



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING

March 25, 2025
6:30 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

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Williams-Johns at 06:31 PM.

A moment of silence was recognized; members of Council performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

B. Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Councilman Smiley and seconded by Councilwoman Tackett to approve the minutes from the March 5th and March 13th Special County Council Meeting and the March 11th, 2025 Council meeting. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

C. Announcements

-Councilman Cartier announces that for R25-051, he will suspend the rules so the Resolution can be voted on tonight rather than the following week.

-Councilman Smiley announces that Resolution 25-002 will be left on the Table.

-Councilman Carter plans to suspend the rules so that Substitute NO. 1 to Ordinance 24-130 can be voted on tonight.

D. Introduction of Ordinances

°25-025: AMENDING NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 40 ("UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE"), SECTION 40.31.114 ("RECORD PLAN REVIEW STAGE") RELATING TO NOTICE OF RECORD PLANS

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

°25-026: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 13 ("STORMWATER MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS") REGARDING STORMWATER MAINTENANCE AND THE VILLAGE OF BAYBERRY SOUTH

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Carter

°25-027: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$39,600.00 FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE – SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE FUND (SLEAF) TO THE SLEAF CELLEBRITE TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE GRANT, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco

°25-028: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$45,000 IN ACTUAL PROGRAM INCOME TO THE COMMUNITY POLICING GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco

°25-029: TO APPROPRIATE \$20,000 IN THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR TREE REMOVAL FOR SENIORS TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

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

°25-030: AMEND THE FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: REALIGN \$190,000 IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR HOPE CENTER EMERGENCY REPAIRS

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

°25-031: TO AMEND THE PAY PLANS AND RATES OF PAY FOR NON-UNION CLASSIFIED SERVICE EMPLOYEES AND AMEND THE CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR BENEFITS AND PENSION ADMINISTRATOR INTO TWO NEW CLASS SPECIFICATIONS WITH TITLES OF BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR AND PENSION ADMINISTRATOR

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

°25-032: AMEND THE FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: REALIGN \$700,000 FROM GENERAL FUND DEBT SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, DIVISION OF FLEET OPERATIONS MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES BUDGET LINE ITEM TO FUND GASOLINE \$350,000 AND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE TO FUND MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES \$350,000

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

°25-033: AMEND THE FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$900,000 FROM THE SEWER FUND TAX STABILIZATION RESERVE ACCOUNT; \$400,000 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, DIVISION OF PLANT OPERATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES BUDGET LINE ITEM TO FUND PUMP STATION ELECTRIC SERVICE; AND \$500,000 TO SEWER FUND DEBT SERVICE

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

E. Reports from Select and Special Committees

-Economic Subcommittee - Met on March 4th, 2025 at 2:00pm and had two presentations.

-Community Services Committee - Meeting was held on March 25th, 2025 and had a presentation.

-Finance Committee - Meeting was held on March 25th, 2025 at 4:00 pm. The committee approved grants and a travel request.

-Land Use Committee - Meeting was held on March 25th, 2025. The committee discussed two items.

F. Consent Calendar

-There was a motion by Councilman Smiley, seconded by Councilman Carter to adopt the Consent Calendar. It was approved by voice vote.

R25-048: CONGRATULATING SAMUEL S. BOOTS ON 26 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE DELAWARE CITY FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco

R25-049: CONGRATULATING WILLIAM F. STREETS ON 50 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH NEW CASTLE COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco

R25-050: RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2025 AS "NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH"

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

Consent Note

Consent Calendar -- Adopted

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

G. Presentations

-Councilman Toole and Councilman Caneco call upon Mr. Street to present him with a Resolution in his honor.

-Council President Williams-Johns called upon Jenn Parrish to give a presentation on National Disabilities Awareness Month.

H. Consideration of Resolutions Removed from the Consent Calendar and Other Resolutions

R25-051: PLAN OF CLAYMONT SELF STORAGE; BRANDYWINE HUNDRED; WEST SIDE OF PHILADELPHIA PIKE, 800 FEET SOUTH OF MAPLE LANE; MAJOR LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN THAT PROPOSES TO COMBINE TAX PARCELS 06-095.00-582 AND 06-095.00-588 TO CONSTRUCT A 100,862 SQUARE FOOT SELF-STORAGE BUILDING; CR ZONING; [APPLICATION NO. 2022-0475](#); COUNCIL DISTRICT 8

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Cartier

-Councilman Cartier moved to go out of order, seconded by Councilman Smiley so that the rules could be suspended to allow Council to vote on Resolution 25-051.

-Councilman Cartier explained the resolution.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Resolution 25-051 -- Adopted

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

I. Consideration of Ordinances

°25-021: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$100,000 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DIVISION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH TO THE WASTEWATER GRANT DHSS 2025 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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

-Councilman Carter moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-021 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

- Councilman Carter explained the resolution.
- No comment from Council.
- No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-021 -- Adopted

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

°25-022: AMEND THE FY2025 CAPITAL PROGRAM AND BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$29,600 IN FUNDING RECEIVED FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION THROUGH THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, GREENWAY SYSTEMS CAPITAL PROJECT

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

- Councilman Carter moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-022 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Carter explained the resolution.
- No comment from Council.
- No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-022 -- Adopted

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

°25-023: TO PROVIDE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF TRADITIONAIRE STREET LIGHTS WITH LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (LED) BULBS (100 WATT EQUIVALENT) IN THE OVERLOOK AT BAYBERRY SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN ST. GEORGES HUNDRED AND FOR A LIGHT TAX BASED ON THE COST OF STREET LIGHTS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Carter

- Councilman Carter moved, seconded by Councilman Cartier that Ordinance 25-023 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Carter explained per title.
- No comment from Council.
- No Public comment from Council.

Resolution Ordinance 25-023 -- Adopted

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

°25-024: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE INTEREST INCOME \$6,390.25 AND PROGRAM INCOME \$163,310.29 TO THE FY2024 HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (HOME), WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

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

- Councilman Street moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-024 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Street explained the Resolution.
- No comment from Council.
- No Public comment.

Resolution Ordinance 25-024 -- Adopted

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

SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 TO °24-130: AMENDING NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 40 (THE "UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE") TO ESTABLISH A ZONING DISTRICT FOR PUBLICLY OWNED CONSERVED LAND AND PUBLIC PARKS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Carter, Ms. Durham, Mr. Toole, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Tackett

- Councilwoman Carter moved, seconded by Councilman Cartier that Substitutue NO.1 To Ordinance 25-130 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilwoman Carter explained the resolution.

- Councilman Carter moved for a vote, seconded by Councilman Tackett.
- No comment from Council.
- No Public comment.

Substitute NO.1 To Ordinance 25-130 -- Adopted

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

- Councilman Cartier then made a motion to return to the normal order of business and rules, seconded by Councilman Smiley.

°25-002: (STATUS: TABLED) AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE FEDERAL FUNDS OF \$556,302.63 FROM THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY PASSED THROUGH THE DELAWARE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO THE PERIMETER FIREWALLS REPLACEMENT (SLCGP) GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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

- Council President Williams-Johns and Councilman Smiley confirmed that Ordinance 25-002 remains tabled until the April 8th Council Meeting.

J. Time Sensitive Congratulatory/Honorary Resolutions

R25-052: CELEBRATING AND HONORING JEFFREY K. POLITIS FOR TEN YEARS OF DEDICATED LEADERSHIP OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDEN TOWN ASSEMBLY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Cartier

- It was moved by Councilman Cartier and seconded by Councilman Caneco that Resolution 25-052 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Cartier explained the Resolution.
- No comments by Council.
- No Public Comment.

Resolution 25-052 -- Adopted

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

R25-053: CELEBRATING AND HONORING THE LIFE OF GREGG W. SHELTON AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Mr. Carter, Mr. Cartier, Ms. Durham, Ms. George, Mr. Hollins, Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Street, Mr. Tackett, Ms. Williams-Johns

- It was moved by Councilman Toole and seconded by Councilman Tackett that Resolution 25-053 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Toole explained the Resolution.
- Comments by Councilmembers Sheldon, Street, Williams-Johns, and Councilman Caneco. All of Council stated that they would like to be included as co-sponsors of the Resolution.
- No Public Comment.

Resolution 25-053 -- Adopted

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

Absent: Timothy Sheldon.

K. Introduction/Consideration of Emergency Ordinances

-No Emergency Ordinances.

L. Public Comment/Other

-Council comments from Councilwoman Durham and Councilman Street.

-Public Comments by Henry Miller, Dora Williams, and Rob Bullock.

M. Motion to Adjourn

-Councilman Smiley moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tackett and the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.