

*Wilmington City Council
Wilmington, Delaware
October 20, 2022*

City Council met in regular session with remote participation on the above date at 6:30 p.m., President Ernest M. Congo, II presiding.

The opening prayer was done by Akira Grenardo, Deputy City Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by City Council.

ROLL CALL

The following members responded to the Call of the Roll: Council Members Gray, Darby, Oliver, Harlee, B. Fields, McCoy, Johnson, N. Field, Cabrera (virtual), Mills and Spadola, and Council President Congo. Total, twelve.

At this time, President Congo recognized some of the dignitaries that attended tonight's meeting including but not limited to former members of Council, community members and civic leaders.

MINUTES

After reading a portion of the minutes of October 6, 2022, upon a motion of Council Member Cabrera, seconded by Council Member McCoy, it was moved they be accepted as written. Motion prevailed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following Treasurer's Report for October 20, 2022 was read into the record by City Clerk and upon a motion of Council Member Cabrera, seconded by Council Member McCoy, the Report was received, recorded and filed. Motion prevailed.

Note: The Treasurer's Report is included herein as an insert from Page 2 to Page 3.

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City of Wilmington



DaWayne Sims
City Treasurer

Treasurer's Report October 20, 2022

Cash - Ledger Balance (as of 10/19/2022):

General	M & T Bank	\$ 8,207,860.00
Payroll	M & T Bank	\$ 857,673.14
Law Department Court Costs	M & T Bank	\$ 3,957.07
Total Petty Cash	M & T Bank	\$ 6,182.55
Police - Evidence Found (Currency)	M & T Bank	\$ 1,213,956.40
Police & Fire Remembrance	M & T Bank	\$ 9,444.49
Police Department Discretionary	M & T Bank	\$ 19,597.18
Rent Withholding Escrow	M & T Bank	\$ 4,137.97
Grant-in-Aid	M & T Bank	\$ 112,760.87
Community Development Block Grant	M & T Bank	\$ 1.00
Capital Projects	M & T Bank	\$ 1.00
Total Cash on Hand		\$ 10,435,571.67

Cash Equivalents & Investments (as of 10/19/2022):

Account Type & Fund	Institution	Investment Type	Number of Days	Interest Rate	Interest Receivable	Investment Amount
LIQUIDITY:						
General	M&T	Overnight Repo	Daily	0.01%	\$ 18.56	\$ 67,583,269.16
General	TD	ARPA funds*	13	1.76%	\$ 28,565.36	\$ 44,945,503.43
General	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 5,755.78	\$ 9,056,295.37
General	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 4.43	\$ 6,971.51
General	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 19,905.82	\$ 31,320,338.35
SUB-TOTAL:						\$ 152,912,377.82
RESERVE:						
General ¹	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 11,020.49	\$ 17,339,925.81
SUB-TOTAL						\$ 17,339,925.81
RESTRICTED:						
Capital Project	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 1,353.01	\$ 2,128,857.86
Capital Project	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 2,763.27	\$ 4,347,809.09
Capital Project	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 18,535.97	\$ 29,164,995.44
Water/Sewer	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 2,118.58	\$ 3,333,425.74
State Bonds Proceeds	TD	High Yield Checking	13	1.76%	\$ 4,019.97	\$ 6,325,120.19
SUB-TOTAL						\$ 45,300,208.32
Account Type & Fund	Institution	Investment Type	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Int. Receiv.	Investment Amount
Police & Fire Remem.	WSFS	CD	1/23/2024	0.15%	\$ 59.18	\$ 25,871.46
Total Investments						\$ 215,578,383.41
Total Cash on Hand						\$ 10,435,571.67
Grand Total						\$ 226,013,955.08

¹ Budget Reserve

*Restricted use. Per ARPA US Treasury Guidelines

DocuSigned by:

DaWayne Sims 10/20/2022

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DaWayne Sims, City Treasurer

CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE

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City of Wilmington



Treasurer's Report - Pensions October 20, 2022

DaWayne Sims

City Treasurer

Cash - Ledger Balance (as of 10/19/2022):

Pension Payroll	M & T Bank	\$	20,610.21
Retiree Healthcare	M & T Bank	\$	913,708.64
Police Pension	M & T Bank	\$	193,528.92
Fire Pension	M & T Bank	\$	6,351.32
Non-Uniform Pension Act of 1990-Plan 3	M & T Bank	\$	228,702.89
Non-Uniform Pension Plan 2	M & T Bank	\$	1,000.00
Old Non-Uniform Pension - Plan 1	M & T Bank	\$	1,592.81
Total Cash on Hand		\$	1,365,494.79

Cash Equivalents (as of 10/19/2022) & Investments (Market Value as of October 14, 2022)

Account Type & Fund	Institution	Investment Type	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Interest Receivable	Investment Amount
LIQUIDITY:						
Pension Plan III	WSFS	CD	10/26/2022	1.50%	\$ 370.34	\$ 296,273.26
Fire Pension	TD	CD	11/9/2022	2.50%	\$ 9,758.36	\$ 3,717,471.51
Police Pension	TD	CD	12/5/2022	2.75%	\$ 2,285.59	\$ 1,099,366.63
SUB-TOTAL:						\$ 5,113,111.40
RESERVE:						
Pension Trust	Rhumblin 3000					\$ 47,209,084.00
Pension Trust	Fidelity Market Index					\$ 5,594,963.00
Pension Trust	Edgar Lomax					\$ 14,994,427.00
Pension Trust	Rhumblin 1000					\$ 12,966,605.00
Pension Trust	Earnest Partners					\$ 15,013,345.00
Pension Trust	Dodge & Cox					\$ 13,136,611.00
Pension Trust	Artisan Global					\$ 10,176,828.00
Pension Trust	MFS Low Global					\$ 12,408,295.00
Pension Trust	Hartford Schroder					\$ 3,442,644.00
Pension Trust	Fidelity Total Intl. Index					\$ 11,416,397.00
Pension Trust	Harding Loevner					\$ 1,078,125.00
Pension Trust	Wellington Emerging					\$ 2,994,094.00
Pension Trust	Clarion Lion					\$ 16,633,926.00
Pension Trust	Morgan Stanley					\$ 11,412,196.00
Pension Trust	JP Morgan					\$ 13,000,000.00
Pension Trust	LM Capital Core					\$ 30,110,540.00
Pension Trust	Rhumblin Core					\$ 26,220,074.00
Pension Trust	Fidelity Bond Index					\$ 701,801.00
Pension Trust	Money Market					\$ 1,468,716.00
Pension Trust	Vanguard-OPEB					\$ 25,690,155.00
SUB-TOTAL						\$ 275,668,826.00
Total Investments						\$ 280,781,937.40
Total Cash on Hand						\$ 1,365,494.79
Grand Total						\$ 282,147,432.19

Total Funds under Treasury Management:

Total Investments						\$ 496,360,320.81
Total Cash on Hand						\$ 11,801,066.46
Grand Total¹						\$ 508,161,387.27

¹ Excludes non-City funds held in trust on behalf of City employees (Mass Mutual)

DocuSigned by:

DaWayne Sims 10/20/2022

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DaWayne Sims, City Treasurer

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NON-LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Upon a motion of Council Members Cabrera and McCoy, seconded by Council Members B. Fields and Gray, the following non-legislative resolutions were accepted into the record and motion prevailed:

All Council	Recognize Council Member At-Large Loretta Walsh
Cabrera	Sympathy June Eisley
McCoy	Recognize Polish Heritage Month
Oliver	Sympathy Myesha Michelle Lee

During this time, a special video tribute was done for former Council Member Loretta Walsh. On behalf of former Council Member Loretta Walsh, her daughter Robin Rome was present to receive the recognition Resolution and gifts presented.

At this time, President Congo gave the privilege of the floor to Mayor Purzycki to express his best wishes and present a gift for former Council Member Walsh. In addition, members of City Council expressed best wishes to former Council Member Walsh.

Upon a motion of Council Member Harlee, seconded by Council Member Gray, Council extended the time of public comment in order to continue to honor former Council Member Loretta Walsh.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time, President Congo opened up the floor for public comments and the following individuals spoke:

- Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long
- Senator Sarah McBride
- State Rep. Stephanie T. Bolden
- Former City Council President Hanifa Shabazz
- Former City Council Member Paul Ignudo, Jr.
- Former City Council Member Kevin F. Kelley, Sr.
- Jim Miller
- Walter Ferris
- Lawrence Smith
- Bayard Marin (virtual)
- Kerry Kristine McElrone (virtual)
- Priscilla Rakestraw
- Katherine Klocko (virtual)
- Cassandra Marshall
- Kathleen Patterson (virtual)
- Kevin Melloy (virtual)

- Rosalynn Webb
- Robin Webb
- D. Marque Hall
- J. Howard Bey of The Federation Moorish Science Temple of America
- Kristina K. (virtual)

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Council Member Gray did not have any legislation to present this evening.

On behalf of President Congo, Council Member Harlee presented
Resolution No. 22-066 (Agenda #0235) as follows:

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 2-104 of the City Charter, City Council shall employ such persons as may be necessary for the proper discharge of its business; and

WHEREAS, Council deems it desirable to appoint the following person necessary for the proper discharge of its business, who shall serve at the pleasure of City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the following person is hereby appointed as an employee of City Council and shall be placed on the payroll of the City of Wilmington in the Office of the City Clerk:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------|
| 1. Mona A. Parikh | | Chief of Staff |
|-------------------|--|----------------|

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution to the Director of Human Resources, the City Treasurer, and the City Auditor.

Upon a motion of Council Member Harlee, seconded by Council Member McCoy, the Resolution was before the Council for its consideration. Council Member Harlee spoke on the purpose of the Resolution.

President Congo requested the Clerk call for the roll.

The above-referenced 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 Gray, Darby, Harlee, B. Fields, McCoy, Johnson, N. Field, Cabrera, Mills and Spadola, and Council President Congo. Total, eleven. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Oliver. Total, one.

President Congo declared the Resolution adopted.

President Congo stated that Council Member Oliver requested to be excused.

On behalf of President Congo, Council Member Harlee presented Resolution No. 22-067 (Agenda #0236) as follows:

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 2-104 of the City Charter, City Council shall employ such persons as may be necessary for the proper discharge of its business; and

WHEREAS, Council deems it desirable to appoint the following person necessary for the proper discharge of its business, who shall serve at the pleasure of City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the following person is hereby appointed as an employee of City Council and shall be placed on the payroll of the City of Wilmington in the Office of the City Clerk:

1. Anissa Bryant Legislative Administrative Assistant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution to the Director of Human Resources, the City Treasurer, and the City Auditor.

Upon a motion of Council Member Harlee, seconded by Council Member Gray, the Resolution was before the Council for its consideration. Motion prevailed. Council Member Harlee spoke on the purpose of the Resolution.

President Congo requested the Clerk to call for the roll.

The above-referenced 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 Gray, Darby, Harlee, B. Fields, McCoy, Johnson, N. Field, Cabrera, Mills and Spadola, and Council President Congo. Total, eleven. Nays, none. Absent, Council Member Oliver. Total, one.

President Congo declared the Resolution adopted.

Council Member Harlee requested to be excused.

On behalf of President Congo, Council Member Johnson presented Resolution No. 22-068 (Agenda #0237) as follows:

WHEREAS, Council Member Loretta Walsh submitted a letter to Council President Ernest “Trippi” Congo II resigning her position as a Council Member At-Large effective as of October 6, 2022, and Council President Congo accepted it with sincere regret; and

WHEREAS, City Charter Section 2-101 and City Code Section 2-34 collectively provide that when a vacancy occurs in the office of a Council Member, City Council shall certify that a vacancy exists by resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that it is with deep regret that, effective as of October 6, 2022, this Council accepts the resignation of Loretta Walsh, City Council Member At-Large.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council, as required by City Charter Section 2-101 and City Code Section 2-34, formally certifies that an At-Large Council position is vacant as of October 7, 2022 and it will be filled by the appointment of a duly qualified successor in accordance with City Charter Section 2-101 and City Code Section 2-34.

Upon a motion of Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member McCoy, the Resolution was before the Council for its consideration. Motion prevailed. Council Member Johnson spoke on the purpose of the Resolution.

President Congo requested the Clerk to call for the roll.

The above-referenced 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 Gray, Darby, McCoy, Johnson, N. Field, Cabrera, Mills and Spadola, and Council President Congo. Total, nine. Nays, none. Absent, Council Members Oliver, Harlee and B. Fields. Total, one.

President Congo declared the Resolution adopted.

President Congo stated that Council Member B. Fields requested to be excused.

Council Member Darby presented Resolution No. 22-069 (Agenda #0238) as follows:

WHEREAS, Wilm. Ch. (Charter) § 1-101 grants the City broad powers of local self-government under home rule authority, which includes the authority to enforce its legislation “by the imposition of fines, forfeitures, penalties and imprisonment”; and

WHEREAS, Wilm. Ch. § 1-102 vests the legislative power of the City in City Council; and

WHEREAS, Wilm. Ch. § 2-300 states that it is “the duty of the council, at least thirty (30) days before the end of the fiscal year, to adopt the annual operating budget ordinance for the next fiscal year”; and

WHEREAS, Wilm. Ch. § 2-302 requires that “[n]ot later than the passage of the annual operating budget ordinance, the council shall ordain such revenue measures as will, in the opinion of the mayor, yield sufficient revenue to balance the budget”; and

WHEREAS, nevertheless, City Council recognizes the fundamental role of examining fees, fines, and administrative sanctions imposed by the City's various departments because of the potential impact on residents, visitors, and businesses in the City; and

WHEREAS, this includes, but is not limited to, the City's Department of Finance in the department's pursuit of fairly and equitably enforcing parking requirements and restrictions in the City, the City's Department of Licenses & Inspections' granting of business licenses and collecting inspection fees in the department's pursuit of ensuring proper business operations and preventing housing code violations, as well as those fines and fees imposed by the City's Fire Marshal's Office; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ("NAACP"), the Delaware Center for Justice ("DCJ"), Network Delaware and its Campaign to End Debtors' Prison, the Latin American Community Center ("LACC"), the nonprofit, public interest law firm Institute for Justice ("IJ"), and the American Automobile Association ("AAA"), City Council has questions and concerns about the implementation and oversight of parking enforcement in the City, including towing and booting fees and fines; and

WHEREAS, City Council deems it prudent to create a taskforce to review fees, fines, and administrative sanctions administered by the City in order to ensure fairness in the administrative process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that a taskforce of City Council to review fees, fines, and administrative sanctions in the City shall be established, consist of eleven (11) members, and be known as the *Fines & Fees Taskforce* (hereinafter the "Taskforce"). The City Council President of the 108th Session of City Council (hereinafter the "President") shall appoint one (1) at-large City Council Member and one (1) district Council Members to the Taskforce. The Chair of the Taskforce shall be selected from among the Taskforce members by a majority vote of the Taskforce members. The Taskforce shall also include one (1) representative from each of the following: a Delaware branch of the NAACP, Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League, Network Delaware, and DCJ. The Taskforce shall also consist of two (2) representatives from Civic Associations operating in Wilmington and two (2) representatives from the Neighborhood Planning Council, and the City Council Chair of the Finance & Economic Development Committee. The appointments shall be approved by a majority of all members of City Council prior to the Taskforce's first meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Chair shall convene the first meeting of the Taskforce sixty (60) days following the effective date of this Resolution. A quorum of the Taskforce is a majority of the members and is necessary for the Taskforce to conduct business at the meeting. Following its first meeting, the Taskforce shall meet at least once every February. If necessary, the Chair may convene additional meetings with an agreement of a majority of the Taskforce.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the purpose of the Taskforce is to review fees, fines, and administrative sanctions administered by the City, make findings, and, if the Taskforce determines that changes are necessary, submit recommendations to City Council. The recommendation must be written and provide the required data points

for any recommended changes, such as the fiscal impact and how any deficiency in the budget resulting from the lowering of fees will be covered. The Taskforce will begin its review process by developing an inventory of all fees, fines, and administrative sanctions imposed by any City department, division, or agency as well as determine when such measures were last reviewed and whether the measures are consistent with the department's stated goals. When requested, the relevant City department will make a good faith effort to provide data and information to the Taskforce.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Taskforce shall make its first findings and recommendations, if any, to the City Council within one-hundred and eighty (180) days of its appointment.

Upon a motion of Council Member Darby, seconded by Council Member McCoy, the Resolution was before the Council for its consideration. Motion prevailed. Council Member Darby made comments and spoke on the purpose of the Resolution. Council Member Gray requested to be added as a co-sponsor and made comments. Council Members McCoy, Spadola and Cabrera made comments. Council Member Gray raised a question. President Congo made comments. Council Member Johnson requested to be added as a co-sponsor and made comments. Council Member Darby made closing comments.

The above-referenced 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 Gray, Darby, McCoy, Johnson, Cabrera, Mills and Spadola, and Council President Congo. Total, eight. Nays, Council Member N. Field. Total, one. Absent, Council Members Oliver, Harlee and B. Fields. Total, one.

President Congo declared the Resolution adopted.

Council Member Darby presented Resolution No. 22-070 (Agenda #0239) as follows:

WHEREAS, Wilmington City Council hereby supports debt forgiveness for loans provided through the U.S. Department of Education. The cost burden has disproportionately impacted borrowers and led to wider racial, social, economic and gender inequity; and

WHEREAS, student loan obligations total more than \$1.75 trillion, and about 46 million Americans are indebted. The average public university student borrows \$30,030 to attain a bachelor's degree. The average balance on federal student loans is \$37,113. The average monthly payment was \$300 before the White House instituted the repayment moratorium, which is in place until August 31, 2022. Before the coronavirus pandemic, 11.1% of student loans were 90 days or more delinquent or in default; and

WHEREAS, the student loan crisis affects nearly 1 in 5 Americans, with Black, Hispanic, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian and Pacific Islander, and other communities of color. Women, low-income residents, and young adults are most heavily impacted; and

WHEREAS, the State of Delaware ranks 5th in the nation for student loan debt. More than half of Delaware's college graduates borrowed money to attend college in 2018-2019; and

WHEREAS, technological changes make it increasingly more difficult to earn a living wage without an advanced degree. College graduates' earnings are 80% higher than those with high school diplomas on average. The cost of a college education has more than doubled over the past generation, so many borrowers are unable to complete their studies. Two-thirds of those who default on loans did not complete a degree program; and

WHEREAS, student loan debt exacerbates the racial inequity. On average, Black students are more likely to borrow and to pay down their debt more slowly. American Indian and Alaskan Native student have the most costly monthly student loan payments, and Black students have the largest total student loan burden. Black students who earned a bachelor's degree had a default rate nearly four times higher than similarly situated White peers. Black and Hispanic students are also three times more likely to attend for-profit colleges than White students. These institutions are often more expensive, which puts students who attend at greater risk of defaulting on their loans in the future; and

WHEREAS, women hold two-thirds of the nation's student loan debt. A disproportionate number of single mothers have high rates of attendance at for-profit colleges, which leads to greater student loan debt burdens. Women of color face significant barriers to paying down their student debt. On average, Black women's student debt outpaces women of other races; and

WHEREAS, high-income communities have greater rates of college attendance, but the impacts of student loan repayment are more severe for members of disadvantaged communities. Low-income families, first-generation college students, veterans, parents, and caregivers are all at higher risks of default; and

WHEREAS, canceling student loan debt represents a significant opportunity for the City of Wilmington and the State of Delaware. Student loan forgiveness will allow residents greater financial stability and increases the proportion of their income that can be spent locally. In Wilmington, where less than half of residential property is owner-occupied, alleviating federal student debt could increase consumer confidence to purchase homes, pursue business ventures, and most importantly, catalyze our economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington City Council calls upon the federal government to leverage its authority to urgently address the student loan crisis by enacting a plan to cancel student loan debt and begin the transition to education as a public good.

Upon a motion of Council Member Darby, seconded by Council Member McCoy, the Resolution was before the Council for its consideration. Motion prevailed. Council Member Darby spoke on the purpose of the Resolution and made comments. Council Member Spadola made comments.

The above-referenced 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 Darby, McCoy and Johnson, and Council President Congo. Total, four. Nays, Council Members N. Field, Mills and Spadola. Total, three. Absent, Council Members Gray, Oliver, Harlee, B. Fields and Cabrera. Total, five.

President Congo declared the Resolution adopted.

Council Member Darby presented Resolution No. 22-071 (Agenda #0240) as follows:

WHEREAS, firefighters are among the oldest and most critical occupations a municipality needs to maintain functionality. The Wilmington Fire Department (WFD) requires expertise to increase its capacity to attract and retain capable, reliable candidates for these important roles; and

WHEREAS, fire safety responsibilities involve physical endurance, skill, and dedication that only a select group of individuals can achieve. Special expertise is required to enable the WFD to identify appropriate candidates who are willing to make long-term contributions to their organizational mission; and

WHEREAS, retention of fire professionals is a nationwide concern to the extent that it was made a priority in the Department of Homeland Security's budget and approximately \$4.8 billion has since been granted to assist local fire departments in maintaining minimum industry standards and adequate staffing for fire and emergency response; and

WHEREAS, the WFD has instituted outreach programs like the Fire Explorer Program to give youth hands-on experiences learning about emergency services careers, over the past years, the WFD has hired six Explorers into the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Explorer Program has not been able to realize its participation targets recently. The WFD has also experienced ongoing difficulties in hiring and retaining a diverse staff that mirror the demographic composition of the City. Additional methods for attracting quality candidates, hiring talented individuals who are residents of Wilmington, and fostering diversity within the ranks of the WFD should be prioritized; and

WHEREAS, professional recruiters possess specialized knowledge of the current trends and tactics for attracting quality candidates. They can not only pinpoint exceptional individuals with the skills for today's fire emergency needs but also prepare the WFD for future demands of the work; and

WHEREAS, designating the WFD recruiter role as a mid-level officer position demonstrates a commitment to addressing hiring challenges. The estimated costs of having an individual in the WFD dedicated to recruiting include the FTE (full-time equivalent) salary of \$65,000 to \$75,000, an additional \$20,000 for benefits, \$3,000 for professional development, and miscellaneous expenses associated with traveling to local and regional career fair events to engage with potential candidates for WFD positions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that this Legislative body supports the acquisition of a professional recruiter for the WFD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Council urges the Administration to make the necessary fiscal appropriations to actualize this goal in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget allocation.

Upon a motion of Council Member Darby, seconded by Council Member McCoy, the Resolution was before the Council for its consideration. Motion prevailed. Council Member Darby stated she will be holding this legislation (Agenda #0240) as well as her next piece of legislation (#0241).

Council Member McCoy did not have any legislation to present this evening.

Council Member Johnson presented Resolution No. 22-072 (Agenda #0242) as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary prior to Council's approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Department of Parks and Recreation (the "Department"), submitted a 2022 Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Trails Grant Program (the "ORPT Program") application to the State of Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control ("DNREC") requesting grant assistance in the minimum amount of \$50,000.00; and

WHEREAS, DNREC has discretion to increase the grant award up to \$100,000.00 if it determines that such increase is warranted during its review of the City's grant application; and

WHEREAS, the ORPT Program, formerly known as the Delaware Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund, is a matching grant program assisting with public park land acquisition and outdoor recreation facility development in Delaware, and has provided over \$34 million in matching grant assistance to eligible local, county, and state governments throughout Delaware since 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Department intends to use the grant funds to make improvements to Judy Johnson Park; and

WHEREAS, the City is required to provide a one-third (1/3) match to the grant award; and

WHEREAS, the City will fund its match through amounts already budgeted for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and appropriate to authorize the grant application for the aforesaid purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Department of Parks and Recreation's grant application to the State of Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control in the minimum amount of \$50,000.00 and maximum amount of \$100,000.00 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to

accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Upon a motion of Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member McCoy, the Resolution was before the Council for its consideration. Motion prevailed. Council Member Johnson spoke on the purpose of the Resolution and made comments. Council Member McCoy requested to be added as a co-sponsor. Council Member Mills requested to be added as a co-sponsor.

President Congo requested the Clerk to call for the roll.

The above-referenced 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 Darby, McCoy, Johnson, N. Field, Mills and Spadola, and Council President Congo. Total, seven. Nays, none. Absent, Council Members Gray, Oliver, Harlee, B. Fields and Cabrera. Total, five.

President Congo declared the Resolution adopted.

Council Member Johnson presented Resolution No. 22-073 (Agenda #0243) as follows:

WHEREAS, community violence remains a persistent public safety concern across our nation's cities. Investing in the City of Wilmington's public safety infrastructure is of paramount importance to this City Council; and

WHEREAS, the funding provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) created an unprecedented opportunity to support resilience. The City has demonstrated its deep commitment to addressing violence and the residual trauma to our communities by devoting \$7 million towards "Building Safer Communities." The "Landscape Analysis Report for the City of Wilmington" (referred to as the "Report") provides a framework for a coordinated, sustainable, and solution-oriented approach to violence that was drafted with consideration to our City's unique needs; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Wilmington entered into an agreement with the Community Based Public Safety Collective, also known as "The Collective," to undertake a landscape analysis to assist the City in its community violence intervention (CVI) and reduction efforts. The Collective conducted more than 58 interviews with a variety of stakeholders, surveyed 20 front line intervention workers, and reviewed crime and hospital data to examine the contexts of local violence; and

WHEREAS, the Collective specializes in the professionalization of CVI and is among our nation's leaders in training and technical assistance (TTA) and capacity-building for emerging community-based public safety (CBPS) initiatives. The organization is one of four TTA providers for the national Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Collaborative, which is a comprehensive strategy to combat violent crime that was convened by the Biden-Harris Administration; and

WHEREAS, the Report provides an assessment of the City's assets; advises on areas for improvement based on interviews with a variety of stakeholders;

offers immediate action steps to confront ongoing gun violence, community trauma, and retaliatory crime; and makes recommendations for laying the groundwork for a long-term community-based public safety infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that this Legislative body accepts into the record the report titled “Landscape Analysis Report for the City of Wilmington.” The “General Recommendations” and “Suggested Action Steps for the City of Wilmington” issued by this report will be taken under advisement as we work collaboratively to chart a new path for our dear City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Council strongly encourages the Administration to release funds to the appropriate entities for community violence intervention in a fiscally responsible and timely manner, ensure that these entities have access to the necessary training, and designate a coordinator to oversee the ongoing implementation of the City’s strategy to interrupt community violence.

Upon a motion of Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member McCoy, the Resolution was before the Council for its consideration. Motion prevailed. Council Member Johnson spoke on the purpose of the Resolution and made comments. Council Member McCoy requested to be added as a co-sponsor. Council Member Mills requested to be added as a co-sponsor and made comments. Council Member Darby requested to be added as a co-sponsor and made comments. Council Member Johnson made closing comments.

President Congo requested the Clerk to call for the roll.

The above-referenced 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 Darby, McCoy, Johnson, N. Field, Mills and Spadola, and Council President Congo. Total, seven. Nays, none. Absent, Council Members Gray, Oliver, Harlee, B. Fields and Cabrera. Total, five.

President Congo declared the Resolution adopted.

Council Members N. Field, Mills and Spadola did not have any legislation to present this evening.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Council Members and Council President spoke on the following: school boards and the need to be advocates for our constituents; the need to give constituents updates on the Reparation Taskforce; St. Hedwig Church and Polish community were thanked; Brandywine, Red Clay and Christina School Districts were congratulated for getting the school boards to come together for the Wilmington Learning Collaborative; other entities were thanked; announcements of community events throughout the city; congratulations and best wishes expressed to former Council Member Walsh’s retirement; the City was congratulated on a job well done for the Southbridge Wetlands

Park; Nigel Sanderson (WITN) was congratulated on the birth of his daughter; meet and greet for Council's new Chief of Staff Mona Parikh; two email letters submitted by Brian McGlinchey and Carol Dulin were read honoring former Council Member Loretta Walsh; and including but not limited to, Marchelle Basnight was thanked for doing an outstanding job in filling in as Chief of Staff since February.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion of Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member McCoy, Council adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Motion prevailed.

Attest: Maribel Seijo
Maribel Seijo, City Clerk