

CITY OF
DOVER

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting Type: Special Meeting
Meeting Location: City Hall Auditorium-288 Central Ave, Dover, NH 03820
Meeting Date: May 21, 2008
Meeting Time: 7:00 pm-

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Callaghan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Myers, Councilors Callaghan, Dede, McCusker, Scott, Trefethen, Weston.
Absent: Councilors Cheney and Keays. Also Present: City Manager Joyal, City Attorney Krans, and City Clerk Lavertu.

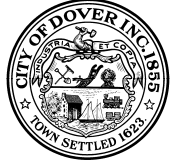
Councilor Trefethen filled in as Deputy Mayor.

2. PUBLIC HEARING:

RESOLUTION RE: SCHOOL BOARD PORTION ONLY: FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET: APPROPRIATION, FEES AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

SPONSORED BY MAYOR MYERS BY REQUEST

Kenneth Hall, 5 Baker Street: He said he has worked for the Dover School Department for 15 years, and is losing his job and health insurance for himself and his family. He has been getting great reviews, but he is still being fired. He was there to inform the public and the Council that the School budget has an agenda. On December 10, 2007, the School Board voted 4/3 not to privatize the school's custodial maintenance services. At the City Council meeting on December 12, 2007, Councilor Dede chastised the School Board for not privatizing it. Councilor Scott used his newspaper to voice concern and criticism of the School Board. The Superintendent would not take no for an answer. In January, the School Board rescinded its original vote to privatize, and put 30 long-time employees out of work. He talked of \$135,000 being spent on new programs in animal science, including the construction of a sheep barn. He spoke of \$43,000 being spent on new furniture for the Superintendent's new office in the McConnell Center. He said that during the April School Board meeting, the Superintendent requested that the district pay him \$9,000 for unused vacation compensation. He spoke of the three secretaries in the SAU office, who's combined health benefits, which cost the district \$86,000. He asked, if the Superintendent really wanted to save money why would he start at the bottom? He said the Superintendent budget was creative and also unethical. He said the School Board and City Council are aware that the company contracted to take over the custodial services has a bad track record. He said this company has several lawsuits pending. He said that he is concerned about this company taking over City equipment, and he didn't know what the City Charter stated about it. It seemed to him, by City Charter, that this should have been put out to bid. He was also concerned about the Labor Board appeal, and he didn't see any meetings authorizing the lawyer that was hired in Concord to represent the district. He said he has eight grandchildren, and he definitely has a vested interest in this. He felt the School Board has failed to protect the children, and he intends to hold them accountable.



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Ed Bleiler, 28 Isaac Lucas Circle: He spoke of when he was a child, and his father telling him that when you make a mistake, to admit that mistake and go on to bigger and better things. He admitted to his mistake where he said Dover teachers' salaries were the highest in the State. He spent some time with Dr. O'Connor, and he now understands that the Dover teachers' salaries are about average within the State. He apologized for his statements regarding the teachers' salaries.

Mayor Myers, seeing no one else wishing to speak, closed the Public Hearing.

3. ADJOURN

Councilor Trefethen made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilor McCusker.