

Minutes of City Council Meeting Monday, February 5, 2024

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Gerding and, upon roll call, the following Council members were present: Pepin, Vincent, Gibson, Paradis-Catanzaro, Michaud, Messier, Witham, Goodwin, Cameron, and Messier

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Gibson led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE – OUR NATIVE ANCESTRAL AMERICANS

Mayor Gerding read the Recognition of Indigenous People – Our Native Ancestral Americans

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no public hearings scheduled.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting held on January 24, 2024
- B. Letter of Resignation from Member of the Library Board of Trustees Becky Patten

Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro made a motion to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented.

Councilor Vincent requested that the letter of resignation from Becky Patten be read aloud. There was no object from the Council.

Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro withdrew her motion.

Deputy Clerk Ramsey read the letter of resignation.

Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro made a motion to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gibson and passed 9-0 by voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

COMMENTS BY CITY COUNCILORS

Councilor Witham requested City staff to research some legislation concerning the roll call order for voting after the second reading, as he recalls the roll call would start with the Councilor who sponsored the Resolution or Ordinance and not always with Ward 1 Councilor.

Councilor Vincent agreed with Councilor Witham's comments.

PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS AND DISPOSAL THEREOF BY REFERENCE OR OTHERWISE

There were no presentations of petitions and disposal thereof by reference or otherwise.

MAYOR'S REPORT

I would like to start off my report tonight with an update to the council, and to the city, about my **meeting with the Mayors of Dover and Rochester** last week regarding the Willand Warming Center. In attendance at this meeting were not only Mayors Carrier and Callaghan, but also Amy and Melena who run the warming center, and County Commissioner George Maglaras and county staff. As I promised I would do at the last council meeting, during the meeting I aired the concerns of this council, and in our discussions we proposed a number of potential solutions, ideas, and future agenda items.

We started off by discussing the concerns with the appearance of the warming center, the trash that was noticed around the building, the carts, as well as the location of the porta-potties. These concerns were all noted, and I was reassured that keeping the building and the surrounding area clean was a top priority, and that the staff will be extra diligent about cleaning up. During our discussion about the porta-potties, I highlighted that perhaps the back of the building was most desirable, but was told that there were no cameras that covered this side of the building. I highlighted this as a safety concern, and with support of the warming center staff as well as the Mayor of Dover, requested that 3 more cameras be purchased to cover this area of the building. Pending the installment of these cameras, I will readdress the location of the porta potties to see if they can move into this new location.

We then discussed the increased volume of people that have been utilizing the warming center, and I highlighted this council's (and my own) concerns that the current numbers are unsustainable for the current building. It was shared with me, as it was shared with us at the last meeting, that the increase in numbers is due to the loss of the New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program, which was used to temporarily house people in hotels. Since these specific funds are no longer available, many people have turned to the warming shelter for safety this year, thus increasing the numbers. However, as was also shared with us, with this increase in use, there has only been a 3% increase in calls, relative to this increased population - meaning, the increase in calls is only 3% higher than it would otherwise would be for the now increased number of people attending the warming center. That being said, the other mayors and I agreed that we would like to have more detailed reports on those utilizing the warming shelter, including information on the number of people 55 years of age and older who are using it.

From here, we continued to discuss the future sustainability of the warming shelter for next year, and future years. I expressed concerns that the current building is not capable of handling the numbers of people that are using it. Many agreed that we are not likely to see a decrease in use. That being said, I asked the tri-city mayors that we begin to look into other possible buildings and options for next year. This is very much in the early stages, but many agreed that the current building likely cannot handle another year of being near- or over-capacity, and thus it is important to find a better location that is more well-suited for the numbers we are seeing.

Our last discussion item was about housing, and what can be done. We all agreed that we should meet further about this specific item, because it's a large one to tackle, but there are also so many things being done by each community that we could benefit from sharing and learning about. One potentially helpful item that was discussed was seeing if HUD and the Feds would be able to expand the housing local authorities, however this would require congressional approval. That being said, I plan to forward this to our congressional delegation, and have since already reached out to staff for Congressman Chris Pappas regarding \$12 million of newly announced federal funding specific for combatting homelessness.

Also on my Mayor's report this week, I'd like to thank Debbie Evans, Michelle Masse, and all the Staff at **Somersworth Housing Authority** for showing me around the office last week! It was great to get to meet everyone, and learn about the extensive, and extremely vital work that they do at the SHA. There are so many amazing things that the Housing Authority has done for this city, I'm so appreciative of them all taking the time to have me and educate me about their work.

This evening, there was a **Special Meeting** held jointly between the City Council and the School Board regarding the 2024-2025 school budget. I want to reiterate to the public what I said in that meeting; I recused myself, and will continue to recuse myself on matters specific to the school budget, due a what could be perceived as a potential conflict of interest, seeing that there is a middle school teacher position being discussed as one of the potential cuts. However, I have asked that Deputy Mayor, David Witham, report out during agenda Item 12, Reports of Special Committees, about tonight's special budget meeting, as details of this meeting would be something I would normally cover during my Mayor's Report.

Also, a reminder that we are still accepting submissions for the **Mayor's Quarterly Art Show**. Four times throughout the year, the Mayor's Office will display new artwork submitted by residents of Somersworth in order to showcase the culture, talents, and creativity of our diverse community. Artwork can be any medium and size, as long as it will fit comfortably within the Mayor's Office. Please consider submitting your work for consideration. The deadline for submissions for 2024 will be March 1st, 2024. Submit a picture of your artwork to **mgerding@somersworthnh.gov**, including the name of the artist, size of the work, medium, and artist's description of the work. Submitted artworks will be judged and chosen by the Mayor's Commission for Arts and Culture, and the first round of work will go on display in the Mayor's Office starting April 1st, 2024 through June 30th, 2024.

Lastly, I would like to say happy **Black History Month**! I encourage everyone to celebrate our Black leaders, community members, and neighbors, both locally and nationally, that have helped to make our country a more just and equitable place. Black History Month is not only a time to celebrate the culture and experiences of African Americans and BIPOC peoples, but it also serves as a time to reflect on the struggles and challenges that they have overcome and still face.

With gratitude, I respectfully conclude my Mayor's Report for February 5th, 2024.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Economic Development Committee – Councilor Goodwin reported that the Committee had a meeting this evening at 6:00 p.m. and began with an onboarding discussion to bring the new members up to speed on the objectives of the Committee and the prior projects. The Committee then talked about previous priorities and new goal setting items to work on moving forward.

Public Safety Committee – Councilor Pepin informed everyone that the Committee is meeting on Wednesday, February 7th at 4:00 p.m.

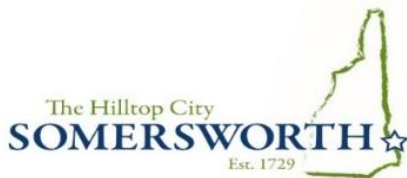
REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER

City Council / School Board Joint Budget Workshop – Councilor Witham reported that the City Council and School Board met earlier this evening at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the 2024-2025 proposed budget. He stated that the School Board and Superintendent presented a budget that included input from school leadership. Councilor Witham explained that there are four components to the City's budget which are the City, County, local school, and State school and all those portions are put together by the City Manager and sent to the City Council for final approval around March 15th. He stated that this year is particularly challenging because the tax cap limitation is pronounced this year due to the City going through a City-wide property revaluation year. He explained that during a revaluation year, the City cannot utilize any increased property value calculations. Councilor Witham added that the School is seeing a reduction in their revenue from aid from the State. He also added that the school shared their struggles preparing the budget and coming up with items to cut from the budget, and came forward with a tiered outline describing those cuts. Councilor Witham mentioned that the contractual obligations and fixed costs are not covered by the allowable increase within the tax cap.

E-911 Committee – Councilor Pepin reported that the Committee met on January 31st and discussed the assignment of addresses on Willand Drive to accommodate the sports dome, but that two out of the nine businesses do not want to change their address and believes this issue will require a public hearing and a Council vote.

School Board – Councilor Messier reported that the Board reviewed the budget, and they congratulated three students who will be performing in the New Hampshire All State Music Festival, and got to see the new uniforms that the purchased through fundraising.

City Manager's Report



Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Matt Gerding and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: Friday, February 2, 2024

SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for February 5, 2024 City Council Meeting

6:30 p.m. - Non-meeting / Somersworth Association of Clerical Aides (SACA)

Unfinished Business (under Section 15 of Agenda)

Resolutions

- A. **Resolution 30-24: To Authorize the City Manager to Convey a Distribution Utility Easement to Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH), Doing Business as Eversource.** Again, City Council has already approved Easements for Unitil and Consolidated Communications for the new Unitil Natural Gas Facility at the former Turcotte PIT, present City boneyard. Attached is an amended version of the Easement Deed as approved by City Attorney.

New Business (under Section 16 of Agenda)

Ordinances

- A. **Ordinance 8-24: Amend Chapter 34, Exemptions and Credits, Section 34.6, Solar Exemption, to Re-Adopt the Provisions of RSA 72:62 and Limit the Solar Exemption to a Maximum Amount of \$25,000.** The Finance Committee met on January 22nd and supports an Ordinance change to re-adopt the Solar Exemption limiting the Solar Exemption to a maximum amount of \$25,000.00. Attached is a letter that was provided to the Committee from City Assessor Marybeth Walker regarding this revision.

City Manager Belmore requested a Public Hearing to be held at the next scheduled City Council meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. There was no objection by Council.

Resolutions

- A. **Resolution 31-24: 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 trash and debris, ie: potential contamination clean-up costs.
- B. **Resolution 32-24: 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 22nd meeting and voted to support Resolution No. 31-24 and Resolution 32-24. 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 the list of properties that was supplied to the Finance Committee.
- C. **Resolution 33-24: To Authorize the City Manager to use Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act and Contract with ENE Systems of New Hampshire, Inc. to Replace the Air Conditioning System at the Somersworth Police Station.** The Finance Committee met on January 22nd and voted to support replacing the current air conditioning system which has failed. Attached is a Memorandum that was provided to the Committee by Police Chief Tim McLin
- D. **Resolution 34-24: To Authorize the City Manager to Contract with GMI Asphalt, Inc. of Belmont, New Hampshire for Fiscal Year 2024 Road Resurfacing Improvements and to Repair and Reconstruct the Sidewalk on the East Side of Maple Street.** Attached is a summary of the bids received from City Engineer Amber

Hall. The Public Works and Environment Committee and Finance Committee met on January 22nd and voted to support this action.

- E. Resolution 35-24: To Accept Whippoorwill Way and Sandlot Lane as a Public Ways.** The Public Works and Environment Committee met on January 22nd and voted to support acceptance of these two (2) roads providing that certain conditions are met. Attached are related documents to include a “Draft” deed that is being reviewed by our City Attorney; and a memo from City Engineer Amber Hall and our Contracted Engineers, the Horsley Witten Group, providing a certification that the roads are built to appropriate specifications.

Informational Items

- A. FY2024-2025 Geosyntec Contract Amendment for the Somersworth Landfill Superfund Site.** In keeping with past practice, and without objection, I will be signing the Attached Draft Contract Amendment for proposed monitoring work to be done by Geosyntec Consultants as required by the EPA, this would cover FY 24/25. This Remedial Action Services contract outlines our compliance obligations in accordance with the existing EPA Consent Decree and Record of Decision (ROD) as well as other work that may be required by the EPA from time to time. The Contract costs and other associated budgeted expenses are split between the City at 50.5% and GE at 49.5%.

City Manager Belmore added that he will wait to sign this contract after the budget is passed.

- B. City Council Group Photo.** We will be doing a Mayor and City Council group photo on Monday, February 5th at 6:30 p.m. prior to the start of the City Council meeting.
- C. Letter to NHDOT Highway Commissioner.** Attached is a letter that was sent to NH DOT Highway Commissioner William J. Cass regarding the Main Street Water Main Replacement, and a request for the Commissioner to waive NH DOT Policy regulations raised by the District 6 Engineers.

City Manager Belmore also added that City staff has not received any letters of interest for the vacant School Board Ward 5 position and, without objection from Council, he would like to advertise the opening with no due date. There was no objection from Council.

Attachments

1. City Attorney Certifications: Five (5)

Councilor Vincent inquired with City Manager Belmore regarding the possibility of applying for a grant to clean up the properties that the City refrains from taking by tax deed, Manager Belmore stated that he is not aware of a grant if the City does not own the property and he gave an overview of the process the City took for 1 Winter Street.

Councilor Gibson inquired if there is a time frame for the monitoring of the wells for 1 Winter Street that the City needs to adhere to. Manager Belmore indicated that he is not aware of a time frame, its possible that when testing comes back it may indicate we could test less often or abandon some of the wells.

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTION

In accordance with Council Rules 17, Appointments, the following Mayoral Appointment is being brought forward:

- A. Stephen Dow as an Alternate Member to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire February 2027

Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro made a motion to approve the nomination as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gibson and failed by roll call vote 3-5-1. Councilor Pepin, Vincent, Witham, Cameron, and Messier opposed and Councilor Gibson abstained.

- B. James Sweatt as the Ward 4 Ward Clerk with a term to expire December 2025

Councilor Pepin made a motion to approve the nomination as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro and passed 9-0 by voice vote.

LAY ON THE TABLE

There were no items under Lay on the Table.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution 30-24** – To Authorize the City Manager to Convey a Distribution Utility Easement to Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH), Doing Business as Eversource

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a second reading of Resolution 30-24.

Councilor Witham made a motion to adopt Resolution 30-24 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilor Cameron.

Discussion:

Councilor Messier requested clarification that this easement is for the Turcotte Pit because there is an abutting property easement that allows the City to have access for drainage and vehicular traffic. City Manager Belmore indicated that this easement is only for City owned property, and confirmed that there is an abutting property that the City has an easement agreement with but this Resolution does not pertain to that property.

Councilor Vincent indicated that the abutting property owner is present and feels we should inquire with them to see if they are in agreement with this.

Councilor Vincent made a motion to suspend Council Rules to allow comments from Mr. Francoeur. The motion was seconded by Councilor Messier and passed by roll call vote 5-4 Gibson, Michaud, Witham, and Goodwin opposed.

Mr. Francoeur stated that he does not have a problem with the vote this evening because it does not grant the easement for his property. He also stated that he was not aware that someone was on his property doing work and he mentioned that he would appreciate notice of when that takes place, but reiterated that this vote does not pertain to his property and has no issue with the vote.

Councilor Witham stated he opposed the suspension of rules because this vote is for the property that is owned by the City to grant an easement for that property only, and stated that the City could not authorize anything for a property that is not owned by the City. Councilor Witham added that the easement Mr. Francoeur granted for the City to have access to his property does not grant access for anyone but City staff.

City Manager Belmore thanked Mr. Raffety from Unifil for attending the meeting this evening in case there were any questions.

Councilor Vincent apologized if there was any confusion with granting the easement along with having an easement with the abutting property.

The motion passed 9-0

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

- A. **Ordinance 8-24** – Amend Chapter 34, Exemptions and Credits, Section 34.6, Solar Exemption, To Re-Adopt the Provisions of RSA 72:62 and Limit the Solar Exemption to a Maximum Amount of \$25,000

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Ordinance 8-24.

Ordinance 8-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution 31-24** – 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

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Resolution 31-24.

Resolution 31-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

- B. **Resolution 32-24** – 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

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Resolution 32-24.

Resolution 32-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

- C. **Resolution 33-24** – To Authorize the City Manager to use Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act and Contract with ENE Systems of New Hampshire, Inc. of Bow New Hampshire to Replace the Air Conditioning System at the Somersworth Police Station

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Resolution 33-24.

Resolution 33-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

- D. **Resolution 34-24** – To Authorize the City Manager to Contract with GMI Asphalt, Inc. of Belmont, New Hampshire for Fiscal Year 2024 Road Resurfacing Improvements and to Repair and Reconstruct the Sidewalk on the East Side of Maple Street

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Resolution 34-24.

Resolution 34-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

- E. **Resolution 35-24** – To Accept Whippoorwill Way and Sandlot Lane as Public Ways

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Resolution 35-24.

Resolution 35-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS

There were no comments by visitors.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Goodwin stated that he just returned from a vacation abroad and encourages people, if they have the opportunity, to get out there and experience new things to refresh and get a new perspective on what is in front of them.

Councilor Pepin conveyed appreciation for what the Mayor and the City of Rochester and Dover are doing for the homeless, and he mentioned his concern of the potential increase the budget will require in order to be able to offer these services again. With consideration of the proposed School budget being a million dollars over the tax cap he does not feel that the Cities of Somersworth, Rochester, and Dover should be the only Communities funding the warming center considering the people using the shelter are from various Towns, Cities, and Counties. Councilor Pepin reiterated that he is not against helping people in need to have a warm place to go to, but he also feels that it may become a need that is too much for the three Cities to handle on their own.

Councilor Vincent added that he feels the center is a County issue and that the County should take some responsibility for the center's needs.

Councilor Vincent mentioned that he had traveled behind the Somersworth Plaza this past weekend and he noticed some items in disarray that could use some attention, but understands that the Plaza is confusing on who is responsible for upkeep and repairs and he believes that the City is responsible for the façade. Councilor Vincent also expressed appreciation of the City Manager for addressing the concerns he and his constituents have expressed.

Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro commented on how the State of New Hampshire is different compared to other States on how the schools are funded, adding that most states have a broad tax that supports education and that New Hampshire depends on property taxes. She mentioned that the budget that was presented by the School does not add services but maintains the services provided currently. Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro stated that the School Board and City Council are committed to ensuring the students are receiving an adequate education and she looks forward to seeing what the courts can do to uphold what is in place and hopes that the State of New Hampshire increases the funding to the schools.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were brought forward.

NONPUBLIC SESSION

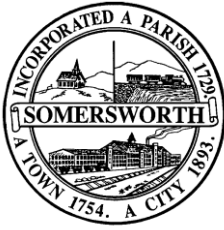
There were no nonpublic sessions scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Vincent made a motion to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro and the motion passed 8-1 by voice vote. Councilor Gibson opposed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ammy Ramsey, Deputy City Clerk



City of Somersworth – Ordinance

Ordinance No: **8-24**

**AMEND CHAPTER 34, EXEMPTIONS AND CREDITS,
SECTION 34.6, SOLAR EXEMPTION, TO RE-ADOPT THE
PROVISIONS OF RSA 72:62 AND LIMIT THE SOLAR
EXEMPTION TO A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF \$25,000**

February 5, 2024

THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH ORDAINS THAT the Ordinances of the City of Somersworth, as amended, be further amended as follows:

Amend Chapter 34, Exemptions and Credits, by deleting Section 34.6, Solar Exemption, in its entirety, and replace it with the following:

Section 34.6 Solar Exemption

The City re-adopts the provisions of RSA 72:62, an exemption from the assessed value for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property which is equipped with a solar energy system as defined in RSA 72:61. Such Solar property tax exemption shall be in an amount of \$25,000 or equal to the added assessed value of the qualifying solar energy system equipment as defined in RSA 72:61, whichever is less. This exemption shall be effective for the tax year that begins on April 1, 2024.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> David A. Witham Denis Messier Martin Pepin	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Ordinance 8-24

History

First Read Date:	2/5/2024	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

2/5/2024

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Ordinance 8-24.

Ordinance 8-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Gibson		
Ward 4 Councilor	Paradis-Catanzaro		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
At Large Councilor	Goodwin		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On	Ordinance 8-24	PASSED	FAILED



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: **31-24**

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

February 5, 2024

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

Authorization

Sponsored by Councilors:

David A. Witham
Denis Messier
Martin Pepin
Kenneth Vincent

Approved:

City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 31-24

History

First Read Date:	2/5/2024	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

2/5/2024

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Resolution 31-24.

Resolution 31-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Gibson		
Ward 4 Councilor	Paradis-Catanzaro		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Goodwin		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On Resolution 31-24		PASSED	FAILED



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: **32-24**

**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**

February 5, 2024

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>
30 Blackwater Road	35-14
79 Crystal Springs Way	82-43M
113 Sherwood Glen	87-113M
325 Sherwood Glen	87-325M
409 Sherwood Glen	87-409M
510 Sherwood Glen	87-510M
691 Sherwood Glen	87-691M
4 Ringer Drive	88-2M
5 Ringer Drive	88-10M

Authorization

Sponsored by Councilors:

David A. Witham
Denis Messier
Martin Pepin
Kenneth Vincent

Approved:

City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 32-24

History

First Read Date:	2/5/2024	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			


Discussion

2/5/2024

Deputy Clerk Ramsey performed a first reading of Resolution 32-24.

Resolution 32-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Gibson		
Ward 4 Councilor	Paradis-Catanzaro		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Goodwin		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On Resolution 32-24		PASSED	FAILED

	City of Somersworth – Resolution
	Resolution No: 33-24 TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO USE FUNDING FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT AND CONTRACT WITH ENE SYSTEMS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, INC. OF BOW NEW HAMPSHIRE TO REPLACE THE AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM AT THE SOMERSWORTH POLICE STATION

February 5, 2024

WHEREAS, the air conditioning system at the Somersworth Police Station has failed and no longer functions properly; and

WHEREAS, City Staff requested quotes from qualified contractors to replace the air conditioning system at the Somersworth Police Station; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee reviewed these quotes with City Staff and determined it is in the best interest of the City to utilize American Rescue Plan Act funds to start this project as soon as possible and recommends awarding a contract to ENE Systems of New Hampshire, Inc. of Bow, New Hampshire for an amount of \$55,240 (Fifty-Five Thousand Two Hundred Forty dollars); and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee also recommends adding an amount of \$4,760 (Four Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty dollars) to this project for contingencies and authorize the City Manager to increase the contract to an amount not to exceed \$60,000 (Sixty Thousand dollars) if needed and determined to be in the best interest of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager may use funding from the American Rescue Plan Act and contract with ENE Systems of New Hampshire, Inc. of Bow, New Hampshire to replace the air conditioning system at the Somersworth Police Station for an amount of \$55,240 (Fifty-Five Thousand Two Hundred Forty dollars); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT an amount of \$4,760 (Four Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty dollars) is included with this project for contingencies and the City Manager is authorized to increase the contract to an amount not to exceed \$60,000 (Sixty Thousand dollars) if needed and determined to be in the best interest of the City.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> David A. Witham Denis Messier Martin Pepin Kenneth Vincent	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 33-24

History

First Read Date:	2/5/2024	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

2/5/2024

Deputy Clerk Rasmey performed a first reading on Resolution 33-24.

Resolution 33-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Gibson		
Ward 4 Councilor	Paradis-Catanzaro		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Goodwin		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On Resolution 33-24		PASSED	FAILED



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: **34-24**

TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO CONTRACT WITH GMI ASPHALT, INC. OF BELMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 ROAD RESURFACING IMPROVEMENTS AND TO REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCT THE SIDEWALK ON THE EAST SIDE OF MAPLE STREET

February 5, 2024

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution 18-24 on October 23, 2023, authorizing the City Manager to prepare and request bids from qualified contractors for road improvements to the following City streets:

West High Street (High Street to Cemetery Road) mill/overlay
Pleasant Street (High Street to Green Street) mill/overlay
Silver Street (Franklin Street to Pleasant Street) mill/overlay
Fremont Street (Silver Street to Garden Road) mill/overlay
Parkview Terrace (Maple Street to end of pavement) shim/overlay
Trench patching due to water breaks; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 18-24 authorized including the repair and reconstruction of the sidewalk on the east side of Maple Street from the Maplewood School to Cemetery Road; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works and Environment Committee reviewed the results of the bids received with City staff and recommends contracting with GMI Asphalt, Inc. of Belmont, New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee reviewed the results of the bids received with City staff and recommends contracting with GMI Asphalt, Inc. of Belmont, New Hampshire for an amount of \$582,455 (Five Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Five dollars); and

WHEREAS, The Finance Committee recommends including a contingency in the amount of \$42,545 (Forty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Five dollars) for the project, and allow the City Manager to increase the contract to an amount not to exceed \$625,000 (Six Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand dollars) if needed, and it is determined to be in the best interest of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to contract with GMI Asphalt, Inc. of Belmont, New Hampshire to make road improvements to the aforementioned City streets and sidewalk improvements as described on Maple Street for a cost of \$582,455 (Five Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Five dollars); and

BE IT FURTHERED RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT an amount of \$42,545 (Forty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Five dollars) is included with the project total for contingencies and the City Manager is authorized to increase the contract to an amount not to exceed \$625,000 (Six Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand dollars) if needed, and it is determined to be in the best interest of the City.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> David A. Witham Denis Messier Martin Pepin	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 34-24

History			
First Read Date:	2/5/2024	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

2/5/2024

Deputy Clerk Rasmey performed a first reading on Resolution 34-24.

Resolution 34-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Gibson		
Ward 4 Councilor	Paradis-Catanzaro		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Goodwin		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On Resolution 34-24		PASSED	FAILED



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: **35-24**

TO ACCEPT WHIPPOORWILL WAY AND SANDLOT LANE AS PUBLIC WAYS

February 5, 2024

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth Planning Board approved a certain subdivision known as Conservation Subdivision Plan for Greenview Subdivision, 138 Rocky Hill Road, Somersworth New Hampshire, Tax Map 54 Lot 1, revised on December 6, 2017, Final Plans signed May 14, 2018 prepared by TRITECH Engineering Corporation, recorded as Plan #115-092 through 115-094 at the Strafford County Registry of Deeds and the roadway was to be accepted by the City of Somersworth; and

WHEREAS, the City Council named Whippoorwill Way and Sandlot Lane as streets by Resolution No. 38-18 on June 4, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the roads known as Whippoorwill Way and Sandlot Lane have been constructed to the satisfaction of the City; and

WHEREAS, the following conditions apply: A 2-year maintenance Surety Bond in the amount of \$125,000 (One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand dollars) is provided acceptable to the City, a deed to the road as well as all needed public utility easements are provided to the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to accept and record deeds to Whippoorwill Way and Sandlot Lane and said ways are hereby accepted as public right of ways subject to the aforementioned conditions.

Authorization

Sponsored by Councilors:

Denis Messier
Martin Pepin
Kenneth Vincent

Approved:

City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 35-24

History

First Read Date:	2/5/2024	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

2/5/2024

Deputy Clerk Rasmey performed a first reading on Resolution 35-24.

Resolution 35-24 will remain in first reading until the call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Gibson		
Ward 4 Councilor	Paradis-Catanzaro		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Messier		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Goodwin		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On Resolution 35-24		PASSED	FAILED