

**City Council of the City of New Castle**  
**Special City Council Meeting**  
**201 Delaware Street – New Castle**  
**Tuesday, June 27, 2017 – 7:30 p.m.**

Roll Call:

Councilperson Valarie W. Leary  
Councilperson Michael J. Quaranta  
Council President Linda Ratchford  
Councilperson Michael M. Platt (Absent)  
Councilperson John A. Di Mondì

Also present:

William Barthel, City Administrator  
Dan Losco, City Solicitor  
Mr. Bergstrom, Building Official  
Janet Carlin, City Treasurer

**Second Reading of Ordinance 509;** an Ordinance to establish a new Chapter 208 in the Code of the City of New Castle relating to illicit discharges and connections to the municipal storm sewer system.

Council President Linda Ratchford stated that there have been a couple of changes to the agenda, and informs that they will not be having a budget discussion as the council has already passed the 2017-2018 fiscal budget and grant budget last week, with no tax increase. Council President Ratchford also mentions that no Executive Session to discuss the FOP agreement.

Council President Ratchford then informed the room that the first item will be the second reading of Ordinance 509, and if there are no objections, that they will dispense with the second reading. Furthermore, Council President Ratchford states that the second item on the agenda will be a motion and discussion and vote on ordinance 509, an ordinance to establish a new chapter 208 in the code of the city of New Castle, relating to illicit discharges and connections to the municipal storm sewer system.

The **Motion** to have read Ordinance 509 made by Councilperson Di Mondì, **seconded** by Councilperson Quaranta.

The Resolution was read.

The **Motion** to consider Ordinance 509 made by Councilperson Di Mondì, **seconded** by Councilperson Quaranta.

**The motion was passed unanimously.**

**Motion, Discussion and Vote on Resolution No. 2017-22**, directing that certain surplus City owned property located at 513 West 9th Street be sold to A-Frame Properties, LLC

Council President Ratchford then moves onto the next item on the agenda, a motion, discussion, and vote on Resolution 2017-22 - directing that certain surplus city owned property located at 513 W. 9th Street be sold to A-Frame Properties, LLC - this is parcel #2101400157.

The **Motion** to consider **Resolution 2017-22**, made by Councilperson Leary, **seconded** by Di Mondì Councilperson.

The Resolution was read.

The resolution states that the property at 513 W. 9th Street is surplus and shall be marketed for sale, and that the city has received an offer of \$3,500 from A-Frame Properties, LLC - a contracted repair to restore the property to habitable condition and that such prompt reconstruction will further assist the property owners at 515 W. 9th. Street. The city will take back a mortgage on the property in the amount of \$15,000, the settlement requires the property to be restored and reconstructed to habitable condition, and that the city administrator is authorized to execute a suitable contract of sale as well as any other documentation to facilitate such sale.

Council President Ratchford then asks if the City Solicitor or City Administrator would like to comment on progress since the last meeting on the subject.

William Barthel, City Administrator stated that the property is fire damaged and vacated for over a year, and has caused problems with the adjacent properties. Mr. Barthel gives an overview of the resolution again, mentions the required engineering and discusses the \$15,000 mortgage and updates the council on progress.

Council President Linda Ratchford then calls for a vote for **Resolution 2017-22**.

**Resolution 2017-22 passes unanimously.**

**Motion, Discussion and Vote on Resolution No. 2017-23**, a resolution authorizing acceptance and execution of a collective bargaining agreement between FOP Lodge 1 and the City of New

Castle on the terms and conditions negotiated with representatives of FOP Lodge 1 and the City Administrator, for a term to begin July 1, 2017 and end June 30, 2021.

Council President Ratchford then informs that the final item on the agenda is **Resolution 2017-23**, a resolution authorizing acceptance and execution of a collective bargaining unit, agreeing that between FOP Lodge 1, and the City of New Castle, with terms to be set by FOP Lodge 1 and the City Administrator for a term to begin July 1, 2017 and end June 30th, 2021.

The **Motion** to have Resolution No. 2017-23 read by Councilperson Leary, **seconded** by Councilperson Quaranta.

The Resolution was read.

Councilperson John A. Di Mondì expresses that he would like to see a synopsis with terms per month, per year, etc. It is made clear that this was done at the Executive Session and that such data is available.

A brief discussion ensued between Mr. Barthel and Councilperson Di Mondì, where Councilperson Di Mondì again expresses his desire to see a simple synopsis before voting.

Council President Ratchford mentions that after the Executive Session, the FOP voted on it and approved it as was discussed in the Executive Session, and that everything is as it was when presented in the last meeting.

The council discusses that at this point, if questions still need to be asked, that they would need to take place in an Executive Session. Councilperson Di Mondì inquires if there is anything in the agreement to limit the police force to 17 officers, and is informed by Councilperson Michael J. Quaranta that there is no such text in the agreement, as that decision made by council. Mr. Di Mondì inquires as to if the union is using ambiguous language, to which Councilperson Quaranta replies that this would need to be discussed in an Executive Session. Councilperson Di Mondì states that he only has one question, which is if the city will be held to a specific number of officers, to which Councilperson Quaranta replies 'No.'

Council President Ratchford mentions that can change at any time based on budget and need. Councilperson Di Mondì again restated his question in reference to minimum number of officers.

Council President Ratchford then calls for a vote on **Resolution 2017-23**

**Resolution 2017-23 passes unanimously.**

Council President Ratchford then informs the council that the next regular meeting will be July 11th, and calls for a **motion** to adjourn, which is made, seconded, and **passed unanimously**.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian G. Whitaker City Clerk of New Castle, Delaware