

REGULAR MEETING OF WILMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
April 17, 2025 @ 6:30 PM
Virtual Meeting with Anchor Location In-Person and Remote Participation
Council Chambers
Louis L. Redding City/County Building
800 N. French Street - Wilmington, DE 19801
www.wilmingtoncitycouncil.com or www.WITN22.org

***REVISED 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

a. Recognition Resolutions

Oliver	Recognize Lincoln Club
Oliver	Recognize Wilmington Fire Department
Spadola	Recognize Darcy Brasure (Retirement)

b. Sympathy Resolutions

All Council	Sympathy Marion G. Brister
Cabrera	Sympathy Jane (Plaisted) Bernard Hanson
McCoy	Sympathy Deborah Lynn Jackson
Oliver	Sympathy Valerie McKnight

VI. Public Comment

The meeting will be open to the public starting at 6pm, so members of the public can sign up to speak. To sign up for Public Comment, members of the public must go to the following website <https://tinyurl.com/wccpubliccomment041725> to fill out the information requested. Public Comment will take place after non-legislative business. The President of City Council will recognize speakers in the order listed on the website.

VII. Legislative Business

Note: To view the full legislation, click on the hyperlinked agenda number.

CONGO (Bracy Presenting on behalf of Congo)

[#0036](#) An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 2 of the City Code to Establish an Office of Educational Advocacy as a Division in City Council **(1st & 2nd Reading)**

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance amends Chapter 2 of the City Code by creating an Office of Educational Advocacy as a division within City Council. The office will serve as an advocate for the educational needs and rights of Wilmington students, regardless of where they attend school, and formulate legislative solutions to improve the education of Wilmington students. The chief administrative official of the office will have the title of Director of Educational Advocacy.*

DARBY**#0026**

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 45 of the City Code to Retain a Third-Party Vendor to Conduct a Full Operational and Financial Assessment of the Water/Sewer Fund and Perform a Feasibility Study to Establish an Affordable Water Program **(1st & 2nd Reading)**

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance amends Chapter 45 of the City Code to authorize the Department of Finance to retain an outside vendor to make recommendations concerning the creation of an affordable water program and the setting of water assessment rates. The Ordinance also permits the Department, after review, to accept in whole or in part, or to reject these recommendations.*

#0029

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 34 of the City Code to Provide for Residential Rent Stabilization **(1st & 2nd Reading)**

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance amends Chapter 34 of the City Code by establishing residential rent stabilization policies. For non-exempt residential dwelling units, the authorized rent ceilings for rental units shall be determined by the current base payment standards established by the New Castle County Housing Authority. In addition, and subject to the rent ceiling provisions, the maximum percentage increase to rent in any 12-month period shall be the lesser of (a) three percent (3%) or (b) the 12-month average percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington (All Items), as most recently published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.*

#0037

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 45 of the City Code to Exempt Elderly and Disabled Residents and Residences with Children Under the Age of Five from Water Service Disconnection for Nonpayment of Utility Charges **(1st & 2nd Reading)**

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance exempts eligible elderly and disabled residents as well as residences with children under the age of five from having water shut off for nonpayment of water service charges.*

[#0038](#) A Resolution to Amend City Council Rule 11 to Require Draft Legislation, Presentations, Report, and Updates Available for Public Viewing Before Committee Meetings

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution amends City Council Rule 11 to require draft legislation, presentations, reports, and updates be available for public viewing before Committee meetings.*

[#0039](#) A Resolution to Amend City Council Rule 2 to Include an Additional Public Comment Time for Each Individual Legislative Item, Followed by a Final Round of Debate by Members of City Council

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution amends City Council Rule 2 to include an additional public comment time for each individual legislative item, followed by a final round of debate by members of City Council.*

[#0040](#) A Resolution to Amend City Council Rule 2 to Remove the Residency/Taxpayer Requirement to Give Public Comment. It Also Amends City Council Rule 2 and 11 to Explicitly Require the Posted Agenda to include a Sign-Up Link for those Interested in Giving Public Comment Virtually

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution amends City Council Rule 2 to remove the residency/taxpayer requirement to give public comment. It also amends City Council Rules 2 and 11 to explicitly require the posted Agenda to include a sign-up link for those interested in giving public comment virtually.*

[#0041](#) A Resolution Requesting a Public Hearing by the Wilmington Neighborhood Conservancy Land Bank (WNCLB) Regarding the Acquisition and Future Development of the Gibraltar Property

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. The Wilmington City Council 2022-2025 Strategic Plan seeks to foster a "Stabilized Wilmington," as well as a "Transparent and Well-Represented Wilmington." This Resolution requests that the Wilmington Neighborhood Conservancy Land Bank (WNCLB) hold a public hearing within sixty (60) days of the adoption of this legislation to ensure the successful preservation and revitalization of the Gibraltar property in a manner that honors its historical significance and benefits the community at large.*

Rev. 1

[#0042](#) A Resolution Urging the Delaware General Assembly to Mandate a Moratorium on Utility Shut-offs and Late Fees for Delmarva Power Customers to Ensure Continued Access to Essential Utilities for Delaware Residents

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution expresses support for the appeal by members of the Delaware General Assembly to the Public Acting Public Advocate Ruth Ann Price on January 30, 2025, requesting an investigation of inordinately expensive electric bills. The Resolution also express strong favor for Senate Bills 59, 60, and 61, as well as House Bill 50, which propose legislative action to provide short-term and long-term relief for Delmarva Power customers facing financial hardship. The Resolution further urges additional actions, including but not limited to, immediately instituting a moratorium on electric utility shut-offs and late fees for residential customers for a period of 6 to 12 months, or until a comprehensive review of affordability measures is completed.*

[#0043](#) A Resolution Urging the Delaware General Assembly to Make Findings and Recommendations on the Policies and Practices of Third- Party Electricity Suppliers

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. The Wilmington City Council's 2022-2025 Strategic Plan prioritizes a "Connected, Informed and Engaged Wilmington," which includes facilitating engagement on matters involving constituent, civic, and community concerns. This Resolution urges the Delaware General Assembly to address longstanding constituent complaints regarding high electricity rates and opaque contracts from third-party electricity suppliers by developing a plan to review the transparency, certification process, and practices of third-party electric suppliers certified by the Delaware Public Service Commission. The Resolution further requests that the Delaware General Assembly issue a report, including findings and recommended actions, regarding certified third-party electric suppliers to improve consumer protections and regulation enforcement.*

HARLEE

[#0030](#) Ord. 25-011 Constituting Amendment No. 3 to the Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget (Being an Ordinance to Amend Substitute No. 1 to Ordinance No. 24-016) (EMS/Ambulance Services) **(3rd & Final Reading)**

***Synopsis:** *This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance is the third amendment to the Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget, which was originally enacted in Substitute No. 1 to Ordinance No. 24-016 and was previously amended by Ordinance Nos. 24-050 and 25-001. This Ordinance will enable the City's Fire Department to take over the provision of emergency medical services to City residents from Trinity Health of the Mid-Atlantic Region (St. Francis Hospital), which has informed the City that it will no longer be able to provide such services.*

MCCOY

[#0044](#) An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 34 of the City Code Regarding Escrow **(1st & 2nd Reading)**

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance amends Chapter 34 of the City Code to establish a voluntary escrow program for tenants living in City properties.*

VIII. Petitions and Communications

IX. Adjournment

Note: This meeting will be conducted both in-person and via Zoom. All are welcome to attend.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86050568945> or visit the WITN22 website www.witn22.org or WITN YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/WITN22Wilmington/> or listen in only by calling one of the following phone numbers (929) 205-6099 or (301) 715-8592. You will be asked for the **Webinar ID**. Please enter 860 5056 8945 and then #. International numbers available: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86050568945>.

Agenda prepared April 10, 2025 and posted on Council's website, www.wilmingtoncitycouncil.com - [Current Agenda](#)

**** Note: Revision to correct the transposition of incorrect synopsis.***

Rev. 1 (4/14/2025)