

JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA



**Thursday, February 13, 2025**

PRESENT: 16 - Councilmembers Bass, Brooks, Driscoll, Gauthier, Gilmore Richardson, Jones, Lozada, O'Neill, Phillips, Squilla, Thomas, Ahmad, Landau, O'Rourke, Young and Council President Johnson

EXCUSED: 1 - Councilmember Harrity

Council met, a quorum being present.

RABBI SHLOIME ISAACSON OF CONGREGATION BETH SOLOMON SYNAGOGUE AND COMMUNITY CENTER, was introduced and offered an appropriate prayer.

**APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

COUNCILMEMBER BASS MOVED TO APPROVE THE JOURNAL

Journal of February 6, 2025 was approved.

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Councilmember Gilmore Richardson requested leave of absence for

Councilmember Harrity

THE REQUEST WAS GRANTED.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

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

Transmitting an Ordinance authorizing the Procurement Commissioner, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to enter into an agreement with the Philadelphia Energy Authority for coordination of a guaranteed energy savings contract for implementation and evaluation of energy conservation measures designed to reduce energy, water,

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wastewater, or other consumption or operating costs at specified City properties, all under certain terms and conditions. (File No. 250121)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ AND FILED.

Transmitting a message advising you that on February 12, 2025, I signed the following bill, which was passed by Council at its session on January 30, 2025:

Bill No. 240817 (File No. 250122)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ AND FILED.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Councilmember Jones Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Jones:

**Bill No. 250099:** An Ordinance Establishing a two-way regulation on Dupont Street, from the westernmost portion of Baker Street to Smick Street, under certain terms and conditions.

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

Councilmember Jones Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Jones:

**Bill No. 250100:** An Ordinance Authorizing encroachments in the nature of a sidewalk café in the vicinity of 177 Markle Street, Philadelphia, PA 19127, under certain terms and conditions.

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

Councilmember Young Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Young:

**Bill No. 250101:** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 9-800 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Landlord and Tenant,” to place limits on late fees that may be charged to residential tenants, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON LAW AND GOVERNMENT.

Councilmember Squilla Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Squilla:

**Bill No. 250102:** An Ordinance Amending Section 2 of an Ordinance (Bill No. 220639), approved January 10, 2023, entitled “An Ordinance Authorizing the revision of lines and grades on a portion of City Plan No. 27-S by striking from the City Plan

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the easterly twenty feet wide portion of Swanson Street from Wolf Street to Snyder Avenue, striking from the City Plan and vacating the legally open portion of Vandalia Street from Wolf Street to Weccacoe Avenue, and reserving and placing on the City Plan a right-of-way for sewer and drainage purposes within the portion of Swanson Street being stricken and authorizing acceptance of the grant to the City of the said right-of-way, all under certain terms and conditions, including the dedication to the City of the beds of the remaining unopened portions of Swanson Street from Wolf Street to Jackson Street and from Jackson Street to Snyder Avenue,” by extending the period for compliance with the terms and conditions stated therein.

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

Councilmember Squilla Introduced and Referred the following Bill for Council President Johnson, Sponsored by Councilmember Squilla:

**Bill No. 250103:** An Ordinance Authorizing the Procurement Commissioner, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to enter into an agreement with the Philadelphia Energy Authority for coordination of a guaranteed energy savings contract for implementation and evaluation of energy conservation measures designed to reduce energy, water, wastewater, or other consumption or operating costs at specified City properties, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Councilmember Gilmore Richardson Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Gilmore Richardson and Council President Johnson:

**Resolution No. 250104:** Resolution Honoring and celebrating Philadelphia Eagles Associate Performance Coach Autumn Lockwood, the first Black Woman Coach to win the Super Bowl.

Councilmember Gilmore Richardson Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution for Council President Johnson, Sponsored by Councilmembers Gilmore Richardson, Ahmad, Bass, Brooks, Driscoll, Gauthier, Harrity, Jones, Landau, Lozada, O'Neill, O'Rourke, Phillips, Squilla, Thomas and Young:

**Resolution No. 250105:** Resolution A resolution celebrating and congratulating the NFL Champions, the Philadelphia Eagles, on their triumphant victory in Super Bowl LIX against the Kansas City Chiefs, held at the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans on February 9, 2025.

Councilmember Jones Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar

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the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Jones:

**Resolution No. 250106:** Resolution Honoring and congratulating the Overbrook High School Girls Volleyball Team for winning the 2024 American Conference Championship.

Councilmember Jones Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Jones:

**Resolution No. 250107:** Resolution Honoring and recognizing Philadelphia's living legends during Black History Month for their contributions to the African American community and their lasting impact.

Councilmember Young Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Young:

**Resolution No. 250108:** Resolution Honoring and congratulating Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts for being named Super Bowl LIX MVP

Councilmember Young Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Young:

**Resolution No. 250109:** Resolution Authorizing the Council Committee on Transportation and Public Utilities to hold hearings to investigate the potential locations of new intercity bus terminals in the City of Philadelphia

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Resolution No. 250110:** Resolution Recognizing and celebrating the Lunar New Year and the Year of the Snake, and honoring Philadelphia's Chinatown as a vibrant, historical, and vital neighborhood in our City's fabric.

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Resolution No. 250111:** Resolution Celebrating and recognizing Alvina Brown for her steadfast commitment to community and to her neighbors, and for her advocacy to improve the lives of people across the City of Philadelphia, on the occasion of Black History Month.

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

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**Resolution No. 250112:** Resolution Celebrating and honoring Maggie McCall for her tenacious commitment to organizing, beautifying and connecting with her neighborhood, including serving as a Block Captain for 51 years, and for improving the lives of people across Philadelphia, on the occasion of Black History Month.

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Resolution No. 250113:** Resolution Celebrating and recognizing Sheila Hawkins for her insistence on the importance of community, her tireless efforts to make the spaces around her more beautiful, and her understanding that that unity is at the heart of activism, on the occasion of Black History Month.

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Resolution No. 250114:** Resolution Honoring and celebrating Sandra Murdock, whose love for the people around her nourishes and uplifts the people and spaces that she graces, for providing to her community and for her commitment to mentoring young girls and boys across the City of Philadelphia, on the occasion of Black History Month.

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Resolution No. 250115:** Resolution Celebrating and honoring Patricia Ford for her tireless advocacy for her community, her love for her children, and her devotion to improving the lives of people across Philadelphia, on the occasion of Black History Month.

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Resolution No. 250116:** Resolution Celebrating and commending Nikki Bagby for her steadfast devotion to using her platform to positively impact the lives of youth and vulnerable communities across the City of Philadelphia, on the occasion of Black History Month.

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Resolution No. 250117:** Resolution Honoring and celebrating National Crossing Guard Appreciation Day, to highlight and express gratitude for the critical work that crossing guards do to keep roadway connections safe and intersections safe for all.

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Councilmember Driscoll Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution for Council President Johnson, Sponsored by Councilmembers Driscoll, Ahmad, Bass, Brooks, Gauthier, Gilmore Richardson, Harrity, Jones, Landau, Lozada, O'Neill, O'Rourke, Phillips, Squilla, Thomas and Young:

**Resolution No. 250118:** Resolution A resolution honoring and thanking the Philadelphia Police Department, the Philadelphia Fire Department, the Pennsylvania State Police, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Office of Emergency Management, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, and the American Red Cross for their heroism and bravery when responding to the Northeast Philadelphia plane crash on January 31, 2025.

Councilmember Driscoll Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Driscoll:

**Resolution No. 250119:** Resolution Recognizing and honoring Royal (Gene) E. Brown for his dedicated service to the Philadelphia Gas Commission.

Councilmember Bass Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Bass:

**Resolution No. 250120:** Resolution Honoring and celebrating the extraordinary life of Alfred L. Dezzi and his invaluable contributions to public service, environmental policy, criminal justice reform, and education, and expressing deep gratitude for his enduring impact on the City of Philadelphia.

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no Reports from Committees.

## CONSIDERATION OF THE CALENDAR

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown 250030  
Tah Murdock Brooks Resolution  
Jeremy Blatstein 250083  
Kate Perez 240427  
Avis Wanda McClinton Brooks Resolution  
Tracey Chappel Carter 250030  
Eleanor Dezzi Bass Resolution  
Chris Dezzi Bass Resolution

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Joann Bell 250030

Sonja Burrus 250030

Melissa Robbins 250030

Andrea Lawful Sanders 250030

Melita Jordan 250030

Jennifer Folks 250030

Amber Harrison 250030

Pat Albright 250080

Phoebe Jones 250080

Rosemary Barbara 250080

Dr. Nikia Owens 250080

Christine Speidel 250080

Wei Chen O'Rourke Resolution

Vivian Chang O'Rourke Resolution

Cynthis Hue O'Rourke Resolution

Lisa Li O'Rourke Resolution

Tara Sanders Brooks Resolution

David Alexander Jenkins 250080

Ogbonna Hagins 250030

Wanda Walker 250084

Lynn Landes 250030

Eboni Smith Brooks Resolution

SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY FOR FULL COMMENT FROM STATED MEETING OF THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 13, 2025.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS IN A COUNCIL SESSION**

**Note: Some items do not occur at every session:**

**Invocation.**

**Approval of the journal of the preceding meeting.**

**Requests by Councilmembers for permission to be absent from  
the session.**

**Reading of communications from the Mayor.**

**Introduction of bills and resolutions (to be referred to  
appropriate Committees of Council).**

**Reports from Committees of Council.**

**Special business.**

**Bills on first reading.**

**Public comment on bills and resolutions on the Second  
Reading and Final Passage Calendars - titles are printed below.**

**Bills that Council passed but that need to be returned by the  
Mayor for reconsideration.**

**Consideration of bills and resolutions on the Second Reading  
and Final Passage Calendars.**



**Bills and resolutions on the Suspension Calendar.**

**Speeches by Councilmembers.**

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**Please note that this is an in-person meeting, and it is open to the public. This meeting may also be viewed on Xfinity Channel 64, Fios Channel 40 or <http://phlcouncil.com/watch-city-council/>**

**Public comment will be received in-person regarding those matters printed on the agenda on the following pages. Speakers interested in participating in public comment at this meeting may call 215-686-3406 by no later than 3 p.m. the day before the meeting and they must submit the following information:**

- **Full name (including proper pronunciation and spelling)**
- **Identify the bill number or resolution number that will be addressed**
- **State whether you support or oppose that particular bill or resolution**
  - **Telephone number where you can be reached**

**Speakers may also sign-up to participate in public comment on the day of the meeting in Room 400, City Hall. Speakers who submitted the above information within the required time frame will be added to the list. Speakers will have up to three minutes to speak; the Council President, however, reserves the right based on circumstances to establish a different time limit. The Council President may also limit testimony where repetitious comments are offered on an agenda item.**

### **BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON FINAL PASSAGE**

Councilmember Squilla called up:

**Resolution No. 250030:** Resolution Also naming Market Street from 7th to 8th as Emma Chappell Way, in honor of the trailblazing work she did to establish the City's first bank operated by a Black woman.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

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Councilmember Landau called up:

**Resolution No. 250080:** Resolution Urging Congress to expand the Child Tax Credit, an essential anti-poverty initiative that has drastically cut child poverty and benefitted millions of families.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Young called up:

**Resolution No. 250083:** Resolution Authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to execute and deliver to the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority deeds conveying fee simple title to 2406, 2434, 2440, 2444 N. 6th Street, 2425, 2427 N. 7th Street 2400, 2403, 2455 N. 15th Street, 2424, 2460 N. 16th Street, 2415 N. Bancroft Street, 1509 W. Boston Street, 1500, 1507 W. Cumberland Street, 1501-03, 1510 W. Firth Street, 1422, 1437 W. Hagert Street, 1422, 1430 Letterly Street, 2434, 2438, 2440, 2445 N. Marshall Street, 2452 N. Mole Street, 2418, 2419, 2421, 2428, 2433 N. Sydenham Street in the 5th Councilmanic District of the City of Philadelphia and further authorizing the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority to transfer to the Philadelphia Land Bank fee simple title to such properties pursuant to Section 16-405 of The Philadelphia Code.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Lozada called up:

**Resolution No. 250084:** Resolution Authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 2271 N. Philip Street located in the 7th Councilmanic District in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia Code.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Bass called up:

**Resolution No. 250090:** Resolution Authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 2248 Ruffner Street located in the 8th Councilmanic District in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia Code.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

## RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Gilmore Richardson called up:

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**Resolution No. 250104:** Resolution Honoring and celebrating Philadelphia Eagles Associate Performance Coach Autumn Lockwood, the first Black Woman Coach to win the Super Bowl.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Gilmore Richardson called up:

**Resolution No. 250105:** Resolution A resolution celebrating and congratulating the NFL Champions, the Philadelphia Eagles, on their triumphant victory in Super Bowl LIX against the Kansas City Chiefs, held at the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans on February 9, 2025.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Jones called up:

**Resolution No. 250106:** Resolution Honoring and congratulating the Overbrook High School Girls Volleyball Team for winning the 2024 American Conference Championship.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Jones called up:

**Resolution No. 250107:** Resolution Honoring and recognizing Philadelphia's living legends during Black History Month for their contributions to the African American community and their lasting impact.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Young called up:

**Resolution No. 250108:** Resolution Honoring and congratulating Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts for being named Super Bowl LIX MVP

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Young called up:

**Resolution No. 250109:** Resolution Authorizing the Council Committee on Transportation and Public Utilities to hold hearings to investigate the potential locations of new intercity bus terminals in the City of Philadelphia

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Councilmember Brooks called up:

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THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Brooks called up:

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THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

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Councilmember Brooks called up:

**Resolution No. 250113:** Resolution Celebrating and recognizing Sheila Hawkins for her insistence on the importance of community, her tireless efforts to make the spaces around her more beautiful, and her understanding that that unity is at the heart of activism, on the occasion of Black History Month.

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Councilmember Brooks called up:

**Resolution No. 250114:** Resolution Honoring and celebrating Sandra Murdock, whose love for the people around her nourishes and uplifts the people and spaces that she graces, for providing to her community and for her commitment to mentoring young girls and boys across the City of Philadelphia, on the occasion of Black History Month.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Brooks called up:

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**Resolution No. 250115:** Resolution Celebrating and honoring Patricia Ford for her tireless advocacy for her community, her love for her children, and her devotion to improving the lives of people across Philadelphia, on the occasion of Black History Month.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Brooks called up:

**Resolution No. 250116:** Resolution Celebrating and commending Nikki Bagby for her steadfast devotion to using her platform to positively impact the lives of youth and vulnerable communities across the City of Philadelphia, on the occasion of Black History Month.

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Councilmember Driscoll called up:

**Resolution No. 250118:** Resolution A resolution honoring and thanking the Philadelphia Police Department, the Philadelphia Fire Department, the Pennsylvania State Police, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Office of Emergency Management, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, and the American Red Cross for their heroism and bravery when responding to the Northeast Philadelphia plane crash on January 31, 2025.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Driscoll called up:

**Resolution No. 250119:** Resolution Recognizing and honoring Royal (Gene) E. Brown for his dedicated service to the Philadelphia Gas Commission.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Bass called up:

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**Resolution No. 250120:** Resolution Honoring and celebrating the extraordinary life of Alfred L. Dezzi and his invaluable contributions to public service, environmental policy, criminal justice reform, and education, and expressing deep gratitude for his enduring impact on the City of Philadelphia.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

**SPEECHES**

Councilmember Brooks, Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Landau, Councilmember Thomas, Councilmember Young, Councilmember Bass, and Councilmember O'Neill.

SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY FROM STATED MEETING OF THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT**

COUNCILMEMBER THOMAS MOVED TO ADJOURN

Adjourn to February 20, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.