the servants and not the masters. We are here to
21 work for the good of all our community. Be with us
22 as our counselor and our support.

23 Brothers and sisters, we open our
24 hearts to hear the word of the Lord.

25 All wisdom comes from the Lord, and

1 INVOCATION

2 with him it remains forever. The sand of the
3 seashore, the drops of rain, the days of eternity,
4 who can number these.

5 Heaven's height, earth's breadth, the
6 depth of the abyss, who can explore these?

7 Before all things else, wisdom was
8 created and prudent understanding from eternity. To
9 whom has wisdom's root been revealed? Who knows her
10 subtleties?

11 There is but one wise and truly
12 awe-inspiring seated upon his throne. It is the
13 Lord. He created her, has seen her and taken note
14 of her.

15 He has poured forth upon all his
16 works, upon every living thing according to his
17 bounty. He has lavished her upon his friends.

18 We raise our voice in praise. Let
19 the nations shout and sing for joy, since you
20 dispense true justice to the world. You dispense
21 strict justice to the people.

22 On earth you ruled the nations. Let
23 the nations praise you, God. Let all the nations
24 praise you.

25 Amen.

1 APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
3 thanks Father Carbone for his inspiring invocation.

4 (Council members greet Father
5 Carbone.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The next
7 order of business is the approval of the Journal of
8 the meeting of Thursday, September 11, 1997.

9 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
10 Verna.

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you,
12 Mr. President.

13 I move that the Journal of that date
14 be approved.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
17 favor let it be known by saying aye.

18 Those opposed say nay.

19 The ayes have it. The Journal of the
20 meeting of Thursday, September 11, 1997, stands
21 approved.

22 The next order of business is leaves
23 of absence.

24 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
25 Verna.

1 LEAVES OF ABSENCE/WELCOME VISITORS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you,
3 Mr. President.

4 On behalf of the majority, there are
5 no requests for leave of absence.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
7 thanks the Councilwoman.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Longstreth.

10 COUNCILMAN LONGSTRETH: A request for
11 leave of absence for Councilman O'Neill. Otherwise,
12 we are here and ready to go.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
14 thanks that Councilman.

15 Leave will be granted.

16 Councilman O'Neill is on official
17 business. I think it is the League of Cities.

18 At this time we will dispense with
19 our regular order of business to recognize
20 visitors.

21 To all of our visitors and guests
22 with us this morning, we welcome you here and
23 applaud your interest in the civic affairs of our
24 city, and certainly invite you to come again.

25 Is there any member of Council who

1 WELCOME VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

2 wishes to recognize a visiting group at this time?

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman

4 DiCicco.

5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,

6 Mr. President.

7 With us this morning are students

8 from the University of Notre Dame School of

9 Architecture. They are in our city with their

10 instructor, Kara Carassio.

11 And they will be primarily in the

12 vicinity of the Independence Mall area, looking to

13 do some design for the possible future Constitution

14 Center.

15 They will be presenting their ideas

16 and suggestions to Ed Bacon and others. They are

17 here with us this morning.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Thank you

19 very much for being with us.

20 (Students rise to applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Our

22 presentation for today declares October 1 as Work To

23 End Domestic Violence Day.

24 To make this presentation, the Chair

25 appoints Councilwoman Tasco.

1 PRESENTATIONS

2 hope, that I declare October 1, 1997, as Work To End
3 Domestic Violence Day in Philadelphia.

4 Whereas, once a secret kept among
5 families, domestic violence is now recognized as a
6 serious crime, one that often has severe
7 consequences for the victims, their children, their
8 employers, and the community;

9 And whereas, nearly 30,000 women
10 sought help from Philadelphia's four domestic
11 violence service agencies in 1995, 1996;

12 And whereas, the American Medical
13 Association estimates that the cost of treating
14 domestic violence victims range from 5 to 10 billion
15 dollars each year, and one in three women seeking
16 emergency room care does so for injuries received
17 from an abusive partner;

18 And whereas, the National Crime
19 Survey found that domestic violence has a direct
20 bearing on productivity, effectiveness, absenteeism,
21 and employee turnovers in workplace, an estimated
22 175,000 days per year are missed from paid work due
23 to domestic violence;

24 And whereas, stopping the cycle of
25 this vicious crime requires not only the resolve and

1 PRESENTATIONS

2 to all of the families of victims who have lost
3 mothers and daughters to domestic violence.

4 It is a shocking reminder that we all
5 must start to renew our efforts to end domestic
6 violence.

7 Beginning October 1, the agencies
8 that have been mentioned and the Family Violence
9 Prevention Fund, Philadelphia Let's Stop Domestic
10 Violence Project, is kicking off a new campaign to
11 do education prevention efforts in the workplace, to
12 enlist employers in that effort.

13 There will be a calendar of events
14 happening throughout October, ending with the
15 candlelight vigil on October 30 which will unveil a
16 mural to commemorate those victims of domestic
17 violence.

18 And I thank and applaud the Council
19 for joining in these efforts.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Is there
21 anyone else who wishes to comment at this time?

22 MS. LORI BURNS-SIMMS: Good morning,
23 everybody. My name is Lori Burns-Simms. I am the
24 Project Director of Philadelphia Let's Stop Domestic
25 Violence.

1 PRESENTATIONS

2 I would really like to thank City
3 Council for taking the time out and for giving us
4 the resolution to make October 1 Work To End
5 Domestic Violence Day.

6 And I applaud their active
7 participation in that day and in their effort to
8 help solve this epidemic, domestic violence.

9 I would also like to acknowledge the
10 people who are standing behind me, who are very
11 integral to the Philadelphia Let's Stop Domestic
12 Violence Project and to helping to eradicate
13 domestic violence in the City of Philadelphia, as
14 well as nationwide.

15 Those people are Jacqueline Hall, who
16 is the Executive Director of Lutheran Settlement
17 House; Ramona Washington, the Executive Director of
18 Women Against Abuse; Rebecca Barragin, who is
19 representing Congresso De Latino Unidos; Roberta
20 Hacker, who is Executive Director of Women in
21 Transition; Rebecca Wilson-Lowe, from Lutheran
22 Settlement House; Karen Friedman, who is working on
23 the Philadelphia Let's Stop Domestic Violence
24 Project; Vicki Casino, who is a member of the
25 Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence;

1 PRESENTATIONS

2 and Marian Tasco's Denise Pride, Women Against
3 Abuse.

4 I would like to just thank them all
5 for their efforts and their hard work in working to
6 stop domestic violence in Philadelphia, and commend
7 them on all the work they have done up to this point
8 and will continue to do.

9 I'd also like to thank all the
10 businesses -- and there are over two dozen in
11 Philadelphia -- who will be participating on Work To
12 End Domestic Violence Day on October 1.

13 I would also like to urge other
14 businesses to get involved. It is not too late.
15 You can contact the Philadelphia Let's Stop Domestic
16 Violence office.

17 But I would also like to urge
18 businesses not only to take up the issue of Domestic
19 Violence on October 1, but to make this a part of
20 the agenda and make it a part of workplace policies
21 throughout the year and in years to come.

22 This is not an issue that is going to
23 stop on October 1; it is going to continue. And it
24 is something that we all need to pitch in and work
25 together on to help stop, because it is stoppable.

1 COMMUNICATIONS

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Council
5 will stand at ease.

6 (Brief recess.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Will
8 Councilwoman Verna please approach the Chair, with
9 her glasses, if you have them.

10 (Councilwoman Verna assumes the
11 Chair.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The next order
13 of business is communications. The Chair recognizes
14 the Sergeant At Arms for the purpose of delivering
15 the messages from the Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

16 The Chief Clerk will read the
17 messages from the Mayor.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: We have no
19 messages.

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

21 The next order of business is
22 introduction of bills and resolutions.

23 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
24 Clark.

25 COUNCILWOMAN CLARK: Thank you, Madam

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 Chair. I have two resolutions that are presently
3 being circulated.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: While the
5 resolutions are being circulated, supposing we go to
6 Councilwoman Blackwell.

7 Are there any bills or resolutions to
8 be introduced, Councilwoman Blackwell?

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam Chair,
10 I have one resolution.

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The clerk will
12 please read the title of the resolution.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
14 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
15 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
16 of the City of Philadelphia, without consideration,
17 deeds for properties situated in the 6th, 51st, and
18 60th wards in the City of Philadelphia.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Council will
20 consider the resolution at the end of today's
21 calendar.

22 The Chair now recognizes Councilwoman
23 Clark.

24 COUNCILWOMAN CLARK: Thank you, Madam
25 Chair.

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 Today I have two privileged
3 resolutions for which I ask consideration at the end
4 of today's calendar.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The clerk will
6 please read the resolutions.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
8 honoring William H. Gray, III, and a resolution
9 honoring Rosemarie B. Grecco.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The resolutions
11 will be considered at the end of today's calendar.

12 The Chair recognizes Councilman
13 Cohen.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
15 have no bills or resolutions.

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
17 the gentleman.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
19 Krajewski.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
21 Chairwoman, I have no bills or resolutions.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

23 The Chair recognizes Councilman
24 Kenney.

25 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 Chair. I have one resolution.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The clerk will
4 please read the resolution.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution urging
6 the United States Senate and House of
7 Representatives to pass Senate Bill 803, known as
8 the United States Cruise Tourism Act of 1997.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The resolution
10 will be considered at the end of today's calendar.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
12 Miller.

13 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you,
14 Madam Chair.

15 I have two resolutions.

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The clerk will
17 please read the resolutions.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
19 honoring and recognizing the James Memorial United
20 Methodist Church on the occasion of their 125th
21 Anniversary.

22 And a resolution honoring Mark
23 Hughes, Founder and President of the Herbal Life
24 International and recognizing Good Nutrition
25 Awareness Day on November 2, 1997.

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 (Council President Street resumes the
3 Chair.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: These
5 resolutions will be considered at the appropriate
6 time.

7 The Chair recognizes Councilman
8 Nutter.

9 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Mr. President, I
10 offer one bill and one resolution.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The clerk
12 will please read the title of the bill.

13 (Chief Clerk read the title of the
14 bill. See Journal of Council.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: This bill
16 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

17 At this time the Chair recognizes
18 Councilwoman Verna for a motion that all resolutions
19 introduced from this point on be considered at the
20 time of their introduction.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Mr. President, I
22 move that the Rules of Council be considered so as
23 to permit consideration of all bills immediately
24 after introduction.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
3 favor let it be known by saying aye.

4 Those opposed say nay.

5 It is carried.

6 The clerk will please read the title
7 of the resolution introduced by Councilman Nutter.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
9 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
10 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
11 of the City of Philadelphia deeds for properties
12 situated in the 34th Ward of the City of
13 Philadelphia.

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

16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Mr. President, I
17 move the adoption of the resolution.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
20 favor let it be known by saying aye.

21 Those opposed say nay.

22 The ayes have it. The resolution is
23 adopted.

24 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
25 Fernandez.

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN FERNANDEZ: Mr.

3 President, I have one resolution for introduction
4 today.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The clerk
6 will please read the title of the resolution.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
8 commending and honoring Jerome J. Shestack, Esquire,
9 and his outstanding achievements as Philadelphia
10 lawyer, and for the distinction of being elected
11 President of the American Bar Association.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
13 recognizes Councilwoman Fernandez.

14 COUNCILWOMAN FERNANDEZ: Mr.
15 President, I move the adoption of the resolution.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
18 favor let it be known by saying aye.

19 Those opposed say nay.

20 The resolution is adopted.

21 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
22 Tasco.

23 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Mr. President, I
24 have no bills or resolutions today.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 thanks the Councilwoman.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Ortiz.

5 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. President, I
6 have one resolution.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The clerk
8 will please read the title of the resolution.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
10 calling upon the Mayor to develop and submit to this
11 Council, no later than the date he introduced the
12 Fiscal Year 1999 budget, a crash program to
13 eradicate juvenile homicide and sharply reduce all
14 other homicides in the city.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
16 recognizes Councilman Ortiz.

17 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. President, I
18 move the adoption of the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
21 favor let it be known by saying aye.

22 Those opposed say nay.

23 The resolution is adopted.

24 The Chair recognizes Councilman
25 DiCicco.

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you, Mr.
3 President. I offer four bills.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The clerk
5 will please read the titles of the bills.

6 (Chief Clerk read the titles of the
7 bills. See Journal of Council.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: These
9 bills will be referred to the appropriate
10 committee.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Mariano.

13 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Mr. President, I
14 have one resolution, and I would like to speak on
15 it.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The clerk
17 will please read the title of the Mariano
18 resolution.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
20 authorizing the Council's Committee on Public Safety
21 to conduct hearings on the status of the city's
22 program for the seizure and impoundment of
23 unregistered vehicles and vehicles driven by
24 unlicensed drivers.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

3 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Mr. President, I
4 would first like to start by reading a letter that a
5 constituent sent me on this matter.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET:
7 Councilman, I need you to move for the adoption.

8 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I'm sorry. I
9 move for the adoption of this resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
12 recognizes Councilman Mariano for remarks.

13 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I'm sorry, Mr.
14 President.

15 "Councilman Mariano: I received in
16 the mail today an auto insurance rate quote from AIG
17 Auto Insurance. I am presently insured with
18 Allstate for two very used 1985 automobiles.

19 "I have close to the bear minimum of
20 liability coverage on these vehicles, at a cost of
21 roughly \$1,850 a year.

22 "When I sent for the rates from AIG,
23 I added my 18-year-old son, who has been attending
24 Temple University in fall, thinking he can get his
25 driver's license and occasionally drive back and

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 forth to school.

3 "I was shocked to see the quote for
4 \$2,507 for six months. That's over \$5,000 a year
5 for basic liability with limited tort and without
6 having a claim or an accident in over 15 years.

7 "I thought there must be a mistake.
8 But after checking with my company, Allstate, and
9 other insurance companies, it pretty much came out
10 the same.

11 "This is outrageous. \$5,000 a year
12 would almost pay for a year's tuition at Temple.

13 "When is someone in the city or the
14 state going to get the guts to finally address and
15 resolve this problem?

16 "Also what greatly disturbs me is
17 the enormous amount of people driving without
18 insurance, and nothing substantial is being done to
19 control it.

20 "If I could afford these outrageous
21 rates, which I can't, and one of the many uninsured
22 motorists runs into me, causing extensive damages, I
23 would incur all the loss after paying these
24 ridiculous premiums for my basic liability only.
25 This makes me very angry, and is just not fair.

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 "Two of my brothers have experienced
3 this very problem, having to absorb the costs to
4 repairs after their vehicles were hit by uninsured
5 motorists because my brothers only had the basic
6 liability that they could afford.

7 "In conclusion, I will not be able
8 to pay the insurance premiums, and my son will not
9 be able to drive. And I will grow angrier as I see
10 people his age driving around the city with beat-up
11 cars and stolen or temporary tags, knowing they have
12 no insurance and nothing is being done.

13 "I guess it doesn't pay to do things
14 the right way and obey the law.

15 "Respectfully," and I will hold the
16 guy's name.

17 Like the writer of this letter, every
18 law-abiding resident who pays for auto insurance
19 wants to know why there are thousands of people
20 driving around without licenses, without
21 registrations, or any of the documents of financial
22 responsibility.

23 Also, like the writer of this letter,
24 people who are paying through their noses for
25 insurance are disgusted with all the scofflaws in

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 the city, as well they should be.

3 Every day I hear horror stories from
4 people who had accidents with scofflaws or
5 irresponsible people driving without insurance.

6 People aren't stupid. They know the
7 city has the power to impound these cars for over a
8 year now, and nothing is being done.

9 People have the right to know why
10 scofflaw cars are not being booted, towed, and
11 impounded.

12 Some people may tell me they are
13 driving without insurance simply because they can't
14 afford it. I understand these arguments, and I
15 sympathize with them, but the status quo cannot
16 continue.

17 I estimate between 100 and 200
18 thousand cars are now ready to be impounded over the
19 next couple of years in the City of Philadelphia if
20 we enforce this law.

21 If we have to impound and sell
22 200,000 cars to get insurance rates down, so people
23 can afford to purchase insurance and do the right
24 thing, then let's do it.

25 I am going on record today on behalf

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 of the people in the city who pay their taxes, pay
3 their insurance, and obey the law.

4 The disgust and anger of citizens
5 caused by those who scoff at the law is one of the
6 biggest reasons why we are losing people to New
7 Jersey and the suburbs.

8 It is not even right to say we are
9 losing them. The truth is, we are forcing these
10 people out of the city because we don't enforce
11 these laws.

12 People who ignore the laws do so
13 because it doesn't cost them anything and they have
14 nothing to lose. They should at least lose their
15 car.

16 I am not saying this because I am
17 against poor people; I am not. The climate of this
18 lawlessness is what's giving the insurance company
19 an excuse to keep Philadelphia insurance rates among
20 the highest in the country.

21 These impoundment laws have to be
22 enforced if we are ever going to get insurance
23 companies to lower their rates.

24 In addition to the angst this problem
25 causes for the people who obey the law and pay their

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 bills, there is an additional way the city suffers
3 for these illegal cars. This has to do with drug
4 dealers, guns, and drugs.

5 It is a known fact within the
6 Philadelphia Police Department, and mainly in the
7 East Police District that we talked about yesterday,
8 that people routinely hide drugs and guns in these
9 cars.

10 And the police patrolmen are telling
11 me every time I am out there, Mr. President, if we
12 start impounding these cars, it will make the
13 streets safer for them and our citizens.

14 The sooner we hold these hearings,
15 the safer it will be for people to walk the streets
16 of Philadelphia. We have to lead to some action on
17 this issue.

18 Mr. President, I am asking that we
19 get this to the Committee on Public Safety and we
20 get this scheduled real fast, so we can find out
21 what's going on here, so the people in the city can
22 feel safe.

23 Not about paying car insurance rates,
24 because that's important. But more important to me
25 are these guns and drugs that are hidden in cars.

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 Thank you, Mr. President.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Thank you
4 very much.

5 All in favor let it be known by
6 saying aye.

7 Those opposed say nay.

8 The resolution is adopted.

9 The clerk will please read the title
10 of the fourth bill introduced by Councilman
11 DiCicco.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: It is a resolution,
13 Mr. President.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: A
15 resolution.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
17 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
18 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
19 of the City of Philadelphia deeds for properties
20 situated in the 5th and the 18th wards of the City
21 of Philadelphia.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
23 recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I move for the
25 adoption of the resolution.

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
4 favor let it be known by saying aye.

5 Those opposed say nay.

6 The resolution is adopted.

7 The Chair recognizes Councilman
8 Longstreth.

9 The Councilman has no bills or
10 resolutions for introduction today.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Rizzo.

13 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: No bills or
14 resolutions, Mr. President.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
16 thanks the Councilman.

17 At this time the clerk will please
18 read the title of the --

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Mr. President, I
20 am sorry. I do have one resolution that I would
21 like to introduce.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
23 recognizes Councilwoman Verna.

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
3 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
4 of the City of Philadelphia, without consideration,
5 deeds for properties situated in the 30th, 36th, and
6 40th wards in the City of Philadelphia.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
8 recognizes Councilwoman Verna.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I move the
10 adoption of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
13 favor let it be known by saying aye.

14 Those opposed say nay.

15 The resolution is adopted.

16 The clerk will please read the title
17 of the first resolution introduced by Councilwoman
18 Clark.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
20 honoring William H. Gray, III.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
22 recognizes Councilwoman Clark.

23 COUNCILWOMAN CLARK: I move the
24 adoption of the resolution.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
3 favor let it be known by saying aye.

4 Those opposed say nay.

5 The resolution is adopted.

6 The clerk will please read the title
7 of the second resolution introduced by Councilwoman
8 Clark.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
10 honoring Rosemarie B. Grecco.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
12 recognizes Councilwoman Clark.

13 COUNCILWOMAN CLARK: I move the
14 adoption of the resolution.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
17 favor let it be known by saying aye.

18 Those opposed say nay.

19 The resolution is adopted.

20 The clerk will please read the title
21 of the resolution introduced by Councilwoman
22 Blackwell.

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

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 of the City of Philadelphia deeds for properties
3 situated in the 6th, 51st, and 60th wards in the
4 City of Philadelphia.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
6 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Mr.
8 President, I move the adoption.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
11 favor let it be known by saying aye.

12 Those opposed say nay.

13 The resolution is adopted.

14 The clerk will please read the title
15 of the resolution introduced by Councilman Kenney.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution urging
17 the United States Senate and House Of
18 Representatives to pass Senate Bill 803, known as
19 the United States Cruise Tourism Act of 1997.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
21 recognizes Councilman Kenney.

22 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Move the
23 adoption.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in

1 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS & RESOLUTIONS

2 favor let it be known by saying aye.

3 Those opposed say nay.

4 The resolution is adopted.

5 The clerk will please read the title
6 of the first resolution introduced by Councilwoman
7 Miller.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
9 honoring and recognizing the James Memorial United
10 Methodist Church on the occasion of their 125th
11 Anniversary.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Chair
13 recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you, Mr.
15 President.

16 I move for the adoption of the
17 resolution.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
20 favor let it be known by saying aye.

21 Those opposed say nay.

22 The resolution is adopted.

23 The clerk will please read the title
24 of the second resolution introduced by Councilwoman
25 Miller.

1 RECONSIDERATION OF BILL NO. 970234

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
3 honoring Mark Hughes, the Founder and President of
4 the Herbal Life International, and recognizing Good
5 Nutrition Awareness Day on November 2, 1997.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
7 recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

8 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you, Mr.
9 President.

10 I move for the adoption of the
11 resolution.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
14 favor let it be known by saying aye.

15 Those opposed say nay.

16 The resolution is adopted.

17 Council will now proceed to the
18 reconsideration of Bill No. 970234 under the special
19 order of business.

20 If you will recall, on June 19, 1997,
21 Council passed Bill No. 970234.

22 At last week's session the Mayor
23 returned the bill, together with his veto message.

24 At this time I ask that the Chief
25 Clerk again read the veto message from the Mayor.

1 RECONSIDERATION OF BILL NO. 970234

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: "September 11,
3 1997. To the President and Members of the Council
4 of the City of Philadelphia:

5 "I am returning herewith as
6 disapproved Bill No. 970234, which was passed by
7 Council at its session on June 19, 1997.

8 "The bill would change the zoning of
9 the city block bounded by Delancy, Panama, 25th, and
10 26th Street from RC-3 residential to RC-10
11 residential.

12 "The effect of the zoning change
13 would be to impose a building height restriction of
14 35 feet on the property.

15 "Let me explain why I am compelled
16 to veto the bill.

17 "First, I have been advised by the
18 City Solicitor that the bill, if enacted into law,
19 will have no practical impact on the current
20 development plans for the property.

21 "The property owner applied for the
22 Zoning and Use Permit for the property on May 21,
23 1997. On May 28, 1997, before the bill was reported
24 out of the City Council Committee, the Department of
25 Licenses & Inspections granted the permit

1 RECONSIDERATION OF BILL NO. 970234

2 over-the-counter because the proposed development
3 plan was consistent with the current RC-3 area
4 zoning.

5 "The City Solicitor has advised me
6 that because the application for a Zoning and Use
7 Permit was filed before the bill was reported out of
8 the Committee, the pending ordinance doctrine would
9 not apply.

10 "Therefore, the permit is valid
11 until the then-existing zoning and the development
12 may proceed, whether or not the bill becomes law.

13 "Second, I believe that it is simply
14 bad public policy for this legislative body to
15 attempt to pass an ordinance singling out a specific
16 property for zoning change in an area that is
17 uniformly classified just when the property is about
18 to be developed in a manner consistent with the
19 previously enacted areawide zoning classification.

20 "To allow this practice would
21 severely inhibit economic development initiatives
22 throughout the City of Philadelphia.

23 "Property owners and developers
24 would be able to rely on previously enacted areawide
25 zoning classifications in making their planning

1 RECONSIDERATION OF BILL NO. 970234

2 decisions.

3 "For all these reasons, I must
4 disapprove Bill No. 970234.

5 "Respectfully submitted, Edward G.
6 Rendell."

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The Chair
8 recognizes Councilwoman Verna.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Mr. President, I
10 move that the Council reconsider Bill 970234.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Is there a
12 second?

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Which was
15 approved by Council on June 19.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
17 favor let it be known by saying aye.

18 Those opposed say nay.

19 The motion carries.

20 Council will now reconsider the vote
21 by which Bill 970234 was taken.

22 The Chief Clerk will read the title
23 of the bill.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
25 amend the Philadelphia zoning maps by changing the

1 RECONSIDERATION OF BILL NO. 970234

2 zoning designation of certain areas of land located
3 within the block bounded by Delancy Street, 25th
4 Street, Panama Street, and 26th Street.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: This bill,
6 having been read on two different days, was duly
7 approved by City Council on June 19, 1997, and
8 returned to Council by the Mayor on September 11,
9 1997, as disapproved.

10 The question is shall Bill No. 970234
11 pass, notwithstanding the Mayor's disapproval.

12 The clerk will call the roll.

13 (The Chief Clerk called the roll.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: The ayes
15 are 16, the nays are zero.

16 A two-thirds majority of all members
17 of Council having voted in the affirmative, the
18 Mayor's veto is overridden.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
20 Verna.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Mr. President,
22 it is my understanding that some of my constituents
23 and area residents are here in the room, and I would
24 ask them to please stand.

25 And on their behalf and on behalf of

1 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/CONSIDERATION OF CALENDARS

2 the more than 400 people that signed petitions in
3 favor of this ordinance, I would like to thank my
4 colleagues for their vote.

5 (Constituents rise to applause.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Thank you
7 very much.

8 The next order of business are
9 reports from committees.

10 There are no reports from
11 committees.

12 We will then proceed to the
13 consideration of the calendars.

14 The Chief Clerk will read the bills
15 on the first reading calendar.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: There are no bills
17 on first reading calendar, Mr. President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Council
19 will now consider bills on the second and final
20 reading passage calendar.

21 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
22 Verna.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Mr. President,
24 there are no bills on the second reading and final
25 passage calendar being called for consideration.

1 SPEECHES/MOTION TO ADJOURN

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: Thank you
3 very much.

4 Are there any speeches on the part of
5 members of the minority?

6 Are there any speeches on the part of
7 members of the majority?

8 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
9 Verna.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Mr. President, I
11 move that Council stand adjourned until Thursday,
12 September 25, 1997, at 10:00 a.m.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT STREET: All in
15 favor let it be known by saying aye.

16 Those opposed say nay.

17 It is carried.

18 Council stands adjourned until
19 Thursday, September 25, 1997, at 10 o'clock a.m.

20 Please remember to be at the Mayor's
21 Office by noon.

22 (Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.)

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of Thursday September 18 1997, were
reported fully and accurately by me, and that this
is a correct transcript of same.

RE: STATED MEETING

DEBRA A. WHITEHEAD, RPR