



City of Wilmington

Loretta Walsh
City Council Member At-Large

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Public Safety Committee

Loretta Walsh, Chair
Robert A. Williams, Vice Chair
Ciro Adams
Michelle Harlee
Charles M. "Bud" Freel
Yolanda McCoy
Dr. Hanifa Shabazz, Ex-Officio Member

NOTICE

Public Safety Committee Meeting
Monday, September 10, 2018
5:00 p.m.
1st Floor Council Committee Room

Agenda

- Discuss a Resolution Encouraging the Wilmington Fire Department and Wilmington Police Department to Continue Education and Enforcement Efforts Concerning Fireworks
- Discuss a Resolution Encouraging the Delaware General Assembly to Introduce Legislation Related to Expungement
- Discuss a Resolution Approving a Grant Application by the Wilmington Police Department to the Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund for Technology Improvements and Advanced Training
- Discuss a Resolution Approving a Grant Application by the Wilmington Police Department to the State of Delaware for Overtime to Combat Violent Crime
- Discuss a Resolution Approving a Grant Application by the Wilmington Police Department to the U.S. Department of Justice for Anti-Violence Overtime and Salary for a Civilian Cold Case Investigator
- Discuss a Resolution Approving a Subgrant Application by the Wilmington Police Department to the Delaware Criminal Justice Council to Fund Technology Improvements and a Citizen Survey
- Discussion with Director Willie Patrick of the Office of Emergency Management:
 - Introduction and Objectives
 - National Disaster Preparedness Month

(09/28/18)

Any members of the public who wish to speak during the committee meeting will be limited to three minutes per agenda item. If the public's permission to comment is abused, the Chair may exercise greater discretion in limiting public comment.

Wilmington, Delaware
September 20, 2018

#XXXX

Sponsor:

Council
Member
Harlee

WHEREAS, fireworks and other types of pyrotechnics can be an exciting and aesthetically pleasing way to commemorate an occasion that warrants celebration and recognition, when utilized safely and in accordance with laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware State Code stipulates that fireworks and other combustible devices can generally be used only by organizations with the appropriate permit for public display of fireworks. However, individuals are permitted to use sparklers and limited ground-based or hand-held devices on July 4, December 31 and January 1 of each year; and

WHEREAS, recently the nation celebrated the Fourth of July holiday and 242 years of independence. Despite the provisions of State law, residents in Wilmington have reported fireworks being used illegally, and sometimes in ways that could pose a threat to safety and property; and

WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Association found that fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires every year, with amounts to approximately \$43 million in direct property damage. In 2017, an estimated 12,900 people were sent to the emergency room for fireworks-related injuries, and children accounted for more than one-third of that number; and

WHEREAS, fireworks have the capacity to add awe and entertainment in celebratory settings, but these low-grade explosives can disrupt communities, create respiratory hazards and can be dangerous, particularly for children; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Fire Department and the Wilmington Police Department not only serve to provide the people of Wilmington with emergency services and support to maintain order, but also work to educate the public on risky behaviors and situations. The Wilmington City Council encourages the Wilmington Fire Department and the Wilmington Police Department to continue to provide the public with information regarding the hazards and dangers of fireworks, and to enforce the restrictions set forth in the Delaware State Code. By providing the public with a robust education program on fireworks, we can work to eliminate the potential for damage to properties, injuries and even death.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that City Council respectfully asks the Wilmington Fire Department and Wilmington Police Department to provide the people of Wilmington with a more robust educational program on the riskiness of using fireworks, and to enforce the restrictions set forth in the Delaware State Code.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution encourages the Wilmington Fire Department and the Wilmington Police Department to continue to educate the public on the potential dangers and risks associated with fireworks and other pyrotechnic devices, and to enforce the restrictions set forth in the Delaware State Code pertaining to the inappropriate usage of fireworks.

Wilmington, Delaware
September 20, 2018

#XXXX

Sponsors:

Council
Members
Turner
Walsh

WHEREAS, people with criminal arrest records often face difficulties in applying for and obtaining employment, housing and other opportunities, even if they were never convicted of a crime. The social consequences of a criminal record can also lead to the denial of an individual's right to civic participation; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing body of research regarding the detrimental effects to an individual and society relating to the collateral consequences of arrests and criminal convictions. Expungements are based on the premise that those with criminal records will have trouble reintegrating into society and will encounter barriers that prevent participation in public life. Inability to participate in society in these basic ways contributes to Delaware's high rate of recidivism and lowers the overall productivity and efficiency of the City of Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, in Delaware there are two types of expungements: (1) mandatory, which means the Court *must* grant an expungement, and discretionary, which means the Court *may* grant an expungement. At present, Delawareans are only allowed to petition to have a record expunged if the arrest or charges never led to a conviction, or after a pardon is granted for certain misdemeanor offenses only. Strategic efforts to lessen these consequences call for the automatic expungement of criminal records if (1) an arrest did not lead to a guilty disposition or (2) an isolated conviction has been followed by a significant amount of time spent staying out of trouble with the law; and

WHEREAS, on any given day, criminal charges, including charges that did not result in convictions, are publicly available online in the state of Delaware. Discrimination based on criminal records creates a significant socioeconomic barrier to employment and self-sufficiency. After individuals convicted of misdemeanor crimes have served their sentences and remained crime free long enough to demonstrate their rehabilitation, their access to employment, housing, education and other necessities of life should be fully restored; and

WHEREAS, comparable to legislation enacted in Pennsylvania, the criminal history record information of all individuals convicted of misdemeanor offenses would receive automatic expungement when completion of the court-ordered obligations of the sentence – including the payment of all fines, the completion of all terms of incarceration, probation, and other sanctions imposed as part of the sentence in the case – have been satisfied. The enactment of such legislation in Dover would require that Delawareans do not acquire subsequent convictions after a certain period of time – a decade for misdemeanors and five years for low-level summary offenses in any court of the unified judicial system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that Wilmington City Council calls upon the Delaware General Assembly to introduce and pass legislation amending Title 11 of the Delaware Code relating to the dissemination of criminal history record information, enacting regulations for automatic expungement for convictions of misdemeanors and for charges not leading to convictions, under specified guidelines.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This resolution urges the Delaware General Assembly to introduce and pass legislation that enables the automatic expungement of arrests not leading to conviction from an individual's criminal record. Furthermore, the resolution calls for a modification of expungement guidelines in allowing for expungement of misdemeanor convictions for individuals who have avoided arrest or prosecution for ten years, or five years for summary offenses. The adoption of such legislation would move more Delawareans toward productive and fulfilling lives, systematically reducing the likelihood of recidivism while encouraging an individual's reintegration back into society.

Wilmington, Delaware
September 20, 2018

Sponsor:

Council
Member
Walsh

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, applied for a grant in the amount of \$90,000.000 from Delaware Department of Justice for funding from the Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds would be used to purchase Microsoft Surf Pro Tablets and pay for advanced training for officers; and

WHEREAS, no matching funds are required; 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 Criminal Justice Council in the amount of \$90,000.00 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police, 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.

Passed by City Council,
September 20, 2018

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department's application for a grant from Delaware Department of Justice for funding from the Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$90,000.00. The funds will be used to purchase Microsoft Surf Pro Tablets and pay for advanced training for officers. No local matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: There is no negative fiscal impact on the City, because no local matching funds are required by the grant.

Wilmington, Delaware
September 20, 2018

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Walsh**

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, applied for a Fund to Combat Violent Crime Grant from the State of Delaware in the amount of \$420,666.72; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds would be used for an overtime program focused on combatting violent crime using intelligence driven data to direct the overtime to particular areas and utilizing patrols, walking assignments, tactical response initiatives, and plain clothes operations; and

WHEREAS, no matching funds are required; 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 Criminal Justice Council in the amount of \$420,666.72 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police, 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.

Passed by City Council,
September 20, 2018

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department's application for a Fund to Combat Violent Crime Grant from the State of Delaware in the amount of \$420,666.72. The funds will be used for an overtime program focused on combatting violent crime using intelligence driven data to direct the overtime to particular areas and utilizing patrols, walking assignments, tactical response initiatives, and plain clothes operations. No local matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: There is no negative fiscal impact on the City, because no local matching funds are required by the grant.

Wilmington, Delaware
September 20, 2018

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Walsh**

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, applied for an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$224,448.00; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds would be used for anti-violence overtime and the salary for one civilian cold case investigator; and

WHEREAS, no matching funds are required; 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 U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$224,448.00; is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police, 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.

Passed by City Council,
September 20, 2018

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department's application for an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$224,448.00. The funds will be used for anti-violence overtime and the salary for one civilian cold case investigator. No local matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: There is no negative fiscal impact on the City, because no local matching funds are required by the grant.

Wilmington, Delaware
September 20, 2018

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Walsh**

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, applied for a subgrant in the amount of \$700,000.000 from the Delaware Criminal Justice Council, which is seeking the funding from the U.S. Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds would be used to fund a police survey of citizens and Shot Spotter expansion for Wilmington Smart Policing-Reducing Violence and Shootings; and

WHEREAS, no matching funds are required; 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 subgrant application to the Delaware Criminal Justice Council in the amount of \$700,000.00 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police, 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.

Passed by City Council,
September 20, 2018

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department's application for a subgrant from the Delaware Criminal Justice Council in the amount of \$700,000.00. The funds will be used to fund a police survey of citizens and Shot Spotter expansion for Wilmington Smart Policing-Reducing Violence and Shootings. No local matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: There is no negative fiscal impact on the City, because no local matching funds are required by the grant.