

*Louis L. Redding
City/County Building
September 5, 2013*

Council met in regular session on the above date at 6:30 p.m., President Theopolis 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 August 29, 2013, upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Freel, it was moved they be accepted as written. Motion prevailed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Freel presented the following three-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	

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

September 3, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred Sub. No. 1 to
Ordinance No. 13- 031 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 40 OF THE CITY
CODE REGARDING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES
OF THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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

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

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Ms. Walsh/Ms. Shabazz, 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	

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

September 3, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 13-032**
entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE CITY'S
GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND (WILMINGTON HOUSING
PARTNERSHIP PROJECT) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE FUNDS
NECESSARY TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OR
REHABILITATION OF HOUSING AND THE REFINANCING OF A
PRIOR LOAN; AUTHORIZING THE LOAN OF A PORTION OF THE
PROCEEDS TO THE WILMINGTON HOUSING PARTNERSHIP
CORPORATION; PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF THE BOND;
AND AUTHORIZING OTHER NECESSARY ACTION

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

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

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	

President and Members of Council of
The City of Wilmington

September 3, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, your Finance Committee, to who was referred **Ordinance No. 13-033**
entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 40 OF THE CITY
CODE REGARDING DONATED LEAVE

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

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

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following Treasurer's Report dated September 5, 2013 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 September 5, 2013

102	Community Development Block Grant	M & T Bank	\$ 1.00
104	Old Non-Uniform Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 1,527.81
105	Police Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 1,937.39
106	Fire Pension Account	M & T Bank	\$ 1,103.32
107	Evidence/Found Currency Account	M & T Bank	\$ 290,958.80
108	Rent Withholding Escrow	M & T Bank	\$ 4,137.97
110	Capital Projects Account	M & T Bank	\$ 2,739.42
113	Non-Uniform Pension	M & T Bank	\$ 1,291.70
114	Central Deposit	M & T Bank	\$ 917,850.00
117	Cement Workers	Wilmington Savings Fund	\$ 33,351.27
118	Worker's Comp. 3 rd Party Account	M & T Bank	\$ 13,003.21
124	Non-Uniform Pension Act of 1990	M & T Bank	\$ 2,566.79
130	Payroll	M & T Bank	\$ 397,592.75
131	Pension Payroll Account	M & T Bank	\$ 91,879.18
139	Pension Healthcare Account	M & T Bank	\$ <u>4,371.55</u>
	Total Cash on Hand		\$ 1,764,312.16

FUND CODE	FUND	INSTITUTION	INVEST. TYPE	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	INTEREST RECEIVABLE	INVESTMENT AMOUNT
116	General	M&T Bank	RP	09/05/13	0.01%	\$ 2.11	\$ 7,696,998.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	09/20/13	0.30%	\$ 1,093.15	\$ 1,900,000.00
110	Capital ³	TD	CD	09/23/13	0.25%	\$ 738.45	\$ 1,540,195.00
105	Police Pension	WSFS	CD	09/26/13	0.30%	\$ 117.37	\$ 510,000.00
106	Fire Pension	WSFS	CD	09/26/13	0.30%	\$ 491.34	\$ 2,135,000.00
124	Non-Uniform 1990	WSFS	CD	09/26/13	0.30%	\$ 1,140.33	\$ 4,955,000.00
110	Capital ²	TD	CD	09/27/13	0.25%	\$ 46.15	\$ 240,632.60
116	General	WSFS	CD	09/30/13	0.30%	\$ 1,627.39	\$ 3,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	10/04/13	0.30%	\$ 1,150.68	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General ¹	TD	CD	10/07/13	0.25%	\$ 5,974.37	\$ 14,537,615.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	10/18/13	0.30%	\$ 1,265.75	\$ 2,200,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	10/31/13	0.30%	\$ 1,767.12	\$ 2,500,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	11/01/13	0.30%	\$ 1,380.82	\$ 2,000,000.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	11/07/13	0.30%	\$ 20,117.26	\$ 24,476,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	11/15/13	0.30%	\$ 1,446.57	\$ 2,000,000.00
110	Capital	WSFS	CD	11/21/13	0.30%	\$ 2,375.34	\$ 3,400,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	11/27/13	0.30%	\$ 2,391.78	\$ 3,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	11/27/13	0.30%	\$ 1,735.89	\$ 2,200,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	12/13/13	0.30%	\$ 1,775.34	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	12/27/13	0.30%	\$ 2,005.47	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	01/10/14	0.30%	\$ 2,219.17	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	WSFS	CD	01/24/14	0.30%	\$ 2,449.31	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	02/07/14	0.25%	\$ 2,205.48	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	02/21/14	0.25%	\$ 2,397.26	\$ 2,000,000.00
116	General	TD	CD	03/07/14	0.25%	\$ 2,520.55	\$ 2,000,000.00
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
104	Escrow Pension	Affinity Wealth					\$ 1,509,026.00
104	Escrow Pension	Vanguard					\$ 19,780,822.00
104	Escrow Pension	Black Rock					\$ 53,378,254.00
104	Escrow Pension	Edgar Lomax					\$ 29,289,790.00
104	Escrow Pension	Wilmington Trust					\$ 30,568,445.00
104	Escrow Pension	Manning & Napier					\$ 25,080,176.00
104	Escrow Pension	Earnest Partners					\$ 12,649,451.00

104	Escrow Pension	GMO					\$ 10,973,406.00
139	Medical Escrow	Black Rock-OPEB					\$ 11,161,200.00
116	The Hartford	Deferred Comp.					\$ 34,519,655.00
	Total Investments						\$ 328,993,216.70
	Total Cash on Hand						\$ <u>1,764,312.16</u>
	Grand Total						\$ 330,757,528.86

¹ Budget Reserve

² Lincoln Towers BAN

³ SEU

/s/Henry W. Supinski
City Treasurer

NON-LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

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

All Council	Honoring the "Heart of Steel" Exhibit Commemorating the Fallen Heroes of the 9/11 Attack
All Council	Sympathy Godfrey "Ibis" Pitts
Cabrera/Council	Latin American Community Center Open House
Congo	Congratulate the Genius@Work Foundation Summer Program Graduates
Dorsey Walker	Best Wishes Ruby Kimble – 70 th Birthday

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

President Gregory: Mr. Chukwuocha.

Mr. Chukwuocha: None tonight Mr. President. Thank you sir.

Mr. M. Brown: Mr. President, please, may I?

President Gregory: We're going to suspend the rules at this time to have Mr. Brown to go first or going in the next order as he has to leave. Mr. Brown.

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

Mr. M. Brown presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 13-033 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 40 OF THE
CITY CODE REGARDING DONATED LEAVE

Mr. M. Brown: Yes, Mr. President. This legislation amends Chapter 40 of the City Code, the City Personnel Code, by allowing qualified employees to donate accumulated leave to designated employees and allow such designated employees to receive such donated leave when certain employment requirements are met. It's a donation bank for leave.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. M. Brown, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the above Ordinance was read for the third and final time and was adopted by title and section recurring to the Enacting Clause and was passed by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members Chukwuocha, 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. M. Brown: May I be excused Mr. President?

President Gregory: Yes.

Mr. M. Brown: Thank you.

President Gregory: Thank you. Mr. Darius Brown

Mr. D. Brown: Yes Mr. President. I have an Ordinance to present for third and final reading.

Mr. D. Brown presented and called for the third and final reading
Ordinance No. 13-031 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 40 OF THE
CITY CODE REGARDING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND
DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Mr. President, I have a **Substitute** to present in lieu of that Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 40 OF THE
CITY CODE REGARDING THE RESPONSIBILITIES
AND DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN
RESOURCES

Mr. D. Brown: Yes, Mr. President. This legislation amends Chapter 40 of the City Code, the City's Personnel Code, by requiring the director of Human Resources

or its designee to compile and maintain a referral registry to the City of Wilmington, known as the City Work Registry. This registry is to support residents of the city of Wilmington that were unsuccessful in obtaining employment through applying to positions that were advertised through the City of Wilmington.

President Gregory: Mr. Brown, is this your first Ordinance?

Mr. D. Brown: Yes sir.

President Gregory: You've done Resolutions, but this is your first Ordinance?

Mr. D. Brown: This is my first Ordinance.

President Gregory: Looking at the third Whereas clause where it says 'the City desires to compile and maintain,' shouldn't that read "the City shall" or "the City wants to", or "the City might", or you can flip a coin if the City decides to do it they can? But, I've got another question for you, before you answer that one. Going down to the fourth Whereas clause, there's a semicolon after the word "employment". Should that be a colon or a semicolon?

Mr. D. Brown: That should be a semicolon.

President Gregory: That should be a semicolon?

Mr. D. Brown: Yes.

President Gregory: Will you answer the first question, then?

Mr. D. Brown: It should be "desires."

President Gregory: It should be desires?

Mr. D. Brown: Yes.

President Gregory: Then it stays. Anybody else got any questions?
Council Member Walsh, I know you got one for him.

Ms. Walsh: No, actually I didn't. I was going to ask if I could be a co-sponsor.

President Gregory: You want to be a co-sponsor?

Ms. Walsh: Sure.

Mrs. Seijo: So noted.

President Gregory: You're a co-sponsor.

Ms. Walsh: But only if he removes the semicolon.

President Gregory: Mr. Freel, Mr. Freel you don't have any questions for him?

Mr. Freel: You want me to ask some questions?

President Gregory: He needs that; he has to be able to defend his legislation.

Mr. Freel: Mr. Brown, how many employees per month are we talking about where we're going to have to send applications to the outside agencies?

Mr. D. Brown: The HR Department has informed us that they receive about 2,000 applications per year, so I would divide that by 12 on average and, I think you're better at math than I as the Finance Chair.

President Gregory: Would that go electronically, by carrier, by mail, email, how would it get there, by horse, buggy?

Mr. D. Brown: They, they would be sent by the HR director and the HR Department.

President Gregory: Will she ride a horse to get them there?

Mr. D. Brown: If that's her desire.

President Gregory: If that's her desire? Okay. Anybody else got any questions? Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: My question is a little more substantive.

President Gregory: All my questions have been substantive; Mr. Freel's, everybody's. Go ahead, we're ready.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: I was just wondering how would this tax the Department of Human Services, Human Resources? Have you had an opportunity to talk to the Director regarding the applicants?

President Gregory: When she says taxes, she talking, not talking about money, enabling money, she's talking about labor.

Mr. D. Brown: HR, the HR Department has not provided that information. They've had due time to do so and they have not.

President Gregory: Clerk call the roll. I'm sorry, Ms. Cabrera, Maria.

Ms. Cabrera: Yes, I have a question; my question was are we for this registry...

Ms. Walsh: Mr. President, I have a point of order.

Ms. Cabrera: Does the City look...

President Gregory: I messed up.

Ms. Walsh: Alright.

Ms. Cabrera: Does the City keep a registry of people who have applied for jobs, who are not selected, and when we have jobs coming up do we look to that registry first before we look outside? Do we look at that compilation? Do we keep something like that?

Mr. D. Brown: We did have this conversation at the committee meeting. That's a question that the HR Director could answer, but that doesn't speak to the actual Ordinance.

Ms. Cabrera: Ok.

Mr. Freel: Can I go ahead, Mr. President?

President Gregory: Yes.

Mr. Freel: Is that alright? We did discuss this at the meeting and if an employee is best qualified to make the Cert List, the application then is good for six months. So, if another position comes up where they're qualified, they can go ahead and request their application be submitted for that, also.

President Gregory: Clerk call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. D. Brown, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the above 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, Cabrera, Walsh, Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member M. Brown. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

Mr. D. Brown: Thank you Mr. President.

President Gregory: For your first piece of legislation.

Mr. D. Brown: Thank you.

Mr. D. Brown held Agenda No. 3856.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Shabazz.

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

Ms. Shabazz presented Resolution No. 13-051 as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wilm. C. (Charter) §1-101, the City of Wilmington ("City") may acquire, hold, manage, and dispose of properties on such terms as it deems proper for any municipal purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City has acquired the properties listed on Exhibit "A", the Property List, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "Properties"); and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Wilmington ("Council"), upon the recommendation of the Department of Real Estate and Housing of the City, hereby authorizes the City to dispose of the Properties, having been previously declared surplus, to the Wilmington Housing Partnership for homeownership development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that Council authorizes and approves the disposition of the Properties to the Wilmington Housing Partnership for homeownership development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council authorizes the Mayor or his designee to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the disposition of the Properties, including any and all further undertakings and assurances that may be appropriate.

Ms. Shabazz: Mr. President, this Resolution authorizes the City to dispose of 11 properties listed on Exhibit A to the Wilmington Housing Partnership to use for home ownership development. These properties is supported also by Councilman Brown and myself, because they're in his district as well. Representing East Side, would be part of the East Side RISE initiative and as you heard, one of our speakers today talked about the conditions of the properties throughout. Her property is in the East Side. This is an effort to bring some of those properties that are vacant as well as inclusive in the East Side RISE plan to address the poor conditions of the properties on the East Side.

President Gregory: Thank you. Mr. Brown.

Mr. D. Brown: Thank you Mr. President. I stand in support of this Resolution. This Resolution provides some needed and long awaited remedy and support to our East Side community here in the city of Wilmington that sits at the foot of our city center, and what this would do through authorize and the disposition of these properties will take many properties that are vacant and properties that are experience a lot of blight and allows us to turn those negatives into positives in creating livable neighborhoods. As Councilwoman Shabazz has worked for many years on this Council in creating a new East Side, and so I'm happy to be able to join her and working with her to do this and how we can look at revitalizing a neighborhood that we both hold very near and dear to us and create lifelong communities; communities that have desirable housing with a housing stock that no matter what income, or what age level you're at, there's a housing stock available for you that you could grow in. So, with that, thank you.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Ms. Shabazz, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the 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, Cabrera, Walsh, Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member M. Brown. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it adopted. Mr. Prado.

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

Mr. Prado presented Resolution No. 13-052 as follows:

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington ("City"), through its Department of Real Estate and Housing ("Department"), has expressed an interest in obtaining ownership of the property known as Tax Parcel No. 26-022.20-359, which is located at 2700 Moore Street, Wilmington, Delaware (the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, Wells Fargo Bank, being the owner of the Property, is willing to accommodate the City's request to donate the Property to the City, to be rehabilitated by the Department, and to sell the property for homeownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON ("Council") that the Council, acting pursuant to Wilm. C. (Charter) § 8-204, hereby approves acceptance of the gift of the Property to the City by and from the current owner, Wells Fargo Bank, and authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Department to take all actions necessary, including payment of any recording fees, to finalize the donation of the Property to the City.

Mr. Prado: This is a Resolution where Real Estate and Housing will accept a donation of 2700 Moore Street from Wells Fargo Bank.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Prado, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the 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, Cabrera, Walsh, Wright, and Council President Gregory. Total, twelve. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member M. Brown. Total, one.

Mr. Prado held Agenda No. 3859.

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Dorsey Walker.

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Nothing tonight Mr. President, thank you.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: No legislative business. Thank you.

President Gregory: Mr. Freel.

Mr. Freel: Yes sir. I have two (2) Ordinances for third and final.

Mr. Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 13-024 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE WILMINGTON
PENSION COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 39 SECTION 6 OF THE
WILMINGTON CITY CODE

Mr. Freel: Yes, Mr. President. As Council knows this Ordinance is the exact same Ordinance that we had before us in July that was held by the request of some of the City employees. Basically, the Pension Commission, by a vote of 7/6, recommended to this Council for a \$200,000 appropriation for the purpose of granting benefit increases to City of Wilmington retirees - a hundred thousand would go to

uniform, and then a hundred thousand to non-uniform. I am opposed; I was part of the Pension Commission. I opposed it then and I continue to oppose this cause I just don't feel we're in a position now to pass on these increases. Two hundred thousand this year is a commitment for the next 15 years to the tune of about \$3 million. It's difficult to do when on an average our pension fund is only 50 percent funded, and that is much lower than other levels of government here in the state of Delaware. At the end of the last meeting, as I was leaving, I spoke to a representative of one of the Unions and I tried to discuss the broader impacts of doing this increase, and his comment to me afterwards was: "Well Bud, that's, that's your problem. All I care about is my membership." And I understand that, that's his role. Our role on Council is we have to be responsible to pensioners, we have to be responsible to current City employees and we have to be responsible to the taxpayers, and I just don't think this is a move that we should take at this time to be increasing these pension benefits and increasing the debt in the city of Wilmington. That's all I have at this time. I'll try to answer any questions if there are any.

President: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Mr. President, I just have to reveal that as a recipient of a police pension, albeit a very small incremental position, I will not be voting on this, this evening. I'll have to abstain.

President Gregory: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Me? Did you say me?

President Gregory: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: Thank you Mr. President. I'm actually voting no on this, this evening because I believe the dates are quite relevant. They're already passed, so I don't think this is just something that should be done because I'm viewing this as there's really nothing before me, so I'm voting no.

President Gregory: I, too, have to abstain because I receive a City pension from my previous 24 years on Council. As the President of Council my concern for my fiduciary obligations not only to the current employees but to future employees. So while I can't vote, I can have an opinion and I just think it's not a good piece of legislation for the city of Wilmington's future employees and it doesn't do enough for the current employees to really cause me to cause the City to have to spend about \$200,000 a year over the next ten years, or fifteen years I guess it would be, for a couple million dollars. Also, we are still, when we did this previously, we're still incurring costs from that. We did it, I think, in about 2006 or so and that hasn't been paid off yet, the monies that we put into the fund, so our unfunded liability is a challenge with respect to our pensions, but we're decent shape and that we stay afloat, but this causes me some concern. So, I will have to abstain. Yes?

Ms. Dorsey Walker: Mr. President, my concern is we received several emails, we on the Council received several emails from widow and widowers who stated that they're receiving \$5,120 and maybe 24 cents or something along those lines, and my question is what do we do to help them, to help supplement their income, for they've made the ultimate sacrifice and their spouse put their lives on the line for all of us.

President Gregory: You want me to answer that question?

Ms. Dorsey Walker: You or Mr. Freel, please. Councilman Freel.

Mr. Freel: You know, there's no doubt in my mind that there's probably individuals out there struggling that could use an increase. I can't sit here and tell you whether that's their only source of income. At one time, especially in the uniform, many policemen and firemen would retire and start a second career, and then there would also be social security. But once again, would I like to give them an increase? Sure, I would love to do it, but I just don't think it's the responsible thing to do at this time.

President Gregory: My answer to that would be have a fiduciary duty not only to current employees but the future employees and, you know, you have Detroit going bankrupt and you have cities up in Pennsylvania that have gone bankrupt and you have folk having to borrow from their pension funds, and we're an old northeast city, and we do a good job and we have to be fiscally responsible not only for today but for tomorrow, just as we manage our own homes, we have to manage City government. Mr. Wright.

Mr. Wright: Thank you Mr. President. Councilman Freel what is the average increase per person that they'll receive? Per pensioner, if you would.

Mr. Freel: I would not be able to answer that Mr. Wright because you have hundreds of employees who all retired at different periods of time, who were making different amounts in their pensions, so I don't know how that hundred thousand would be spread out, like for the non-uniform, how it would be spread out.

Mr. Wright: So, we don't have an average, you're saying?

Mr. Freel: I don't have the average, no.

President Gregory: There was some average floating around earlier in committee meetings, etc. I don't recall what the specifics were at this time.

Mr. Wright: I guess, if I can, I guess I was just trying to bring out, from what I recall, it was a small amount based on individual and then once it's taxed it's even less than that, so while I do understand Councilwoman Dorsey Walker's position, also, it's already been stated, my position is to, as you said, think about the greater good for the city as a whole would augment our financial situation currently and in the future as far as

the pension. So, unfortunately, while I do thank everyone for the efforts and work, I cannot support this either tonight. Thank you.

President Gregory: Mr. Congo:

Mr. Congo: Yes, thank you Mr. President. I guess I received a lot of the email that we all did. I guess the number is just, they become cloudy when you think about some of the numbers and the average benefits that a lot of the retirees are receiving, and I guess in my mind, at first you just see those numbers and you cringe, but then you think about the City's policy where someone can retire after five years. So, you know, it's really hard to you know, were they full-time employees that worked 20 and 30 years we see in those kinds of numbers or was it someone who only worked five years and then retired. So, I won't be able to support it just because I don't see where, there's not a lot of clarity in it, and we just have a policy where people can retire just after only a few years. But the numbers I would give them to is then when you think about someone retiring you think about someone's whose put in a lot of time with the city and that's not always the case, so I'm not going to support this tonight.

President Gregory: Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. President. I recall back in July when we brought this up prior that there was some discussion that revolved meeting with the Unions and discussing this further; did that meeting ever take place?

Mr. Freel: There was a discussion outside this chamber, right outside these doors, and one of the things that I had mentioned was that in the past, whenever there was an increase, it was a very clear plan on how those funds would be distributed. It might be weighted towards those people that had retired years ago as opposed to someone who retired five years ago. I was told that they would work on coming back with a plan. I explained then, just as I said tonight, that I still won't support it, but if you want to come forward with a plan, I have nothing against that. Alright? If there were any meetings, I don't know about them. If they had meetings among themselves, I don't know but that's what was discussed out of chambers.

Mr. Williams: Thank you.

President Gregory: Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: Yes, I have to say I was, just a little surprised that this was coming up because I thought, I remember that same conversation that the reason that they tabled this so that we were going to wait was to be able to sit down, have conversations and see if we could come up with a modification where perhaps the people who gave us 20-plus years, many from so long ago who where one person was working and that was the City employee, be they a firefighter, policeman, or a City employee whose wives did not work, where these widows do depend on this little bit of income. The numbers don't seem fair when you look at those households and those people versus other folks who,

you're right, may have taken a second or third job, so that is my concern. I thought that somehow we were going to maybe look at this and modify this so we wouldn't be penalizing those people. The other thing that I look at is the cost of living has gone up, that these folks have not gotten an increase. You know, we the State is giving them a 3-to-1 match so there's funds out there that they could be making these additional funds to the small amount that they would be getting from the City. So, I just think that these folks have given us the ultimate sacrifice and that we should have found a better way to work this out and make some sacrifices on our end.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll.

Upon a motion of Mr. Freel, seconded by Ms. Walsh, the above Ordinance was read for the third and final time was **DEFEATED** by the following Yea and Nay Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Council Members D. Brown and Cabrera. Total, two. Nays, Council Members Chukwuocha, Congo, Shabazz, Prado, Dorsey Walker, Freel, Walsh, and Wright. Total, eight. Present, Council Member Williams and Council President Gregory. Total, two. Absent, Council Member M. Brown. Total, one.

President Gregory: Declare it defeated. Mr. Freel, do you have anything else?

Mr. Freel: There's one other for third and final.

Mr. Freel presented and called for the third and final reading Ordinance No. 13-032 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE CITY'S GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND (WILMINGTON HOUSING PARTNERSHIP PROJECT) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OR REHABILITATION OF HOUSING AND THE REFINANCING OF A PRIOR LOAN; AUTHORIZING A LOAN OF A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS TO THE WILMINGTON HOUSING PARTNERSHIP CORPORATION; PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF THE BOND; AND AUTHORIZING OTHER NECESSARY ACTION

Mr. Freel: Yes, first Mr. President I would like to ask if we could add my Colleagues, Council Member Shabazz, Council Member Darius Brown and Council Member Mike Brown to this Ordinance.

President Gregory: Done.

Mrs. Seijo: So noted.

Mr. Freel: I'm going to be very brief. From the financial aspects, this is the third time that we've used this process to raise some funds for the Department of Real Estate and Housing, and Wilmington Housing Partner Corporation. It'll be a \$4 million obligation; we'll pay them back in about three years. The way we've done it in the past is we will fund the project, and let me give an example: Franklin Chase in the Hilltop, each time we sold a house we took proceeds from the sale and we paid back part of the loan. So, this one will basically work the same way. At this time, I want to defer to some of the district Council members where a lot of this work will be taking place.

President Gregory: Ms. Shabazz.

Ms. Shabazz: Thank you Mr. President. Yes, Mr. President, as Councilman had mentioned that we have done this before and there's numerous projects throughout the city that Wilmington Housing Partnership has taken blighted areas of the city and turned them into beautiful homes, and we've been able to sell the homes at the necessary repayable funding and we're looking forward to being able to take advantage of some of this to complete some of the things that we're talking about on the East Side in Councilman Brown's and my districts. So, I think this would be something that's great for the east side of the City of Wilmington. Again, it addresses some of the issues that the constituent mentioned during public comment and I hope that my colleagues would vote for support of this.

President Gregory: Mr. Brown.

Mr. D. Brown: Thank you Mr. President. This Ordinance provides some needed financing and how we look at creating neighborhood sustainability on the East Side, and so it has an existing record of being something that has worked in other areas and I look forward to it also helping us on the East Side. It also helps with rehabbing homes but also reduces the density on the East Side and in addition to what it would do on the East Side, I believe there's also funding that may be able to be used in other areas of the City of Wilmington.

President Gregory: Clerk will call the roll, please.

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

President Gregory: Declare it adopted.

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

President Gregory: Thank you. Ms. Cabrera.

Ms. Cabrera: I have nothing this evening. Thank you.

President Gregory: Ms. Walsh.

Ms. Walsh: No, I held mine, thanks.

President Gregory: Mr. Wright.

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

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Council Members announced committee and civic meetings, community events and community projects in their districts as well as expressed sympathies to the family of Mr. Pitts. Council Members made comments regarding the following matters: the need for mentors; September as Hunger Action Month; the need for city departments to do a better job at coordinating or assisting with events around the city; zero tolerance (crime); the appointment of new Public Works Deputy Director; incident that occurred in the 6th District (Kosciuszko Park); parking issues and including but not limited to the need of everyone using caution when driving as school is back in session.

Mr. Prado presented the following communication into the record:

September 5, 2013

The Honorable Thomas Carper
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Christopher Coons
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable John Carney
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senators Carper and Coons and Representative Carney:

I am deeply, deeply troubled by the prospect of the United States taking military action in Syria. I urge you to vote against the use of U.S. military force on the nation of Syria which is involved in a civil war with no end in sight.

If I thought for a moment that the use of U.S. missiles or drones would reduce the suffering of the Syrian people, curb President Assad's use of chemical weapons or end his tyrannical reign and allow the Syrian people to live in peace, I would urge that our nation take immediate action.

You and I know that a military operation in Syria could have devastating consequences for the many ethnically and religiously diverse minorities that make up the Syrian population. Those who know about the internal crisis in Syria and about the history of Syria realize that the current conflict involves immoral and irresponsible players who cannot be trusted to help bring peace to their own country let alone promote peace throughout the world.

There is no clear objective for the United States to take action in Syria where more than 100,000 people have been slaughtered and where more than two million people, half of them children, have fled to neighboring countries. Unfortunately, the next crisis in this region will involve these refugees who will soon be rejected by the countries to which they are fleeing. Instead of attacking militarily in Syria, the United States should assist the refugees and help them not become casualties of war.

Most importantly, I strongly urge you to concentrate on the many problems that plague our great City, our great State and our great country. Urban crime, poverty, failing schools and substandard infrastructure are but a few of the issues that our President and our congressional representatives should address in a more forceful way.

I don't know how to say this without sounding cruel toward those suffering in Syria. But, while I care about what is happening in Syria, I care more about my community and the needs of my people. Fix our country first, before engaging in another conflict that poses no threat to Americans or American interests.

Sincerely,
/s/Samuel Prado

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion of Ms. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Shabazz/Mr. Freel,
Council adjourned at 7:56 p.m. Motion prevailed.

Attest: 
Maribel Seijo, City Clerk