
February 2020

City of Somersworth, NH

One Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878
603-692-4262

City Hall Hours

Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Visit our
website



February City Council Meetings

Monday, February 3 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m.

City Manager Reports for the
City Council Meetings available [here](#)

Committee Meetings this Month

Site Review Technical Committee

Wednesday, February 5 at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 12 at 10:30 a.m.

The Mayor's Corner



"Inaugural Address January 7"

Two hundred and ninety one years ago a journey began; A journey to fill the desires of every human to live in a community where one would be celebrated and not fall victim to the venom of discrimination, A journey to bask in the freedom of inalienable rights, where one could define their success and themselves based upon the talents and abilities they were born with and not be confined by the chains of tyranny, exploitation, inequality, or injustice.

Our journey would guide the souls of our founders. From the shores and nations of England, Ireland, Canada and Greece they would travel, inspired by the Hilltopper spirit of honoring, protecting and cherishing each other as brethren. These values

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m.

School Board Meetings

Monday February 17

6:30 p.m: School Board Budget Presentation.

6:45 p.m: School Board Budget Public Hearing

7:00 p.m: School Board Meeting

Conservation Committee

Wednesday, February 12 at 6:00 p.m.

Traffic Safety Committee

Wednesday, February 19 at 2:00 p.m.

Planning Board

Wednesday, February 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Historic District Commission

Wednesday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m.

would embody their being, and be passed onto the generations of their lineage. From these desires, dreams and hopes the foundational blocks of community would be casted and laid. With each generation of Hilltoppers, we would continue to add to the mosaic of the quilt we began, bound together by the fabrics of its ancestry's language, traditions, customs and practices. We would not surrender who we were but instead as a unified Somersworth family celebrate our differences, honor who we are and who as a community we have become.

[Read more](#)

Mayor's Office Hours

Monday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

People are welcomed to stop by during this time. Or, if you prefer, you can make an appointment by calling Brenda at 692-9503 or email

bbreda@somersworth.com



NOTICE TO VOTERS CITY OF SOMERSWORTH, NH PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

The polls will be open from 7:00am to 7:00pm.

The polling locations are:

Ward 1 City Hall, One Government Way

Ward 2 Somersworth Historical Museum, 157 Main St.

Ward 3 Flanagan Community Center, 25B Bartlett Ave.

Ward 4 Charpentier Apartments, 28 Franklin St.

Ward 5 Romeo J. Messier Building, 218 Main St.

Residents may register to vote at their polling place on Election Day. Residents should bring

proof of identity, age, domicile, and citizenship with them to register to vote. If a resident does not have this information, they may sign an affidavit.

According to State law, voters are now required to show identification at the time of voting.

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Office of the City Clerk
at 692-9511 or 692-9512.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

FEBRUARY 11, 2020 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Absentee ballots for the February 11, 2020 Presidential Primary Election are available in the Office of the City Clerk. Any person who will be absent from the City on the date of the election or who is physically disabled or unable to come to the polls because of a religious observance or an employment obligation, may vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots can only be given only to the person and who meets at least one of the above criteria.

The Office of the City Clerk is open from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday
(open until 6:00 PM on Wednesdays).

Any questions or concerns regarding absentee ballots should be directed to the Office of the City Clerk at 692-9511 or 692-9512.

Training for Warming Shelter Center Volunteers

**Saturday, February 15 at
Somersworth City Hall - Council Chambers
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

Please join the Mayor for this enlightened volunteer training. This training is designed to prepare volunteers to assist at local Warming Centers or at the County's Extreme Cold Emergency Shelters. These shelters will allow homeless residents in our region to stay safe during dangerous winter weather events. The training is aimed to provide an excellent overview of resources available to homeless residents in our region. It also includes an introduction on the practice of conflict de-escalation techniques and strategies, and Narcan training. I urge anyone interested in helping at a warming center to attend this training.





Somersworth Veterans Memorial Bricks

On June 4, 2018, Mayor Dana S. Hilliard announced the formation of the Veterans Park Memorial Commission to re-design the Stein Park Veterans Memorial on Main Street so that it would become a living tribute to all the brave men and women who answered the call of defending this great nation.

The Somersworth City Council demonstrated their commitment to the development of this living tribute by adopting a Resolution pledging their support. As part of this campaign, the City, with the support of the Somersworth Veterans Park Memorial Commission, has launched a Brick donation campaign. Bricks can be purchased by anyone wishing to honor a Veteran who has served our Country.

Bricks are 4" x 8" inches and red, which will be engraved with the name, military rank, branch and years of service for individual service members and will be selectively placed throughout the entrance walkway of the Memorial. The cost of a Brick is \$50. There are a total of 800 Bricks available. Brick donations may be made online www.somersworth.com or by calling the Somersworth City Hall Finance Office at 603-692-9506.

A limited number of 12" x 24" inch granite pavers are also available for purchase and engraving at the cost of \$1,500. Please call Somersworth City Hall Finance Office at 603-692-9506 for availability.

Please don't wait to show your support of our Veterans. A groundbreaking ceremony is being planned for Memorial Day 2020, followed by a grand opening and dedication ceremony to be held on Veterans Day 2020.



Department of Public Works & Utilities



From left to right: Mike Bobinsky, Director of Public Works & Utilities; Jamie Wood, Chief Operator at Somersworth Wastewater Treatment Facility; Sharon Nall, Wastewater Engineering Bureau with NHDEP.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Receives Award for Energy Efficiency

The City of Somersworth Wastewater Treatment Facility was recognized as a top Energy-Efficient Treatment Plant for the New England Region and received an award recognizing that at the annual New England Water Environment Association Conference in Boston on January 29, 2020. Jamie Wood, Chief Wastewater Operator, received the award on behalf of the City. The award recognizes innovation, efficiency, and best practice in the operations of a wastewater treatment plan.

No change to Residential Trash and Recycling Collection Services on Presidents Day

The City would like to let all Somersworth residents know that there will be no delay in the collections for trash and recycling during the week of February 17, 2020. President's Day is on Monday, February 17, and solid waste and recycling collection services will occur on this day. **Reminder for residents to have your trash and recyclables out on the curbside in front of your residence by 7 am.**

Winter Parking Bans

Reminder to check the City's Winter Ban Parking Information Phone line during snow events to confirm if a City parking ban is in effect; that number is 603-692-9131. Also check the City's website for updates and or signup for alerts to receive emails when an emergency parking ban is in effect. The sign-up is under the

Somersworth Fire

Be Prepared

Be prepared for winter storms. The New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency has a lot of good information at www.readynh.gov so pay it a visit!

- Colder weather means that heating appliances will be working longer and harder. Furnaces should be serviced once a year to insure that optimal performance is being generated. In this light, those who have power venters attached to their oil or gas furnaces that exit through the basement wall to the outside should be sure that they are NOT blocked by snow and ice. If they are, carbon monoxide poisoning within the structure is a real possibility.
- Homeowners who have fire hydrants adjacent to their property are asked to help the City and shovel out in front of them after snow storms. The Fire Department and the DPW appreciates your assistance.



For questions regarding permits please call the Fire Department at 692-3457

As one chapter ends, another begins!
Come say goodbye to Fire Chief Keith Hoyle

**FRIDAY
FEBRUARY
28**

CHIEF HOYLE RETIREMENT FAREWELL

**TIME
10-2**



195 MAPLE ST. SOMERSWORTH, NH 03878

SOMERSWORTH FIRE DEPT.

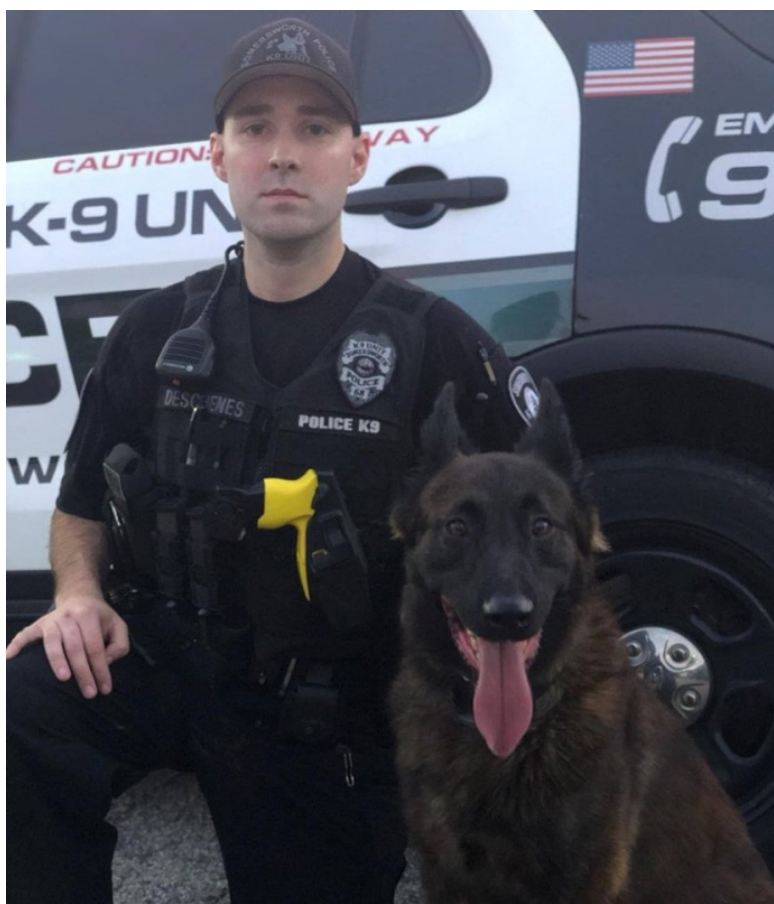
PLEASE STOP BY ANYTIME FROM 10AM-2PM TO WISH FIRE CHIEF KEITH HOYLE FAREWELL AS HE WRAPS UP HIS FINAL DAY AS THE SOMERSWORTH FIRE CHIEF ENDING HIS LONG DEDICATED CAREER IN THE FIRE SERVICE.

CAKE, REFRESHMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS AT NOON

Any questions, please contact Cheryl at 692-3457

Somersworth Police & Friends





Somersworth Police Department's K9 Bravo to get Donation of Body Armor

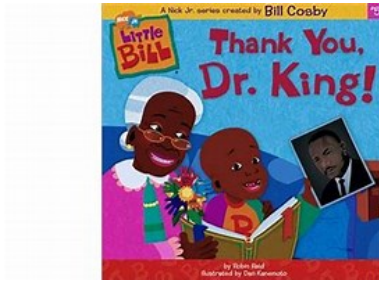
Somersworth Police Department's K9 Bravo will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Bravo's vest is sponsored by a fundraiser hosted by the Piscataqua Obedience Club and will be embroidered with the sentiment "Gifted by Piscataqua Obedience Club". Delivery is expected within eight to ten weeks.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity located in East Taunton, MA whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. The non-profit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor for their four-legged K9 officers. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provided over 3,500 U.S. made, custom fitted, NIJ certified protective vests, in 50 states, through private and corporate donations, at a value of \$6.9 million dollars.

The program is open to dogs actively employed in the U.S. with law enforcement or related agencies who are certified and at least 20 months of age. New K9 graduates, as well as K9s with expired vests, are eligible to participate.

K9 Bravo and his handler, Officer Deschenes have attended a 14 week certification process on tracking and patrol dog. Being certified, K9 Bravo has conducted successful tracks and assisted in a number of apprehensions and arrests of subjects.

Currently K9 Bravo and Officer Deschenes are attending a training at the Police Academy for certification in narcotics detection.



On Friday, 1/24/20 Chief David Kretschmar read “Thank You Dr, King! “ by Robin Reid, to all the students at Idlehurst Elementary School as part of their “Cool to Be Kind” Week.

Thank you Chief Kretschmar!



2020 Alarm Permit Renewal Notices

Were due to the PD by the end of January. The fee is \$20.00. If you own a fire alarm or security system alarm, ordinances require you to obtain a permit. If the alarm is for a residence and you are 65 or older, your permit is free. If you have questions, please call Karen at the Somersworth PD at 603-841-2917 or email:

kcantrell@somersworth.com

PERMIT PARKING FOR SNOW EMERGENCIES – NOBLE STREET AND RIVER STREET

Last year, the Somersworth City Council passed an ordinance to allow permit parking during snow emergency parking bans on Noble Street adjacent to the Noble Pines Park, and on River Street adjacent to Jules Bisson Park.



Permits to park there during parking bans resulting from a snow emergency are available from November 1st thru March 31st at a rate of \$20.00 per month, and are available at the Police Department.

There are 17 spaces available on Noble Street and 5 spaces available on River Street. Permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis. The permits are only valid during the dates listed when there is a snow emergency parking ban in effect.

Vehicles parked in this area with a valid permit must be moved by 8 a.m. on the day following the completion of the parking ban to allow for snow removal from the designated area. Vehicles not moved per the Ordinance will be subject to being towed at the owner's expense.



In NH, there have been 7-traffic related fatalities in 2020. Two involved pedestrians. It's up to everyone to share the road safely.

**Equal Respect, Equal Responsibility
Road Responsibility, Pedestrian Safety**

Some helpful Tips for Walking at Night

- Wear light-colored clothing and reflective clothing or vest to be visible
- Use a headlamp or flashlight to light up your route.
- Be predictable – make a practice of staying on one side of the path rather than weaving randomly from side to side.
- Use crosswalks when available.
- Walk on roads single file – especially on roads with curves and heavy traffic.
- Hang up. Eyes up. Distracted walking/driving is dangerous for pedestrians and motorists.
- Layer up. Stay warm and layer up.
- Drivers –Make sure to look before opening your door into traffic, oncoming bicyclists or pedestrians.
- Drivers – slow down and never drive impaired.

FREE A.L.I.C.E. Training for Businesses

We are offering FREE Active Shooter Training for any business in Somersworth. ALICE stands for Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate.

Somersworth Detective Rick Campbell gave active Shooter Training to almost 400 employees at Contitech Thermopool in October. If your Business / Company is interested contact Chief Kretschmar at dkretschmar@somersworth.com for more information.

Did you miss Drug Take Back Day?

We have a locked medication drop box in our station lobby that you can put your unused or expired prescription medications in at any time of the day or night.



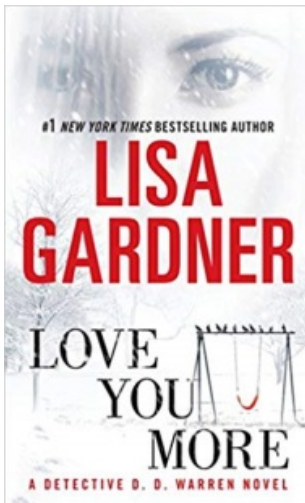
Somersworth Crime Line:

You can leave anonymous information at 692-9111 - 24 hours a day/7 days a week.



Somersworth Police Department also uses our Facebook page to give important community information.

What's Happening at Somersworth Library



What Somersworth is Reading in February

"Love you More" by Lisa Gardner

WHO DO YOU LOVE?

Brian Darby lies dead on the kitchen floor. His wife, state police trooper Tessa Leoni, claims to have shot him in self-defense, and bears the bruises to back up her tale. For veteran detective D. D. Warren it should be an open-and-shut case. But where is their six-year-old daughter?

AND HOW FAR WOULD YOU GO . . .

As the homicide investigation ratchets into a frantic statewide search for a missing child, D. D. Warren must partner with former lover Bobby Dodge to break through the blue wall of police brotherhood, seeking to understand the inner workings of a trooper's mind while also unearthing family secrets. Would a trained police officer truly shoot her own husband? And would a mother harm her own child?

. . . TO SAVE HER?

For Tessa Leoni, the worst has not yet happened. She is walking a tightrope, with

nowhere to turn and no one to trust. She has one goal in sight, and she will use every ounce of her training to do what must be done. No sacrifice is too great, no action unthinkable. A mother knows who she loves. And all others will be made to pay.

Children's Room Update

Due to some flooding to our lower level in December, our Children's Room has needed to be closed. We are currently in the process of making repairs. While we cannot give an exact opening date yet, we are hopefully for mid-February. Please know that we do have a small selection of children's books still available for check out on our main level. We apologize for the inconvenience, but we hope to see you enjoying the Children's Room again soon!



Children's Story Times

We are currently offering Stories and Coloring on Fridays at 10am. We do not have access to our craft supplies, but what's more fun than coloring?? Once our Children's Room is re-opened we will have an update on our Story Times so please check our Facebook page, the website or give us a call.

FINE FREE

Bring Back Those Overdue Items on Fine Free Friday!

Next one is Friday February 7

Every month we have "Fine Free Friday" on the first Friday of the Month. Return any overdue items on that day and you won't owe a thing, no matter how long you have had the item.

What's Happening in Recreation



Somersworth Recreation

Father/Daughter Valentine's Dance

Thursday, February 13th

Idlehurst Elementary School Café

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Daughters in grades K-6



Music ♥ **Photo Booth** ♥ **Prizes**

Girls in grades K-6 and their dads (or grandfathers, uncles, brothers, etc.) are invited to share a fun filled evening as they dance the night away to the latest tunes. There will be a professional DJ and Photo Booth provided as part of the ticket cost. Please note families are asked to donate a finger food or dessert to share at the dance.

Ticket Info:

\$25 per couple in advance / \$30 at the door

Tickets can be purchased in advance through the Recreation Office at City Hall from January 6th until February 11th. We accept cash or checks only. After Feb. 11th all tickets must be purchased at the door. There is no extra charge for additional daughters. Please contact the Recreation Office for more information—

603-692-9507 / 692-9508





A new event hosted by Somersworth Recreation &
Somersworth Youth Connection

Senior Luau Party

Monday, March 9th

Flanagan Center Gym– Bartlett Ave

4:00-5:00 p.m.

Free!!



GAMES

REFRESHMENTS

FUN!

RAFFLE PRIZES

GIFTS

Join **Somersworth Recreation** and students from **Somersworth Youth Connection** for this exciting afternoon filled with beach games and lots of activities fit for all physical abilities! We'll have light refreshments, fun music, decorations, and so much more! We encourage participants to dress in your favorite luau or beach themed outfit for a chance to win a prize!



Please RSVP by February 28th to:

Mona Potter: 603-692-9507 mpotter@somersworth.com

Maureen Jackman: 603 692-2126 ext. 1439 mjackman@sau56.org

Transportation provided for Somersworth Housing Residents:

*Please use the sign-up sheet at your Somersworth Housing Authority complex location to register for transportation. For more info contact
Somersworth Housing Authority: 603-692-2864



2020 Somersworth Youth Athletics:

Soccer Programs:



Pee Wee Soccer– Ages 3-4

www.somersworth.com
Somersworth Recreation
Kristen Davenport, Rec Supervisor 603-692-9508
kdavenport@somersworth.com

ROSO Rec Soccer– Ages 5+

Rec & Travel
www.rososoccerclub.com
Matt Caffelle, President

Softball Programs:



SBR Girls Softball League– Ages 4-16

www.sbrfastpitch.com
Charlene DiBenedetto, President
SBRFastPitch@gmail.com

Baseball Programs:



Somersworth Little League– Ages 4-12

www.somersworthbaseball.com
Michael Boehm, President 515-450-7360
michael.boehm42@gmail.com

Somersworth Babe Ruth– Ages 13-15

Dave Witham, Vice President 603-496-0444
onmax2@comcast.net

Football / Cheerleading Programs:



Pee Wee Football– Ages 7-11 &

SORO Flag Football– Ages 5-13
Jeremy Lambert, Coach 603-781-2716
calvin04@comcast.net

Somersworth Youth Football– Grades 7-8

John O'Brien– SYFLtoppers@yahoo.com

Pee Wee Cheerleading–

Melissa Lambert– calvin04@comcast.net

Somersworth Lions Youth Hockey



Ages 5+ (boys & girls)
somersworth.nhlions.org
Peter Houde, President 603-834-3420
SomersworthLionsClub@gmail.com /

Basketball Programs:



Somersworth Recreation Basketball

Youth Recreation Basketball– Grades 1-6
Biddy Basketball– Ages 3-6

www.somersworth.com
Somersworth Recreation
Kristen Davenport, Rec Supervisor 603-692-9508

Somersworth Athletic Association:



Please contact the Somersworth Athletic Association for questions regarding youth sports financial assistance or to learn how your organization can fundraise for upcoming events.

Somersworth Athletic Association– All ages
Dave Nagy, President 978-302-9093

Granite State Track & Field Program:



Granite State Track and Field– Ages 9-14

www.somersworth.com
Somersworth Recreation
Kristen Davenport, Rec Supervisor

Middle School Athletic Programs:



Middle School Athletics– Grades 6-8

Kaley Waterman, Athletic Director 603-692-2126
kkwaterman@SAU56.org

Athletic Programs offered: Fall– Soccer, Volleyball / Winter– Basketball / Spring– Track & Field, Baseball

Somersworth Recreation



Kristen Davenport, Rec Supervisor 603-692-9508
kdavenport@somersworth.com
Mona Potter, Rec Clerk 603-692-9507
mpotter@somersworth.com
www.somersworth.com

Youth programs, special events, field use, parks, & volunteer opportunities

High School Athletic Programs:



High School Athletics– Grades 9-12

Steve Hodsdon, Athletic Director 603-692-2431
shodsdon@SAU56.org

Athletic Programs offered: Fall– Soccer, Football, Volleyball, Spirit, Golf / Winter– Basketball, Ice Hockey, Spirit, Gymnastics / Spring– Track & Field, Baseball, Softball
*Please check with the A.D. about Varsity, JV, Freshman teams (all programs are based on participation #'s)

Somersworth Recreation Volunteers needed!

Several volunteers are needed to help facilitate all of our special events. Tasks include (but are not limited to) decorating, set-up/break-down, registration, line attendants, replenishing food at tables, face painters, etc. If you have a special skill or interest please share with us as we're always looking for new and creative ways to improve our events. High School students are encouraged to sign-up to help with our special events. If you need volunteer hours signed off you must provide the sheet to the Rec Supervisor at the end of the event. Please reach out to Kristen Davenport in the Recreation Office to obtain more information

Winter



Snow

Ice Skating

6:30 am - 7:30 am

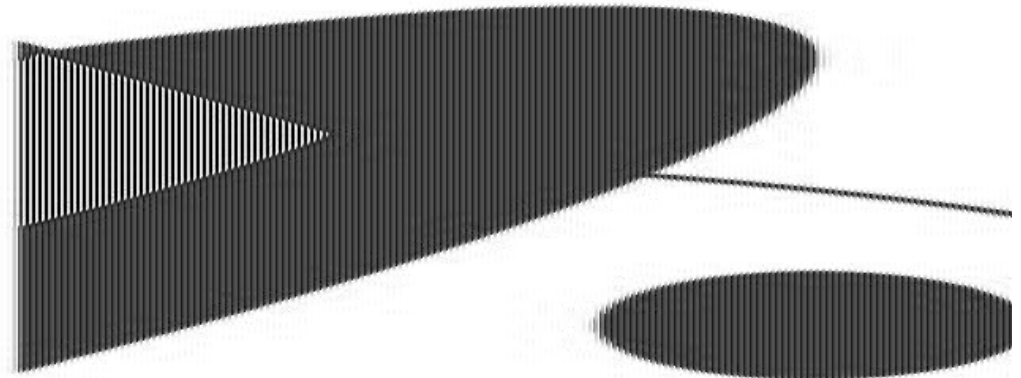
Somersworth

School

Northwestern Road, Dover

THE

COACH





Somersworth Farm to School Keeps Plenty Busy in Winter

The 1st Farm to School meeting of 2020 in January was lively and full of productive conversations. This year our hopes, dreams, and plans include increased maple syrup production, school programming from Seacoast Eat Local, continued extended learning at Bartlett Ave., the addition of the Malley Farm

Community Gardens as an extended learning location, support for school-based sustainability clubs, expanded school compost output, and improved outdoor learning spaces at our schools. To our superintendent and facilities director; numerous teachers, paras, and school nurses; community members and partnering organizations; and a below-quorum number(that's a good thing!) of City Councilors and School Board members-- thank you for your leading of focused group discussions, providing valuable input, and offering your time, knowledge, perspective, and insights.



ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
**HEAD START &
EARLY HEAD START**
NO COST TO
ELIGIBLE FAMILIES.



EARLY HEAD START provides quality education and prenatal services in your home for expectant moms and children aged 0-3.

HEAD START offers quality preschool in a classroom setting or in your home for children aged 3-5 years old, including children with disabilities.

More family programs available.

(603) 652-0990 ext. 1116
headstart@straffordcap.org



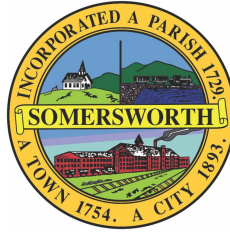
Head Start & Early Head Start are programs of the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County.



City Hall will be Closed on Monday, February
17 for President's Day.
City Hall will re-open on Tuesday, February 18
at 8:00 a.m.

Quality Service, Quality Schools, Quality Somersworth
Vision 2020

"We Believe in Somersworth"



Proud Past, Bright Future
