Thursday, September 25, 2008

EXCUSED: 1 - Councilmember Green

PRESENT: 16 - Councilmembers Blackwell, Clarke, Council President Verna, DiCicco, Goode, Greenlee, Jones, Kelly, Kenney, Krajewski, Miller, O'Neill, Reynolds Brown, Rizzo, Sanchez and Tasco

Council met, a quorum being present.

Iman Fraid Rasool of Majilis Ash-Shura of Philadelphia and Delaware Valley Church was introduced and offered an appropriate prayer.

COUNCILMEMBER TASCO MOVED TO APPROVE THE JOURNAL

of the meeting of September 18, 2008

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.

Councilmember Tasco requested leave of absence for

Councilmember Green

THE REQUEST WAS GRANTED.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Sergeant-at-Arms presented messages from the Mayor as follows:

- Transmitting a message advising Council that Bill Nos. 080251, 080380-A and 080543, which were passed by Council on September 18, 2008, were signed by the Mayor on September 24, 2008. (File No. 080740)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Kenney Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Kenney:

- **Resolution No. 080726:** Resolution Authorizing City Council's Legislative Oversight Committee to hold public hearings on implementing department-specific computerized ethics training programs designed to equip all City officials, employees and appointees with the ethics knowledge needed to make better decisions and take appropriate actions.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED & REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT.

Councilmember Blackwell Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Blackwell:

- **Resolution No. 080727:** Resolution Recognizing the Week of October 13, 2008 as Certified Nursing Assistants Week in the City of Philadelphia.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Tasco Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Tasco:

- **Resolution No. 080728:** Resolution Authorizing the Council Committee on Public Health and Human Services to hold hearings regarding the health, financial, and quality of life issues of veterans.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

DISCUSSION - COUNCILMEMBER TASCO - RESOLUTION NO. 080728 - (SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY)

- **Resolution No. 080728:** Resolution Authorizing the Council Committee on Public Health and Human Services to hold hearings regarding the health, financial, and quality of life issues of veterans.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED & REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

Councilmember Tasco Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmembers Tasco and Sanchez:

- **Resolution No. 080729:** Resolution Authorizing the Council Committee on Public Health and Human Services to hold hearings regarding reverse mortgages.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

DISCUSSION - COUNCILMEMBER TASCO - RESOLUTION NO. 080729 - (SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY)

- **Resolution No. 080729:** Resolution Authorizing the Council Committee on Public Health and Human Services to hold hearings regarding reverse mortgages.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED & REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

Councilmember Tasco Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmembers Tasco and Miller:

- **Resolution No. 080730:** Resolution Honoring the Olympic Gold Medalist Cullen Jones Diversity Tour and Declaring October 18, 2008 as "Cullen Jones Day" in the City of Philadelphia.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Tasco Introduced the following Resolution for Councilmember Council President Verna, Sponsored by Councilmember Tasco:

- **Resolution No. 080731:** Resolution Authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia, without consideration, deeds conveying conditional fee simple title to certain City-owned lots or pieces of ground with the buildings and improvements thereon, situate in the Thirty-sixth Ward of the City of Philadelphia, pursuant to Chapter 16-400 of The Philadelphia Code and authorizing the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia to dispose of such properties for rehabilitation and/or improvement in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-400 of The Philadelphia Code.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Miller Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Miller:

- **Resolution No. 080732:** Resolution Authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia, without consideration, deeds conveying conditional fee simple title to certain City-owned lots or pieces of ground with the buildings and improvements thereon, situate in the Eleventh and Fifty-ninth Ward of the City

of Philadelphia, pursuant to Chapter 16-400 of The Philadelphia Code and authorizing the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia to dispose of such properties for rehabilitation and/or improvement in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-400 of The Philadelphia Code.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Sanchez Introduced the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Sanchez:

- **Bill No. 080721:** An Ordinance Terminating the Frankford Special Services District ("District"), a neighborhood improvement district, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES.

Councilmember Sanchez Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Sanchez:

- **Resolution No. 080733:** Resolution Initiating action requesting the termination of the Frankford Special Services District ("District"), a neighborhood improvement district, and authorizing and directing the Committee on Rules and the Clerk of Council to take all actions required by the Community and Economic Improvement Act prior to enactment of an ordinance that would formally terminate the District.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED & REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES.

Councilmember Jones Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Jones:

- **Resolution No. 080734:** Resolution Honoring, Recognizing and Congratulating the Philadelphia Neighborhoods Manayunk and Overbrook Farms for being selected by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission as "Classic Towns of Greater Philadelphia."

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Jones Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmembers Jones and Blackwell:

on Public Health and Human Services and Housing, Neighborhood Development and the Homeless to hold joint hearings on how the Aging in Place model could strengthen Philadelphia neighborhoods by providing supports and services to seniors in their own homes.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

DISCUSSION - COUNCILMEMBER JONES - RESOLUTION NO. 080735 - (SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY)

Resolution No. 080735: Resolution Authorizing the City Council's Committees on Public Health and Human Services and Housing, Neighborhood Development and the Homeless to hold joint hearings on how the Aging in Place model could strengthen Philadelphia neighborhoods by providing supports and services to seniors in their own homes.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED & REFERRED TO THE JOINT COMMITTEES ON HOUSING, NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND THE HOMELESS & PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

Councilmember Reynolds Brown Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Reynolds Brown:

Resolution No. 080736: Resolution Recognizing September 27, 2008 as *Green Jobs Now:* A National Day of Action to Build the New Economy in Philadelphia.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Reynolds Brown Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Reynolds Brown:

Resolution No. 080737: Resolution Recognizing October as Philly Plays SCRABBLE Month.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Reynolds Brown Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Reynolds Brown:

Resolution No. 080738: Resolution Honoring Operation Warm on the occasion of celebrating their Tenth Anniversary and distribution of 500,000 new winter coats.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember DiCicco Introduced the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember DiCicco:

- **Bill No. 080722:** An Ordinance Amending Title 12 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "Traffic Code," by prohibiting the operation of a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle with certain types of aftermarket mufflers, and by prohibiting businesses and other persons from installing such prohibited types of aftermarket mufflers, and providing for fines and penalties; and amending Chapter 19-2600 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "Business Privilege Taxes," by providing for the revocation of the business privilege license of a business that violates the prohibition against the installation of certain prohibited mufflers; all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES.

Councilmember Clarke Introduced the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmembers Clarke, DiCicco, Kelly, O'Neill, Miller, Tasco, Krajewski, Greenlee, Blackwell, Kenney, Reynolds Brown, Jones and Rizzo:

- **Bill No. 080723:** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19-1300 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "Real Estate Taxes," to provide for a homestead exemption with respect to City real property tax, under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Councilmember Clarke Introduced the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Clarke:

- **Bill No. 080724:** An Ordinance Amending Section 14-305 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "'C-4' Commercial and 'C-5' Commercial Districts," by negating any setback over 65 feet in height for lots designated "C-5" in the area bounded by 15th Street and Arch Street (Benjamin Franklin Parkway), Cherry Street and 16th Streetinsrsid4011261 and by increasing the permitted floor area for such lots building floor plate reduction.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES.

Councilmember Clarke Introduced the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Clarke:

- **Bill No. 080725:** An Ordinance Authorizing the revision of lines and grades on a

portion of City Plan No. 120 by striking from the City Plan and vacating Cleveland Street from Girard Avenue to Stiles Street, under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES.

Councilmember Kelly Introduced the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Kelly:

Resolution No. 080739: Resolution Thanking The Members Of The Pennsylvania General Assembly Who Supported House Bill 2525 Which Will Dramatically Improve Conditions For Dogs Kept In Pennsylvania Commercial Kennels & Urging The Pennsylvania State Senate To Promptly Pass This Bill In Its Current Form.

THE RESOLUTION WAS READ.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON RULES

Bill No. 080376, as amended: An Ordinance Establishing a neighborhood improvement district in an area that generally includes Cheltenham Avenue with boundaries of Wadsworth Avenue on the west and Broad Street on the east, Ogontz Avenue with boundaries of Cheltenham Avenue on the north and 67th Avenue on the south and Wadsworth Avenue with boundaries of Cheltenham Avenue on the northeast and Michener Avenue on the southwest; to be known as The Greater Cheltenham Avenue Business Improvement District; designating Greater Cheltenham Avenue Business Improvement District Inc., a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation, as the Neighborhood Improvement District Management Association for the District; approving a plan for the District, including a list of proposed improvements and their estimated cost, and providing for assessment fees to be levied on property owners within the District; authorizing the Director of Commerce, on behalf of the City, to execute an agreement with Greater Cheltenham Avenue Business Improvement District Inc. relating to the District; and authorizing Greater Cheltenham Avenue Business Improvement District Inc., to assess property owners within the District a special property assessment fee to be used in accordance with the approved plan, all in accordance with the provisions of the Community and Economic Improvement Act and under certain terms and conditions.

COUNCILMEMBER KENNEY MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE COUNCIL SO AS TO

PERMIT CONSIDERATION THIS DAY OF BILL NO. 080376.

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.

THE BILL WAS ORDERED PLACED ON THIS DAY`S FIRST READING CALENDAR.

CONSIDERATION OF THE CALENDAR

CONSIDERATION OF THE CALENDAR

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Bill No. 080376, as amended: An Ordinance Establishing a neighborhood improvement district in an area that generally includes Cheltenham Avenue with boundaries of Wadsworth Avenue on the west and Broad Street on the east, Ogontz Avenue with boundaries of Cheltenham Avenue on the north and 67th Avenue on the south and Wadsworth Avenue with boundaries of Cheltenham Avenue on the northeast and Michener Avenue on the southwest; to be known as The Greater Cheltenham Avenue Business Improvement District; designating Greater Cheltenham Avenue Business Improvement District Inc., a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation, as the Neighborhood Improvement District Management Association for the District; approving a plan for the District, including a list of proposed improvements and their estimated cost, and providing for assessment fees to be levied on property owners within the District; authorizing the Director of Commerce, on behalf of the City, to execute an agreement with Greater Cheltenham Avenue Business Improvement District Inc. relating to the District; and authorizing Greater Cheltenham Avenue Business Improvement District Inc., to assess property owners within the District a special property assessment fee to be used in accordance with the approved plan, all in accordance with the provisions of the Community and Economic Improvement Act and under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS ORDERED PLACED ON NEXT WEEK`S SECOND READING CALENDAR.

SPEECHES

COUNCILMEMBERS: KELLY, GOODE, GREENLEE, MILLER, - (SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY)

COUNCILMEMBER CLARKE MOVED TO ADJOURN

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.

The Ayes and Nays were as follows: