



City Council Appoints a New City Administrator and Names New Council President

At a Special City Council meeting held on November 15, City Council accepted the resignation of City Council President William J. Barthel, and immediately passed Resolution 2013-43 appointing him as the new City Administrator. Mr. Barthel added that he was honored that Council had requested he assume this position, and it had been a pleasure to work with this Council. Councilperson Megginson, acting as chair for the remainder of the meeting took nominations for a new City Council President. Councilperson Cochran nominated Mrs. Linda Ratchford. After questions from Council, and a vote, Linda Ratchford was unanimously appointed as the new City Council President.

City solicitor Daniel Losco, Esq. stated the provisions of the City Charter had been followed, saying that the Charter calls for any vacancy

on Council to be filled by a vote of the remaining Council. That they may not appoint someone currently on council and the term would be only until the next regularly scheduled City election. Mr. Losco stated that throughout the long search for a City Administrator Mr. Barthel has, in effect, been acting as the City Administrator.

Mrs. Ratchford addressed Council accepting the appointment. When asked why she would like to serve on Council she said, "It's simple—New Castle is such a special place and I have a real passion for helping our community. It is important to be good stewards of New Castle's heritage while working to ensure the future vitality of all New Castle's diverse neighborhoods."

After the meeting was adjourned Linda Ratchford, with her husband Michael holding the Bible, was sworn in by Mayor Donald Reese.

DelDOT Washington Street Construction Update

DelDOT presented an update of the Washington Street Construction project. Mr. Bud Freel, Public Relations stated that there has been concerns raised by the residents about this project, and at the request of Senator Poore, and Rep. Johnson DelDOT asked if they could address City Council and give an update.

DelDOT Engineer Chris Costello spoke, and said there have been several unexpected obstacles in this project that have caused it to be completed in what appears to be a disjointed sequence. *Continued on back page...*

**The next
Regular
City Council
meeting is 7 p.m.,
Tues., Dec. 10th at
Town Hall**

December Citywide Events

**St. Peter's School Gymnasium; 5th & Harmony Streets
Friday ~ November 22th ~ 6-8 p.m.**

Saturday ~ November 23th ~ 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sunday ~ November 24th ~ 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Homemade crafts, candy, baked goods, religious goods, white elephant, and food. Chance items, a "Basket of Cheer" and our Grand Prize drawing for \$100, \$250 or \$500.

Spirit of Christmas in Old New Castle

Saturday, December 14, 2013

9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

City of New Castle, Delaware

Rain or Shine

Admission: FREE to the public

Events will be held at the New Castle Presbyterian Church, 25 E. Second Street, and at other locations throughout the city.

**New Castle City Police Christmas Party for the Children of New Castle at Good Will Fire House
Saturday, December 14, 2013**

Thanksgiving Community Worship

Sunday, November 24th at 7 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church, 230 Christiana Road

Join your friends and neighbors in giving thanks to God for many blessings at this year's community worship service!

You are asked to bring a monetary offering for the poor of our area through Lutheran Community Services. Give thanks to God!

Saturday, November 30th

Shop Small Day

Start your holiday shopping off right - support the small businesses in your neighborhood. November 30th is Small Business Saturday this year. Can we count on you to shop small?

New Castle – The First Capital City!

The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast!

Continued from the front page... During the construction they have found several things buried that had to be removed or worked around. They found underground storage tanks and contaminated earth, at that point work had to stop and a contractor was brought in that specializes in this type of removal. Federal regulations require these types of materials are disposed of properly. The utility companies, who working with us in this project were also held up by the process to remove the underground tanks. Verizon is in the process of moving lines and poles, this phase is what held up the paving of the turn lanes at Rts. 9 & 273.

Delmarva power is working on the gas mains on Washington Street, and that is causing a hold up in paving the other side of Washington Street. In the meantime the paving and construction companies have worked on other phases of the project so they could be accomplishing something while they are waiting for the paving to be back on track, this is what is causing it to look like the we are starting new projects before the current projects are finished. DelDOT expects to have the turn lanes paved before Thanksgiving. Please see the website www.newcastlecity.de for more information on the update.

Important Notice

**Christmas Week Schedule Change in
Trash and Yard waste Pick-Up**

Mon., Dec. 23rd City-Wide Trash Pick-Up

Tues., Dec 24th - City Offices Closed; NO Trash Pickup

Wed., Dec 25th - City Offices Closed; NO Yard Waste Pickup



Code Enforcement Corner

Code Enforcement helps to maintain and improve the quality of life of New Castle City residents by administering an unbiased enforcement program to correct violations of City zoning, property maintenance and building codes;

Complaint forms are available at the City Offices or on the City Web site at newcastlecity.delaware.gov. Complaints are handled on a confidential basis; however, if feedback and/or updates are requested, name, address and phone number need to be provided with the complaint.

Sidewalks

It is the responsibility of property owners to maintain the sidewalk in front of their property.

Including:

City Code § 209-1 Removal of snow and ice required. The owner, tenant or occupant of any house or other building, or the owner of any improved or unimproved lot is responsible for the removal of



SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS 2013

Spirit of Christmas in Old New Castle

Saturday, December 14, 2013 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Rain or Shine—Admission is FREE to the public

Join New Castle Presbyterian Church and the City of New Castle on Saturday, December 14, for the 13th annual celebration of the Spirit of Christmas.

The event, free to the public, is sponsored by the New Castle Presbyterian Church and the New Castle Visitors Bureau, and will include tours of many historic homes and gardens decorated for the season, events at the New Castle Court House (part of the First State National Monument) and musical performances throughout the town. An all-day sale of crafts, gift items, used books, breads and soups will take place at the church, featuring a “Look What \$20 Will Buy” table. The day concludes with the town’s annual tree lighting ceremony and caroling in the Market Square at 5 p.m.

Shops and restaurants throughout Old New Castle will be open and welcome visitors with special offers.

Proceeds generated by the New Castle Presbyterian Church will be donated to support the Friendship House, Inc. of Wilmington, Delaware, ministry to the homeless.

“CHRISTMAS FOR THE KIDS”

New Castle City PD and Goodwill Fire Co. would like to invite the children of the City of New Castle to the “Christmas for the Kids” celebration.

Place: Goodwill Firehouse

Time: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Date: 12/14/13

Santa will make an appearance with snacks, drinks, etc. .

Arts and Crafts projects will be created and sent to our Troops overseas. Donations of toiletries will be accepted and sent to our Troops with the care package.



snow/ice within 24 hours of the end of an event, with a three feet minimum passage width. (note: Do not throw snow into travel lanes of the streets.)

- Maintenance/repair of any damage or disruption that may have occurred to the sidewalk.
- Contact the Tree Commission prior to any activity which involves a City street tree or any tree situated on City property.
- It is prohibited to have an unregistered, dismantled, wrecked, missing major components or inoperable vehicle in the manner for which the vehicle is designed, unless situated in a garage or fully enclosed structure.

§ 94-1 Defecation on public or private property prohibited; owner to remove feces.

Please clean up immediately after your animals. This is a particular problem in Battery Park and the park area between the river and Bull Hill in the vicinity of the old Ferry Landing.