

*Wilmington, Delaware
Louis L. Redding
City/County Building
February 18, 2016*

Council met in regular session on the above date at 6:30 p.m., President Theopolis K. Gregory, Sr. presiding.

Invocation was given by Joe Garcia.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by City Council.

ROLL CALL

The following members responded to the Call of the Roll: Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado**, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera*, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Absent, Council Member Congo.

MINUTES

After reading a portion of the minutes of February 4, 2016, upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Williams/Mr. Freel/Ms. Shabazz, it was moved they be accepted as written and amended. Motion prevailed.

***Note Correction:** Upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Freel, for the record, correction to the minutes of February 4, 2016 Council meeting: The Health, Aging and Disabilities Committee Report dated January 27, 2016, let the record reflect that Council Member Wright chaired the meeting.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Finance Committee Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Charles M. "Bud" Freel	X		
Michael A. Brown, Sr.	X		
Samuel Prado			X
Hanifa G.N. Shabazz	X		
Loretta Walsh		X	

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

February 1, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 15-048** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACT 15054DFPS – TRAFFIC LIGHT SIGNAL VIOLATION MONITORING SYSTEMS – WITH XEROX STATE AND LOCAL SOLUTIONS, INC.

Have given this Ordinance careful study and recommend Council vote on it accordingly.

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Finance Committee
/s/Charles M. Freel, Chair
/s/Michael A. Brown
/s/Hanifa Shabazz

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

**Note: At this time, Ms. Cabrera was marked present and reflected in the minutes herein (Roll Call).*

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Housing, Licenses & Inspections Committee Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Maria D. Cabrera	X		
Darius J. Brown	X		
Samuel Prado	X		
Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha	X		
Hanifa G.N. Shabazz		X	
Sherry Dorsey Walker		X	

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

February 3, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Housing, Licenses & Inspection Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 16-002** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 13 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING CLOTHING DONATION BINS

Have given this Ordinance careful study and recommend Council vote on it accordingly.

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Housing, Licenses & Inspections Committee
/s/Maria D. Cabrera, Chair
/s/Darius J. Brown
/s/Samuel Prado
/s/Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

Upon a motion of Ms. Cabrera, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Committee of the Whole</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha		X	
Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II	X		
Darius J. Brown	X		
Hanifa G.N. Shabazz	X		
Samuel Prado	X		
Sherry Dorsey Walker	X		
Robert A. Williams	X		
Charles M. Freel	X		
Michael A. Brown, Sr.	X		
Maria D. Cabrera	X		
Loretta Walsh	X		
Justen A. Wright	X		

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

February 8, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your **JOINT** Committee of the Whole and Public Safety Committees, met on the above date, Council President Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr. and Councilman Michael A. Brown, Sr. presiding. The following items were discussed:

- Introduction/Update Commissioner Ramsey
- An update from Wilmington Police Chief Bobby Cummings regarding select recommendations of the Wilmington Public Safety Strategies Commission.

- Discuss a Resolution to approve a mutual support agreement between the Wilmington Police Department and the Wilmington Job Corps, a quasi-governmental agency
- Discuss a Resolution to approve a grant from the State of Delaware, Fund to Combat Violent Crime in the amount of \$187,503.06 to fund anti-violence overtime program
- Discuss a Resolution to approve a grant from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$52,800.00 to purchase riot helmets.
- Discuss a Resolution to approve a grant from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$28,500.00 to purchase PADtrax evidence system
- Discuss a Resolution to approve a grant from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$7,850.00 to purchase 911 system vehicle locator licensing.
- Discuss a Resolution to approve a grant from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$2,500.00 to purchase training aids/public safety literature.
- Discuss a Resolution to approve a grant from the State of Delaware, Emergency Illegal Drug Enforcement Program in the amount of \$32,295.49 to fund drug enforcement overtime program.

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Committee of the Whole

/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., President
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.
/s/Loretta Walsh
/s/Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II
/s/Robert A. Williams
/s/Sherry Dorsey Walker

/s/Hanifa Shabazz
/s/Justen A. Wright
/s/Charles M. Freel
/s/Maria D. Cabrera
/s/Sam Prado
/s/Darius J. Brown

<u>Public Safety Committee Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Michael A. Brown, Sr.	X		
Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II	X		
Charles M. "Bud" Freel	X		
Loretta Walsh	X		
Robert A. Williams	X		

Respectfully submitted, Members of
 Public Safety Committee
 /s/Michael A. Brown, Sr., Chair
 /s/Ernest “Trippi” Congo, II
 /s/Charles M. Freel
 /s/Loretta Walsh
 /s/Robert A. Williams
 /s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Mr. Freel/Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

Note: The above referenced items did not require to be voted out of the committee.

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Education, Youth & Families Committee Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha	X		
Michael A. Brown Sr.		X	
Maria D. Cabrera	X		
Ernest “Trippi” Congo, II		X	
Hanifa G.N. Shabazz	X		
Sherry Dorsey Walker	X		

Date: February 10, 2016

President and Members of Council of
 The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Education, Youth & Families Committee, met on the above date at 5:00 p.m., Councilman Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha presiding. The following items were discussed:

- Parent Advocacy Council for Education (PACE) presentation by Elizabeth Lockman
- Wilmington Education Advisory Committee (WEAC) update by Tony Allen
- Brandywine School District Referendum update by Dorrell Green
- Discuss a Resolution Supporting the Financial Task Force

Respectfully submitted, Members of
 Education, Youth & Families Committee
 /s/Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha, Chair
 /s/Maria D. Cabrera
 /s/Hanifa Shabazz
 /s/Sherry Dorsey Walker

Upon a motion of Mr. Chukwuocha, seconded by Ms. Walsh/Mr. Freel, the aforementioned Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

Note: The above referenced items did not require to be voted out of the committee.

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Community and Economic Development Committee Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Loretta Walsh		X	
Darius J. Brown	X		
Maria D. Cabrera		X	
Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II		X	
Sherry Dorsey Walker	X		
Justen A. Wright		X	

President and Members of Council of
 The City of Wilmington

Date: February 11, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Community and Economic Development Committee, met on the above date at 5:00 p.m., Councilman Darius Brown presiding. The following item was discussed:

- A presentation by New Castle County Chamber of Commerce
- An update on the Grow Wilmington Fund and the Small Business Success Series by the Office of Economic Development's Office of Small and Minority Business
- Discuss a Resolution for TRAIN Grant offered by the Department of Labor

Respectfully submitted, Members of
 Community and Economic Development Committee
 /s/Darius J. Brown
 /s/Sherry Dorsey Walker

Mr. Wright: What committee?

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): Community and Economic...

Ms. Cabrera: Economic Development.

Upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Freel, the aforementioned Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): I think there's a correction.

Mr. Wright: I was present at that meeting.

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): You was present?

Mr. Wright: For the financial literacy.

President Gregory: So noted.

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): So noted. Thank you.

Note: The above referenced items did not require to be voted out of the committee.

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Public Works & Transportation Committee Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Hanifa G.N. Shabazz, Chair	X		
Michael A. Brown, Sr.	X		
Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha	X		
Samuel Prado		X	
Robert A. Williams	X		

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

February 17, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Public Works & Transportation Committee, met on the above date at 5:00 p.m., Councilwoman Hanifa G.N. Shabazz presiding. The following items were discussed:

1. Discuss a Resolution to support House Bill 202 addressing concerns related to use of plastic bags
2. Discuss a Resolution approving the licenses agreement between the City and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC
3. Discuss a Resolution granting the Department of Public Works the authority to grant an easement and right of way over portions of city owned lands for the improvement of Baynard Blvd

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Public Works & Transportation Committee
/s/Hanifa Shabazz, Chair
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.
/s/Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha
/s/Robert A. Williams
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

Upon a motion of Ms. Shabazz, seconded by Mr. Freel, the
aforementioned Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

Note: The above referenced items did not require to be voted out of the committee.

**Note: At this time, Mr. Prado was marked present and reflected in the minutes herein
(Roll Call).

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): President Gregory, if I may?

President Gregory: No, no, no. You're going to go back to that?

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): Do you want to make the correction?

President Gregory: I'll fix it.

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): Ok.

President Gregory: You're ready to move on?

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): ah hum.

President Gregory: Treasurer's Report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following Treasurer's Report dated February 18, 2016 was read into the record by the City Clerk, and upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Freel/ Mr. Williams, the Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF WILMINGTON February 18, 2016

102	Community Development Block Grant	M & T Bank	\$ 1.00
104	Old Non-Uniform Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 3,396.81
105	Police Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 2,208.41
106	Fire Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 1,771.31
107	Evidence/Found Currency Account	M & T Bank	\$ 205,927.66
108	Rent Withholding Escrow	M & T Bank	\$ 4,137.97
110	Capital Projects Account	M & T Bank	\$ 1.00
113	Non-Uniform Pension	M & T Bank	\$ 1,252.06
114	Central Deposit	M & T Bank	\$ 60,486.59
117	Cement Workers	Wilmington Savings Fund	\$ 33,471.23
118	Worker's Comp. 3 rd Party Account	M & T Bank	\$ 13,003.23
124	Non-Uniform Pension Act of 1990	M & T Bank	\$ 4,315.86
130	Payroll	M & T Bank	\$ 249,332.71
131	Pension Payroll Account	M & T Bank	\$ 24,377.75
139	Pension Healthcare Account	M & T Bank	\$ <u>3,759.36</u>
	Total Cash on Hand		\$ 607,442.95

FUND CODE	FUND	INSTITUTION	INVEST. TYPE	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	INTEREST RECEIVABLE	INVESTMENT AMOUNT
116	General	M&T Bank	RP	02/18/16	0.01%	\$ 1.33	\$ 4,845,060.00
110	Capital	TD	CD	02/19/16	0.38%	\$ 3,868.31	\$ 4,083,085.92
116	General	WSFS	CD	02/19/16	0.35%	\$ 1,476.71	\$ 2,200,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	02/22/16	0.41%	\$ 943.57	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	02/25/16	0.40%	\$ 1,139.72	\$ 1,600,000.00
124	Non-Uniform 1990	WSFS	CD	02/25/16	0.40%	\$ 869.92	\$ 2,835,000.00
105	Police Pension	WSFS	CD	02/25/16	0.40%	\$ 122.74	\$ 400,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	03/01/16	0.35%	\$ 383.57	\$ 1,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	03/04/16	0.35%	\$ 824.66	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General ¹	TD	CD	03/15/16	0.39%	\$ 17,019.15	\$ 15,169,686.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	03/15/16	0.35%	\$ 12,492.98	\$ 14,476,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	03/18/16	0.40%	\$ 1,227.40	\$ 2,000,000.00
110	Capital	TD	CD	03/18/16	0.38%	\$ 12,389.05	\$ 10,000,000.00
110	Capital ²	TD	CD	03/18/16	0.30%	\$ 1,329.21	\$ 1,540,195.00
116	General	TD	CD	03/25/16	0.50%	\$ 1,191.78	\$ 1,500,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	04/01/16	0.30%	\$ 772.61	\$ 1,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	04/08/16	0.43%	\$ 1,007.26	\$ 1,500,000.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	05/20/16	0.40%	\$ 19,945.20	\$ 10,000,000.00
514	Risk Management	WSFS	CD	07/11/16	0.40%	\$ 22,805.15	\$ 5,670,097.05
515	Worker's Comp	WSFS	CD	07/11/16	0.40%	\$ 22,805.15	\$ 5,670,097.05
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	11/18/16	0.50%	\$ 99,726.02	\$ 20,000,000.00
104	Escrow Pension	Affinity Wealth					\$ 1,380,882.00
104	Escrow Pension	Vanguard					\$ 38,697,527.00
104	Escrow Pension	Black Rock					\$ 24,813,958.00
104	Escrow Pension	Edgar Lomax					\$ 20,611,383.00
104	Escrow Pension	Wilmington Trust					\$ 44,708,159.00
104	Escrow Pension	Manning & Napier					\$ 9,554,367.00
104	Escrow Pension	Earnest Partners					\$ 16,017,439.00
104	Escrow Pension	GMO					\$ 10,968,973.00
104	Escrow Pension	MFS Management					\$ 21,197,520.00
104	Escrow Pension	American Funds					\$ 9,436,231.00
139	Medical Escrow	Black Rock-OPEB					\$ 13,433,619.00
116	Deferred Comp.	MassMutual					\$ 37,694,382.00
	Total Investments						\$ 358,003,661.02
	Total Cash on Hand						\$ 607,442.95
	Grand Total						\$ 358,611,103.97

¹ Budget Reserve

² SEU

/s/Henry W. Supinski
City Treasurer

NON-LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Williams/Mr. Freel, the following non-legislative resolutions were accepted into the record and motion prevailed:

D. Brown	Sympathy Princess Elizabeth and Zipporah Carroway
Chukwuocha	Congratulate Omar “Super O” Douglass – Boxing Champion
Gregory	Sympathy Bettye M. Jervy
Gregory	Sympathy Lucille Jones White
Gregory	Retirement Master Sergeant Water Ferris
Gregory	Retirement Master Sergeant Michael Rodriguez
Shabazz	Sympathy Mildred B.Croxton

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

President Gregory: Mr. Chukwuocha.

Mr. Chukwuocha: Yes Mr. President, I have an Ordinance to present and call for the third and final.

Mr. Chukwuocha presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 16-002 (Agenda #4146) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 13 OF THE
CITY CODE REGARDING CLOTHING DONATION
BINS

Mr. Chukwuocha: Mr. President, I have a **Substitute** to present in lieu of that Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 13 OF THE
CITY CODE REGARDING CLOTHING DONATION
BINS

On the question:

Mr. Chukwuocha: Yes Mr. President, these are changes to the clothing bins. We really felt that there are ways in which we could strengthen that Ordinance in addition to increasing the fee from \$25.00 to \$100.00 for the bin placement. It also adds greater accountability directly related to the property owner where before it was just a signature on a sheet of paper and that got construed where some business owners, not the property owners, business owners were signing. So now there's a - - in the procedure for registration there's a letter from the property owner as well as there has to be a schedule of when the bin will be empty as part of the registration process and it also would be placed on the bin.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll please.

Upon a motion of Mr. Chukwuocha, seconded by Ms. Walsh/Mr. Williams, the aforementioned **Substitute** Ordinance was read for the third and final time and was adopted by the title and section recurring to the Enacting Clause and passed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Chukwuocha: Mr. President, I have a Resolution to present.

Mr. Chukwuocha presented Resolution No. 16-009 (Agenda #4162) as follows:

WHEREAS, the Wilmington City Code Section 2-627 provides that the Department of Public Works shall have the authority, subject to the approval of Council by resolution, to sell or exchange any real estate belonging to the city or to grant any license, easement, right-of-way or other interest in or over real estate as shall be necessary to facilitate the construction, maintenance, operation and/or repair of streets, roads, sidewalks, and/or other public rights-of-way including bridges; provided, however, that public notice of such action shall be advertised at least one week in advance, in a newspaper of citywide distribution; and

WHEREAS, Baynard Boulevard has been laid out to run from the Brandywine River in a northeasterly direction towards the lands now or formerly thereof the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, such lands also being the terminus of the City's boundary; and

WHEREAS, portions of Baynard Boulevard northeast of the intersection of Baynard Boulevard and North Broom Street exist only as a 'paper street' and such portions of Baynard Boulevard are not built to the specifications required, nor to allow for the flow of traffic over it; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works wishes to further improve the stretch of Baynard Boulevard that runs from North Broom Street to the City's boundary line in a manner depicted in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, specifically, such improvements would require portions of the improvements to encroach upon lands owned by the City of Wilmington, being New Castle County Tax Parcel Number 26.008-40.030; and

WHEREAS, said improvements are needed not only to build the stretch of Baynard Boulevard depicted in Exhibit A, but also to provide connectivity to the lands now or formerly thereof the Wilmington UDAG Corporation, a detailed depiction of said improvements and the necessary easement is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements of that portion of Baynard Boulevard that intrudes upon the City's land was laid out and existed in the past as evidenced by the relevant portion of the Franklin Survey Map of 1947, attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit C; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wilmington City Code Section 2-627 the Department of Public Works seeks Council's approval for the grant of an easement and right-of-way over the lands owned by the City of Wilmington being New Castle County Tax Parcel Number 26.008-40.030 to complete the proposed improvements of Baynard Boulevard and to provide access to the lands now or formerly thereof the Wilmington UDAG Corporation; and

WHEREAS, such an easement and grant of right-of-way is necessary for the Department of Public Works to construct the improvements of Baynard Boulevard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, pursuant to Section 2-627 of the City Code, the Department of Public Works and the Department of Parks and Recreation shall have the authority to grant an easement to allow for the use of a portion of the lands owned by the City of Wilmington being New Castle County Tax Parcel Number 26.008-40.030 to be used as right-of-way so that improvements can be made to the stretch of Baynard Boulevard that currently exists as a 'paper street'.

On the question:

Mr. Chukwuocha: Yes Mr. President, this is the Resolution regarding the Harper Thiel site and it asks for the creation of the road a paper road to be – have created. Actually, it's for the infrastructure to support the development of the Harper Thiel site and it's been long waited and deeply supported within the 1st District.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Chukwuocha, seconded by Mr. Williams, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Darius Brown.

Mr. Darius Brown: Yes Mr. President, I have two Resolutions.

Mr. Darius Brown presented Resolution No. 16-010 (Agenda #4163) as follows:

WHEREAS, many students in Delaware schools are not offered the proper education and training that is necessary to attain the financial literacy required to be productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that Delaware's public schools provide a curriculum that prepares students to make appropriate personal finance decisions that equips them for college, career, and civic participation; and

WHEREAS, states throughout the country have created financial literacy programs and standards that teach students how to best handle their money and manage potential debt; and

WHEREAS, the Council for Economic Education has concluded that financial literacy is not just a high school concern, but a concern for students throughout their K-12 education; and

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2016 the 148th General Assembly passed House Joint Resolution No. 4, establishing a task force to study and make findings concerning financial literacy education in Delaware public schools and make policy recommendations to increase the financial literacy of Delaware students; and

WHEREAS, the task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the State Board of Education, the General Assembly, and the Governor, with recommendations being implemented by 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that Council supports the Financial Literacy Task Force and looks forward to its findings and recommendations in developing a regulatory framework that will strengthen financial literacy education K-12.

On the question:

Mr. Darius Brown: Yes Mr. President, on January 26th of this year during the 148th Session of Delaware General Assembly there was a passed House Joint Resolution No. 4, which established a task force to study and make findings concerning financial literacy education in Delaware's public schools and this Resolution by Council supports the work of the task force and awaits the appropriate recommendations and findings on the implementation in our K-12 public school education system.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Darius Brown, seconded by Ms. Shabazz/Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Brown.

Mr. Darius Brown presented Resolution No. 16-011 (Agenda #4164) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363(b) of the City Code, in the event of a severe time constraint, Council may authorize and ratify grant applications and proposals after submission and prior to obtaining approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City, through its Office of Economic Development (OED), Small & Minority Business Enterprise Office, has been awarded a grant from the Delaware Department of Labor (DOL) TRAIN program in the amount of \$20,000 to support the City's development of a Strategic Workforce Training Plan; and

WHEREAS, through the TRAIN program, OED will engage local employers and stakeholders to develop and advance a comprehensive workforce training plan that focuses on the Customer and Technical Support field or other high-priority skills areas; and

WHEREAS, as convener of the TRAIN program, OED will lead a four (4) month planning and strategy development process to identify solutions on recruiting and training local residents in the Customer and Technical Support field or other high-priority skills area, connecting residents to local employers, and laying a foundation for career advancement; and

WHEREAS, the grant does not require matching funds, but OED will be contributing "in kind" value of approximately \$13,773.00 through staff support, supplies, printing and travel costs; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware State University Center for Economic Development and International Trade (UCEDIT) will be contributing \$15,000 of "in kind" value through research and planning consulting services and the grant funds will be used to cover the remainder of the costs of their services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the OED is hereby authorized to accept the \$20,000 in grant funding from the Delaware Department of Labor to support the City's TRAIN program. A copy of the award letter and grant application is attached hereto. The Director of the Office of Economic Development or his appointee is hereby authorized to execute a grant agreement and any other documents necessary for the implementation of the grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the OED shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept the grant funds and move forward with the implementation of the TRAIN program.

On the question:

Mr. Darius Brown: Yes Mr. President, this TRAIN Grant, is a grant by the Delaware Department of Labor that was applied for by the City's Office of Economic Development in partnership with Delaware State University. One of the challenges we – we find is the talent dividend where we look at skill gaps of City residents and the available job opportunities at many of our businesses and corporations in the City currently provide. And, so, with this the Office of Economic Development – Office of Economic Development will develop and implement a workforce training plan for the City of Wilmington.

President Gregory: Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: Thank you Mr. President. I'm excited that we are able to get this grant and I would ask the sponsor if I can also be a co-sponsor and one who advocates for workforce development, this is a very good thing. Thank you.

President Gregory: So noted. Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: I wholeheartedly agree with this legislation. If it pleases the sponsor, I'd like to be a co-sponsor as well.

President Gregory: So noted.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Thank you.

President Gregory: I guess eventually, we're going to get ourselves in trouble as a City because of process where we ratify these things and we don't vote on them in advance. There has to be some public policy reason that we put in place decades ago to say we have to approve all grants before they are applied for but not only was it applied for before we approve it and in fact was received before we approved but somewhere along the line, someone should have thought, well we really need to clue City Council in on this. It's innocuous ninety-nine point nine, nine, nine, nine, nine percent of the time. But there's that fraction of percent where we're going to do this and somebody is going to end up getting in trouble and therefore, the City of Wilmington will get in trouble. But it's just not this administration; I guess I lived through one, two - - two other administrations and it never changes but we're going to ourselves in trouble. There's a reason for the rule and we just don't adhere to it. Mr. Brown you had something?

Mr. Michael Brown: I'm glad you said the Mr. President because I thought and I could be wrong but something needs staff – somebody remind me if I'm wrong, I thought we already have a law that says just exactly what you said; that all persons – all departments or anybody that wants a grant must come before the proper committees to vet the grant before they even apply for it. I thought we did an ordinance on that and I want - - I'll ask that staff look it up and tell me whether I'm right or wrong on it because then I'ma stop voting for it when it comes if it hasn't been vetted properly. That's the way to do that.

President Gregory: You're right except that the content or the mission or purpose of the grants, are things that help the City. So, we can't very well not approve it because the process wasn't appropriate but I can tell you there's public policy reason that's in place, some value that's in the place that says that we should vet before or we should know about and approval before it's even applied for. But, here we go. The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Darius Brown, seconded by Ms. Walsh/Mr. Williams, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: Mr. President, I have a Resolution and two first and seconds to present.

Ms. Shabazz presented Resolution No. 16-012 (Agenda #4165) as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the “License Agreement” between the **CITY OF WILMINGTON**, a municipal corporation of the State of Delaware, and **NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC**, a Delaware limited liability company (“New Cingular”), also known as AT&T, to continue to permit New Cingular to operate and maintain wireless communications equipment (including up to nine antennas) on the City water tower located at Rock Manor Golf Course, Route 202, New Castle County, Delaware, a copy of which, in substantial form, is attached as Exhibit “A” hereto and made a part hereof, is hereby approved, and the Mayor or his designee and the City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute as many copies of said License Agreement as may be necessary.

On the question:

Ms. Shabazz: Yes Mr. President, this Resolution is being presented to Council for approval through the Department of Public Works to enter into a five-year agreement with New Cingular Wireless (AT&T) to continue operating and maintain communications equipment on our City’s water tower at the Rock Manor Golf Course. This agreement comes with two, five-year extension and if the City and vendor agree to such an extension, New Cingular will pay the City \$3,000 per month or \$36,000 a year for the first year of the agreement and then the payment will increase by – annually by 3%. This agreement is a successor to the original grant – September 1995 – not grant excuse me, September 1995 agreement regarding communications equipment for the Rock Manor tower that was between the City and the former Wilmington Cellular Telephone Company.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Ms. Shabazz, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael

Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Ms. Shabazz: Mr. President, I have an Ordinance to present and call for the first and second reading.

Ms. Shabazz presented and called for the first and second reading Ordinance No. 16-010 (Agenda #4166) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AN EXTENSION TO CITY CONTRACT 14045WDPS, FIRE HYDRANT TESTING AND REHABILITATION SERVICES, WITH UTILITY SERVICE CO., INC.

The aforementioned Ordinance was given two separate readings by title only and upon a motion of Ms. Shabazz, seconded by Mr. Prado/Mr. Williams, the Ordinance was received, recorded and referred to the Public Works & Transportation Committee. Motion prevailed.

President Gregory: Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: Mr. President, I have another Ordinance to present and call for the first and second.

Ms. Shabazz presented and called for the first and second reading Ordinance No. 16-011 (Agenda #4167) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AN EXTENSION TO CITY CONTRACT 14046WDPS, VALVE INSPECTION, EXERCISING, AND REHABILITATION SERVICES, WITH UTILITY SERVICE CO., INC.

The aforementioned Ordinance was given two separate readings by title only and upon a motion of Ms. Shabazz, seconded by Mr. Williams, the Ordinance was received, recorded and referred to the Public Works & Transportation Committee. Motion prevailed.

President Gregory: Thank you. Mr. Prado.

Mr. Prado: Nothing tonight Mr. President.

President Gregory: Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: No legislative business tonight Mr. President, thank you.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: No legislation this evening, thank you.

President Gregory: Mr. Freel.

Mr. Freel: Mr. President, I have three Ordinances for three and final and then one Resolution.

Mr. Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 14-033 (Agenda #3953) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTERS 4 AND 34 OF
THE CITY CODE REGARDING PAINTING OF EXTERIOR
SURFACES ON BUILDINGS AND REPAIR OF FENCES

Mr. Freel: Mr. President, I have a **Substitute** to present in lieu of that Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTERS 4 AND 34 OF
THE CITY CODE REGARDING PAINTING OF EXTERIOR
SURFACES ON BUILDINGS AND REPAIR OF FENCES

On the question:

Mr. Freel: Yes Mr. President, the purpose of this Ordinance really is require property owners to maintain the fences surrounding their areas whether it needs to be painted or whether they're falling down and need to be re-erected.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President, just a quick question. Is there a grace period specifically for elderly folks that may be under some kind of financial constraints?

Mr. Freel: Well normally when you received – first receive a notice and in that notice will be a time period where you're required to – to repair the fence or whatever it is you get a notice from L&I. I know in many occasions if there's a hardship or if there's a problem and you ask for more time, they will try to give you more time.

Mr. Williams: Thank you for the clarity.

President Gregory: Thank you. The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Mr. Prado/Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Ordinance was read for the third and final time and was adopted by title and section recurring to the Enacting Clause and was passed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 15-048 (Agenda # 4112) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACT 15054DFPS –
TRAFFIC LIGHT SIGNAL VIOLATION MONITORING
SYSTEMS – WITH XEROX STATE AND LOCAL
SOLUTIONS, INC.

On the question:

Mr. Freel: Yes Mr. President, this is a three-year contract with Xerox better known as the Red Light Camera Program. I hoping Council members have received the reports that we've been doing that looks at the Program. It's a three-year contract - - the good thing about the contract is we're getting away from the percentage of revenue and getting to a flat rate. I still have some concerns with the Program, specifically, the right turn on red issue and I'm hoping that we can continue to revisit that issue and see if there's a different way to handle it.

President Gregory: The - - Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: This could be a good example of what you were talking about too the (inaudible) that this began on January 1, 2016, what if this Council rejected? Does that mean the City would have to pay all those people – all those folks that who might have paid a fine already? I mean they really better watch the way they're doing this and you're right, it isn't just this administration. It's been for other administrations too. But, I would think that the Law Department, no matter who is in charge of it, would be on top of this and realize what a problem it is.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: Yeah, I'm going to vote on this but I do want to express my concern with the right on red – the rolling red. I mean I think that people should stop. I see some folks that don't even stop, but if we're going to look at the reason why we have

these citations and why we're asking people to pay for their behavior, then there should be something to back it up. And, now that we finally have the reports and they're showing that there's only been four accidents because of turning right on red or a rolling red as they call it, then, you know, here we go again, with these excessive fines as our parking citations, excessive fines. So, we just need to really revisit how we keep fining people in the City of Wilmington.

President Gregory: Anyone else? The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Mr. Williams/Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Ordinance was read for the third and final time and was adopted by title and section recurring to the Enacting Clause and was passed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Cabrera and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, nine. Nays, Council Members Freel, Michael Brown and Walsh. Total, three. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 15-049 (Agenda #4113) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACT 15055DFPS –
PARKING CITATION AND COLLECTION SERVICES -
WITH XEROX STATE AND LOCAL SOLUTIONS, INC.

On the question:

Mr. Freel: Yes, this is also a three in a half year contract with Xerox and this is for the Parking Citations Program.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Mr. Williams/Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Ordinance was read for the third and final time and was adopted by title and section recurring to the Enacting Clause and was passed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Cabrera and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, ten. Nays, Council Members Michael Brown and Walsh. Total, two. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel presented Resolution No. 16-013 (Agenda #4168) as follows:

WHEREAS, it is estimated that citizens uses hundreds of plastic carryout bags annually, many of which add to the litter and blight affecting Wilmington's communities, streets, parks, woodlands, and waterways and can also be seen hanging from City trees and bushes; and

WHEREAS, plastic bags clog Wilmington's storm water management systems resulting in increased costs for cleanup and disposal, are the second-most prevalent item collected during Delaware's coastal and river cleanup events, and adversely affect wildlife, including fish, dolphin, whales, sea turtles and birds who perish when they mistakenly eat or become entangled in plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, less than ten percent of plastic carryout bags, which do not biodegrade but slowly photodegrade and end up as small toxic particles in our environment, are estimated to be recycled or reused, resulting in many tons of plastic bags that are disposed of in the local landfill, clog the City's storm drains, or are mixed inappropriately with recyclables causing processing delays and increased costs at the DSWA Materials Recycling Facility; and

WHEREAS, plastic bags which are ingested by marine animals and fish and become part of the food chain upon which humans rely, causing increasing concern as plastic's role as an endocrine disrupter and other health concerns become more documented in scientific studies; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that both retailers and communities can derive significant financial and environmental benefits when single-use plastic bags are no longer distributed free of charge to consumers, instead requiring consumers to pay for bags only when they are needed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the City Council hereby congratulates the 148th General Assembly for addressing concerns related to use of plastic bags, for recognizing that the hidden damage to the environment and to wildlife from the use of free bags supplied by retailers is far greater than what may appear on the surface, and for supporting the passage of House Bill 202 which will result in a cleaner City, reduced related health concerns, reduced litter and blight and reduced expenditures to counter the damage caused by plastic bags.

On the question:

Mr. Freel: Yes Mr. President, first I'd like to add Council Member Walsh as a sponsor and I want to talk about a little bit of the specifics and maybe some of the sponsors want to talk about some of the additional benefits. Basically, what we're doing here is encouraging the legislature to support House Bill 202. And, House Bill 202 builds on legislation that is already in place by adding a five cent a bag fee for plastic bags. It is not in all the establishments. It would be – it would be used for those that have at least 7,000 square feet of retail sell space or has three or more storage or retail locations in the State each having at least 3,000 square feet of retail sells. These stores would be able to use these funds to compile with the subchapter; it would be able to provide reusable bags to customers and also to – to have an educational program. For some of us we'd like to see more than this but it's kind of step by step process and I think we are moving in the right direction here in the State of Delaware. I hope my colleagues

will add their names to the thirty-four (34) other sponsors as we were kind of the first in leaders in recycling here in the State of Delaware.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President. As Councilman Freel stated, I don't think it goes far enough. I really think that we have a bigger issue with the single item – single purchase – one bag out the door, that item gets consumed and the bag goes on the ground and wreaks its – wreaks its havoc down the road. I look at Save A Lot and not to call out one specific store but they're already implementing this and it's not hurting their sell at all. Folks flock to Save A Lot, they make multiple purchases there and if you want bags, you buy them. If not, you bring your own. So, they've already initiated this process. I support it 110%; we have to start somewhere and I hope that we can move along to some of the smaller establishments to really curtail some of the bag usage.

President Gregory: Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Thank you Mr. President. I truly believe in an environmental justice and I believe this maybe taking the City into the – in the right direction, however, my concern is how does this affect poor populations as Ms. Frost asked a little earlier? Does anyone have an answer to that question?

President Gregory: Let me try to comment it on from my perspective because I got phone calls on this. Firstly, this ducktails into what Mr. Williams said and that is that each establishment that has edible products in it, they're supposed to have a trash can near the front door. That was a piece of legislation that I caused to be put in place years ago. They need to go back and look at that and see if it's being enforced and if everyone has those trash cans I meant outside firstly and then secondly, the multiple use bags are very plentiful. My wife is just one of these recycle gurus and she's got ten bags in her trunk and seven of them were free. I asked her; how many of them you got for free? But through various non-profits and different organizations, people advertising - you don't have to buy the bag, if you keep your bag in your car or some place in your house, just grab and take it to the store and come back with it. But you can get a lot of the bags for free at this point in time and, I was in store today and I asked someone and the multiple use bags they said its \$4 – I forget, I was in Walmart, they said \$4. So, I don't think it's that regressive and I think we all have a responsibility with respect to the environment whether we are poor or not. That's my personal opinion.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Follow-up please. So, if this would be an issue of education as it pertains to our civic associations.

President Gregory: Yes.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Let them know – okay.

Ms. Shabazz: Yeah.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Thank you.

President Gregory: Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: Thank you Mr. President. I just want to say, Councilman Williams that excellent, excellent example - - when you go to Save A Lot, you either bring your own bag or you're going to buy some bags or you're going to use a box. So that's an excellent example of what's already going on. I would like to almost say we should add the liquor stores to this because I am just tired of our City being dotted with little black bags in every neighborhood that there is a liquor store. I mean, why give them a bag? They're already drinking their beer or whatever it is as they're out the door and you know, that's - anyway, that's one of my pet peeves. When it comes to the free bags as you had mentioned your wife, you know, as a Navigator with the Affordable Healthcare, I have given away zillions of those bags to people everywhere that we go for marketing purpose. A lot of non-profits use those bags. You know, I have bags in my vehicle now and it makes it so much easier to carry your groceries. And, you know I'm going to avid recycle; I think we should be doing a better job and we really need to teach our children to recycle. To me it is very sad when we see children just throwing trash out on the street just like nothing. You know - their wrappers and just the amount of trash that you see from a lot of these fast food places. Last but not least, I just want to commend the three young men that came here today. Some of you may have noticed that one of them is my last born child, Vincent and his two colleagues. They did do this project with their school, which is teaching them to be aware and to care about the environment and Vincent is an avid recycler. So, if you teach your children, they will take this to heart and they will get involved in the movement. So, I was even impressed that they're calling national or major companies and chains and ask them to rethink of how you recycle. Think of all the businesses that we have in the City and all the establishments that aren't recycling. We could really make a difference and up this. This is just one piece; it is the person and it's about education. So, we should support not only this but other efforts to boost our recycling.

President Gregory: Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: No, I'm all right.

President Gregory: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Yes, thank you Mr. President. I agree that this doesn't go far enough but it is a baby step. I believe we as a nation - that one of the biggest stain in our record as a relatively new country, it's the amount of pollution and trash that we produce and the - the example we give to other nations of what a throw-away society we are. Every single resident of this land whether you're a citizen or not a citizen, has a responsibility to do certain things and one of them I believe is choice and the choice in this situation as you pointed out whether your very wealthy or very poor is, do I bring a

bag with me or do I pay five cents for it? It's very simple. It becomes an educational moment perhaps to an entire family too. But I think it is a baby step and I support it 100%.

President Gregory: Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Thank you Mr. President, just one more. I really appreciate the people who came today to speak about this Ordinance but what convinced me to actually vote for it were the children. So, it says a lot about a society when we have our children when we have our children leading. Thank you.

President Gregory: Thank you and we as a society...yes Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: No, I just want to – it's sad that I have a like a big giant bag full of plastic bags in my trunk right now that I take to recycle and Councilwoman Walsh had at one point pleaded that we try to get some of these bags over to the Ministry of Caring and places like because they reuse those bags to, you know, hand out food and the clothing items and the good wills and places like that. So there's places where we can continue to reuse those bags. I just wanted to add that. Thank you.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Mr. President, may I please be a co-sponsor if it pleases the...

President Gregory: So noted. And, we've had two other movements in terms of changing behavior in this country that have been very successful. One was seatbelts and other was smoking. Seatbelts was more successful than smoking but two other movements where we changed culture. With that, the Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Members Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel: Thank you Mr. President. That's all I have.

President Gregory: Mr. Brown.

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, I have about six Resolutions to present. I was really going to hold them and vet them a little more but I'm going to ahead, let's do it tonight and you know, it's self-explanatory these Resolutions.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 16-014 (Agenda #4169) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the Code of the City of Wilmington ("City"), the City may apply for and receive grant funds to be used for a wide variety of City activities, subject to the approval of City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department, has applied for a grant from the State of Delaware, Fund to Combat Violent Crime in the amount of \$187,503.06; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant period is from September 9, 2015 to August 31, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant will be used for an overtime program to consist of highly visible patrols, walking assignments, tactical response initiatives and plain clothes operations in targeted areas; and

WHEREAS, the target areas to be the subject of the overtime program will be derived from intelligence driven data of violent crimes, yielded from a weekly Deployment meeting; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant will also be used to acquire one police canine and associated start up fees such as kennel costs, veterinary bills, training and equipment costs.

WHEREAS, the grant does not require a local or "in kind" match; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Wilmington Police Department to accept the grant funds from the Fund to Combat Violent Crime in the amount of \$187,503.06, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the State of Delaware, Fund to Combat Violent Crime in the amount of \$187,503.06.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police of the Wilmington Police Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept the grant funds and move forward with the above-described overtime program.

On the question:

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, if approved, this Resolution approves the Wilmington Police Department's acceptance of a grant fund from the State of Delaware. The funds is to combat violent crime in the amount of \$187,503.06 and plus this grant does not require any local or in-kind match.

President Gregory: Mr. Darius Brown.

Mr. Darius Brown: Thank you. I just want to clarify, are these grants, and maybe the sponsor can speak to it so I don't have to ask it for each one, are these applying for the dollars or have some of these grants or is specific this grant, has the City already received the funds?

Mr. Michael Brown: One of things I must give the Police Department credit for is that they will come to us in advance and recognizing that these grants are out there. They have a grant searcher and a grant writer down at the Wilmington Police Department and he is very thorough and he's very professional and the department that there will certainly reach out to Ms. Washington or myself to share with them that they're seeking these grants and then bring them forth to us so that we can vet them. As we vet them like we did at our last Public Safety/Committee of Whole meeting. So, yes these are – these are grants that are being vetted first before they - - all six of them – they have not applied for, we're giving them the ok tonight.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 16-015 (Agenda #4170) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the Code of the City of Wilmington (“City”), the City may apply for and receive grant funds to be used for a wide variety of City activities, subject to the approval of City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department, has sought to obtain grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (S.L.E.A.F.) in the amount of \$52,800.00; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds will be utilized to purchase 320 riot helmets, to outfit all sworn personnel for a civil unrest scenario; and

WHEREAS, the S.L.E.A.F. grant does not require a local or “in kind” match; and **WHEREAS**, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Wilmington Police Department to accept the grant funds from the S.L.E.A.F. in the amount of \$52,800.00, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$52,800.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police of the Wilmington Police Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept and administer the grant funds.

On the question:

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, once again, this is a grant that the Police Department is applying for and this Resolution, if approved, the Wilmington Police Department's acceptance of the grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount \$52,800 and this grant does not require a local or in-kind match.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President. I just want to point that the amount is 320 riot helmets. I'm glad the City is 320 and minus the administration at the Police Department that everybody will be fitting for you should things hit fan. Thank you.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Yes; sorry I apparently was doing the side a little too loudly Mr. President. I can't support this. I really can't. I wasn't here but I believe there hasn't been a riot in the City in forty some years and that was just because of several things very traumatic that happened this country at the same time with the assassinations that we had that year. Thank God it hasn't been – there hasn't been anything since then on that scale I'm talking about but this is where more distrust starts entering between community and a Police Department when they really start looking like para military and I'm just – I'm sorry, I can't support this. That's all I have to say.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President. It's kind of like when you need a riot helmet nothing else is going to suffice. The officers in Baltimore were probably extremely grateful that while the rocks and bricks were being thrown in their direction post the incident that happened in their jurisdiction that they had something covering their head and saved them from some traumatic injuries that could have put a lot of officers out of service for an extended period of time.

President Gregory: Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: I just have a question. Does the Police Department know of underline distress that might be coming that they're going to prepare for something that we know of something about?

President Gregory: Oh we can't answer the question here...

Ms. Shabazz: I'd like to...

President Gregory: ...but I think you have to be in a state of readiness.

Ms. Shabazz: I understand that. I understand that. But I mean, we haven't one in so long though - - is it....

President Gregory: I think it's a basic...

Ms. Shabazz: ...a basic...

President Gregory: ...equipment functionality...

Ms. Shabazz: ...I understand that.

President Gregory: ...I think if it was for a tank, I think that you'll get more debate but these are riot helmets. If the riot comes, hopefully it won't, you want to be prepared. If I'm a police officer and you don't give me a riot helmet, I'm going to be more aggressive than if I didn't have one because I'm going to protect me. That's the way I see it.

Ms. Shabazz: So, is it because we don't have any riot helmets or our riot helmets are old and that they're just trying to get new ones so that we are prepared. I'm just...

President Gregory: I think it's a state of readiness to be prepared. That's what I believe it is.

Ms. Shabazz: So riots hats that we have – the helmets that we have now are not sufficient, is what I'm asking.

President Gregory: I would assume that they're not sufficient. This – was this discussed in the meeting?

Mr. Michael Brown: You're talking to me Mr. President?

President Gregory: Do you recall? I was there; I don't remember.

Mr. Michael Brown: I was - - we had this debate about these Resolutions on the day that we had all Council Members here where we did the Committee of the Whole and we the Resolutions introducing them for this meeting tonight. And, these questions, I just really feel – personally, these questions could have been asked...

Ms. Shabazz: You're right.

Mr. Michael Brown: ...at that Committee of the Whole meeting. But let me remind folks, several months ago, when an individual was shot at 7th & Jefferson, let me remind folks that bottles, rocks and bricks and everything else was thrown at those police officers and the EMS people couldn't even go up on Jefferson Street to retrieve the person that was shot in the chest until the police got control of that neighborhood. There were some two-hundred (200) folks out there and they were caught, as you mentioned, being ready on readiness, they didn't even have the helmets at the time and they were being rocked and bottled. So, it is a process where you say to our law enforcement personnel, we want you to be, "be ready" at all time.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President. I think that if you look at the Wilmington Police Department as a National Accredited Police Department, this is part of the accreditation process to maintain that standard. I believe that these helmets are replacement for the existing helmets they have now that are probably expired.

President Gregory: I've road around with both the City Police in the last several months as well as the County and in one occasion when it was kind of hot in the City and things were going on, I was with the County and they left their post and went back to their riot gear and put it in their car as a just in case because of intelligence information that they received.

Mr. Michael Brown: And, it's free money Mr. President. When do we turn down free money? What's wrong with us?

President Gregory: Ms. Shabazz, do you have anything else? We were trying to respond to you.

Ms. Shabazz: Well, I was just asking questions...I was at that meeting...

President Gregory: That's good...

Ms. Shabazz: ...yes, thank you for bringing that clarity...

President Gregory: ...and I appreciate that.

Ms. Shabazz: ...sometimes you have to ask questions so our constituents can understand...

President Gregory: Absolutely...

Ms. Shabazz: ...what's going on...

President Gregory: ...absolutely...and they were good questions...

Ms. Shabazz: Thank you.

President Gregory: ...they weren't the kind to make your head spin around. The Clerk will call the roll.

Mr. Freel: Mr. President.

President Gregory: Oh, Mr. Freel.

Mr. Freel: I wanted to answer Mr. Brown's question, \$1.5 million we're turning down.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Mr. Williams/Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, ten. Nays, Council Members Darius Brown and Walsh. Total, two. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 16-016 (Agenda #4171) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the Code of the City of Wilmington ("City"), the City may apply for and receive grant funds to be used for a wide variety of City activities, subject to the approval of City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department ("Department"), has sought to obtain grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (S.L.E.A.F.) in the amount of \$28,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds will be utilized to purchase a PADtrax evidence tracking system to be used in the Department's evidence safe, which holds all non-drug evidence utilized for prosecutions; and

WHEREAS, the S.L.E.A.F. grant does not require a local or "in kind" match; and **WHEREAS**, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Wilmington Police Department to accept the grant funds from the S.L.E.A.F. in the amount of \$28,500.00, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$28,500.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police of the Wilmington Police Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept and administer the grant funds.

On the question:

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, again, this Resolution, if approved, this Resolution, if approved, the Police Department's acceptance of the grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$28,500. The grant does not require a local or in-kind match.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Mr. Williams, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freil, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 16-017 (Agenda #4172) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the Code of the City of Wilmington ("City"), the City may apply for and receive grant funds to be used for a wide variety of City activities, subject to the approval of City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department ("Department"), has sought to obtain grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (S.L.E.A.F.) in the amount of \$7,850.00; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds will be utilized to purchase licensing for the Automatic Vehicle Locator function of the Department's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system; and

WHEREAS, the Automatic Vehicle Locator function will enable a feature which can track the location of patrol vehicles, and ultimately provide an additional officer safety measure; and

WHEREAS, the S.L.E.A.F. grant does not require a local or "in kind" match; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Wilmington Police Department to accept the grant funds from the S.L.E.A.F. in the amount of \$7,850.00, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$7,850.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police of the Wilmington Police Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept and administer the grant funds.

On the question:

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, once again, this Resolution, if approved, the Wilmington Police Department's acceptance of the grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$7,850. The grant does not require a local or in-kind match.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Mr. Williams, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 16-018 (Agenda #4173) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the Code of the City of Wilmington ("City"), the City may apply for and receive grant funds to be used for a wide variety of City activities, subject to the approval of City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department, has sought to obtain grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (S.L.E.A.F.) in the amount of \$2,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds will be utilized to purchase training aids for school presentations, community fairs and community outreach events, and

WHEREAS, the training aids will include educational literature, coloring books and items embossed with the Wilmington Police Department Logo; and

WHEREAS, the S.L.E.A.F. grant does not require a local or "in kind" match; and **WHEREAS**, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Wilmington Police Department to accept the grant funds from the S.L.E.A.F. in the amount of \$2,500.00, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$2,500.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police of the Wilmington Police Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept and administer the grant funds.

On the question:

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, this Resolution, if approved, the Wilmington Police Department's acceptance of the grant funding from the State of Delaware, Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$2,500. This grant does not require a local or in-kind match.

President Gregory: Mr. Darius Brown.

Mr. Darius Brown: Thank you Mr. President. It would be nice to support the Resolution since it's going to be addressing community fairs and community outreach events; I guess my question would be who's actually going to attend them since we don't have a community policing unit?

Mr. Michael Brown: Mr. President, may I?

President Gregory: Sure.

Mr. Michael Brown: At the – at the meeting of Committee of the Whole – at the meeting of Committee of the Whole and Public Safety Committee, it was expressed then that all 320 police officers will then convert over to community policing. So, there are 320 police officers – pick one, the Chief would choose or two or how many to send to a community affair. So, it would community police officers there because police officers will be there because of this grant.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President, just a friendly reminder, we still have school resource officers.

President Gregory: Thank you. Did anyone else have their hand up? The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Mr. Williams/Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Brown.

Mr. Michael Brown: This is the last Resolution Mr. President.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 16-019 (Agenda #4174) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the Code of the City of Wilmington (“City”), the City may apply for and receive grant funds to be used for a wide variety of City activities, subject to the approval of City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department (“Department”), has sought to obtain grant funding from the State of Delaware, Emergency Illegal Drug Enforcement (E.I.D.E.) Program in the amount of \$32,295.49; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant period is from December 1, 2015 to November 31, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds will be utilized by the Department’s Drug, Vice and Organized Crime Division to perform specialized drug investigations on an over-time basis in order to affect arrests and prosecutions; and

WHEREAS, the E.I.D.E. grant does not require a local or “in kind” match; and **WHEREAS**, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Wilmington Police Department to accept the grant funds from the E.I.D.E. in the amount of \$32,295.49, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the State of Delaware, Emergency Illegal Drug Enforcement Program in the amount of \$32,295.49.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police of the Wilmington Police Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept and administer the grant funds.

On the question:

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, grants like this and others for – particularly for the drug enforcement part, is worth - this grant is worth \$32,295.49. If you turned to the News Journal today, our Police Department agency – with couple of other agencies was involved on a large drug bust with heroin and so these funds will come in particularly it would be put to good use to help out to fight drugs in our neighborhoods.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Member Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: Nothing this evening sir.

President Gregory: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Yes, I have one Resolution.

Ms. Walsh presented Resolution No. 16-020 (Agenda #4175) as follows:

WHEREAS, City Code Section 2-10(b)(2) requires agreements with other governmental or quasi-governmental agencies for mutual support be “subject to approval by city council by resolution approved by a majority of all the members of city council”; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Police Department desires to enter into an agreement for mutual support (“Agreement”) with Wilmington Job Corps Center, a no-cost program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor to help youth improve the quality of their lives through career technical and academic training; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Agreement is to facilitate the training of Wilmington youth by creating certain obligations and policies that protect public health, safety and welfare, control the behavior of students who train at the Center, and create an environment for students that is conducive for learning and practicing career skills; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement also protects the students’ rights, including privacy and protection from unreasonable search and seizure; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement is at no cost to the City and will commence on the date of execution for a non-renewable term of two (2) years, unless terminated by either party upon fifteen (15) days prior written notice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILIMINGTON, that, pursuant to City Code Section 2-10, the Agreement between the WILMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT and the WILMINGTON JOB CORPS CENTER, a copy of which is attached hereto and made part hereof, is hereby approved and the Mayor or his designee and the City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute as many copies of the said Agreement as may be necessary.

On the question:

Ms. Walsh: Mr. President, some (inaudible) government agencies that are actually administered by a government need to have mutual agreement – mutual support agreements between themselves and the City of Wilmington. It’s in our Code and that’s all this is with the Job Corps Center.

President Gregory: Mr. Brown.

Mr. Darius Brown: Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to be added as a co-sponsor.

President Gregory: So noted. The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Williams, the aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Congo. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Wright.

Mr. Wright: No legislation tonight Mr. President.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Darius Brown presented the following communication to be read into the record:

February 18, 2016

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
United States House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sander M. Levin
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
United States House of Representatives
1106 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Brady, Ranking Member Levin, Chairman Hatch, and Ranking Member Wyden:

As leaders in state and municipal government, we are writing to stress the importance of maintaining the current tax exemption for municipal bonds. It has been estimated that at the combined state and local levels, we must spend \$3.6 trillion by the year 2020 to meet our infrastructure needs, and the importance of building and maintaining our public infrastructure has never been more apparent.¹ Tax exemption of interest on municipal

bonds was implemented more than 100 years ago at the dawn of the U.S. income tax system, and we strenuously oppose any reduction or elimination of this tax exemption. Any such change will inhibit our ability to make critical infrastructure investments. Proposals to change this commitment to tax-free municipal bonds would not only be costly for state and local taxpayers, but also result in fewer projects, fewer jobs and further deterioration of our infrastructure.

Three quarters of all public infrastructure projects in the United States are built by the states and local governmental entities and tax-exempt bonds are the primary financing mechanism for these essential projects. Municipal bonds have a very strong repayment record – much higher than corporate bonds – allowing state and local governments to borrow responsibly for capital projects, and providing a safe and reliable investment option for our citizens. Tax-exempt municipal bonds finance highways, bridges, transit systems, airports, water and wastewater systems, schools, higher education facilities, and many other basic infrastructure projects. Tax-exempt bonds bring affordable capital to these projects, saving an average of 25 to 30 percent on interest costs compared to taxable bonds. In an age of constrained federal and state budgets, the ability to save billions of dollars on infrastructure financing is critical for state and local governments and their taxpayers. If issuing affordable debt is no longer an option and unfunded projects begin to further mount, state and local governments will have to seek additional infrastructure support at the federal level through federal highway legislation and other sources.

Simply put, any change to the tax treatment of municipal bonds will have a serious impact on the cost to state and local governments of financing critical infrastructure projects. Yet proposals have been offered by both parties to limit the long-lived tax exemption for these bonds.

The cost savings state and local governments realize through tax-exempt municipal bonds occur because investors are willing to accept a lower rate of interest in exchange for that interest being exempt from taxation. If the tax-exemption is capped or eliminated, investors will demand a higher interest rate on municipal bonds thereby increasing the cost to municipal issuers. As a result, municipalities will have to either curtail infrastructure projects or raise taxes on sales, property or income. Additionally, if changes to the tax treatment of these bonds are enacted, a tax risk premium will be built into interest rates demanded by future investors. The potential impact of the change is more than theoretical: in December of 2012 the municipal bond market experienced a spike in rates as investors recognized a cap on exemption was under consideration.²

We urge you to take into account the consequences that any change in the taxation of municipal bonds will have on the taxpayers in every state and reject any proposed changes to the tax deductibility of municipal bond interest.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.
/s/Darius J. Brown

City Council Member Darius J. Brown
Third District
Wilmington, Delaware

Cc: The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, United States Senate
The Honorable Christopher A. Coons, United States Senate
The Honorable John C. Carney, Jr., United States House of Representatives

¹ “Failure to Act, The Impact of Current Infrastructure Investment on America’s Economic Future.” Page 7, Report, American Society of Civil Engineers, January 15, 2013.
http://www.asce.org/uploadedFiles/Infrastructure/Failure_to_Act/Failure_to_Act_Report.pdf

² Tax-Status Threat Fuels Worst Losses Since Whitney: Muni Credit. December 21, 2012
<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2012-12-21/tax-status-threat-fuels-worst-losses-sincewhitney-muni-credit>

Upon a motion of Mr. Darius Brown, seconded by Mr. Wright, the aforementioned communication was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

Council Members also announced committee meetings/civic association meetings and community events/activities throughout their districts. Council Members spoke of the following: Wilmington Education Improvement Commission’s redistricting plan; all the participants, Councilpersons and Wilmington Police Department were thanked for the City to Work Job Fair that took place February 17th; screening of the movie “Race”; constituents were encouraged to attend the civic association meetings; Community Education Building’s food pantry will be opening up on February 24th; “Black Job Matter” event at the Baby Grand will be on March 1st; people were thanked for taking the time to drive to Flint and provide water to the residents; Public Works Commissioner was requested to come before the Public Works & Transportation Committee on March 16th to give an update about Wilmington’s water condition; Black History Month; Wilmington Police Department’s Safe Streets Unit was commended for their recognition by the Kiwanis Club of Wilmington; Wilmington Police Department was commended for an excellent showing of support in the passing of Chief Harry Manelski and Council was also thanked for sponsoring the Resolution; Friends of the Parks Group were thanked for the three parks that are being repaired and/or replaced (i.e. 4th & Rodney Park, Connell Street Park and Father Tucker Park); \$1.5 million that is still available to the City to assist in the areas of public safety and finances; concerns of the Real Estate & Housing Rehabilitation Program for seniors; it was noted that it was inappropriate to just single out one person (i.e. Paul Calistro) regarding monies owed to City; Councilman Darius Brown and staff were commended for the Job Fair and the Economic Development Committee as it was a successful event; Healthcare enrollment; recycling containers needed in the Council Chambers; Vincent A. Valdivieso, Zaire Nicholson and R.J. Toogood were thanked and commended for coming out to speak on and advocate on the issue of plastic bags; bill passed pertaining to monies owed to the

City in which business licenses would not be approved; it was noted that Paul Calistro does not own the organization and that he is just an employee and how the Board should be much aware of what's going on or not going on; Master Sergeants Ferris and Rodriguez were thanked for the work they've done and best wishes were expressed to the both of them on their retirement and in their future endeavors; Sierra Club are having a "Create the Biggest Plastic Ball Day" on April 23rd down at the Riverfront at noon; Coby Owens was recognized for always doing an outstanding job and giving back to his community and in addition, Traci Owens (mother) was congratulated for doing a fabulous job with her son Coby; DelTech Community College at the George Campus will be honoring Theodore Blunt for the Black History Program; Wilmington Little League beginning registrations this upcoming Saturday; senior high-rise issues and the need to take a comprehensive to look at what's going on and what if any role can the city government play in addressing some of the issues and including but not limited to Education Teachers (2nd generation removed from slavery) and how they were more dedicated. In addition, it was noted that the comment was not an indictment on any teacher today but that it was an indictment on the system today.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Cabrera, Council adjourned at 8:27 p.m. Motion prevailed.

Attest: 
Maribel Seijo, City Clerk