

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Somersworth, NH
March 20, 2017
7:00 P.M.

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

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Hilliard called for a moment of silence in honor of former Mayor James McLin.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

MINUTES of the STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS held on MARCH 6, 2017

Councilor Cameron, seconded by Councilor Paradis, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed 7-0; Councilors Pepin and Soldati abstained.

MINUTES of the PUBLIC HEARING on ORD 9-17 held on MARCH 6, 2017

Councilor Paradis, seconded by Councilor Cameron, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed 7-0; Councilors Pepin and Soldati abstained.

MINUTES of the PUBLIC HEARING on ORD 10-17 held on MARCH 6, 2017

Councilor Paradis, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed 7-0; Councilors Pepin and Soldati abstained.

MINUTES of the CITY COUNCIL MEETING, held on MARCH 6, 2017

Councilor Cameron, seconded by Councilor Paradis, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed 7-0; Councilors Pepin and Soldati abstained.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from Robert Kraft, owner of the New England Patriots, was read by the Clerk and will be submitted for the record.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayors Report for City Council Meeting March 20th, 2017

- The foundation of Western civilization can trace its origin point to ancient Greece. From the birth place of Democracy and the Olympics, to practices of science, math, medicine, language and the arts, our daily practices throughout the world have elements of influence from Greece.
As one of the founding ethnic groups of the Hilltop City, the Greeks can also be credited with and thanked for not only help construct our great city be continuing to keep it "On the Move"! Today in honor of the contributions and efforts of the

Greek community to the Hilltop City, the Greek flag was raised on the “Citizens Flag pole” at “Citizens Place”. The flag will continue to keep waving through March 25th the date of Greek Independence Day.

- Last week, President Trump released his proposal for the 2018 Federal Budget. In some ways similar to our local process, it is the 1st step in a series of hearings and debates before the final operational budget for the federal government is approval. However, it is the outline from the current administration on what they view as priorities and necessary for our nation to continue to move forward and progress our democratic society.

While I am not surprised by the massive change in direction the President is proposing leading this nation on under the 2018 budget, I am once again dishearten, flabbergasted, distraught and angered on how the victims under the currently proposal counter everything Somersworth has worked and holds as a vital part of building a sustainable caring community.

The proposed cuts “run the gamut” from eliminating funding, to protecting the environment, to nutritional meals for the elderly and lower income. This will once again place stressors on our local government to be forced to find way to provide services for its citizens with no other funding choices or alternatives other than to raise local property taxes. Like the movie “Ground Hog Day” we are again trapped within a repeating cycle, of Washington politicians boosting their own personal egos and political motives at the expense of local governments who have no were else to turn. The current budget proposal is so far removed from reality that it even has targeted and eliminated the funding source for state governments to continue to fund 21st century programs.

SYC has been a dynamic, effective and comprehensive extended, afterschool and summer program that provides quality academic support and enrichment activities to improve school, family and community outcomes for students at Idlehurst Elementary and Somersworth Middle School since 2007. The *SYC* program, its families, school district and community are invested, dedicated and committed as a community of great potential and promise.

SYC has been extremely successful, targeting youth of promise for the past ten years providing, effective and extensive academic, social-emotional learning, and enrichment programs in the after school hours and during five weeks in the summer. *SYC* currently provides 340 youth with comprehensive and high quality programming, serving as a model over the years for many 21st century learning communities. There continues to be a growing demand and waiting list for *SYC*.

SYC promotes and fosters the development of sound literacy skills through a valued, collaborative, supportive partnership with Title I in the afterschool hours and during the five week summer learning program with activities that engage students in reflection, journaling, group discussions, participation in family

literacy activities and events. The strong emphasis on literacy is evident resulting in increasing achievement, bridging the gap and raised assessment scores.

SYC empowers youth with the wherewithal to be active, engaged contributing members of a group and greater community. They learn to collaborate, reflect, assess needs, problem-solve, and find solutions. *SYC* students have many opportunities to develop character and leadership potential and contribute to the betterment of the school and city. Community Service projects led by *SYC* have been very effective in cultivating students' leadership skills, strong sense of civic pride as well as a responsibility to the community and environment. 74% of *SYC* students have participated in at least two community service projects.

SYC provides a daily healthy meal/snack following the guidelines of Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Somersworth is considered a food desert and food insecure with limited options and access to nutritious, affordable fruits and vegetables. *SYC* provides students with a nutritious, healthy meal, fruit and vegetable options including warm meals in the winter time to fuel the mind and body. According to *Nutrition and Students' Academic Performance*, Recent studies have demonstrated that nutrition affects students' thinking skills, behavior, and health, all factors that impact academic performance. Poor nutrition can leave students' susceptible to illness or lead to headaches and stomachaches, resulting in school absences (Brown, Beardslee, & Prothrow-Stith, 2008). *SYC* is currently serving 200 meals every day as well as breakfast and lunch during summer months.

The Trump administration is stating that there is no data to continue to justify supporting these programs. I have given just a snap shot of the data that proves that *SYC* and 21st century programing is vital at ensuring students success. While I do not anticipate that that current President will take me up on my offer, I will open my hand and invite President Trump to come to the Hilltop City and explore and investigate for himself why he should reverse his decision of not funding 21st century programs in the Federal budget. It is my hope that not only will he correct his error in eliminating funding for this successful vital program, but will take the time to come here and learn firsthand from the students with whom it will effect, why it is necessary.

- As our downtown continues to revitalize itself attracting new businesses and becoming a center for gatherings and celebrations within our community, it has become vital that a defined city center and park be identified, invested in, created or restored. The city center will then continue the practices of highlighting current activities which are taking place within our community and allow for arts and other city wide social gatherings to expand. It would also become a center place for downtown passive recreation to occur and official City ceremonies to take place.

Stein Park, located at 157 Main Street, has served as the unofficial center of the downtown areas for decades. Lack of funding and age has had its effects upon the

park, however the location and possibility for expansion make it the ideal candidate for exploring further investment, redesign and the possibility of officially naming it Somersworth's "official gathering spot and center". Located near the "Summersworth" Historical Society and home to our communities' Veteran Memorial give it more validity for further review and investment.

If deemed as the appropriate location, local funding will no doubt become one of the major hurdles in redesigning Stein Park. The redesign would continue to benefit our downtown revitalization and become a place where all Somersworth residents can celebrate each other and our "Proud Past" and "Bright Future".

The investment in Somersworth cannot continue to be made by just by its citizens. If national corporations and businesses and Multinational corporations which call Somersworth home are truly part of this community, then it is time they step up and contribute beyond their property tax bill. Upon review by the Recreation Committee on whether Stein Park should be redesigned and deemed Somersworth's official center and gathering spot and final approval by the Council, I am calling upon the three largest businesses in our community, Contitech, Aclara and Walmart, to invest and contribute to the full amount necessary for the parks completion.

The completion of the parks redesign would then be a testament of how the largest employers within Somersworth are truly more than business, but caring neighbors who believe in honoring our values and continuing to celebrate our "Proud Past and "Bright Future" I look forward to hearing the completed review by the Recreation Committee and also look forward to hearing how Contitech, Aclara and Walmart are more than willing to step forward and meet this challenge.

- A special thanks to all the citizens to turned out at the Mayors community forum on Saturday. Special thanks also to At-Large Councilors Dale Sprague and Nancie Cameron and At-Large School Board Member Don Austin for your participation. The discussions and insight were truly valuable.
- The next Mayors Community forum will take place on Saturday April 8th from 9:00-10:30 at City Hall. Including in this forum will be At-Large City Councilors David Witham and Jessica Paradis and At-Large School Board members, Kelly Brennan and Matt Hanlon. 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

Appointments

- Under nominations, appointments and Elections; **In accordance with Council Rule 17 Appointments**, the following is before the Council this evening for a confirmation vote with recommendation from the Planning Board.
- **Scott Orzechowski**, as a Commissioner for the Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) with a term to expire May 2020

I respectfully request Council confirm the nomination.

This respectfully concludes my March 20th, 2017 Mayors Report

9. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance Committee – Councilor Witham stated that the committee had not met but he noted that he had a discussion with the City Manager, about Resolution 34-17. He will be encouraging a second reading at this meeting. The funding will be done through a supplemental appropriation through the Fund balance.

Government Operations – Councilor Soldati said the committee had not met, but she stated that she was surprised to hear that the City had lost a long time employee, Elise Brelis. Elise has moved to Meredith, NH. Elise had a way about her; she could calm the most irate citizen. It is a loss to the City and she will be missed.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER

Special Committees

Vision 2020 – Councilor Paradis stated that the Committee will be meeting Thursday, March 23rd.

City Manager's Report



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH
Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Dana Hilliard and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: Friday, March 17, 2017

SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for Monday, March 20, 2017
City Council Agenda

6:30 p.m. Public Hearing

Re: Resolution No. 31-17 Amend the Renewal Cable Television Franchise Agreement

Attorney Kate Miller, the City's Special Legal Counsel on this matter, will be in attendance to assist with any questions. Comcast Government Affairs Manager Jay Somers is also expected to attend.

Lay on the Table (under Section 12 of Agenda)

Resolutions

- A. Resolution No. 31-17 To Authorize the City Manager to Amend the Renewal Cable Television Franchise Agreement Between the City of Somersworth and Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc.** The City's Special Counsel, Attorney Kate Miller, recommends amending the current Franchise Agreement out for five (5) more years. The new expiration date would be June 17, 2023.

New Business (under Section 14 of Agenda)

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance No. 13-17 Amend Chapter 19 Zoning Ordinance, Section 30E Hilltop School Property Overlay District.** This Ordinance Amendment was discussed and then supported by the Economic Development Committee. This is one of the conditions outlined in the Hilltop Purchase & Sales Agreement that will need to be accomplished to finalize the sale. I recommend a Public Hearing prior to the next regular Council meeting on April 3rd at 6:45 p.m. I have attached a copy of the signed Purchase & Sales Agreement with Chinburg Builders.

Public Hearing on Ordinance 13-17 is scheduled for April 3rd at 6:45, without objection from Council.

- A. Ordinance No. 14-17 Amending Chapter 13 Police Offenses.** This Ordinance would change the current one-way traffic on Grove Street between Grand and Prospect to two-way traffic. See attached memorandum and map from Police Chief Kretschmar. I recommend a Public Hearing prior to the next regular Council meeting on April 3rd at 6:50 p.m.

Public Hearing on Ordinance 14-17 is scheduled for April 3rd at 6:50, without objection from Council.

Resolutions

- A. Resolution No. 34-17 To Authorize the City Manager to Contract with Affinity LED Lighting of Dover, NH to Upgrade the Street Lights Throughout the City of Somersworth.** Finance Committee has endorsed this proposal. I am recommending the Council authorize a contingency amount to

handle any unforeseen expenses as well as to provide some funding to upgrade any City facility lot lighting that has not yet been changed out to LED.

I have attached some of the Project highlights provided by Affinity LED Lighting. I have also provided the documentation from Eversource regarding their commitment to provide \$73,725 in incentive funding. Council will need to consider waiving rules this evening for a second reading and a vote so that we can secure the Eversource funding. I have attached a copy of Affinity's latest financial analysis for the project. Affinity's representatives have been asked to attend. Steve Lieber is the primary contact and he will have a couple of sample LED light fixtures to show folks.

- B. Resolution No. 35-17 To Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Group Net Metering Agreement with NH Solar Garden of Portsmouth, NH to Develop a Solar Project Pursuant to RSA 362-A on the Somersworth Sanitary Landfill on Blackwater Road.** The Finance Committee is sponsoring this Resolution for full City Council consideration. A copy of the Land Lease Agreement and Net Metering Agreement has been provided. It is a *Draft* Agreement from NH Solar which has not yet been provided to the City Attorney for review. If approved, the Council will also need to consider a Resolution in regards to authorizing a PILOT Agreement that will be part of the overall financial plan. This Resolution will be introduced at the next Council meeting.

Attached are two (2) financial spreadsheets that were reviewed by the Finance Committee. At the next meeting Finance Director Scott Smith will provide an analysis of these financials.

- C. Resolution No. 36-17 Authorizing the City Manager to Amend the Lease Agreement with the Sober Sisters Recovery by Amending the Lease from Approximately 1.41 Acres to 2 Acres of Surrounding Property to the Leased Building (Formerly the Site of the Malley Farm Boy's Home) Located at 45 Malley Farm Road.** The Economic Development Committee recommends adoption of this Resolution. Attached is a copy of the Sober Sisters request for the additional land area. Director Shanna Saunders verified the actual increase to be closer to 2-Acres. Sober Sisters Executive Director Monè Cassier was fine with the adjustment.
- D. Resolution No. 37-17 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Grant Agreement with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to Accept a Cleanup Grant Award.** This Resolution is sponsored by the Finance Committee and Public Works & Environment Committee. I have attached a copy of the Grant Agreement provided by the State of NH DES. Upon the City's approval, the Agreement will need to be approved by the Governor and the Executive Council.

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

A. Informational Items

- 1. Spirit Up Somersworth.** Attached is the announcement from Somersworth Youth Connection Director Maureen Jackman regarding this year's event. The City will be a partner as indicated in her letter. This is the 10th Annual "Spirit Up" Somersworth Community wide clean-up day: Saturday, May 6th, Earth Day, from 7:30am – 1:00pm.
- 2. City Manager's FY2017/2018 Proposed Budget.** The City Manager Proposed FY 2017/2018 Budget and School Department Budget have been submitted in accordance with the City Charter. Mayor Hilliard has scheduled the Public Hearing for Monday, April 3rd. The City Manager will provide a Budget Presentation starting at 5:30 p.m. The Budget Hearing will start at 6:00 p.m. Budget workshop is on Saturday, April 1st starting at 8:30 a.m. FYI: This Workshop will be televised.

Attachments

- a. City Attorney Certifications – Six (6)
- b. Department Head Reports

11. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Mayoral Nominations – For Council confirmation vote.

Planning Board Recommendation - For Council Confirmation Vote.

Scott Orzechowski, as a Commissioner for the Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC), with a term to expire May 2020.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Cameron, made a motion to confirm the nomination. The motion passed unanimously.

12. LAY ON THE TABLE

RESOLUTION NO. 31-17 TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND THE RENEWAL CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH AND COMCAST OF MAINE/NEW HAMPSHIRE, INC.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to remove Resolution 31-17 from the table. The motion passed unanimously, by voice vote.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Messier, made a motion to approve Resolution 31-17.

Councilor Messier stated that the attorney indicated that the agreement is solid. He agrees that they should move forward with an extension of the current agreement.

The motion to approved Resolution 31-17 passed 8-1, by Roll Call Vote.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 13-17 AMENDING CHAPTER 19 ZONING ORDINANCE,
SECTION 30E HILLTOP SCHOOL PROPERTY OVERLAY DISTRICT

Somersworth NH
March 20, 2017

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

Amend Chapter 19, Zoning Ordinance. Section 30.E Hilltop School Property Overly District, change in Max Density Allowed for the Multi Family Dwelling Use to 15 units per acre.

This Ordinance shall be effective upon its passage.

Sponsored by Councilors:

Jonathan McCallion
Martin P. Dumont, Sr.
David A. Witham
Dale R. Sprague

Approved:

City Attorney

Ordinance 13-17 will remain in first read until the April 3, 2017 City Council Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-17 AMENDING CHAPTER 13 POLICE OFFENSES

March 20, 2017
Somersworth NH

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 3.3, One Way Streets, by removing:

Grove St., for northerly traffic between Grand St. and Prospect St.
Grove St., for westerly traffic between Grand St. and Prospect St.

This Ordinance shall be effective upon its passage.

Sponsored by:

Councilor Dale R. Sprague

Approved:

City Attorney

NOTE: This Ordinance will change Grove Street from one-way traffic to two-way traffic.

Ordinance 14-17 will remain in first read until the April 3, 2017 City Council Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-17 TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO CONTRACT WITH AFFINITY LED LIGHTING OF DOVER, NH TO UPGRADE THE STREET LIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH.

Somersworth, NH
March 20, 2017

WHEREAS, City staff requested and received an evaluation on upgrading City streetlights from their current configuration to LED lights, and

WHEREAS, the evaluation demonstrated an investment in the upgrade will have a payback of approximately 2 years and produce an annual savings in the cost of street lighting an amount exceeding \$56,000 (Fifty Six Thousand dollars), and

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of this project is \$200,000 (Two Hundred Thousand dollars), of which a portion in the amount of approximately \$73,000 (Seventy-Three Thousand dollars) will be paid by Eversource, and

WHEREAS, the estimated total project cost includes approximately \$18,000 (Eighteen Thousand dollars) in contingency funds to cover any unforeseen costs and to complete LED upgrades to outside lot lighting at City facilities,

WHEREAS, to be ensure the reimbursement through Eversource the City must move expeditiously in contracting for this project and will waive any bidding requirements relative to this project,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City shall waive any bidding requirements relative to this project and authorize the City Manager to contract with Affinity LED Lighting of Dover, NH to upgrade the street lights throughout the City at an amount not to exceed \$200,000 (Two Hundred Thousand dollars), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Manager is authorized to execute an agreement with Eversource to reimburse the City for a portion of the cost of this project and to take any other actions relative to this project determined to be in the best interest of the City.

Sponsored by Councilors:

David A. Witham
Dale R. Sprague
Jennifer G. Soldati
Martin Pepin

Approved:

City Attorney

NOTE: The Finance Committee has endorsed a Supplemental Appropriation to be introduced at an upcoming City Council Meeting. The Committee's recommendation is to utilize General Fund – Fund Balance as the funding source.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Paradis, made a motion to waive Council Rules for a second read of Resolution 34-17. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Paradis, made a motion to approve Resolution 34-17.

Councilor Witham said going with LED makes sense on a number of measures, including the Eversource rebate and payback. It will reduce cost in the budget, without reducing the number of street lights in the city. He supports the contingency with looking at the other parking lots. Environmentally, this more friendly and is dark sky compliant.

Councilor Soldati said this will be a great savings for the city. She has gradually changed to LED in her home and has saved 21%. We are a forward community to be doing this. This will hopefully keep the taxes down. She is proud that the City is taking this step.

Councilor Paradis said she concurs, and added that this dovetails nicely with Vision 2020.

City Manager Belmore explained the reasoning of waiving bidding requirements. Dover has used this company and the city needs to make a decision quickly to receive the refund from Eversource.

The motion to approve Resolution 34-17 passed unanimously, by Roll Call Vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 35-17 TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A GROUP NET METERING AGREEMENT WITH NH SOLAR GARDEN OF PORTSMOUTH, NH TO DEVELOP A SOLAR PROJECT PURSUANT TO RSA 362-A ON THE SOMERSWORTH SANITARY LANDFILL ON BLACKWATER ROAD .

Somersworth, NH
March 20, 2017

WHEREAS the City Council adopted Resolution 21-17 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a letter of intent with NH Solar Garden of Portsmouth, NH to develop a solar project pursuant to RSA 362-A on the Somersworth sanitary landfill on Blackwater Road, and

WHEREAS a result of the adoption of Resolution 21-17 is city staff has negotiated with NH Solar Garden to develop the elements of an agreement to install and commission a solar array at this location, and

WHEREAS the Finance Committee of the City Council reviewed the proposed agreement with staff and recommends executing a group net metering agreement with NH Solar Garden,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to execute a group net metering agreement with NH Solar Garden of Portsmouth, NH. to develop a solar project pursuant to RSA 362-A on the Somersworth Sanitary Landfill on Blackwater Road and take any and all other such actions relative to this project determined to be in the best interest of the City.

Introduced by Councilors:

David A. Witham
Dale R. Sprague
Martin Pepin
Jennifer G. Soldati

Approved:

City Attorney

Resolution 35-17 will remain in first read until the April 3, 2017 City Council Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-17 TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND THE TWENTY (20) YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOBER SISTERS RECOVERY BY AMENDING THE LEASE FROM APPROXIMATELY 1.41 ACRES TO APPROXIMATELY 2-ACRES OF SURROUNDING PROPERTY TO THE LEASED BUILDING (FORMERLY THE SITE OF THE MALLEY FARM BOY'S HOME) LOCATED AT 45 MALLEY FARM ROAD.

Somersworth, NH
March 20, 2017

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth is the owner of Tax Map 1 Lot 1 (AKA the Malley Farm property) that contains 178.76 +/- acres, and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 18-16 that authorized the City Manager to enter into a twenty-year lease agreement with Sober Sisters Recovery, a nonprofit organization with a mailing address of P.O. Box 810, Somersworth, NH for the reuse of the City-owned building and surrounding property (formerly the site of the Malley Farm Boys Home), and

WHEREAS, Sober Sisters Recovery has requested a change to the terms of the lease to include an additional area in front of the building that would increase the leased land from approximately 1.41 acres to approximately 2 acres, and

WHEREAS, Sober Sisters Recovery has shown to be good stewards of the current leased area and building, and

WHEREAS, the City Council's Economic Development Committee has reviewed this request and recommends its approval,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to amend the twenty-year lease agreement with Sober Sisters Recovery by amending the leased land surrounding the leased building from approximately 1.41 acres to approximately 2 acres of surrounding property as shown on the attached NH GRANIT map titled "Malley Farm Sober Sisters Recovery Lease Area" dated March 20, 2017, and additionally to take any and all necessary action to meet the needs and the best interest of the City to complete this purpose.

Sponsored by:

Jonathan McCallion
Martin P. Dumont, Sr.
Dale R. Sprague
David A. Witham

Approved:

City Attorney

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Cameron, made a motion to waive Council Rules to allow for a second read of Resolution 36-17. The motion passed unanimously, by voice vote.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Paradis, made a motion to approve Resolution 36-17. The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 37-17 TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT A CLEANUP GRANT AWARD

Somersworth, NH
March 20, 2017

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth has received notification of a cleanup grant award of \$178,000 (One Hundred and Seventy-Eight Thousand Dollars) from New Hampshire's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) for the purpose of funding a portion of the remediation of the former Breton Cleaners property at 1 Winter Street in Somersworth, and

WHEREAS, the grant funds will be used for the remediation of environmental contamination at the former Breton Cleaners site located at the 1 Winter Street, and

WHEREAS, this grant funded remediation work will include eligible activities such as the abatement by demolition of asbestos and lead-based paint on building structures; the removal of containerized hazardous materials and universal wastes located within the building; and placement of a temporary cap over tetrachloroethylene (PCE) impacted soil,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT the City Manager is authorized to execute any documents and agreements necessary for the grant's acceptance and execution, and take any and all other such actions relative to this grant determined to be in the best interest of the City.

Sponsored by Councilors:

David A. Witham
Dale R. Sprague
Martin Pepin
Jennifer G. Soldati
Denis Messier

Approved:

City Attorney

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Paradis, made a motion to waive Council Rules to allow for a second read of Resolution 37-17. The motion passed unanimously, by voice vote.

Councilor Paradis, seconded by Councilor Cameron, made a motion to approve Resolution 37-17. The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Soldati said she is happy that the Mayor spoke out about the President's budget, and the effect it will have on our children and on our elderly. We have a large Meals on Wheels community here in Somersworth. They are isolated and alone, and the people who deliver their meals may be the only ones that (the elderly) see. Human contact is good for their health. Anyone who cares should speak out and write to our delegation. Let the administration know that this is a democracy.

Councilor Dumont said we have lost a great citizen of the city, former Mayor Jim McLin. His memorial service was a fitting tribute for this member of our community. The Community Services did a fantastic job.

The Cultural Tasting will be at Mulligans Grill on May 10th. There will be a variety of Ethnic food. The cost is \$10 and there will be a limited number of tickets available. The ticket sales have been organized with the Chamber of Commerce. There are only 100 tickets, so get your tickets early.

The Food Truck Festival is scheduled for June 18th. This is a grand thing for our community. On the social media sites, this is the second largest response that the organization has received since they started doing these events. It will be a great day. The letter from Robert Kraft was a pleasant surprise. He is a class act. Compliments to the City Manager. Good news, they found Brady's Shirt.

The Mayor's recommendation about Stein Park is superior in nature. It has been talked about and he likes the approach. Things have changed in Somersworth, and some have been good. It seems like the further the corporation is from the downtown area, the less the support.

He had the opportunity to see Carol Shea Porter at Somersworth Housing. There was discussion about the Meals on Wheels program. It seems like everything gets passed down to the municipality. Other organizations have gotten smart and made it a public-private partnership. The elderly made this place the place it is today. The bottom line is the people who have lived here all their lives didn't plan to live this long. They are outliving their finances. The cost of living was so much less back in the day. The days they have left with us should be some that have great memories. The funding for Meals on Wheels, and the kids program becomes very difficult for a municipality. There are no frills in our budget. If any members of our community have the opportunity to support

these programs, they should do so. We are a kind and loving community and want to take care of our elderly.

Councilor McCallion, Jim McLin's memorial service made him feel proud. Jim McLin, spoke at his graduation. The community pulled together to make it happen and we should all be very proud.

He usually works at Stein Park on clean-up day. He believes the park could be so much more. He is happy with Mayor Hilliard's recommendation.

Councilor Witham asked that staff take a look at Ordinance 14-17. It reads Grove Street in the northerly and westerly directions. This doesn't sound right.

He stated that he will be absent for the council meeting scheduled for April 3, 2017. His first absence since he started in 2010.

Councilor Sprague stated that we should add Home Depot and Velcro to the list of businesses for Stein Park. He reminded all that Meals on Wheels was cut in 2010. The Federal government needs to retool and manage better. He wondered if there was any funding by the county.

Councilor Cameron said she is happy to be involved in the recent programs; culinary night, and the food truck event. She attended the memorial service for Mayor McLin. She arrived early to talk with the family members. She recounted working with Jim McLin during a lighting project at the high school many years ago. She has a scrap book which depicts the lighting project from start to finish. Eventually she will donate that to the museum. But not yet.

Councilor Paradis thanked the PW for doing a great job during the past blizzard, plowing the parking spaces downtown. She said she heard that some of the business owners and employees in the downtown area have to park at the Pines during storms. This is very dangerous as they have to walk up and down the hills. We need to look into a better parking solution; perhaps giving them a few spots in the Somersworth Plaza parking lot.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Dumont, seconded by Councilor Cameron, made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Trish Harris, City Clerk

Dana Hilliard, Mayor