City Connection

Proud Past, Bright Future

August 2019



August Meetings in Council Chambers

City Council Meetings

Please note in the month of August there is only 1 Council Meeting.

Next Council Meeting is: Monday August 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Note: Agendas are available the Friday before a Council Meeting on our Website

Zoning Board of Adjustment Wednesday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Site Review Technical Committee Thursday, August 15 at 10:30 a.m.

Conservation CommissionWednesday, August 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board

Tuesday, August 27 at 6:30 p.m.

Historic District Commission

Wednesday, August 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Traffic Safety Committee

Wednesday, August 21 at 2:00 p.m.

Please note meeting Calendar is subject to change.

To view Agendas of City Council meetings please visit City website www.somersworth.com/calendar/



The Mayor's Corner

Pride 2019

We are a community of hope, love, and dreams. The journey of the LGBT community is a reflection of the American journey. Since our declared Independence, for 243 years, Americans have held steadfast to construct a society where all would be honored and celebrated. Our creed and dedication towards the insurance of inalienable rights for all has held strong as the fabric of humanity which binds us all.

We know that the road to achieving the hope of humanity, the hope of dignity for all, the hope where all will be protected and celebrated, will continue to be littered with the oppression, and aggression by the false prophets of democracy; those who cloak themselves in the blanket of hate and use a misinterpretation of the foundation elements of our nation, a misinterpretation of religious creed to continue to progress a society, a community and a nation which would suppress, extinguish and destroy the evolution of human liberty throughout our country and the world. Read More...

We are a community! We are achieving progress and greatness!

WE ARE SOMERSWORTH!

Mayor Dana Hilliard

Mayoral Summer Office Hours

Wednesday: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

People are welcomed to stop by during this time. Or, if you prefer, you can make an appointment by calling Brenda at 692-9503 or email Brenda.

City of Somersworth City Hall One Government Way Somersworth, NH 03878 (603) 692-9555

<u>City Hall Hours:</u> Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday City Hall is open until 6:00 p.m.



Stay in touch with City Happenings.

- Business Email List
- City e-Newsletter
- Recreation Department

Join our mailing list

For a complete list of all upcoming meetings visit the <u>City calendar</u>

Missed the Meeting... Catch it again online.

Don't forget: If you missed the Live City Council, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Historic District Commission and School Board on Channel 22. Catch it again online and on demand.

Simply visit

https://www.somersworth.com/home/pages/watch-somersworth-city-hall-online

to begin watching meetings on demand.



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Summer Concert Series at Furber Chapel Sunday, August 18 at 2:00 p.m.





Lynne White McMahon, Violin Sally Wituszynski, Viola Gary Hodges, Cello

Join us for an afternoon of classical string music as they play songs from:

Ernest von Dohnanyi

Bernhard Cruselle

Ludwig von Beethoven

Come and enjoy this Free Concert!

From the City Manager's Office



City Manager Reports - Click here to view

2019 MUNICIPAL ELECTION INFORMATION

Election Day November 5, 2019

Anyone interested in running for the following positions must file a Declaration of Candidacy at the City Clerk's office during the filing period - September 11-26, 2019.

- Mayor
- City Council (Wards 1-5 and At Large)
- · School Board (Wards 1-5 and At Large)
- Election Officials
 - o Moderator (Wards 1-5)
 - o Ward Clerk (Wards 1-5)
 - o Selectman (Wards 1-5)

Election Officials Needed in all Wards For the November 5, 2019 Municipal Election

Want to get involved in your Community?

Interested in the Election process?

Short term, one day Commitment.

We will train you, provide lunch and a stipend.

Contact the City Clerk at 603-692-9555 tharris@somersworth.com



Time to go Paperless with your Utility Bills?

Email Notification



The City of Somersworth now offers you the chance to Go Paperless!!!

Sign up today and start receiving your

<u>Utility Bills</u> right to your inbox instead of your mailbox.

Email billing gives you the convenience of receiving your utility bill the same day it is created and also helps to reduce the amount of paper coming through your home.

Questions?? Contact the Utility Clerk at 603-692-9523.

Download the email sign up form right from our <u>website</u> or contact the Utility Clerk for assistance.

EZ Pay Program



Sign up for EZ Pay and stop worrying about whether you paid your bill or not. EZ Pay takes the hassle out of paying your water and sewer utility bill and there is NO added fee to use it.

E-Z PAY is a fast, reliable and convenient way to pay your monthly utility bill. Your bill will be debited directly from your checking or statement savings account without any further action required by you. Save time and money. No checks to write, no stamps to buy, no worrying about whether or not the bank sent the payment on time or about incurring late fees.

More Questions?? Read through our brochure here on the <u>website</u> or contact the Utility Clerk at 603-692-9523.

Fun Happenings at Somersworth Police







Bring your family to the National Night Out that is sponsored by Somersworth Police and Somersworth Prevention Coalition.

National Night Out is a community event to promote community awareness in crime prevention partnerships.

There will be *FREE* family activities and prizes!



Please Join us for Coffee with A Cop

Tuesday, August 20th 8:00 AM until 10:00 AM Dunkin Donuts on High Street



Somersworth Youth Connection Citizen Program

SYC Citizenship Program is working with Public Safety Departments to learn about being a good citizen. They meet once a week with difference agencies. This month Officer Ashley Fuller took the kids to the Police Academy in Concord to learn about being a Police Officer. SYC also conducts question and answer sessions with public safety agencies. Thank you Officer Fuller!

FREE A.L.I.C.E. Training for Businesses

We are offering FREE Active Shooter Training for any business in Somersworth. ALICE stands for Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate. Contact Chief Kretschmar at dkretschmar@somersworth.com

for more information.

Somersworth Police Facebook Page

Check out Somersworth Police Department's Facebook page. We use this to inform you about important community information including crime information, road closures, snow emergencies/ parking bans, and community events. Here is the link:

https://www.facebook.com/SomersworthPoliceDepartment/

We send out Nixle alerts for parking bans and other important information to cell phones and emails. You can sign up for free Nixle at www.Nixle.com





Somersworth Crime Line:
You can leave anonymous information at 692-9111



From your Local Fire Department 692-3457

Storms

Many thunderstorms and high winds occur during the summer months. Occasionally there are high winds that accompany the storms. Power loss can occur and electrical wires can be knocked to the ground by fallen trees or branches. It is best to have a plan beforehand to deal with these occurrences:

- Have flashlights easily available in the home
- Have a battery operated radio to get updates about the storm and conditions on the roads
- Enroll your cellphone with NH Reverse 9-1-1 or Nixle for emergency messages
- More information on the <u>city website</u> or <u>ReadyNH.gov</u>

Gas Grills

Summer means outdoor grilling of food, among other things. Grills fueled by LP gas are abundant. Fires sometimes occur when the open flame impinges on rubber hoses delivering the fuel to the grill. Wind driven flames or grills needing cleaning or maintenance often are the cause of fires as well.

- Keep grills away from buildings and combustibles (10 to 15 feet)
- · Clean your grill frequently
- Maintain your grill in good condition

Gasoline Usage

Gasoline usage during warm months can be dangerous due to fume discharge and pouring gasoline into lawn mowers and other machinery with hot motors. Remember that gasoline is highly flammable and fumes can travel distances and ignite. Small motors usually dissipate heat quite well but injuries and deaths occur every year due to gasoline accidents.

Portable Fire Extinguishers

Everyone should carry a portable fire extinguisher in their car and have at least one located in the home - preferably close to the kitchen.

An A-B-C type should be used as it will extinguish all types of fires except flammable metals. At least a 10 pound unit should be purchased. Only those with metal triggers/nozzle assemblies typically can be recharged. Most dry chemical extinguishers today are disposable (plastic parts) and usually can hold a charge for 10-12 years. As they are mostly disposable there is no way to recharge them if used or the charging agent leaks out.

Information from Public Works 692-4266



Forest Glade Cemetery Improvements

City staff have been involved in several specific historic preservation projects during this summer including the completion of the restoration of the main entrance gates and fence panels and a workshop organized by the Cemetery Trustees on how to clean and re set old grave stones. The City received a \$10,000 Moose Plate Grant last year that funded the cost to restore and repair the main entrance gates to the Cemetery off of Maple Street and in front of the Furber Chapel Cassidy Brothers Ironworks out of Boston area was hired to do the restoration work. The main gates and fence panels were reinstalled in early July.



The Cemetery Trustees had a successful workshop, volunteers learned how to clean old burial markers and monuments and how to straighten monuments. Richard Maloone of NH Old Graveyard Association provided the training on best practices with this work to volunteers and Trustees on Saturday July 13. The event was held at Forest Glade Cemetery. The event was well received and 10 grave markers were straightened and cleaned during the workshop. The Trustees hope to solicit other volunteers in the future to help with this effort.

NH DOT Rte 108 Complete Street Design Project

NH DOT project engineers have been gathering highway information for preliminary design work related to the Rte. 108 Complete Streets projects. The project involves redesigning Rte. 108 from the Dover Crossing area to the southern area of Skyhaven Airport in Rochester, including the entire road section within Somersworth. Key features being considered include lane adjustments, center turn lanes, landscape islands, bike lanes, sidewalks and crosswalks designed to improve mobility for all users of the corridor. The State has held public listening sessions and recently held a walking tour of the Route 108 Corridor this summer. City officials have been actively participating in the project as a substantial portion of the proposed improvements will be within Somersworth City limits. Another round of public information meetings coordinated with NHDOT and the City Council is being planned for early fall.

Please note: Labor Day Holiday Curbside Trash and Recycle Collection Modified Schedule

Due to the **Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 2, 2019,** there will be a one (1) day delay in the collection of trash and recycling, as follows:

Monday's collection will occur on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 Tuesday's collection will occur on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 Wednesday's collection will occur on Thursday, September 5, 2019

Somersworth Youth!!

How would you like to be involved in planning for Somersworth Parks? Here is great opportunity to help shape the City! Strafford Regional Planning Commission is doing a project looking at access to recreation in Somersworth and is focusing on three parks specifically: Jules Bisson, Malley Farm, and the Riverwalk. If you have a vision you'd like to share, stop by the library (it's air conditioned!) and draw your vision on one of the coloring sheets that are by the back door! We are so excited to hear from Somersworth citizens - especially young citizens - about the parks and recreation areas they imagine for the City!

Mom and Dad, you can take the survey too! Click on this link to take you there: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZRFLTRL

Calling All Young Somersworth Citizens! Draw Your Dream Park!



A project is taking place in Somersworth to understand how people use the parks and what could improve them. This will help the City to

Parks we are focusing on:

• JULES BISSON

promote a healthy and active lifestyle for all residents in Somersworth!

SOMERSWORTH RIVERWALK

Instructions:

- 1. Pick a park outline.
- 2. Draw what you would like to see in the park.
- 3. Do it as many times as you like or for each different park.
- 4. Return it to the Library by August 15th!

We can't wait to see your design ideas and use your input to help make Somersworth parks even better!







Somersworth Recreation Presents...

Pee Wee Soccer

Children ages 3 & 4

Saturday mornings at Noble Pines Park 9:00-9:45 a.m.

September 7th- October 19th



Join us for this exciting 6-week beginner program that is designed to teach players the basic soccer skills through fun games and friendly scrimmages. Parent participation is required for this age group. Now seeking parent volunteers to coach. We can't run this program without your help! Please reach out to the Rec Office if you can help coach this season, no experience necessary. Registration forms are on our website and in the Rec Office. For more information contact the Rec Office—603-692-9507

Early Bird Fee \$45 Residents /

\$55 Non-Residents

Register & Pay by July 19th

Fee

\$60 Residents / \$70 Non-Residents

After July 19th

Registration Deadline is August 20th

Please note that the early bird fee is no longer available. Registration deadline to sign-up is August 20

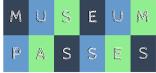
LIBRARIES ROCK!

Summer Reading at the Library

We have had a lot of kids reading this summer - and a lot of fun crafts being made too! But our program ends August 9^{th} so if your child signed up to track their reading be sure we get your logs back by then! All participants are invited to celebrate their reading with an Ice Cream Treat on August 9^{th} any time between 1:00-2:30 pm. Story Times for the Summer run until Friday August 9^{th} .

Story Times will start up again in September.

Don't Forget About our Museum Passes!



Whether it's finding something to do with the kids, taking a day trip to Boston or needing to be inside to stay cool we have some great discounts to 6 different museums. They are available to all Somersworth Residents. Give us a call to reserve a date and pass today!

Discount Passes are available for: New England Aquarium in Boston Boston Museum of Fine Arts Boston Museum of Science Strawbery Banke in Portsmouth Seacoast Science Center in Rye Children's Museum in Dover



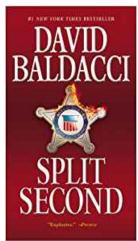
Have you Liked our Facebook Page Yet?

We've had a lot of fun programs this summer and we don't want you to miss out on what will be going on next! So don't forget - we're just a click away!

Bring Back Those Overdue Items - On Fine Free Friday!

Every month we have Fine Free Friday on the <u>first Friday</u> of the month. Return any overdue items on that day and you won't owe a thing, no matter how long you have had the item!

What Somersworth is Reading in August (Wednesday, August 28)



"Split Second"

by David Baldacci

Two Secret Service agents sworn to guard their protectees lost them in a single moment...and in this #1 New York Times bestseller, they're about to learn that the violence has just begun.

Michelle Maxwell has just wrecked her promising career at the Secret Service. Against her instincts, she let a presidential candidate out of her sight for the briefest moment and the man whose safety was her responsibility vanished into thin air. Sean King knows how the younger agent feels. Eight years earlier, the hard-charging Secret Service agent allowed his attention to be diverted for a split second. And the candidate he was protecting was gunned down before his eyes. Now Michelle and Sean are about to see their destinies converge.

Drawn into a maze of lies, secrets, and deadly coincidences, the two discredited agents uncover a shocking truth: that the separate acts of violence that shattered their lives were really a long time in the making--and are a long way from over.



Register for SYC Before Care and After School

Before Care:

Before Care is offered to students who are registered in grades K-2. The program runs Monday-Friday 7:00-8:45am at Idlehurst. (Students will be dismissed to their classrooms) The program is offered three days a week or five days a week. Before Care starts the first day of school, August 28.

Cost: \$5.00 a day

Payment is due prior to the 1st of the month. Please make checks out to Somersworth School District.

SYC Afterschool:

SYC runs Monday-Friday 2:50-6:00 at Idlehurst Elementary School. Students receive snack, academic support, and participate in various enrichment activities. SYC begins **September 3rd**.

Cost: \$160.00 per month

*Scholarships are available

Questions:

Maureen Jackman Program Director

Stacie Givetz
Program Coordinator

SYC at the Somersworth Middle School



SYC at the Middle School is ready for YOU!

and fun enrichments.

SYC runs every Monday-Friday 2:30-5:30.

Snacly Dinner is available everyday to those who stay afterschool.

Students who attend SYC are required to participate in ELS Zone. These zones are staffed with school day teachers and tutors.

There is NO COST for the middle school programs, yet donations are encouraged.

SYC begins September 3rd-Sign up now, as spots are limited

For more information, or with any questions please contact:
SYC Director—Maureen Jackman SYC C
603-692-2126
mjackman@saul6.org

SYC Coordinator—Ben Fisher 603-989-9610 bfisher@sau16.org

SYC is funded in part through the NH Dept. of Education, 21st Century Community Learning Center grant.



Maple Wood Elementary School Construction Project Update



Construction at the Maple Wood Elementary School is in full swing as preparations for the 2019-2020 school year are underway. The construction project includes renovations to the main entrance and office area, upgrades to the lighting and ventilation systems as well as replacement of the school's original roof.

This project was funded by a bond passed by the City Council in October 2018. The Somersworth School District also received \$720,000 of State Public Infrastructure Funds for this project.

Members of the City and School Board's Joint Building Committee have been working with Samyn-D'Elia

Architects of Ashland, NH and Milestone Construction from Concord, NH to oversee this project.

The Project is on schedule and will be completed before the School Year starts on August 28, 2019.

Save the Date!!



Quality Service, Quality Schools Quality Somersworth Vision 2020

"We Believe in Somersworth"



Proud Past, Bright Future