



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH
Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Dana Hilliard and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: Friday, May 29, 2015

SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for Monday, June 1, 2015
City Council Agenda

Lay on the Table (under Section 12 of Agenda)

Ordinances:

- A. Ordinance No. 21-15 Amending Chapter 19 Zoning Ordinance, Section 20, Sign Regulations.** This Ordinance is sponsored by the Finance Committee. This change would allow COAST to solicit advertising for placement on bus shelters located in Somersworth.

Unfinished Business (under Section 13 of Agenda)

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance No. 22-15 Amending Chapter 4, Personnel Rules and Regulations by Amending Section 11.3 Titled "Health Insurance".** Non-Union employees' health insurance contributions would increase by 1.5% on July 1, 2015. By passage of this Ordinance, Water/Wastewater Union employees would also have their contribution to health insurance premiums increased by this amount.

Nominations, Appointments and Elections

- A. Planning Board – Jeremy Rhodes, Term to Expire 04/2018**

New Business (under Section 14 of Agenda)

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance No. 23-15 Transfer Between Departments.** The Public Works budget is over expended due to winter storm maintenance related costs for sand/salt, equipment repairs, and fuel. Debt Service requires a small amount of funding due to estimated interest on bond issues for the High Street overlay and the combination downtown improvements/Somersworth Berwick bridge bonds. Absent any last minute emergencies, this is our best projection on any department shortfall. I would like to underscore that the bottom line of the budget is projected to be in the black by approximately \$240,000. Furthermore, although we generally would transfer funding from contingency, most of this funding has been approved to be used for the transportation enhancement improvements. This Ordinance is scheduled to be reviewed by the Finance Committee at their June 1st scheduled meeting. This is a housekeeping action item; that is, the City Charter allows the City Manager to transfer funds within a Department, however, it takes Council action to transfer funds between Departments.
- B. Ordinance No. 24-15 Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 3.1.G, Permit and Reserved Parking.** This is an amendment to recent legislation passed by the City Council. It is being brought forward by the Public Safety Committee. I recommend a Public Hearing prior to the next regular Council meeting on Monday, June 15th at 6:45 p.m.

Resolutions

- A. Resolution No. 38-15 To Restrict the Use of Municipal and Transportation Improvement Fund for the Purpose of Funding in Whole or in Part Improvements to the Local or Regional Transportation System Including Roads, Bridges, Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities.** Attached is a copy of the State Law, RSA 261:153, as well as the minutes of the meeting when this passed. This new legislation would restrict the use of these funds and eliminate its use for public transportation and intermodal facilities. I recommend a Public Hearing prior to the next regular Council meeting on Monday, June 15th at 6:50 p.m.

Other

- A. COPS Grant Application.** Attached is a memorandum from Chief Crombie regarding the opportunity to apply for a Department of Justice (DOJ) Grant to create two (2) new police officer positions. Before I authorize any submittal, I instructed the Chief to provide this information for City Council's review. The DOJ Grant only covers about 50% of the cost for a police officer position and after three (3) years the City picks up 100% of the cost.

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

A. Information Items:

- 1. Police Department Budget Cuts for FY 2016.** As directed by the City Council I have approved the \$30,000 in the Police Department Budget line item cuts as recommended by the Police Chief.
- 2. Winter Road Salt.** FYI: We will be going out for a joint Request for Proposal (RFP) with the Cities of Dover, Concord, Keene, Laconia, Nashua and Rochester for rock and solar salt.
- 3. Police Department Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).** Please review the memorandum that I received from Chief Crombie regarding the JAG award of \$11,694. The City Council will need to vote to accept this award. I respectfully request the proposed vote be placed on the June 15th City Council Agenda.

B. Attachments:

1. City Attorney Certification, One (1).
2. Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard – Economic Impact for Calendar Year 2014