



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE-FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

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

February 24, 2026
5:00 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 5:00 pm.
- Council members present were: Mr. Caneco, Mr. Carter, Mr. Cartier, Ms. Durham, Ms. George, Mr. Hollins, Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Street (Virtual), Mr. Toole, and Ms. Williams-John.
- Mr. Tackett was absent.
- Mr. Smiley asked to entertain a motion to go out of order of the meeting. Mr. Cartier made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hollins, to go out of order to have the presentation of the FY 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. All in favor.
- Mr. Smiley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, to return to the regular order of business on the agenda. All in favor.

B. Approval of Minutes - February 10, 2026

A motion by Mr. Cartier, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, to approve the minutes of February 10, 2026 Finance Committee meeting. All in favor.

C. Review/Discussion of Resolution(s)

R26-041: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH BRANDYWINE RED CLAY ALLIANCE TO ASSIST IN THE PURCHASE OF A LAND CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ±139 ACRES IN NEW CASTLE COUNTY

Prime Sponsor(s): Ms. Durham

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Resolution into the record.
- Ms. Durham explained the Resolution in detail.
- Kendall Sommers, Public Works Parks department, gave a presentation of the Resolution.
- Comments from Mr. Carter, Mr. Hollins, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Toole, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Caneco, Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Street, and Mr. Smiley.
- Public Comment from Jim Jordan, Brandywine Red Clay Alliance.

D. Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s)

°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

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

°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

- Mr. Smiley read the title of the Ordinance into the record.
- Mr. Carter explained the Ordinance.
- Comments from Mr. Caneco,
- No Public comment.

°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

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

°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

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

E. New Castle County Grant Requests/Community Events**- 2/24/26 Grant Matrix - Revised**

Grant Applicant	Sponsor	Amount Approved	Council Member First/Second	Vote
Friends of the Newark Free Library	George	\$2,500	George/Cartier	11- Yes 1- Absent 1 — Not Voting
Newark Symphony Orchestra (NSO)	George	\$2,450	George/Cartier	11 - Yes 1- Absent 1 — Not Voting
True Life Church of Newark	George	\$1,300	George/Carter	11- Yes 1- Absent 1 — Not Voting
Project Act, Inc.	Williams-Johns	\$1,800	Williams-Johns/Kilpatrick	11- Yes 1- Absent 1 — Not Voting

Black Mothers in Power	Williams-Johns	\$1,200 Williams-Johns - \$600 Caneco - \$600	Williams-Johns/Cartier	11- Yes 1- Absent 1 — Not Voting
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F. Expense and Revenue Round Table**G. Other**

-FY 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report(ACFR) — Bob Wasserbach

-Mr. Wasserbaugh introduced Remi Omisore.

-Remi Omisore presented to Council the Year Ended June 30, 2025, Audit Results.

-Questions and comments from Mr. Smiley, Mr. Carter, Mr. Cartier, and Mr. Street.

-No Public comment.

H. Public Comment

-None

I. Council Member Comment

-None

J. Adjournment

--Motion by Mr. Cartier, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick to adjourn the Administrative Finance Committee meeting. The motion was approved, and the meeting adjourned at 6:08 pm.

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