

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Somersworth, NH
April 4, 2016
7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by His Honor, the Mayor, Dana Hilliard, and upon roll call the following Council members were present: Pepin, Soldati, Dumont, McCallion, Messier, Witham, Sprague, Cameron, and Paradis.

The Mayor called for a moment of silence in memory of Robert Crichton.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

MINUTES OF THE GOAL SETTING SESSION HELD ON MARCH 12, 2016.
Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor McCallion, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF WWTF CAPACITY EVALUATION WORKSHOP HELD ON MARCH 21, 2016.
Councilor Paradis, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MARCH 21, 2016.
Councilor Pepin, seconded by Councilor Cameron, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

The City Clerk read a letter from Captain Russ Timmons regarding crossing lights at High Street and Memorial Drive. The letter was accepted, and the Mayor referred the matter to the Public Works Committee then to the Finance Committee.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayors Report for City Council Meeting April 4th, 2016

- A recent successful meeting recently took place between my liaison Christien Dubois and Mayor of Thetford Mines, Quebec Marc Alexandre Brousseau and Stephen Reneaud Principal of one of the local area schools in Thetford Mines. The goal of the meeting was to restart a dialogue between our sister city that has not existed in decades. Christien relayed messages from our community of rebuilding our bonds and exploring cultural opportunities. Both Mayor Brousseau and Principal Reneaud were excited about the endless possibilities which can exist between strengthen our ties.

I am very excited about what materialized as a result of our first official meeting, and look forward to traveling to Thetford Mines with members of the Cultural Commission soon.

- Special thanks to Ron Poulin host of the Sunday Shuffle on 98.7 The Bay for inviting me back as a guest DJ on their Easter Sunday show. I enjoyed sharing some of my favorite classic clubs hits. I hope the listeners Sunday morning was energized as they tuned in.
- Congratulations to Kristen Ducharme and members of the Recreation staff for planning a highly attended and successful Easter Egg Hunt. I enjoyed connecting with residents of all ages at the event and in my official role as Mayor greeting the Easter Bunny to our Hilltop community. The Easter Bunny wanted me to share that he is always excited when he visits our community and that his favorite color is Hilltopper Blue.
- The advancement of societal roots began with the Greek culture. The Founders of Democracy, the Greek society is also accredited for advancements in the arts, math, science and medicine. As one of our founding ethic groups, the Greek community has aided in continuing to Keep Somersworth “On the Move!”
In honor of the Greek Independence day March 25th, and the contributions the Greek society has made in Somersworth, the Greek Flag shared our city hall flag pole last week.
- I was encouraged by the dialog and commitment reflected at the recent Tri-City Mayors Opioid Addiction Crisis summit. Our neighboring cities of Dover and Rochester continue to search and seek for lasting sustainable solutions to combating the Opioid, Heroin crisis. We are all connected together, and this ongoing pandemic knows no borders. I was filled with pride as members of the Mayor’s drug task force reported on some of the successful progressive approaches our community has taken, and was reassured by the ongoing efforts of Sen. Shaheen on Federal level.

It is only by working together and continuing to be compassionate towards those who are addicted and unyielding towards those who continue to poison our neighbors, children and community, that we will overcome this crisis. Together as a team of dedicated citizens, we will offer those in need, hope. While ensuring those who value nothing but the destruction of lives a prison sentence.

- Somersworth continues to progress forward and be “On the Move”, that is event with the 6 million dollar ground breaking of the renovation of the CTC center. The groundbreaking was possible because of our Team approach of governing and the community of elected leaders and citizens to our Hilltop community. I

look forward in the months to come as construction continues and the opening of our 21st century community educational facility this fall.

- Thank you, Teatotaler, for treating me and other members of the Hilltop community to special sneak preview on your re-opening. The community Tea and coffee house will hold a soft opening this Wednesday and their official grand opening is scheduled soon. I look forward to this great asset re-joining our business community.
- I had the pleasure of spending Saturday evening and Sunday with two of my fellow Principals Eris Hersey and Liza Coco from Idlehurst, at the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) annual conference in Atlanta Georgia. As an educator and Mayor I was very impressed with how many of the 21st practices are already implemented within our Somersworth School system. All three of us look forward as professional to sharing and implementing the knowledge and practices we gather in Atlanta, and continuing to keep Somersworth “On the Move”.
- Special thanks to Deputy Mayor and Ward 2 Council Jennifer Soldati for taking the helm while I was in Washington attending the American Israel Public Affairs Committee national conference, with my fellow associates of The New England Progressive leaders. The conference was insightful and continued to educate me the importance of maintaining a secure democratic Israeli state.
- The recent goal setting session of the City Council and Department Heads re-affirmed our commitment to planning and 21 century practice. As a Team we were able to review some of the recent successes we have experienced within our community, and adopted plans for address some areas we must continue to focus on. The session in my opinion was one of the most successful that I have experienced during my tenure as both a City Councilor and Mayor.

The root of that success was the willingness of all members to think outside of the box of how we can continue to advance our community by working together with the Hilltopper team approach. Several ideas and plans were adopted as a result of the goal setting session. Over the months to come the City Council, Department Heads, City Manager and I will continue to work and ensuring that the adopted goals and Vision 2020 road map continue to be implemented.

Some of those ideas which were geminated that morning can to fruition by simply re-looking at the assets we have as a community through a different lens. By continuing the practices of Co-Operative services between the City and School department and erasing some of the outdated practices of superficial lines, Somersworth can maintain its pace of continuing to advance while living within

its financial means. Some of those ideas, I will be calling upon this evening to begin exploring.

- The Co-Operative services model between city and school continues to be an example of Somersworth 21st century approach to governing. Since its implementation, it has continued to erase lines between the school and city departments and has created greater efficiency. During the recent City Council and Department head goals setting session, other areas of how we could continue to implement Co-Operative services were explore.

For well over the two decades I have serviced in elected office a common theme of the lack of a community center within the Hilltop community has continued to be a topic and agenda item. While I agree, that community centers are essential to the foundation of the heart and soul of maintaining pride, partnerships and progressive services and activists. I disagree with the opinion that Somersworth does not have a central community center.

Utilizing the 21st century approach to governing and the Co-Operative service model our Hilltop city has in fact 5 community centers. While these community centers are in operation educating the next generation of Somersworth business and political leaders from 7-3pm Monday – Friday 176 days a year. They are equipped with all the needs Somersworth desires from athletic facilities, meeting rooms and performing arts stages. The five schools within our city; Maplewood, Idlehurst, The Middle School, The High School and the CTC center are the centers for more than learning, they are the hub for all community activities.

I am calling upon the City Manager and Superintendent this evening to beginning explore how the Co-Operative service model can create, utilize and maintain these 5 community centers. Including but not limited to adding community center to each schools name, jointly sharing insurance cost, needed equipment and maintenance. By continuing to work together as a team and reexamining what we currently have within our community Somersworth's wants can become a reality.

It was also discussed how each respective governing body; the City Council and School Board plans annual separate goal setting sessions yet has never planned a joint planning session. The concept of a jointly planned goal setting session would continue to build communication between our two respective bodies and further develop and strengthen our already strong positive relationship. I will be reaching out the Chair of the School Board, Don Austin and Superintendent of Schools Jeni Mosca over the next several weeks to begin to discuss and plan the first joint goal setting session between the City Council and School Board. As details are developed and finalized I will report them back to Council.

- Before the Council this evening is Ordinance 15-16; authorizing a supplemental appropriation for Roof Replacement at the Somersworth Career Technical Center. Ordinance 15-16 was examined and approved by the finance committee, and given the current timing of the 6 million dollar renovation of the CTC center its approval is vital. I therefore call upon Council to respective approval the adoption of the Ordinance.
- Before the Council this evening for a first reading is Ordinance No. 16-16 the FY 2016 – 2017 budget. The City Manager and Department heads achieved and reached the goal of developing a budget which reflects the current needs of our community which reaching the mandate outlined by the tax cap. Over the next several weeks, this body will gather further information, speak to citizens and fellow Council members, review in detail all aspects of the proposed budget and debate its final outcome.

Which each of us will have differences of opinions on what the final approved budget should look like, it is imperative that we maintain our team approach to governing. I am under no illusion that there will be times throughout this process when debated turns quite “spirited”, despite this, we must continue to maintain decorum and respect towards each other. Though honoring each other’s differences in opinion, we have been able to find the consensus which has keep Somersworth “On the Move”. By maintaining these standards we will ensure Somersworth’s “Bright Future”.

- The next **Mayors Community** forum will take place on **Saturday April 9th from 9:00 – 10:30** at City Hall. Included in this forum will be **Ward 4 Councilor Jon McCallion, Ward 4 School Board Member Bob Gibson and Ward 2 School Board Member Dana Rivers**. The purpose of these forums are to foster dialog and ideas, in a non-formal setting to continue to move our community forward. All members of the community are welcome to attend any forums.

Nominations, Appointments and Elections:

- Under nominations, appointments and Elections; **In accordance with Council Rule 17 Appointments**, the following are being brought forward this evening for nomination.

Arvid “Jim” Wiggin, re-appointment as a member to the Ethics Commission with a expire in April 2019

Philip Munck re-appointment as a member of the **Ethics Commission** with a term to expire in April 2019

Roger Berube re-appointment as a member of the **Ethics Commission** with a term to expire in April 2019

In accordance with Council Rule 17 Appointments, the nomination shall remain open until the April 18th, scheduled Council meeting.

- Also under nominations and appointments, in accordance with **Council rule 15** I am naming the following Mayoral appointments:

Megan Dubois member of the Vision 2020 Committee with a term to expire in April 2019

In accordance with Council rule 15 this nomination does not require Council approval.

This respectfully concludes my April 4th, 2016 Mayors Report

9. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance Committee – Councilor Witham said them met that morning. The Committee had a discussion about the early learning center on Bartlett Avenue. Somersworth Housing Authority acquired the property in mid 1990s. Recently the Early Learning Center separated from the Somersworth Housing and has been leasing the building from Somersworth Housing. City Council has to authorize this lease. A resolution will be coming soon. Deb Evans, Executive Director of the Housing Authority, shared with the Finance Committee that there has been some light conversation about the Learning Center purchasing the building from Somersworth Housing in the future. The Committee discussed the pros and cons. Any final sale would have to go to Council.

The committee then went on to discussing the awarding of bids for pavement marking and line striping. This is a joint bid with the city of Dover. Project was bid and results reviewed and awarded to Highway Safety Systems; broken into 2 separate bids. Both within the spending authority, with a total amount of \$29,657 and authorized by the Finance Committee. This is scheduled to start in mid-May and end in June, depending on weather. Director Bobinsky said they are in discussion with the previous pavement lining contractor because of wear in the downtown area.

They discussed the tax deeded property at 16 Winter Street. It has been a number of years but the city has taken the deed. The committee agreed to try and sell the property with the assistance of a realtor. There was also a brief discussion about potentially going out to bid for realtor services on an annual basis. There will be a resolution authorizing the sale of 16 Winter Street at the next meeting.

City Manager updated the committee on the Superfund Landfill Project. The contractor has continued to provide data. There have been many hurdles. The Committee unanimously agreed to develop a new RFP. More to come on that. Under miscellaneous, there was discussion about possibly bonding the Career

Technical Center Roof. Also under miscellaneous, Greg Kirchofer said there is a need for the update of the 2 raw water pumps. They are at the end of their useful life. It is a budgeted item for these pumps. There will be a resolution at the next meeting. There was a brief discussion of Sober Sisters request for funding. There was no action taken. City Manager updated the committee that the language on pole licensing application needs to be updated.

Government Operations Councilor Soldati met on February 23rd in non-public session to discuss a personnel issue.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER

Special Committees

Vision 2020 – Councilor Paradis said there is a meeting scheduled for April 11th.

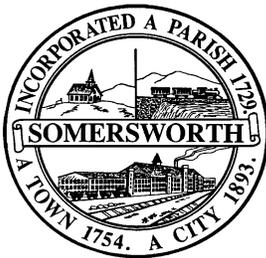
JBC – Councilor Messier reported that they had the groundbreaking for the CTC. The project is progressing rapidly. The next meeting is scheduled for April 11th.

School Board – Councilor Pepin said they mostly discussed the CTC project. Graduation is scheduled for June 16th, and the last day of school will be June 17th.

COAST – Councilor Pepin said there was an audit; everything is final and all is well. No recommendations. There was discussion about discontinuing Route 20. He also reported that 5 mini buses will be in service starting in July.

Drug Task Force – Councilor Witham said they continue to meet monthly. Several attended the Mayor’s Opioid Summit with Senator Jeanne Shaheen.

City Manager’s Report



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH
Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Dana Hilliard and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: Friday, April 1, 2016

**SUBJECT: City Manager’s Report for Monday, April 4, 2016
City Council Agenda**

5:30 p.m. – City Manager Presentation on FY 2016/2017 Budget

6:00 p.m. –Public Hearing on FY 2016/2017 Budget

*6:45 p.m. – Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 15-16 Supplemental Appropriation
for CTC*

Unfinished Business (under Section 13 of Agenda)

Ordinance

A. Ordinance No. 15-16 Supplemental Appropriation for Roof Replacement at the Somersworth Career Technical Center. The Finance Committee met to discuss this with Joint Building Committee Members, School and City Staff. The recommendation is to appropriate the project amount from the General Fund's Fund Balance.

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 26-16 To Authorize the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with Manter Co., Inc. of Danvers, Massachusetts for the Maple Street Culvert Replacement Project. Both Public Works & Environment and Finance Committee have met and have voted in support of the bid award. City Council has appropriated \$155,000. for this project in the General Fund and \$10,000. in the Wastewater Fund.

New Business (under Section 14 of Agenda)

Ordinance

A. Ordinance No. 16-16 FY 2016-2017 Budget.

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 29-16 To Amend Existing Pole Licenses and to Adopt a Pole License Form for all Future Pole Licenses. The City's Legal Counsel (Attorney Jae Whitelaw from the Mitchell firm) has recommended the City change its Pole License Form due to recent Court rulings. It will also be necessary to amend past Pole Licenses. A Public Hearing is required with a 14-day notice timeline, therefore I recommend it be scheduled prior to the Council's scheduled meeting on May 2nd at 6:45 p.m. Use Sheriffs office to notify.

Without objection from council the public hearing has been scheduled.

Attached is a copy of the recommended forms for the Petition and Pole License as provided by City Attorney Jae Whitelaw.

- B. Resolution No. 30-16 Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Fee Interest to a Conservation Parcel of Approximately 97 Acres Identified as Assessor's Map 20 Lot 5 and Located in the Sunningdale Subdivision Development.** Attached is information provided by the developer, Mr. Joe Falzone, Twelve Month, LLC. City Attorney Walter Mitchell is in the process of reviewing the Conservation Easement language; please note that City legal costs will be paid for by Mr. Falzone.
- C. Resolution No. 31-16. To Request that the United States Congress Pass S.2423, the Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act.** This request was discussed at the recent Tri-City Mayors Summit on the Opioid Addiction Crisis. Attached are copies of information distributed at that meeting.

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

A. Information Items:

- 1. Hilltop School Assessment - Brownfield's Program.** The Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) received Grant Funds to provide engineering assistance to communities within the region to determine the extent of the contamination on selected sites. SRPC has hired an engineering firm to assist in this effort. I will be nominating the Hilltop School to determine any hazardous material removal costs such as asbestos or lead.

I will also be nominating Breton's Cleaners for this assistance as a back-up plan should our City Grant submittal not be awarded. Copies of the site nomination forms are attached.

- 2. Monday, April 18.** Presently, there is a Council Workshop scheduled for 6:00 p.m. and the scheduled Council monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. With your permission, I will have Attorney Mark Beliveau meet with you for a brief Attorney-Client meeting at 5:30 p.m. to provide a summary of recent discussion with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and NH Department of Environmental Services regarding the Superfund monitoring process.

Without objection the non-public meeting was scheduled for April 18th at 5:30pm.

3. **Serve with Liberty.** I am pleased to announce that Liberty Mutual employees will once again be assisting the City's efforts to maintain our recreational areas. Public Works Director Mike Bobinsky and Recreational Supervisor Kristen Ducharme will be leading this effort as we continue to work to button up the Mast Point Dam Recreational Trail and Boat Launch this spring. Serve with Liberty will occur in early May. Attached is Kristen's memorandum regarding this partnership with Liberty Mutual – *Thank you Liberty Mutual!!*

B. Attachments:

1. City Attorney Certifications (2).

11. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

A. Mayoral Nominations – Requires Council Confirmation Vote

1. Ethics Commission

- a. Arvid “Jim” Wiggin, reappointment with term to expire April 2019
- b. Philip Munck, reappointment with term to expire April 2019
- c. Roger Berube, reappointment with term to expire April 2019

These will remain open until next meeting.

B. Mayoral Appointment

1. Vision 2020

- a. Megan Dubois, with term to expire April 2018

This appointment does not require Council approval.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinances:

Ordinance No. 15 - 16 Supplemental Appropriation for Roof Replacement at the Somersworth Career Technical Center.

Councilor Messier, seconded by Councilor Paradis, made a motion to accept Ordinance No. 15-16.

Councilor Witham said Finance Committee endorsed the ordinance. Construction Management firm needs to know that they are moving forward, because of scheduling.

Councilor McCallion said he understands that they need the roof. It's frustrating to have to give more money for the roof after the budget was already set for the renovation. The budget is leaving out asbestos and they are trying to get Memorial Drive repaved; this all could have been put into a bond package. We could have the roads repaired completely with proper drainage, and also have sewer and water on the fields. To still have a porta-potty is unacceptable.

Councilor Messier said we need to let the contractor to know as soon as we can so they can plan and purchase. The JBC has authorized 10k for bridging to keep the roof flat. He agrees that it would have been nice to plan. But it needs to be fast tracked.

Councilor Sprague said the Finance Committee spoke about a bond that is retiring in 2017, the CTC building will replace that bond. There would have to be an increase in the tax rate if we were to bond the roof and Memorial Drive. The committee talked about the water and sewer being stubbed. The timing, in planning for the CTC, there are things that weren't thought out in its entirety. The State could have covered some of the funding for the roof, if we could have planned better.

Councilor Witham commented bonding the project would increase on the tax rate. When we do memorial drive would be the time to stub in water and sewer.

Councilor Dumont said in this process, the roof condition was one that they were aware of and they knew they would be faced with it sooner or later. The actual project did not contain enough money to include the roof. Had they not said anything in the JBC and bring it to council, they would not be doing their due diligence. He appreciates the consideration and believes it is good stewardship of our citizens' dollars.

Councilor Pepin said sometimes the cart is set before the horse. The school department needs to set a figure of how much they think it will cost. All that depends on the layout of the school. Don't know how much demo or reconstruction is needed and you can't put everything you want into the building. He thanked the Committee and said there is no sense of putting all these dollars into a building if you can't put a roof on it.

Ordinance No. 15-16 was passed by Roll Call vote, 9-0.

Resolutions:

Resolution No 26 - 16 To Authorize The City Manager to Enter into a Contract with Manter Co., Inc. of Danvers, Massachusetts for the Maple Street Culvert Replacement Project

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to approve Resolution No. 26-16.

Councilor Sprague reminded the council that this is well under the allotted budget. They have advertised again over the past year because the previous quotes were quite high.

Resolution 26-16 was passed by Roll Call vote, 9-0.

14. NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances:

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Dumont, made a motion to have Ordinance No. 16-16 read by title only; the motion passed, 8-1.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Dumont, made a motion to waive council rules to have Ordinance No. 16-16, read for a second time; the motion passed, 9-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 16 -16 FY2016-2017 BUDGET

SOMERSWORTH, NH
April 4, 2016

The City of Somersworth Ordains that Budgets for the City of Somersworth for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year shall be:

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED BUDGET</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	
Elected Leadership	\$121,311
City Management	487,879
Finance and Administration	1,190,239
Development Services	1,011,589
Police	3,631,125
Fire	2,209,592
Public Works	2,092,673
Other Expenses	1,300,279
Capital Outlay	205,909
Intergovt Assessments - County	2,409,243
School Department	25,973,820
	<hr/>
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	40,633,659
<u>ENTERPRISE FUNDS</u>	

Wastewater Department	2,143,498
Water Department	2,040,717
Solid Waste	401,700

TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUNDS 4,585,915

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Cable Fund	85,107
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TOTAL FY 2016-2017 APPROPRIATION \$45,304,681

This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Introduced by:

Mayor Dana S. Hilliard
by request

Approved:

City Attorney

Councilor Witham said he is pleased with the budget. It is under the tax cap. One area of the budget that he would like to have more conversation about is road resurfacing. The proposed amount of \$150,000 is far from where we need to be and he would like to enhance that number.

Councilor Messier said he has no problem with approving the budget at the next meeting. He has questions, specifically, a final number for the insurance cost. They need to have all of the pieces in place to make an informed end to the budget.

Councilor Sprague said he doesn't think there will be a vote or amendments with the budget this evening. He agrees with Councilor Witham on the road resurfacing budget. That needs to increase \$6-700,000, and would like to see a 0% increase to the tax rate. At goal setting, the biggest thing they discussed was image. They have worked hard to improve the image by improving downtown and many other things. The tax rate is a relative number to assessed values; the public persona is the tax rate. He would like for the Council to try to increase the road budget and not increase to tax rate. The Council has a lot of hard work to do. Anything more than a 0% increase, he will not support.

City Manager Belmore said that he and Finance Director Scott Smith worked diligently today to get the numbers that they requested and he has that available for the Council.

Councilor Pepin said he agrees that they need to do something about the roads, but not sure how they can do \$6-700,000 in cuts. With cutting, they will be dipping into unspent revenues and general funds to pay bills. Short falling themselves on the line items, the line items will be depleted and the credit rating will go down.

Councilor Dumont thanked the staff. They put together a great document to work from. The council owes it to everyone to do the best that they can. They have the opportunity and the team effort that represents a result that takes care of its citizens is very important. Image and branding are very important. If you don't set a goal, then what are you reaching for? The school system presented their side of the budget with tightened belts. They did a superlative job of presenting a budget and stayed within the tax cap. If we could reduce the tax rate by \$1, he'd be happy, but how would that effect the community.

Councilor McCallion said nobody does a budget, and goes low, thinking they can always ask for more if needed. There is always a percentage over what they think they will need; a contingency. If we are going to look line by line for cuts, he would hope the School would do the same thing. He takes both books (last years budget, and this years budget) and look at the difference.

Councilor Witham said he thinks this budget will go to the end of June given the nature of the conversation, and then the budget will pass as is; for the first time ever, the City Manager's proposed budget will pass as is because council cannot come to an agreement. Just his thought. Last year he was looking to cut \$6-700,000 to support the school and not lose any teachers or programs. That didn't happen. So he finds it hard pressed that they will be able to find the money in this year's budget for rocks and hot top. Trying to get to a 0% increase on the tax rate is not possible without devastating city services.

Councilor Cameron said that this being her first time going through a budget, she felt a little blindsided Saturday. She learned a lot by listening. She went home afterward, and highlighted things that she questions about. She would like to see the council come to a compromise with the budget, without compromising image. There is a realistic obtainable goal.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Pepin, made a motion to adopt Ordinance 16-16.

Council stood in brief recess to review the memo from the City Manager.

Councilor Messier said he cannot vote for the budget tonight. He told a citizen that they would not be voting on the budget this evening. He will vote to table it, but he will not vote for a passage.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to amend, page C-65, line item 9104, Public Works, Road Resurfacing; he would like to see

that increase it by \$107,999 which is basically the savings of the health insurance premiums, which would make that \$257, 999.

City Manager Belmore asked, for a point of clarification, if there would have to be a separate motion to reduce the line items.

Mayor Hilliard confirmed that yes, they would need separate motions, and Council would go motion by motion.

Councilor Sprague said he would not support this. They are going in the wrong direction. He believes that they should subtract before they start adding.

Councilor Dumont said he doesn't want to start with this. They worked hard Saturday. They took their time and were patient. The reality is that this is not the time for this. He is not going to support this. He wants a team approach; they owe it to the citizens.

Councilor Pepin said he won't be support the amendment. He agrees that they need to increase the road resurfacing line item, but he wants to know where the money is coming form.

Councilor Witham said the amount proposed by the decrease of the insurance is where the money will come from.

Adoption of the amendment failed by voice vote.

Councilor Sprague, seconded by Councilor Paradis, made a motion to table Ordinance No. 16-16. The motion passed by roll call vote, 7-2, with councilors Pepin and Witham opposed.

Resolutions:

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to have Resolution 29-16 read by title only. The motion passed by Roll Call Vote, 8-1, with Councilor Witham opposed.

RESOLUTION NO. 29 - 16 TO AMEND EXISTING POLE LICENSES AND TO ADOPT A POLE LICENSE FORM FOR ALL FUTURE POLE LICENSES.

Somersworth, NH
April 4, 2016

Whereas there is a need to amend all existing pole licenses within the City of Somersworth to include taxing language pursuant to RSA 72:23,I; and

Whereas there is also a need to adopt a form for all future pole licenses for the purpose of adding a taxation provision as required by the public good; and

Whereas pursuant to RSA 231:163, the City Council may amend all existing pole licenses whenever the public good requires and furthermore by adopting a revised Pole license form for the purposes of adding a taxation provision is consistent and required by the public good;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT, the City Council has found it to be in the best interests of the public good to amend all existing Somersworth pole licenses and to adopt a revised Pole License form to be used by the City of Somersworth effective April 19, 2016, that includes the following language for all future pole licenses to be issued in the City of Somersworth.

In accordance with the requirement of RSA 72:23, I (b), this license is granted to the licensee(s) subject to the condition that the licensee(s) and any other entity using or occupying property of the municipality pursuant to this license shall be responsible for the payment of, and shall pay, all properly assessed real and personal property taxes no later than the due date. Failure of the licensee(s) to pay duly assessed personal and real property taxes when due shall be cause to terminate this license.

In accordance with the requirements of RSA 72:23, I (b), the licensee(s) hereunder and any other entity using or occupying the property of the municipality pursuant to this license shall be responsible for the payment of, and shall pay, both current and potential real and personal property taxes when due. Furthermore, in accordance with the requirements of RSA 72:23, I (b), the licensee(s) and any other entity using and/or occupying property of the municipality pursuant to this license shall be obligated to pay real and personal property taxes on structures or improvements added by the licensee(s) or any other entity using or occupying the property of the licensor pursuant to this license.

The Licensee is required to provide the town in writing the names and contact information for any additional provider(s) authorized now or in the future to place equipment at these location(s).

Sponsored by
Councilors

Dale Sprague
David Witham
Denis Messier
Jennifer Soldati

Approved:

City Attorney

Effective Date: _____

Resolution 29-16 will remain in first reading until the April 18th, 2016 Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 30-16 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, TO ACCEPT A FEE INTEREST TO A CONSERVATION PARCEL OF APPROXIMATELY 97 ACRES IDENTIFIED AS ASSESSOR'S MAP 20 LOT 5 AND LOCATED IN THE SUNNINGDALE SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENT.

Somersworth, NH
April 4, 2016

Whereas, the City of Somersworth has determined that this parcel has significant natural resource value and is a benefit to the City to forever remain in an undeveloped and natural state; and

Whereas, the landowner has offered a fee interest to the city of a parcel consisting of approximately 97 acres identified as Assessor's Map 20 Lot 5 and located in Sunningdale Subdivision Development, which is to be conveyed to the city only after a conservation easement is placed on the property; and

Whereas, The Conservation Commission voted to support the acquisition of this PARCEL; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) would be the easement holder, and furthermore the NH NHRCS would be responsible for monitoring the conservation easement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH that the City Manager is authorized to accept the fee interest to the 97 acre conservation property, and to take, any and all necessary action determined to be in the best interest of the City for this purpose.

Sponsored by:

Mayor Dana S. Hilliard

Approved:

City Attorney

Resolution 30-16 will remain in first reading until the April 18th, 2016 Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 31 - 16 TO REQUEST THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS PASS S.2423, THE OPIOID AND HEROIN EPIDEMIC EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Somersworth, NH
April 4, 2016

WHEREAS, The opioid and heroin abuse epidemic is a national public health emergency, which is having a direct and serious impact in the State of New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire residents are dying and families and communities are being devastated by this epidemic; and

WHEREAS: Local public health and safety officials, including those within the City of Somersworth, are on the front lines of addressing this ever growing emergency; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire Senator Jeanne Shaheen has introduced legislation in the United States Senate (S.2423) entitled the “Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Emergency Supplemental Appropriation Act,” which would allocate \$600 million in emergency funding to address this national emergency; and

WHEREAS, The emergency funding would greatly assist public health and safety officials across the country, and in New Hampshire in combating opioid and heroin abuse; and

WHEREAS, Increased funding from the Federal Government is imperative if this epidemic is to be addressed on both a local and national level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND SOMERSWORTH CITY COUNCIL THAT the City of Somersworth respectfully requests that the United States Congress pass S.2423, the Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Emergency Supplemental Appropriation Act, without further delay.

Sponsored by
Mayor Dana S. Hilliard

Approved
City Attorney

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Dumont, made a motion to suspend council rules and allow a second reading of Resolution 31-16, unanimous.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to adopt Resolution 31-16. The motion passed by Roll Call Vote, 9-0.

15. CLOSING COMMENTS BY VISITORS.

Shawn, Somersworth Local Professional Firefighters thanked the members of the community and wanted to update the Council. They do the annual Seacoast area toy bank, also known as Toys for Tots. This past Christmas season, they helped 150 families, totaling 360 children in the City of Somersworth. They are moving into

their 29 year, and they appreciate the help and support of the residents of the City of Somersworth.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Dumont said he thought the meeting of the Tri City Coalition was fantastic. Somersworth showed its leadership position in this effort. He thanked everyone that was there.

Councilor McCallion reminded everyone about the Mayor’s Forum coming up on Saturday. During the budget season, people are always looking for better services and want their tax rate down. Come to the Mayor’s Forum for coffee and say what you need to say. And as for the CTC roof, the reason he voted the way he did was because he knows they need the roof, just don’t like how they will pay for it.

Councilor Messier thanked Councilor Witham and Mr. Guillemette for installing the new sign at the ball field. He also thanked the Legion for paying for the sign. At some point, he would like to get an update on the former police station. The last report was about 30 days ago. He’d also like to know if they ever closed on Chabot’s Dairy. Finally, he continually gets emails from a young man about hunting on Willand Pond.

Councilor Witham thanked the Legion for their benevolent contribution of the scoreboard for the ball field. He congratulated Matt Moore on his promotion to Lieutenant. He is a fine individual.

Councilor Cameron thanked Councilor Witham for his efforts in replacing the scoreboard that she had gotten donated 16 years ago. She was honored to be a part of Mr. Creighton celebration of life.

Councilor Paradis said it is important when the council is looking at an old and new budget, to remember that things shift around. Move teachers and janitors around.

NONPUBLIC SESSION

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to go into nonpublic session at 8:42pm.

Trish Harris, City Clerk

Dana Hilliard, Mayor