



CITY OF DOVER

CITY COUNCIL - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Workshop Session
Meeting Location: Council Chambers, City Hall
Meeting Date: **Wednesday, April 6, 2016**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Greenshields led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Weston, Deputy Mayor Carrier, Councilor Ciotti, Councilor Gagnon, Councilor Greenshields, Councilor Nicolella, Councilor O'Connor, and Councilor Shanahan. Councilor Thibodeaux arrived at 6:10 pm.

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

5. CITIZEN'S FORUM

Citizens are invited to speak on the subject matter of the Workshop. Statements shall be limited to five minutes.

Catherine Cheney, 9 Snow's Court: She spoke about the potential for a tax cap override. She said the Council had an understanding with the School Board that the adequacy funding would be put towards the High School bonding, which would lessen the impact to the taxpayer. She said she also heard the interest rate is lower than what was proposed in the pro forma, and felt that that should also be credited toward the budget. She asked the Council to get all the information up front, that they shouldn't override the tax cap, and that they work hard on the budget.

William Ruger, 16 Jacquelyn Drive: He urged the Council to honor the tax cap and say no to the School Board.

Raymond Schwendeman, 8 Newport Road: He urged the Council to honor the tax cap. He suggested that the Council ask the taxpayers for a one-time fee so it's not permanently added to the tax base.

Diane Ruger, 16 Jacquelyn Drive: She spoke against going over the tax cap.

David Scott, 220 Back Road: He spoke against going over the tax cap.

Jane Sherwood, 43 Arch Street: She spoke against going over the tax cap.

Suzanne Medbery, 3 Covered Bridge Lane: She said there had to be a way not to go over the tax cap and asked the Council to be creative.



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Norman Allie, 66 Stocklan Circle: He spoke about the tax cap and felt it should be respected.

Donald Medbery, 3 Covered Bridge Lane: He spoke about the High School project and asked for due diligence. He asked the Council to really look at the budget and not override the tax cap.

Phyllis Woods, 1 Barry Street: She asked the Council to scrutinize the budget, because she felt it was more than the average citizen should have to bear. She said the School needed to prove that the increase will help educate the children and improve the testing scores.

Jeanne Clark, 21 Elmwood Avenue: She spoke against the proposed budget going over the tax cap.

Betsey Andrews Parker, 34 Gladiola Way, School Board Vice-Chairperson: She spoke about the economic development of the City and the need for good schools and other City services to attract new residents and businesses. She said there may be compromises on the budget, but implored the Council to approve the budget to support positive advances for the community.

Cindy Edwards, 28 Childs Drive: She spoke about the budget and the City's tendency to constantly add to the top line. She said adding taxes to the citizens should be the Council's last option.

Robert Dinaburg, 54 Augusta Way: He spoke against going over the tax cap.

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

A. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

1. SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Superintendent Arbour and School Board Chairperson Russell gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed School Department budget.

City Manager Joyal gave an overview of the changes to the proposed budget, because the actual bond rate wasn't known when the proposed budget was completed.

City Manager Joyal recommended that they reverse the order of the remaining items for discussion.

Human Services Director Nichols gave an overview of the proposed budget for the Human Services Department.

Library Director Beaudoin gave a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed budget for the Dover Public Library.



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DoverNet Director Dover gave a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed budget for the DoverNet department, which includes DoverNet, Media Services, and Information Technology.

2. EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

City Manager Joyal gave an overview of changes to the Fee Schedule, changes in personnel and salaries, organizational chart, and what items are changing the budget. He went over the City Council, Executive Department, Legal Department, and Economic Development proposed budgets.

3. FINANCE DEPARTMENT

City Manager Joyal gave an overview of the proposed budget for the Finance Department.

4. LIBRARY

Moved up on the Agenda to follow Welfare.

5. WELFARE

Moved up on the Agenda to follow School Department.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Greenshields moved to adjourn; seconded by Deputy Mayor Carrier.
Vote: 9/0.