



TOWN OF DOVER MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DOVER TOWN HALL
37 N. SUSSEX ST., DOVER, NJ 07801
JUNE 23, 2020

Mayor Carolyn Blackman called the June 23, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman to order at 7:01p.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.

The Mayor then led those in attendance in the salute to the flag. Following the flag salute, Mayor Blackman asked for a moment of silence for all those in our community who have passed from COVID-19 and who have battled COVID-19 as well everyone in our country.

Deputy Clerk Julve 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			

All 9 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, Town Attorney Timothy P. Downs, Deputy Municipal Clerk Rey Julve, Interim CFO Ashley Wilson, Construction Code Enforcement Officer/Assistant to Engineer William Isselin, Deputy Chief of Police Jonathan Delaney and Chief Licensing Official Pat Laverty.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Blackman asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2020. Alderman Ballesteros made a motion to approve the minutes, 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 minutes were approved by a vote of 9-0.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The Mayor then reported that the Finance Committee continues to meet about the budget.

PRESENTATIONS, MUNICIPAL CORRESPONDENCE

Acting Municipal Schmidt then spoke about the correspondence on the agenda including Correspondence from NJLM about the 2020 League of Municipalities, Correspondence from Acting Municipal Clerk Schmidt about FDS Forms. Acting Clerk Schmidt stated that at the last meeting he said he would try and have a report about FDS filings and reminded everyone of the deadline. The Mayor and Board also received Correspondence from the Borough of Chester.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen then considered Ord. 17-2020 – Ordinance of the Town of Dover, County of Morris, State of New Jersey Repealing Handicap Parking Space at 108 W. Chrystal Street. A motion was made by Alderman Correa to introduce the Ordinance, second by Alderman Ballesteros.

Ord. 17-2020

	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. 17-2020 was introduced 9-0.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen then considered Ord. 18-2020 – Ordinance of the Town of Dover, County of Morris, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 236, Section 38 of the Code of the Town of Dover to Permit Certain Signs in the Commercial Zoning Districts Along Route 46. A motion was made by Mayor Blackman, second by Alderwoman Wittner.

Ord. 18-2020

	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. 18-2020 was introduced 9-0.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen then considered Ord. 19-2020 – Ordinance of the Town of Dover, County of Morris, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Easement Between Jersey Central Power and Light Company and the Town of Dover for the Property Located at Block 1219 Lot 3 for the Utility Services in Connection with the Dover Veterans Urban Renewal Associates, LLC Affordable Housing Project. A motion was made by Alderman Ballesteros to introduce the Ordinance, second by Alderwoman Rugg.

Ord. 19-2020

	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 Ordinance was introduced 9-0.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen then acted upon Ordinances for second reading. The first Ordinance 15-2020, an Ordinance Authorizing the Conveyance of Municipal Property to Penrose – Block 1219, Lot 2.

A motion was made by Alderman Correa, second by Alderwoman Rugg to open the public hearing. By Voice Vote, all members present were in favor 9-0.

Open the Public Hearing for Ord. 15-2020

	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 meeting was open to the public. No public wished to comment and Alderman Ballesteros made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Alderwoman Rugg. By Voice Vote, all members present were in favor by a vote of 9-0.

Close the Public Hearing for Ord. 15-2020

	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
No									
Abstain									

The Board then considered the adoption of Ordinance 15-2020. A motion was made by Alderwoman Wittner to adopt, second by Alderman Correa.

Adoption of Ord. 15-2020

	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									

On a Roll Call vote, the Ordinance was adopted 9-0.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen then considered Ordinance 16-2020, an Ordinance of the Town of Dover, County of Morris, State of New Jersey Authorizing Modification of Restrictive Covenant on Municipal Property for Parking with NJ Transit.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Rugg, second by Alderwoman Wittner to open the public hearing. By Voice Vote, all members present were in favor 9-0.

Open the Public Hearing for Ord. 16-2020

	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 meeting was open to the public. No public wished to comment and Alderman Ballesteros made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Alderman Correa. By Voice Vote, all members present were in favor by a vote of 9-0.

Close the Public Hearing for Ord. 16-2020

	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
No									
Abstain									

The Board then considered the adoption of Ordinance 16-2020. A motion was made by Alderwoman Wittner to adopt, second by Alderman Correa.

Adoption of Ord. 16-2020

	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									

On a Roll Call vote, the Ordinance was adopted 9-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The Governing Body then considered the approval of the bill list / Res. 165-2020.

Alderman Correa commented on PO 20-00319 for DNC Promotion for T-Shirts for the Columbian festival in the amount of \$738.00. Alderman Correa commented that he is going to vote yes, but that this expense was not incurred by this Board and he did not agree with the expense because the festival turned into a political rally. He also expressed concern that we are paying a bill nearly a year after the event. Alderman Correa also stated that he would like to abstain from voting on PO 20-00921 (\$75.00 Membership for the Municipal Clerks Association for Sharon Wagner).

Bills List / Res. 165-2020

	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	X PO20-00921								

The Bills List / Res. 165-2020 was passed 9-0, except PO20-00921 which passed by a vote of 8-0-1.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

Acting Municipal Clerk Schmidt then read by title the Consent Agenda Resolutions.

- 1) Res. 166-2020 – Resolution Concerning Recreation Department Sponsored Programs, Events and Originations for the Year 2020.
- 2) Res. 167-2020 – Resolution Approving Renewal file FileMaker Software 3) Res. 160-2020 – Resolution Approving Amendment Authorizing Use of Affordable Housing Trust Funds
- 4) Res. 168-2020 – Approving Temporary Banner Donated by Dover Renaissance Inc.
- 5) Res. 169-2020 – Authorizing the Mayor and Acting Municipal Clerk to enter into a Temporary Contract with Philip E. Parr of LLP Consulting as Fire Consultant for the Town of Dover in an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00.
- 6) Res. 170-2020 – Authorizing the Installation of Fifteen Minute “Curbside Pick Up Zones”
- 7) Res. 171-2020 – Appointing Rey Julve as Deputy Municipal Clerk
- 8) Res. 172-2020 – Supporting the EMAA Grant Submission
- 9) Res. 173-2020 – Authorizing MOU between the Town of Dover and Urgimed Urgent Care, LLC for COVID-19 testing.

Alderman Ballesteros asked for clarification about Resolution 170-2020. Mayor Blackman asked Bill Isselin to explain the resolution. Mr. Isselin explained that there will be 26 spaces spread out on Blackwell Street from Blackwell to Prospect and on side streets in front of restaurants. Alderman Ballesteros asked if a number could be added to the Resolution. Bill Isselin stated that the Resolution number would be on the signs. Alderman Ballesteros clarified his question about numbering the signs and Mr. Isselin clarified that the parking spaces are not going to be reserved for a particular business but will allow a 15-minute parking zone to support businesses in general. Deputy Administrator Sanchez commented that the resolutions are temporary signage until the State of Emergency is lifted to help our business community. Deputy Administrator Sanchez stated that if the parking zones work, it may be discussed with the Economic Development Committee to make some of the 15-minute parking zones permanent via an Ordinance.

Following the explanation, a motion was made by Alderwoman Wittner, to adopt Resolutions 166-2020 to 173-2020, which was seconded by Alderwoman Cruz.

Resolutions – 166-174 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 by a vote of 9-0.

The Board then considered Resolution 174-2020, a resolution Providing for an Emergency Temporary Appropriations for the Year 2020. A motion was made by Alderman Correa, seconded by Alderwoman Rugg to adopt the resolution.

Resolutions – 174-2020

	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									

Resolution 174-2020 was approved by a vote of 9-0.

With no other business on the agenda, the Board then held the public comment portion of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Blackman read a statement regarding public comment and then opened the meeting to the public.

Antonio Acosta, 130 Madison St., Dover, NJ – Mr. Acosta stated that he hopes in person meetings will begin again and that it is difficult to hear, especially the Mayor. He also spoke about the last meeting, that the Mayor spoke about litter and being aware of it. He challenged the Board to take it further and use Facebook, Instagram and rally behind it so everyone is on the same page and to deploy all the assets we have. Mr. Acosta also commented about the Pride Flag being hoisted at JFK Park and hopes that it is at Town Hall, in a more visible spot. Mr. Acosta also spoke about COVID-19 and that it showed we do not have enough space in Dover and he hopes to see the Board of Education cooperate and open up the track and tennis courts. He spoke of the importance of open space. Mr. Acosta also spoke about the Board of Education meeting, where test scores were presented. He stated that 90% of Hispanic kids were below state levels and African American children were worse. He said that the results are disappointing and we have to do better. He also commented that the Board members should be more active and engaged at meetings. [Someone on the call said blah blah blah].

Mayor Blackman thanked Mr. Acosta for his comments. The Mayor also commented that the administrator and Board are working to move things in the right direction. The Mayor also thanked Mr. Acosta for the update about the schools.

Susan Shauer, 346 W. Clinton St., Dover NJ – Ms. Shauer spoke about a flyer sent to Dover residents about Wind of the Spirit March against Racial Injustice at Crescent Field. She wanted to know does anyone have a permit for this march and is the Town prepared. She also asked

about the financial implications, including overtime, trash pickup and about a possible increase in COVID-19.

Mayor Blackman asked Deputy Chief Delaney to respond. Deputy Chief Delaney commented that the Town and Police Department respects everyone's rights to assemble. He commented that he has been in contact with the organizers and that the Department's priority is everyone's safety. He stated Officers will be there to assist with traffic flow. He also stated that the Town and Department has had calls with other Departments and law enforcement agencies.

Mayor Blackman commented that she believes the Police Department is on top of what is going on. The Mayor stated that she believes this will be a peaceful march in Dover and she does not believe there will be a lot of trash or debris. Mayor Blackman also asked everyone to keep an open mind and commented that these marches have been going on all over, including in neighboring Parsippany.

Ms. Shauer asked again about her question, regarding a permit and if someone has applied. Mayor Blackman stated that we need to get that information from Deputy Chief Delaney if one will be applied for or if needed.

T.C. McCourt, 38 Davis Ave., Dover NJ – Mr. McCourt asked why there has not been two separate public comment periods. Mayor Blackman asked the Clerk to respond to the question. Acting Municipal Clerk Schmidt stated that in the old Chapter 2, the code had two public comments and when the new ordinance was adopted there was one 5-minute public comment. Acting Clerk Schmidt also stated that the Order of Business changed as well and that the agenda is based on the Code. Mr. McCourt stated he was unaware of what was in the old Code but if that is what the new code says, he accepts that answer. Mr. McCourt also asked why we now need a Deputy Clerk when the position was previously eliminated. He stated that he is not questioning Mr. Julve but that we did not have one from January to June but now we have one. He also asked how much sense it makes to have a fulltime Deputy Clerk and part-time clerk.

Municipal Attorney Tim Downs stated that in respect to the first part of the question, the Board will not be discussing personnel matters. Mr. McCourt repeated why we did not have one from January to June, but need one now. Attorney Downs responded that in January the Mayor stated that the Town was having a Pilot program and that it was going to be reevaluated in June with the structure put in place or if modifications were going to be made. It was determined that after a review to make the decision that was made.

George Glander, Vice President of the Dover FMBA Local 60 – Mr. Glander congratulated Chief Parr on his appointment and stated they the firefighters and Union look forward to working with him as they improve the department in the future.

The Mayor asked if anyone else wished to speak. Alderwoman Wittner stated that she wanted to apologize to Mr. Acosta for the comment made when he was speaking.

With no other comments, the Mayor closed the public portion. The Mayor then asked if any officials on the call wanted to make a comment.

Bill Isselin wanted to congratulate Rey on his new position and stated that Rey has done a great job over the years in Construction and knows that he will do well in his new position

Mayor Blackman then entertained a motion to adjourn. Alderman Ballesteros moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Wittner. On voice vote, 9-0 (Aldermembers Correa, Tapia, Ballesteros, Rugg, Cruz, Valencia, Quinones, Wittner and Mayor Blackman in favor) the meeting was adjourned at 7:57p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John P. Schmidt, MLS
Acting Municipal Clerk