

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Somersworth, NH
July 23, 2018
7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by His Honor, the Mayor, Dana S. Hilliard, and upon roll call the following Council members were present: Pepin, Vincent, Dumont, McCallion, Michaud, Witham, Sprague, Cameron, and Levasseur.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

Councilor Witham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

COMMENTS BY VISITORS

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting held on June 18, 2018

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Pepin, made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 9-0.

COMMENTS BY CITY COUNCILORS

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter of Resignation from Aaron Fournier

Clerk read the letter. Mayor Hilliard accepted the resignation with regret, and thanked Aaron for his involvement with the Planning Board.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND DISPOSAL THEREOF BY REFERENCE OR OTHERWISE

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayors Report for City Council Meeting July 23, 2018

Zachary Andrews, Eagle Scout

Zachary started his scouting adventure in first grade as a Tiger cub scout with Pack #195. He participated through the years in various scout camps, hiking, jamborees, Klondike's, events and assorted community service projects. He moved up through the ranks earning his badges. At age 15, Zach spent a week backpacking through Griswold Scout Reservation. Also at age 15 he was the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) of his Boy Scout Troop #195 and they were hosting winter Klondike for the Abenaki District Boy Scouts. Zachary, as SPL executed and ran the event for over 30 Patrols, approximately 270 kids and adults. At 17, Zachary spent a week living out of a backpack and canoeing 73 miles down the Connecticut River on the introductory run of a High Adventure Scouting Trip. Zach has also taken part in many community service activities over the years. He has been flagging the Veteran's graves since early on in cub scouts. Every year since cubs, he has participated in tagging and collecting in "Scout for Food" to collect food for our local food pantry. He routinely helps the Festival Association by cleaning up the field after the Children's Festival fireworks, helping with the penny sale, helping vendors setup and break down at the craft fairs and various other activities. He had helped the Knights of Columbus unload the pumpkin trucks for many years. He has worked at The Table of Plenty, Made Thanksgiving baskets, participated in Toys for Tots and Clean Up Somersworth. He also helps out the local Girl Scouts in many of their activities.

Zachary has always wanted to be an Eagle Scout. The cemetery project idea had been talked about for a few years. Zach has been flagging the Veteran's graves at Forest Glade Cemetery for Memorial Day with his Troop since he was a young cub scout. He wanted to ensure that the Veteran's continued to be honored by creating a website (<https://forestglade2.000webhostapp.com/>) that would show veterans on a map (something that did not exist). The website locates the veterans on a map either individually or they can be selected in groups or as a whole. You can also search for a veteran by name from a list. When you click on their "star" icon on the map, it will show you an image of their headstone and any military information. Individual screens can be printed and so can the maps. Approximate GPS coordinates are listed (in decimal format) that can be copied and pasted into your APP to get you within the proximate area of the headstone.

Zach started his Eagle project in August of 2017. He had to submit his plan to the City for approval and then go before the Eagle Board with a project proposal and be approved. Then he coordinated resources and volunteers and spent many hours in the cemetery logging information. He continued research at Public Works, online, and using other resources to gather information. Along with his father, they planned and developed the website. Zach continued to check in with Mr. Bobinsky of Public Works throughout and occasionally attended City Cemetery meetings for updating the board. Zach completed the project in April of 2018 with well over 300 hours logged. This past Memorial Day the Boy Scouts used Zach's program and flagged the cemetery using his map and GPS.

Zachary has grown up in Somersworth and has attended Maplewood, Somersworth Middle School and Somersworth High School. Zachary was very much into sports. He's played football for 7 years. He was Captain of the football team his senior year. He was named Defensive Player of the Year for the Hilltoppers. He was named First Team Defensive End Allstate his Senior year. Zachary was 1 of 20 nominated for the Seacoast All-star Football Player of the Year Award in 2018. He continues to help Coach the summer Flag Football program. He participated as a partner for the athletes on the Unified Basketball Team. He participated in Winter Track. He also competed in Spring

track for 4 years and he competed in the State Meet of Champions for 3yrs. He was named a Division 1 Allstate Track Athlete his Senior year.

Zach was selected as a CHaD (Children's Hospital at Dartmouth) All-star. He took a week off of his full-time job to play in the CHaD All-star's East VS. West game at UNH on June 30th. The 2 teams raised over \$271,000 for the Children's hospital.

Along with his athletic ability he exemplifies leadership and good sportsmanship on and off the field. During football he was always helping opponents & team mates up after plays. During wins and losses he would always talk to the other team and coaches and tell them good job. He also cooled down escalating situations on the field between players. With track, he helped his own team mates work on their techniques and form. He has also been known to help out fellow competitors during meets. During one meet at Exeter, Zach noticed a competitor's form was incorrect while throwing javelin. He went up to him and mentioned trying something differently, and the kid PR'd by several feet. At Spaulding, a younger thrower asked Zach for some tips in between flights, and Zachary worked with him until it was that boys turn to throw, where he also had his personal best PR.

Zachary attended Boy State at Rivier University in 2017. He was a member of the National Honor Society. He was in the CTC program for Engineering where he completed Architecture, Civil & Automation Manufacturing Engineering. He graduated Highest Honors, while working a part-time job at Market Basket, succeeding in sports and participating in Honor Society & Scouts. He graduated with the President's Award for Educational Excellence, NH STEM Scholar, National Technical Honor Society and National Honor Society.

Zachary is currently working Full-time (seasonally) for the City of Dover, Community Services and continues part-time for Market Basket.

Zachary will be attending the University of Maine Orono in the fall for Mechanical Engineering.

- The next **Mayor's Community** forum will take place Saturday **September 8th from 9:00 – 10:30** at City Hall. Including in this forum will be **At-Large City Councilors David Witham and Dale Sprague and At-Large School Board member Don Austin and Kelly Brennan**. The purpose of the 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

Item 12 Nominations, Appointments and Elections:

- Under nominations, appointments and Elections; In accordance with Council Rule 17 Appointments, the follow are before the Council this evening for a confirmation vote.
 - Amy Howard appointment as the Ward 4 Supervisor of the Checklist with a term to expire on June 2023
 - Michael Bobinsky appointment as a Member of the Strafford Regional Planning Commission with a term to expire on May 2020

- Finally under nominations and appointments, in accordance with The City Charter I am naming the following Mayoral appointment:
 - Jenne Holmes, reappointment as a members of the Vision 2020 committee with a term to expire in January 2020
 - Brian McKay as a member of the Veterans Park Commission with a term to expire in March 2019

Councilor and Deputy Mayor Witham will be at the helm on the August 13th meeting, you will all be in good hands.

This respectfully concludes the Mayors report for Monday July 23rd, 2018

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

No Reports

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER

Special Committees

Coast – Councilor Pepin reported that the Board met on June 27, 2018. They discussed the bridge project, which is coming to completion. COAST is reworking the scheduling to one hour stops. Coast started new scheduling system on July 2nd. They also reviewed the bylaw policy on drug and alcohol use.

Veteran’s Park Commission – Councilor Dumont reported that the Commission met on July 9th 2018. Brian McKay will be joining the Commission; he is an active duty reserve guard and has connections to projects that are very important to us. Eric Mommsen has a list of all of the citizens from Somersworth who have served in various wars. The NH National Guard has done a further research that will be helpful as well. There used to be a wooden plaque in front of the Veterans Memorial by what is now the Historical Museum, but it is gone. The Mayor showed a document that Eric Mommsen put together. For the park vision, they are using Dover as a guide, meandering walkway, water feature, talk of a special monument for each war that the US has been in, a flag for each branch of the Service with lit flagpoles. The committee discussed the resources available in the American Legion and the VFW. There is a lack of resources compare to what they used to have. Next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2018.

Planning Board - Councilor Witham reported that the board discussed a development project off of Green St, to include 28 unit townhomes. The project was approved.

Sustainability Committee – Councilor Levasseur reported that the committee discussed several items; they are setting some guidelines and establishing a handbook. They discussed working with the Tree Board to plant a tree a year.

Parade Committee – Councilor Cameron reported that they had their first meeting 2 weeks ago. They discussed the theme for the parade. Another meeting is scheduled for August 6, 2018.

City Manager's Report



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH
Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Dana S. Hilliard and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: Friday, July 20, 2018

SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for Monday July 23, 2018
City Council Agenda

New Business (Under Section 15 of Agenda)

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance No. 1-19: Amend Chapter 29 Administrative Code, Section 6 City Seal.** The Government Operations Committee voted at their May 16th meeting to move forward with this Ordinance change and recommend full Council adoption. I recommend scheduling a Public Hearing at the next regular Council meeting on August 13th.
Public Hearing was scheduled for August 13, 2018 without objection.
- B. Ordinance No. 2-19: Amending Chapter 13 Police Offenses.** The Traffic Safety Committee met on May 16th and voted to move forward with their recommendation for this Ordinance change. Attached is a copy of a map depicting the location.
Public Hearing was scheduled for August 13, 2018 without objection.

Resolutions

- A. Resolution No. 1-19: To Appropriate Funds from the State Revolving Loan Fund for Upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Facility.** At their May 11th meeting the Finance Committee voted to move forward with this recommended action Resolution. Attached is a copy of a recent memorandum from Wright Pierce Engineers with information on some additional project components that Council may want to consider funding. This action item requires a Public Hearing which can be scheduled for the next regular Council meeting on August 13th; and, it will require six (6) Council votes to pass (a 2/3rd's vote).

Public Hearing was scheduled for August 13, 2018 without objection.

- B. Resolution No. 2-19: To Adopt a Policy for Flag Raising at Citizen's Place.** City Attorney Walter Mitchell has reviewed this Policy that was developed by the Cultural Commission with some Staff assistance. Attached is a copy of the Policy and also the Reservation Form.

- C. Resolution No. 3-19: To Authorize the City to Use Funding from the Municipal and Transportation Fund for the Local Match of a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program Grant.** The Finance Committee voted at their February 12th meeting to recommend funds required for the CMAQ Grant City match come from the Municipal Transportation Fund. Presently there is \$154,927 in this fund. Approximately \$5,000 accrues into this Fund on a monthly basis.

- D. Resolution No. 4-19: To Authorize Participation and Funding for a Regional Homeless Master Plan with the Cities of Dover and Rochester.** If approved, although not presently part of the approved FY 2019 Budget, I recommend the funding be provided from the Welfare/Human Services Operating Budget. I have attached a copy of the Strafford Regional Planning Commission's proposal.

Other

- A. Vote to Schedule a Public Hearing on August 13, 2018 on the Proposed City Charter Amendment to the Section Entitled, Changes to Ward Boundaries (Article 1.4).** Attached is a copy of the revised ballot vote change as required and amended by the Secretary of State's office. City Attorney has recommended the City Council accept this change. Unfortunately, we need to "restart" the process with a Public Hearing and Council vote at the August 13th meeting. .

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

- A. Informational Items.**

- a. **City Ordinance Chapter 31, Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive (aka - 79E Application) – The Hall at Great Falls, 49 Market Street.** Attached is a copy of the Tax Relief Application received from this property owner. I recommend this item be placed on the next Council meeting agenda for both a Public Hearing as well as an item for discussion and vote. Economic Development Chairman Marty Dumont will be scheduling a meeting so that the Economic Development Committee can review and offer a recommendation for the full City Council's consideration.
- b. **Furber Memorial Chapel Grant Project.** Attached is copy of the completed Building Assessment Report that was funded through a NH Preservation Alliance Grant. Staff will be working with the Cemetery Trustees to develop a priority repair and funding plan.
- c. **Transportation Grant Program – Letter of Intent.** Attached is a copy of a Letter of Intent that I submitted to the NH Department of Transportation in regards to the City's interest in applying for available State Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds. This project area, as shown in the attached map, has been part of some discussions at the Council's Standing Committee level. If approved, it will complement the present TAP project and other planned City infrastructure improvement plans.
- d. **Police Department Drug Forfeiture Fund & K-9 Grant.** Chief Kretschmar reports that the City has received the sum of \$116,669 for the Department's participation in several successful drug investigations in partnership with other agencies. They were also notified by the Working Dog Foundation that they have been awarded \$5,000 towards the procurement of a K-9.

B. Attachments.

1. City Attorney Certifications Six (6)
2. Department Head Reports

Calendar Reminders

Monday, July 23

- 4:00 p.m. - ***Brownfield Grant Presentation***
Former Breton's Cleaners Site - 1 Winter Street

Tuesday, July 24

- 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. – ***Coffee with a Cop***
45 Market Street Bakery & Cafe

Tuesday, August 7

- 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. *National Night Out*
Jules Bisson Park

Saturday, August 11

- 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. *125th Commission along with the Somersworth Athletic Association presents “Toppers Rock 2018”*
Somersworth High School - Memorial Drive

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Mayoral Appointment

Jenne Holmes, reappointment as a member of Vision 2020, with a term to expire in January 2020

Brian McKay, as a member of the Veterans Park Commission with a term to expire in March 2019

These are Mayoral Appointments, and do not require Council approval vote.

LAY ON THE TABLE

Nominations Requiring Council Approval:

Amy Howard, as the Ward 4 Supervisor of the Checklist, with a term to expire June 2023

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Pepin, made a motion to approve the nomination; the motion passed, 9-0.

Michael Bobinsky, as a member of the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, with a term to expire, May 2020


Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Levasseur, made a motion to approve the nomination; the motion passed, 9-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances:

	City of Somersworth – Ordinance
	Ordinance No: 1-19 <u>AMEND CHAPTER 29 ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, SECTION 6 CITY SEAL</u>

July 23, 2018

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT City Ordinance Chapter 29, as amended, be further amended as follows:

ADD Section 29.6.4,:

Section 29.6.4 Unauthorized Use of the Seal

No other use of the City Seal is permitted without prior written permission from the City Council's Government Operations Committee.

The City reserves the right to take appropriate legal action to remedy any unauthorized use of the City Seal, including but not limited to, seeking injunctive relief, costs and attorney's fees in the Superior Court.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> Martin P. Dumont, Sr. David A. Witham Nancie Cameron Edward Levasseur	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Ordinance 1-19

History

First Read Date:	07/23/2018	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Action


Councilor _____ moved for adoption, seconded by Councilor _____.

Discussion

Public Hearing was scheduled for August 13, 2018 without objection.

Ordinance 1-19 will remain in first read until the August 13, 2018 City Council Meeting.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	McCallion		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Sprague		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Levasseur		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On / / . Ordinance 1-19		PASSED	FAILED

	City of Somersworth – Ordinance Ordinance No: 2-19 AMENDING CHAPTER 13 POLICE OFFENSES
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July 23, 2018

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the ordinances of the City of Somersworth, as amended, be further amended as follows:

Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section F.5, Time Limited Parking, 15 Minutes, by deleting:

- Grove St. on the northerly side from Grand St. westerly to the telephone pole (NET&T CO 7 PSNN 35/6).

And further amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section D. No Parking Anytime, by deleting:

- Grove St. on the northerly side from the telephone pole (NET&T CO 7 PSNN 35/6) westerly to Prospect St.

And adding:

- Grove Street on the northerly side from Grand Street Westerly to Prospect Street.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilor:</i> Kenneth S. Vincent	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Ordinance 2-19

History

First Read Date:	07/23/2018	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Action

Councilor _____ moved for adoption, seconded by Councilor _____.

Discussion


The Traffic Safety Committee was asked to review the ordinance authorizing an area allowing 15 minute parking on Grove Street. These stalls were originally used to assist with Hilltop School related parking. Grove Street was changed for dual direction traffic. The parking of vehicles utilizing that 15 minute area creates a traffic safety issue. Turning onto Grove Street from Grand Street when vehicles are parked in that area can cause encroachment into the opposite lane of travel on Grove St. Prohibiting parking along the north side of Grove St between Grand St and Prospect St will aide in a safer commute.

Public Hearing was scheduled for August 13, 2018 without objection.

Ordinance 2-19 will remain in first read until the August 13, 2018 City Council Meeting.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent *		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	McCallion		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Sprague		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Levasseur		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On / / . Ordinance 2-19		PASSED	FAILED

Resolutions:

	City of Somersworth – Resolution
	Resolution No: 1-19 TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR UPGRADES TO THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

July 23, 2018

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 36-18 granting authority to file an application to the State revolving fund for a loan to fund wastewater facility upgrades; and

WHEREAS, the project costs include engineering, construction, and any other ancillary costs associated with the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT an amount not to exceed \$10,540,000 (Ten Million Five Hundred Forty Thousand dollars) is appropriated to upgrade the Wastewater Treatment Facility; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT:

- (a.) the City Manager is authorized to borrow up to \$10,540,000 (Ten Million Five Hundred Forty Thousand dollars) from the State Revolving Loan Fund, and
- (b.) the City Manager is authorized to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project, and
- (c.) to take any other actions relative to this project determined to be in the best interest of the City.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> David A. Witham Dale R. Sprague Martin Pepin Martin P. Dumont, Sr.	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 1-19

History

First Read Date:	07/23/2018	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:	NA	Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Action

Councilor _____ moved for adoption, seconded by Councilor _____.


Discussion

This Resolution requires a public hearing and requires a 2/3 majority vote of the City Council after the public hearing (Sections 7.13 and 7.14 City Charter).

Public Hearing was scheduled for August 13, 2018 without objection.

Resolution 1-19 will remain in first read until the August 13, 2018 City Council Meeting.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	McCallion		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Sprague		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Levasseur		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On / / . Resolution 1-19		PASSED	FAILED

	City of Somersworth – Resolution
	Resolution No: 2-19 TO ADOPT A POLICY FOR FLAG RAISING AT CITIZEN’S PLACE

July 23, 2018

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Somersworth adopted Resolution No. 26-17, officially naming the traffic island at the intersection of High Street and Government Way “Citizen’s Place”, and

WHEREAS, the flag poles located on Citizen’s Place are reserved for the City of Somersworth and its Citizens, for use by any person, group or organization that promotes benevolence, tolerance and diversity, and

WHEREAS, the Cultural Committee has reviewed the process for the raising of flags at Citizen’s Place and recommends a Citizen’s Place Flag Policy in order to ensure the spirit and intent for the use of these flag poles is met in the future,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT in order to accomplish this purpose, the attached Citizen’s Place Flag Policy is hereby adopted and effective upon passage of this Resolution.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by:</i> Mayor Dana S. Hilliard Councilor Martin P. Dumont, Sr. Councilor Richard Michaud	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 2-19

History

First Read Date:	07/23/2018	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			


Action

Councilor _____ moved for adoption, seconded by Councilor _____.

Discussion

Resolution 2-19 will remain in first read until the August 13, 2018 City Council Meeting.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	McCallion		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Sprague		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Levasseur		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On / / . Resolution 2-19		PASSED	FAILED

	City of Somersworth – Resolution	
	Resolution No: 3-19	TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY TO USE FUNDING FROM THE MUNICIPAL AND TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR THE LOCAL MATCH OF A CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT

July 23, 2018

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 17-13 to create the Municipal and Transportation Fund for the purpose of improvements in the local or regional transportation system including roads, bridges, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, parking and intermodal facilities, and public transportation, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has been notified that the City has been awarded a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant through the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, the grant award requires a local match in the amount of \$139,750 (One Hundred Thirty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty dollars), and

WHEREAS, the City Council intends to utilize funding for this match from the Municipal and Transportation Fund, and

WHEREAS, the City Council is designated as agents to expend these funds,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City may utilize \$139,750 (One Hundred Thirty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty dollars) for the local match of a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant through the New Hampshire Department of Transportation .

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> David A. Witham Dale R. Sprague Martin Pepin Martin P. Dumont, Sr. Kenneth S. Vincent	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 3-19

History

First Read Date:	07/23/2018	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			


Action

Councilor _____ moved for adoption, seconded by Councilor _____.

Discussion

Resolution 3-19 will remain in first read until the August 13, 2018 City Council Meeting.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	McCallion		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Sprague		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Levasseur		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On / / . Resolution 3-19		PASSED	FAILED

	City of Somersworth – Resolution	
	Resolution No: 4-19	TO AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION AND FUNDING FOR A REGIONAL HOMELESS MASTER PLAN WITH THE CITIES OF DOVER AND ROCHESTER

July 23, 2018

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth is a member of the Tri-City Mayors’ Task Force on Homelessness whose mission is to foster dialog, exploration and implementation of joint policies and programs which would identify regional homeless issues; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force would like to retain a consultant to assist with the preparation of a Master Plan to be reviewed and adopted by each Community, as well as identifying strategies to achieve long term solutions to address these issues; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force received a proposal from the Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC), entity all three communities are members of and work with in the review of regional issues, in the amount of \$14,997 (Fourteen Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Seven dollars) to complete said Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dover has accepted the role of fiscal agent and will contract directly with the consultant and requests that each community provide one-third of the funding for this Master Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to work with the City of Dover and provide one-third of the cost of the regional homeless master plan and to take any other actions relative to this project determined to be in the best interest of the City.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by:</i> Mayor Dana S. Hilliard	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Resolution 4-19

History

First Read Date:	07/23/2018	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:	07/23/2018		

Action

Councilor Cameron, seconded by Councilor Vincent, made a motion to suspend Council rules to allow for a second read of Resolution 4-19. Motion passed 9-0.

Councilor Pepin moved for adoption, seconded by Councilor Vincent.

Discussion

Councilor Witham said he has no issue, until he thinks about the equitable issue of the funds. Dover and Rochester have a population of 30,000 people; The population of Somersworth is 12,000.

Councilor Sprague stated that he is not sure that we paid fairly into the SRPC either. Rochester and Dover gets more members. He stated that nobody knows more about the homeless epidemic than he does, and he is not sure why SRPC is now the expert. He thinks this is a waste of time. Homelessness is not a 7-5pm epidemic. It is about drugs addictions and mental illness. He suggested that all of the welfare offices be put under the county. They will have more of a grip on what puts these people in this position. The coalition can do the study for nothing. Go to the county, they have already done the research. The amount of \$5,000 to Somersworth is like \$50,000 to other communities.

Councilor Dumont stated that he had some thoughts because there was an article recently in the Fosters Daily Democrat. In the Dover police log, there were 12 arrested in a week, 8 were classified as homeless, out on warrants from the courts. It seems like the police may have a lot of information about the homeless. He commended the Mayors for making communities aware of the homelessness issue. Sharing across the board is about perspective. He's had some experience with homeless. Downtown Los Angeles has homeless living on the sidewalks. The church communities in some areas will open their facilities. He doesn't see that it is fair to share equally in price, based on the police log from Dover; this is more than just a homelessness issue.

Mayor Hilliard stated that he usually tries to not break ranks as the parliamentarian during meetings, but because the Council did waive rules and he did not speak about this resolution in his Mayor's Report, he offered some informational pieces to this Resolution. This Coalition was formed by the Mayors of Rochester, Dover, and Somersworth to study the regional problem of homelessness. This issue is fluid. People move; it is not necessarily one community's responsibility. This Resolution is before you this evening because it is the Mayors' jobs were to

bring forward legislation. The main task that is before this commission is to adopt a master plan, and as Councilor Michaud can attest, because he is one of the members of the coalition, the issue of utilizing the SRPC, which he has the highest regards for, was raised at an earlier meeting, and he voiced some of the concerns at that time. His concern then was that he believes that the three communities has the talent in house in the planning departments. If directed by the Commission, the City Managers could meet to discuss whether the Planning departments could be utilized to aide the commission in developing this master plan. He leaves it now as a decision of the Council. He has fulfilled his duty to bring forth the legislation. When the plan is adopted, that will be brought forth to the full council. We are addressing the homelessness crisis regionally, and we know there isn't a magic solution. He agrees with some of the statements made by Councilor Sprague. Some of the concerns raised are quite valid. There have been some County wide discussions, and this Coalition has gotten the attention of the County. It is a County wide issue. As far as cost goes, the issue of homelessness is fluid; one who is homeless in Rochester today, can easily be homeless in Somersworth tomorrow. All points raised during this discussion are valid. As one who constantly leans on the talent that lies within the City Halls he believes that discussions with the City Managers would accomplish the same thing. Rochester has already approved their \$5,000 and Dover is moving forward as well. As always, after forming a commission, his role is to guide and communicate.

Councilor Levasseur thanked the Mayor for his comments and for working with the other Mayors to create this task force. He addressed Councilor Sprague's comments, stating it strikes him that (Sprague) makes these comments when, several months ago, regarding the feasibility study for the fire department, (Sprague) made the comment, "it doesn't matter how much it costs" and now, here we are today, talking about \$5,000... He urged his fellow Councilors to move this forward. He understands that the county should hold some responsibility. Hopefully the work of this commission will help to spark that.

Councilor Witham stated this is a principal thing about the equitable disbursement; \$5,000 is not a lot of money, but when dealing with the budget, groups come before us to request support from the City, and we quibble about \$500. To chagrin \$5000 makes no sense.

Councilor Vincent, seconded by Councilor Sprague, made a motion to Table Resolution 4-19. The motion passed 5-4 by roll call vote. Resolution 4-19 is tabled until the August 13, 2018 City Council Meeting.

OTHER

Vote to Schedule a Public Hearing, August 13, 2018 on the Proposed City Charter Amendment to the Section Entitled, Changes to Ward Boundaries (Article 1.4)

City Manager Belmore gave a brief update. The previous amendment was sent to the Secretary of State's office and they deemed that changes to ward boundaries were substantive and could only be done during a census year, and not at the will of the Council.

Councilor Witham stated that, as chair of the previous Charter Review Commission, having the change in Ward Boundaries in conjunction with the 10 year census is not beneficial, because the census data is not released for a year or two after the census. The boundary review will need to be completed before the census data is released. IF we can't change it, he said he is not sure if an elected or appointed board really matters.

Councilor Dumont stated that the data we used would be the data 10 year previous.

City Manager Belmore explained that if we continue with the Charter Amendment to Article 1.4, the only change we would be making at this point, to the City Charter would be changing from an elected review committee to 4 City Councilors appointed by a Mayor.

Councilor Sprague said, look at what happened during the last census; we had no review, and whoever has the lead in the house drew the lines however they wanted. The lines were drawn by Concord. We still have some time before the next census. Let's get ready for it; make our efforts even with old data.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for August 13, 2018 without objection.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY VISITORS

Gerri Cannon, of 113 Indigo Hill Road, ward 5, reminded Council and Residents to mark two dates on their calendars: September 11th and November 6th. Election days. We will be voting for the State Government. Your Vote is required. She stated that some current members of the City Council are members, and she is running for State Rep. She is also on the School Board. Her main concern is funding issues for the school system.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Pepin said he has just heard the most impressive resume ever. Businesses should be knocking on (Zack's) door. Job well done!

Councilor Vincent stated that that was an incredible resume. It takes a lot of hard work and a good foundation.

He stated that the seat that he holds at the State Level as state rep, they have been working on the 19% increase on the Eversource bill. He encouraged residents that this has not gone unseen. He will be attending a meeting with Eversource and the PUC, and asking about the 19% increase. He is hoping to get answers.

Councilor Dumont gave his compliments to Zack. He has the true spirit of the youth. He stated that he read an article in Fosters Daily Democrat that Anita Turgeon celebrated her 100th birthday.

He was happy to announce that there haven't been any more bears; have toured the neighborhood. Now he has a bobcat that has been seen in his back yard.

Recently there was a problem in his neighborhood. There were police and what looked like a SWAT team in his front yard and throughout the neighborhood. That afternoon, the street was blocked. It was not a feeling that he liked. He related this incident to the Green Street issue, as he is sure the people on Green Street felt the same as he did. He feared for his family's safety. When he was younger, locked doors was never a worry. Nobody would ever think to enter another persons' home or vehicle. This type of activity does not make him feel good. Live free or die is the state motto, and he is proud of it. He doesn't ever want his neighborhood to be under siege as it was that day. Fortunately, there has been some respite in the activity. He thanked the Somersworth Police Department for all that they do.

Business NH is a great magazine, with data about NH. New Hampshire has a lot of potential and we do a lot of great things. Finding qualified employees is becoming a problem for businesses. He recently spoke with a Human Resources Director at a business in Rochester. There were several manufacturing positions that required an employee to stand at a station for machine cuts for about 8 hrs a day. About 18 High School Seniors applied for the position; the background check is not the issue, the inability to stand for 8 hours was the problem! They are not physically fit. That company would take Zack in tomorrow. He encouraged Zack to continue his education and make sure to come back and visit.

Councilor McCallion said look around, we will probably see Zack in one of these (City Council) chairs someday.

Councilor Michaud congratulated and thanked Zack for all he has done for the community.

He thanked the Kenyon Team Reality for their work at Willand Pond and for the donation of the picnic table.

He reminded residents about Coffee with a Cop on July 24, National Night out on August 7 and the 125th Commission and SAA Event, 5 bands all Somersworth based bands, on Sat August 11.

Councilor Witham stated that he has known Zack for many years. Zack played baseball; one time while playing 3rd base he took a line-drive ball off the forehead, shook it off and kept playing. During the Veterans Day services, Zack has always been there carrying the flag. During the Memorial Day parade, he was carrying the American Flag. He was ever present in the community. He is a fine young man, and will do well at UMaine. Your contributions are many.

Councilor Sprague congratulated Zack's family and the Somersworth education system. It takes a community, and you all did well.

For PWE, has the National Guard gotten a driveway permit and why do they have 2 dumpsters, and not following code and compliance.

Councilor Cameron said Congratulations to Zack. She is sure he will go far. July 24th is Coffee with a Cop and August 7th is Somersworth Night Out.

Councilor Levasseur, Thanked Zack for being a wonderful example of what it means to be a Hilltopper.

He stated that he attended the Brownfields Grant Award Ceremony; the EPA awarded the City \$200,000 for the Bretons Cleaners site. He applauded city staff in their effort to obtain the grant. We should have that site cleaned up by this fall.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Dumont, seconded by Councilor Pepin, made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Trish Harris, City Clerk

Dana Hilliard, Mayor