



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING

April 8, 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 06:30 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 Caneco to approve the minutes from the March 25th, 2025 County Council Meeting. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

C. Announcements

-Councilman Smiley announced that Resolution 25-002 will be withdrawn from the table.

D. Introduction of Ordinances

°25-035: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$39,201.00 IN PROGRAM INCOME TO THE SENIOR HOME REPAIR PROGRAM GRANT TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

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

°25-036: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$216,910.42 IN PROGRAM INCOME TO THE DOWN PAYMENT REVOLVING LOANS (DPS) GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

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

°25-037: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$11,181.00 IN PROGRAM INCOME TO THE ABSALOM JONES SENIOR CENTER RECREATION GRANT TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES

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

°25-038: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$70,780.00 FROM THE DELAWARE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION TO THE SPECIAL EVENTS FUND GRANT, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

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

°25-039: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$41,706.96 IN EMERGENCY ILLEGAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT (EIDE) FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY TO THE EIDE FY2025 GRANT, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

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

°25-040: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$77,170.44 IN STATE AID TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT (SALLE) FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY TO THE STATE AID TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT (SALLE) – FY2025 GRANT, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

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

°25-041: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$125,000 IN FUNDING FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL, DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO THE KNOLLWOOD PARK COURT IMPROVEMENTS GRANT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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

°25-042: AMEND THE PAY PLAN AND RATES OF PAY FOR CLASSIFIED SERVICE PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE DELAWARE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COUNCIL 81, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, AFFILIATE LOCAL 3109 FOR THE CLASS SPECIFICATION OF PLANNER I FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE, DIVISION OF PLANNING

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

E. Reports from Select and Special Committees

-Executive Committee - Councilman Hollins stated the committee met on April 4th; there was a Diversity Presentation.

-Public Safety Committee - Councilman Toole stated the committee met on April 4th and reviewed 4 ordinances and had 3 presentations.

-Finance Committee - Councilman Cartier stated the committee met on April 4th, reviewed two ordinances and approved 4 Council grants.

-Public Works Committee- Councilman Carter stated the committee met last week and discussed two ordinances.

F. Consent Calendar**Consent Note****G. Presentations**

-There were no presentations.

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

R25-054: APPROVING THE REFUND OF A DUPLICATE TAX PAYMENT ON TAX PARCEL NUMBER 11-018.000-59

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

-Councilman Cartier moved, seconded by Councilman Carter, that Resolution 25-054 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Cartier explained the resolution.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Resolution 25-054 -- 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

R25-055: APPROVING REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR COORDINATOR OF EMERGENCY PLANNING PURSUANT TO NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE SECTION 26.03.105(F)

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

-Council President Williams-Johns Carter moved that Resolution 25-055 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman President Williams-Johns explained the resolution.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Resolution 25-055 -- 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

°25-026: 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

-Councilman Carter moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-026 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Carter explains per title.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-026 -- 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.

°25-027: 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

-Councilman Caneco moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-027 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Caneco explains per title.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-027 -- 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.

°25-028: 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

-Councilman Caneco moved, seconded by Councilman Carter that Ordinance 25-028 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Caneco explained per title.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-028 -- 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.

°25-029: 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

-Councilman Hollins moved, seconded by Councilman Cartier that Ordinance 25-029 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Hollins explained the resolution.

-Council comment from Councilman Hollins.

-No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-029 -- 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.

°25-030: 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

-Councilman Hollins moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-030 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Hollins explained the resolution.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-030 -- 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.

°25-031: 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

-Council President Williams-Johns moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-031 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Council President Williams-Johns explained the resolution.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-031 -- 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.

°25-032: 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

-Councilman Sheldon moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-032 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Sheldon explained the resolution.

-Council comments from Council members Caneco, Street and Hollins.

-Public comment from Colonel Jamie Leonard and Rob Bullock.

Ordinance 25-032 -- 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.

°25-033: 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

-Councilman Sheldon moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett that Ordinance 25-033 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Sheldon explained per title.

-No comment from Council.

-No Public comment.

Ordinance 25-033 -- 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.

°25-002: (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 stated that Ordinance 25-002 has been withdrawn and we will move on to Item J's.

J. Time Sensitive Congratulatory/Honorary Resolutions

R25-056: CONGRATULATING MICHAEL R. BERRY ON 37 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE DELAWARE NATIONAL GUARD

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole

-It was moved by Councilman Caneco and seconded by Councilman Tackett that Resolution 25-056 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Caneco explained the Resolution.

-No comments by Council.

-No Public Comment.

Resolution 25-056 -- 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.

R25-057: RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025 AS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

Co-Sponsor(s): Mr. Tackett

-It was moved by Council President Williams-Johns and seconded by Councilman Tackett that Resolution 25-057 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Council President Williams-Johns explained the Resolution.

-No comments by Council.

-No Public Comment.

Resolution 25-057 -- 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.

K. Introduction/Consideration of Emergency Ordinances

-No Emergency Ordinances.

L. Public Comment/Other

-Council comments from Councilman Caneco.

M. Motion to Adjourn

-Councilman Smiley moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tackett and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.