

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Executive Meeting Room
September 28, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.

Committee Members present: Councilor Richard Michaud, Chairman
Councilor Matt Gerding, Vice-Chair
Councilor Don Austin
Councilor Nancie Cameron

Administration/Staff present: City Manager Bob Belmore
Deputy City Manager Scott Smith
City Clerk Jonathan Slaven

Chairman Michaud called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVE PAST MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Councilor Michaud made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Austin and passed 4-0.

REVIEW RESOLUTION 12-23, COUNCIL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Councilor Gerding stated at the last meeting of the Committee there were questions regarding the accuracy of information in the statement found in the Resolution. Councilor Gerding introduced Kathleen Blake who helped craft the language in the statement and is a member of the New Hampshire Indigenous People's Collaborative Collective. Ms. Blake stated the language is very similar to that which is read prior to every meeting in Dover, but more directly specific to the tribes that once inhabited Somersworth. She said the only item she would change in the language if she can dig up the information is the inclusion of the exact village that is now Somersworth.

Councilor Gerding inquired if she had any suggestion on reading it monthly, only during October or at every meeting. Ms. Blake stated that many places recognize Native American Heritage in November and recommends the reading of the statement prior to all meetings. After a robust discussion, the Committee reached a consensus to sponsor the Resolution as submitted and the addition of the name of the village that later became the City of Somersworth should that information be made available by Ms. Blake.

Councilor Austin made a motion to sponsor the Resolution and addition of the name of the village that later became Somersworth if received. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gerding and passed 4-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

Manager Belmore distributed amended copies of Chapter 14, Permits and Licenses as well as a copy of a newly drafted copy of a permit application. He explained the changes were made to make a few

housekeeping amendments and to make it more clear to the applicant what is required of them in the permit application process. Belmore also went over some changes he asked the Committee to consider regarding the traffic safety committee section of the Administrative Code, Chapter 29. Manager Belmore recommended the Committee review and consider the amendments at their next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Cameron made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gerding and passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Slaven, City Clerk