



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE-FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

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

June 10, 2025
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 AD-Finance Committee was called to order by Mr. Cartier at 4:10 PM by Mr. Cartier.

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

Members absent: None

B. Approval of Minutes - 5/22/25 Budget Hearing Minutes & 5/27/25 Ad-Finance Committee Minutes

- Mr. Smiley made a motion, and Mr. Carter seconded, to approve the 5/22/25 Budget Hearing minutes and the 5/27/25 Ad-Finance minutes.
- Vote to approve was unanimous.

C. Review/Discussion of Resolution(s)

R25-103: ALLOCATING A GRANT FROM THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL CONTINGENCY FUND TO THE FOOD BANK OF DELAWARE TO FUND ACUTELY NEEDED FOOD PROVISIONS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER

Prime Sponsors: Ms. Durham, Mr. Toole, Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Caneco

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution.
- Ms. Durham explained the resolution.
- Mr. Cartier asked a question and Ms. Durham responded.
- Members of council discussed the resolution at length.
- Chad Robinson, Vice President of External Affairs for the Delaware Food Bank, commented under Public Comments.

R25-104: ALLOCATING FUNDING FROM THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL CONTINGENCY FUND TO GOOD NEIGHBORS HOME REPAIR TO SUPPORT THEIR DESPERATELY NEEDED SERVICES

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

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the resolution.
- Mr. Tackett explained the resolution.
- Mr. Cartier asked a question and Mr. Tackett responded.
- No public comment.

R25-105: ALLOCATING FUNDING FROM THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL CONTINGENCY FUND TO CHARITY CROSSING INC. TO SUPPORT ITS MISSION TO ASSIST THE CITIZENS OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Tackett

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

R25-106: A RESOLUTION PRESCRIBING THE DETAILS AND FORM AND PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY

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

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

R25-088: (STATUS: TABLED) ADOPTING THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY CAPITAL PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 THROUGH 2031

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

- Mr. Cartier noted that this resolution, at the request of sponsor Mr. Smiley, would be discussed during the Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s) Section, just before budget ordinances.
- Mr. Smiley made a motion to bring this resolution forward just after discussion of Ordinance 072. Ms. George seconded. Motion to bring resolution forward was unanimous.
- Mr. Smiley explained the resolution.
- NCC Chief of Technology and Administrative Services, David DelGrande, further explained the resolution.
- Mr. Smiley asked Mr. DelGrande a question. Mr. DelGrande responded.
- Mr. Carter also asked a question and Mr. DelGrande responded.
- Mr. Smiley and Mr. Street commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- No public comment.

D. Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s)

°25-064 TO PROVIDE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ARLINGTON STREET LIGHTS WITH LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (LED) BULBS (100 WATT EQUIVALENT) IN THE BRANDYWINE COUNTRY CLUB SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE BRANDYWINE HUNDRED AND FOR A LIGHT TAX BASED ON THE COST OF STREET LIGHTS

Prime Sponsor: Ms. Durham

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

°25-066: 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.

°25-067: TO PROVIDE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ARLINGTON STREET LIGHTS WITH LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (LED) BULBS (70 WATT EQUIVALENT) IN THE PENNFIELD

SUBDIVISION AND FOR A LIGHT TAX BASED ON THE COST OF STREET LIGHTS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco

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

°25-069: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE FUNDING FROM NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY EMERGENCY HOUSING – HOPE CENTER GRANT, WHICH WILL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Street

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

°25-072: 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”), and 14.06.304 (“DISABLED VETERAN’S EXEMPTIONS”) REGARDING SCHOOL TAX EXEMPTIONS

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Smiley

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance.
- Ms. Kilpatrick indicated that this ordinance would be tabled, and be addressed at the June 24, 2025 AD-Finance Meeting. She also explained the ordinance.
- Mr. Cartier commented.

- Mr. Smiley made a request to return to R-088.
- Mr. Cartier agreed. (See notes under R-088)

SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 TO °25-048: (STATUS: TABLED) THE ANNUAL REVENUE ORDINANCE AND ROLL BACK TAX RATE OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025

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

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

°25-049: (STATUS: TABLED) CALCULATION OF SEWER SERVICE CHARGES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

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

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

°25-050: (STATUS: TO BE TABLED) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING CERTAIN CAPITAL PROJECTS APPROVED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 CAPITAL BUDGET

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

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

°25-051: (STATUS: TABLED) THE CAPITAL BUDGET ORDINANCE OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025

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

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

°25-052: (STATUS: TABLED) ADOPT THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025

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

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

°25-053: (STATUS: TABLED) AMEND THE FY2026 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$3,000,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TAX STABILIZATION RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR A ONE-TIME FIRE SERVICE CONTINGENCY

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

- Mr. Cartier read the title of the ordinance and explained that the ordinance is tabled pending the addition of an amendment, and will be addressed at the 5/24/25 Ad-Finance Meeting.
- Mr. Smiley made a request and Mr. Caneco responded.
- Mr. Carter commented.
- Mr. Cartier commented.
- No public comment.

--Joint Department of Land Use/Planning Board FY2026 Budget Recommendation

E. New Castle County Grant Requests/Community Events

- 6/10/25 Grant Matrix

Grant Applicant	Sponsor	Amount Approved	Council Member First/Second	Vote
Neighborhood House	Mr. Carter	Mr. Carter- \$2,000* Mr. Caneco- \$500 TOTAL: \$2,500	Mr. Carter/Ms. George.	Yes-12 No- 0 Not Voting- Mr. Smiley
Phoenix House	Mr. Toole**	\$2,500	Mr. Toole/Mr. Carter	Yes-12 No- 0 Not Voting- Mr. Smiley

* Mr. Carter first made a motion for a grant up to \$2,500.

Mr. Carter restated his motion for a grant for \$2,500, with funding coming from Mr. Carter and Mr. Caneco.

** Mr. Toole amended use of budget funding.

F. Expense and Revenue Round Table

- None

G. Other

- Council Meeting Calendar Discussion - President Williams-Johns

- Ms. Williams-Johns proposed a council meeting calendar ("#1")
- Mr. Tackett, Ms. Durham, Mr. Carter and Ms. Williams-Johns commented.

- Mr. Cartier asked Mr. Smiley to present the calendar he had proposed via email.
- Mr. Carter and Ms. Kilpatrick commented.
- Mr. Smiley explained his calendar proposal. ("#2")
- Ms. Kilpatrick and Mr. Cartier asked Mr. Smiley questions and he responded.
- Mr. Smiley made a motion to adopt proposal #1 or #2.
- Ms. Kilpatrick asked Mr. Smiley a question and he responded.
- Mr. Carter made a motion, and Ms. Kilpatrick seconded, to adopt calendar proposal #2. Motion to approve was unanimous.
- Mr. Smiley commented.
- Ms. Williams-Johns, Mr. Smiley, Ms. Kilpatrick and Mr. Carter commented.

- Mr. Street commented on an issue with a playground in his district.
- NCC General Manager of Public Works Cleon Cauley Sr. commented on the playground.
- Mr. Street, Mr. Carter and Mr. Cartier commented.
- Mr. Cauley commented.
- Mr. Street commented.

- Mr. Smiley made a comment about a previous bond bill.
- Mr. Street, Mr. Cartier and Mr. Carter commented.

- Mr. Tackett asked a question about the council calendar.
- Mr. Cartier responded.

H. Public Comment

- No public comment.

I. Adjournment

- Mr. Caneco made a motion, and Mr. Smiley seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion to adjourn was unanimous.

- Mr. Cartier adjourned the meeting at 5:40 PM.