



# TOWN OF DOVER MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES ELECTRONIC MEETING March 9, 2021 7:00 P.M.

Acting Municipal Clerk Schmidt welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting was held electronically and was recorded/streamed lived on YouTube.

Mayor Carolyn Blackman called the March 9, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order at 7:08p.m. The Mayor stated that the meeting was being recorded and read the Sunshine Statement that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the Sunshine Law, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6. Notice of the meeting was sent to the Daily Record and Star Ledger on January 10, 2021 and published in the Record and Ledger on January 13, 2021. Notice was also posted on the Bulletin Board, in the Lobby and Entrance Doors of the Municipal Building and on the Town of Dover website.”

The Mayor then led those in attendance in the salute to the flag. Acting Municipal Clerk Schmidt then conducted the roll which resulted in the following:

Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Alderman Correa	X		
Alderman Tapia	X		
Alderman Ballesteros	X		
Alderwoman Rugg	X		
Alderwoman Cruz	X		
Alderman Valencia	X		
Alderman Quinones	X		
Alderwoman Wittner	X		
Mayor Blackman	X		

Following roll call the Clerk announced that all nine members were present and there was a quorum. Also in attendance was Interim Business Administrator John O. Bennett, Acting Municipal Clerk John P. Schmidt and Municipal Attorney Tim Downs.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman Ballesteros made a motion to approve, second by Alderwoman Wittner the minutes of January 19, 2021, which were approved by unanimous consent 9-0.

### January 19, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes

	A.M. Correa	A.M. Tapia	A.M. Ballesteros	A.M. Rugg	A.M. Cruz	A.M. Valencia	A.M. Quinones	A.M. Wittner	Mayor Blackman
<b>Motion</b>			X						
<b>Second</b>								X	
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

**PRESENTATIONS, MUNICIPAL CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board of Aldermen then received the below correspondence.

1) Correspondence from JIF - 2020-2021 Elected Officials Risk Management Seminar:  
Employment Practices Liability

**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING**

The Board then considered Ord. No. 3-2021 – Changing the Name of the Governing Body of the Town of Dover and the Title of its Elected Officials. Alderwoman Wittner requested that the Ordinance be held until a future meeting and Mayor Blackman consented. No action was taken on this Ordinance.

The Board then considered Ord. No. 4-2021 – Supporting the Creation, Protection of Long Term Sustainability of Community Gardens. A motion was made by Alderwoman Wittner to introduce, second by Alderwoman Rugg.

**Introduction of Ord. 4-2021**

	A.M. Correa	A.M. Tapia	A.M. Ballesteros	A.M. Rugg	A.M. Cruz	A.M. Valencia	A.M. Quinones	A.M. Wittner	Mayor Blackman
<b>Motion</b>								X	
<b>Second</b>				X					
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

Ord. 4-2021 was introduced 9-0.

The Board then considered Ord. No. 5-2021 – Supporting the Integration of New Americans and Residents. A motion was made by Alderman Correa to introduce, second by Alderwoman Wittner.

**Introduction of Ord. 5-2021**

	A.M. Correa	A.M. Tapia	A.M. Ballesteros	A.M. Rugg	A.M. Cruz	A.M. Valencia	A.M. Quinones	A.M. Wittner	Mayor Blackman
<b>Motion</b>								X	
<b>Second</b>				X					
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

Ord. 5-2021 was introduced 9-0.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

The Board then considered the approval of the Bills List – Res. 83-2021. A motion was made by Alderwoman Wittner to adopt, second by Alderman Ballesteros.

**Resolution 83-2021**

	A.M. Correa	A.M. Tapia	A.M. Ballesteros	A.M. Rugg	A.M. Cruz	A.M. Valencia	A.M. Quinones	A.M. Wittner	Mayor Blackman
<b>Motion</b>								X	
<b>Second</b>			X						
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>	X PO #21-00426, 21-00427, 21-00366								

The Bills List was approved 9-0, with the exceptions of Items #21-00426, #21-00427 and #21-00366 which were approved 8-0-1.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS**

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS** – The Board then acted upon the consent agenda resolutions.

- 1) Res. 84-2021 – Res. Authorizing the consent to Postponement of Mortgage for the Property 15 South Highland Ave. owned by Johnny and Dora Parrales
- 2) Res. 85-2021 – Res. Appointing Fire Official – Captain Jon Sperry
- 3) Res. 86-2021 – Res. Appointing Consulting Engineer – CP Engineers
- 4) Res. 87-2021 – Res. Appointing dgRoberts to provide Municipal Planning Services

A motion was made to adopt Res. 91-2021 to 94-2021 by Alderwoman Wittner, second by Alderwoman Rugg.

**Resolutions 84-87 2021**

	A.M. Correa	A.M. Tapia	A.M. Ballesteros	A.M. Rugg	A.M. Cruz	A.M. Valencia	A.M. Quinones	A.M. Wittner	Mayor Blackman
<b>Motion</b>								X	
<b>Second</b>				X					
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The consent agenda was adopted 9-0.

**RESOLUTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION**

The Board then considered 88-2021 – Res. Approving Taxicabs and Limos to be Licensed in the Town of Dover.

A motion was made by Alderman Ballesteros to adopt, second by Alderman Valencia.



**Resolution 88-2021**

	A.M. Correa	A.M. Tapia	A.M. Ballesteros	A.M. Rugg	A.M. Cruz	A.M. Valencia	A.M. Quinones	A.M. Wittner	Mayor Blackman
<b>Motion</b>			X						
<b>Second</b>						X			
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

Res. 88-2021 was adopted 9-0.

The Board then considered Res. 89-2021 – Res. Consenting to the Authorization of Final Payment to John Garcia Construction Company Inc. for Water Main Improvements on Reservoir Road and Quaker Road in Randolph Township and approving the Final Close Out Change Order Reflecting an Overall Change in the Contract Amount of \$78,932.61 and Accepting a Maintenance Bond in the Amount of \$81,351.63.

Alderman Ballesteros inquired as to what a Maintenance Bond was. Acting Municipal Clerk Schmidt explained what it was. Bill Isselin, Chief Code Enforcement Officer/Asst. to the Engineer commented that it was good for one year.

A motion was made by Alderman Ballesteros to adopt Res. 89-2021, second by Alderman Valencia.

**Resolution 89-2021**

	A.M. Correa	A.M. Tapia	A.M. Ballesteros	A.M. Rugg	A.M. Cruz	A.M. Valencia	A.M. Quinones	A.M. Wittner	Mayor Blackman
<b>Motion</b>			X						
<b>Second</b>						X			
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

Res. 89-2021 was adopted 9-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Bennett gave an Administrator’s Report. He updated the Board concerning recent meetings with employees to initiate a furlough program, which will permit employees to remain on the Town’s health insurance and file for unemployment. The plan will be implemented in areas where employees are currently not at full working capacity due to COVID-19.

He also reported that the Town has seen stable COVID-19 numbers and the Town is working with Zufal, St. Clare’s and Walgreens on vaccinations. St. Clare’s has done an additional 70 vaccinations for seniors in Dover, which was set up within a 24-hour period at the request of Mayor Blackman. The Administration is most appreciative of the efforts of these organizations.

He also provided an updated on the 2021 budget and the bar curfew. Mr. Bennett reported that he has worked with the OEM Coordinator Aldo Chicetti and the Town recently submitted for

reimbursements totaling \$85,000+ from the Federal Government for funds expended during the recent snow emergencies.

Interim Administrator Bennett also reported that the contracts for the roof repair have been signed and work will commence once the weather clears. Mr. Bennett also provided an update that two of four new police cars have arrived and have been placed into service. The third vehicle is expected to arrive in the next couple weeks and the fourth at the end of May.

Mr. Bennett also stated that the annual shredding event will be held on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the DPW recycling center and that he has been working with the getting the soccer program restored in the town along with Alderman Quinones.

Mayor Blackman spoke about COVID-19 and asked everyone to continue to follow all guidelines. The Mayor also mentioned that March is Women's History month. Mayor Blackman also announced that the Town of Dover will be partnering with Table of Hope on April 3<sup>rd</sup> to do an Easter Egg Hunt in the Crescent Field parking lot.

The Mayor also reported that the 300 Anniversary Committee will be holding a meeting.

Alderman Rugg, who is Chair of the Health Committee reported that she has held discussions with the new Public Health Nurse. One of the items being worked on is the development of a list of 65+ residents for COVID-19 testing/vaccination. Alderman Rugg stated that if people wish to be on the list to call Town Hall. She also stated she looks forward to working with the new Public Health Nurse in the future on other items.

Fire Captain Jon Sperry thanked the Board for the appointment this evening and Anthony Rosario who previously served as Fire Official.

Alderman Correa asked Bill Isselin, the Chief Code Enforcement Officer and Asst. to the Engineer what happened with the WaWa project. Mr. Isselin stated that the project was approved by the Planning Board prior to going to DEP, which did give approval. In 2019 there were disagreements between WaWa and the redeveloper.

Alderman Wittner thanked Alderman Correa, Alderman Rugg and Alderman Ballesteros for their work on the Community Garden Ordinance.

The Board then heard a presentation from Nieves Garcia Pimienta from Rutgers. Dover was one of the recipients of a grant and is currently working on a visitor's guide, a component of which is a business guide/directory. Rutgers has been working with the Town and Mr. Fernando Barrios, the Constituent Affairs Coordinator. They have held meetings with members of the community, business owners and the Historical Society. There will also be additional meetings and surveys conducted as part of the process. The meetings and surveys have been bi-lingual.

Alderman Ballesteros thanked the Administration and Fernando for their work on this project. He stated he may submit some questions.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Acting Municipal Clerk Schmidt read the procedures for public comment and the meeting was opened to the public.

**Speaker:** Sanjay Chandhai

**Address:** 1502 Sussex Turnpike

**Municipality/County:** Randolph / Morris County

Mr. Chandhai inquired as to what the Town is planning to do in regards to Cannabis and spoke about support for Cannabis.

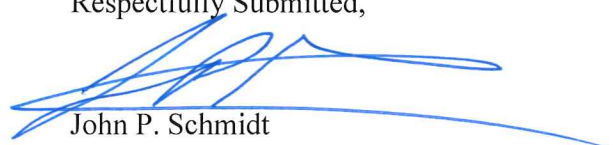
Mayor Blackman thanked Mr. Chandhai for his comments. The Mayor said the Board has not discussed it as a Board or with the Police Department or the Department Administration.

With no other business Mayor Blackman closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Deputy Chief Delaney joined the meeting and reported that there will be a memorial for the two Dover Police Officers who have been killed in the line of duty. He also stated that the Town received a Pedestrian Safety Grant and that the community may be seeing additional signage.

With no other business Alderwoman Wittner made a motion to adjourn at 8:11p.m. which was seconded by Alderwoman Rugg with the following members in favor: Aldermembers Correa, Tapia, Ballesteros, Rugg, Cruz, Valencia, Quinones, Wittner and Mayor Blackman.

Respectfully Submitted,



John P. Schmidt

Acting Municipal Clerk