

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, April 18, 2013
10:20 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL
COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.
COUNCILMAN BILL GREEN
COUNCILMAN WILLIAM K. GREENLEE
COUNCILMAN BOBBY HENON
COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
COUNCILMAN JAMES KENNEY
COUNCILMAN DENNIS O'BRIEN
COUNCILMAN DAVID OH
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILWOMAN MARIA D. QUINONES-SANCHEZ
COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA
COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO

MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning, everyone.

4 (Good morning.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
6 We've established a quorum. I'd ask all
7 guests and visitors to please retire
8 behind the rail and members to take their
9 seat. Thank you so much.

10 To give our invocation this
11 morning, the Chair recognizes the
12 Reverend Kathleen Murray, a longtime
13 friend of ours, Deacon of St. Clement's
14 Episcopal Church of New York and senior
15 at the General Theological Seminary of
16 New York. She is here today as the guest
17 of Councilman Squilla.

18 All guests and visitors, please
19 rise.

20 REVEREND MURRAY: Good morning.
21 I bet you never thought you'd see me on
22 this side of it.

23 Eternal God, founder of all
24 wisdom, giver of light and life, we give
25 you thanks for the dedicated labors of

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2 this City Council and all that its
3 members do to govern our great City of
4 Philadelphia.

5 Help these dedicated men and
6 women to make and keep this city a home
7 for all its different peoples, and grant
8 to our Councilmembers and their staff
9 imagination, skill, and energy to address
10 the many needs across this great city.

11 Bless these leaders that they
12 may serve to bring peace among ourselves
13 and be a blessing to others. Grant that
14 through their discussions and decisions,
15 we may solve our problems effectively,
16 enhance the well-being of our city, and
17 achieve a fairer and more united society.

18 Give them insight, courage, and
19 compassion and grant that we give them
20 the support and affection that they need
21 so all may be strengthened. Send down
22 upon each member the spirit of wisdom,
23 charity, and justice that with steadfast
24 purpose, they may faithfully serve in
25 their offices to promote the well-being,

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2 respect, and concern of all people.

3 We ask this all for your sake
4 and in your holy name.

5 Amen.

6 (Amen.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you very much.

9 Council will be at ease.

10 (Council at ease.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you so much. Thank you.

13 The next order of business is
14 the approval of the Journal of the
15 meeting of Thursday, April 11th, 2013.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Greenlee.

18 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
19 you, Mr. President. I move that the
20 Journal of the meeting of Thursday, April
21 11th, 2013 be approved.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It
24 has been moved and properly seconded that
25 the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,

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2 April 11th, 2013 stand approved.

3 All those in favor please say
4 aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Those opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 ayes have it. The Journal is approved.

11 The next order of business is
12 requests for leaves of absence.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Jones.

15 COUNCILMAN JONES: On behalf of
16 the majority, there are no requests for
17 leaves of absence today. Thank you,
18 Mr. President.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you, sir.

21 The Chair now recognizes
22 Councilman O'Neill.

23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Thank you,
24 Mr. President. On behalf of the
25 republicans, there are no requests for

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2 leave of absence.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you so much.

5 At this time, I would like to
6 dispense with the regular order of
7 business to welcome and thank all of our
8 guests and visitors here today. We
9 really appreciate the fact that you've
10 taken time out of your day to come down
11 to see your government in action. We
12 hope your stay here is an enjoyable one,
13 so much so that you come back again. So,
14 again, thank you very much.

15 At this time, the Chair
16 recognizes Councilman Jones, who will
17 present a resolution on my behalf
18 honoring the Cecil B. Moore Philadelphia
19 Freedom Fighters. Would Mr. Mel Dorn and
20 those accompanying him please join the
21 Councilman at the podium.

22 I see we also have joining the
23 Councilman Councilman Greenlee and
24 Councilman Johnson.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES: It is an

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2 extreme honor to on behalf --

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Hold

4 on a second, Councilman.

5 Please have your voices

6 lowered, please. Thank you.

7 COUNCILMAN JONES: It is an

8 extreme honor to present this

9 citation/proclamation on behalf of our

10 President of City Council. If we were

11 looking at political DNA and were to

12 trace back from the President of this

13 body to the past President of this body

14 to a 5th Councilmember by the name of

15 Cecil B. Moore, his direct lineage,

16 politically speaking, comes from this man

17 we will honor today.

18 I've had a personal privilege

19 of -- for those of you who have been

20 around a while in this body, there used

21 to be a delicatessen called Miller's Inn

22 at 13th and Filbert where the Justice

23 Center now stands, and I used to deliver

24 orders to this building and to Cecil B.

25 Moore. And I want to put on the record

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2 forever to know that he was a great
3 tipper.

4 So on behalf of the President
5 of City Council, we'd like to honor and
6 recognize Cecil B. Moore Philadelphia
7 Freedom Fighters for their commitment to
8 the Philadelphia civil rights movement
9 and dedication to preserving the memory
10 of the legacy of one of Philadelphia's
11 most notable civil rights activists,
12 Cecil B. Moore.

13 Whereas -- you can clap on
14 that.

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Whereas, the
17 Council of the City of Philadelphia is
18 pleased and proud to honor and recognize
19 the Cecil B. Moore Philadelphia Freedom
20 Fighters for their commitment to the
21 Philadelphia civil rights movement and
22 dedication to preserving the memory and
23 legacy of one of Philadelphia's most
24 notable civil rights activists, Cecil B.
25 Moore.

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2 Whereas, Cecil B. Moore was a
3 Philadelphia lawyer and civil rights
4 activist, known for his historic fight
5 for justice, equality, and in the
6 promotion of racial harmony in the City
7 of Philadelphia. Cecil B. Moore served
8 North Philadelphia and the 5th
9 Councilmanic District as Councilman from
10 January 5th, 1976 to February 13th, 1979;
11 and

12 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: And he
13 was my City Councilman, by the way.

14 Whereas, Cecil B. Moore
15 successfully fought for the inclusion of
16 African Americans in previously
17 segregated institutions and businesses,
18 such as Girard College, commercial bus
19 companies, the airline industry, and the
20 Post Office. Under his leadership, Cecil
21 B. Moore grew the largest chapter of the
22 NAACP in the nation, swelling the chapter
23 from 6,000 to 32,000 members in a single
24 year; and

25 Whereas, the Cecil B. Moore

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2 Philadelphia Freedom Fighters, previously
3 known as the "Young Militants" have
4 remained committed to social activism and
5 equality for all Philadelphians since the
6 1960s Civil Right movement through
7 picketing, sit-ins, and the general
8 protest; and

9 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Whereas,
10 the Cecil B. Moore Philadelphia Freedom
11 Fighters include as members Mel Dorn,
12 Eugene "Freedom Tree" Dawkins, Kenneth
13 "Freedom Smitty" Salaam, Karen
14 Asper-Jordan, Richard J. Watson, Deborah
15 Mills Batchelor, Bernyce C. Mills
16 DeVaughn, Lester Green, Gary Adams, Henry
17 Reddy, Billy Paul, Arlene Jones and James
18 Hammonton;

19 Whereas, the Cecil B. Moore
20 Philadelphia Freedom Fighters have
21 meticulously and with great pride upheld
22 the legacy of Cecil B. Moore, his
23 efforts, his name, and his character
24 throughout the City of Philadelphia;

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: And

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2 whereas, the Cecil B. Moore Philadelphia
3 Freedom Fighters with the support of then
4 Councilman, and former Mayor, John F.
5 Street and former Mayor W. Wilson Goode,
6 successfully lobbied for a bill in 1979
7 in honor of the Honorable Cecil B. Moore,
8 renaming the street signs on Columbia
9 Avenue to Cecil B. Moore; and

10 Whereas, the Cecil B. Moore
11 Philadelphia Freedom Fighters have
12 demonstrated continued diligence and
13 efforts of inclusion by ensuring the
14 Cecil B. Moore Mural Arts on the 17th
15 Street be included in the Mural Arts City
16 Tour; and

17 Whereas, the Cecil B. Moore
18 Philadelphia Freedom Fighters have
19 attained another victory, preventing
20 SEPTA from abbreviating signage on the
21 number 3 bus, and area street signs, from
22 reading C.B. Moore and instead displaying
23 the activist's full name of Cecil B.
24 Moore. The members of the Cecil B. Moore
25 Philadelphia Freedom Fighters have

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2 dedicated their time, energy, and in some
3 cases money, to the continued
4 appreciation of Cecil B. Moore and
5 acknowledgment of his struggle;

6 COUNCILMAN JONES: Scared of
7 them.

8 Now therefore be it resolved,
9 by the Council of the City of
10 Philadelphia, that Cecil B. Moore
11 Philadelphia Freedom Fighters be honored
12 and recognized for their integrity,
13 dedication, and continued efforts to
14 promulgating the legacy of Cecil B.
15 Moore.

16 Be it also resolved that an
17 engrossed copy of this resolution be
18 presented to Cecil B. Moore Philadelphia
19 Freedom Fighters as evidence of our
20 sincere sentiment of all of this
21 legislative body.

22 Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: At
25 this time, I would like to recognize

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2 Mr. Dorn for remarks. The Chair
3 recognizes Mr. Dorn for remarks, or
4 whoever you all so may choose.

5 MR. DORN: Whoever thought
6 somebody cared about what we do? We try
7 to do the right thing, but who cares.
8 For today, the City of Philadelphia
9 showed, showing us that they care. Been
10 caring for a long time. You just don't
11 know who is watching you. We got Girard
12 College students back there.

13 Stand up, please.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. DORN: Jubilee children
16 from Jubilee School, please stand up.
17 Jubilee kids also.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. DORN: Why? Because we
20 care.

21 We thank you so very much for
22 this opportunity. Thank you on behalf of
23 all the Freedom Fighters. We love you.
24 And I ask that you do one thing for me,
25 keep on spreading love, will you, please.

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2 Thank you.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All
4 right. Thank you.

5 (Council at ease.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
7 Thank you so much. Truly inspiring.

8 At this time, the Chair
9 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell, who
10 will present a resolution recognizing
11 Mr. Charles Ireland. Would Mr. Ireland
12 and those accompanying him please join
13 the Councilwoman at the podium.

14 And joining the Councilwoman is
15 Councilman Kenney.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
17 you very much. With Principal Ireland
18 will be his wife, Ms. Sheila Ireland, and
19 also Isabel Mapp from the Netter Center
20 for Community Partnerships and others.
21 I'm sorry, but we welcome you all. We
22 welcome you all.

23 This is a special privilege for
24 me. Not only is this school in my area,
25 but it is a school where a member of my

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2 family --

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Councilwoman, hold on a second.

5 Folks, can we have your voices
6 down, please.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Where
8 a member of my family -- thank you,
9 Mr. President -- my sister attended, who
10 is now a principal and where she also
11 taught in earlier years.

12 So we are really, really
13 pleased. This is an example of what
14 principals can and should be.

15 Resolution recognizing
16 Mr. Charles Ireland, Principal of Sayre
17 High School, for his life-long dedication
18 to the field of education and applauding
19 and supporting his continued ingenuity,
20 passion, and goals for students, goals
21 for parents, teachers, and communities
22 alike.

23 Whereas, Principal Ireland grew
24 up in West Philadelphia on the 5900 block
25 of Pine Street, which is right near the

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2 school, as you know, with his parents,
3 who to this day live in the same home.
4 They are here. They live like two blocks
5 from the school itself, and they are here
6 with him today.

7 Whereas, each member of
8 Mr. Ireland's immediate family are in the
9 field of education: his father a retired
10 motivation coordinator teacher, his
11 mother a retired English teacher -- that
12 was my field -- one sister a biology
13 teacher, and the other sister a special
14 education teacher; and

15 Whereas, Mr. Ireland earned an
16 associate degree in natural science from
17 Delaware County Community College, a
18 biology degree from Cheyney University,
19 my alma mater, and his master's degree in
20 educational leadership from Lehigh
21 University; and

22 Whereas, Principal Ireland aims
23 to structure Sayre High School's
24 curriculum to meet entry requirements for
25 local universities; and

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2 Whereas, in order to create
3 such a curriculum, Mr. Ireland plans to
4 actively engage the community so as to
5 bring in all available resources from the
6 surrounding area's established
7 institutions; and

8 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Whereas, by
9 partnering with such entities as the
10 Netter Center for Community Partnerships
11 at the University of Pennsylvania, the
12 Hospital of the University of
13 Pennsylvania, the Children's Hospital of
14 Philadelphia, and the Cobbs Creek
15 Community Environmental Education Center,
16 Principal Ireland plans to transform
17 Sayre High School into a Health and
18 Science Academy; and

19 Whereas, the goal of the Health
20 and Science Academy would be for it to be
21 an inclusive environment as it would
22 provide academic options for students of
23 all abilities;

24 Whereas, Principal Ireland
25 plans to invest heavily into

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2 extracurricular activities such as a
3 student body government, talent shows,
4 and various boys and girls sports teams;
5 and

6 Whereas, in part, the success
7 of Principal Ireland can be traced to his
8 belief that, quote, "environment is not
9 the sole predictor for on outcome, it is
10 what you do that makes a difference," end
11 quote; now therefore, be it

12 Resolved, that the Philadelphia
13 City Council recognizes Mr. Charles
14 Ireland, Principal of Sayre High School,
15 for his life-long dedication to the field
16 of education and applauding and
17 supporting his continued ingenuity,
18 passion, and goals for students, parents,
19 teachers, and the community alike.

20 Thank you and congratulations.

21 (Applause.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
23 Chair recognizes Mr. Ireland for remarks.

24 MR. IRELAND: I'd like to thank
25 all of you, and I think -- I'm going to

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2 be very brief, but first and foremost, we
3 have to give precious thanks to God, our
4 creator, who has allowed me to make it
5 this far. Coming through West
6 Philadelphia is not an easy route.

7 So I'd also like to thank my
8 wife and my family who have supported me
9 as needed through thick and thin. I'd
10 also like to thank one of public
11 education's most ardent supporters. I
12 think we would be remiss if we do not
13 thank Councilperson Jannie Blackwell, who
14 has fought and tirelessly fights for our
15 children.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. IRELAND: I joined that
18 fight about 16 years ago, but I'm just
19 getting started. We have a lot of work
20 to do.

21 I'll tell you a little bit
22 about where we're going with Sayre High
23 School. We're a typical struggling
24 comprehensive high school, similar to
25 many in all of the large urban districts.

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2 Sayre has had three principals in four
3 years. That's not a recipe for success.
4 That's a recipe for disaster. We need
5 stability, and all educational
6 institutions need a clear vision,
7 committed teachers, administrators, and
8 support staff, along with committed
9 students and parents to make the
10 community of education work.

11 So I stand before you today as
12 an example of that commitment. I'm a
13 product of West Philadelphia and the
14 Philadelphia school system, grew up three
15 blocks from Sayre High School on Pine
16 Street, learned how to play basketball in
17 the schoolyard, had many a scuffle and
18 many a joyous time right there in that
19 schoolyard.

20 As a typical teenager, never
21 thought my destiny was to help my own
22 neighborhood. I thought I was supposed
23 to go to college, make a million dollars
24 and move on up like the proverbial George
25 and Weezy, but God has another plan.

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2 So I've been meeting with every
3 constituent possible to help us along
4 this path, and here is what we're doing.
5 We're instilling a common vision that
6 focuses our school on allied health
7 education. There are no career and
8 technical education high schools in all
9 of West Philadelphia. There are no
10 health-oriented high schools in West
11 Philadelphia. And West Philadelphia
12 comprises the largest concentration of
13 healthcare delivery systems in the
14 tri-state area. So there's something
15 missing.

16 We're creating the new William
17 L. Sayre Allied Health and Life Sciences
18 Academy, and we have three internal
19 academies that we're creating. We're
20 going to have the Allied Health Academy,
21 which is health-related technology, which
22 is pre-nursing. Students have an
23 opportunity to earn their certified
24 medical assistant certification and be
25 prepared for college. A community health

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2 pathway, which is new and interesting,
3 because we're going to focus on public
4 health issues in the local community.
5 We're also starting an environmental
6 academy, and in that academy we're going
7 to focus on natural resources management,
8 which are green jobs, urban gardening,
9 and aquaponics, and there's a
10 certification with that, which is called
11 the PEACE Certification, Pennsylvania
12 Environmental Agricultural Conservation
13 Certificate. So there are certificate
14 options and pre-college options. And,
15 lastly, we'll have a freshman academy.

16 But we're doing this because
17 our school already has a mature health
18 center inside the school servicing 30 to
19 40 patients every day. So we're not
20 starting something brand new. We're
21 building on the existing assets.

22 The dental chair in the health
23 center is booked so far in advance that
24 it takes over a month to be scheduled.
25 That's a problem. That means there's a

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2 need.

3 Dr. Breen, Mr. Carey, and Kenya
4 Hall are all training our students in
5 that clinic now in how to pass their CMA
6 exam and be prepared for college.

7 Our school also has another
8 interesting asset, an Olympic-sized
9 swimming pool in the Sayre Rec Center. A
10 lot of us may have gone to the Sayre Rec
11 Center, as I did all of my youth, never
12 knew the pool was owned by the District.
13 So we need to capitalize on that asset.

14 So to twist the use of it,
15 we're going to have -- we're going to
16 bring back a swim team, but we're also
17 going to offer scuba lessons. And our
18 school also has four squash courts.
19 Who'd have thought inside the basement of
20 the school.

21 So we've begun work again with
22 another partner, Squashsmarts, to offer
23 squash programs for our students and for
24 community members. We also have a
25 meeting coming up where we're going to

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2 talk about starting a lacrosse program,
3 and again offer that for the community
4 and the students.

5 We have reignited a deep
6 partnership with the University of
7 Pennsylvania, as evidenced by Isabel Mapp
8 who is here with us today from the Netter
9 Center. It's one thing to have a
10 partnership. It's another thing to
11 activate it and to put your time, talent,
12 and treasury to use. So we reignited
13 that partnership, and it is going forward
14 very quickly. So we do after-school
15 programming, during-school content
16 support.

17 We have a special shout-out
18 that we have to give to Corey and Ira of
19 the Netter Center. They lead the Netter
20 Center, and without them and that vision,
21 this partnership really wouldn't have
22 come to the level that it is now.

23 The last piece for the U Penn
24 is the class of 1980. The class of 1980
25 at University of Penn, with the

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2 leadership of Isabel Mapp, has actually
3 come back in the school, has brought our
4 students to this great body, has brought
5 our students to the Barnes Foundation,
6 has used their contacts to open doors
7 that our students would not usually have
8 access to. That is valuable, but they do
9 it with themselves and their time,
10 talent, and treasury, not just phone
11 calls.

12 We've created a new partnership
13 with the University of the Sciences,
14 which has now begun to bear fruit, and
15 that's an interesting one. Dr. Cathy
16 Poon at University of the Sciences has
17 been a supporter since day one. I've met
18 with the new President, Dr. Giles-Gee.
19 She's a supporter. We've done tours with
20 the kids. We're performing. We're
21 beginning a new mentoring program with
22 them. We're also in discussions about
23 trying to build something physical, more
24 substantial inside the school.

25 So plan: Year one, short-term

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2 plan, we're focusing on project-based
3 learning, allied health offerings. We've
4 talked about that. A family health
5 clinic where we're going to offer
6 internships, because we already have the
7 clinic. So we're going to allow our
8 students to do internships and working
9 with the community members. Swim teams,
10 scuba, bringing music back.

11 And another thing that we
12 brought back is, we have a young man,
13 Daniel, who leads a prayer group during
14 lunch. They come into a room. He leads
15 it. We have a parent group. We have the
16 Mom's Squad, who comes in and leads
17 organizations -- leads kids in prayer and
18 also leads kids in organizational
19 structure, telling kids how to be a man,
20 how to be a woman, what does it mean,
21 coming from mom, coming from dad.

22 We also have an increased --
23 we're going to see increased performance
24 on our exams, and we also have online
25 support that we're going to deal with A

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2 Plus.

3 So three years, the big
4 picture, authentic allied health
5 education, prepping students for college
6 and jobs. All of this delivered and
7 supported by Sayre Health and Life
8 Science Academy students.

9 So as you can see, I'm very
10 excited and thankful that Councilperson
11 Blackwell has believed in this vision and
12 supported us from day one when it was
13 just that, a thought. So with that, I
14 say I am under no illusion that this is
15 going to be easy or simple. This is no
16 longer a job. This is my purpose, and I
17 ask all of you for help. Help us make
18 this work. Partner with us.

19 So I thank you. I truly
20 appreciate this opportunity. You know I
21 got to get back to my chillins, but,
22 again, I would ask you, please, partner
23 with us, help us, and if you see a
24 student going astray, talk to them. Talk
25 to them.

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2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you.

6 Council will be at ease.

7 (Council at ease.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you. Before we move on to our next
10 presentation, the Chair recognizes
11 Councilman Jones.

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
13 Mr. President. I'd like to recognize a
14 group of young men from RISE that have
15 graced the Chambers today to see how
16 government is run and hopefully be
17 inspired to some day take all of our
18 places.

19 Would they please stand.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you. And I want to acknowledge
23 that we have a couple of ladies in the
24 crowd also. Thank you so much for being
25 here today.

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2 Thank you, Councilman.

3 At this time, the Chair
4 recognizes Councilman Oh, who will
5 present a resolution recognizing Rock
6 Ministries. Would Buddy Osborn and those
7 accompanying him please join the
8 Councilman at the podium.

9 And joining Councilman Oh we
10 have Councilman Squilla, Councilman
11 Jones, and Councilman Henon.

12 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very
13 much, Mr. President.

14 As they approach the podium, I
15 would like to just make some introductory
16 comments.

17 Rock Ministries is a ministry
18 above all else. It is a church, a place
19 of God. But this is a very special kind
20 of place. It deals with the most
21 difficult, most challenged young people
22 in our city. And I'd like to share an
23 example.

24 I remember a young boy. He was
25 called the one-armed boxer. He's a young

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2 Latino boy. He had one arm, and he would
3 fight. And he was a great boxer. One
4 day I learned that he had lost his arm
5 because his father got high and got a
6 shotgun, shot off his arm.

7 So I can imagine the issues
8 that this young boy has growing up and
9 how angry he is, as many young men and
10 women in our city are. And he began to
11 box and he began to fight, but it was not
12 a fight he would ever win. The thing
13 that was saving him was the love that he
14 was receiving, and that's the work that
15 Buddy Osborn does. He is a person who is
16 very humble. He probably thinks to
17 himself that he's not worthy, but I would
18 like to say that God decides who is
19 worthy.

20 So I'm very pleased to
21 recognize and honor Rock Ministries on
22 their Tenth Anniversary of providing a
23 unique combination of sports and faith
24 based programs for at-risk youth in
25 Philadelphia.

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2 Whereas, in 2003, Buddy Osborn,
3 a former Pennsylvania Golden Gloves
4 Champion, formed Rock Ministries to train
5 at-risk young people ages seven to
6 twenty-two as a means of directing their
7 energy away from crime and towards
8 positive competition and self discipline;
9 and

10 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Whereas,
11 Rock Ministries is located in the
12 Kensington section of Philadelphia and
13 began offering a unique combination of
14 boxing training and Bible study for young
15 people, with the belief that when kids
16 connect with God, their lives are
17 changed; and

18 Whereas, Rock Ministries has
19 evolved over time to include faith-based
20 mentoring, computer classes, a homework
21 club, a chess club, art and music
22 classes, all at no cost to the
23 participants; and

24 COUNCILMAN HENON: Whereas,
25 Rock Ministries has provided their

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2 service to more than 4,500 at-risk young
3 people in Philadelphia and average age
4 between 80 -- the average between 80 and
5 100 youth per day taking advantage of the
6 variety of programs that they have to
7 offer.

8 And on a point of personal
9 privilege, coming from the Philadelphia
10 building trades and the building trades'
11 involvement of Rock Ministries from the
12 beginning, I could say that Buddy Osborn,
13 its trainers, and Rock Ministries is on
14 the side of the good angels; and

15 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Whereas,
16 of the young people who have gone through
17 the program of Rock Ministries, 15 have
18 become Golden Gloves Champions and three
19 have become Amateur World Champions;

20 COUNCILMAN JONES: Whereas,
21 through his love of boxing, strong belief
22 in God and tireless dedication to at-risk
23 youth, Buddy Osborn has impacted and
24 transformed the lives of thousands of
25 young people who may have over otherwise

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 been destined for lives in crime and in
3 incarceration; now therefore be it

4 COUNCILMAN OH: Resolved, that
5 the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
6 recognizes and honors Rock Ministries on
7 their Tenth Anniversary of providing a
8 unique combination of sports and
9 faith-based programs for at-risk youth in
10 Philadelphia.

11 Resolved further, than an
12 engrossed copy of this resolution be
13 presented to Rock Ministries as evidence
14 of the respect and admiration of this
15 legislative body for their positive work
16 in our community.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
21 Chair recognizes Mr. Osborn for remarks.

22 MR. OSBORN: Councilman,
23 President, the Council Chambers, I really
24 appreciate this, Councilman Oh. There's
25 a theory that we have in Kensington.

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2 We're situated 35 feet of what's
3 considered the number one drug corner in
4 the City, the top one in the country --
5 top four in the country, five in the
6 country, where 90 percent of the
7 prostitution arrests come from
8 Kensington. I often say this: I'd
9 rather reach a kid on the street block
10 than a prison block.

11 You can -- you take a gun from
12 a kid's hand, he'll replace it with a
13 bat. You take a bat, he'll replace it
14 with a knife. You take his hand, he'll
15 kick you to death. Until the heart
16 changes, we're going to have the same
17 problems constantly in the City, at least
18 in Kensington, but when men and women
19 roll up their sleeves and quietly get
20 involved, positive things happen.

21 We're close to 5,000 kids we're
22 reaching, and we've seen kids now
23 becoming police officers, going to
24 college, and there's just some amazing
25 things that have been taking place. And

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2 one of the scriptures that we use is in
3 Philippians 3:14, and it says, all the
4 kids know, I can do all things through
5 Christ, who strengthens me.

6 Thank you for this award I
7 share with my friends and family.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Thank you.

11 Council will be at ease.

12 (Council at ease.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Thank you so much.

15 At this time, the Chair
16 recognizes Councilman O'Brien, who will
17 present a resolution recognizing April
18 2013 as Autism Awareness Month. Would
19 Dr. Wendy Ross and those accompanying her
20 please join the Councilman at the podium.

21 And joining Councilman O'Brien
22 is Councilman Johnson, Councilwoman
23 Blackwell, and Councilwoman Brown and
24 Councilman Squilla.

25 Please proceed, Councilman.

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2 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you,
3 Mr. President.

4 I'd like to be very positive
5 today, but I would like to outline that
6 we're all aware that we have differences
7 between Harrisburg and Philadelphia on
8 such issues as education, health and
9 human services, and even probation and
10 parole. But the purpose today is to
11 celebrate Philadelphia and its
12 infrastructure, which is people, and the
13 people leading the autism conversation
14 from Philadelphia throughout the world.

15 We've done a lot in
16 Pennsylvania. We created the first
17 Bureau of Autism Services under the
18 leadership of Nina Wall, who can't be
19 here today because she's heading up a
20 strategic plan that is so far beyond what
21 we're talking about and celebrating even
22 here today.

23 But the good things about
24 Philadelphia that we want to take this
25 opportunity to celebrate are the good

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2 services of David Mandell. He runs the
3 Center for Autism Research. Tom Insel
4 from the National Institute of Health
5 told me one day when I was in Washington
6 that there are only seven people on the
7 planet that think like David Mandell.
8 He's taught me to take a problem, strip
9 it of its bias, identify the outcomes,
10 and track it by epidemiology.

11 You have Craig Newschaffer from
12 Drexel University, the preeminent
13 researcher in autism on the planet.

14 And ladies and gentlemen, let
15 me stress this. When you have
16 individuals like this, not only do they
17 do wonderful things in the world of
18 autism, but it's a wonderfully strategic
19 economic development program, because
20 they bring grants here. You have to hire
21 high qualified people to work for these
22 individuals. You have to build buildings
23 for them to habitate while they're doing
24 their good work.

25 You have Lindsay Lawler, who is

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2 behind me, and she runs ASSERT. They're
3 regional centers that hook up to our
4 centers of excellence where we do the
5 research. She manages the scientists.

6 Then we have our own Nancy
7 Minsheu-Cante here. She's the world
8 leading researcher in brain research on
9 autism, and she's in Pittsburgh, but we
10 want to shout out to her. We don't want
11 to forget her. But we also have
12 Dr. Wendy Ross, who is taking a much
13 different approach than ever has been
14 taken before. She has trained the
15 personnel at Philadelphia International
16 Airport. It is the first autism-friendly
17 airport in the world, and now there are
18 other airports that are inviting her to
19 train up their personnel as well. She's
20 done the Smithsonian, the Academy of
21 Natural Sciences. And guess what, ladies
22 and gentlemen, we're here to welcome Eric
23 Tobin and Vanessa Mapson from the
24 Philadelphia Phillies, and let me tell
25 you why. They have -- the Philadelphia

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2 Phillies are making Citizens Bank Park
3 the first autism-friendly sports menu in
4 the world.

5 (Applause.)

6 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: And my
7 good friend.

8 But I also want you to join me
9 in wishing my friend, the Philadelphia
10 Phanatic, one of his biannual birthdays
11 is this Sunday. So happy birthday,
12 Philly Phanatic.

13 (Applause.)

14 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: But the
15 Philadelphia Phillies have opened not
16 only their gates, their resources, and
17 the hearts of Philadelphians to the
18 autism community in an extraordinary way,
19 and in a week the New York Mets in a
20 nationally televised game from the
21 Philadelphia Phillies and the New York
22 Mets are going to celebrate not only that
23 competition that takes place on the ball
24 field with those New York stinking Mets,
25 but also the New York Mets have taken a

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2 section of their stadium, made that
3 available to families and individuals
4 living with autism.

5 We in Philadelphia have trained
6 our whole stadium so individuals with
7 autism can go anywhere and enjoy that
8 sporting venue.

9 This Saturday night is Autism
10 Awareness Night at the Phillies. So we
11 invite everybody to go down and celebrate
12 that as well.

13 What I'm challenging us in this
14 room today to do is get to yes. You see
15 the infrastructure that is represented
16 behind me. They drive this conversation.
17 I would like to invite Anne Marie Ambrose
18 from DHS, Arthur Evans from Behavioral
19 Health, Joan Ernie from CBH, Dr. Hite
20 from the School District, and my good
21 friends Jannie Blackwell in Education and
22 Marian Tasco on Health and Human
23 Services. I know that they're busy
24 people, but if you want to get something
25 done, you give it to a busy person. I

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2 want that collective expertise to come
3 together and build a system, a seamless
4 system, where someone can get diagnosed,
5 they can be assessed, they can be put in
6 a program that habilitates them and makes
7 them successful. That should be our
8 goal, and we should accept nothing less.

9 I also challenge the Greater
10 Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce to join
11 this conversation and celebrate with us
12 by creating opportunities for employment
13 with individuals living with autism.
14 They can make a difference in your
15 organization.

16 I'd also like to challenge in a
17 very, very positive way Independence Blue
18 Cross to drop their lawsuit against Act
19 62, which is the law in the Commonwealth
20 of Pennsylvania, and join us in funding
21 these important services for individuals
22 living with autism. The case is before
23 the Pennsylvania -- they haven't taken it
24 to Pennsylvania Supreme Court. It was
25 dismissed on technicalities. That's

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 wrong, ladies and gentlemen. So I'm
3 giving a shout-out to Dan and my friends
4 at Independence Blue Cross, step up, join
5 the conversation, and let's lean forward
6 and move on.

7 The resolution today is coming
8 together, and I know I get on a little
9 bit about this, but it's something that
10 I'm not going to apologize for, because
11 this is something that can bridge the gap
12 between Philadelphia and Harrisburg and
13 the United States government forever. We
14 can do this. We can do it better than
15 anybody on the planet, and we should be
16 about that business.

17 So ladies and gentlemen, I'd
18 like to read from the resolution.

19 Whereas, April is National
20 Autism Awareness Month. Autism is a
21 spectrum disorder that impairs an
22 individual's ability to learn healthy and
23 socially accepted interactive behaviors
24 and to understand verbal, non-verbal and
25 reciprocal communication; and

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Whereas,
3 in 2012, the Center for Disease Control
4 and Prevention estimated that 1 in every
5 88 children in the United States is on
6 the autism spectrum; and

7 Whereas, the Commonwealth of
8 Pennsylvania has been an international
9 leader in the fight for individuals with
10 autism. Under the Department of Public
11 Welfare, the Office of Developmental
12 Programs was created along with the
13 Bureau of Autism Services; and

14 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Whereas,
15 Philadelphia is the home of cutting edge
16 research, experimental studies finding
17 best strategies and inclusive approaches
18 to mainstream experiences, all of which
19 improve the quality of life for
20 individuals with autism and their
21 families; and

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL:
23 Whereas, David Mandell, director of the
24 Center for Mental Health Policy and
25 Services Research at the University of

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Pennsylvania, is dedicated to increasing
3 the quality of education and healthcare
4 for people with autism in Philadelphia;
5 and

6 Whereas, Dr. Mandell has
7 partnered with the School District of
8 Philadelphia, Elwyn and the Philadelphia
9 Department of Behavioral Health for the
10 last five years to provide training in
11 evidence-based autism prevention to
12 hundreds of professionals serving
13 thousands of children with autism; and

14 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you.

15 Whereas, Craig Newschaffer is the
16 founding director of the A.J. Drexel
17 Autism Institute at Drexel University and
18 a professor in the Department of
19 Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the
20 Drexel University School of Public
21 Health; and

22 Whereas, Dr. Newschaffer and
23 his team have created the first autism
24 research center focused on public health
25 science. Their Early Autism Risk

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Longitudinal Investigation Studies will
3 examine the possible environmental risk
4 factors for autism and study whether
5 there is an interplay between
6 environmental factors and genetic
7 susceptibility; and

8 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Whereas,
9 developmental pediatrician Dr. Wendy
10 Ross, who heads Autism Inclusion
11 Resources, is dedicated to making public
12 places more accessible and easier to
13 navigate for people living with autism
14 and their families; and

15 Whereas, Dr. Ross has partnered
16 with the Philadelphia Phillies, Aramark
17 and Theraply to make Citizens Bank Park
18 the first-ever autism friendly ballpark
19 in the nation. Autism Inclusion
20 Resources has trained nearly 3,000 game
21 day staff and concession vendors for the
22 2013 baseball season, and they continue
23 to prepare families step by step so they
24 can enjoy the excitement and fun of the
25 nation's pastime; now therefore, be it

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Resolved, by the Council of the
3 City of Philadelphia, that we hereby
4 recognize April 2013 as Autism Awareness
5 Month in honor of individuals living with
6 autism, their families and those working
7 to improve the quality of life for the
8 entire autism community.

9 (Applause.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
11 Chair recognizes Dr. Ross for remarks.

12 DR. ROSS: Thank you for having
13 me here today.

14 What I would ask you to do is
15 imagine for a minute that you grew up in
16 Philadelphia and you grew up attending
17 Phillies games, like most of us are
18 hard-core Philly fans in the City, and
19 when you thought about having your own
20 kids one day, you thought you would want
21 to take them to the Park. And when you
22 had your own kids, you brought them to
23 the Park, but one of your kids had
24 trouble getting out of the car and making
25 it into the stadium. They had trouble

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 waiting on line. They had trouble being
3 jostled or with the sounds, and then they
4 started to rock and maybe to scream.
5 They could not follow directions. Maybe
6 they ran away and didn't turn when their
7 name was called. And so you went home
8 and were unable to attend the game with
9 your children.

10 This is a common fear and
11 sometimes an experience of some of the
12 families that I see when I diagnose and
13 treat them with autism.

14 Autism is primarily a social
15 disability, and it affects social skills,
16 communication, and behavior, all of the
17 things that you need to be in the
18 community. And so when I would see my
19 patients, I found frequently that they
20 were telling me that they did not go out.
21 They stayed home. They had children that
22 looked typical that then did not act
23 typically, and when they went into public
24 spaces and this happened, people looked
25 at them as if they were bad parents.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 I have to tell you, when I
3 practice medicine, probably every day,
4 some weeks probably even maybe twice a
5 day, I would tell a family that their
6 child had autism, and I used to
7 compensate for that by making sure that
8 they had the best educational and
9 therapeutic and medical plans that I
10 could put together for them, and I would
11 call their schools and their other
12 clinicians to help make sure that they
13 got those plans. But I found that it
14 wasn't enough.

15 When my families went to bed at
16 night, they weren't worried about
17 necessarily what had caused the autism
18 anymore or maybe they didn't think that
19 the cure was going to happen in the
20 lifetime of their child, and they weren't
21 worried about the controversies like the
22 immunizations. And all of those things
23 are very important and they get a lot of
24 resources. They were worried about
25 having a typical family experience with

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 their child the next day, about taking
3 care of the things they needed to take
4 care of for their family. They were
5 worried about their typical siblings of
6 their child with autism and about them
7 having experiences like going to the
8 ballpark.

9 And the other thing that they
10 told me, my families in my practice, was
11 that they worried like all parents worry,
12 but more, about what was going to happen
13 one day when they were gone. And both of
14 those concerns, what they were going to
15 do tomorrow and what was going to happen
16 when they were gone, spoke to me about
17 independence and the need for us to try
18 to get individuals with autism as
19 independent as possible in the community.
20 And while there had been some research
21 into helping individuals with
22 developmental disabilities develop skills
23 for independence, there hadn't been a lot
24 done in the community itself, and that's
25 what I decided to do.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 I wish I could say it was a
3 total selfless act, but to be honest, I
4 just couldn't give the diagnosis every
5 day knowing that I really wasn't helping
6 my families with their biggest concerns.

7 So what we do now in my
8 non-profit is, we've started to prepare
9 families, and we prepare them with tools
10 like special stories or photographs or
11 picture schedules, and then we go to
12 community venues, like Citizens Bank
13 Park, and we provide education about
14 autism awareness, providing facts and
15 strategies about what autism is and what
16 about autism can limit public
17 experiences, and then we provide
18 supportive practice experiences in these
19 public settings.

20 So what that meant to us is
21 that last month, Heather, who is my
22 awesome student here, spent about 14
23 evenings at Citizens Bank Park providing
24 these sessions for about 3,000 employees
25 of the Phillies and Aramark and --

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 (Applause.)

3 DR. ROSS: -- I have to say, I
4 can't even take credit for all of that,
5 because the staff and the personnel at
6 Citizens Bank Park are amazing. They
7 were amazing, and they were interested
8 and they were engaged. And it was sort
9 of funny because at the end, there were
10 some people who missed the educational
11 sessions, and Andy, who works with Eric
12 and Vanessa, who really helped me get
13 everything off the ground at the Park,
14 e-mailed me and he said, There's some
15 people who missed it, I heard you give
16 this talk 18 times, send me the slides,
17 I'm going to take care of it. I mean, it
18 was that level of dedication and interest
19 in really being an inclusive setting. It
20 was remarkable.

21 And then what we did, which I
22 think makes our experience at the
23 ballpark a little different, is on
24 Tuesday night we brought about ten
25 families affected by autism and ten

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 clinicians, and we provided a practice
3 experience at a collegiate game at the
4 Park. So our families came and, in sort
5 of a less overwhelming setting, got to
6 practice the experience of coming to a
7 ball game. And now during the course of
8 the season, the Phillies have generously
9 given us some tickets to bring more
10 families to the Park supported by
11 clinicians, so that if families have
12 difficulties, they have support right
13 there, so that one day they will be able
14 to come to the Park independently.

15 So I just want to read you a
16 letter I got from one of our families
17 from Tuesday night quickly, and then I'll
18 just make a couple more comments.

19 Dear Wendy, I wanted to express
20 our sincere thanks for providing such a
21 tremendous opportunity in last evening's
22 practice baseball game. Our family had
23 not previously imagined that we could
24 attend such an event with this level of
25 success, and we feel compelled to tell

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 you how thrilled we were to participate.

3 Pierce had a very good experience and he

4 was able to work through typical

5 stressors such as waiting in line,

6 walking through turn-styles, and moving

7 from activity to activity with less

8 difficulty than we would have expected.

9 Thank you for all your work

10 with the Phillies organization on

11 delivering such a valuable event. With

12 this practice run, our family has the

13 confidence to attend a sporting event

14 later in the season, and we anticipate

15 the ability to attend other activities

16 which we typically would not have

17 attempted.

18 Providing community and service

19 staff understanding of autism is such an

20 important piece of our children's growth

21 potential, and we heartily applaud the

22 efforts of AIR in bringing the gap

23 between our children and the communities

24 in which we live.

25 So this is really what it's all

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 about, and I just want to say when we
3 started the air travel program in
4 Philadelphia a few years ago, the people
5 at the Airport were equally amazing. And
6 I love that program because travel is
7 such a great metaphor for everything
8 else. It's so much more than how we get
9 from one place to another. It's really
10 about having opportunity. And I loved
11 coming to the Phillies because, first of
12 all, they're just amazing, and Eric and
13 Vanessa and also Bryan Angione have
14 really been amazing in helping us bring
15 this to the Park, but also because
16 baseball and sports is so much more than
17 a game. It really emphasized the
18 importance of teamwork, of people coming
19 together to reach a common goal. It
20 emphasizes the idea of practice, that we
21 all need practice in order to reach our
22 potential. And it also is so important,
23 sports is so great as just this idea of
24 sometimes we need to over -- we can
25 overcome the odds to accomplish both what

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 can be unexpected and also inspiring.

3 So I'm really thrilled and
4 honored, and I am really grateful to the
5 Phillies and also the other people who
6 helped, Aramark and Theraply, in helping
7 bring this new program to the Park, and
8 we're really hoping that over the
9 upcoming years, it will continue to grow.

10 So thank you for having me
11 today.

12 (Applause.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Council will be at ease.

15 (Council at ease.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Thank you, sir. Thank you.

18 I'll have some interesting
19 stories to tell my grandson one day.

20 Before we move ahead with our
21 business, I'd like to ask the members and
22 guests to take a moment of silence. I
23 know that there are horrific events
24 during the course of every day during the
25 year, individuals who just happen to be

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 at the wrong place at the wrong time,
3 purely innocent, that ended up having
4 tragic events that cause them to lose
5 their lives. As you know, this week we
6 had another horrific event in the City of
7 Boston. And I know some people might
8 say, Well, people get killed every day,
9 but this just symbolizes the fact that
10 violence in our nation -- and we don't
11 know at this time who caused that level
12 of violence, but it is a sad thing,
13 particularly when you see children die.

14 So I'd just like to ask, from a
15 symbolic perspective, recognizing the
16 individuals that lost their lives and
17 were damaged and injured and their family
18 members from Boston. But we
19 unfortunately have these events every
20 day.

21 So I'd just like everybody to
22 stand for a moment of silence, please.

23 (Moment of silence.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you so much.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 The next order of business is
3 communications. The Chair requests that
4 the Sergeant-of-Arms deliver the messages
5 from the Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

6 Mr. Decker, would you please
7 read those messages.

8 CHIEF CLERK: To the President
9 and members of the Council of the City of
10 Philadelphia, I am pleased to advise you
11 that on April 17, 2013, I signed the
12 remaining bills that were passed by
13 Council at its session on April 4, 2013;
14 and

15 I am transmitting herewith for
16 the introduction and consideration of
17 your honorable body an ordinance
18 authorizing the revision of lines and
19 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 55
20 by striking from the City Plan and
21 vacating the legally open portions of
22 Adams Avenue from Aramingo Avenue to its
23 terminus southeastwardly therefrom; and

24 Also an ordinance authorizing
25 the Commissioner of Public Property to

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 acquire from the Philadelphia Authority
3 for Industrial Development a strip of
4 land along the Schuylkill River that is
5 approximately one-hundred feet wide
6 between 56th Street, as extended to the
7 Schuylkill River, and 58th Street, all
8 under certain terms and conditions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Mr. Decker, do you have any other
11 communications?

12 CHIEF CLERK: I have none,
13 Mr. President.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Thank you so much.

16 The next order of business is
17 the introduction of bills and
18 resolutions.

19 At this point, I recognize
20 Councilman Kenney.

21 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
22 Mr. President. I have no bills or
23 resolutions today.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
25 Thank you, Councilman.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Chair recognizes

3 Councilwoman Blackwell.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank

5 you, Mr. President. Today I have one

6 bill and one resolution, and certainly

7 the bill is co-sponsored by Councilwoman

8 Blondell Reynolds Brown.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Thank you, Councilwoman.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank

12 you.

13 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

14 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The

15 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Real Estate

16 Taxes," by amending the deadline for

17 which certain property owners may apply

18 for a designation of homestead property.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you. That bill will be referred to

21 the appropriate committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged

23 resolution Calling on the City Council of

24 Philadelphia Committee on Housing,

25 Neighborhood Development and the Homeless

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 to Hold Hearings Concerning the City
3 Planning Commission's Project:
4 Philadelphia-2035.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
6 resolution will be on the Final Passage
7 Calendar today.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Greenlee.

10 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
11 you, Mr. President. On your behalf, I
12 offer four bills and one resolution.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Thank you, sir.

15 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
16 authorizing Nirlesh Desai, owner and
17 operator of the newsstand located on the
18 northeast corner of 17th and Chestnut
19 Streets, to construct, use and maintain
20 conduits in and under the northeast
21 corner of 17th and Chestnut Streets.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
23 bill will be referred to the appropriate
24 committee.

25 CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 authorizing Beacon on East Girard Inc.
3 doing business as Kraftwork to construct,
4 own and maintain an open-air sidewalk
5 cafe at 541 East Girard Avenue.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
7 bill will be referred to the appropriate
8 committee.

9 CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
10 regulating the direction of movement of
11 traffic on Warnock Street between
12 Montgomery Avenue and Berks Street.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
14 bill will be referred to committee.

15 CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
16 establishing a no parking regulation on
17 North Warnock Street, between West
18 Montgomery Avenue and West Berks Street.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
20 bill will be referred to committee.

21 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
22 resolution congratulating and honoring
23 The Roberts Vaux High School Basketball
24 Team on winning the 2013 PIAA Class A
25 State Championship.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
3 resolution will be placed on today's
4 Final Passage Calendar.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman
6 Henon.

7 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
8 Mr. President. I have one bill today.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Thank you, sir.

11 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 authorizing the revision of lines and
13 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 55
14 by striking from the City Plan and
15 vacating the legally open portions of
16 Adams Avenue from Aramingo Avenue to its
17 terminus southeastwardly therefrom.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
19 bill will be referred to the appropriate
20 committee.

21 The Chair recognizes
22 Councilwoman Tasco.

23 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO:
24 Mr. President, I offer one resolution and
25 one ordinance.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you, Councilwoman.

4 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

5 establishing a no truck parking on

6 Godfrey Avenue, from Tabor Road to

7 Whitaker Avenue.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That

9 bill will be referred to committee.

10 CHIEF CLERK: And a

11 non-privileged resolution urging the

12 Pennsylvania General Assembly to oppose

13 legislation that will legalize predatory

14 small-dollar lending, commonly known as

15 payday lending, in Pennsylvania and harm

16 the citizens of our Commonwealth.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That

18 resolution will be placed on next week's

19 Final Passage Calendar.

20 The Chair now recognizes

21 Councilman Johnson.

22 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON:

23 Mr. President, I have one bill and one

24 resolution, and the resolution for the

25 ODUNDE Festival is sponsored by

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Councilman Curtis Jones, Councilman

3 Greenlee, Councilman Henon, Councilman

4 Kenney, Councilman Denny O'Brien,

5 Councilwoman Cindy Bass, Councilman Bill

6 Green, Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you, Councilman.

9 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: And

10 Councilwoman Marian Tasco.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you, sir.

13 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

14 amending the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by

15 changing the zoning designations of

16 certain areas of land located within an

17 area bounded by Broad Street, Morris

18 Street, 15th Street, and Castle Avenue.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That

20 bill will be referred to the appropriate

21 committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged

23 resolution recognizing the ODUNDE

24 Festival's positive cultural impact on

25 Philadelphia and the importance of

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 maintaining its presence as a South
3 Street tradition.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
5 resolution will be placed on today's
6 Final Passage Calendar.

7 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON:
8 Mr. President.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes,
10 sir.

11 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: And I want
12 to also acknowledge Councilwoman Blondell
13 Reynolds Brown was on the resolution for
14 ODUNDE.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Thank you.

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Everyone.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It
19 seems like I was the only one that wasn't
20 on there. Thank you, Councilman.

21 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: You're
22 welcome, Council President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
24 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Sanchez.

25 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 you. No bills or resolutions today.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you, Councilwoman.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman

6 Green.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,

8 Mr. President. No bills or resolutions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Thank you, Councilman.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman

12 O'Brien.

13 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you,

14 Mr. President. I have one privileged

15 resolution, and I'd like to offer a few

16 brief remarks.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: At

18 the time of the vote or --

19 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Yes, at

20 the time of the vote. That would be

21 fine. Thank you.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you.

24 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged

25 resolution authorizing Council's

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Committee on Public Safety to investigate
3 and hold public hearings reviewing the
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Board of
5 Probation and Parole and its practices in
6 Philadelphia, including the assignment,
7 workload and experience of agents; the
8 use of GPS for offender tracking; and the
9 establishment of a workgroup solely
10 focused on Philadelphia.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
12 resolution will be placed on today's
13 Final Passage Calendar.

14 The Chair recognizes Councilman
15 Goode.

16 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
17 Mr. President. I offer no bills or
18 resolutions today.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Thank you, Councilman.

21 The Chair recognizes
22 Councilwoman Brown.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
24 Mr. President. I offer one resolution.
25 I will call for a rules suspension. And

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 I should note that it was co-sponsored by
3 Councilwomen Tasco and Quinones-Sanchez.

4 I'd like to speak on it at the time of
5 the vote, please.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Okay. You need a rules suspension to be
8 heard today?

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Please,
10 Mr. President.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Why
12 don't you ask for the rules suspension
13 now, Councilwoman.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN:
15 Mr. President, I make a request for a
16 rules suspension.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
19 been moved and properly seconded that the
20 rules be suspended to allow first reading
21 on today's Calendar.

22 All those in favor?

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Those opposed?

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you.

5 Mr. Decker, please read that
6 resolution.

7 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
8 resolution authorizing Council's
9 Committee of the Whole to hold hearings
10 to investigate the coordination between
11 various City commissions, departments and
12 agencies on outreach efforts regarding
13 the Actual Value Initiative in the City
14 of Philadelphia, particularly as to
15 informing senior citizens, vulnerable
16 populations and other hard-to-reach
17 groups, and to determine and immediately
18 make recommendations to the appropriate
19 City agencies for improved citizen and
20 community outreach.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
22 resolution will be placed on today's
23 Final Passage Calendar.

24 The Chair recognizes Councilman
25 Jones.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
3 Mr. President. Two ordinances, one on
4 behalf of the Administration, one on your
5 behalf co-sponsored by everybody except
6 one Councilperson.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
8 Thank you, sir.

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: I won't go
10 through the list.

11 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Real Estate
14 Taxes," by extending the deadline for the
15 filing of applications for the homestead
16 exclusion.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Thank you. That bill will be referred to
19 the appropriate committee.

20 CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
21 amending the Ordinance of March 1, 1963,
22 entitled "An ordinance authorizing the
23 Board of Pensions and Retirement to enter
24 into an agreement or agreements to
25 administer employee retirement benefits

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 for the Philadelphia Industrial
3 Development Corporation, Passenger
4 Services Improvement Corporation, Food
5 Distribution Center, and the Philadelphia
6 Parking Authority," as amended, to
7 provide for revised reimbursement rates.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
9 bill will also be referred to committee.

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman
11 O'Neill.

12 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Thank you,
13 Mr. President. I have no bills or
14 resolutions.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Thank you, Councilman.

17 The Chair recognizes Councilman
18 Squilla.

19 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
20 Mr. President. I offer one bill today.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Thank you, sir.

23 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
24 amending Section 19-1303 of The
25 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Discounts

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 and Additions to Tax," by tolling
3 additions, interest and penalties when
4 the assessed value of property is under
5 appeal; limiting what the Department can
6 bill for tax years under appeal; and
7 requiring for the tax year under appeal
8 payment of an amount at least equal to
9 the prior year's tax.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
11 bill will be referred to the appropriate
12 committee.

13 The Chair recognizes
14 Councilwoman Bass.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,
16 Mr. President. I offer one privileged
17 resolution.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
19 Thank you, Councilwoman.

20 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
21 resolution recognizing and honoring the
22 achievements of the LaSalle University
23 men's basketball team for their
24 accomplishments during the 2012-13
25 season.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
3 resolution will be placed on today's
4 Final Passage Calendar.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman
6 Oh.

7 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very
8 much, Mr. President. I offer five
9 privileged resolutions.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
11 Thank you, sir.

12 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
13 resolution expressing sympathy and
14 admiration for the citizens and guests of
15 Boston in response to the April 15th
16 tragic and cowardly terrorist attack
17 during the Boston Marathon: 2 bombs, 3
18 dead, and over 180 injured.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
20 resolution will be placed on today's
21 Final Passage Calendar.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
23 resolution recognizing and celebrating
24 the First Annual Mexican Week
25 Philadelphia 2013.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
3 resolution will also be placed on today's
4 Final Passage Calendar.

5 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
6 resolution recognizing and honoring the
7 life and accomplishments of Dr. Ethel
8 Allen.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
10 resolution will be placed on today's
11 Final Passage Calendar.

12 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
13 resolution recognizing April 30th as
14 Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag Day
15 as a symbol of contributions of the
16 Vietnamese-American community in the City
17 of Philadelphia.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
19 resolution will be placed on today's
20 Final Passage.

21 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
22 resolution declaring May 2013 to be
23 Hepatitis B Awareness Month in
24 Philadelphia to recognize and support the
25 "Hep B United Philadelphia" Campaign

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 aimed at raising the profile of Hepatitis
3 B and liver cancer as an urgent health
4 priority.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
6 resolution will be placed on today's
7 Final Passage Calendar.

8 Thank you very much.

9 The next order of business is
10 reports from committees.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Henon for a report from the Committee of
13 Public Property and Public Works.

14 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
15 Mr. President. The Committee on Public
16 Property and Public Works reports one
17 bill, Bill No. 130230, with a favorable
18 recommendation with a suspension of
19 rules.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Thank you.

22 Mr. Decker, would you please
23 read the report.

24 CHIEF CLERK: To the President
25 and members of the Council of the City of

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Philadelphia, the Committee on Public
3 Property and Public Works, to which was
4 referred Bill No. 130230, entitled "An
5 ordinance naming and designating the
6 property located at 12601 Townsend Road
7 as 'The Rosemary Montagno Senior
8 Center,'" respectfully reports it has
9 considered the same and returns the
10 attached bill to Council with a favorable
11 recommendation.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you.

14 The Chair again recognizes
15 Councilman Henon.

16 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you
17 again, Mr. President. I move that the
18 rules of Council be suspended as to
19 permit first reading this day of Bill No.
20 130230.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It
23 has been moved and properly seconded that
24 the rules of Council be suspended this
25 day so as to permit first reading of Bill

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 No. 130230.

3 All those in favor please say
4 aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Those opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 ayes have it. This bill will be placed
11 on our First Reading Calendar for today.

12 The Chair now recognizes
13 Councilman Squilla for a report from the
14 Committee on Streets and Services.

15 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
16 Mr. President. The Committee on Streets
17 and Services reports six bills with a
18 favorable recommendation.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you, Councilman.

21 Mr. Decker, please read the
22 report.

23 CHIEF CLERK: The Committee on
24 Streets and Services, to which was
25 referred Bill No. 121041, entitled "An

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS
2 ordinance authorizing the revision of
3 lines and grades on a portion of City
4 Plan No. 72 by placing on the City Plan
5 an extension of Cotton Street from its
6 current terminus at the northeasterly
7 side of the Manayunk Canal, southwest of
8 Main Street, southwestwardly to a point
9 approximately twenty-two feet southwest
10 of the southwesterly side of Canal"; and

11 Bill No. 121042, entitled "An
12 ordinance authorizing the Streets
13 Commissioner to enter into an agreement
14 with the Norfolk Southern Railway Company
15 for the establishment and construction of
16 public at-grade crossings of the tracks
17 of the said Railway Company at the
18 southwestwardly side of the Manayunk
19 Canal by proposed extensions of Cotton
20 Street and Lock Street"; and

21 Bill No. 130079, entitled "An
22 ordinance authorizing the 39th and Sansom
23 Streets Corporation trading as
24 Cavanaugh's Leprechaun to construct, own
25 and maintain an open-air sidewalk cafe at

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 119 South 39th Street; and

3 Bill No. 130083, entitled "An
4 ordinance authorizing the plotting upon a
5 portion of City Plan No. 271 of a
6 right-of-way for sewer and drainage
7 purposes extending from the westerly side
8 of Front Street, north of Callowhill
9 Street, westwardly to the Delaware
10 Expressway"; and

11 Bill No. 130138, entitled "An
12 ordinance authorizing the Holme Circle
13 Civic Association to construct, own and
14 maintain various right-of-way
15 encroachments on the traffic median
16 located on Holme Avenue where it
17 intersects Welsh Road and Ashton Road";
18 and

19 Bill No. 130241, entitled "An
20 ordinance amending Section 9-213 of The
21 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Farmers'
22 Markets,' by adding Pretzel Park as a
23 permissible location," respectfully
24 reports it has considered the same and
25 returns the attached bills to Council

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 with a favorable recommendation.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you, sir.

5 The Chair again recognizes

6 Councilman Squilla.

7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,

8 Mr. President. I move that the rules of

9 Council be suspended as to permit the

10 first reading this day of the six bills

11 that were just read into the record.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It

14 has been moved and properly seconded that

15 the rules of Council be suspended this

16 day as to permit first reading of Bills

17 No. 121041, 121042, 130079, 130083,

18 130138, and 130241.

19 All those in favor please say

20 aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 ayes have it. These bills will be placed
3 on our First Reading Calendar for today.

4 The Chair now recognizes
5 Councilman Kenney for a report from the
6 Committee of Labor and Civil Service.

7 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
8 Mr. President. The Committee on Labor
9 and Civil Service reports one bill out
10 with a favorable recommendation.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Thank you, Councilman.

13 Mr. Decker, please read the
14 report.

15 CHIEF CLERK: The Committee on
16 Labor and Civil Service, to which was
17 referred Bill No. 130224, entitled "An
18 ordinance amending various titles of The
19 Philadelphia Code to provide for equality
20 of treatment of all persons in the City
21 of Philadelphia regardless of gender
22 identity or sexual orientation, including
23 by further providing for the definition
24 of 'Life Partnership' and 'Life Partner,'
25 and for protections, rights, benefits,

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS
2 and responsibilities of Life Partners;
3 authorizing a tax credit or credits to
4 encourage employers to expand certain
5 health benefits; providing for gender
6 neutrality in certain City forms and
7 online websites; providing for access to
8 public accommodations based on an
9 individual's gender identity; providing
10 for gender-neutral bathrooms in
11 City-controlled buildings; providing for
12 the right to dress consistently with
13 one's gender identity; ensuring the right
14 of transgender individuals to request
15 name and gender changes on pertinent
16 records; and by other measures; and
17 making conforming changes; all under
18 certain terms and conditions,"
19 respectfully reports it has considered
20 and amended the same and returns the
21 attached bill to Council with a favorable
22 recommendation.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you so much.

25 The Chair again recognizes

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Councilman Kenney.

3 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,

4 Mr. President. I move the rules of

5 Council be suspended so as to permit

6 first reading this day of Bill No.

7 130224.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It

10 has been moved and properly seconded that

11 the rules of Council be suspended this

12 day as to permit first reading of Bill

13 No. 130224.

14 All those in favor?

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

20 ayes have it. This bill will be placed

21 on our First Reading Calendar today.

22 The Chair now recognizes

23 Councilman Jones for a report from the

24 Committee of Public Safety.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Mr. President. The Committee of Public
3 Safety reports one bill with a favorable
4 recommendation.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you.

7 Mr. Decker, please read that
8 report.

9 CHIEF CLERK: The Committee on
10 Public Safety, to which was referred Bill
11 No. 130140, entitled "An ordinance
12 amending Title 21 of The Philadelphia
13 Code, entitled 'Miscellaneous,' to
14 increase appointments on the Mayor's
15 Commission on Aging," respectfully
16 reports it has considered and amended the
17 same and returns the attached bill to
18 Council with a favorable recommendation.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you.

21 The Chair again recognizes
22 Councilman Jones.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
24 again, Mr. President. I move that the
25 rules of Council be suspended as to

1 4/18/13 - STATED - REPORTS

2 permit first reading of this Bill No.
3 130140.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It
6 has been moved and properly seconded that
7 the rules of Council be suspended so as
8 to permit first reading this day of Bill
9 No. 130140.

10 All those in favor?

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 Those opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
16 ayes have it. This bill will be placed
17 on our First Reading Calendar today.
18 Thank you all very much.

19 The next order of business is
20 consideration of the Calendar. I note
21 that the bills just reported from
22 committee with a suspension of rules have
23 been deemed to have had a first reading.
24 These bills will be placed on our Second
25 Reading and Final Passage Calendar for

1 4/18/13 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 the next session of Council.

3 As there are no additional
4 bills on the First Reading Calendar, the
5 Chair now recognizes Councilman Jones for
6 the purpose of calling up resolutions and
7 bills on the Second Reading and Final
8 Passage Calendar.

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
10 Mr. President. The following resolutions
11 and bills are being called up from Second
12 Reading and Final Passage Calendar today:
13 Nos. 130279, 130280, 130281, 130282,
14 130283, 130290, 130293, 121038, 130136,
15 130162, 120775, and 130135. All other
16 resolutions and bills are being held.

17 Excuse me, Mr. President. Bill
18 No. 130137 is being amended.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Thank you, Councilman.

21 Before considering these
22 resolutions and bills, we will consider
23 public comment. Public comment will be
24 as follows: If you are interested in
25 testifying on a bill or resolution that's

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 on the Final Passage Calendar today, you
3 must register at the table to my left.

4 You will be given three minutes
5 for your testimony. You will come to the
6 middle of the Council session where
7 there's a podium. There's a device on
8 the podium. That device indicates the
9 three minutes. When it's green, it's
10 time to speak. When it turns yellow,
11 that means you have 30 seconds before
12 your time, and when it is red, it means
13 you must conclude your remarks. And we
14 thank you all very much for adhering to
15 these guidelines.

16 At this time, Mr. Decker, can
17 you please read the name of the first
18 individual who wishes to testify.

19 Before we do that, the Chair
20 recognizes Councilman Jones.

21 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you.
22 Also being amended is Bill No. 120775.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Thank you, Councilman. That shall be
25 reflected.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Mr. Decker, please read the
3 name of the first individual.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Bertha Simmons,
5 commenting on 130279.

6 (Witness approached podium.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
8 morning, ma'am.

9 MS. SIMMONS: Well, hello
10 everybody. I know all of you think
11 you're grown today because you're sitting
12 here looking all bright and shiny and
13 pretty. But you're not grown yet, hear?

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes,
15 ma'am.

16 MS. SIMMONS: 130279. I'm only
17 here to let all of us know we need the
18 prayer back in school. When we went to
19 school, didn't we have a little grace
20 that we always said good morning.
21 Everybody prays a different prayer, but
22 you can meet and greet each other and go
23 on about your business.

24 The teachers need the prayer.
25 Do you teach your kids to pray at night

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 before they go to bed? When they come
3 from school, do you ask them how was
4 their day? The kids tell me their
5 parents are not talking to them like they
6 were brought up.

7 We got to stop now. The prayer
8 needs to go back in school. Everybody
9 prays different, but meet and greet each
10 other, say hello, how are you, may God
11 bless you. This is the worst thing to do
12 for children nowadays, because they're
13 getting older, they need more respect
14 from all of us, and let them know we care
15 about them.

16 So I want you to know when my
17 daughter Jannie Blackwell -- get up,
18 Jannie.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. SIMMONS: I raised her at
21 Richard Allen project when her mother
22 passed. I raised her up when she was a
23 little child trying to strut across the
24 street. I had to hold her back because I
25 said, Wait for the light to change. She

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 want to jump and run. I had to hold her
3 back. But look at her now. And I want
4 we all to respect her and do what she ask
5 us to do. We want to stay on the right
6 track and do the right thing.

7 When you go to bed at night,
8 don't you say your prayers before you go
9 to bed? Don't you thank the Lord for
10 waking you up and carrying through a day?
11 See, I know all about it. I was raised
12 up to say my prayers every night when I
13 was four or five years old. My mother
14 taught me say your prayers, and I've been
15 doing it ever since. And I want
16 everybody to know, all of you, don't
17 forget to say your prayers. How do you
18 think the Lord brought you up this far?
19 And some of you may be 75, 65, 85, but
20 you're still not grown if you cannot
21 thank the Lord for blessing you right
22 now.

23 Thank you.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you, ma'am, for your testimony.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 CHIEF CLERK: Carol Green,
4 commenting on 120054.

5 (Witness approached podium.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
7 morning.

8 MS. GREEN: Excuse me. Those
9 that know how to pray, please pray for
10 me. I'm the worst of the sinners,
11 mother. Please pray for me.

12 I thank you all for having me
13 here. I don't want to pay taxes if I
14 have a house. And the bill is 120054. I
15 don't want to pay taxes because it's
16 wrong. And I go to the grocery store to
17 buy food and I don't have to pay tax on
18 the food because it's necessary, and it's
19 necessary -- it's necessary. So a house
20 is necessary, so I don't want to pay
21 taxes for a house and...

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you, ma'am. Thank you for your
24 testimony.

25 CHIEF CLERK: There are no

1 4/18/13 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 other speakers on the public comment
3 list, Mr. President.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you so much.

6 We have one more? Yes, sir.

7 (Witness approached podium.)

8 MR. KING: Good morning.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
10 morning.

11 MR. KING: Thank you very much
12 for hearing me. My name is Clarc King,
13 and I came up to address the Resolution
14 120118. That's the resolution
15 authorizing the Committee of
16 Transportation and Public Utilities to
17 hold hearings to examine the feasibility
18 of transferring ownership or operations
19 of Philadelphia Gas Works to a private
20 entity.

21 I think personally that selling
22 the Philadelphia Gas Works is a great
23 mistake. Philadelphia Gas Works is a
24 power source for the City, the core of
25 its strength. Its economic potential has

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 not been fully realized. It must be
3 explored. I think the Councilmembers
4 need to hear input from both scientists,
5 engineers, and people understanding the
6 workings of an economy.

7 Thank you so much.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you so much, sir.

10 Is that it? Thank you.

11 This concludes today's public
12 comment. We will now consider
13 resolutions and bills on the Second
14 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

15 Mr. Decker, would you please
16 read the title of 130279.

17 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
18 calling on the City Council of
19 Philadelphia to support the efforts of
20 the Honorable Stewart J. Greenleaf, State
21 Senator, 12th District, Commonwealth of
22 Pennsylvania, as he introduces
23 legislation to amend the Public School
24 Code of 1949 by providing for greater
25 awareness of religious freedoms in public

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 schools.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you.

5 The Chair recognizes

6 Councilwoman Blackwell for a motion.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank

8 you, Mr. President. I move for the

9 adoption.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's

12 been moved and properly seconded.

13 All those in favor?

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Those opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

19 ayes have it. Resolution 130279 is

20 adopted.

21 Mr. Decker, please read the

22 title of 130280.

23 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

24 authorizing the Commissioner of Public

25 Property to execute and deliver to the

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority,
3 without consideration, deeds conveying
4 conditional fee simple title to certain
5 City-owned lots or pieces of ground with
6 the buildings and improvements thereon,
7 situate in the Thirty-Second Ward of the
8 City of Philadelphia.

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

11 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
12 you, Mr. President. I move the adoption
13 of the resolution.

14 (Duly seconded.)

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

17 All those in favor?

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
23 ayes have it. That resolution is
24 adopted.

25 Mr. Decker, 130281.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
3 approving the redevelopment contract of
4 the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority
5 for the redevelopment and urban renewal
6 of a portion of the Model Cities Urban
7 Renewal Area, identified by house number
8 and street address as 3134 Page Street.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 Chair again recognizes Councilman
11 Greenlee.

12 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
13 you, Mr. President. I move the adoption
14 of the resolution.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It
17 has been moved and properly seconded.

18 All those in favor?

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
24 ayes have it. Resolution 130281 is
25 adopted.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Mr. Decker, 130282.

3 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
4 urging the Pennsylvania General Assembly
5 to pass Senate Bill 637 and House Bill
6 923 which establish a minimum ratio of
7 registered nurses to patients at
8 Pennsylvania hospitals.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Thank you.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Johnson.

13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON:

14 Mr. President, I move for the adoption of
15 the resolution.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
18 been moved and properly seconded.

19 All those in favor?

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Those opposed?

23 COUNCILMAN OH: Nay.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: One?

25 The ayes have it. Resolution 130282 is

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 adopted.

3 Mr. Decker, 130283.

4 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
5 approving the redevelopment contract of
6 the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority
7 for the redevelopment and urban renewal
8 of a portion of the New
9 Kensington-Fishtown Urban Renewal Area,
10 identified by house number and street
11 address as 2320 through 24 Emerald
12 Street.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Thank you.

15 The Chair recognizes
16 Councilwoman Sanchez.

17 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
18 you, Mr. President. I move for the
19 adoption.

20 (Duly seconded.)

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

23 All those in favor?

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
5 ayes have it. Resolution 130283 is
6 adopted.

7 Mr. Decker, 130290.

8 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
9 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
10 Property to execute and deliver to the
11 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority,
12 without consideration, deeds conveying
13 conditional fee simple title to certain
14 City-owned lots or pieces of ground with
15 the buildings and improvements thereon,
16 situate in the Twenty-Fifth and
17 Thirty-First Wards of the City of
18 Philadelphia.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
20 Chair recognizes Councilman Squilla.

21 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
22 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
23 of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 been moved and properly seconded.

3 All those in favor?

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
9 ayes have it. Resolution 130290 is
10 adopted.

11 Mr. Decker, 130293.

12 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
13 calling upon the Administration to take
14 action to fully explore opportunities
15 presented by natural gas development in
16 Pennsylvania to stimulate the local
17 economy thereby creating family
18 sustaining jobs and revenue for the City
19 of Philadelphia.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you.

22 The Chair recognizes Councilman

23 Oh.

24 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you,

25 Mr. President. I move for the adoption.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
4 been moved and properly seconded.

5 All those in favor?

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
8 Those opposed?

9 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Nay.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Let
11 the record reflect there's one nay.
12 Resolution No. 130293 is adopted.

13 Mr. Decker, please read the
14 title of 121038.

15 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
16 amending Chapter 17-1900 of The
17 Philadelphia Code, entitled "First Source
18 Jobs Policy," by clarifying certain
19 definitions and responsibilities of
20 financial assistance beneficiaries and of
21 the City.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
23 bill having been read on two separate
24 days, the question is shall the bill pass
25 finally.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Mr. Decker, please call the
3 roll.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Bass.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Blackwell.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

11 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

13 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 Greenlee.

16 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

18 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

20 Johnson.

21 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

25 Kenney.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 O'Brien.
5 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 O'Neill.
8 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
10 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Quinones-Sanchez.
13 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
15 Reynolds Brown.
16 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
18 Squilla.
19 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Tasco.
22 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
24 Clarke.
25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 The ayes are 17; the nays are
3 zero. A majority of all members present
4 voting in the affirmative, the bill
5 passes.

6 Mr. Decker, please read the
7 title of 130136.

8 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
9 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
10 changing the zoning designations of
11 certain areas of land located within an
12 area bounded by Spring Garden Street,
13 22nd Street, Pennsylvania Avenue,
14 Hamilton Street, and 21st Street.

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

19 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Bass.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Blackwell.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

3 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

5 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

7 Greenlee.

8 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

10 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

12 Johnson.

13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

15 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

17 Kenney.

18 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

20 O'Brien.

21 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

23 O'Neill.

24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Quinones-Sanchez.

5 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Reynolds Brown.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 Squilla.

11 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Tasco.

14 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

16 Clarke.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

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

22 Mr. Decker, please read the
23 title of 130137.

24 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
25 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 changing the zoning designations of
3 certain areas of land located within an
4 area bounded by Thompson Street, 9th
5 Street, Girard Avenue and Hutchinson
6 Street.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
8 Thank you.

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman
10 Greenlee.

11 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
12 you, Mr. President. On your behalf I
13 would like to offer an amendment to Bill
14 No. 130137. A copy of the amendment,
15 which is the equal opportunity plan, has
16 been circulated to all members of Council
17 and I move for the adoption of the
18 amendment.

19 (Duly seconded.)

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

22 All those in favor?

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
25 Those opposed?

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
4 ayes have it. Bill No. 130137 is amended
5 and will be on next week's Final Passage
6 Calendar. Thank you.

7 Mr. Decker, 130162.

8 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
9 amending Title 14 of The Philadelphia
10 Code, entitled "Zoning and Planning," by
11 amending Section 14-405, entitled
12 "Entertainment (Special Purpose)
13 District," by revising certain provisions
14 relating to setback, parking
15 requirements, parking lots, and
16 off-street loading.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
18 bill has been read on two separate days.
19 The question is shall the bill pass
20 finally.

21 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Bass.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Blackwell.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

9 Greenlee.

10 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

12 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Johnson.

15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

19 Kenney.

20 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

22 O'Brien.

23 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

25 O'Neill.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

4 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Quinones-Sanchez.

7 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

9 Reynolds Brown.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

12 Squilla.

13 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Tasco.

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

18 Clarke.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

20 The ayes are 17; the nays are
21 zero. A majority of all members present
22 voting in the affirmative, the bill
23 passes.

24 Mr. Decker, please read the

25 title of 120775.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
3 amending Title 19 of The Philadelphia
4 Code, entitled "Finance, Taxes and
5 Collections," to provide for a private
6 right of action to enforce certain tax
7 laws, including penalties for nonpayment.

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

10 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
11 Mr. President. I'd like to offer an
12 amendment to Bill No. 120775. A copy of
13 the amendment has been circulated to all
14 members of Council, and I move for the
15 adoption of the amendment.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It
18 has been moved and properly seconded.

19 All those in favor?

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
25 ayes have it. Bill No. 120775 has been

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 amended. It will be placed on next
3 week's Final Passage Calendar.

4 Mr. Decker, 130135.

5 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
6 amending Chapter 9-600 of The
7 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Service and
8 Other Businesses," by amending Section
9 9-605, entitled "Towing," to provide for
10 certain exceptions to licensing
11 requirements for towing companies located
12 outside of the City.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
14 bill has been read on two separate days.
15 The question is shall the bill pass
16 finally.

17 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Bass.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Blackwell.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

25 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

3 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 Greenlee.

6 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

8 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 Johnson.

11 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

13 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 Kenney.

16 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

18 O'Brien.

19 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

21 O'Neill.

22 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

24 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Quinones-Sanchez.

3 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Reynolds Brown.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Squilla.

9 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Tasco.

12 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

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

20 Mr. Decker, do you have any
21 additional resolutions?

22 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

23 Calling on the City Council of

24 Philadelphia Committee on Housing,

25 Neighborhood Development and the Homeless

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 to Hold Hearings Concerning the City
3 Planning Commission's Project:
4 Philadelphia-2035, introduced by
5 Councilwoman Blackwell.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
7 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell
8 for a motion.

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

12 (Duly seconded.)

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

15 All those in favor?

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
21 eyes have it. That resolution is
22 adopted.

23 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
24 congratulating and honoring The Roberts
25 Vaux High School Basketball Team on

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 winning 2012-2013 PIAA Class A State
3 Championship, introduced by Councilman
4 Greenlee for Council President Clarke.

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

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

10 (Duly seconded.)

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

13 All those in favor?

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Those opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
19 eyes have it. That resolution is
20 adopted.

21 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
22 recognizing ODUNDE Festival's positive
23 cultural impact on Philadelphia and the
24 importance of maintaining its presence as
25 a South Street tradition, introduced by

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilman Johnson.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Is
4 that the resolution where I was the only
5 one that didn't sign?

6 The Chair recognizes Councilman
7 Johnson.

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

11 (Duly seconded.)

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

14 All those in favor?

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
20 ayes have it. That resolution is
21 adopted.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
23 authorizing Council's Committee on Public
24 Safety to investigate and hold public
25 hearings reviewing the Commonwealth of

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Pennsylvania Board of Probation and
3 Parole and its practices in Philadelphia,
4 including the assignment, workload and
5 experience of its agents, introduced by
6 Councilman O'Brien.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
8 Chair recognizes Councilman O'Brien.

9 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you,
10 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
11 of the resolution and would like to be
12 recognized for a few brief remarks.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Please proceed, sir.

15 COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: I would
16 like to express my gratitude to
17 Councilman Curtis Jones, the Chair of the
18 Public Safety Committee, and the entire
19 Public Safety Committee for participating
20 in last week's public hearing to review
21 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Board
22 of Probation and Parole and its practices
23 in Philadelphia.

24 Last week we learned much about
25 the work of the state's Parole and

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Probation Board here in the Philadelphia
3 district compared to other districts
4 around the state. We had retired parole
5 agents testify about the stress and
6 challenges of supervising offenders in
7 tough conditions that are created by
8 design for Philadelphia by
9 decision-makers in Harrisburg. They also
10 told us about their vastly different
11 working conditions and assignments
12 outside of the City. Their testimony was
13 absolutely riveting.

14 During that hearing, we also
15 heard about some of the good practices of
16 our local probation officials. I applaud
17 them for their efforts and willingness to
18 adapt in an effort to keep us safe. The
19 most compelling portion of this hearing
20 was our interaction with the Board's
21 Chair. I still don't know what to make
22 of what he said and what he didn't say to
23 us.

24 After last Friday, four things
25 are clear. Philadelphia is treated in an

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 adversely different way by the Board.
3 The Board's numbers simply don't add up.
4 We need more hearings, and I'm focused
5 like a laser on this issue. Police
6 Officer Walker's mother deserves it. The
7 family of Sergeant Pat McDonald deserve
8 it, and all Philadelphians deserve it.

9 As I've said before, I fear the
10 numbers are driving this issue. I fear
11 the quest to keep recidivism numbers low
12 are dictating policy. I fear for the
13 safety of our city.

14 That's why we need to hold
15 additional public hearings to further
16 review the work of the Commonwealth of
17 Pennsylvania's Board of Probation and
18 Parole and its readiness to protect the
19 safety of the citizens of Philadelphia.

20 Thank you, Mr. President.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you, Councilman.

23 There's a motion.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Moved and properly seconded.

3 All those in favor?

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
9 ayes have it. That resolution is
10 adopted.

11 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
12 authorizing Council's Committee of the
13 Whole to hold hearings to investigate the
14 coordination between various City
15 commissions, departments and agencies on
16 outreach efforts regarding the Actual
17 Value Initiative in the City of
18 Philadelphia, particularly as to
19 informing senior citizens, vulnerable
20 populations and other hard-to-reach
21 groups, and to determine and immediately
22 make recommendations to the appropriate
23 City agencies for improved citizen and
24 community outreach, introduced by
25 Councilwoman Reynolds Brown.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
5 Mr. President. This resolution comes --
6 first, I need to thank again co-sponsors
7 Councilwomen Tasco and Quinones-Sanchez.
8 It comes as a result of having attended a
9 few of the AVI meetings and listening to
10 public testimony this past week and being
11 reminded that it appears there has not
12 been adequate coordination among City
13 agencies.

14 I'm even more pleased by this
15 resolution now that I've learned that
16 both you and Councilwoman Blackwell have
17 introduced bills to extend the deadlines.
18 So the hope and expectation is having
19 heard back from these departments, we can
20 get a do-over with regards to developing
21 recommendations on how we deepen the
22 understanding of the impact of AVI and
23 the awareness of the protections.

24 And so with that said,
25 Mr. President, I move for the adoption.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
4 been moved and properly seconded.

5 All those in favor?

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
11 ayes have it. That resolution is
12 adopted.

13 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
14 recognizing and honoring the achievements
15 of the LaSalle University men's
16 basketball team for their accomplishments
17 during the 2012-13 season, introduced by
18 Councilwoman Bass.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
20 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Bass.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,
22 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
23 of the resolution on behalf of my
24 colleagues, LaSalle graduates, Councilman
25 Kenney, Squilla, and O'Brien.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It
4 has been moved and properly seconded.

5 All those in favor?

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
11 ayes have it. That resolution is
12 adopted.

13 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
14 expressing sympathy and admiration for
15 the citizens and guests of Boston in
16 response to the April 15th tragic and
17 cowardly terrorist attack during the
18 Boston Marathon: 2 bombs, 3 dead, and
19 over 180 injured, introduced by
20 Councilman Oh.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 Chair recognizes Councilman Oh.

23 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very
24 much, Mr. President. That was
25 co-sponsored by Councilman Johnson and

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 signed by all members of City Council,
3 and I would ask for a motion on the
4 resolution.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you.

7 (Duly seconded.)

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

10 All those in favor?

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Those opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
16 ayes have it. That resolution is
17 adopted.

18 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
19 recognizing and celebrating the First
20 Annual Mexican Week Philadelphia 2013,
21 introduced by Councilman Oh.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
23 Chair again recognizes Councilman Oh.

24 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you,
25 Mr. President. That resolution was

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 co-sponsored by Councilwoman

3 Quinones-Sanchez and I would ask for a

4 motion on the resolution.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Is

6 there a second?

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's

9 been moved and properly seconded.

10 All those in favor say aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Those opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

16 resolution is adopted.

17 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution

18 recognizing and honoring the life and

19 accomplishments of Dr. Ethel D. Allen,

20 introduced by Councilman Oh.

21 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very

22 much, Mr. President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

24 Chair again -- I'm sorry.

25 COUNCILMAN OH: I move for the

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 adoption of the resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
5 been moved and properly seconded.

6 All those in favor?

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
9 Those opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
12 ayes have it. That resolution is
13 adopted.

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
15 recognizing April 30th as Vietnamese
16 Heritage and Freedom Flag Day as a symbol
17 of the contributions of the
18 Vietnamese-American community in the City
19 of Philadelphia, introduced by Councilman
20 Oh.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 Chair again recognizes Councilman Oh.

23 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you, Mr.
24 President. I move for the adoption of
25 the resolution.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
4 been moved and properly seconded.

5 All those in favor?

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
11 ayes have it. That resolution is
12 adopted.

13 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
14 declaring May 2013 to be Hepatitis B
15 Awareness Month in Philadelphia to
16 recognize and support the "Hep B United
17 Philadelphia" Campaign aimed at raising
18 the profile of Hepatitis B and liver
19 cancer as an urgent health priority,
20 introduced by Councilman Oh.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 Chair again recognizes Councilman Oh.

23 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you,
24 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
25 of the resolution.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
4 been moved and properly seconded.

5 All those in favor?

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
8 Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
11 ayes have it. That resolution is
12 adopted.

13 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
14 other resolutions on the Final Passage
15 Calendar, Mr. President.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Thank you very much.

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

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 Chair recognizes Councilman Oh.

23 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you,
24 Mr. President. I just want to remind my
25 colleagues that Councilwoman Blackwell

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 and I have co-sponsored a joint hearing
3 on education, and as part of that
4 preparation, I had the opportunity to go
5 to the Swiss Embassy last night and met
6 with some of the vocational educators who
7 are involved in vocational education in
8 Switzerland. It was very impressive.

9 Swiss companies have 430,000
10 employees in the U.S., and the average
11 salary of the vocational employees,
12 \$95,000 a year. So they have a different
13 track there. Seventy percent don't go to
14 college, but they do make high wages,
15 making quality goods, and I think it is
16 so important that we really recognize
17 that opportunities in vocational careers
18 is one that we should encourage, right
19 job, right opportunities for people all
20 throughout our city.

21 Thank you very much,
22 Mr. President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you, Councilman.

25 The Chair recognizes

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Councilwoman Brown.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,

4 Mr. President. You have been a huge

5 leader on this issue and Councilmembers

6 Jones and Kenyatta Johnson have had

7 unwavering voices around this issue.

8 Yesterday was a shameful day. Forty-six

9 United States Senators blocked the will

10 of 90 percent of the American people. As

11 many of us on our Facebook and Twitter

12 pages echoed, common sense is no longer

13 common.

14 The failure to take action

15 disrespected the wishes of 90 percent of

16 Americans, 80 percent of them

17 republicans, disrespected families of

18 victims in Connecticut, Colorado, and

19 cities across the United States, and more

20 closely at home, disrespected the family

21 of the Overbrook High School sophomore,

22 Bernard Scott, wherein our Majority

23 Leader has been actively involved with

24 that tragedy.

25 There were surely Senators

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 whose conscience told them to vote yes,
3 but they ultimately, as we well know, it
4 appears, yielded to the political
5 pressure and threats of the NRA.

6 I'm asking that we now seize
7 the moment and flip the script on those
8 who intimidate elected officials and
9 those who are afraid to vote their
10 conscience for fear of losing an election
11 of the NRA. Ninety percent of Americans
12 actually support gun safety, not gun
13 control. If those of us who seek
14 commonsense gun safety banded together
15 and committed to vote, we would have a
16 clean sweep.

17 In closing, to echo the words
18 of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, and
19 I quote, "It is clear to me that if
20 members of the United States Senate
21 refuse to change the laws to reduce gun
22 violence, then we need to change the
23 members of the United States Senate," end
24 quote, Mr. President.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Thank you, Councilwoman.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Jones.

5 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
6 Mr. President. To echo my colleague's
7 remarks about a young man who lost his
8 life, Mr. Bernard Scott, Saturday
9 Councilwoman Blackwell and I will be
10 attending his funeral. So the 50,000
11 foot view of Washington or the 50,000
12 foot turn a blind eye to the problems in
13 Philadelphia we have to deal with.

14 I want to point out that what
15 happened on the recreation center at
16 Tuscan was an act, but the response to
17 that has been equally notable, that right
18 away a good samaritan named Antoine
19 Gardner saw what happened, intervened,
20 put his self in danger to rush that young
21 man in the back of his own personal
22 vehicle to a hospital nearby. He failed,
23 but he didn't fail. He didn't fail
24 because he didn't leave that child alone.
25 He did not die alone, and he knew in his

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 last moments that somebody cared whether
3 he lived or died. That is important.

4 The response went on further
5 that over 250 people with a twilight
6 vigil went into that same ground where he
7 lost his life to save this violence in
8 our city that all of us in our respective
9 districts face every day. Enough is
10 enough, and they showed that they care
11 about what's going on in their community.

12 The further response goes
13 further. Commissioner Slawson kicked
14 into action based on the cry of
15 Councilwoman Bass to add cameras to
16 recreation centers. We're going to get a
17 dozen new cameras in that recreation
18 center. And it's too late for young
19 Mr. Scott, but it may prevent future
20 deaths in that way.

21 The response went on further.
22 Twenty or so stakeholders met at
23 Overbrook High School first thing in the
24 morning to talk about how to create safe
25 corridors within passageways because of

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 the school mergers with different warring
3 neighborhoods.

4 So the response, the boy didn't
5 die in vain. That Beeber, Dimner Beeber
6 Junior High School, is now being spared
7 the chopping block of merger and a new
8 renaissance -- well, not renaissance, but
9 a new school and teaching concept will
10 come out of it. The young man's death is
11 not in vain.

12 Overbrook will also be
13 rebranded with an emphasis toward safety
14 and career technology and the like. So
15 the young man's life didn't die in vain.

16 Further, the young man that
17 annually comes and sits with me, who is
18 my neighbor, Devon Burkhart, which was on
19 the second page of the Daily News, found
20 his voice. He's a big, strapping young
21 man, but he is rather shy. He found his
22 voice on the steps of Overbrook High
23 School to say to his peers more than
24 anything that he wasn't putting up with
25 it anymore and that peer pressure was now

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 going to be in the reverse for bad actors
3 to perform better, to do better, because
4 those young people deserve better.

5 So Bernard Scott died, but it
6 wasn't in vain and what we do as a
7 response is what matters.

8 Thank you, Mr. President.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Thank you, Councilman.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
13 Chair recognizes Councilman Johnson.

14 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
15 Council President. You have officially
16 been added to the resolution this
17 morning, the ODUNDE Festival in the great
18 land of South Philadelphia a/k/a South
19 Street, sir.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Thank you.

22 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: That's the
23 power of the position.

24 I just want to make two quick
25 announcements. Tomorrow at Myers

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Recreation Center, I will be hosting a
3 senior expo starting at 10 o'clock at
4 Myers Rec Center located at 58th and
5 Kingsessing, an opportunity for seniors
6 to come out. Lunch will be served,
7 information on health, fitness,
8 nutrition, and there will be more than 30
9 agencies that pretty much just service
10 our seniors in the twilight of their
11 lives. And so we want to always make
12 sure that we give them their judge due.
13 I'm inviting everyone who is interested
14 to come out, as well as those who can
15 hear within my voice.

16 Next Friday, on April the 26th,
17 I will be having my annual spring Job
18 Fair. It's going to be at the
19 Philadelphia Navy Yard. I'm starting at
20 10:00 a.m., and we will have more than 50
21 employers who will be coming out. We
22 will also have workshops regarding resume
23 writing, workshops regarding how you
24 interview so you can actually land a job.
25 And so I just want to make sure that

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 everyone has the opportunity to let their
3 constituents know as well if they're
4 interested in finding employment, we will
5 be having our annual Job Fair.

6 Mr. President and members of
7 Council, on March 26th during the Office
8 of Property Assessment testimony before
9 Council, I asked the Office of Property
10 Assessment to share the formula or
11 methodology it used to arrive at the new
12 property assessments. Just this week the
13 Crosstown Coalition of Taxpayers, a
14 coalition of civic groups from across
15 Philadelphia, have requested the same
16 information so that it can -- so its
17 experts can evaluate the accuracy of the
18 new assessments. To date, not I, nor the
19 Crosstown Coalition or members of Council
20 have received such information.

21 I understand that the factors
22 and calculations involved are complicated
23 and may to some seem confusing, but the
24 Office of Property Assessment needs to
25 tell Council and the public how it

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 arrived at these assessments. Otherwise,
3 we will have no idea how accurate these
4 assessments are.

5 For instance, just this week,
6 we received information in the 2nd
7 Councilmanic District, Graduate Hospital
8 area, we found evidence that new
9 assessments are grossly inaccurate. Five
10 houses on one block in my district are
11 assessed in the aggregate of 3.2 million
12 less than they sold for within the last
13 few years. One house sold for 1.4
14 million in 2012, but OPA assessed it at
15 700,000. Another house sold for 1.7
16 million, but OPA assessed it at 800,000,
17 almost 1 million less than the sale
18 price. We are seeing apparent
19 inconsistencies like this throughout the
20 City.

21 Without a detailed explanation
22 regarding how the assessments were
23 calculated, the public will not have any
24 confidence in this process.

25 Council has conducted an

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 in-depth analysis of the effects of AVI,
3 moving to AVI based upon the new
4 assessments. We know how the proposed
5 relief measures will affect the
6 residents, but we don't have the same
7 information regarding the accuracy of the
8 assessments citywide.

9 The Administration and OPA
10 needs to convince the public and Council
11 that the assessments are fundamentally
12 accurate and that it can correct
13 inaccuracies before residents get their
14 new tax bills. And why this is so
15 important, in order for us to continue to
16 gain our public's trust, it's important
17 that they have a clear understanding on
18 how OPA arrived to these numbers.

19 I have met countless
20 individuals who I mentioned time and time
21 again, they do not have a problem paying
22 their fair share. They just want a
23 detailed explanation on how you got to
24 these numbers before they actually pay
25 their tax bills.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 And so I honestly believe that
3 we're moving from one flawed system to
4 another system that could also be flawed,
5 and if the Administration cannot prove
6 the assessments are accurate, then we
7 shouldn't move forward in this process
8 until public and, most importantly,
9 Council has a detailed explanation on how
10 they arrived at these numbers.

11 Thank you very much, Council
12 President and members of Council.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Thank you, sir.

15 The Chair recognizes Councilman
16 Greenlee.

17 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
18 you, Mr. President. Just very quickly.
19 I just want to remind the members of the
20 Rules Committee that as soon as Council
21 is over and they set up the room, we are
22 going to commence with the Committee
23 hearing, because we also have a hearing
24 after that. So we have to get started as
25 quickly as possible. So I will ask the

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 members to stand by right after our
3 Council meeting is over.

4 Thank you, Mr. President.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you, Councilman.

7 The Chair recognizes

8 Councilwoman Tasco.

9 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,
10 Mr. President. I'd just like to invite
11 my colleagues and those who are listening
12 from the 9th Councilmanic District to
13 please join us tomorrow morning at 10:30
14 at the Sturgis Recreation Center, where
15 we will be breaking ground.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
17 infamous Sturgis Playground.

18 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: It's at
19 65th and Second Street, across from the
20 old Cardinal Dougherty School, which is
21 now Aspira.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Congratulations on that one,
24 Councilwoman. Hard fought.

25 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 Chair recognizes Councilman Goode.

4 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
5 Mr. President. For clarity of the
6 legislative record, I feel compelled to
7 say that I did in fact sign the ODUNDE
8 resolution.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Thank you, sir. Thank you, sir.
11 Councilman Johnson.

12 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: I'm glad
13 everyone supported the ODUNDE resolution,
14 and I know we all are politicians. When
15 I go down to read my resolution, I don't
16 know how many of us have degrees in terms
17 of being doctors in terms of how you sign
18 your names. That will more help me kind
19 of recognize who is actually signing the
20 resolutions.

21 Thank you, Council President.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you, Councilman.

24 The Chair recognizes Councilman
25 Green.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
3 Mr. President. I just wanted to speak
4 today, after I heard Councilman Johnson's
5 speech of the majority, to say that I
6 completely agree with everything he said
7 and that there is something we can do
8 about it, and, Mr. President, I would
9 like to ask you, or if Councilman Johnson
10 wants to propose it, to subpoena the
11 information from the Department of
12 Revenue, from OPA, whoever has it, with
13 respect to the algorithms and the
14 analysis that is done. That is within
15 our investigatory powers, and I think
16 this body ought to subpoena those records
17 if we don't have them by next Thursday.

18 Thank you, Mr. President.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Thank you, Councilman. We had promised
21 the individuals at last night's meeting
22 that we were currently in a process to
23 ensure that we get the appropriate
24 answers for this particular measure,
25 amongst others. I don't want to

1 4/18/13 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 broadcast what we're up to, but trust me,
3 I concur, and we're going to get the
4 information. Thank you.

5 Thank you both.

6 There being no other speeches
7 at this time, the Chair recognizes
8 Councilwoman Brown for a motion to
9 adjourn.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
11 Mr. President. Councilman Greenlee has
12 spoken to the Rules hearing. I'd like to
13 also note this housekeeping matter
14 wherein Big Brothers and Big Sisters will
15 be joining us next door featuring W.
16 Wilson Goode, Sr. and the new very, very
17 dynamic, extraordinary leader of -- the
18 new leader of Big Brothers/Big Sisters,
19 Marcus Allen. So you're invited please
20 also to honor the duty of the Rules
21 Committee and then step over to meet the
22 new leader of Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

23 I move that Council stand
24 adjourned until Thursday, April 25th,
25 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

1 4/18/13 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It
4 has been moved and properly seconded that
5 Council stand adjourned.

6 All those in favor?

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Those opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
12 ayes have it. Council shall be adjourned
13 until Thursday, April 25th, 2013 at 10:00
14 a.m.

15 Thank you all very much.

16 (Stated Meeting adjourned at
17 12:25 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the proceedings, evidence and objections are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me upon the foregoing matter, and that this is a true and correct transcript of same.

MICHELE L. MURPHY
RPR-Notary Public

(The foregoing certification of this transcript does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means, unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.)

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