

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Somersworth, NH
December 7, 2015
7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by His Honor, the Mayor, Dana Hilliard, and upon roll call the following Council members were present: Pepin, Soldati, Dumont, McCallion, Messier, Tapscott, Witham, and Sprague. Councilor Collins was excused.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 9, 2015

Councilor Pepin, seconded by Councilor McCallion, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Steve McKenzie, Chair of the Mayor's Drug Task Force, gave a brief preview of what will be presented in January. Councilor Witham and the Mayor both attended the October meeting. Since that time they have continued their support for additional police officers. Members of the Task Force met with Sober Sisters Recovery, and discussed their request for a living facility for sober women in Somersworth. He also met with John Eldridge of Bonfire Recovery regarding their desire for support to establish a sober living center for men. The Drug Task Force has created a draft brochure, which will be presented in January, which contains several service areas for addicts and a conceptual overview for its dissemination and a plan for initial funding.

The Task Force is pleased that one additional officer has been hired. They hope that will continue at a rate of one per year until at least four more have been added. The Task Force strongly endorses Sober Sisters and Bonfire Recovery Services.

They met with Dave Ryan, assistant Superintendent in Manchester, regarding K-12 anti-drug curriculum development. There is not much available in the United States. Manchester has chosen to embark on a plan of curriculum development, as opposed to curriculum purchase, which the Task Force believes makes a lot more sense in terms of financial liability and relevance to kids. Steve said he has already had an informal meeting with the Somersworth High School health teacher, who has begun developing drug awareness material.

Task Force member, Sarah Flynn, recently completed the draft brochure which will be presented in January. They would like to request funding to cover the cost of color printing and to purchase plastic holders. The vision is that the brochures will be on the counters of any retail outlet in the city and in municipal buildings.

The group continues to meet regularly and continues to progress with the plan. He is impressed with the caliber and quality of work that gets put into these efforts. He plans on updating the council quarterly, and wants to keep an open line of communication. He seems it is the responsible thing to do to address the council formally.

Mayor Hilliard thanked Steve for the work the Task Force has done. The job before them is mammoth, and what they have been able to accomplish in a short period of time is exemplary. Keep up the tremendous amount of work. You are bringing great pride to the City of Somersworth, as we continue to find solutions to the difficult task and environment that is plaguing this community and communities throughout the state and nation.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayors Report for City Council Meeting December 7th, 2015

Last month Somersworth was officially was inducted into the North American Franco network. The Inaugural event took place in Quebec City and over the course of three days, guiding the founding members into how communities can revitalize their Franco heritage. As noted at the conference the result of this practice is not only an increase in ones awareness of their historical ethnicity, but also attracts leads to increase tourism by French Canadian travelers. The benefits Somersworth will receive through its new membership in this network are endless. However, it is our vision which must drive how we will gain by re-connecting with our proud French Canadian heritage.

(The Mayor presented a certificate to City Manager Belmore that will be displayed at City Hall)

Since attending the conference, my aide Christien Dubois, Somersworth Youth Connection Director, Maureen Jackman, and Ward 3 City Councilor, Marty Dumont, and I have already begun the process outlining how we can begin implementing and restoring some of the cultural practices which made our community unique. While the goal of membership in the North American Franco network is to celebrate the French connection, I do not want to lose site of the contributions of other founding or current ethic groups which have contributed to building and moving our community forward.

Therefore in January, I will be forming and appointing members to the Mayor's Cultural Commission. The Commission which will be Chaired by Ward 3 City Councilor, Marty Dumont, will not only move forward on creating opportunities of re-celebrating Somersworth's Proud French Canadian past, as outlined as a new member of the North American Franco network, but will also seek manners in celebrating all ethnic groups which have contributed to making our Hilltop city unique. Any member of the public interested in serving on this newly formed commission, please contact me.

For 30 year's Rev. Mark Rideout has been an active caring member of our community. Mark has not only led with compassion, dignity and grace his parishioners of the First Parish United Church of Christ, but is equally dedicated to all citizens of Somersworth. Over his 30 years of leading the faithful and embodying the Hilltopper spirit, Mark has served on a variety of community organizations, including his current service as part of the Mayors Drug Task force.

For his unquestionable dedication to his church and the greater Somersworth Community Monday November 16th, was proclaimed Rev. Mark Rideout day.

The holiday's and Hilltopper spirit radiated through Somersworth on Saturday at the annual Christmas Parade and Gala. Main Street and the plaza were packed with residents bringing to life the meaning of community. The perfect weather conditions, entertainment, fireworks and tree lighting gave all who attended a renewed feeling of the magic of the season. Thank you to all members of the Christmas Parade and Gala committee, for once again creating a celebration which reflected all that is great about Somersworth.

Tonight before the Council for a first reading is Resolution 17-16 Amending Council Rules and Regulations Section 17, Appointments. The purpose of the amendment is to set clear expectations on the office of the Mayor when bringing forward appointments which need to be confirmed by this body. If approved, the Resolution would adopt a new Council policy stating that all appointment's which need to be confirmed by this body must be residents within our community.

While is it rare for the Executive branch to willingly suggest limiting its power to the legislative branch, I believe Resolution 17-16 offers positive guidance and policy for the current and future Mayors of our community. While the amendment would restrict in some appointment all potential nominations to just residents, it still gives the Mayor liberty to appoint to task forces and commissions any individual who meets their criteria. I would respectfully ask Council to wave Council rules this evening and move on the Resolution. This would allow me to move forward with future appointments coming before this body in the upcoming new City Council legislative session.

I would also seek opinions from the Council on non-residents serving on Boards and Commissions. While these opinions are non-binding they are sought and respected. In the upcoming Council, session several terms will be expiring for individuals who currently hold positions on commissions. While the re-appointment of these individuals will lie within the duties of the Mayor, under past administrations such appointments lead to frustration of the body as a whole.

The context of the debate of residents outside of our community holding appointed positions are valid on both prospectives. I can see both pros and cons to continuing the practice. There are at times, when it aides our community to seek outside expertise for individuals who do not reside within this community. There are also citizens whom choose to live in surrounding area communities who share a history of love and dedication towards the success of Somersworth.

Therefore, in addition to the adoption of the Resolution, I am also seeking Councils opinion on carrying forward the practice. While the decision in the end will lie with the office of the Mayor, it never hurts sometimes to seek 9 other opinions.

The Hilltopper Holiday spirit continued yesterday with the annual Somersworth Historical Society holiday celebration. I had an amazing afternoon surrounded by dedicated citizens, friends and neighbors who have a passion towards preserving Somersworth's history. The historical society and its members continue to demonstrate how they are one of Somersworth's greatest assets.

Founded six years ago Small Business Saturday has not only become an alternative to shopping on Black Friday but a great way to support local merchants. I had the pleasure Saturday November 28th of shopping locally and celebrating Small Business Saturday throughout the

Hilltop City. I encourage all members of our community to shop local this holiday season and continue to grow the Somersworth economy.

Celebrating our differences, strengthens our bonds. I was pleased to welcome back to Somersworth the Indonesian Consulate General recently. The Consulate General along with various other members of the Indonesian community, presented lessons to Somersworth Middle School students on Indonesian culture and customs.

Through understanding, learning, listening and celebrating, we will continue to build a community where all are welcomed and honored. In appreciation of Somersworth's commitment to diversity the Indonesian Consulate General's office has presented our community with several gifts. So that all citizens may enjoy them, it is my pleasure to present these gifts to the Somersworth Historical Society.

(Gifts were presented to George Poulin of the Somersworth Historical Society.)

Inspiring the next generation to seek their dreams is a full community commitment. I was pleased to be able to participate in the recent "I'm College Bound Day" sponsored by Somersworth High School and CTC.

Thank you to Deputy Mayor and Ward 2 Councilor, Jennifer Soldati, for covering the November meeting while I was traveling as part of the New England Progressive Leaders Seminar in Israel. The seminar was life changing and aided me in gaining a greater perspective of the historical development of the state of Israel and the ongoing security issues in the region. As I continue to process the experiences and knowledge gained in the trip, I look forward to being able to apply it both professionally and as my role as Mayor.

Thank you also to the citizens of Somersworth for extending your voice of confidence in me to continue to fulfill the duties within the office of Mayor for the next two years. As we move forward, I will continue the team approach towards the economic and social revitalization of our Hilltop community. Over the last two years we have experienced a re-birth of hope, belief and energy towards the commitment of celebrating our "Proud Past" and laying a solid foundation towards all Somersworth residents having a "Bright Future".

The next two years will be filled with the spirit of forward momentum and embracing our challenges with determination, seeking lasting solutions. Together as a team, we will continue to move towards reaching our Vision 2020 goals, of creating one of the most desirable communities on the seacoast.

The magic of the Holiday Season is the sense of hope for us to continue to strive towards the universal principles of respect, understanding and peace. While these goals have been preached by different spiritual leaders and faiths for centuries, the common threads between the different dominations continue to shine light towards the aspirations of understanding. Whether your family celebrates Chanukah, Solstice, Kwanzaa or Christmas, find time, this holiday season, to return to the messages of the origin of each. Beyond the stress of the lines at Wal-Mart and Target can be found the true meaning of the most valuable of all gifts - time.

Our time on this journey is so limited. Take time this holiday season to rededicated yourself towards family, friends, love ones and community. The most important things in life have no cost affixed to them, nor can they be redeemed with a gift card. Take what limited time each of us has by reaffirming your love and making a positive difference this holiday season; one family and one person at a time. From my family to yours Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas.

Finally this evening this will be the last meeting of this sitting Council. It has certainly been an honor to lead as your Mayor over the last two years. In the close to two decades of elected service, I have never served with a more cohesive functional body, one of which I have grown tremendous admiration and respect for. One member of this body will conclude three decades worth of experience this evening.

To all members of this body, thank you for your belief in the team approach of governing and the faith you bestowed upon me in the last two years in the office of the Mayor. To Councilor Collins, I thank you for your commitment and dedication to our community. Somersworth will continue to benefit from your energy as a new member of the school board.

Councilor Tapscott for 30 years you have dedicated yourself towards the improvement of our community. Your Hilltopper spirit is unquestionable and while you are concluding your service on Council this evening, I have no doubt that you will continue your service to moving our community forward in other fashions. If you would come forward please.

(The Mayor presented Councilor Tapscott with a gift from the City, a rocking chair, for his many years of service.)

Nominations, Appointments and Elections:

NONE

This respectfully concludes my December 7, 2015 Mayors Report

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Councilor McCallion said they reviewed the proposal for Sober Sisters at the former Malley Farm Boys Home. It's a nonprofit, recently formed. There are some issues with the building that will have substantial cost for whoever will be leasing the property. Sober Sisters is willing to take that on and get it up to code. The committee also reviewed 2 proposals to redevelop the old police station.

PUBLIC SAFETY - Councilor Pepin said they met on November 12. One of the things that was brought up on the agenda was that in the contract for American Ambulance, is an insurance bond that needed to be renewed every year. They proposed that we drop the requirement. We do not have any type of payment and American Ambulance bills the patients directly. We didn't see the need to have that type of insurance. The saved money will be used for AED units. Some are getting old throughout the city. The Committee agreed unanimously to make that go through.

Paul Robidas with American Ambulance reported that in the month of September, they had approximately 580 calls. The average is about 200 calls.

Fire Chief reported hiring 5 new call Fire Fighters. They reviewed the FEMA grant, to reappropriate to use that money. There are still 2 vacancies on the permanent force. Toys for tots are up, so please find your toys and bring them in to the fire department to be distributed to needy children.

Chief Crombie gave a report that they hired a new police officer. He also gave a report that because of the increase of parking fees, that they are in the process of writing letters to the people, telling them what is going on and to update their parking stickers. Chief Crombie also gave a report that the gun holsters are being upgraded to a more secure, more difficult to remove weapon.

RECREATION COMMITTEE. Councilor Pepin stated that they had a meeting on November 12th, and the purpose of the meeting was to get all of the sports programs together to talk about a program that will unite them and save money. Councilor McCallion has been trying to endorse this for a while. It was a packed house. Almost every seat was filled. They have had a lot of good conversations about this. There were Booster groups, hockey, soccer, as well as many others were represented. It was basically to see if they could find a way to do joint fundraising and get insurance policies under the same umbrella. There was a lot of conversation; some for it, some against it. At the end of the conversation, they said that these groups should discuss it with their own organizations, and return. They will set up a meeting with Councilor McCallion. Then he will report back to back to the Recreation Committee. This will be up to these people to make the decision. It won't work without them.

The Committee discussed the agreement they have with the organizations that use Somersworth facilities. They asked that the agreement be modified to require a Certificate of Good Standing within the last 60 days, if not a 501c3. The organizations will also need to provide insurance stating the City as additional insurance.

President of the Babe Ruth Little League, Dave Witham, reported to the committee that the American Legion would like to donate \$5000 for a new score board with their name on the score board. The new scoreboard will be approximately 20'X6', and electronically controlled. This was endorsed by the Recreation Committee.

They also briefly discussed the cameras being installed at the Pines. They are in process and will be complete in the near future.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION. Councilor Dumont stated that the committee met on November 25th, heard 2 cases and approved both. No meeting scheduled for the month of December.

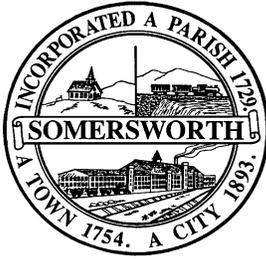
SCHOOL BOARD. Councilor Pepin said he attended a School Board Meeting on November 17th, prepared CIP items to go before the planning board.

PLANNING BOARD. Councilor Witham stated they had the annual meeting to review the proposed six year CIP plan. The Board listened to the City Manager, asked questions

and agreed to endorse the CIP plan, with a transmittal letter to standardize fleets, and type of equipment purchased. That will be coming soon.

JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE. Councilor Messier said, North Branch will be in for a cost not to exceed, for the CTC Center. The architect finalized plans and they will have a price on Monday.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH
Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Dana Hilliard and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: Friday, December 4, 2015

**SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for Monday, December 7, 2015
City Council Agenda**

Unfinished Business (under Section 13 of Agenda)

Resolutions

- A. Resolution No. 15-16 Authorize the City Manager to Amend the Contract with Underwood Engineers of Portsmouth, NH to Provide Additional Engineering for Improvements to the Blackwater Road Sewer Pump Station.** As previously stated, the Finance Committee met on this Resolution at their November 3rd meeting and supports this Amendment.

New Business (under Section 14 of Agenda)

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance 10-16 2016 City Council Schedule.** The proposed schedule has been reviewed and approved by Mayor Dana Hilliard. As warranted, City Council should waive Council Rules to act on the meeting calendar this evening.

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 16-16 Authorize the City Manager to Contract with Industrial Protection Services LLC, of Wilmington Massachusetts for the Purchase of Self-contained Breathing Apparatus for the Fire Department.

Attached is a breakdown of the proposed purchase. City Council appropriated \$39,630 in this fiscal year, therefore, the recommended purchase of \$39,808 brings us over budget by \$178. The Public Safety Committee reviewed this purchase at their meeting on November 12th and recommends approval. This was a CIP budgeted item and it is year three of a four year replacement program.

B. Resolution No. 17-16 Amend Council Rules and Regulations, Section 17, Appointments.

C. Resolution No. 18-16 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Twenty (20) Year Lease Agreement with the Sober Sisters Recovery to Lease the Building and Approximately 1.41 Acres of Surrounding Property (Formerly the Site of the Malley Farm Boy's Home) Located at 45 Malley Farm Road.

The Attached proposal was reviewed by the Economic Development Committee members at their November 15th meeting with two members of Sober Sisters Recovery Board of Directors. Staff has several recommendations that we would look to incorporate into a Lease Agreement if approved. A copy of those recommendations is also attached.

Other

A. Vote to Approve the Retirement Agreement Between the City and Police Chief Dean W. Crombie.

City Manager's Items (under section 10 of Agenda)

A. Information Items:

City Manager added to what the Chair of the Public Safety Committee had to say in regards to American Ambulance, and eliminating the bonding instrument. That was reviewed with both the city's attorney and the city's insurance carrier. So there is no legal requirement to continue a bond that does not provide any additional protection for the city. Since we are not in a public works contract and there is no legal requirement. Either party, the City or American Ambulance, can opt out with a 90 day notice. We would still maintain a full level of insurance coverage with the City being named as an additional insured. We are just taking the fairly small amount of money and applying it to replace or expand the AED units throughout City and school buildings. So unless there is any objection I will move forward with the administrative modification to the agreement.

1. **CIP FY 2017-2022.** In accordance with the City Charter, I hereby submit a proposed Capital Improvement Program for City Council consideration. I look forward to Council direction for future review and discussion opportunities.
2. **FY 16-17 Budget Preparation.** Enclosed is a copy of my Memorandum addressed to City Departments outlining the FY 16-17 Budget Preparation Process. I have also included Finance Director Smith's preliminary analysis in regards to the limitations on any Budget increase-Tax Cap provisions of the City Charter.
3. **Council Workshops.** The Economic Development Committee requested a Council Workshop to discuss the possibility of establishing a TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District. City Staff would give a presentation. I suggest Tuesday, January 19th prior to the regular Council meeting at 5:30 p.m.
-The Mayor stated, without objection from council, this meeting has been scheduled.

In addition the Mayor will be calling a special City Council–School Board Workshop. This meeting is being scheduled for Monday, January 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the School's Career Technical Center. A regular Council meeting is being scheduled for this date at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

4. **Water Bond Refunding (refinancing).** Back in October 2010 the City Council authorized the refunding (refinancing) of the Wastewater and Water Bonds issued through the NH State Revolving Loan Fund. The City completed the action involving the Wastewater issuance, but it was decided market conditions did not warrant moving forward on the Water issuance. Staff has re-contacted the NH Municipal Bond Bank and it would be advantageous for us to pursue refunding the Water SRF issuance. Bond Counsel has advised the Council's authorization under Resolution 8-11 is still binding.

This refunding will not change the terms of the note with exception of the net interest cost decreasing. Current estimates indicate the City could save in excess of \$200,000 over the remainder of the term, or approximately \$20,000 per year. Attached is a copy of the original Resolution and a memorandum from Finance Director Scott Smith. I will proceed with this refunding unless Council objects and directs me otherwise.

-The Mayor stated, without objection from council, the City Manager can proceed with refunding.

B. Attachments:

1. City Attorney Certifications Two (2).

2. Department Head Reports.
3. City Council 2016 Calendar.
4. Comcast Price Changes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 15 – 16 AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH UNDERWOOD ENGINEERS OF PORTSMOUTH, NH TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR IMPROVMENTS TO THE BLACKWATER ROAD SEWER PUMP STATION.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Dumont, made a motion to adopt. The motion passed by roll call vote, with all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 10-16 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2016.

Somersworth, NH
December 7, 2015

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT, in accordance with Chapter 3.7 of the City Charter which provides that the City Council’s “regular meetings shall be held on the first and third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise designated by ordinance...” and Chapter 6, City Officials, Section 6.8.2 of the City Ordinances which also provides that the “City Council shall meet in regular session on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise agreed on by a majority of the members of the Council” that the City Council Meeting schedule for 2016 shall be as follows:

- January - 01/11/2016 and 01/19/2016 (Tuesday)
- February - 02/01/2016 and 02/16/2016 (Tuesday)
- March - 03/07/2016 and 03/21/2016
- April - 04/04/2016 and 04/18/2016
- May - 05/02/2016 and 05/16/2016
- June - 06/06/2016 and 06/20/2016
- July - 07/25/2016
- August - 08/15/2016
- September - 09/06/2016 (Tuesday) and 09/19/2016
- October - 10/03/2016 and 10/17/2016
- November - 11/07/2016
- December - 12/05/2016

This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Introduced by

Mayor Dana S. Hilliard

Approved:

City Attorney

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Tapscott, made a motion to suspend Council Rules to have the Ordinance read a second time. All in favor.

Councilor Sprague stated that January 11th is the first council meeting on the schedule, and questioned why it wasn't the first Monday. He went on to ask if there was another date in there for the swearing in of the new council.

Mayor said, yes, there is another date, which will be announced when the invitations are sent out. He suggested that they err towards leaving January 7th open.

Councilor Pepin, seconded by Councilor Tapscott, made a motion to adopt Ordinance 10-16. The motion passed by Roll Call Vote, 7-1, with Councilor Sprague opposed.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 16 – 16 AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO CONTRACT WITH INDUSTRIAL PROTECTION SERVICES LLC. OF WILMINGTON MASSACHUSETTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Somersworth, NH
December 7, 2015

WHEREAS, the Somersworth Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2016 through 2021 contains a recommendation to replace all self-contained breathing apparatus used by the Fire Department over 4 years, and

WHEREAS, the fiscal year 2015-2016 adopted budget contains an appropriation for the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus representing the third year of this program, and

WHEREAS, Industrial Protection Services LLC. is a certified vendor for self-contained breathing apparatus on the Massachusetts State Bid List, and

WHEREAS, city staff recommends purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus from Industrial Protection Services LLC utilizing the Massachusetts State Bid list at a cost not to exceed \$39,808 (Thirty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred and Eight dollars), and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee for the City of Somersworth has reviewed this purchase and supports this recommended purchase,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to contract with Industrial Protection Services LLC. of Wilmington, Massachusetts for the purchase of 6 self-contained breathing apparatus and associated equipment for the fire department at an amount not to exceed \$39,808 (Thirty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred and Eight dollars)

and take any and all other such actions relative to this purchase determined to be in the best interest of the City .

Introduced by Councilors

Martin Pepin
Brian Tapscott
Denis Messier
Jennifer Soldati

Approved

City Attorney

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to suspend Council Rules to have the Resolution read a second time. All in favor.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Tapscott, made a motion to adopt Resolution 16-16.

Councilor Witham stated that this is a pretty straight forward matter. This is year 3 of a four year program. It is a budgeted amount that we have in the budget.

Councilor Sprague said he had just a simple question. Why did this not go in front of the Finance Committee also since it exceeded the budgeted amount? Mayor said since they suspended council rules for second read, he did not have the opportunity to assign it to any other committees. All of the council members agreed to suspend council rules and act upon this this evening, so therefore it was not moved into a committee.

Councilor Sprague said that is true and not true. We have a lot of things that goes in front of two committees before it goes to a hearing. The finance committee is the committee that is set up to review contracts to make sure contracts are correct. Other committees should not look into monetary issues also.

The Mayor said, items can be discussed in committee, but once items are in legislation form, then it has to be assigned.

Councilor McCallion said, seeing this for the first time, it is on the Massachusetts state bid. Is it on the New Hampshire state bid? Is there a New Hampshire company that does that?

City Manager, Bob Belmore stated that this company is not on the New Hampshire State bid list, but it is the same company that we have bought from for the past 2 years.

Councilor McCallion asked, Is there no way to purchase this in New Hampshire?

City Manager Belmore responded by saying, It is specialty equipment. He is not sure how many companies there are in New Hampshire, but there are none on the New Hampshire state bid list. It could be sent out to bid, if Council wants to give direction.

Councilor Witham said there are many companies which manufacture self-contained breathing apparatus. What's important here is consistency of units. There are a variety of manufacturers, however the bottles from one do not fit the other, the masks from one

do not fit the other. We have bought two years' worth, so it is important to stick with the same brand and manufacturer. Switching now would make no sense at this point.

The motion to adopt Resolution 16-16 passed by Roll Call Vote, 7-1.

RESOLUTION NO. 17 – 16 AMEND COUNCIL RULES AND REGULATIONS,
SECTION 17, APPOINTMENTS.

Somersworth, NH
December 7, 2015

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT Council Rules and Regulations, Section 17, Appointments, be amended by adding the following: "All appointments by the Mayor which require consent of the Council, shall be residents of the city."

Introduced by

Mayor Dana Hilliard

Approved:

City Attorney

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Tapscott, made a motion to suspend Council Rules to have the Resolution read a second time. Passed by a vote of 7-1.

Councilor Dumont, seconded by Councilor Tapscott, made a motion to adopt Resolution 17-16.

Councilor Soldati said she was trying to remember appointment over the past few years. Have we ever had difficulty filling a position with a resident?

The Mayor said, none to his knowledge. However, there have been ramblings by past bodies which is why he brought this forward. He doesn't like getting into legislative debate and uses his Mayor's Report to offer his political opinion. The purpose of this introduction is for this body to set clear parameters on the office of the Mayor. There are appointments that do and do not need to be confirmed. He is seeking council from the body. If this passes, then all appointments that need to be confirmed by this body must be residents. In addition to that, he is seeking council from this elected body on whether or not we are to proceed forward with nominations that do not fall on confirmation of this body, by outside residents of this community. There are currently people in positions who are not residents on this community, whose terms will be expiring. There are several people who have a history in this community, are dedicated to this community

and love this community; however, he would like some guidance before we move forward to the new body sitting here. When January rolls around, he will have a long list of appointments that will come due in January.

Councilor Soldati asked that since there is a long list, would it be more appropriate if the new council weigh in on this. Councilor Soldati said her preference in all cases is that it be a resident of the city, regardless of someone's love of the city. They should have a vested interest. Whenever possible we should appoint residents.

Councilor Witham concurs with Councilor Soldati that his preference would be for a resident. However, this is a council rule, with passage would be amended, and can be suspended, by the majority of the body, if they choose to do so. Special cases can be made.

Councilor Dumont thanked the City Manager for getting the list. Those positions represent residents and knowledge of the community. That supports the resolution. There have been occasions where a non resident has been appointed. Somersworth Housing Authority, in its history, had a need for specialties. One being a person qualified in forensic auditing. That person was originally from Somersworth, but did not live in Somersworth when the Mayor appointed them. There was a second individual also at Housing, who had the knowledge in the working of the housing authority was also appointed. These 2 people were priceless at that time for the institution. Those were appointments that did not need council approval. He is always in favor of seeking out opportunities for people within our community come with the qualifications for these types of special needs. He has the utmost confidence in the Mayor to evaluate those individuals who could fill the position, and should he feel the need to look outside of the community, he trusts his judgment, because of experience with recent history.

Councilor McCallion said he remembers when he first came on Council, it would have been nice to have been on a board to have more understanding of the council and how it works. He tried to have resident on the boards, as a feeder program. It takes about 6 months in any job to get acclimated. The learning curve for this one is a little bit more. He struggles, because on one hand, he wants the best for the residents, but we don't always get the residents to step up. But if we have someone from one community over, who owns a business in the city, pays taxes in the city, they have a stake in the game. Even if they don't live in the community.

Councilor Sprague said he understands what the Mayor is trying to do. When it comes to the Planning and Zoning Board, they are the 2 biggest that would require residence. Businesses are vested in the community, paying taxes and have a stake in the economy. The Traffic Safety Committee, if there was an officer, could hamstring the appointment.

Councilor Pepin has mixed feelings. He thinks they should be residents on all the boards, but sometime expertise is needed. The Mayor needs to do the best for the organization. Leave the judgement up to the Mayor, but he hopes that the priority would be for Somersworth residents.

The motion to adopt passed by Roll Call Vote, 6-2, with Councilors Pepin and McCallion opposed.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-16 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A TWENTY (20) YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOBER SISTERS RECOVERY TO LEASE THE BUILDING AND APPROXIMATELY 1.41 ACRES OF SURROUNDING PROPERTY (FORMERLY THE SITE OF THE MALLEY FARM BOY'S HOME) LOCATED AT 45 MALLEY FARM ROAD.

Somersworth, NH
December 7, 2015

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth is the owner of Tax Map 1 Lot 1 (AKA The Malley Farm property) that contains 178.76 +/- acres, and

WHEREAS, the City issued a Request for Proposals for the reuse of the City-owned building and surrounding property (formerly the site of the Malley Farm Boys Home) and the City received one proposal from the Sober Sisters Recovery, a nonprofit organization with a mailing address of P.O. Box 810, Somersworth, NH, and

WHEREAS, the proposal was reviewed by the City Council's Economic Development Committee,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to engage City Attorney and to take other such action to enter into a twenty (20) year lease agreement for the sum of \$5.00 per year with the Sober Sisters Recovery of Somersworth, NH, the City-owned building and approximately 1.41 acres of surrounding property shown on the attached map titled "Malley Farm Sober Sisters Recovery Lease Area" dated December 7, 2015 to be used and operated for the care and recovery of persons fighting addiction, and additionally to take any and all necessary action to meet the needs and the best interest of the City to complete this purpose.

Introduced by

Jonathan McCallion
Martin P Dumont, Sr.
Dale R. Sprague
Sean Collins

Approved:

City Attorney

Resolution 18-16 will remain in first reading until the January 11, 2016 City Council Meeting.

OTHER:

VOTE TO APPROVE THE RETIREMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND POLICE CHIEF, DEAN W. CROMBIE

The agreement was approved and adopted by roll call vote, 8-0.

Closing Comments by visitors.

Don Austin of 51 Cinnamon Ridge Rd, commented on Christmas Parade. It was fabulous compared to a parade in a largest city in the state. Very welcoming atmosphere.

Real Roseberry, ward 1, said he remembers Malley Farm when he was a kid. It needs to be on the historical society. It is valuable property. Look into it. It is old. He is 84 and he remembers it when he was a kid.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS.

Councilor Pepin said Councilor Collins is a great person and he hates to see him go. He will be replaced by his wife. He has worked with her before with the School Board and on the CTC renovation. She will do a great job. Sean will be deeply missed and he will do very well. He went on to say that it will hurt to see Brian go. He has been one of the easiest persons to talk to. Always been one of his go to persons. Brian has been on every committee. He appreciate that they have not always voted the same way. After the voting is done, they are still good friends.

Merry Christmas to all, don't want to insult anyone. Happy Holidays! See you next year!

Councilor Soldati said thanks to Brian for all those years of service. Now he will have more time and they should get the dogs together.

She said she was sorry she missed the Christmas Parade and she has heard nothing but rave reviews. People have said it is the best parade they have ever seen. She expressed special thanks to the chair, Beth Poulin. We should be very proud.

Councilor Dumont thanked the parade committee. It was his honor and pleasure to serve on that committee. Special gratitude to Beth Poulin and Eliza Cocco. They made it happen. There were other people who were involved with the new banners, new lights. The generosity of the council. To have somebody come and say that the parade was better than Manchester's is an honor in itself. The good news of the parade for him personally, is that is the furthest he has walked in about 3 weeks. So he thanked everyone for their consideration for his health. But at the end of the parade, it was a rewarding feeling to just stop walking.

Open House at the Museum is a shining star of our community. It's a trip down memory lane. He even found a picture of himself in his high school years.

Everything comes with opportunity. The next 2 years is providing a wonderful opportunity to this body to move forward with the momentum that we currently have. He is having fun sitting as the ward 3 councilor. He enjoys talking to the people in ward 3. He appreciates the opinions. Everyone is entitled to their opinion.

Last Wednesday, the Zoning Board had a wonderful meeting, which is still ongoing. The whole feeling was that people had opinions and people shared them. Wonderful example of democracy at its finest hour.

Sean Collins is a wonderful gentleman. Councilor Dumont said has enjoyed working with him. He is a talented individual with a tremendous amount of intellect.

Brian Tapscott; what can you say about him? He has known Brian for a long time. He is an honest and genuine person. In 1996, Councilor Dumont said, he ran for council. Brian said to go slow and try different organizations first. There were several people running at the time and he finished last. Brian's advice was completely accurate.

He wished Brian that The winds of the gods be in your sails, rock your life away.

Councilor McCallion said the parade was awesome. He brought double the candy and was gone by the time he reached the turn. The turnout was amazing. Great job for the committee. He knows they want to do even more than they did in the past, and it will be great. And the fireworks; nobody is doing fireworks at their parade. We just need to keep the momentum. He noticed while they were down there waiting for the parade to start you look at things differently, and think, wow, what this could be if we could build on the momentum that we have, with Main Street and all the way down. We will hopefully have a new partner in the GE building.

He was out of town, or he would have been at the open house at the Summersworth Historical Society.

Councilor McCallion said he has served on a few committees with Councilor Tapscott and early on he would look over at him in a committee meeting after he said something, just to get his take on it, and Brian was like a poker player. He could never get a reaction out of him. He always meant what he said, and he had a lot of experience to back it up. Councilor McCallion said he has learned a lot from Councilor Tapscott. He said he will miss Councilor Tapscott.

Lastly, the boosters, it's just a way to get everyone together. The big discussion was about the money. Well, if you are all together working toward common goal, the money will come. Its everybody working together.

Councilor Messier said he didn't make the parade on Saturday, but he heard that it all went off well. He thanked the committees and everybody that worked on that.

Sober (Sisters) Facility, add his name to the Resolution. The other Sober Facility that the Zoning Board was looking at, he totally supports that. He finds it hypocritical that some people would not support that. He thanked Brian Tapscott for his many years of service. He said good luck and enjoy. Don't sit on the rocker too much. Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

Councilor Witham, the parade is an awesome event. He has marched in it every year since it has been resurrected. The crowd was bigger and better than one could have imagined. He apparently handed out his candy at a more rapid rate because he ran out of candy by the time they got to John Parsons Drive. He is not sure who was leading the

parade, but the pace was quick. They were moving. It was not a walk, it was like a jog. Thanks to Santa for being nimble with his schedule. It was a fun event; the weather, the tree, the lighting.

We've heard from Mr. McKenzie, of the Drug Task Force a couple of times, and he gives credit to all others. The fact of the matter is that this guy cares deeply about folks who need help. He speaks passionately about it and cares about it. He cares and looks for a series of solutions. He champions that committee as good as any chairman of a committee ever has. Mayor, hats off to a great appointment there. Thank you, Steve, for your dedication. He is really the one that is making this move.

We have 2 councilors who are leaving us. Councilor Collins, like so many decisions in this chamber, they didn't always agree, but they left there shaking hands. Most importantly, they understood each other's points of views and they respectfully disagreed. The same with Councilor Tapscott, but always left there with a hand shake and a strong understanding of views. He was always that ear to whisper "what do you think about this?", and that will be certainly missed. Best wishes to you. You don't live far, stay involved. Merry Christmas to all of the residents. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Councilor Sprague said, on a more somber event, he would like to just remember what happened 74 years ago today at Pearl Harbor, by the imperial Japanese Navy. Taking about 2,000 American citizens lives and another 1,000 injured. It is part of our history that is disheartening. This country has proven over and over again that our spirit and our resolve cannot be broken. This is an important day in our history.

On a brighter note, a Rollinsford resident, with ties to Somersworth, Rachel Hill, has been nominated for the Mac Hermann trophy with is the NCAA Soccer equivalent to the Heisman Trophy. She is a junior at UCONN and has led in scoring all three years. This is a very big honor, and her father, Michael Hill, couldn't be any more excited. There are only 7 nominations throughout the country, and she is one of them as a junior.

He attended the Christmas Parade, gala, tree lighting and singing. It went rapidly. He almost got run over by the Service Credit Union truck behind him. When they made the turn, he was almost out of candy. He turned to Councilor Dumont and said he was out of candy. Councilor Dumont said, "Take mine, please!" It was great that the weather cooperated. It was a really good event that we can keep growing on. If there is a way to combine it with Berwick, that is something he grew up with. He was a present, in a box with wrapping and a bow on his head, when he was on the parade float as a child.

He attended the Summersworth Historical Museum open house on Sunday. He has been there about 5 times and he sees something different every time. Finding himself in pictures, looking at the opera house and figuring things out. He could spend hours in there; it brings back a lot of fond memories.

Bonfire, zoning board meeting; this is a land use issue. A lot of the people who reside on the hill are talking about the fear of whatever, lack of knowledge. It's a sensitive neighborhood, because they made it sensitive. The house has been for sale for ten years, if you are concerned or worried about the value of your home going down, then buy it. Get several neighbors together, and buy it. Then you can tell people what to do if you own that property. There are bundles of rights. People want facilities, just not in their area. He finds that to be hypocritical. He has issues about the amount of resident and parking concerns. He would be a hypocrite to say that this can't be used for more than

just a home. He thought it would be a great place for Seeds of Faith to set up their facility. He would be a hypocrite to say it was good for them and not for someone else. Councilor Sprague thanked Councilor Tapscott, for 30 years of service to the community. There is no way he could do it for 30 years; he wouldn't do it for the pension or for the rocking chair. To Councilor Tapscott, he said, "You have seen a lot of changes in this community. You've been behind a lot of those changes. We should be getting you a boat or something of sorts. Don't rock too much. Look out for the cat's tail. If you ever need to give me some opinions, feel free to give me a call."

Councilor Tapscott said he had a lot of plans as to what he was going to say this evening. He thanked the council and all the citizens of this community who voted for him for all these years.

The City Council, Mayor, and all present in Council Chambers honored Councilor Tapscott by standing and applauding him for his service.

Councilor Tapscott, finished by saying, "*Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!*"

ADJOURNMENT.

Councilor Messier, seconded by Councilor Tapscott, made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Trish Harris, City Clerk

Dana Hilliard, Mayor