

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
DOVER CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
DECEMBER 1, 1999**

**6:00 P.M.**

**NON PUBLIC SESSION Re: Labor negotiations**

**7:00 P.M.**

**1. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Councilor Johnson, Councilor Landry, Mayor Pro Tem Perry, Councilor Rawding, Councilor Reese, Councilor Schmidt, and Mayor Wil Boc.

Absent: Councilor Berry.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING**

- A. Appropriation for FY01 Capital Improvements Program and Authorization for Bonding. Sponsored by Mayor Wil Boc, by Request.

The Mayor explained there is a CIP Public Hearing tonight.

**Ron Cole** – Chair of the Dover Planning Board. Mr. Cole reported on 11/23/99 the Planning Board voted to adopt bonding for the CIP.

He stated

- #18 Bouchard Well - \$50,000 was okayed and \$950,000 was postponed,
- #16 Public Works Facility - \$350,000 was okayed with absolute commitment to maintain the facility, and
- #10 Athletic Fields - \$900,000 okayed for field development with no recommendation of where the fields are to be placed.

**Patty Cole** – President of the Dover Soccer Association. Mrs. Cole stated that they had 600 players this fall. They are working to schedule these teams with the recreation department. She stated Dover Soccer had eight travel teams this fall. Mrs. Cole stated there was no space for two of the teams to play.

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Mrs. Cole stated there are 44 recreation teams limited to playing one day a week. She stated in the spring, it gets worse. They need the additional field space to accommodate the players. This year they turned 30 – 40 kids away. Mrs. Cole wants the appropriation included in the CIP.

**Bob Walsh** – 27 Fieldstone Drive. Mr. Walsh represents the Arena Commission. He urged all the city councilors if they have any questions to call him or Gary or Jeff Bardwell. Mr. Walsh wants the council to make an informed decision.

**Ray Bower** – Administrator for Strafford County. Mr. Bower stated he is here to answer any questions about the county land with regard to the proposed ball fields.

The Mayor asked for just an outline of the county ball fields.

Mr. Bower stated 8% of the county funds raised go to bad kids, but they spend next to nothing on good kids. He stated the offer stands, they will continue to make the land available or offer alternative fields.

**Erv Sparkman** – 232 Tolend Road. Mr. Sparkman stated he is privileged to serve as the President of the Citizens for a Responsible Government. He read their statement and stated the city council has not responded to this group. Mr. Sparkman stated there are two other major items on the list. The arena and the ball fields. They raise serious concerns. Mr. Sparkman stated issues were not discussed at the budget sessions and it was passed as is. He stated they feel the CIP is being rushed through. This CIP assures higher tax rates. Mr. Sparkman urged the city council to take a step back and study the issues.

**Jack Story** – President of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Story stated what the Chamber of Commerce Board feels the high priority is, sidewalks, and moving the public works facility. Mr. Story stated the city should keep the money in the streets and sidewalks. He stated the public works facility has been recommended to be moved for years now; it's necessary to move the public works to facilitate the development of the waterfront.

**John Torr** - Mr. Torr stated he lives near the public works proposed new facility. He stated he has grave concerns about the proposed site. He stated Durham Road will have no quality of life and water will back up in his fields worse than it is. Mr. Torr is against it.

**Neal Stacy** – 75 Long Hill Road. Mr. Stacy stated he feels the proposed plan for new fields at the county complex is a good one, but it appears there is still some room on some of our existing fields.

Mr. Stacy also spoke regarding the ice arena. He stated he doesn't think there is any question that the current facility needs help. Mr. Stacy stated the feasibility study says

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the demand of time is mostly from people outside of Dover. He stated he doesn't think this is fair to the taxpayers of Dover.

Mr. Stacy stated he wonders about a private facility. He appreciates the fact that the city council is supportive of the project, but feels its beyond our taxpayers budget.

**Mark Morrison** – 191 Henry Law Avenue – Vice President of the Dover Soccer Association House League. He reviewed what he saw last summer; he had 30 or 40 kids not able to participate – they need more fields because of the demand. He stated with the hurricane, this fall, the fields could not be played on. He stated if all the kids were in one area, it would be very helpful.

Mr. Morrison stated he has been a resident for 10 years. He doesn't want to wait another 10 years for new fields.

**Lisa Stacy** – 75 Long Hill Road. Mrs. Stacy stated she supports her husband's statement. She has been reading editorials and feels people don't want the new public works facility. Mrs. Stacy stated she would like to see the ball fields put in the downtown area so parents could shop while the kids play. She stated she wishes they would go back to the traditional time for adoption of the CIP, which is May of next year.

**Ron Cole** – Mr. Cole spoke again as a soccer person. He addressed the ball fields. Mr. Cole stated he knows they need fields, but doesn't know where they will be built as yet. He stated this is not a town it's a city. We have an opportunity to develop this without city funds and we need to proceed with this.

**Candy Weeks** – Ms. Weeks spoke saying she wants repairs on the current public works area.

**Stephania Pearce** – Ms. Pearce stated she wants to correct CIP # 14 Woodman Park, is the interior not the exterior.

**Art Burke** – Union Street. Mr. Burke spoke regarding the athletic fields. He asked, is it wise to locate fields in the north corner of Dover? He stated everyone would be on the road out there all the time. Mr. Burke stated he wants the existing fields repaired or utilized in the downtown area.

Secondly, Mr. Burke asked can't you just try out the field now by simply mowing it? He stated the lawn doesn't have to be perfect in the beginning.

Mr. Burke stated he is also opposed to moving the public works facility. He stated there is too much on Durham Road now. Mr. Burke stated logistically all the public works trucks would have to drive into Dover, which makes no sense to move it out to Durham Road.

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**John Torr** – Mr. Torr spoke again stating he's in favor of the ball fields for children. He gave his telephone number 742-9603 asking one of the Council to call him.

The Mayor stated he would get back to him.

**Erv Sparkman** – Mr. Sparkman comments again. He stated the "gravel money" is always referred to as ball field money, but he feels it belongs to all the taxpayers. He stated this is not free money!

**Ray Bardwell** – Spur Road. Mr. Bardwell agrees with the other gentlemen about leaving the public works facility where it is and fixing up the place they are in or relocating it to a better central location. He asked what about the Police, Fire, and recycling all being at one location.. Are they included with the public works?

Seeing no other speakers, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

**3. ORDINANCE #18-12/01/99, Chapter 99, Eating and Drinking Establishments. Sponsored by Councilor Paul Johnson.**

Johnson moved to refer to a Public Hearing on 12/8/1999, seconded by Landry. All in favor.

**4. Resolution RE: Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Dover and the DMEA. Sponsored by Mayor Wil Boc by Request.**

Perry moved to adopt, seconded by Landry. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 7-0.

**5. Resolution RE: Award of Purchase Order for Used 15 Passenger Van. Sponsored by Mayor Wil Boc, by Request.**

Perry moved to adopt, seconded by Schmidt. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 7-0.

Rawding asked why we go outside our city to purchase vehicles.

**6. Other Business**

Rawding stated we approved money to improve the Post Office in Dover. He stated he is disturbed. He stated the reasons he voted against this originally are coming true.

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Rawding stated the lines are longer than ever inside the Post Office. He stated there are more parking spaces, but there are the same number of clerks and they are not even manning all the windows.

Rawding wants the City Manager to communicate this to them.

**7. Adjournment**

Reese moved to adjourn, seconded by all.

Judy Gaouette  
CITY CLERK