



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING

July 22, 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, Penrose Hollins, Timothy Sheldon, George Smiley, Jea Street, David Tackett, Brandon Toole, Monique Williams-Johns

Members absent: Janet Kilpatrick

B. Approval of Minutes

-Motion by Councilman Smiley, second by Councilman Tackett, to approve the minutes from 7/8/25 Council Meeting. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

C. Announcements

-President Williams-Johns announced that she was officially withdrawing Ordinance 25-090.

D. Introduction of Ordinances

°25-097: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 2 ("ADMINISTRATION"), SECTION 2.05.507 ("HUMAN RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD") REGARDING BOARD COMPOSITION

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole

Co-sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

°25-098: AMENDING CHAPTER 26 ("HUMAN RESOURCES"), SECTION 26.01.009 ("UNIFORM PAY PLANS") REGARDING PROCEDURE

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

°25-099: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 14 ("FINANCE AND TAXATION"), ARTICLE 5 ("ABATEMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES AND PENALTY") TO PROVIDE THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AUTHORITY TO ABATE PENALTIES FOR ELIGIBLE RESIDENTIAL TAXPAYERS PARTICIPATING IN AN INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN CAUSED BY INCREASED PROPERTY TAX LIABILITY FOLLOWING A COUNTY-WIDE REASSESSMENT OF REAL PROPERTY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

E. Consent Calendar

Consent Note

-None

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

R25-120: PLAN OF FALCONER'S ROW; CHRISTIANA HUNDRED; NORTHEASTERLY CORNER OF BUCK ROAD AND MONTCHANIN ROAD; CREATE 11 RESIDENTIAL LOTS AND OPEN SPACE SUBDIVISION PLAN ON TAX PARCELS 07-024.00.024 AND 07-027.00.043 AND PORTIONS OF 07-027.00-027, 07-027.00-039, AND 07-029.00-040 REMAINING PORTIONS 07-027.00-027 AND 07-027.00-040 WILL NOT BE PART OF THE SUBDIVISION; SE ZONING; [APPLICATION NO. 2020-0468-S](#); COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

-Councilwoman Durham moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett, that Resolution 25-120 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilwoman Durham noted this was discussed at last week's Land Use Committee meeting and is related to companion ordinance, Ordinance 24-172.

-No comments from members of council or the public.

Resolution 25-120 -- Adopted

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

Not Voting: David Tackett

Absent: Janet Kilpatrick

R25-121: CALLING TO END CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY'S TRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION OF FALUN GONG AND SHEN YUN

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns, Ms. Kilpatrick

-President Williams-Johns moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett, that Resolution 25-121 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Tackett requested to be added as a co-sponsor.

-Council Members' comments: Councilman Caneco, Councilman Carter, Councilman Hollins.

-President moved to table R25-121. The motion was seconded by Councilman Carter and approved.

Resolution 25-121-- Tabled

G. Time Sensitive Congratulatory/Honorary Resolutions

-None

H. Presentations

I. Consideration of Ordinances

°25-095: AMENDING NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 14 ("FINANCE AND TAXATION"), SECTION 14.01.014 ("TAX STABILIZATION RESERVE ACCOUNT") REGARDING

THE TAX STABILIZATION ACCOUNT AND REASSESSMENTS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

- Councilman Smiley moved, seconded by Councilman Cartier, that °25-095 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Smiley stated as per title.
- Council Member comments: Councilman Cartier.
- Public comment: Gina Campanella

Ordinance 25-095 -- Adopted

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

Absent: Janet Kilpatrick

°25-096: AMEND THE FY2026 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET APPROPRIATE FUNDING FROM THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY TECHNOLOGY FEE ACCOUNT WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF DEEDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY TO REFRESH VIDEO PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT

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

- Councilman Smiley moved, seconded by Councilman Cartier, that °25-096 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Smiley stated per title.
- There were no comments from Council or the public.

Ordinance 25-096 -- Adopted

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

Absent: Janet Kilpatrick

°25-084: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 26 ("HUMAN RESOURCES"), ARTICLE3 ("MERIT SYSTEM"), TO INCREASE THE RETIREMENT AGE FOR OFFICERS IN THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

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

- Councilman Caneco moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett, that °25-084 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Caneco explained the ordinance.
- Comments were made by Councilman Cartier and Councilman Street.
- No public comment.

Ordinance 25-084 -- Adopted

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

Absent: Janet Kilpatrick

°24-172: REVISE ZONING MAP: CHRISTIANA HUNDRED, NORTH SIDE OF BUCK ROAD, 903 FEET EAST OF THE CENTERLINE OF MONTCHANIN ROAD; REZONE 1.78 ACRES OF TAX PARCEL 07-027.00-039 FROM SUBURBAN ESTATE (SE) TO SUBURBAN ESTATE (SE) AND H (HISTORIC OVERLAY ZONE) (The Exploratory Major Subdivision Plan for Falconers Row proposes to reconfigure tax parcels; 07-024.00-024, 07-027.00-027, 07-027.00-039, 07-027.00-040 and 07-027.00-043 and create an eleven (11) lot subdivision with associated site improvements, utilizing the open space subdivision option with minimum one acre lots, and rezone proposed Lot 11 (1.78 acres of existing parcel 07-027.00-039) from "SE" (Suburban Estate) to Suburban Estate (SE) and "H" (Historic Overlay Zone). App. 2020-0468-S/Z, Council District 2)

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

- Councilwoman Durham moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett, that °24-172 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilwoman Durham noted that this is campion piece to R25-120. This ordinance creates a Historic Overlay for one of the pieces on the property. Councilman Woman Durham noted that this ordinance requires a poll vote.
- Councilman Cartier commented on the ordinance.

-No public comment.

Ordinance 24-172 -- Adopted

Poll Vote

-Council Member Caneco -**Yes**, based upon the positive recommendation from the Department of Land Use and in support of the local Council Member, Councilwoman Durham.

-Council Member Carter - **Yes**, based upon the positive recommendation from the District Council Member, Department of Land Use, Planning Board.

-Council Member Cartier- **Yes**, based upon the positive recommendation from the Department of Land Use, Planning Board, Historic Review Board, and to support the District Council Member, Councilwoman Durham, in seeking this Historic Overlay for the Jackson House Property.

-Council Member Durham-**Yes**, always happy to support Historic Overlay Zoning, and she appreciates the project team for bringing it forward.

-Council Member George- **Yes**, this is a very suitable use for this property and also based upon the positive recommendation from the Department of Land Use and Planning Board.

-Council Member Hollins- **Yes**, based upon the positive recommendation from the Department of Land Use, Historic Review Board, and positive overlay for historic zoning.

-Council Member Kilpatrick- **Absent**

-Council Member Sheldon- **Yes**, based upon the positive recommendation from the Department of Land Use.

-Council Member Smiley- **Yes**, based upon the positive recommendation from the Department of Land Use and based on the fact that his appreciation of old things grows daily.

-Council Member Street- **Yes**, based upon the positive recommendation from the Department of Land Use and the Historic Review Board.

-Council Member Tackett- **Not Voting**, companion legislation to R25-120

-Council Member Toole- **Yes**, based upon the positive recommendation from the Department of Land Use, Planning Board, and the use of the Historic Overlay.

-President Williams-Johns- **Yes**, in support of Councilwoman Durham and her hard work and based upon the recommendation of the Planning Board.

J. Introduction/Consideration of Emergency Ordinances

-None

K. Public Comment/Other

- Public Comment: Cindy, Liu, Williou Huey, Lily Sun, Frank Cui, Shirley Hu, Michelle Yu, Brandon Fletcher

L. Motion to Adjourn