

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, December 14, 2023
11:04 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN KENDRA BROOKS
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DRISCOLL
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN JIM HARRITY
COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
COUNCILWOMAN QUETCY LOZADA
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY PHILLIPS
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN ISAIAH THOMAS
COUNCILWOMAN SHARON VAUGHN

MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning. Good morning. We're going to
4 get started. Sorry for the late start.
5 A few things going on this morning.

6 If the folks will retire behind
7 the rail and the members will take their
8 seats, we'll get started.

9 We have clearly established our
10 quorum, so we are going to get started
11 with our invocation.

12 To give our invocation this
13 morning, the Chair recognizes Father Paul
14 Galetto of St. Paul's Roman Catholic
15 Church. He is here today as the guest of
16 Councilman Squilla.

17 I would ask all members,
18 guests, and visitors to please rise.

19 Folks, can we keep it down over
20 there a little bit, please. Thank you.

21 Father.

22 (Councilmembers, guests, and
23 visitors rise.)

24 FATHER GALETT0: Good morning,
25 everyone. Let us pause for a moment and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 ask God's blessing upon us and the work
3 that is done here.

4 Heavenly Creator, in this world
5 you have made for us, we have fashioned
6 what we call Philly things. And among
7 Philly things, there is a specialized
8 subset called South Philly things. One
9 of our South Philly favorites is the
10 phrase "I got a guy." This phrase means,
11 among other things, that I have someone
12 who will help you, take care of you, and
13 make sure things go favorably for you.

14 Many of the guys in "I got a
15 guy" are the women and men assembled
16 before you today. The elected and
17 appointed officials of this City of
18 Brotherly and Sisterly Love are tasked
19 with caring for and helping out their
20 constituents. Help us to remember that
21 there is something and someone better
22 than "I got a guy," and that is "I got a
23 God."

24 Saint Augustine of Hippo says,
25 do what you can and then pray to God to

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 do what you cannot. When we, the "got a
3 guy" people find ourselves at an impasse
4 to solve the problems that we humans
5 make, such as gun violence, homelessness,
6 poverty, racism, and the other sins of
7 human beings, help us to remember that we
8 got a God, a God who loves us and will
9 heal the wounds that humans cause.

10 You, God, our creator, will do
11 what we cannot. Only you, God, can make
12 something great out of the mess that we
13 human beings make.

14 On this last meeting day of
15 this calendar year, bless those whose
16 service comes to an end. Reward them for
17 the sacrifices they have made and the
18 good they have done. And as the new year
19 and the newly elected leaders begin their
20 work among us, help them to remember that
21 they always got a God who will do what
22 they cannot.

23 We ask all of this in your name
24 who lives and reigns forever and ever.

25 Amen.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 (Amen.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Father, thank you so much for the
5 invocation this morning. We really
6 appreciate it.

7 Council will be at ease.

8 (Council at ease.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Thank you very much. Thank you very
11 much, Father, for your invocation this
12 morning.

13 And our next order of business
14 is the approval of the Journal of the
15 meeting of Thursday, December 7, 2023,
16 and the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
17 Bass.

18 Folks, I'm going to have to ask
19 you all please keep it down a little bit,
20 please. Thank you.

21 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Don't let
22 him say it again.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you, Councilman.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - LEAVES

2 Mr. President. I move that the Journal
3 of the meeting of Thursday, December 7th,
4 2023 be approved.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you. It has been moved and
8 properly seconded that the Journal of the
9 meeting of Thursday, December 7, 2023
10 stand approved.

11 All in favor indicate by saying
12 aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
18 ayes have it, and our Journal is
19 approved.

20 And our next order of business
21 is request for leave of absence, and the
22 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
24 Mr. President. On behalf of the members,
25 there are no requests for leaves of

1 12/14/23 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR
2 absence today.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you. Thank you so much,
5 Councilman.

6 The Chair recognizes Councilman
7 Squilla for a motion concerning certain
8 legislative matters that may arise during
9 the course of today's session of Council
10 that were not listed on the Calendar
11 circulated prior to our session today.

12 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
13 Mr. President. I move that the following
14 matters, if considered today, may be
15 added to the agenda for this session of
16 Council and, as required by law,
17 subsequently published on the amended
18 agenda after the consideration of those
19 matters: resolutions authorizing
20 hearings, amendments to bills on first
21 reading, the reconsideration of a bill
22 vetoed by or re-called from the Mayor,
23 amendments to bills re-called from the
24 Mayor, resolutions taking substantive
25 action to be voted on in this session, a

1 12/14/23 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR
2 motion to withdraw a bill or resolution
3 that is not on the Calendar and a motion
4 placing a bill or resolution on or
5 returning a bill or resolution from the
6 Suspension Calendar that is not on
7 today's Calendar.

8 The purpose of this motion is
9 to provide the public with notice
10 concerning possible actions by Council
11 that arose too late to be published and
12 included in the Calendar that was
13 published prior to today's session.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you. It has been moved and
17 properly seconded that the legislative
18 matters stated by Councilman Squilla may
19 be added to the agenda for today, should
20 those matters arise during the course of
21 the Council session.

22 All in favor indicate by saying
23 aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
5 ayes have it. The motion carries.

6 And our next order of business
7 is communications, and I would ask the
8 Clerk to please read the messages from
9 the Mayor and any other communications
10 that he may have in his possession today.

11 CHIEF CLERK: From the Mayor to
12 the President and members of the Council
13 of the City of Philadelphia, pursuant to
14 Sections 4-604 and 2-307 of the Home Rule
15 Charter, I am today transmitting to the
16 Council the recommendation of the City
17 Planning Commission on the following
18 bills: Bill Nos. 230828, 230829, 230835,
19 230836, 230848, 230849, 230850, 230853,
20 230860, 230861, 230862, and 230863.

21 And I am pleased to advise you
22 that on December 13, 2023, I signed all
23 of the bills which were passed by Council
24 at its session on November 30, 2023,
25 except Bill Nos. 230510 and 230740, which

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 I have returned without my signature.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you, Mr. Decker.

5 Before we proceed with our
6 introduction of bills and resolutions, I
7 would just like to take a moment to
8 welcome everyone that has come down here
9 today. I understand that there's going
10 to be something going on a little
11 differently today, but I appreciate the
12 fact that you all are here witnessing
13 your government in action, and we
14 genuinely thank you for being here so you
15 can participate in today's Council
16 session.

17 Mr. Decker, we will now move to
18 our introduction of bills and
19 resolutions.

20 And the Clerk will read the
21 titles of the legislation that's being
22 offered by our members today.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones
24 offers 38 privileged resolutions,
25 honoring and recognizing Asia Cooney,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Audrey Coles -- and a resolution honoring
3 and recognizing Audrey Coles; and
4 A resolution honoring and
5 recognizing William Greenlee; and
6 A resolution honoring and
7 recognizing Charles Lanier; and
8 A resolution honoring and
9 recognizing Connie Little; and
10 A resolution honoring and
11 recognizing Cynthia Barnes; and
12 A resolution honoring and
13 recognizing Darnetta Arce; and
14 A resolution honoring and
15 recognizing Dennis Boylan; and
16 A resolution honoring and
17 recognizing Derrick Ford; and
18 A resolution honoring and
19 recognizing Diane Monroe; and
20 A resolution honoring and
21 recognizing Donnell Deans; and
22 A resolution honoring and
23 recognizing Dr. Kenneth Scott; and
24 A resolution honoring and
25 recognizing Ed Flythe; and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 A resolution honoring and
3 recognizing Harriett Williams; and

4 A resolution honoring and
5 recognizing the Honorable Jewell
6 Williams; and

7 A resolution honoring and
8 recognizing Justino Navarro; and

9 A resolution honoring and
10 recognizing Keith Harris; and

11 A resolution honoring and
12 recognizing Larry Lane; and

13 A resolution honoring and
14 recognizing Larry Reynolds; and

15 A resolution honoring and
16 recognizing Lenora Jackson Evans; and

17 A resolution honoring and
18 recognizing Bishop Lewis Nash; and

19 A resolution honoring and
20 recognizing Lisa Maiello; and

21 A resolution honoring and
22 recognizing Louise Bundy; and

23 A resolution honoring and
24 recognizing Maggie O'Brien; and

25 A resolution honoring and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 recognizing Matt Ruben; and

3 A resolution honoring and

4 recognizing the Honorable Michelle

5 Brownlee; and

6 A resolution honoring and

7 recognizing Ms. El Amor M. Brawne Ali;

8 and

9 A resolution honoring and

10 recognizing Muriel Taylor; and

11 A resolution honoring and

12 recognizing Nita Wroten; and

13 A resolution honoring and

14 recognizing Patricia Freeland; and

15 A resolution honoring and

16 recognizing Patti Mosser; and

17 A resolution honoring and

18 recognizing Priscilla Tee Bennett; and

19 A resolution honoring and

20 recognizing Priscilla Woods; and

21 A resolution honoring and

22 recognizing Richard Gross; and

23 A resolution honoring and

24 recognizing Rose Gray; and

25 A resolution honoring and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 recognizing Ruth Birchett; and

3 A resolution honoring and

4 recognizing the Honorable Shirley

5 Kitchen; and

6 A resolution honoring and

7 recognizing Tonnetta Graham, all for

8 their loyal and dedicated service in

9 enhancing the lives of the citizens of

10 the 5th Councilmanic District and the

11 City of Philadelphia.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you, Mr. Decker.

14 That will be on today's Final

15 Passage Calendar.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Also on behalf of

17 Council President Clarke, Councilman

18 Jones offers a non-privileged resolution

19 also naming the 2500 block of West

20 Sharswood Street as the "Honorable Thomas

21 McIntosh, Sr. Way."

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: You

23 want to request a rules suspension?

24 The Chair recognizes Councilman

25 Jones for a motion to suspend the rules

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 to allow reading today.

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
4 Mr. President. On your behalf, I move
5 that the rules of Council be suspended to
6 permit first reading of this resolution
7 today.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
10 been moved and properly seconded.

11 All in favor indicate by saying
12 aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
18 ayes have it, and that resolution will be
19 on today's Final Passage Calendar.

20 CHIEF CLERK: And on his own
21 behalf, Councilman Jones offers a
22 non-privileged resolution calling on the
23 School District of Philadelphia to review
24 and enhance school safety policies
25 regarding students, teachers, parents,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 and staff, as well as provide a report to
3 City Council on their findings.

4 Council President, Councilman
5 Jones would like to be recognized for a
6 motion on this resolution.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
8 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
10 Mr. President. I move for a rules
11 suspension to allow this resolution to be
12 heard this day.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
15 been moved and properly seconded.

16 All in favor indicate by saying
17 aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
23 ayes have it, and that resolution will be
24 on today's Final Passage Calendar.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/14/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Brooks offers a privileged resolution
3 congratulating the Kwanzaa Cooperative
4 for inaugurating the first City Kinara in
5 Philadelphia history and organizing
6 Kwanzaa programming at the Free Library
7 to uphold the traditions of Kwanzaa in
8 Philadelphia for years to come.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Thank you. That will be on today's Final
11 Passage Calendar.

12 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
13 other bills or resolutions being offered
14 today by the members, Mr. President.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you very much.

17 We will now have our reports
18 from committee, and the Chair recognizes
19 Councilman Jones for a report from the
20 Committee of the Whole.

21 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
22 Mr. President. On behalf of the
23 Committee of the Whole, we offer six
24 resolutions with a favorable
25 recommendation.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you.

4 Mr. Decker, please read that
5 report.

6 CHIEF CLERK: To the President
7 and members of the Council of the City of
8 Philadelphia, the Committee of the Whole,
9 to which was referred Resolution No.
10 230788, entitled a "Resolution confirming
11 the appointment of Valerie I. Harrison as
12 a member of the Board of Ethics, to serve
13 in the term ending November 16, 2024";
14 and

15 Resolution No. 230803, entitled
16 a "Resolution reappointing Angela Val to
17 the Board of Directors of the Center City
18 District"; and

19 Resolution No. 230804, entitled
20 a "Resolution appointing Dan Killinger to
21 the Board of Directors of the Center City
22 District"; and

23 Resolution No. 230805, entitled
24 a "Resolution reappointing Jack Sokoloff
25 to the Board of Directors of the Center

1 12/14/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 City District"; and

3 Resolution No. 230806, entitled
4 a "Resolution appointing Jamal Johnson to
5 the Board of Directors of the Center City
6 District"; and

7 Resolution No. 230807, entitled
8 a "Resolution reappointing Randall Scott
9 to the Board of Directors of the Center
10 City District," respectfully reports it
11 has considered the same and returns the
12 attached resolutions to Council with a
13 favorable recommendation.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Thank you.

16 The Chair again recognizes
17 Councilman Jones.

18 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
19 again, Mr. President. I move that the
20 rules of Council be suspended to permit
21 the six afore-read resolutions be
22 considered in today's Calendar.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
25 Thank you. It has been moved and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 seconded that the rules of Council be
3 suspended to permit the consideration of
4 Resolutions No. 230788, 230803, 230804,
5 230805, 230806, and 230807 on today's
6 Final Passage Calendar.

7 All in favor indicate by saying
8 aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Those opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
14 ayes have it, the motion carries, and
15 these resolutions will be on today's
16 Final Passage Calendar.

17 Our next order of business is
18 the consideration of the Calendar.

19 As there are no additional
20 bills on the First Reading Calendar
21 today, the Chair recognizes Councilman
22 Jones for a motion concerning the
23 resolutions on the Final Passage Calendar
24 today.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

1 12/14/23-STATED-RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 Mr. President. I move that the use of a
3 Consent Agenda be permitted to consider
4 the resolutions on today's Final Passage
5 Calendar.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
8 been moved and properly seconded.

9 All in favor indicate by saying
10 aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
13 sorry. Thank you.

14 It's been moved and seconded
15 that the rules of Council be suspended --
16 as usual, Mr. Decker always picks it up.

17 Just reference the numbers on
18 the resolutions, Councilman.

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Resolutions
20 No. 230917, 230918, 230919, 230920,
21 230921, 230924, 230925, 230926, 230927,
22 230928, and 230929.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Can
24 I get a second.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 12/14/23-STATED-RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you. It has been moved and
4 seconded that the rules of Council be
5 suspended to permit the use of a Consent
6 Agenda to consider the resolutions just
7 read by Councilman Jones.

8 All in favor indicate by saying
9 aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
15 ayes have it, the motion carries, and we
16 will consider the Resolution Consent
17 Agenda shortly.

18 The Chair now recognizes
19 Councilman Jones for a motion concerning
20 the bills on the Second Reading and Final
21 Passage Calendar today.

22 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
23 again, Mr. President. I move that the
24 rules of Council be suspended to permit a
25 Consent Agenda for the following bills on

1 12/14/23 - STATED - BILLS ON CONSENT AGENDA
2 today's Final Passage Calendar: 200658,
3 230579, 230586, 230714, 230716, 230744,
4 230745, 230571, 230776, 230651, 230741,
5 230742, 2306 -- 230764, 230771, 230778,
6 230780, 230782, 230783, 230403, 230512,
7 230773, 230774, 230827, 230830, 230831,
8 230833, 230832, 230835, 230839, 230840,
9 230844, 230851, 230854, 230855, 230857,
10 230858, 230859, 230864, 230763, 230769,
11 230772, 230775, 230777, 230781, 230784,
12 230828, 230834, 230836, 230841, 230842,
13 230843, 230848, 230849, 230852, 230853,
14 230856, 230860, 230861, 230862, 230863,
15 23053 -- no; 2306 -- 230653, 230900,
16 230838, 230701, and 220905.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Can
18 I get a second.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Thank you. It's been moved and properly
22 seconded that the rules of Council be
23 suspended to permit the use of a Consent
24 Agenda to consider the bills just read by
25 Councilman Jones.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 All in favor indicate by saying

3 aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
9 ayes have it, the motion carries, and we
10 will consider the Consent Agenda shortly.

11 The Chair again recognizes
12 Councilman Jones for the purpose of
13 calling up bills and resolutions on the
14 Second Reading and Final Passage
15 Calendar.

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
17 once again, Mr. President. The following
18 bills and resolutions are being brought
19 up from Second Reading and Final Passage
20 Calendars today: Nos. 230922, 230698,
21 230765, 230766, 230767, 230768, 230649,
22 230690, 230700, 230770, 230829, 230364,
23 230746. All other bills and resolutions
24 are being held.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Thank you very much. Thank you very
3 much.

4 So before we consider the
5 resolutions and bills, we will consider
6 our public comment session. The public
7 comment will go as follows:

8 If you have not already done
9 so, you may sign up at the table outside
10 in the hallway with the Sergeant-of-Arms.
11 When your name is called, it will be
12 called in the order in which you signed
13 up. When your name is called, you will
14 go to the podium in the middle of the
15 Council Chambers. There's a device on
16 that podium. There's a light. When that
17 light turns green, it will be your time
18 to speak. When the light turns yellow,
19 you will have 30 seconds to conclude your
20 remarks, and when the light turns red,
21 we'd ask that you please adhere to our
22 guidelines and conclude your remarks.

23 Today, given the volume of
24 individuals that we have who wish to have
25 public comment today, we're going to

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 limit the speech to two minutes. We
3 would really appreciate it if you adhere
4 to our guidelines, as we want to make
5 sure that everybody has an opportunity to
6 speak in a timely way.

7 So with that, Mr. Decker, can
8 you please call the first name on the
9 list.

10 CHIEF CLERK: The first speaker
11 is Kenneth A. Jacobson, commenting on
12 220905.

13 (Witness approached podium.)

14 MR. JACOBSEN: Thank you so
15 much. Mr. President and members of
16 Council, my name is Kenneth A. Jacobsen.
17 I am a practice professor of law at
18 Temple University Beasley School of Law.
19 I also am the Director of the Sports Law
20 program there.

21 Thank you. I'm honored to
22 speak today in support of the youth name,
23 image, and likeness protection bill.
24 While I'm doing that, I want to commend
25 Councilmember Thomas for his vision and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 his wisdom in recognizing the need for
3 this kind of legislation in order to
4 protect our high school youth.

5 Name, image, and likeness is as
6 its name suggests, our persona. It's
7 what we own. It's our name. It's our
8 image. And it has become a very
9 controversial topic both on a collegiate
10 level and on a high school level.

11 In Pennsylvania, high school
12 students are able to monetize their name,
13 image, and likeness. The problem is that
14 the name, image, and likeness environment
15 is a muddy water. It's very complicated.
16 Rules are inconsistent. There are traps
17 for the unwary.

18 The consequences of not
19 following those rules are that our high
20 school athletes could lose their
21 eligibility to play sports. There also,
22 where there is money, where an athlete
23 could receive money for his or her name,
24 image, and likeness, there also are bad
25 actors in this space. Whenever there is

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 money, then you are going to have sharks
3 swimming in those same muddy waters, and
4 this bill addresses various components to
5 protect, educate our high school students
6 and their families in the name, image,
7 and likeness space so that they could
8 have confidence going forward that if
9 they are entering into these deals, they
10 are doing it with their eyes open, that
11 they're not jeopardizing their
12 eligibility.

13 We at Temple Law School have
14 been very proud to have worked with the
15 Councilmember and his staff for the past
16 several months on this bill, and I stand
17 to wholeheartedly support this.

18 I am an expert in NIL on the
19 local, national, and regional level.
20 I've studied this. I do programs on
21 name, image, and likeness, and I think
22 that this bill is worthy of final passage
23 and we ask that Council do so.

24 Thank you so much.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Thank you for your testimony. We
3 appreciate it.

4 - - -

5 (Applause.)

6 - - -

7 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
8 is James Dykman, commenting on 220905.

9 (Witness approached podium.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
11 morning.

12 MR. DYKMAN: Good morning,
13 Council President, Councilmembers. My
14 name is James Dykman. I'm a third-year
15 law student at Temple University Beasley
16 School of Law, and today I am speaking in
17 support of Bill No. 220905.

18 It should go without saying
19 that Temple Law students love
20 Philadelphia. They love this city and
21 this community so much that they dedicate
22 their time during law school to help
23 Philadelphia residents. They do this
24 through clinics and practicums that
25 include helping low-income earners with

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 their tax filings, mediating disputes
3 between tenants and landlords, and
4 representing families in Family Court.

5 In my personal experience, I
6 had the opportunity to serve constituents
7 of District 4 for Councilmember Curtis
8 Jones, along with Anthony here, just last
9 fall as a legislative aide.

10 Temple Law students want to
11 serve the public, and Temple Law gives
12 them that opportunity.

13 This bill gives Temple Law
14 students another opportunity to help a
15 very specific set of Philadelphia
16 residents, young Philadelphia athletes
17 and their families. When this bill
18 passes, Temple Law, in partnership with
19 the City of Philadelphia, will develop an
20 educational program that helps young
21 athletes understand the ramifications of
22 name, image, and likeness and national
23 letters of intent.

24 Temple Law students will be on
25 the ground floor of this program,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 developing educational materials, talking
3 with students and their families about
4 NIL and NLI deals, as well as
5 guaranteeing students understand the
6 important decisions they're making for
7 their future.

8 Temple Law students want to
9 help. We want to serve. We want to
10 give. In passing Bill No. 220905, you
11 give Temple Law students another
12 opportunity to help the City that they
13 love.

14 Thank you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you for your testimony.

17 - - -

18 (Applause.)

19 - - -

20 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
21 is Clarence Milton James, commenting on
22 220905.

23 (Witness approached podium.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
25 morning.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 MR. JAMES: Good morning,
3 members of the City Council. I am
4 speaking on behalf of the name, image,
5 and likeness bill. My name is Clarence
6 Milton James and I'm a proud Central High
7 School graduate, Class of 280, and a
8 Temple University junior.

9 I grew up playing youth sports
10 in the City and I also played both
11 varsity baseball and football all four
12 years I attended Central High School.
13 Playing at the collegiate level was
14 something that I had hoped to do and had
15 the opportunity to. However, I did not
16 think I was fully prepared for the
17 commitment it was to put yourself out
18 there and reach out to different schools
19 for the opportunity to play in the
20 future.

21 I am forever thankful to the
22 great coaches I've had and the effort
23 they've put into preparing me for the
24 next level, but there was no support from
25 the Philadelphia School District in

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 helping myself or any of my teammates to
3 further our athletic careers.

4 COVID also played a big factor,
5 because there were so many restrictions
6 given out by the School District. A lot
7 of the recruiting process for me involved
8 going to football camps that different
9 colleges hosted and sending my film to
10 different coaches on Twitter, but I never
11 knew where to go after that or how to
12 properly approach a coach without coming
13 off too strong or the correct way to
14 address a coach online.

15 The educational benefits
16 offered by this bill would have gone a
17 long way towards helping me understand
18 the college recruiting process and
19 pursuing an opportunity to play sports in
20 the collegiate and possibly obtaining an
21 athletic scholarship.

22 Thank you.

23 - - -

24 (Applause.)

25 - - -

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you for your testimony.

4 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
5 is Ed McColly, commenting on 230927.

6 (Witness approached podium.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
8 morning.

9 MR. MCCOLLY: Good morning. My
10 name is Ed McColly, Director of Project
11 Planning at Habitat for Humanity
12 Philadelphia.

13 Since 1985, Habitat
14 Philadelphia has partnered with families
15 in need to build strength, stability, and
16 self-reliance through shelter. To date,
17 we have built and sold 260
18 energy-efficient homes to first-time
19 homeowners and strategically partnered
20 with more than 850 homeowners and their
21 families to provide critical home
22 repairs.

23 The proposed Habitat for
24 Humanity Philadelphia project on North
25 40th Street will allow four more families

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 to experience the transformational power
3 of home. Each single-family row home
4 includes at least three bedrooms and one
5 and a half bathrooms and, with an eye
6 towards increasing equity for potential
7 homeowners, one unit wheelchair
8 accessible.

9 Home is medicine. Home is
10 education. Home is generational wealth.
11 Together, we will keep working toward our
12 vision of a city where everyone has a
13 decent place to live.

14 I would like to thank the
15 Redevelopment Authority for the
16 opportunity to move forward with this
17 project and Councilmember Gauthier for
18 her support.

19 Thank you.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you for your testimony.

22 - - -

23 (Applause.)

24 - - -

25 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 is Kirsten Brit, commenting on 230851.

3 (Witness approached podium.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
5 morning.

6 MS. BRIT: Good morning. My
7 name is Kirsten Brit. I am speaking on
8 Bill 230851.

9 Real proven solutions to
10 problems should not have to be fought for
11 when they are in the best interest of
12 those that are harmed. However, we are
13 standing here today in every step of the
14 way fighting for and against the
15 injustices that are happening in sections
16 of our city that are heavily populated by
17 people of color, particularly those that
18 look like me.

19 It took years of fighting to
20 get to a place where we are talking about
21 a lease for a building that has been
22 operated by its current tenant, Parks and
23 Rec. Formalities and technicalities like
24 these hold up the real processes of doing
25 the work necessary to reopen a closed

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2 pool.

3 Though I stand here in support
4 of this bill, I'm asking Council to do
5 what is necessary to move the process of
6 opening this pool, along with the other
7 indoor pools, Marcus Foster, Pickett,
8 Motivation, and others. There is a
9 continued lack of lifeguards to maintain
10 outdoor pools because the pools they were
11 formerly trained in year round are
12 closed.

13 Council has an obligation to
14 their constituents to do what is
15 necessary to reopen all of these pools
16 swiftly in partnership with the School
17 District. We either want to save our
18 children and our elderly or we want to
19 keep pretending like we do. We can't do
20 both. We can keep allowing this issue to
21 grow and continue to not serve or we can
22 change.

23 Currently, there are three rec
24 centers within a mile of me closed due to
25 maintenance issues and Rebuild projects.

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2 Who thought that was a good idea? When
3 Sayre begins, that will make four. This
4 is unacceptable.

5 Violence is exacerbated when
6 resources are continuously shut down.

7 Thank you.

8 - - -

9 (Applause.)

10 - - -

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you for your testimony.

13 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
14 is Charisma Presley and Phoebe Dougherty,
15 commenting on 230851.

16 (Witnesses approached podium.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
18 morning.

19 MISS DOUGHERTY: Good morning.

20 My name is Phoebe and I am eight years
21 old. Last summer I learned to swim at
22 Mander pool. I didn't pass the swimming
23 test until the last week of the season,
24 and that was the best week. I was no
25 longer in the crowded baby section. I

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 was able to stretch and jump and float
3 without people splashing water in my
4 face.

5 Once the pool closed, I told my
6 mom that I wanted to swim some more, so
7 she said that I will try -- that she
8 would try to take me to Lincoln pool, but
9 that is very far and the gas is
10 expensive.

11 All this year we testified at
12 the School District to rebuild Marcus
13 Foster and fix up Pickett, which would
14 allow me and my grandparents to swim all
15 year long. We collected signatures and
16 brought them to each of your offices in
17 May. People signed from our neighborhood
18 asking the same thing that people in the
19 Northeast have and people in the West.

20 Philadelphia will soon have
21 public pools for year-round swimming. I
22 am told to ask questions rather than
23 assume when I don't know something. So
24 here are my questions:

25 Don't I deserve what other

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 people in Philadelphia have access to?
3 Can someone here tell me that I deserve
4 these same resources? Can someone here
5 tell me why I'm not given these same
6 resources? Can someone here speak up for
7 our indoor neighborhood public pools?

8 - - -

9 (Applause.)

10 - - -

11 MS. PRESLEY: Good morning,
12 Council President --

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Morning.

15 MS. PRESLEY: -- and all
16 Councilmembers. My name is Charisma
17 Presley and I'm here with members of our
18 community in support of Bill 230851 for
19 Sayre pool and to ask what about our two
20 indoor pools, Marcus Foster and Pickett
21 pool. Are not the Nicetown, Logan,
22 Tioga, Olney, North Philadelphia,
23 Allegheny, Germantown, Mount Airy,
24 Roxborough, and West Oak Lane residents
25 deserving year-round swimming and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 opportunities like those in the Lincoln
3 pool and Sayre community? What about us?

4 Our country's motto is E
5 pluribus unum, which means out of many
6 comes one.

7 In the preamble to the
8 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, it states
9 all qualified citizens may participate
10 equally without distinction based on
11 race, color, religion, or national
12 origin. Do we need to add neighborhoods
13 to this list of criteria?

14 Do we not qualify as citizens
15 of this city? Will someone speak for us?
16 Do our children and seniors not deserve
17 to have access to better quality of life
18 and a public pool to walk to in their
19 neighborhood and to use, especially
20 during these cold days? What about us?

21 We submitted over 500
22 signatures to all of your offices in May
23 asking for support for Marcus Foster and
24 Pickett pools, and not one of you have
25 proposed to bring this bill up in your

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2 communities or at Council.

3 We mailed over 70 letters to
4 our District Councilwoman and still
5 received no response.

6 I'm reminded of Sojourner
7 Truth's question of 1851 Women's Rights
8 Convention in which she asked, ain't I a
9 woman?

10 As I sit and reflect on her
11 words, our community too feels the sense
12 of not being seen, heard, or invested in.
13 Aren't we citizens too? Don't we deserve
14 to participate equally as you give the
15 School District funds to rebuild Marcus
16 Foster and renovate Pickett?

17 Are you Council for one or two
18 neighborhoods or Council for the entire
19 city?

20 We are asking for a commitment
21 from you all to support a bill funding
22 the rebuild of Marcus Foster and the
23 renovation of Pickett pool.

24 I thank you.

25 - - -

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 - - -

4 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
5 is Sterling Scott.

6 (Witness approached podium.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
8 morning.

9 MR. SCOTT: Good morning. My
10 name is Sterling Scott, former committee
11 person, presently block captain for the
12 4600 block of North 16th Street, and I'm
13 here to support Bill 230851 in support
14 for Marcus Foster Aquatics Group and the
15 Friends of Marcus Foster Aquatics Group.
16 I also represent and hold daily the
17 Citizen Congress of Nicetown, who I have
18 partnered to keep the neighborhood clean
19 and safe.

20 We have senior citizens that
21 need services and the Marcus Foster
22 Recreation Center and pool to be rebuilt
23 for the youth and the people in the
24 domiciliary in this area. We've been
25 neglected for so long, and we need the

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 City Council to fund to have this
3 building rebuilt totally.

4 Thank you again.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you.

7 - - -

8 (Applause.)

9 - - -

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you for your testimony.

12 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
13 is Queen Judith Robinson.

14 (No response.)

15 CHIEF CLERK: Queen Judith
16 Robinson.

17 (No response.)

18 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
19 is Veronica Holman.

20 (Witness approached podium.)

21 MS. HOLMAN: My name is
22 Veronica Holman.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
24 morning.

25 MS. HOLMAN: Good morning, City

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Council President, Councilmembers, and
3 attendees. I am here in regard to Bill
4 No. 230851. My name is Veronica Holman
5 and I'm here with Philly Aquatics and the
6 residents of Nicetown to request that you
7 reopen Pickett pool, rebuild Marcus
8 Foster pool, and that they maintain
9 School District pools.

10 This will not be a long
11 testimony. We have been before you
12 previously and before the School Board
13 numerous times in regard to making these
14 pools available to us, the children,
15 elders, taxpayers of Nicetown.

16 We have presented petitions
17 with more than 500 names asking that the
18 pools be reopened and remain under the
19 School District of Philadelphia. We have
20 presented documentation to support the
21 reason our pools should reopen and be
22 made available to us again.

23 If you do not have the packets
24 with the documentation, we will deliver a
25 packet to each of you upon request.

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2 I am here today as your
3 constituent asking that you do the right
4 thing for all the residents in this
5 underserved area of the City that will
6 use these pools. We are being denied
7 access to these pools because the
8 gatekeepers have allowed Pickett pool,
9 Marcus Foster to deteriorate to the point
10 that Marcus Foster may need to be
11 rebuilt.

12 Collectively you are providing
13 for constituents, taxpayers, and their
14 children in other areas of the City.
15 What about us? What will your legacy be?
16 We see that you can work together. We
17 are officially asking you to remove the
18 barriers to the immediate restoration of
19 the Marcus Foster pool, building, and
20 Pickett pool.

21 Residents of Nicetown and
22 Philly Aquatics have already shown that
23 we are committed to working together.
24 Reopening these two School District pools
25 will improve the quality of life for the

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 residents in our community.

3 Thank you for allowing me to
4 present this testimony.

5 - - -

6 (Applause.)

7 (Audience members chanting.)

8 - - -

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
10 for your testimony.

11 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
12 is Raymond Alvarez, commenting on 230746.

13 (Witness approached podium.)

14 MR. ALVAREZ: I am Raymond
15 Alvarez, founder of A&I Security, a
16 family-owned private security firm
17 established in 2016.

18 I work with many small business
19 owners and have been part of the
20 community all my life. Today I'm here to
21 share my perspective on Bill 230746.

22 I'm here to express opposition
23 to this bill, as we believe it sidesteps
24 essential democratic processes, goes
25 beyond legal boundaries, and lacks

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 inclusivity or equity. This bill imposes
3 unwarranted and likely unenforceable
4 burdens on businesses by dictating how
5 they should structure their workforce.
6 It introduces unnecessary barriers that
7 could push enterprises away, especially
8 at a time when we're just getting over
9 the pandemic.

10 Beyond the substantive issues
11 with this bill, we find the process
12 unsettling. The lack of input from
13 businesses like ours is not only a
14 disservice to the business community but
15 also a departure from the democratic
16 values our elected officials are
17 responsible to uphold.

18 In crafting legislation of this
19 magnitude, it is imperative that those
20 who will be directly impacted are given a
21 seat at the table. It is our firsthand
22 experiences, insights, concerns that
23 should shape the policies that govern our
24 businesses in our community.

25 Elected officials have a

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 responsibility to engage with a diverse
3 population of community members and
4 business owners to understand how
5 legislation may affect them.
6 Unfortunately, in this instance, City
7 Council failed to reach out to the
8 Hispanic community, which represents many
9 businesses that could be impacted. This
10 bill will undoubtedly have broad
11 implications, and lack of outreach to
12 diverse business communities is
13 troubling.

14 Analysis after analysis, report
15 after report indicates that
16 Philadelphia's business environment is
17 not suitable for small businesses. This
18 city is too unsafe, too costly, too
19 cumbersome for entrepreneurs to start,
20 grow, and scale their businesses. In
21 spite of this, we chose to operate here.
22 We love our city, and we're committed to
23 it, but regulations such as this one
24 makes it increasingly hard.

25 It's crucial that regulations

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 are not imposed without our input and
3 consideration for experiences, and this
4 bill adds yet another layer of difficulty
5 for us.

6 As business leaders and
7 community members, we're ready to work
8 with City Council to build a stronger,
9 safer, and more vibrant Philadelphia. We
10 hope for a genuine dialogue that
11 considers the challenges we face and
12 leads to policies that support our
13 businesses in the local economy.

14 Thank you, Council, for
15 allowing me to present.

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
17 for your testimony.

18 - - -

19 (Applause.)

20 - - -

21 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
22 is Mayra Soto, commenting on 230746.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you.
24 Please state your name and begin your
25 testimony.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Witness approached podium.)

3 MS. SOTO: Good morning. I am

4 Mayra Soto, the Member Engagement

5 Coordinator of the Greater Philadelphia

6 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce representing

7 our President and CEO. I would like to

8 address the Chamber's stance on Bill

9 230746.

10 Over the past two decades, the

11 Greater Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of

12 Commerce has played a pivotal role in

13 fostering, promoting, and advocating for

14 the interest of 12 current Hispanic

15 businesses in Philadelphia. Our

16 commitment extends to addressing the

17 economic growth of the Hispanic

18 community.

19 We firmly believe that

20 entrepreneurship is a key competent in

21 addressing disparities hindering the

22 process of underrepresented communities,

23 and it should be focal point for our

24 government.

25 Our opposition to Bill 230746

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 is twofold. First, we believe it
3 circumvents essential democratic
4 processes. Secondly, its viability if
5 the face of legal scrutiny is
6 questionable.

7 Moreover, the bill neglects the
8 diverse perspective of business owners
9 most directly impacted by it. This
10 proposed legislation imposes undue and
11 potentially illegal barriers on
12 businesses across various sectors by
13 dictating the specifics of the workforce
14 composition, dictating who to hire and
15 how. It adds unnecessary processes and
16 costs to businesses that are still
17 recovering from the impact of the
18 pandemic.

19 Thank you.

20 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
21 for your testimony.

22 Mr. Decker.

23 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
24 is Regina Hairston.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES:

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Ms. Hairston, state your name for the
3 record and please begin your testimony.

4 (Witness approached podium.)

5 MS. HAIRSTON: Good morning,
6 Majority Chair.

7 COUNCILMAN JONES: Good
8 morning.

9 MR. HAIRSTON: My name is
10 Regina Hairston. I am here speaking on
11 Bill 230746.

12 Again, my name is Regina
13 Hairston, President and CEO of the
14 African American Chamber of Commerce for
15 Pennsylvania and New Jersey, where we
16 represent over 180,000 business owners.

17 I stand before you today in
18 opposition of this bill because there was
19 not a democratic process or even a
20 process to determine how this bill will
21 impact Black businesses.

22 We come before this body quite
23 often to talk about the disparities that
24 Black businesses face. We hear time and
25 time and time about the commitment to

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Black businesses. Yet we have a bill
3 that dictates whom businesses can choose
4 to hire. However, when we look at our
5 procurement in the City and we look at
6 tax dollars, we're talking about private
7 enterprise money, but now when we look at
8 tax dollars for the City of Philadelphia
9 and we look at the low amount of tax
10 dollars that go to procurement services
11 for Black businesses, we say that's
12 illegal. We must have a disparity study
13 to set goals, but yet we have a bill
14 before us that tells us it's legal to say
15 where we must point those dollars.

16 We oppose this bill because it
17 has not been properly researched and
18 vetted to determine how it really impacts
19 small businesses. We oppose this bill
20 because there was no democratic process.
21 Just as Council represents everyone in
22 the City of Philadelphia, I represent the
23 businesses, the Black businesses, that
24 joined the Chamber, whether or not they
25 pay or not, but I can't come before this

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 body and say, City of Philadelphia,
3 mandate anyone that does business in
4 Philadelphia must join the Chamber of
5 Commerce. We would be in an uproar.
6 This is the same bill that you're putting
7 before our business owners to say that
8 they must mandate who they hire.

9 For the Team Cleans of the
10 world who started working on one house in
11 the Main Line and growing her business to
12 1,000 or more employees, I say no. We
13 are not voting for this bill today.

14 I say for the Blane Stoddarts,
15 who started with one apartment building
16 and built a construction firm and now
17 you're telling him who he must hire, the
18 African American Chamber of Commerce says
19 no to that.

20 So I implore you to vote no for
21 this bill.

22 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
23 for your testimony.

24 - - -

25 (Applause.)

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 - - -

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Mr. Decker.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Chairman, the
5 next speaker is Daisy Cruz.

6 - - -

7 (Applause.)

8 - - -

9 (Witness approached podium.)

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Good
11 morning, Ms. Cruz. Please state your
12 name for the record and please begin your
13 testimony.

14 MS. CRUZ: Good morning. My
15 name is Daisy Cruz. I'm the District
16 Leader for SEIU Local 32BJ. We represent
17 over 10,000 workers here in Philadelphia
18 in the tri-state area. Seven thousand of
19 them work here in Center City.

20 A lot of our members find
21 themselves in danger of losing their jobs
22 due to no fault of their own. Our union
23 members are cleaners, security officers,
24 and building engineers who make sure that
25 these buildings are clean, well

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 maintained, and secure so that businesses
3 are able to function properly.

4 Our workers can easily be taken
5 for granted and are the unseen workers.
6 During the pandemic, our members became
7 highly recognized in ways that they had
8 never been before. While the rest of the
9 world were able to work from home, not
10 our members.

11 They were celebrated and
12 honored as essential workers when it was
13 still unclear exactly how the virus was
14 spreading. They did deep cleaning,
15 constantly kept the buildings running,
16 and helped enforce social distance and
17 mask mandates in an effort to keep all of
18 us safe and healthy as possible.

19 Now that we're coming out of
20 the worst of it and into the time of
21 recovery, we find that our businesses and
22 that our members who worked so hard to
23 help stay afloat are making adjustments
24 themselves. While we expect that social
25 and economic times change, businesses

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 will adapt, but we cannot sacrifice the
3 jobs of low-wage hard-working people so
4 that billionaires can continue to get
5 richer.

6 - - -

7 (Applause.)

8 - - -

9 MS. CRUZ: We fought for
10 displaced worker laws in the past to
11 close loopholes and left workers
12 vulnerable to job loss for irresponsible
13 businesses trying to avoid the living
14 wages and benefits that our members
15 fought so hard in their union contracts
16 over the years. This language is not a
17 new concept. It's simply adapting to an
18 already existing law to address the
19 changing circumstances.

20 Passing the commitments to the
21 existing law will give workers a chance
22 to hold onto their wages, their
23 healthcare, their pension, when they are
24 the ones who need all the stuff the most.
25 Businesses should not benefit at the

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 expense of poor, hard-working people
3 while they live paycheck to paycheck if
4 this bill is not passed this year.

5 We cannot put big businesses
6 above low-wage workers. We ask that you
7 continue to support us by voting yes on
8 displaced worker Bill 230746. By doing
9 so, you will be sending a clear message
10 that we're all in this recovery process
11 together. If you vote no, you will be
12 voting no of poor, hard-working people
13 and voting yes for billionaires to
14 continue to get richer.

15 Thank you.

16 - - -

17 (Applause.)

18 - - -

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
20 for your testimony.

21 Mr. Decker.

22 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
23 is Aisha Al-Muid, commenting on 230851.

24 (Witness approached podium.)

25 MS. AL-MUID: Good morning,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 everyone. Thank you for having me. My
3 name is Aisha Al-Muid and I am here to
4 speak on behalf of Bill 238 -- the bill
5 that's for the recreation centers and the
6 pools, because I can't bring it up right
7 now. But I am here as a voice from the
8 community to state that I am a product of
9 Sayre Recreation Center being open all
10 year long. I participated on the PDR
11 Swim Team, which gave me the skills and
12 confidence to become a champion in life.
13 I also gained critical life-saving skills
14 as a lifeguard.

15 Sayre is a hub for community
16 and positivity for all families and
17 children not only in West Philadelphia,
18 Southwest Philadelphia and surrounding
19 areas.

20 So I am here to say that you
21 need to open and repair and make them
22 accessible for the present community so
23 that they are able to thrive and be
24 successful in life such as I am.

25 Thank you.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 - - -

3 (Applause.)

4 - - -

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you for your testimony.

7 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
8 is Jeron Williams II, commenting on
9 220905.

10 (Witness approached podium.)

11 MR. WILLIAMS: Good morning.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
13 morning -- good afternoon. Sorry.

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. It's
15 12 o'clock. Thank you, Council President
16 Clarke, Councilmember Thomas, honorable
17 members of this body, and of course the
18 residents of Philadelphia. My name is
19 Jeron Williams II, the Vice Chair of
20 Communications for the Philadelphia Youth
21 Commission, commenting on Bill 220905.

22 Just for some context, I helped
23 bring about the resolution that honored
24 our Executive Director, Jeanette
25 Bavwidinsi, last week and her leadership

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2 for the Commission in the Millennial
3 Advisory Committee.

4 So we are here and have been
5 having conversations about how important
6 youth are, but not often do we see bona
7 fide, well thought out, and intentional
8 work to support them.

9 The Commission saw this bill on
10 the Council floor, and we wanted to make
11 sure that we showed up for the youth.
12 The Commission discussed at length the
13 bill and its benefits, and Councilmember
14 Thomas attested that this bill can serve
15 as a pathway out of poverty for young
16 people who are talented in their own
17 rights but don't necessarily have the
18 tools and resources to navigate this very
19 predatory and complex system that is an
20 NIL agreement.

21 Our own research concluded the
22 same. It emphasizes education and
23 guidance, offers financial relief and
24 support, and even more specifically, it
25 targets low-income neighborhoods,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 households, and families, which aligns
3 with the priorities of the City, this
4 body, and of the Commission of making
5 Philadelphia a more equitable and
6 inclusive city.

7 The Commission agrees that
8 these youth would only benefit from extra
9 supports from our government, academic,
10 and non-profit partners to ensure that
11 their best interests are served, and
12 we're excited to stand in support of this
13 bill.

14 Thank you to Councilmember
15 Thomas as well as Councilmembers
16 Driscoll, Squilla, Bass, Brooks,
17 Gauthier, Gilmore Richardson, Jones, and
18 O'Neill for co-sponsoring this bill. The
19 work that this Council has done over the
20 past four years, including the former
21 members, has been amazing, and we are
22 appreciative of your efforts.

23 Once again, my name is Jeron
24 Williams II of the Philadelphia Youth
25 Commission, and I thank you for allowing

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 me to comment on this bill.

3 This concludes my testimony.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

6 - - -

7 (Applause.)

8 - - -

9 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
10 is Lisa Hastings, commenting on 230770.

11 (Witness approached podium.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
13 afternoon.

14 MS. HASTINGS: Hi. My name is
15 Lisa Hastings. Hello.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We
17 hear you.

18 MS. HASTINGS: Hi. My name is
19 Lisa Hastings and I strongly oppose
20 overlay Bill 230770, as do hundreds of my
21 neighbors. I live one block from the
22 overlay area and within the area the
23 neighborhood nearby it which will be
24 strongly impacted forever by the
25 precedence it sets.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 The bill would endanger the
3 integrity of the Parkway and the
4 neighborhoods near it by destroying the
5 protected Parkway area height limit,
6 undercutting neighborhood involvement in
7 zoning, and doing so many years before
8 construction of the project is even
9 started.

10 For the bill itself -- for the
11 project itself, the bill is really
12 unnecessary, because most things can be
13 done through variances, and at best
14 premature. The developer told us last
15 month at a neighborhood meeting that the
16 plans for what he would ultimately build
17 there and how he would do it would not be
18 final for several more years. So
19 basically the project is not being
20 delayed because this bill has not passed,
21 and passing this bill will not change
22 that.

23 It also won't guarantee that
24 the current vision becomes a reality, but
25 it does allow by the open-ended changes,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 it does allow the project to deteriorate
3 without public involvement.

4 If the City wants to pay the
5 Family Court building developer in part
6 by giving them public property to develop
7 privately, at least the existing Parkway
8 area zoning should be respected. There's
9 plenty of room there. Sacrificing the
10 Parkway area height limits, ignoring the
11 public and the real consequences of this
12 overlay bill is not going to help
13 anything.

14 Thank you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you. Thank you so much for your
17 testimony. We appreciate it.

18 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
19 is Bonita Cummings, commenting on 220364
20 and 230764.

21 (Witness approached podium.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
23 afternoon.

24 MS. CUMMINGS: Good morning or
25 afternoon. My name is Bonita Cummings.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I'm the Director of Strawberry Mansion
3 Community Concerned and a registered RCO.
4 I'm here in reference to Bill No. 220364.

5 Maybe some of us forgot the
6 trip to the supermarket where mom has two
7 children in the cart, two around her
8 ankles, and two pulling at her skirt tail
9 and not one extra penny to pay for
10 anything that wasn't in that budget.

11 The bill is about the plastic
12 industry and injuries to unsuspecting
13 families. Mandating a fee for bags
14 changes even how the cashier can relate
15 to the customer. A normal courtesy of
16 giving a bag is now legislated to be a
17 cost. We cannot talk about poor people,
18 then make them poorer. There has to be
19 an exemption for the people on food
20 stamps or access cards.

21 The present fees for bags are
22 exploitive, especially in the poppy or
23 corner stores in poor neighborhoods.

24 So we ask that you hold this
25 bill from your Consent Agenda. No one

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 will be injured if this bill does not
3 pass today, but poor people will be
4 injured and including those working in
5 the bag industry.

6 So Council President Clarke and
7 Councilmember Squilla and all the
8 Councilmembers, this bill needs more
9 protections for both the poor, food
10 stamp, and access card families and
11 workers in the bag industry.

12 In reference to Bill No.
13 230764, an event space for many
14 neighborhoods acts like a nightclub. The
15 request in this bill is too broad, and
16 the impact to neighborhood commercial
17 corridors is different for every
18 neighborhood.

19 What would happen in Chestnut
20 Hill is very different than behavior from
21 an event venue on Ridge Avenue at 29th
22 Street. This bill needs more community
23 input, and no one would be injured if the
24 bill does not pass today.

25 So I want to thank you for

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 allowing me to have a voice today and for
3 not taking my voice.

4 Thank you.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you for your testimony.

7 - - -

8 (Applause.)

9 - - -

10 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
11 is Wick Savage, commenting on 230836.

12 (Witness approached podium.)

13 MR. SAVAGE: Good afternoon --

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
15 afternoon.

16 MR. SAVAGE: -- President of
17 City Council and Councilmembers. I'm
18 here speaking on Bill 230836. That is
19 Councilmen Curtis Jones' bill about
20 outside cafes.

21 Cafes are beautiful. They are
22 enjoyable by many, many people and many
23 visitors, but just recently with the
24 killing of an employee in Macy's
25 department store and the shooting of two

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 officers in my dear friend Councilman
3 Driscoll's district, if we don't get a
4 handle on this violence from river to
5 river, from the Greater Northeast to the
6 Navy Yard, we won't have to worry about
7 outside cafes because people will be
8 scared to death to go in these cafes.
9 And these cafes are not just in Center
10 City. They're in Councilman Curtis'
11 district, they're in Councilman Squilla's
12 district, they're in Councilman
13 Kenyatta's district and throughout the
14 City, because it's an enjoyable way to
15 enjoy your evening when you want to go
16 out with your loved one.

17 I will plead with this Council
18 body and the newest Council body that is
19 coming into session, we have got to get
20 our arms around this violence.

21 Thank you very much.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you for your testimony.

24 - - -

25 (Applause.)

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 - - -

3 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
4 is Maurice Sample, commenting on 220364.
5 (Witness approached podium.)

6 MR. SAMPSON: My name is
7 Maurice Sampson actually and I am
8 speaking here on behalf -- in support of
9 Bill 220364, and I'd like to address very
10 directly the concerns that were raised
11 several speakers ago.

12 In fact, adding a fee to the
13 plastic bag bill, not only does it not
14 hurt the poor, I submit to you that
15 without the fee, what we have right now
16 is more damaging to the poor, and I will
17 tell you why.

18 Right now there are 29 stores
19 in the total low-income community that
20 are discount stores, Aldi's, Leidy's,
21 Shop N Bag. They have always charged a
22 fee. In fact, charging a fee is the way
23 to keep their prices down.

24 These are the stores that have
25 been most convenient to the poorest

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 residents in the City. If you don't add
3 a fee, what happens basically is -- I'm
4 sorry; add an exemption, they then have
5 to charge for the bags, which will cause
6 them to raise their price. What does
7 that mean? A study done this year
8 indicates that of 183 products at these
9 stores, they are 20 to 40 percent lower
10 in cost than at a Walmart.

11 So we need to be -- this bill
12 is -- the fee is not for the purpose of
13 increasing the cost to people. What it
14 is is revealing the fact that we are
15 already paying for these bags and the
16 cost of those bags buried in the cost of
17 all of the groceries. By having a fee,
18 you isolate that cost. You know what
19 you're paying. And the first question
20 you're going to ask is, do I really need
21 this bag. The experience in Chicago, San
22 Jose and others is that there is an
23 immediate 50 percent decrease in the use
24 of all bags, because I don't want to pay
25 the fee, I don't need it.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 You want to avoid the fee
3 entirely? Bring your own bag. And
4 that's the whole point of this bill, is
5 to provide that incentive to use what we
6 have learned.

7 In Chicago where they had a
8 plastic bag ban, it was this measure that
9 corrected it. Now, in that case, they
10 put in a tax. A tax is regressive. This
11 leaves the fee to the stores, not to
12 gouge us, but you're not going to buy a
13 bag if you don't need a bag.

14 And I think that's the end of
15 my time, but I hope my point has been
16 made, and a lot of the information has
17 been provided to City Council. If there
18 any other questions, I'm your guy to ask.

19 Thank you very much.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you for your testimony. We
22 appreciate it.

23 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
24 is Wanda Walker, commenting on 230859.

25 (Witness approached podium.)

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 MS. WALKER: Good afternoon,
3 beautiful people. My name is Wanda
4 Walker. I was here last week, and I'm
5 here this week speaking pretty much about
6 the same thing, President Darrell Clarke,
7 generational wealth and how important it
8 is.

9 I'm starting to see a pattern
10 in only two visits where property is
11 being given to PHA for development, and
12 I'm going to ask again that you all make
13 it possible for those properties to be
14 accessible to the families that might be
15 entitled to those properties. Set up
16 some type of program where they get a
17 second chance at those properties.

18 It should not be that just
19 because someone didn't write a will or
20 they lost a property to taxes, that
21 family members that would be deserving
22 those properties or would be left deeded
23 those properties or inherit those
24 properties not get them. If we can give
25 it to PHA, we can give it back to the

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 family.

3 Generational wealth is
4 everything in Philadelphia. We know that
5 a lot of people are struggling. We know
6 the median income is 35,000 in
7 Philadelphia. And being that I am a
8 property owner, landlord, daycare owner,
9 I have a lot that I want to give back,
10 and with this pattern that I'm seeing,
11 I'm in fear that the lot that I'm trying
12 to get back will be then given to PHA,
13 and that's not fair.

14 People have worked for these
15 properties. Their families deserve them,
16 and it should be a way for them to get it
17 back.

18 So I'm going to keep coming
19 here to make this ask of you all that you
20 consider community people first before
21 giving property to PHA or private
22 developers. We worked for it, we earned
23 it, and it's our legacy.

24 Thank you very much.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Thank you.

3 - - -

4 (Applause.)

5 - - -

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you for your testimony.

8 CHIEF CLERK: The final speaker
9 today, Mr. President, is Julie Carnegie,
10 commenting on 230838.

11 (Witness approached podium.)

12 MS. CARNEGIE: Thank you. Good
13 afternoon. My full name is Julie Audrey
14 Ward Carnegie. Respectfully, greetings
15 to Council President, greetings to our
16 honorable members and honorable
17 President, as well as the assembly of all
18 of us here.

19 I am speaking in regards to
20 introduction from Councilmember Jones
21 230838, an ordinance renaming and
22 designating the area of land bounded by
23 Parkside Avenue and Belmont Avenue as
24 "The Miller Parker Philadelphia Stars
25 Negro League Memorial Park."

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I'm all in favor of this
3 ordinance. However, I do suggest that
4 you put some protection to it. Having
5 heard earlier, if I may state on the
6 record, that earlier I heard today that
7 there is a resolution coming out of
8 Harrisburg that our Governor Shapiro can
9 veto. I suggest that you put the
10 protection of John Quincy Adams funding
11 to this for the reason being he is our
12 one President that believed in paid labor
13 and there probably would not be as many
14 arguments against that because he had no
15 slaves.

16 Thank you.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Thank you.

19 The Chair recognizes
20 Councilwoman Gauthier.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Thank
22 you, Council President.

23 I just wanted to take a moment
24 to thank all of the advocates that came
25 here to speak about Bill 230851, which

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 establishes a lease between Parks and
3 Recreation and the School District of
4 Philadelphia to operate the Sayre pool.

5 We are excited about this step
6 forward, and it was many of these
7 advocates in the room and beyond that got
8 us to a place where we have the
9 commitment of funding from the School
10 District and the City of Philadelphia to
11 repair and reopen the pool and move this
12 forward.

13 But, you know, I hear what
14 they're saying loudly and clearly.
15 First, it took years of advocacy to get
16 us to this point where we have the
17 funding and the agreement to reopen
18 Sayre, and we still have indoor pools
19 across the City that are closed to our
20 communities and children like the
21 wonderful little girl that we heard speak
22 here today. That means that they don't
23 have access to aquatics education in many
24 instances or safe recreation. And I know
25 that my colleagues agree with me that

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 it's important that we reopen the pools.

3 I got the support of my colleagues in the
4 fight for Sayre, and I know that folks
5 also care about this issue.

6 I also want to thank the School
7 District of Philadelphia, because with
8 Dr. Watlington coming on board and with
9 Board President Streater's appointment,
10 it was easier to have this conversation.

11 And so I just hope that we can
12 do what we did for Sayre with all of the
13 other indoor pools across the City,
14 because that's what our children deserve.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Thank
18 you so much.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you, Councilwoman.

21 Councilman Driscoll. The Chair
22 recognizes Councilman Driscoll.

23 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Thank
24 you, Mr. President.

25 I want to thank you for your

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 leadership on the Philadelphia Plumbing
3 Code bill that we'll be voting on Consent
4 Agenda today and also recognize the
5 Kenney Administration for all their hard
6 work, but we also have a few members of
7 the Plumbing Advisory Board that are
8 here, Walt Kryzanowski and Brian Gilbert.
9 I can tell working with Walt and my staff
10 over the last year how much time and
11 effort that they have put into this very
12 important legislation that we'll be
13 voting on today.

14 So I commend you for all your
15 efforts and thank you for your
16 contributions to the City of
17 Philadelphia.

18 Thank you, Mr. President.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you, Councilman.

21 And --

22 - - -

23 (Applause.)

24 - - -

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: --

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 the Chair recognizes Councilwoman Bass.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Yes. Thank
4 you, Mr. President. I just wanted to
5 provide some clarity as well.

6 And I heard my colleague
7 Councilwoman Gauthier regarding Sayre
8 pool, and I just wanted to be on the
9 record and state with all transparency
10 that the two pools which were mentioned
11 primarily -- because this was a
12 discussion not really about Sayre pool.
13 It was really about Marcus Foster and it
14 was really about Pickett, which are owned
15 by the School District of Philadelphia
16 that we've been trying to wrangle loose
17 and get to another entity.

18 You know, some of the folks who
19 spoke today, all of the folks are very
20 passionate supporters of pools. We want
21 pools open. We want access. We know
22 that swimming is something that
23 particularly African American children
24 are particularly not as much exposed to
25 of not only having access to a pool but

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 having access to quality swim

3 instruction.

4 And so I created in my district
5 an 8th District Pool Commission, and some
6 of the folks who were here earlier were
7 actually on that Pool Commission to
8 participate and to try to work together
9 as a community to get those pools open
10 and online for all of our residents.

11 Some folks decided, during the
12 Primary Election, decided not to further
13 participate in the Pool Commission for
14 whatever reason, and that's okay, because
15 folks have the right to decide where they
16 spend their time and how they volunteer
17 their time.

18 But I just wanted to make it
19 absolutely clear that we heard those
20 folks who spoke today. We've been
21 working on it regardless of folks, if
22 they're active on the Pool Commission,
23 active in other things that they wanted
24 to do and participate on. No matter what
25 it is that they're interested in doing,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 we want to see resources directed towards
3 our community and will continue to work
4 towards that part.

5 And we thank you,
6 Mr. President, because we know you have
7 been very, very helpful in this regard.
8 So thank you for your leadership on this
9 issue and so many others as well.

10 Thank you.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you so much, Councilwoman.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Jones.

15 COUNCILMAN JONES: No.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: No?
17 You're good? Okay.

18 All right. At this time, I
19 would like to suspend the regular order
20 of business to recognize a special guest
21 today.

22 Mr. Mayor, thank you.

23 - - -

24 (Standing ovation.)

25 - - -

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMENTS OF MAYOR KENNEY

2 MAYOR KENNEY: Thank you. I
3 must say that's the first time I ever saw
4 Councilmember Jones not give a speech.
5 That's funny.

6 Well, here I am back to the
7 future. Good afternoon, everyone. I
8 want to thank you for the opportunity to
9 address the City Council during a very
10 full day, and congratulations on another
11 year of service to our beloved city.

12 I'd like to thank you for your
13 commitment and your partnership
14 throughout our Administration. It has
15 been an honor and privilege to work with
16 past and present Councilmembers, both as
17 the Mayor and as a Councilmember here for
18 24 years.

19 In recent weeks, I've had many
20 opportunities to reflect on the last
21 eight years, and I'm proud to have shared
22 many of the high points with my
23 colleagues in Council. Together, we
24 passed historic legislation to invest in
25 our city's children and rebuild our parks

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMENTS OF MAYOR KENNEY
2 and libraries. We made record
3 investments in education and public
4 safety and have taken many historic steps
5 to advance equity, inclusion, prosperity,
6 and the quality of life for all of our
7 citizens.

8 We also endured dark days
9 together, and I want to acknowledge
10 everyone here who rolled up their sleeves
11 to work with us and shepherd Philadelphia
12 through the pandemic.

13 I remember standing in an empty
14 Liacouras Center looking at a 150-bed
15 hospital we had to build, with oxygen,
16 electricity and all the amenities of a
17 hospital, and thought to myself I've
18 never imagined either as a Councilmember
19 or as Mayor that we would have to
20 actually do that. But we did it.

21 And I also want to take a
22 moment to thank -- and I've been doing
23 this for the past number of interviews
24 and things that I've had to do -- Black
25 Doctors Consortium.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMENTS OF MAYOR KENNEY

2 - - -

3 (Applause.)

4 - - -

5 MAYOR KENNEY: And one of the
6 things -- one of the many things I'm
7 proud of is that we delivered both
8 testing and vaccines with neighborhood
9 equity, because people of color often
10 don't trust the medical community because
11 of historical wrongs that were done to
12 them, but I walked into the Liacouras
13 Center one night and the entire place was
14 filled with people of color, mostly
15 older, waiting to get their vaccinations,
16 and I knew then that we were going to get
17 through this.

18 Today we are in a far different
19 place, thankfully, and I credit all of
20 the local leaders for getting us here.

21 I also want to recognize the
22 new and incoming Councilmembers who saw
23 the unprecedented challenges that public
24 servants faced in the last four years and
25 rather than shy away raised their hands

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMENTS OF MAYOR KENNEY
2 to share in that responsibility.

3 Philadelphia is moving in the
4 right direction, and I'm confident that
5 this City Council and Mayor-elect Parker
6 will indeed build on our accomplishments
7 over the last eight years.

8 One of the other things I am
9 very proud of, and with your help this
10 happened, we are in the best financial
11 shape in the City's history. We've got
12 the highest fund balance in the City's
13 history, almost a billion dollars. Our
14 bond rating went from junk to 1A. Our
15 Pension Fund was funded at 40 percent
16 when we came into office. It just went
17 over 60.

18 I know you like that.

19 - - -

20 (Applause.)

21 - - -

22 MAYOR KENNEY: As someone who
23 is facing that lovely check too, I'm
24 happy for it too. Thank you.

25 But we're over 60 percent now.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMENTS OF MAYOR KENNEY

2 Our Rainy Day Fund is robust.

3 And, look, we have really
4 serious challenges when it comes to
5 violence and opioids and addiction and
6 guns, but we are making -- we're turning
7 the corner on the gun issue. We're over
8 20 percent down from where we were last
9 year. Certainly not enough. I think one
10 homicide is one homicide too many. But
11 we're getting there, especially in a
12 state like Pennsylvania that it's easier
13 to get a gun than a driver's license. So
14 that's something we need to work on.

15 Philadelphia is moving in the
16 right direction. I'm confident City
17 Council and Mayor-elect Parker -- I said
18 that already. I'm a little nervous. I'm
19 sorry.

20 There are many exciting moments
21 ahead for our city, an historic
22 inauguration, the World Cup, the 250th
23 anniversary of our country, and I will be
24 cheering for you every step of the way.

25 I also want to take this moment

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMENTS OF MAYOR KENNEY
2 to recognize and thank Council President
3 Clarke, who has served in this role for
4 the entirety --

5 - - -

6 (Standing ovation.)

7 - - -

8 MAYOR KENNEY: He's been a
9 great friend and colleague for longer
10 than he's been Council President when he
11 was a staffer here and I was a
12 Councilmember. And one thing I am proud
13 of our relationship is that we had our
14 differences, but we never had them in
15 public, and we were partners and we
16 worked it out and we moved forward. And
17 I am so proud of our relationship, and
18 the fact that we're leaving together I
19 think is pretty -- so thank you for
20 everything, and congratulations, Darrell.

21 I know that we've got a packed
22 agenda today, so thank you again for the
23 time. Thank you for your partnership and
24 service. Happy holidays.

25 And I just want to say

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMENTS OF MAYOR KENNEY
2 something before I leave. When I first
3 came to this body in 1992, I was 32 years
4 old. I knew everything. I had the
5 answer to every problem. I was just
6 going to fix everything, blah, blah,
7 blah. And I sat over there and Gussie
8 Clark sat over there, and I remember
9 making a speech during comments after a
10 session or before session ended, and I
11 looked over and she said to me
12 (indicating), so I went over. She said,
13 I knew what you were trying to say, but
14 you just didn't say it the right way, and
15 let me explain to you how you should say
16 that. And I learned.

17 Marian Tasco, Gussie Clark,
18 Jannie Blackwell schooled me in how to be
19 a public official for an entire city, not
20 just for South Philadelphia, not just for
21 2nd Street, but the entire City. And I
22 learned the cultural differences and the
23 cultural familiarities with each other,
24 what we all want and what we've all been
25 through and the history of the City, and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - COMMENTS OF MAYOR KENNEY

2 I want to thank -- and I want to say
3 this -- I want to thank Black women for
4 actually --

5 - - -

6 (Applause.)

7 - - -

8 MAYOR KENNEY: I've been
9 heckled out of a car window by a lot of
10 people, none of them Black women, and
11 what I experienced in my contact is
12 prayer, encouragement, energy. "I know
13 you're doing your best, honey. I know
14 you're trying." And I always felt
15 encouraged by those words.

16 So I just want to thank you
17 all. I will be watching you. I won't be
18 waiting for phone calls from Tumar
19 Alexander at 10 o'clock at night, which
20 is the worst phone call you can get.
21 It's like, oh my God, what's going on.
22 And I look forward to watching you
23 progress and make this city a better
24 place than it is today, and I wish you
25 all well.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION

2 I love you all, and I thank you
3 all for your service to our city.

4 God bless.

5 - - -

6 (Standing ovation.)

7 - - -

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you, and thank you, Mayor, for your
10 years of dedicated service. We really
11 appreciate particularly given some of the
12 challenging times that we have had here
13 of late, but we move on and we got a good
14 crew coming in to take care and continue
15 the awesome, awesome work that's been
16 done over the last several years.

17 We're going to return back to
18 the regular order of business and I would
19 like to recognize Councilman Jones for a
20 motion to suspend the rules of Council so
21 we can permit the consideration of an
22 additional communication at this time.

23 I'm sorry. Hold on one second.

24 Mr. Decker, hold on one second.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 12/14/23 - STATED - ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION

2 Thomas. Are you okay?

3 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: I'm going
4 to wait.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: So
6 we can move on the Calendar, we got some
7 information from the Planning Commission.
8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Jones.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
11 Mr. President. I move that the rules of
12 Council be suspended to permit additional
13 correspondence at this time.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Thank you. It's been moved and properly
17 seconded that we permit an additional
18 communication at this time.

19 All in favor indicate by saying
20 aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

1 12/14/23 - STATED - ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION

2 ayes have it. The motion carries.

3 At this time, I would like to
4 recognize Mr. Decker.

5 CHIEF CLERK: From the Mayor to
6 the President and members of the Council
7 of the City of Philadelphia, pursuant to
8 Sections 4-604 and 2-307 of the Home Rule
9 Charter, I am today transmitting to the
10 Council the recommendation of the City
11 Planning Commission on the following
12 bills: Bill No. 230765 and 230766. The
13 City Planning Commission at its meeting
14 of December 14, 2023 recommended Bill
15 Nos. 230765 and 230766, as amended,
16 November 30, 2023 for approval.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Thank you. Thank you. Thank you,
19 Mr. Decker.

20 We will move to our regular
21 order of business. Real brief
22 explanation, one of our Capital Budget
23 bills needed to have authorization by the
24 City of Philadelphia Planning Commission
25 before we voted for the final passage

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2 today. That was done at today's Planning
3 Commission session. So we're now ready
4 to go on our Capital Budget. Thank you.
5 That includes additional money for
6 swimming pools. I know that's very
7 important to a number of people here.

8 All right. Thank you very
9 much. We have concluded our special
10 order of business and we have concluded
11 our communications, so we will now move
12 to consider today's Resolution Calendar,
13 today's Resolution Consent Agenda.

14 I'm going to ask Mr. Decker to
15 read the titles of all the resolutions on
16 the Consent Agenda. After each title is
17 read -- I'm sorry.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman
19 Thomas. I'm sorry.

20 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
21 afternoon, Council President.

22 Good afternoon, colleagues.

23 Today on the Consent Agenda I
24 have three bills that's on the Consent
25 Agenda, and I want to first start by

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2 thanking my colleagues for allowing these
3 bills to be on the Consent Agenda and
4 supporting each one of these important
5 pieces of legislation.

6 As I look to close out my first
7 term in City Council, I'm so proud of the
8 body of work that we've been able to do
9 as far as Team Thomas, but I'm really
10 proud of these three bills today, because
11 they're going to have a huge impact on a
12 lot of different demographics across the
13 City of Philadelphia.

14 The first bill, of course, is
15 the NIL Protection Act, and we heard a
16 number of different witnesses come in and
17 testify to the importance of having
18 resources and services for young people
19 as we transition into this new phase of
20 high school and collegiate athletics.

21 I'm really proud to partner
22 with Temple for this specific initiative.
23 This is another example of the
24 public-private partnerships that we talk
25 about very often in this legislative

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2 body. And I'm excited for all of the
3 young people that we'll be able to serve
4 when this bill is passed into law.

5 The second bill is the "define
6 the night" bill, and we were proud to
7 work with the Commerce Department to put
8 us in a position to allow businesses to
9 better strategize with the City and
10 understand the new code of enforcement to
11 help further promote positive activity
12 and help grow the business sector in the
13 City of Philadelphia.

14 And of course last, but not
15 least, is the Exoneration Protection Act.
16 A number of people have been exonerated
17 from the City of Philadelphia. We know
18 that our District Attorney was here
19 earlier. And we understand that when
20 people are exonerated, which means they
21 are not guilty of the actual crime, there
22 are actually less resources currently
23 when someone is exonerated than there are
24 for someone who actually was guilty of a
25 crime, served their sentence, and now is

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2 returning home.

3 Of course we need more
4 resources for both demographics, but
5 today was a step in the right direction,
6 a small step in the right direction, to
7 further support and provide resources for
8 people who have been exonerated from
9 jail.

10 Unfortunately, we cannot give
11 them that time back, but at least we can
12 assure that the transition out of prison
13 is one that's as smooth as possible.

14 So, Council President, I want
15 to say thank you to you but, more
16 importantly, thank you to all of my
17 colleagues for supporting these three
18 bills, and I truly believe that these
19 bills will help make Philadelphia a
20 better place.

21 Thank you, Council President.

22 Thank you, colleagues.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you very much, Councilman. Thank
25 you very much, and thank you for your

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2 work.

3 We will now consider today's
4 Resolution Consent Agenda. I would ask
5 Mr. Decker to again read the titles of
6 all the resolutions on the Consent
7 Agenda. After each title is read, any
8 member may object to the inclusion of the
9 resolution on the Resolution Consent
10 Agenda. Upon such an objection and
11 without debate, the resolution will be
12 immediately removed from the Resolution
13 Consent Agenda and placed on today's
14 regular Final Passage Calendar.

15 I would now ask the Clerk to
16 please read the titles of the
17 resolutions.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Resolution No.
19 230917, entitled a "Resolution calling on
20 the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic
21 Association to remedy discrepancies in
22 athletic eligibility and team
23 classification caused by the placement
24 formula known as the 'Competitive Balance
25 Rule'; and

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2 Resolution No. 230918, entitled

3 a "Resolution authorizing the

4 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 1755

5 West Thompson Street located in the 5th

6 Councilmanic District"; and

7 Resolution No. 230919, entitled

8 a "Resolution authorizing the

9 Commissioner of Public Property to

10 execute and deliver to the Philadelphia

11 Redevelopment Authority deeds conveying

12 fee simple title to 1010, 1012, 1014,

13 1123, 1220, 1222, and 1224 West Somerset

14 Street, 2720, 2726, 2728, 2729, 2730, and

15 2738 North Warnock Street, 1135, 1137,

16 and 1139 West Silver Street, 2830, 2834,

17 and 2836 North 11th Street, 2727, 2729,

18 2731, and 2732 North 12th Street, 2735

19 North Marvine Street, 2741 North Marvine

20 Street, 3001 North 10th Street, 3003

21 North 10th Street, and 3112 West Dakota

22 Street in the Fifth Councilmanic

23 District"; and

24 Resolution No. 230920, entitled

25 a "Resolution also naming the 1200 block

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2 of Shackamaxon Street, from Girard Avenue
3 to Thompson Street, as 'Robert 'Curtis'
4 Chinnici Way' to honor the life and
5 contributions of Curtis Chinnicci to
6 Shackamaxon Street and the Fishtown
7 community"; and

8 Resolution No. 230921, entitled
9 a "Resolution also naming South 20th
10 Street, between Porter Street and Shunk
11 Street, 'Judge Anthony J. DeFino Way,' to
12 honor the life and legacy of lifelong
13 South Philadelphian, the Honorable
14 Anthony J. DeFino, and to recognize his
15 years of committed service to
16 Philadelphia's judicial system"; and

17 Resolution No. 230924, entitled
18 a "Resolution authorizing the
19 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 3716
20 through 26 Brown Street, 770, 772 through
21 74 North Dekalb Street, 777 through 85,
22 787 North 38th Street located in the 3rd
23 Councilmanic District"; and

24 Resolution No. 230925, entitled
25 a "Resolution authorizing the

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2 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 1221
3 South Saint Bernard Street located in the
4 3rd Councilmanic District"; and

5 Resolution No. 230926, entitled
6 a "Resolution authorizing the
7 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority to
8 execute and deliver to the Philadelphia
9 Land Bank deeds conveying title to
10 various properties located in the Third
11 Councilmanic District, including on the
12 following streets: Brown Street, North
13 Dekalb Street, and North 38th Street";
14 and

15 Resolution No. 230927, entitled
16 a "Resolution approving the redevelopment
17 contract of the Philadelphia
18 Redevelopment Authority for the
19 redevelopment and urban renewal of a
20 portion of the Mantua Urban Renewal Area,
21 identified by house numbers and street
22 addresses as 805 North Fortieth Street,
23 809 North Fortieth Street, 815 North
24 Fortieth Street and 817 North Fortieth
25 Street"; and

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2 Resolution No. 230928, entitled

3 a "Resolution approving the Third

4 Amendment to Lease of the Philadelphia

5 Redevelopment Authority for the

6 redevelopment and urban renewal of a

7 portion of the Independence Mall Urban

8 Renewal Area, Unit No. 4, bounded

9 generally by Eighth Street, Vine Street

10 and Race Street, also identified by house

11 number and street address as 820 Vine

12 Street"; and

13 Resolution No. 230929, entitled

14 a "Resolution authorizing the

15 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 5803

16 Knox Street located in the 8th

17 Councilmanic District, all under certain

18 terms and conditions."

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you.

21 The Chair recognizes Councilman

22 Jones for a motion to adopt each of the

23 resolutions on the Resolution Consent

24 Agenda.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

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2 Mr. President. I move that we consider
3 the Consent Agenda and vote for the
4 Resolution Consent Agenda.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you. It has been moved and
8 seconded that each of the resolutions on
9 the Resolution Consent Agenda be adopted.

10 All in favor indicate by saying
11 aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
17 ayes have it. Each resolution on the
18 Resolution Consent Agenda has been
19 adopted.

20 We will now consider today's
21 Bill Consent Agenda. I would ask
22 Mr. Decker to please read the titles of
23 all the bills on the Consent Agenda.
24 After each title is read, again, any
25 member may object to the inclusion of a

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2 bill on the Consent Agenda and it will be
3 immediately removed, without debate.

4 Mr. Decker, please proceed with
5 the reading of the bills on the Consent
6 Agenda today.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 200658,
8 entitled "An ordinance authorizing the
9 installation of a traffic signal at the
10 intersection of Upland Way and Berks
11 Street"; and

12 Bill No. 230579, entitled "An
13 ordinance continuing the Aramingo Avenue
14 Shopping District beyond its termination
15 date, in an area that generally includes
16 the east and west sides of Aramingo
17 Avenue from 3300 Aramingo Avenue to 3995
18 Aramingo Avenue and certain blocks and
19 streets that intersect that portion of
20 Aramingo Avenue and for which Impact
21 Community Development Corporation, a
22 Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation,
23 serves as the Neighborhood Improvement
24 District Management Association"; and

25 Bill No. 230586, entitled "An

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2 ordinance continuing the Chestnut Hill
3 Business Improvement District in the area
4 that generally includes both sides of
5 Germantown Avenue from 7640 to 8705, and
6 on certain blocks of streets that
7 intersect that portion of Germantown
8 Avenue, plus on Bethlehem Pike between 10
9 and 105 and within the district
10 boundaries 200 blocks of West Evergreen
11 Avenue and West Highland Avenue; Benezet
12 Street, East Springfield Avenue, 7600
13 block of Winston Road, unit block of East
14 Willow Grove Avenue, unit block of
15 Moreland Avenue, unit block of East
16 Mermaid Lane, unit block of East Moreland
17 Avenue, unit block of East Chestnut Hill
18 Avenue; approving an extension to the
19 boundaries of the District to include the
20 7700 block of Crittenden Street and the
21 400 block of East Mermaid Lane between
22 Crittenden Street and Stenton Avenue;
23 continuing Chestnut Hill Business
24 Improvement District, Incorporated, a
25 Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation, as

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2 the neighborhood business improvement
3 management association for the District";
4 and

5 Bill No. 230714, entitled "An
6 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
7 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
8 designations of certain areas of land
9 located within an area bounded by Pratt
10 Street, Darrah Street, Dyre Street, and
11 Frankford Avenue"; and

12 Bill No. 230716, entitled "An
13 ordinance to approve amendments to the
14 University of Pennsylvania Master Plan in
15 the area bounded by Walnut Street, 33rd
16 Street, Spruce Street, and 34th Street,
17 related to the Stuart Weitzman Hall at
18 220 South 33rd Street"; and

19 Bill No. 230744, entitled "An
20 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
21 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
22 designations of certain areas of land
23 located within an area bounded by
24 Dickinson Street, 23rd Street, Cross
25 Street and 24th Street"; and

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2 Bill No. 230745, entitled "An
3 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
4 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
5 designations of certain areas of land
6 located within an area bounded by Wharton
7 Street, Newkirk Street, Reed Street, and
8 29th Street"; and

9 Bill No. 230571, entitled "An
10 ordinance amending Chapter 9-3500 of The
11 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Fair
12 Criminal Record Screening Standards,' to
13 add provisions regarding the
14 consideration of convictions that result
15 in exoneration and make related technical
16 changes"; and

17 Bill No. 230776, entitled "An
18 ordinance amending Section 7-202 of Title
19 7 ('Housing Code') of The Philadelphia
20 Code to modify the definition of
21 'affordable housing property'; and

22 Bill No. 230651, entitled "An
23 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
24 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
25 designations of certain areas of land

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2 located within an area bounded by
3 Westminster Avenue, Mantua Avenue, 40th
4 Street, Aspen Street, and 44th Street";
5 and

6 Bill No. 230741, entitled "An
7 ordinance authorizing Basic Utilities and
8 Services use on a certain location within
9 a section of East Fairmount Park bounded
10 by the right-of-way of the CSX Railroad,
11 Girard Avenue, and 33rd Street"; and

12 Bill No. 230742, entitled "An
13 ordinance authorizing Basic Utilities and
14 Services use on a certain location within
15 a section of West Fairmount Park bounded
16 by Wynnefield Avenue (extended), Belmont
17 Avenue, and Parkside Avenue"; and

18 Bill No. 230764, entitled "An
19 ordinance amending Title 14 of The
20 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Zoning and
21 Planning,' to revise definitions and
22 rules governing nightclubs and private
23 clubs; create the event assembly facility
24 use category and identify the commercial
25 districts where the use is allowed"; and

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2 Bill No. 230771, entitled "An
3 ordinance amending Title 14 of The
4 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Zoning and
5 Planning,' by revising certain provisions
6 of Section 14-524, entitled '/FDO, Fourth
7 District Overlay District'"; and

8 Bill No. 230778, entitled "An
9 ordinance to approve amendments to the
10 University of Pennsylvania Master Plan in
11 the area bounded by Chestnut Street, 33rd
12 Street, Walnut Street, and 34th Street,
13 related to the Student Performing Arts
14 Center"; and

15 Bill No. 230780, entitled "An
16 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
17 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
18 designations of certain areas of land
19 located within an area bounded by Emerald
20 Street, Ontario Street, Braddock Street,
21 and Cornwall Street"; and

22 Bill No. 230782, entitled "An
23 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
24 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
25 designations of certain areas of land

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2 located within an area bounded by
3 Clearfield Street, Witte Street, Ann
4 Street, and Amber Street"; and

5 Bill No. 230783, entitled "An
6 ordinance approving the plan, estimated
7 costs and proposed method of assessment
8 and charges of the South Street Headhouse
9 District of Philadelphia for and
10 concerning business improvements and
11 administrative services to the eastern
12 South Street and Headhouse areas of the
13 City of Philadelphia"; and

14 Bill No. 230403, entitled "An
15 ordinance amending Title 16 of The
16 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Public
17 Property,' by adding a new Chapter
18 requiring the creation of lactation
19 spaces"; and

20 Bill No. 230512, entitled "An
21 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
22 Public Property to acquire, on behalf of
23 the City, fee simple title or a lesser
24 interest, by purchase, dedication,
25 donation, condemnation, agreement in lieu

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2 of condemnation or otherwise, for the
3 purpose of making, enlarging, connecting,
4 extending, operating, and maintaining
5 public parks for recreational use,
6 certain parcels of land, generally
7 bounded and located between Vine Street,
8 Fairmount Avenue, 8th Street and 12th
9 Street"; and

10 Bill No. 230773, entitled "An
11 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
12 Public Property to grant to the
13 Pennsylvania Department of
14 Transportation, an easement on a portion
15 of the parcel or parcels of land in and
16 about the area bounded by Race Street,
17 24th Street, Spruce Street and the
18 Schuylkill River"; and

19 Bill No. 230774, entitled "An
20 ordinance authorizing the Director of
21 Aviation to acquire fee simple title or a
22 lesser real estate interest in all or a
23 portion of a parcel or parcels of land in
24 and about the area bounded by Executive
25 Avenue, Enterprise Avenue, I-95 and

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2 Penrose Avenue, more commonly known as
3 8350 Enterprise Avenue"; and

4 Bill No. 230827, entitled "An
5 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
6 Public Property to enter into a sublease
7 with the Philadelphia Municipal
8 Authority, for use by the City, of all or
9 a portion of the premises located at 1000
10 East Comly Street"; and

11 Bill No. 230830, entitled "An
12 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
13 Public Property, on behalf of the City of
14 Philadelphia, to enter into a lease
15 agreement with The Leon Sullivan
16 Charitable Trust, for use by the City, of
17 all or a portion of the premises located
18 at 1415 North Broad Street"; and

19 Bill No. 230831, entitled "An
20 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
21 Public Property to enter into a sublease
22 with the Philadelphia Municipal
23 Authority, for use by the City, of all or
24 a portion of the premises located at 1628
25 through 40 John F. Kennedy Boulevard";

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2 and

3 Bill No. 230832, entitled "An
4 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
5 Public Property to enter into a sublease
6 agreement with the Philadelphia Municipal
7 Authority, as sublandlord, for use by the
8 City, as subtenant, of a portion of the
9 premises located at 216 North Broad
10 Street"; and

11 Bill No. 230833, entitled "An
12 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
13 Public Property to enter into a lease
14 with Crown Two Penn Center Associates,
15 for use by the City, of all or a portion
16 of the premises located at 1500 John F.
17 Kennedy Boulevard"; and

18 Bill No. 230835, entitled "An
19 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
20 Public Property to acquire fee simple
21 title or a lesser real estate interest to
22 all or a portion of certain parcel or
23 parcels of land from the Philadelphia
24 Redevelopment Authority"; and

25 Bill No. 230839, entitled "An

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2 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
3 Public Property to enter into an
4 amendment to a lease agreement with AC
5 HSS Office Ventures II, for use by the
6 City of an additional portion of the
7 premises located at 1930 South Broad
8 Street"; and

9 Bill No. 230840, entitled "An
10 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
11 Public Property to enter into a sublease
12 with the Philadelphia Municipal
13 Authority, for use by the City, of all or
14 a portion of the premises located at 1221
15 through 23 Bainbridge Street"; and

16 Bill No. 230844, entitled "An
17 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
18 Public Property to enter into a sublease
19 with the Philadelphia Municipal
20 Authority, for use by the City, of all or
21 a portion of the premises located at 2844
22 Frankford Avenue"; and

23 Bill No. 230851, entitled "An
24 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
25 Parks and Recreation and the Commissioner

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2 of Public Property to lease or sublease a
3 portion of the premises owned by the
4 School District of Philadelphia bounded
5 by Walnut Street, South 59th Street,
6 Spruce Street, and South 58th Street in
7 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and more
8 commonly known as Sayre Morris Recreation
9 Center, from the School District of
10 Philadelphia or from the Philadelphia
11 Authority for Industrial Development";
12 and

13 Bill No. 230854, entitled "An
14 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
15 Public Property to enter into a lease
16 agreement with NF 6601 New State Road
17 Partners, for use by the City, of all or
18 a portion of the premises located at 6601
19 New State Road"; and

20 Bill No. 230855, entitled "An
21 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
22 Public Property to enter into a lease
23 agreement with Orthodox Street
24 Properties, for use by the City of all or
25 a portion of the premises located at 3150

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2 Orthodox Street"; and

3 Bill No. 230857, entitled "An
4 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
5 Public Property to modify certain
6 easements and enter into an easement
7 agreement with Farnell, LLC for a portion
8 of the parcel or parcels of land in and
9 about the area bounded by Noble Street,
10 12th Street, Callowhill Street, and 13th
11 Street, more commonly known as 411
12 through 19 North 13th Street"; and

13 Bill No. 230858, entitled "An
14 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
15 Public Property to enter into an
16 amendment to a sublease with the
17 Philadelphia Municipal Authority, for use
18 by the City, of an additional portion of
19 the premises located at 1327 through 29
20 Chestnut Street"; and

21 Bill No. 230859, entitled "An
22 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
23 Public Property to enter into an
24 amendment to a sublease with the
25 Philadelphia Authority for Industrial

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2 Development, for use by the City, of all
3 or a portion of the premises located at
4 1101 Market Street"; and

5 Bill No. 230864, entitled "An
6 ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of
7 Public Property to enter into a lease
8 agreement with LIM SIV HOUY for use by
9 the City of all or a portion of the
10 premises located at 3724 North Broad
11 Street"; and

12 Bill No. 230763, entitled "An
13 ordinance establishing parking
14 regulations in the vicinity of: Warnock
15 Street and Nedro Avenue; North 11th
16 Street and Champlost Avenue; North 13th
17 Street and Chew Avenue; and North 13th
18 Street and Nedro Avenue"; and

19 Bill No. 230769, entitled "An
20 ordinance authorizing the revision of
21 lines and grades on a portion of City
22 Plan No. 63 by striking from the City
23 plan and vacating Carlton Street from
24 Twentieth Street to its terminus
25 eastwardly therefrom"; and

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2 Bill No. 230772, entitled "An
3 ordinance authorizing the revision of
4 lines and grades on a portion of City
5 Plan No. 15-S by placing on the City Plan
6 Alter Street from Fifteenth Street to
7 Sixteenth Street"; and

8 Bill No. 230775, entitled "An
9 ordinance authorizing the plotting upon
10 City Plan Nos. 157 and 226 of two certain
11 drainage areas, located on either side of
12 Erie Avenue, between Third Street and
13 Lawrence Street, and the relocation of
14 portions of the curblines of said Erie
15 Avenue"; and

16 Bill No. 230777, entitled "An
17 ordinance authorizing the revision of
18 lines and grades on a portion of City
19 Plan No. 226 by placing on the City Plan
20 an irregularly-shaped area along the
21 easterly side of Fifth Street, between
22 Hunting Park Avenue and Bristol Street";
23 and

24 Bill No. 230781, entitled "An
25 ordinance authorizing encroachments in

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2 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the
3 vicinity of 743 South 4th Street"; and
4 Bill No. 230784, entitled "An
5 ordinance amending Chapter 11-708 of The
6 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Traffic
7 Calming Measures for Schools,' by
8 authorizing the Department of Streets to
9 additionally install traffic calming
10 measures in the vicinity of senior
11 housing"; and
12 Bill No. 230828, entitled "An
13 ordinance authorizing the opening of the
14 northerly ten feet wide portion of Vine
15 Street from Eighteenth Street to
16 Nineteenth Street and from Nineteenth
17 Street to Twentieth Street"; and
18 Bill No. 230834, entitled "An
19 ordinance establishing parking
20 regulations in the vicinity of: Crease
21 Street and Wildey Street; Lawrence Street
22 and George Street; North 3rd Street to
23 Fairmount Avenue; North 3rd Street to
24 George Street; North 6th Street and Brown
25 Street; Wildey Street and Marlborough

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2 Street"; and

3 Bill No. 230836, entitled "An
4 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
5 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the
6 vicinity of 4317 Fleming Street"; and

7 Bill No. 230841, entitled "An
8 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
9 the nature of projecting canopies in the
10 vicinity of 200 South Broad Street"; and

11 Bill No. 230842, entitled "An
12 ordinance establishing parking
13 regulations in the vicinity of:
14 Ellsworth Street and South 16th Street to
15 South 20th Street; Latona Street and
16 South 16th Street to South 20th Street;
17 South 20th Street and Federal Street to
18 Dickinson Street; South 21st Street and
19 Annin Street; Mole Street and South
20 Dickinson Street"; and

21 Bill No. 230843, entitled "An
22 ordinance establishing parking
23 regulations in the vicinity of: South
24 64th Street and Woodland Avenue;
25 Cormorant Place and 66th Street; 65th

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2 Street and Woodland Avenue; 58th Street
3 and Woodland Avenue"; and

4 Bill No. 230848, entitled "An
5 ordinance authorizing the revision of
6 lines and grades on a portion of City
7 Plan Nos. 98 and 130, in the area lying
8 north of Market Street and Powelton
9 Avenue and west of 42nd Street, by
10 placing on the City Plan Melville Street
11 from Mandela Way to Holden Street, Holden
12 Street from Melville Street to 45th
13 Street, Nehemiah Way from Melville Street
14 to Powelton Avenue, Busti Street from
15 Nehemiah Way to Haverford Avenue, Mandela
16 Way from Melville Street to Busti Street,
17 45th Street from Mandela Way to Holden
18 Street, and St. Malachy's Way from
19 Melville Street to Busti Street"; and

20 Bill No. 230849, entitled "An
21 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
22 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the
23 vicinity of 3231 Powelton Avenue"; and

24 Bill No. 230852, entitled "An
25 ordinance authorizing the paving of

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2 Melville Street from Mandela Way to
3 Holden Street, Holden Street from
4 Melville Street to 45th Street, Nehemiah
5 Way from Melville Street to Powelton
6 Avenue, Busti Street from Nehemiah Way to
7 Haverford Avenue, Mandela Way from
8 Melville Street to Busti Street, 45th
9 Street from Mandela Way to Holden Street,
10 and St. Malachy's Way from Melville
11 Street to Busti Street"; and
12 Bill No. 230853, entitled "An
13 ordinance authorizing the striking from
14 City Plan Nos. 98 and 130 and vacating of
15 Busti Street, extending northwardly from
16 Holden Street to a cul-de-sac, and Holden
17 Street, extending westwardly from
18 Powelton Avenue to a cul-de-sac"; and
19 Bill No. 230856, entitled "An
20 ordinance amending Chapter 9-200 of The
21 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Commercial
22 Activities on Streets,' by designating a
23 neighborhood business district in the 6th
24 Councilmanic District for authorized
25 sidewalk vending"; and

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2 Bill No. 230860, entitled "An

3 ordinance repealing an Ordinance (Bill

4 No. 230486) entitled 'An ordinance

5 authorizing the revision of lines and

6 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 308

7 by striking from the City Plan and

8 vacating Addison Street from a point

9 approximately eighty feet east of Fifth

10 Street to its terminus further eastwardly

11 therefrom"; and

12 Bill No. 230861, entitled "An

13 ordinance authorizing an encroachment in

14 the nature of a staircase in the vicinity

15 of 1446 South 8th Street"; and

16 Bill No. 230862, entitled "An

17 ordinance authorizing encroachments in

18 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the

19 vicinity of 2620 East Allegheny Avenue";

20 and

21 Bill No. 230863, entitled "An

22 ordinance authorizing encroachments in

23 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the

24 vicinity of 2636 East Ann Street"; and

25 Bill No. 230653, entitled "An

1 12/14/23 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA
2 ordinance amending various provisions of
3 Subcode 'P' of Title 4 of The
4 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'The
5 Philadelphia Plumbing Code,' by making
6 additional additions, deletions and
7 amendments to the City's adoption of the
8 2018 edition of the 'International
9 Plumbing Code,' as published by the
10 International Code Council"; and
11 Bill No. 230900, entitled "An
12 ordinance authorizing the Procurement
13 Commissioner to enter into agreements to
14 purchase electricity, natural gas and
15 motor fuel for use by the City in City
16 facilities and vehicles, including
17 agreements that obligate payment for
18 delivery of such energy supplies in
19 future fiscal years"; and
20 Bill No. 230838, entitled "An
21 ordinance renaming and designating the
22 area of land bounded by Parkside Avenue
23 and Belmont Avenue as 'The Miller Parker
24 Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial
25 Park'"; and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

2 Bill No. 230701, entitled "An
3 ordinance authorizing the City Solicitor
4 to enter into a multi-year contract with
5 a provider of codification, editing, and
6 marketing services to produce printed and
7 electronic versions of The Philadelphia
8 Code and related services and material";
9 and

10 Bill No. 220905, entitled "An
11 ordinance amending The Philadelphia Code
12 to add a new Chapter 21-3400, entitled
13 'Youth Name, Image, and Likeness
14 Protection,' to establish provisions
15 related to education and counseling for
16 certain Philadelphia youth and their
17 families who are considering licensing
18 publicity rights, all under certain terms
19 and conditions."

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Okay. Thank you.

22 - - -

23 (Applause.)

24 - - -

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 12/14/23 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

2 Nobody can do it like Mr. Decker.

3 These bills having been read on
4 two different days, the question for each
5 bill now is shall the bill pass finally.

6 The Clerk shall call the roll
7 and upon being called, each Councilmember
8 shall vote aye on each of the bills, nay
9 on each of the bills, or indicate those
10 bills for which the member is voting aye
11 and those bills for which the member is
12 voting nay.

13 Mr. Decker, please call the
14 roll.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Bass.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye on all
18 bills.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Brooks.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye on
22 all bills.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 Driscoll.

25 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye on

1 12/14/23 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA
2 all bills.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
4 Gauthier.
5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye on
6 all bills.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Gilmore Richardson.
9 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye
10 on all bills.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
12 Harrity.
13 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye on all
14 bills.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Johnson.
17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye on all
18 bills.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
20 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye on all
21 bills.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Lozada.
24 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye on
25 all bills.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
3 O'Neill.
4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye on all
5 bills.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 Phillips.
8 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye on
9 all bills.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 Squilla.
12 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye on all
13 bills.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 Thomas.
16 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye on all
17 bills.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Vaughn.
20 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye on
21 all bills.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
23 Clarke.
24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye
25 on all bills.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - RECOGNITIONS

2 A majority of all members
3 having voted in the affirmative for each
4 of the bills, the bills on the Consent
5 Agenda are passed.

6 At this moment, I would like to
7 suspend the regular order of business one
8 more time. First, I want to thank the
9 Mayor for coming up today and talk about
10 all those wonderful things that happened
11 over the last term, and it was a lot of
12 good stuff, but a lot of that couldn't
13 have happened obviously without you all.
14 But I got three special guests over here
15 that kind of set the template before they
16 decided to leave for one reason or
17 another. And I get it, right?

18 I'd like to recognize our good
19 friend Councilwoman Maria
20 Quinones-Sanchez.

21 - - -

22 (Applause.)

23 - - -

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
25 I'd like to recognize Councilwoman

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 Katherine Gilmore Richardson's mentor,

3 Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown.

4 - - -

5 (Applause.)

6 - - -

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And

8 I'd like to recognize the Mayor-elect.

9 - - -

10 (Standing ovation.)

11 - - -

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

13 Mayor-elect, don't sit down. I'm going

14 to ask you, because, you know, you got to

15 practice doing these budget messages

16 every year, so if you can come up here,

17 please come up here and say a couple of

18 words.

19 - - -

20 (Applause.)

21 - - -

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm

23 sorry. You know I had to do that, right?

24 MAYOR-ELECT PARKER: Everyone,

25 and I've got to tell you the truth, when

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 I walked into the Chambers, I sat down.
3 As usual, Maria and Blondell started
4 telling me what to do, and I did what
5 they were telling me to do, and
6 someone -- and all of the Councilmembers
7 know exactly what I'm about to say,
8 because you felt it before. Someone came
9 over and whispered in my ear and they
10 were trying to talk to me while the
11 Council President was talking, and I was
12 like yeah, yeah, yeah, thank you, thank
13 you, thank you, but it's like the
14 principal is in -- you know, you're
15 trying to talk while the principal is in
16 the room.

17 And, Mr. President, I didn't
18 want you to gavel me or anything like
19 that.

20 So I do want you to know it's
21 an honor and a privilege to be here on
22 today, the last day of session that will
23 be presided over by someone for whom I
24 have a great deal of admiration and
25 respect and love, quite frankly.

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 I don't always like you,
3 Council President Clarke.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I
5 get it.

6 MAYOR-ELECT PARKER:
7 Councilmember Johnson, did you just hear
8 me just now? I don't always like the
9 Council President, right?

10 Nevertheless, on this last day,
11 most people here, they know that I'm a
12 teacher by profession. How many of you
13 have ever heard of the author named Caro?
14 He is the author of a book entitled "The
15 Master of the Senate." It is about the
16 culmination, the power, the influence of
17 President Lyndon Baines Johnson and how
18 he learned to master the rules of the
19 institution in order to deliver for us
20 and the nation what a whole lot of people
21 promise. They talked a whole lot about
22 it.

23 But LBJ learned the rules, the
24 protocol. He understood that the
25 institution was more venerable, more

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 powerful than any one individual.

3 So on this day, I walked in
4 these shoes that I take off in a few
5 minutes, Mr. President, to give honor to
6 someone who to me is the Master of the
7 City Council.

8 Stand with me and give him a
9 round of applause. This is the Master of
10 the City Council.

11 - - -

12 (Standing ovation.)

13 - - -

14 MAYOR-ELECT PARKER: Three
15 quick things, three quick things that I
16 learned from watching him as a staffer in
17 this body, as a staffer, then as a member
18 of the State House, and then coming back
19 as a member. First things first.

20 First thing I learned about
21 you, I did not learn from anybody in this
22 body. I learned that Big Myrt's (ph)
23 house at 31st and Lehigh. When you're
24 like me and you come from where I come
25 from and then you get in this revered

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 historic building, everybody in here is
3 powerful, but when I saw him in here, he
4 wasn't different when he got to 31st and
5 Lehigh. And if he was different, my
6 family would have told me about you, but
7 they didn't. Oh, what are you talking
8 about, Darrell? No, you don't know.
9 He's in line. He's going to be elected
10 Councilmember, then he's going to become
11 the Council President. And then he was
12 the Council President. I say, well, I
13 know Council President Darrell Clarke.

14 No. In the neighborhood, he is
15 and was who he is. Never had to worry
16 about him. No matter the role, if he was
17 a senior staffer for Council President
18 John Street, if he was a member of this
19 body, or the leader, he never forgot from
20 whence he came. That is the firm
21 foundation that you want to be grounded
22 on.

23 There is something very
24 exceptional about a person who achieved
25 some semblance of power and then they

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 don't get hoity. Not Darrell Clarke.

3 Second thing, master of the

4 institution. Don't go in and do it

5 halfway. Hard, because he had just been

6 mentored by a man who people said had

7 mastered the Council. So how do you come

8 in in your own right, Katherine Gilmore

9 Richardson and Quetcy Lozada, and walk in

10 your own shoes to build your own legacy

11 and do things your own way? And he took

12 the Council to another level that people

13 had never imagined. The technical staff,

14 the best and the brightest in the City,

15 when this Council can stand on its own,

16 researching its own homework.

17 He studied under the master,

18 but sometimes the master can master the

19 master. That's what Darrell Clarke did.

20 Authenticity, and he mastered the

21 legislative body.

22 This final part, Mr. President,

23 I wouldn't learn this until I was in

24 Harrisburg.

25 When then-Council President

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 Clarke and I began interacting with each
3 other in my role as Chair of the
4 Philadelphia Delegation, he would come to
5 Harrisburg on many occasions and we would
6 have to go -- sometimes I needed him,
7 because, Councilmember Johnson, you know
8 this, in Harrisburg, you can't get
9 anything done by yourself, right? You've
10 got to go visit legislators on both sides
11 of the aisle. You've got to go visit the
12 administration.

13 I had never seen a man who was
14 so powerful learn how to just acquiesce
15 and not be presumptuous about who he was
16 when we were asking for some help for the
17 Council. And I remember thinking to
18 myself, how can you be powerful and
19 humble all at the same time? But it's
20 possible for those two things to exist in
21 one place.

22 And, Mr. President, I want to
23 say this out loud. The platform, the
24 entire platform that people heard me
25 advocate for during the last year,

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 particularly since I resigned from this
3 body on September the 7th, 2022, and I
4 want to admit this publicly and say it
5 out loud to everyone, none of it gets
6 accomplished without this Council
7 President being by my side.

8 When you heard me talk about
9 making Philadelphia the safest, cleanest,
10 greenest big city in the nation with
11 access to economic opportunity for all
12 and I gave examples on how we can do it,
13 I knew we could do it because I had been
14 working in partnership with him to get
15 most of it done.

16 Council President Clarke, the
17 Master of the City Council, I love, like,
18 and respect you. Thank you for never
19 getting cute with me, even when you were
20 in that office, Councilmember Jones, with
21 that unprecedented level of shovels that
22 I thought was just -- it was not equity.
23 That was an inequitable distribution of
24 shovels. Squilla and O'Neill and Jones
25 and Johnson know exactly what I'm talking

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER
2 about.

3 But most of all, you can't be
4 the master of any institution if you're
5 not willing to teach. Thank you for not
6 hoarding. He's a teacher.

7 - - -

8 (Applause.)

9 - - -

10 MAYOR-ELECT PARKER: I love
11 you, Mr. President, despite what any and
12 everybody thought when you got elected,
13 talking about the big shoes you had to
14 fill. Sir, you walked in your own. You
15 earned your spot. And when Cherelle
16 Parker refers to you as the Master of the
17 City Council, know that it is because of
18 you, the work you did, the relationships
19 you've built and, quite frankly, the
20 intellectual prowess that you had to
21 build the strength of an institution out
22 with the technical supports that would
23 allow for it to stand on its own.

24 On today, I'm what I call a
25 beneficiary of the movement. The BTM

1 12/14/23-STATED-COMMENTS OF MAYOR-ELECT PARKER

2 generation is what I refer to it as. I'm
3 a beneficiary of your lessons, and for
4 that, sir, I say thank you.

5 To all of the team who has been
6 with him along the way, if I start
7 calling names, I'mma get in trouble, but
8 Christmas and Herb and the entire team
9 who was in Harrisburg guiding us when we
10 were getting that work done, Wendy, none
11 of it happens without assembling a team
12 that stays together, and it's a team of
13 the best and the brightest.

14 Hats off to you, sir. Love
15 you. Peace.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Thank you.

18 - - -

19 (Standing ovation.)

20 - - -

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Oh,
22 hey, how you doing?

23 I'd like to recognize
24 Councilwoman Gym, another one that was
25 here rocking the floor.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 - - -

3 (Applause.)

4 - - -

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Councilwoman Gym, if the next 5th

7 District Councilman doesn't take care of
8 your neighborhood, let me know.

9 You hear that, Jeff? All
10 right. As long as we're square. All
11 right?

12 All right. Thank you.

13 Thank you all. We love you
14 guys. Thank you so much for your work.

15 We will now consider the bills
16 and resolutions on the regular Second
17 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

18 And, Mr. Decker, I would ask
19 you to read the title of Resolution No.
20 230922.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
22 calling on the National Highway Traffic
23 Safety Administration to issue a recall
24 of Kia and Hyundai models lacking
25 immobilizer technology that are

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 vulnerable to theft.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you.

5 The Chair recognizes

6 Councilwoman Brooks for a motion.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
8 you, Council President. I do have some
9 remarks.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Sure.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: As you
13 may have seen in the Inquirer this week,
14 more than 21,000 vehicles have been
15 stolen in Philadelphia so far this year.
16 That's more than ten times higher than
17 the number of vehicles stolen in just a
18 few years ago in 2017.

19 This surge in vehicle theft has
20 been fueled in large part by a viral
21 trend that shows viewers how to steal Kia
22 and Hyundais with just a screwdriver and
23 a USB cable.

24 According to the Police
25 Department data, more than 61 percent of

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the vehicles stolen in Philadelphia were
3 Hyundais or Kias. Today I'm introducing
4 a resolution calling on the National
5 Highway Traffic Safety Administration to
6 issue a recall of the Kia and Hyundai
7 models that are vulnerable to this type
8 of theft. Kia and Hyundai are offering a
9 free software update for affected
10 vehicles, but many people are not aware
11 of this solution. The best way to
12 address the problem is a national recall.

13 When the recall is issued, all
14 owners are notified by mail and reminded
15 to bring their car in for a free software
16 update. This is an urgent problem in
17 cities across the country and it deserves
18 national-level solutions.

19 City Councils in Baltimore and
20 Seattle have already passed similar
21 resolutions, and I believe that
22 Philadelphia should join our fellow
23 cities in calling for the National
24 Highway Safety Administration to address
25 this problem that has been impacting so

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 many urban residents.

3 Thank you, Council President.

4 I move for the adoption of the

5 resolution.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's

8 been moved and properly seconded.

9 All in favor of the resolution
10 indicate by saying aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Those opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
16 ayes have it, and that resolution is
17 adopted.

18 Mr. Decker, please read the
19 title of Bill No. 230698.

20 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
21 approve amendments to the Temple
22 University Master Plan in the area
23 bounded by Norris Street, Broad Street,
24 Montgomery Avenue and 15th Street related
25 to Klein College of Media and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Communications and Center for the
3 Performing Arts and Cinematic Arts
4 building at 1830 North Broad Street.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
6 bill having been read on two different
7 days, the question now is shall the bill
8 pass finally.

9 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Bass.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Brooks.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Driscoll.

18 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Gauthier.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Gilmore Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Harrity.
3 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
5 Johnson.
6 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
8 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Lozada.
11 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
13 O'Neill.
14 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Phillips.
17 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
19 Squilla.
20 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
22 Thomas.
23 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Vaughn.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (No response.)

3 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

4 Clarke.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

6 The ayes are 14; the nays are
7 zero. A majority of all members present
8 voting in the affirmative, the bill
9 passes.

10 Mr. Decker, 230765.

11 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Bill No. 230144, entitled "An
13 Ordinance To adopt a Capital Program for
14 the Six Fiscal Years 2024 through 2029
15 Inclusive," by revising various
16 appropriation amounts and totals to
17 conform to amendments to the FY2024
18 Capital Budget Ordinance.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
20 bill having been read on two different
21 days, the question now is shall the bill
22 pass finally.

23 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

25 Bass.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
4 Brooks.
5 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 Driscoll.
8 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Gauthier.
11 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Gilmore Richardson.
14 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Harrity.
17 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
19 Johnson.
20 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
22 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Lozada.
25 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
3 O'Neill.
4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Phillips.
7 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
9 Squilla.
10 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
12 Thomas.
13 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
15 Vaughn.
16 (No response.)
17 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
18 Clarke.
19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
20 The ayes are 14; the nays are
21 zero. A majority of all members present
22 voting in the affirmative, the bill
23 passes.
24 Mr. Decker, 230766.
25 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 amending Bill No. 230145, entitled "An
3 Ordinance To adopt a Fiscal 2024 Capital
4 Budget," by revising various
5 appropriation amounts and totals.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
7 bill having been read on two different
8 days, the question is shall the bill pass
9 finally.

10 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Bass.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
15 Brooks.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
18 Driscoll.

19 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Gauthier.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Gilmore Richardson.

25 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
3 Harrity.
4 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Johnson.
7 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Lozada.
12 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
14 O'Neill.
15 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Phillips.
18 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
20 Squilla.
21 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 Thomas.
24 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Vaughn.

3 (No response.)

4 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

5 Clarke.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

7 The ayes are 14; the nays are
8 zero. A majority of all members present
9 voting in the affirmative, the bill
10 passes.

11 Mr. Decker, 230767.

12 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
13 authorizing transfers in appropriations
14 for Fiscal Year 2024 from the General
15 Fund and the Grants Revenue Fund, certain
16 or all City offices, departments, boards
17 and commissions, to the General Fund, the
18 County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund, the
19 Municipal Pension Fund, and the
20 Transportation Fund, certain or all City
21 offices, departments, boards and
22 commissions.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you.

25 This bill having been read on

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 two different days, the question now is
3 shall the bill pass finally.
4 Mr. Decker, call the roll.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
6 Bass.
7 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Brooks.
10 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
12 Driscoll.
13 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
15 Gauthier.
16 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.
17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Gilmore Richardson.
19 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
21 Harrity.
22 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 Johnson.
25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Lozada.
6 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
8 O'Neill.
9 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 Phillips.
12 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
14 Squilla.
15 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Thomas.
18 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Vaughn.
21 (No response.)
22 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
23 Clarke.
24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
25 The ayes are 14; the nays are

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 zero. A majority of members present
3 voting in the affirmative, the bill
4 passes.

5 Mr. Decker, 230768.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
7 authorizing transfers in appropriations
8 for Fiscal Year 2023 from the General
9 Fund, the Water Fund, the Grants Revenue
10 Fund, and the Aviation Fund from certain
11 or all City offices, departments, boards
12 and commissions, to the General Fund, the
13 Water Fund, and the Aviation Fund to
14 certain or all City offices, departments,
15 boards and commissions.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
17 bill having been read on two different
18 days, the question is shall the bill pass
19 finally.

20 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Bass.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Brooks.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 Driscoll.
5 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
7 Gauthier.
8 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Gilmore Richardson.
11 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
13 Harrity.
14 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Johnson.
17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Lozada.
22 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 O'Neill.
25 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
3 Phillips.
4 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Squilla.
7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
9 Thomas.
10 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Vaughn.
13 (No response.)
14 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
15 Clarke.
16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
17 The ayes are 14; the nays are
18 zero. A majority of members present
19 voting in the affirmative, the bill
20 passes.
21 Mr. Decker, please read the
22 title of 230649.
23 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
24 amending Chapter 6-400 of The
25 Philadelphia Code, to end the unlawful

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 deportation of noncitizen patients by
3 hospitals to patients' countries of
4 origin without their consent.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
6 bill having been read on two different
7 days, the question is shall the bill pass
8 finally.

9 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Bass.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Brooks.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Driscoll.

18 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Gauthier.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Gilmore Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Harrity.
3 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
5 Johnson.
6 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
8 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Lozada.
11 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
13 O'Neill.
14 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Phillips.
17 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
19 Squilla.
20 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
22 Thomas.
23 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Vaughn.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye, and
3 I would like to be recorded as an aye for
4 all the bills that I might have missed
5 when I stepped out of the room.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Let
7 the record reflect that Councilwoman
8 Vaughn is an aye on all bills during her
9 absence from the Chambers.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
11 Clarke.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
13 The ayes are 13; the nays are
14 one. A majority of all members -- I'm
15 sorry. 14 and the nays are one.

16 - - -
17 (Applause.)

18 - - -
19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Mr. Decker, 230699.

21 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
22 amending Chapter 9-5900 of The
23 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Prohibition
24 on Certain Gambling Machines and Skills
25 Games," to add additional prohibitions

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 and provide for remedies.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
4 bill having been read on two different
5 days, the question is shall the bill pass
6 finally.

7 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Bass.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Brooks.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 Driscoll.

16 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Nay.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Gauthier.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Gilmore Richardson.

22 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 Harrity.

25 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
3 Johnson.
4 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
6 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Lozada.
9 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 O'Neill.
12 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
14 Phillips.
15 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Squilla.
18 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
20 Thomas.
21 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Vaughn.
24 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Clarke.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

4 The ayes are 14; the nays are
5 one. A majority of all members present
6 voting in the affirmative, the bill
7 passes.

8 Mr. Decker, 230700.

9 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
10 amending Title 9 of The Philadelphia
11 Code, entitled "Regulation of Businesses,
12 Trades and Professions," to add a new
13 Chapter creating penalties for
14 trespassing in retail establishments.

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

19 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Bass.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Brooks.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
3 Driscoll.
4 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
6 Gauthier.
7 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Gilmore Richardson.
10 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
12 Harrity.
13 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 Johnson.
16 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
18 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Lozada.
21 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 O'Neill.
24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Phillips.

3 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 Squilla.

6 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Thomas.

9 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Vaughn.

12 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

16 The ayes are 15; the nays are
17 zero. A majority of members present
18 voting in the affirmative, the bill
19 passes.

20 Mr. Decker, 230770.

21 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
22 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
23 changing the zoning designations of
24 certain areas of land located within an
25 area bounded by Callowhill Street, 18th

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Street, Vine Street, and 20th Street and
3 to amend Title 14 of The Philadelphia
4 Code, "Zoning and Planning," by revising
5 Chapter 14-500, "Overlay Zoning
6 Districts."

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
8 bill having been heard on two different
9 days, the question now is shall the bill
10 pass finally.

11 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Bass.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Brooks.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
19 Driscoll.

20 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Gauthier.

23 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Gilmore Richardson.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 Harrity.
5 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 Johnson.
8 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Lozada.
13 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 O'Neill.
16 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
18 Phillips.
19 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
21 Squilla.
22 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 Thomas.
25 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Vaughn.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

6 Clarke.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

8 The ayes are 15; the nays are
9 zero. A majority of members present
10 voting in the affirmative, the bill
11 passes.

12 Mr. Decker, 230829.

13 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
14 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
15 Property to facilitate development of a
16 Project Area consisting of (1) property
17 bounded by Callowhill Street, North 19th
18 Street, Wood Street, and North 20th
19 Street; and (2) property bounded by Wood
20 Street, North 18th Street, Vine Street
21 and North 19th Street, by conveying to
22 the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial
23 Development fee simple title to all or a
24 portion of a parcel or parcels of land
25 within the Project Area; and acquiring

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 fee simple title to all or portions of
3 parcels of land or condominium units and
4 improvements located in the Project Area;
5 and acquiring and granting fee or lesser
6 interests in real estate in all or
7 portions of parcels of land and
8 condominium units and improvements in the
9 Project Area, including leaseholds,
10 easements, and other interests.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
12 bill having been read on two different
13 days, the question is shall the bill pass
14 finally.

15 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Bass.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Brooks.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 Driscoll.

24 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Gauthier.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Gilmore Richardson.

6 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Harrity.

9 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

11 Johnson.

12 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

14 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

16 Lozada.

17 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

19 O'Neill.

20 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

22 Phillips.

23 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

25 Squilla.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 Thomas.
5 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
7 Vaughn.
8 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
10 Clarke.
11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
12 The ayes are 15; the nays are
13 zero. A majority of members present
14 voting in the affirmative, the bill
15 passes.
16 Mr. Decker, 220364.
17 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
18 amending Chapter 9-4900 of The
19 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Prohibition
20 on Use of Certain Bags by Retail
21 Establishments," to require retail
22 establishments to charge a fee for the
23 provision of a bag to customers for
24 removal of purchased items, and further
25 defining what bags are prohibited at

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 check out.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
4 bill having been read on two different
5 days, the question is shall the bill pass
6 finally.

7 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Bass.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Brooks.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 Driscoll.

16 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Nay.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

18 Gauthier.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

21 Gilmore Richardson.

22 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

24 Harrity.

25 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
3 Johnson.
4 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
6 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Lozada.
9 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 O'Neill.
12 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Nay.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
14 Phillips.
15 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Squilla.
18 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
20 Thomas.
21 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Vaughn.
24 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Clarke.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

4 The ayes are 13; the nays are
5 two. A majority of members present
6 voting in the affirmative, the bill
7 passes.

8 Mr. Decker, 230746.

9 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
10 amending Chapter 9-2300 of The
11 Philadelphia Code to provide greater
12 protections for displaced contract
13 workers.

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

18 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Bass.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Brooks.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Driscoll.
3 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Gauthier.
6 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Gilmore Richardson.
9 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 Harrity.
12 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
14 Johnson.
15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
17 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Lozada.
20 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
22 O'Neill.
23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No.
24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
25 Phillips.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 Squilla.
5 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 Thomas.
8 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Vaughn.
11 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
13 Clarke.
14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
15 Councilman O'Neill, was that a
16 no?
17 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Nay.
18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
19 Thank you.
20 The ayes are 14; the nays are
21 one. A majority of members present
22 voting in the affirmative, the bill
23 passes.
24 Mr. Decker, we will now
25 consider any additional resolutions on

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 today's Calendar. I would ask you to
3 please read the 38 privileged resolutions
4 that were introduced today on my behalf
5 honoring various individuals in the 5th
6 Council District.

7 As you know, I rarely do
8 privileged resolutions, so I'm making up
9 for lost time.

10 So I would ask that you please
11 read those.

12 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
13 honoring and recognizing Asia Cooney;

14 A resolution honoring and
15 recognizing Audrey Coles;

16 A resolution honoring and
17 recognizing William Greenlee;

18 A resolution honoring and
19 recognizing Charles Lanier;

20 A resolution honoring and
21 recognizing Connie Little;

22 A resolution honoring and
23 recognizing Cynthia Barnes;

24 A resolution honoring and
25 recognizing Darnetta Arce;

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 A resolution honoring and
3 recognizing Dennis Boylan;

4 A resolution honoring and
5 recognizing Derrick Ford;

6 A resolution honoring and
7 recognizing Diane Monroe;

8 A resolution honoring and
9 recognizing Donnell Deans;

10 A resolution honoring and
11 recognizing Dr. Kenneth Scott;

12 A resolution honoring and
13 recognizing Ed Flythe;

14 A resolution honoring and
15 recognizing Harriett Williams;

16 A resolution honoring and
17 recognizing the Honorable Jewell
18 Williams;

19 A resolution honoring and
20 recognizing Justino Navarro;

21 A resolution honoring and
22 recognizing Keith Harris;

23 A resolution honoring and
24 recognizing Larry Lane;

25 A resolution honoring and

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 recognizing Larry Reynolds;
3 A resolution honoring and
4 recognizing Lenora Jackson Evans;
5 A resolution honoring and
6 recognizing Bishop Lewis Nash;
7 A resolution honoring and
8 recognizing Lisa Maiello;
9 A resolution honoring and
10 recognizing Louise Bundy;
11 A resolution honoring and
12 recognizing Maggie O'Brien;
13 A resolution honoring and
14 recognizing Matt Ruben;
15 A resolution honoring and
16 recognizing the Honorable Michelle
17 Brownlee;
18 A resolution honoring and
19 recognizing Ms. El Amor M. Brawne Ali;
20 A resolution honoring and
21 recognizing Muriel Taylor;
22 A resolution honoring and
23 recognizing Nita Wroten;
24 A resolution honoring and
25 recognizing Patricia Freeland;

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 A resolution honoring and
3 recognizing Patti Mosser;

4 A resolution honoring and
5 recognizing Priscilla T. Bennett;

6 A resolution honoring and
7 recognizing Priscilla Woods;

8 A resolution honoring and
9 recognizing Richard Gross;

10 A resolution honoring and
11 recognizing Rose Gray;

12 A resolution honoring and
13 recognizing Ruth Birchett;

14 A resolution honoring and
15 recognizing the Honorable Shirley
16 Kitchen;

17 A resolution honoring and
18 recognizing Tonnetta Graham, all for
19 their loyal and dedicated service in
20 enhancing the lives of the citizens of
21 the 5th Councilmanic District and the
22 City of Philadelphia.

23 - - -

24 (Applause.)

25 - - -

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you. Thank you for your
4 indulgence, colleagues.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman
6 Jones for a motion to suspend the rules
7 of Council to permit consideration of
8 these resolutions by a single vote.

9 Councilman Jones.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
11 Mr. President. I move for the suspension
12 of the rules to permit a single vote for
13 these 38 resolutions presented on your
14 behalf.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Thank you. It's been moved and seconded
18 that the rules of Council be suspended to
19 permit consideration of these resolutions
20 by a single vote.

21 All in favor indicate by saying
22 aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Those opposed?

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
4 ayes have it.

5 The Chair again recognizes
6 Councilman Jones for a motion to adopt
7 the 38 resolutions just read by the Chief
8 Clerk.

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
10 again. I move for the adoption of the 38
11 resolutions presented on your behalf
12 today.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Thank you, Councilman.

16 Moved and seconded that these
17 resolutions be adopted.

18 All in favor indicate by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
25 ayes have it, and these resolutions have

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 all been adopted.

3 Thank you very much.

4 Mr. Decker, do you have any
5 additional resolutions on today's
6 Calendar?

7 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution also
8 naming the 2500 block of West Sharswood
9 Street as "Honorable Thomas McIntosh Sr.
10 Way" to honor the life and legacy of
11 Thomas McIntosh Sr. in the City of
12 Philadelphia, introduced today by
13 Councilman Jones on behalf of Council
14 President Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
16 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: On your
18 behalf, I move for the adoption.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
21 been moved and properly seconded.

22 All in favor indicate by saying
23 aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
5 ayes have it, and that resolution is
6 adopted.

7 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
8 calling on the School District of
9 Philadelphia to review and enhance school
10 safety policies regarding students,
11 teachers, parents, and staff, as well as
12 provide a report to City Council on their
13 findings, introduced today by Councilman
14 Jones.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
16 Chair again recognizes Councilman Jones.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
18 again, Mr. President. I move for the
19 adoption.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
22 been moved and properly seconded.

23 All in favor indicate by saying
24 aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
6 ayes have it, and that resolution is
7 adopted.

8 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
9 congratulating the Kwanzaa Cooperative
10 for inaugurating the first City Kinara in
11 Philadelphia history and organizing
12 Kwanzaa programming at the Free Library
13 to uphold the traditions of Kwanzaa in
14 Philadelphia for years to come,
15 introduced today by Councilwoman Brooks.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
17 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brooks.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
19 you, Council President. I have remarks
20 for this too.

21 We have been celebrating
22 Kwanzaa here in Philadelphia for over
23 50 years, and thanks to the great work of
24 Mama Maisha and the Kwanzaa Cooperative,
25 this year for the first time with the

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 help of Visit Philadelphia, Welcome
3 Philadelphia, the Department of Parks and
4 Recreation, we will be bringing Kwanzaa
5 to the heart of our city with a beautiful
6 Kinara sculpture for all of us to enjoy.

7 The City of Philadelphia has
8 displayed a Christmas tree since 1913,
9 menorah since 1974. Starting this year,
10 a Kinara will take its place as part of
11 the Philadelphia holiday experience that
12 attracts thousands of our visitors each
13 winter.

14 I hope that families will take
15 advantage of the many opportunities
16 through the Free Library of Philadelphia
17 and the African American Museum of
18 Philadelphia and organizations to
19 celebrate and embrace the love and the
20 perseverance and the hope that Kwanzaa
21 represents.

22 In the midst of the holiday
23 madness, our traditions, whatever, it's
24 lighting candles and preparing a special
25 meal and saying sacred words guide us

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 towards a deeper meaning. Our traditions
3 allow us to tap into the wisdom and
4 strength of the people who came before us
5 and pass on that wisdom and strength for
6 the next generation.

7 With that, I move for the
8 adoption of the resolution.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you. It has been moved and
12 properly seconded.

13 All in favor indicate by saying
14 aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
20 ayes have it, and that resolution is
21 adopted.

22 - - -

23 (Applause.)

24 - - -

25 CHIEF CLERK: And Resolution

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 230788, entitled a "Resolution confirming
3 the appointment of Valerie I. Harrison as
4 a member of the Board of Ethics, to serve
5 in the term ending November 16, 2024,"
6 introduced by Councilman Jones for
7 Council President Clarke.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
9 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: On your
11 behalf, I move for the adoption.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
14 been moved and properly seconded.

15 All in favor indicate by saying
16 aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
19 Those opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 ayes have it, and that resolution is
23 adopted.

24 CHIEF CLERK: And Resolution
25 230803, entitled a "Resolution

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 reappointing Angela Val to the Board of
3 Directors of the Center City District,"
4 introduced by Councilman Squilla on
5 behalf of Council President Clarke.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
7 Chair recognizes Councilman Squilla.

8 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
9 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
10 of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
13 been moved and properly seconded.

14 All in favor indicate by saying
15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
21 ayes have it, and that resolution is
22 adopted.

23 CHIEF CLERK: And Resolution
24 No. 230804, entitled a "Resolution
25 appointing Dan Killinger to the Board of

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Directors of the Center City District,"
3 introduced by Councilman Squilla on
4 behalf of Council President Clarke.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
6 Chair recognizes Councilman Squilla.

7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
8 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
9 of the resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
12 been moved and properly seconded.

13 All in favor indicate by saying
14 aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
20 ayes have it, and that resolution is
21 adopted.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And Resolution
23 No. 230805, entitled a "Resolution
24 reappointing Jack Sokoloff to the Board
25 of Directors of the Center City

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 District," introduced by Councilman

3 Squilla on behalf of Council President

4 Clarke.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

6 Chair again recognizes Councilman

7 Squilla.

8 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,

9 Mr. President. I move for the adoption

10 of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's

13 been moved and properly seconded.

14 All in favor indicate by saying

15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

21 ayes have it, and that resolution is

22 adopted.

23 CHIEF CLERK: And Resolution

24 No. 230806, entitled a "Resolution

25 appointing Jamal Johnson to the Board of

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Directors of the Center City District,"
3 introduced by Councilman Squilla on
4 behalf of Council President Clarke.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
6 Chair recognizes Councilman Squilla.

7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
8 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
9 of the resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
12 been moved and properly seconded.

13 All in favor indicate by saying
14 aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
20 ayes have it, and that resolution is
21 adopted.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And Resolution
23 230807, entitled a "Resolution
24 reappointing Randall Scott to the Board
25 of Directors of the Center City

1 12/14/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 District," introduced by Councilman

3 Squilla on behalf of Council President

4 Clarke.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

6 Chair again recognizes Councilman

7 Squilla.

8 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,

9 Mr. President. I move for the adoption

10 of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's

13 been moved and properly seconded.

14 All in favor indicate by saying

15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

21 ayes have it, and that resolution is

22 adopted.

23 CHIEF CLERK: There are no

24 other resolutions on the Final Passage

25 Calendar, Mr. President.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

4 That concludes our Calendar for
5 today, and we now move to our speeches.

6 Are there any speeches on
7 behalf of the minority?

8 The Chair recognizes
9 Councilwoman Brooks.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
11 you, Council President.

12 I usually don't have much to
13 say, but just for you, I just wanted to
14 say thank you so much for your
15 leadership. And I said I was going to
16 get through this without like a little
17 tear or anything.

18 But thank you for making my
19 first term in Council memorable, being a
20 supporter behind the scenes and just
21 helping me navigate this process.

22 Mayor-elect said about your
23 authenticity, and from one North
24 Philadelphia person to another, I really
25 appreciate the leadership that you have

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 shown and the unspoken words when times
3 were hard. You would just say a thing
4 and I knew exactly what you were talking
5 about to get me through, and I just
6 wanted to let you know that you are
7 appreciated. And I had to say this
8 publicly as the resident activist. And,
9 you know, the folks that usually stand
10 for me usually don't stand for you, and I
11 just want to let you know publicly that I
12 appreciate you and all that support and
13 guidance that you have shown me in my
14 role, and you will be missed.

15 Thank you so much.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Thank you so much, Council Lady.

18 - - -

19 (Applause.)

20 - - -

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you so much.

23 I just want to forewarn you all
24 if I start to cry, I'm going to leave.

25 Councilman Jones, I'm going to

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 ask you to come up here and take my
3 place. I'm not going to cry in public,
4 right?

5 The Chair recognizes
6 Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson.

7 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
8 you, Mr. President.

9 Dr. Maya Angelou said, "Always
10 say thank you. It's the greatest gift
11 you can give someone, because thank you
12 is what you say to God."

13 So today, Council President, as
14 I address you as our President for the
15 final time, I cannot miss the opportunity
16 to thank you --

17 (Brief pause.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
19 out.

20 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: --
21 for your dedicated years of service to
22 this city and to this body.

23 You have served Philadelphia
24 with distinction in many ways, from
25 organizing your community, our community,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 and like me, beginning as a staffer in
3 Philadelphia City Council, becoming a
4 member of this body, and then for more
5 than decade as our Council President.

6 I can say confidently that no
7 one, no one knows and understands this
8 body like you. You have earned a Ph.D.
9 in Philadelphia City Council.

10 Your experience and knowledge
11 are a part of what has made you such a
12 great leader. You've demonstrated that
13 hard work, perseverance, and learning are
14 just a few keys to success.

15 When we have lacked consensus,
16 you have worked diligently to guide us.
17 When we faced unimaginable challenges,
18 you have remained a steadfast presence,
19 supporting new ideas and never giving up
20 on our most entrenched problems, like
21 your moon shot Poverty Action Fund,
22 Councilmember Sanchez, or like creating
23 the Philadelphia Energy Authority and the
24 historic \$400 million Neighborhood
25 Preservation Initiative.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 You have left a lasting
3 impression on the many people who have
4 served in this body as members and staff
5 over your 42 years of service.

6 When I was a staffer, you took
7 the time to get to know me and support
8 the work I was doing under my mentor,
9 Councilmember Blondell Reynolds Brown.

10 Please stand.

11 - - -

12 (Applause.)

13 - - -

14 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: And
15 when I decided to run upon her departure
16 from this body, you supported me. I will
17 never forget the picture we took at my
18 last session of Council as a staffer on
19 Thursday, January 31st, 2019. When I
20 arrived as a member, you took the time to
21 teach me about the job, even when it was
22 hard, as I know you have done for so many
23 of us here.

24 You have been our friend, our
25 colleague, and for most of us, our

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Council therapist. I don't know how you
3 keep all of that information, all of that
4 stuff in your head and yours too. And to
5 know that when we spoke, it stayed right
6 there. That's a rare quality these days,
7 but it's part of the reason why you've
8 been here so long.

9 While this may be the last time
10 I address you as the leader of this body,
11 I know you will always be here to support
12 our work and to serve the residents of
13 Philadelphia. As former Councilmember
14 Blondell Reynolds Brown says, you'll be
15 gone out the E.

16 But, finally, I could not
17 conclude my remarks without a few words
18 for my friend Councilmember Sharon
19 Vaughn. Sharon has also spent decades
20 serving the residents of Philadelphia as
21 a ward leader, a Council staffer under
22 three members of Council. We know how
23 difficult that could be.

24 - - -

25 (Applause.)

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 - - -

3 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: She
4 served under former Councilmembers Derek
5 Green, Marian B. Tasco, and Augusta
6 "Gussie" Clark, and now as a
7 Councilmember.

8 Sharon, you have taught me the
9 importance of understanding the needs of
10 our community and how to work diligently
11 to meet them. You have taught me that
12 bringing joy, fun, and laughter to this
13 work is crucial. And I can't miss saying
14 that when things hit the fan, you had my
15 back, and you know what I'm talking
16 about.

17 You have been a dedicated
18 friend, constantly reminding me that we
19 are all here to make our city a better
20 place.

21 You will both be greatly
22 missed, and I wish you health and
23 happiness in your next chapter.

24 Thank you for your friendship.
25 Thank you for your service. Thank you

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 for your leadership. Our journey will
3 certainly continue.

4 Thank you, Mr. President.

5 - - -

6 (Applause.)

7 - - -

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you. Thank you, Council Lady.
10 Thank you so much.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Thomas.

13 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
14 afternoon, colleagues.

15 I talked about Sharon last
16 week. You know I love you, Sharon.

17 But, Council President, like so
18 many people that are in this room today,
19 I just want to say thank you.

20 You've taught us a lot of
21 lessons. I know the one lesson that you
22 taught me was the importance of putting
23 your name on a bill, and I know you
24 remember that conversation we had. And,
25 you know, me being young and being new,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 just get it done, whatever it takes to
3 get it done, and you had to sit me down
4 like, "bro." And you know when you here
5 "bro," right, like I did something wrong.
6 So it's like, "bro." And I appreciate
7 that, but I think a lot of people don't
8 know that every bill that I've gotten
9 passed this year -- this first term in
10 City Council, I couldn't have done
11 without you.

12 I echo the sentiments of
13 everybody about your humility, your
14 leadership and being a teacher, but I
15 remember one time I was talking to
16 Councilmember Johnson, and we both got
17 little kids and, you know, I know his
18 kids, my kids know him and his family.
19 And he was talking about how, you know,
20 if you're going to just keep it politics,
21 let's keep it politics, but once we cross
22 that line and we make it personal, it
23 just becomes different. And that's all
24 I've been sitting here thinking about.

25 A lot of people know this was

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 the hardest year of my life, right? I
3 joined a club that nobody wants to be a
4 part of. And at the end of the day, I'm
5 never going to forget how you were there
6 for me and my family and how you helped
7 me get through the most difficult thing
8 that I think any person could ever go
9 through.

10 So I'm going to stop right
11 there so I don't have to walk out, but
12 thank you, Council President. I
13 appreciate you. I truly love you, and I
14 will never forget everything you've done
15 for me both in Council, which is great
16 and is important, but just personally as
17 a man.

18 So thank you.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you, Councilman. Appreciate you.

21 - - -

22 (Applause.)

23 - - -

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Appreciate you, Councilman. Thank you so

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 much.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Harrity.

5 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: So,
6 Council President, you know, it goes
7 without saying, being one of the freshmen
8 here in Council, I've made a lot of
9 mistakes, to say it -- you know, to
10 downplay a little bit, but you were
11 always patient with me and, you know, I
12 appreciate that, because you get here and
13 some of us who are also freshmen, like
14 Quetcy, had worked here before, so knew
15 some of the rules. I came in not knowing
16 any of the rules. So I'm glad that you
17 took the time to show me your patience
18 and to try to guide me when I was veering
19 off the path, and I've learned a lot from
20 you, so I thank you.

21 To my colleagues, I've learned
22 something from every single one of you.
23 You are all good people with big hearts,
24 and I will cherish this term for the rest
25 of my life, especially since some of us

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 will not be here in the next term.

3 So, Sharon, I love you, baby.

4 Onward and upward. I know you're not

5 leaving government. You're going to be

6 doing something else, working on that

7 other pension.

8 And, Council President Clarke,

9 I hope that you get to actually enjoy

10 some of your time before -- I know you're

11 going right back into the fire also.

12 But that's what you guys are.

13 That's who you are. You are of the

14 people.

15 So I thank you, and I

16 appreciate you allowing me to learn.

17 Thank you.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Thank you, Councilman. It's been my

20 pleasure.

21 - - -

22 (Applause.)

23 - - -

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And

25 my pleasure to work with you.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 The Chair recognizes

3 Councilwoman Lozada.

4 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank
5 you, Council President.

6 I think I echo the sentiments
7 of everyone in this Chamber when they say
8 that they're extremely grateful for your
9 leadership.

10 As this special election term
11 comes to an end for me, I can't
12 express -- thank you is not enough to say
13 how grateful I am for your leadership,
14 for your example of what confidentiality
15 really means, and for your advocacy for
16 not just the residents of the 5th
17 Councilmanic District but for the City in
18 general.

19 And so I just wish you the best
20 on your next journey. I look forward to
21 seeing you around in this Council
22 Chamber. I know you said "I'm not coming
23 in here," but I think we will see you
24 here. We're going to need to reach out
25 to you often, at least I know that I

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 will.

3 And so I want you to know that
4 I am rooting for you in what you do next,
5 and I look forward to being able to
6 continue to reach out to you in the
7 future of course for guidance.

8 To my colleague Sharon, girl,
9 I'mma miss having you back there being
10 extremely honest and forthright. I
11 appreciate everything that you've done
12 for me. I look forward to working with
13 you as a ward leader in the 7th Council
14 District and continuing the work that we
15 have done together to move the residents
16 of the 42nd Ward forward.

17 To all of you, you know, I am
18 grateful for all of your support to the
19 7th Council District office and to me
20 individually. I can't express how
21 grateful I am, and I'm looking forward to
22 working with all of you in the next four
23 years.

24 Thank you.

25 - - -

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 (Applause.)

3 - - -

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you. Thank you so much,

6 Councilwoman.

7 I'll see you up in our 'hood.

8 All right?

9 Real quick, I just want to
10 recognize City Commissioner Lisa Deeley,
11 Chair Lady.

12 - - -

13 (Applause.)

14 - - -

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: A
16 lot of work next year, so get ready.

17 I know she'll be in here asking
18 you all for more money for her budget.

19 Councilwoman.

20 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: I just
21 want to recognize Councilmember Maria
22 Quinones-Sanchez and I also want to say
23 thank you to her for laying the
24 groundwork for the residents of the 7th,
25 for teaching me and giving me an example.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 - - -

3 (Applause.)

4 - - -

5 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: For
6 teaching me and for being an example to
7 me in my life as I started this journey.
8 I want you to know publicly that I'm
9 extremely grateful for everything that
10 you have done for me and for the
11 residents of the 7th.

12 - - -

13 (Applause.)

14 - - -

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Awesome. Thank you.
17 Uh-oh. The Chair recognizes
18 Councilwoman Vaughn.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: I know
20 you saved the best for last.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I
22 love you.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Thank you
24 very much, Council President.

25 You know, just hearing all the

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 wonderful things about you, I can
3 sincerely second. I remember working
4 here when we both were doing constituent
5 services, and as you began to rise the
6 ladder into who you are today, I grabbed
7 you up and said, don't you forget the
8 little people like us. And I said, from
9 now on when we see each other, we got to
10 bump shoulders so that I can remind you
11 where you came from.

12 I thank you for your
13 leadership. I thank you for your
14 friendship. And I know I worried the
15 heck out of you as Derek's Chief of Staff
16 as well as in my current position.

17 I just want to tell you when I
18 look around this room, who could not help
19 but feel overwhelmed. I am -- I have
20 been experiencing amazing feelings.

21 I think I'm about to tear up.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: First time.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: First
24 time. Even devils cry.

25 I'm trying to find the words to

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 sum up this 35-year journey. It has been
3 interesting, rewarding, challenging, more
4 challenging than I could ever have
5 imagined. To finally be at this point is
6 surreal, but ultimately a blessing.

7 I owe this moment to all of you
8 who have supported me, empowered me along
9 the way, and really pushed me to think
10 bigger.

11 From the moment I became a
12 registered voter at age 18, public
13 service, politics has been a major part
14 of my life. I haven't missed an election
15 since. Sitting in this seat is something
16 that I could not have ever imagined even
17 in my wildest dreams.

18 This past year I have
19 introduced resolutions pertaining to
20 issues like reform of our penal system,
21 championed initiatives surrounding gun
22 violence prevention, supported this
23 legislative body with bills and
24 resolutions to make Philadelphia a better
25 place to live, as well as spent my time

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 engaging with community members during
3 various events hosted by my staff, which
4 I affectionately refer to as the Vaughn
5 Jawns, like our Feltonville Community Day
6 sponsored by Coopers Bar and Grill, our
7 Autism Play Date, which was a tradition
8 that I held on from my predecessor, Derek
9 Green, and most recently our Holiday
10 Harvest Festival where we celebrated and
11 a lot of you got to sample my famous
12 apple pie.

13 Despite a short time in this
14 role, I pray that I have truly made a
15 difference in our city, whether it was
16 big or small.

17 To the citizens of
18 Philadelphia, I thank you for believing
19 in me and trusting me to serve you this
20 year.

21 Although my mother, Faye
22 Treadwell, didn't live to see this, I
23 know and feel how proud she must be.
24 Anyone that knew her got an earful about
25 her baby, Shari baby, whenever you

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 crossed her path. In fact, both her and
3 my brother I believe were convinced that
4 I am the Wizard of Oz, all seeing and
5 knowing.

6 As I come to the end of my
7 career here in City Hall, I must thank
8 many people whom I have met along the
9 way. Please blame it on my head and not
10 my heart if I miss someone. I must begin
11 by thanking the late "Gussie" Augusta
12 Clark, the woman who gave me my start in
13 government, and the late Julius J.
14 Williams. Honorable mention to his wife,
15 Geri, for saving me. I can't tell you
16 how many times I knew I was going to be
17 fired by Gussie for something that I had
18 done in these halls.

19 I also want to thank the
20 incomparable Marian B. Tasco; Teresa
21 Comer, who always made sure to tell me I
22 was beautiful; Connie Little, who always
23 let me know that whatever I wanted to do,
24 I could make it happen, and she also let
25 people know that they better not mess

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 with me because she had me.

3 Marlene Goff, who welcomed me
4 into the Hudsy (ph) Club, along with
5 Zenobia Harris; Ellie Brown. Believe it
6 or not, that woman made my wedding dress
7 30 years ago.

8 The Bowen family; Joann Bell,
9 who was Julia's sister-in-law married to
10 Jerry, always coaching me and saying,
11 don't pay that man any mind, he knows
12 he's crazy.

13 Last, but certainly not least,
14 my dear friend Derek Green. He's my
15 friend for life, who we are celebrating
16 his birthday today.

17 Happy birthday, Derek Green.

18 - - -

19 (Applause.)

20 - - -

21 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: I know
22 that he's watching and he hears us,
23 because he had the audacity to scold me
24 for not being in the Chambers for a
25 little while not too long ago.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 No thank-you list is complete
3 without my devoted husband, Kevin Vaughn
4 Sr., our children, Kanika and Kevin Jr.,
5 who grew up in City Hall, and our
6 grandchildren, Aaron and Khloe, who pop
7 up often because they know this place
8 like home.

9 Some of my other cheerleaders
10 who always have and continue to support
11 me include my brothers, Mike and Reggie
12 Treadwell; my BFFs -- if y'all don't know
13 what that means, it's best friends
14 forever -- Wayne Coles, Tonya Woods,
15 Michelle Gordon, Candace Presley, Perty
16 Forth (ph).

17 I shared in the joy of the
18 birth of many children who call me
19 "Auntie" that were born to their parents
20 here in City Hall, or even "Mimi." I
21 can't begin to tell you how fond I am of
22 these who refer to me as "Mama Sharon"
23 also. I love each and every one of you
24 dearly.

25 My most recent quote I am

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 extremely proud of is, "I'm going to be
3 just like you, watch." Some folks know
4 when a certain culture of people say
5 "watch," we mean business.

6 On that note, the time for me
7 to move on has arrived. Only I can
8 define what moving on looks like for me,
9 and I have made the decision to seek the
10 positives that progression offers. Heck,
11 my new boss compared me to LeBron James.

12 This year I have been
13 challenged by my level of patience,
14 because actually being a boss is work,
15 which has helped me grow though and to
16 meet people where they are and not where
17 I want them to be.

18 Lastly, I want to thank the
19 Vaughn Jawns, my colleagues, the ward
20 leaders that joined me here today that
21 helped me get into this seat for hanging
22 in there with me this year. I want to
23 give a special shout-out to my Office
24 Manager, Rochelle Gordon; my Director of
25 Communications, Kyra Harris; my Director

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 of Constituent Services, Tonya Woods; and
3 of course my Legislative Advisor, Duwanye
4 Terry; honorable mention to Frank
5 Iannuzzi, who came to join me today. He
6 said to me one time, we would have never
7 met if not for Council, but I'm extremely
8 glad that we did.

9 You all kept me grounded and
10 held things down in a way no one else
11 could. And often, we all know, that I
12 can get out of hand.

13 I hope you all know how
14 grateful I am for you. I'm super excited
15 for my next chapter. I have no idea what
16 I'm going -- what I was going to be
17 35 years ago, but I always end up where I
18 belong.

19 Colleagues, I hope you all
20 remember me for the fun times, especially
21 in our group texts. You all can go ahead
22 and delete me now. Y'all work too hard
23 and all day and all night.

24 Mr. President, go ahead and
25 breathe. I didn't say anything to make

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2 anyone clutch their pearls this time.

3 With that being said, goodbye
4 tension. Hello pension. I'm outta here.

5 - - -

6 (Applause.)

7 - - -

8 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Thank you
9 all.

10 - - -

11 (Standing ovation.)

12 - - -

13 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: I got
14 you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I
16 know. I know. I'm going to miss you.

17 The Chair recognizes
18 Councilwoman Gauthier.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Thank
20 you, Council President.

21 I wanted to take a moment to
22 also add my thank you and my well wishes
23 to you. I've learned so much from
24 watching you over the past four years.
25 I've learned so much of what I know about

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2 how Council works. I've learned how
3 Council does not work and what not to do.
4 I got my hands slapped a few times.

5 I've learned about what true
6 power and influence looks like and what
7 dignified leadership looks like.

8 I can't think of too many
9 things that might be harder than leading
10 16 other independently elected officials
11 with different ideas and ideologies, but
12 you've done that, like our Mayor-elect
13 said, masterfully and through one of the
14 hardest times that I can imagine to be an
15 elected official if we just think about
16 what has happened over the past four
17 years.

18 And so I just wanted to thank
19 you for every lesson that you've taught
20 me personally, but also for how well
21 you've led this body to accomplish what
22 we needed to on behalf of the people over
23 my first four years in office and over
24 your entire history, and I hope that we
25 make you proud as we move forward.

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2 So thank you so much.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you so much, Councilwoman.

5 Appreciate you.

6 - - -

7 (Applause.)

8 - - -

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 Chair recognizes Councilman Phillips.

11 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Before I
12 begin my remarks on Council President
13 Clarke, I just have to say a few words
14 about Councilwoman Sharon Vaughn or
15 Sharon Vaughn or Ms. Vaughn, depends on
16 what day it is.

17 I just want to say that Sharon
18 Vaughn, when we first met -- and we've
19 told this story a number of times -- I
20 was nervous as heck to meet this woman.
21 I had heard some things, and I was
22 like -- when she said a D word earlier,
23 and I said -- I was meeting her to try to
24 garner her support so I can get through
25 the special election, and at that time,

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2 when I got there, she was probably the
3 only person that didn't have my -- give
4 me her support yet.

5 And so by that time, it was
6 breakfast, I came with like a notepad of
7 why we should go forward with this, and I
8 think that she's not really listening and
9 taking it seriously, and by the end of
10 the conversation, she said, I got you,
11 baby, and she showed me in that
12 conversation that she is one of the most
13 sweetest people in the City of
14 Philadelphia. And I remember even
15 calling Kathy before the meeting and
16 nervous as heck, I was like, you know
17 this lady?

18 And she said, she's a sweet,
19 wonderful woman, Anthony. You'll be
20 fine.

21 And sure enough, I was fine by
22 the end of that meeting. And ever since
23 then, you have served as this woman that
24 is just loving and caring and thoughtful
25 for me.

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2 And also the most important
3 thing that Sharon Vaughn brings to the
4 City of Philadelphia and to this body is
5 honesty. If there's one thing I can say
6 about Sharon Vaughn, she will tell you
7 the truth, how she feels. If she doesn't
8 like something, she's going to tell you
9 she doesn't like it. If she doesn't like
10 someone, she's going to tell you I don't
11 like someone. But she also does it with
12 grace. "Baby, I don't like you, but how
13 you doing?"

14 So that is difficult, and
15 that's why, you know, in our Council
16 group chat, she's always delivering some
17 of the greatest, honest comments and
18 remarks of all time. I call it Council
19 After Dark.

20 But -- oh, I shouldn't have
21 said that.

22 But long story short, Sharon
23 Vaughn, I just want to say thank you for
24 all that you've done in terms of loving,
25 caring, and being thoughtful to myself,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 to the City of Philadelphia.

3 Because when Sharon Vaughn says

4 "I got your back," she's ready to fight

5 for you and make sure that you are good,

6 and I can always -- I'll tell you this

7 one thing, she even tells you when --

8 like told me many times when you're out

9 of line. I was like -- one day I had

10 forgot something. She said, hey, do you

11 remember sending the e-mail to somebody

12 about this?

13 I said, I don't remember

14 nothing like that.

15 She said, well, let me find

16 that you're a BS'er.

17 And I said, oh, my God, I did

18 send that e-mail.

19 And so she will tell you when

20 you mess up, and that's what I love about

21 this woman.

22 And I'm looking forward to

23 seeing you and connecting with you as our

24 ward leader and also in your next life,

25 and keep me encouraged, keep me in your

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 prayers and thoughts. You're the best.

3 Thank you, Sharon Vaughn.

4 - - -

5 (Applause.)

6 - - -

7 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Council
8 President, colleagues, I just want to say
9 this: There's a Black man in leadership
10 that I was able to watch for over a year
11 stand there and show me what resolve,
12 what calm and being intentional for your
13 community means, and that meant a lot for
14 a man who did not grow up with his father
15 entirely in his life.

16 I have been always trying to
17 find people in my life that I can look to
18 and emulate. And one thing I will tell
19 you about Council President Clarke is
20 that even when things got tough, I
21 watched it over and over again, public
22 comments and people and things and
23 legislation, he stood there and listened
24 with his suit and said, got you.

25 There was never a moment where

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2 he flinched. And he was also resolved in
3 the fact that I know what I'm here for.
4 I'm here to serve the community.

5 This man, believe it or not,
6 Philadelphia, y'all may not know this, he
7 came to work every day, unless there was
8 some other obligation. He was in this
9 building every single day. That is not
10 heard of from every Councilmember. And
11 so he models work ethic and a level of
12 excellency like no other.

13 And then also I just have to
14 say thank you to Wendy. She's also going
15 to be retiring soon, I believe.

16 - - -

17 (Applause.)

18 - - -

19 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: I mean,
20 those two working together has been like,
21 I mean, a thing. You can see it from the
22 outside. They have a relationship. She
23 keeps -- it's like Council President, as
24 people mentioned, they keep things, you
25 know, inhouse. That doesn't always

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 happen in this world, and I just want to
3 say thank you. And to all of the other
4 Council staff members that I've worked
5 with, Council President, thank y'all so
6 much.

7 Lastly, I'm just going to say
8 today is bittersweet, and it's bitter for
9 me because today I lose a Council
10 colleague, the only Council President
11 I've ever served under, and because of
12 the era of legislative position, civic
13 responsibility, and strong leadership,
14 that's going to come to an end, and
15 that's sad.

16 All of my adult life and, yes,
17 when I walked in and met you, I was
18 shocked to see and like I'm sitting in
19 the room with Darrell Clarke, and that
20 was just like crazy as a young man
21 growing up in this world.

22 President Clarke has wielded
23 the gavel of this body with grace,
24 strength, humility, and steadfastness.
25 His hand will be surely missed.

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2 For last 12 years,
3 Mr. President, you have been a fixture in
4 the pillar of poise and strength. I am
5 certain that in you and in our next
6 Council President, incoming President
7 Johnson, we will find a foundation of
8 what and how it looks like to lead.

9 We are all in your debt and we
10 walk in your footsteps. And I might add
11 that your 40 years of City Hall started
12 six years before I was ever born. So
13 today -- I just had to say that. That's
14 why when I see you, I'm like he's my
15 elder, like I listen.

16 No. I mean it in a good way,
17 in a great way, great way.

18 That was a good thing. Y'all
19 know me.

20 I met President Clarke when
21 then-Councilwoman Parker asked me to
22 consider serving on City Council, and at
23 first he didn't know who this man was,
24 this young man was before, but as he will
25 tell you, we left as strong supporters

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 and connectors of each other, and even
3 more, he became a mentor of mine, and I
4 mean a mentor, calling him all types of
5 days and nights with questions.

6 I join the thousands of
7 Philadelphians, maybe even millions at
8 this point, that have been impacted by
9 his decades of service he has shown to
10 our city.

11 And I want to say today is also
12 sweet because you trusted me from the
13 outset and for good measure, because it
14 was our former colleague and our future
15 Mayor who walked me in to meet you. Not
16 one minute, not a single second have you
17 ever doubted me because of her reassuring
18 introduction. I owe you on both ends
19 debts of gratitude.

20 Mr. Council President, I do not
21 wish to say good-bye, because we know
22 you're not going anywhere, you're going
23 to be around. We just won't see you up
24 there, which is going to be strange.

25 I just wish you Godspeed as you

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2 take on new challenges and raise the bar
3 even after you leave this body on how we
4 should lead, legislate, and live.

5 I love you, Black man. Thank
6 you for doing what you've done for the
7 City of Philadelphia.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you. Thank you.

10 - - -

11 (Applause.)

12 - - -

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Thank you, Councilman. Thank you so
15 much. I knew there was a reason why I
16 left, you know, I made the decision to
17 leave. That fact alone, that you weren't
18 even born when I came in this field, it's
19 time to go. It's time to go.

20 But, Councilman, thank you so
21 much. I really enjoyed you. And those
22 words last night at your event, man, I
23 really meant them. You're welcome. You
24 know, you really, really have learned
25 this job and learned your folks, and

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2 learned your skill sets that those big
3 shoes that you had to fill -- those big
4 high heels that you had to fill with
5 Councilwoman Parker, you've hit the
6 ground running.

7 So thank you. Thank you so
8 much, Councilman.

9 The Chair recognizes
10 Councilwoman Bass.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Well,
12 Mr. President, I'm going to be brief. I
13 just wanted to say a couple of things.

14 You know, Councilmember
15 Phillips -- I know you said earlier like
16 if you got emotional, you were going to
17 leave and, you know, step out, but I
18 think that makes you emotional for a
19 whole 'nother reason, the idea of that.

20 Thanks, Councilman.

21 But I just wanted to say just a
22 couple of things, and the first thing is
23 that I want to thank you for your
24 service. You know, people don't realize
25 how hard your job is. I'm not talking

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 about our jobs; your job is as Council
3 President, because you make it look easy,
4 and in making it look easy, people have
5 no idea that it's almost like trying to
6 keep 16 kittens in a basket at the same
7 time. This is not, you know, an easy
8 thing.

9 You have such institutional
10 knowledge that you really didn't have to
11 be a member of City Council. There are
12 so many other avenues and options and
13 opportunities that you could have taken
14 other than serving the public. And so I
15 just really wanted to say thank you so
16 much for all that you've done.

17 And I just wanted to also say
18 for those who may not know, that our
19 Council President I think is probably one
20 of the funniest people that I've ever
21 worked with. And, you know, I just want
22 to thank you for bringing laughter and
23 light and enjoyment into some very, very
24 difficult situations. And I know that we
25 haven't always -- listen, I haven't

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 always agreed with you and you haven't
3 always agreed with me and, you know,
4 we've had our very challenging moments,
5 but at the end of the day, I've always
6 had respect for you, love for you, and
7 that's going to continue on.

8 And so I just want to again
9 just say thank you. Thank you is such an
10 important word, I know Councilmember
11 Kathy Gilmore Richardson mentioned
12 earlier, and just so much gratitude for
13 all that you've done and for helping each
14 and every one of us through our way here
15 in City Council.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Thank you.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: And I just
19 wanted to add to my partner in -- I want
20 to say crime, but I'm going to say
21 partner in all things good over here,
22 Councilwoman Sharon Vaughn. You know,
23 listen, talk about having a good time and
24 fun, the party never stops.

25 And so I just want to say thank

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2 you to you for always just being joyful
3 and friendly and when serious, you know,
4 as someone earlier mentioned, letting
5 people know exactly where you stand. I
6 think that is such an important quality,
7 that people know where you stand at all
8 times. There's no guesswork. There's no
9 mistaking. There's no double talk. But
10 having that fortitude to be able to say
11 exactly what you think, exactly how you
12 feel, exactly what you mean is just such
13 an important quality to have, and God
14 bless you.

15 I'll be seeing you around.
16 I'll be seeing you around. It's not
17 exactly a good-bye, because we'll be
18 seeing each other, I'm sure, pretty
19 regularly anyway.

20 But, you know, just thank you
21 both for your service. God bless you
22 both.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you so much, Councilwoman.

25 - - -

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2 (Applause.)

3 - - -

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you. Thank you so much.

6 Appreciate having had an opportunity to
7 work with you like way back. We
8 appreciate you.

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman
10 O'Neill.

11 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Thank you,
12 Mr. President.

13 I don't know where to start.
14 The age thing, I'll just put that aside
15 for a minute.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Yeah, right.

18 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: One good
19 thing is wisdom comes with it, so my
20 colleague has a lot more wisdom coming to
21 him. That's all he can -- should focus
22 on.

23 But no, no, I immensely enjoy
24 working with Councilman Phillips, but I
25 just went through a campaign that was

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2 over how long you've been serving and
3 da-da-da-da, and my voters are really
4 smart. I'm glad to be not leaving. Of
5 course, it wouldn't have been a voluntary
6 retirement.

7 But, Darrell, I want to say to
8 you, I don't know -- I've been here a
9 year longer than you, so here about the
10 same time. I don't remember the first
11 year, second year, third year. You know,
12 they're long in the past. But somehow
13 you have followed two really strong
14 Council Presidents who elevated and began
15 the elevation of this institution and
16 this body. You have somehow, best way I
17 can say it, is perfected the job. I
18 wouldn't have one --

19 - - -

20 (Applause.)

21 - - -

22 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: I would
23 not have one suggestion to do something
24 different than you have done.

25 For instance, in addition to

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2 you having to deal with 16 unruly cats,
3 you have a lot of staff, and over the
4 years you were staff for 20 years or so,
5 right? There was always Council
6 President staff who had favorites, were
7 easy to work with, difficult depending on
8 who you were or -- you know, sometimes
9 they were just miserable. You know, it
10 didn't have anything to do with that.

11 Your staff has been incredible,
12 top to bottom, Wendy, Donna, everyone who
13 has worked with you.

14 - - -

15 (Applause.)

16 - - -

17 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: And it's
18 from what we might call the lowest level
19 to the highest level. Whether I'm
20 talking to John Fenton, one of the
21 Sergeant-At-Arms, whether I'm talking to
22 John Christmas, whether I'm talking to
23 Wendy, it is -- they're incredible
24 people, but they treat everyone the same.

25 And that brings me to you. I

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 have -- I just don't know how you do it.
3 You treat everyone the same. Whether
4 they're close to you personally, whether
5 they're close to you politically, there's
6 no difference in how you treat people.

7 I never follow the term
8 "emotional intelligence," but it was the
9 equivalent of IQ. You should be in that
10 group that has the highest. There's a
11 name for that group. I can't think of it
12 right now.

13 I don't know how you do it, but
14 starting with your own staff and then
15 coming to your job with us and the
16 Administration, how you deal with the
17 State Legislature, Governor's Office.
18 The thing that comes to mind is DEI. It
19 wasn't very long ago that there was no
20 DEI that anybody talked about. You
21 didn't have to say diversity,
22 inclusion -- equity, inclusion. You just
23 say DEI now. Everybody has got a DEI
24 officer.

25 You are our DEI officer. You

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 handle our diversity magically. You make
3 sure that everything is equitable, spread
4 around, no one feels different, no one
5 feels less or more, and you're as
6 inclusive as a leader can be, and I just
7 want to thank you, because I have so much
8 admiration for you.

9 But you've elevated this
10 institution to where you can honestly say
11 we are a strong Mayor, strong Council,
12 strong Council President. There was a
13 time when we were just strong Mayor.
14 Then it became, before I got in here and
15 at the beginning of my time, strong
16 Mayor, strong Council President. No one
17 ever talked about Council.

18 We are now a strong Mayor,
19 strong Councilmember, strong Mayor [sic],
20 and it makes all the difference in the
21 world to be a member here. It's one of
22 the reasons I like still being here, is
23 that you can get so much done if it's
24 your first day, your first year, or your
25 44th year because of what your

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 predecessors began, starting with Council
3 President and then Mayor Street,
4 Councilwoman Verna and what you have
5 taken to the highest level, I think, that
6 can be done. Challenge to my colleague
7 here if he can take it higher, but I
8 didn't think you could and you darn well
9 did.

10 So thank you. And I know
11 you're still going to be around, and so
12 will I, and the biggest thank you I could
13 ever imagine giving somebody.

14 Thank you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you, Councilman.

17 - - -

18 (Applause.)

19 - - -

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you. Thank you so much,
22 Councilman. I appreciate you. I
23 appreciate the long relationship that
24 we've had both as a staffer and then a
25 colleague. I appreciate that.

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2 The Chair recognizes Councilman
3 Jones.

4 COUNCILMAN JONES: First to my
5 colleague, Member Vaughn, you are proof
6 positive that the best Councilpeople were
7 former staffers. That is a fact. You
8 are mature and educated in that process
9 and assumed the role of a Councilperson
10 gracefully because of it, and thank you
11 for your service. And as a fellow ward
12 leader, I'm glad I endorsed you.

13 - - -

14 (Applause.)

15 - - -

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Bro, all I
17 can tell you is, there are several things
18 you taught me. The first one was just
19 when you shake your head like that does
20 not mean yes. In your negotiations, all
21 that means is you're listening, which
22 I've always appreciated.

23 Secondly, I want to talk about
24 the first time I met you. You were
25 sitting at that table having a hearing

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 about cameras. You remember that?

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.

4 COUNCILMAN JONES: You and a

5 West Philly guy named Nutter. And what

6 you were talking about was a

7 demonstration project on security cameras

8 that just might help keep crime off of

9 the streets of Philadelphia. And I

10 remember that we applied for it. The

11 first cameras in the City of Philadelphia

12 were on 54th Street. At one point they

13 didn't work, got me in some trouble. So

14 I checked today, make sure they were

15 working, and they are.

16 Three thousand cameras later,

17 3,000 cameras later, the City is safer

18 because of it.

19 One time, Zaire Jones, no

20 relation, on Simpson Street was murdered.

21 Not to make it a somber piece, but the

22 reason they apprehended the murderers is

23 because cameras that you got us to do.

24 So I thank you, Mr. President, for that.

25 The second thing I'm going to

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 talk about is shovels. I don't know if
3 you were in here the other day. He had
4 over -- how many was it, 100 and --

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Hundred and something. I lost count.

7 COUNCILMAN JONES: -- 150

8 shovels. And I remember as a freshman
9 you taking the time to drive around and I
10 wanted to know the secret to development,
11 how can I get that in the 4th District,
12 how can I get those shovels.

13 So you rode around with me half
14 a day and we went to maybe six potential
15 sites that I wanted to develop, and when
16 I got back, I was under the impression,
17 because this don't always mean yes, it
18 means I'm listening, I get in here and I
19 said, I want all of mine that year, all
20 of my projects. And it was Councilmember
21 Rizzo that explained to me as a freshman,
22 you got to wait to get in the pipeline in
23 order to get the funding, in order to get
24 the City's support, in order to get those
25 done.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I want to report to you today,
3 Mr. President, those six sites all have
4 been developed. Thank you for that.

5 - - -

6 (Applause.)

7 - - -

8 COUNCILMAN JONES: You have
9 changed the skyline of the City of
10 Philadelphia as well as many, many
11 neighborhoods, and we thank you. Three
12 thousand properties that you have
13 identified later thank you for that.

14 Then, finally, I want to say to
15 you that you taught me judgment. Just
16 because you can, doesn't mean you should.
17 When we were faced with a dilemma of
18 budget deficits, one of the bright ideas
19 of some others was to sell the Gas Works,
20 and you caught hell. The papers talked
21 about us. The Administration at the time
22 called us immature and didn't understand.
23 We were going to go off a fiscal cliff,
24 and you said no. You said, this asset
25 may turn around.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 The people we were going to
3 sell it to six months later went
4 bankrupt.

5 Just because you can, does not
6 mean you should.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
8 Right.

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: And as the
10 last surviving elected member of the
11 freshmen three, I want to thank you for
12 that.

13 And I'm one of the
14 presentations that will be done today,
15 and if Member Squilla, Member Bass
16 representing this leadership group, and
17 we welcome the next leadership group, I
18 want to ask you to join us here.

19 Now, this will be framed at
20 your party tomorrow, but in the meantime,
21 former members, please join us.

22 Thank you. Former members,
23 members, please join us for this picture.
24 That's right. It's in a nice frame too.

25 And I remember when you first

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 took on the mantle of President. It has
3 been value added ever since.

4 I mean, future President
5 Johnson, you got big shoes to fill.

6 So with that, we want to thank
7 you for the service and say as you move
8 on to the South of France tasting wine on
9 behalf of the Commonwealth of
10 Pennsylvania, don't forget where you came
11 from, and this is here.

12 Thank you.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Thank you, my friend.

15 (Councilmembers taking
16 pictures.)

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: A fully
18 framed picture will be presented
19 tomorrow.

20 We ain't done with you yet.
21 We're going to get a tear out of you.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you so much, Councilman.

24 All right. Folks, we're not
25 finished yet. We actually still have

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 to -- we got a couple more members.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Squilla.

5 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
6 Council President Clarke, and I do want
7 to say something about Sharon too right
8 before we get into you.

9 But, you know, Sharon was
10 always a staffer and you appreciate a
11 staffer working in the Council office
12 because they actually do all the work,
13 right, and we show up. But when you see
14 Sharon's progression and then become the
15 Councilmember, she still just does all
16 the work, right? So she still is still a
17 staffer and working for that, but it's
18 her honesty, as you heard before, her
19 integrity, but also her humor that she
20 brings that really lightens the day when
21 you are going through challenging times.
22 And, you know, we're going to miss that.

23 So you're not leaving the chat.
24 You're not leaving the text messages,
25 because those comments that you make,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 we're going to have to make sure we keep
3 reading them to keep us on our toes. But
4 thank you so much for your service and
5 everything you've done. We really
6 appreciate what you bring here to
7 Council.

8 Council President Clarke, I
9 remember we came in 2012 --

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Councilman, hold on one second.

12 Folks, can we still have a
13 little quiet, please. We still have a
14 session going on. Thank you.

15 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: There was
16 six of us that came in in 2012. There's
17 three still here, Cindy, KJ, and myself.
18 Helen, David Oh and -- who else was that?
19 Bobby Henon, yes. And we came in here as
20 freshmen, and as you heard, we're
21 freshmen speaking and we come to meet
22 you, and as you heard also, how you
23 treated everybody the same, how you
24 looked at everybody and asked them what
25 they needed and how you could help. But

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 it was also, as Councilmember O'Neill
3 said, your staff, how your staff was also
4 our staff. They were able to help us and
5 work for us, whether it was resources
6 needed for the budget, whether it was
7 doing newsletters or whatever else,
8 communications, that you were able to
9 provide us. Your staff was our staff.

10 You hired the best and
11 brightest, and that's true knowledge.
12 And when you see people who stay with
13 somebody for a long time, it shows you
14 that their boss is a great person and
15 somebody you really want to work for.
16 And there's no better compliment than
17 have somebody stay with you a real long
18 time, and knowing that they are proud to
19 work for you. And then some of them even
20 leave when you leave, right? And that's
21 also another sign of how great you are as
22 a leader and as a person to work for.

23 And in 2012 when we came on and
24 again you heard people want to change the
25 world and do things, but it was your

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 guidance, your leadership, the
3 information that you shared, the ability
4 to listen and, as Curtis Jones says, that
5 when you nod doesn't mean yes, but you
6 nod because you listen. We could never
7 figure out where you were going on
8 things. You always held it very close to
9 the vest, right? But you would listen to
10 everybody, and I think the reason why you
11 didn't let everybody know what you
12 thought or where you were going was
13 because you wanted everybody's input in
14 that decision-making process, and that's
15 a sign of a true leader. A leader is
16 somebody who listens to everybody, makes
17 a decision at some point, knowing that
18 half the people will be upset and the
19 other half may be happy, but you make
20 that decision after listening to
21 everybody. And it's not always a popular
22 decision. It's not always the majority
23 decision, right? And that's something we
24 learned, at least I've learned, from
25 following you, looking at you, listening

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 to you, that the main key is to first
3 listen and then when you do make that
4 decision, it's made and you made it based
5 on information that you received, data,
6 and the ability from your staff to make
7 that happen.

8 And, you know, working on
9 Council, our colleagues here have been
10 great assets to me. When I first came in
11 working with all of them, you know, from
12 Bill Greenlee, Derek Green, Blondie,
13 Helen Gym, Parker, David Oh, and my
14 partner in Kensington was Maria Sanchez,
15 who she was always the bad guy and I was
16 the good guy early on, and she would
17 berate everybody, and I would say, hey,
18 let's try to fix this and we'll do it.
19 Then all the sudden I became the bad guy
20 and she became the good guy, and I
21 started jumping up and down and
22 screaming.

23 But I now have a new partner in
24 Mike Driscoll and Quetcy Lozada in
25 Kensington that take a lot of that on.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 There's three of us that maybe do two
3 man's yeoman's work, and it's still not
4 an easy challenge, but what I hear
5 commitment from this body and even the
6 leadership that's coming in is the
7 commitment to Kensington and looking at
8 resolving that issue working together as
9 a whole. It's not just one
10 Councilmember's problem or another
11 Councilmember's problem. It's all our
12 issues, because what we see is if we
13 could resolve that issue, we could
14 resolve issues throughout the City of
15 Philadelphia, and the leadership of the
16 Council President is key.

17 And we're going to have new
18 leadership and, you know, we look at that
19 as new opportunities. We're sad for the
20 people that are leaving and we understand
21 we have big shoes to fill moving forward,
22 but I believe that our new Administration
23 and our new Council leadership will take
24 that focus and bring us even to new
25 heights and new levels.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 So thank you what you provided.

3 Thank you for your guidance, for your
4 friendship. Thank you for what you gave,
5 that steady hand to Council, knowing that
6 we need to listen to everybody, but also
7 know that sometimes if you do the wrong
8 thing, you might get a little punishments
9 here and there. That was also important,
10 right? Knowing that -- you let us know
11 that this is not how it runs and you're
12 going to understand there's a consequence
13 to that action, right? That is also key,
14 because we learn through efforts and we
15 learn by sometimes being challenged on
16 what we do and what we say.

17 And I just -- it's been a
18 pleasure and an honor to serve with you,
19 under you, by your side, and it really
20 was a wealth of information and knowledge
21 that you presented to us that we can
22 learn from and now hopefully be able to
23 share to others as they come in.

24 Thank you for your work, your
25 efforts, and it's just been an honor to

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 have worked with you and all the members
3 of Council here today.

4 Have a great, happy holiday.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you.

7 - - -

8 (Applause.)

9 - - -

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you so much, Councilman. It's been
12 a pleasure knowing you for such a long
13 time. It's been awesome working with you
14 and my good friend. That's more
15 important than anything else.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Driscoll.

18 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Thank
19 you, Mr. President.

20 Before some brief good-byes,
21 one order of business. We are in the
22 holiday season, and I've been involved
23 with Toys for Tots for a long time and
24 this is the first year that we're short
25 on toys.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 So I'm going to do an appeal to
3 my colleagues here, to those that are
4 watching. We're going to do a final push
5 this week. We have the Eagles bus that's
6 going to drive up to Gallo's at 8101
7 Roosevelt Boulevard, and we're going to
8 ask everybody to see if they can come
9 fill that bus this Sunday, December 17th
10 from 1 o'clock to 6 o'clock right at
11 Roosevelt Boulevard, 8101. Because every
12 child deserves a toy this Christmas. I
13 want to make sure that nobody gets left
14 behind.

15 So that's this Sunday, 1:00 to
16 6:00, fill that Eagles bus.

17 Secondly, to all my colleagues,
18 all our staff, all our elected officials
19 that are here, former elected officials
20 that are here, happy and healthy holiday
21 season to each of you all.

22 To Sharon Vaughn, Sharon always
23 says to me, hey, Driscoll, why do you
24 laugh every time you look at me? Because
25 I don't know what's coming out of that

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 mouth, girl.

3 You will be missed, and I know
4 we're going to keep seeing you, and it's
5 an honor to have served with you, and I
6 wish you a healthy and happy retirement.

7 And, lastly, to you,
8 Mr. President, I've known you for a long
9 time, as a businessman, as a member of
10 the House of Representatives. I now know
11 you under your leadership as my
12 President, and I can tell you I've always
13 admired you in all those capacities that
14 we interacted. You were always a humble
15 man, a caring man. And if you can tell a
16 man's character by the people he
17 surrounds himself with, just look at his
18 staff and who you assembled yourself
19 with. You did an outstanding job with
20 your staff. You've done an outstanding
21 job with all of us.

22 We truly are -- you're esteemed
23 in our eyes, and we wish you health and
24 happiness in your retirement and
25 Godspeed.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 And I'll leave with this: With
3 our next leadership team that comes in,
4 when the Eagles win the Super Bowl in
5 February, can you get former Council
6 President on that bus?

7 Thank you, Mr. President.

8 - - -

9 (Applause.)

10 - - -

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Councilman, that's the best thing I've
13 heard all day. Thank you. Thank you,
14 Councilman. Thank you for your long
15 friendship both in and out of government.
16 Appreciate you.

17 The Chair recognizes Councilman
18 Johnson, my man.

19 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
20 Council President.

21 Well, first and foremost, I
22 just want to just congratulate you on
23 your years of service to the City of
24 Philadelphia. Most of the people may or
25 may not know, when I served as a State

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2 Representative and you were running for
3 Council President -- well, preparing to
4 run for Council President, you so
5 smoothly and strategically began
6 recruiting me to come to City Council.
7 And I remember sitting down and having a
8 conversation with you in your office on
9 the fourth floor, and I'm like, I'm not
10 coming down to City Council. I'm a State
11 Rep. I'm probably going to run for
12 Congress, run for Governor. I don't want
13 to come here to the City of Philadelphia
14 to be a Councilperson.

15 You said, listen, with all due
16 respect to the State Legislature, right,
17 City Hall is where the rubber meets the
18 road. It's where you can have an impact
19 on people's lives immediately.

20 And then you started coming
21 down to my neighborhood participating in
22 my events and really started to take me
23 under your wing. And when I talked to
24 you a couple weeks ago, Darrell going to
25 say I was praying -- Darrell was praying

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 for me, you know, past two years. And I
3 would call, and he would say, you know,
4 I'm just praying for you, making sure
5 you're all right.

6 So when I go to see him the
7 other day, he say, well, you know, I'm
8 glad -- I'm so happy things turned out
9 for you, because obviously, man, if it
10 don't, I'm responsible for bringing him
11 down here. He said, so I'm happy you're
12 good.

13 But I want to say this: I got
14 a brief presentation I would like to do.
15 I appreciate you for being a big brother,
16 right? And me and you talk more about
17 life than politics. We talk about you
18 and your grandson -- I mean, you and your
19 grand-kids, right, more than we talk
20 about the politics, right? And that's
21 what I always appreciate about our
22 relationship.

23 And also I look forward to
24 exceeding those big shoes I have to fill,
25 and I'mma tell you why I say that, right?

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Because I learned from you, and you
3 taught me about the importance of this
4 institution but also, most importantly,
5 having my members' back at all costs.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 That's right.

8 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: We are an
9 independent body at the end of the day,
10 and I've taken that from -- I've taken
11 those lessons from your leadership and,
12 most importantly, how to exercise power
13 on behalf of the people, especially in
14 the face of special interests.

15 And so I just want to say,
16 listen, I appreciate you. I have a
17 little small presentation, actually two
18 of them that we would like to do real
19 quick so we can wrap this day up. Is
20 that all right, big bro?

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Absolutely, sir.

23 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: All right.

24 Come on down.

25 So I just wanted to give you a

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2 token of my appreciation to you for just
3 your mentorship, always having my back,
4 putting the politics aside and just
5 calling me and just checking on me,
6 making sure I'm okay just in terms of how
7 I'm doing as a Councilperson representing
8 the 2nd Councilmanic District.

9 And so this is official. It's
10 a gavel, right, holding, and it says,
11 "Recognizing Darrell Clarke, City Council
12 President 2012 to 2023, for your
13 unwavering dedication and distinguished
14 service as President of Philadelphia City
15 Council."

16 Now, it says from Councilman
17 Kenyatta Johnson, President of City
18 Council 2024, because there can only be
19 one Council President at a time. We
20 learned that, right?

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Close.

23 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Close,
24 right?

25 But I want to show you

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 something else. Now, this gavel says,
3 "Darrell L. Clarke, Council President
4 2012 to 2023." So I just want to pass
5 this gavel along to you and just say
6 thank you. I appreciate your hard work
7 and your dedication on behalf of the City
8 of Philadelphia. Appreciate you, big
9 bro.

10 - - -

11 (Applause.)

12 - - -

13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: I'm going
14 to say this, though -- now, can some of
15 the staff come and get this now.

16 That's the cute stuff, right?
17 I'm talking to Wendy. She said, what
18 y'all going to do for Darrell?

19 We got a couple little things,
20 right, Kath?

21 What y'all going to do for
22 Darrell, right? She said, well, it don't
23 matter, because he like into that racing
24 stuff. All that other stuff is cute.

25 So we have some individuals

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 from NASCAR that would like to come on
3 out, give you your props.

4 (NASCAR members approached.)

5 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: So,
6 Anthony, can you tell everyone who we
7 have here as we do this official
8 presentation to Council President Darrell
9 Clarke?

10 MR. MARTIN: So we have
11 Mr. John Cohen, who owns New York Racing,
12 one of the NASCAR teams, who is here.

13 - - -

14 (Applause.)

15 - - -

16 MR. MARTIN: We also have
17 Mr. Lavar Scott, who is a NASCAR driver.

18 - - -

19 (Applause.)

20 - - -

21 MR. MARTIN: So he's one of
22 three African Americans who is driving in
23 NASCAR, and he's going to be a superstar.
24 So the main guy is Bubba now, but he's
25 coming up the ranks right now as a star,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 so we're proud to have him there.

3 - - -

4 (Applause.)

5 - - -

6 MR. MARTIN: And then I have
7 one of my students who was in our
8 documentary. His name is Marlin Alvarez.
9 He's going to be a NASCAR driver too, and
10 he's here too.

11 - - -

12 (Applause.)

13 - - -

14 MR. MARTIN: Then I have my
15 staff member also that's here too.

16 So, Darrell, I know you're a
17 big racing fan, no doubt about it, and I
18 wanted to bring out the best for you, no
19 doubt about you. I'm going to make a
20 presentation to you. So we're going to
21 start with John.

22 JOHN: So I appreciate you
23 coming out for the Grand Prix last year
24 and you talked about how much you like
25 racing. So I know when you retire,

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 people set up their man caves, so I
3 wanted to give you your first gift for
4 your man cave. This is official U.S.
5 Racing.

6 - - -

7 (Applause.)

8 - - -

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
10 is the real deal. No. I'm going to wear
11 this on the track.

12 Thank you, man. Appreciate
13 you, man.

14 MR. MARTIN: Also we have some
15 stuff that was signed by Rajah Caruth,
16 who couldn't be here today, but he signed
17 a helmet for you. That's for you,
18 Darrell, also. Rajah Caruth, he's one of
19 those up-and-coming young stars. He
20 signed some racing gloves for you too.
21 Are they in there? Gloves that he raced
22 in.

23 - - -

24 (Applause.)

25 - - -

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I

3 can put these on in my City car.

4 MR. MARTIN: Absolutely.

5 Absolutely.

6 And then he brought up a
7 diecast car for you too, one of the
8 trucks he actually raced in, right?

9 JOHN: Wendell Scott.

10 MR. MARTIN: Wendell Scott.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 First one kicking it out.

13 MR. MARTIN: That's right.

14 Lavar, you want to say a few
15 words for Mr. Clarke?

16 MR. SCOTT: Well, first and
17 foremost, congratulations on an amazing
18 career. It meant a lot to me when I
19 found out you were a NASCAR fan. So I
20 was very honored that I got to come up
21 here and kind of wish you well, a
22 farewell and just be a part of this. So
23 it means a lot, and I brought you some
24 hero cards that I'm going to sign for
25 you.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 There you go.

4 MR. SCOTT: Thank you.

5 And thank you, Kenyatta

6 Johnson, for inviting us out.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you.

9 - - -

10 (Appause.)

11 - - -

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Now

13 that I'm retiring, I can go down to

14 Daytona.

15 MR. MARTIN: So, Darrell,

16 again, thank you for all your hard work

17 over the years, and you've been

18 supporting us for many, many -- you've

19 been to the racing school numerous times

20 too, so we thank you for that for sure.

21 And continued success. And we got to go

22 some races together, no doubt about it,

23 now that you're retired, no doubt about

24 it.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Thank you.

3 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Could we
4 get members to take a quick picture real
5 quick before the next presentation. Is
6 that all right?

7 - - -

8 (Applause.)

9 (Brief pause for pictures being
10 taken.)

11 - - -

12 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: So we were
13 conspiring as well to try to like show
14 you a lot of love and give you your
15 flowers today and talking to the next
16 Majority Leader in City Council regarding
17 some ideas regarding what we can present
18 you to memorialize you when you go home
19 and you can look inside your man cave or
20 look --

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Memorialize me for --

23 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: For a good
24 thing. Yeah, for a good thing. For a
25 good thing.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 And so I'm going to have Kathy
3 say a few remarks.

4 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
5 you to our incoming Council President.

6 Council President, you know
7 that we love you, we appreciate you, and
8 we want to give you a few tokens to show
9 our love and appreciation that you can
10 keep in your home forever.

11 So on behalf of this term, we
12 present to you, Council President Clarke,
13 and the plaque says, "Thank you, Darrell
14 L. Clarke, Philadelphia City Council
15 President, for 42 years of steadfast
16 leadership."

17 You have been a dedicated,
18 thoughtful public servant, and both the
19 City of Philadelphia and City Council as
20 an institution are greater because of
21 your leadership. We thank you.

22 - - -

23 (Applause.)

24 - - -

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: We're not

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 finished yet, though. Just getting
3 started.

4 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Council
5 President, we're trying to make you cry.

6 So we just want to again
7 recognize you for your great work. This
8 plaque, Darrell, says for you, "Council
9 President Darrell Clarke, recognizing you
10 for your unwavering dedication and
11 distinguished service as Council
12 President, December 14th, 2023."

13 The gifts keep coming. Thank
14 you, CP.

15 - - -

16 (Applause.)

17 - - -

18 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Now,
19 Councilmember Squilla, we need that
20 parade. CP is going to need a shirt to
21 wear on the float.

22 So starting with our
23 Philadelphia Eagles, a personalized
24 jersey for the year 2023.

25 And we know we just had a Red

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 October.

3 Give that to Councilmember

4 Bass.

5 And we know the Sixers are hot
6 and the Flyers are as well.

7 - - -

8 (Applause.)

9 - - -

10 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: And,
11 CP, we know after all of this, you're not
12 going to go home and cook, so this is for
13 you.

14 Thank you, Council President.

15 - - -

16 (Applause.)

17 - - -

18 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Could we
19 give him a real big round of applause,
20 y'all.

21 - - -

22 (Applause.)

23 - - -

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All
25 right. I'm getting close, so I'm going

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 to make it short.

3 First, I'd like to recognize my
4 good colleague, Councilwoman Blackwell.

5 - - -

6 (Applause.)

7 - - -

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Guys, I don't know what to say. I'm
10 going to make it brief, because I know we
11 got food over there. As I said, it's
12 either getting overcooked or it's going
13 to be cold.

14 So, first of all, being an
15 elected official and being in public
16 service is the best opportunity in life.
17 I know people do a lot of different
18 things and they choose different ways
19 that they want to -- different directions
20 that they want to go, but at the end of
21 the day, there's nothing more rewarding
22 than being in public service. And
23 actually as Councilman Johnson said,
24 being an elected official on the local
25 level, you are always able to make an

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 impact on a person's life, mostly
3 positive. Every now and then, you know,
4 we take a vote that doesn't necessarily
5 work, but at the end of the day, on
6 balance, this is the place to be.

7 People asked me, well, what are
8 you going to do when you retire? My
9 response is, I don't know. I never
10 retired before, right? So we'll figure
11 that out, right? January the 3rd, you
12 know, when I get up in the morning and go
13 to put my suit on, right, and realize I
14 don't have anywhere to go, right, I'll
15 figure it out.

16 But at the end of the day, as I
17 said, I'll still continue to be involved
18 in public service, you know, one way or
19 another, be it supporting an organization
20 or be it supporting any of my colleagues
21 and former colleagues that want to do
22 some things or simple advice to the
23 Mayor. Probably I'll have some official
24 capacity somewhere, be it state or city,
25 more than likely state.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 But I just -- I'm just
3 overwhelmed with the love that's being
4 shown, not just today, because as I said,
5 the conversation that I had with you all
6 on a confidential basis, the trust that
7 you all put in me. If you talk to me
8 about stuff, right, sometimes every now
9 and then I'm like, yo, I don't really
10 want to hear all that. That's like your
11 personal life. I don't want to hear
12 that, right? I'm just saying, right?
13 But you show me the faith and the
14 confidence in me that you know that it's
15 not going anywhere, and that means so
16 much to me to have that kind of a
17 relationship with you all.

18 I say this a lot. You all are
19 the best group of Councilmembers that
20 I've ever worked with, but I want to say
21 one caveat. With the exception of the
22 ones sitting over there, right? I'll
23 include you all. I mean, when you were
24 here, I was saying the same thing about
25 you all, right? And anybody looking at

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Channel 64 or listening to WURD, with the
3 exception of you all.

4 But on a serious note, though,
5 you know, having the level of
6 relationships and the collegial
7 relationships and responsibility means
8 more.

9 I was just recently asked on an
10 interview why didn't I run for Mayor and
11 would I have been a good Mayor. You
12 know, I didn't hesitate. Absolutely,
13 right? But at the end of the day, the
14 Mayor's thing, it's not about having a
15 consensus. It's not about having to talk
16 to different diverse individuals and
17 populations and people representing all
18 different types of neighborhoods on a
19 very personal level. And to be able to
20 get a consensus, and we've been fortunate
21 that we usually get, you know, 15-2,
22 15-1, 17-0 votes, which means that we've
23 had that conversation and we got
24 everybody to be a part of that decision
25 and ultimately we pass bills, and when

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 we've had to override the Mayor every now
3 and then, we were together. So that just
4 means so much to me.

5 I want to thank the staff of
6 City Council, and I'm glad you all talked
7 about that, understanding the importance
8 of good staff. I was taught that early
9 on as a staffer myself. See the
10 expansion of the skill set that were
11 brought into Council.

12 I love the Mayor-to-be-elect,
13 refer to her affectionately as my little
14 sister. I'm going to have to stop
15 calling her that, because she's going to
16 be the Mayor. I'm going to call her my
17 younger sister, right?

18 But at the end of the day, you
19 got to be in a position to have a
20 thoughtful debate. At the end of the
21 day, the legislative branch and the
22 executive branch are at some point going
23 to have a conversation about them,
24 because there may be some disagreements
25 or -- you know, we hope that it's always

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 civil, but at the end of the day, you got
3 to be on par, you know. You can't be in
4 a position where you got to call the
5 Planning Commission to get a map because
6 you want to do some things in your
7 district and they can slow-roll you, and
8 you don't have the ability to make a map
9 upstairs, right? So you're at a loss.
10 Or you can call the City Solicitor. And
11 I know they claim -- and I love all the
12 City Solicitors we have. Oh, the City
13 Solicitor is the Mayor's lawyer and the
14 Council lawyer. But every time, you
15 know, there's some disagreement, they
16 tell City Council, well, we'll get you an
17 outside lawyer. They don't ever say
18 we'll get the Mayor an outside lawyer,
19 right? But you have to have tech staff
20 and lawyers on staff that can put you in
21 a position to do what you need to do.

22 So that's why I'm so proud of
23 the staff that we have, that we're always
24 in a position to craft legislation.
25 We're always in a position to have a

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2 budget.

3 And you talk about balanced
4 budgets, you know, consistently even
5 through the pandemic, you all took some
6 tough decisions and you all got together
7 and you crafted to minimize the level of
8 layoffs that we had in the City and move
9 the City forward and still being able to
10 deliver service. You all made a decision
11 that we have to move this city to another
12 level when people were pulling back and
13 people were saying, no, we don't know
14 what's going to happen with the pandemic,
15 we're afraid to do anything, right? And
16 instead we went out there and borrowed
17 \$400 million, right, to invest in
18 neighborhoods, and now we're sitting
19 with, as the Mayor said earlier, the most
20 significant fund balance that we've had
21 in recent history.

22 So I just want to say to the
23 staff, to our colleagues how much I
24 appreciate having had this opportunity.
25 The best job in the world, as far as I'm

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 concerned, to have had the opportunity to
3 meet and work with you on a consistent
4 basis. I see you all way more than I see
5 my blood family. And I get it, right?
6 And as a result of that, we formed a
7 special bond.

8 So I'm going to miss you all.
9 Councilwoman Lozada is trying to suggest
10 that I should come to City Hall every
11 Thursday. I can say that ain't going to
12 happen, Councilwoman. I'll call you
13 every Thursday, but I'm not going to be
14 coming in here, because you all -- I feel
15 more than comfortable that you all will
16 be able to take this to the next level.
17 You all will be in a position to handle
18 the Council of the City of Philadelphia
19 and work with the executive branch on
20 taking us to even a higher level.

21 So to you all today, I want to
22 thank you. Last, but not least, I want
23 to thank the residents of the 5th
24 Councilmanic District.

25 - - -

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 (Applause.)

3 - - -

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: A
5 long time ago, the guy that I used to
6 work for, also known as John Street,
7 Council President, decided he wanted to
8 be the Mayor. I'm like, dude, seriously?
9 Right? Because I'm cool. I'm Chief of
10 Staff, making more money than the
11 Councilpeople. I had no intention,
12 right -- I had to take a pay cut to
13 become a Councilman. I'm like, yo,
14 Street, what are you doing?

15 Well, no, Clarke, I think I --
16 you know, he made that decision, right?
17 And, you know, everybody was like, oh,
18 Street is leaving. Who is going to
19 represent the 5th District? And people
20 are nervous. And we're all standing
21 there, and I didn't get the memo.
22 Everybody took a step back and I was the
23 last one standing up front, right? So
24 they said, well, it's you, Clarke. And
25 it was the best thing that I've ever

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 done, other than, you know, my family,
3 because it gave me an opportunity to do
4 some things, and I have the people in the
5 5th Councilmanic District to thank for
6 their support over these years,
7 understanding there's a Council President
8 and I got a little broader of an agenda,
9 but they've always been there and
10 supported. So I will be remiss if I
11 didn't thank them, because as
12 Councilwoman said, don't forget where you
13 come from, right, and I truly didn't do
14 that.

15 So to all of you, I want to
16 thank you all. I love you all. We're
17 going to do what we need to do to take
18 this city to the most ridiculously high
19 level that people have ever seen.

20 To the leadership and to the
21 colleagues, God, I'm rooting for you.
22 I'm not going to change my phone number,
23 Anthony, right? You can call me at
24 10 o'clock at night.

25 No, but, folks, on a serious

1 12/14/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 note, I appreciate you so much having
3 been given this opportunity, and I thank
4 you and I love you all, and God bless you
5 all. Thank you.

6 - - -

7 (Standing ovation.)

8 - - -

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
10 one last thing. I do want to say one
11 last thing. I'm sorry. I'm going to
12 stop, because that food, as I said, is
13 getting overcooked or cold.

14 There are a lot of friends that
15 I have out here that aren't on staff,
16 right, that aren't a part of public
17 service, but they have been helpful and
18 supportive, you know, some of my ward
19 leaders and some of the other
20 individuals. But I want to say -- he's
21 going to hate this, right? I want to say
22 that -- I'm going to point him out, and I
23 know he's going to hate the hell out of
24 this, right? Charlie, stand up, man. I
25 know you hate that. Come on, man.

1 12/14/23 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 - - -

3 (Applause.)

4 - - -

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
6 is my youngster, man. I got a lot of
7 youngsters.

8 But, Charlie, I just want to
9 thank you, man, in a public way, because
10 you've been there behind the scenes.
11 Every now and then I'm getting ready to
12 do something crazy, you know, and I have
13 to call you, and you gave me good advice,
14 man. So I just want to recognize you
15 today, because I know you're not one
16 that's always out there like that.

17 So, guys, thank you all. God
18 bless you. We're going to call for an
19 adjournment.

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman
21 Squilla for a motion to adjourn.

22 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
23 Council -- Mr. President. I move that
24 Council stand adjourned to sine die. If
25 anybody don't understand that, that means

1 12/14/23 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 to a date that's not been set yet.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you. It has been moved and

6 properly seconded that Council stand

7 adjourned sine die.

8 All in favor will say aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Those opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

14 ayes have it.

15 Thank you very much.

16 Colleagues, staff, 5th

17 District, love you guys.

18 - - -

19 (Applause.)

20 - - -

21 (Stated Meeting adjourned at

22 3:09 p.m.)

23 - - -

24

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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, and that this is a true and

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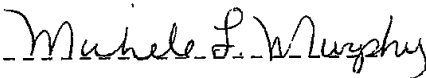
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MICHELE L. MURPHY

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RPR-Notary Public

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