



# NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE-FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Co-Chair George Smiley, Seventh District  
Co-Chair John Cartier, Eighth District

September 17, 2024  
4:00 PM

VIRTUAL ZOOM WEBINAR MEETING\*\* &  
LOUIS L. REDDING CITY/COUNTY BUILDING  
1ST FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 N. FRENCH STREET, WILMINGTON, DE 19801

## MINUTES

### A. Call To Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 04:20 PM by Mr. Cartier.

Members present: J. William Bell, David Carter, John Cartier, Dee Durham, Valerie George, Penrose Hollins, Janet Kilpatrick, Timothy Sheldon, George Smiley, Jea Street (virtual), David Tackett, Brandon Toole

Members absent: Karen Hartley-Nagle

### B. Approval of Minutes

- Mr. Smiley made a motion and Mr. Carter seconded to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2024 Ad-Finance Meeting. The vote to approve was unanimous.

### C. Review/Discussion of Resolution(s)

R24-165: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE A MASTER LOAN AGREEMENT, OR SUCH OTHER SIMILAR AGREEMENTS, WITH THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000,000 TO FUND THE INSTALLATION OF APPROXIMATELY (A) 2,000 LINEAR FEET ("LF") OF NEW 84-INCH FORCE MAIN PIPING TO SERVE AS PERMANENT BYPASS PIPING AROUND THE HEALD STREET BRIDGE, (B) 5,700 LF OF 84-INCH FORCE MAIN PIPING TO SERVE AS PERMANENT BYPASS PIPING AROUND THE MARKET STREET BRIDGE AND (C) 2,000 LF OF A NEW 36-INCH FORCE MAIN EXTENDING FROM THE MARKET STREET PUMP STATION, ALL PART OF THE CHRISTINA RIVER FORCE MAIN REHABILITATION PROJECT; PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE BOND; AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Carter

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution and recognized Mr. Street who joined the meeting virtually.
- Mr. Sheldon commented.
- Mr. Carter explained the resolution.
- Mr. Cartier recognized that Ms. Kilpatrick had joined the meeting.
- Mr. Street commented.
- No public comment.

R24-166: SUPPORTING THE OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE BATTLE OF COOCH'S BRIDGE AS A BONA FIDE MILITARY BATTLE AND URGING THE STATE OF DELAWARE TO FORMALLY RECOGNIZE IT AS SUCH AND TO RECOGNIZE ALL ASSOCIATED PROPERTIES

IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. George

Co-sponsor(s): Ms. Durham, Mr. Tackett

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution.
- Ms. George explained the resolution.
- Wade Catts, Registered Professional Archaeologist, commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- No public comment.

R24-167: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL PROCEDURAL RULE NO. 13  
("COUNCIL GRANTS")

REGARDING EXPENDITURES

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution.
- Mr. Smiley explained.
- No public comment.

**D. Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s)**

°24-132: TO AUTHORIZE ABATEMENT OF OUTSTANDING NEW CASTLE COUNTY REAL PROPERTY TAXES AND PENALTIES AND INTEREST ON THE PROPERTY OF WILSON FARM ASSOCIATES, LLC LOCATED AT 100 DEAN DRIVE, NEWARK, DE, TAX PARCEL NUMBERS 18-024.00-422, 18-030.00-139, AND 18-030.00-138

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. George

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance.
- Ms. George explained.
- Mr. Hollins, NCC Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Kenneth Dunn Sr., and NCC Chief Financial Officer Michael Smith discussed the ordinance.
- Rick Jester, resident of Newark commented.
- Mr. Smiley commented.
- Mr. Hollins commented.

°24-133: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE FEDERAL FUNDS OF \$1,991,000 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO THE 2024 HOPE CENTER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND TRANSPORTATION GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Hollins, Mr. Street

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance.
- Mr. Hollins explained the ordinance.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- No public comment.

°24-134: AMEND THE FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: REALIGN UP TO \$40,000 FROM COUNTY COUNCIL CONTINGENCY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE, TO PROVIDE REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTAIN EXPENSES RELATED TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Kilpatrick

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance.
- Ms. Kilpatrick indicated the ordinance would be withdrawn.
- Mr. Smiley commented.
- No public comment.

°24-135: AMEND THE FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: APPROPRIATE FUNDING FROM THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY TECHNOLOGY FEE ACCOUNT WITHIN THE

OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF DEEDS AND RECORDER OF DEEDS TECHNOLOGY FEE  
ACCOUNT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF FINANCE FOR A  
TRANSACTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

- Mr. Cartier read and explained the ordinance.
- No public comment.

**E. New Castle County Grant Requests/Community Events**

- 9/17/24 Grant Matrix

| Grant Applicant                                                          | Sponsor           | Amount Approved | Council Member<br>First/Second                          | Vote                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Delaware Academy<br>of Science/Iron Hill<br>Museum and<br>Science Center | Ms. George        | \$2,500         | Ms. George/Mr.<br>Carter                                | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-<br>Nagle<br>Not Voting-Mr.<br>Smiley |
| Five Points Fire<br>Company No. 1                                        | Mr. Toole         | \$2,500         | Mr. Toole/Mr.<br>Tackett                                | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-<br>Nagle<br>Not Voting-Mr.<br>Smiley |
| Delaware Ovarian<br>Cancer Foundation                                    | Ms. Kilpatrick    | \$1,000         | Ms. Kilpatrick/Mr.<br>Carter                            | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-<br>Nagle<br>Not Voting-Mr.<br>Smiley |
| Jester Artspace, Inc.                                                    | Ms. Durham        | \$2,000         | Ms. Durham/Mr.<br>Carter                                | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-<br>Nagle<br>Not Voting-Mr.<br>Smiley |
| Alexis I. duPont<br>High School                                          | Ms. Durham        | \$2,500         | Ms. Durham/Ms.<br>Kilpatrick                            | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-<br>Nagle<br>Not Voting-Mr.<br>Smiley |
| Claymont Lion's<br>Club                                                  | Mr. Cartier       | \$2,000         | Mr. Cartier/Ms.<br>George                               | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-<br>Nagle<br>Not Voting-Mr.<br>Smiley |
| Edmoor Terrace<br>Civic Association                                      | Mr. Cartier       | \$2,000         | Mr. Cartier/Mr.<br>Carter                               | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-<br>Nagle<br>Not Voting-Mr.<br>Smiley |
| Stop The Violence<br>Prayer Chain                                        | Ms. Hartley-Nagle | \$1,500         | Mr. Toole (for Ms.<br>Hartley-Nagle)/Ms.<br>Kilpatrick* | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-<br>Nagle                             |

|                                                  |          |         |                            |                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------|---------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                  |          |         |                            | Not Voting-Mr. Smiley                                        |
| Children and Families First (DRBA FOP Lodge #14) | Mr. Bell | \$5,000 | Mr. Bell/Ms. Kilpatrick ** | 11-Yes<br>Absent- Ms. Hartley-Nagle<br>Not Voting-Mr. Smiley |

\* - Mr. Carter asked if 50% of the Council President's grant account had been reserved. Mr. Smiley responded and confirmed that it has.

\*\* - Mr. Bell noted that this grant is missing a document (their response to the non-discrimination policy was incomplete). This grant will not be processed until it has been completed and submitted to the Clerk of Council

#### **F. Expense and Revenue Round Table**

None

#### **G. Other**

-Presentation on Green Procurement Initiatives. NCC Chief Procurement Officer Frank Penta and Kristie Arlotta, NCC Plant Operations.

- Mr. Cartier introduced NCC Chief Procurement Officer Frank Penta and NCC Executive Assistant Plant Operations Kristie Arlotta to deliver a presentation on Green Procurement Initiatives.

- Members of Council and NCC Chief Procurement Officer Frank Penta and NCC Executive Assistant Plant Operations Kristie Arlotta discussed the presentation.

- Mr. Smiley announced that the next Executive Committee meeting is canceled.

#### **H. Public Comment**

- No public comment.

#### **I. Adjournment**

- Mr. Smiley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

- Mr. Cartier adjourned the meeting at 5:25 PM.

*Respectfully submitted by Michele Gildea, legislative assistant to Councilman John Cartier. The meeting was also recorded and available online.*

9/17/2024

### **Address to County Council regarding Resolution #24-166**

What is the difference between a skirmish and a battle? Personally, I'd start with the opinions forged in the experience from those who participated in the engagement, but since we have none from this battle to interview, I suggest we look at what we can glean from the historical evidence available to us.

The Battle of Cooch's Bridge on Wednesday, September 3, 1777, began at approximately 9:00 a.m. The use of guerrilla warfare tactics, combined with the topography, explains why this battle lasted for nearly seven hours and covered nearly six square miles. To this day, there are no recorded first person accounts from our side of the battle, save for brief descriptions found in military pension applications. All other military records related to this battle from our side were lost to an unfortunate fire. Yet, despite that, in 1901, historians and local citizens knew that something significant occurred on this battlefield as evidenced by the installment of a hulking piece of granite, brass plaque and four cannons. Fast forward to 1983, I'm a freshman at Glasgow High School, (which is built on the battlefield), and I rush into Mr. Alt's U.S. History class before anyone else arrives so I could ask for information about the Battle of Cooch's Bridge, "Mr. Alt, Mr. Alt! Tell me all about the Battle of Cooch's Bridge!" Mr. Alt hesitated only a moment, taking measure of me and my unexpected level of enthusiasm before remarking, "It was a skirmish where hardly a shot was fired, kid. Don't worry about it". I replied, hopeful but somewhat deflated, "But, Mr. Alt, there's a hulking piece of granite with a brass plaque and four cannons..." Mr. Alt replied, ending the conversation, "I don't know what else to tell you, that's what I've been told." Fast forward to the early 2000's with the advent of the internet, we have gained access to transcribed journals from the British and Hessian forces that fought here and with the benefit of Wade Catts' dedicated research and multiple archaeological finds, we now know that Mr. Alt was sadly misinformed.

For myself and on behalf of The Pencader Heritage Area Association, I especially "Thank you", Councilwoman Valerie George, for creating this resolution and you, County Council members, for giving it your consideration. With the passing of this remarkable, transforming resolution, you garner accolades and cheers from the many history-minded citizens and community organizations, both in and beyond the bounds of our state. Far from least, you'll receive the gratitude of no less than 24 known, but likely more, brave soldiers who gave their lives that day.

The Pencader Heritage Area Association has operated from the Cooch's Bridge Historic Site since 2001 and has tirelessly promoted this battle, annually memorializing those who fought for independence and died here.

As a Delaware native, life-long history buff, and president of the Pencader Heritage Area Association, for myself and on behalf of The Pencader Heritage Area Association, I most enthusiastically support Resolution #24-166.

Keith Jackson  
President  
Pencader Heritage Area Assoc.  
Pencader Heritage Museum

