

NOTICE

SPECIAL MEETING OF WILMINGTON CITY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 1, 2019 @ 4:00 P.M.

**Council Chambers
Louis L. Redding City/County Building
800 N. French Street - Wilmington, DE 19801
www.WilmingtonDe.gov or www.WITN22.org**

AGENDA

**I. Call to Order
Prayer
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call**

II. Legislative Business

GRAY

#4727

A Resolution to Add Public Comment and Another Round of Council Comment for each Legislative Initiative

Synopsis:

This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution expands the process for legislative business so that after the close of debate by members of city council, the public is allowed to comment, followed by a final round of debate by members of City Council.

MCCOY

#4728

A Resolution to Expand the Range of Topics that can be Raised by the Public During Committee of the Whole Meetings

Synopsis:

This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. Wilmington City Council desires to expand the opportunity during the Committee of the Whole meetings for members of the public to use their three minutes to address Council on any topic. Public comment is not limited to items on the agenda. Federal Communications Commission restrictions applicable to a government channel apply.

GUY

#4729

A Resolution to Add the Personnel Committee to the List of Standing Committees

Synopsis:

This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. Wilmington City Council desires to establish a Personnel Committee with oversight of personnel related matters within City Council and throughout the City of Wilmington.

#4730 A Resolution Requiring City Council Approval to Hire, Fire, Change the Pay Rate, or Discipline City Council Staff; or to Enter into Professional Services Contracts

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. Wilmington City Council desires to make it clear that the authority to hire, fire, change the pay rate or discipline City Council staff requires City Council approval. City Council approval is required for all professional services contracts.*

III. Adjournment

Wilmington, Delaware
November 1, 2019

#4727

WHEREAS, the 107th Session of Wilmington City Council believes openness, transparency, and accountability are important policies; and

Sponsor:

WHEREAS, Wilmington City Council believes the public should have the opportunity to comment on legislation (ordinance or resolution) when legislation is being considered; and

**Council
Member
Gray**

Co-Sponsor:

WHEREAS, the President, the presiding member of Wilmington City Council has started roll call votes prior to members of Wilmington City Council having an opportunity to debate in accordance with the rules; and

**Council
Member
Turner**

WHEREAS, when members of Wilmington City Council conclude debate regarding legislation (ordinance or resolution) the public should be allowed to comment in three-minute increments followed by a final round of debate by members of Wilmington City Council pursuant to the procedures used for the first round of debate; and

WHEREAS, including receipt of quarterly and bimonthly COWBAC Reports on the Agenda will ensure accurate information regarding the composition of City of Wilmington Boards and Commissions will be available to the public and media; and

WHEREAS, Council deems it appropriate to amend its Rules.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Rules of the Council of the City of Wilmington are amended to require that “I) Legislative Business:” will read as follows:

“This portion of the meeting shall be for the consideration of resolutions with legislative effect and ordinances only.

Each member is entitled to speak twice to any matter subject to debate for periods not to exceed five minutes each time, including any time yielded to other members. No member shall exceed these limits except by leave granted by a two-thirds vote of the members present, without debate. No member shall speak twice to a matter until every other member choosing to speak has been recognized. The member on whose motion the matter was brought before Council is first entitled to the floor, and also to close the debate, but not until every other member has had an opportunity to speak for a second time.

After the close of debate on an item of legislative business, but before a vote is started, there shall be an opportunity for public comment in three-minute increments.

After the close of public comment each member is entitled to speak twice to any matter subject to debate for periods not to exceed five minutes each time, including any time yielded to other members. No member shall exceed these limits except by leave granted by a two-thirds vote of the members present, without debate. No member shall speak twice to a matter until every other member choosing to speak has been recognized. The member on whose motion the matter was brought before Council is first entitled to the floor, and also to close the debate, but not until every other member has had an opportunity to speak for a second time.”

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: Wilmington City Council desires to expand the process for legislative business so that after the close of debate by members of city council, the public is allowed to comment, followed by a final round of debate by members of City Council.

Wilmington, Delaware
November 1, 2019

#4728

WHEREAS, the 107th Session of Wilmington City Council believes openness, transparency, and accountability are important policies; and

Sponsor:

WHEREAS, Wilmington City Council desires to expand the opportunity during the Committee of the Whole meetings for members of the public to use their three minutes to address council on any topic.

**Council
Member
McCoy**

WHEREAS, the Wilmington City Council believes that public comment should not be limited to items on the agenda; and

WHEREAS, Federal Communications Commission restrictions applicable to a government channel apply; and

WHEREAS, Council deems it appropriate to amend its Rules.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Rules of the Council of the City of Wilmington are amended to require that “Rule 3” will include the following paragraph between the existing 1st and 2nd paragraphs:

“During the Committee of the Whole meeting members of the public may use their three minutes to address council on any topic. Public comment is not limited to items on the agenda. Federal Communications Commission restrictions applicable to a government channel apply”.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: Wilmington City Council desires to expand the opportunity during the Committee of the Whole meetings for members of the public to use their three minutes to address council on any topic. Public comment is not limited to items on the agenda. Federal Communications Commission restrictions applicable to a government channel apply.

Wilmington, Delaware
November 1, 2019

#4729

Sponsor:

Council
Member
Guy

WHEREAS, on January 3, 2017, the 107th Session of the Wilmington City Council adopted Resolution 17-001, which established the permanent rules of the legislative body; and

WHEREAS, there is interest among member of Council to amend the rule regarding standing committees to include a Personnel Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee will consider City Council personnel matters, review and recommend to Council on matters relating to personnel employed by the City of Wilmington and topics such as labor relations, the merit system, non-union employees, the Human Resources Director and Department, pensions, and other employee- related concerns. This includes but is not limited to: hiring, dismissal, policies, performance, duty changes, benefits (including health insurance), wages, recruitment and retention strategies, effective employee relations management, employee benefits and wellness administration, compensation and classification analysis, safety and risk management, labor relations, employee training and development opportunities, application and recruitment process, apprenticeships, Equal Employment Opportunity, employee discipline, performance evaluations, reports on compliance with federal labor laws, status updates on arbitration cases, and workers' compensation issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that Rule 10 of the Rules of the Council of the City of Wilmington, "Standing Committees of Council", is hereby amended to add "Personnel Committee" to the list of Standing Committees, with the President Pro Tempore serving as the Chair. The President of City Council is a member. Five additional members are to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore. Three members constitute a quorum.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: Wilmington City Council desires to establish a Personnel Committee with oversight of personnel related matters within City Council and throughout the City of Wilmington.

Wilmington, Delaware
November 1, 2019

#4730

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Guy**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-104 of the City Charter, the City Council is authorized to employ and fix the salaries of such persons as may be necessary to discharge the business of the City Council. Professional services contracts circumvent this provision; and

WHEREAS, City Council will make all decisions regarding hiring, firing, pay rates, disciplining staff, and professional services contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that no Member of City Council, including the President, has the authority to hire, fire, change the pay rate or discipline City Council staff without the approval of seven (7) members of City Council, by written Resolution, during a Regular or Special Meeting. Approval of seven (7) members of City Council, by written Resolution, during a Regular or Special Meeting of City Council, is required in connection with all professional services contracts.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: Wilmington City Council desires to make it clear that the authority to hire, fire, change the pay rate or discipline City Council staff requires City Council approval. City Council approval is required for all professional services contracts.