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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Tuesday, April 25, 2006
10:25 a.m.

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PRESENT:

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COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL, CHAIR

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COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE

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COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO

13

COUNCILMAN JACK KELLY

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COUNCILMAN JUAN RAMOS

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BILLS 051105, 060108, 060109, 060185 and
060181

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V A R A L L O Incorporated
Litigation Support Services
Eleven Penn Center
1835 Market Street, Suite 600
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
215.561.2220 215.567.2670

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COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Good

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morning. Thank you all for your

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patience. Thank you, everyone. The

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Committee on Finance is now in session.

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The Chair notes we have a

7

quorum. We have Councilwoman Blondell

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Reynolds Brown, Councilman Frank Rizzo,

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Councilman Frank DiCicco, Councilman

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Darrell Clarke, Councilman Jack Kelly.

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Thank you all for being here.

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Let me note for anyone who is

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here, and I don't see anyone here, with

14

regard to Bill Nos. 060108 and 060109

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dealing with the Water Department's

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Biosolids Recycling Center, these bills

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are not being called up today. They will

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be held, subject to the call of the

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Chair. I'm sure none of you are here for

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the Water Department issues, but Bill

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Nos. 060108 and 109 will be held. So

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anything in that regard will not be held

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today, and that will be recessed, those

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two bills, subject to the call of the

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Chair and agreed to by the President, in

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 whose district the area is.

3 Clerk, please read the title of
4 Bill 051105, Councilman Clarke's bill.

5 THE CLERK: Bill 051105, an
6 ordinance authorizing the Philadelphia
7 Authority for Industrial Development to
8 file an application with the Office of
9 the Budget, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
10 under the Redevelopment Assistance
11 Capital Program, in an amount not to
12 exceed \$500,000 to assist in the
13 development of Moore College of Art and
14 Design; and authorizing the City to enter
15 into an agreement with PAID in
16 furtherance of grant requirements; all
17 under certain terms and conditions.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Would
19 you also read the second bill that also
20 deals with PIDC. That is Bill No.
21 060185.

22 THE CLERK: Bill 060185, an
23 ordinance removing a portion of the
24 property known generally as the Byberry
25 State Hospital from the Philadelphia

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 Keystone Opportunity Zone, subject to the
3 request and consent of the owners of said
4 property, under certain terms and
5 conditions.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
7 you very much.

8 The Chair recognizes Mr. Paul
9 Deegan of PIDC and Krista Williams, PIDC.
10 We'll ask that you identify yourself for
11 the record, unless someone on the
12 Committee has a statement to make first.
13 If not, we'll ask you to identify
14 yourself for the record and begin your
15 testimony.

16 MR. DEEGAN: I think we'll do
17 the Redevelopment Assistance bill first,
18 the Moore College bill first.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: That
20 will be fine.

21 MR. DEEGAN: My name is Paul
22 Deegan, D-E-E-G-A-N, and I represent the
23 Philadelphia Industrial Development
24 Corporation and the Philadelphia
25 Authority for Industrial Development. I

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.
2 would like to introduce my colleague,
3 Krista Williams.

4 MS. WILLIAMS: As Paul said,
5 I'm Krista Williams with PIDC.

6 May I start my testimony?

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL:
8 Please.

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Good morning,
10 Chairwoman Blackwell and members of the
11 Finance Committee. My name is Krista
12 Williams and I'm here today to testify on
13 behalf of the Philadelphia Industrial
14 Development Corporation, PIDC, and the
15 Philadelphia Authority for Industrial
16 Development, PAID, in support of Bill No.
17 051105.

18 This bill authorizes PAID to
19 apply for a Redevelopment Assistance
20 Grant from the Commonwealth of
21 Pennsylvania in the amount of \$500,000
22 for renovations to the Moore College of
23 Art facilities in Center City
24 Philadelphia.

25 Moore College intends to

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 renovate their facility to provide
3 expanded and upgraded space for
4 educational programs, exhibits,
5 conferences and special events at a total
6 project cost of \$6 million.

7 Redevelopment Assistance

8 Capital Grants are funded by the State's
9 Capital Budget and sponsored by the local
10 State legislator. The recipients of the
11 grants are typically non-profit
12 organizations, such as colleges, museums,
13 hospitals and social service providers.
14 The State provides the funding through
15 each county's industrial development
16 authority. In this case, it's PAID. The
17 recipient of the grant must at least
18 match the grant amount with funding from
19 non-State sources.

20 After the legislature approves
21 the Capital Budget, the Governor, through
22 the Office of the Budget, authorizes PAID
23 to submit applications on behalf of the
24 recipients.

25 I request that the Committee

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.
2 report this bill out with a favorable
3 recommendation at the next regularly
4 scheduled meeting of Council.

5 Thank you for the opportunity
6 to testify today. I will be happy to
7 answer any questions you may have about
8 this bill.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
10 you very much.

11 Councilman Clarke.

12 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
13 Councilwoman.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL:
15 Certainly.

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Real
17 briefly, I'm just going to ask this
18 question. Do we have any other
19 Redevelopment Assistance Grants coming
20 down the pipeline? I know there were
21 several announcements. One was actually
22 in my district for Progress Plaza. Has
23 that already been authorized or is
24 this --

25 MS. WILLIAMS: It has been

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 authorized, and we actually had our
3 introductory meeting yesterday. So that
4 is in the works for Progress Plaza.

5 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: In terms of
6 the disposition of these dollars from
7 PIDC to the grantee, what's that process?

8 MS. WILLIAMS: It's a
9 reimbursement program. And while the
10 State or Governor authorizes the funds,
11 the recipient is still required to go
12 through an application process. PAID
13 provides technical assistance on that
14 process. We act as the actual grantee,
15 and then the client is the subgrantee.

16 So we work with the client to
17 gather all the material so that we can
18 assemble the application, submit it to
19 the Office of the Budget for review.
20 Once the Office of the Budget deems our
21 requirements satisfied, then they
22 authorize the client to begin drawing
23 funds.

24 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: From the
25 State?

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 MS. WILLIAMS: From the State.

3 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Directly
4 from the State.

5 MS. WILLIAMS: But it all goes
6 through us.

7 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Through
8 PIDC?

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

10 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Okay.
11 Thank you.

12 MS. WILLIAMS: You're welcome.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
14 you very much.

15 Are there any other questions
16 or statements with regard to either of
17 these bills?

18 MR. DEEGAN: On the other bill,
19 this bill removes 80 acres of the Byberry
20 Hospital site from the KOZ. We intend to
21 develop this residentially. The City
22 originally put it in the KOZ because we
23 thought it would be a light industrial or
24 office use, but with the booming
25 residential market, thanks to the

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 ten-year tax abatement, it looks like a
3 very good site for new residential
4 construction.

5 We purchased the property from
6 the Commonwealth in 2004. We have a
7 development team of Westrum and
8 Brandywine selected, and it's going to be
9 a mixed-use development, 50 acres of
10 office on Roosevelt Boulevard and 80
11 acres of residential. So we ask that the
12 residential development be removed from
13 the K0Z. It's always been City policy
14 not to do residential in K0Z.

15 We ask that the rules of
16 Council be suspended to permit first
17 reading at the next session of Council.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
19 you very much.

20 Any other questions?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
23 you.

24 The Clerk then will read the
25 title of Bill 060181.

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 THE CLERK: Bill 060181, an
3 ordinance amending Section 19-203 of The
4 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Payroll
5 Deductions," by adding a new subsection
6 permitting City employees who are
7 bargaining unit members of Fraternal
8 Order of Police, Philadelphia Lodge 5, to
9 authorize payroll deductions for
10 contributions to COPPAC, all under
11 certain terms and conditions.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
13 you very much.

14 The Chair invites Bob Eddis,
15 President of FOP, Lodge No. 5; Eugene
16 Blagmond, Press and Public Relations,
17 FOP, Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No.
18 5, and all of our other guests, all who
19 are here. Just identify yourself to the
20 record and begin your testimony. Thank
21 you for being here and your patience.

22 MR. EDDIS: Good morning,
23 Councilwoman.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Good
25 morning.

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 MR. EDDIS: Good morning,
3 members of Council. We come in front of
4 you today requesting your support in an
5 area that we feel is significant. We
6 feel that we as police officers need to
7 have a voice within the community, and we
8 feel we should be entitled to the same
9 right as every other citizen.

10 It's our hope that you will
11 take this under consideration and give us
12 the opportunity to enter into the process
13 that's so important around us by enabling
14 us to have a PAC fund so our members can
15 take an active role.

16 We feel that we, like we said,
17 are a significant part of the community
18 and we want to have impact on what the
19 future of Philadelphia holds.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: We
21 absolutely love you. So that goes
22 without saying.

23 MR. BLAGMOND: Gene Blagmond,
24 Director of Public and Press Relations
25 for the FOP.

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 If you have any questions, I'll
3 answer them.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
5 you.

6 Are there any other statements
7 or questions from members of the
8 Committee?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: The
11 Chair notes that Councilman Juan Ramos, a
12 member of this Committee, is also here.

13 Did I not introduce anyone?
14 Thanks. I think I already mentioned that
15 Frank DiCicco is here. He was here
16 earlier.

17 All right. Thank you very
18 much.

19 Any other questions,
20 statements?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: That
23 will end our hearing. We will enter a
24 stated meeting.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 DiCicco. Would you give me a motion for
3 Bill No. 060185, with a suspension on all
4 three bills, gentlemen.

5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
6 Madam Chair. I move that Bill No. 060185
7 be reported out of this Committee with a
8 favorable recommendation and a further
9 recommendation that the rules of Council
10 be suspended.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: It has
13 been moved and seconded that Bill No.
14 060185 be reported out of Committee with
15 a favorable recommendation and,
16 furthermore, that the rules be suspended
17 so as to permit first consideration at
18 our next session of Council.

19 All in favor will say aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL:

22 Opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: The
25 ayes have it and so the bill is reported

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.
2 out.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Ramos with regard to Bill No. 051105,
5 with a suspension of the rules.

6 COUNCILMAN RAMOS: I move that
7 Bill No. 051105 be reported out of
8 Committee with a favorable recommendation
9 and further move that the rules of
10 Council be suspended to permit first
11 reading at our next Council session.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: It has
14 been moved and seconded that Bill No.
15 051105 be reported out of Committee with
16 a favorable recommendation and,
17 furthermore, that the rules be suspended
18 so as to permit first reading at our next
19 session of Council.

20 All in favor will say aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL:

23 Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: The

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 ayes have it and so the bill passes and
3 is reported out.

4 The Chair recognizes Councilman
5 Rizzo with regard to Bill No. 060181.

6 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam Chair,
7 Bill No. 060181 I would like to come from
8 this Committee with a favorable
9 recommendation and suspend the rules,
10 please.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
13 you. It has been moved and seconded that
14 Bill No. 060181 be reported out of
15 Committee with a favorable recommendation
16 and, furthermore, that the rules of
17 Council be suspended to permit
18 consideration at our next session.

19 All in favor will say aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: The
22 ayes have it. Those three bills are
23 reported out, we're happy to say. And,
24 again, the last two bills dealing with
25 Biosolids will be held, subject to the

1 4/25/06 - FINANCE - BILL 051105, ETC.

2 call of the Chair.

3 This ends our Committee

4 hearing. We say thank you all, and we're

5 happy to turn this over to Councilman

6 Darrell Clarke for Public Property.

7 Thank you all.

8 (Committee on Finance adjourned

9 at 10:35 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the

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proceedings, evidence and objections are

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contained fully and accurately in the

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stenographic notes taken by me upon the

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foregoing matter on April 25, 2006, and that

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this is a true and correct transcript of same.

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MICHELE L. MURPHY

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RPR-Notary Public

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