



**CITY OF DOVER**

## CITY COUNCIL - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Organizational Meeting  
Meeting Location: Office of the City Manager, City Hall  
Meeting Date: **Monday, January 6, 2014**  
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

City Clerk Lavertu called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

### 1. OATH OF OFFICE

The entire Council was sworn in by City Clerk Lavertu.

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** Mayor Weston, Councilor Carrier, Councilor Cheney, Councilor Gagnon, Councilor Garrison, Councilor Hooper, Councilor McManus, Councilor O'Connor, and Councilor Thibodeaux.

**Also Present:** City Manager Joyal, General Legal Counselor Blenkinsop, and City Clerk Lavertu.

### 2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Councilor Cheney nominated Councilor Robert Carrier as Deputy Mayor; seconded by Councilor Hooper.

Vote: 9/0.

### 3. ADOPTION OF 2014-2015 COUNCIL PROCEDURAL RULES

City Manager Joyal discussed the three handouts that were given to the Council: The Current Council Rules, Suggested Rule Updates, and the last was the Amendment of Council Rules.

Mayor Weston discussed Councilor McManus' verbal recommendation. She referred the Council to Page 10, Section VI. F. of the current Council Rules, and asked Councilor McManus to give his recommendation.

Councilor McManus said he would like the Agenda and Agenda Materials to be available at the Public Library. He said many people in the community don't have access to a computer, and the City Clerk's office is closed on Fridays and the entire weekend. He moved that the following addition be entered at the end of Section VI. F.: "and Dover Public Library during regular business hours; seconded by Councilor Cheney.

Roll Call Vote: 9/0.

Councilor Garrison referred Page 15. XI. Amendment of Council Rules. He moved that the words "majority roll call vote of all members of the 2012-2013" be changed to "two-thirds (2/3) roll call vote of all members of the 2014-2015..."; seconded by Councilor Hooper.

Councilor Cheney discussed why she had an issue with this proposed change.

Councilor Hooper said she agreed with Councilor Garrison, and said she felt it shouldn't be easy to change the rules. A 2/3 majority vote shows commitment to the change.

Councilor McManus said he was never a fan of a super majority.

Deputy Mayor Carrier said it locks in Council agreement.

Councilor Thibodeaux said she felt it should be a higher hurdle.



**CITY OF DOVER**

## CITY COUNCIL - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Organizational Meeting  
Meeting Location: Office of the City Manager, City Hall  
Meeting Date: **Monday, January 6, 2014**  
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

Mayor Weston said she agreed with Councilor McManus and felt the higher hurdle doesn't apply to these guidelines.

Roll Call Vote: 6/3; Passed. Mayor Weston, Councilor Cheney, and Councilor McManus were opposed.

Councilor Cheney went over her suggested changes and started with the first recommendation. She referred to the Section IV.A.ii. and moved to add ", one of whom may or may not be the Mayor," seconded by Councilor O'Connor.

The Council discussed if this could be misconstrued.

Roll Call Vote: 9/0.

Councilor Cheney referred to Section IV.A.iii. and moved to strike out "prior to the end of the meeting," and add after matter(s) included on the agenda "after each item is reviewed and discussed by the Council."; seconded by Councilor O'Connor.

Deputy Mayor Carrier said he didn't want it written in stone. He reminded the Council that they have suspended the rules and allow citizens to speak.

The Council discussed if the new wording meant the citizen could only speak about a specific topic after the discussion, or if they could speak on it again at the second citizen forum.

Councilor Cheney withdrew her motion.

Councilor O'Connor withdrew his second.

Councilor Cheney moved to amend it to say "... to the specific topic after it has been reviewed and discussed by the Council and at the end of the meeting on any topic discussed at the Workshop."; seconded by Councilor O'Connor.

Councilor McManus asked Councilor Cheney to withdraw her motion and bring it back with the redrafted language.

Mayor Weston said they should vote on it because it would take a super majority vote if they wait to vote on this amendment.

Roll Call Vote: 4/5; Failed. Mayor Weston, Councilor Cheney, Councilor Gagnon, and Councilor O'Connor voted in favor.

Councilor Cheney referred to her next suggestion, VI.A. Agenda Setting, and moved to change "should" to "could"; seconded by Councilor O'Connor.

Roll Call Vote: 2/7; Failed. Councilor Cheney and Councilor O'Connor voted in favor.

Councilor Cheney referred to the next suggestion. VI.A.ii., and moved to change "should" to "could"; seconded by Mayor Weston.

Roll Call Vote: 2/7; Failed. Mayor Weston and Councilor Cheney voted in favor.

Councilor Cheney referred to the next suggestion, VI.C.i., and moved to strike "approved as to form" and replace with "recorded and placed on the agenda" by the City Clerk, "reviewed" as to financing by the Finance Director, and as to legal" striking "compliance" and inserting "form"; seconded by Mayor Weston.

Deputy Mayor Carrier said he wasn't comfortable with this drastic change without the General Legal Counselor's input.

Councilor Cheney asked General Legal Counselor Blenkinsop for his opinion.



**CITY OF DOVER**

## CITY COUNCIL - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Organizational Meeting  
Meeting Location: Office of the City Manager, City Hall  
Meeting Date: **Monday, January 6, 2014**  
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

General Legal Counselor Blenkinsop said he is just looking at this and wanted to research this a little more.

Councilor McManus moved to table this motion.

Mayor Weston asked Councilor Cheney to withdraw the motion.

Councilor Cheney withdrew this motion so she could meet with the General Legal Counselor.

Councilor McManus withdrew his motion to table.

Mayor Weston withdrew her second of Councilor Cheney's motion.

Councilor Cheney referred to the next suggestion, VIII.b., and moved to strike "Any Resolution to be considered by the Council shall typically be initiated and acted upon in accordance with Section VI. above."; seconded by Councilor McManus.

Councilor O'Connor recommended that Councilor Cheney should also move to strike "also" in the next sentence.

Councilor Cheney agreed to add the strike of "also" to the motion; seconded by Councilor McManus.

Roll Call Vote: 5/4; Passed. Deputy Mayor Carrier, Councilor Garrison, Councilor Hooper, and Councilor Thibodeaux were opposed.

Councilor Cheney referred to her last suggestion under Council Conduct with Boards and Commissions, and moved to strike "/or" and "Chair"; seconded by Deputy Mayor Carrier.

Deputy Mayor Carrier said the Chair of the Appointments Committee is just the point of contact.

Roll Call Vote: 1/8; Failed. Councilor Cheney voted in favor.

Councilor McManus moved to approve the Council Rules as amended; seconded by Councilor Cheney.

Roll Call Vote: 9/0.

#### **4. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

#### **5. ADJOURN**

Mayor Weston said they will plan reconvene on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, at 6:30 pm, in Council Chambers to complete the agenda.

Deputy Mayor Carrier moved to recess; seconded by Councilor Hooper.

The three handouts have been archived with the Minutes.

1. 2014-2015 City Council Procedural Rules and Decorum Guidelines
2. Suggested Rule Updates for 2014-2015 Council (provided by Councilor Cheney)
3. Amendment of Council Rules (provided by Councilor Garrison)