

**City Council of the City of New Castle  
Regular Council Meeting at Town Hall  
201 Delaware Street – New Castle  
Tuesday – September 10, 2013 – 7 p.m.**

**Call to order: 7:00 pm**

**Roll Call:**

Councilperson Vannucci  
Councilperson Petty  
Council President Barthel  
Councilperson Cochran

Councilperson Megginson - absent

**Also present:**

Donald Reese, Mayor  
Marian Delaney, Finance & Human Resources Manager  
Jeff Bergstrom, Building Official & Fire Marshall  
Janet Carlin, City Treasurer  
Daniel Losco, City Solicitor  
Chief Kevin McDerby, Department of Public Safety

**Approval of Minutes by Date: 5/21/13 and 8/31/13**

Councilperson Cochran motioned and Councilperson Vannucci seconded approval of the 5/21 and 8/31 minutes without changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report**

Janet Carlin reported on the balances of the city's accounts. The total cash on hand in all accounts is \$3,992,476.88. Councilperson Petty motioned to accept the report and Councilperson Cochran seconded. The council unanimously accepted the report.

**Approval of Staff Reports**

The staff had nothing to add to their reports. The council unanimously accepted the staff reports.

**Grant Review**

Councilperson Cochran reviewed the grant receipts.

**Communications**

None

**Business from the Floor**

None

**Business from the Mayor**

Condominiums behind Dominos are flooding again. Flooding was under control but it is believed that the catch basins are now full. Six apartments at ground level have flooded three times this year. The Mayor is contacting the County and State regarding this problem.

Reach Academy Girls is taking the place of Pencader Academy and will have an open house on Wednesday.

Saturday's Wharf Dance was very successful including fireworks courtesy of Penns Grove days.

### **Business from the Council President**

There were equipment issues on the playground at Battery Park. Representative Johnson and Chief McDerby contacted Councilperson Vannucci regarding a request for a handicapped swing. The St. Anthony's Club will donate the swing and the Trustees will give property. The request will be fulfilled.

### **New Business**

#### **1. Motion, Discussion and Vote on Resolution No. 2013-28 approving a Minor Subdivision for properties located on Buttonwood Avenue.**

The Motion to approve Resolution No. 2013-28 was made by Councilperson Petty and seconded by Councilperson Vannucci.

President Barthel read the resolution.

Resolution No. 2013-28 passed unanimously.

#### **2. Motion, Discussion and Vote on Resolution No. 2013-29 approving a Change Order for the Paving Contract.**

The Motion to approve Resolution No. 2013-29 was made by Councilperson Cochran and seconded by Councilperson Petty.

President Barthel read the resolution.

Resolution No. 2013-29 passed unanimously.

#### **3. Motion, Discussion and Vote on a Bank Resolution, to pay to Greggo & Ferrara \$104,714.56; payment #3 for work completed for the period ending 6/12/2013 under 2012 City and Street Repair contract dated 8/31/2012.**

The Motion to approve the Bank Resolution was made by Councilperson Petty and seconded by Councilperson Vannucci.

President Barthel read the resolution.

The Bank Resolution passed unanimously.

#### **4. Motion, Discussion and Vote on Resolution No. 2013-30 approving the auction of two surplus police vehicles.**

The Motion to approve Resolution No. 2013-30 was made by Councilperson Petty and seconded by Councilperson Vannucci.

President Barthel read the resolution.

Resolution No. 2013-30 passed unanimously.

**5. Motion, Discussion and Vote on Resolution No. 2013-31 approving the proposed signage designs for the New Castle Wayfinding Project.**

David Bird, Chair of Planning Commission presented the resolution. The wayfinding project is funded by a grant obtained by the Historic New Castle Alliance (HNCA) and supports the city's comprehensive plan. The HNCA engaged Mitchell & Associates to design the signs. The signs include maps and wayfinding signs directing visitors to the historic center of the city and locations for parking. Locations for signs and maps have been identified. As each phase of the project has been completed, the HNCA has presented their progress to the Planning Commission. This project has not cost any city dollars. The proposal is for approval of design standards and locations.

The Motion to approve Resolution No. 2013-31 was made by Councilperson Cochran and seconded by Councilperson Vannucci.

President Barthel read the resolution.

Resolution No. 2013-31 passed unanimously.

**6. Motion, Discussion and Vote on a Bank Resolution, to pay DNREC the sixth quarterly installment of the principal and interest payment for the City's ARRA projects, in the amount of \$49,022.49.**

The Motion to approve the Bank Resolution was made by Councilperson Vannucci and seconded by Councilperson Petty.

President Barthel read the resolution.

The Bank Resolution passed unanimously.

**Comments from the floor.**

Earl Carpenter:

For two days a trailer was parked on West 6<sup>th</sup> Street near Delaware Street. He was concerned about the location. He inquired if they had a permit?

Mr. Carpenter observed on Washington Street that the new driveway to the boat business has an apron from the street to the garage that appears to be about 2 inches thick. It seems to be too thin to bear that weight of the trucks, boats and trailers and will have to be redone in a short time.

Mr. Bergstrom responded that the purpose of the trailer was for moving and did not require a permit. Ms. Delaney reported that they did attempt to apply for a permit, but none was needed.

President Barthel will need to do research on the thickness of the apron before responding. Councilperson Cochran will speak with the contractors and inspectors about Mr. Carpenter's concerns.

Arlene Stockwell, chair of the Beautification Committee:

Ms. Stockwell reported that the garden in front of the police station is in disarray. Committee is willing to repair garden and contribute some of the funds but will need more funding from the city. The area in question is marked for water lines and telecommunication cables. President

Barthel asked Mr. Bergstom to check on the purpose of the markings and Ms. Stockwell to bring a proposal for the garden including the additional dollars needed.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.**

**Council met in Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter.**

Respectfully submitted,

Janet E. Wurtzel  
Clerk of the City of New Castle