

CITY OF SOMERSWORTH  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

PUBLIC HEARINGS

At 6:00 P.M. the following Councilors were present: Pepin, Hebert, McCallion, Durkee, Tapscott and Witham.

**6:00 P.M. -Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2-13 Amend Chapter 19, Zoning Ordinance, Table 5.A.1 Dimensional and Density Regulations (Temporary Handicap Ramps and Similar Structures.)**

Mayor Spencer opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 P.M. There were no comments and the hearing was closed at 6:02 P.M.

Councilor Jarvis arrived at 6:07 P.M.

**6:15 P.M. – Public Hearing on Resolution No. 8-13 Bond for the Completion of a Downtown Improvements Project and Replacement of HVAC Units in Somersworth Schools.**

Mayor Spencer opened the public hearing at 6:15 P.M.

Don Austin, Ward 4, School Board Chair, spoke in favor, saying that this is an opportunity to take a proactive approach. If HVAC units break down, they would need to shut the school facilities and they can't allow that to happen. This is an opportunity to address those capital items that ... will help set us up for future projects. He urges support of this bond.

Bill Connor interested in how much this will add to the tax rate. He thinks this will be a great cost savings, will increase comfort and (improve) appearance. He thanked (the Council) for bringing forward the bond to take care of our problems.

Mayor Spencer closed the public hearing at 6:19

**6:30 P.M. –Public Hearing on Resolution No. 7-13 to Authorize the Use of Bond Proceeds for Window Replacement and Asbestos Removal in Somersworth School Facilities.**

Mayor Spencer opened the public hearing at 6:30 P.M.

Don Austin, Ward 4, spoke in favor of this resolution saying that we are fortunate to have money left; this gives us an opportunity to do some things, particularly with regards to window replacement at the High School and the asbestos abatement program at the middle and high schools that they have been trying to tackle for years. This gives them a real opportunity to get it done right away. Knowing that there are statutory limitations or

restrictions on how that money can be spent, having to have it apply to capital projects, to him (makes) this an ideal match ...to improve the infrastructure of the schools. He urges support of this resolution as well.

Bill Connor voiced concern for the Hilltop School, (specifically) “refurbishing” the heating system. He would like to see that if we a little extra cash left over.

He is also concerned with Rollinsford’s decision to send children to Marshwood in Maine. It will be revenue that is no longer available to the school department. That will be another burden. Maybe someone can enlighten him about this.

Mayor Spencer closed the public hearing at 6:34 P.M.

Councilor Sprague arrived at 6:44 P.M.

**6:45P.M. –Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 3-13 Supplemental Appropriation of Accrued Investment Earnings from the New Elementary School Construction Bond.**

Mayor Spencer opened the public hearing at 6:45 P.M.

Don Austin, still in Ward 4, said that this money is not necessarily tied to the principal, so first of all he want to thank (the Council) for considering the school projects. That is not something that you had to do, he said. He continued to emphasize that these projects are primarily the window which will save money and enhance the building. He thanked them again.

Mayor Spencer closed the public hearing at 6:47 P.M.

Councilor Soldati arrived at 6:52 P.M.