

## MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Somersworth, NH  
October 5, 2015  
7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by His Honor, the Mayor, and upon roll call the following Council members were present: Pepin, Soldati, Dumont, McCallion, Messier, Tapscott, Collins and Sprague. Councilor Witham was not present.

### MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

#### MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 5-16 HELD ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

Councilor McCallion, seconded by Councilor Collins, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed. All in favor

#### MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 6-16 HELD ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

Councilor McCallion, seconded by Councilor Tapscott, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed. All in favor

#### MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

Councilor Dumont, seconded by Councilor Tapscott, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed. All in favor.

### COMMENTS BY VISITORS.

Brigitta, a resident of Berwick, from the state of Washington, said she was here to tell us, "the Russians are coming." She is part of a project of Russians and Americans working together. It will be one week of filming people, places and items that are connected with 4 people; Sarah Pray and her husband, Charles Smith, from the Pray Farm, which is now Malley Farm, and Sarah's brother, Frederick Pray and his wife, Eleanor Lord Pray. They moved to Russia, and operated an American store, selling Hershey Chocolate, guns, sewing machines and other American things. They never forgot their home towns of Somersworth and Berwick. Eleanor Lord Pray wrote thousands of letters which have been kept and are now in the Library of Congress, and through these letters, she has given us a lot of history about the two families of the Prays and the Lords. They lived in a port

city on the Pacific. Their kind of history was suppressed because they were middle class merchants, interested in making money. The city has some of the letters and has some of its history back. The city has erected a statue of Eleanor in her honor.

These people are now buried in Forest Glade. At 11:00 on Thursday, there will be a short memorial ceremony in their honor. There will be music and a moment of reverence. Mayor Hilliard has very kindly offered to be part of this ceremony. United Methodist Church will hold a dinner at 3:45 in Berwick. There will also be a bean and ham dinner on Sunday at 5:00 at Odd Fellows in Berwick, with a short presentation. She said she has been very happy to be here in these 2 cities, and see the homes of these people. She thought the land and area surrounding Malley Farm, formerly known as Echo Farm, was beautiful. She believes very strongly that we need to remember those who came before us.

Kyla Yoder, Mt Auburn St. Ward 4, has applied for the At Large School Board position. She contacted and spoke to many councilors. She grew up here, attending Maplewood, the Middle School and the High School. She has 4 children who are now in the Somersworth schools. She wants to be a great support for her children and the children in the community because they are our future. She feels education is extremely important. She just wanted to say hello.

Richard Brooks. 18 Linden St, Ward 1. He wanted to speak about the proposed curfew that is coming up. In Rochester as a teen, the fire horn sounded at 9pm each night. He thought about what impact that had on him, while living there. He had to be home by 9pm, not because of the curfew, but because that was mom and dad's rule. Many have said this is unconstitutional. It is more like common sense. If a child is out late at night, it would be worth any police officers time to stop and chat with that child, in the interest of the child's safety. If the child is older than 14, there should be no concern unless there is probable cause. Persons who are vandalizing, stealing or committing crimes could be any age. Choosing to target younger people just because they happen to be out late, should not be subject to unwarranted questions. This will cause kids to avoid police officers, and that mindset will only strain the friendly and helpful attitude that police officers have struggled to portray over the years. While the officers are chasing down kids just because they are out late, actual criminals are out roaming the streets, committing their random opportunity late night crimes. What good will a curfew actually do?

#### OTHER

Without objection from council, the Mayor asked that the Library Drainage Issues be addressed so Severino would not have to stay through the entire meeting.

Tom Severino, with Severino Trucking Company, approached the microphone and addressed the Council, stating, as most of the Council is aware, a roof drain was not connected at the library. He requests that they go back into the street, re-excavate, and make the repair correctly. If they don't reconnect the pipe, in the long run, they don't

know what else is connected, other problems may arise. The lines are so old that there is no record. There were no connections shown in the plans. They ran into two drains during construction that they connected, but missed this third drain. The fact is, there was a third line, they know where it is and they should connect it.

CM Belmore said there was discussion during the Public Works and Environment Committee Meeting. There was a notion that they could work in the parking lot behind the library. However, the advice from the contractor and city engineer is to stick with the plan that we have the most information. We don't have much information about connecting out back, but we do out front. Originally, in the Public Works and Environment meeting they were talking about lifting several panels of sidewalk. There is a city ordinance which imposes a 5 year moratorium for this type of reconstruction in roads. That is why this is at Council. He asked Mr. Severino to explain the process of cutting into the road and how they intend to make it whole again.

Mr. Severino explained that there is a small section of approximately 5-6 feet where pipe will need to be added for the connection. A 6'X6' hole in the middle of the road will be needed to replace that piece of pipe. In the back, the problem is we don't know what other connections there are, and a bigger problem is there is an open end of a 6" pipe in the middle of the road. Eventually there will be a problem in the road if not addressed now. They plan to inferred the joints and do the best they can.

Councilor Sprague said they knew they were making an investment in the downtown, and were upgrading the water and sewer lines along with the roads so they wouldn't have to dig the roads if there was a break in the water or sewer lines. This is a different situation. With a project of this scale, there are hundreds of connections that were made. They were bound to miss something. It was his idea to see about reversing the drains and go out the back and hook into the drainage in the back parking lot of the library, but with talking with Mr. Severino earlier, we are talking about a 6" line. He stated, the thing that runs through his head is the drain line that was under I-93 in Concord that caved in. Obviously, (Main Street) won't just cave in like I-93 did, but we don't know what could happen down the road. As much as he doesn't want to do it, he will make the motion to wave the moratorium to get this done.

Motion was made by Councilor Sprague, seconded by Councilor Pepin, to wave the moratorium.

Councilor Messier, said this is the right thing to do. He know the situation could lead to a sink hole

The motion to wave the moratorium passed by Roll Call vote, 8-0.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CITY COUNCILORS

Councilor Soldati announced that this Saturday, 10am-4pm, is the Pumpkin Festival. All will have the opportunity to try her world famous seafood chowder. Free for adults. \$12 for kids. If you come in costume it will be \$1 off cost of admission for children.

## MAYOR'S REPORT.

### Mayors Report for City Council Meeting, October 5, 2015

- Before the Council this evening is Ordinance No. 7-16, adopting a city wide curfew for all juveniles 16 years of age and under. The ordinance comes before this body with a recommendation of the public safety committee on a vote of 3-1 to not adopt. Despite the recommendation of the committee and threats by a private interest group to litigate if adopted, I along with Councilor Witham still see value in those who are 16 years of age and under not being allowed free range to walk throughout the community at all hours.

The purpose of Councilor Witham and I introducing this ordinance was to foster conversation within the community on what values will continue to define us. I was encouraged and inspired by the several engaging conversations that I have had over the last month focused on how raising children is indeed something which requires the commitment of an entire community. The care, treatment and values which we instill in each generation is a deposit on what our community will look like in the future. Those which invest, will experience success, those which neglect, will fail and deteriorate.

For the last two years the success of our community has been rooted in our ability to no longer shy away from the tough conversations or shelving problems for future legislative body to debate. I am proud of the fact that we continue to tackle and digest complex matters with often times no clear road map on what the solutions are. We are not afraid to reach out, to listen and to search for answers. We are also not afraid to openly disagree with each other while respecting our differences and honoring the civility. To talk about the value of working together as a team, is different from practicing it.

In both Councilor Witham's and my opinions, the team has successfully explored this avenue and therefore we are respecting and encouraging Council to adopt their recommendation. This does not mean that there will not be times in the future where Councilor Witham or I will work towards a counter recommendation from a committee. However, for this evening, both of us can claim, despite what I am predicting as the defeat of the Ordinance, mission accomplished. Our community has again been able to look at itself within a mirror and explored some large questions and yes, some existing problems.

Despite the act that data of juvenile crime within our community might be down, it still prompted this body to authorize the placement of cameras within our parks at an expense not budgeted for. I find it hard pressed for me to continue my open support for future additions to our Police Force, something which I am committed to. If I continue to read that despite the presentation last year at the Mayor's Public Safety Forum, that every

problem this body tends to focus on, in the eyes of those who need to enforce it, is not a problem.

The charge of a legislative body is not just to institute laws upon a society. Even a basic level of understanding of civilized human history can attest to, that laws do not offer blanket solutions to ensuring communities future success. However, they do force parties to engage in dialog and only fail when that dialog is not honest and offers no solutions. While both Councilor Witham and I will be supporting the committee recommendation this evening, we both will also be awaiting some future recommendations from law enforcement, city officials, members of the ACLU, and Councilors on what the suggestion and possible solutions now are.

- I had the pleasure of attending the Somersworth Fire Department Open House on Saturday. The successful event helps raise awareness of the Fire Safety Services and how the greater community can take the lead in ensuring safety in their own property of every citizen. Without question and with great bravery, our fire officers answer each call knowing that they could be risking their own lives to save the ones of strangers.

The open house kicks off the events of National Fire Safety Week. This week the Fire Department has several community activities scheduled including outreach within the school system. In honor of their dedication and bravery, I would like to invite the Fire Chief and members of the department forward for the presenting of a Proclamation.

- The Somersworth Municipal Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. As human history will attest, our democratic system is one of the most complex created. For it to work and continue forward with success, the foundation (the people) must be active. When its base of power becomes inactive, we have in turn allowed our society to revert back to a system of privileged classes which WE THE PEOPLE rebelled against. On Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, I am calling upon all citizens who are registered within Somersworth to validate democracy by casting your vote. Be heard, execute your right and help our City continue to progress forward. Democracy, is not a spectator sport and our community is in desperate need of assistance on ensuring our election will run smoothly. We are currently within need of citizens willing to work at all polling locations as election officials. Your pay is stipend of knowing you helped the most sacred right; the right to suffrage be smoothly utilized throughout our community on Election Day. You will also be guaranteed a sincere thank you from an ever grateful Mayor and City Clerk. Also, interested citizens should contact the City Clerk's Office on how they can assist for the day.
- The next Mayor's Community Forum will take place on this Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 – 10:30am. Included in this forum will be At-Large City Councilors Dale Sprague and Brian Tapscott. Also joining the forum will be At-Large School Board member Kelly Brennan. The purposes of the forums are to foster dialog and ideas in a non-formal setting to continue to move our community forward. All members of the community are welcome regardless of the Ward they live in.

- The following nominee is before the Council for consideration this evening:  
Kyla Yoder, nomination to fill an At-Large vacancy on the school board until the upcoming November election was layed on the table at the last Council Meeting. It is my hope that his evening the nomination will be removed from the table and acted upon.  
Upon removing it from the table, I respectfully request that council approved the nomination.

This respectfully concludes my October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Mayor's Report.

#### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMENT** - Councilor McCallion shared that the committee met on Friday, at 9:30. They discussed the FRP Malley Farm request for proposal, which will be going out to see who in interested in taking over the Boy's Home. They just want to lease it. City Manager reported what has been going on with the downtown project. City Staff discussed that they are going to partner with Google to put Somersworth on the map.

**PUBLIC SAFETY** – Councilor Pepin stated that the committee had a broad discussion about the juvenile curfew ordinance. They discussed that a notification system would be needed to notify the kids that it is 9pm. The Fire Chief did some research, and the cost to reinstall the air horn system would be about \$10,200. The cost for a siren will be approximately \$30,000. Police Department was asked for statistics of the crime rate of that age group. Three years of records show a very low crime rate. Vandalism in the parks is the main issue, with broken tables, windows, spray painting, and the cost has been minimal. Most of the thefts are from 17-20 years old, and drug related activities. The committee also discussed that this would be a burden on the department, to transport children, and release to adult, or the Police Department would have to keep that child in protective custody in some way. The police officer is then off the street and assigned to that person until they can be released to an adult. The motion to support the ordinance was defeated, 3-1.

Police Chief discussed a 3 year grant to put another officer on the street. It is 50/50 grant; the city would have to pay half the salary which is about \$45,000. A resolution will be coming soon. The committee made motion to support a resolution, which passed 4-0.

Fire Department is looking into grants to add on five new call fire fighters, and at the end of next year, we should have 18 fire fighters back on. If there is money left in the grant, the Fire Chief is looking to utilize that money in some other area.

Paul Robidas from American Ambulance reported response time is about 8 minutes. They are working on a program with Avis Goodwin to hand out medications to families with heroin addictions. He also reported that Life flight will be stationed out of Sanford,

ME. If needed, we could have a transport within 8 minutes. It's a big improvement over the past.

Market Basket parking lot traffic pattern is a concern. The theatre is going through a revamping. The committee suggested sending this to the planning board.

**PUBLIC WORKS & ENVIRONMENT** – Councilor Sprague stated that the committee met on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am. The committee voted 4-0 in favor the purchase of a utility van for the Water Distribution Division. The current van is not working and the Distribution Supervisor is working out of a Chevy Impala, an old police cruiser.

They had a brief update from Waste Water Operator, Jamie Wood about the Blackwater Road Pump Station. There are some State Revolving Funds, bonds and grants. It was just an update; no action needed to be taken.

Joe Ducharme briefed the committee on how to strengthen the trench permit process. They discussed the procedures of other communities. There should be an annual application and approval process for contractors to dig in the streets, so, at least, the city will know the qualifications of those digging in the streets and if they are bonded.

A motion was made and passed, 4-0, to contract with Dubois & King from Bedford, to be the new contracted City Engineer. CMA is no longer the contracted engineer. They wanted to be able to contract different projects within the city.

Severino and Hoyle & Tanner both spoke about the library roof drain issue. They looked at every option. They needed the Council to vote on the moratorium. Going into the road is the best option.

Some of the committee reviewed the presentation for the Pavement Maintenance Plan. They looked at some slides and made some suggestions for the presentation that was shared tonight.

The City of Dover has paved the area by Chili's. The tack was driven over all night and ruined some of our striping. He believed City Manager Belmore has reached out to Dover since then and Doug Steele has acknowledged that they did ruin some of our striping and they will take care of it.

**RECREATION** – Councilor Pepin said the committee met on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30am. They discussed the work that Timberland did at Willand Pond, Noble Pines and Mass Dam. They were amazed at the work that was done.

They also discussed renaming of the Mast Point Dam to Timberland. They are concerned that if we start renaming parks, etc., other companies that do an awful lot for our community that would not appreciate this. They suggest a plaque to be placed at the Mass Point Dam acknowledging Timberland and also Liberty Mutual.

They discussed the Recreation and School partnership. If an organization wants to use the park, they go to one place to get approval. They would like to get the groups together and get input from the organizations.

Marcel Lilacs will be planted at the Flanagan Center at ward 3 with a plaque. These should be planted by Election Day.

The committee discussed the camera situation at the pines. They are still trying to get a second quote.

## REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER.

VISION 2020. - Councilor Collins said they met. They discussed a presale marketing handout for real estate agents. Some of the things to be included are schools, parks, businesses, points of interest, Municipal services, HDC interest to help promote presale activities. The idea is to help promote pre-sales activities for people looking to buy real estate.

Secondly, they discussed redefining the original mandate and objective of the committee. They'd like to redevelop the Somersworth Monopoly game for existing businesses and make it accessible for next Christmas.

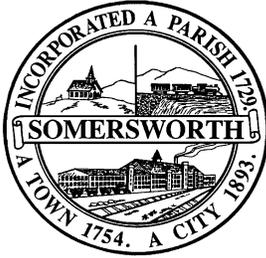
The committee also discussed how to promote and support the Pumpkin Festival and all good things Somersworth, and how to play a bigger part in the upcoming things like festivals.

PARADE COMMITTEE – Councilor Dumont said the committee met tonight, and they are moving forward very well. We are very excited about this year's parade.

HDC – Councilor Dumont said the committee met on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is the third meeting in a row where they have had workshops before the regularly scheduled meeting. They have finally come up with a change to the application to renovate HDC homes; it a lot more user friendly with explanations on the front. Property owners don't really know the benefit of belonging to belonging to an HDC. They have identified 300 properties in the residential area of the Historic District. That is a task that will be discussed in a workshop at the next meeting. They are working hard.

BUILDING TRADES TRUST COMMITTEE – Councilor Pepin said the committee met on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. They met the new teacher; discussed the program and how he will be teaching the kids. They accepted the resignation of Danny Daigle and had a discussion of possible new members. They discussed new projects. There was a mobile home that was given to them; the refurb never happened, but they sold it and made \$1000, which went back into the trust. The Forest Glade Gazebo was finished by Code Enforcement. They have a framed mobile home, but they do not have the frame to go under it to move it. They are in the process of seeing how they can get that moved. Talked about the Career Technical renovation and that the location will be changed.

## 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, October 2, 2015

**SUBJECT:** City Manager's Report for Monday, October 5, 2015  
City Council Agenda

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*6:00pm City Council Workshop*  
*Re: Presentation from Contracted City Engineer on City Road Pavement Management Plan*

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*Lay on the Table (under Section 12 of Agenda)*

**Ordinances**

**A. Ordinance No. 24-15 Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 3.G, Permits and Reserved Parking (Re-referred to the Public Safety Committee).**

*Old Business (under Section 13 of Agenda)*

**Ordinances**

**A. Ordinance No. 7-16 Adopt New Chapter 13F, Juvenile City Curfew.** If approved, this Chapter would be added to our Police Offenses Ordinance section (Referred to Public Safety Committee). Further City Attorney advice was provided via email on Friday.

**Resolutions**

**A. Resolution No. 5-16 Elderly Tax Exemption.** The projected tax rate impact if adopted (0.03 cents). This Resolution is written to be effective next year. Therefore, the tax impact would ***not*** be realized this fiscal year (Referred to Finance Committee).

- B. Resolution No. 8-16 To notify the City Tax Collector that the City Council shall not accept a Tax Deed on Certain Properties Subject to an Unredeemed Tax Lien.** Finance Committee reviewed these properties and supports passage of this Resolution. These properties are all Manufactured Housing Units in four different parks. If approved, the City Council can reverse this action at any future meeting on any of these properties.

*New Business (under Section 14 of Agenda)*

**Ordinances**

- A. Ordinance No. 9-16 Amend Chapter 13 Police Offenses, Section 3.1.D., No Parking Anytime.** The Traffic Safety Committee reviewed this proposed Ordinance change at their September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and supports this change. Please see attached map highlighting proposed changes to Pemberton Lane.

**Resolutions**

- A. Resolution 9-16 to Participate in the HealthTrust Inc.** The Finance Committee is sponsoring this Resolution that our Health Insurance Provider is requiring. Please see attached application and agreement from HealthTrust.

**Other**

- A. Discuss Library Drainage Issue and Pavement Moratorium Waiver.** Attached is a copy of the City Ordinance Chapter 12 regarding the five (5) year moratorium on excavating on newly constructed roads. The Public Works & Environment Committee discussed a request to cut the new sidewalk in front of the Library and the newly paved Main Street section at their recent meeting on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Committee voted 3-1 to waive the moratorium. City staff was asked to explore the possibility of re-directing the building road drains out the back into the catch basin in the alley. More information will be provided at the meeting as further discussions with the contractor are planned for Monday.

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

**A. Information Items:**

- 1. Economic Development Office.** Attached is a copy of one item you would find on the website located on our home page under "Getting Started" then scroll down to "Developer's Guide to Somersworth".
- 2. HealthTrust-Return of Surplus.** Attached is a memorandum detailing the receipt of HealthTrust Surplus Funds. I am pleased to report that the City received \$132,579 that will revert to our general fund balance.

**B. Attachments:**

1. City Attorney Certifications Two (2).
2. New Market Tax Credit Programs information from EDM Christine Soutter.
3. City Road Pavement Management Plan Presentation.

LAY ON TABLE.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-15 AMEND CHAPTER 13, POLICE OFFENSES, SECTION 3.G, PERMIT AND RESERVED PARKING, (RE-REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE)

School Board At-Large - Kyla Yoder

Councilor Messier made a motion, seconded by Councilor Collins, to remove from the Table. All were in favor.

Councilor Messier made a motion, seconded by Councilor Soldati, to approve the nomination.

Councilor Dumont thanked Mrs. Yoder for the phone call. It was a pleasant conversation and she made him feel very confident about this appointment.

Councilor Collins shared that he has known her for a number of years. They have children (in school) together. She is a dedicated mother and person in the community and he thinks she will make a fantastic appointment.

The confirmation of the nominee was approved by roll call vote, 8-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

ORDINANCE NO. 7 -16 ADOPT NEW CHAPTER 13F, JUVENILE CITY CURFEW

Motion was made by Councilor Sprague, Seconded by Councilor Messier, for indefinite postponement of this ordinance. The motion passed by Roll Call Vote, 6-2, with Councilors Soldati and McCallion opposed.

RESOLUTION NO. 5-16 ELDERLY TAX EXEMPTION.

The Finance Committee was not ready to report on this Resolution at this time. Councilor Dumont, seconded my Councilor McCallion, moved to table Resolution 5-16, with all in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-16 TO NOTIFY THE CITY TAX COLLECTOR THAT THE CITY COUNCIL SHALL NOT ACCEPT A TAX DEED ON CERTAIN PROPERTIES SUBJECT TO AN UNREDEEMED TAX LIEN.

A motion was made by Councilor Sprague, seconded by Councilor Messier, to adopt the resolution.

Councilor McCallion said this is a negative amendment. He would like to make a friendly amendment that they put them in a hat and pick out a few to see which ones we take. Maybe next year.

Councilor Pepin said this was discussed in Finance Committee. We tried to get a fair and balanced process. There is a formula and we are trying to be fair to everybody. The word is getting out there that we will address the problem. We have a system and if you neglect, we will collect on it. We should tighten up a little more but that is a discussion for next year.

Councilor Sprague said, for those at home who may be wondering what we are voting on here, this is deeded properties that are manufactured homes. After 2 years of nonpayment of taxes, the property is deeded. With manufactured properties, it takes a while to get the fees up to the point where we would want to displace someone from their home. The owners also have to pay park rent, so we would have to pay park rent for any manufactured home that we take. We have made a lot of progress since people have realized that we will take the properties. We are not ignoring all manufactured properties. If we pick them out of a hat, we will have to boost our legal resources, because he thinks we will be in front of New Hampshire Superior Court very quick if we start picking out of a hat or dart board.

City Manager Belmore said it is a lengthy process. The City has to work with an attorney, evict people out of their homes, pick up insurance, park rents, upkeep of the mobile home unit. It is a lengthy process and a process that the finance committee has worked on diligently for years. The process is moving forward.

Councilor Dumont said he is not sure of the state of New Hampshire's rules, but he has had experience with tax lien auctions in other communities. Which relieves the municipality of the responsibilities. They are paying taxes to the city. Is this legal in the State of New Hampshire?

City Manager Belmore explained that we lien the unit, but not the land. The land is owned by the land owner. The owner of the unit rents the land from the land owner.

Councilor Dumont went on to say that there are other communities outside of New Hampshire have block auctions each year, for those with liens against the property. The lien is paid off at auction.

City Manager Belmore said he would have more conversation with the Finance Director, but we cannot sell the tax lien. We have to evict the person and take position of the house.

Councilor Sprague said they cannot make a profit on the sale of properties, as a municipality of the state of New Hampshire. So anything above and beyond the tax amount do would go to the property owner.

The ordinance was adopted by roll call vote, 7-1, with Councilor McCallion opposed.

## NEW BUSINESS.

### ORDINANCES

#### ORDINANCE NO. 9-16 AMEND CHAPTER 13 POLICE OFFENSES, SECTION 3.1.D., NO PARKING ANYTIME

This ordinance shall remain in first reading until the October 19<sup>th</sup> scheduled City Council meeting.

## RESOLUTIONS

### RESOLUTION 9-16 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTHTRUST INC.

This resolution shall remain in first reading until the October 19<sup>th</sup> scheduled City Council meeting.

### CLOSING COMMENTS BY VISITORS.

Chief Crombie wanted to remind everyone that the Senior Picnic will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at the Somersworth Housing this year. All the food is free and there will be over 100 gifts. This is being spearheaded by the Somersworth Police Department. He encourages everyone to attend. Councilor Tapscott hasn't missed one. They Mayor will be crowning the king and queen this year.

### CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS.

Councilor Dumont stated that he would like to endorse the Senior Picnic. It's a wonderful event. The report from the Public Safety Meeting said the grant was for 10 call firefighters, but they have only hired 5. He would like clarification on that.

He voted for lifting the moratorium on the street, although he felt anxiety. He is concerned for those who have other reasons for digging up the street. Many things are shot down because of the moratorium.

He applauds Vision 2020 and the idea of the monopoly game. He said he has 8 of the antique versions left in his garage.

Elderly tax exemption is still in Finance Committee. It's not a big change from the one prior to, but it shows that there are different things we can do. We are very unique in some aspects of how we do things, but he appreciates it because he loves New Hampshire.

Councilor McCallion said, over the past couple of weeks, attending different things in the community, it is really a time for people to volunteer. With the Nascar race, Somersworth missed by 20 volunteers, which is sad because of the amount of money that was on the table. If someone could just get everyone together and unite, they would be a lot stronger and there would be a lot more opportunities. Bow, Bedford, and Portsmouth have the same programs. He's been pushing towards this. It will strengthen the community.

He went on to say, we have this momentum with the downtown, with a lot of positives, sports events, festival events, parks, but we can't take our hands off the wheel here. There are a lot of things that are going good and he thinks everyone should stop and take some notice.

Councilor Sprague said the staff needs to address a few issues; the seams in the center of the new pavement between Blackwater Rd and Sinclair needs to be crack sealed while the weather is good so water isn't infiltrating and freezing during the winter. The crossing

signal at Market Basket is not in sync with the turning light. It tells you to cross and the turning lane of traffic is going. He witnessed this as he was turning into Market Basket this week.

Because it is Fire Prevention Week, he wanted to remind everyone to check their smoke detector and buy a carbon monoxide detector too.

We have a lot of bad press at times, and he saw a few things on the news this week. He is referencing the sting that was on WMUR and NH1. He understands the police department needs to enforce the laws, but it seems like a slap in the face to this Council when they pass certain ordinances to prohibit certain things from happening in this community to preserve our image, then to have our very own agencies out there doing things, standing in the medians. So we need to think before we do things if we want to improve our image. We do not need to be creating our own bad press.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

Councilor Messier, seconded by Councilor Dumont, made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.

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Trish Harris, City Clerk

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Dana S. Hilliard, Mayor