



Minutes of City Council Meeting Monday, January 24, 2022

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by His Honor, the Mayor, Dana S. Hilliard and, upon roll call, the following Council members were present: Pepin, Vincent, Dumont, Austin, Michaud, Witham, Gerding, Cameron and Messier.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Pepin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no Public Hearings scheduled for this meeting.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS

There were no opening comments by visitors.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approve Minutes of the City Council meeting held on January 10, 2022

Councilor Austin made a motion to approve all items in the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Councilor Pepin and passed 9-0.

COMMENTS BY CITY COUNCILORS

There were no opening comments by City Councilors.

COMMUNICATIONS

Resident Letter from Karl Cincotta:

I wanted to take a brief moment to share a very positive experience I had with a Stewart's Ambulance Service Crew. On January 9, 2022 my 84-year-old mother was walking down her driveway on Davis Street to retrieve her newspaper and unfortunately it had been raining slightly with temperatures at freezing and she did not recognize her driveway was a sheet of black ice. She slipped and fell striking her head and upper torso. She was bleeding and in significant pain. A neighbor witnessed the incident and called 911 for emergency service and another neighbor called me at home. I live less than a mile away and when I arrived there were two young ladies that responded on the ambulance and I couldn't be happier with the compassion and professionalism they exhibited while attending to my mother. I am a retired Firefighter/Paramedic of many years of service and it's hard for me not to be in control in an emergency situation, however, these two made it very easy for me to just stay back and keep my mouth closed. The fall also caused a cardiac event, she required staples to her head wound, and she suffered a significant arm injury. She had a four-day hospital stay and will require at home PT/OT and nursing. With all of her injuries these two kept her calm and comfortable while they treated her and also left me with a very comfortable feeling in them taking her away to the hospital. I'm hoping someone could recognize these two for the outstanding job that they do and also let them know that we the citizens appreciate their dedication

to a job in a time that is very difficult, and also in a time where they really don't get enough recognition for the mentally and physically draining requirements of the job that they do every day.

Thank You

PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS AND DISPOSAL THEREOF BY REFERENCE OR OTHERWISE

There were none.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayors Report for City Council Meeting January 24th, 2022

On Saturday September 17th, 1796, Washington delivered his farewell address from his Presidency. During that address our 1st President, founding father warn us against the following;

"However [political parties] may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely in the course of time and things, to become potent engines, by which cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men will be enabled to subvert the power of the people and to usurp for themselves the reins of government, destroying afterwards the very engines which have lifted them to unjust dominion".

While the role of political parties at the national and state level will continue to be a widely examine discussion as our democracy matures, in the Hilltop city we have made a clear choice of our wishes for their involvement in local politics. Our charter was amended to remove the influence of what Washington warn us against, the creation of stagnation and polarization of democratic functions. Washington was also able to foresee how individuals within a republic would become more loyal to the party banner, as opposed to weighing the value that individual citizens to contribute in elected position.

Out of the 13 cities in NH, only two have partisan races at the local level; Manchester, and Nashua. The other 10 cities are able to safely witness for a distance how partisanship has led to further divisiveness at the local level and added an unnecessary layer to governing.

The political officiation of locally elected officials should hold no bearing upon their abilities to make decision based upon what is good for Somersworth. Nor, should it become a factor in recruitment or support of citizens seeking office. This is now the second time that I have witnessed and warned our community about how local and some state partisan organizations continue to move their hand into our non-partisan races. This evening I am calling upon the government operations Committee to again review the foundation of our non-partisan structure and examine how an official piece of legislation could be crafted to reinforce the values of our local elections and what level of limitations and restraint should be requested upon partisan organizations to exhibit. I will again warn that our eyes should be open to the direction that some within our community are trying to take us, unless we wish to mirror how Washington and Concord are functioning then it is now time to protect the local system we have created.

While the Monarch Butterflies are enjoying the warmth of the Mexican heat and sun, now is the perfect time for the Recreation Committee to begin planning and seeking partners on the re-design of the Ash Street Park into the Pollinator Garden. I am requesting that the Recreation Committee in Partnership with Councilor Gerding who is Chairing the Mayors Monarch Butterfly challenge begin planning, designing, and building partnerships so that the park re-design can begin and be completed in 2022. I would forward to hearing the ideas and proposals.

12 Nominations, Appointments and Elections:

- Under nominations, appointments and Elections; In accordance with Council Rule 17 Appointments, the follow is being brought forward this evening for a confirmation vote;

Kevin Dodd for Appointment as a Member of the Conservation Commission with a Term to Expire January 2025

Also, under nominations appoints and elections, in accordance with Council Rule 17 Appointments the following is being brought forward and placed in nomination.

Anthony Jones for Appointment as an Alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjust with a Term to Expire January 2025

In accordance with Council Rule 17 this nomination will remain upon the table until the next regular scheduled meeting

This respectfully concludes my January 24th, 2022 Mayors Report

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance Committee – Councilor Witham said the Committee last met on January 12. The Committee was presented proposals for a solar array on the landfill property and reached a consensus to have a representative from Amersco, whose proposal had the best financial package for the City, to come in and present at a workshop in the future. The Committee also discussed a necessary culvert replacement project on Rocky Hill Road. Witham explained the reason the cost estimate doubled was due to the need to replace a deep and very old water main, as well as the project requiring a precast box culvert. Councilor Witham said the Committee also reviewed and supported a \$14,000 fee for a consultant for the EPA's Nitrogen general permit since the City is not in the consortium. He explained being in the consortium would prevent the City from budget control. He also described discussions the Committee had on the list of tax deeded properties they evaluate each year. He explained the reason for waiving tax deeds on properties that either have hazardous materials needing to be remove or that have only been delinquent for a short while. The Committee also discussed and approved supporting a grant that was secured for body-worn cameras for the police department. They agreed to have \$17,000 of the City's portion come from the cable fund and the remaining \$10,000 come from the drug forfeiture account.

Government Operations Committee – Councilor Michaud stated the Committee discussed and voted to support adding Juneteenth to the list of holidays for non-union employees. They also voted to support extending the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement so that renewal periods for the Comcast and Breezeline agreements occur at approximately the same time. Michaud said the Committee also supported the idea of a Resolution being crafted to request the removal of partisanship from the major political parties from Somersworth's local elections.

Economic Development Committee – Councilor Dumont said the Committee reviewed two proposals for development of the former Breton's Cleaners property on Winter Street. The Committee agreed to have both parties come in for a more in-depth presentation. He updated Council that the City is still waiting to hear from a few groups interested in the former police station. The Route 108 corridor improvement project has been delayed and the project budget nearly doubled. Dumont also mentioned that a notice of violation has been sent to Walmart for storage containers taking up parking spaces more than what their site plan allows.

Public Safety Committee – Councilor Pepin stated the Committee discussed and voted unanimously to support a Resolution for a grant to obtain body-worn cameras for the police department. He said the company the Police Department chose, WatchGuard, is the same company who manufactures the cameras in the police cruisers and requested a second reading due to the timing of the obtaining the grant. Councilor Pepin said Chief Kretschmar also recently applied for a grant worth \$75k to assist with increased overtime for police officers due to covid. Pepin also mentioned a report from both the

Fire and Police Chiefs that calls to the warming center on Willand Drive have increased in quantity. He added that the calls for service for more serious issues have also increased. Pepin mentioned that Chief Kramlinger recently applied for a grant for a life assistance tool as well as a thermal imaging camera. He also noted that the Somersworth Fire Department's training goes above and beyond other neighboring municipalities.

Public Works and Environment Committee – Councilor Witham stated that Manager Belmore updated the Committee on proposals received for a solar array on the landfill property. He said the Committee reached a consensus to have the company, Amersco, come in and provide more information regarding their proposal. The Committee also unanimously agreed to support bidding the project to replace a culvert on Rocky Hill Road. Witham explained that the proximity of a 16' deep water main that was found to also need replacing has increased the project's cost. This also forced the necessity to install a precast box culvert. Witham said the Committee also discussed a request from a developer for a property in Rollinsford to connect to the City's water. The Committee discussed the fact there is no Intermunicipal Agreement with Rollinsford and, therefore, Somersworth would have no ability to lien a property for failure to pay their water bills. A vote to support allowing the developer to connect to City water failed. The Committee also discussed and unanimously supported the approval of a \$14,000 consultant fee for the EPA Nitrogen Permit. Councilor Witham stated the Committee discussed Councilor Vincent's request to consider metered parking on Market Street. The Committee agreed to revisit the item once more information was provided. The Committee also supported a request from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Commission to release New England Cottontail Rabbits at Malley Farm as an effort to repopulate an endangered species. Witham also said the Committee heard updates regarding the BETA sidewalk survey and asked to have a full Council Workshop including BETA since the information is pertinent to all Councilors. Witham also noted the request from the Committee to reinstall "No Parking" signs on Cemetery Road after construction was completed went fulfilled very quickly.

Recreation Committee – Councilor Cameron stated the Committee met just prior to this evening's Council Meeting and heard a message from Mayor Hilliard regarding Ash Street Park becoming a pollinator garden for Monarch Butterflies. The Committee also discussed a Planning Board recommendation to discontinue the basketball courts on Blackwater Road. The Committee noted that they are in poor shape and there are two other parks in the City that offer a place to play basketball. The Committee unanimously supported the removal of the hoops and nets on the Blackwater Road basketball court. The Committee also unanimously supported the release of New England Cottontail Rabbits at Malley Farm and endorsed the sole use of the Little League to use the ball fields adjacent to the former National Guard property. At the meeting, Recreation Supervisor Kristen Davenport also updated the Committee on the basketball programs which are mostly full and the Valentines dance on February 9th.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER

Hilltop Mental Health and Wellness Committee – Councilor Austin attending the meeting on January 19 where strategies were discussed to educate the Public via video and print media on the work of the Commission. The Commission also discussed the next goal of holding a summit to gather constituency and professionals.

Fire Station Building Committee – Councilor Pepin said the Committee met last on January 13 and was updated by Manager Belmore on some delays the project is encountering. He said the delays were caused by low levels of PFAS in some of the dirt being excavated and could create a 2-month delay which could cost as much as \$95,000. The Committee also discussed the contaminated soils and will soon be honing in on where they can be used on site. There is also a delay receiving the new generator so the team is working to figure out how to connect to the current generator.

Ward Boundary Review Committee – Councilor Pepin said the Committee last met and discussed previous work done on reviewing ward boundaries. He said the State needs Somersworth to use the recently updated 2020 census data in the review. More information is being compiled before the Committee meets again.

Joint City Council School Board Commission – Councilor Dumont attended the Joint Commission of City Council and School Board on January 20. A discussion took place on the sustainability of the Somersworth Youth Connection and consider the grant situation for the program. He informed Council they will be getting the full budget proposal soon after being vetted by the Finance Committee. The Joint Commission voted unanimously to support not applying for the grant and to support the funding plan proposed

Planning Board – Councilor Witham attended a recent Planning Board meeting where a Tractor Supply store was approved. He also explained that waivers were granted for a four-unit apartment building on Summer Street and Main Street. Witham also said a 7-unit subdivision on Green Street has been moved along to the Conservation Commission for their recommendation.

Lamprey Regional Cooperative – Councilor Messier said he attended the Lamprey Regional Cooperative Meeting where the 2022 operation and closure budget was approved.

City Manager's Report

Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Dana S. Hilliard and City Council Members
FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager
DATE: Friday, January 21, 2022
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for Monday, January 24, 2022 City Council Meeting

*6:30 p.m. Non-Meeting
Union Negotiations*

New Business (under Section 15 of Agenda)

Ordinance

- A. Ordinance No. 6-22: Supplemental Appropriation for the City's Share of a Grant Match for the Purchase of Police Department Body-Worn Cameras.** The Finance Committee met on January 12th and voted to support this Supplemental Appropriation. As required by City Charter, a Public Hearing needs to be scheduled for the next regular meeting on February 7, 2022.

Resolution

- A. Resolution No. 20-22: 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.** The Finance Committee took up this matter at their January 12th and voted to support Resolution No. 20-22 & Resolution No. 21-22 to the full Council. This recommendation is based on the past practice to deed the most delinquent properties and allow more time for others to come into tax payment compliance. Attached is information provided to the Finance Committee on January 12th.

- B. Resolution No. 21-22: To Notify the City Tax Collector that the City Council Shall Not Accept a Tax Deed on Properties Located on Wexford Lane and Blackwater Road Subject to an Unredeemed Tax Lien.** The recommendation of ‘not to accept’ is based on the land containing buried debris; i.e., potential contamination clean-up costs.
- C. Resolution No. 22-22: To Authorize the City Manager to Enter into a Grant Agreement with the United States Department of Justice to Purchase Body-Worn Cameras for the Police Department.** The Public Safety Committee took up this matter at their January 13th meeting and voted to support this Resolution to accept this Grant for body-worn cameras. Council should consider waiving rules to pass this evening as all Grant award acceptance documents must be submitted no later than January 31, 2022. Attached is a Memorandum and relevant documents from Chief Kretschmar regarding this Grant.

City Manager’s Items (under section 11 of Agenda)

Informational Items

- 1. Upcoming City Council Workshop Meeting.** Monday, February 7 at 6:00 p.m. – Joint Meeting with School Board regarding the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Development.
- 2. City Council Workshops.** I have discussed the following Workshops with Mayor Hilliard and I will be working to lock in dates for these issues:
 - A.** Solar Array presentation with potential Development Team
 - B.** Sidewalk Improvement Plan with Consultant and Staff
 - C.** Property Maintenance Code Enforcement with Staff

Attachments

- 1. Department Head Reports**
- 2. City Attorney Certifications Four (4)**

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Nominations being introduced for a Council Confirmation Vote:

- A. Anthony Jones for Appointment as an Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire January, 2025

The nomination will remain open until the next scheduled meeting.

Nominations for a Council Confirmation Vote:

- A. Kevin Dodd for Appointment as a Member of the Conservation Commission with a Term to Expire January, 2025

Councilor Witham made a motion to Appoint Kevin Dodd as a Member of the Conservation Commission with a Term to Expire January, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilor Austin and passed 9-0.

LAY ON THE TABLE

There were no items on the table.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

- A. **Ordinance No. 6-22** - Supplemental Appropriation for the City's Share of a Grant Match for the Purchase of Police Department Body-Worn Cameras

Ordinance No. 6-22 will remain in first read until the call of the Chair. Public Hearing scheduled at the call of the Chair.

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution No. 20-22** - 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

Resolution No. 20-22 will remain in first read until the call of the chair.

- B. **Resolution No. 21-22** - To Notify the City Tax Collector that the City Council Shall Not Accept a Tax Deed on Properties Located on Wexford Lane and Blackwater Road Subject to an Unredeemed Tax Lien

Resolution No. 21-22 will remain in first read until the call of the chair.

- C. **Resolution No. 22-22** - To Authorize the City Manager to Enter into a Grant Agreement with the United States Department of Justice to Purchase Body-Worn Cameras for the Police Department

Councilor Pepin made a motion to waive Council Rules to allow for a second reading of Resolution No. 22-22. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vincent and passed 9-0. Clerk Slaven performed a second reading of Resolution No. 22-22.

Councilor Pepin made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-22 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vincent.

Councilor Witham said body cameras are important for transparency and the safety of our officers. He said he was pleased to be sticking with the same company who the Police Department utilizes for their cruiser cams and touted the compatibility as helping to save on man hours on pulling records.

Councilor Vincent said this was a different age in law enforcement and officers are always being tested on their decision-making.

Councilor Gerding thanked Chief and City Staff for putting the grant together.

Councilor Messier said he will support this Resolution and added that there are many situations where the police are being filmed by a third party and it is nice to see the officer perspective in order to protect the officers.

The motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-22 passed 9-0 by roll call vote.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS

There were no closing comments from visitors.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Pepin thanked Chief Kretschmar for helping his efforts to encourage residents to install a blue light on their house by bringing everyone on City Council a blue lightbulb. He mentioned that some residents have begun sending him pictures of their lights and he appreciates the support. Councilor Pepin cited a publication that showed that 198 police officers lost their lives last year in the line of duty. He said there is news every day about defunding the police and it is not okay. He said the police need funding in order to continue to train.

Councilor Vincent shared a story that his neighbor liked the light he had up at his residence so he purchased one for him as well.

Councilor Dumont said he was pleased to see a Tractor Supply Store coming in to town. He also stated his dissatisfaction with the discontinuance of the basketball courts on Blackwater Road. He said they are used frequently and removing them is sending the wrong message. Dumont said he appreciates the reports about the calls for service to the warming center on Willand Drive. He said that location is doing its job, but doesn't think Somersworth homeless residents utilize it the way Dover or Rochester homeless residents do. He said it has a substantial economic impact and is pessimistic of Dover's plan to sell the building. Dumont mentioned it would be nice to see a blue line in the middle of Market Street to show support for the police department and thinks City Council should consider it. Dumont said he thinks the impact of partisanship on Somersworth is minimal and doesn't necessarily agree with considering a Resolution requesting its removal, but added that he would go along with it. He stated he doesn't want to be restrictive of peoples' lifestyles and wants Somersworth to continue to be a welcoming city.

Councilor Austin had no closing comments.

Councilor Michaud thanked Chief Kretschmar for the blue lightbulb.

Councilor Witham said he recently had a conversation with the City Engineer regarding costs to install a fog line on a street. He said the estimate came to roughly \$23,000 for perspective to Councilor Dumont's blue line request. Witham stated the warming center on Willand Drive has certainly made an economic impact on the City. He said pedestrian traffic was heavy on a road where it had not been before so extra street lights were installed. In addition to the service calls from first responders, the Public Works Department is continuously being called to remove shopping carts from the sides of roads leading up to and on Willand Drive. He added that often goes unrecognized that the property the warming center is on now used to generate approximately \$18,000 in tax revenue. He stated he is glad we have the warming center; however, the math needs to be reworked.

Councilor Gerding said he was excited to start work on the Pollinator Garden at the Ash Street Park. He encouraged residents to send in any ideas or input they may have. Gerding mentioned the organization Clean Energy New Hampshire which the City can subscribe to for \$250 annually and receive information on energy and policy grey areas.

Councilor Cameron said she is looking forward to working with Councilor Gerding on the Ash Street Park Pollinator Garden and thanked Chief Kretschmar for her blue light.

Councilor Messier said the Walmart Conex boxes are most likely there due to supply chain issues. He doesn't have a problem with them taking up spots in their own parking lot and he sees this as their


own business decision. He is worried about the message we are sending businesses by sending the notice of violation.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Michaud made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gerding and passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Slaven, City Clerk

	City of Somersworth – Ordinance	
	Ordinance No: 6-22	SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CITY’S SHARE OF A GRANT MATCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF POLICE DEPARTMENT BODY-WORN CAMERAS

January 24, 2022

THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH ORDAINS THAT pursuant to Section 7.7(A) of the City Charter:

The annual budget for the City of Somersworth for Fiscal Year 21-22 is amended as follows:

Appropriate \$27,160 (Twenty-Seven One Hundred Sixty Thousand dollars) with \$17,000 (Seventeen Thousand dollars) from the Cable Fund and \$10,160 (Ten Thousand One Hundred Sixty dollars) from the Drug Forfeiture Account to the Capital Outlay Section of the General Fund budget as follows;

Revised Budget	Amendment	Revised Budget
\$ 138,475	\$ 27,160	\$ 165,635

Approved as to Funding:

Scott A. Smith
Director of Finance and Administration

Recorded by:

Jonathan Slaven
City Clerk

Background:

This Ordinance appropriates a funding for the City’s share (50%) of a local match for a grant award from the Department of Justice for the purchase of body-worn cameras to be used by the Somersworth Police Department.

This Ordinance requires a public hearing and requires a 2/3 majority vote of the City Council after the public hearing subject to Section 7.4.1 and. Section 7.7 (A) of the City Charter.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by:</i> David A. Witham Donald Austin Martin P. Dumont, Sr.	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Ordinance 6-22

History

First Read Date:	01/24/2022	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

01/24/2022

Ordinance No. 6-22 will remain in first read until the call of the chair. Public Hearing scheduled for next City Council meeting.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Gerding		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On	Ordinance 6-22	PASSED	FAILED



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: **20-22**

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

January 24, 2022

WHEREAS RSA 80:76 directs the Tax Collector, after 2 years, to execute to the City a deed of the land subject to the real estate tax lien and not redeemed, and

WHEREAS the Governing Body of a municipality may refuse to accept a tax deed on behalf of the municipality because in its judgment, acceptance and ownership of the real estate would subject the municipality to undesirable obligations or liability risks, or for any reason that would be contrary to the public interest,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Tax Collector be notified that for those reasons the City shall refuse to accept the tax deeds on property located at the following locations:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Tax Map/Lot</u>
47 Colonial Village	81-47M
92 Crystal Springs Way	82-36M
73 Crystal Springs Way	82-49M
65 Crystal Springs Way	82-57M
207 Sherwood Glen	87-207M
332 Sherwood Glen	87-332M
336 Sherwood Glen	87-336M
409 Sherwood Glen	87-409M
629 Sherwood Glen	87-629M
703 Sherwood Glen	87-703M
10 Ringer Drive	88-5M

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> David A. Witham Donald Austin Martin P. Dumont, Sr.	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 20-22

History


First Read Date:	01/24/2022	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

01/24/2022

Resolution No. 20-22 will remain in first read until the call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Gerding		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On	Resolution 20-22	PASSED	FAILED

	<p style="text-align: center;">City of Somersworth – Resolution</p> <p>Resolution No: 21-22</p> <p>TO NOTIFY THE CITY TAX COLLECTOR THAT THE CITY COUNCIL SHALL NOT ACCEPT A TAX DEED ON PROPERTIES LOCATED ON WEXFORD LANE AND BLACKWATER ROAD SUBJECT TO AN UNREDEEMED TAX LIEN</p>
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January 24, 2022

WHEREAS RSA 80:76 directs the Tax Collector, after 2 years, to execute to the City a deed of the land subject to the real estate tax lien and not redeemed, and

WHEREAS the Governing Body of a municipality may refuse to accept a tax deed on behalf of the municipality because in its judgment, acceptance and ownership of the real estate would subject the municipality to undesirable obligations or liability risks, or for any reason that would be contrary to the public interest,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Tax Collector be notified that for those reasons the City shall refuse to accept the tax deeds on property located at the following locations:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Tax Map/Lot</u>
5 Wexford Lane	35-12A
7 Wexford Lane	35-12B

Note – It is believed that these properties contain contaminated soils and /or buried debris and an uninhabitable mobile home.

Authorization	
<p><i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i></p> <p>David A. Witham Donald Austin Martin P. Dumont, Sr.</p>	<p><i>Approved:</i></p> <p>City Attorney</p>

City of Somersworth – Resolution 21-22

History


First Read Date:	01/24/2022	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

01/24/2022

Resolution No. 21-22 will remain in first read until the call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Gerding		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On	Resolution 21-22	PASSED	FAILED

	City of Somersworth – Resolution
	Resolution No: 22-22 TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO PURCHASE BODY-WORN CAMERAS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

January 24, 2022

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth has applied for a grant through the United States Department of Justice to purchase body-worn cameras to be used by the Police Department, and

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth has received notification of a Grant Award in the amount of \$27,160; and

WHEREAS, the Grant will allow the City of Somersworth to purchase body-worn cameras for the Police Department by providing 50% of the cost of the body-worn cameras and requiring a local match of 50%;

EXPLANATION OF TOTAL PROJECT GRANT BREAKDOWN:

Department of Justice Match	=	\$ 27,160
City Match	=	<u>\$ 27,160</u>
Total Purchase Cost	=	\$ 54,320

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to execute any documents and agreements necessary for the grant's execution, and take any and all other such actions relative to this grant determined to be in the best interest of the City.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> David A. Witham Donald Austin Martin P. Dumont, Sr. Martin Pepin Kenneth S. Vincent Denis Messier	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 22-22

History

First Read Date:	01/24/2022	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:	01/24/2022		

Discussion

01/24/2022

Councilor Pepin made a motion to waive Council Rules to allow for a second reading of Resolution No. 22-22. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vincent and passed 9-0. Clerk Slaven performed a second reading of Resolution No. 22-22.

Councilor Pepin made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-22 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vincent.

Councilor Witham said body cameras are important for transparency and the safety of our officers. He said he was pleased to be sticking with the same company who the Police Department utilizes for their cruiser cams and touted the compatibility as helping to save on man hours on pulling records.

Councilor Vincent said this was a different age in law enforcement and officers are always being tested on their decision-making.

Councilor Gerding thanked Chief and City Staff for putting the grant together.

Councilor Messier said he will support this Resolution and added that there are many situations where the police are being filmed by a third party and it is nice to see the officer perspective in order to protect the officers.

The motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-22 passed 9-0 by roll call vote.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin	X	
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent	X	
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont	X	
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin	X	
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud	X	
At Large Councilor	Witham	X	
At Large Councilor	Gerding	X	
At Large Councilor	Cameron	X	
At Large Councilor	Messier	X	
TOTAL VOTES:		9	0
On	01/24/2022 Resolution 22-22	PASSED	FAILED