

**City of New Castle Delaware  
City Council Special Meeting  
201 Delaware Street, New Castle  
Monday, September 16, 2019 - 6:00 P. M.**

**Call to Order: 6:00 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:**

Daniel Losco, City Solicitor  
William Barthel, City Administrator  
Janet Carlin, City Treasurer  
David Athey, City Engineer  
Jeff Bergstrom, Building Official and Fire Marshal

The City Engineer presented on the Delaware Street project, including a recap of decisions that have been made:

- Road widening from Second Street to the wharf is no longer under consideration.
- The bump-outs at Third Street are no longer under consideration.
- The platform crosswalk at the Strand is no longer under consideration.

He also reviewed items that remain to be decided, as well as anticipated cost changes that would result from some of the changes to the project, that had been discussed at the September 10 Regular City Council meeting. A handout was provided for reference, along with a slide presentation.

The presentation included a brief overview of stormwater discharge permitting history and processes as they relate to the city in general, and a more detailed discussion of the proposed bio-retention areas specifically. Options for future possible stormwater treatment and discharge needs were also discussed.

Crosswalk materials and styles were discussed in some detail, and some material samples were provided.

Overall projected project costs, and funds available, were reviewed by the City Engineer.

Council and city staff discussed possible changes to the project plan, and the various impacts of those changes.

Discussion items about the project included:

- Potential tree placement and relocation
- Curb materials
- Least possible disruption to drivers, pedestrians, businesses, etc., during construction
- Options for contingency funds, if needed
- Projected time frame of construction and completion
- Projected potential turning radius for large vehicles upon project completion
- Crosswalk options; agreement reached that brick is no longer an option
- Options for obtaining cost estimates for various possible changes to the project
- Some expansion of the area in front of town hall

### **Public Comment**

Roderick Gillespie expressed approval of removing the bump-outs, and discussed crosswalk options.

Bill Emory commented on extending the road improvements, as well as crosswalk options.

Bennie Beale read a letter to City Council from Lena Deemer, which included an objection to the bump-outs and one of the bio-retention basins. Mr. Beale expressed support for extending the road improvements.

A Resident objected to the bump-outs.

Dorsey Fiske spoke against the bump-outs and bio-retention basins.

Richard Cooch would like a professional/expert organization to review the final project plan.

A Resident expressed support for extending the road improvements.

Marty Wright commented on HAC involvement in the project plan, and potential runoff increase where concrete replaces grass.

Tom Tritelli provided an aerial image of the project area.

Bill Hentkowski referred to a letter that he had sent to Council.

Council reviewed with the City Engineer the cost adjustments he will be researching and presenting at the September 23 meeting.

Jim Workman expressed support for repairing the street.

After a motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Whitaker, Clerk of the City of New Castle