



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE-FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

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

August 26, 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. Cater, Mr. Cartier, Mrs. Durham, Ms. George, Mr. Hollins, Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Street (Virtual), Mr. Tackett, Mr. Toole, and Ms. Williams-Johns.
- Mr. Smiley made several procedural announcements prior to considering the legislation.

B. Approval of Minutes - July 22, 2025

- A motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Cartier to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2025, Finance Committee meeting. All in favor.

C. Review/Discussion of Resolution(s)

R25-124: CONGRATULATING THE OFFICE OF FINANCE FOR EARNING THE CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY'S ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FORTY-FOUR CONSECUTIVE YEARS

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

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record and explained the Resolution.
- No comments or questions from Council or the Public.

R25-126: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL RULE NO. 1 ("IN GENERAL") RELATING TO MOTIONS TO SUSPEND RULES

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Hollins

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record.
- Mr. Hollins explained the Resolution.
- Comments from Mr. Street.
- No public comment.

R25-127: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL PROCEDURAL RULE NO. 4 REGARDING CERTAIN MEETINGS

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

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record.
- Mr. Tackett explained the Resolution.
- No comments or questions from Council or the Public.

R25-128: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR AETNA HOSE, HOOK & LADDER FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. George, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Tackett, Ms. Kilpatrick

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

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

-Ms. George explained the Resolution.

-Mr. Caneco made a motion, seconded by Mr. Carter to consider Resolution No. 128 through Resolution No. 147 as having been considered in this meeting.

-Comments from Mr. Cartier, Mr. Caneco, and Mr. Carter.

-No public comment.

R25-129: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR BELVEDERE FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-130: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR BRANDYWINE HUNDRED FIRE COMPANY

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

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley

R25-131: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR CHRISTIANA FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Tackett, Ms. George, Mr. Caneco

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Cartier

R25-132: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR CLAYMONT FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Cartier, Ms. Durham

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley

R25-133: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR CRANSTON HEIGHTS FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Sheldon, Ms. Durham, Ms. Kilpatrick

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-134: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR DELAWARE CITY FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-135: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR ELSMERE FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Ms. Durham

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-136: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR FIVE POINTS FIRE COMPANY

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

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-137: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR GOOD WILL FIRE COMPANY

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

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Cartier

R25-138: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR HOCKESSIN FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Kilpatrick, Ms. Durham

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-139: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR HOLLOWAY TERRACE
FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Street

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-140: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR MILL CREEK FIRE
COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Sheldon, Ms. Kilpatrick

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-141: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR MINQUADALE FIRE
COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Street,

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-142: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR MINQUAS FIRE
COMPANY

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

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-143: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR ODESSA FIRE
COMPANY

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

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-144: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR PORT PENN FIRE
COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Carter

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-145: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR TALLEYVILLE FIRE
COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham, Mr. Cartier

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley

R25-146: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR VOLUNTEER HOSE
FIRE COMPANY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Carter, Ms. George

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

R25-147: APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR WILMINGTON MANOR
FIRE COMPANY

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

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco, Mr. Cartier

R25-148: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL PROCEDURAL RULE NO. 15
("CONTINGENCY FUND") RELATING TO CONTINGENCY ALLOCATIONS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Hollins

-Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record and explained the Resolution. Mr. Smiley will be bringing a floor amendment at the Council meeting tonight.

-Comments from Mr. Tackett.

--No public comment.

R25-149: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL PROCEDURAL RULE 4 REGARDING INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Smiley

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record and explained the Resolution.
- Comments from Ms. Williams-Johns.
- No public comment.

R25-150: PROVIDING FOR A REVIEW OF THE RECENT REASSESSMENT OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY

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

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record.
- Mr. Tackett explained the Resolution.
- Comments from Mr. Toole, Mr. Carter, Ms. Durham, Mr. Hollins, Mr. Smiley, Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Street, Mr. Cartier, and Ms. George.
- Public comment from Dale Swain,

R25-151: SUPPORTING FALUN GONG AND ITS PURSUIT OF EXERCISING FREEDOM OF RELIGION

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

- Mr. Smiley read the Resolution into the record.
- Ms. Kilpatrick explained the Resolution.
- Comments from Mr. Caneco, Mr. Hollins, and Ms. Williams-Johns.
- No public comment.

R25-152: CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF DAVID DEL GRANDE TO THE POSITION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

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

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record.
- Mr. Hollins explained the Resolution.
- Comments from David Del Grande.
- Comments from Mr. Carter, and Mr. Cartier.
- No public comment.

D. Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s)

°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

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record.
- Mr. Toole stated that it is his intent to table the Ordinance at the Council meeting this evening.
- No comments or questions from Council or the Public.

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

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

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Ordinance into the record.
- Mr. Caneco explained the Ordinance.
- No comments or questions from Council or the Public.

°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

-Mr. Smiley stated that this Ordinance was previously considered and would not need to be discussed it again.

°25-102: AMEND THE FY2025 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: APPROPRIATE STATE OF DELAWARE FUNDING RECEIVED FOR THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY POLICE EMPLOYEE'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BUDGETARY LINE ITEM

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

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

-No comments or questions from Council or the Public.

E. New Castle County Grant Requests/Community Events

-8/26/25 Grant Matrix

Grant Applicant	Sponsor	Amount Approved	Council Member First/Second	Vote
Humanitarian Social Innovation (Fiscal Sponsor of Giving Bikes Back	Kilpatrick	\$1,000	Kilpatrick/George	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Oberle Elementary School – Christina School District	Caneco	\$957.40	Caneco/Kilpatrick	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Brandywine High School Baseball Boosters	Durham	\$1,000	Durham/Kilpatrick	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Autism Delaware	Williams-Johns	\$1,500	Williams-Johns/Kilpatrick	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Williams-Johns	\$1,500	Williams-Johns/Kilpatrick	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Arbour Park Civic Association	George	\$285	George/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Blackbird Community Association (Their response to the nondiscrimination agreement question is incomplete)	Carter	\$2,500	Carter/Kilpatrick	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Carrcroft Civic Association	Cartier	\$1,441	Cartier/George	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Northridge Civic Association	Cartier	\$250	Cartier/Tackett	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Upendo United Foundation	Toole	\$500	Toole/Kilpatrick	12 - Yes 1 - Not Voting
Bebe Properties, LLC**	Durham	\$1,190	Durham/Cartier	12 - Yes 1 - Not

F. Expense and Revenue Round Table

-None

G. Other

-Travel Request - Councilman Carter

-Mr. Carter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Caneco for the approval of Mr. Carter's travel request for the NACO LUCC Conference. All in favor.

H. Public Comment

-None

I. Adjournment

-Motion by Mr. Caneco, seconded by Mr. Tackett to adjourn the Administrative-Finance Committee meeting. The motion was approved, and the meeting adjourned at 5:31 pm.

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