



**CITY OF DOVER**

## JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE - AGENDA

Meeting Type: **Regular Meeting**  
Meeting Location: **Media Access Center, McConnell Center**  
Meeting Date: **Wednesday, February 15, 2012**  
Meeting Time: **6:00 PM**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. February 1, 2012**
- 3. BUDGET DISCUSSION & COUNCIL GUIDANCE**
- 4. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST**
- 5. ADJOURNMENT**



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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

**City Council:** Mayor Trefethen, Deputy Mayor Carrier, Councilors Catherine Cheney, William Garrison, Dorothea Hooper, Michael Weeden, and Karen Weston.

**School Board Members:** Chairperson Rocky D'Andrea, Vice Chairperson Amanda Russell (arrived late), Betsey Andrews-Parker, Kenneth Appel, Kathy Baker, Paul Butler, and Doris Grady.

**Absent:** Councilor Michael Crago and Councilor Edward Spuler

**Also Present:** City Manager Joyal, General Legal Counsel Krans, City Clerk Lavertu, Superintendent Briggs-Badger, and Business Administrator Limanni.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### A. October 5, 2011

Councilor Garrison moved to approve the Minutes as presented; seconded by Councilor Weston.

Vote: Unanimous.

### 3. 2011 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUDIT

City Manager Joyal introduced Christian Smith of MacDonald Page & Company LLC. Mr. Smith gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

### 4. REVIEW OF TAX CAP CALCULATION

City Manager gave an overview on the analysis of the tax cap calculation.

### 5. BUDGET DISCUSSION & COUNCIL GUIDANCE

Mr. Limanni handed out an overview of the summary sheet regarding the School Department's budget.

Superintendent Briggs-Badger discussed the status of the budget process and the need to cut \$2 million from the budget.

Mr. Limanni gave an overview of the summary sheet.

Councilor Weeden started a discussion regarding teachers' benefits and controlling the future cost of benefits.

The Committee discussed the downturn in enrollment from other towns and the steps the School Board is taking to market Dover schools. She said the Board will be talking with Barrington and Nottingham to continue their commitment, but they are getting ready to talk with Rollinsford to add their students as an additional source of revenue.

Discussion ensued with the Council members giving recommendations to the School Board, that they do want guidance even though the School Board has bottom line authority.



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Councilor Weston started a discussion on the difference from this year's budget of \$45 million, and the proposed budget which adds an additional \$608,000, and asked why the School Board has to cut \$2.2 million from their budget.

Mr. Limanni said it was due to contractual obligations.

Deputy Mayor Carrier started a discussion regarding the change in school time being changed to hours instead of days.

Superintendent Briggs-Badger said the school is also tied to competency of the course material and not how long the child sits in their seat and exposed to the material. She said the State has loosened up the rules in many ways.

Mr. Limanni spoke about aids from grants that are ending and how it doesn't show in the general fund budget.

Mayor Trefethen said the Council is not ready to give guidance, and the School Board is just starting their budget process. He asked if it would be useful for the Joint Fiscal Committee to meet again at 6:00 pm on February 15, 2012. He said the new tax cap language does not require that the School or City budget adhere to the tax cap, but it was the desire.

### 6. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mayor Trefethen asked the members if they had other items. No one responded.

### 7. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trefethen closed the meeting.

The following handouts have been archived with these minutes.

- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
- Two Letters from MacDonald Page & Co. LLC
- Analysis of Tax Cap – FY 2013 Budget
- Budget Comparison by Location