



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL

BUDGET HEARING MEETING

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

May 8, 2025
2:00 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 02:00 PM by Co-Chair John Cartier.

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

Members absent: Kevin Caneco, Timothy Sheldon

B. Approval of Minutes - 05-01-2025

- Mr. Smiley made a motion and Ms. Kilpatrick seconded to accept the minutes from the May 1, 2025 Budget Hearing. The vote to approve was unanimous.

- Mr. Cartier reminded those present that the meeting must be adjourned by 4:30 PM as the Wilmington City Council will be using the chamber, and that any items that remain from the agenda will be re-scheduled. Mr. Cartier announced that each council member had diversity summaries on their desks for each department presenting. He noted that the presentation by the Clerk of the Peace has been rescheduled to the May 15, 2025 Budget Hearing due to a medical emergency. Finally, he announced that the presentations by the Register of Wills and the Recorder of Deeds would be virtual.

C. Land Use - David Culver, General Manager

Department of Land Use FY2026 Budget Presentation

- Mr. Cartier introduced NCC General Manager of Land Use, David Culver.
- Mr. Culver presented the FY 2026 Land Use Budget
- Comments and questions from Mr. Smiley, Mr. Hollins, Mr. Carter, Mr. Street and Mr. Cartier.
- Comments and answers from Mr. Culver.
- Mr. Cartier recognized Mr. Tackett was present virtually and that Ms. Williams-Johns had joined the meeting in chambers.
- No public comment.

D. Row Offices

Register of Wills - Ciro Poppitti

- Mr. Cartier introduced NCC Register of Wills, Ciro Poppitti
- Mr. Poppitti introduced his staff and gave a presentation.
- Mr. Hollins and Mr. Cartier commented.
- No public comment.

Recorder of Deeds - Michael Kozikowski

- Mr. Cartier introduced NCC Recorder of Deeds, Michael Kozikowski.
- Mr. Kozikowski introduced his staff.
- Mr. Kozikowski presented the FY 2026 Recorder of Deeds budget.
- Mr. Street commented.
- Mr. Kozikowski commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- No public comment.

Clerk of Peace - Lisa Darrah

- This presentation was rescheduled.

Sherriff's Office - Scott Phillips

- Mr. Cartier introduced NCC Sheriff, Scott Phillips.
- Sherrif Phillips introduced his staff.
- Sheriff Phillips presented the FY 2026 Sheriff's Office budget.
- Mr. Hollins, Mr. Street commented.
- Sheriff Phillips commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- No public comment.

E. County Auditor - Robert Wasserbach

County Auditor's FY2026 Budget Presentation

- Mr. Cartier introduced NCC County Auditor, Robert Wasserbach.
- Mr. Wasserbach introduced his staff.
- Mr. Wasserbach presented the FY 2026 County Auditor budget.
- Mr. Hollins, Mr. Carter commented.
- Mr. Wasserbach commented.
- Mr. Carter commented.
- Mr. Street commented.
- No public comment.

F. Ethics Commission - Robert Hicks, Chairman

Ethics Commission's FY 2026 Budget Presentation

- Mr. Cartier introduced NCC Chairman of the Ethics Commission, Robert Hicks.
- Mr. Hicks introduced his staff and commented on ethics training.
- Mr. Hicks presented the FY 2026 Ethics Commission budget.
- Mr. Hollins and Ms. George commented.
- Mr. Hicks commented.
- No public comment.

G. Public Comment

- No public comment.

H. Adjournment

- Mr. Smiley made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Carter seconded. Motion to adjourn was unanimous.
- Mr. Cartier adjourned the hearing at 3:30 PM.