

## **12-8-2003 COUNCIL MEETING**

### **Request to Support Establishing City of Dover 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Committee**

During the November 10, 2003 Council Meeting, Mayor Hutchison advised members that the Chamber of Commerce announced that they would no longer be hosting the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration.

On behalf of the Mayor, Mr. DePrima requested Council's support in establishing a City of Dover 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Committee; a City formed corporation that would operate independently in terms of raising and expending funds. In order to form the Dover 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Committee, the City Solicitor must file the necessary documents to incorporate the Committee for the purpose of raising and expending funds for the operation of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. In addition, the Finance Director would be required to file the necessary documentation to obtain IRS 501(c) 3 status and to establish the necessary accounts for the Committee to receive and expend funds.

It was proposed that the Board of Directors shall be not less than five members and not more than nine members who shall be appointed annually upon the recommendation of the Mayor and approval of the City Council. The membership shall include the Mayor of Dover, who shall serve in an ex-officio capacity as Chairman of the Board. Other officers shall include a President/Vice Chairman to oversee overall operations, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The initial Board of Directors shall serve until the City of Dover's 2005 Annual Meeting and then be appointed at the Annual Meeting each year thereafter.

The committee recommended supporting the establishment of a City of Dover 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Committee.

Referring to concerns expressed by Mr. Speed during the Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee meeting of November 24, 2003, Mr. DePrima stated that fireworks companies generally include in their fee a \$10M insurance policy which protects them, as well as the event sponsors. He noted that for the past several years, First Night Dover has not obtained additional insurance.

**Mr. Speed moved for approval of the committee's recommendation, seconded by Mr. Carey and unanimously carried.**