

1

2

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

STATED MEETING

4

- - -

5

Room 696, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Friday, April 25, 2003
10:35 a.m.

6

7

- - -

8

9

PRESENT:

10

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA

11

COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL

12

COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN

13

COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE

14

COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN

15

COUNCILMAN FRANK J. DI CICCIO

16

COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.

17

COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY

18

COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI

19

COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO

20

COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER

21

COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER

22

COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL

23

COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ

24

COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

25

COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO

PATRICIA RAFFERTY, CHIEF CLERK

20

21

- - -

22

V A R A L L O, INCORPORATED

23

LITIGATION SUPPORT SERVICES

24

Eleven Penn Center

25

1835 Market Street, Suite 600

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

(215) 561-2220

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INVOCATION

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

6 To give our invocation this morning, the
7 Chair welcomes the Reverend Joseph E. Kelly, Pastor
8 of St. Monica's Roman Catholic Church. He is here
9 today as the guest of Councilman Rizzo. Members and
10 guests will please rise.

11 FATHER KELLY: Eternal Father, we gather
12 this morning in our City of Philadelphia, a City
13 that we love and a City that we have dedicated
14 ourselves to serving. We recognize the efforts of
15 those who have gone before us, most recently,
16 Councilman Longstreth. We thank God for the good
17 work of those here today, and we pray for our future
18 City leaders.

19 It is fitting that we gather to pray,
20 for we continue the great tradition of our founding
21 father's who met here in this City and declared it
22 is the indispensable duty of all nations, not only
23 to offer up their supplications to almighty God, the
24 giver of all good, for his gracious assistance in
25 time of distress, but also in a solemn and public

1 04/25/03 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 manner, to give him praise for his goodness in
3 general.

4 Today and every day, we ask that same
5 devine assistance that our City may grow and thrive,
6 that it may be a model for all other cities in this
7 great nation, that it may be that City set on a hill
8 to which all others are drawn.

9 Finally, dear Father, we pray that by
10 our love for and acceptance of one another, we may
11 truly be known as a City you have blessed. A City
12 of brotherly love. Amen.

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
14 Father Kelly for his very inspiring invocation.

15 Council will be at ease.

16 (Council at ease.)

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The next order of
18 business is the approval of the Journal of the
19 meeting of Thursday, April 10, 2003. And the Chair
20 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
22 Madam President. I move that the Journal of the
23 meeting of Thursday, April 10, 2003, stand approved.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved

1 042503 - STATED - LEAVES OF ABSENCE

2 and properly seconded that the Journal the meeting
3 Thursday, April 10, 2003, stand approved.

4 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?
7 (No response.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,
9 and the motion carries.

10 The next order of business is request
11 for leaves of absence and the Chair recognizes
12 Councilwoman Blackwell.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
14 Madam President. There are no requests for leaves
15 of absence on the part of the Majority.

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
17 the Councilwoman.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman O'Neill.

19 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam President, on
20 behalf of the Republicans, there are no requests for
21 leaves of absence.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
23 the gentleman.

24 The Chair will dispense with the regular
25 order of business to recognize the guests and

1 04/25/03 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 visitors joining us in Chambers this morning. On
3 behalf of all members of City Council, I welcome you
4 to our Council Session today. We appreciate your
5 taking the time to join us as we attend to the
6 legislative affairs of our City. We certainly
7 invite you to come again.

8 The next order of business is
9 communications. The Chair recognizes the
10 Sergeant-at-Arms for the purpose of delivering the
11 messages from the Mayor to the Chief Clerk. The
12 Chief Clerk will please read the messages from the
13 Mayor.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
15 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
16 I am pleased to advise you that on April 24th, I
17 signed all the bills that were passed at its Council
18 Session on April the 3rd except 030014, 030073,
19 030015.

20 And I am pleased advise you that on
21 April the 24th, I signed all the bills that passed
22 Council at its Session on April the 10th except
23 030123, 030138.

24 And I am herewith returning to you
25 unsigned the following bills that were passed by

1 04/25/03 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Council at its Session on April the 3rd: Bill
3 030014 and Bill No. 030015.

4 And I am returning to you unsigned the
5 following bills that were passed at Council Session
6 on April the 10th: Bill No. 030123 and Bill No.
7 030138.

8 And I am returning herewith as
9 disapproved Bill No. 030014 passed the Council
10 Session on April 3, 2003.

11 And I am transmitting herewith for the
12 consideration of your Honorable Body the following:
13 An ordinance approving the Fiscal Year 2003 Capital
14 Budget, providing for the expenditures for the
15 capital purposes of the Philadelphia Gas Works.

16 And an ordinance authorizing the
17 Commissioner of Public Property on behalf of the
18 City of Philadelphia to enter into a sublease
19 agreement to lease from the Philadelphia Municipal
20 Authority portions of a building located at 1515
21 Market Street.

22 And an ordinance amending Chapter
23 14-2100 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled "Land
24 Subdivision."

25 And an ordinance providing for the

1 04/25/03 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 contingent exemption abatement or credit of certain
3 taxes within specified geographic areas.

4 And an ordinance removing the properties
5 known generally as the Brewerytown Development from
6 Philadelphia Keystone Opportunity Zone subject to
7 the request and concept of the owners of said
8 properties, under certain terms and conditions.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
10 messages will be printed in the Journal.

11 The Chief Clerk will read any other
12 communications in her possession.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: That's all I have
14 Madam President.

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
17 Miller.

18 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you, Madam
19 President. I am pleased this morning to welcome to
20 City Council some visitors from the Philadelphia
21 Christian Academy, and it's their 5th and 6th grade
22 class. They are accompanied by Rev. Small. Will
23 you please stand. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Rev. Small,

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 welcome.

3 The next order business --

4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Point of order.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Yes, sir. The

6 Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: With respect to the
8 messages from the Mayor, could I be informed as to
9 what the Mayor has done, if anything, with respect
10 to the bill passed unanimously by the City Council
11 with respect to the 20 percent senior citizen
12 discount?

13 My memory is that today he had to act on
14 it, veto it, pass it, or --

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chief Clerk
16 tells me that it became law without his signature.
17 Both bills became law without his signature.

18 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you, Madam
19 President.

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: You're welcome,
21 sir.

22 Councilwoman Blackwell, do you have any
23 bills or resolutions to be introduced today?

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
25 President, I think we should rule on the suspension.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 Madam President, I move that Rules of Council be
3 suspended so as permit immediate consideration of
4 resolutions at their time of introduction.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Do I hear a second?

6 (Duly seconded.)

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

11 All in favor of the motion will signify
12 by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it.

17 The motion carries.

18 And again, the Chair recognizes
19 Councilwoman Blackwell.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
21 Madam President. This morning I have two bills and
22 one resolution on your behalf and two resolutions on
23 my behalf.

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

25 The Clerk will please read the title of

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 the bill.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
4 for the contingent exemption, abatement, or credit
5 of certain taxes within a specified geographic area,
6 including by amending Bill No. 970788A, approved
7 December 30, 1998, relating to the boundaries of the
8 Keystone Opportunity Zone.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill will
10 be referred to the appropriate committee.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
12 amending Chapter 14-2100 of the Philadelphia Code,
13 entitled "Land Subdivision," by deleting certain
14 provisions by adding certain new provisions and by
15 amending certain existing provisions, under certain
16 terms and conditions.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill will
18 be referred to the appropriate committee.

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

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
22 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
23 execute and deliver to the City of Philadelphia
24 deeds located in the 36th Ward of the City of
25 Philadelphia.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
3 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
5 President, I move for the adoption of the
6 resolution.

7 (Duly seconded.)

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

11 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?
14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
16 it, and the motion carries.

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

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
20 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
21 execute and deliver to the Redevelop Authority deeds
22 located in the 6th, 24th, and 51st Wards of the City
23 of Philadelphia.

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
25 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam

3 President, I move for the adoption of the
4 resolution.

5 (Duly seconded.)

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

9 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
14 it, and the motion carries.

15 The Clerk will please read the final
16 resolution.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
18 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
19 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
20 deeds located in the 27th Ward of the City of
21 Philadelphia.

22 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
23 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
25 Madam President. I move for the adoption of the

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

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

7 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

10 (No response.)

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

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
15 have no bills or resolutions.

16 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair thanks
17 the gentleman.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
19 Krajewski.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
21 President, I have one bill.

22 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you.

23 The Clerk will please read the title of
24 the bill.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance enacting

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 a new Section 10-1611 of Chapter 10-1600 of the
3 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Distinction of
4 Proceedings," to provide for the discontinuance of
5 proceedings before the Bureau of Administrative
6 Adjudication, under certain terms and conditions.

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

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman Mariano.

10 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Madam President, I
11 have four resolutions.

12 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Clerk will
13 please read the title of the first resolution.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
15 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
16 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
17 deeds located in the 18th, 19th, 37th and 43rd Wards
18 of the City of Philadelphia.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
20 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

21 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Move for the
22 adoption of the resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

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

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 adopted.

3 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

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

9 The Clerk will please read the title of
10 the next resolution.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
12 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
13 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
14 deeds located in the 7th and 19th Wards of the City
15 of Philadelphia.

16 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
17 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

18 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Move for the
19 adoption.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has been
22 moved and properly seconded that the resolution be
23 adopted.

24 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

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

6 The Clerk will please read the next
7 resolution.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
9 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
10 execute and deliver to the Redevelop Authority deeds
11 located in the 19th Ward of the City of
12 Philadelphia.

13 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
14 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

15 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Move for the
16 adoption of this resolution.

17 (Duly seconded.)

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

21 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 it, and the resolution has been adopted.

3 The Clerk will please read the last
4 resolution.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution honoring
6 Luisto Figarino (ph) representing Philadelphia the
7 Star Search finals.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
9 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

10 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I want to say this
11 bill was cosponsored by Councilman Ortiz, and I move
12 for the adoption of this resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

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

17 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

20 (No response.)

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

23 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

24 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam President, I
25 offer one bill and one resolution.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
3 please read the title of the bill.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance approving
5 Fiscal Year 2003 Capital Budget, providing for
6 expenditures for the capital purposes of the
7 Philadelphia Gas Works, including the supplying of
8 funds to be obtained in connection therewith and for
9 acknowledging receipt of the forecast of Capital
10 Budgets for Fiscal Years 2004 through 2008.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
12 be referred to the appropriate committee.

13 The Clerk will please read the title of
14 the resolution.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution honoring
16 the Power Team.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
18 recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

19 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I move for the
20 adoption of the resolution.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been
23 moved and properly seconded that the resolution be
24 adopted.

25 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

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

7 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
8 Miller.

9 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you, Madam
10 President. I offer two resolutions.

11 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you. The
12 Clerk will please read the title of the first
13 resolution.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
15 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
16 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
17 of the City deeds located in the 13th, 17th, and
18 22nd Wards of the City of Philadelphia.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
20 recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move for the
22 adoption of the resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

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

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 adopted.

3 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

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

9 The Clerk will please read the title of
10 the second resolution.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution naming
12 the 1400 block of West McFerran Street as T.R.
13 Washington Way in honor of Dr. T.R. Washington.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
15 recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

16 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move for the
17 adoption of the resolution.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: We're not actually
20 changing the name of the street, we're adding.

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: We're adding,
22 right.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: All those in
24 favor will indicate by saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have

5 it and the resolution has been adopted.

6 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair

7 recognizes Councilman Nutter.

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam

9 President. I offer one bill.

10 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Clerk will

11 please read the title of the bill.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending

13 Title 10 of the Philadelphia Code relating to

14 regulation of individual conduct and activity by

15 amending Section 10-610 entitled, "Skateboarding on

16 Public Property" and Section 10-1608 entitled,

17 "Hearings."

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill will

19 be referred to the appropriate committee.

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman Kenney.

21 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I have no bills or

22 resolutions today, Madam President.

23 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you.

24 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you, Madam

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 President. I offer one resolution this morning.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

4 The Clerk will please read the title of
5 the resolution.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
7 proclaiming the Bob as the official dance of
8 Philadelphia.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I don't know
10 what the Bop is, but we'll soon find out.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I move for the
13 adoption.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
16 and properly seconded that the resolution be
17 adopted.

18 All in favor will indicate by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

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

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman Goode.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam

3 President. I have no bills or resolutions.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman Ortiz.

6 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Thank you, Madam

7 President. No bills or resolutions.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair

9 recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

10 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam

11 President. I offer three bills and three

12 resolutions.

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will

14 please read the title of the first bill.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance naming

16 and designating the south word Branch of the Free

17 Library of Philadelphia, located at 932 South

18 Seventh Street as the Chile Santora Branch of the

19 Free Library of Philadelphia.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will

21 be referred to the appropriate committee.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance

23 authorizing Gold, Incorporated, to construct, own,

24 and maintain a one-story building addition on the

25 east footway of 12th Street adjacent to the property

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 1648-52 East Passyunk Avenue.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: This bill will be
4 referred to the appropriate committee.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance to
6 amend the Philadelphia Maps by changing the zoning
7 designations of certain areas of land located within
8 an area bounded by Sixth Street, Randolph Street,
9 Fitzwater Street, and East Passyunk Avenue.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. This
11 bill will be referred to the appropriate committee.

12 The Clerk will please read the title of
13 the first resolution.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution finding
15 that the nomination by Governor Edward Rendell on
16 April 22, 2003, of a holdover Pennsylvania Insurance
17 Commissioner who has not aggressively pursued the
18 public interest in the failure to establish a new
19 state public advocate for insurance to advocate for
20 insurance policyholders will continue the
21 longstanding problems of excessively high insurance
22 rates and anti-consumer practices of insurance
23 companies, and urging Governor Rendell and the
24 General Assembly not to re-appoint the current
25 holdover Commissioner and to establish a new public

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 advocate for insurance.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
4 recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

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

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Nutter
10 did you want to speak on this? Your light is on.

11 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: No, Madam President.
12 I wanted to say something on the Bop resolution, but
13 since that didn't occur, I have nothing about the
14 insurance issue. Thank you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been
16 moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted --

17 Councilman Cohen, your light is not on
18 please.

19 COUNCILMAN COHEN: It is now, Madam
20 President.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Well, it's not
22 showing up on the screen, but please proceed.

23 COUNCILMAN COHEN: You know, so many of
24 us had such high hopes when Governor Rendell became
25 Governor. We thought Philadelphia's interests were

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 being protected. That was the campaign issue, that
3 he protect not only Philadelphia's interests, but
4 everybody's interest.

5 We've held extensive hearings on the
6 problems of auto insurance. It's clear that one of
7 the problems is the State Insurance Commissioner
8 who, I believe, has already served under two
9 governors during the time when the problems became
10 acute. And in the midst of criticism by an
11 outstanding Council Committee that was holding
12 hearings, the Governor suddenly reappointed the
13 Commissioner who is at the heart of the insurance
14 regulation problem in Pennsylvania. She's known to
15 act at the behest of the insurance companies. The
16 Commissioner sees herself as the representative of
17 the consumer, but she has ears only for the
18 insurance industry and not from the consumers. She
19 apparently doesn't even read the papers to learn
20 about the heavy amount of discontent that exists
21 that the extremely high rates that Philadelphians
22 and others in the state are subjected to by the
23 greed of the insurance companies. And right in the
24 middle of the hearings, as we're having testimony on
25 the terrible actions taken by the Insurance

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 Commissioner, came word of the announcement that the
3 Governor had secretly, without indicating any
4 intention to do so previously, reappointed the same
5 Commissioner for a new term.

6 I think it regrettable. I think it
7 looks very bad for the future of the driver of cars
8 and owner of cars in Philadelphia area and other
9 areas that feel that they're being heavily over
10 taxed by the insurance companies. And I certainly
11 hope that this is no indication of the way the
12 Governor intends to act on behalf of Philadelphians
13 in the future. It's regrettable that it took place
14 this early in his Administration, but it's a warning
15 notice to all of us that, remember, if you're part
16 of the public, you've got to hold the feet of us
17 elected officials to the fire, not just during
18 campaign times, but you have to be especially
19 watchful of them after they get elected because
20 speeches during campaign times may not result in the
21 action everyone expects to have follow the election.

22 We're very disappointed in Governor
23 Rendell. He was very effective in his efforts to
24 speak yesterday and even to sing at the memorial for
25 Councilman Longstreth, but it was a terrible thing

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 to learn that he had so much betrayed the interest
3 of the public that is so dependent on driving cars
4 and having insurance rates that are affordable.

5 Thank you, Madam President.

6 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: You're welcome.

7 It has been moved and seconded that the
8 resolution be adopted.

9 All in favor will indicate by saying
10 aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The ayes have it
15 and the resolution has been adopted.

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

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
19 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
20 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
21 deeds located in 31st and 39th Wards of the City of
22 Philadelphia.

23 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
24 recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

25 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Move for the

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 adoption of the resolution, Madam President.

3 (Duly seconded.)

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

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

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?
10 (No response.)

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

13 The Clerk will please read the third
14 resolution.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
16 authorizing the Commissioner Public Property to
17 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
18 deeds located in the 31st Ward of the City of
19 Philadelphia.

20 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Chair recognizes
21 Councilman DiCicco.

22 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Move for the
23 adoption of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has been

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 moved and properly seconded that the resolution be
3 adopted.

4 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?
7 (No response.)

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

10 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
11 recognizes Councilman O'Neill.

12 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam President, I
13 offer three bills and one resolution on behalf of
14 the President and all members of Council for which I
15 will ask for a standing vote.

16 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you.

17 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: At this time I
18 would like to publically thank you on behalf of all
19 of Philadelphia for putting together a perfect
20 memorial service for our late colleague Thacher.

21 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Well, he certainly
22 deserved it. Thank you very much.

23 The Clerk will please read the title of
24 the first bill.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 authorizing and directing the revision of lines and
3 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 253 of the area
4 lying generally northerly from the intersection of
5 Unruh Avenue and Oakley Street.

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

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
9 amending Section 9-205 of the Philadelphia Code,
10 entitled "Sidewalk Sales," by revising and expanding
11 an existing area in which sidewalk sales are
12 prohibited and so to prohibit sidewalk sales on both
13 sides of Comly Road.

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

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
17 amending Chapter 19-1800 of the Philadelphia Code,
18 entitled "School Tax Authorization," by adding a new
19 Section 19-1801 providing for a cap on tax
20 increases, under certain terms and conditions.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
22 be referred to the appropriate committee.

23 The Clerk will please read the title of
24 the resolution.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution mourning

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 the death and honoring the memory of W. Thacher
3 Longstreth.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
5 recognizes Councilman O'Neill.

6 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam President, I
7 move for the adoption.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: By a standing vote?

9 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: And a Quaker moment
10 of silence.

11 (Unanimous standing vote.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The resolution has
13 been adopted.

14 The Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

15 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
16 President. I have three bills, but I do need to
17 request a business matter with respect to a
18 resolution.

19 At the last Session, I introduced
20 Resolution No. 030234 which provides for Council's
21 agreement to participate in Progress Plaza Tax
22 Increment Finance District, but at that vote, we did
23 not vote on the resolution at our last Session. The
24 resolution must be adopted before a hearing may be
25 held on the proposed ordinance to create the

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 district. So, therefore, I move that Resolution
3 030234 be placed on the Final Passage Calendar for
4 today's meeting.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been
7 moved and properly seconded that the Resolution No.
8 030234 be put on the Final Passage Calendar for
9 today's meeting.

10 All in favor will indicate by saying
11 aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
16 it, and the motion carries. Resolution No. 030234
17 will be placed on today's Final Passage Calendar.

18 The Clerk will please read the title of
19 the first bill.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance removing
21 the properties known generally as the Brewerytown
22 Development from the Philadelphia Keystone
23 Opportunity Zone.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
25 be referred to the appropriate committee.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
3 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property on
4 behalf of the City of Philadelphia to enter into a
5 sublease agreement to lease from the Philadelphia
6 Municipal Authority portion of a building located at
7 1515 Market Street.

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

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
11 amending Title 9 of the Philadelphia Code,
12 Regulation of Business Trades and Provisions, by
13 amending Section 9-208 relating to sidewalk cafes by
14 amending and adding certain provisions for
15 regulating sidewalk cafes.

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

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

19 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam President, I
20 have one resolution. And I'd like to note, Madam
21 President, that this resolution was supported by all
22 members of City Council, including Councilman Ortiz
23 and Cohen.

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
25 please read the title of the resolution.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution declaring
3 May 17, 2003, as Philadelphia Housing Authority
4 Community Partnership Health and Safety Day.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
6 recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

7 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: I move for the
8 adoption of this resolution.

9 (Duly seconded.)

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

13 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

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

19 The next order of business is reports
20 from committees. And the Chair recognizes Kenney
21 for a report from the Committee on Rules.

22 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
23 President. The Committee on Rules reports three
24 bills out with favorable recommendations.

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 please read the report.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
4 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
5 the Committee on Rules to which was referred Bill
6 010743, entitled an ordinance amending Chapter 2600
7 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled "Standards of
8 Conduct and Ethics," by adding a anti-nepotism
9 provision prohibiting City officers and employers
10 from taking or recommending certain personal actions
11 affecting family members;

12 And Bill No. 030017, entitled an
13 ordinance establishing a Neighborhood Improvement
14 District in an area that is generally bounded by
15 both sides of Ridge Avenue from Main Street to 7220
16 Ridge Avenue;

17 And Bill No. 030068, entitled an
18 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps, by
19 changing the zoning designations of certain areas of
20 land located within an area bounded by Bridge
21 Street, Tacony Street, a line 245 feet north of
22 Sanger Street, the Delaware River and the Frankford
23 Creek;

24 Respectfully it has considered the same
25 and returns the attached bills to Council with a

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 favorable recommendation.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
4 recognizes Councilman Kenney.

5 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Madam President, I
6 move that Rules of Council be suspended so as to
7 permit first reading this day of Bill No. 030068.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been
10 moved and properly that the Rules of Council be
11 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
12 Bill No. 030068.

13 All in favor will indicate by saying
14 aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,
19 and the Bill No. 030068 will be placed on today's
20 First Reading Calendar.

21 Bill Nos. 010743 and 030017 will be
22 placed on the First Reading Calendar for our next
23 Session of Council.

24 The Chair now recognizes Councilwoman
25 Blackwell for a report from the Committee on

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Finance.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
4 Madam President. The Committee on Finance reports
5 out two bills with a favorable representation.

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chief Clerk
7 will please read the report.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
9 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
10 the Committee on Finance to which was referred Bill
11 No. 030023, entitled an ordinance amending Chapter
12 19-200 of the Philadelphia Code entitled "City
13 Funds, Deposits, Investments, Disbursements," by
14 revising the list of City depositories because of
15 non-compliance with certain provisions of that
16 chapter;.

17 And Bill No. 030163, entitled an
18 ordinance amending Chapter 19-1500 of the
19 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Wage and Net Profits
20 Tax," by decreasing in stages the rates of the tax
21 imposed upon certain low income persons and
22 providing for refunds of excess taxes paid, all
23 under certain terms and conditions;

24 Respectfully reports it has considered
25 and amended the same and returns the attached bills

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 to Council with a favorable recommendation.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
4 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
6 Madam President. I move that the Rules of Council
7 be suspended so as to permit first reading this day
8 of Bill No. 030163.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
11 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
12 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
13 Bill No. 030163.

14 All in favor will indicate by saying
15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,
20 and Bill No. 030163 will be placed on today's First
21 Reading Calendar.

22 Bill No. 030023 will be placed on the
23 First Reading Calendar for our next Session of
24 Council.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 for a report from the Committee on Law and
3 Government.

4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you, Madam
5 President. I offer the report from the Committee on
6 Law and Government and ask everybody's indulgence --

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: I'm sorry, I
8 don't think we can hear you, Councilman. Put your
9 microphone on, please.

10 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I offer the report of
11 the Committee on Law and Government and ask
12 everybody's indulgence because it's a very lengthy
13 and heavy report.

14 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you.

15 The Clerk will please read the very
16 lengthy and heavy report.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
18 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
19 the Committee on Law Government to which was
20 referred Bill No. 020076, entitled an ordinance
21 providing for submission to the qualified electors
22 of the City of Philadelphia an amendment to Section
23 2-102 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter,
24 relating to the redistricting of the City to revise
25 the boundaries of the councilmanic districts after

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 each decennial census;

3 And Bill No. 020621, entitled an
4 ordinance amending Title 2 of the Philadelphia Code,
5 entitled "City-County Consolidation," by abolishing
6 the Board of Revision of Taxes and reassigning its
7 powers, functions, and duties to three newly created
8 City agencies;

9 And Bill No. 020810, entitled an
10 ordinance providing for the submission to the
11 qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia of an
12 amendment to Section 6-400C of the Philadelphia Home
13 Rule Charter relating to authorized audits by the
14 auditing department of certain agencies performing
15 services or receiving funding from the City;

16 And Bill No. 030016, entitled an
17 ordinance providing for the submission to the
18 qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia of an
19 amendment of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
20 relating to the composition of the Board of Pensions
21 and Retirement as approved by resolution of the City
22 Council;

23 And Bill No. 030097, entitled an
24 ordinance amending Title 17 of the Philadelphia
25 Code, entitled "Contracts and Procurement," by

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 adding a new Section 17-109, entitled "Local Bidding
3 Preferences," providing for the establishment of a
4 bidding preference on City contracts for
5 Philadelphia businesses;

6 And Bill No. 030098, entitled an
7 ordinance providing for the submission to the
8 qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia of an
9 amendment to the Home Rule Charter to establish that
10 a bid preference can be allowed in the awarding of
11 public contracts to Philadelphia firms;

12 And Bill No. 030115, entitled an
13 ordinance providing for the submission to the
14 qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia of an
15 amendment to Section 8-200 and 8-201 of the
16 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to contracts
17 and concessions for which competitive bidding is
18 required;

19 And Bill No. 030178, entitled an
20 ordinance providing for the submission to the
21 qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia of an
22 amendment to Section 5-300 of the Philadelphia Home
23 Rule Charter, by adding a new subsection as approved
24 by resolution of City Council requiring that the
25 Health Department prepare a plan for universal

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 health care coverage.

3 And Bill No. 030220, entitled an
4 ordinance providing for the submission to the
5 qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia of an
6 amendment to the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter and
7 creating the Office of the Insurance Public
8 Advocate;

9 And Resolution No. 020084, entitled
10 resolution proposing an amendment to Section 2-102
11 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to
12 the redistricting of the City to revise the
13 boundaries of the councilmanic districts;

14 And Resolution 020817, entitled
15 resolution proposing an amendment to Section 6-400
16 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to
17 the authorization for City Controller audits;

18 And resolution No. 030034, entitled
19 resolution proposing an amendment to the
20 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to the
21 composition to the Board of Pensions and Retirement;

22 And Resolution 030106, entitled
23 resolution proposing an amendment to the
24 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to establish that bid
25 preference can be allowed in the awarding of public

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 contracts to Philadelphia firms;

3 And resolution 030119, entitled
4 resolution proposing an amendment to Section 8-200
5 and 8-201 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
6 relating to contracts and concessions for which
7 competitive bidding is required;

8 And Resolution No. 030189, entitled
9 resolution proposing an amendment to section 5-300
10 of the City Charter relating to the functions of the
11 Department of Health;

12 And Resolution No. 030231, entitled
13 resolution proposing an amendment to the
14 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to create the Office
15 of Insurance Public Advocate, and providing for the
16 submission of the amendment to the electors of
17 Philadelphia;

18 Respectfully reports it has considered
19 and amended the same and returns the attached bills
20 and resolutions to Council with a favorable
21 recommendation.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Cohen, I
23 would like to make a suggestion, if I may.

24 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Go ahead, Madam
25 President.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I think that
3 these issues are very important. I don't think that
4 Members of Council will be able to obtain notes of
5 testimony prior to a vote. Many may not have been
6 in the building when the public hearing occurred. I
7 strongly would suggest that perhaps the technical
8 staff could give some abbreviation or some
9 information as to what each and every one of the
10 bills do so that we would be fully prepared to vote
11 on all of the bills next week.

12 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I would support that
13 notion, Madam President.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: And may I ask you
15 as Chairperson of the Committee if you would indeed
16 have the technical staff do that?

17 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I will be happy to do
18 so.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

20 The report has been read and I now
21 recognize Councilman Cohen.

22 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
23 move the adoption of the report.

24 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Second.

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council --

3 You have to suspend the rules,
4 Councilman. You want to suspend the Rules on the
5 bills today?

6 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Yes, in order to put
7 this in position to be voted on next week, the bills
8 and resolutions ought, in my judgement, be voted on
9 simultaneously since every amendment requires both a
10 bill and a resolution.

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Fine. Did I hear a
12 second?

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
15 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
16 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
17 Bill Nos. 020076, 020621, 020810, 030016, 030097,
18 030098, 030115, 030178 and 030200.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
20 President, I ask for a roll call.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Councilman
22 Cohen.

23 COUNCILMAN COHEN: With respect to the
24 resolutions, I know 12 votes are required. I think
25 it might in order to have a roll call vote on each

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 to ensure --

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: We're not
4 considering the resolutions. We're talking about
5 suspending the Rules on the bills. I believe that
6 was your request, Councilman.

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: This is just the
8 bills?

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bills.

10 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Then there would no
11 need for roll call. There are only nine votes to
12 required go --

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
14 President.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Yes,
16 Councilwoman.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Since my
18 colleague is going to ask for the technical staff to
19 give everybody a brief synopsis of what they
20 require, I didn't want the hammer on us to force us
21 to be ready next week because we haven't requested
22 of the technical staff and it just gives everybody
23 time to review it, to make sure we have the
24 information and to make sure that we're prepared to
25 take a position. It only means an extra week.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Nutter,
3 your light is on. Did you want to be recognized?

4 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Not necessarily,
5 Madam President. I was just going to weight in with
6 Councilman Cohen to answer the issue that he raised,
7 that there was no vote on the resolutions, that this
8 is a rather routine matter of having a rules
9 suspension on bills coming out of committee.

10 When the bills get called up is a
11 totally separate matter. But I was weighing in on
12 the previous issue, not on the comments made by
13 Councilwoman Blackwell.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I don't mind -- in
15 view of the number of amendments to the Home Rule
16 Charter being proposed, I think, as I did before,
17 that the President's suggestion and Councilwoman
18 Blackwell's suggestion that there been additional
19 time provided is a reasonable one. If we're going
20 to -- I would like very much to have everything
21 adopted unanimously, but everybody knows if it
22 isn't, nobody enjoys a good fight better than I do.
23 So let's get ready for it if we have to or let's
24 have unanimous support.

25 So I concur in the proposal made by the

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 President to have the technical staff provide
3 information to everybody. I think an informed vote
4 is the most important thing. The voters have a
5 right to expect that from us in City Council, so I
6 will withdraw the motion for suspension of Rules.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Very well. So
8 these bills will be placed on First Reading Calendar
9 for first week along with the resolutions.

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman Nutter.

11 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
12 President. And I appreciate Councilman, Chair of
13 the Committee, trying to work through the
14 particulars here. I would only point out, Madam
15 President, that the request for suspension of the
16 rules was actually made as part of the motion on
17 these various matters out of committee. I'm not
18 necessarily sure whether in this circumstance that
19 the Committee's wish and a motion made and approved
20 by the Committee can so immediately be dismissed.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I'm terribly sorry.
22 I was distracted, Councilman. I don't know what
23 your comment was.

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Madam President, I
25 was just simply pointing out, at least on the

04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

1
2 technicals of it, and I understand the Chair of the
3 Committee, Councilman Cohen, trying to work through
4 the particulars of this matter. I did just want to
5 point out, though, that the motions made in
6 Committee requested a favorable recommendation and a
7 suspension of the Rules was made by the Committee
8 and it's a part of the motion in front of us. I'm
9 not so sure that, with every respect to the
10 Committee Chair, I'm not so sure that the Chair can
11 automatically dismiss -- and I know that he's not
12 seeking to do that. He's trying to be accommodating
13 under the circumstances, but I do wish to point out
14 that the request for Rules suspension was made as a
15 part of the Committee's motion on these respective
16 bills. I will make one very brief comment, I
17 understand the concern and respect the concern
18 raised by Councilwoman Blackwell with regard to
19 technical analysis, ability to review notes of
20 testimony and the like. Just because the bills
21 might be in position next week, if they were to get
22 a first reading today, does not automatically mean
23 that the bills are going to come up for a vote, just
24 like -- I mean, if you look at our Calendar,
25 probably every bill that's sitting on the Calendar

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 today possibly got a suspension of the Rules coming
3 out of Committee, and many of them have been sitting
4 there for a while.

5 So I'm simply raising a very technical
6 issue about the Committee having taken action in
7 Committee, requesting a suspension of Rules, and
8 that part of that motion be handled in the
9 appropriate fashion.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Well, I believe the
11 Chairman of the Committee did make a motion to
12 suspend the Rules and he withdraw such a motion.

13 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President,
14 point of order. I think that Councilman Nutter is
15 right and I think I have to confess that I would
16 oppose a chairman having the ability to change the
17 action of a Committee he or she is reporting on.
18 And I think I was in error when I presumed I had the
19 authority to do so. I think we have to put it to a
20 vote.

21 It is the committee's recommendation and
22 no chair would be free to change the committee's
23 recommendation, so I applaud Councilman Nutter for
24 catching me on a time I tripped. Maybe I got me
25 before I fell to the ground, though, because I think

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 it would be the wrong. This body is the only body
3 can change -- the body as the whole is the only body
4 that can change the recommendation of the Committee.
5 Madam Chair, I have to move --

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Before you make
7 your motion, there are a number of Councilmembers
8 that would like to be recognized.

9 Councilwoman Blackwell.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
11 President, I do have a point of order, but I will
12 yield to Councilman Goode's point of order first.

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Goode.

14 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
15 President. I move that we suspend the rules to
16 alter the Committee report to not suspend the rules
17 to allow first reading today. And I'm a member of
18 the committee that actually voted to suspend the
19 Rules within committee.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Second.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I am being
22 advised by our legal staff that there should simply
23 be a motion by Councilman Cohen again to suspend the
24 rules. Members can vote it up or down.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: We have a

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: Councilman

COUNCILMAN NUTTER: It's on now.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Councilman

If you explain one motion, you've got to explain every motion. We just need clarity on the issue. In fact, if we want to go that far, we need to ask the technical staff at this point of time to give us an explanation. So come on now, be tight on one end and loose on the other. We don't understand why if the Chairman says that we can do this, we have another motion on the floor made by Councilman Goode. I don't understand why we have to have a debate about it. Everybody would like information. It's not a

25 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I don't want to have

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 a debate. I did want to ask Councilman Goode just a
3 question about his motion. But if there's a request
4 for an explanation on Councilman Goode's motion,
5 I'll wait.

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I'm sorry.
7 Councilman Nutter.

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Madam President, I
9 will wait. If Councilwoman Blackwell is waiting on
10 a fuller explanation on Councilman Goode's motion, I
11 will wait. My question was on Councilman Goode's
12 motion, and I think we can get to the point where
13 everyone wants to be, but I'm not necessarily sure
14 that Councilman Goode's motion was exactly necessary
15 with regard to a suspension of our Rules. I think
16 that the question is, the Chair made a motion as a
17 part of the Committee's recommendation to suspend
18 the Rules in order to allow first reading. I think
19 that we can dispose of this particular matter by
20 just voting on that particular motion. And if the
21 motion fails, then I think it will have accomplished
22 what people are concerned about. But I don't know
23 that there's any motion necessary to suspend our
24 Rules to get to that point.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: But we were

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 fine until you made another statement about that
3 said something other another, so Councilman Goode
4 then did a point of order. We are happy to report
5 it out and wait have no real action.

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: We can continually
7 go around in circles.

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I just wanted to
9 make sure the Committee's request was honored.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The question
11 is, are we going to vote to suspend the rules? I
12 don't see any reason for us to continue debating the
13 issue.

14 Councilwoman Tasco.

15 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I think when the
16 Clerk read the report, she read -- and I think what
17 Blackwell was saying, we were being asked whether to
18 vote on this with the suspension of the Rules. I
19 think Councilwoman Blackwell was saying, let's have
20 a role call vote which answers the question because
21 really the Clerk made the motion, do we vote on it
22 with the suspension or not. And so all we have to
23 do is just go back to the original comments by the
24 Clerk and then follow Councilwoman Blackwell to have
25 a role call vote on the suspension of the rules.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
3 would like to remove the question from the floor in
4 the in form which I presented it. And as Chairman
5 of the Committee, I would like to divide the motion
6 to half and first move to adopt the report, period.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I'm sorry, you're
8 going to have to be more specific.

9 COUNCILMAN COHEN: And that does not
10 include the part with respect to suspension of the
11 Rules, just to adopt the report.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Point of
13 clarification, Madam President.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I will separately
15 then move to suspend the rules and we can have an
16 up-and-down vote on the suspension.

17 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Point of order.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
19 recognizes Councilman DiCicco for a point of order.

20 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
21 President. I think I understand what we're trying
22 to understand here, but I don't understand why we
23 need to -- if the vote comes to not suspend the
24 Rules, I don't think it's fair that all of the bills
25 that are coming out of this Committee should fall

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 under that motion. We had a public hearing on the
3 Insurance Advocate bill which I sponsored. We had
4 two hearings and two separate dates. I don't know
5 how much more time we need to debate that bill. I'm
6 not disrespecting any other bills that were
7 introduced by other Members of City Council, but on
8 two separate days, probably a grand total of six to
9 eight hours worth of testimony has been taken on
10 that bill that I introduced to have a Charter change
11 that will allow the City of Philadelphia to hire an
12 Insurance Advocate. I would like at least have that
13 bill removed from this motion not to suspend.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Point of order,
15 Madam President.

16 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I don't understand
17 why what has arisen has arisen. But obviously,
18 somebody has some concern with something, maybe more
19 than one thing and maybe everything. Therefore, I
20 would like, Madam President, the opportunity to
21 report the Committee's actions bill by bill. I
22 think that's within the province of the Committee
23 Chairman to determine since the report originally in
24 the usual fashion was prepared by the Clerk of the
25 Committee and not by the Chairman of the Committee.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 I would like to have the report returned so I can
3 submit it bill by bill.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
5 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell for a point of
6 order.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
8 Madam President. I President asked the Chair of the
9 Committee to ask the technical staff, because of the
10 nature the bills and so many of them deal with the
11 Charter, that the technical staff prepare a synopsis
12 or an explanation to everyone since there are so
13 many of them included in the report today. If we're
14 going to pull out certain bills with certain -- when
15 we hear bills and when we vote on them, we hear bill
16 numbers. So people who were not -- I'm on that
17 Committee, but I wasn't sitting there through the
18 whole Committee that morning. However, my
19 colleagues hear bill numbers. A number doesn't
20 necessary mean you know what's in it. Now, if we're
21 going to pull it apart now and deal with every bill
22 and every number, then we nullify the President's
23 suggestion that the technical staff try to help us
24 in this situation by doing an explanation. Now, we
25 can sit here for the next two hours, it's okay with

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 me, and go through each bill, read each in detail
3 and talk about what we want to do; or we can find an
4 easy way to just not have to vote on those bills.
5 The Chair was willing to do that if we can do a
6 legal way to do that. Can't we not vote on these
7 today due to the nature of them and come back and
8 deal with them. Nobody's saying we shouldn't vote
9 on them. But we're saying due to their nature that
10 maybe we don't want to do a lot today. I don't know
11 why that is so unreasonable. The President agrees.
12 The Chair agrees. So can't we find a way to get
13 there?

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Yes, we can. And
15 that's the way I'm suggesting, we do it bill by
16 bill. I happen not to be a fan of mystery books, so
17 I'd like to uncover the mystery. If there is a
18 problem, let's deal with it. If there is no
19 problem, we can also deal with the situation. The
20 only way we deal with it is to do it bill by bill.
21 And that's the reason I'm suggesting we divide it.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, I don't
23 want to cut you short, but I think the Committee
24 report has been read. The question still remains
25 about the suspension of the bills. Is there a

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 motion? I think we vote them up or down, period.

3 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I would like to
4 present it, as I think I have a right to as Chairman
5 of the Committee, in two forms. First, an action to
6 adopt the report without to respect to a suspension
7 of the Rules; and then secondly, to raise suspension
8 of the rules.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The report has
10 read.

11 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Now I move the
12 adoption of the report. That does not include the
13 suspension.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, the
15 report doesn't have to be adopted. You ask for the
16 suspension -- I think what you're interested in is
17 asking for the suspension of the Rules.

18 (Pause.)

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, it's
20 your call. Councilman Cohen.

21 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I've been informed by
22 the attorney that the provisions of the Rules
23 provide that there is no general adoption of a
24 report made but that I would have the power to move
25 with respect to each bill on a suspension of Rule.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 There is no need to adopt the report of the
3 Committee. That will happen at the time of the
4 final vote.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, what is
6 your motion?

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: My motion is -- I
8 need the report so I can refer to each bill. I want
9 to withdraw what's before the body now and begin the
10 process of moving for suspension of the Rules on
11 each of the bills. My motion is I move that the
12 Rules of Council be suspended so as to permit first
13 reading this day of Bill No. 020076. And if given
14 back the physical document, I will identify the bill
15 and ask the Clerk to read the title. If anybody has
16 any questions, they can raise them and I would
17 request the technical staff to be prepared to give
18 us the information.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, I don't
20 know that this is really necessary. I think, if I
21 may be so bold --

22 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Well, I believe so,
23 Madam President.

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, may I
25 ask why?

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Yes, because some
3 bills have more of a time requirement than other
4 bills. Councilman DiCicco is right. We're in the
5 middle of very heavy and continuous hearings on
6 insurance problems that constitutes an emergency
7 problem in Philadelphia. I would not like that
8 bill, and maybe there may be others like it, but
9 that bill particularly ought not to be held up by a
10 failure on a vote to suspend the Rules. I have no
11 idea why the question is being raised. Suspension
12 is done automatically every time, but this is an
13 unusual time, I admit, and so I want to honor the
14 request --

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, if I
16 may. I think, as I said, you can ask -- I think
17 your original request was to ask for the suspension
18 of the Rules on the bills that are reported out of
19 Committee. I don't know that we have to decide on
20 each and every bill. People can either vote your
21 request up or down. And I think that's what we
22 should be doing.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
24 President, point of information.

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilwoman

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Blackwell.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: I think the
4 Chairman was willing to report the bills out and not
5 suspend the rules. Can't we legally do that?
6 That's where we are, it seems me, so that we can get
7 more information. Isn't that where we are? And
8 can't we as a body who are in Committee, can't we
9 find a way to do that?

10 COUNCILMAN COHEN: No, I would not agree
11 to that, Madam Majority Leader. I would not agree
12 to not request suspension of the Rules on all the
13 bills today. I am interesting in seeing that every
14 Member of Council has full information on bills that
15 thee need full information on. But if there are
16 bills that the body is prepared to suspend the Rules
17 on, I don't think we ought to hold up those bills
18 and we ought to pass them with the suspension of
19 first reading. If there's any bill which creates
20 enough controversy so that it cannot obtain the
21 necessary number of votes for suspension, let's
22 isolate it to that. Let's find out what the
23 problems are and deal with them.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Then we will do
25 then as you request and do each bill with you

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 explaining what each one is, as Chair of the
3 Committee. I'm happy to do that.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I believe
5 Councilman Goode has a point of order.

6 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
7 President. I still have a motion of the floor that
8 deals with suspending the Rules of Council to alter
9 the Committee report, if Councilman Cohen wants to
10 alter the Committee report. If he wants go with the
11 Committee report as it was, then he should go with
12 it as it was. If he wants to not suspend the rules
13 for any bills, then we shouldn't suspend the rules
14 for any bills. If he --

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: But Council cannot
16 alter a Committee report.

17 COUNCILMAN GOODE: We can suspend the
18 Rules to alter a Committee report if we want to.
19 The issue is what are we going to be voting on in
20 the end. Are we voting on the original Committee
21 report? I'm a member of the Committee. Are we
22 voting to suspend the Rules on certain bills? Are
23 we voting to suspend the Rules on all the bills?
24 The issue is whether we're voting on the original
25 Committee report or whether we're altering the

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Committee report. If we're altering the Committee
3 report, if we can do that legally, which I believe
4 we can do, then I still have a motion on the floor
5 that says let's suspend the Rules to alter the
6 Committee report as the Chair wants to alter it.

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I think this is what
8 Councilman Goode has in mind -- if it is, I'm in
9 agreement with him. I think the first item before
10 the body ought to be the exact original motion I
11 made to see whether the report will be -- I move the
12 adoption of the report and the suspension of the all
13 the bills. If that fails, then I will offer each
14 bill for suspension of Rules separately. But it may
15 not be necessary if the motion prevails. I don't
16 know whether it's going to prevail or not.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Point of order,
18 Madam President. It seems to me -- I agreed with
19 Councilman Goode's both times. And it seems to me
20 that this Council, over the years -- I think we have
21 the right to do whatever we want to do. I don't
22 understand why we want to be technical on one end
23 and non-technical on the other, depending on which
24 side you are on the issues. I think our debate is
25 innocuous because all we're talking about is an

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 extra week for information. I don't understand.

3 And second Councilman Goode's motion.

4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Well, let me try to
5 get an understanding, Councilwoman. Is there any
6 particular bill to which you object to a suspension
7 of the Rules, or are you opposing the suspension of
8 the Rules on each resolution?

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Councilman, I
10 can't tell you, having heard all those bill numbers,
11 which bill is which.

12 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Well, let's deal with
13 each one separately. That's what we ought to do in
14 the legislative body.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: I believe that
16 you initially agreed with Councilman Goode's motion,
17 and I don't know why -- our body as a whole can do
18 whatever it is we choose to do. If we make a motion
19 and we're here and we second it. We undo and do
20 whatever it is we choose. And I don't understand
21 why there's such a big issue about it. If everybody
22 is saying -- we're talking an extra week of
23 information. I don't see where the debate is.

24 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I did not make the
25 issue. I presented the original resolution.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: I know. You
3 were fine, Councilman. It's whatever it is in here
4 that causes us to get hung up in things that don't
5 really matter.

6 I second, again, Councilman Goode's
7 motion.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Councilman
9 Mariano.

10 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: At the risk of
11 sounding like Vinnie Barbarino, I'm so confused this
12 point, it's going to take 10, 20 minutes to figure
13 it out. So didn't he just make a motion that
14 seconded? I'm not sure what the motion was. So we
15 have to move on the motion that was seconded,
16 correct?

17 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Councilman Goode,
18 would you please --

19 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Point of order, Madam
20 President. I received in usual form the report
21 prepared by the Clerk's Office. My assistant, Mr.
22 Greenlee, required me to sign six or seven or eight
23 or nine times. It meant that what I was given in
24 hand was a combined report. In order to clarify
25 everything, I would like to have that report

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 returned to me so I can give each signed report
3 separately.

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Well, I believe
5 that Councilman Goode made a motion and it was
6 seconded.

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: What was that motion?

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I am asking
9 Councilman Goode at this point in time to please
10 repeat his motion. Make it very clear as to what
11 the motion is.

12 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
13 President. The motion was to suspend the Rules of
14 Council to allow the Chair of the Committee on Law
15 and Government to alter the report if he chooses to
16 alter the report, because when it was time for him
17 to make a motion to adopt the report, he chose to
18 alter the report by saying he did not want to
19 suspend the rules on the bills that were voted on
20 Committee allowing for suspension of Rules. So the
21 motion is to suspend the Rules to allow the
22 Committee Chair to alter the report, if he chooses
23 to alter the report.

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Cohen.

25 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I do not wish to

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 change any report. I'm under orders from the
3 Committee to issue a report today. I would like to
4 be able to do that. I was given a series of reports
5 to issue. And then in my effort to save time, I did
6 what so often occurs when you try to save time, you
7 spend 10 times the amount of time you hoped to save
8 by explaining why you did what you did. I would
9 like to withdraw my motion and start anew and
10 present this in the fashion it usually is presented,
11 one report at a time. Each one is separate. I had
12 to sign separately because each was a separate
13 report, and I apparently erred in combining all the
14 reports together.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Point of order,
16 Madam President.

17 COUNCILMAN COHEN: The action of the
18 Committee was taken bill by bill, and the motions
19 were made separately and they're entitled to be
20 treated as such.

21 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Councilman Goode,
22 are you willing to withdraw your motion in view of
23 what Councilman Cohen has just said?

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
25 President, I have a point of order. I am a member

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 of the Law and Government Committee. My colleague,
3 the Chair, says he's under orders from this
4 Committee. I'm member of that Committee. I don't
5 think you're under orders from your Committee to
6 continue in this vein. We're very, very happy to go
7 along -- I, as member of that Committee, am happy to
8 concur with Councilman Goode's motion.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I think at the time
10 of a public hearing, members of that particular
11 Committee cast their vote and normally vote for a
12 suspension of the Rules.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
14 President, I'm responding to the Chair of the
15 Committee's statement that he is under orders from
16 his Committee --

17 COUNCILMAN COHEN: The Committee moved
18 in every single case for a suspension of the rules.
19 In my effort to shorthand the time required, I
20 apparently erred in submitting all of the reports
21 together as a single report. I wish to correct my
22 error and reinstate the decision of the Committee
23 which acted individually on each bill. Therefore, I
24 want to submit the report of the Committee bill by
25 bill.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, Goode
3 do you want to be recognized?

4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: And that will carry
5 out the meaning of the Committee. That's what the
6 Committee did bill by bill. They voted to suspend
7 the Rules each time.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Goode
9 has a point of order.

10 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Please accept my
11 apology for the error I made in presentation and
12 permit me to have the report returned to me so I can
13 present it correctly as a series of separate
14 reports.

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Goode.

16 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
17 President. The Chair of the Committee does not
18 wish to alter the report. My motion dealt with
19 allowing him to alter the report by suspending the
20 Rules. He does not want to alter the report. If he
21 is retracting that statement that he wants to alter
22 the report, then I withdraw my motion if he wants go
23 with the original report of the Committee.

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Very well. Thank
25 you.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 The Chair now recognizes Councilman
3 Cohen.

4 Councilman Clarke, do you have a
5 question?

6 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
7 Chair. I just wanted some clarity on the statement
8 that Councilman Cohen made with respect his offering
9 the Committee report and he said erred in offering
10 the report as one. Do the Rules state that they
11 should be offered in a singular basis, each bill
12 from the Committee?

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: We never really do
14 that. When we report bills and if there are a
15 number of bills and they're listed in a public
16 hearing and Rules are suspended, they're all read at
17 the same time.

18 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: He said he erred. I
19 didn't know that was a Rule that we had to offer
20 them singularly.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: No, we don't.

22 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: There's nothing in
24 the Rules that say that.

25 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Okay. I just want

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 some clarity. Thank you.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Councilman
4 Cohen.

5 COUNCILMAN COHEN: The Committee on Law
6 and Government reports Bill No. 020076 with a
7 favorable recommendation and with a request to
8 permit first reading this day of that bill.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, your
11 motion has to be suspend the rules so that we would
12 permit first meeting this day of that bill. Please
13 make that motion, if that is your intent.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I did.

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: No, you didn't.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Point of order,
17 Madam President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
19 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: I would like to
21 know what that bill is. I would like an
22 explanation. If we're going to do this bill by bill
23 I want an explanation of what the bill calls for.

24 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I ask the Clerk to
25 read the title of the bill. And if that is not

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 sufficient information, I will then ask the
3 technical staff, with the permission of the Chair,
4 to give a short report. That will be in domain of
5 the President.

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
7 please read the title of Bill No. 020076.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
9 for submission to the qualified electors of the City
10 of Philadelphia an amendment to Section 2-102 of the
11 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, relating to the
12 redistricting of the City to revise the boundaries
13 of the councilmanic districts after each decennial
14 census, as approved by resolution of the City
15 Council fixing the date of a special election for
16 such purpose prescribing the form of ballot question
17 to be voted on and authorizing the appropriate
18 officers to publish notice and to make arrangements
19 for a special election.

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Nutter,
21 I believe this is your bill. Would you feel more
22 comfortable explaining what the bill does?

23 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Sure, Madam
24 President. I did actually testify on this matter at
25 the hearing. This bill would establish an actual

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 process and procedure for the conduct of the
3 redistricting process as required by the
4 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter that Council
5 redistrict the City every 10 years. The current
6 Charter does not provide any process by which
7 Council is to conduct the redistricting other than
8 to set a date by which it must be done and impose a
9 financial penalty on Council if the redistricting is
10 not conducted within six months of the release of
11 the census. This bill would establish a process and
12 proceeding for redistricting, a committee to conduct
13 such work to establish a report to be given by that
14 committee to the Council.

15 This hearing was a couple days ago and
16 there were a number of members that were there.

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

18 Councilman Cohen made a motion. Is there a second?

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
21 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
22 suspended so as to permit first reading this day --

23 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: One question,
24 Madam President.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Yes, ma'am.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: May I ask my
3 colleague -- I think I remember that hearing. Was
4 the process set forth in there or did it depict the
5 process by which or refer to us creating a process
6 to deal with redistricting?

7 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Councilwoman, in the
8 body of the resolution that accompanies the bill --
9 the bill only puts the question on the ballot. The
10 substance of the matter is actually in the
11 resolution which is not before us at the moment. It
12 establishing a full process and procedure from 30
13 days after the census is published up through a
14 final date by which Council action must be taken.
15 And there is an extensive process for how a plan is
16 developed. It requires public input, it requires
17 all Members to have availability to computers and
18 data and electronic equipment, and it allows for a
19 process for recommending such a plan to the
20 Committee of the Whole. That was the substance of
21 my testimony at the public hearing the other day.
22 So there's an actual process established, but it's
23 in the resolution. The amendments actually to the
24 Charter are in the resolution portion of a
25 two-package bill. The bill that is the subject of

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 this suspension of the rules merely allows the
3 question to go on the ballot. The actual details
4 are in the resolution, which are not in front of us
5 at the moment.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Again, it has been
8 moved and properly seconded that the Rules of
9 Council be suspended so as to permit first reading
10 this day of Bill No. 020076.

11 All in favor will indicate by saying
12 aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
17 it, and the motion carries.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

19 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, the
20 Committee on Law and Government reports out Bill No.
21 020621 with a favorable recommendation, and I move
22 that the Rules of Council be suspended so as to
23 permit this first reading this day of Bill No.
24 020621.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
3 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
4 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
5 Bill No. 020621.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Point of
7 information.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
9 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.
11 Will the Chief Clerk read the title of that as well?

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending
13 Title 2 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled
14 "City-County Consolidation," by abolishing the Board
15 of Revision of Taxes and reassigning its powers,
16 functions, and duties to three newly created City
17 agencies to be known as the Board of Property
18 Assessment Appeals and Review, the Property
19 Assessment Oversight Board, and the Office of
20 Property Assessment, providing for submission of
21 such amendment for the approval or disapproval of
22 the qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia,
23 fixing the date of a special election for such
24 purpose prescribing the form of ballot question to
25 be voted on and authorizing the appropriate officers

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 to publish notice and to make arrangements for a
3 special election, all under certain terms and
4 conditions.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The motion was
7 second by Councilman DiCicco.

8 All in favor?

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: May we have a
10 roll call on this, Madam President.

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: By all means.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chief
14 Clerk will please call the roll.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Blackwell.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: No.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

19 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: No.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

21 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

23 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

25 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS
2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
3 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Krajewski.
6 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
8 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
9 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
10 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
12 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
14 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
16 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Reynolds-Brown.
19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
21 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.
23 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.
24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President
25 Verna.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

3 The vote is 14 to 2. The motion
4 carries.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen
6 regarding Bill No. 020810.

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, the
8 Committee on Law and Government reports out Bill
9 No. 020810 with a favorable recommendation and
10 requests suspension of the Rules to permit first
11 reading this day of that bill, 020810.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Point of
13 information.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilwoman
15 Blackwell.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: May we have the
17 Clerk read that bill?

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 020810,
19 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
20 to the qualified electors of the City of
21 Philadelphia an amendment to Section 6-400C of the
22 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to
23 authorized audits by the auditing department of
24 certain agencies performing services or receiving
25 funding from the City, as approved by resolution of

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 the City Council, fixing the date of a special
3 election for such purpose, prescribing the form of
4 ballot question to be voted on, and authorizing the
5 appropriate officers to publish notice and to make
6 arrangements for the special election.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
8 President, may have whoever sponsored that bill give
9 us a little bit more information on what that means?

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Who is the sponsor
11 of the bill?

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Councilman
14 Kenney.

15 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
16 President. Over the years, we have relied on
17 quasi-governmental agencies throughout the
18 government that has been an ever expanding group of
19 agencies, agencies like PIDC and PAID and others
20 that have utilized their powers to do a lot of very
21 important work within the City. As a result of
22 that, a lot if City taxpayers' dollars flow through
23 those quasi-governmental agencies. What I am
24 suggesting with this Charter change is that the City
25 Controller's powers be expanded formally to those

04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

agencies so that he or she, whoever the Controller is, can audit those taxpayers dollars in those agencies. We limited by amendment -- originally the bill said any entity that receives governmental money, and that was far too broad because we had agencies that do social service work that contract with the City, and we eliminated all them. These agencies that we want to expand the Controller's power to are simply agencies that we deal with on a regular basis, things like PHA, PIDC, RDA, the agencies that we're well aware of. So the Controller had sent a letter supporting it strongly. Of course, the Controller, as always, asked for more money to do with, but we'll deal with that in the budget process. But the Controller does support that, and I think it's in the best interest of the taxpayers to allow that kind of scrutiny when necessary for the Controller. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you,
Councilman.

COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Councilman
Cohen made motion. Is there a second.

(Duly seconded.)

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has moved and
3 properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
4 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
5 Bill No. 020810.

6 All in favor will indicate by saying
7 aye.

8 (Aye.)

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

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,
12 and the motion carries.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, the
15 Committee on Law and Government reports out with a
16 favorable recommendation Bill No. 030016, together
17 with a request for a suspension of Rules to permit
18 first reading this day of that bill.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Point of order.

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I'm sure that
21 request is going to be made that the title of the
22 bill be read, so I would ask the Chief Clerk to
23 please do so.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030016,
25 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 to the qualified electors of the City of
3 Philadelphia of an amendment of the Philadelphia
4 Home Rule Charter relating to the composition of the
5 Board of Pensions and Retirement, as approved by
6 resolution of the City Council, and fixing the date
7 of a special election for such purpose, prescribing
8 the form of ballot question to be voted on, and
9 authorizing the appropriate officers to publish
10 notice, and to make arrangements for the special
11 election.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
13 President.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilwoman
15 Blackwell.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: May we again
17 ask someone to explain, whomever has information
18 about that bill, to tell us what that is and what it
19 does?

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Nutter.

21 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you Madam
22 President. This amendment provides that the Council
23 President will be able to appoint one non-voting
24 member to the Board of Pensions and Retirement, two
25 other than the right to vote, will have all powers,

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 duties, responsibilities, and authority, including
3 but not limited to the attendance at Executive
4 Sessions of the Board of Pensions and Retirement.
5 The primary purpose of this bill is to give Council
6 additional insight and involvement in terms of
7 what's going on with our pension system, which all
8 of us are members. The Board presently has
9 representation from the Administration, the City
10 Controller, and the four union leaders. The heads
11 of the four municipal unions are in full support of
12 this particular matter, and I've had direct
13 conversation with Mr. Matthews, Mr. Cronin, Mr.
14 Eddis, and Mr. O'Drain on this particular matter,
15 and they sent letters of support for this particular
16 matter.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Cohen
19 made a motion. I don't believe it has been
20 seconded.

21 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Second.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
23 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
24 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
25 Bill No. 030016.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 All in favor will indicate by saying
3 aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,
8 and the motion carries.

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

10 COUNCILMAN COHEN: The Committee on Law
11 and Government reports out with a favorable
12 recommendation Bill No. 030097, together with a
13 motion that the Rules be suspended so as to permit
14 first reading this day of that bill.

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

16 The Clerk will please read the title of
17 the bill.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030097,
19 entitled an ordinance amending Title 17 of the
20 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Contracts and
21 Procurement," by adding a new Section 17-109,
22 entitled "Local Bidding Preferences," providing for
23 the establishment of a bidding preference on City
24 contracts for Philadelphia businesses, under certain
25 terms and conditions.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Councilman
3 Nutter, I believe this is your bill. Can we have an
4 explanation, please?

5 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Sure, Madam
6 President. There are two bills on this particular
7 matter. This is the actual amendment that allows
8 for a bid preference to be created in the Home Rule
9 Charter. There would be 5 percent bid preference
10 for Philadelphia-based companies in any City
11 contract that requires competitive bidding under our
12 Home Rule Charter. This measure was supported by
13 our Commerce Director Jim Cuorato.

14 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you.

15 Councilman Cohen has made a motion. Do
16 I hear a second?

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: It has been moved
19 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
20 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
21 Bill No. 030097.

22 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Those opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
3 it, and the most carries.

4 Again, the Chair recognizes Councilman
5 Cohen.

6 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, the
7 Committee on Law and Government reports out with a
8 favorable recommendation Bill No. 030098, together
9 with the request that the Rules of Council be
10 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
11 that bill.

12 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you.

13 The Clerk will please read the title of
14 that bill.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030098,
16 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
17 to the qualified electors of the City of
18 Philadelphia of an amendment to the Home Rule
19 Charter to establish that a bid preference can be
20 allowed in the awarding of public contracts to
21 Philadelphia firms and that the extent and nature of
22 the bid preference shall be provided by ordinance.

23 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Councilman Nutter,
24 I believe this was your bill. Can we have an
25 explanation, please?

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Sure, Madam

3 President. This is the companion ordinance that
4 allows for the ballot question to be placed with
5 regard to the bid preference bill that I made
6 reference to a few minutes ago. This is the bill
7 that allows for the question to be placed on the
8 ballot.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you very
10 much.

11 Councilman Cohen made a motion. Is
12 there a second?

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
15 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
16 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
17 Bill No. 030098.

18 All in favor will say aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,
23 and the motion carries.

24 The Chair, again, recognizes Councilman
25 Cohen.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, the
3 Committee on Law and Government reports out with a
4 favorable recommendation Bill No. 030115, together
5 with a request for suspension of Rules to permit
6 first reading this day of that bill.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

8 The Clerk will please read the title of
9 that bill.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030115,
11 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
12 to the qualified electors of the City of
13 Philadelphia of an amendment to Section 8-200 and
14 8-201 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating
15 to contracts and concessions for which competitive
16 bidding is required, as approved by resolution of
17 the City Council, fixing the date of a special
18 election for such purpose, prescribing the form of
19 ballot question to be voted on, and authorizing the
20 appropriate officers to publish notice and to make
21 arrangements for this special election.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Clarke,
23 I believe this is your bill. May we have an
24 explanation, please?

25 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 President. This basically raises the maximum
3 allowable cap for the Procurement Commissioner to
4 authorize contracts to small businesses. Prior to
5 this bill it is \$13,000. This will raise it to
6 \$25,000. It is the belief of the Procurement
7 Commissioner that his ability to ensure
8 opportunities for small business will be enhanced by
9 the passage of this bill as opposed to them
10 competing with larger businesses, whereas they
11 always lose those competitive bids.

12 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you, sir.

13 Any other questions or comments from any
14 Members of the Committee?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Seeing none,
17 Councilman Cohen did, in fact, make a motion. Is
18 there a second.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
21 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
22 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
23 Bill No. 030115.

24 All in favor will indicate by saying
25 aye.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it,

6 and the motion carries.

7 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

8 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you, Madam

9 President. The Committee on Law and Government
10 reports with a favorable recommendation Bill No.

11 030178, and request suspension of the Rules to
12 permit first reading this day of that bill.

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

14 The Clerk will please read the title of
15 the bill.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030178,
17 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
18 to the qualified electors of the City of
19 Philadelphia of an amendment to Section 5-300 of the
20 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, by adding a new
21 Subsection F, as approved by resolution of City
22 Council requiring that the Health Department to
23 prepare a plan for universal health care coverage
24 that permits everyone in the City of Philadelphia to
25 obtain decent health care on a regular basis, fixing

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 the date of a special election for such purpose,
3 prescribing the form of ballot question to be voted
4 on, and authorizing the appropriate officers to
5 publish notice and to make arrangements for this
6 special election.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

8 I believe this is Councilman Cohen's
9 bill, is it not? Councilman Cohen, would you give
10 an explanation of the bill?

11 COUNCILMAN COHEN: The bill is to
12 require the Department of Health to provide a plan
13 that would ultimately perhaps result in universal
14 health care for all Philadelphians. The bill
15 requires a plan, not a final order to do so, but in
16 order to provide full discussion and the opportunity
17 for Philadelphians to find a way to provide that
18 health care for all citizens.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. Are
20 there any questions from Members the Committee?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Seeing none,
23 Councilman Cohen has made a motion. Is there a
24 second?

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
3 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
4 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
5 Bill No. 030178.

6 All in favor will indicate by saying
7 aye.

8 (Aye.)

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

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
12 it, and the motion carries.

13 The Chair, again, recognizes Councilman
14 Cohen.

15 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President,
16 thank you. The committee on Law and Government
17 reports out Bill No. 030220 with a favorable
18 recommendation, and with a request suspension of
19 rules to permit first reading of that bill this day.

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

21 Councilman DiCicco, I believe this your
22 bill. I would first like to have the Clerk read the
23 bill.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030220,
25 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 to the qualified electors of the City of
3 Philadelphia of an amendment to the Philadelphia
4 Home Rule Charter and creating the Office of the
5 Insurance Public Advocate, as approved by resolution
6 by the City Council, fixing the date of a special
7 election for such purpose, prescribing the form of
8 ballot question to be voted on, and authorizing the
9 appropriate officers to publish notice and to make
10 arrangements for this special election.

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

12 Councilman DiCicco.

13 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
14 President. This bill will provide and allow for the
15 City of Philadelphia to hire an Insurance Advocate,
16 an Insurance Advocate to deal with the outrageous
17 and high automobile insurance rates in the City of
18 Philadelphia, a problem that we have been dealing
19 with for decades. I think the time has come where
20 we need someone to fight for the citizens for this
21 City to get our insurance rates at least on an
22 equitable platform with the suburban counties. And
23 if anyone attended those hearings, of which there
24 were two on two separate days, there were several
25 hours of hearings. There has been a report that was

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 prepared by Susan Schulman who was hired by the
3 Rendell Administration to look at the issue of high
4 automobile insurance rates in the City of
5 Philadelphia. That report was completed and
6 subsequently issued, delivered to current Mayor John
7 Street back in the year 2000. No action has been
8 taken as a result of that report since that time.
9 That was the reason for my introduction of this
10 bill. I think high time has come when e need
11 someone to fight for the citizens of this City.
12 Again, if anyone attended those hearings, you would
13 have realized that this Insurance Federation, which
14 claims to be a non-profit organization, is merely
15 another lobbyist group in the guise of a non-profit
16 that is supposedly they are to protect the consumers
17 of the Commonwealth, but in effect they are paid by
18 the insurance industry. It's just very plain and
19 simple. You're going to work for the person who is
20 paying. And in this case, the Federation is paid by
21 the insurance industry to promote and protect the
22 interests of the insurance companies. There is no
23 one who is fighting the battle for us in Harrisburg
24 from Philadelphia in the insurance rate battle that
25 we have been dealing with for decades in

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Philadelphia.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Any comments or
4 questions by Members of the Committee?

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

6 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
7 President. Madam President, I'd just like to
8 respond to friend and my colleague's recent
9 statements with respect to the Task Force report
10 that was issued by Ms. Schulman and point out
11 basically the incorrect nature of his statement.
12 First of all -- Madam President, with respect to the
13 statements that were made, they're extremely
14 inaccurate. That report was given to the Task
15 Force. It was acted upon on the Task Force. As a
16 matter of fact, with respect to the statement that
17 no action was taken, the current Task Force is
18 currently litigating three cases, three rate
19 increase cases. And as a result of their
20 intervention in those cases, none of those increases
21 have been allowed by the State Insurance Department.
22 We're currently in the midst of litigation before
23 the Hearing Examiner in the state, so to suggest
24 somehow there was no action taken as a result of the
25 report issued by Ms. Schulman and the subsequent

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 information provided by Mr. Birny Birnbaum who is
3 our consultant on this issue is pretty inaccurate.
4 I'll be nice. So I just don't understand the nature
5 of those statements.

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman DiCicco.

7 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
8 President. I don't know if this is the proper time
9 to debate. I think that took place at the hearings.
10 I will agree with my colleague Councilman Clarke
11 that there was some action taken in the form of
12 lawsuits. But lawsuits, as we all know, can take
13 forever. And this is not meant to cast any
14 criticism on the job that my colleague and other
15 members of his Task Force have done.

16 Mr. Marshall who represents the
17 Insurance Federation in his testimony this past week
18 said that he has made some serious recommendations
19 to this Task Force none of which were acted upon.
20 Now, I don't want to get into the debate because I
21 don't think we are in the position to debate the
22 bill at this time. I think that time has passed.
23 But I want to set the report clear that there was
24 certain recommendations that had been made to the
25 Task Force when the Task Force had a hearing, which

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 was not a Council hearing, by the way, I believe
3 back in September of 2002, and none of the those
4 recommendations that have been made by the Insurance
5 Federation were acted upon, absent the lawsuits.

6 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Councilman Clarke.

7 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam President,
8 again, my colleague and good friend clearly doesn't
9 understand the issue. The information that was
10 provided to the Task Force by Ms. Schulman and by
11 Mr. Birny Birnbaum was in fact acted on. Mr.
12 Marshall who he speaks of who works for the
13 insurance company, his recommendation to us was that
14 he be a member of the Task Force. We believe to be
15 totally, totally, totally out of line, given the
16 nature of this issue. To suggest somehow --
17 whereas, we have filed three law suits on rate
18 increases that it is just something that was done by
19 the Task Force, frankly speaking, amazes me. When I
20 look at what he is proposing as it relates to the
21 Insurance Advocate, I'm not clear what it is beyond
22 the Insurance Advocate's Office would be able to do.
23 Our Task Force actually has a former member of the
24 Pennsylvania State Insurance Department as a member
25 of the Task Force. It also has a person from Risk

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Management. It has people on that Task Force who
3 are clearly professionals in this issue. It also
4 has the support of the City's Law Department who had
5 drafted and provided us with our petition to
6 intervene on these cases. So to suggest somehow
7 that the Task Force has been inactive is inaccurate,
8 at best.

9 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Madam President,
10 I'll just conclude with saying that I made the
11 statements. We all know what lawsuits are all
12 about. You either win or you lose. And the time
13 that it takes to get a decision could be forever.
14 The bills on the floor, there have been two days of
15 hearings, lengthy hearings in the Committee, and I
16 thank the Committee for the time that they spent.
17 We had a lot people who came to those hearings, who
18 volunteered their time, herb Denenberg, Lance Haver,
19 and a bunch of other folks. I think the citizens of
20 this City deserve better. I think it's time that we
21 move on.

22 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Point of order,
23 please. We're debating the bills right now. I
24 don't think this is a situation to debate a bill.
25 That moment will come when the bill comes up for a

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 vote on the record. The motion is to suspend the
3 rules right now and I believe that that's what we
4 should do. Or else we're going to spend all
5 afternoon debating a bill that is not even up in
6 front of us as of yet.

7 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Councilman, with all
8 due respect, there are charges levied at the
9 Insurance Commission Task Force, of which I have
10 spent a year and a half of my time on that Task
11 Force traveling to Harrisburg, attempting to get
12 something done on this issue. And to simply have it
13 dismissed as inaction, I'm going to respond to and
14 I'm going respond to every opportunity that I get.
15 To suggest somehow that that intervention has not
16 anything, that intervention has stop the increases
17 of three insurance companies who represent, my
18 understanding, upwards of 3500 drivers in the City
19 of Philadelphia. I think is relatively significant.
20 So to suggest that somehow our inaction and
21 inability to do anything as a result of lawsuits I
22 think is just not fair.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
24 recognizes Councilman Cohen. Councilman Cohen has a
25 motion.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Before a motion, I
3 request an opportunity to be heard on this?

4 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: Point of order,
5 Madam President.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Yes, ma'am.

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I have a preliminary
8 point of order that I've asked the President to rule
9 on. I've asked for the floor.

10 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: I don't believe we
11 should be debating the bill. We are asking for a
12 suspension of the rules.

13 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, have
14 I been given the floor?

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Cohen.

16 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Thank you, Madam
17 President. This is a case where I think both sides
18 are right and both sides may be wrong as well, but
19 what is very clear is no matter what's been done,
20 there's so much that has still to be done to
21 safeguard the consumer in Philadelphia, the person
22 that drives the car, the person that owns the car.
23 So I think we're debating an issue that really is
24 not significant. There can be different points of
25 view. I think both points of view have some

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 support. We welcome every bit of support of given,
3 but that doesn't take away from the fact that I
4 think everybody's in agreement, what we need is
5 somebody all the time there as a consumer advocate
6 and that's what this amendment to the Home Rule
7 Charter would provide, a constant,
8 existing-all-the-time consumer advocate.

9 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Councilman, you've
10 made your motion. I would like to have a second.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: It has been moved
13 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
14 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
15 Bill No. 030220.

16 All in favor will say aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The ayes have it,
21 and the motion carries.

22 So that it's very clear for the record,
23 the Rules of Council have been suspended to permit
24 first reading this day of Bill Nos. 020076, 020621,
25 020810, 020013, 030096, 030098, 030115, 030178 and

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 030220.

3 Resolution Nos. 020084, 020817, 030034,
4 030106, 030119, 030189, and 030231 will be placed on
5 the Calendar for our next meeting.

6 The Chair now recognizes Councilman
7 Mariano, if he's in the room.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
9 President, point of information.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Yes, ma'am.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: I would like to
12 say a thank you to you for offering the technical
13 staff to give us an explanation of these bills and
14 resolutions and to hold them. Obviously, that is
15 not now necessary as the body did not see fit to
16 facilitate things for our own information and to
17 facilitate things to make them expedient for us to
18 serve our colleagues best. So I thank the President
19 for her willingness to do that, and I'm happy that
20 we now move on.

21 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Point of order.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
23 recognizes Councilman Nutter.

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
25 President. With regard to the matters that, at

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 least the bills and resolutions that I was the
3 sponsor of, as I think is my general behavior, I am
4 more than willing to provide any information to any
5 Member, as I did at the hearing. And I actually
6 testified on three of the four matters that I
7 offered at the hearing and every Committee Member
8 that was there at the hearing had the opportunity to
9 ask any questions. But I did also hand out, I
10 believe, a variety of analyses or short fact sheets
11 on any of the matters that I introduced. And again,
12 I am certainly more than willing to provide any of
13 that information to any Member. I'm sorry, I deeply
14 regret, and I understand Councilwoman Blackwell's
15 concerns. I want to reassure her that, at least on
16 my matters, that I'm more than prepared to provide
17 any detailed information expeditiously. I regret
18 that we didn't have an opportunity at the Committee
19 hearing to talk about these matters at that time or
20 share that information. I understand members can't
21 always be at every hearing. So I just want to make
22 it certainly clear for the record, I understand the
23 Councilwoman's concern about the action that was
24 taken with regard to suspension of the Rules on
25 first reading for any of these bills, but I will

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 make any information available that I have on any of
3 these bills with a fact sheet or charts or anything
4 else that we have at our disposal and I want to
5 assure the Councilwoman that that information is
6 available because I brought it to the hearing and I
7 assume that Committee Members would want that
8 information. Thank you, Madam president.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you.

10 Madam President, I was not responding to
11 my colleague for his bills. I was there. I did
12 receive information. I thank him for his response.
13 I was responding to the President's offer to have
14 the technical staff provide information because so
15 many of these bills deal with us amending the
16 Charter. That is what I was responding to. I did
17 receive your explanation to bills. I thank you. So
18 it was not about your bills or anyone's bills in
19 particular, it was due to the nature of the bills
20 under consideration that so many of them deal with a
21 mending the Home Rule Charter and with the President
22 and Chair's offer to have the technical staff give
23 us information before we responded. So I was say
24 obviously that is not now necessary because we have
25 heard them and because sometimes when you're dealing

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 with bills of this nature that do amend the Charter,
3 everybody when a bill new doesn't have the number of
4 a bill memorized in his or her mind. And it was in
5 our response to the President's offer that we made
6 the remark. And thank you.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilwoman Brown.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you, Madam
9 President. In view of the fact that we have no more
10 bills to vote on this morning, I must be excused
11 from these Council proceedings.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you.
13 The Chair excuses you.

14 Councilwoman Tasco, your light on. You
15 want to be recognized?

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: And I appreciate
17 all the information that was given to us during this
18 discourse on the first reading. I still would
19 appreciate having the information from Councilman
20 Nutter which fully explains all of the legislation
21 introduced. I think that would be very helpful for
22 all of us prior to our vote since what we heard
23 today was what the bill was about and not a full
24 explanation or what it does, so I appreciate that.
25 Thank you.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilwoman,
3 that's on all bills?

4 COUNCILWOMAN TASC0: Just Councilman
5 Nutter's bills. I will confer with him on the
6 bills.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. At this
8 time the time, again, recognizes Councilman Mariano.

9 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Thank you, Madam
10 President. The committee on Licenses and
11 Inspections reports out two bills with a favorable
12 recommendation.

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chief Clerk
14 will please read the report.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
16 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia.
17 The Committee Licenses and Inspections to which was
18 Bill No. 020809, entitled an ordinance amending
19 Title 9 of the Philadelphia Code by making certain
20 changes to the license requirements, the license fee
21 and required conduct and the provisions, all under
22 certain terms and conditions;

23 And Bill No. 030141, entitled an
24 ordinance amending Chapter 9-700 of the Philadelphia
25 Code entitled, "Amusement Businesses," by amending

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Section 9-703 to prohibit the use of pyrotechnic
3 devices, fireworks, explosives or similar materials
4 within dance halls, all under certain terms and
5 conditions;

6 Respectfully reports it has considered
7 the same and returns the attached bills to Council
8 with a favorable recommendation.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
10 recognizes Councilman Mariano.

11 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Madam President, I
12 move that the Rules of Council be suspended so as to
13 permit first reading of the Bill No. 020809.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
16 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
17 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
18 Bill No. 020809.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Point of order,
20 Madam President.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
22 recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you, Madam
24 President. In view of recent information, I need to
25 leave on the record as voting yes or all remaining

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 resolutions to be considered this morning.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
4 record will so indicate that.

5 All in favor will indicate by saying
6 aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have and
11 the bill just read will be placed on today's First
12 Reading Calendar.

13 Bill No. 030141 will be placed on the
14 First Reading Calendar for our next Session of
15 Council.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
17 recognizes Councilman Nutter for a report on the
18 Committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

19 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
20 Chair. The Committee on Commerce and Economic
21 Development reports three resolutions with a
22 favorable recommendation.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chief
24 Clerk will please read the report.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President

1 04/25/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
3 the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development
4 to which was referred Resolution No. 000691,
5 entitled Resolution calling for hearings into micro
6 enterprise development and neighborhood
7 self-improvement as an economic development strategy
8 in the City of Philadelphia;

9 And Resolution No 020522, entitled
10 resolution authorizing Committee on Commerce and
11 Economic Development to hold into the current state
12 of community reinvestment by City depository banks;

13 And Resolution No. 030038, entitled a
14 resolution calling on the Philadelphia Work Force
15 Development Corporation to conduct a needs
16 assessment of training opportunities within the
17 building and construction trades;.

18 Respectfully reports it has considered
19 the same and returns the attach resolutions to
20 Council with a favorable recommendation.

21 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you.
22 Resolution Nos. 000691, 020522 and 030038 will be
23 placed at end of the today's Session.

24 That concludes our reports from
25 committees.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - FIRST READING

2 Our next order of business is the
3 consideration of the Calendar. The Clerk will
4 please read the bills on the First Reading Calendar.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030068, an
6 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
7 changing the zoning designations of certain areas of
8 land located within an area bounded by Bridge Street
9 and Frankford Creek.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
11 agrees.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030163
13 entitled an ordinance amending Chapter 19-1500 of
14 the Philadelphia Code entitled, "Wage and Net
15 Profits Tax," decreasing in stages the rates of tax
16 imposed upon certain low income persons and
17 providing for refunds of excess taxes paid, all
18 under certain terms and conditions.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
20 agrees.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 020076,
22 an ordinance providing for the submission to the
23 qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia of an
24 amendment to Section 2-102 of Philadelphia Home Rule
25 Charter, relating to the redistricting of the City

1 04/25/03 - STATED - FIRST READING

2 to revise the boundaries of councilmatic districts
3 after each decennial census.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
5 agrees.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 020621,
7 entitled an ordinance amending Title 2 of the
8 Philadelphia Code entitled City-County consolidation
9 by abolishing the Board of Revision of Taxes and
10 reassigning its powers, functions, and duties to
11 three newly created City agencies, all under certain
12 terms and conditions.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
14 agrees.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 020810,
16 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
17 to the qualified electors of the City of
18 Philadelphia an amendment to Section 6-400C of the
19 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to
20 authorized audits by the auditing department of
21 certain agencies performing services or receiving
22 funding from the City.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
24 agrees.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030016,

1 04/25/03 - STATED - FIRST READING

2 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
3 to the qualified electors of the City of
4 Philadelphia of an amendment of the Philadelphia
5 Home Rule Charter relating to the composition of the
6 Board of Pensions and Retirement.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030097,
9 entitled an ordinance amending Title 17 of the
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Contracts and
11 Procurement," by adding a new Section 17-109,
12 entitled "Local Bidding Preferences."

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
14 agrees.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill 030098,
16 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
17 to the qualified electors of the City of
18 Philadelphia of an amendment to the Philadelphia
19 Home Rule Charter to establish that a bid preference
20 can be allowed in the awarding of public contracts
21 to Philadelphia firms.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
23 agrees.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030115,
25 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission

1 04/25/03 - STATED - FIRST READING

2 to the qualified electors of the City of
3 Philadelphia of an amendment to Section 8-200 and
4 8-201 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating
5 to contracts and concessions for which competitive
6 bidding is required.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
8 agrees.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030178,
10 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
11 to the qualified electors of the City of
12 Philadelphia of an amendment to Section 5-300 of the
13 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, by adding a new
14 Subsection F, as approved by resolution of City
15 Council requiring that the Health Department to
16 prepare a plan for universal health care coverage.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
18 agrees.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030220,
20 entitled an ordinance providing for the submission
21 to the qualified electors of the City of
22 Philadelphia of an amendment to the Philadelphia
23 Home Rule Charter and creating the Office of the
24 Insurance Public Advocate.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair

1 04/25/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 agrees.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 020809,
4 an ordinance amending Title 9 of the Philadelphia
5 Code relating the regulation of businesses, trades,
6 and professions, by amending Chapter 9-1300,
7 entitled "Home Inspection Businesses," by making
8 certain changes to the license requirements, all
9 under certain terms and conditions.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
11 agrees.

12 The bills just read by the Chief Clerk
13 will be placed on the Second Reading and Final
14 Passage Calendar for our next Session.

15 That concludes our First Reading
16 Calendar.

17 The Chair at this time recognizes
18 Councilwoman Blackwell for the purpose of calling
19 bills up on the Second Reading and Final Passage
20 Calendar.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
22 Madam President. There are no bills being called up
23 for second reading and final passage today.

24 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair thanks
25 the Councilwoman. The Chief Clerk will please read

1 04/25/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 the title of Resolution No. 030234.

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

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
7 recognizes.

8 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
9 President. I call for adoption of the resolution.
10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: It has been moved
12 and properly seconded that Resolution No. 030234 be
13 adopted.

14 All in favor will indicate by saying
15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?
18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
20 it, and Resolution No. 030234 has been adopted.

21 The Chief Clerk will please read the
22 title of Resolution No. 000691.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution calling
24 for hearings into the micro enterprise development
25 and neighborhood self-employment as an economic

1 04/25/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 development strategy in the City of Philadelphia.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
4 recognizes Councilman Goode.

5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
6 President. I move for the adoption.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has been
8 moved and properly seconded that the Resolution No.
9 000691 be adopted.

10 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?
13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
15 it, and Resolution No. 000691 has been adopted.

16 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Madam President.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Councilman
18 DiCicco.

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Madam President, I
20 need to leave the Chambers for few minutes. I will
21 be returning, but in my absence I'd like to be
22 recorded as voting yes on all bills and resolutions.

23 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Thank you.

24 The Chief Clerk will please read the
25 title of Resolution No. 020522.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Resolution authorizing
3 the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development
4 to holdings into the current state of community
5 reinvestment by City depository banks within low
6 income and minority neighborhoods in the City of
7 Philadelphia and authorizing the Committee to issue
8 subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and
9 production of documents and other evidence.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
11 recognizes Councilman Goode.

12 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
13 President. I move for of the adoption.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has moved and
16 properly seconded that Resolution No. 020522 be
17 adopted.

18 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?
21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
23 it and Resolution No. 020522 has been adopted.

24 The Chief Clerk will please read the
25 title of Resolution No. 030038.

1 04/25/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution calling
3 for on the Philadelphia Workforce Development
4 Corporation to conduct a needs assessment of
5 training opportunities within the buildings and
6 construction trades and to hold hearings into the
7 state of training opportunities for minorities and
8 women in the Philadelphia building and construction
9 trades.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
11 recognizes Councilman Goode.

12 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
13 President. I move for the adoption.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been
16 moved and properly seconded that Resolution No.
17 00038 be adopted.

18 All in favor will indicate by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?
22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
24 it, and Resolution No. 030038 has been adopted.

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: That concludes our

1 04/25/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Calendar.

3 Are there speeches on the part of the
4 Minority?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Are there speeches
7 on the part Majority?

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

9 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I just have to note
10 for the record the terrible thing that was done to
11 the image of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by the
12 comments made by Senator Santorum. Those comments
13 were not only abusive of the rights of gay, lesbian,
14 and transgender groups, but really he did a terrible
15 disservice to all the people of Philadelphia, to
16 place us in condition where one of our United States
17 senators represents one of the most repressive views
18 in the country. We hope he will see the error of
19 his ways and apologize so that Philadelphia and
20 Pennsylvania can once more be restored to being a
21 state where people have common sense and good
22 judgment. Thank you, Madam President.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

24 Are there any other speeches on the part
25 of the Majority?

1 04/25/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Seeing none,
4 the Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

5 COUNCILWOMAN TESCO: Madam President, I
6 move that Council stand adjourned until Thursday,
7 May 1st at 10:00 a.m.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Do I here a
9 second?

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: It has been moved
12 and properly seconded that Council stand adjourned
13 Thursday May 1, 2003, at 10:00 a.m.

14 All in favor will say aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: All those
17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
20 it and motion carries.

21 (Council adjourned at 12:45 p.m.)

22 - - -

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of April 25, 2003, were reported fully
and accurately by me, and that this is a correct
transcript of the same.

RE: STATED MEETING

Lisa C. Bradley, RPR
and Notary Public