

City of New Castle Delaware  
City Council Public Hearing  
1 Municipal Boulevard  
Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
6:45 p.m.

**Call to Order: 6:45PM**

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Council President Suzanne M. Souder  
Councilperson Joseph F. Day, III  
Councilperson Nermin Zubaca  
Councilperson Andrew Zeltt  
Councilperson Brian Mattaway

**Also present:** Max Walton, Esquire, City Solicitor  
Mayor Valarie Leary  
Christopher Rogers, City Planner  
Chief Richard McCabe

Council President Souder called the March 12, 2024, City Council Public Hearing to order at 6:45 p.m. Roll call followed and a quorum to conduct business was declared.

**Ordinance 545** – An ordinance to require all City of New Castle Boards and Commissions to provide annual reports to the City Council on the activities of the preceding year

Councilperson Mattaway introduced Ordinance 545, noting that the City Code requires the Planning Commission to submit an annual report to City Council and Ordinance 545 will expand on this requirement to include all Boards and Commissions to submit an annual report to City Council. He added that this requirement will also improve communications and transparency as well as help the city prepare annual budget.

**Public Comment**

Phil Gross – 1301 13<sup>th</sup> Street

Mr. Gross spoke in favor of Ordinance 545 noting that it is an opportunity to improve transparency and accountability. He suggested that the reports be available on a drop-down tab on the city website.

Margo Reign – 115 West 9<sup>th</sup> Street

As Chair of the Planning Commission, Ms. Reign asked for clarity of when the annual report would be due to City Council and whether this report was in addition to the annual report the Planning Commission submits to the State. Mr. Rogers explained that the annual Planning Report on the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan is submitted to the Council and signed by the Mayor before being submitted to the Office of State Planning Coordination.

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There being no further public comment on Ordinances 545, Council President Souder closed the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen R. Weirich  
City Stenographer

**Next Regular Meeting Date: April 9, 2024**  
**Posted: 3/5/2024**