



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING

February 3, 2026
6:30 PM

VIRTUAL ZOOM WEBINAR MEETING** &
LOUIS L. REDDING CITY/COUNTY BUILDING
1ST FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 N. FRENCH STREET, WILMINGTON, DE 19801

RESCHEDULED FROM 1/27/2026 TO 2/3/2026

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.

President Williams-Johns said the prayer and she was joined by members of Council performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

B. Approval of Minutes

-Motion by Councilman Smiley, second by Councilman Carter, to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2026 Council Meeting. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

C. Announcements

- Councilman Carter announced that Substitute No. 1 to Ordinance 25-101 would remain tabled this evening.
- Councilman Caneco announced that at the appropriate time he would introduce a Floor Amendment to Ordinance 26-102.
- Councilwoman Kilpatrick announced that she had a substitute for Resolution 26-109.

D. Introduction of Ordinances

°26-008: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$40,994.64 IN EMERGENCY ILLEGAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT (EIDE) FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY TO THE EIDE FY2026 GRANT, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

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

°26-009: AMEND THE PAY PLAN AND RATES OF PAY FOR NON-UNION CLASSIFIED SERVICE EMPLOYEES AND ADOPT THE CLASS SPECIFICATION OF COUNTY ASSESSOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF FINANCE

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

°26-010: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 2 ("ADMINISTRATION"), ARTICLE 2 ("COUNTY COUNCIL") AND ARTICLE 3 ("OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES") RELATING TO REPRESENTING

INTERESTS BEFORE NEW CASTLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Carter, Ms. Durham

°26-011: AMEND THE FY2026 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET INCREASE THE AUTHORIZED POSITION COUNT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF FINANCE BY FIVE POSITIONS FOR THE ASSESSMENT DIVISION

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

°26-012: AMEND THE FY2026 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: TRANSFER FUNDING FROM THE GRANTS AND FIXED CHARGES BUDGET LINE ITEM OF COUNTY COUNCIL TO THE CONTRACTUAL SERVICES BUDGET LINE ITEM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, DIVISION OF FLEET AND FACILITIES TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR AUDIO/VIDEO IMPROVEMENTS AT APPOQUINIMINK LIBRARY

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Carter

°26-013: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE FEDERAL FUNDS OF \$219,504.00 FROM THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY PASSED THROUGH THE DELAWARE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO THE REBLAZE RENEWAL 2026 (SLCGP) GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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

°26-014: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE FEDERAL FUNDS OF \$225,569.00 FROM THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY PASSED THROUGH THE DELAWARE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO THE NETSKOPE RENEWAL 2026 (SLCGP) GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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

°26-015: REVISE ZONING MAP: BRANDYWINE HUNDRED, SOUTHEASTERLY CORNER OF SILVERSIDE ROAD AND CONCORD PIKE; REZONE TAX PARCELS 06-051.00-056 (3602 SILVERSIDE RD., TALLEYVILLE TOWN CENTER), 06-051.00-072 (0 SILVERSIDE RD., WILMONT), 06-051.00-083 (3600 SILVERSIDE RD., WILMONT) FROM OFFICE NEIGHBORHOOD (ON) TO COMMERCIAL NEIGHBORHOOD (CN). (The Exploratory Minor Land Development Plan for Talleyville Town Shoppes Proposes to rezone part of tax parcel 06-051.00-056 (0.08 acres), tax parcel 06-051.00-072 (0.07 acres), and tax parcel 06-051.00-083 (0.81 acres) from ON to CN. (App. 2025-0569-S/Z)

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

E. Consent Calendar

R26-010: CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF JULIE ANN BREWER TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

R26-011: CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF CAITLIN F. BRITWUM TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole

R26-012: CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF LISSA E. BRUTUS TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Hollins

R26-013: CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF TRACY CHAMBLEE TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Carter

R26-014: CONSENTING TO THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF R. JEAN HERSHNER TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY HISTORIC REVIEW BOARD

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

R26-015: CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF NEDDA MOQTADERI TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY HOCKESSIN DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Kilpatrick

R26-016: CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MATTHEW MORRIS TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY CLAYMONT DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Cartier

R26-017: APPOINTING KENT ST. PIERRE TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL AUDIT COMMITTEE

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. George

Consent Note

-Councilman Cartier moved, seconded by Councilman Carter, that Consent Calendar be read by title only by the Clerk and placed before Council for its consideration.

Consent Calendar -- Adopted

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

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

R26-018: REQUESTING STATUTORY AUTHORITY FROM THE DELAWARE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT PERMITS NEW CASTLE COUNTY TO ESTABLISH A RIGHT TO TENURE FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY OFFICE OF LAW BY ORDINANCE

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

-Councilman Hollins moved, seconded by Councilwoman George, that Resolution 26-018 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Hollins explained the resolution.

-There were no questions or comments from Council Members or the public.

Resolution 26-018 -- Adopted

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

No: Jea Street

SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 TO R26-019: APOLOGIZING TO THE PUBLIC FOR CONDUCT UNBECOMING A COUNCIL

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Kilpatrick

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Mr. Carter, Mr. Cartier, Ms. George, Mr. Hollins, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Street, Mr. Toole

- Councilwoman Kilpatrick moved, seconded by Councilman Cartier, that Substitute No. 1 to Resolution 26-019 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilwoman Kilpatrick explained the resolution and the change in the substitute.
- Councilman Tackett commented on the resolution.
- There was no public comment.

Resolution 26-019 -- Adopted

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

G. Time Sensitive Congratulatory/Honorary Resolutions

R26-020: RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY THE FOURTH AS TRANSIT EQUITY DAY AND URGING THE REOPENING AND EXPANSION OF IN-PERSON SEPTA TICKET SERVICES AT THE JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR. RAIL STATION TO ENSURE TRANSIT EQUITY FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY RESIDENTS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Tackett

- Councilman Tackett moved, seconded by Councilwoman George, that Resolution 26-020 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Tackett commented on the resolution and noted that Councilwoman Durham requested to be added as a co-sponsor.
- President Williams-Johns requested to be added as a co-sponsor.
- Councilman Cartier requested to be added as a co-sponsor.
- Public comment: Jakim Muhamad

Resolution 26-020 -- Adopted

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

R26-021: HONORING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH - 2026

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

- Councilman Hollins moved, seconded by Councilman Cartier, that Resolution 26-021 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Hollins commented on the resolution.
- Councilman Toole and Councilman Sheldon requested to be added as co-sponsors. All of Council were added as co-sponsors.
- There was no public comment.

Resolution 26- 021 -- Adopted

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

R26-022: HONORING KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC. FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Williams-Johns

- President Williams-Johns moved, seconded by Councilman Caneco, that Resolution 26-022 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Toole and Councilman Tackett requested to be added as co-sponsors.
- Public Comment - Brian Stokes, Jr.

Resolution 26-022 -- Adopted

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

H. Presentations

-President Williams-Johns presented R26-022 to Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

I. Consideration of Ordinances

°26-002: AMENDING THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 2 ("ADMINISTRATION"), ARTICLE 5 ("DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES") TO MODIFY THE COMPOSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

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

-Councilman Toole moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett, that °26-002 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Caneco announced and explained Floor Amendment No. 1.

-Councilman Street inquired if the members of the Police Accountability Board provided input on these changes. Councilman Caneco and Councilman Toole responded to his question.

-Councilwoman Kilpatrick commented on the amendment and the ordinance.

-Mike Migliore, Counsel to Council, responded to council members' questions.

-Councilman Street commented on the changes and noted that he would not support the ordinance.

-There was no public comment on the floor amendment.

Floor Amendment No. 1 -- Adopted

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

No: Mr. Street

-Councilman Toole moved, seconded by Councilman Carter, that °26-002 as amended by Floor Amendment No. 1 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Toole commented on the amended ordinance.

-Council members' comments were from Mr. Street and Mr. Toole.

-There was no public comment.

Ordinance 26-002 as amended by Floor Amendment No. 1 -- Adopted

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

No: Jea Street

°26-003: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$74,959.44 IN STATE AID TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT (SALLE) FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY TO THE STATE AID TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT (SALLE) – FY2026 GRANT, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

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

-Councilman Caneco moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett, that °26-003 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.

-Councilman Caneco explained the ordinance and noted that it was discussed at today's Public Safety Committee meeting.

-There were no questions or comments from Council Members or the public.

Ordinance 26-003 -- Adopted

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

°26-004: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE FEDERAL FUNDS OF \$122,118 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO THE 2026 COC PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

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

- Councilman Hollins moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett, that °26-004 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Hollins explained the ordinance.
- There were no questions or comments from Council Members or the public.

Ordinance 26-004 -- Adopted

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

°26-005: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$100,000 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DIVISION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH TO THE WASTEWATER 2026 DHSS GRANT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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

- Councilman Sheldon moved, seconded by Councilman Carter, that °26-005 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Sheldon explained the ordinance.
- There were no questions or comments from Council Members or the public.

Ordinance 26-005 -- Adopted

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

°26-006: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE FEDERAL FUNDS OF \$1,440,000 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY TO THE SOCIAL IMPACT PARTNERSHIPS TO PAY FOR RESULTS ACT (SIPRA) –THE FAMILY HOPE PROJECT GRANT - EVALUATOR, WHICH WILL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

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

- Councilman Hollins moved, seconded by President Williams-Johns, that °26-006 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Hollins explained the ordinance.
- There were no questions or comments from Council Members or the public.

Ordinance 26-006 -- Adopted

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

°26-007: TRANSFERRING THE LOCAL SERVICE FUNCTION OF RECREATION TO THE TOWN OF ELSMERE

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

- Councilman Toole moved, seconded by Councilman Tackett, that °26-007 be read by title only and placed before Council for its consideration.
- Councilman Toole explained the ordinance and noted that it was discussed at today's Finance Committee Meeting.
- There were no questions or comments from Council Members or the public.

Ordinance 26-007 -- Adopted

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

SUBSTITUTE NO. 2 TO °25-101: (STATUS: TABLED) TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 40 ("UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE"), ARTICLE 3 ("USE REGULATIONS") AND ARTICLE 33 ("DEFINITIONS") TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR THE REVIEW, SITING, AND OPERATIONS OF DATA CENTERS

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Carter

Co-sponsor(s): Mr. Caneco, Ms. Durham, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Tackett

-Councilman Carter stated that Substitute No. 1 to °25-101 would remain tabled this evening.

Substitute No. 1 to Ordinance 25-101 -- Remained Tabled

J. Introduction/Consideration of Emergency Ordinances

-None

K. Public Comment/Other

Public Comment: Matthew Iodonna, Robyn Roberts, Jacob Walls, Dale Swain, Matthew Morris

Council Member Comments:

- Councilman Street commented on the public comment time allotment and the Police Accountability Board.

L. Motion to Adjourn

- Councilman Smiley moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cartier and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.