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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

STATED MEETING

- - -

Room 696, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, April 10, 2003
10:30 a.m.

- - -

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA

COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL
COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN
COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN
COUNCILMAN FRANK J. DI CICCO
COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.
COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY
COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI
COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO
COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER
COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ
COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO
COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO

PATRICIA RAFFERTY, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

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Eleven Penn Center
1835 Market Street, Suite 600
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
(215) 561-2220

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Good morning. I
3 note that the hour has come and that quorum of this
4 Council is present. Council will please come to
5 order. Members will take their seats.

6 To give our invocation this morning, the
7 Chair welcomes the Reverend Audrey Blackwell
8 Washington, Pastor of the Word of Life Christian
9 Assembly. The Reverend Washington is here today as
10 the guest of Councilwoman Brown.

11 Members and guests will please rise.

12 REV. WASHINGTON: Oh wise and
13 everlasting Father, Lord, as we stand in this great
14 chamber of legislation, Lord, we pray your blessings
15 today. Lord, we pray as the elected officials make
16 decisions in this Chamber, God, for the citizens of
17 Philadelphia, we pray for harmony and peace to
18 prevail. And, Lord, because the government is upon
19 your shoulder, we not only pay for the City of
20 Philadelphia, but we pray for the entire world that
21 those who are in authority will make the right
22 decisions concerning your children. So, Lord, we
23 thank you in advance for what you're going to do.
24 We thank you for what you have done. And we thank
25 you for what you're doing right now. These

1 04/10/03 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 blessings we ask in the name of the Father, Son, and
3 Holy Spirit. Amen.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
5 Rev. Washington for her very inspiring invocation.

6 Council will be at ease.

7 (Council at ease.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The next order of
9 business is the approval of the Journal of the
10 meeting of Thursday, April 3, 2003, and the Chair
11 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
13 Madam President. I move that the Journal of the
14 meeting of Thursday, April 3, 2003, stand approves.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
17 and properly seconded that the Journal of the
18 meeting of Thursday April 3, 2003, stand approved.

19 All in favor will indicate by saying
20 aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,
25 and the Journal of the meeting of Thursday April 3,

1 04/10/03 - STATED - LEAVES OF ABSENCE

2 2003, has been approved.

3 The next order of business is requests
4 for leaves of absence, and the Chair again
5 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
7 Madam President. This morning, there are no
8 requests for leaves of absence on the part of the
9 Majority.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
11 the Councilwoman.

12 The Chair recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

13 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam President, the
14 Republicans ask for a leave of absence for
15 Councilman O'Neill and Longstreth.

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Leave will be
17 granted. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

18 The Chair will dispense with the regular
19 order of business to recognize the guests and
20 visitors joining us in Chambers this morning. On
21 behalf of all Members of City Council, I welcome you
22 to our Council Session today. We appreciate your
23 taking the time to join us as we attend to the
24 legislative affairs of our City.

25 Today, we are pleased to welcome a very

1 04/10/03 - STATED - WELCOME

2 distinguished group of visitors from Uganda. They
3 are here under the auspices of the State Department
4 and are studying American Democracy and local
5 government. They have certainly come to the right
6 place. These gentlemen include the Mayor, who I
7 understand is celebrating a birthday today.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chairman of a
10 local city council, if he will stand.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: And a Chief
13 District Administrator.

14 (Applause.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: We are happy to
16 welcome our visitors who are accompanied by our dear
17 friend Ms. Nancy Gilboy of the International
18 Visitors Council.

19 Will the group stand once again so that
20 we can recognize in a very proper way.

21 (Applause.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Welcome. We're
23 delighted to have you. Thank you.

24 The next order of business is
25 communications. The Chair recognizes the

1 04/10/03 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Sergeant-at-Arms for the purpose of delivering the
3 purposes from the Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

4 The Clerk will please read the messages
5 from the Mayor.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
7 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
8 I am pleased to advise you that on April 7, 2003, I
9 was signed the following bill that was passed by
10 Council at its Session on March 27, 2003: Bill No.
11 030096.

12 And I wish to advice you that I signed
13 the remaining bills that were passed by its Council
14 Session on March 27, 2000, except 020647.

15 And I am transmitting herewith for the
16 consideration of your Honorable Body a resolution
17 agreeing to participate in Progress Plaza Tax
18 Increments Financing District.

19 And an ordinance creating the Progress
20 Plaza Tax Increments Financing District being the
21 area generally bounded by Broad Street on the west,
22 Oxford Street on the north, 13th Street on the east,
23 and Jefferson Street on the south.

24 And I am returning herewith Bill No.
25 030114. Council passed this bill at its Session on

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 March 20, 2003. Bill 030114 proposes to amend the
3 portions of the Philadelphia Code entitled "Old City
4 Residential Area Special District Controls," by
5 prohibiting the operation of telemarketing
6 businesses within the district.

7 And I also am returning to you unsigned
8 Bill No. 020647. I understand the perceived
9 unfairness this legislation seeks to correct,
10 however, I have substantial concerns regarding the
11 legality of this measure. Therefore, I have chosen
12 to return it without my signature.

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
14 messages will be printed in the Journal.

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

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: That's all I have,
18 Madam President.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
20 next order of business is the introduction of bills
21 of resolutions. And the Chair recognizes
22 Councilwoman Blackwell.

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

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 of resolutions at their time of introduction.

3 (Duly seconded.)

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

8 All in favor will indicate by saying
9 aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it
14 and the motion carries.

15 The Chair recognizes Councilman Kenney.

16 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
17 President. I offer one resolution.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

19 The Clerk will please read the title of
20 the resolution.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution declaring
22 April 10th as Lincoln University Day and
23 congratulating Lincoln University on its
24 anniversary.

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 recognizes Councilman Kenney.

3 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Move for the
4 adoption of the resolution.

5 (Duly seconded.)

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

9 All in favor will indicate by saying
10 aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

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

16 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
17 Blackwell.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
19 Madam President. Today, I have one bill on your
20 behalf, and 2 bills and 2 resolutions on my own
21 behalf.

22 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you. The
23 Clerk will please read the title of the first bill.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending
25 Section 5 of an ordinance, Bill No. 010661, approved

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 December 28, 2001, entitled an ordinance authorizing
3 National Railroad Passenger Corporation, 60
4 Massachusetts Avenue, owner of the property on the
5 north side and the south side of the 2900 block of
6 Arch Street.

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

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
10 authorizing the Philadelphia Authority for
11 Industrial Development to file an application with
12 the Office of the Budget, Commonwealth of
13 Pennsylvania, under the Redevelopment Assistance
14 Capital Program in an aggregate amount not exceed
15 \$76,092,000.

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

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
19 authorizing real estate transactions necessary to
20 permit the City of Philadelphia to acquire property
21 needed for use by the Philadelphia International
22 Airport.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
24 be referred to the appropriate committee.

25 The Clerk will please read the title of

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 the first resolution.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
4 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
5 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
6 deeds located in the 6th Ward of the City of
7 Philadelphia.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
9 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
11 Madam President. I move for the adoption.

12 (Duly seconded.)

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

16 All in favor will say aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
21 it, and the resolution has been adopted.

22 The Clerk will please read the second
23 resolution.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
25 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
3 deeds located in the 6th, 27th, 51st and 60th Wards
4 of the City of Philadelphia.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
6 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
8 Madam President. I move for the adoption of the
9 resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

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

14 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?
17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
19 it, and the resolution has been adopted.

20 The Clerk will please read the next
21 resolution.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
23 authorizing the Mayor on behalf of the City of
24 Philadelphia to apply for and accept up to \$500,000
25 in funding from the Commonwealth Department of

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 Community and Economic Development.

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

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

6 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
7 offer two resolutions, both of which require votes
8 by the City Council.

9 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Clerk will
10 please read the title of the resolution.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
12 authorizing City Council's Committee on Law and
13 Government to investigate the effectiveness and
14 efficiency of the delivery of public housing
15 resources and services to the low and moderate
16 income residents of Philadelphia by the Philadelphia
17 Housing Authority in cooperation with the City of
18 Philadelphia.

19 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
20 recognizes Councilman Cohen.

21 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
22 move the adoption of the resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

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

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 adopted.

3 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
8 it, and the resolution will be referred to the
9 appropriate committee.

10 COUNCILMAN COHEN: No, Madam President,
11 it's for action by the committee.

12 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: I stand corrected.
13 The resolution will be referred to the Committee on
14 Law and Government. Correct, Councilman?

15 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you.

16 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: You're welcome.

17 The Clerk will please read the title of
18 the second resolution.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution calling
20 upon President George W. Bush and Environmental
21 Protection Agency Administrator Christine Todd
22 Whitman to value all people's lives equally with
23 respect to current and future policy and regulations
24 concerning point and non-point sources for
25 pollution.

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
3 recognizes Councilman Cohen.

4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
5 move the adoption of the resolution and request
6 permission to speak on the resolution.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: It has been moved
9 and seconded. And the Chair recognizes Councilman
10 Cohen.

11 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Gradually, senior
12 citizens are beginning to recognize that they come
13 increasingly under attack. This one is a brand-new
14 one, the first one I've ever heard it applied
15 before. In making environmental decisions, senior
16 citizens count only as part of a life, while people
17 who are not senior citizens count a full vote. For
18 example, under the Bush Administration, they've
19 developed a cost benefit analysis, meaning, what
20 does it cost to bring about an environmental change
21 for the good and what will be the benefits. And in
22 determining the benefits, they say, well, senior
23 citizens aren't going to live many more years and
24 therefore they count less than the person who's not
25 a senior citizen in determining what benefit will

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 come. They also say a second thing about senior
3 citizens. They say they aren't going to live long
4 enough to acquire a chronic disease, while a younger
5 person will probably live 30 or 40 more years and
6 therefore suffer from an environmental condition
7 that takes a long time to develop, like cancers
8 frequently do. So that on both aspects of health,
9 the senior citizen is considered only part of a
10 person. Therefore, the benefit of advancement in
11 environmental health matters for senior citizens is
12 regarded as less of a benefit than a benefit for
13 anybody else. Therefore, when they decide what
14 benefit will this bring, they lower the costs. They
15 say we should invest less to protect senior citizens
16 because they're older. Now that's a brand-new one
17 on me. There was a wild talk about it. And my good
18 friend to my right, Councilman Rizzo, who always
19 defends the Republican Party because he's a
20 Republican, as I defend the Democratic Party because
21 I'm a Democrat, this was a new one I had to tell
22 Councilman Rizzo. I never before heard this attack
23 on senior citizens' lives. So it's just important
24 for senior citizens to remain active. When you
25 retire from your job, don't retire from being aware

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 of what's going on because in no time at all your
3 life won't be worth anything. At my age -- I guess
4 I must owe everybody an awful lot of money because
5 at my age, I'm less than nothing, according to this
6 kind of study. Therefore, we've got to be on our
7 guard. The senior citizens are, I think, the most
8 treasured of all people because they've already made
9 their contribution. They've proven their interest
10 in government and in their families. So I just
11 wanted to make note of this and that's what this
12 resolution is about, to make it a wrong thing to
13 devalue a senior citizen's life. Senior citizens
14 deserve the same consideration as everybody else,
15 and at least that. And in my judgment and in the
16 judgment usually of this City Council, senior
17 citizens already, having made that contribution,
18 deserve more consideration than any other element of
19 the community which is in the process of making its
20 contributions currently. Thank you, Madam
21 President.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: You're welcome.
23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCILMAN COHEN: And I tell you, I'm
25 not picking on him; I'm picking on the terrible

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 principle that his president seems to be supporting.
3 Thank you.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
5 and properly seconded that the resolution be
6 adopted.

7 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?
10 (No response.)

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,
12 and the resolution has been adopted.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
14 Krajewski.

15 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank you,
16 Madam President. I have no bills or resolutions.

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
18 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

19 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Madam President, I
20 have one resolution.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
22 please read the title of the resolution.

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

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 of the City deeds located in the 7th, 19th, 23rd,
3 and 37th Wards of the City of Philadelphia.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
5 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

6 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Madam President, I
7 move for the adoption.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been
10 moved and properly seconded that the resolution be
11 adopted.

12 All in favor will indicate by saying
13 aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
18 it, and the resolution has been adopted.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

20 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you, Madam
21 President. On behalf of Donna Blach (ph) of the
22 50th Ward, I offer one bill; and on behalf of
23 myself, I offer two resolutions.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Two
25 resolutions or two bills?

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I offer two bills
3 and one resolution, one bill on behalf of Donna
4 Blach.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
6 please read the title of the bill.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending
8 Section 19-1303 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled
9 "Discounts and Additions to Tax," by extending the
10 due date for payment of real estate taxes and by
11 revising the provisions for additions to tax
12 penalties and interest if such real taxes are paid
13 after the due date.

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

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
17 establishing a no trucking parking regulation on the
18 800 block Foulkrod Street and Whitaker Avenue to
19 Halen Street both sides.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
21 be referred to the appropriate committee.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
23 establishing a no truck parking regulation on
24 Whitaker Avenue from Adams Avenue to Godfrey Avenue.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 be referred to the appropriate committee.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilwoman Tasco,
4 do you have a resolution?

5 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I'm sorry. I don't
6 have the a resolution.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

8 At this time the Chair recognizes
9 Councilwoman Miller.

10 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you, Madam
11 President. Today I offer no bills or resolutions.

12 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman Nutter.

14 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Madam President, I
15 have no bills or resolutions unless Councilwoman
16 Tasco gives me one. I have nothing today.

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
18 recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you, Madam
20 Chair. I have no bills or resolutions this morning.

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

23 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
24 President. I offer one resolution.

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 please read the title of the resolution.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
4 authorizing the Committee on Transportation and
5 Public Utilities to hold hearings regarding the
6 Philadelphia transit system lease between the City
7 of Philadelphia and the Southeastern Pennsylvania
8 Transportation Authority.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: This resolution
10 will be referred to the Committee on Transportation
11 and Public Utilities.

12 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Point of in order,
13 Madam President. I need a vote in order to
14 authorize subpoena power.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I'm sorry. I
16 was distracted. The Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Goode.

18 COUNCILMAN GOODE: I move for the
19 adoption of the resolution.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
22 and properly seconded that the resolution be a
23 adopted.

24 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Ayes have it
5 and the resolution will be referred to the Committee
6 on Transportation and Public Utilities.

7 The Chair recognizes Councilman Ortiz.

8 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Thank you, Madam
9 Chair. I have no bills or resolutions today.

10 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair thanks
11 the gentleman.

12 The Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

13 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
14 President. I offer two bills and two resolutions.

15 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Clerk will
16 please read the title of the first bill.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
18 for the submission to the qualified electors of the
19 City of Philadelphia of an amendment to the Home
20 Rule Charter creating the Office of the Insurance
21 Public Advocate, as approved by resolution of the
22 City Council.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill will
24 be referred to the appropriate committee.

25 The Clerk will please read the title of

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 the second bill.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to amend
4 the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
5 designations of certain areas of land located within
6 an area bounded by Lehigh Avenue Armingo Avenue, a
7 railroad right-of-way, and the Delaware Expressway.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
9 be referred to the appropriate committee.

10 The Clerk will please read the title of
11 the first resolution.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution proposing
13 an amendment to the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
14 to create the Office of the Insurance Public
15 Advocate and providing for the submission of the
16 amendment to the electors of Philadelphia.

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

20 And the Chair recognizes the Clerk to
21 read the second resolution.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
23 recognizing May 18th to the 24th, 2003, as National
24 Emergency Medical Services Week and honoring Thomas
25 Jefferson University Hospital for coordinating a

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 tri-state terrorism drill.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
4 recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

5 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
6 President. I move for the adoption of the
7 resolution.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been
10 moved and properly seconded that the resolution be
11 adopted.

12 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
17 it, and the resolution has been adopted.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

19 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
20 President. I have two resolutions and one bill.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
22 please read the title of the bill.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance creating
24 the Progress Plaza Tax Increment Financing District,
25 being the area generally bounded by Broad Street on

1 04/10/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 the west, Oxford Street on the north, 13th Street on
3 the east and Jefferson Street on the south.

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

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
7 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
8 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
9 deeds located in the 37th and 47th Wards of the City
10 of Philadelphia.

11 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
12 recognizes Councilman Clarke.

13 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Move for the
14 adoption.

15 (Duly seconded.)

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

19 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

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

25 The Clerk will please read the second

1 04/10/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE
2 resolution.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution agreeing
4 to participate in the Progress Plaza Tax Increments
5 Financing District.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The resolution
7 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

9 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: No bills or
10 resolutions today, Madam President.

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
12 the gentleman.

13 There are no reports from committees
14 and no bills on the First Reading Calendar.
15 Therefore, the Chair now recognizes Councilwoman
16 Blackwell for the purpose of calling up bills on the
17 Second Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
19 Madam President. Today Bill Nos. 020826, 030100,
20 030123, 030138, and 030075 are being called up for
21 second reading and final passage. All other bills
22 are being held.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
24 Clerk please read the title of Bill No. 020826.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending

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2 Title 14 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning
3 and Planning," by amending Chapter 14-200 entitled
4 residential districts by amending use regulations
5 and R6 residential districts and by making certain
6 technical amendments under certain terms and
7 conditions.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
9 having been read on two different days, the question
10 now is shall the bill pass finally?

11 The Clerk will please call the roll.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Blackwell.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

18 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

20 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

22 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

24 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

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2 Krajewski.

3 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

5 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

9 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

11 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Reynolds-Brown.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

16 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

18 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

20 Verna.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

22 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0. A
23 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
24 the affirmative, the bill passes.

25 The next bill to be called for

1 04/10/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 consideration is Bill No. 030100.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
4 authorize the Water Commissioner on behalf of the
5 City to enter into agreements with the owners the
6 properties and their successors of a private street
7 known as Blakiston Lane.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill
9 having been read on two different days, the question
10 now is shall the bill pass finally?

11 The Clerk will please call the roll.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Blackwell.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

18 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

20 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

22 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

24 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 04/10/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 Krajewski.

3 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

5 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

9 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

11 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Reynolds-Brown.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

16 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

18 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

20 Verna.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

22 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0. A
23 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
24 the affirmative, the bill passes.

25 The next bill to be called for

1 04/10/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 consideration is Bill No. 030123.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance requiring
4 that any proposed rate filing with the Pennsylvania
5 Public Utility Commission on behalf of the City's
6 natural gas distribution operation include a
7 proposal to continue the existing senior citizen
8 discounts and authorizing and directing the
9 execution of an amendment to the City's agreement
10 with Philadelphia Facilities Management Corporation
11 to conform with the requirements of this ordinance.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill
13 having been read on two different days, the question
14 now is shall the bill pass finally?

15 The Clerk will please call the roll.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Blackwell.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

20 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

22 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

24 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

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2 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
4 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
6 Krajewski.
7 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
9 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
11 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
13 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
15 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Reynolds-Brown.
18 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
20 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.
22 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.
23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President
24 Verna.
25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

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2 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0. A
3 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
4 the affirmative, the bill passes.

5 (Applause.)

6 The next bill to be called for
7 consideration is Bill No. 030138.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance enacting
9 a new Chapter 19-2000 of the Philadelphia Code,
10 entitled "Discounted rates for natural gas
11 distribution and supplies services for senior
12 citizens, reaffirming and reenacting a senior
13 citizen discount for senior citizen customers of the
14 Philadelphia Gas Works.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
16 having been read on two different days, the question
17 now is shall the bill pass finally?

18 The Clerk will please call the roll.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Blackwell.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

23 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

25 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

1 04/10/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE
2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.
3 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
7 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Krajewski.
10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
18 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Reynolds-Brown.
21 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
23 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.
25 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

1 04/10/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

3 Verna.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

5 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0. A
6 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
7 the affirmative, the bill passes.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The last bill being
10 called for consideration is Bill No. 030075.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property on
13 behalf of the City of Philadelphia to acquire by
14 purchase, lease or condemnation a certain temporary
15 easement through 3500 Scotts Lane for sewer and
16 drainage construction purposes, under certain terms
17 and conditions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
19 having been read on two different days, the question
20 now is shall the bill pass finally?

21 The Clerk will please call the roll.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Blackwell.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

1 04/10/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE
2 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.
3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.
4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.
5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.
6 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.
7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
8 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
9 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
10 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Krajewski.
13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
15 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
17 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
19 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
21 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Reynolds-Brown.
24 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

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2 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

4 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

6 Verna.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

8 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0. A
9 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
10 the affirmative, the bill passes.

11 That concludes our calendar for today.

12 Are there any speeches on the part of
13 the Minority?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are there any
16 speeches on the part of the Majority.

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
18 recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you, Madam
20 President. Briefly to the listening audience, the
21 guests here and to my colleagues, I would simply
22 like to call to everyone's attention that this is
23 national celebration of the Week of the Child, and
24 before us are Teddy bears, compliments of the
25 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. So I would

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2 the other day from Office of Emergency Services that
3 we do lack quality housing for people in the City to
4 go to once they come out of shelters. So I think we
5 can't have the dog chasing its tail. We've got to
6 find a place for people to go. We need not have a
7 quality program shut down for lack of funding, so
8 I'm asking and we will be asking the Administration
9 to help.

10 The other comment I'd like to make is on
11 a lighter note, a little bit away from that, is
12 about Jeremy Holder. Jeremy is a breath of fresh
13 air. He's a young man from Southwest Philadelphia
14 who appeared on CBS's Star Search program on Channel
15 3. He one the first round of the junior singer's
16 competition and will be performing live in the
17 semifinals tomorrow night, April 11th at 8 o'clock.
18 Now you know after the judges vote, there's a round
19 of public vote. He won the last time because the
20 public dialed in through their computers and broke
21 the tie and he one with 35 stars. So he goes to the
22 semifinals and he is from southwest Philadelphia, I
23 would imagine he's probably from Councilwoman
24 Blackwell's district. So we're asking everyone to
25 tune in tomorrow night at 8 o'clock, turn on your

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2 computers and your televisions, and when he
3 performs, vote for Jeremy Holder. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair at this
6 time recognizes Councilman Cohen.

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you, Madam
8 President. First, I want to thank Councilwoman
9 Tasco for bringing to Council's attention in this
10 fashion the need for support for more money for
11 affordable housing. The Section 8 list alone has
12 8,000 names on it for people on a waiting list and
13 market rate housing, God knows, there are many
14 thousands of people looking around unable to find
15 anything they can afford. So that it's just a
16 terribly wrong thing to think of to permit a fine
17 program that Alicia Christian has been running for
18 many years. It would be a terrible thing to have
19 that program die. If anything is needed, it's a
20 multiplicity of Dignity Housing units, not to
21 curtail it.

22 Secondly, I don't know about the blind
23 spot of Knight Ridder, but this is the fifth
24 consecutive week I'm calling attention to the fact
25 that the Daily News continues its practice on

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2 predatory lending. It's a disgrace that that could
3 -- we would certainly must know that have what its
4 editorial say and they've attacked the kinds of
5 advertising that appears regularly in the Daily News
6 aimed at sucking what little money exists in
7 neighborhood communities out from the people.
8 People pay out of their paychecks almost their
9 entire paycheck and they're forever indebted to the
10 check cashing and cash today or cash three days
11 before pay day. It's a disgrace that the Knight
12 Ridder chain is continuing to profit. They keep the
13 Inquirer clean of that advertising, but the Inquirer
14 is also owned by Knight Ridder so the company that
15 owns the Inquirer and keeps itself clean profits
16 from the dirty ads that appear in the Daily News.

17 I think this is the public notice I will
18 make of this because I think what's needed is going
19 to be action. No longer will words be sufficient
20 because I can't believe that Mr. Rob Hall, the
21 publisher, who sent somebody to my office to get
22 information from the Council resolution is unaware
23 of what's going on. It just seems to me what
24 happens when monopolists take control of the news
25 media anywhere in the country. It's bad news for

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2 the people because they can play all kinds of tricks
3 and try to scam the people. That's what's happening
4 in Philadelphia and it's terrible that our newspaper
5 should be doing that.

6 And the final thing I want to say to the
7 fine senior citizens that were here today to hear
8 the wonderful news of Council's unanimity in support
9 of retaining the senior citizen discount, remember,
10 this is only one step on the road. The next two
11 steps that are urgent are the Mayor has to sign this
12 ordinance or we're confronted with the fact of
13 taking further Council action, and then we've got to
14 convince the Public Utility Commission. So please
15 don't regard this as the final victory. We all
16 appreciate your recognition of the fine work Council
17 is doing in trying to preserve the senior citizen
18 discount which this City Council created 30 years
19 ago in 1973. But the fight is still hard and long.
20 We're going to succeed if you can keep the pressure
21 up. Keep talking in the community. Keep being
22 active. And we thank you for your support, too.

23 Thank you, Madam President.

24 (Applause.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair

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2 recognizes Councilman Ortiz.

3 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Thank you, Madam
4 Chair. I want to thank all the senior citizens for
5 coming today and for you being here and advocating
6 for this legislation and for the issue and standing
7 up and being strong.

8 I also want to concur with what Marian
9 Tasco said about Dignity Housing. Those of us who
10 have been there when this was really beginning when
11 Leona Smith was starting this during those years of
12 hard times, know that this program cannot be shut
13 down. It would mean too much heartache, too much
14 tragedy, and too many lives that would be put in
15 danger.

16 I also want to say that tonight on Star
17 Search there's also a Puerto Rican kid that is
18 singing. And his name is Risito Figueroa and he
19 will not be singing gospel but he'll be singing
20 salsa. So you have two Philly kids. That's a
21 tremendous thing, two Philadelphia kids both
22 teenagers really putting the name of Philadelphia --
23 one from North Philly and the other one from West
24 Philadelphia, so tune in and watch.

25 (Applause.)

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2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
3 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
5 Madam President. I thank my colleague Councilwoman
6 Tasco for mentioning Southwest Philadelphia and the
7 youngster who is being honored and doing a great
8 job on Star Search. And let me note that he belongs
9 to Evelyn Grays Drama Ministry. Many of you know of
10 that program. They have performed for us and
11 interact with us in many, many ways. And Dr. Evelyn
12 Grays has a school and has a drama ministry and a
13 church and does an excellent job in our community
14 and is one of our developers. So we certainly hope
15 that he will continue to go on to great heights, and
16 thank you for the recognition.

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

18 Are there any speeches on the part of
19 the Majority?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Seeing none, the
22 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

23 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you, Madam
24 President. I move that Council stand adjourned
25 until Thursday, April 24th at 10:00 a.m.

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2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: It has been moved
4 and seconded that Council stand an adjourned until
5 Thursday, April 24.

6 All in favor will say aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: All those opposed.

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The ayes have it,
11 and Council will stand adjourned until Thursday,
12 April 24th.

13 (Council adjourned at 11:10 a.m.)

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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 April 10, 2003, were reported fully
and accurately by me, and that this is a correct
transcript of the same.

RE: STATED MEETING

Lisa C. Bradley, RPR
and Notary Public