

Wilmington, Delaware

October 15, 2026

#0289

WHEREAS, Section 2-369 of the City Code requires grants awarded by the Mayor, City Council, or the City Treasurer in the amount of \$5,000 or more within a fiscal year to be approved by resolution of City Council; and

Sponsor:**Council
Member
Willauer****Co-
Sponsors:****Council
President
Congo****Council
Members
Owens
Darby
Oliver
Harlee
McCoy
Johnson
Field
Bracy
Hackett
Spadola**

WHEREAS, Council Member Christian Willauer (\$4,500), City Council President Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II (\$1,000), and Council Members Shané N. Darby (\$500), Zanthia Oliver (\$400), Michelle Harlee (\$250), Yolanda M. McCoy (\$500), Christofer C. Johnson (\$1,000), Nathan Field (\$1,000), Latisha Bracy (\$500), Alexander D. Hackett (\$500), and James Spadola (\$500) wish to award a grant totaling \$10,650 to the Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation, Inc. from Community Support/Discretionary Funds, which have been allocated to provide sponsorship by Councilpersons of community initiatives. Council Member Coby J. Owens wishes to contribute \$1,000 to the Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation, Inc. from Special Funds, external to Community Support/Discretionary Funds, bringing the total grant contribution to \$11,650; and

WHEREAS, the Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation, Inc. is a community-based nonprofit organization administered by the Mother African Union Church. dedicated to fostering cultural, historical, and educational development, honoring the rich African American heritage and civil rights legacy associated with and Peter Spencer, and empowering local youth and families through comprehensive community enrichment programs; and

WHEREAS, the Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation, Inc. operates essential educational and social initiatives, including youth literacy and leadership programs, historical preservation of Wilmington's pioneering religious and civil rights legacy, and community health and wellness outreach; and

WHEREAS, established in 1999, the Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation, Inc. has traditionally been housed within the Mother African Union Church building, which was tragically destroyed by a fire on May 17, 2026; and

WHEREAS, City Council finds that supporting the rebuilding of Mother African Union Church directly advances community empowerment, strengthens neighborhood resources, and expands educational and recreational opportunities for Wilmington youth and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that this Council hereby approves the issuance of a grant in the amount of \$11,650 to the Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation, Inc. (\$10,650 from City

Council Community Support/Discretionary Funds and \$1,000 from external Special Funds) to support its ongoing community, cultural, and youth empowerment initiatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this grant contribution is in alignment with City Council's priorities of supporting youth development, cultural enrichment, and community wellness across Wilmington neighborhoods.

Passed by City Council,
October 15, 2026

ATTEST: Akira Grenardo
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution approves grant funding from Wilmington City Council to the Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation, Inc. in the total amount of \$11,650 (\$10,650 from City Council Community Support/Discretionary Funds and \$1,000 from external Special Funds) to support the rebuilding of Mother African Union Church, a critical hub of community enrichment, youth literacy, leadership, and cultural heritage initiatives that serve residents throughout the City of Wilmington.

FISCAL IMPACT: This Resolution approves \$10,650 from the City Council Community Support/Discretionary Funds of Council Member Christian Willauer (\$4,500), City Council President Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II (\$1,000), and Council Members Shané N. Darby (\$500), Zanthia Oliver (\$400), Michelle Harlee (\$250), Yolanda M. McCoy (\$500), Christofer C. Johnson (\$1,000), Nathan Field (\$1,000), Latisha Bracy (\$500), Alexander D. Hackett (\$500), and James Spadola (\$500), along with an additional \$1,000 from the external Special Funds of Council Member Coby J. Owens.