



# TOWN OF DOVER MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
DOVER TOWN HALL  
37 N. SUSSEX ST., DOVER, NJ 07801  
JUNE 9, 2020

Mayor Carolyn Blackman called the June 9, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman to order at 7:07p.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 the Floyd family and for all those in our community who have passed from COVID-19 and who have battled COVID-19, which has seen roughly 700 cases.

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			Joined Meeting at 7:12 p.m.
Alderman Valencia	X			Joined Meeting at 7:40p.m.
Alderman Quinones	X			
Alderwoman Wittner	X			
Mayor Blackman	X			

Following the roll, the Clerk announced that all seven (7) 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 May 26, 2020. Alderman Correa made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Alderwoman Wittner.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 26, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting – Alderman Correa made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Alderwoman Wittner.

	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
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0.

Alderswoman Cruz joined the meeting at 7:12p.m.

Following the approval of the minutes, the Board of Aldermen continued with business on the agenda.

**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen then considered Ordinance 15-2020, an Ordinance Authorizing the Conveyance of Municipal Property to Penrose – Block 1219, Lot 2. A motion was made by Alderswoman Wittner to introduce the Ordinance, seconded by Alderman Ballesteros.

**Ordinance 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
<b>Motion</b>								X	
<b>Second</b>			X						
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The Ordinance was introduced by a vote of 8-0.

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 Alderman Correa to introduce, seconded by Alderswoman Cruz.

**Ordinance 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
<b>Motion</b>	X								
<b>Second</b>					X				
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The Ordinance was introduced by a vote 8-0.

**H) ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION**

1) Ord. 13-2020 – Ordinance of the Town of Dover, County of Morris, State of New Jersey to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank. A motion was made by Alderman Ballesteros to open the Public Hearing on the Ordinance, seconded by Alderwoman Cruz. By Voice Vote, all members present were in favor by a vote of 8-0.

**Open the Public Hearing for Ord. 13-2020**

	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
<b>Motion</b>			X						
<b>Second</b>					X				
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The meeting was open to the public. No public wished to comment and Alderwoman Wittner 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 8-0.

**Close the Public Hearing for Ord. 13-2020**

	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
<b>Motion</b>								X	
<b>Second</b>				X					
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The Board then considered the adoption of Ordinance 13-2020. A motion was made by Alderman Correa to adopt, second by Alderwoman Rugg.

**Adoption of Ord. 13-2020**

	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
<b>Motion</b>	X								
<b>Second</b>				X					
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The Ordinance was adopted 8-0.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

The Governing Body then considered the approval of the bill list / Res. 157-2020.

Alderwoman Cruz made a motion to adopt, seconded by Alderman Ballesteros.

**Bills List / Res. 157-2020**

	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
<b>Motion</b>									
<b>Second</b>			X		X				
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The Bills List / Res. 157-2020 was passed as amended 8-0.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS**

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

- 1) Res. 158-2020 – Resolution Consenting to the Installation of two Fiber Optic Cabinets on Turner Street and Chestnut Street (Right of Way Opening).
- 2) Res. 159-2020 – Resolution Extending the Designation of Towpath Realty as Redeveloper of Bassett Highway
- 3) Res. 160-2020 – Resolution Approving Amendment Authorizing Use of Affordable Housing Trust Funds
- 4) Res. 161-2020 – Resolution Approving Amendment to RDA with Penrose UR, LLC
- 5) Res. 162-2020 – Authorizing the Mayor and Acting Municipal Clerk to enter into a Temporary Contract with Richard Rivera of Richard Rivera, LLC as Police Consultant for the Town of Dover in an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00.
- 6) Res. 163-2020 – Declaring the Month of June as Pride Month

Alderman Ballesteros asked about Resolution 162-2020 and what the work would entail. It was explained that this position was advertised via RFQ earlier in the year but the Town did not receive any responses. Mr. Rivera was on the call and Mayor Blackman asked him to explain what he would be doing for the Town of Dover and the Police Department. Following the explanation, a motion was made by Alderwoman Wittner, to adopt Resolutions 158-2020 to 163-2020, which was seconded by Alderman Quinones.

**Resolutions – 158-163 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
<b>Motion</b>								X	
<b>Second</b>							X		
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X			X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The Consent Agenda Resolutions were approved by a vote of 7-0.

The Board then considered Resolution 164-2020, a resolution to join the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (G.A.R.E.) which was read in full into the record by the Acting Municipal Clerk. A motion was made by Alderwoman Correa, seconded by Alderwoman Wittner to adopt the resolution.

**Resolutions – 164-2020**

	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
<b>Motion</b>	X								
<b>Second</b>								X	
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

Resolution 164-2020 was approved by a vote of 8-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Acting Clerk Schmidt reminded everyone that FDS forms needed to be filed by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Clerk Schmidt reminded everyone to complete the forms. He also said he would try to provide a report on the FDS filing status for the Town of Dover to be included in the next meeting agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**-PROCLAMATIONS – Recognizing the Volunteer Work of Dover Residents Enrique Roibal and Maria Borda to the Community During COVID-19.**

Mayor Blackman then spoke about the two individuals from the Dover community who were being recognized with a proclamation this evening. Both individuals worked tirelessly to assist and help others during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Blackman commented that at times Enrique Roibal was not feeling well, but he continued the journey to help others. Aldermember Correa commented about their efforts from picking up food, coordinating with restaurants and delivering hundreds of meals per week for six weeks. The Mayor expressed thanks to both Mr. Roibal and Ms. Borda. Acting Clerk Schmidt then read the Proclamations in full into the record. Following the reading, a motion was made by Alderman Correa, seconded by Alderwoman Rugg.

	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
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

The Proclamations were unanimously approved. The proclamations will be prepared and individually signed by the Mayor and each Aldermember and will then be presented to Ms. Borda and Mr. Roibal.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

(Alderman Valencia joined the meeting).

Mary Washington - 218 Park Heights Ave., Dover NJ – Ms. Washington spoke about COVID-19 and the high number of cases and deaths. Ms. Washington wanted to know why testing did not occur in Dover as some people could not access testing.

Deputy Administrator Sanchez stated that the Town has been in constant communication about testing and protocols and was working with the ZuFall Clinic, which is located in Dover who has testing capabilities. He also mentioned that the Town is speaking with a private company about testing. Deputy Administrator Sanchez also spoke about the high number in Dover and the challenges Dover faced with having a high density population.

Antonio Acosta – 130 Madison St., Dover, NJ. – Mr. Acosta spoke about how some things are not equal and Dover is not always treated the same be it our residents or businesses. He commented that the playing field needs to be leveled. He also mentioned that every child who lives here is as important as a child in Mountain Lakes and other municipalities.

Mayor Blackman thanked Mr. Acosta for her comments. She said that the administration is working on items and have been in contact with NJ Transit regarding the Dover station. The Mayor stated there is plenty of work to be done.

There being no one else who wished to address the Governing Body, Mayor Blackman closed the Public Portion of the meeting.

Following public comment, Mayor Blackman reported that this coming Saturday – June 13<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 11am, there will be a cleanup in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward. The Mayor also mentioned that the Table of Hope will return on Friday at the same location at 12:30 for the food pantry. Mayor Blackman also announced that this year, the Town will not be holding a Recreation summer camp for the safety of the children, parents and staff, however the staff is working on another type of program.

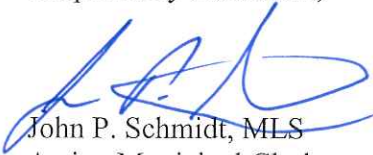
Mayor Blackman then spoke about COVID-19 and mentioned that our community has been through a lot and that the Health and Safety of our residents is important. She reminded everyone of the importance to continue to wear masks when they are out and to protect themselves. The Mayor mentioned that the Town is working with local businesses regarding re-opening.

In closing the Mayor spoke about the Town of Dover and said that it more than the Mayor and Board but everyone. Mayor Blackman spoke about the power of kindness and that we need kindness and respect. She encouraged everyone to reach out to other people and do an act of kindness, which can make difference and help someone.

Mayor Blackman then opened the meeting up for Board comments. Alderman Ballesteros thanked Mayor Blackman for sharing her story about what her family faced. He spoke about his feelings about current events facing our society and how public officials can help.

With no other comments, Mayor Blackman 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 8:02p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John P. Schmidt, MLS  
Acting Municipal Clerk