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MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF NEW CASTLE

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NEW CASTLE
PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN HALL – 201 DELAWARE STREET – NEW CASTLE
TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 14, 2000 – 6:15 PM**

Public Hearing to consider Lines and Grades Ordinance.

President Blest stated that the Municipal Services Commission had hired a consultant to help draft the Lines and Grades Ordinance that was badly needed in the city. Mr. Jeff Bergstrom, Building Official for the City of New Castle explained that this ordinance addressed major and minor subdivisions and any additions that would require changes in footprints. There were no comments from the audience on this ordinance.

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PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN HALL – 201 DELAWARE STREET – NEW CASTLE
TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 14, 2000 – 6:15 PM**

Public Hearing to discuss plan regarding the adoption of 15 MPH speed regulation within the corporate limits of New Castle.

Mr. DiAngelo read recommendations from Chief of Police Kevin McDerby regarding which streets should have the 15 MPH speed regulation. He stated 3rd Street from Chestnut to South Street should have the speed limit changed to 15 MPH. Chief McDerby also felt the traffic lights at Route 273 and 9 should be synchronized to allow for better traffic flow.

1. Michael Platt asked what was the reasoning for selecting 3rd Street to be the point where the 15 MPH speed limit would begin? He felt South Street should be included.
2. Chris Alabrudzinski felt the entire Historic Area district from the Strand up to and including 5th Street.
3. Earl Carpenter asked if the city was able to change the speed limit on 6th Street? Chief McDerby stated East 6th Street is owned by the state and only DelDot could change the speed limit.
4. Don Walz asked if West 6th Street was a city street? Chief McDerby stated West 6th Street was city owned. Chief McDerby stated speed is not a problem on 6th Street, volume is.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NEW CASTLE
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
NEW CASTLE TOWN HALL – 203 DELAWARE STREET
TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 14, 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	-	October 2000
Building Official's Report	-	October 2000
Public Works Report	-	October 2000
Health and Housing Report	-	October 2000
Finance and Human Resource Report	-	October 2000

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

Mr. Reese made a motion that all committee reports and the treasurer's report be accepted as read. Mr. Marinelli 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. Mr. Davis had a question for Mr. Martin regarding South Street. Mr. Diangelo made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Neither President Blest nor council had any communications.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

There was no business from the floor at this time.

BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR:

The Mayor stated he had 2 visitors today asking the Mayor and Council to endorse good, clean and healthful living.

BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

President Blest stated he had received 2 letters from the Planning Commission. The letters were for information purposes only regarding 2 applications they had received requesting minor subdivisions. The Planning Commission met on November 13, 2000.

BUSINESS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Mr. Martin stated he received a letter from the Soil Conservation District recommending 3 alternatives to alleviate the flooding problems in Buttonwood. Mr. Martin then read the 3 alternatives and the costs for each one.

Mr. Martin then read several other letters of interest to council and the audience.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Resolution No. 2000-14 excluding Social Security and Medicare Payment 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. Mr. Reese made a motion to accept the resolution as read. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Authorization allowing Mayor to sign DelDot Agreement, Street Paving Allotment.** Mr. Marinelli stated this was the contract that was awarded to Diamond Materials, LLC of 921 Heald Street, Wilmington, Delaware last month. Mr. Marinelli made a motion to authorize Mayor Houben to sign the DelDot Agreement. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
2. **Approval of City of New Castle Holiday Schedule for year 2001.** President Blest stated council has been given a list of the city holidays, which has not changed from last year. Mr. Marinelli made a motion to accept the holiday schedule. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Motion for authorization to allow City Administrator to solicit bids or proposals for geotechnical, site and property engineering surveys of the Deemer Steel Parcel, or such other engineering studies as necessary to determine the suitability of the parcel, preliminary to a decision whether or not to attempt to negotiate a contract of purchase the Deemer Steel Parcel.** Mayor Houben stated that prior to entering into a contract to purchase this property they need a flood control study. The other environmental studies have been completed and approved by both parties. Mr. Marinelli made a motion to authorize Mr. Martin to solicit these bids and proposals. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Discussion on revising Business License Fees.** Mr. Davis made a motion that this item be tabled at this time due to late arriving information. Mr. DiAngelo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
5. **Resolution #2000-16 establishing the "350th City Anniversary Celebration" special fund.** Mayor Houben stated that the city has established a special fund for the contributions received for this event. The fund will allow the city to keep complete records of the donors, amounts, and dates of contributions. The fund will be used exclusively for public purposes therefore donations will be tax deductible. Mayor Houben read the resolution in its entirety. Mr. Reese made a motion to accept the resolution as read. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Senator Dori Connor's presentation.** Senator Connor presented Mr. Robert Martin, City Administrator with a Senate Tribute recognizing his selection as City Manager of the Year from the League of Local Government. Mr. Martin was applauded by all for his outstanding service to the City of New Castle.

7. **Presentation of Labor Agreement between Mayor and Council of New Castle and Local 3615, Council 81, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO by Wendy Voss, Esq., Resolution #2000-17 authorizing city signatures to respective labor agreement.** Chief McDerby presented a visual program of the agreement and Mr. Martin presented the oratory portion on each area of the labor agreement. Mr. Reese made a motion to accept the resolution as read. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. President Blest asked for a roll call. Mr. DiAngelo, yes, Mr. Marinelli, yes, Mr. Reese, yes, Mr. Davis, yes, President Blest, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

8. **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**
 1. Ned Hutchinson asked council what authority The New Castle Planning Commission? Mr. Hutchinson felt all the committees within the city do not work together. He felt the commissions and committees need to work together. Mr. Gerald Kavanaugh, city solicitor explained to Mr. Hutchinson that he would have to read the various statues that exist at the state level and the ordinances establishing the Planning Commission in order to determine their authority.
 2. Dave June of the West End Civic Association asked council if they have a plan for what city streets will be repaved. President Blest explained that council has an ongoing list of streets that will need repaving.
 3. Mary Nepi from Clayton Street asked if her street was on the list to be repaved. She also asked if the city would rebuild the curbs. Mr. Marinelli stated the city is not responsible for the curbing.

President Blest asked if there were any other comments from the floor. Since there were none, President Blest made a motion that the public meeting be adjourned and council enter into executive session. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

The Mayor and Council met in executive session with city solicitor Gerald Kavanaugh accompanied by Chief McDerby and Lt. Patrick Cannon to discuss a freedom of information request to have the city release city uniform traffic collision reports to an out-of-state firm (Health Information Assoc.).

Second item discussed was the retaining of Mr. Mikhael Pankowski, Esq. to assist in Deemer Steel legal work.

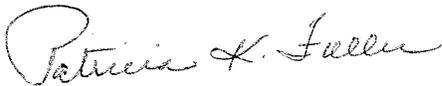
At 9:30 PM the council reconvened in open session upon a motion by Mr. Reese. Mr. Marinelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. DiAngelo made a motion to have the city solicitor notify FOIA requester that the documents they requested are exempt from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

It was the consensus of council to have the Mayor contact Mr. Pankowski, Esq. to assist the city in negotiations on the Deemer Steel site.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia K. Fuller
City Clerk