

*Wilmington, Delaware
Louis L. Redding
City/County Building
July 10, 2014*

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

Invocation was given by Traci Owens.

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, Darius Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, Michael Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, thirteen.

MINUTES

After reading a portion of the minutes of July 3, 2014, upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Freel, it was moved they be accepted as written. Motion prevailed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

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

July 2, 2014

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Public Works & Transportation Committee, to who was referred
Substitute No. 1 to Ordinance No. 14-028 entitled:

TO ENACT CERTAIN TRAFFIC/PARKING REGULATIONS
AT SPECIFIC LOCATIONS IN THE CITY

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of
/s/Hanifa Shabazz
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.
/s/Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha
/s/Samuel Prado
/s/Robert A. Williams

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

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Joint Meeting of Finance and Public Safety Committees</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Charles M. "Bud" Freel	X		
Michael A. Brown Sr.	X		
Samuel Prado			X
Hanifa G.N. Shabazz	X		
Loretta Walsh		X	
Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II	X		
Robert Williams	X		

July 7, 2014

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your **JOINT** Public Safety and Finance Committees, to who was referred
Ordinance No. 14-037 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CITY CONTRACT 15003PD –
POLICE CLOTHING – WITH GRAVES UNIFORMS LLC

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Finance Committee and
/s/Charles M. Freel, Chair
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.
/s/Hanifa Shabazz
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Public Safety Committee
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr., Chair
/s/Ernest Congo, II
/s/Charles M. Freel
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

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

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Joint Meeting of Finance and Public Safety Committees</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Charles M. "Bud" Freel	X		
Michael A. Brown Sr.	X		
Samuel Prado			X
Hanifa G.N. Shabazz	X		
Loretta Walsh		X	
Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II	X		
Robert Williams	X		

July 7, 2014

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your **JOINT** Public Safety and Finance Committees, to who was
referred **Ordinance No. 14-036** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE CONSTITUTING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO
FISCAL YEAR 2015 OPERATING BUDGET (BEING AN
ORDINANCE TO AMEND SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 TO ORDINANCE
NO. 14-012 AS AMENDED), THE ORDINANCE ADOPTING
THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2014 AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2015

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Finance Committee and
/s/Charles M. Freel, Chair
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.
/s/Hanifa Shabazz
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Public Safety Committee
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr., Chair
/s/Ernest Congo, II
/s/Charles M. Freel
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

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

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

<u>Joint Meeting of Finance and Public Safety Committees</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent with Leave</u>	<u>Absent w/out Leave</u>
Charles M. "Bud" Freel	X		
Michael A. Brown Sr.	X		
Samuel Prado			X
Hanifa G.N. Shabazz	X		
Loretta Walsh		X	
Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II	X		
Robert Williams	X		

July 7, 2014

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your **JOINT** Public Safety and Finance Committees, to who was
referred **Ordinance No. 14-035** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE
REGARDING UNIFORMED STRENGTH OF POLICE AND FIRE
DEPARTMENTS

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Finance Committee and
/s/Charles M. Freel, Chair
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

Respectfully submitted, Members of
Public Safety Committee
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr., Chair
/s/Charles M. Freel
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr., Ex Officio

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

The City Clerk read the following committee report:

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

July 9, 2014

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Education, Youth & Families Committee, met on the above date
at 4:30 p.m., Councilman Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha presiding. The following items were
discussed:

- Discuss a Resolution to authorize the "Safe Haven Grant" for extended
hours by Tonia Conley
- Update on the Educational Channel by Patti Nash
- "Prestige Academy Presentation" by Dr. Jack Perry

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

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following Treasurer's Report dated Jul 10, 2014 was read into the record by the City Clerk, and upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Freel, the Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF WILMINGTON July 10, 2014

102	Community Development Block Grant	M & T Bank	\$ 1.00
104	Old Non-Uniform Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 15,963.81
105	Police Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 4,956.58
106	Fire Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 3,917.04
107	Evidence/Found Currency Account	M & T Bank	\$ 41,333.33
108	Rent Withholding Escrow	M & T Bank	\$ 4,137.97
110	Capital Projects Account	M & T Bank	\$ 44,645.69
113	Non-Uniform Pension	M & T Bank	\$ 1,111.82
114	Central Deposit	M & T Bank	\$ 68,320.86
117	Cement Workers	Wilmington Savings Fund	\$ 33,396.86
118	Worker's Comp. 3 rd Party Account	M & T Bank	\$ 13,003.23
124	Non-Uniform Pension Act of 1990	M & T Bank	\$ 44,244.79
130	Payroll	M & T Bank	\$ 132,402.39
131	Pension Payroll Account	M & T Bank	\$ 23,021.34
139	Pension Healthcare Account	M & T Bank	\$ <u>1,238.59</u>
	Total Cash on Hand		\$ 431,695.30

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FUND CODE	FUND	INSTITUTION	INVEST. TYPE	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	INTEREST RECEIVABLE	INVESTMENT AMOUNT
116	General	M&T Bank	RP	07/10/14	0.01%	\$ 1.83	\$ 5,535,767.00
116	General	TD	CD	07/11/14	0.25%	\$ 1,386.99	\$ 2,500,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	07/11/14	0.30%	\$ 350.34	\$ 1,375,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	07/11/14	0.30%	\$ 350.34	\$ 1,375,000.00
514	Risk Management	WSFS	CD	07/11/14	0.30%	\$ 8,687.31	\$ 2,895,775.55
515	Worker's Comp.	WSFS	CD	07/11/14	0.30%	\$ 8,687.31	\$ 2,895,775.55
116	General	WSFS	CD	07/18/14	0.30%	\$ 476.71	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General ¹	TD	CD	07/21/14	0.25%	\$ 719.18	\$ 5,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	07/25/14	0.25%	\$ 1,246.58	\$ 2,000,000.00
124	Non-Uniform 1990	WSFS	CD	07/30/14	0.30%	\$ 1,124.79	\$ 3,910,000.00
106	Fire Pension	WSFS	CD	07/30/14	0.30%	\$ 253.15	\$ 880,000.00
105	Police Pension	WSFS	CD	07/30/14	0.30%	\$ 155.34	\$ 540,000.00
106	Fire Pension	WSFS	CD	07/30/14	0.30%	\$ 97.64	\$ 360,000.00
105	Police Pension	WSFS	CD	07/30/14	0.30%	\$ 143.75	\$ 530,000.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	08/04/14	0.30%	\$ 18,105.53	\$ 24,476,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	08/08/14	0.30%	\$ 1,890.41	\$ 2,500,000.00
116	General ¹	TD	CD	08/22/14	0.25%	\$ 3,631.58	\$ 10,003,965.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	08/22/14	0.30%	\$ 1,742.46	\$ 2,000,000.00
110	Capital ²	TD	CD	09/15/14	0.25%	\$ 1,107.68	\$ 1,540,195.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	09/19/14	0.30%	\$ 2,071.23	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	10/28/14	0.25%	\$ 1,839.73	\$ 1,700,000.00
104	Escrow Pension	Affinity Wealth					\$ 1,499,681.00
104	Escrow Pension	Vanguard					\$ 33,914,509.00
104	Escrow Pension	Black Rock					\$ 27,007,201.00
104	Escrow Pension	Edgar Lomax					\$ 20,866,764.00
104	Escrow Pension	Wilmington Trust					\$ 46,374,444.00
104	Escrow Pension	Manning & Napier					\$ 23,793,499.00
104	Escrow Pension	Earnest Partners					\$ 16,781,456.00
104	Escrow Pension	GMO					\$ 12,157,146.00
104	Escrow Pension	MFS Management					\$ 19,536,670.00
139	Medical Escrow	Black Rock-OPEB					\$ 11,896,740.00
116	Deferred Comp.	MassMutual					\$ 38,964,636.00
	Total Investments						\$ 328,810,224.10
	Total Cash on Hand						\$ 431,695.30
	Grand Total						\$ 329,241,919.40

¹ Budget Reserve

² SEU

/s/Henry W. Supinski
City Treasurer

NON-LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

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

M. Brown	Congratulate Keys to Success Corey Brown and Antonion Blackshear
Cabrera	Recognize Apostle Alejandro Lind
Chukwuocha	Commend Pittsburgh Crawfords Little League Champions
Dorsey Walker	Best wishes Betty Jo Dorsey
Walsh	Congratulate Angela Henry

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

President Gregory: Mr. Chukwuocha.

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

Mr. Chukwuocha presented Resolution No. 14-030 (Agenda #3959) as follows:

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

WHEREAS, the City Department of Parks and Recreation has been approved by the State of Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families to receive “Safe Haven” grant funds in the amount of \$20,000.00 to extend the weekend operating hours of the William “Hicks” Anderson Community Center from July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the City is not required to provide matching funds for the receipt of this grant, and there will be no net financial impact on the City, provided the City complies with all state requirements applicable to the Safe Haven program; and

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

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation has recommended that City Council approve the City’s acceptance and use of the grant funds for the Safe Haven program in accordance with the terms of the grant, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit “A” hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the use of the herein described grant funds received from the State of Delaware for the Safe Haven program be accepted and approved, and the Mayor or his designee, the Director of Parks and Recreation, and the City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute any and all appropriate grant documents or other undertakings pursuant thereto as may be necessary.

Mr. Chukwuocha: Yes Mr. President, this is a Resolution for the City's Department of Parks and Recreations to receive a grant from the Department of Services for Children, Youth & Families to participate in the summer Safe Haven Program. It's for \$20,000 for the extended program hours program and it will run from July 1st through September 30, 2014 and extending the program hours on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Chukwuocha: I have a second Resolution.

On behalf of President Gregory, Mr. Chukwuocha presented Resolution No. 14-031 (Agenda #3960) as follows:

WHEREAS, providing quality, competitive public education constitutes a fundamental responsibility of government to its citizens, and many view education as a fundamental right; and

WHEREAS, education is funded through tax levies and constitutes a substantial portion of expenditures made by governmental entities; and

WHEREAS, advances in practice and technology have offered new potential to enhance teaching and learning processes for educators and pupils; and

WHEREAS, the state-centric funding system for schools in the State of Delaware has imposed restrictions upon educators and school administrators in their efforts to offer students additional resources and enhance curricula; and

WHEREAS, Delaware Governor Jack Markell, has stated, "we're currently trying to build world class schools with a funding system built in the 1940s, which gives school leaders little discretion in how they use their resources"; and

WHEREAS, leaders in the State recognize the challenges associated with funding structures, and acknowledge the benefits that could come from a revised funding structure that would allow greater levels of flexibility to school districts; and

WHEREAS, in its signed budget for Fiscal Year 2015, the State Department of Education is authorized to establish a working group to develop a pilot plan for education funding flexibility, which will be put forward for consideration for implementation during the Fiscal Year 2016 budget planning process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Council supports the State's efforts to support a Department of Education working group to propose an education funding flexibility plan at the end of the calendar year, and urges the State and this working group to confer

with the Education, Youth and Families Committee of the City Council, as well as others within the City of Wilmington executive and legislative branches who are knowledgeable in the area of urban education, as it prepares its plan and issues its proposals.

Mr. Chukwuocha: Yes Mr. President, I'm presenting this on your behalf and this is for the pilot program - - to support the pilot program through the Department of Education where they are creating a pilot program for the flex funding, which will allow for the school districts to have more district-base control and school-base control and it's a pilot program and it seems to be a great first step in the direction towards having a waited student formula which will truly address some of the needs that affects our schools here in Wilmington, hopefully that the Department can add some incentives to the pilot so that some of the districts that are operating within the City of Wilmington will participate in this program.

President Gregory: Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: Mr. President, I'd just like to congratulate Councilman Chukwuocha for his great job he's doing in making sure that he brings to the forefront the issues that are essential to the young people in the field of education and if I may, I'd like to be added as a co-sponsor.

President Gregory: So noted. Clerk, call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Chukwuocha: I have another Resolution to present on your behalf.

On behalf of President Gregory, Mr. Chukwuocha presented Resolution No. 14-032 (Agenda #3961) as follows:

WHEREAS, social promotion, designed to keep failing students on grade level socially, is often viewed as severely crippling in their later years; and

WHEREAS, grade retention, designed to provide affected students a review of missed or failed subject matter, is often viewed as an ineffective educational tool; and

WHEREAS, the above educational practices severely and negatively affect minority students and those with fewer means; and

WHEREAS, the end result is poor preparation for affected students, the loss of valuable manpower for the American workforce and a significant negative presence in the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2014, the Delaware House of Representatives passed a resolution creating a task force to study and provide alternative solutions to school retention and social promotion; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Wilmington understands that young residents of the City are among those affected by such policies, and seeks to advocate on behalf of those and all children and families within the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Council supports the efforts on the part of State lawmakers to study and generate potential solutions to the policies of social promotion and school retention, and urges the task force and the State Department of Education to confer with the Education, Youth and Families Committee of the Wilmington City Council, as well as others within the City of Wilmington executive and legislative branches who are knowledgeable in the area of urban education, as proposals are made and efforts furthered to address these important issues.

Mr. Chukwuocha: Yes Mr. President, this is a Resolution supporting the State House of Representative's creation of a task force that will study the effects of social promotion and retention. As we know, these are often selectively applied policies that often negatively impacts students of need in particular students within the City of Wilmington. So, hopefully their study will bring to bear and create some resources to pay attention to this drastic issue that impacts our students greatly.

President Gregory: Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to be added as a co-sponsor please.

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

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Congo.

Mr. Congo: Nothing tonight Mr. President. Thank you.

President Gregory: Mr. Darius Brown.

Mr. Darius Brown: Thank you Mr. President, nothing tonight.

President Gregory: Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 14-024 (Agenda #3936) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT CERTAIN TRAFFIC/PARKING
REGULATIONS

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

AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT CERTAIN TRAFFIC/PARKING
REGULATIONS

Ms. Shabazz: Yes Mr. President, this Substitute Ordinance is to authorize certain traffic and parking regulations affecting East 12th Street, East 13th Street, North French Street and Wilson Street. These traffic and parking changes are due to the anticipated moving of buses and vehicular traffic related to the opening of the new Community Education Building on North French Street. Mr. President, as you heard some of the comments from the residents who are merely affected by this that we have had numerous conversations with the residents there and how this was going to affect their life style with the impeding traffic changes. You also heard from the Eastside Blueprint where there was continuous discussion with a partnership agreement that was made regarding the Community Education Building to be a great corporate partner and to not only provide in this world class education for Wilmington's inner city children but to partner with the community so that when they come out of that building that they are working with us so that we have world class neighborhoods and homes for them to come back to. Although there was question and a little uneasiness about the direction about the traffic that was necessary, I think that we have come to an agreement that was somewhat amenable to everyone. I would like to make a friendly amendment on the floor sir under Section 9, where it reads that to assure that the traffic changes are considered and worked to they make sure it doesn't cause great change in the effect of the community. That we have made this legislation to be and approved for a temporary period in the current Substitute reads for 18-months and we would like to change that to 10-months. So, I would like an amendment on the floor under Section 9, last – 3rd paragraph to read period of *10-months* at which time the traffic regulations shall be reviewed by City Council.

Mr. Freel: Second.

Ms. Shabazz: So, I'm very glad that Community Education Building and the residents of the Eastside as well as the residents at upper Eastside were able to make an agreement. There will be continuous conversations; we will be reviewing how the traffic pattern changes or affect their everyday life. We have – the - - the Community Education Building and the Board and the tenants there are all in amenable to make whatever changes to make that - - their presence a big impediment on their life. So, I ask

my colleagues along with the partnering Council Member Darius Brown to join me in the passing of this Ordinance.

President Gregory: Mr. Brown.

Mr. Darius Brown: Thank you Mr. President. We had several meetings with the Upper Eastside Neighborhood Civic Association around issues with the CED and its parking plan. As you heard earlier today during public comments there's a great amount of issue and question around Wilson Street and the direction of parking there on Wilson Street. What is proposed before us is that we would take the block between 12th and 13th Street and redirect the block to help with the flow of traffic for the school. This Ordinance has a 10-month period of over site for that. Residents have raised great question to me around this issue because we also have in the neighborhood a 44-unit apartment building and an 88-unit apartment building that's scheduled to come on line within the next year, which would add up to 500 new residents in that area. And, so this Ordinance has a temporary time period of 10-months, which allows us the time to get through whatever hiccups we may have with the Community Education Building before the two apartments come online. So, we've tried to be as amenable to both parties and we have this Ordinance here before us now and asking for Council's support.

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

Upon a motion of Ms. Shabazz, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the above aforementioned **Substitute** 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, D. Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, M. Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and President Gregory. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Ms. Shabazz: Mr. President, if I may just make one other comment. I would just like to recognize some of the students that would at this school with Kauumba Academy students and parents are here and I'd just want to recognize them and thank them for their support.

President Gregory: Thank you. Mr. Prado.

Mr. Prado: Yes, I have a Resolution to present.

Mr. Prado presented Resolution No. 14-033 (Agenda #3962) as follows:

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 14-030, which proposes to amend Chapter 48 of the City Code to require that all applications for single-family to multi-family conversions require approval by the Zoning Board of Adjustment ("ZBA"); and

WHEREAS, the City Planning Commission will review said Ordinance No. 14-030, or a Substitute thereto, at its July 15, 2014 regular meeting; and

WHEREAS, the City Council proposes to schedule a public hearing for review of Ordinance No. 14-030, or a Substitute thereto, to be duly advertised in conformity with Wilm. C. '48-51, by publication in any newspaper of general circulation, at least once, not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Wilmington City Council hereby schedules a public hearing on Ordinance No. 14-030, or a Substitute thereto, to be held on August 21, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, to consider the proposed amendments to Chapter 48 of the City Code in order reflect that all applications for single-family to multiple family conversions require ZBA approval.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of the said public hearing in the manner and form required.

Mr. Prado: Yes, there's been - - it was brought to attention through Planning and work in the - - in L&I that there's some inconsistencies in the Administration enforcement section of the Code and this would be - - this hearing would be so they can make it clear that all applications for single-family to multi-family property conversions must go through the ZBA. Apparently, right now that's not the case and I believe someone was able to pick up on it when they were appealing a ZBA hearing. So, this would change that and this would make it so that everyone has to go to ZBA when they're trying to convert to a multi-family.

Ms. Walsh: Mr. President. I thought this was setting up a hearing.

Mr. Prado: Yeah.

President Gregory: It does set up a hearing.

Ms. Walsh: Oh okay. So, it actually doesn't do it until after the hearing?

Mr. Prado: Right. It's just to discuss the inconsistencies.

Ms. Walsh: Just wanted to point that out.

President Gregory: Clerk, call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Nothing tonight Mr. President. Thank you.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

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

Mr. Williams presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 14-028 (Agenda #3944) entitled:

TO ENACT CERTAIN TRAFFIC/PARKING REGULATIONS
AT SPECIFIC LOCATIONS IN THE CITY

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

TO ENACT CERTAIN TRAFFIC/PARKING REGULATIONS
AT SPECIFIC LOCATIONS IN THE CITY

Mr. Williams: Mr. President, this is a housekeeping Ordinance. It affects East 17th Street, Spruce Street, King Street, West 6th Street, North Scott Street, West 3rd Street at Greenhill, 4th Street at Greenhill, King Street at West 6th, East 11th Street and Thatcher Street. I know for the two that were involved in my areas, there was no opposition from the community in making these changes.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Freel/Ms. Walsh, the above aforementioned Substitute 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, D. Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, M. Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and President Gregory. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Freel.

Mr. Freel: Yes sir, I have an Ordinance for a first and second and a Resolution.

Mr. Freel presented and called for the first and second reading Ordinance No. 14-038 (Agenda #3963) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT
TO EXTEND CONTRACT PD05006 – PARKING
VIOLATION PROCESSING AND COLLECTION SYSTEM
WITH XEROX STATE AND LOCAL SOLUTIONS

This Ordinance was given two separate readings by title only and upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Ms. Walsh, was received, recorded and referred to the Finance Committee. Motion prevailed.

President Gregory: Mr. Freel.

Mr. Freel: One Resolution.

Mr. Freel presented Resolution No. 14-034 (Agenda #3964) as follows:

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 14-026, which proposes amendments to the Zoning Map by rezoning property comprising the former Wilmington Finishing Company, from C-6 to W-4 and R-2 zoning classifications, was introduced by City Council at its regular meeting of June 5, 2014; and

WHEREAS, certain amendments to the Delaware Avenue/Bancroft Parkway Neighborhood Comprehensive Development Plan must also be made in order to reflect a change in the proposed zoning designation for the former Wilmington Finishing Company from C-6 to W-4 and R-2; and

WHEREAS, the City Planning Commission will review the said Ordinance No. 14-026, or a Substitute thereto, and the respective amendments to the Delaware Avenue/Bancroft Parkway Neighborhood Comprehensive Development Plan at its August 19, 2014 regular meeting and will make a recommendation of the City Planning Commission to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council proposes to schedule a public hearing for review of Ordinance No. 14-026, or a Substitute thereto, and the respective amendments to the Delaware Avenue/Bancroft Parkway Neighborhood Comprehensive Development Plan to be duly advertised in conformity with Wilm. C. '48-51, by publication in any newspaper of general circulation, at least once, not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Wilmington City Council hereby schedules a public hearing on Ordinance No. 14-026, or a Substitute thereto, and the respective amendments to the Delaware Avenue/Bancroft Parkway Neighborhood Comprehensive Development Plan to be held on September 18, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, to consider the proposed rezoning of the property comprising the former Wilmington Finishing Company, from C-6 to W-4 and R-2 zoning classifications.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of the said public hearing in the manner and form required.

Mr. Freel: Yes Mr. President, as stated this sets up a public hearing for the rezoning for the old Wilmington Finishing Site and the public hearings will be held at our meeting on September 18, 2014.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Brown.

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, I have several Resolutions and a couple of Ordinances to present.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 14-035 (Agenda #3965) as follows:

WHEREAS, by its Ordinance No. 97-051, amending Section 2-363 of the Wilmington City Code, the Council of the City of Wilmington ("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 in any situation in which a City office or department is required to file a grant application or proposal for funds prior to a regular meeting of Council, in which case the application shall be submitted to Council for its approval and ratification subsequent to its submission to the issuing agency; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department ("WPD"), has sought to obtain grant funding from the State of Delaware Criminal Justice Council in the amount of \$14,160.00 and from the U.S. Department of Justice Assistance Grant, FY-14 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$234,977.00; and

WHEREAS, the said grants will be applied toward salaries for overtime and the purchasing of advanced equipment; and

WHEREAS, neither grant requires a local match; and

WHEREAS, for timing purposes, the grant application had to be submitted prior to Council approval; and

WHEREAS, even though the application for said grant has been submitted, the WPD must still take the affirmative step of accepting the funding should it be a successful applicant; and

WHEREAS, Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the WPD to accept the grant from the State of Delaware Criminal Justice Council in the amount of \$14,160.00 and from the U.S. Department of Justice Assistance Grant, FY-14

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$234,977.00, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the WPD is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the State of Delaware Criminal Justice Council in the amount of fourteen thousand, one hundred and sixty dollars (\$14,160.00) and from the U.S. Department of Justice Assistance Grant, FY-14 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program in the amount of two hundred and thirty-four thousand, nine hundred and seventy-seven dollars (\$234,977.00).

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, this Resolution approves the Wilmington Police Department's acceptance of a State – of a State of Delaware Criminal Justice Council in the amount of fourteen thousand, one hundred and sixty dollars and the United States Department of Justice Grant FY Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of two hundred and thirty-four thousand, nine hundred and seventy-seven dollars. No matching.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Brown.

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, I have another Resolution to present.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 14-036 (Agenda #3966) as follows:

WHEREAS, by its Ordinance No. 97-051, amending Section 2-363 of the Wilmington City Code, the Council of the City of Wilmington ("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 in any situation in which a City office or department is required to file a grant application or proposal for funds prior to a regular meeting of Council, in which case the application shall be submitted to Council for its approval and ratification subsequent to its submission to the issuing agency; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department ("WPD"), has sought to obtain grant funding from the United States Department of Homeland Security Port Security Program in the amount of \$583,160.00; and

WHEREAS, the said grant will be applied toward the purchase of an explosive ordnance disposal unit (“EOD”) vehicles, EOD robots, and a new patrol boat; and

WHEREAS, the said grant requires a local match in the amount of \$116,632.00; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the grant, the WPD may meet the obligations of the local match through officer staffing on the project rather than a straight cash outlay and intends to exercise this option; and

WHEREAS, for timing purposes, the grant application had to be submitted prior to Council approval; and

WHEREAS, even though the application for said grant has been submitted, the WPD must still take the affirmative step of accepting the funding should it be a successful applicant; and

WHEREAS, Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the Wilmington Police Department to accept the grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security Port Security Program in the amount of \$583,160.00, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department is hereby authorized to accept grant funding from the United States Department of Homeland Security Port Security Program in the amount of five hundred and eighty-three thousand, one hundred and sixty dollars (\$583,160.00).

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, this Resolution approves the Wilmington Police Department’s acceptance of a United States Department of Homeland Security Port Security Program in the amount of five hundred and eighty-three thousand, one hundred and sixty dollars for the EOD vehicle, the EOD robots and a new patrol boat. The grant requires a local match of one hundred sixteen thousand, six hundred and sixty, I mean and thirty-two dollars, which would be met through officer staffing on Port Security rather than through a direct cash outlay.

Ms. Walsh: Mr. President.

President Gregory: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: I do have a question on this. I think you know, if there’s a boat involved, I have to ask a question on it. Where it says that we don’t have to come up with the matching grant, we can do it through staffing at the Port, what does that mean? I mean, does it mean one officer has to be down there? Does it mean five officers?

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

President Gregory: Yes.

Mr. Michael Brown: Relay a message or relay an answer from the Chief of Police that it is an in kind service.

Ms. Walsh: I understand there's not going to be any money exchange.

Mr. Michael Brown: I'm just telling you – I'm relaying the message.

Ms. Walsh: I understand that completely but I want to know is, what happens when these units get set-up, all of a sudden you need a sergeant and a lieutenant and a captain and that's my question. How many officers?

President Gregory: Mr. Williams, do you know? You want to take a stab at it?

Mr. Williams: Yes sir, this was discussed in the Public Safety meeting and basically what I was informed in that meeting was that the officers doing the patrol in the area via the boat, would be in lieu of payment. So, their shift would be covered and that would be in lieu of payment back to the Port by providing that Port security from the water.

Ms. Walsh: In patrol in a car or in patrol in a boat?

Mr. Williams: In the boat ma'am.

Ms. Walsh: So, there would be somebody down there all the time on the boat?

Mr. Williams: No ma'am. From what I understood was only when they're called into service for an incident. That was the question that I raised in the meeting.

Ms. Walsh: Thanks.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Brown.

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

Mr. Michael Brown presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 14-035 (Agenda #3955) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE
CITY CODE REGARDING UNIFORMED STRENGTH
OF POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, this Ordinance amends two sections of Chapter 2 of the Wilmington City Code entitled "*Uniformed Strength of Police Department and Uniformed Strength of the Fire Department*", Section 2-232 and Section 2-233 respectfully to formalize procedures for the Wilmington Police Department and the Wilmington Fire Department to commence training classes.

President Gregory: Mr. Wright.

Mr. Wright: Mr. President, I'm not trying to be disrespectful but - are we in order because you said 1st Reading? It's actually a 3rd and Final.

President Gregory: They corrected me.

Mr. Wright: Oh okay, got you. Cool.

Mrs. Seijo: Thank you.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Michael Brown: Mr. President, I have an Ordinance to present and call for the third and final reading.

Mr. Michael Brown presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 14-036 (Agenda #3956) entitled:

AN ORDINANCE CONSTITUTING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO
FISCAL YEAR 2015 OPERATING BUDGET (BEING AN
ORDINANCE TO AMEND SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 TO ORDINANCE
NO. 14-012 AS AMENDED), THE ORDINANCE ADOPTING
THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2014 AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2015

Mr. Michael Brown: I'd like to make a motion for a floor amendment at this time.

Ms. Shabazz: Second.

President Gregory: What's the amendment?

Mr. Michael Brown: On Page 2 of the final Whereas clause, on Page 2 of the final Whereas clause, please strike "*adjust staffing levels*" and insert "*reduce appropriations*". On Page 2 of Section 2, please strike \$161,932,440 and insert \$161,868,513 and on Page 7 in the Fire Department under Personal Services, in the "City" column, strike \$20,387,414 and insert \$20,323,487. At the "Total" line, strike \$20,564,914 and insert \$20,500,987. Under "Total", in the "City" column, strike \$24,307,443 and insert \$24,243,516. At the "Total" line, strike \$24,733,812 and insert \$24,669,885. On Page 18 the "Synopsis", strike "*authorized strength*", strike number "7 vacant positions, totaling a reduction of", strike \$447,489 and insert \$511,416. Next, on the "Position Allocation List", which is Attached A on Page 14, change "*Firefighter*" city positions from 112 and take it up to 119, and change department total of 170 and take it back to 177.

President Gregory: Is there a second?

Ms. Walsh: Second.

President Gregory: Can someone speak to net affect, on the question of the motion?

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, on the question...

President Gregory: For the motion to amend.

Mr. Michael Brown: For the motion to amend - - this is done in lieu of striking and taking the positions away. We're putting the positions back.

President Gregory: We're cutting appropriations....

Mr. Michael Brown: And cutting appropriations but not the positions.

The motion to amend was properly moved and seconded by voice vote with one “Nay (Council Member Williams) and one “Not Voting” (Council Member Wright). Motion prevailed.

President Gregory: Mr. Brown.

Mr. Michael Brown: Motion, do I make a motion now to return back to...

President Gregory: We didn’t go out. You have to introduce your legislation now as amended.

Mr. Michael Brown: As Amended, Mr. President, I move that this be known as the Enacting Clause of the Ordinance and call for the Yea and Nay Vote.

Ms. Walsh: Second.

President Gregory: It’s been properly moved and seconded that be known as the Enacting Clause of the - - with the accompanying amendments to the Ordinance and call for the Yea and Nay Vote, on the question.

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, yes Mr. President, while I still have my job in this position, yes Mr. President. City Council has the opportunity tonight to approve an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget that reduces government spending by half a million dollars. Instead of looking at taxpayers only for taxes and fees, we are now looking for within government for ways to cut government. We also Mr. President, have an opportunity tonight to heed a recent warning from the City Economic Advisory Council known as WEFAC, which says the City cannot tax its way out of financial challenges it is facing and urges the significant reduction of expenditures over the next five (5) years including the elimination of positions to achieve physical stability. Mr. President, according to the Berkshire Report, which is an independent and thorough examination of the operation and management of Wilmington Fire Department, Council, actions tonight is to - - tonight of reducing FY 2015 appropriations to the department by five hundred and eleven thousand dollars, will not in any way affect the Fire Department’s operations or service to the public.

Council will also be sending the Williams’ Administration accompanying a Resolution tonight asking that the Administration send to Council an Ordinance that reduces the over (inaudible) staffing of the Fire Department by eight positions. Once the Administration follows through on this action, the staffing of the department will total 169 verses 177. Council tonight also decided on an appropriation for management, an operational study of the Finance and Public Works Departments to determine whether we can identify cost saving through greater management or structural efficiency. The Berkshire Report should be an indication to all of us that it is possible to find more cost saving in city government. The Williams’ Administration should see the value in using this \$100,000 appropriation for much needed department reviews. Also tonight, let me remind my colleagues and our citizens that in 2011, we sat here in this Chambers and accepted a federal grant known as the Safer Grant to fund thirteen (13) firefighters.

During the debate there was general agreements in the Chambers that once the Safer Grant funding expired, the City would eliminate, would eliminate, the City would eliminate the grant funding firefighter positions. We thought, we the Council, we thought that then that we might have to approve layoffs once the grant expired. Tonight, we have an opportunity to do what is right as far as city expenditures are concern and as far as fire safety is concern. But, we can do it by....

An unknown individual shouting from the audience.

President Gregory: Excuse me, excuse me. We can't do that.

Mr. Michael Brown: Tonight, I go back, tonight we have an opportunity to do what is right as far as city expenditures are concern and as far as fire safety is concern. We can do it by affectively, by affecting on a vacant position, only vacant positions. And, finally Mr. President and my colleagues, finally tonight let me remind our citizens that a few years ago, a local fire union, when given an opportunity to take a pay raise or to save the jobs of eight (8) existing firefighters, they choose the pay raise over their brothers and sisters and thus the firefighters had to be laid off.

President Gregory: Excuse me. I'm not having that.

Ms. Shabazz: Have him removed.

President Gregory: I need an officer to help me. I really need an officer to help me. He has to go, he has to go. Excuse me.

Mr. Michael Brown: Therefore Mr. President, I have finished my statement.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President. We'll take another step back in time and we'll go to 2009 when this Council eliminated sixteen (16) firefighter positions. You eliminated Rescue I, it was only an eight position being let go. You have a downtown that has some days with over twenty stories of rescue for an elderly got rescue, things of that nature eliminated completely out. Eight of those positions were brought back the Safer Grant, a grant that was found by the Fire Department not this Council. I find it very ironic that we're looking to save a half million dollars when just last year we increased Council's budget by a half of million dollars...(audience applause)...what started out as seven positons is now eight positions.

An unknown individual shouting from the audience.

President Gregory: Excuse me, if you keep doing that, I'm going to clear the assembly. I'm going to ask the police officers to ask you all to leave. Now, you can stand up and clap, I'm not going to say anything but if you shout out and be derogatory, I'm going to ask you to leave. I don't do that to you and I don't expect for you to do it to me.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Council added most of positions plus we did some upgrades, things that we probably could have put off and saved some money. By eliminating these positions our response time will go up. There's no doubt about it. The first engine to respond to the fire and I got to educate people and let them know, an engine is the one that brings the water. We can play with numbers and look at response times and say, the first piece of equipment, which could be an ambulance, it can be a ladder, well I'm talking engine, somebody that could put out the fire, people that stretch hoses and attack the fire. It's going to dramatically increase. That first engine also has life-saving capabilities. A lot of our Wilmington firefighters are cross-trained as EMTs. We were sitting in this Chambers not long ago when we were discussing a shooting scenario that occurred and the crowd got hostile because the ambulance response time was delayed. We're going to delay an engine that can come in and provide those kinds of services and help save lives. Let's not forget that we're also going to increase our homeowners insurance because when any time you move that number, you're going to pay for it somewhere or another. You're going to pay for it through premiums.

Now, we saved the citizens a five percent tax increase verses ten. We saved them on the water/sewer, now we're going to hit them with an increase in our homeowners insurance. The Berkshire Report was designed to do one thing. The RFP was very specific, cut cost. That was it, plain and simple, cut cost. The GIS Report also known as the 1590 Report looked at the fire service as a whole and looked into a way that they can better manage their manpower and in some instances it pointed out that they were actually short, they needed more. I can't with a good conscious sit here and make an informed decision on this presentation. I don't have any information from the leadership of the Fire Department. We publicly humiliated the man and he left the building before we could get our information. Before this Ordinance can go any further, I think we failed our due diligence as a governing body by not having all the details. Sadly of our haste to make an elimination, it's going to ultimately results in a loss of lives either through fire or through medical. Just remember back in 2011 as my colleagues referred back to 2011, this Council not to eliminate positions. Thank you.

President Gregory: Mr. Wright.

Mr. Wright: Thank you Mr. President. My colleague to my left stole a little bit of my thunder with his facts. Nevertheless, a couple of things, in 2011, if memory serves me correctly, you weren't even the President. This was a different body. So, to say that in 2011, we in this Council, that wasn't the case for everybody here. And again, that's - - my comments from the other day when we say things we have to use it in the proper context. When you think about the budget, my colleague is somewhat correct when he said five hundred thousand. Actually, since Fiscal Year 2013, it's six hundred thousand. If you factor in some of the finances that we shifted from our budget to the Mayor's budget, we're closer to a million overall. At the onset of this Council, I was the only one who voted against the immediate salary increases and additional positions at the onset of this Council. So, we think about facts as we talked about on a number of different occasions, you know, you have to sweep around your own front door before you can sweep around someone else's. And, I think the genesis for this Ordinance and this just taking place tonight is near hypocrisy at its best and you don't do that and you don't - manage your own check book first. One of the other things, we talked about, you know, making these lengthy amendments if you will on the floor, what was done tonight, I think should be banned at its best. I mean when you come through (inaudible) these lengthy changes numerically, there's no way to say that what was done was actually accurate and I can speak from experience with my parking ordinance. Once we went back and looked at the red rule and a lot of what would have taken place and what was stated, there was a number of inaccuracies.

So, now we're going to move forward with these amendments on the floor going by what we thought we heard or what we might have wanted to present and that can cause a problem as well. Again, I personally don't support what's taken place. We are changing it now from vacant positions to appropriations, saying, you know, take more money out of the budget, I don't know if that's a prudent thing to do overall when you haven't examined your own. So therefore, I won't support this tonight. Also, one of the other things I want to note, hopefully I don't steal my other colleagues thunder in this regard, I think kind of its disingenuous because the question was raised on a number of different fronts. Last week this Ordinance was introduced and then here we are a week later voting on it. In a normal practice in a perfect world, we probably would have more time (inaudible) to vet things out, vet this out. The number of constituents that I've talked to in the past few days since Monday, none of them are in agreement with this taken place overall - - just looking at it from that standpoint. You received some of the same emails that I received and I just can't recall one saying, move forward with what we're doing. You have planned to minimize the budget in the matter in which you're doing. So, overall again, I can't support this. I hope that in the future we'll just think a little more carefully as to what we do before we attempt to carry those actions out. Thank you.

President Gregory: Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Thank you Mr. President. My favorite book says know those who labor among you and I'm well aware of what the Wilmington Fire Department has done in the 6th District, thanks to the Fire Department that walk my district with me and distributed and installed smoke and carbon detectors just a few weeks ago, and on May 17, 2007, my father Louis Dorsey had a heart attack in the shower. It was the Wilmington Fire Department who was the first responders on that night. Firefighters tried to revive my daddy after removing the bathroom door. So, as you stood with my family on that dreadful night, WFD, I stand with you on tonight in recognition of a job well done.

President Gregory: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Thank you Mr. President. The one thing I learned really fast when I got on this Council was you have to keep your emotions out of your votes. If you don't keep your emotions out of your votes, you end up dropping dead and it's just eats you away. I'm not going to get into all of the misrepresentation that was made on this floor this evening but there were quite a few. But there are two things I do want to correct. One is, the Safer Grant that we got for that fire department came from the Vice President's Office. This is after we had been brow beating the Chief of that department for quite a while, about if you can find money for toys, why can't you find money for employees. The second thing was, I keep hearing about all these brooms that we need to start sweeping around our own house and I agree with that statement, but on this floor under a different President too, a Council Member on this floor tried to start the opening steps into reducing the amount of Councilmembers and that Council Member got accused by members of this floor of being a racist for doing so. So, if we want to start bringing up history, let's make sure the history is correct. On this subject, the way I feel and if I allow emotions to get into it, they would be very deep emotions because of the history of my family with a fire department, not the Wilmington Fire Department. But, you know, that was a long time ago, that was my grandfather and great grandfather and lots of things have changed. And what is happening in our country and in government now-of-days that's change dramatically sometimes you have to save what you have in order to protect what you have for the future and that's how I'm basing my vote tonight. I'm trying to protect the warm bodies that we have for vacant positions for the future, and that's how I will be voting this evening. Thank you.

Mr. Darius Brown: Mr. President.

President Gregory: Ms. Cabrera. Mr. Brown.

Mr. Darius Brown: Thank you Mr. President. I first became familiar with (inaudible) the Fire Department as a teenager, being in the City of Wilmington, when James Wilmore was the Fire Chief and introduced me to the operations of Wilmington Fire Department. I spent many days in data stats and seen how the day to day operations of Wilmington Fire actually was operated. As we consider this legislation tonight and the amendment that has been presented tonight, we are looking at how we operate and

provide fire services in the City of Wilmington but also how we establish our path forward. As many Councilmembers on this floor articulated, a little over a month, as we address the budget that the budget that was presented to us was not the budget that we would have desired. There was many conversations around there's some changes could be made, and then you (inaudible) in negotiations day after day, it just appeared that there were not amenable reductions through the Administration. When we look at our budget this past year, it's five million dollars more than the previous year and so, I ask myself the question, how can we as a City continue to move forward at the rate of increasing our operating budget that were – that we've done? I think we need to do some soul searching. I think we've all during this week had to do some soul searching on what our values are and how we can shepherd this City. That's what we're charged to do, to shepherd this City. There's some other conversations around other departments and how we can look at costs but outside of just costs, it's about the more efficient. In so, in recent days I've had many conversations with people on both sides of this issue but one thing that stuck with me is the conversation I had as a teenager with the former Fire Chief James Wilmore and in his job he defined fire as about safety and admit ably in most of my conversations with those that would be opposed to this conversation tonight, many talked about many vacant positions, (inaudible) talked about a whole a lot of other things and maybe they meant to say it but I didn't hear them say the word safety. I did not hear them articulate safety. So, I don't know where we are tonight with this legislation but it's pretty clear that what we should be most concern about is the safety of our residents whether we're elected officials or if we're (inaudible) Wilmington Fire Department. Thank you Mr. President.

President Gregory: Mr. Chukwuocha.

Mr. Chukwuocha: Thank you Mr. President. A few years ago I had an incident at my home – a barbeque and took off rather rapidly and I was reminded that maybe four or five times this week by various phone calls and emails of how just thankful I should have been that the firemen did their job. And, I said today during one of the conversations that as I thank and appreciate our firefighters for the job they do, I hope they can appreciate me for the job that I'm here to do. I voted against the Budget. I greatly respect for all of my colleagues, for the negotiations and trying hard but I thought it was wrong at that time for us to go to our constituents and say, we're going to raise your taxes, raise your water and we haven't done all that we could. In, in - - during that process it was said that we're going to try things differently. We're going to try things differently; we're going to really look at internal what we can do as a city to bring things under control as far as our spending and as far as being more efficient and effective for what we have. I've been reminded countless times this week about the Berkshire Report; about former people who were on staff – members of staff from the last Administration; why they commission this Report and what it, the intent of it was.

Honestly, regardless of why it was created, we have it now and we can look in the Report and take the good, we can take the bad. I understand we're saying that the Report even in the RFP said that we wanted to get to a minimum standard - a minimum standard. Well, if Berkshire gave us a minimum standard and where we are

right now, there has to be some middle ground and that's what I'm asking. I'm asking that we as a city begin to truly assess and evaluate all of our departments; all of our offices; all of our divisions regarding the efficiency and the effectiveness of the services that we're providing with the tax dollars that we receive from our constituents. I think that to me, I see this as the beginning of that conversation. To me it's not about vacant positions or the funding for those positions, it's about how will we fund those positions tomorrow. It's not in opposition to public safety. To me this is about public safety – this is about our City. This is about the stability of our City's financial future and I think it's very important for us to - - we keep saying sweep in front of your own front door, we as a City, this isn't about one department, I believe every department, Council included, Administration included, Parks & Rec. included, Maintenance Division, the Law Department.

We all need to go through the same type of assessment. What we're - - I feel thankful that we have a report to start with because we could be sitting here saying who are we going to start with. If we're having this conversation – if it wasn't Police or Fire here today, if we have Parks and Recreation, the Director would be saying well if you cut here then the parks are going to look like this or the streets are going to look like this in Public Works. We have to start somewhere. We really do. I don't know, we as a City don't understand that but – financially, we're in trouble. We can't tax our out of this. We have to begin to look at ourselves honestly and have some honest conversations about where we're headed in the future. I'm very optimistic that this can be the beginning of that conversation because if not we're just going to do the same thing again next budget, say oh we have this, we have that and they're going to - - all of these we compromises. I'm really hoping that this can be the start of something different. Again, I voted against the Budget and I sit here today and I believe this is a start in a new direction so that hopefully next year I can vote and support a budget that I believe is fair and that the City has done its due diligence. Thank you Mr. President.

President Gregory: Mr. Congo.

Mr. Congo: Ok, thank you. Thank you Mr. President. I don't want to repeat a lot of the things that have already been said but I guess just briefly, I've been concerned about our workforce, you know, our city workforce in trying to come with some type of compromises throughout the city budget for the last three or four budget hearings just how we need to reduce our workforce. I think that we owe it, you know, to our residents but I think that where we messed up in this case is the process. I don't think that we on Council, I think the residents got a fair chance to get information from the Berkshire Report and from the other Report from the Firefighters Association. So, I don't know how we can really make a call when we don't have all the information. We aren't able to bounce ideas and facts off of each other and have a chance – give people a chance to response. There were some many different, I guess, quote on quote facts thrown out there that it's hard to believe who's right and who's telling the truth and who's not and we weren't given that opportunity to ask questions and to bounce, you know, responses – get responses from our residents. At the end of the day, it's really not about us on the floor. It's about what our residents think and what they want. But, how

can they even make an informed decision when they weren't given the opportunity to get information. Again, I'm not going to go into a lot of things that's already been said but I'm – that's just one of the reasons why I can't – I can't support this tonight.

President Gregory: As President of City Council, I certainly appreciate the debate and discussion. I've said that whether I'm the losing end of an issue or I'm on the winning end of an issue, I just think that we have an obligation as legislators to vet that, which is before us. That's what we do – that's our job. I have severe admiration and appreciation for both firepersons and for and for police. I mean, I sincerely say that; however, I also have to have an appreciation in and Mr. Chukwuocha said this for myself and what I was charged to do. I inherited something called the Berkshire Report and it was foremost in the discussion on this Council as far back as November/December of last year there's been discussion with folk at high levels in the Administration including the Mayor. And, it was clear the Mayor was very honest, he said I am not going to execute the Berkshire Report and I appreciated that. But, I'm a legislator and because he said he wasn't going to, it doesn't mean that I don't have an obligation to bring this to the forefront with my colleagues for discussion. It's a tough issue but it doesn't mean that you run from it. We debate it and we discuss it and try to come up with something that makes sense for us. But where do we start? I've said that no department/no issue is off the table including City Council.

Ultimately, all those things will be considered. I just say sitting here tonight as the President of this City Council, who has two years left, our obligations is to see where we can make cuts and we won't agree but we're going to have to come to some consensus as to what makes sense. No we can't keep raising taxes - - we're not going to raise taxes. But, I heard when the last budget process from those people who supported the Budget and they were against it. I didn't hear a lot about the taxes really. I heard about cuts and if we don't get our house in order across the board, we're going to become a metropolitan form of government - - we're going to lose our city charter. It's on the horizon. We have an obligation to manage our business appropriately. That's what we have to do and that's what I'm going to do. That's what I'm going to do - - win, lose or draw. That's what I'm going to do. I'm not going to force anybody into doing anything; I'm not going to threaten anybody into doing anything; I'm not going to give bad information out to anyone to try to get them or sway them to my position. Everybody has their own mind; their own set of values and everybody will make their own decision in this process. But, we as legislators, we'll do our job and we will vet every issue that comes before us and we're not going to run from any of them.

Now, what's not appropriate is this - - this is on Facebook: On the other hand if you believe in what they are doing then I will have no choice but to believe that those Councilpersons who believe the City of Wilmington should cut firefighters and close fire engines (and nobody is talking about closing fire engines) actually do represent you and your Council district's wishes and intentions. In doing so, all of those Council districts will be the districts that we will be forced to consider reducing coverage to. What the - - that statement from your Chief. Now, I don't mind discussing and I don't mind debate - - oh, that's on this Facebook mess. But that's not appropriate - - that is not appropriate. But, you know, at the end of the day if this - - if this day does not go the

way I think it should go, I'm fine. I'll walk out and shake all of your hands and if it goes my way, hopefully you'll shake my hand. Because if you come to my house and fight a fire, if my house burns down I'm going to shake your hand; if my house doesn't burn down I'm going to shake your hand because I know we're all trying to do our job. We're just trying to do our job at the end of the day. Now, if you want me to read the quote again, I will but I'll give you a copy of it. That's asinine. But debate/discussion, that's what it's all about folks. You elected us to make tough decisions. You elected us to make tough decisions and I can tell you over the next two years, over the next two years, we're going to make some tough decisions about reinventing and repositioning and trying to do something with the city government because I don't want to be a metropolitan form of government. I absolutely do not want to be diluted into everything the County is doing and lose up my seat of power. I believe in Home Rule. I believe that the strength of the people starts with the vote, neighborhood associations, go up thru Council and the Mayor. So, I'm hopeful that this Mayor will join us as we try to reach some understanding, some consensus on how do we better position city government. Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: Thank you Mr. President. Where to begin? I think there was a key word here tonight, Councilman Chukwuocha talked about conversations, talked about dialogue; I will tell you that I was not particularly pleased with the results of the meeting on Monday in terms of everyone leaving and the conversation that took place, but we're moving on from that. I have had my own conversations and dialogue with members of the Wilmington Fire Department. The President of the Union called me and I did express my concern that there should have been some conversation with the Union and some dialogue. I expressed that to him and I express this on this floor publicly and I'm expressing again tonight. In the meantime, I did take it upon myself to have a second conversation with him today as well as other members of the Fire Department. I have many friends in the Fire Department. I'm very supportive of this department and public safety all together for the work that they do and how they put their lives on the line whether it's the police officer having bricks thrown thru the back of his vehicle as happened last night or these gentlemen and women going out to fight fires.

I too have had experience with the Fire Department coming to my home when my son had an allergic reaction and had an anaphylaxis attack – thank you Joey Leonetti for helping say that – and they were there. They were the first responders. It wasn't the ambulance, it was the firefighters. And, I've shown my support on this floor many times for the Fire Department when no one else would vote on certain things, I did. This has been so anguishing for me. This has been very painful. This is a very emotional evening for me this evening not just because of my presentation with the Pastor but because I'm here surrounded by the people who provide public safety for our City and I so much want to support them but I will repeat what I said Monday night. It's not fair that we here as Council have to be the bad guys because the Administration and the Mayor did not do their job. We asked one thing, cut the budget by two million dollars but was not done. We got all these bs cuts sent back and forth. At some point we agreed upon eight hundred thousand dollars in cuts. I didn't quite understand why we did and I voted against this Budget and I voted against the tax hikes. But I don't think it's fair to the greater population that we support, which are our residents, and many of those

residents the ones that have chosen to live in the City are here tonight because they live in the City and they too are my constituents and residents. So, I support them as well. But at some point, we got to hold everybody accountable. Yes, including ourselves Councilman Wright. If I have to make a decision tonight, I can't let my emotions play into it and if I let my emotions play into it, they will be all over the place. This is the one thing I said to everyone that I spoke to today. If I have to look a year from now into the faces of eight or ten people because the cuts are going to come, the monies that are there this year whether it's from the County and we already know that we don't have the Safer Grant monies, the department is going to have to cut back at some point and whether it does it with personnel or whether it does it by restructuring the way they do things, which is a dialogue that should happen and should happen immediately, and that was discussed today with the President of the Union and leadership of the Union that we need to sit down and have a conversation with them. And, they need to make suggestions on how we could save and cut in that department.

Now, moving forward, if I have to make a decision here today or make a decision a year from now and look at the faces of eight to ten people and tell them that they don't have a job; that they're going to be lay-off and they're going to bring their babies and they're going to bring their wives and we're going to look at their faces and have to do that, I don't want to be in that position. I'm not going to tell somebody, I'm sorry you now have no livelihood to pay your mortgage because we now have to cut these positions because we didn't make the difficult decision that we had to make a year ago and because your Mayor that you elected that supported you, isn't making the cuts and the decisions that need to be made across the board. Maybe this Mayor would look at his Budget, maybe he will cut those dollars and re-appropriate them because I'm all for voting and appropriating the dollars to the Fire Department if the vote here tonight takes it away from them. I don't think that it's fair that they should be used as a pawn and I don't think it's fair that we should be here doing this today but I would love to vote present. I, you know, they're asking me to vote present. I took a stand that I would not - I either going to stand for something or I'm going to fall for anything. I am not going to do the gutless thing. I will not do it.

President Gregory: But I heard, I'm just going to say, during the Budget process people snapping at me as the President, cut, cut, cut. We need to cut, cut, cut. That's all I heard. So, I told you we're going to cut. That's what you kept saying to me - I'm supposed to be leader of the pack. I listen well and it just so happens that but - - this was a process that was in front of us, so this the (inaudible) taking (inaudible) had it been Public Works, had it been L&I, had it been Fire - I mean Police, something else, we would have taken that up. But, this is what I inherited and this is what we're going to do. Yes.

Ms. Cabrera: And, I close by saying, I will not be hypocrite because that came from me loud and clear. I have also said on this Council floor and I'll say it again, every department needs an accountability audit because I know that there are people who are not doing what they should be doing and I know that our taxpayers are paying for fraudulent, fraudulent behavior within this City and we got to start somewhere.

President Gregory: Let me also say this before I go to Mr. Freel. You know, we're (inaudible) at this time and there's a good possibility we're going to have to give tax – wage increases and appropriately so. We have to give wage increases.

Ms. Cabrera: Yes we do.

President Gregory: So, we're going to have to do something.

Ms. Shabazz: Right.

President Gregory: We're going to have to do something folks. This is not just an isolated issue. We're dealing with an issue in a big ball of wax here with a lot of moving parts and we're like the managers of this thing and we have to try to fix it. But there are a lot of moving parts but you know, I'm compel to say one thing and I've dealt with the Union Representative and I watch him and we don't say a whole lot but I really appreciate him. I really appreciate your Union Representative because he's a genuine person and he always shakes my hand, I shake his hand and I've been in committee meetings with him and we've had this bantering going back and forth but there's something about him that's honorable and that really rings well with me. That really rings well with me. So, whatever happens tonight, we're going to sit down and talk. I commit to you that we're going to sit down and talk regardless of what happens tonight. Okay, alright. Mr. Freel.

Mr. Freel: Thank you Mr. President, I hope I'm not too repetitive with some of the remarks that already been made. First, I want to say that I appreciate the firefighters and their family and friends coming out this evening and expressing their concerns with Council's proposal to review this government spending. I respect their dedication and commitment to the Wilmington Fire Department and the citizens of our City. I can only hope that they respect my position and my commitment to the people of Wilmington. I believe strongly that it's my responsibility as a member of Council and the Finance Committee to ensure the financial stability of the City not just for today but for years in the future. We look at very little growth in revenues; the City must find ways to reduce expenses when 70% of your Budget is personnel costs. You have to realize that you can no longer afford the size of your present workforce. In the past five years the City workforce has been reduced from about 1167 to 1114 and that's been done without any lay-offs. Almost every department in the City has seen some reduction in numbers and there can't be any exemptions but there's still a lot of work to be done and as we heard earlier from the WEFAC letter that we cannot tax our way out of this. It's a difficult balancing act that we go through. We hear from businesses and residents telling us, we don't want to see any fees or taxes increased but we expect you to keep up services. We hear from our employees that they don't want to see any reduction in numbers. They understand that costs are going up and the same time they would like to see a raise in the near future. So, what do we do? It's difficult. Well, let me explain how the study came about. For many years as a Councilmember I would kind of receive two stories about the Fire Department. I would receive one from the Administration and then

a second one talking to the Union members and I'll be honest with you whenever I ran into a Union member anywhere, many times I was told how bad things were in the department. I also recall receiving lengthy emails from the present Chief Anthony Goode with all sorts of complaints about the operation of the Fire Department. So, you're in the middle; you not knowing fact from fiction. It was then thought that a good idea to bring in a third party to give us an objective view of the department both good and bad. Of course now that is now referred in some circle what a dirty word of the Berkshire Report. I think we have to do those types of reports for other studies and I'll continue to push for some for some of the larger departments in the City. I will say that I have reviewed the Report that was issued by the Union but the Berkshire Report mentioned a number of things the Fire Department is doing well and also highlighted ways that the department could be more efficient without reducing present level of service. We're focus tonight on reducing manpower but it also talked about some other issues that we could look at to save money - - the number of battalion chiefs; the work week; shift differentials.

However, this year, during the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Hearing for the Fire Department, Chief Goode talked proudly about the recommendations implemented from the Berkshire Report. However, there are recommendations that he ignored. I, as one Councilmember believe there is room for additional improvement. In the same hearing, the Chief presented a chart showing the impact of rolling bypasses and the minimum impact on response time. He gave us data for the past five years. During that same period, until late today, I had never received a complaint from one citizen in regards to the rolling bypass policy. So forget about the Berkshire Report, the information presented by the Chief in his Budget Hearings, told me that we could still operate efficiently by eliminating one company and still provide the same level of services. I don't know what's going to happen with this vote tonight or in the next couple of weeks but I do know the Administration, Council and our Unions, will still face some difficult questions in regards to our financial future and we must commit ourselves to continue to work together and with the citizens of our City to find solutions. And, then one additional note, I am more than willing to work with any Councilmember to continue to reduce the size of our budget and to be honest with you, I'm more than willing to drag out one of the plans that I proposed back in 2011 to reduce the size of Council. Thank you Mr. President.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Shabazz, Mr. Brown and then myself and we're going to call for the vote.

Ms. Shabazz: Thank you Mr. President. First, I want to thank the two firefighters who came out and helped me when I was going through my little choking spell but thank you for coming out to my rescue and another example of the great work that we all do because we do our jobs. And, you know, I said before Mr. President that I'm agreeing with a lot of things that my colleagues have said and one of things that I said about being on Council that some of our votes are some of the hardest things and decisions that you have to make because - - but in order for me to do it where I can go to sleep at night to know that I did the right thing is that I have to remember the oath that I took and that was to do what's best for the entire City and not for any particular special

service group or individuals. And, my colleagues have all talked about the fiduciary condition that our current City is in and what our jobs are as Council – of legislators and there's two ranges of government and we each have our task to do and this is one of the task that we have to do is to create policy for not just the administration, for the Williams' Administration but just for the policy and practices for how the City of Wilmington is to function to provide good services to our community. You know, we also, our responsibility is that of the budget - - the fiduciary responsibility. So, how do we? In our Budget Hearing I asked the question, doing the audit about doing efficiency audits throughout the entire City Administration so that we can find any types of savings that we could because I am very much in support of us trying to find resources so that we can give our staff not just the Police Department or the Fire Department but the entire City of Wilmington's government staff a cost of living raise. They've been working as hard as the Police and the Fire and to make – to keep our City going. They too deserve a raise. So, this decision tonight is a hard one and for anyone to think that we members of Council who are out on the neighborhoods constantly face to face with the constituents in our neighborhoods on a regular basis to think that we would jeopardize they're public – they're safety, they're our friends – they're our families, that we would jeopardize that before a dollar, I think really is appalling to think that we would do that kind of thing. So, this is a hard decision to make but I think it is one that needs to be made and that we will be right back at this again when we bring another department to the forefront to discuss the cuts that are necessary for the fiduciary efficiency of this City.

President Gregory: Mr. Brown.

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, very briefly. I, I - - if this was to eliminate individuals out of these positions, then I wouldn't bring it to the floor but because they are vacancies that probably, hopefully, prayerfully going to prohibit us from doing next year, I don't want - - I fight, I fought to keep those lay-offs from happening along with other Councilmembers when we got through with the Safer Grant and said no, no, no. So, I'm not doing this because there's bodies in there; I'm doing to help so we can keep the bodies we got. They asked not to (inaudible) the numbers, we put the numbers back to its original strength. I just believe that - - as everybody has said and is saying, this is not about me versus the Fire Department or us versus the Fire Department. This is taking on a comprehensive plan so that we can shred off some of the unnecessary spending and unnecessary monies that are being wasted because it is now time for us to stand up and take full responsibility of doing such.

President Gregory: Okay. Each of us have had a lot of comments and opinions and positions - - have done our job. The Fire Department has done its job in trying to protect those vacancies, I'll appreciate that. I would probably be doing the same thing; however, this is not doing your job, posted by WFD Chief Goode on July 5, 2014: On the other hand, if you believe in what they are doing than I will have no choice but to believe that those Councilpersons who believe the City of Wilmington should cut firefighter jobs and close fire engines (a misstatement) actually do represent you and your Council districts' wishes and intentions. In doing so, all of those Council districts will be

districts that we will be forced to consider reducing coverage in. How awful. Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the above aforementioned 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, D. Brown, Shabazz, Freel, M. Brown, Cabrera, Walsh, and President Gregory. Total, eight. Nays, Council Members Congo, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams and Wright. Total, five.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Michael Brown: Mr. President, I have a Resolution to present.

Mr. Michael Brown presented Resolution No. 14-037 (Agenda #3967) as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council endeavors to fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities to the administrative departments of the City of Wilmington through the appropriation of funds for various City departments and operations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is acting responsibly in adopting an annual budget and revisiting annual budget appropriations as necessary, taking into consideration the financial constraints of the City and its residents, and the need to prevent excessive or unnecessary government spending; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, in an effort to address each of the above mentioned objectives, has begun to undertake a comprehensive spending accountability review of City departments and operations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, in an effort to make City government more accountable and transparent for taxpayers, is, based on the findings of the Berkshire Report of 2012, reducing the appropriation for the Wilmington Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, due to the legal uncertainties in the City Charter regarding whether the authority to amend the City's Position Allocation List (PAL) rests as a dual (Administration and/or Council) or a singular (Administration) responsibility, and without abdicating any authority the Council has with regard to the PAL, Council has therefore acted upon its appropriation authority; and

WHEREAS, it is City Council's desire to work in harmony with the Administration in reducing the size of City government, increasing the efficiencies of government, and being responsible stewards of taxpayers' dollars; and

WHEREAS, Council wishes to adhere to the recommendations of the Wilmington Economic and Financial Advisory Council, which, in noting that the City cannot tax its way out of the financial challenges it is facing, has urged a significant reduction of expenditures over the next five years, and absent an influx of new jobs in the City to produce new wage tax revenue, has indicated that the only way for the City to achieve fiscal stability will be to reduce expenses by eliminating positions and possibly programs and services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the City Council requests that the Williams Administration support the effort to control government costs and spending and save taxpayer dollars by deleting the eight vacant positions in the Wilmington Fire Department and presenting to Council an Ordinance that reduces the authorized strength of the Wilmington Fire Department by eight positions as depicted in an amended Position Allocation List.

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, this Resolution only - it goes that the City Council request that the Williams' Administration support the efforts of control government costs and spending and taxpayer dollars by deleting the eight vacant positions in the Wilmington Fire Department presenting to Council on this Ordinance – past Ordinance.

President Gregory: So, it's a Resolution. It's not binding. We don't conceive their argument as to whether or not we can eliminate positions and not but for the sake of compromise and moving the issue forward, we're hoping that the monies that were cut will be cut from vacancies but certainly their positions is we can't mandate. Some of our position is that we can mandate but this is in the spirit of compromise.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Mr. Freel, the above aforementioned Resolution was received, adopted as read and directed to be recorded and filed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, D. Brown, Shabazz, Freel, M. Brown, Cabrera, Walsh, and President Gregory. Total, eight. Nays, Council Members Congo, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams and Wright. Total, five.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

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

Mr. Michael Brown presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 14-037 (Agenda #3957) entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CITY CONTRACT 15003PD –
POLICE CLOTHING – WITH GRAVES UNIFORMS LLC**

Mr. Michael Brown: Yes Mr. President, this is a contract. This Ordinance authorizes the City to enter into a city contract for police clothing with Graves Uniforms LLC for a period of one year at a price of one hundred eleven thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight dollars with a possible extension of one year.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown, seconded by Mr. Freel/Ms. Walsh, the above aforementioned Ordinance was read for 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, D. Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, M. Brown, Cabrera, Walsh and Wright, and President Gregory. Total, thirteen.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: Nothing this evening sir.

President Gregory: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: No legislation.

President Gregory: Mr. Wright.

Mr. Wright: No legislation tonight Mr. President. Thank you sir.

President Gregory: Can I entertain a motion to adjourn?

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

There was no petition and communication presented this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion of Mr. Michael Brown/Mr. Wright, seconded by Ms. Walsh/Ms. Cabrera, Council adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Motion prevailed.

Attest: Maribel Seijo
Maribel Seijo, City Clerk