

JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA



Thursday, January 30, 2025

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

EXCUSED: 1 - Councilmember Bass

Council met, a quorum being present.

Reverend Dr. Marsha Brown Woodard, President of the Baptist Pastors and Ministries Conference of Philadelphia and Vicinity, and Assistant Pastor of the Saints Memorial Baptist Church in Bryn Mawr, was introduced and offered an appropriate prayer.

COUNCILMEMBER THOMAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE JOURNAL

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.

Councilmember Bass

THE REQUEST WAS GRANTED.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

Transmitting an Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property and the Streets Commissioner, on behalf of the City, to own and maintain a bridge to be constructed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation ("PennDOT") to carry Byberry Road over certain railroad tracks between Evans Street and Worthington Road, and placing said bridge carrying Byberry Road on the City Plan pursuant to the terms of an agreement between the City and PennDOT, all under certain terms and conditions. (File No. 250061)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ AND FILED.

Transmitting an Ordinance authorizing the opening of a right of way to the public on

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land near the intersection of the southeasterly side of Bath Street and southwesterly side of Victoria Streets, all being land owned by the City. (File No. 250062)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ AND FILED.

Transmitting an Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City, to acquire from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania a perpetual right and easement on, over and across a certain tract of land at the intersection of Southampton Road and Roosevelt Boulevard for roadway and related improvements, under certain terms and conditions. (File No. 250063)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ AND FILED.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Bill No. 250041: An Ordinance Amending Section 14-303 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Common Procedures and Requirements,” by authorizing the Zoning Board of Adjustment to condition zoning approval upon provision of affordable housing, under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES.

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

Bill No. 250042: An Ordinance Amending Section 14-604 of The Philadelphia Code (“Accessory Uses and Structures”) to modify certain restrictions with respect to accessory dwelling units, and making conforming technical changes, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES.

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

Bill No. 250043: An Ordinance Amending Subcode “A” (The Philadelphia Administrative Code) of Title 4 of The Philadelphia Code (The Building, Construction and Occupancy Code), by defining affordable housing projects and establishing specific application and permitting procedures for such projects, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND THE HOMELESS.

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

Bill No. 250044: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 9-800 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Landlord and Tenant,” to establish requirements related to security deposits for residential rentals and establishing remedies for violations, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND THE HOMELESS.

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

Bill No. 250045: An Ordinance

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND THE HOMELESS.

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

Bill No. 250046: An Ordinance Authorizing the opening of a right of way to the public on land near the intersection of the southeasterly side of Bath Street and southwesterly side of Victoria Streets, all being land owned by the City.

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

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

Bill No. 250047: An Ordinance Authorizing encroachments in the nature of a sidewalk café in the vicinity of 1525 S 9th St, Philadelphia, PA 19147, under certain terms and conditions.

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

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

Bill No. 250048: An Ordinance Authorizing encroachments in the nature of a sidewalk café in the vicinity of 2049 East Hagert St, Philadelphia, PA 19125, under certain terms and conditions.

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

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

Bill No. 250049: An Ordinance Authorizing various encroachments in the vicinity of 1625 South 2nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148, under certain terms and conditions.

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

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

Resolution No. 250050: Resolution Recognizing and Honoring Juvenile Law Center on its 50th Anniversary.

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

Resolution No. 250051: Resolution Honoring the Office of Clean and Green for Their Exceptional Contributions Toward a Cleaner, Greener Philadelphia.

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

Resolution No. 250052: Resolution Authorizing the Committee on Licenses & Inspections and the Committee on Public Safety to hold hearings on enforcement against drug paraphernalia stores.

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

Resolution No. 250053: Resolution Honoring the life and legacy of Sid Booker, a Philadelphia businessman and community icon who left an indelible mark on North Philadelphia and beyond.

Councilmember Gauthier Introduced and Ordered Placed On Next Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Gauthier:

Resolution No. 250054: Resolution Authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to execute and deliver to the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority deeds conveying fee simple title to 719 S. 51st Street, 1124 S. 56th Street, and 1218 N. 41st Street in the Third Councilmanic District of the City of Philadelphia and further authorizing the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority to transfer to the Philadelphia Land Bank fee

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simple title to such properties pursuant to Section 16-405 of The Philadelphia Code.

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

Resolution No. 250055: Resolution Recognizing Patricia Riley, SEPTA's first female conductor.

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

Resolution No. 250056: Resolution Recognizing the Rise of Cardiovascular Disease as the World's Leading Cause of Death and Disability and Supporting the Recognition of February 2025 as "American Heart Month."

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

Resolution No. 250057: Resolution Honoring January as National Poverty in America Awareness Month and recognizing the severe conditions of poverty that many Americans experience day-to day.

Councilmember O'Rourke Introduced and Ordered Placed On Next Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember O'Rourke:

Resolution No. 250058: Resolution Declaring 2025 as the Year of Cooperatives in Philadelphia and calling on the City of Philadelphia to explore all options to support the development and resilience of local cooperative businesses.

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

Resolution No. 250059: Resolution Authorizing the Committee on Technology and Information Services to hold hearings regarding the operation of the Philadelphia 311 non-emergency hotline and its engagement with City departments

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

Resolution No. 250060: Resolution Recognizing January 29th, 2025, as the Lunar New Year and celebrating the cultural and historical significance of Philadelphia's Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

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There were no reports from committees.

CONSIDERATION OF THE CALENDAR

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kate Perez 240427 250021
Rev. Dr. Michelle Simmons 250027
Malcolm Musgrove Harranty Resolution
Harranty Resolution Harranty Resolution
Jeremy Blatstien 241144
Keir Bradford Grey 250027
Lynn Landis 250021
Wanda Walker 250014
Ogbonna Hagins 250021

SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY FOR FULL COMMENT FROM STATED MEETING OF THURSDAY,
JANUARY 30, 2025.

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.

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.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON FINAL PASSAGE

Councilmember Gauthier called up:

Resolution No. 250014: Resolution Authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 3862 and 3864 Pennsgrove St and 1118 N 39th Street located in the 3rd Councilmanic District in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia Code.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Thomas called up:

Resolution No. 250018: Resolution Amending Resolution No. 240834-A, which the Council adopted on December 19, 2024, entitled “Proposing an amendment to the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to provide for the creation of the Philadelphia Prison Community Oversight Board and the Office of Prison Oversight and providing for the submission of the amendment to the electors of Philadelphia,” to make a technical correction.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Jones called up:

Resolution No. 250019: Resolution Authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to execute and deliver to the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority deeds conveying fee simple title to 623R N. 55th Street, 5110 Harlan Street, 5122-24 Harlan Street, 2715 N. Dover Street, 2715 N. Dover Street, 2731 N. 29th Street, 2738 W. Silver

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Street, 2703 W. Sterner Street, 2714 W. Sterner Street, 2717 W. Sterner Street, 2627 W. Lehigh Avenue, 2629-31 W. Lehigh Avenue, 2623 W. Silver Street, 2726 W. Sterner Street, 2705 W. Sterner Street, 2710 W. Sterner Street, 2723 W. Sterner Street, 2731 W. Sterner Street, 2655 W. Silver Street, 2626 W. Silver Street, 2720 N. 28th Street, 2715 W. Sterner Street, 2749 W. Sterner Street, 2733 W. Sterner Street, 2647 W. Lehigh Avenue, 2711 W. Sterner Street, 2628 W. Silver Street, 2655 W. Seltzer Street, 2820 N. Newkirk Street, 2758 N. 28th Street, 2719 N. 29th Street, 2602 W. Sterner Street, and 2651 W. Silver Street in the Fourth 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 Landau called up:

Resolution No. 250021: Resolution Condemning President Donald J. Trump for his selection of underqualified cabinet, subcabinet, and leadership nominees to further advance his Project 2025 agenda and undermine the integrity of American democracy, equity, human rights, and freedom.

Nay Councilmember O'Neill

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Gilmore Richardson called up:

Resolution No. 250027: Resolution Authorizing the Committee on Legislative Oversight to hold a hearing on detainer policy in the City of Philadelphia, and calling on the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania to provide an overview of its policies and practices regarding detainer issuance on individuals with post trial probation and parole sentences.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember O'Rourke called up:

Resolution No. 250029: Resolution Recognizing the devastation caused by the wildfires to the Los Angeles community, the accelerating rate of climate change, and calling on the City of Philadelphia to provide the funding and resources necessary to fully update and implement human-centered climate mitigation and resilience plans.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

**BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING AND FINAL
PASSAGE**

Bill No. 240817, as amended: An Ordinance Providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia of the proposal set forth in a Resolution approved by Council proposing an amendment to The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to the creation of the Philadelphia Prison Community Oversight Board; and authorizing the appropriate officers to publish notice and to make arrangements for the special election; all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS READ AND PASSED.

The Ayes and Nays were as follows:

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

Nays: 0

RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Phillips called up:

Resolution No. 250050: Resolution Recognizing and Honoring Juvenile Law Center on its 50th Anniversary.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Phillips called up:

Resolution No. 250051: Resolution Honoring the Office of Clean and Green for Their Exceptional Contributions Toward a Cleaner, Greener Philadelphia.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Gilmore Richardson called up:

Resolution No. 250052: Resolution Authorizing the Committee on Licenses & Inspections and the Committee on Public Safety to hold hearings on enforcement against drug paraphernalia stores.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 250053: Resolution Honoring the life and legacy of Sid Booker, a Philadelphia businessman and community icon who left an indelible mark on North

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Philadelphia and beyond.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY STANDING VOTE.

Councilmember Young called up:

Resolution No. 250055: Resolution Recognizing Patricia Riley, SEPTA's first female conductor.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Harrity called up:

Resolution No. 250056: Resolution Recognizing the Rise of Cardiovascular Disease as the World's Leading Cause of Death and Disability and Supporting the Recognition of February 2025 as "American Heart Month."

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Harrity called up:

Resolution No. 250057: Resolution Honoring January as National Poverty in America Awareness Month and recognizing the severe conditions of poverty that many Americans experience day-to day.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Driscoll called up:

Resolution No. 250059: Resolution Authorizing the Committee on Technology and Information Services to hold hearings regarding the operation of the Philadelphia 311 non-emergency hotline and its engagement with City departments

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Ahmad called up:

Resolution No. 250060: Resolution Recognizing January 29th, 2025, as the Lunar New Year and celebrating the cultural and historical significance of Philadelphia's Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

SPEECHES

Councilmember O'Rourke, Councilmember Gilmore Richardson, Councilmember Lozada, Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Ahmad, Councilmember Gauthier, Councilmember Young,

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Councilmember Landau, and Councilmember Phillips

SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY FROM STATED MEETING OF THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCILMEMBER THOMAS MOVED TO ADJOURN

Adjourn to February 6, 2025.

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.