

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NEW CASTLE  
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING  
NEW CASTLE TOWN HALL – 203 DELAWARE STREET  
TUESDAY- OCTOBER 10, 2000 – 7:00 PM**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT**

Councilman DiAngelo  
Councilman Marinelli  
President Blest

Councilman Davis  
Councilman Reese

Also, present Mayor Houben, Mr. Robert Martin, City Administrator, Mr. Herb Swanson, Housing Enforcement Official, Chief Kevin McDerby, New Castle Police Department, Mrs. Jean Williamson, Council Secretary and attached list of audience.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Mr. Martin read the following reports:

Police Department Report	-	September 2000
Building Official's Report	-	September 2000
Public Works Report	-	September 2000
Health and Housing Report	-	September 2000

The finance director was ill so no finance report was available.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Ms. Janet Carlin, City Treasurer read the treasurer's report for the month ending September 2000.

Mr. Reese made a motion that all committee reports and the treasurer's report be accepted as read. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES BY DATE:**

President Blest asked if council had read the minutes and if there were any questions or changes. Council had none. Mr. DiAngelo made a motion that the minutes be accepted as read. Mr. Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

President Blest and council members had no communications.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: (CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

1. Mr. Don Walz of 21 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street presented council with a survey taken from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, South, Cherry, Delaware, Tremont, Harmony and 6<sup>th</sup> Street residents regarding the city wide 15 MPH speed limit proposal. There were 123 residents for the proposal and 16 residents against the proposal. Mr. Walz also asked about the school zone markings at 6<sup>th</sup> and Harmony Streets and what are the state requirements. Council stated they would check on the state requirements.
2. Barbara DiMaio from 115 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street spoke about the traffic problems on Third Street. She felt that 25 MPH was to fast. Ms. DiMaio also commended Chief McDerby for a job well done and for responding promptly to complaints.
3. Mrs. Clark asked how many speeding arrests have been made?
4. Michael Platt of South Street told of damage to his vehicle on many occasions and the safety of his children.
5. Joe Hurst of Delaware Street was in favor of the 15-MPH limit.
6. David DiMaglio of Clayton Street doesn't think reducing the speed limit to 15 MPH will deter speeders. He stated we should try something new.
7. Don Walz asked why New Castle doesn't consider a reputation like Elsmere. The police need to really crack down on speeders.

**BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR:**

Mayor Houben stated he has been driving for over 40 years and that most school zones were marked on the street instead of flashing lights and maybe New Castle could look into those type of markings. Mayor Houben also stated that last Friday night the Trustees of the New Castle Commons received an award for the restoration of Town Hall. He emphasized the value of restoring and preserving historic treasures in Delaware.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT:**

President Blest stated he had no business to discuss at this time.

**BUSINESS FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR:**

Mr. Martin asked Chief McDerby to talk about the bids for towing and impounding vehicles. Chief McDerby stated that all contracts were reviewed and his recommendation was the C&B Towing be awarded the contract and that they met all specifications. The chief stated they don't want the citizens to be ripped off from outlandish prices being charged. The contract will be in effect for 2 years.

Mr. Martin read a letter from the Colonial School District regarding William Penn High School homecoming parade on Saturday, October 14, 2000.

Mr. Martin also stated that the Municipal Services Commission and the Trustees of the New Castle Commons invited the Mayor and Council to meet with them on October 26, 2000 at the Arsenal to discuss issues of mutual concern. Mr. Martin then read several letters containing information that was of interest to the citizens of New Castle. Mr. Blest also mentioned at this time that Mr. Robert Martin, City Administrator of New Castle won the City Manager of the Year Award. Mr. Martin stated it was a great honor.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Consideration of comments from Public Hearing regarding the adoption of 15 MPH speed regulation within the corporate limits of New Castle.** There was considerable discussion regarding the 15-MPH proposed speed limit. Mr. Marinelli felt it should be implemented on narrow streets but not throughout the city. Mr. DiAngelo felt 15 MPH for the narrower streets but 20-MPH for the other streets. He felt strict enforcement was very important. Mr. Davis felt it should be up to the chief of police to recommend what streets should be changed. He doesn't feel the 15-MPH is the answer. Mr. Reese feels the answer is strict enforcement and police presence. He feels certain narrower streets should be lowered. The consensus of council is to lower the speed limit on narrower streets. Council decided a public hearing would be held prior to the November 14, 2000 council meeting and it was suggested that council present a plan to the public at that time.
2. **Consideration of lease between the Mayor and Council of New Castle and the Bull Hill Boat Yard, Inc.** Mr. DiAngelo read resolution #2000-15 authorizing the city council president to execute the lease with the Bull Hill Boat Yard, Inc. and the Mayor and Council of New Castle. Mr. DiAngelo stated the yearly fee will be \$100 and the lease is for 3 years. Mr. Reese made a motion to accept the resolution as read. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Resolution No. 2000-14 excluding Social Security and Medicare Payments for the City of New Castle election workers who earn less than \$1,100 for calendar year 2000 with adjusted limits each succeeding year.** President Blest read the resolution in its entirety. He asked Mr. Martin to explain the resolution to the council. Mr. Martin explained that the pension office had requested this resolution to identify the election workers and their coverage would be addressed and not taxed on the time they worked for the election. Council needed more clarification on this resolution and unanimously agreed to table the motion at this time.
2. **Discussion on approaching Delaware Transit Corporation to utilize the area south of Young Street between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Streets as parkland.** Mr. Reese explained this is an area in the west end of town where railroad tracks were removed. Mr. Reese requested that council write to Delaware Transit Corp. asking them to clean up debris left on the area and plant grass seed. This would then allow the area to be used as a parkland. Mr. DiAngelo made a motion for the request to be made. Mr. Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Bank Resolution in the amount of \$32,048.95 to Ford Motor Credit Corporation for lease payment #2 on 2000 Sterling L7500 Trash Truck.** Mr. Davis read the resolution in its entirety. Mr. Davis made a motion that the resolution be accepted as read. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Request for Annexation by the Board of Directors of the Delaware Credit Union League, Inc.** President Blest received a letter from Mr. Robert Walls; President of the credit union dated September 18, 2000 requesting their property be annexed into the City of New Castle limits. The procedure council must follow once an annexation request is made is to appoint a committee. President Blest appointed a committee comprised of Mr. David June, Mr. David Robinson, Councilman Davis, Reese and DiAngelo, Chief McDerby and Mr. Martin. Councilman Reese will be chairman of the committee.
5. **Discussion of Appreciation of volunteers to City Committees and Commissions.** Mr. Martin explained there had been informal talks trying to come up with a way to thank citizens who volunteer their time for the city. They talked about a breakfast, lunch or dinner. Mr. Reese stated it is a nice idea but the city has to see what the costs involved would be. Council decided to table the discussion and give more thought to how the appreciation could be shown.

6. **Request to have a block party for 2<sup>nd</sup> Street on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 2 PM to 6 PM at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Chestnut Streets.** President Blest read a letter from Tina Kelly and Bernadette Ruf requesting permission to hold the block party. This item was discussed at last months council meeting but was not on the agenda at that time. A consensus was taken of council last month and they were all in favor. The chief of police will contact Ms. Kelly and Ms. Ruf. Mr. DiAngelo made a motion to permit the block party. Mr. Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
7. **Consideration of Lines and Grade Ordinance.** Mr. Martin explained that at line and grade ordinance has been developed, the Municipal Services Commission has paid a consultant to do this and was submitted to the city solicitor. Mr. Kavanaugh has not been able to review this ordinance due to lack of staff. Mr. Kavanaugh recommended that Mr. Martin, City Administrator, Jeff Bergstrom, Building Official and himself review the ordinance and send it to the Planning Commission for their comments. Council stated a public hearing would be held prior to the public council meeting on November 14, 2000 regarding the ordinance.
8. **Comments from the floor.**
  1. Carol Syva from Van Dyke Village talked about cars being vandalized in her area and was wondering if anyone has been arrested yet? She also wanted council to ask Municipal Services Commission about the cost of putting street lights in Van Dyke Village, as it is very dark.
  2. Dave June, President of the West End Civic Association congratulated Mr. Martin for being named City Manager of the Year. He reminded everyone of his or her civic duty to get out and vote.
  3. Chris Alabrudzinski recommended that council not make all streets a different speed limit. He felt it would be to confusing.

President Blest set a meeting next Tuesday, October 17, 2000 at 7:PM in the city administration building to open bids for the street-paving project.

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

Meeting adjourned.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS DICTATED BY MR. ROBERT MARTIN,  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR.**

Executive session convened at 9:15 p.m. Purpose of the thirty minutes meeting was to discuss site possibilities for a municipal complex. All councilmembers expressed their thoughts on the possible locations being the old Deemer Steel site at 9<sup>th</sup> and Washington Streets. Mr. Martin advised the mayor and council that a meeting with DNREC officials is scheduled for October 25, 2000.

Second item discussed during the executive session was concerning city personnel matters.

Councilman Reese made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. and return to open session. Councilman Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Being no further business in open session Councilman Davis made a motion to adjourn the open meeting. Councilman DiAngelo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia K. Fuller  
City Clerk

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NEW CASTLE  
SPECIAL MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
NEW CASTLE CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
220 DELAWARE STREET  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2000**

Council President William Blest called the special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the city administration building.

The following people were in attendance:

President Blest	Mayor Houben
Councilman Davis	Mr. Martin, City Administrator
Councilman DiAngelo	Mr. DiAlessandro, city resident

Absent, were Councilman Marinelli and Councilman Reese.

The special meeting was called to open bids on contract 2000-03 citywide paving. Mr. Martin, city administrator stated that the city wide paving contract #2000-03 had been duly advertised and a pre-bid meeting was held on October 9, 2000. Bids were due by 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 13, 2000 and only one bid was received.

Diamond Materials, LLC. of 921 Heald Street, Wilmington, Delaware was the sole bidder on the unit bid contract. The total bid was \$128,837.50. Councilman Davis made a motion to accept the sole bid for contract #2000-03 subject to the review by Mr. Martin and Councilman Marinelli. Councilman DiAngelo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Second item of business was the execution of Bull Hill Boat Yard Lease. The item was discussed at the regular council meeting on October 10, 2000. Councilman Davis made a motion to have the President Blest sign the lease. Councilman DiAngelo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.