

CITY OF SOMERSWORTH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

FEBRUARY 22, 2011

7:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call of Members
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - A. Minutes of City Council Workshop for Discussion of an Annual Cycled Inspection Program for all City Real Estate Properties held on 02/07/11.
 - B. Minutes of City Council Meeting held on 02/07/11.
4. Comments by Visitors
5. Communications
 - A. Letter from Kathy Bates.
 - B. Letter from Maurice Vallee.
 - C. Letter from Jeanette Flanagan.
 - D. Letter from Tenants of Plaza Terrace.
6. Presentation of Petitions and Disposal Thereof by Reference or Otherwise
7. Mayor's Report
8. Reports of Standing Committees

9. Reports of Special Committees, City Officers and City Manager
10. Nominations, Appointments and Elections
11. Lay on Table
 - A. Ordinance No. 5-11 Amend Chapter 24 by the Addition of Chapter 24-A Entitled Somersworth Housing Code for Rental Multi-Unit Properties.

12. Unfinished Business

Resolutions:

- A. Resolution No. 16-11 City of Somersworth Sustainability Initiative.
- B. Resolution No. 17-11 City of Somersworth Sustainability Committee.

13. New Business

Other:

- A. Hilltop Reuse Next Steps.
- B. City Council Appointment to Fill Vacant Ward 1 School Board Seat, Term to Expire January, 2012.

14. Comments by Visitors

15. Closing Comments by Council Members

16. Future Agenda Items

17. Nonpublic Session (as necessary, pending roll call vote by Council)

18. Adjournment

COMMUNICATIONS

Somersworth City Council

Somersworth, N.H. 03878

To the members of the Somersworth City Council:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my feelings about the proposal for multi-unit housing inspections .

I am a woman who has a disability and rely on personal assistance at various times of the day, therefore I already have very little time to myself. Between my services and my consulting work, I constantly have meetings in my home, so I don't need another interruption to inspect my already clean apt. My landlord knows that I can't take care of even the most minor repairs, so he's very attentive to my needs.

Just because a person cannot afford to own their own home and need to rent , does not mean that they wouldn't care enough to keep a clean and presentable place. This proposal just seems unfair and judgemental to me.

Sincerely

Kathy Bates 603-841-5700

Kathy Bates

PLEASE READ AT MEETING

February 7, 2011

To Elected Members of the City Council:

Trustee Maurice Vallee, Pamela Schulte and Deborah Millsbaugh are vehemently against any intrusion to our property.

Let it be understood that there should be no invasion of our great tenants' apartments and our tenants have confidence that they will continue to have absolute privacy in their homes.

Trustee - Maurice Vallee

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maurice Vallee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Jan. 31, 2011

Somersworth City Council
Somersworth, N.H. 03878

Dear members of the Council:

I am a retired woman who has a rental apartment. I pride myself in keeping a nice clean apartment and have never had to ask my landlord twice to fix anything that needs repair.

I'm very busy taking care of an elderly sister and babysitting my granddaughter all summer and during school vacations. When I'm home, I like to relax and do not like the idea of someone poking through my rooms. I feel like it's an invasion of my privacy.

So I am definitely against this inspection law that you hope to propose.

Sincerely

Jeanette Flanagan

Feb 1, 2011

SOMERSWORTH City Council
SOMERSWORTH, N. H. 03878

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

WE ARE TENANTS AT PLAZA TERRACE IN
SOMERSWORTH.

WE ARE WRITING TO PROTEST AGAINST THE MULTI-
UNIT INSPECTION THAT THE CITY WANTS TO PUT INTO
EFFECT. HOW CAN YOU JUSTIFY INSPECTING CERTAIN
RENTAL UNITS IN TOWN, BUT NOT LOOKING AT DUPLEXES
OR EVEN SINGLE HOUSES THAT ARE RENTED? WE
FEEL THAT THIS IS A FORM OF DISCRIMINATION.
WE GET PENALIZED JUST BECAUSE WE CAN'T AFFORD
TO RENT A SINGLE HOUSE? IS THIS FAIR?

OUR APARTMENTS ARE OUR PRIVATE QUARTERS.
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE STRANGERS GOING THROUGH YOUR
ROOMS? WE ALLOW OUR LANDLORD TO INSPECT
AND SOME OF US HAVE OTHER INSPECTIONS TOO.
SHOULDN'T THIS BE ENOUGH? OUR APARTMENTS
ARE REASONABLY CLEAN + NOT IN DISREPAIR. IF
ANYTHING GETS RUINED OR NEEDS REPAIRING, OUR
LANDLORD TAKES CARE OF IT. WE ^{DO} NOT NEED ANYONE
ELSE INTERRUPTING OUR PRIVACY.

WE HOPE YOU'LL PUT YOURSELVES IN OUR
PLACES AND RECONSIDER THIS PROPOSAL.

THANK YOU

Rachel Donovan 8 PLAZA Terr Som, N.H.

Darlene Jones.

~~Debra~~ 7 plaza Terrace Somers N.H.

e. Curtis

Kim Boston

Lane Sweet

Roberta Green 6 plaza

Cheryl Finn

Michael Pettit

Phyllis Horsala

Robert Curry

Brenda Eldredge

UNFINISHED

BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 16-11 CITY OF SOMERSWORTH SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE.

Somersworth, NH
February 7, 2011

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the importance of encouraging sustainable practices by and throughout the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the City's Master Plan recommends the City take a leadership role in building a sustainable community for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City's Vision 2020 Initiative is committed to facilitate a sustainable Somersworth; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the basic principles that a sustainable society is one that eliminates our contribution to:

- 1) The progressive buildup of substances extracted from the Earth's crust;
- 2) The progressive buildup of chemicals and compounds produced by society;
- 3) The progressive physical degradation and destruction of nature and natural processes; and
- 4) Conditions that undermine people's capacity to meet their basic human needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH that the City Council establish a Special Committee of the City known as the Sustainability Committee.

Introduced by

Mayor Lincoln Soldati

Approved:

City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 17-11 CITY OF SOMERSWORTH SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE.

Somersworth, NH
February 7, 2011

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH that the "Sustainability Committee" **shall be formed no later than March 1, 2011.**

Be it further resolved that the Committee shall be comprised of the following members:

- The Mayor or his designee.
- One member of the City Council appointed by the Mayor.
- The City Manager or his designee.
- The Director of Development Services or his designee.
- Two members of the community at large appointed by the Mayor.
- One member of the Somersworth business community appointed by the Greater Somersworth Chamber of Commerce.
- One Somersworth High School student recommended by the Somersworth High School principal and approved by the Mayor.
- One member of the Conservation Commission appointed by the Chair of the Conservation Commission.
- One member of the Planning Board appointed by the Chair of the Planning Board.

Members of the Committee must be residents or employees of the City and shall be appointed for a two-year term.

Be it further resolved that the Committee shall:

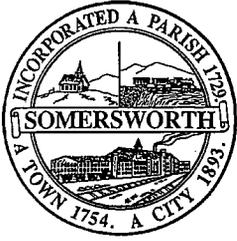
- Serve as a resource and clearinghouse for the City Council and City Departments concerning issues of sustainability.
- Develop recommendations for the implementation of the goals in the Master Plan related to sustainability.
- Identify existing sustainable practices and identify areas needing improvement.
- Assist in coordinating efforts of various departments in implementing sustainability projects.
- Adopt an open meeting concept to encourage involvement of the community at large in the activities of the Committee.
- Promote public awareness of sustainability issues.
- Report regularly to the City Council on the meetings and activities of the Committee.

Introduced by

Mayor Lincoln Soldati

Approved:

City Attorney



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH

Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Lincoln Soldati and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: February 18th, 2011

SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for Tuesday, February 22nd, 2011
City Council Agenda

Lay on Table (under Section 11 of the Agenda):

- A. Ordinance No. 5-11 Amend Chapter 24 by the Addition of Chapter 24A Entitled Somersworth Housing Code for Rental Multi-Unit Properties.

Old Business (under Section 12 of the Agenda):

Resolutions:

- A. Resolution No. 16-11 City of Somersworth Sustainability Initiative.
- B. Resolution No. 17-11 City of Somersworth Sustainability Committee.

New Business (under Section 13 of the Agenda):

Other:

- A. Hilltop Reuse Next Steps.
- B. City Council Appointment to Fill Vacant Ward 1 School Board Seat, Term to Expire January, 2012.

City Manager's Items (under Section 9 of the Agenda):

A. Informational Items:

1. **State of City Address.** FYI – City Council and School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. on March 7th, 2011 prior to Council's regular business meeting.
2. **Community Clean-up.** Attached is Maureen Jackman's letter regarding the Youth Connection Community Clean-up Saturday, April 30th at the Middle School. Clean up starts at 8:00 a.m. through noon. From noon to 1:30 p.m. is lunch and an earth-friendly presentation at Somersworth Middle School. I have authorized the highway department to work the event in a fashion similar to years past. A rain date is scheduled for May 1st.
3. **Lake Street Petition.** I recommend a Public Hearing be scheduled prior to Council's meeting on Monday, April 18th at 6:45 p.m.