



CITY OF DOVER

CITY COUNCIL - MINUTES

APPROVED

Meeting Type: Special Meeting
Meeting Location: Council Chambers - 288 Central Avenue, Dover, NH 03820
Meeting Date: **Wednesday, December 17, 2008**
Meeting Time: **7:00pm**

1. MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Callaghan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Myers, Deputy Mayor Trefethen, Councilors Callaghan, Carrier, Cheney, DeDe, McCusker, Scott and Weston.

Also Present: City Manager Joyal and Deputy City Clerk Mistretta.

Mayor Myers wanted to wish the citizens a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. He also wanted to thank the community for all their help during the ice storm.

4. CITIZEN'S FORUM

Citizen's Forum is limited to the CIP Resolutions on this Agenda in Accordance with City Council Rules – Item 12-D.

Edward Bleiler, 28 Isaac Lucas Circle: He said as the City's gadfly he was coming before the Council with concerns for the City. He appealed to the Council to give the citizens a break. He asked the Council to keep their promise that no taxpayer funds be used for the parking garage, and eliminate the \$100,000 from the CIP. He asked that the Council not appropriate the \$1,273,550 for Energy Efficiency Improvements. He said it could be done in the City using plain common sense. He asked that the Council not spend \$850,000 for Henry Law Avenue. He said this could be done by adding \$100,000 to the sewer appropriation, and be done as one combined project. He said the CIP would come in under the amount of debt retired if his proposals are used. He also said Maglaras Park could be a disaster if the amount of money that is proposed is spent.

Gary Green, 18 Footbridge Lane, Chairman of Dover Utilities Commission (DUC): He said the DUC supports the CIP as presented. He spoke about his handout on the proposed water tower in the North End.

Raymond Bardwell, 199 Spur Road: He said the City needs a CIP that is less than the money that is being retired. He said if the City is buying a \$950,000 ladder truck, then he recommended that the Council eliminate the \$850,000 for Henry Law Avenue. He said if the City is going to pay \$50,000 for the design of the Whittier Street Bridge and have it realigned, then just put a new deck on it. He said the Council needs to prioritize, and deal with "wants" and "needs."

Mayor Myers, seeing no one else wishing to speak, closed the Citizen's Forum.



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5. RESOLUTION: ADOPTION OF FY 2010-2015 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Deputy Mayor Trefethen moved for its adoption; seconded by Councilor Weston.
Mayor Myers referred the Council to the packet of information on each of the Councilors' desks, which will be substituted as a whole. Section "C" changes are as follows:

- Cemetery Master Plan Improvements moved from 2011 to 2014.
- Energy Efficiency Improvements moved from 2010 to 2011.
- Bridge Replacement – Whittier Street numbers changed to reflect the City's 20% share.
- Bridge Replacement – County Farm over Cochecho River reflects \$500,000 in 2014 as a placeholder.
- Downtown Street Light Upgrade has been moved from 2012 to 2014.
- Street Reconstruction – Silver Street moved from 2011/2012 to 2014/2015.
- Street Reconstruction – Henry Law Avenue (second piece) moved from 2011 to 2014.
- Street Improvements – Tolend/Watson Road has been split into three pieces from 2010 to 2012.
- Street Reconstruction – Atlantic Avenue moved from 2010/2011 to 2011/2012.
- Street Reconstruction – Richardson Drive moved from 2010/2011 to 2012/2013.
- Street Reconstruction – Roberts & Rabbit Road moved from 2012 to 2014.
- Street Reconstruction – Tanglewood Drive moved from 2013 to 2014.
- Street Reconstruction – Lisa Beth Drive and Lisa Beth Circle moved from 2011 to 2014.
- Street Reconstruction – Piscataqua Road moved from 2011 to 2014.
- Street Improvements and Sidewalks – Mast Road/Spruce Lane moved from 2010/2011 to 2011/2012.
- Street Reconstruction – Bellamy Road/Durham Road Intersection has been eliminated from this CIP plan.
- Park Improvements – Maglaras Park moved from 2011 – 2013 to 2013 – 2015 for much less money.
- Thompson Pool Enclosure has been eliminated.
- Henry Law Park and Riverwalk Improvements moved from 2011 to 2014.
- Dunaway Field Turf Replacement has been eliminated.
- Garrison Elementary School Improvements have been split into two years.
- Rizzo – Downtown Parking Facility construction has been moved to 2014.
- Water Main Replacement – Silver Street moved to 2015 to coincide with road reconstruction.

Mayor Myers asked the Council to discuss the proposed changes.
Deputy Mayor Trefethen made a motion to substitute as a whole; seconded by Councilor DeDe.
Vote: 9/0.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen made a motion to amend the CIP plan to move Henry Law Avenue, \$850,000 from 2010 to 2011; seconded by Councilor Callaghan.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen discussed his reasoning for wanting this amendment. He felt the City just couldn't afford this.



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Mayor Myers asked Deputy Mayor Trefethen if he was going to move something up. Deputy Mayor Trefethen said there was another project that he wanted to move up, but the main reason was the City couldn't afford it.

Councilor Scott said he was in full agreement to move that out. He agreed with Mr. Bleiler's comment to spend \$100,000 to hardtop it and it will last four or five years.

City Manager Joyal said this project tied in with another project, and the Council might want to keep it together. He asked Doug Steele, Community Services Director, to speak to the Council. Mr. Steele said the design was done with the idea that the road would be completed in conjunction with Paul Street and Wallingford Street.

Mayor Myers discussed why he felt it was important to do Henry Law Avenue. He said the City has \$241,772.84 that can be reappropriated from monies that didn't get spent on other CIP projects, which came in under budget. He said that would bring the CIP down to below the amount of debt being retired this year.

Councilor Cheney asked about the Operating Budget and asked if there were any funds left over.

Mayor Myers said it's not necessarily sitting in limbo waiting to be spent.

Councilor DeDe said the Council wasn't looking at the impact to the Operating Budget.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen said fund balance can't be raided every year because of the tax cap, because eventually there won't be anything in the fund balance.

Mayor Myers said the General Street Improvements amount of \$1 million was raided last year to meet budget this year, and was actually \$700,000. He said right now the \$241,000 left over in prior years of the CIP projects would bring the amount debt financed under what is being retired. He asked for a vote on the amendment to move the \$850,000 for Henry Law Avenue to 2011.

Councilor Scott asked to make a friendly amendment to keep in \$100,000 to hardtop the road.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen said he wouldn't consider the friendly amendment.

Mayor Myers asked for a vote.

Vote: 5/4; Passed. Mayor Myers, Councilors Carrier, DeDe, and McCusker were opposed.

Councilor McCusker discussed the Tolend/Watson Road project and the impact of that project over three years.

Mayor Myers referred the Council to Page 22 of the CIP and Section "D" of the handout. He explained that reductions have been made in future years. He said moving the \$850,000 for Henry Law Avenue to next year makes the amount planned for next year \$7.5 million. He said the Council will have to cut projects next year if they still want to keep the amount debt financed equal to the amount of debt retired. He said he understood the economy, but the Council couldn't let the infrastructure crumble.

Councilor Callaghan discussed moving some streets to 2010.

City Manager Joyal said there was a plan for street reconstruction and a few of the roads tie in with other roads, and it wasn't a simple process to move the streets all around.

Councilor McCusker asked for clarification on being under the amount of debt retired. He felt the CIP should have been left alone, putting the \$850,000 for Henry Law Avenue back in.

Mayor Myers said a 20-year amortization on \$850,000 was approximately \$42,500 a year. He stressed the importance of not pushing projects out. He said he wouldn't support the CIP with the amendment.



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Councilor Weston said she agreed with Mayor Myers and Councilor McCusker. She said the ripple effect will be devastating. She felt it was a huge mistake to take out Henry Law Avenue, and will not support the CIP.

Councilor Cheney made a motion to reconsider Henry Law Avenue and move it back to 2010; seconded by Councilor Callaghan.

Vote: 6/3; Passed. Councilors Callaghan, Cheney and Scott were opposed.

Councilor DeDe made a motion to accept the plan as substituted (Packet C); seconded by Councilor McCusker.

Vote: 6/3; Passed. Councilors Callaghan, Cheney and Scott were opposed.

Mayor Myers asked for a roll call vote on the Resolution.

Roll Call Vote: 6/3. Councilors Callaghan, Cheney and Scott were opposed.

6. RESOLUTION: APPROPRIATION FOR FY 2010 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZATION FOR BONDING

Deputy Mayor Trefethen moved for its adoption; seconded by Councilor DeDe.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen moved to substitute this Resolution as a whole; seconded by Councilor Weston.

Vote: 9/0.

Mayor Myers spoke on the change for Horne Street School from \$2.2 million to \$2.3 million, eliminating the use of \$100,000 from impact fees. He said the City Manager will have to bring a Resolution to move the \$241,000 to General Streets Improvements. He said the Council would reduce the amount of General Streets Improvements by \$241,000, with the intention of the City Manager coming to the Council with a Resolution to appropriate the \$241,000.

Councilor Callaghan made a motion to reduce General Street Improvements by \$241,000; seconded by Councilor Scott.

Vote: 8/0. Councilor McCusker was absent from Council Chambers.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen asked if that made the total number \$7,959,000.

Mayor Myers said that encompasses water, sewer, special revenues, and schools.

Councilor Callaghan made a motion to remove #8, Parking Facility, for \$100,000; seconded by Councilor Cheney.

Councilor Callaghan said the Council hasn't heard enough on the price of the equipment and the plan with the vendors.

Mayor Myers asked the City Manager to explain the process.

City Manager Joyal said it has gone out to bid. The cost of the machines is about \$18,000, and with additional expenses it comes out to be \$20,000 installed. He said they were still in the process of evaluating the proposals. He said it will likely go back out to bid. He said that the plan is to start in the spring with the kiosk, which will be debt financed or leased, paid for by the revenues generated by the parking system. He expects to come before the Council in February or March with a proposal.

Mayor Myers clarified that it wasn't paid for with taxpayer monies.

Councilor DeDe said he felt the Council would be irresponsible not to support the Resolution.

Councilor Scott said he would not support the Resolution.

Councilor Weston asked about the Special Revenue Funds.



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City Manager Joyal said the revenue from the new meters will pay for themselves. He said the revenue from the old meters is already going into this special revenue fund. He said the City will not be using property tax dollars to pay for this program.

Councilor Weston said she could not agree to remove the \$100,000 for parking, because the City has needed a parking garage for 25 years.

Councilor Callaghan said he couldn't support keeping the \$100,000 in the CIP.

Mayor Myers discussed the special revenue fund. He said the Parking Committee had a sound plan and that he would not be voting to remove this \$100,000.

Councilor DeDe made a motion to move the question; seconded by Councilor McCusker.

Vote: 5/4; Passed. Councilors Callaghan, Cheney, Scott and Weston were opposed.

Mayor Myers asked for a vote on removing the \$100,000 for the Downtown Parking Facility.

Vote: 3/6; Failed. Councilors Callaghan, Cheney and Scott voted in favor.

Councilor Callaghan made a motion to table the Resolution; seconded by Councilor Cheney.

Vote: 3/6; Failed. Councilors Callaghan, Cheney and Scott voted in favor.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen made a motion to move the question; seconded by Councilor DeDe.

Vote: 9/0.

Mayor Myers asked for a roll call vote on the Resolution.

Roll Call Vote: 9/0.

7. RESOLUTION: APPROPRIATION FOR FY2010 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM – NONDEBT FINANCED PROJECT

Deputy Mayor Trefethen moved for its adoption; seconded by Councilor McCusker.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen made a motion to substitute as a whole; seconded by Councilor Weston.

Councilor Callaghan discussed the library. He said the roof should be repaired and ceilings painted before the carpeting is done. He also said automating the checkout system should be looked into.

City Manager Joyal said the carpet was a safety issue. He said the City has been doing temporary repairs to the roof for leaks. He said they were prioritizing the projects that need to be done.

Mayor Myers asked Cathy Beaudoin, Library Director, to speak to the Council on the Library.

Ms. Beaudoin said she knows carpeting is usually considered a cosmetic issue, but the carpet is 20 years old and really a safety issue. She said they replaced the skylights in April, 2008 and that took care of those leaks. She said last week the parapet roof was fixed, and some caulking was done. She said the remaining leaks are not damaging materials or computers. She said the ceilings have to be painted with special paint and the rooms have to be closed while it is painted. She said the people's comments all have to do with the condition of the carpet.

Councilor Cheney said she was concerned with structural rot and mold from the roof leaks.

Councilor McCusker asked Ms. Beaudoin her preference.

Ms. Beaudoin said that was like asking her who was her favorite child. She said the major leaks have been fixed. She was concerned with the carpeting, and it was a day-to-day issue. The roof repair is in year three of the CIP.

Councilor Weston asked if the carpet was going to be replaced where the roof is leaking.

Ms. Beaudoin said yes.



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Councilor Weston was concerned with doing that. She asked if some carpet could be saved, and then money could be saved to work on the roof.

Ms. Beaudoin said most of the carpet was too worn and that she was just trying to prioritize projects.

Mayor Myers asked for a roll call vote on the Resolution.

Roll Call Vote: 9/0.

8. ADJOURN

Deputy Mayor Trefethen motioned to adjourn; seconded by Councilor McCusker.

Vote: 9/0.