



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE-FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

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

July 22, 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 meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Smiley at 4:00 pm.
-Council members present were: Mr. Caneco, Mr. Carter, Mr. Cartier, Ms. Durham, Ms. George, Mr. Hollins, Ms. Kilpatrick (Virtual), Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Street (Virtual), Mr. Tackett, Mr. Toole, and Ms. Williams-Johns.

B. Approval of Minutes - July 8, 2025

-A motion by Mr. Carter was seconded by Ms. George to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2025, Finance Committee meeting. All in favor.

-A motion by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Cartier to go out of order. All in favor.

-Mr. Smiley made a motion, according to Council Rule 7.1.2, to schedule a Special Council meeting on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at 3:00 for the sole purpose of Council discussion and vote on Ordinance 25-299 being introduced tonight and possibly an associated Resolution, seconded by Cartier.

-Ms. Kilpatrick wants to make it clear this is for the County Tax only not the School Tax.

-Mr. Smiley made an announcement that public comment would be after each Ordinance and comments are limited to the specific Ordinance.

C. Review/Discussion of Resolution(s)

-None

D. Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s)

°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

-Mr. Smiley read the title of the Ordinance into record and explained it.

-Discussion from Council members Mr. Cartier, Mr. Tackett, Mr. Hollins, Mr. Carter, Ms. Durham, and Mr. Caneco.

-Public comment from Henry Miller, Mike Matthews, Karen Anderson, Edward Rhoades Jr.

°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

-Mr. Smiley read the title of the Ordinance into the record and explained the Ordinance.

-No questions or comments from Council or the Public.

°25-084: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 26 ("HUMAN RESOURCES"), ARTICLE 3 ("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

-Mr. Smiley read the title of the Ordinance into the record.

-Mr. Caneco explained the Ordinance.

-Comments from Mr. Cartier.

-No public comment.

°25-090: (STATUS: TABLED) AMEND THE PAY PLAN AND RATES OF PAY FOR NON-UNION UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE EMPLOYEES OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE CLASS SPECIFICATION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

-Ms. Williams-Johns will be withdrawing this Ordinance.

E. New Castle County Grant Requests/Community Events**- 7/22/25 Grant Matrix**

Grant Applicant	Sponsor	Amount Approved	Council Member First/Second	Vote
Kappa Mainstream Leadership, Inc.	Street	\$1,000	Street/Sheldon	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Civic Association of Belvedere and Vicinity	Toole	\$1,500 Toole - \$1,000 Street - \$500	Toole/Cartier	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Towers of Valley Run	Cartier	\$2,500	Cartier/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Clayton Place	Cartier	\$575	Cartier/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Bellevue Farms/ Bellevue Community Center	Cartier	\$2,400	Cartier/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Webster Farms Maintenance Corporation	Cartier	\$2,000	Cartier/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Tomaro's CHANGE	Cartier	\$2,500	Cartier/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Hilltop Manor Association	Cartier	\$1,700	Cartier/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Project New Start, Inc.	Williams-Johns	\$2,500 Williams-Johns -	Williams-Johns/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting

		\$1,800 Caneco - \$700		
Rodney Street Tennis and Tutoring Association	Williams-Johns	\$1,000	Williams- Johns/Cartier	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Stop the Violence Pray Chain Foundation, Inc.	Williams-Johns	\$750	Williams- Johns/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Becoming Esther, Inc.	Williams-Johns	\$750	Williams- Johns/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
CityFest	Williams-Johns	\$1,000	Williams- Johns/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Emerg Wellness Center	Williams-Johns	\$1,500	Williams- Johns/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
United Way of Delaware	Williams-Johns	\$5,000 Williams-Johns - \$2,500 Sheldon - \$2,500	Williams- Johns/Carter	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
American Cancer Society - Relay For Life of Central & Northern DE*	Carter	\$3,000 Carter - \$1,000 Caneco - \$1,000 Williams-Johns - \$1,000	Carter/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Holloway Terrace/ Mayview Manor Civic Association	Street	\$1,000	Street/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Girls, Inc. of Delaware**	Williams-Johns	\$2,000	Williams- Johns/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting

F. Expense and Revenue Round Table

-None

G. Other**New Castle County 2024 Tax Collection Process**

-Jill Floire, Chief Financial Officer, explained the process in detail and gave the timeline.
-Questions from Council members Mr. Tackett, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Hollins.

H. Public Comment

-Public comment from Andre Pelgardo, Christian Willauer, Tamila Davey, Greg George, Richard Forsten, Mark Hennings, Karen Anderson, Mike Matthews, Rob Bullock, Jeff Manning, Brandon Fletcher, Henry Miller, Carol Bright, Omar Josephs.

I. Adjournment

--Motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Cartier to adjourn the Administrative-Finance Committee meeting. The motion was approved, and the meeting adjourned at 6.02 pm.

-Respectfully submitted by Christine Roberts, Legislative Assistant to Mr. Smiley. The meeting was also recorded and is available online.