# REGULAR MEETING OF WILMINGTON CITY COUNCIL JULY 11, 2019 @ 6:30 P.M.

# Council Chambers Louis L. Redding City/County Building 800 N. French Street - Wilmington, DE 19801

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# **AGENDA**

I. Call to Order Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

**Roll Call** 

- II. Approval of Minutes
- **III.** Committee Reports
- IV. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report
- V. Non-Legislative Business

Oliver Sympathy Lambert G. Johnson, Sr.

Oliver Sympathy Dorothy Brown
Oliver Sympathy Craig Washington
Freel Recognize Michael Hart

Shabazz Recognize Senator Harris McDowell

# VI. Legislative Business

#### SHABAZZ (Oliver presenting on behalf of Shabazz)

#4691 A Resolution Authorizing Grant Funding Allocations to Various Entities that are

Linked with the Council Strategic Plan Pertaining to Youth and Seniors

**Synopsis:** This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and

approval. This Resolution states the Wilmington City Council's intent to award 16 organizations in the Wilmington community with grants to total \$85,000. All of the organizations to be awarded provide important services and activities to the

Wilmington community.

#### **OLIVER**

#4671 Ord. 19-033 Amend Chapter 48 of the City Code to Permit Indoor Commercial

Horticultural Operations as a Matter of Right within M-1 (Light Manufacturing), C-5 (Heavy Commercial), W-1 (Waterfront Manufacturing), W-2 (Waterfront Manufacturing/Commercial), and W-3 (Waterfront Low Intensity Manufacturing/Commercial Recreation) Zoning Districts (**Public Hearing – 3**<sup>rd</sup> & Final

Reading)

# **Synopsis:**

This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance amends Chapter 48 of the City Code to define indoor commercial horticultural operations and certain related terminology and to permit indoor commercial horticultural operations as a matter of right within M-1 (Light Manufacturing), C-5 (Heavy Commercial), W-1 (Waterfront Manufacturing), W-2 (Waterfront Manufacturing/Commercial), and W-3 (Waterfront Low Intensity Manufacturing/Commercial Recreation) zoning districts. This Ordinance also establishes parking requirements for indoor commercial horticultural operations.

#### **MCCOY**

#4692 An Ordinance to Enact Certain Traffic/Parking Regulations (1st & 2nd Reading)

**Synopsis:** This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council's review and

approval. This Ordinance approves various traffic and parking regulations in the City.

# SHABAZZ (McCoy presenting on behalf of Shabazz)

#4693 A Resolution to Certify that a Vacancy Exists in the Seventh Councilmanic

District

**Synopsis:** This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and

approval. This Resolution accepts the resignation of Council Member Robert A. Williams and formally certifies that a vacancy exists in the Seventh Councilmanic District, which shall be filled by appointment of a duly qualified successor in accordance with City Charter Section 2-101 and City Code Section 2-34.

# FREEL

#4649 Ord. 19-023 Amend Chapter 44 of the City Code by Amending Section 44-68

Thereof Regarding the Vacant Buildings Rehabilitation Tax

Incentive Program (3<sup>rd</sup> & Final Reading)

**Synopsis:** This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council's review and

approval. This Ordinance amends Section 44-68 of the City Code regarding the eligibility requirements and scope of the City's vacant buildings rehabilitation tax

incentive program.

#4650 Ord. 19-024 Amend Chapter 44 of the City Code by Amending Section 44-70

Thereof Regarding the Tax Incentive Program for City Historic District and National Register Properties (3<sup>rd</sup> & Final Reading)

**Synopsis:** This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council's review and

approval. This Ordinance amends Section 44-70 of the City Code to extend the expiration date of the City's tax incentive program for City historic district and

national register properties until June 30, 2030.

#4651

Ord. 19-025

Amend Chapter 44 of the City Code by Amending Section 44-71 Thereof Regarding the Real Estate Tax Exemption Program (3<sup>rd</sup> & Final Reading)

**Synopsis:** 

This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance amends Section 44-71 of the City Code regarding the eligibility requirements and scope of the City's real estate tax exemption program.

**GUY** 

#4694

An Ordinance to Amend Chapters 4, 5 and 34 of the City Code to Increase the Rental Dwelling Unit Business License Fee; Provide for Civil Fines for Owners of Rental Properties and Vacant Properties; and Increase Vacant Registration Fees (1st & 2nd Reading)

Synopsis:

This Ordinance is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance ("Ordinance") amends Chapter 5 section 5-101 entitled "Schedule of Fees" by amending the section to increase the business license fee for rental dwelling units to \$100 per unit, not to exceed a total business license fee of \$10,120.00. This Ordinance amends Chapter 34 of the City Code by changing the enforcement of Chapter 34 with respect to vacant and rental properties from criminal enforcement to civil enforcement with civil fines for non-compliance. The Ordinance also makes additional changes to update and modernize Chapter 34. In addition, this Ordinance amends Chapter 4 by deleting Section 4-27, 119.0 (authorization for exterior improvements to vacant structures) and Section 4-27, 120.0 (annual vacant property registration fees), and incorporates these provisions into Chapter 34. Further, this Ordinance amends the annual vacant property registration fee provisions (previously found at Chapter 4, Section 4-27, 120.0; now located at Chapter 34, Section 34-210) to: (1) increase the registration fees for properties vacant 3 or more years; (2) require registration of buildings vacant for 6 consecutive months rather than 45 consecutive days; (3) impose a civil fine of \$500.00 for failing to register a vacant building within 30 days of the required time to register; (4) exempt vacant buildings owned by the Wilmington Neighborhood Conservancy Land Bank Corporation ("Land Bank") from registration requirements; and (5) provide that purchasers of a vacant building from the Land Bank be billed a vacant registration fee based on the duration of vacancy from the time he or she received the building from the Land Bank, rather than a vacant registration fee based on the duration of the vacancy prior to receiving the building.

# VII. Petitions and Communications

### VIII. Adjournment