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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETING

4

BEFORE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON RULES

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Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Tuesday, January 26, 1999
9:11 a.m.

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10 BILL NO. 990002 - An ordinance declaring it
11 desirable for the health, safety, and welfare of the
12 people in the area served by Chestnut Hill College,
13 a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of
14 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which operates
15 facilities located at 96901 Germantown Avenue in
16 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for the Hospitals and
17 Higher Education Facilities Authority of
18 Philadelphia to undertake a project for Chestnut
19 Hill College and approving the buildings and
20 facilities included in such project.

16

17 PRESENT: COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA, Chair
18 COUNCILWOMAN AUGUSTA A. CLARK
19 COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN
20 COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED-MILLER
21 COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY
22 COUNCILMAN FRANK DICICCO
23 COUNCILMAN W. THACHER LONGSTRETH

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6 Philadelphia Hospitals and Higher Education
7 Facilities Authority

8 Beth Kroger 7
9 Vice President of Fiscal Affairs,
10 Chestnut Hill College

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12 Philadelphia Hospitals and Higher Education
13 Facilities Authority

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

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good

4 morning, everyone. This is the public hearing
5 of the Rules Committee.

6 The clerk will please read the title
7 of Bill No. 990002.

8 MS. MURRAY: Bill No. 990002, an
9 ordinance declaring it desirable for the
10 health, safety, and welfare of the people in
11 the area served by Chestnut Hill College, a
12 nonprofit corporation organized under the laws
13 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which
14 operates facilities located at 96901 Germantown
15 Avenue, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for the
16 Hospitals and Higher Education Facilities
17 Authority of Philadelphia to undertake a
18 project for Chestnut Hill College and approving
19 the buildings and facilities included in such
20 project.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

22 Good morning. Please identify
23 yourself for the record and proceed with your
24 testimony.

25 MR. CRAMP: Thank you, thank you. My

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2 name is Donald Cramp. I'm the Chief Executive
3 Officer of the Philadelphia Hospitals and
4 Higher Education Facilities Authority. May I,
5 on behalf of the Hospitals and Higher Education
6 Facilities Authority of Philadelphia, offer our
7 warmest congratulations to a person who's been
8 extremely supportive of the Authority for many
9 years.

10 If I may tell a quick short story,
11 recently, I had the opportunity to go to the
12 Temple Children's Medical Center, and I walked
13 through that beautiful facility and saw the
14 people there that are serving in this wonderful
15 setting. And a few years ago, we were before
16 this committee, and a question was asked about
17 the zoning for a bridge, and that financing
18 almost was put on hold until the Councilwoman
19 at that time Verna left, went to her office
20 after being excused and came back in about ten
21 minutes with all the documents that illustrated
22 that indeed, it had gone through zoning, and
23 then the proceedings went ahead. And I saw
24 that bridge that ties those two hospitals
25 together in the last month.

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2 And that was one of the many times
3 you've supported us, and we thank you.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

5 MR. CRAMP: And we thank you.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you,
7 thank you.

8 MR. CRAMP: May I add another word,
9 if I may: my thanks to Councilman Kenney, who,
10 for many years, has served in the capacity of
11 hearing our testimony. And I would like to, if
12 I may, say that we deeply appreciate those
13 years.

14 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you.

15 MR. CRAMP: To be short, if I may,
16 Madam Chairperson, my name is Donald Cramp. I
17 serve as Chief Executive Officer of the
18 Hospitals and Higher Education Facilities
19 Authority of Philadelphia. I wish to make a
20 brief and usual and customary brief
21 introductory statement in support of the
22 proposed bill before you this morning.

23 On December 8, 1998, a representative
24 from Chestnut Hill College attended the
25 Hospitals and Higher Education Facilities

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2 Authority of Philadelphia of Philadelphia board
3 of directors meeting seeking the Authority's
4 assistance in a financing. The Chestnut Hill
5 College application was accepted with pleasure,
6 as this is our first higher education financing
7 for the Authority. A Tax Equity and Fiscal
8 Responsibilities Act, the so-called TEFRA
9 hearing, on behalf of Chestnut Hill College was
10 held successfully and without conflict on
11 January 22, 1999 in our boardroom in accordance
12 with the published newspaper advertisements.

13 Today, we have the privilege of
14 assisting Chestnut Hill College, a
15 distinguished institution and the many people
16 associated with this outstanding college. May
17 I again express our appreciation to each member
18 of the Rules Committee on the Council on behalf
19 of the board and the Authority for scheduling
20 of this meeting.

21 If there are no questions of me, I
22 would like to introduce Miss Beth Kroger, who
23 is Vice President of Fiscal Affairs for
24 Chestnut Hill College, new to our community.
25 And in recent months, we have become very

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2 familiar with her excellent grace and
3 competence. Miss Beth Kroger.

4 MS. KROGER: Good morning.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good
6 morning.

7 MS. KROGER: I also would like to
8 thank you for allowing us to come before you.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I'm sorry,
10 would you pull the microphone closer to you so
11 we can hear you. Thank you.

12 MS. KROGER: Is this better?

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Yes, thank
14 you.

15 MS. KROGER: Okay. I would also like
16 to thank you for allowing us to come before the
17 Rules Committee so quickly and certainly
18 appreciate your efforts to get our ordinance
19 introduced so quickly to the Council and would
20 like to appreciate the Authority for their
21 willingness to work with us so quickly and
22 efficiently.

23 Chestnut Hill College is located in
24 the northwest corner of Philadelphia. It has
25 about 1500 students. And the project that will

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2 be funded from this bond issue is to construct
3 a multipurpose building. The building will
4 house, on the first two floors, a combination
5 gymnasium and convocation center. And on the
6 top two floors, academic space for technology.
7 The remaining proceeds will be used for
8 building renovations and restorations,
9 including the roofs and our boiler plant.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

11 Are there any questions from members
12 of the committee?

13 (No questions.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Is there
15 anyone else to testify on this bill?

16 MR. CRAMP: Thank you, yes.

17 MR. MCGREAL: Madame Chairman, my
18 name is Austin McGreal. I'm general counsel to
19 the Authority. And if the Rules Committee in
20 their deliberations rules favorably, I would
21 appreciate it if you would suspend the rules.

22 Thank you very much for your
23 kindness.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman

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2 Miller.

3 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you,

4 Madame Chair.

5 As the district Councilperson,

6 Chestnut Hill College is in the 8th

7 Councilmatic District, and I just want to state

8 for the record that I also support the bill,

9 having heard no opposition. Thank you.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

11 Councilman Longstreth, I think you

12 would like to echo that?

13 COUNCILMAN LONGSTRETH: I echo the

14 sentiments expressed by Councilwoman Miller.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.

16 Are there any other questions or

17 comments from members of the committee?

18 (No questions.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Hearing

20 none, this concludes our public hearing of Bill

21 990002.

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23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: We will now

24 go into our public meeting.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

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2 Kenney.

3 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Madame Chair, I
4 move that Bill No. 990002 be reported out of
5 this committee favorably; and additionally,
6 that a request be made for rules suspension to
7 allow for first reading at our next Council
8 session.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It's been
11 properly moved and seconded that Bill No.
12 990002 be reported out of committee with a
13 favorable recommendation and also a
14 recommendation that the rules of Council be
15 suspended so as to permit first reading at our
16 next session of Council.

17 All in favor will signify by saying
18 aye.

19 Those opposed? The ayes have it, the
20 motion is carried.

21 Thank you all very much.

22 MR. CRAMP: We're most grateful,
23 thank you.

24 MS. KROGER: Thank you.

25 (Adjourned at 9:19 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of Tuesday, January 26, 1999, were
reported fully and accurately by me, and that this
is a correct transcript of same.

RE: COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON RULES

BILL NO. 990002

_____,
JOSEPHINE CARDILLO,
Registered Professional Reporter