

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
DOVER CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
THURSDAY  
November 29, 2001  
7:00 P.M.**

**1. ROLL CALL:**

Members Present: Mayberry, Nossiff, Reese, Schmidt, Tweedie, Andrews-Parker, Dunnington and Hindle. Members Absent: Mayor Boc

**2. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**A. Resolution RE: Appropriation for FY03 Capital Improvements Program and Authorization for Bonding. Sponsored by Mayor Wil Boc, by Request.**

Mayor Pro Tem Reese opened the public hearing, asking if anyone wished to speak:

**John Sullivan**, 88 Tideview Drive – stated he is an alternate on the Planning Board but is not speaking on their behalf. He urged the Council to take the Planning Board recommendations for cuts to the CIP (see 11/29/01 folder) seriously, as they spent a lot of time reviewing these items.

**Jack Story**, President, Chamber of Commerce – urged the Council to support CIP Item #11, Urban Core/Riverfront Traffic Analysis, as it is a recommendation of the Master Plan.

**Debra Dineen**, Dover Main Street – also asked the Council to support Item #11 and feels it is necessary to gather this information to be able to move forward.

**Bernard Stillwagon**, Old Littleworth Road – stated that everyone is talking about spending more money, but feels that since his taxes went up \$800.00 this year, there should be no more spending. He stated that he is on a pension and cannot afford to keep paying for things for the kids. He feels that more thought should be given to the seniors. He discussed the various companies that have been laying off employees and closing down entirely. He discussed the proposed police firing range and stated that departments have to learn to live without certain things and he feels that he shouldn't have to take away from other things in order to pay his taxes. He stated that this Council should not vote on the CIP as the next Council will be the ones dealing with these issues. He stated that the city has given lots of money to recreation and feels that we don't need any art center or culture in the city, as this is a mill town. He stated that if Portsmouth and York, which are both located on the ocean, don't want an aquarium, why should Dover. He concluded by stating that the city should live within its means.

**Richard Hughes**, 51 New Rochester Road – reviewed the expenditures of the City Council. He discussed the budget adoption process stating he feels it is always fast-tracked without much discussion. He stated that the labor contracts are all coming up for negotiations next year and feels that there should be no more projects started. He concluded by complimenting the Planning Board on their scrutiny of the CIP and their recommended cuts.

**Linda Brennan**, 49 Oak Street – stated she understands that the city has needs, but feels they should be more conservative. She feels that public safety and education should come first, but citizens cannot afford to pay any more. She concluded by stating that the city should not spend more than the amount of the debt that will be retired.

**Bob Flanagan**, 524 Sixth Street – spoke in favor of CIP items #17 and 23, (Water and Sewer Main – Sixth Street) stated that he used to feel like he lived in the country, but now with all of the development it is not like that anymore. He stated that he should now receive these city services.

**Alfred Caldwell**, 557 Sixth Street – also spoke in favor of #17 and 23. He stated that an article in the paper this evening led him to believe that the residents were going to have to pay for the project, and feels this should not be the case. He feels that they should only have to pay for their connection to the system.

**Brenda Whitmore**, 141 Henry Law Avenue – asked that this Council not vote on the CIP and let the next Council deal with it. She stated that if they do vote on it however, she feels they should be conservative and not spend more than the debt they will be retiring. She urged that the priorities be public safety, road and sidewalk repairs, and maintenance of existing facilities.

**Leon Drouin**, 565 Sixth Street – stated that he is also in favor the Items #17 and 23 because since the new developments have been built, the water quality is poor in the area and the smell of septic is awful. He understands that this is an expensive project but feels that it is very necessary.

**Dale Drake**, 513 Sixth Street – resident for 25 years and also supports #17 and 23.

**Arthur Guardano**, business owner at 634 Central Avenue – asked the Council to support Item #11, Urban Core/Riverfront Traffic Analysis. He stated the traffic on Central Avenue has increased significantly and feels that we need to plan for the future.

**Matthew Duval**, 501 Sixth Street - stated his support for Items #17 and 23.

**Sherran Vandini**, 569 Sixth Street – supports Items #17 and 23.

**George Morancy**, 559 Sixth Street – stated he supports Items #17 and 23 but would like to have more information than what has been reported in the paper. He stated it did seem like the citizens would be paying for the project and feels that since his taxes already went up \$600.00 this year, this should not be so.

Reese asked the City Manager how these residents can get more information.  
Mr. Beecher stated they will be mailed information tomorrow.

**Jim Williams**, property owner of 522 Sixth Street – supports Items #17 and 23 and feels that many of the septic systems in the area are old and ready to be replaced, so this should be done now.

**Edna Von Huson**, 551 Sxith Street – also supports Items #17 and 23, but feels the residents should only have to pay for the hookup and agrees that the septic smell is awful out there.

**Patrick Bowen**, 556 Sixth Street – supports #17 and 23 and stated the smell was awful even tonight and not just in the summer months.

**Paul Vatcher**, 27 Richardson Drive – stated that the last time he spoke at a public hearing he mentioned that he was getting close to paying 12% of his income in taxes and that with the most recent increase and the revaluation of the property, this is now the case. He addressed the layoffs and shut downs of companies and feels that because times had been good the city spent their money like it was going out of style. He feels that we should spend money to repair existing items only and say no to the school systems. He stated that in 1991-93, there were a lot of foreclosures, but found no educators on the list. He feels that people don't realize what retirees have for income to live on and feels that there should be no raises because the times are now tough. He stated that he lives in an area where there is no city sewer and spent \$1,800 recently for a dry well. He stated that he would like city sewer in his area too, but feels it is too expensive at this point and taxpayers can't pay anymore, especially with the recent reevaluations.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Pro Tem Reese closed the public hearing.

**B. Resolution RE: FY03 Capital Improvements Program – Reserve Fund Financed. Sponsored by Mayor Wil Boc by Request.**

Mayor Pro Tem Reese opened the public hearing, asking if anyone wished to speak. Seeing no one, he closed the public hearing.

**3. OTHER BUSINESS  
NONE**

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

Hindle moved to adjourn, seconded by Tweedie.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Valerie A. French  
Deputy City Clerk