Wilmington, Delaware Louis L. Redding City/County Building February 16, 2017

Council met in regular session on the above date at 6:30 p.m., President Hanifa Shabazz presiding.

A silent reflection was done.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by City Council.

## **ROLL CALL**

The following members responded to the Call of the Roll: Council Members Chukwuocha, Congo\*, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen.

#### **MINUTES**

After reading a portion of the minutes of February 2, 2017, upon a motion of Council Member Walsh, seconded by Council Member Freel, it was moved, as corrected, they be accepted as written. Motion prevailed.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

Finance & Economic Development	Present	Absent	Absent
Committee Member		with Leave	w/out Leave
Charles M. "Bud" Free, Chair	X	Leave	Leave
Robert A. Williams	X		
Zanthia Oliver	X		
Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha, Vice-Chair	X		
Loretta Walsh		X	
Ciro Adams	X		
President Hanifa Shabazz, Ex Officio	X		

President and Members of Council of The City of Wilmington February 6, 2017

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance & Economic Development Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 17-002** entitled:

# AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CITY CONTRACT 17006HRPS – LIMITED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT – WITH INTEGRITY STAFFING 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/Robert A. Williams /s/Zanthia Oliver /s/Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha, Vice-Chair /s/Ciro Adams /s/Hanifa Shabazz, Ex Officio Member

Upon a motion of Council Member Freel, seconded by Council Member Williams, the above Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

Finance & Economic Development Committee Member	Present	Absent with Leave	Absent w/out Leave
Charles M. "Bud" Free, Chair	X		
Robert A. Williams	X	,	
Zanthia Oliver	X	`	
Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha, Vice-Chair	X		
Loretta Walsh		X	
Ciro Adams	X		
President Hanifa Shabazz, Ex Officio	X		

President and Members of Council of The City of Wilmington February 6, 2017

## Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance & Economic Development Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 17-003** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE IN ORDER TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY TREASURER ACCESS TO THE BUDGET RESERVE ACCOUNT FUNDS AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR AND REPLENISHMENT OF THE BUDGET RESERVE ACCOUNT FUNDS IN THE ENSUING FISCAL YEAR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of Finance Committee
Respectfully submitted, Members of Finance Committee
/s/Charles M. Freel, Chair
/s/Robert A. Williams
/s/Zanthia Oliver
/s/Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha, Vice-Chair
/s/Ciro Adams
/s/Hanifa Shabazz, Ex Officio Member

Upon a motion of Council Member Freel, seconded by Council Member Williams, the above Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

Finance & Economic Development Committee Member	Present	Absent with	Absent w/out
		Leave	Leave
Charles M. "Bud" Free, Chair	X		
Robert A. Williams	Х		
Zanthia Oliver	X		
Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha, Vice-Chair	X		
Loretta Walsh		X	
Ciro Adams	X		
President Hanifa Shabazz, Ex Officio	X		

President and Members of Council of The City of Wilmington February 6, 2017

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance & Economic Development Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 17-004** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ANNUAL RECONCILIATION OF ACCOUNTS BY TRANSFERRING FUNDS TO VARIOUS OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON TO FULFILL OBLIGATIONS FOR THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 2016

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/Robert A. Williams /s/Zanthia Oliver /s/Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha, Vice-Chair /s/Ciro Adams /s/Hanifa Shabazz, Ex Officio Member

Upon a motion of Council Member Freel, seconded by Council Member Williams, the above Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

The following Treasurer's Report dated February 16, 2017 was read into the record by the City Clerk and upon a motion of Council Member Walsh, seconded by Council Members Freel and Williams, the Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

Note: The Treasurer's Report is included herein as an insert from Page 5 to Page 6.

[The remainder of this page intentionally left blank]

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF WILMINGTON FEBRUARY 16, 2017

102	Community Development Block Grant	M & T Bank	\$1.00
104	Old Non-Uniform Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$715.81
105	Police Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$3,199.37
106	Fire Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$3,425.76
107	Evidence/Found Currency Account	M & T Bank	\$336,516.17
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	\$19,072.18
114	Central Deposit	M & T Bank	\$10,810.22
117	Cement Workers	Wilmington Savings Fund	\$33,506.43
118	Worker's Comp. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Account	M & T Bank	\$0.00
124	Non-Uniform Pension Act of 1990	M & T Bank	\$7,368.49
120	Grant-In-Aid Account	M & T Bank	\$402,738.00
130	Payroil	M & T Bank	\$377,067.50
131	Pension Payroll Account	M & T Bank	\$51,232.85
139	Pension Healthcare Account	M & T Bank	\$17,021.34
	Total Cash on Hand		\$1,266,814.09

Fund		Y 4:4 4:	Invest.	Maturity	Interest	Interest	Investment
Code	Fund	Institution	Туре	Date	Rate	Receivable	Amount
116	General	M&T Bank	RP	2/16/2017	0.01%	\$2.35	\$8,584,532.00
116	General	TD	CD	3/2/2017	0.61%	\$1,096.33	\$1,600,000.00
124	Non-Uniform 1990	WSFS	CD	2/27/2017	0.65%	\$1,795.07	\$3,600,000.00
106	Fire Pension	WSFS	CD	2/27/2017	0.65%	\$306.60	\$615,000.00
105	Police Pension	WSFS	CD	2/27/2017	0.65%	\$349.04	\$700,000.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	3/16/2017	0.65%	\$9,794.52	\$10,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	3/2/2017	0.63%	\$1,486.11	\$2,100,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	3/16/2017	0.64%	\$1,788.49	\$3,000,000.00
116	General <sup>1</sup>	TD	CD	5/1/2017	0.67%	\$25,488.74	\$15,428,510.18
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	3/6/2017	0.45%	\$8,476.02	\$5,500,000.00
110	Capital	TD	CD	2/16/2017	0.49%	\$17,966.67	\$10,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	2/17/2017	0.48%	\$2,633.34	\$2,500,000.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	5/5/2017	0.55%	\$50,630.13	\$20,000,000.00
514	Risk Management	WSFS	CD	7/10/2017	0.50%	\$35,245.13	\$7,068,391.71
515	Worker's Comp	WSFS	CD	7/10/2017	0.50%	\$35,245.13	\$7,068,391.71
104	Escrow Pension	Vanguard					\$47,303,639.00
104	Escrow Pension	Black Rock					\$23,492,422.00
104	Escrow Pension	Edgar Lomax					\$22,625,758.00
104	Escrow Pension	Wilmington Trust					\$45,967,986.00
104	Escrow Pension	Manning & Napier					\$11,801,252.00
104	Escrow Pension	Earnest Partners					\$20,446,427.00
104	Escrow Pension	MFS Management					\$24,073,022.00
104	Escrow Pension	American Funds					\$11,578,301.00
139	Medical Escrow	Vanguard-OPEB					\$16,107,891.00
116	Deferred Comp.	MassMutual					\$42,787,512.79
	Total Investments						\$363,949,036.39
	Total Cash on Hand						\$1,266,814.09
	Grand Total						\$365,215,850.48

Velda Jones-Potter, City Treasurer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Budget Reserve

# **NON-LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Upon a motion of Council Member Walsh, seconded by Council Member Williams, the following non-legislative resolutions were accepted into the record and motion prevailed:

All Council

Sympathy Lieutenant Steven Floyd, Sr.

Shabazz

Commend Honorable James H. Sills, Jr. and Imam W. Deen Mohammed

Guy

Recognize Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the month of February 2017 as "African

American History Month"

Oliver

Sympathy Christine "Chrissy" Henry

Shabazz

Sympathy David S. Johnson

Shabazz

Congratulate Bishop Aretha Morton

Shabazz

Congratulate Margaret G. Scrivens

Turner

Congratulate William Tail Davis

Turner

Commend Derrick D. Reed

\*Note: During this time, Council Member Congo was marked present and reflected in the minutes herein (Roll Call).

#### **LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

President Shabazz: Council Member Chukwuocha.

Council Member Chukwuocha: Thank you Madam President. I have three Resolutions to present.

Council Member Chukwuocha presented <u>Resolution No. 17-009</u> (Agenda #4324) as follows:

WHEREAS, an Act to amend Title 14 of the Delaware General Code relating to school attendance has been presented to the State General Assembly; and

**WHEREAS**, House Bill No. 17, sponsored by State Representatives Earl Jaques, Helene Keeley, and Harvey Kenton, seeks to increase the compulsory education age from 16 years to 17 years; and

WHEREAS, the Bill is in alignment with local- and State-sponsored initiatives focused on improving the educational outcomes for City of Wilmington ("City") students; and

WHEREAS, increasing the compulsory education age from 16 to 17 years would aid the City and the school districts serving our students with decreasing dropout rates and increasing graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, the measure, which aims to reduce truancy and dropout rates, would have a lofty impact within our communities and the City as we strive to create a globally competitive educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, increasing the compulsory education age from 16 to 17 years also decreases the likelihood that students would unsuccessfully end their educational career due to being "lost in the system," because mandating that the student attend school until the age of 17 years enables the student and his or her family to receive the school- and district-based support available; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes support the efforts of the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission (WEIC), the Wilmington Education Strategies Think Tank (WESTT), and the Wilmington City Council Education, Youth and Families Committee, which seek to advocate for City-specific agendas that improve the educational outcomes for City students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Council supports House Bill No. 17 and believes that it will have a significant and lasting impact on education within our City and State, and further encourages the members of the Delaware General Assembly to vote to approve the legislation.

Council Member Chukwuocha: I move that that Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Walsh: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

## On the question:

Council Member Chukwuocha: Yes, Madam President, thank you. This is the Resolution if, if passed and we will be supporting effort through our General, to say to our General Assembly (inaudible) that we are in support of a legislative initiative to change the compulsory age from, in our state, from 16 to 17 years old, and that would allow our students, hopefully, to not only stay in school, but also extend the support, academic and social support that are available to students and their families during that year, and hopefully decrease the dropout rate as well as improve truancy rate within our city and within our state. So, it's a great initiative; it's really a long time overdue, and it, it's needed and I believe it'll have a great impact not only here in Wilmington but throughout our county and state.

President Shabazz: Council Member Harlee.

Council Member Harlee: I thank you President, Council, Council President; I would like to be added as a co-sponsor on this piece of legislation. I, too, support our youths from 16 years to 17 years, as well. I think we need to do everything we can to be advocates and to support our children staying in school and get a good education. Thank you.

President Shabazz: Thank you. Council Member Walsh.

Council Member Walsh: Added as co-sponsor, please.

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): So noted.

President Shabazz: I'd, too, like to be added as a co-sponsor.

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): So noted.

President Shabazz: Nothing else from anyone? Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Chukwuocha, seconded by Council Member Walsh, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Chukwuocha presented <u>Resolution No. 17-010</u> (Agenda #4325) as follows:

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals; and

WHEREAS, the City has been approved (see attached award letter) by the Laffey McHugh Foundation, ("Laffey McHugh") to receive \$10,000.00 in grant funds for the operation and cost of the 2017 Summer Youth Employment Program (the "Youth Program"); and

WHEREAS, Laffey McHugh first granted funds to the Youth Program in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Program offers employment opportunities to the City's youth ages 14 to 20; and

WHEREAS, the City is not required to provide matching funds for receipt of these grant funds; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Program participants and employees will pay the City Wage tax, thereby having a positive financial impact on the City; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to accept the grant funds from Laffey McHugh in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Department of Parks and Recreation's grant request to Laffey McHugh in the amount of \$10,000.00 is hereby authorized.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant request and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Council Member Chukwuocha: Madam President, I move this Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Walsh: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

On the question:

Council Member Chukwuocha: Yes, Madam President, this is for our Parks and Recreation Youth and Families Division. It's a grant that we've been awarded for an amount of \$10,000 from the Laffey McHugh Foundation and it will go towards our summer employment program, and the funds aren't, doesn't require a match from the City.

President Shabazz: Councilwoman Harlee.

Council Member Harlee: Thank you Council President. I would like to be added as a co-sponsor on this piece of legislation as well. Thank you.

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): So noted.

President Shabazz: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Chukwuocha, seconded by Council Members Walsh and Williams, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Chukwuocha presented <u>Resolution No. 17-011</u> (Agenda #4326) as follows:

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation intends to submit a grant application to the State of Delaware Department of Labor in the amount of \$399,699.64 to support the City's Summer Youth Employment Program (the "Youth Program"); and

WHEREAS, the Delaware Department of Labor has been a longtime supporter and funder of the Youth Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Youth Program offers job opportunities to the City's youth ages 14 to 20; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is not required to provide matching funds for receipt of these grant funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Youth Program participants and employees will pay the City Wage tax, thereby having a positive financial impact on the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the grant application, for the aforesaid purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON the Department of Parks and Recreation's grant application to the Delaware Department of Labor in the amount of \$399,699.64 is hereby authorized.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation or his designee are hereby authorized to take all necessary actions to apply for and accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Council Member Chukwuocha: Madam President, I move that Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Walsh: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

# On the question:

Council Member Chukwuocha: Yes, Madam President, this is one of our annual grant awards from the State of Delaware that'll, it supports our summer employment program, and it's a grant in the amount of \$399,699.64 that will support in addition, additional jobs, in addition to the youths that we hire through our own City funds. So, this is extra jobs, I believe it's three hundred youths that this will support this summer.

President Shabazz: Councilman Williams.

Council Member Williams: Thank you, Madam President. I wish to be added as a co-sponsor please.

Mrs. Seijo (City Clerk): So noted.

President Shabazz: Councilwoman Harlee.

Council Member Harlee: Thank you, Council President. I would like to be added as a co-sponsor. I think it's a great thing for us to do what we can to ensure that our youths are employed during the summer so we know that when we give our children things to do, it definitely helps to keep them out of trouble. So, thank you.

President Shabazz: Thank you. Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Chukwuocha, seconded by Council Member Walsh, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted. Council Member Congo.

Council Member Congo: Nothing tonight Madam President, thank you.

President Shabazz: Thank you. Council Member Oliver.

Council Member Oliver: Okay. Good evening Madam President. I have a Resolution to present.

Council Member Oliver presented <u>Resolution No. 17-012</u> (Agenda #4327) as follows:

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to <u>Wilm</u>. <u>C</u>. (Charter) §1-101, the City may acquire, hold, manage, and dispose of property on such terms as it deems proper for any municipal purpose; and

WHEREAS, <u>Wilm.</u> <u>C.</u> §2-621(a) provides that the Council shall by resolution declare a property approved for disposition and authorize the conduct of disposition proceedings by the Department of Real Estate and Housing; and

WHEREAS, <u>Wilm.</u> <u>C.</u> §2-621(c) provides, that governmental agencies, governmental authorities organized pursuant to Title 22 of the Delaware Code and non-profit organizations are exempt from the City's bid procedures and that upon the declaration of a property as surplus, by resolution of City Council, the City may negotiate an agreement of sale, lease, exchange, or other transfer of such property owned by the City to any such governmental agency, governmental authority or non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, the City currently owns the parcel of real estate located at 924 ½ Bennett Street, Wilmington, Delaware, being New Castle County Tax Parcel ID No. 26-036.30-651 (the "Property"); and

**WHEREAS,** the Council, upon the recommendation of the Department of Real Estate and Housing, wishes to declare the Property surplus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council further wishes to approve the disposition of the Property to the Wilmington Housing Partnership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that Council hereby declares the Property to be surplus and approves the Property for disposition to the Wilmington Housing Partnership.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate

disposition proceedings for the Property, including any and all further undertakings and assurances that may be appropriate.

Council Member Oliver: I move this Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Williams: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

# On the question:

Council Member Oliver: Madam President, this Resolution is being presented by the Administration, City Council review and if approved, it would authorize the Council to declare 924 Bennett Street a surplus to be disposed to the Wilmington Housing and Partnership and this is an ongoing effort to enhance Bennett Street, and it's in my District, and I think it's a good idea 'cause they're trying to clean up that area, and so, like I said, this is through the Administration.

President Shabazz: Councilman Turner.

Council Member Turner: Yes, thank you Madam President. Tonight, I'm gonna vote, I'm gonna vote yes on this, but in this history of this property, this property was bought by the City in 2015 and we're transferring it to Wilmington Housing Partnership for no cost. With our city being in a deficit, is, these are practices that we have to change. We can't just buy a property for two years or three years' prior for a price and then take, turn it off to a non-profit organization for, for cost. When I was growing up I used to hear about the dollar homes and things like that but for us to give a property for no cost, this is something that us as Council need to look at and kind of change these practices for the future. So, I am going to vote yes tonight because Bennett Street is already in production but for future references I think us as Council need to look at this.

President Shabazz: Clerk will call the roll.

Council Member Guy: I had my hand up.

President Shabazz: I'm sorry, I didn't see your hand, and I've called for

the roll.

Council Member Walsh: You called the roll.

Council Member Guy: I had my hand up.

Council Member Walsh: Point of order Madam.

Upon a motion of Council Member Oliver, seconded by Council Member Williams, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Oliver: Okay Madam President, I have another Resolution I'd like to present.

Council Member Oliver presented <u>Resolution No. 17-013</u> (Agenda #4328) as follows:

WHEREAS, by its Ordinance No. 97-051, amending Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including a requirement for Council approval by resolution and including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary, prior to Council's resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City, through its Department of Planning and Development, has been awarded a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (EPA), in the amount of \$197,500.00 to complete an Action Plan and Implementation Plan for the redevelopment of the Brandywine Riverfront Northeast community; and

WHEREAS, the EPA established a Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Program to assist communities in developing area-wide plans for brownfields within a project area, including specific implementation strategies for assessing, cleaning up and reusing the brownfield(s) and related project area revitalization strategies; and

WHEREAS, the EPA's Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Grant does not require matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Department of Planning and Development to accept the aforesaid grant from EPA through execution of a grant agreement and any other documents necessary for the implementation of the grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Department of Planning and Development is hereby authorized to accept the \$197,500.00 in grant funding from EPA's Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Program to develop an area-wide plan for brownfield redevelopment in the Brandywine Riverfront Northeast community. A copy of the award letter of the \$197,500.00 is attached hereto. The Director of Planning and Development or his appointee is hereby authorized to execute a grant agreement and any other documents necessary for the implementation of the grant.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Department of Planning and Development shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to administer the grant and the grant program for the City of Wilmington.

Council Member Oliver: I move this Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Members Walsh and Williams: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

## On the question:

Council Member Oliver: This Resolution is authorizing the Department of Planning and Development to accept a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Grant from the United States EPA agency, Office of Brownfields, to revitalize the Brandywine Riverfront Northeast Community. This Resolution is presented by the Administration and if approved Council will be authorizing the Department of Planning to accept \$197,500 grant from the EPA Brownfield Area-wide Planning Program for the purpose of developing area-wide planning for the brownfields redevelopment of the Brandywine Riverfront Northeast Community.

President Shabazz: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Oliver, seconded by Council Member Walsh, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Oliver: Madam President, I have a Resolution to present on your behalf.

On behalf of President Shabazz, Council Member Oliver presented Resolution No. 17-014 (Agenda #4329) as follows:

**WHEREAS,** on January 3, 2017, the 107<sup>th</sup> Session of the Wilmington City Council adopted Resolution 17-001, which established the permanent rules of the legislative body; and

WHEREAS, there is interest among some members of Council to amend the provision regarding silent reflection at the beginning of City Council meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that Rule 2 of the Rules of the Council of the City of Wilmington, "Order of Business", is hereby amended by replacing "B) Silent Reflection." with "B) \*Universal Prayer."

Council Member Oliver: I move this Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Walsh: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

# On the question:

Council Member Oliver: This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council to review and approve. If approved, Council will amend Rule 2 of the Rules of the Council of the City of Wilmington (Resolution 17-001) by changing silent reflections to universal prayer under Order of Business.

President Shabazz: Councilman Freel.

Council Member Freel: Yes, Madam President, if it pleases the sponsor, I'd like to make a friendly amendment. I'd like to make a motion that we delete the word 'universal' in the very last sentence.

Council Member Chukwuocha: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been moved and seconded that, on the question of the amendment. Councilman Guy.

Council Member Guy: Yes, on the question of the amendment. I find the amendment to be quite funny because it is six members of Council who sponsored a Resolution that said 'prayer' without 'universal' and our Resolution was not allowed to be placed on the agenda and now all of a sudden after it was stolen from us, now folks want to take the 'universal' off. I find that very funny when everybody was up - upset, nobody wanted to do anything. But Council member Dixon, Harlee, McCoy, Turner and Williams, and myself, had to be subject to people in the public being upset with us for standing up for prayer. So, I don't appreciate the theft, and now to go around the corner and to put it back the way we had it is really funny. So, I support your amendment, but I'm not stupid.

President Shabazz: Councilwoman McCoy.

Council Member McCoy: Thank you, Madam President. I do, I agree that we do need to make certain that we have our prayer back, I just would like to correct Councilman Guy and let him know that I did make mention after I saw many addresses towards it on social media where our Council people were being pretty much attack and our very constituents were unhappy about the fact that prayer actually was taken from our Council. So I did proceed, I made the phone call, but our Councilman Guy, he actually took the initiative and made certain it was made public. But I do agree that we would like to have the prayer back, I, and I just want to make certain that, you know, that I do co-sponsor this Resolution.

Council Member Freel: We voted on the amendment?

President Shabazz: The discussion is on the amendment. So, if there's no other discussion on the amendment?

Council Member Chukwuocha: On the amendment.

President Shabazz: On the amendment? Councilman Chukwuocha.

Council Member Chukwuocha: Thank you Madam President. From my understanding of having the word "universal" removed is because there is a such thing called the Universal Prayer, if I'm not mistaken, and it was written, I have Pope Andrew, so, for us to say that we're actually not having universal prayer, that is the name of that prayer, so from my understanding that's the reason universal was removed and it wasn't for any other.

President Shabazz: Thank you. Another question on the amendment? Hearing none I call the roll for a vote on the amendment.

Council Member Walsh: You can do a voice vote.

President Shabazz: A voice vote, I'm sorry. A voice vote. All those in favor say aye.

Council Members: Aye.

President Shabazz: Any opposed. Okay, I now will entertain the question of the amended Resolution for, to change from silent reflection to prayer. Councilwoman Harlee.

Council Member Harlee: Thank you Council President. I just want to say that I respect everyone that came out tonight that does not want the prayer back into our order of business, I just wanted to say that I respect everyone and I do appreciate them for coming up and expressing how they feel but as a faith leader, and I've been one for many years, I want to have the prayer re-instated. Thank you.

President Shabazz: Councilman Williams.

Council Member Williams: Thank you Madam President, and not to make light of the situation in the enormity of what we're dealing with, it was discussed that we are spinning our wheels or wasting our time revisiting this item. You know, my opinion is, had this thing been discussed prior to the implementation of silent reflection we probably could have circumvented a lot of this discussion. However, on seeing the public reaction, half of me says let's table this because we have a great turnout at our Council meetings, and it just shows us that people are paying attention to what we're doing, and

not to undermine the enormity of what this is encompassing, you know, and to understand that there are differences of opinion, however, this is the 107th Session of Council and 106 Sessions prior to this, this prayer was there.

President Shabazz: Councilman Guy.

Council Member Guy: Yes. I just want to acknowledge at the end of the day, the lord is controlling all of this, because if you think about where we started and all of the jumping around that we did, at the end of the day the Lord made sure we had prayer back in City Council to keep the devil out. All the people in the community who stood up, spoke up, expressed their concern one way or the other, that's how a democracy works; you're supposed to be able to participate. People aren't supposed to try to tell you, you can't participate. It's a participatory democracy. So, I thank the people of Wilmington, but I thank the Lord the most for straightening out all this foolishness. That's all I have.

President Shabazz: Council Member Walsh.

Council Member Walsh: Thank you Madam President. I'm not going to beat a dead horse in this one because it's going to pass number one and nothing I'm about to say won't probably change anybody's mind; but, there's a couple things I wanted to get straight. At no point in any of this, when were given the rules and any member of this Council and I know there were those who voted no, could have read exactly what they were voting on and for some reason this got by them. Number 2, it never been prayer on this floor, it's been public prayer on this floor, and I'm being catholic but I'm also a major believer in the separation of church and state and I would rather err on the side of caution than not. If people want to know how Christ feels about these issue, they might want to reread the Sermon on the Mount, which has example of, an example of what, when Christ was preaching on exactly what he thought of some public displays of religious people. And the last thing I want to close with is, you can disagree with me all you want, you can say whatever you want to say, but when something incorrect is said, I would like to get it, I would like to challenge it. And the comment where Council Members who opposed this bill was tonight went around to all the churches during campaigns and we're not even supposed to discuss politics on this floor. There seemed to be a bit of that going on tonight but I'm going to respond to that particular charge, and never, ever in my first life on this Council, and the second life on this Council, have I ever gone to a church service for the purpose of politics. I have worked with many ministers in this town, I believe that going to a church service with the congregation worshiping on their day of worship or to a temple is very, very disrespectful to the congregants, and I choose to meet or have a dialog with the congregants in different ways. And that's really all I have to say on the subject tonight. Thank you.

President Shabazz: Councilman Chukwuocha.

Council Member Chukwuocha: Thank you Madam President. I'm just start, first, by saying, about how I felt about the work 'universal' and I really felt that that word added a level of inclusion to our prayer and that's why I was supportive of having that word there, what it meant before we found out the conflict using that word with prayer. But I still feel as a member of this body that our prayer as it had been wasn't very inclusive of other faiths. We have a city where there are in the way of faiths within our city, my district in particular, any, you name it, it's there, many of the mosques are there, the synagogues, the temples, so, having been born and raised in a church, I understand prayer. Prayer is a hallmark of my life. It means that much to me, but it also means just as much to me to realize that when I'm praying, you can also be offensive to other people because they don't value or they don't recognize or they don't, that's not their form of prayer, that we could be offsetting. I think that this isn't about church, this isn't church. This is an elected body and we're here to go about creating the laws that help to govern and include the livelihood of all of our constituents, and I believe that our duty, our individual face, should be individual. We should be, my relationship with my god is the most personal thing I have and it means that much to me and I sit here knowing that in my moment of reflection what that time affords me, it affords me that time of saying that this is about me, that this is my prayer and it is nothing against anyone else, but this is me, this is my prayer. And I feel the same way that if we are being inclusive, I know Miss B.B. Coker when she was here at our last meeting, she made the suggestion of our body and doing, I believe what she said it was Philadelphia City Council where they invited faith leaders from various faith organizations to come before us on a rotating basis, so we'll have an imam, we'll have a reverend, a preacher, we'll have a rabbi all come in a order and they can present so we can have a shared prayer representing all faiths because that's, I believe that's what's needed. I really support that type of inclusive prayer on this floor. I believe if it's not going to be inclusive of all faiths, then I would support it staying as it is, being the silent prayer or silent moment of reflection. Thank you.

President Shabazz: Councilwoman Oliver, you have the last minute.

Council Member Oliver: Thank you. You know, I'm glad to see that we, the 107th, one-oh-seven City Council, public servants of the U.S. of A., are able to see the value in starting our meetings with a call upon higher power. We were elected to represent the people of Wilmington, Delaware. The people of Wilmington, Delaware all have a different background and beliefs. But we, the American people all have something in common. We start our school days, of public meetings, some of our hymns with the pledge of allegiance of the United States of America, under God, and we say in unity today we have proven that we can accomplish more through unity than diversity and I just wish we can get past this because it's a lot going on in this city with problems with killing the kids over, talked to State Representative Stephanie Bolden today, they're trying to close down Prestige Academy, we have a lot going on and we just keep going back and forth, back and forth, and I think we need to let it go as some of the other people said and move on to business. I would go with the roll call.

President Shabazz: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Oliver, seconded by Council Member Walsh, the above Resolution, As Amended\*, 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon and Guy. Total, eleven. Nays, Council Member Walsh and Council President Shabazz. Total, two.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted. Council Member Harlee, any legislation tonight?

Council Member Harlee: No.

President Shabazz: Council Member Turner.

Council Member Turner: Nothing tonight Madam President, thank you.

President Shabazz: Council Member McCoy.

Council Member McCoy: Nothing tonight Madam President.

President Shabazz: Council Member Williams.

Council Member Williams: No legislation this evening, thank you.

President Shabazz: Council Member Freel.

Council Member Freel: Yes Madam President, I have three (3) Ordinances to present for third and final.

Council Member Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 17-002 (Agenda #4318) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CITY CONTRACT 17006HRPS – LIMITED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT – WITH INTEGRITY STAFFING SOLUTIONS, INC.

Council Member Freel: Madam President, I move that be known as the final reading of the Ordinance and call for Yea and Nay vote.

Council Members Walsh and Williams: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded that be known as the Enacting Clause of the Ordinance and call for the Yea and Nay vote.

On the question:

Council Member Freel: Madam President, I have to present an amendment, and I apologize for the lengthiness of this amendment, but, I'd like to make a motion that on page 1, in the fifth "whereas" clause of the Ordinance, we strike the amount of \$1,137,000 and insert in lieu thereof of that amount \$1,671,483. On page 2, in Section1 of the Ordinance, strike the amount \$1,137,000 and insert in lieu thereof the amount \$1,671,443. On page 3 in the synopsis of the Ordinance, strike the amount of \$1,137,000 and insert in lieu thereof of the amount \$1671,483.

Council Member Williams: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been moved and seconded that the amendment be, I accept the, voice, a voice vote?

Council Member Freel: Can I just make a, speak on the question first?

President Shabazz: Oh, excuse me. On the question.

Council Member Freel: I just wanted to explain to Council members and those that were at the committee meeting heard us raise this issue. The original contract only dealt with (inaudible) within the General Fund, and there was another \$534,483 in the Water Sewer Fund, and we kind of raised the issue why that wasn't part of this contract. The Director of Human Resources went back and checked and in the past we always included both General Fund and Water/Sewer Fund. So, that is the reason for the amendment.

President Shabazz: Okay. I'd accept the voice vote on the, the voice, it was seconded, right? I'll take a, I'll accept a voice vote on the amendment, as presented. All those in favor say aye.

Council Members: Aye.

President Shabazz: All oppose. Motion carried. And so now we'll have a, any questions on the amended Ordinance as presented.

Council Member Freel: Yes, Madam President, this is a contract with Integrity Services to provide limited service employment to the City of Wilmington. What they do for us is they recruit, they will take responsibility for drug testing, background check, testing. The money in these, in the Ordinance is basically what was budgeted for Fiscal Year 2017. It does not mean that we have to use all those dollars, but it was what was in the budget for both the General Fund and the Water/Sewer Fund.

President Shabazz: Councilman Guy.

Council Member Guy: Yes, this is very important because I don't think the community really understands sometimes where the opportunities are, and I think we have to clearly direct them to the opportunities. What this paper is saying is that instead of the City of Wilmington spending \$1.6 million to hire people to work for us directly, there's an agency that's going to probably hire people that's going to work for the agency and end up doing work for the City. So, that means that everybody in the city needs to be writing down the name of this Integrity place and telling everybody that you know, that doesn't have a job, to regularly pay attention to what's going on there because that's our money. So, that's all I have Madam President.

President Shabazz: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Freel, seconded by Council Members Walsh and Williams, the above Ordinance, As Amended, 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 17-003 (Agenda #4322) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE IN ORDER TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY TREASURER ACCESS TO THE BUDGET RESERVE ACCOUNT FUNDS AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR AND REPLENISHMENT OF THE BUDGET RESERVE ACCOUNT FUNDS IN THE ENSUING FISCAL YEAR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

Council Member Freel: Yes, I move that be known as the final reading of that Ordinance and called for a Yea and Nay vote.

Council Members Walsh and Williams: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded that be known as the Enacting Clause of the Ordinance and called for Yea and Nay vote.

#### On the question:

Council Member Freel: Yes, Madam President, this is an Ordinance that we've been doing almost on an annual basis for over ten-plus years, and what this does is it allows our City Treasurer Potter to access our budget reserve funds. We have found, in some years, that we get into the months of June and July and we have a cash shortage and

we struggle to pay our bills. This allows her to go an access the budget reserve funds, but it also states that after our taxes start coming in in August/September, that she replenishes the fund by October 1st. Now we've only had to do this, probably in the last ten years, two or three times. And the reason we decided to go with the budget reserve account, we could easily go out and get a short-term loan, but then we would be paying interest. So being that these funds are there, we know the cash is going to come in and we'll be able to replenish it, it just made sense to kind of save those fees and use the reserve account.

President Shabazz: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Freel, seconded by Council Members Walsh and Williams, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 17-004 (Agenda #4323) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ANNUAL RECONCILIATION OF ACCOUNTS BY TRANSFERRING FUNDS TO VARIOUS OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON TO FULFILL OBLIGATIONS FOR THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 2016

Council Member Freel: Madam President, I move that be known as the final reading of that Ordinance and called for a Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Walsh: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded that be known as the Enacting Clause of the Ordinance and call for a Yea and Nay vote.

#### On the question:

Council Member Freel: Yes, this is the Ordinance that kind of causes me heartburn every year, but by City Charter, though, we have to pass a reconciliation Ordinance on March 1st, to balance, this is kind of the last step in balancing the books for the past fiscal year which ended in June 30, 2016, and it's supposed to address any adjustments that had to be made at the end of the year right after the fiscal year for us to have balance books, and that's what this does.

President Shabazz: Council Member Walsh.

Council Member Walsh: Madam President, this is something that we do every year and every year I have the same complaint that I think the timing really stinks in this that I think it's a credit card for a department store rescind because accounts are going to be reconciled, I don't think there's enough time, it's way too much time, so, as I have in the past, I will not be supporting this.

President Shabazz: Councilman Adams.

Council Member Adams: Thank you Madam President. Madam President I did sit on the Finance Committee and when we got into discussion happened to be mistaken; I actually thought that this was a reconciliation on the current year and Chairman Freel was polite to point out to me that it was on the prior year, and that we're actually - I guess the Auditor needs to come in and clean up the accounts nine months subsequent to this so that we can vote on a final reconciliation, which I think is really a ridiculous way to do business. I mean this is a, wow, this wouldn't happen in an ordinary business outside of here. So, I have no clue what we're doing reconciling books nine months sub-sequent to this. Now, hey, everybody knows my daytime job is a CPA, and I would just like to go on record as a CPA that we shouldn't be reconciling books nine months afterwards; we should actually be reconciling them on a monthly-basis and maybe here when we get numbers in Council we can have current numbers and make a decision on it, because that's really our only job is to make sure we stay within the budget, managing it. So, I think Chairman Freel was also polite enough to instruct me that we do need to pass this by March 1, but I understand that if you have enough votes before you get to me I will be voting no on this reconciliation and he was, I certainly hope we clean things up this year under our watch. Thank you.

President Shabazz: Councilman Congo.

Council Member Congo: Thank you Madam Chair. Is there anyone here who can speak to Councilman Adams' concerns?

Council Member Freel: I can. I can try.

President Shabazz: Councilman Freel.

Council Member Freel: Though it sounds like nine months we've been waiting to do this Ordinance, the audit of the books for 2016 actually doesn't finish up until the end of the calendar year, so they don't actually, as you know finish the CAFR 'til December and then move forward to try to get this done by March 1st and that's the kind of timetable. Does it sound like a long time, I don't disagree but that's the timetable we work under, and we have to wait 'til the auditors finish their work.

President Shabazz: Could you speak to the reconciliation reports that we on month – that we requested to get on a monthly-basis because of our concerns of this?

Council Member Freel: Well we do receive now, which we didn't always, but we do receive now on a monthly-basis expenditure reports and there's also a quarterly meeting and an expenditure review board going over the records. I mean, you will see if you look at the Ordinance a lot of, a lot of the departments ended up in a positive situation, so it's not all bad news, I mean, the fact that they through the year, they kept costs down and came out with a surplus is a positive thing. But, I understand it seems like a long time – nine months – but, you know, it is what it is.

President Shabazz: Councilman Congo.

Council Member Congo: Yes, if it's okay, could Councilman Adams respond, if he doesn't mind, to Councilman Freel's response? To say that as a public, certified public accountant, I just want to hear his response.

President Shabazz: Well he didn't make, raise his hand that he wanted to say anything. You asking him to, to, to ...

Council Member Congo: Yes, if he wouldn't mind. If he wouldn't mind I'm asking him to respond to Councilman Freel's response.

President Shabazz: Do you have a response Councilman Adams?

Council Member Adams: Yes, Madam President.

Council Member Congo: Thank you.

Council Member Adams: Thank you for the opportunity and I certainly appreciate Councilman Congo giving me a few more moments here. Currently we understand what Chairman Freel says, the difficulty you have with this is that the auditor is not part of the internal control system for the city; that we should have our accounts reconciled on a monthly-basis; that we shouldn't be shifting a million some dollars from one account to another in-order to make a reconciliation at the end of the year. So, my difficulty (inaudible) the timing and the accuracy of the numbers and it's got to be much more better than this. We don't, we should not expect the auditor to have to come in here and make 50 adjustments so our books can (inaudible) subsequent to the end of the year regardless of the time. An ordinary business, please understand that you're a public company, you probably have your book's reconciled within 30 days if you're less than a public company, you probably have reconciled between 30 and 90. To say this happened nine months down the road is a – just incredible to me. Thank you; thank you Councilman Congo.

President Shabazz: Councilman Guy.

Council Member Guy: Yes, what I find interesting about this is, you know, it's a budget call, they call it a budget cycle for a reason, so, at the beginning of the

budget year everybody has a certain amount of money and that's supposed to be what they live within, but the truth of the matter, is that throughout the year, money's moving, in ways that aren't necessarily aligned with what was originally planned and, so, if we had to keep with that, we'd have twice as many finance ordinances than we currently have, if every time we wanted to adjust something we adjusted the budget. So, at the end of the day this is like the one big adjustment, but it also allows people at the department level, in a sense, to not be accountable, if you look at it from a global sense, because if you're at the Mayor's office and the total expenditures and revenues, if everything balances out, they will okay as the Mayor. But as a department head if you're expending too much or you're not spending what you have then that's why you're able to balance and juggle things. So, it's kind of a little game but it's an important game.

President Shabazz: Councilwoman Harlee.

Council Member Harlee: Thank you Council President, I really want to do my due diligence in terms of what is needed for the city so my question is this; what kind of situation would we put the city in if we tabled this so we could get a better understanding as to what is going on?

President Shabazz: It has to be done by March 1st.

Council Member Harlee: It has to be done by March? Thank you.

Council Member Freel: It's actually part of the City Charter.

Council Member Harlee: Thank you.

President Shabazz: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Freel, seconded by Council Member Walsh, the above 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, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Dixon and Guy, and Council President Shabazz. Total, ten. Nays, Council Members Congo, Adams and Walsh. Total, three.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Freel: I'm pleased to say that's all I have.

President Shabazz: Thank you. Council Member Adams.

Council Member Adams: Yes, Ma'am; thank you. I have an Ordinance for this evening for its first and second reading.

Council Member Adams presented and called for the first and second reading Ordinance No. 17-005 (Agenda #4330) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING THE AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Council Member Adams: On the ordinance, this is really just a ...

President Shabazz: You have to move it.

Council Member Adams: We have to move ...

President Shabazz: You have to move - move your Ordinance.

Council Member Adams: Oh okay, yeah, I move to second reading of the Ordinance please.

President Shabazz: I need a second.

Council Member Oliver: Second.

Council Member Freel: Can he ...

Council Member Williams: Move it to the Finance Committee.

Council Member Freel: ...Madam Chair, he needs to refer it to the Finance & Economic Development Committee.

Council Member Adams: Yeah, I do that after a second reading, right?

President Shabazz: No.

Council Member Williams: It's already had the second.

President Shabazz: You need to move it and have it moved to the Finance Committee.

Council Member Freel: Finance & Economic Development Committee.

Council Member Adams: I'd like to move to have the Ordinance accepted for first and second reading and moved to Finance Committee.

Council Member Walsh: Second.

Council Member Freel: Finance & Economic Development Committee.

President Shabazz: Finance & Economic Development Committee.

Council Member Adams: Finance & Economic Development Committee.

Council Member Williams/Council Member Walsh: Second.

President Shabazz: Now, it's been properly moved and seconded that be known as the first and second reading of the Ordinance and referred to the Finance & Economic Development Committee. Anything else Mr. Adams?

Council Member Adams: Just so ....

President Shabazz: Do you have any other legislation to present?

Council Member Adams: No ma'am.

President Shabazz: Ok; thank you. Council Member Dixon.

Council Member Dixon: Nothing tonight Madame President.

President Shabazz: Council Member Guy.

Council Member Guy: Yes Madam President, I have a Resolution to present, agenda item 4331.

Council Member Guy presented <u>Resolution No. 17-015</u> (Agenda #4331) as follows:

WHEREAS, local control is a fundamental tenet of public education that has been discussed in United States Supreme Court majority opinions and dissenting opinions; and

WHEREAS, local control has been defined by the United States Supreme Court in multiple cases on the subject of federal control over local school systems in efforts of desegregation; and

WHEREAS, in perhaps the clearest terms, Chief Justice Burger, joined in his dissent by Justices Blackmun, Powell, and Rehnquist, in Wright v. Council of Emporia, 407 U.S. 451, 478 (1972) (Burger, C.J., dissenting), expounded on the importance of local control because: ". . . Curricular decisions, the structuring of grade levels, the planning of extracurricular activities, to mention a few, are matters lying solely within the province of school officials, who maintain a day-to-day supervision that a judge cannot. A plan devised by school officials is apt to be attuned to these highly relevant educational goals; a plan deemed preferable in the abstract by a judge might well overlook and thus undermine these primary concerns;" and

WHEREAS, in San Antonio Indep. Sch. Dist. v. Rodriguez, 411 U.S. 1, 49-50 (1973), the Court, in its majority opinion, stated that "[i]n part, local control means . . . the freedom to devote more money to the education of one's children. Equally important, however, is the opportunity it offers for participation in the decision making process that determines how those local tax dollars will be spent;" and

WHEREAS, in Milliken v. Bradley, 418 U.S. 717, 741-42 (1974), the Court noted that "local control over the educational process affords citizens an opportunity to participate in decision making, permits the structuring of school programs to fit local needs, and encourages 'experimentation, innovation, and a healthy competition for educational excellence;'" and

WHEREAS, the Court expanded in <u>Freeman v. Pitts</u>, 503 U.S. 467, 490 (1992) that "[r]eturning schools to the control of local authorities at the earliest practicable date is essential to restore their true accountability in our governmental system. When the school district and all state entities participating with it in operating the schools make decisions in the absence of judicial supervision, they can be held accountable to the citizenry, to the political process, and to the courts in the ordinary course;" and

WHEREAS, local control, sometimes referred to as local autonomy, has been recognized by the United States Supreme Court as a "vital national tradition," (<u>Dayton Bd. of Education v. Brinkman</u>, 433 U.S. 406, 410 (1977)); "a need that is strongly felt in our society" and "... not only vital to continued public support of the schools, but it is of overriding importance from an educational standpoint as well ..." (<u>Council of Emporia</u>, 407 U.S. at 469 (1972), and "essential both to the maintenance of community concern and support for public schools and to quality of the educational process," (<u>Milliken v. Bradley</u>, 418 U.S. 717, 741-42 (1974)); and

WHEREAS, "the concept of local control is grounded in a philosophy of government premised on the belief that the individuals and institutions closest to the students and most knowledgeable about a school—and most invested in the welfare and success of its educators, students, and communities—are best suited to making important decisions about its operation, leadership, staffing, academics, teaching, and improvement." Local control (2016, February 18). In S. Abbott (Ed.), The glossary of education reform. Retrieved from http://edglossary.org/local-control/

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that Council respectfully encourages the State of Delaware to recognize that the absence of local control afforded to Wilmington residents is an important factor among many to take into consideration when seeking solutions to education related issues negatively impacting Wilmington residents and students.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Council encourages the State of Delaware to recognize that the drawing of the boundary lines for school districts can impact the degree of local control residents of Delaware possess.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Council encourages the State of Delaware to recognize that Wilmington residents who vote in school board elections are disenfranchised in a manner that negatively impacts access to local control, a fundamental tenet of public education.

Council Member Guy: I move this Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Walsh: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been moved, it's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

# On the question:

Council Member Guy: Yes, Madam President. This Resolution tries to put some focus on the concept of local control in public education. Unfortunately, it's not often discussed in Wilmington because we don't have any local control, so we don't really have anything to talk about in that regard. And, so, what this essentially does is it's a communication to the State of Delaware, letting them know that we're aware of our absence of local control as Wilmington residents and that it's an important consideration to take, you know, it's an important issue to take into consideration when we're trying to figure out how to adjust some of the educational problems. And, so recently we had a guest here in Delaware, Omar Johnson, and he had a very popular television show where he talked about what we need to do for our children. And the local control is the piece that allows you to be able to do something for your children. If you don't have any local control, all of those things that you want to do for the children of Wilmington, you're not sitting at the table to be able to do them, and that's why we're in the problem that we're in right now. So, at Wilmington City Council we sitting here and we have local control, Wilmingtonians are sitting at the table deciding what's in the best interest of Wilmingtonians. But when the school board sit around the table, there's only one Wilmingtonian sitting on the board for each of these big school districts, so that means when they vote, nothing for Wilmington. Everything else for everybody else. So, what I want you to really understand out of this, if you don't have any local control, then you're going to really just continue to go crying to schools why aren't you educating our children and they going to look at you basically saying well, you better get some local control. That's all I have.

President Shabazz: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Guy, seconded by Council Member Walsh, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Guy: Madam President, I have a Resolution to present, agenda item 4332.

Council Member Guy presented <u>Resolution No. 17-016</u> (Agenda #4332) as follows:

WHEREAS, the 102nd Session of Wilmington City Council empowered a Judiciary Committee modeled on the United States Senate Judiciary Committee; and WHEREAS, since 2001, the Wilmington City Council has not had a Judiciary Committee providing legislative branch oversight and transparency in a number of areas such as the Law Department, Civil Rights, Courts, Charter, Law, Freedom of Information Act, Constitution, and Administrative Law; and

**WHEREAS,** Council deems it appropriate to amend its Rules as adopted by Resolution 17-001 on January 3, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that Rule 10 of the Rules of the Council of the City of Wilmington, as adopted January 3, 2017 by Resolution 17-001, "Standing Committees of Council," be amended by adding a new committee, "Judiciary."

Council Member Guy: I move this Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Williams: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

## On the question:

Council Member Guy: Yes, Madam President. This is the committee that I wanted to have set up when we were structuring the organization of City Council, and this is the committee that I wanted to chair because there's some major gaps and also there's some major issues where the citizens of Wilmington have nowhere to go under our current structure. There's no committee where there's any discussion of civil rights issues. There's no committee with oversight over the law department. It's like they get a free pass as a department, whereas almost every other department has some committee that has oversight. We have issues dealing with charters, laws, foreign issues, administrative law, none of that stuff is being addressed by City Council at this time because there's no component of City Council that's keeping an eyeball on those issues. So, I chaired this many years ago, that's how Wilmington had a pardoned program because that was a program that I had structured out of the Judiciary Committee. That's how come, that's how the Wilmington children benefitted from an educational advocate program. So, back then we used to save forty kids a year from expulsion because we created an educational advocate program through the Judiciary Committee, and it's any number of things that were done dealing with environmental issues, etc., in fact, that site where they're going to do development over there in Northeast Wilmington, the big hazardous waste site, the Judiciary Committee was involved in getting that cleaned up at a higher level than they initially wanted to clean it up. So, what I decided to do is I'm going to put this up for a vote and, 'cause if you just keep waiting, and waiting and

waiting, the people suffer. So, it needs to be up for a vote and then the people will be able to see whether they have a place to come for those issues or they don't. That's all I have Madam Chair.

President Shabazz: Councilman Turner.

Council Turner: Thank you Madam President. Can you ask Councilman Guy in the last two years or three years, what are some of the things that has happened in our city that would possibly go to the Judiciary Committee knowing that we don't have a municipal court anymore. What are some of the things that will go there so we all can have an idea of that?

Council Member Guy: Yeah I would ...

President Shabazz: This question he can answer when he closes the debate at the end. Okay? Council Member Congo?

Council Member Congo: Yes, my questions were the same, my statement was only the same, as Councilman Turner.

President Shabazz: Councilwoman Walsh.

Council Member Walsh: Thank you Madam President. I don't see the necessity for this committee at all. I really don't. I understand that there's some issues, but some of those issues can be assigned to other committees if you so choose, or a Council member made the request of the committee chairs. A lot of these are federal and state problems and that we can't take on every single cause as Wilmington, as a City of Wilmington Council. We just can't do it. We have to do the job that we have in front of us right now.

President Shabazz: Councilman Congo.

Council Member Congo: Yes, thank you. I guess today Councilman Guy has requested to add this committee. He's a guy that I've learned just recently he always has the heart of, and the, not only the heart but he always wants what's best for Wilmingtonians. I have never seen him ever talk about anything that is for himself and everything that he, he's always talked about, everything that he's always brought to the table has always been for the betterment not only for Wilmingtonians but specifically for those who don't have a voice. So, I'm sure this is, this is his goal in creating this committee. He's not a person, in my opinion, who (inaudible) grandstanding and wanting to be, wanted to get credit for things that he was talking about he's just a voice for the voiceless. So, I do want to hear what Councilman Turner wants to hear also, but I am going to support this and if it does pass, I would like to be on the committee. Thank you.

President Shabazz: Councilman Guy, the final comments.

Council Member Guy: Yes. I guess what I'd say is this here.

President Shabazz: Could you answer the Councilman's questions, please also in your comments?

Council Member Guy: Right. What we have is, we have a City of Wilmington where there's a whole lot of people hurting. Okay, but they don't have anywhere to go. So, let's use this example: I read in the newspaper that the City of Wilmington has to reach some type of agreement with the McDole family related to the civil rights issue of the city of Wilmington's policies that, or lack of policies depending on how you want to look at it, that resulted in the death of Jeremy McDole. Okay. So, the police, from law enforcement, they have to be involved in the conversation. The judiciary committee dealing with civil rights would be in that conversation. That's an example. The object is for no civil rights people quite often to be at the table, and civil rights cuts across everything. For example, you have the, we have a commission, a Wilmington Civil Rights Commission. Which one of our departments, City Council units are having any kind of oversight meetings about the Wilmington Civil Rights Commission? I haven't seen it on any agenda, 'cause it's really not fitting under anybody's agenda. So, we have all the people that are talking about criminal justice system reform. There's no committee in City Council that's had any kind of conversations or meetings about criminal justice reform. So, you can just go on and on and on for a civil rights agenda. Environmental issues; well in Wilmington you have environmental justice issues. What I do find interesting is, that there's committees to address everything that the rich folks want addressed. Okay, so they've got an Economic Development Committee so they can do million dollar deals, which (inaudible) committee.

President Shabazz: Could we stay to toward the topic of committee?

Council Member Guy: Excuse me?

President Shabazz: Stay to the topic of the benefit of a Judicial

Committee.

Council Member Guy: Well that's the benefit of it. That the regular people have issues that a lot of times relate to legal issues but as legal components to them. That they, they don't come, they don't see the regular folks in the community come and bringing their issues to the table because we don't have a committee set up for that. So, I'll just leave it at that and the will of the Council will be the will of the Council, but the community will know that there was effort made for there to be a place where their legal concerns and issues can be addressed in a wide range of areas.

President Shabazz: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Guy, seconded by Council Member Williams, the above Resolution was received, **DEFEATED** as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Congo, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams and Guy. Total, six. Nays, Chukwuocha, Oliver, Freel, Adams, Dixon and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, seven.

President Shabazz: Declare it defeated. Council Member Walsh.

Council Member Walsh: Thank you Madam President. I have three (3) Resolutions.

Council Member Walsh presented <u>Resolution No. 17-017</u> (Agenda #4333) as follows:

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary, prior to Council's approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Fire Department, has applied for and received (see attached materials) a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$22,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds will be used to purchase water survival suits, water rescue equipment, and air monitoring equipment; and

WHEREAS, the grant does not require a local match; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Wilmington Fire Department to accept the grant funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$22,000.00, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Fire Department is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$22,000.00.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Wilmington Fire Department Fire Chief, Michael Donohue, or his designees, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to administer the grant and the grant program for the City of Wilmington.

Council Member Walsh: Madam President, I move that be known as reading of that Resolution, that it be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Chukwuocha: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded that the Resolution be received, recorded, and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

On the question:

Council Member Walsh: Madam President this is a Homeland Security grant that we're receiving for \$22,000. There aren't any matching funds and it's for water rescue equipment and air monitoring equipment for the Wilmington Fire Department.

President Shabazz: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Walsh, seconded by Council Member Chukwuocha, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted. Sorry.

Council Member Walsh presented <u>Resolution No. 17-018</u> (Agenda #4334) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary, prior to Council's approval by resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, City Code Section 2-10 requires agreements with other governmental or quasi-governmental agencies for mutual support be approved by Council; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Office of the Mayor, has submitted a grant application for the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Fiscal Year 2017 Competitive Grant, which requires a memorandum of understanding between partners, to the U.S. Department of Justice for funds in the amount of \$999,216.91; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds will be used to establish a multisector partnership led by the Office of the Mayor named Revitalization Agenda for West Center City (RAWCC); and

WHEREAS, RAWCC's goals are (1) reducing crime and violence; (2) reducing physical blight and enhancing the opportunities for quality housing; and (3) increasing quality programming to lead to stable and rewarding employment in West Center City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the grant, RAWCC would engage in the required approximately yearlong planning phase followed by a two year implementation phase; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, Delaware's Congressional Delegation, Delaware Department of Correction, Councilman Turner, and community members submitted letters of support; and

WHEREAS, the grant does not require a local match; and

WHEREAS, for timing purposes, the application for said grant was submitted in advance of City Council approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the grant application, for the aforesaid purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Office of the Mayor's grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$999,216.91 a copy of which is attached hereto, is hereby authorized.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor of Wilmington, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Council Member Walsh: Madam President, I move that be known as the reading of the Resolution, that it be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and second, excuse me, it needs to be second.

Council Member Turner: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

#### On the question:

Council Member Walsh: Thank you, Madam President. This is just shy of a million-dollar grant application which is going to be, if awarded, it is going to be for the West Center City area of the city of Wilmington, which is actually expanded a bit because it's going to go from Delaware Avenue to Martin Luther King and we'll have Trinity and Quaker Hill in this area also besides West Center City. There're a whole lot of questions on this grant, most of which cannot be answered tonight. Many were addressed at the meeting the other day so the Law Department is very aware of having to stay on top of this and to provide information for us. As soon as I get any information on this grant, I will definitely make sure that the district council member and the at-large get it, along with the Public Safety Committee and, if Council was a whole, I'd also make sure that all the Council members get it, too. But I think we'll have a meeting a little bit down the road so that we can see the progress that's been moving this grant and everything that is done for it, because this is a very vital area (inaudible) as we all know, also, which any neighborhood is a vital area of our city but this neighborhood could use a whole lot of tender loving care, too.

President Shabazz: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Walsh, seconded by Council Member Turner, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted.

Council Member Walsh presented <u>Resolution No. 17-019</u> (Agenda #4335) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary, prior to Council's approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department, has submitted grant applications to the Delaware Department of Justice for funding from the Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$20,100.00; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed grant funds will be used to purchase technology upgrades for The Hostage Negotiation Team Mobile Operations Center and Officer Down Individual First Aid Kits; and

WHEREAS, the grant does not require a local match; and

WHEREAS, for timing purposes, the application for said grant was submitted in advance of City Council approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the grant application, for the aforesaid purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department's grant application to the Delaware Department of Justice in the amount of \$20,100.00 is hereby authorized.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Wilmington Police Department Chief, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Council Member Walsh: Madam President, I move that be known as the reading of that Resolution that it be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

Council Member Williams: Second.

President Shabazz: It's been properly moved and seconded that the Resolution be received, recorded and filed and adopted by Yea and Nay vote.

#### On the question:

Council Member Walsh: Council President, this is a \$20,100 grant from the State Department of Justice for the Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund. This is for some technology upgrades for the Hostage Negotiation Team mobile operations center and the first aid kits for officers down, which are also used on private citizens, too, if necessary. One of the problems that in speaking with officers that I did discover is that apparently these kits have expiration dates on them, also. So, they're constantly like, the bullet-proof vest and things; they have to stay on top of them and keep them replenished. No matching funds.

President Shabazz: Councilman Williams.

Council Member Williams: Thank you Madam President. I can certainly appreciate they want to upgrade their hostage negotiation team mobile crisis center, cause we just saw a display of how important that is down in Smyrna about two weeks ago, and I can also appreciate that their upgrading and renewing their officer down first aid kits, I think it's a valid piece of equipment, but I would ask the Chairman of Public Safety Committee if she could find out the status of the NARCAN kits that help the individuals that are down in the streets, when nothing else will work when someone's not breathing due to the fact that they're overdosed on opiates, the only thing that will work is a NARCAN kit. So, they can get that, I'd appreciate it.

Council Member Walsh: More than happy to. Thank you.

President Shabazz: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Council Member Walsh, seconded by Council Member Williams, the above 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, Congo, Oliver, Harlee, Turner, McCoy, Williams, Freel, Adams, Dixon, Guy and Walsh, and Council President Shabazz. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Shabazz: Declare it adopted. We'll now will move to announce petitions and communications.

#### PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Council Members announced civic association meetings/committee meetings and community events/activities throughout their districts. In addition, Council Members spoke on the following: Neighborhood Planning Council elections; due to President's Day, trash pickup schedule will be adjusted as well as the recycling day; on behalf of the residents of the 7<sup>th</sup> District, a portion of the 6<sup>th</sup> District and a portion of the 5<sup>th</sup> District, the Mayor, Chief of Staff to the Mayor and Fire Chief were thanked for opening up Station 6; residents were thanked along with the Wilmington Police Department for their quick response in apprehending an individual who was believed to have been committing criminal activity in the area; long term goal to see City of Wilmington to have its own school district and how the children in the City of Wilmington are not learning basic educational concepts; the student code of conduct and Special Ed; Civil Rights' Division of the United States Department of Justice and how nobody cares about folks' civil rights until their civil rights get violated and then they care; it was noted that the problems we have in the City are felt by every single neighborhood in this City and though there are some neighborhoods that are more privileged than others because of their economic background but that doesn't mean they're exempt from crime; it was also noted that we cannot have this divide and conquer mentality going on in this Council; budget season and how there will be many meetings

and sessions that Council will be brought into on various things that are important for Council to have knowledge of on the background of the various departments as well as where the City is trying to go in the future; on how Council is trying to go paperless and how Council has moved to technology with the Surface Pro type of device, which will able Council to get access to information in real time; and including but not limited to those who turned in the Strategic Plan survey were thanked – deadline is Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion of Council Member Walsh, seconded by Council Member Freel, Council adjourned at 8:42 p.m. Motion prevailed.

Attest:

Maribel Seijo, City Clerk