



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE-FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

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

December 10, 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 04:00 PM by Mr. Cartier

Members present: Kevin Caneco, David Carter, John Cartier, Dee Durham, Valerie George, Penrose Hollins, Janet Kilpatrick, Timothy Sheldon, George Smiley, Jea Street (virtual), David Tackett, Brandon Toole, Monique Williams-Johns

B. Approval of Minutes

- Mr. Smiley made a motion and Ms. Kilpatrick seconded, to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2024 AD-Finance meeting. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Ms. Durham made a motion and Mr. Smiley seconded to go out of order and proceed to the nomination of Brian Murphy to the NCC Board of Assessment. (Under section "Other") Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Ms. George made a motion which was seconded, to return to the regular order of business. Vote to approve was unanimous.

C. Review/Discussion of Resolution(s)

R24-198: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT AND RELATED DOCUMENTS TO ACCEPT A DONATION FROM PAR 1, INC. OF 35.71 ACRES OF LAND VALUED AT \$6,000,000 AND A DONATION FROM VERINO PETTINARO IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,000 TO APPLY TOWARDS MAINTENANCE COSTS

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

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution.
- Mr. Sheldon explained the resolution.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- Mr. Carter commented.
- No public comment.

R24-199: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE AN AWARD AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY TO ACCEPT AN AWARD UNDER THE SOCIAL IMPACT PARTNERSHIPS TO PAY FOR RESULTS ACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,640,323.00 FOR THE FAMILY HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PURPOSEFUL EMPLOYMENT PROJECT

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

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution.
- Mr. Hollins yielded explanation of the resolution to Mr. Smiley.
- Mr. Smiley yielded explanation to Mr. Hollins.
- Mr. Hollins explained the resolution.
- NCC Director of Redevelopment Christopher Bell commented.
- NCC Department of Community Services General Manager Carrie Casey commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- No public comment.

R24-201: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SUBAWARD AGREEMENT WITH DAVITRON, LLC TO ASSIST WITH THE ACQUISITION OF NEW TOWNHOME STYLE RENTAL UNITS ON LIMESTONE RD. FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000,000.00

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

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution.
- NCC Department of Community Services General Manager Carrie Casey explained.
- Ann Talley, member of the public, commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- NCC Department of Community Services General Manager Carrie Casey commented.
- Theresa Baldwin, member of the public, commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- Ms. Williams-Johns commented.

R24-202: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE NINTH AMENDMENT TO GROUND LEASE WITH THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY REGARDING OPERATIONS AT THE NEW CASTLE AIRPORT

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

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

D. Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s)

°24-164: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$160,000 FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE FY2025 GRANT-IN-AID BILL TO THE FY2025 POLICE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GRANT TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

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

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

°24-165: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$40,000.00 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO THE ASSET FORFEITURE-FEDERAL GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

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

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

°24-166: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$506,644.98 FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY TO THE FY2025 FUNDS TO COMBAT VIOLENT CRIME GRANT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

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

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

°24-167: AMEND THE FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: APPROPRIATE UP TO \$880,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TAX STABILIZATION RESERVE ACCOUNT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF LAW TO FUND ATTORNEY FEES AND LITIGATION EXPERT WITNESSES

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

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

°24-168: 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 PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR THE PURCHASE OF HANDTEVY

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

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

°24-169: AMENDING NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 2 ("ADMINISTRATION") AND CHAPTER 14 ("FINANCE AND TAXATION") TO COMPENSATE CERTAIN MEMBERS OF COUNTY BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance and explained the ordinance.
- Members of council and Counsel to Council Mike Migliore discussed the ordinance.
- No public comment.

°24-170: AMENDING THE PAY PLANS AND RATES OF PAY FOR ELIGIBLE MEMBERS OF CERTAIN NEW CASTLE COUNTY BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance.
- Ms. Durham explained the ordinance.
- Mr. Cartier recognized Mr. Street as present.
- No public comment.

°24-171: AMEND THE FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: TRANSFER FUNDING FROM THE GRANTS AND FIXED CHARGES BUDGET LINE ITEM OF COUNTY COUNCIL TO THE MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES BUDGET LINE ITEM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE SENIOR EMERGENCY FOOD VOUCHER PROGRAM

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

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

°24-173: TO AMEND *NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE* CHAPTER 14 ("FINANCE AND TAXATION"), ARTICLE 6 ("EXEMPTION FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION"), SECTIONS 14.06.302 ("QUALIFICATIONS FOR AND AMOUNT OF ELDERLY EXEMPTION"), 14.06.303 ("QUALIFICATIONS FOR AND AMOUNT OF DISABILITY EXEMPTION"), 14.06.901 ("LANDFILL EXEMPTION"), AND 14.06.1103 ("FILING FREQUENCY"); AND CHAPTER 38 ("UTILITIES"), ARTICLE 2 ("SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL"), SECTION 38.02.505 ("ESTIMATED EDU CHARGES AND MEASUREMENT OF WATER FOR CONSUMPTION CHARGES") REGARDING EXEMPTIONS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance.
- Mr. Smiley explained.
- Mr. Carter commented.

- Mr. Smiley commented.
- No public comment.

°24-177: TO AMEND THE PAY PLANS AND RATES OF PAY FOR CLASSIFIED SERVICE 35-HOUR WORKWEEK EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE DELAWARE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COUNCIL 81, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, AFFILIATE LOCAL 1607 AND TO ADOPT NEW AND AMEND CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR LAND USE RELATED POSITIONS

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance.
- Ms. Williams-Johns explained.
- No public comment.

°24-178 TO PROVIDE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ARLINGTON STREET LIGHTS WITH LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (LED) BULBS (70 WATT EQUIVALENT) AND 8' POLE IN THE FOULKSTONE SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE BRANDYWINE HUNDRED AND FOR A LIGHT TAX BASED ON THE COST OF STREET LIGHTS

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance.
- Ms. Durham indicated per title.
- No public comment.

E. New Castle County Grant Requests/Community Events

-12/10/24 Grant Matrix

Grant Applicant	Sponsor	Amount Approved	Council Member First/Second	Vote
Windybush Civic Association, Inc.	Mr. Cartier	\$2,000	Mr. Cartier/Mr. Cartier	12-Yes Not Voting- Mr. Smiley
Unlimited Alms, Inc./Becoming Esther, Inc.	Ms. Williams-Johns	\$700	Ms. Williams-Johns/Mr. Carter	12-Yes Not Voting- Mr. Smiley
Project She Blooms-The Bria Maria Nix Memorial Scholarship	Ms. Williams-Johns	\$750	Ms. Williams-Johns/Ms. Kilpatrick	12-Yes Not Voting- Mr. Smiley
Dreim Elite Sport & Mentorship	Ms. Williams-Johns*	\$1000	Ms. Williams-Johns/Ms. Kilpatrick	12-Yes Not Voting- Mr. Smiley

* At the advice of Mr. Smiley, Ms. Williams-Johns made a motion to amend this previously awarded grant for \$500 to \$1,000.

F. Expense and Revenue Round Table

- None

G. Other

-NACo Travel Requests

- Councilwoman Dee Durham requesting travel expenses for the March 2025 NACo Legislative Conference

- Councilman Dave Carter requesting travel expenses for the March 2025 NACo Legislative Conference
- Councilman Brandon Toole requesting travel expenses for March 2025 NACo Legislative Conference
- Council President Monique Williams-Johns requesting travel expenses for March 2025 NACo Legislative Conference

- Councilwoman Dee Durham requesting travel expenses for the March 2025 NACo conference.
- Councilman Dave Carter requesting travel expenses for the March 2025 NACo conference.
- Councilman Brandon Toole requesting travel expenses for the March 2025 NACo conference.
- Council President Monique Williams-Johns requesting travel expenses for the March 2025 NACo conference.
- Mr. Smiley made a motion and Mr. Sheldon seconded that all NACo travel expenses requested be considered with one vote. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Mr. Cartier explained NACo's function.
- Ms. Durham commented.
- Mr. Sheldon made a motion and Mr. Carter seconded to approve all NACo travel expenses. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Mr. Cartier made a motion to approve the NACo travel requests from Council members Durham, Carter, Toole and Williams-Johns. Mr. Carter seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Mr. Carter commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- Mr. Smiley commented.

-FY2026 Budget Calendar Discussion- Councilman George Smiley

- Mr. Smiley explained the process for the fiscal year 2026 New Castle County budget approval process. He noted that he reserved two dates for final budget approval, May 13 and May 27; May 26 is Memorial Day, and there may be council members on vacation. The exact date will be determined later. He also advised the Clerk of Council Nellie Hill has cleared all the proposed hearing dates for the Council Chamber with the City of Wilmington. He went on to explain the process and the total projected budget amount as well as calculations to ensure a balanced budget.

-Appointing Brian Murphy to the New Castle County Board of Assessment Review

- Mr. Hollins invited the candidate for the NCC Board of Assessment Review, Brian Murphy, to present his background and qualifications.
- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution nominating Mr. Murphy.
- Mr. Murphy presented his background and qualifications.
- Members of council commented on Mr. Murphy's candidacy,
- Ms. Durham noted that the rules would have to be suspended at the upcoming Council meeting to vote on Mr. Murphy's candidacy immediately.
- Mr. Sheldon made a motion for council staff to work in-person on Monday, December 16 and Tuesday, December 17 to allow everyone to attend the staff holiday brunch. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. Vote to approve was unanimous.

H. Public Comment

- No public comment.

I. Adjournment

- Mr. Smiley made a motion and Mr. Carter seconded, to adjourn the December 10, 2024 AD-Finance meeting. Vote to adjourn was unanimous.
- Mr. Cartier adjourned the meeting at 5:23 PM.

- Respectfully submitted by Michele Rossi Gildea, Legislative Assistant to Councilman Cartier. The meeting was recorded and is available online.