



CITY OF DOVER

JOINT MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL, SCHOOL BOARD AND JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE DOVER HIGH ATHLETIC COMPLEX - MINUTES

Meeting Type: **Workshop Session**
Meeting Location: **Dover High School Auditorium**
Meeting Date: **Tuesday, December 3, 2024**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ernie Clark led the pledge of allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Council:

Present: Councilor Richer, Councilor Nemeth, Councilor Retrosi, Councilor Williams, Councilor Cullen, Councilor Hackett, Councilor Warach, Deputy Mayor Shanahan, Mayor Carrier

School Board:

Present: Robin Trefethen, Carolyn Mebert, Michelle Clancy, Maggie Fogarty, Micaela Demeter, Elizabeth Goldman

Absent: Craig Flynn

Joint Building Committee:

Present:

Also Present: City Manager Joyal, Deputy City Manager Parker, Finance Director Lynch, Superintendent Harbron, Business Administrator Limanni, City Clerk Vansylyvong-Bizier

5. DISCUSSIONS

A. DHS ATHLETIC COMPLEX PROJECT UPDATE AND SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING REQUEST

Councilor Cullen gave a PowerPoint Presentation to the Council and School Board outlining the athletic complex design and cost.

Councilor Cullen introduced Neil Hanson, Tighe & Bond, and Preston Hunter, Eckman Construction. Both gentlemen gave an overview of their involvement with the project.

Councilor Cullen, Neil Hanson, and Preston Hunter answered questions from the Council and School Board.

6. PUBLIC FORUM



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Taxpayers, Business owners, and Residents are invited to speak on the subject matter of the Workshop. Statements shall be limited to two minutes.

Peter Bixby, 69 Glenwood Ave, asked what would happen to the components of the field once it is replaced. Mr. Bixby spoke about the importance of reduce, reuse and recycle, and is concerned about the waste. Mr. Bixby spoke about the high cost of the project.

Cynthia Walter, 22 West Concord St, spoke about the athletic complex project and the cost, as well as the importance of organic turf vs. synthetic turf.

Allison Davis, 11 Hidden Valley Dr, spoke against the use of synthetic turf for the athletic complex project.

Gary Dickerman, 39 Sandra's Run, spoke about the high cost of the athletic complex project.

Katherine Surman, 39 Sandra's Run, has concerns about PFAS and injuries. Believes there is more to be done.

Greg Kageleiry, 58 Constitution Way, spoke about the importance of students having a nice field to play on. Believes the Council and School Board need to come to a consensus because the field cannot stay the way it is.

David Whitney, 10 Cherokee St, spoke in favor of the athletic project.

Peter Schmidt, 53 Fourth St, spoke about the importance of the fiscal prudence and cautioned about the high cost.

Alex Barbahen, 835 Central Ave, spoke about PFAS concerns and water pollution, as well as the financial burden the project would cause.

Yulia Rothenburg, 5 Chartergrant Rd, spoke about the environmental issues with synthetic turf.

Bill Baber, 5 Gerry's Ln, spoke about the issue of cost, the health and safety of the athletics playing on turf.

Steve Fellow, 8 Homestead Ln, spoke in favor of the investment of the athletic complex as well as the importance of funding the school department.

Nick Piatti, 13 Elmview Cir, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Scarlett Grey, 181 County Farm Cross Rd, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Kevin Sprague, 27 Woodland Rd, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Jamie Stevens, 7 Drew Rd, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Jason Subirana, 10 Lundy Point Dr, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Jim Verschuere, 102B Sixth St, spoke about the lack of funding for education and that it is not the time to fund athletic complex project.

Will Andrews, HS Senior, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Tristan Earley, 8 Harlans Way, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Roger Mercier, 304 Back Rd, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.



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Scott Dubbin, 173B Dover Point Road, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Peter Wotton, 12 Apache St, spoke about the athletic complex project and expressed the importance of doing the project right.

Ken Osbourne, previous football coach and teacher at DHS, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Tim McCoy, 270 Washington St, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

George Maglaras, 65 Cochecho St, spoke in favor of the fields being renovated, but feels there needs to be a more in-depth cost analysis.

Sandra Cohen-Holmes, 34 Fisher St, feels the fields need to be renovated but there could be other alternatives to synthetic turf.

Christine Baber, 5 Gerry's Landing, spoke about the price of the project, and concerns with synthetic turf being used in the athletic complex project.

Chris Lynch, 35 Wildewood Ln, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Kevin Calhoun, 36 Lucy Ln, spoke in favor of the athletic complex project.

Josh Knight, Athletic Director, spoke in regards to the difference of injuries on synthetic fields and well-maintained grass fields, as well as the need for a new shed for the grounds department. Mr. Knight urged those to consider how many students will use the fields.

Jeremy Small, 16 Roberts Rd, doesn't believe there is difference between injuries on synthetic turf vs. grass fields unless the grass fields are maintained at professional sports teams' standards.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Retrosi moved to adjourn, seconded by Deputy Mayor Shanahan.

Vote: U/A.