

**City of New Castle Delaware
Public Hearing at Town Hall
201 Delaware Street – New Castle
Thursday, October 24, 2019– 6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order: 6: 00

Roll Call

Councilperson Suzanne M. Souder
Councilperson Russell P. Smith
Council President Linda Ratchford
Councilperson Michael M. Platt
Councilperson Valarie W. Leary

Also present:

Janet Carlin, City Treasurer
William Barthel, City Administrator
Daniel Losco, City Solicitor

This Public Hearing is concerning **Ordinance No. 520**; An Ordinance to amend **Zoning Code §230.21.1 E (1)** to permit fence or wall “structures” by special exception on properties formerly zoned Industrial (I) and Service Commercial (SC), but now zoned Downtown Gateway (DG). (Council President Ratchford – Posted 10/09/2019)

Clay Greer, of the New Castle Sailing Club, spoke in support of **Ordinance No. 520**.

John Di Mondì asked who had requested that **Ordinance No. 520** be considered, and for what purpose. He spoke against the SPCA building outside runs.

After a motion and second, the Public Hearing was adjourned.at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Whitaker, Clerk of the City of New Castle

Next Regular Meeting Date: November 12, 2019

Posted: 10/09/2019

City of New Castle Delaware
Public Hearing at Town Hall
201 Delaware Street – New Castle
Thursday, October 24, 2019– 6:15 p.m.

Call to Order: 6:15 PM

Roll Call

Councilperson Suzanne M. Souder
Councilperson Russell P. Smith
Council President Linda Ratchford
Councilperson Michael M. Platt
Councilperson Valarie W. Leary

Also present:

Janet Carlin, City Treasurer
William Barthel, City Administrator
Daniel Losco, City Solicitor

This Public Hearing is concerning **Ordinance No. 522**; An Ordinance to enact a City Property Tax abatement on the increase in property taxes caused by an increase in assessed property values resulting from certain improvements made to properties within the Downtown Development District. (Council President Ratchford – posted 10/15/2019.)

There were no public comments.

After a motion and second, the Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Whitaker, Clerk of the City of New Castle

Next Regular Meeting Date: November 12, 2019

Posted: 10/09/2019

**City of New Castle Delaware
Public Hearing at Town Hall
201 Delaware Street – New Castle
Thursday, October 24, 2019– 6:30 p.m.**

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Councilperson Suzanne M. Souder
Councilperson Russell P. Smith
Council President Linda Ratchford
Councilperson Michael M. Platt
Councilperson Valarie W. Leary

Also present:

Janet Carlin, City Treasurer
William Barthel, City Administrator
Daniel Losco, City Solicitor

This Public Hearing is concerning Ordinance No. 523; An Ordinance to enact a City Realty Transfer Tax waiver for first time homebuyers of properties located within the Downtown Development District (Council President Ratchford – posted 10/15/2019).

Councilperson Platt asked whether there is a minimum residency timeline requirement as part of this ordinance. The City Solicitor responded that there is not.

The City Administrator advised that there would be minimal administrative costs to administer the program.

After a motion and second, the Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:28 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Whitaker, Clerk of the City of New Castle

Next Regular Meeting Date: November 12, 2019

Posted: 10/09/2019

**City of New Castle Delaware
City Council Special Meeting
201 Delaware Street – New Castle
Thursday, October 24, 2019– 6:45 p.m.**

Call to Order: 6:45 PM

Roll Call

Councilperson Suzanne M. Souder
Councilperson Russell P. Smith
Council President Linda Ratchford
Councilperson Michael M. Platt
Councilperson Valarie W. Leary

Also present:

Janet Carlin, City Treasurer
William Barthel, City Administrator
Daniel Losco, City Solicitor

New Business

After a motion and second, Council President Ratchford read **Resolution No. 2019-40**; A Resolution Making appointments to the Planning Commission (Council President Ratchford – Posted 10/15/2019) into the record.

David Baldini – Planning Commission – Term Ending October 24, 2022
Brenda Antonio – Term Ending November 9, 2022

Resolution No. 2019-40 was passed unanimously.

Old Business

The second reading of **Ordinance No. 520**; An Ordinance to amend **Zoning Code §230.21.1 E** (1) to permit fence or wall “structures” by special exception on properties formerly zoned Industrial (I) and Service Commercial (SC), but now zoned Downtown Gateway (DG) (Council President Ratchford – Posted 10/09/2019) was dispensed with.

The City Solicitor provided a brief explanation of the history and reasoning behind **Ordinance No. 520**, and responded to questions from Council.

After discussion, **Ordinance No. 520** was passed unanimously.

The second reading of **Ordinance No. 522**; An Ordinance to enact a City Property Tax abatement on the increase in property taxes caused by an increase in assessed property values resulting from certain improvements made to properties within the Downtown Development District (Council President Ratchford – Posted 10/15/2019) was dispensed with.

The City Solicitor responded to questions from Council related to **Ordinance No. 522**, and advised that the abatement would be transferrable.

After discussion, **Ordinance No. 522** was passed by a vote of four to one:

Councilperson Suzanne M. Souder- Yes
Councilperson Russell P. Smith- Yes
Council President Linda Ratchford- Yes
Councilperson Michael M. Platt- No
Councilperson Valarie W. Leary- Yes

The second reading of **Ordinance No. 523**; An Ordinance to enact a City Realty Transfer Tax waiver for first time homebuyers of properties located within the Downtown Development District (Council President Ratchford – Posted 10/15/2019) was dispensed with.

Ordinance No. 523 was passed by a vote of four to one (Councilperson Platt voting no).

After a motion and second, Council President read **Resolution No. 2019-42**; A Resolution to declare City Skid Steer, SN #N5M413406, as surplus property; and authorize the City Administrator to trade the Skid Steer with the City of Newark for a garbage truck (Council President Ratchford – Posted 10/15/2019) into the record.

The City Administrator provided a history and explanation of the reasoning behind **Resolution No. 2019-42** being presented, and responded to Council questions. The City of Newark City Council must also approve the trade.

After discussion, **Resolution No. 2019-42** was passed unanimously.

There was brief discussion related to upcoming administrative needs, including definitions and guidelines, related to the city's Downtown Development District.

After a motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Whitaker, Clerk of the City of New Castle

Next Regular Meeting Date: November 12, 2019

Posted: 10/09/2019