

CITY OF SOMERSWORTH

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 6, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.

(PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:45 P.M.)

Resolution No. 7-12 Change the Purpose of the Citywide Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund in Accordance with RSA 34:11 to a Capital Reserve Fund for the Purpose of Downtown and Transportation Enhancement Improvements.

Resolution No. 8-12 Authorizing the City Council to Create a Non-Capital Reserve Fund to be known as the Accrued Employee Leave and Benefits Liability Fund.

1. Roll Call of Members
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - A. Minutes of August 15, 2011 City Council Meeting.
4. Comments by Visitors
5. Communications
 - A. Letter from Selectmen of the Town of Newington, NH Regarding Nitrogen in Great Bay.
 - B. Letter from Jennifer Soldati, Executive Director of the Greater Somersworth Chamber of Commerce.
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
12. Unfinished Business

Resolutions:

- A. Resolution No. 6-12 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Grant Agreement with the State of New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources for a Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant to Perform an Update to the Historical Survey Forms.
 - B. Resolution No. 7-12 Change the Purpose of the Citywide Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund in Accordance with RSA 34:11 to a Capital Reserve Fund for the Purpose of Downtown and Transportation Enhancement Improvements.
 - C. Resolution No. 8-12 Authorizing the City Council to Create a Non-Capital Reserve Fund to be known as the Accrued Employee Leave and Benefits Liability Fund.
13. New Business

Ordinances:

- A. Ordinance No. 6-12 Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 3.1.D. No Parking Anytime.

Resolutions:

A. Resolution No. 11-12 To Authorize the City Manager to Contract with CMA Engineers of Portsmouth, NH for General Engineering Services.

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



OFFICE OF
SELECTMEN

The Town Of Newington New Hampshire

Incorporated 1764

August 29, 2011

Somersworth City Council
1 Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878

RE: Nitrogen in Great Bay

City Councilors:

We are writing to you about the problem of excessive nitrogen in the Great Bay estuary, and in particular, the threat that nitrogen poses to the health of this enormously important natural and economic resource. In that regard, please find enclosed a flyer entitled "*The Tipping Point*" that summarizes the problem, and goes on to explain on-going research by UNH scientists.

As you may know, approximately thirty percent of the nitrogen enters the estuary via municipal wastewater treatment plants. The EPA is poised to set limits on nitrogen discharge from the eighteen wastewater plants that discharge into the Great Bay watershed.

Septic systems are another significant source of nitrogen. We are intrigued by the State of Maryland's approach. Since 2005, the state has assessed every septic system owner a \$30/year "*flush fee*." The proceeds fund the replacement of failing systems within 1,000 feet of Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries with new nitrogen-removing septic systems. The funds also subsidize the cost of nitrogen-removing systems for new homes.

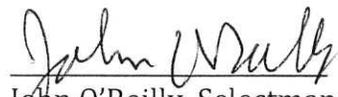
What happens if we do nothing about the nitrogen problem?

- Nitrogen loads will continue to increase and water quality problems will grow worse.
- Eventually our coastal waters will be largely unfit for shellfishing and undesirable for swimming and boating. The tourist industry will suffer and property values will decline.
- If we do not meet the standards that are being set for nitrogen removal, we will be subject to state and federal regulatory enforcement actions, which would include mandated compliance schedules and fines.

The Town of Newington advocates a comprehensive approach, one that would reduce *all* sources of nitrogen. With that in mind, you will also find enclosed our recent comments to the EPA citing some measures that municipalities can take to reduce non-point sources. Undoubtedly there are many other strategies that can be implemented at the local level. If local communities work hard at reducing non-point sources, the pressure on wastewater plants to solve the problem would be alleviated. The financial burden on municipalities would be lessened.

Please join us in taking practical steps to reduce non-point pollution that can be readily implemented within each of our respective communities.

Yours truly,


John O'Reilly, Selectman


Rick Stern, Selectman

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Title: Nitrogen Sources and Transport Pathways: Science and Management Collaboration to Reduce Nitrogen Loads in the Great Bay Estuarine Ecosystem

Place: Great Bay, New Hampshire

Reserve: Great Bay NERR

Intended Users

- ✓ Great Bay NERR
- ✓ New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- ✓ Piscataqua Regional Estuaries Partnership
- ✓ Local municipalities & watershed associations

Project Team Partners

University of New Hampshire
UNH Cooperative Extension
Great Bay NERR, Piscataqua
Regional Estuaries Partnership

Timeline: 10/2010 to 10/2013

Learn more

William H. McDowell
Principal investigator,
Professor & Director, NH Water
Resources Research Center,
University of New Hampshire
603-862-2249
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Steve Miller

Stakeholder integration assistance
& coastal training program
coordinator
Great Bay NERR
603-778-0015
Steve.Miller@wildlife.nh.gov

The Tipping Point

In 2009, a report came out on the health of New Hampshire's Great Bay and the news was not encouraging. The total nitrogen load to the Bay had jumped 42 percent in only five years, and the impacts were palpable. Water clarity was declining and nitrogen-fed nuisance algae populations were on the rise. Eelgrass meadows were shrinking, taking with them their capacity to stabilize sediment and provide habitat for marine life ranging from lobsters to flounder. Oxygen levels were dipping, and while they had not reached the point of hypoxia, dead zones were likely in the cards. Great Bay had reached a tipping point between healthy and collapsing ecosystems.

Troubling? Yes. Surprising? No. The estuary cuts through the heart of the state's most recent development boom. Roughly 70 percent of the nitrogen that finds its way into the Bay comes from diffuse nonpoint sources, some naturally, but a significant amount from humans through septic systems, fertilizers, impervious surface runoff, and even leaky sewer lines. Getting a handle on how nonpoint nitrogen travels through the surrounding watersheds and into Great Bay is a prerequisite for management decisions that could help heal the Bay. That's why the University of New Hampshire is working with the Great Bay NERR and other partners to map nitrogen "hot spots," understand their sources, and the capacity of Great Bay's tributary rivers to mitigate their impact.

Local Context

Stretching 15 miles inland, Great Bay is a drowned river estuary with 144 miles of shore. About 400,000 people in 49 communities live within the 930 square mile watershed that drains into the Bay. Weaving through this watershed are seven rivers that connect these communities to each other and to Great Bay. These rivers, and the streams that



This project combines community engagement with field sampling and laboratory analysis to better understand the flow of nitrogen pollution through Great Bay's watershed.

feed into them, play an important role in managing nonpoint source nitrogen that washes off the landscape. Historically, they have been able to treat much of the nitrogen they receive before it reaches the Bay. Yet as the amount of nitrogen flowing into these tributaries increases, their ability to cope with this pollution diminishes. How much of what kind of nitrogen would cause this sensitive dynamic to fail completely is not well understood. Until it is, local communities face a ticking time bomb that they lack the science to defuse.

The Great Bay NERR lies within the larger Great Bay watershed, encompassing more than 10,000 acres of upland forests and fields, salt marshes, mudflats, tidal creeks, rocky intertidal zones, eelgrass beds, and channel bottom. Maintaining water quality in the Bay has long been a priority of the Reserve. Staff provide data to support water quality research through System-Wide Monitoring Program (SWMP) stations and the development of habitat maps used to benchmark the impacts of land use change. They also offer practical training and education to link science with local decision makers focused on managing and improving water quality.

SUPPORT FOR THIS PROJECT

This project is being funded by the NERRS Science Collaborative.

The Science Collaborative uses a competitive process to identify and fund science to address environmental challenges in communities served by Reserves. Projects are selected through annual competitions, designed to insure that investigators, intended users of the science, and relevant stakeholders work together to describe science needs to address specific problems, define research questions, design and implement projects, and apply the results.

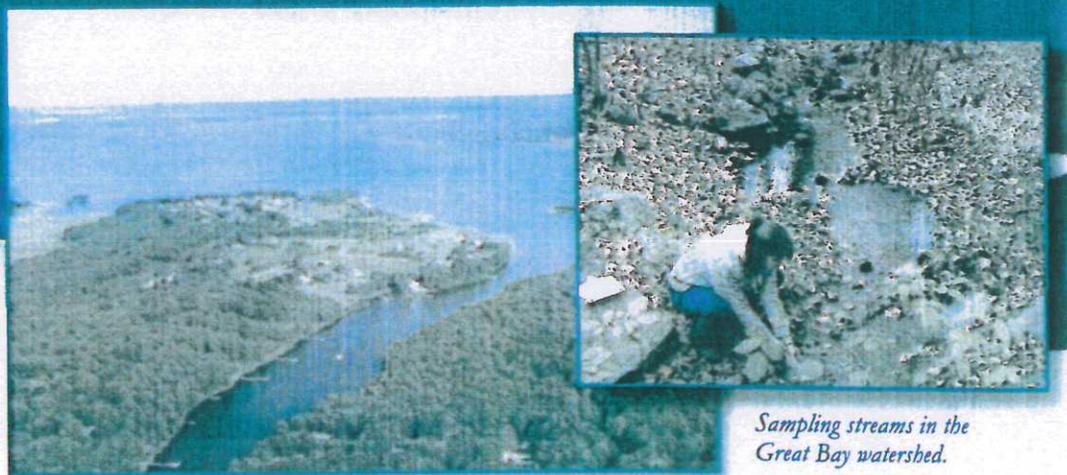
The program works with coastal outreach specialists, trainers, and communicators to share information about the science that it funds with other Reserves and the broader coastal management community.

The Science Collaborative also sponsors Training for the Integration of Decision-Making and Ecosystem Science (TIDES), a UNH-based program that helps develop the skills needed to link science-based information to coastal resource management decisions. TIDES offers a non-thesis master's degree track and is developing a professional certification program.

The NERRS Science Collaborative is administered by the University of New Hampshire (UNH) through a cooperative agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

For more information, please contact:

Dolores Leonard
603-862-3685
dolores.leonard@unh.edu



Sampling streams in the Great Bay watershed.

The Lamprey River, a major tributary of New Hampshire's Great Bay

Project Goals

This project team aims to address a critical gap in the scientific understanding of how nitrogen flows into Great Bay. They plan to locate nonpoint nitrogen hot spots within its watershed, identify the sources of that nitrogen, and characterize how river networks drive watershed-scale

retention of nitrogen. Ultimately, they hope to provide local managers with a clear understanding of which sources of nitrogen, under which land use conditions, pose the greatest threat to Great Bay's water quality so appropriate management actions can be taken.

APPROACH

Collaborative

The project's integration lead is working with the Great Bay NERR Coastal Training Program to use the principles of Collaborative Learning to ensure that local decision-makers are engaged and able to provide feedback throughout the design and implementation of this research.

The project will unfold over four phases of stakeholder engagement:

- Phase 1: Watershed managers and project investigators will collectively vet the project's goal, objective, and research questions. This will take place over a series of facilitated meetings early in the project.
- Phase 2: The integration lead will convene a series of facilitated, roundtable discussions in which project investigators can present their progress and preliminary findings to policy makers, resource managers, organizational partners, and municipal decision makers and receive feedback on how these findings can be used to inform management, educational outreach, and incentives to reduce nonpoint nitrogen pollution.
- The third and fourth phases will be designed to ensure that the data and findings conveyed to stakeholders are connected to management plans, policies, and actions.

Ecology, Biogeochemistry

The project team will augment existing knowledge about the nitrogen sources in the Great Bay watershed with a deeper understanding of the role of tributary rivers and streams. Over the next three years, they will:

- Use models and field sampling to identify 250 locations that may be hot spots for inorganic nitrogen, the form directly related to human activity, the most biologically available, and mainly nitrate, in streams throughout the Great Bay watershed;
- Identify the sources of nitrate that contribute to ten or more of these hot spots using a combination of innovative methods;
- Chart nitrogen delivery pathways in these hot spots by tracking caffeine, optical brighteners, and isotopes of boron in stream water, groundwater, and stormwater runoff collected from road culverts or swales that empty into ten or more study streams;
- Evaluate the capacity of streams and river channels to retain or reduce nitrogen by modeling uptake or retention in large river reaches.



OFFICE OF
SELECTMEN

The Town Of Newington New Hampshire

Incorporated 1764

June 9, 2011

Curt Spaulding, Region 1 Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
5 Post Office Square - Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

RE: NPDES Permit #NH0100871 - Great Bay estuary, NH

Dear Mr. Spaulding:

We are writing in response to your request for comments on proposed limits to point-source nitrogen discharge into the Great Bay estuary.

Our town is situated in eastern Rockingham County. Newington's land area encompasses 8.9 square miles.¹ We are bounded on the west by Great Bay², on the northwest by Little Bay, and on the northeast by the Piscataqua River. We enjoy twelve miles of shoreline along the bays, and three miles along the Piscataqua.

Scientists inform us that excessive nitrogen in the Great Bay watershed is a serious threat to water quality, wildlife, commercial fisheries, sport fishing, and public recreation. They advise us that in the absence of timely countermeasures, the environmental degradation will be irreversible.

Accordingly, the Town Newington urges the EPA to move decisively, and in a comprehensive fashion, to reduce the volume of all sources of nitrogen that contribute to the impairment of water quality in the estuary.

We assume that our wastewater plant will be subjected to the same standard as Exeter's. With that in mind, we urge you to demonstrate respect for Newington taxpayers by implementing a standard that will achieve the desired results. Were the EPA to implement half-measures, our municipal funds would be expended in vain.

¹ Presently, our municipal jurisdiction is limited to 6.5 square miles. That is because some 2.4 square miles of our town are currently occupied by a state agency, the Pease Development Authority (PDA).

² The municipalities whose boundaries actually encompass Great Bay, such as ours, should not be confused with the Great Bay Municipal Coalition, most of whose member communities are situated at some distance from the bay, and whose only relationship to the bay is the utilization of same as a repository for sewer effluent.

Alternately, were the EPA to delay implementation, it would ultimately drive up the cost of solving the problem and continue the degradation of the environment. That result would not be in the best interest of local taxpayers.

We have no doubt that building wastewater infrastructure to a more rigorous standard will be expensive. Yet failure to do so would ultimately cost us a great deal more. For that reason, the Town of Newington stands ready to upgrade our wastewater plant to meet whatever standard for nitrogen reduction the scientific community concludes is necessary to heal the estuary.

As you know, nitrogen enters the estuary via multiple sources: wastewater treatment plants, stormwater runoff, septic systems, fertilizer, animal waste, land development, and the atmosphere. While we applaud the EPA's attention to wastewater plants, it concerns us that your agency appears to be deferring action on the remaining 70% of nitrogen sources.

Our town has little control over atmospheric pollution, however we fully intend to move aggressively in regards to that which we can influence. The specifics of our community's approach are detailed below in order to illustrate solutions that work on a municipal level, and also to provide the EPA with examples of proven techniques that could be replicated on a regional level as part a comprehensive approach to nitrogen mitigation.

1) **Stormwater** – Newington strives to achieve a balance between economic development and environmental protection. For that reason, our stormwater regulations are among the most stringent in New Hampshire. By way of example, our Planning Board recently approved a proposal by Tyco Electronic Subsea Communications to build a 102,000 square foot manufacturing facility that incorporates stormwater infrastructure designed to remove 80% of suspended solids, 53% of phosphorous, and 66% of nitrogen.³

2) **Open Space Preservation** – In the simplest of terms, excess nitrogen in the estuary can be attributed to land development. It then stands to reason that open space preservation would be a mitigating factor. Our program in that regard is ambitious.⁴

3) **Fertilizer** – We will shortly commence a program of public education regarding the nitrogen problem associated with fertilizer.⁵

³ The new facility will bring 105 high-wage manufacturing jobs to New Hampshire. In that regard, Portsmouth Herald editors opined on 12/17/10 (copy attached) that "*increased environmental safeguards are not a barrier to increased development.*"

⁴ During the past two decades, Newington purchased or facilitated the permanent preservation of 36% of the land area within our jurisdiction (see attached map). This includes more than half of the town's 12 miles of shoreline along Great Bay and Little Bay. Highlights of this effort include persuading the US Fish & Wildlife Service to establish its first national wildlife refuge in New Hampshire (1,089 acres), and a 17-year effort to transfer control from the PDA of 70 acres of woodland that comprise the nation's oldest town forest.

⁵ In this regard, we suggest that the EPA analyze water samples downstream from the Pease golf course.

4) **Septic Systems and Animal Waste** – We will likewise engage the public in an educational effort addressing the nitrogen issues associated with leaky septic systems and animal waste. Alternative technologies will be recommended to address the former, and best management practices for the latter. To the extent that education falls short of solving the problem, we will pursue a regulatory approach.

5) **Atmospheric Sources of Nitrogen** – Since 1994, our zoning ordinance has included provisions for air pollution mitigation.⁶ We will continue our efforts to mitigate the effects of such pollutants to the extent permitted by NH law.

6) **Oysters** filter nitrogen and improve light penetration that aids in the re-establishment of eelgrass.⁷ The Town of Newington has fully supported an oyster farming operation situated off of Fox Point in which over one million oysters have been imported. The town will continue to actively support such efforts.

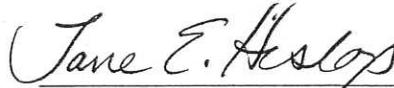
In the 1994, the Town of Newington brought suit against the Air Force in federal court due to the latter's failure to comply with environmental statutes.⁸ The town prevailed. This is not to suggest that we are contemplating litigation in the present instance (we are not), but rather to make you aware of our long-standing commitment to the protection of the Great Bay estuary. The bay is a priceless natural and economic resource that has provided immeasurable value to our community over the course of four centuries.

In summary, we urge the EPA to move quickly and decisively, and to employ a comprehensive approach toward restoring the health of the Great Bay estuary. We ask you to hold all estuarine communities to whatever standard is necessary to get the job done.

Thank you for your consideration.



Cosmas Iocovozzi, Chair
Newington Board of Selectmen



Jane Hislop, Co-Chair
Newington Conservation Commission

cc: NH's congressional delegation
Governor John Lynch
Thomas Burack, NH DES
Great Bay area communities
NH Commercial Fishermen's Association
Southeast Watershed Alliance

⁶ These zoning provisions drew national attention as result of coverage by the New York Times. See Article IX of the Town of Newington Zoning Ordinance.

⁷ A single oyster can filter as many as fifteen gallons of water per day.

⁸ Town of Newington & Conservation Law Foundation v. USAE, 864 F. Supp. 265 (D.N.H. 1994)



September 1, 2012

Mayor & City Council
City of Somersworth
One Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878

Dear Mayor Tapscott & Council Members:

The Board of Directors of the Greater Somersworth Chamber of Commerce would like to express its enthusiastic support for the Friends of Somersworth, a community group organized for the purpose of exploring alternative uses for the recently closed Hilltop School. The Board believes that the group's proposal for converting Hilltop into a multi-use facility for community use has genuine merit and viability and should be given serious consideration by the City.

The Board endorses the plan developed by the Friends of Somersworth because it encourages economic growth and development and would likely provide direct benefit to our existing businesses. The project may also encourage the location of new businesses in the downtown area. The multi-uses planned for Hilltop add to the options available to the residents of Somersworth who currently leave the City to take classes in art, adult education and enrichment programs and to attend art events and art shows. There is also a dearth of meeting space available to organizations and community groups throughout the City. We feel that Somersworth is indeed fortunate to have such a committed group of residents willing to put in the time and effort involved in the development and implementation of this project.

The City has a very real opportunity to act creatively and proactively by entering into a public/private partnership with the Friends of Somersworth. Investing in and developing a multi-use facility as outlined by the Friends of Somersworth would directly respond to some of the goals set forth in the City's Master Plan as follows:

- To provide leased/rented space for artists' studios. (Goal 1, §1.9)
- To provide classroom space for the development of adult education & enrichment programs. (Goal 1, §1.9 & Goal 7, §7.4)
- To provide meeting space for community groups and organizations (Goal 1, §1.9)

The Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to invest in Somersworth's future by supporting this project, and we look forward to assisting in this project by enlisting the support of Somersworth's business community to help make the vision of the Friends of Somersworth a reality.

Best regards,



Jennifer Soldati, Executive Director

Cc: Robert Belmore, City Manager

UNFINISHED

BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 6-12 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES FOR A CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CLG) GRANT TO PERFORM AN UPDATE TO THE HISTORICAL SURVEY FORMS.

Somersworth, NH
August 15, 2011

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth has applied for a CLG Grant to the State of New Hampshire by and through the Department of Cultural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth has received notification of a \$10,000.00 Grant Award; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth is matching this Award with in-kind professional services and funds for printing and postage; and

Explanation of Total Project Grant Breakdown

City Match	=	\$1,800 In-Kind Professional Services \$500 Site Fees-room, AV \$400 Printing & Postage for Marketing
<u>State of NH Grant</u>	=	<u>\$10,000</u>
Total Project Cost	=	\$12,700

WHEREAS, the Grant will allow the City of Somersworth to update the historical survey forms on properties located within the Historic District. This is Phase IV of a multi-phase project that will require additional grant funds in the coming years to complete the update for the entire Historic District; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that the City will pursue similar future CLG grants to complete the survey,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to execute any documents, agreements and take any and all such actions on behalf of the City, for this and any future New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources Certified Local Government Grant to complete the historic survey of all properties in the district, which may be deemed necessary for the execution of this grant as well as future awards.

Introduced by

Council Member
David Witham

Approved:

City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 7-12 CHANGE THE PURPOSE OF THE CITYWIDE REVALUATION CAPITAL RESERVE FUND IN ACCORDANCE WITH RSA 34:11 TO A CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF DOWNTOWN AND TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT IMPROVEMENTS.

Somersworth, NH
August 15, 2011

WHEREAS, the City-wide Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund was established by Resolution 3-08, and

WHEREAS, RSA 34:11 permits the purpose for which a capital reserve fund is established be changed by a favorable vote of 3/4 of all members of the City Council,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City-wide Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund shall be changed to the purpose of creating a Downtown and Transportation Enhancement Improvements Fund, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT contributions to that fund shall come from the operating budget, grant funds, or any other funding source, and further that the City Council is hereby designated as agents to expend these funds.

Introduced by Councilors

Robin S. Jarvis
Michael X. Watman
Dale R. Sprague

Approved:

City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 8-12 AUTHORIZING THE CITY COUNCIL TO CREATE A
NON-CAPITAL RESERVE FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE ACCRUED EMPLOYEE
LEAVE AND BENEFITS LIABILITY FUND.

Somersworth, NH
August 15, 2011

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth accrues a liability through union agreements and the non-union personnel rules and regulations to employees for payment of leave and other benefits payable at termination; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2012 adopted budget contains an appropriation to create a fund to address the liability created for payment of unused leave and other benefits at termination,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the Somersworth City Council hereby establishes a non-capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 34:1-a to be known as the Accrued Employee Leave and Benefits Liability Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Somersworth City Council are named as agents to expend this fund and contributions to this fund will come from the operating budget or other available funds.

Introduced by Councilors

Robin S. Jarvis
Michael X. Watman
Dale R. Sprague

Approved:

City Attorney

NEW

BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 6-12 AMEND CHAPTER 13, POLICE OFFENSES, SECTION 3.1.D. NO PARKING ANYTIME.

Somersworth, NH
September 6, 2011

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the Ordinances of the City of Somersworth, as amended, be further amended as follows:

- Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 3.1.D. No Parking Anytime, by adding the following:

Stackpole Road on the northerly and southerly sides from High Street to 100 ft. past the intersection of Deer Creek Run.

This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Introduced by Councilor

Brian Tapscott

Approved:

City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 11-12 TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO CONTRACT WITH CMA ENGINEERS OF PORTSMOUTH, NH FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES.

Somersworth, NH
September 6, 2011

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2012 adopted budget contains an appropriation for the purpose of contracting general engineering services for the City of Somersworth, and

WHEREAS, City staff solicited proposals from qualified engineering firms to provide general engineering services, and

WHEREAS, City staff reviewed the proposals and interviewed all interested respondents and recommend awarding the contract to CMA Engineers of Portsmouth, NH,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to contract with CMA Engineers of Portsmouth, NH for general engineering services.

Introduced by Councilor

Dale Spainhower
Denis Messier

Approved

City Attorney



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH

Office of the City Manager

TO: Acting Mayor Brian Tapscott and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: Friday, September 2, 2011

SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for Tuesday, September 6, 2011
City Council Agenda

6:00 PM Workshop - Presentation from the Friends of Somersworth.

6:45 PM – Public Hearing

Resolution No. 7-12 Change the Purpose of the Citywide Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund in Accordance with RSA 34:11 to a Capital Reserve Fund for the Purpose of Downtown and Transportation Enhancement Improvements.

Resolution No. 8-12 Authorizing the City Council to Create a Non-Capital Reserve Fund to be known as the Accrued Employee Leave and Benefits Liability Fund.

Unfinished Business (under Section 12 of the Agenda):

Resolutions:

- A. **Resolution No. 6-12 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Grant Agreement with the State of New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources for a Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant to Perform an Update to the Historical Survey Forms.** City Planner Dave Sharples will be present to answer any questions on this Grant and the overall project being conducted by the HDC.
- B. **Resolution No. 7-12 Change the Purpose of the Citywide Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund in Accordance with RSA 34:11 to a Capital Reserve Fund for the Purpose of Downtown and Transportation Enhancement Improvements.** This language was selected with the assistance of City Attorney to make the fund broad enough to include the use of the funds for matching monies with other possible City projects downtown in addition to the TE Grant. This requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the City Council per State Law (RSA 34:11 copy attached).
- C. **Resolution No. 8-12 Authorizing the City Council to Create a Non-Capital Reserve Fund to be known as the Accrued Employee Leave and Benefits Liability Fund.** The City Council appropriated \$10,000 in this fiscal year to place into this newly established fund (RSA 34:1-a copy attached).

New Business (under Section 13 of the Agenda):

Ordinances:

- A. **Ordinance No. 6-12 Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 3.1.D. No Parking Anytime.**

Resolutions:

- A. **Resolution No. 11-12 To Authorize the City Manager to Contract with CMA Engineers of Portsmouth, NH for General Engineering Services.** A panel (Public Works Director Tom Willis, Finance Director Scott Smith, City Planner Dave Sharples and City Manager) interviewed four engineering firms. Our joint recommendation is to contract with CMA. This new venture will be monitored closely and City Administration will periodically report back on its effectiveness as well as conducting a review with City Council as part of the fiscal year budget process. Attached is a copy of their proposal that gives an overview of their fees, project team and approach in providing general engineering services to the City.

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

A. Informational Items:

1. **GACIT Public Hearings Schedule.** Attached is a copy of the public hearing schedule regarding the State of NH DOT Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. It includes a hearing in Rochester on Thursday, October 27th at 7:00pm at their City Community Center.
2. **ContiTech Thermopol.** The City's code enforcement office has received a number of noise complaints concerning this industrial plant. Attached is a Memo from Planner Sharples that explains the company's plan to correct this production noise issue this month.
3. **Tropical Storm Irene – City's Emergency Management Team.** I respectfully ask Council to allow Interim Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director Don Bliss to give a brief report on the recent storm and the City's pre-storm preparations and response. I extend my sincere appreciation to all our Management Team members and city and school staff, and to our Community residents for their patience and support through the storm event.