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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETING

4

BEFORE COMMITTEE ON

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PUBLIC WORKS

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Room 400, City Hall

6

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Wednesday, 12/15/1999

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12:00 p.m.

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11 RESOLUTION NO. 990890 - Approving the City of
12 Philadelphia's Amended 9-1-1 Plan, and authorizing
13 the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of
14 the City of Philadelphia, to submit the Amended
15 9-1-1 Plan to the Pennsylvania Emergency
16 Management Agency for review and approval, as
17 required by the Pennsylvania Public Safety
18 Emergency Telephone Act.

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PRESENT: COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA

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COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL

COUNCILWOMAN JOAN KRAJEWSKI

COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY

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COUNCILMAN RICHARD MARIANO

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Joseph James, Deputy Commissioner. 3
Department of Public Property

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

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: Good morning,
4 everyone. I do apologize for the delay.

5 This is a public hearing of the
6 Committee on Public Property and Public Works
7 regarding Resolution No. 990890.

8 Good morning. Please identify yourself
9 for the record and proceed with your testimony.

10 MR. JAMES: Good morning. My name is
11 Joseph James. Last name is J-A-M-E-S. I'm the
12 Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Public
13 Property. I'm here on behalf of Commissioner
14 Andres Perez. Jr., and I have testimony in support
15 of the resolution.

16 I'm appearing before the committee
17 today to recommend the adoption of Resolution
18 990890, which amends the City's current 9-1-1
19 Plan, as required by the Pennsylvania Public
20 Safety Emergency Telephone Act, known as Act 78.
21 Act 78 requires the filing of a 9-1-1 Plan every
22 three years with the Pennsylvania Emergency
23 Management Agency, commonly referred to as
24 "PEMA."

25 The amended plan is the first plan

1 12/15/99 PUBLIC PROPERTY - RES. 990890
2 filed by the City since the original 9-1-1 Plan
3 was filed in 1992. The purpose of the amended
4 plan is to document the costs associated with
5 running the City's 9-1-1 system, the technical
6 capabilities of the existing system, and the
7 future plans for improving the system.

8 Once the City provides this information
9 to PEMA in the form of the amended plan, a copy of
10 the amended plan is forwarded by PEMA to the
11 Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, which
12 reviews the costs associated with the 9-1-1 system
13 and determines if continued collection of the
14 9-1-1 surcharge is permissible.

15 The amended 9-1-1 Plan is different
16 from the 1992 original 9-1-1 Plan filed by the
17 City in several respects.

18 1. The present plan provides more
19 information regarding technical aspects of the
20 City's 9-1-1 system and provides descriptive
21 information regarding the technical upgrades made
22 to the system since 1992. The present plan
23 provides more complete information regarding the
24 role of the Fire Department in the City's 9-1-1
25 system.

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2 2. The Fire Department is responsible
3 for the running of the City's secondary public
4 safety answering point, from where the fire and
5 paramedic services are dispatched.

6 3. The amended plan provides more
7 current information for review by the State
8 agency, such as updated telephony costs, radio
9 system costs, labor costs, operational costs, and
10 capital costs.

11 4. The current plan includes
12 information related to the City's management of
13 competitive local exchange carriers. Since the
14 deregulation of the telecommunications industry in
15 1996, competitive local exchange carriers did not
16 exist at the time the original plan was filed with
17 the State.

18 The amended 9-1-1 Plan contains
19 monetary figures for justification of the
20 continued collection of the City's \$1 per month
21 per line surcharge rate. Act 78 placed a cap on
22 the recovery cost to \$1 for cities of the first
23 class, despite the fact that the City expends at
24 least \$3.05 per access line per month to provide
25 9-1-1 access to residents, business organizations,

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2 and visitors seeking emergency services.

3 The funds collected are used to pay the
4 salary and operation costs of the City's 9-1-1
5 Center, and the capital costs are to build the
6 previously-approved 800-megahertz radio system.

7 In conclusion, the amended 9-1-1 Plan,
8 as submitted, is reflective of changes and
9 modifications from the original plan and is in a
10 form acceptable to the Department.

11 I'm available to answer any questions
12 you may have.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

14 Any questions from members of the
15 committee?

16 (No questions.)

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: There being
18 none, is there anyone else here who would like to
19 testify?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: All righty.

22 That then will end our public hearing on
23 Resolution 990890.

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25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: We will now

1 12/15/99 PUBLIC PROPERTY - PUB. MEETING

2 enter into our stated meeting. I want to
3 entertain a motion.

4 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Madam Chair, I move
5 that Resolution No. 990890 be approved by this
6 committee and forwarded to the full Council for
7 approval.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.
10 All in favor, aye?

11 Opposed? There are none.

12 Seeing that, this ends our hearing, and
13 we thank all who have come and all who were
14 prompt.

15 (Adjourned at 12:03 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of Wednesday, December 15 1999, were
reported fully and accurately by me, and that this
is a correct transcript of same.

RE: COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY
AND PUBLIC WORKS
RESOLUTION NO. 990890

_____,
JOSEPHINE CARDILLO,
Registered Professional Reporter