



MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Somersworth, NH  
May 18, 2020  
7:00 P.M.

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**ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR HILLIARD**

As Chair of the Somersworth City Council, I, Dana S. Hilliard, Mayor find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting. All members of the Council have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously watch by way of our local public access Comcast channel 22 or via live streaming available at our City website Somersworth.com.

Please note that **all votes** that are taken during this meeting shall be done by **roll call vote**.

**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: Councilors Pepin, Vincent, Dumont, Austin, Michaud, Witham, Gerding, Cameron and Paradis, who were all by themselves.

Mayor Hilliard announced that City Manager Bob Belmore, Deputy City Manager/Finance Director Scott Smith, Fire Chief George Kramlinger, and Deputy City Clerk Kelly Gagne were in the Council Chambers.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE**

Councilor City Manager Belmore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**A. Ordinance No. 19-20** – To Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 13.3.1-D, No Parking Anytime

No Comments

**COMMENTS BY VISITORS**

None

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. Approve Minutes of the City Council Workshop –CMAQ Grant held on May 4, 2020

B. Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting held on May 4, 2020

*Councilor Austin, seconded by Councilor Paradis made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Calendar. The motion passed 9-0, by roll call vote.*

## **COMMENTS BY CITY COUNCILORS**

Councilor Paradis stated that her comments are related to one of the agenda items. She didn't want to wait until the end as she is typically the last to comment and wanted to comment now to give other Councilors a chance to weigh in. The item it is sort of related to is the GOFERR funding from the Governor to reimburse COVID 19 expenses. One of the biggest categories of expense that comes to her mind is voting. We are going to have to be making sure that our voting is accessible when it comes to the September Primary and the November General Election. Her idea or recommendation to float out there and welcomed everyone else's input is for the Mayor to create a task force for voting access. So that we can do three things first being input from the Community and addressing their concerns, second looking at best practices from other surrounding Cities and Towns and what they are doing which I am sure the Staff is doing already and third to make sure that we get the word out on whatever our plan is encouraging people to use the absentee option the Governor has been talking about or a variety of other things. One thing we do know is that local Municipalities are going to have a lot more say this time around when it comes to what kind of access we are allowing our residents to have; whether that is using our drive thru, whether it is expanding for early voting anything that we can do to decrease the risk to Voters, City Staff or Election workers. We have roughly four months before the Primary and, of course, after that the big Presidential Election.

Councilor Witham stated that he had been thinking about that a little and thought that Councilor Paradis made excellent points and observations. He stated that just to begin that if by the time Elections comes around and we are still in the middle of the pandemic obviously, one of the polling places at Charpentier Apartments has a population of many at risk individuals and would mean that would no longer be appropriate place to hold Elections. So for Ward 4 we should be thinking of an alternative spot.

Mayor Hilliard stated that between the thirteen are on weekly calls with the Governor and he himself has brought this topic up twice as other multiple Mayors have. He has been pushing for solely absentee ballots to be opened for a period of anywhere two to three weeks. As you can see to date he along with the other twelve Mayors have not gotten much ground on those suggestions or movement forward from the State Executive Office. We will continue to do that push and then examine any possibilities that we do have at the local level and he did raise the same concern as Councilor Witham regarding the space. When he first brought up that concern to the Governor he said you would need to move the voting booths six feet apart and the Mayors response was that if we do that the Citizens will most likely be voting on the street in Somersworth. That point is very well taken and we have very cramped quarters for

Elections and his other concern with moving forward with the Elections is that the majority of our poll workers fall within the compromising category of individuals who are at high risk. He has raised that issue with the State Executive Office with the fear of losing our Election workers unwilling to show up for the pure risk of their own safety, which is rightfully noted. We will examine it at the Municipal level he is open to forming a task force if we are not able to answer these questions or it might go the route of just a subcommittee here within Council he thought that would expedite the process of us being able to meet immediately. He thanked Councilor Paradis for that suggestion.

Councilor Gerding stated that he happy to see this stuff being brought up as well and he is excited to hear about having a subcommittee. He would love to see if we could get some information out to the Citizens perhaps in utility bills that the City sends out. It could include how to register for absentee ballots, important information about upcoming deadlines. He is aware the City just sent out an email blast regarding changing your party affiliation which is fast approaching June 2, 2020. If you are interested in changing your party affiliation you need to do so by June 2, 2020. Also, this is something I have thought about he has no idea whether it is feasible, possible or legal he would love to discuss if we could just mail absentee ballots to everyone on the voter registration, just having a mass mailing like that would just automatically have it so that people are able to send it back to us and have their vote counted, he again doesn't know the legality of that but just throwing it out there.

Councilor Witham stated that the comments here have turned into an agenda item under other unfortunately, he does think that it is appropriate. Councilor Paradis opened this up by talking about the GOEFFER funding and the City Manager being authorized to deal with those costs associated. We are finite in other properties for our Elections in addition to Charpentier we are also utilizing Bartlett Avenue owned by SHA, to some extent the Historical Museum, even though we own that building. Provided we are not out of the pandemic by then the need for a deep cleaning of these properties and that should be incumbent upon the City to conduct that cleaning, it should not be at the expense of the Somersworth Housing Authority or the Historic Museum.

Councilor Cameron thanked Councilor Paradis for raising some concerns. Having been a poll worker and volunteering for the future Elections coming up this has weighed on her mind as well. Not that she has the answer to these questions but she would certainly like to be on the Subcommittee having been at the polls for a number of years.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

## **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND DISPOSAL THEREOF BY REFERENCE OR OTHERWISE**

## MAYOR'S REPORT

### Mayors Report for City Council Meeting May 18, 2020

As united Hilltoppers we take pause this week to honor, celebrate, and reflect upon several groups that continue to keep us safe and protect the values and rights which are the foundation of our society. May 15<sup>th</sup> is celebrated throughout our nation as Police Officers Memorial Day and marks the beginning of National Police Week. Together as a united community we will continue to celebrate all that makes our community great and strong, its citizens.

Sacrifice is one of the foundational blocks of Democracy. As free citizens, we know that the inalienable rights which define our society come at a cost. A cost, that each of us might someday be called upon to pay too ensure the values and rights which define us, we continue to be protected for all.

*Serve and Protect* is the universal motto which define the men and women who rise each day, reaffirming their oath of personal sacrifice for the greater good of the community. With a shield adorned upon their chest, without hesitation, they are willing to lay down their lives, extinguish their hopes and dreams for a citizen's name they will never know.

Since the first recorded Police death in 1786, over 22,000 men and women have made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring our society remains safe and free. As a nation we are forever indebted to the sacrifices they made for the love of their communities and nation.

The Hilltop city is not immune to the pain experienced with the loss of one of their own. On September 4, 1979 at the young age of 24, Hilltopper Officer Donald Kowalski reported for his final roll call. His name is now etched in the wall of the eternal protectors of our republic.

The fundamental foundation of our Hilltopper values our respect for all, service to community and willingness to sacrifice for the common good. This week, we say thank you to all of the members of our law enforcement community for your unwavering sacrifices. Today, we remember those souls who have departed in the line of duty who with honor carried out their mission of *"Serve and Protect"*. Each start of your shift, know that 10 square mile community you protect appreciates you, respects you, and loves you.

May the guiding hand of the supreme chief, God, protect you each day as you fulfill your mission. May those who have departed us forever be honored through your actions of ensuring freedom, liberty and justice for all. As a community let us continue, officers and citizens, to continue to bring our city motto to life each day "Proud Past", "Bright Future".

The Police Memorial Flag will wave proudly throughout the week at Citizens Place in honor of all of the men and women who each day walk the “Thin Blue Line.”

This week we also take time to thank the brave men and women who serve our community as EMS officers. In 1973, President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week to celebrate all the EMS professionals and the role they play in protecting our communities. Here in the Hilltop City we continue to be blessed and served by the members of Stewart’s Ambulance, who are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

Each year over 36 million people received treatment from EMS providers, our 10 square mile community is grateful for the contributions of Stewart’s Ambulance in keeping each Hilltopper safe at some of their most critical moments.

This week we say thank you to the members of the Stewart’s Ambulance team, for your unweaving dedication to the Hilltop City and your commitment to continue your lifesaving practices. In honor of Stewart’s Ambulance dedication, I have proclaimed this week as Stewart’s Ambulance week in the City of Somersworth.

Let us also not forget that this weekend we paused to honor those brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the 244 years of existence of our republic.

The graves of our American heroes stand with honor at eternal attention. With unbroken valor, they continue to guard from their final resting place the rights and values of a free nation. The silence of the cemeteries and moments which proclaim their bravery, their willingness to sacrifice for generations they will never meet, will not be unbroken this year. This year, as a nation, as Hilltoppers we must stand from a distance to remember the men and women who surrendered their last breath, so that we may continue to breathe the sweet air of liberty.

The streets will be silent from the drums and sounds of the hero’s parades. The echoing and smoke of the rifle of a hero’s salute will awake to break the stillness of the air for another day. Yet our hearts, our prayers, our remembrances on Memorial Day will not be dissipated by the virus which halts us from gathering. This Memorial Day, our strength in thought, our strength in our heart and soul will stand with the heroes who now rest in silence. From our homes, from a virtual spiritual gathering, from own personal visits to their resting spots, we will remember, we will honor and we will say thank you.

As Americans, as Hilltoppers, we will never forget the cost associated with freedom and liberty. Like those who have gone before us, we stand committed to protect the creed of our

great nation and carry forth the determination that every man and women is entitled to the freedom bestowed upon them by God.

This Memorial Day, from a distance we honor. While the flags will wave in the silence of the air, their stripes and stars will be carried in the wind by the prayers and gratitude of a grateful nation. We will never forget those who gave their all, and we will also remain committed to honoring not only you, but the promise this great nation beholds.

May the eternal light of God, forever be casted upon our Veterans and may God forever bless these 50 United States.

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

- *Jeremy Degler*, Appointment as an *Alternate Member of the Conservation Commission*, with a term to expire May 2023
- *Scott Orzechowski*, Re-Appointment a *Member of the Conservation Commission*, with a term to expire May 2023
- *Dale A. Smith - Kenyon*, Re-Appointment a *Member of the Conservation Commission*, with a term to expire June 2023
- *Angela Ficco*, Re-Appointment a *Member of the Conservation Commission*, with a term to expire June 2023

**This respectfully concludes my May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Mayors Report**

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

*Finance* – Councilor Witham stated that a meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2020 in the afternoon.

*Economic Development Committee* – Councilor Dumont stated that the Committee met on May 13, 2020 @ 3:30. First item on the agenda is that we have a solid proposal that has a plan for the former police department. He is quite pleased with the plans and the amount of detail that the person brought forward. The Committee had a lot of discussion in reference to this, it was unanimous that City staff to continue to renegotiate on several points. City staff agreed that they will come back to the next meeting with results. We will wait until the next meeting to decide. The next item was Form Based Codes; we have discussed this for many years now. We were able to come up with a pretty good process and a good product. This is close to a final product, and we will send this onto full Council as a Zoning Ordinance Amendment, which passed unanimously. The last item on the agenda discussed plaza signage

standards. We decided to send the plaza signature standards to the Council for a Zoning Ordinance Amendment. We also discussed how active our Development Services staff is working with our businesses getting their doors open. We have had many businesses apply for permits to allow for them to have outdoor sidewalk sections to allow for more people. He is proud of our staff and how we are moving forward with this.

*Public Safety* – Councilor Pepin stated there was a meeting on May 13, 2020 @ 3:00. First there were updates from the Police Department regarding a new Officer John Singletary who is already certified. The force received new pistols and the Crime Scene Unit vehicle, which will be painted and equipment installed. Chief Kretschmar reported that two Officers went to Concord, NH to the law Enforcement Memorial, there is usually a ceremony but due to the virus there isn't one this year. They went there on their own time and placed flowers down. EMS update from Paul Robidas, most of their focus has been on COVID-19, he spoke of protocols and protecting their staff. Decontamination is becoming more of an issue as it takes more time to clean each ambulance after a call. So that there is always a clean truck available. Response time within the City is 4:40. Two employees were exposed, they were quarantined for 14 days and their tests came back negative. There was a concern on PPE shortage at first and now they are better. They have a decrease in calls at 46% - 47%. The Fire Chief updated the Committee on restructuring pay for Call Firefighters, which was discussed to be more in line with how other departments pay in the area. There was a lengthy discussion on certification training of Call and Career firefighters. City Manager came up with a Resolution that will be brought forward tonight to keep (4) firefighters during all shifts. City Manager has the authority by the City Charter to move funding to pay for the overtime. Long discussion on Fire Station design, as the Chief brought in many ideas. Living quarters will be moved and Councilor Vincent was happy about this and mentioned it from the beginning.

Mayor Hilliard stated that he has assigned the Resolution to Finance committee so we cannot push for a second reading tonight.

*Recreation* – Councilor Cameron stated that they met on May 5, 2020 via Zoom. We had an update on the dog park project. We received estimates in for the fencing costs, which came in quite lower than we expected. We were expecting them to come in between \$30,000 - \$40,000, but they came in at \$18,659 and we will round up to \$20,000 with a contingency. We have collected \$2000 in donations to date. We discussed signage and what we wanted to do as far as putting signs around the park which would help with maintenance of the park. We decided due to COVID 19, we were not going to actively pursue advertising right now. We also spoke about being sponsors on the Supplemental Appropriation Resolution that the Finance Committee also sponsored. Talked about Millennium Park field lights there are a couple damaged lights and what to do. They decided they needed more information before a decision is made. We also discussed summer recreation camp, and whether or not that will happen

## **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER**

### Special Committees

*Joint Building Committee* – Councilor Pepin stated that the Committee met this morning via zoom. They discussed of the addition to the music room. The foundation has been poured and it is all coming together. It is about a week ahead of schedule. The architect is meeting with the music teacher and librarian to make sure that they have what they need. They also discussed the Middle School elevator; they are having contractors come in today to check out the construction project.

*Veterans Park* – Councilor Dumont stated that he has seen a lot of excavation at the site. He wanted to announce that affects the Veterans; there is a new commander of the American Legion post 69, Dana O’Hare. A letter was sent in regards to what was going to be done for Memorial Day that the Mayor explained in his report. City staff has sent out an update of the contributions to date \$45,750. The last thing he will bring up is the bricks are for sale. People are stopping and asking him about the bricks and if they can still buy the bricks. He will talk to the City Manager, but he would like to schedule to open the City Hall to allow for citizens to get help to order the bricks as computers scare some people. He suggested maybe a couple Saturday’s to commit to meeting with people to help them with the computers to purchase bricks. He will discuss this more with the City Manager.

City Manager’s Report

*Office of the City Manager*

**TO: Mayor Dana S. Hilliard and City Council Members**  
**FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager**  
**DATE: Friday, May 15, 2020**  
**SUBJECT: City Manager’s Report for Monday, May 18, 2020**

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*Unfinished Business (Under Section 14 of Agenda)*

**Ordinances**

**A. Ordinance No. 19-20: To Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 13.3.1-D, No Parking Anytime.** We will be marking the areas where the sawhorses are now located at the intersection as “No Parking” per State Law. If this Ordinance passes we will then post this additional area as “No Parking”.

**Resolutions**

**A. Resolution No. 47-20: To Authorize the City to Use Funding from the City Parks and Parks Facilities Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund as a Portion of the City’s Match to a Land and Water Conservation Grant for Improvements to Jules Bisson Park.** Again, the Finance Committee voted to authorize the City to use funding from the City Parks and Parks Facilities



Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund as a Portion of the City's Match to a Land and Water Conservation Grant for Improvements to Jules Bisson Park. I have attached a copy of the Finance Committee minutes that covered more information and progress regarding this Grant related project.

*New Business (Under Section 15 of Agenda)*

**Ordinances**

- A. Ordinance No. 20-20: Supplemental Appropriation to Install Fencing and Other Improvements for a Dog Park at Millennium Park.** The Finance Committee voted to sponsor this Ordinance regarding a Supplemental Appropriation for this project at their November 26, 2019 meeting. Recreation Committee met on May 6, 2020 and voted to also support this funding plan. As noted, the funding for this project is provided by a combination of donations received through the Dog Park Funding Campaign (to date: \$2,006.00) and the transfer from the Cable Fund to the General Fund of \$18,000. I have attached a copy of the cost breakdown provided to the Recreation Committee. I recommend a Public Hearing at the next regular Council meeting to be scheduled by Mayor Hilliard.

Manager Belmore stated that a Public Hearing is needed. Mayor Hilliard stated that without objection a Public Hearing will be scheduled for the next meeting Ordinance No. 20-20

**Resolutions**

- A. Resolution No. 48-20: Vote to Authorize a Bond for Road, Sidewalk, Drainage, Water, Sewer and Other Improvements to Cemetery Road.** The Finance Committee met on February 18, 2020 and voted to sponsor this Resolution and to move forward with this Bond recommendation to the full City Council. The City Bond Counsel has reviewed and approved the language in this Resolution. The Bond calls for 15 years, however, Council has the option to change the length of the Bond amortization.
- B. Resolution No. 49-20: Vote to Adopt a Policy of Staffing the Fire Department With a Minimum of Four (4) Firefighters on Each Shift.** The Public Safety Committee met on May 14<sup>th</sup> and voted to support this Resolution. I have attached a copy of the section of the City Charter that is noted in this Resolution. I understand that the Public Safety Committee will move to pass this Resolution with a second reading on Monday. This Resolution would particularly address any needed Budgeting action for the remainder of FY 2020 and FY 2021. It would then be my intent to increase the Firefighter Overtime Proposed Budget Line for FY 2022 based on tracking our overtime spending up until then.

**Other**

- A. City Council to Vote to Authorize the City Manager to be the Designated Signing Authority for the GOFERR Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant Agreement, and any other Grant Agreements that Provide Relief to the City in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Response, and Furthermore Votes to Accept the GOFERR Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant Subject to the Terms of the Offer and the Rules and Regulations of the Grant Agreement as Promulgated by the State of New Hampshire.** With Council approval, I will be able to work with Staff to ensure the City receives reimbursements for certain City expenditures related to this Pandemic.

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

**A. Informational Items.**

- 1. First Responder Stipend.** As you most likely are aware, our Police Officers and Firefighters “first responders” are eligible for a first responder stipend in a newly launched State/Federal COVID-19 funding program. I wanted to share that this stipend program is a voluntary program for municipalities. In addition, each municipality can determine who makes the decision to authorize participation. Without any objection- I have authorized Staff to begin implementation to provide our first responders with this Stipend. Attached is a copy of the email that I sent on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

**A. Informational Items (cont.)**

- 2. City Parks.** Our Recreation Staff, as well as I, appreciate the general public’s adherence to the Governor’s Emergency Order regarding social distancing and maintaining gatherings in groups of 10 or less at our Parks. That stated, we have recently been noticing organized activities at Noble Pines in violation of this Order. Please note that our City Parks and Trails are open, however, these facilities are closed to any activities involving a violation of the Governor’s Order of 10 or less. Attached is a copy of an e-Blast sent out on Friday and posted to our City media sites.

**Attachments**

- 1. City Attorney Certifications Three (3)**
- 2. Department Head Reports**
- 3. Letter to U.S. EPA Regarding Great Bay Total Nitrogen General Permit**

Councilor Vincent asked about Cemetery Road as far as what the City side cost is and if Grant is involved. City Manager answered that the entire project involves both utility money and general fund money. We have estimated it through our Engineers to be \$3.8 million. We have a Transportation Alternative Program that is doing some improvements on High Street with some sidewalk improvements as well as improvements on Memorial Drive and the

connecting trail between the Middle School and the Maplewood School Elementary. Councilor Vincent stated that it is about \$3.8 million for the City roughly. City Manager answered yes, that we will be going out to bid and getting a firm number. That is split between Utilities Water and Sewer Fund and the General Fund.

Councilor Witham stated from the Public Works & Environment Committee that originally Cemetery Road was part of a TAP Grant but through action of this Council we removed that from the TAP Grant because it exceeded the TAP Grant authorization, that's where there was some connectivity. The \$3.8 million as we heard from our consultants back when the project was unveiled. About a third from the Enterprise Water Fund, a third from Wastewater Enterprise Fund and a third from the General Fund. It is all City money, but depends on what bucket you take it from.

Councilor Vincent asked if the money is already there as far as the one third for wastewater and one third for water, correct. City Manager responded that it will be part of the bond, the water and sewer fund will have to pay back that bond. We are bonding \$3.8 million or whatever the bids come in at.

Councilor Witham reminded that we have a \$1 million bond that is retiring from the High Street road improvements that we were leveraging to use for this project as well.

## **NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS**


Nominations Requiring Council Confirmation Vote:

- A. Jeremy Degler, Appointment as an Alternate Member of the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire, May 2023.
- B. Scott Orzechowski, Re-Appointment as a Member of the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire, May 2023.
- C. Dale A. Smith-Kenyon, Re-Appointment as a Member of the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire, June 2023.
- D. Angela Ficco, Re-Appointment as a Member of the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire, June 2023.

***Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Paradis made a motion to approve the entire slate of nominations. Motion passed by roll call vote 9-0.***

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

ORDINANCES

	<b>City of Somersworth – Ordinance</b>
	Ordinance No: <b>19-20</b> <b>TO AMEND CHAPTER 13, POLICE OFFENSES, SECTION 13.3.1-D, NO PARKING ANYTIME</b>

May 4, 2020

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 Police Offenses, Section 13. 3.1-D, No Parking Anytime, by adding:

Franklin Street, approximately 100 feet westerly from Green Street, on the south side of the street (to the opposite side of the road from the intersection with Silver Street)

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

<b>Authorization</b>	
<i>Sponsored by Councilor:</i> David A. Witham	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

## City of Somersworth – Ordinance 19-20

### History

First Read Date:	05/04/2020	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:	05/18/2020	Removed From Table:	
Second Read:	05/18/2020		

### Discussion

*Ordinance No. 19-20 will remain in first reading until call of chair.*

Councilor Witham stated that he understands that it is practice to hold a public Hearing for an Ordinance change, but he explained that this is the intersection that we removed the red blinking light at the four way stop. It has been his observation that the intersection has been compromised with the addition of a multi-unit apartment building on the corner of Green Street and Franklin Street. It has created the need for a tremendous amount of on street parking. Until we can take action on this he just wondered if City Staff could impose a temporary parking restriction in this area that is called out in the Ordinance. City Manager stated that he will discuss this with the Police Chief in regards to a temporary police Ordinance.

Councilor Witham stated that he appreciated City Staff for helping him working on the language of this. This is on the southern end of Franklin Street towards High Street from Green Street. It effectively, after you take in the distance from intersection moves it back approximately two more car lengths, there are two parking spots on that part of Franklin Street, but there is a sweep there. Now with the removal of the red flashing light it's even more problematic than it was before to travel that roadway. Creating some space at the intersection is the desire of the Ordinance. It wasn't a problem until the building on the corner of Franklin Street recently got developed with more units leading to increasing the number of on street parking that is taking place.

Councilor Vincent stated that his girlfriend came into the room with him during the last vote and brought him a glass of water so he wanted to state that. Secondly, he has some concerns about this parking, he urged the Council to think about this and to bring it to Traffic Safety Committee because we do a thorough break down in Traffic Safety. He understands that there is a missing light there; however there are some issues with parking there. If we lose two spaces or four spaces, and don't get him wrong he doesn't want to compromise safety, however we do have a Traffic Safety Committee and it should be sent there, everything else

is sent there. He is not trying to take anything away from Councilor Witham; he is right on top of it.

Councilor Dumont stated he thought there is also congestion on that site, with people parking on both sides. He liked the idea that Councilor Vincent had in regards to sending it to Traffic Safety. The immediate thought that comes to his mind is South Street and Franklin Street travel the same direction along with Indigo Hill Road maybe one of them could be one-way, maybe parking on one side only. We send everything else to traffic safety, why not now.

Councilor Witham stated that he was not familiar that we send everything to Traffic Safety if that's where it should go, he will share that this was run by the Police Chief and the Chair of the Traffic Safety Committee Captain Timmons and they were both extremely supportive of this endeavor. If it is a process he apologized if he circumvented the process, if it is not a process then he is not sure we need to do that and it would be a wasted step.

Councilor Paradis she understood there were saw horses there with temporary no parking signs, but was there anything posted regarding the Public Hearing this evening.

Councilor Witham answered that a communication from Police Chief Kretschmar sent to property owners in the area to let them know. Whether that happened or not he can't verify.

***Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Cameron made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 19-20. Motion passed 9-0, by roll call vote.***

<b>Voting Record</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin	X	
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent	X	
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont	X	
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin	X	
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud	X	
At Large Councilor	Witham	X	
At Large Councilor	Gerding	X	
At Large Councilor	Cameron	X	
At Large Councilor	Paradis	X	
<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>On 05/18/2020</b>	<b>Ordinance 19-20</b>	<b>PASSED</b>	<b>FAILED</b>

RESOLUTIONS



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: **47-20**

**TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY TO USE FUNDING FROM THE CITY PARKS AND PARKS FACILITIES REHABILITATION /RECONSTRUCTION CAPITAL RESERVE FUND AS A PORTION OF THE CITY’S MATCH TO A LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION GRANT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO JULES BISSON PARK**

May 4, 2020

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 28-18 to change the purpose of the Hilltop Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund and establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of Improvements, Reconstruction, or Rehabilitation of City Parks and City Park Facilities, and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 8-20 to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Grant Agreement with the State of New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant to make improvements to Jules Bisson Park, and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of these improvements is \$90,000 (Ninety Thousand dollars) requiring the City to provide a 50% match in the amount of \$45,000 (Forty Five Thousand dollars), and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the City utilize the Parks and Parks Facilities Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund to provide a portion of the City’s match in the amount of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand dollars), and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has reviewed this recommendation and is in support of it, 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 \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand dollars) from the City Parks and Parks Facilities Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund to be used for improvements to Jules Bisson Park.

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

**City of Somersworth – Resolution 47-20**

<b>History</b>			
First Read Date:	05/04/2020	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:	05/18/2020		

**Discussion**

*Resolution No. 47-20 will remain in first read until the call of the Chair.*


*Councilor Austin, seconded by Councilor Michaud moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 47-20. Motion passed 9-0, by roll call vote.*

<b>Voting Record</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin	X	
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent	X	
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont	X	
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin	X	
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud	X	
At Large Councilor	Witham	X	
At Large Councilor	Gerding	X	
At Large Councilor	Cameron	X	
At Large Councilor	Paradis	X	
<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
On 05/18/2020	Resolution 47-20	<b>PASSED</b>	<b>FAILED</b>

**NEW BUSINESS**



ORDINANCE

	<p><b>City of Somersworth – Ordinance</b></p>
	<p>Ordinance No: <b>20-20</b></p> <p><b>SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO INSTALL FENCING AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS FOR A DOG PARK AT MILLENNIUM PARK</b></p>

May 18, 2020

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

The annual budget for the City of Somersworth for Fiscal Year 19-20 is amended as follows:

Appropriate \$20,000 from unanticipated City revenue and a transfer from the Cable Fund to the Capital Outlay section of the FY19-20 General Fund budget as follows:

Revised Budget \$ 537,913	Amendment \$ 20,000	Revised Budget \$ 557,913
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Approved as to Funding:

Scott A. Smith  
Director of Finance and Administration

Recorded by:

Kelly Gagne  
Deputy City Clerk

Background:

This Ordinance appropriates funding to install fencing, signage, and other improvements for use as a dog park at Millennium Park. The funding for this project is provided by a combination of estimated donations received (\$2,000) and a transfer from the Cable Fund to the General Fund in the amount of \$18,000.

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

Authorization	
<p><i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i></p> <p>David A. Witham Nancie Cameron Donald Austin Richard Michaud Martin P. Dumont, Sr. Martin Pepin Crystal Paradis</p>	<p><i>Approved:</i></p> <p>City Attorney</p>

**City of Somersworth – Ordinance 20-20**

**History**

First Read Date:	05/18/2020	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

**Discussion**

*Ordinance No. 20-20 will remain in first read until the call of the Chair.*

*Public Hearing scheduled for next City Council Meeting.*

<b>Voting Record</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Gerding		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Paradis		
<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>			
On / / Ordinance 20-20			

RESOLUTION



## City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: **48-20**

### **VOTE TO AUTHORIZE A BOND FOR ROAD, SIDEWALK, DRAINAGE, WATER, SEWER AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO CEMETERY ROAD**

May 18, 2020

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution 18-18 to authorize the City Manager to contract with Wright Pierce Engineers of Portsmouth, NH to provide engineering and design services for various complete streets projects which included Cemetery Road, and

WHEREAS, the engineering and design for the improvements to Cemetery Road are nearing completion, and

WHEREAS, Wright Pierce Engineers has estimated the cost to construct the improvements to Cemetery Road to be \$3,800,000 (Three Million Eight Hundred Thousand dollars), and

WHEREAS, the project cost includes engineering, contract administration, construction inspection, and construction of road, sidewalk, drainage, water, and sewer improvements to Cemetery Road, as well as other associated ancillary costs (collectively, the “Project”),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT an amount not to exceed \$3,800,000 (Three Million Eight Hundred Thousand dollars) is appropriated for the Project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

- (a.) the City Manager is authorized to borrow up to \$3,800,000 (Three Million Eight Hundred Thousand dollars) under the Municipal Finance Act and issue bonds and notes payable within 15 years from their dates, and
- (b.) the City Manager is authorized to issue temporary notes in anticipation of the issue of these bonds or notes, and
- (c.) 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
- (d.) the estimated useful life of this project is expected to exceed 15 years.

#### Authorization

*Sponsored by Councilors:*

David A. Witham  
Donald Austin  
Martin P. Dumont, Sr  
Martin Pepin

*Approved:*

City Attorney

**City of Somersworth – Resolution 48-20**

**History**

First Read Date:	05/18/2020	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

**Discussion**

*Resolution No. 48-20 will remain in first read until the call of the Chair.*

*Public Hearing scheduled for next City Council Meeting.*

<b>Voting Record</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Gerding		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Paradis		
<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>			
On / / . Resolution 48-20		<b>PASSED</b>	<b>FAILED</b>



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: 49-20

**VOTE TO ADOPT A POLICY OF STAFFING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WITH A MINIMUM OF FOUR (4) FIREFIGHTERS ON EACH SHIFT**

May 18, 2020

WHEREAS, the current policy of the City of Somersworth is to staff a minimum of four (4) firefighters on each night shift and a minimum of three (3) firefighters on each day shift, and

WHEREAS, after review of this policy the recommendation is to increase minimum staffing to four (4) firefighters on all shifts which will benefit the City by improving efficiency and response capability of the Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation to change this policy has been reviewed by the Public Safety Committee and they support this change and further recommend that the City Manager cover any incremental cost increases due to this policy change from the current FY2020 budget and the FY2021 approved budget through City Charter Transfer of Appropriations authorizations outlined in Ch. 7.6 (D) ,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City adopt a policy of staffing the Fire Department with a minimum of four (4) firefighters on each shift, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager shall cover any incremental cost increase due to this policy change from the current budget as outlined in the City Charter, Transfer of Appropriations, Ch. 7.6 (D).

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> Martin Pepin Kenneth S. Vincent Crystal Paradis	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

**City of Somersworth – Resolution 49-20**

**History**

First Read Date:	05/18/2020	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

**Discussion**

Mayor Hilliard referred Resolution No. 49-20 to the Finance Committee.

<b>Voting Record</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Ward 1 Councilor	Pepin		
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont		
Ward 4 Councilor	Austin		
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Gerding		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Paradis		
<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>			
On / / . Resolution 49-20		<b>PASSED</b>	<b>FAILED</b>

## OTHER

- A. City Council to Vote to Authorize the City Manager to be the Designated Signing Authority for the GOFERR Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant Agreement, and any Other Grant Agreements that Provide Relief to the City in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Response, and Furthermore, Votes to Accept the GOFERR Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant Subject to the Terms of the Offer and the Rules and Regulations of the Grant Agreement as Promulgated by the State of New Hampshire.

*The City Manager is authorized by roll call vote 9-0.*

## COMMENTS BY VISITORS

### CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Paradis welcome Officer Singletary, she read a great write up in Fosters, especially as we are honoring our Police and EMS. She expressed how much we all miss Trish already our outgoing City Clerk her last day was last week. She is looking forward to our next City Clerk. She also highlighted that she has seen a few residents bring up and thought was a great idea and highlighted it for any residents watching if they want to throw in their support of this as well. She saw someone fill out a petition on Trader Joe's website to come to a certain town or city and someone had shared support of and highlighted that we have an empty grocery store here in our plaza. She knows there are a lot of things in the works for our plaza and it is just one block away from where 36,000 cars drive by every day. She thinks it would be such a great idea because it is a brand that everyone already knows. Trader Joe's could bring people that one block in to stop shop and eat. Take advantage of all our local restaurants, she thought that would be a great idea. If you would want to see a downtown grocery store, especially right now as we are talking about essential services. If we look at what essential services are downtown most people that live downtown including a lot of new residents coming in from Chinburg mills down by the river to have a walkable grocery store again now that Lucky's is there would be a great idea. So people can go online and fill out a form to express to Trader Joe's that you want to bring them here and now that she was first to comment she welcomes everyone else's ideas.

Councilor Cameron stated that she is taking a different avenue and share some information about graduation at the high school. She has been involved with the Committee and does a lot of the behind the scenes for everybody. She has been given permission to discuss a few of the highlights. The Committee is made of students, staff, student parents and administration and the School Board. They meet weekly to discuss the end of the year activities. We currently have a few things in place, if anyone has driven by the high school on a Friday night starting this past Friday the lights are on highlighting some signs as well as the scoreboard lit up with 2020. As graduation gets closer there will be political like signs with the senior's pictures on them to celebrate our students. We are also going to have a hybrid graduation ceremony planned for June 11, 2020. It will not be a traditional ceremony by any means; it is not a public event. You can see any updates on the SAU website, we are following the Governors orders with social distancing and the restrictions on social

gatherings. We're trying to make it exciting for all the students where this is a very interesting year for them. Let's celebrate our leaders of tomorrow.

Councilor Gerding thanked Councilor Cameron for bringing up graduation, he is sure there are so many students looking forward to that. He knows we have some fun stuff planned for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students as well. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers have been working really, really hard at making sure the end of the year doesn't go unrecognized, as well as Principal Hilliard working on ideas as well. He also mentioned that as the weather begins to get nice and we have our Holiday weekend coming up he wanted to reiterate what the City Manager stated regarding practicing social distancing. He knows it is tempting to go to barbeques and see family and friends and try to act like the world has gone back to the way it was but we still need to be cognizant of staying 6ft apart and wearing face masks with people who are not living with you. At Clear Choice MD in Portsmouth is doing antibody testing and he highly encourages people to get antibody testing if you have that availability to do so. It is a great way to determine whether you have or have not had it; the test has a 94% success rate. A fun idea he has threw out to the rest of the Council, since we haven't had a chance to take our group Council photo that we should take the opportunity to have a Zoom Council photo. It would be a great way to look back and see the Zoom Council photo it would be a neat memory.

Mayor Hilliard stated that he thought it was a great idea and a moment that should be captured in Somersworth history. He stated that he will talk with Jenne and get that scheduled.

Councilor Witham stated that he thought Councilor Gerding was heading down the road of creating an avatar of him. He was planning on no comments tonight but after the meeting now has a few things he wanted to touch upon. He started most importantly with recognition of Law Enforcement Memorial Week, typically celebrated last Friday. He has attended many, many years at the ceremony in Concord and Somersworth is always represented. They were represented again this year; Officer Sloane and Sargent McKnight took a photo in front of the Law Enforcement Memorial that circulated on social media. He is reminded of Officer Kowalski on that September 1979 evening when he was killed as a result of a horrific end of a high speed pursuit. That happened nearly in front of the house he was growing up in and that evening watched the Fire Department extricate him from his mangled cruiser. His Dad was a Police Officer at the time, so that has special meaning for him and certainly an impact on his life as he will never forget and think about it often. Secondly, he spoke about Stewart's Ambulance and EMS week. He himself has been in an ambulance no more than five times. Memorial Day is coming up this weekend we celebrate; every year he has been on Council he attended the celebrations and parades unfortunately those won't be happening this year so that will break that streak. He does plan on doing his own thing and making a visit to the cemeteries and paying his own individual respect. He was happy to hear the Economic Development Committee is in favor of moving forward with selling the former Police Station; he has wanted to sell that for as long as it has been vacant. He asked the City Manager to give an update at some point in the future in regards to the Police Station light pole that was knocked down by a visitor this past winter. He is afraid that with each passing day this is going to go the way of a TAP Grant and take 6-9 years to get the pole replaced. He would like that expedite that a little bit. He loved the idea of Trader Joe's. The idea of



Trader Joe's coming to town surfaced at the old Staples building up on High Street, we were informed that back when that happened a large supermarket chain purchased the building as a strategic move to block out a Trader Joe's or any like business from going in there unfortunately. He thanked Councilor Cameron for the update on Graduation ceremonies and things that are being done to honor seniors. Just to add that baseball boosters are looking to recognize their baseball seniors, there are 9 players this year. This was a team that could chase the title which will never happen now. They are looking to do on field photos with parents and players; they have received approval from the school and are now awaiting approval from the City. One player and two parents at a time down on the field with the photographer, he did promise that he would stripe the field so it looked game ready. He will light the scoreboard to read 2020, which has been the biggest challenge so far due to inking one lighting up, so he will cover that up and install the sound system. This now brings him to a comment about baseball in general that he has shared with the City Manager over the last week or two that the baseball numbers are down. There will be no Babe Ruth season and no baseball played at the Noble Pines this year, but we still have to buy our insurance for \$900 for the year. It is not a fat wallet program and we have no revenue from player registrations. Is this the end of Babe Ruth baseball and ultimately the end to baseball at the Noble Pines as we know it, he hopes not, but his fear is it could be. Without a Babe Ruth program it makes the High School program less than certain because there would be no feeder system. Lastly, to comment about Resolution 49-20 concerning Fire Department staffing he applauds Councilor Pepin for bringing this idea forward. He'll remember that he led the charge and Councilor Pepin moved forward with him where we fought to increase staffing to the four people at night. The idea was for all four people around the clock we couldn't get there it was a budget problem. Although he is supportive of the idea of four on all the time, he is a bit concerned about the methodology that we are choosing to use here, it feels like David Copperfield is alive and well with a little bit of budget illusion. He would rather approach this from a supplemental appropriation stand point then the approach that is being proposed. He is pleased that it got routed to Finance and is able to be vetted out thoroughly.

Councilor Michaud thanked fellow Councilors for approving and moving forward with the improvements to Jules Bisson Park, he really appreciates it. He knew him very well and was a young child at the time. He and his wife were really close friends with my parents. Wished everyone a good Holiday weekend and hoped that everyone stays well.

Councilor Austin reiterate Councilor Gerding's comments about maintaining social distancing and following the guidelines set out by all of our leadership. He thinks that people are beginning to congregate and see larger crowds gathering. We have to continue to maintain the discipline we have had so far and encouraged people to wear their masks and maintain social distancing. We can get through this and reopen our businesses if people follow the guidelines. Who knows what the new normal is going to look like five years from now but, we have to be mindful we will survive and do well. He always at this time of the year states the ad that freedom isn't free. It is important to recognize that all those people that gave their all so we can have what we have. He thanked the service men, women and their families. He gave a shout out to Dr. Gadomski and the School Board for what is going on. Education has taken a huge hit and they continue to provide excellent leadership. He is glad to see concrete plans to see the seniors recognized.

Councilor Dumont stated that the sound system in the Council Chamber is much better and thanked the City Manager for that. He spoke in regards to the Election Committee being created and it is a valuable process. The voting process is going to be hindered by the Coronavirus and something that is going to be hindered. He supported Councilor Paradis being the chair of that Committee. First responders, there is a lot being said regarding Stewart's Ambulance, there is a lot that can be said for what we have. Stewart's Ambulance, Police and Fire, they are all important in regards to this fighting this virus. Then those people that we forget about because we don't work with them every day all the nurses, people who are for care for those in nursing homes. Memorial Day Councilor Austin just said it, sacrifice is the word. There is a saying that "there is no better gift than laying down someone's life." Thanked the City Manager for going the extra mile, in his career there was a saying "that there is no traffic jam in the extra mile" he can assure that the City Manager manages at that level. Just having the packets available for pick up, he never realized the true value of the drive up window, I have to tell you Dover doesn't have one and it is much appreciated. We have a new commander at the American Legion who has replaced Ray Doyon, due to health concerns. He thanked Councilor Witham for educating him on the Japanese knotweed in his own yard. However, his wife turned down the easy solution that he came up with at the Pines. He is now pulling it out by hand every day; he tried to get her to agree to get some goats. He received a call from a resident on Mount Vernon Street; regarding a valid point about his street condition. The resident never hears anyone say anything about it so he promised that he would say something tonight. The water overflowed the drainage situation and flooded his yard. He thanked the City Manager and his staff for the reports received. The most vulnerable part of our population is the elderly regarding this virus. Most are living in an apartment and what do they do and where can they go as they are the age bracket that is the most susceptible. He thanked Councilor Cameron for helping this population. Coronavirus is a bad thing but what it has given him is a chance to do things that he can enjoy, he enjoys watching the birds and the bear from past years has now left 73 Crest Drive. He is having a ball sitting on the new deck watching the birds and the butterflies. The new Council photo that Councilor Gerding mentioned is a great idea. Businesses within our Community that are suffering, whether they will continue is either in the air or it has already been decided, it's sad. It's sad to see someone work so hard to just try to earn a dollar, and he is not talking about Market Basket or people who have delivery services. He can remember all the comments in Economic Development prior to becoming a Councilor about adding more pizza shops; those are the places that are successful this whole time.

Councilor Vincent stated he thought that Councilor Gerding's photo idea is great along with a regular photo. He thanked Law Enforcement and EMS for all their services, because we certainly need them. The ultimate price is the loss of life and for Officer Kowalski that was that. Along with that he spoke about what he calls other casualties, he said this at the Public Safety Committee meeting. He had the privilege of serving with Councilor Pepin for years on the Fire Department he taught him a lot; he thanked Councilor Pepin and stated that he is a great man. Unfortunately, things like PTSD riddle the First Responders. When he first got involved in the 80's no one wanted to talk about it. Councilor Pepin actually removed Officer Kowalski out of that vehicle on that tragic night. He is not taking anything away from Officer Kowalski's family he paid the ultimate price. He thanked Councilor Pepin for being there to help him and quite possibly hundreds or thousands of other people. His life has changed since he was 18 and worked in the Fire Department. He spoke of the First Responder stipend

and he doesn't mean to take anything away from the brothers and sisters he worked with. The stipend is great, but let's just remember one thing, and he can say this because he was a Firefighter for 33 years, every day that I went to that fire station was a hazard. That doesn't mean there was a virus there, but he could have been involved in a tanker roll over, in a burning building, Police Officers going to a domestic who are being assaulted and shot and killed. He respects the stipend, but everyday that men and woman for Police, Fire and EMS go into that job that is a hazard. How about the worker bagging your groceries, or the cashiers they are on the front line, the gas station attendant and they are not getting anything. Like he said before, he is not taking away from any First Responders it is a great plus and a great incentive, but there are other people that are in the "danger zone." To all the people who have lost on Memorial Day, his thoughts and prayers are with you.

Councilor Pepin stated that after listening to Councilor Vincent speak he doesn't know what to say. It is part of the job that you go to, that is what you sign up for he has gone for help with what he has dealt with as a Firefighter. It affects you and your home life and everyone you always think about it, you deal with it every day and flash backs. He spoke of an accident on Thanksgiving morning where there was a head on accident at the S curves on Route 108, which pops up in his memory every now and then. He appreciated Councilor Vincent's thoughts Officer Kowalski does pop into his mind a lot, himself and a Sargent from Dover Police Department was also there to help, he remembers like it was yesterday. Be safe and cautious and can't wait to get rid of Zoom electronic meetings and meet together to share other things besides being all business. He has a new little pup that is giving him a work out now. Everybody be safe and take care.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

## **NONPUBLIC SESSION**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Austin made a motion to adjourn at the call of the chair. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm, motion passed 9-0, by roll call vote.*

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Kelly Gagne, Deputy City Clerk

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Dana Hilliard, Mayor