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ALWAYS ASKING. ALWAYS PHILLY.



Mayor Cherrille L. Parker speaks Thursday at City Hall after City Council rejected most of her tax proposals for the city budget. With her are Superintendent Tony B. Watlington Sr. (left) and Reginald L. Streater, president of the school board. Tom Gralish / Staff Photographer

Bolton expected to plead guilty in documents case

The former national security adviser allegedly retained classified information while writing a memoir.

By Katie Mettler, Perry Stein, and Jeremy Roebuck
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — John Bolton, a former national security adviser turned outspoken critic of President Donald Trump, is expected to plead guilty in a case involving his alleged mishandling of classified materials.

Bolton pleaded not guilty in the case in October. A change-of-plea hearing is scheduled for June 26 before U.S. District Judge Theodore D. Chuang, according to a spokesperson for the U.S. attorney's office in Maryland. The spokesperson declined to comment further.

Bolton plans to plead guilty to one count of retention of national defense information and has agreed to pay a fine of \$2.25 million, according to a person familiar with the matter, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss an agreement that has not been made public.

Under the agreement, Bolton could face anywhere from no time behind bars to five years in prison, the person said. Had Bolton taken his case to trial and lost, he could have faced up to 10 years behind bars on each of the counts.

A guilty plea is not finalized until it has been accepted by a judge. Bolton's sentence will be determined by the court, which can reject or accept terms of the agreement.

The Justice Department declined to comment Thursday. Bolton did not immediately respond to a request for comment. CNN first reported Bolton's plans to plead guilty.

Bolton's expected decision to admit guilt would deliver a rare win for the Justice Department in its efforts to prosecute Trump's political foes during his second term. But unlike charges that federal prosecutors lodged last year

→ SEE BOLTON ON A6

Council advances \$7.1B budget, rejects key Parker tax proposals

The mayor had pushed for added levies on firms like Uber and Airbnb to help fund schools. Lawmakers had other ideas.

By Sean Collins Walsh, Anna Orso, and Kristen A. Graham
Staff Writers

Philadelphia Mayor Cherrille L. Parker picked a fight with big tech companies.

In the end, the tech companies won.

City Council gave preliminary approval Thursday to a more than \$7.1 billion budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1. The plan does not include the mayor's tax proposals meant to squeeze revenue out of gig economy companies like Lyft, Uber, Airbnb, and DoorDash.

"Billionaire big tech companies just won round one in this process," Parker said, adding that the firms spent big on lobbying and public

advertising to defeat the proposals and that they "control algorithms and what we see on social media."

"I won't give up," Parker said. "Our children deserve better. They deserve more. ... We didn't meet the moment here in the city of Philadelphia."

To plug the Philadelphia School District's budget shortfall — which Parker hoped to help fund with a controversial \$1-per-ride tax on rideshare services — Council instead amended the city budget to allocate an additional \$48 million to the district this year. Those one-time dollars are coming from a grab bag of extra savings from a variety of departments, including \$10 million from the commerce department's contracts with outside vendors and a \$9 million savings in debt service.

Superintendent Tony B. Watlington Sr., however, sent city officials a letter Thursday saying the school district's cuts would go forward regardless because the new funding is not recurring revenue, meaning the district cannot count on it

→ SEE BUDGET ON A10

Despite \$48M influx, job cuts still looming

By Kristen A. Graham, Anna Orso, and Sean Collins Walsh
Staff Writers

Philadelphia School District officials said they will cut hundreds of classroom jobs — even though they are getting \$48 million in new funding from the city that lawmakers hoped would avert the reductions.

That is because City Council gave preliminary approval to a budget Thursday with a one-time increase for the school system and no guarantee of the same level of support going forward.

Mayor Cherrille L. Parker had proposed a \$1-per-trip tax on rideshare services, which was expected to produce \$48 million for the district annually — a sum that,

Superintendent Tony B. Watlington Sr. said, would have made it possible to avert 340 classroom-based job cuts. But on Thursday, that plan died in Council.

"We'll have to live within our means," Watlington said during a news conference alongside Parker on Thursday. "We can't commit to a staffing ratio that we don't have the revenue for, and so we are just unable to play Russian roulette with staff positions."

Parker cast Council's rejection of her rideshare tax proposal as a move that would hurt Philadelphia students.

"Our goal here was to generate ... predictable and recurring revenue sources for the School District of Philadelphia so that they could save 340 school-based jobs and preserve

→ SEE SCHOOLS ON A10

After 250 years, a Declaration of Independence comes home

A Philly merchant shipped a freshly printed copy to a cousin in Amsterdam in 1776. It never got there.

By Mike Newall
Staff Writer

Jonas Phillips had been living with the Declaration of Independence for a little more than three weeks by late July 1776, when one scorching Philadelphia day he decided he should go ahead and send a copy to his relative Gumpel.

Gumpel Samson, a cousin and business partner who lived in Amsterdam, must have had a lively curiosity in such things as rebellion and independence. Enough so, anyway, that Phillips, a Jewish immigrant patriot and civil rights leader, folded a broadside of the declaration that he likely had torn from the window of a Market Street shop, stuffed it into an envelope,

and sent it on the next tall ship out of Philly.

This copy of the declaration then took its own trip — one beginning in those feverish Philly days in 1776 when independence was still new, and spanning nearly two and a half centuries and a continent and an ocean, before finding its way back to Philadelphia.

It is a story that only recently has been pieced back together — and is now told at the Museum of the American Revolution, where Phillips' copy of America's most famous broadside is on display.

"It helps answer some of the 'who' and 'how' and 'why' questions about the initial spread of the Declaration of Independence," Matthew Skic, director of collections and exhibitions at the museum, said of the rare founding document, now on special loan to the museum from the National Archives of the United Kingdom. "Who were the people that were in the crowd when the declaration was first read aloud on July 8? Who were the people that owned these

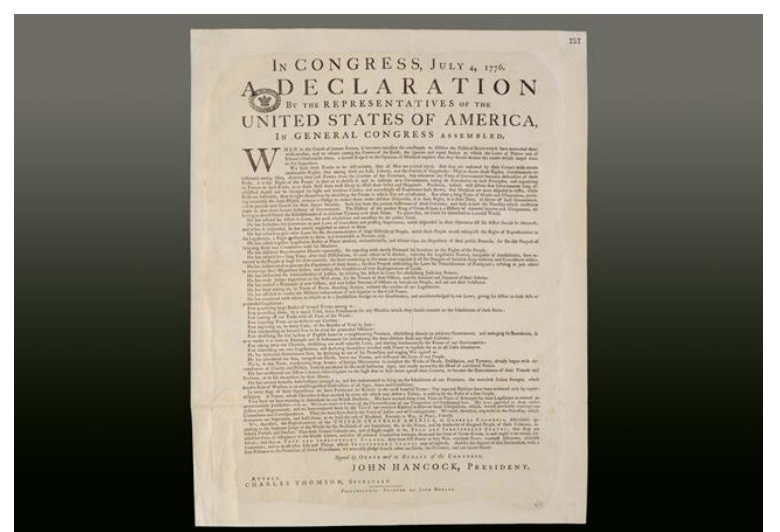
broadside and first read from them?"

'A declaration of that whole country'

In July 1776, in his created note to Gumpel Samson — written in Yiddish to confuse British naval officers searching ships — Phillips kept it brief, explaining only that he was sharing "a declaration of that whole country," meaning the newly formed United States. He also included a bill of exchange for some money to send along to his mother in Germany.

There are 26 known surviving copies of the roughly 200 original broadside printings of the Declaration of Independence that Philly printer John Dunlap hastily produced on demand on the night

→ SEE DECLARATION ON A6



The 1776 copy of the Declaration of Independence, known as a "Dunlap Broadside," on display at the Museum of the American Revolution. Courtesy of the National Archives of the United Kingdom

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