



TOWN OF DOVER MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DOVER TOWN HALL
37 N. SUSSEX ST., DOVER, NJ 07801
MARCH 24, 2020

Mayor Carolyn Blackman called the March 24, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman to order at 7:04p.m. 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 4, 2020 and published in the Record and Ledger on January 10, 2020. Notice was also posted on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall. Mayor Blackman also advised that under State Law that there is a no smoking in this public building and asked those in attendance to take notice of the emergency exits in the event of an emergency.

The Mayor then led those in attendance in the salute to the flag. Acting 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 the roll, the Clerk announced that all members of the Governing Body were present and there was a quorum. Also present at the meeting was Acting Municipal Clerk John P. Schmidt, Deputy Town Administrator Carlos Sanchez and Town Attorney Timothy P. Downs.

Mayor Blackman asked for a motion to approve the minutes of November 7, 2020 with the noted correction from November 11th to November 7th. Alderwoman Wittner made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Alderman Quinones.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) November 7, 2019 Caucus and Regular Monthly Meeting

| | 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 |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Motion | | | | | | | | X | |
| Second | | | | | | | X | | |
| Yes | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| No | | | | | | | | | |
| Abstain/Not Voting | X | X | X | X | X | | | | |

The minutes were adopted and approved 4-0-5. The Governing Body then considered the March 10, 2020 minutes. Alderman Correa made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Ballesteros.

b) March 10, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting

| | 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 |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Motion | X | | | | | | | | |
| Second | | | X | | | | | | |
| Yes | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| No | | | | | | | | | |
| Abstain | | | | | | | | | |

The minutes were approved 9-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

After reading a statement and procedures for public comment, the Mayor then opened the floor up to the public who wished to make comments on agenda items only. Seeing that no one wished to comment, Mayor Blackman closed the public comment portion on agenda items only.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The Governing Body then considered the approval of the bill list / Res. 119-2020. A motion was made to approve the bill list and adopt Res. 119-2020 by Alderwoman Wittner, seconded by Alderman Correa.

| | 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 |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Motion | | | | | | | | X | |
| Second | X | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| No | | | | | | | | | |
| Abstain | | | | | | | | | |

The bills list / Res. 119-2020 was approved 9-0.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

a) CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

- 1) Res. 120-2020 – Approving Transfer Resolution
- 2) Res. 121-2020 – Approving Emergency Temporary Budget
- 3) Res. 122 -2020 – Amending Res. 103-2020
- 4) Res. 123 -2020 – Amending Res. 20-2020
- 5) Res. 124 -2020 – Authorizing a Temporary Contract for Financial Consultant – Dennis J. Enright in the amount not to exceed \$17,500
- 6) Res. 125-2020 – Subordination of Mortgage – 11 Brook Drive, Dover
- 7) Res. 126-2020 – Resolution of Dispute Re: Rutgers Bridge Replacement Project
- 8) Res. 127-2020 – Authorizing the annual Fireworks Display to celebrate Independence Day and Entering into an agreement with Schaefer’s Fireworks in an amount of \$15,900.00.
- 9) Res. 128-2020 – Setting Salary of Municipal Prosecutor

The Governing Body then considered the Consent Agenda Resolutions. Alderman Ballesteros made a motion to approve Resolutions 120-2020 to 128-2020, seconded by Alderman Valencia.

Resolutions – 120-2020 to 128-2020

| | 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 |
|----------------|-------------|------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Motion | | | X | | | | | | |
| Second | | | | | | X | | | |
| Yes | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| No | | | | | | | | | |
| Abstain | | | | | | | | | |

The Consent Agenda Resolutions were approved 9-0.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

The Board considered Ord. 10-2020, Ordinance of the Town of Dover, County of Morris and State of New Jersey amending Chapter 2 (Administration of Government) of the Code of the Town of Dover for introduction.

A motion was made by Alderman Correa, seconded by Alderman Quinones to introduce the Ordinance 10-2020.

Introduction of Ord. 10-2020

| | 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 |
|----------------|-------------|------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Motion | X | | | | | | | | |
| Second | | | | | | | X | | |
| Yes | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| No | | | | | | | | | |
| Abstain | | | | | | | | | |

Ord. 10-2020 was introduced 9-0,

The Board then considered Ord. 11-2020, an Ordinance of the Town of Dover, County of Morris and State of New Jersey amending the Code of the Town of Dover and adding a new Section/Chapter entitled the Community Action Mediation Program Organization for introduction.

A motion was made by Alderman Correa, seconded by Alderwoman Rugg to introduce Ordinance 11-2020.

Introduction of Ord. 11-2020

| | 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 |
|----------------|-------------|------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Motion | X | | | | | | | | |
| Second | | | | X | | | | | |
| Yes | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| No | | | | | | | | | |
| Abstain | | | | | | | | | |

Ord. 11-2020 was introduced 9-0.

The Board then considered Ord. 12-2020, an Ordinance of the Town of Dover, County of Morris and State of New Jersey amending Chapter 57, Section 8 of the Code of the Town of Dover for introduction.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Wittner, seconded by Alderwoman Cruz to introduce Ordinance 12-2020.

Introduction of Ord. 12-2020

| | 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 |
|----------------|-------------|------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Motion | | | | | | | | X | |
| Second | | | | | X | | | | |
| Yes | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| No | | | | | | | | | |
| Abstain | | | | | | | | | |

Ordinance 12-2020 was introduced 9-0.

L) UNFINISHED OR NEW BUISNESS / ALDERMEN COMMENTS

M) PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Mayor then opened the meeting up to public comment.

Dominic Timpani, 2 Elm Street, Dover, NJ – Mr. Timpani commented that everyone was doing a great job with everything going on.

Olga Roman, 28 Harrison Street, Dover, NJ – Ms. Roman thanked her Alderman, Alderman Ballesteros as well as the Mayor. She also wished everyone well.

With no one else wishing to address the Governing Body, Mayor Blackman closed the public portion of the meeting.

Following the public portion, the Mayor then asked Town officials to give an update about COVID-19. Captain Delaney, Chief Law Enforcement Officer introduced himself and gave an update to the public on what the Department was doing to try and keep the public safe. He reported that the department has increased patrols and added officers on the streets. He said that the Department is trying to educate the public and is utilizing social media to do. Captain Delaney also said that if people are in need of some services they can utilize online tools. For example, if a person needed to make a report they could do so online or over the phone. He also stated that the records department within the Police Department were providing records electronically.

Following Captain Delaney, Richard Cloughley, Emergency Management Coordinator spoke. He asked that all residents follow CDC guidelines and practice social distancing and if they are sick to stay in. He said that currently they are trying to keep the curve down to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to prevent people from going to hospitals at the same time.

Deputy Administrator Sanchez also gave a report. He thanked the Mayor and Board for their leadership. He said that he knows it is a difficult time and that officials are working long hours and doing everything possible to try to communicate and coordinate information as it comes in from the state and county. He also applauded the work that the Police and Fire Departments were doing as well as nurses and doctors. He mentioned that there is a lot of updated information on the Town website and encouraged people to stay up to date. He reported current statistics of COVID-19 and said that they are managed by the Town's Health Officer. He asked those in the community, including parents and young adults to stay home when possible and if someone has to go out, to practice social distancing for safety. He said that the virus does not discriminate on age or gender and implored everyone to obey the CDC guideline. He also stated that the Town has instituted a hotline for calls and texts. He asked that the public not use the number if they have emergencies but to call 911 for emergencies only. Deputy Administrator Sanchez also asked everyone to support small businesses in the community. In conclusion, he reminded everyone that parks are closed in Dover but the public can still go outside to take a walk using social distancing. He also said that if anyone sees anything going on which should not be, to report it.

Mayor Blackman then gave an update as to what is occurring. She asked that everyone stay home and that is the most important thing. The Mayor stated that she is on daily calls with the Administrator and officials receiving updates and also been working with other mayors sharing ideas.

She spoke about the phone number which was set up for residents to call or text between the hours of 8am to 8pm. Mayor Blackman stated that the number has been set up for one day and already 10 people have contacted the number asking questions. She encouraged people to use online services for Town business such as emails and making payments. The Mayor reported that trash and recycling pickup is still going forward as normal. Mayor Blackman also mentioned that she has had conversations with nonprofit and faith based leaders and there are five churches part of the Dover United Network to provide food and meals.

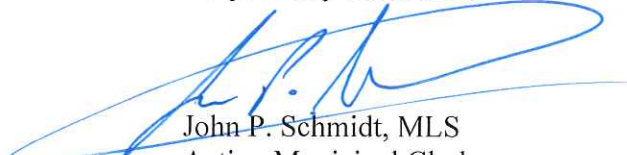
The Mayor also thanked the Aldermen and Alderwomen for their efforts in reaching out to those in the community. She said that now is not a time to criticize but it is a time to come together and work together to combat COVID-19.

The Mayor then asked Alderman Correa to give a further update about the Dover United Network. Alderman Correa thanked the Mayor for her leadership in these trying times as well as the OEM, Fire personnel, Emergency personnel, employees, alderman, faith based leaders and all residents. He explained that the Dover United Network is a network of community kitchens and right now it consists of five churches which serve as pantries to help residents in need where they can get food or have food prepared and delivered to homes. He said that we can support this by providing donations and that it is up to everyone to step up to the plate. He stated that personal hygiene products can also be donated and will be given out. Alderman Correa also mentioned how people could donate. He also spoke about delivery services and for people volunteering, everyone will be following CDC guidelines.

The Mayor also said that someone said to her yesterday, if you want to have a crisis, have a crisis in Dover, not that we want a crisis but because Dover has been through crisis situations and Dover comes together in times of a crisis. The Mayor said that Dover will get through this as a United Dover. In closing, she thanked all the first responders and told them to ask if they needed anything.

The Mayor then entertained a motion to adjourn. Alderwoman Wittner moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Rugg. On voice vote, 9-0 (Aldermembers Correa, Tapia, Ballesteros, Rugg, Cruz, Valencia, Quinones, Wittner and Mayor Blackman in favor) the meeting was adjourned at 7:49p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John P. Schmidt, MLS
Acting Municipal Clerk