

REGULAR MEETING OF WILMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
April 2, 2026 @ 6:30 PM – AGENDA RESULTS
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

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

All Council	Recognize Howard High School Boys’ Basketball Team (DIAA State and Blue Hen Conference Flight B Champions)
Oliver	Recognize Priscilla B. Rakestraw (Deputy Director of Development for the Ministry of Caring)
Oliver	Recognize National Guard of the United States (390 th Anniversary)
Owens	Recognize Autism Acceptance Month

b. Sympathy Resolutions

Cabrera	Sympathy Tony L. Tucker
Cabrera	Sympathy Mary Elizabeth Smith
Cabrera	Sympathy Arnise Renee Malcom
Congo	Sympathy Charlotte Denise Marks-Roundtree
Harlee	Sympathy Rachelle Alane Grimes
Oliver	Sympathy Paula Webb Medford
Oliver	Sympathy Elder Tracy Payne
Oliver	Sympathy Donald Bernard Brown
Owens	Sympathy Julia Ann Thomas
Spadola	Sympathy John Cameron Yorkston

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/wccpubliccomment040226> 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. If there are any issues with accessing the sign up form, please contact: wilmcc109@gmail.com.

Note: Per Council Rules (CC Rule 2), the public shall register to speak by 6:45.

VII. Legislative Business

DARBY

Rev. 1 #0098 Sub. 1 to An Ordinance to Enact a Temporary Moratorium on the Issuance of **PASSED**
 Ord. 25-045 New Business Licenses for New Corner Properties Within the City
 Pending Completion of an Equity Impact Assessment **(3rd & Final Reading)**

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by the City Council for Council’s review and approval. This Ordinance issues a temporary moratorium on the establishment of new convenience stores in the city. The moratorium will be in effect until such time an equity impact assessment has been completed by the Department of Land Use and Planning, unless repealed by City Council. During the period in which the moratorium is in effect, the zoning board of adjustment shall not consider any application for permission, variance, or special exception for the establishment of a new corner property. The zoning board of adjustment may consider applications for a hardship exception to the moratorium.*

#0172 Ord. 26-007 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 2 of the City Code to Create an **PASSED**
 African American History and Cultural Preservation Commission
(3rd & Final 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 deleting a defunct African American History Museum Foundation Committee and establishing in its place a permanent African American History and Cultural Preservation Commission.*

#0208 A Resolution Recommending Council Appropriate Funding to Commission a **Res. 26-025**
 Professional Grant Writer in the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget **Defeated**

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by the City Council for Council’s review and approval. This Resolution recommends that the City of Wilmington include \$60,000 of budget appropriations in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to commission a professional grant writer. A qualified professional grant writer, acting either as a part-time employee or contracted consultant, would proactively bolster Wilmington’s capacity to pursue viable external funding opportunities that strengthen municipal services, enhance fiscal sustainability, and advance the long-term interests of the residents of Wilmington.*

#0209 A Resolution Recommending Council Appropriate Funding to Commission a **Res. 26-026**
 Social Service Navigator in the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget **Defeated**

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by the City Council for Council’s review and approval. This Resolution recommends the appropriation of \$80,000 in funding in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to commission a qualified Social Service Navigator on a part-time or consultant basis to lead the City of Wilmington’s efforts to connect constituents with support and resources that fit their needs.*

OLIVER

#0200 Ord. 26-020 An Ordinance to Authorize and Approve an Electricity Procurement Contract Starting in Fiscal Year 2027 **(3rd & Final Reading)**

PASSED

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by the City Council for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance authorizes the City to enter into one or more contracts for the purchase of electricity with one or more of three electricity providers starting in fiscal year 2027 for a term not to exceed five (5) years.*

#0210 A Resolution Urging the City of Wilmington's Law Department to Adopt Policies and Practices to Recruit and Retain a Diverse Legal Workforce

**Res. 26-027
Adopted**

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution encourages the Administration to collaborate with the Law Department to adopt policies and practices that facilitate recruitment and retention of a legal workforce that more closely reflects the demographic composition of the residents of the City of Wilmington.*

#0211 A Resolution Encouraging the Enforcement of Dress Codes in Schools Relating to Pajamas

**Res. 26-028
Adopted**

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution encourages school districts and school boards to enforce school dress codes and prohibit sleepwear or pajamas during school hours to address concerns related to student comfort and conduct.*

#0212 A Resolution Encouraging More Attention to Cursive Handwriting Instructions in School

**Res. 26-029
Defeated**

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution reaffirms the importance of cursive handwriting instruction in public elementary schools' curricula and encourages the Delaware General Assembly, Department of Education, and school administrators to ensure that it is carried out in accordance with the requirements set forth in Title 14 § 4138 of the Delaware Code.*

HARLEE

#0213 An Ordinance to (I) Annex Approximately 4.1 Acres Consisting of Seven Parcels of Land (Being Tax Parcel Nos. 10-001.00-017, 10-001.00-018, 10-001.00-078, 10-001.00-021, 10-001.00-080, 10-001.00-081, and 10-001.00-082) into the City's Corporate Boundaries, (II) Rezone the Parcels from a Zoning Classification of New Castle County HI (Heavy Industrial) to a Zoning Classification of City of Wilmington M-1 (Light Manufacturing), (III) Amend Chapter 2 of the City Code Regarding the Boundaries of the Fourth Councilmanic District, and (IV) Amend Applicable City Maps to Add the Annexed Parcels into the City's Corporate Boundaries **(1st & 2nd Reading)**

**Ord. 26-027
Community
Development &
Urban Planning**

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council's review and approval. This Ordinance approves the annexation of approximately 4.1 acres consisting of seven (7) parcels of land located in the South Wilmington area of unincorporated New Castle County (being Tax Parcel Nos. 10-001.00-017, 10-001.00-018, 10-001.00-078, 10-001.00-021, 10-001.00-080, 10-001.00-081, and*

10-001.00-082) (collectively, the “Parcels”) and the rezoning of the Parcels from a zoning classification of New Castle County HI (Heavy Industrial) to a zoning classification of City of Wilmington M-1 (Light Manufacturing). In addition, this Ordinance amends the boundaries of the Fourth Councilmanic District set forth in City Code Section 2-31 and the applicable City maps to add the Parcels into the City’s corporate boundaries.

#0214 A Resolution Affirming Wilmington City Council’s Commitment to Civility in Governance

**Res. 26-030
Adopted**

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council’s review and approval. This Resolution affirms the Wilmington City Council’s commitment to civility, mutual respect, and professionalism in all official duties, meetings, communications, and interactions with fellow council members, city employees, constituents, and the public.*

#0175 Ord. 26-010 An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of the City’s General Obligation Bond (Supplemental Adams Street Green Infrastructure Project), Series A of 2026-WPCRF, in Order to Provide the Funds Necessary for the Increased Construction Costs Associated with the Installation of Three Bioretention Gardens, 1900 Linear Feet of Stormwater Pipe, Sixteen Manholes, and Five Trench Drains Located in and Around the Adams Street Courts at 210 North Jackson Street; Providing for the Sale of the 2026A Bond to the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund; and Authorizing Other Necessary Action **(3rd & Final Reading)**

PASSED

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council’s review and approval. This Ordinance authorizes the issuance of a General Obligation Bond (Supplemental Adams Street Green Infrastructure Project), Series A of 2026-WPCRF, in an amount not to exceed \$808,242 (the “2026A Bond”), which will be sold to the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund in order to (i) finance the increased construction costs associated with the installation of three (3) bioretention gardens, 1900 linear feet of stormwater pipe, sixteen (16) manholes, and five (5) trench drains located in and around the Adams Street Courts at 210 North Jackson Street, as set forth in the City’s capital budget for its Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024, (ii) pay administrative costs relating to such capital projects, and (iii) pay the costs of issuing the 2026A Bond.*

#0176 Ord. 26-011 An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of the City’s General Obligation Bond (Lead Removal Phase IV Project), Series A of 2026-DWSRF, in Order to Provide the Funds Necessary for the Replacement of Approximately Three to Four Miles of Old Cast Iron Watermain in the City’s Water Distribution System; Providing for the Sale of the 2026A Bond to the Delaware Drinking Water State Revolving Fund; and Authorizing Other Necessary Action **(3rd & Final Reading)**

PASSED

Synopsis: *This Ordinance is being presented by the Administration for Council’s review and approval. This Ordinance authorizes the issuance of a General Obligation*

Bond (Lead Removal Phase IV Project), Series A of 2026-DWSRF (the “2026A Bond”), in an amount not to exceed \$13,000,000, which will be sold to the Delaware Drinking Water State Revolving Fund in order to (A) finance the replacement of approximately three (3) to four (4) miles of old cast iron watermain in the City’s water distribution system, as set forth in the City’s capital budget for its Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2026, (B) pay administrative costs relating to such capital project, and (C) pay the costs of issuing the 2026A Bond.

#0177 Ord. 26-012 An Ordinance to Authorize and Approve a Multi-Year Contract Retaining Belfint, Lyons & Shuman, P.A. as the External Auditor for the City of Wilmington **(3rd & Final Reading)**

DEFEATED

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

approval. This Ordinance authorizes the City to enter into a multi-year contract with Belfint, Lyons, & Shuman, P.A. for the purposes of retaining an External Auditor, at an estimated price of One Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents per annum (\$198,000.00). The primary purpose of the Contract is to retain the services of an External Auditor to provide full assurance that the City’s accounting records surrounding its Financial Audit, Single Audit, Firefighters’ Pension Fund Audit, and Police Pension Fund Audi are fair, complete and in adherence with generally accepted accounting principles, industry standards and regulatory requirements.

WILLAUER

#0215 A Resolution Opposing Approval for a Delmarva Rate Increase

**Res. 26-031
Adopted**

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council’s review and approval. This Resolution joins Governor Matt Meyer, our counterparts in the Delaware General Assembly and New Castle County Council, and the Division of the Public Advocate of the State of Delaware in expressing profound concerns about the impact of Docket No. 251555, Delmarva Power and Light Company’s proposed electric base rate increase application, on ratepayers in our City and State. It respectfully urges the Delaware Public Service Commission to reject the proposal in its current form.*

MCCOY

#0216 A Resolution Approving the Police Department’s Grant Application to the State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund to Support Equipment Purchases

**Res. 26-032
Adopted**

Synopsis: *This Resolution is being presented by the Administration for Council’s review and approval. This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department’s grant application to the State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (SLEAF) in the amount of \$36,900, or such other amount that the SLEAF awards. The proposed grant funds would be used to purchase (i) a forklift that can be utilized to help safely manage supplies at the Police Department’s training facility and (ii) saws that can be utilized to gain entry into structures during high-risk operations. No local matching funds are required.*

HACKETT

Rev. 2 #0217

A Resolution Urging the Delaware General Assembly to Initiate a Proposed Amendment to Wilmington City Charter Sections 2-101 and 2-103 to Prohibit a Councilmember-at-large in a Minority Political Party in which there are Three Councilmembers-at-large of the same Party Affiliation and one Councilmember of a different Party Affiliation from Changing their Voter Registration Political Party Affiliation during an Active term for which they were Elected to City Council

Res. 26-033
Adopted

Synopsis:

This Resolution is being presented by City Council for Council's review and approval. This Resolution initiates a proposed amendment to Wilmington City Charter Sections 2-101 and 2-103 to prohibit a councilmember-at-large in a minority political party in which there are three councilmembers-at-large of the same party affiliation and one councilmember of a different party affiliation from changing their voter registration political party affiliation during an active term for which they were elected to City Council. Under the proposed amendments, if such a councilmember-at-large changes their political party affiliation to a majority party affiliation in which there are three councilmembers-at-large of the same party affiliation during an active term, such an act would result in the automatic forfeiture and vacancy of their seat. The proposed amendments are intended to ensure representation of minority political parties on City Council.

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/83927602606> 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 839 2760 2606 and then #. International numbers available: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83927602606>. If there are any issues with joining the meeting, please contact: wilmcc109@gmail.com.