

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NEW CASTLE
PUBLIC HEARING
MASONIC HALL – 1406 WILMINGTON ROAD – NEW CASTLE
TUESDAY – MAY 9, 2000 – 6:30 P.M.**

A public hearing to discuss the placement of Parking “T’s” on Second, Third and Fourth Streets from Chestnut to South.

Henry Patchak, Patti Thatcher, Tina Kelly, Joyce Ayers, Jody Schaub, Steve Pedrick and Mike Alfree were all against having T’s placed where they live. Mike Alfree took a consensus of his neighbors and they are all against T’s. Gary Young spoke of the parking problem throughout the city. He felt is the city does place T’s to make them smaller. Bobbi Morrow wanted to know if T’s would be placed in front of driveways and accesses to individual back yards. Connie Deater was against the issue if less parking would be available.

President Blest received letters from Judge Cooch, Fred Gallagher and John Ryan who were all against parking T’s.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NEW CASTLE
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
MASONIC HALL – 1406 WILMINGTON ROAD – NEW CASTLE
TUESDAY – MAY 9, 2000 – 7:00 P.M.**

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Councilman DiAngelo
Councilman Marinelli
President Blest

Councilman Davis
Councilman Reese

Also, present Mayor Houben, Mr. Robert Martin, City Administrator, Herb Swanson Housing Enforcement Official, Rick Harrison, Director of Public Works, Mr. Jeff Bergstrom, Building Official, Chief Kevin McDerby, New Castle Police Department and attached list of audience.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Swanson read Health and Housing Report	-	April 2000
Mr. Bergstrom read the Building Official's Report	-	April 2000
Chief McDerby read the Police Department Report	-	April 2000
Mr. Harrison read the Public Work's Report	-	April 2000

Mr. Reese made a motion that all committee reports be accepted as read. Mr. Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Janet Carlin, City Treasurer read the report for the month ending April 30, 2000.

Mr. Reese made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as read. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES BY DATE:

President Blest asked if all of council read the council minutes and if anyone has any questions or changes. Mr. Davis made a motion to accept April council minutes. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. President Blest read a letter from Mr. Condouris requesting that his submission for the 24 West Third Street subdivision be tabled until his plans can be reviewed.
2. President Blest read a letter from Dorsey Fiske stating she is against the subdivision on West Third Street.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

There was no business from the floor.

BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Houben spoke about Separation Day and what a wonderful affair it will be.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

President Blest recognized Boy Scout Troop #33 from Immaculate Heart of Mary Church of Wilmington. Three members were in attendance in order to work on a badge in communications. Their counselor Mr. Swank thanked council for allowing the boys to attend.

BUSINESS FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Mr. Martin read several pieces of correspondence that would be of interest to the audience. Copies of the correspondence and reports are available at the city offices and The New Castle Public Library.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. 2nd reading of Ordinance No. 394 Increasing Income Limits on the Over 65 and Disability Tax Exemptions. (Councilman Davis) Mr. Davis read Ordinance No. 394 in its entirety.

2. **3rd and final reading of Ordinance No. 392 prohibiting abandonment of vehicles within the city limit of The Mayor and Council of New Castle and to regulate the removal and impoundment of abandoned vehicles; to provide penalties for the abandonment of vehicles as well as to establish a procedure for permits authorizing the storage of vehicles on private property. (President Blest)** President Blest read this ordinance by title only. Mr. Marinelli made a motion to accept this ordinance as read. Mr. DiAngelo seconded the motion. President Blest asked for a roll call. Mr. Marinelli, yes, Mr. Reese, yes, Mr. Davis, yes, Mr. DiAngelo, yes, President Blest, yes. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Presentation of 98/99 Fiscal Audit. (Councilman Davis)** Mr. Davis stated council had reviewed the audit previously. Mr. Reese made a motion to accept the 98/99 Fiscal Audit. Mr. Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Presentation of Main Street Program.** Mayor Houben explained to the audience that seven or eight months ago council approached Representative Mulrooney to set aside \$7,000 for a study to be done by the Main Street Program. The program is geared towards small businesses in small communities throughout New Castle to learn ways to be more profitable and to add more diversity to the city. The Main Street Program is part of a National Trust and large organization. Their main goal is to enhance retail and economic issues through historic preservation. Ms. Theresa Lynch from the National Office spoke on some short term solutions to some of the issues in the City of New Castle along with long term goals.
2. **Request from Sandra Pitts, owner of Hot Dawg Carts, Inc. to vend food from a portable hot dog cart at the wharf. (President Blest)** President Blest showed a picture of the hot dog cart and allowed Ms. Pitts to address council giving them information on her background and answering their questions. She has all the insurance and health licenses needed to vend. Council explained to Mrs. Pitts that the license lists the dates she will not be permitted to vend. Mr. DiAngelo made a motion to accept this vendor. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Authorization to have the Mayor sign 21st Century application for Wharf Stabilization. (Councilman Reese)** Mr. Martin explained this is a request for the State of Delaware to appropriate \$100,000 for the rehabilitation of the wharf. Mr. Reese made a motion to have the mayor sign the application. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Confirmation of the Mayor's appointments to the Planning Commission. (President Blest)** President Blest stated the mayor needs to appointment three members to the Planning Commission due to individuals moving or retiring. Mayor Houben submitted the names of Mr. John Wik and Mr. William Cramer to be re-appointed until April 2003. The mayor submitted the name of Mr. Stanley Sykora to replace Mr. Robert Rotz who will be locating out of state. Mr. Reese made a motion to accept the names submitted by the mayor. Mr. Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
5. **Bank Resolution (2) to pay Wik Associates, Inc. for demolition and asbestos abatement and disposal at former Public Works Department Garage on Chestnut Street. (Councilman Davis)** Mr. Davis read the two bank resolutions authoring the city to pay Wik Associates, Inc. for their work at the former Public Works Department. Mr. Reese made a motion to accept the resolutions as read. Mr. DiAngelo seconded the motion.
6. **Consideration of placing the following Transportation Projects into DelDot Pipe Line Process. (President Blest)**
 1. Moores Lane and Rte. 9. (designated as a dangerous intersection)
 2. 6th Street and Rte. 9
 3. 3rd Street and Rte. 9
 4. Delaware Street and Rte. 9
 5. Washington Street and Rte. 9
 6. Route 9, Washington Street to 6th Street (Chestnut Street)
 7. Bike/Ped/Traffic Calming Improvement
 - a. Rte. 9 – Washington St. to 6th St.
 - b. Washington St. – Rte. 9 to Rte. 273
 - c. East Coast Greenway Connector
 - d. Rte. 9 – Dobbinsville to city limits

7. **Resolution No. 2000-08 approving a minor subdivision for property located on East Second Street. (President Blest)** President Blest read Resolution No. 2000-08 in its entirety. Mr. Reese made a motion to accept this resolution as read. Mr. DiAngelo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
8. **Discussion on Bull Hill Boat Yard Lease. (Councilman DiAngelo)** Mr. DiAngelo stated that the status of the Bull Hill Boat Yard Lease is it is in the hands of our attorney. The lease will be for a three-year period renewable in three-year increments. He stated that hopefully the lease would be settled this month. The hold up was having the property surveyed. That is now completed.
9. **Appointment of Committee for proposed Rental Ordinance. (President Blest)** President Blest stated since there were so many questions on the proposed ordinance for rental properties council felt a committee should be appointed to review the ordinance and questions. President Blest asked for an appointment from each councilperson. Mr. DiAngelo offered to chair the committee and Mr. Bergstrom and Mr. Martin will also be part of the committee. Mr. Marinelli appointed Mr. Louis Alvini. Mr. Davis appointed Mr. Roy Wample. Mr. DiAngelo appointed Ms. Flo Russell. Mr. Reese did not submit a name at this time. President Blest appointed Mr. Gene Dempsey.
10. **Consideration of recommendation of Planning Commission to zone the Buttonwood School Property to Open Space and Recreation. (President Blest)** President Blest read a letter from the Planning Commission informing council that during their April 10, 2000 meeting the commission voted unanimously to recommend that the property known as the Buttonwood School Property, be zoned Open Space and Recreation; with the understanding that if the existing school building is to be preserved a further rezoning of the property as R-2 consistent with the contiguous area to the southwest would be appropriate. Mr. Marinelli made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

11. **Approval of Resolution No. 2000-09 approving a Minor Subdivision for property located on West 3rd St. (President Blest)** President Blest asked that this matter be tabled as council has not received official notice of the planning commission's vote. Mr. Reese objected to preempted paper work being placed in council's packet. Motion tabled.
12. **Consideration to re-name 6th Street Extension to Glebe Lane. (President Blest)** President Blest explained that truck traffic has increased in the city. Several occasions trucks were looking for companies with a 6th Street address when they were located out by the Glebe cemetery. Council decided to submit a resolution next council meeting to change the name of the street.
13. **Comments from the floor.**
 1. Dave June stated that he was a little upset at the last meeting and did not get a chance to comment on the rental ordinance. Mr. June is in favor of the rental ordinance as there are landlords who only want financial gain and don't care about their renters.
 2. Barbara Minshall clarified that the proper name for Moores Lane is Moore Avenue, which is in the city limits, and Moores Lane is in the county limits. Mrs. Minshall also asked if any rental committee member was a landlord. She was told one member was. One member is not a resident of New Castle.
 3. Tom Wilson talked about the boat yard history, which he felt was relevant to the request in July 1999 from a group of individuals from Bull Hill to lease the boat yard. He stated that this group has complied with all of councils requests i.e. to form a club, form a membership, get a charter and get insurance. He feels that council has been remiss in finalizing the lease.
 4. Teal Petty questioned the planning commission's recommendation for the Buttonwood School and the plans for the Buttonwood Mansion.
 5. Barbara Kuzmarski asked about a meeting relevant to the parking at the old David Finney Inn.

Mr. Reese made a motion to adjourn the regular council meeting and enter into executive session. Mr. DiAngelo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Executive Session Minutes as dictated by Mr. Martin on 6/29/2000.

The Mayor and Council convened into executive session at 9:00 P.M., to discuss with Wendy Voss, Esq. attorney who is representing the city in it's negotiations with AFSCME Local 81 (non-police employees). Ms. Voss explained the wage and benefits section of the potential labor agreement plus a review of the past nine months of negotiations.

After many questions from the Mayor and Council regarding the proposed contract, the negotiations committee was instructed to move forward with negotiations.

Councilman Reese made a motion to return to open session. Mr. Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Returned to open session at 9:45 p.m.

No further business, Councilman DiAngelo made a motion to adjourn the open session. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia K. Fuller". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Patricia Fuller
City Clerk