

*Louis L. Redding  
City/County Building  
May 16, 2013*

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

Invocation was given by Joe Garcia.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by City Council.

### **ROLL CALL**

The following members responded to the Call of the Roll: Council Members Chukwuocha, Congo, D. Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Williams, Freel, M. Brown, Cabrera, Walsh, Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, thirteen.

### **MINUTES**

After reading a portion of the minutes of May 9, 2013, upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. D. Brown, it was moved they be accepted as written. Motion prevailed.

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

Mr. Freel presented the following five-committee reports:

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

DATE: 5/13/13

President and Members of Council of  
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 13-009**  
entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 45 OF THE CITY CODE  
REGARDING SEWER SYSTEM UNIT CHARGES, WATER RATES  
AND CHARGES AND STORM WATER RATES AND CHARGES  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of  
Finance Committee  
/s/Charles M. Freel  
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.  
/s/Samuel Prado  
/s/Hanifa Shabazz  
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr.

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

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

DATE: 5/13/13

President and Members of Council of  
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 13-010**  
entitled:

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A RATE OF TAXATION ON  
REAL PROPERTY AND THE TAXABLE PROPERTY OF PUBLIC  
UTILITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE  
30, 2014

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of  
Finance Committee  
/s/Charles M. Freel  
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.  
/s/Samuel Prado  
/s/Hanifa Shabazz  
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr.

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

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

DATE: 5/13/13

President and Members of Council of  
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred Sub. #1 **Ordinance No. 13-011** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CAPITAL PROGRAM FOR THE  
SIX FISCAL YEARS 2014 – 2019, INCLUSIVE

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of  
Finance Committee  
/s/Charles M. Freel  
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.  
/s/Samuel Prado  
/s/Hanifa Shabazz  
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr.

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

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

DATE: 5/13/13

President and Members of Council of  
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred Sub. #1 **Ordinance No. 13-012** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL  
YEAR 2014

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of  
Finance Committee  
/s/Charles M. Freel  
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.  
/s/Samuel Prado  
/s/Hanifa Shabazz  
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr.

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

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

DATE: 5/13/13

President and Members of Council of  
The City of Wilmington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred **Substitute No. 1 to Ordinance No. 13-013** entitled:

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2013 AND  
ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2014

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

Respectfully submitted, Members of  
Finance Committee  
/s/Charles M. Freel  
/s/Michael A. Brown, Sr.  
/s/Samuel Prado  
/s/Hanifa Shabazz  
/s/Theopalis K. Gregory, Sr.

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

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The following Treasurer's Report dated May 16, 2013 was read into the  
record by the City Clerk, and upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Williams,  
the Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

**TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF WILMINGTON May 16, 2013**

102	Community Development Block Grant	M & T Bank	\$ 1.00
104	Old Non-Uniform Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 1,072.22
105	Police Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 4,961.25
106	Fire Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 4,683.09
107	Evidence/Found Currency Account	M & T Bank	\$ 213,548.97
108	Rent Withholding Escrow	M & T Bank	\$ 4,137.97
110	Capital Projects Account	M & T Bank	\$ 3,321.36
113	Non-Uniform Pension	M & T Bank	\$ 1,291.70
114	Central Deposit	M & T Bank	\$ 9,841.59
117	Cement Workers	Wilmington Savings Fund	\$ 33,343.46
118	Worker's Comp. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Account	M & T Bank	\$ 13,003.21
124	Non-Uniform Pension Act of 1990	M & T Bank	\$ 2,286.52
130	Payroll	M & T Bank	\$ 189,472.92
131	Pension Payroll Account	M & T Bank	\$ 15,647.28
139	Pension Healthcare Account	M & T Bank	\$ <u>9,628.38</u>
	Total Cash on Hand		\$ <b>506,240.92</b>

*[This space intentionally left blank]*

FUND CODE	FUND	INSTITUTION	INVEST. TYPE	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	INTEREST RECEIVABLE	INVESTMENT AMOUNT
116	General	M&T Bank	RP	05/16/13	0.25%	\$ 54.67	\$ 7,981,224.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	05/17/13	0.30%	\$ 1,282.19	\$ 2,000,000.00
110	Capital <sup>2</sup>	TD	CD	05/24/13	0.25%	\$ 81.58	\$ 425,345.22
124	Non-Uniform 1990	WSFS	CD	05/29/13	0.30%	\$ 1,216.85	\$ 4,935,000.00
106	Fire Pension	WSFS	CD	05/29/13	0.30%	\$ 776.71	\$ 3,150,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	05/31/13	0.30%	\$ 1,380.82	\$ 2,000,000.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	06/03/13	0.30%	\$ 3,863.01	\$ 10,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	06/03/13	0.30%	\$ 5,301.36	\$ 5,000,000.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	06/03/13	0.30%	\$ 986.30	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	06/10/13	0.30%	\$ 1,084.93	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General <sup>1</sup>	TD	CD	06/14/13	0.25%	\$ 5,580.07	\$ 14,292,802.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	06/14/13	0.30%	\$ 920.54	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	06/28/13	0.30%	\$ 1,035.61	\$ 2,000,000.00
514	Risk Management	WSFS	CD	07/11/13	0.50%	\$ 7,564.25	\$ 1,512,851.52
515	Worker's Comp.	WSFS	CD	07/11/13	0.50%	\$ 7,564.25	\$ 1,512,851.52
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	07/12/13	0.30%	\$ 1,124.38	\$ 1,900,000.00
110	Capital <sup>3</sup>	TD	CD	07/15/13	0.25%	\$ 738.45	\$ 1,540,195.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	07/30/13	0.30%	\$ 18,105.53	\$ 24,476,000.00
104	Escrow Pension	Affinity Wealth					\$ 1,008,168.00
104	Escrow Pension	Vanguard					\$ 18,340,100.00
104	Escrow Pension	Black Rock					\$ 52,504,966.00
104	Escrow Pension	Edgar Lomax					\$ 26,942,130.00
104	Escrow Pension	Wilmington Trust					\$ 31,026,119.00
104	Escrow Pension	Manning & Napier					\$ 23,930,712.00
104	Escrow Pension	Earnest Partners					\$ 12,006,904.00
104	Escrow Pension	GMO					\$ 10,708,350.00
139	Medical Escrow	Merrill Lynch					\$ 9,848,519.00
116	The Hartford	Deferred Comp.					\$ 33,910,467.00
	Total Investments						\$ 308,952,704.26
	Total Cash on Hand						\$ 506,240.92
	Grand Total						\$ 309,458,945.18

<sup>1</sup> Budget Reserve

<sup>2</sup> Lincoln Towers BAN

<sup>3</sup> SEU

/s/Henry W. Supinski  
City Treasurer

## **NON-LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

No presentations this evening.

## **LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Mr. Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 13-009 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 45 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING SEWER SYSTEM UNIT CHARGES, WATER RATES AND CHARGES AND STORM WATER RATES AND CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

Mr. Freel: Yeah, I do want to make some comments on this one Mr. President. This is establishing our water rates for Fiscal Year 2014; we will see a 12 percent increase in the City's water and sewer rates, and 11 percent increase in the storm water rates. For someone who averages about 15,000 gallons of water, it comes out to about \$5.00 per month. I did, I did want to say that this continues our financial plan objectives for the Water/Sewer Fund; it helps finance the 2014 to 2019 Capital Program, it pays back some funds that are owed to the General Fund, it builds a 60-day operating reserve, and it achieves debt service coverage of at least 1.2. We do have some other steps I think that we need to take as we proceed in the upcoming months. This is a \$72 million enterprise fund. I think it's imperative that we collect all monies that are entitled to the Water/Sewer Fund. Just the fact we charge the fund indirect costs of, from the General Fund we need to charge the General Fund for any water and sewer charges, and that needs to also happen with any County agencies or State facilities. I think we have to start talking about separating the Water and Sewer Fund away from the Public Works Department and let it stand alone. We should look at separating all funds for revenue so that when we are facing our rate payers and we are establishing reserves we can show them exactly where those reserves and dollars are, and I think we need to start talking and exploring the long time, long-term governance of this, of this fund and I'll answer any questions that Council members may have.

President Gregory: Mr. Prado.

Mr. Prado: Thank you Mr. President. I was at a community meeting on Tuesday night, and this subject came up, and you know, people are not pleased about these increases, and I mean even I myself have noticed my water bill has gone up significantly in the last four years. But due to this budget proc-, the budget hearings, which I think Councilman Freel did an excellent job along with the City Council staff, particularly Marchelle. I think we were informed then presented with what the situation is and it, and, I think I was able to explain to the folks over in Cool Spring and the Hilltop, cause it was also discussed there, too, to a certain extent, why this is happening and, you know, we're elected to do, and sometime we have to make decisions that are not popular; this is certainly not a popular one, raising water rates, but, as I explained to the people,



the water fund is separate and it has to be self-sustaining and the way things were done in the past cannot happen in the future anymore. So, unfortunately our hands are tied and we have to raise these rates in order to you know, keep up with the water system and making sure that it's being maintained and repaired, and folks still don't like it but I think that the point is, has been made that this is necessary in order to make this water fund sustainable, but and not just sustainable but also to be operating in the black instead of the red. So, I think that after explaining to my constituents, thanks in part to the budget process and also the description from the Public Works Department, I think that most people are informed of this situation and are aware that this has to be done despite the fact that we're living in tough times and the last thing people want are increases, but the - in the long run this is going to be good for the City of Wilmington and I think that in the end it'll, it will be a benefit to everyone once this proce-, once the fund is stabilized. Thank you Mr. President.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Mr. President, just one more thing to add to that, I was reading this article, I think it was in the *TIMES*, over the weekend, and it was about a county in California that has not received any money from the Feds for water quality and specifically because they haven't followed the Federal rules, and the Feds keep dumping more and more regulations on municipalities as to how they do have to treat their water, so besides complaining to us, which everybody has every right to do, they might want to talk to some of their Congressional leaders, too, because the Federal Government has put an awful lot of regulations in that we, as a city, have to follow, which has added to the cost of our water treatment. That's all I have.

President Gregory: Mr. Darius Brown.

Mr. D. Brown: Thank you Mr. President. There's not many of us that enjoy increases, tax increases, particularly, as we look at our water and sewer rate increases that are proposed here tonight. There's not many Warren Buffets in the City of Wilmington, so, I know, I know from my district, the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, there are many families that have multiple children and they will be disproportionately affected in a sense, by this increase because of the amount of people that are in that, the actual household with the usage of water. I do, however, believe that this is a very responsible piece for us as a body to govern our city and to move our city forward that, as Councilman Prado spoke earlier, move us into the black and out of the red, that we would have this separate fund, so I just wanted to say that for the record.

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

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Ordinance was read for the third and final time and was adopted by title and section recurring to the Enacting Clause and was passed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, Congo, D. Brown, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey

Walker, Williams, Freel, M. Brown, Cabrera, Walsh, Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, thirteen. Nays, none.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 13-010 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A RATE OF TAXATION ON REAL PROPERTY AND THE TAXABLE PROPERTY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014

Mr. Freel: Yes, Mr. President. This establishes the rate of taxation, better known as the property tax, for the Fiscal Year 2014 and as we know, the Mayor did not propose any tax increase.

President Gregory: The Clerk will call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel presented and called for third and final reading Ordinance No. 13-011 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CAPITAL PROGRAM FOR THE SIX FISCAL YEARS 2014 – 2019, INCLUSIVE

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

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CAPITAL PROGRAM FOR THE SIX FISCAL YEARS 2014 – 2019, INCLUSIVE

Mr. Freel: Mr. President this establishes a six-year Capital Program for Fiscal Years 2014 to 2019. As you know, at the Finance Committee meeting on Monday we did do one amendment deleting \$2 million that was in the program because there seemed to be some confusion about exactly what those funds were for. I think we'll probably have some continued discussions on those and, and come back at a later date and possibly amend the Capital Budget.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel presented and called for third and final reading Ordinance No. 13-012 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CAPITAL BUDGET FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2014

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

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CAPITAL BUDGET FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2014

Mr. Freel: Yes, Mr. President, this is kind of the companion piece to the Program. This is the actual Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2014, and the same amendment that applies the previous Ordinance applies to this Capital Budget.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel presented and called for third and final reading Ordinance No. 13-013 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING  
BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON  
JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2014

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

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING  
BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON  
JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2014

Mr. Freel: Mr. President, I'd like to make a motion to amend Substitute No. 1 to Ordinance No. 13-003. On Page 1, Section #2 appropriations change from \$155,666,645 to \$155,477,114. On Page 2, the Director of Office of Management and Budget Contingencies, make the following changes: Contingent Reserves, City, change from \$300,000 to 0 dollars. Contingent Reserves total, change from \$300,000 to 0 dollars. On Page #5, Department of Parks and Recreation, make the following changes: Personal Service, Services, City, change from \$4,153,612 to \$4,264,081. Personal Services total change from \$4,240,534 to \$4,351,003. City total change from \$8,439,121 to \$8,549,590. Total change from \$8,569,541 to \$8,671,010. Position Allocation List Attachment A, Page #13, add the following position: Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation, Grade E06. Executive Managerial Salary Program and Salary Structure Matrix, Attachment B Page 2, add the following position: Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation, Level 6. That's my motion.

Ms. Walsh: Second.

President Gregory: Properly moved and second. On the question.

Mr. Freel: Mr. President, basically that adds one position back, and deletes \$300,000 from the City Contingency Fund.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDMENT**

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Chukwuocha.

Mr. Chukwuocha: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Congo:

Mr. Congo: We weren't given a chance to...

President Gregory: I looked around.

Mr. Wright: I raised my hand.

President Gregory: No, I had already said Clerk will call the roll.

Ms. Walsh: Can I have a point of order? You have a roll call going on. The roll call can't be interpreted.

President Gregory: Clerk, call the roll.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Congo.

Mr. Congo: No.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Darius Brown.

Mr. D. Brown: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Prado.

Mr. Prado: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Ms. Dorsey Walker

Ms. Dorsey Walker: We can't comments right?

President Gregory: There will be a period for petitions and communications in the end for any discussion that you may want have said during the budget process.

Mrs. Seijo: Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: I'm sorry. Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Present.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Freel.

Mr. Freel: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Michael Brown.

Mr. M. Brown: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Wright.

Mr. Wright: No.

Mrs. Seijo: Mr. Gregory.

President Gregory: Yes.

Mrs. Seijo: 10 Yeas, 2 Nays, and 1 Present.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. Freel: Mr. President, this is our Fiscal Year 2014 budget spending plan, this is my fifth year doing the budget and I can say that there's never been a year when somebody's been totally happy with the budget. It's a process where we must have give and take, to achieve the goals of the Mayor, City Council and, more importantly, our taxpayers. This compromise works towards some of the following items that were important to Council members and the Mayor, improving the quality of housing stock here in the city of Wilmington, working to maintain and attract jobs both in the large and small business sectors, improving communications between the Police Department and our communities, working with L&I and Public Works for cleaner neighborhoods, providing assistance for both education and youth initiatives, and looking down the road as we know we continue to face challenges in the years to come, we tried to reduce the size of the - - of Wilmington city government and I think we've done all those things. This budget comes in at around \$145,500,000. I will try to answer any questions that Council members may have.

President Gregory: Mr. Chukwuocha. Going to go in the order for petitions and communications at this time.

Chukwuocha: Thank you Mr. President. I just wanted to, for the, for the residents of, of the 1st District that the 1st District Neighborhood Planning Council will be having its election for officers - - it's taken place . . .

Mr. Freel: Mr. President. You're talking about discussions on the Ordinance, right? We haven't voted on the Ordinance.

President Gregory: Yes, we did.

Mr. Freel: We voted on the, on the amendment.

President Gregory: Yeah, we voted on it, on the Ordinance.

Mr. Freel: We voted on the amendments to the Ordinance, sir. We voted on the amendments to the Ordinance now we need to vote on the . . .

President Gregory: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Did you move and second that the Ordinance be. . .

Mrs. Seijo: Walsh seconded it.

President Gregory: It's been properly moved and seconded that that be known as the enacting clause of the Substitute Ordinance as amended, and call for a yea/nay vote. On the question.

Mr. Freel: That's what I just did, I just gave. . .

President Gregory: You just gave that. Anybody else? Then I call the roll.

Ms. Walsh: No, that was on the amendment, Mr. President.

President Gregory: Good, look, on the question for the Ordinance now. Mr. Wright.

Mr. Wright: For me, alright, there, there are a number of issues for me personally, about Council's proposed budget. For, for some of us, ten or fifty thousand dollars in question has not been explained to all of Council. I personally found out reading it in the newspaper, especially with the \$75,000 that's already being proposed for educational advocacy program. I had questioned, personally, if the remaining \$175,000 has already been allocated. The idea has not been posed, polled to all of Council, not to mention the entire budget proposal, didn't include insights from all Council members, but rather from a select few. Also, another alarming fact, for me is that for the past 12 years, City Council has always provided funding to the library, however, this current Council decided that more traditional allotted for the library need to be paid by the Administration and refused to budget for that designation, which is ironic. This grades, gives great cause for concern for me because the meeting before the meeting keeps happening and certain Council members are still excluded, in my estimation, Council leadership is once again steamrolling their ideas over the rest of Council. I challenge my first-term Council members to think long and hard, research before you sign on to something, and most of all know your options. Please don't accept what another member says without verification.

Lately, the verbiage or the direction you speak to a senior member of Council or somebody you feel comfortable with, one of the big five, the fab five, or many five, however you designate the term, the problem is as I see it is that it only lends itself to subjective persuasions which are dressed up like objective viewpoints. To my first-term colleagues I ask just, I ask you to ask yourself what did you ask for or honestly scrutinized within Council's budget proposal other than possibly the salary increases or the Deputy Director's position which has now been, been rescinded, which overshadows the other salary increases that are included, even now. Why this Council, and this is is me asking, why is this Council attempting to run the city and take over the executive branch mindset? I agree we have a fiduciary responsibility, as well as we much assure our checks and balance system is in place. Nevertheless, to what extent to do we go too far? This appears to be about personal projects and wants-to-haves and nothing new in my estimation, as well as jockeying for position. Change isn't something we say, it's something we do and it can only be measured by our actions. This is not about the powers that be but about the people who can't see, and in my estimation those are the constituents. My question is, are we championing our constituents' causes or our own self-interests or those of our colleagues? Is \$250,000 that important to a Council as a whole, especially when \$75,000 is already guaranteed for the president's educational advocacy initiative, which is beyond me as a Council member who has had no insight on this issue? At some point, we must be the change agents we talk about, and finally I just say we cannot continue to take on the posture of micromanaging. Thank you.

President Gregory: Anyone else? Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: The question was raised as to the legality in reference to our responsibility in, in this budgetary process. Having served 20 years as a police officer I, I, I need to have a complete and full understanding of the legalities. I, I have before me two documents that are completely in opposition. Therefore I, I can't vote either way until I have that answer, an affirmed answer as to whether this is even legal or not. Thank you.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: I'd like to say that I'm a huge supporter of both Mayor Williams, as well as the Council President but regarding this process I have been very disheartened and disappointed as a new Council member. I feel that both men are good people; I've learned a lot from both you Mr. President, as well as Mayor Williams, but this process was not easy. We should learn how to compromise. Last week we had Youth in City Government, and those young people look up to us and they aspire to be like us and with what was exemplified over the last seven days, I wouldn't want any young person to be anything like what I've seen over these seven days. I, like I stated, I'm disheartened and disappointed. Both of you have helped me in my district tremendously and for that I am very grateful, but we need to really learn to work together. This process was ridiculous as far as I'm concerned as a newly-elected official and I didn't sign up for the nonsense. I signed up to be a change agent, as my colleague



Councilman Wright just stated. This can't happen again, and I'm voting not against the Mayor, not against Council but for the people. Thank you.

President Gregory: Thank you. Mr. Prado.

Mr. Prado: Yes, Mr. President, I'm, I, too, think that this has been a this process has been a little bit more stressful than, than usual, but you know, I, I have to make decisions sometimes that are, you know, that are hard but I have to do what I think is right, and, not just what would the people want but also what I feel is the, is the right way to vote, and I've made that mistake of, of voting where the wi-, wherever the political winds are blowing and I'm never going to do that again. I made a pledge to myself, but, you know, my vote tonight is not a reflection of anything against Mayor Williams. I, I support this mayor, I want a, I want him to succeed and I think he has a vision and I, I want to be there to, to help him carry that out. But that doesn't always mean we're going to agree on, on certain things and, and this is a case where I, I have to vote with what I think is right and I think that, that the proposal by City Council is the, is the right way to go tonight, so that's how I'll be voting, Mr. President.

President Gregory: Mr. Chukwuocha.

Mr. Chukwuocha: Thank you Mr. President. I, I, too, my, my colleagues, a few of them, expressed sentiments of, of concern and I, I, too, have them in, mainly in, in regard to I, I guess programmatic I, I'm trying to, to understand and, and, and it, it's a, a, a question I have that, that's burning in me that I haven't heard the answer to yet. The difference between uh what we're calling grants and, and programs and, and I, I've, I've read where it says that, that the difference is that, that we aren't controlling the, the expenditures once they're disbursed but if we have a reporting mechanism and it outcomes that that must be met then according to grant writing and receiving we, we are, that's, that's a control mechanism so, I, I, I'm, I'm torn between that, that difference to me and that, that's troubling me, for I, I, I don't see that, that clarity in, in what's been presented. Thank you

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms., Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Mr. President, I, I guess I've perceived as being one of the fab five, I don't know, and I, I take, you know, minor offense at some of the statements that were made because I don't have one project in this budget, I didn't have projects in the budget when Jim Baker was mayor, when Jim Sills was mayor, for the short time I was here with Jim, with Mayor Sills and because I don't go for the big budgets or the big budget items for projects for myself, and that I found your willingness to meet with people, whenever they wanted, to answer whatever question, you got to do a little bit better with your voice mail, you need to dump that a little bit sooner than you do now, but other than that if I couldn't get a hold of you I would call staff and say I want to talk to him, you know, I, I'm not understanding what's going on. I think this is real unfortunate.

You know, we have a lot of new people who have been dealing with this budget, too. New on the side of the Mayor's people, new on the side of our people, too and with some of, sometimes things that are minor irritations become major slights, and people are still feeling each other out to see how all this is going to go down. So, I, I think people need to understand that, that the success of a mayor is the success for an entire city. That I don't know anybody on this floor who thinks they're going to be running against the mayor in three and a half years now or has voiced that. I don't know anybody who, on this floor, that I've heard say I really want him to screw up. I've heard none of the above. Because I think everybody's hearts really are in the right place. So, I just think it's been unfortunate that things have gotten lost in translation is kind of the way I look at it. I, I am supporting the amended budget tonight. This, this, too, shall pass I, I truly believe that you and the Mayor are uh going to be very firm going in the future on many projects together, as will this Council be there backing him up. But on this particular one, you know I campaigned for Jim Baker three times and I voted against all but one of his budgets. So, it's not personal. It's what I believe is correct for the people in our city.

President Gregory: Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: Well I, too, will have to say that I have no projects in this budget and as my sister on Council, Sherry, Councilwoman Dorsey said, I think I expressed the same sentiments in conversations with her. As for political winds, I don't think there's a wind strong enough to sway me to change my integrity, my character or my passion when it comes to doing what's right for my constituents. During my campaign and on this floor, I've said it many, many times. We need to work together, we need to be a unite, unified force – the Mayor, City Council, all of us. Our city is in so much disarray, there is so many things that are wrong and yet so many things that are right, and if we can work together, we can get the things that are wrong right. This has not been an easy process; I don't think for any of us, and for the new people coming onboard, certainly very distasteful but this city needs leaders that are going to be strong and that are going to work together, and I for one have always said I will work and I'm supportive of this Mayor, of this Administration, these people are my friends, I call them my friends, I talk to them on a regular basis. We have such an awesome Council and this, we really should take advantage of the fact that every Council member here speaks with each other, communicates with each other, that we are comrades, that we respect each other, that we support each other at community meetings and on issues and that we are willing to do that with the Mayor and anyone else and our constituents. So, yes, we have choices to make; they may not be easy, but I know that for one, the constituents that I've spoken to and others are very supportive of this budget and I do hope that we go beyond this to work together as we go into the next three years. Thank you.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: Thank you Mr. President. As I also one of those five that I've worked hard to get to that position and time served which put me in that ranking, I'm glad to be part of, of, part of a government that has two passionate sides of government

that are working strongly and using all of their might for what they think is right, and I think the City of Wilmington should be glad that we have that type of leadership. Then I mean, with new on both sides of the halls, there's new ideas and new perspectives and you know, coming together to, you know, once this storm I think settles are going through our newlywed time that I think we are going to have, or take all of this tenacity to put our heads together to solve a lot of the ills at the City of Wilmington cause we do have many of them. You know, and I think this is a great, we can, hopefully that we can turn this perceived negative to a positive to our, tell our children that even though you might disagree or you have some beef with somebody that you can come together and agree to disagree and do what's necessary and do what's right, and that is to run this city and we all took a pledge that we would remove all personal interests and do speak on behalf of the citizens that put us in this position and our forefathers made laws and rules as to, through the Constitution that we should govern so that it would not appear a personal move, and I think as we continue to make laws and the Administration do, use his vision to administer those, that our city will continue the progress that we are headed for, and on that basis I plan to support this budget tonight.

President Gregory: Thank you. Mr. Brown.

Mr. M. Brown: Thank you Mr. President. First and foremost, I want to thank Council first and Councilman Bud Freel for the hard work that he put in this budget in terms of putting it together and the meetings that we had was very informative. I want to thank you, Mr. President, I really want to thank you, as, as well as staff, as well as staff. I want to thank you, Mr. President, it's, you know, it's, it's, it's times like this, that, that you, you, you take your hits, you keep on ticking. Somebody, I read somewhere where it said when I was child I spaked, I spoke as a child. When, when, when I became a, a man I act like a man, and, and, and here it is you, you are a man of principles. This is not personal, why people think that I, the Mayor and I are, are at odds with each other, every day that we see each other we extend our hands to greet, to say hello and we have admirable and mutual respect for one another, so even he knows, even he knows, and I'm critical of, of some of things that he's doing at this time, but even he knows it's not personal. So, Mr. President, I, I want to thank you; I, too, I've been around for nineteen and a half years, ten as a Councilperson, and I've been around and I've seen a lot and I got confused a moment when it came down to the, the legality and talking about the Constitution, our rights.

If, if we was to go by, if, if we talking about the, the, I may say measly 250, if we talk about that money and it's not needlessly, but we talk about that money and the Constitution that, which we were giving two different versions of, I, I think that, that, that somewhere down the line we got to go way back and, and say to all those, starting with, when it started with Jim Baker from President, and, and, and it saying that we did, they did something wrong. They violated the Constitution. Nobody's ever said that to them before. This has never come up over twenty years and so I want to know why it comes up now? But nevertheless, we got bigger things to do. We got, we still got shootings going on; we got somebody that got killed in broad daylight once again, on, on Mother's Day, over in Riverside; we got, we got people getting, house getting robbed; we, we got children that, that are not going to school; we got violations of curfew; we got

youngsters that 66 percent dropout rate; we got on and on and on of problems. And here we are, here we are trying to meet the saddle in the road to pass a budget for the people. For the people so we can move forward.

I want to remind my colleagues, I get upset, no, no, don't, no don't hit me wrong, don't get me wrong, but this ain't my seat. This is not my seat! It's not yours! It's the people's seat! And, therefore, whatever budget we come up with, we got to make it work, for the people! We got to take personal stuff out of it. This is not my seat! And so, therefore, I'm going to support this budget and I thank you Mr. President. This is one of the best Councils I been on for ten years, I'ma speak for ten years. You respect each other. Somebody made a, made a accusation but the truth don't need no defending. You've included every one of these Council members. You have, sir. So, hold your head up high! Cause what's I said before, as I, when I was a child I acted like a child! Just cause I couldn't have my way, I act like a child! But when I became an adult, when I became a man, I put away those childish things. Now we all know that this - the right thing to do. So, I sit down in a seat that the people sent me to have! And I say I'll vote for this budget, and I ask my colleagues to follow suit, because this is not our seat. Thank you Mr. President.

President Gregory: Mr. Darius Brown. Thank you.

Mr. D. Brown: Thank you Mr. President. We began this, (inaudible) session back in January and this body was asked to cut some vacant positions, to bring on some new individuals. Now, I had spoken at that point in time in January about a budget being a set of values. The budget that we present, of where we put our dollars at, are a set of values. When we received the proposed budget there was a set of values that were presented to us as a body. In that set of values, were dollars that were designed for housing opportunities that were proposed to be put aside to balance our budget. But there were other dollars around economic development that were proposed to be put aside to balance our budget. For me as a Council person for the 3rd District, I care about the entire city, and even though I represent the 3rd District, I still have to look at the holistic approach to the entire City of Wilmington. It's important for us not to only be able to have a thriving housing stock for new residents, but in the 3rd District, where I have more rental than homeowners, it's important for us to also use these housing dollars that are unrestricted, because they're actually City dollars, they're not State or Federal dollars which come with certain restrictions, that we're able to use these dollars to provide home ownership opportunities in some of our more disenfranchised neighborhoods, like the 3rd District.

When it comes to economic development and we look at over the last two years, the unemployment rate in the city of Wilmington being at 10 percent. Before that it was at 13 percent, and the only reason why we had a three percent decrease was because our federal unemployment insurance benefit ran out. So, individuals stopped going to the Department of Labor to get a check every week to provide for themselves. We are challenged every day to address poverty in this city and when we set values in our budget and we take out housing dollars and we take out economic development dollars and we don't provide that opportunity for people, we are not looking forward to a

brighter future for our city. We are an inflection point here in the City of Wilmington, and so the budget that we have presented as a body is not just our budget. Much of the Mayor's proposal is still a part of this budget and so as we look forward to working over the next 43 months, I hope that we can articulate in our budget a vision. What is our vision around housing, what is our vision around economic development, what is our vision around education? Because it's all, it is also said, where there is no vision our people perish.

President Gregory: Mr. Congo.

Mr. Congo: Yes, thank you Mr. President. You know I, I guess I never really considered myself a politician. So, this, what I'm about to say is just a - - I just, I'm just saying it as a resident of Wilmington who wants to see the city be successful. You, you and Mayor Williams have to take your gloves off and, and, and, and try to do what's best just for the people in Wilmington. This process has been, it's been very embarrassing to be a part of a system where we're just constantly attacking each other. I'm not placing the blame on you, I'm not placing the blame on, on Mayor Williams, but it's, it's something that we really need to do some soul, some soul searching and try to figure out how we can, how we can move forward. If the budget passes, it passes; I'm not going to support it because I think some things really need to be explained to us in, in further detail. But the end of the day, we just have to do better, I have, I had, you know, so, so much hope, I guess, I guess that's the right word, when you, when you said you were running for Council President and, and Mayor Williams said, he was saying that he was going to run for mayor and I, and I supported both of you even though you know, you didn't have an opponent, but I would still support you and I, I'm always going to support Mayor Williams because I think both of you have the best intentions for the city, but I, I'm not sure where things got, got, got cloudy but they have and at the end of the day it's, it's having an effect of us as a Council and it, and even further it's having an effect on the people of Wilmington.

So, I just hope that we can move forward and, and, and try to, and try to handle things better face to face in, in Council to Administration and not live through the newspapers and not, and not live through the media, the, the radio stations, cause we're better than that and our residents deserve better than that and, and I guess like, like Councilman Brown, Mike Brown was saying we have so much work to do in the city, we, we really don't need to be fighting each other; we need to be fighting Dover, honestly, because they control so much of what goes on in the city. We need to focus so much more effort in education and, and trying to get funds that, that's a, that are going to support great schools and great teachers and we're just here nitpicking over thousand, you know a few thou, hundred thousand dollars when we should be demanding millions from Dover. We just have so much work to do Mr. President, I'm always going to support you like I said, I'm always going to have your back, but at the same time I always have to feel, I have to do what I feel is right, I'm always going to support Mayor Williams, but you two really have to, have to, you know, sit down man to man and, and face to face and figure out how we move forward, as I say, and I, and I, hopefully, you're not taking this as a disrespect, disrespectful moment at all cause it's, it's not that, and I

just want, I just want, I want you to be successful and I want Mayor Williams to be successful and I want the city to be successful. Thank you.

President Gregory: I, I sit here with my, my hands open, my heart open, and my, my, my mind continues to be open. Anyone who knows me knows that I can be as angry as I don't know what one day and be a friend the next day. I, I don't harbor anything. I don't have time to hate. I don't have time to dismiss people. I just don't do it. I want each of you to think how have I treated you? I'd have to be a very good chameleon to have treated you one way and to have treated Mayor Williams another one. Just be introspective and think about what I just said but can I do the best I can, the best I know how. Clerk call, call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the aforementioned Ordinance, As Substituted and 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, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Freel, M. Brown, Cabrera, Walsh, and Council President Gregory. Total, ten. Nays, Council Members Congo and Wright. Total, two. Present, Council Member Williams. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

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

### PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Council Members announced committee and civic meetings, community events and community projects in their districts. Comments were made regarding the budget hearings; the budget process and the need for Council to hire their own attorney.

### ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Freel, Council adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Motion prevailed.

Attest:   
Maribel Seijo, City Clerk