

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Somersworth, NH
January 7, 2019
7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

Councilor Michaud led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. **Ordinance No. 7-19** - To Amend Chapter 13 Police Offenses, Section F.1, Time Limited Parking – Washington Street

No public comments.

- B. **Ordinance No. 9-19** - To Amend Chapter 13 Police Offenses, Section G, Permit and Reserved Parking – Snow Emergency Parking on Noble Street and River Street

No public comments.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting held on December 3, 2018
- B. Emailed comments from Richard Brooks, HDC Vice Chair, on proposed HDC Ordinances

Councilor Cameron, seconded by Councilor McCallion, made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Calendar. The motion passed, 8-0.

COMMENTS BY CITY COUNCILORS

None

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Letter from Attorney Francis X. Bruton, III, regarding 60 & 64 Stackpole Road

Councilor Dumont, seconded by Councilor Vincent, made a motion to waive Council rules to allow Attorney Bruton to speak. Motion passed 7-1.

Attorney Bruton explained that the letter is regarding a division of 2 lots to 3 lots at 60 and 64 Stackpole Road; a property that is adjacent to the school.

He explained that there is concern regarding the moratorium, and questions if it applies to the sidewalks. In this instance the sidewalk will be completely removed to make way for a new driveway.

This was referred to Public Works and Environment Committee by the Mayor.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND DISPOSAL THEREOF BY REFERENCE OR OTHERWISE

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

With the New Year comes new hopes, goals and a full agenda for the City Council, School Board, City Manager and all City Employees. As we move deep into 2019, and into the budgetary process for the 2019-2020 budget, let us continue to demonstrate the team approach that this municipality has become known for. We will disagree at times, but let us do so modeling civility and statesmanship. Two practices which are in desperate need of implementation by some of our national chosen leaders. Regardless of how some of the bodies outside of our ten square mile community chooses to govern themselves, within Somersworth, let each of us continue to reaffirm the practices of the Hilltopper approach; honoring, celebrating and respecting differences while seeking agreeable long term solutions that will keep Somersworth on the move.

As we begin this session, some goals that we should seek to bring some final decisions and fruition to, include, unveiling and finalizing a design of the Somersworth Veterans Park during the Memorial Day Parade, with construction to begin in the Summer of 2020, agreeing upon a final location for a new fire department, and beginning the process to adopt a bond to move forward with construction, continuing to actively seek tenants for the Somersworth Plaza and a developer interested in joining the partnership for the Plaza renovation, aggressively marketing and building partnerships to attract new businesses to the downtown area, adopting policies which will acquire and preserve open space for generations to come, continuing to implement Master Plan adopted by the Mayor's Drug Task Force as we seek to render solutions in resolving the opioid crisis.

With a full agenda for the 2019 session of the City Council, I look forward to continuing to work as a team moving closer and closer to the completion of our Vision 2020 goals of making Somersworth one of the most desirable communities on the seacoast.

Among the members of this council are a wide range of talents and experiences; real estate, public works, safety, fire safety services, military, insurance, retail, education, and environmental preservation. These talents, when compiled in to a team give us the background, insight and expertise necessary to build a community all of us can be proud of. As we approach the budget season, let us lean on these talents that each of us have as individuals yet make decisions as a team, within the best interest of our community, at

not only the moment, but being mindful of how the decisions we make will impact Somersworth for decades to come.

I am excited and filled with optimism as we begin our work in 2019, and look forward to many successes as we continue as a team, on the move.

This month, Somersworth will once again honor and celebrate its greatest asset; its citizens. The month of January not only pays homage to the late Civil Rights leader, Martin Luther King, Jr, but also is proclaimed by this body as diversity and tolerance month. It brings me great pride that our Hilltop City continues to distinguish itself as a community that respects, celebrates, and honors differences. Amongst our vast diversity, which encompasses our ten square mile community, we continue to wave proudly in the winds of Citizens Place, the flags of many groups, groups of believers, non-believers, diverse ethnic background, all which we can identify as coming from our heritages. Our differences strengthen and reinforce the values as we promised we would towards the world, outlined in the Declaration of Independence and in the US Constitution. Today, in 2019, we continue to move closer to the day, Martin Luther King, Jr. reminded us of:

“When all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old negro spiritual, ‘Free at Last, Free at Last, Thank God a almighty, we are Free at Last.’”

As Hilltoppers, let us continue to model what freedom truly represents and means, ensuring that our neighbor and our spiritual brothers and sisters can all join in the freedom and equality that we have fought and died for throughout our history.

This January, this Diversity and Tolerance Month, let each of us recommit ourselves to moving closer to the fulfillment of the American Creed, “Liberty and Justice for All.”

The next Mayors Community forum will take place Saturday January 12th from 9:00 – 10:30 at City Hall. Including in this forum will be the Director of Public Works, Michael Bobinsky. 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 forum which is posted.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Recreation – Councilor McCallion reported that the Committee met just prior to the City Council Meeting, at 5:30 on January 7, 2019. They met with members of the School Building and Grounds Committee regarding restrooms and concessions at the football field. School Building & Grounds Committee will get a cost.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, CITY OFFICERS AND CITY MANAGER

Special Committees

School Board – Councilor Pepin reported that the School Board met on December 11, 2018. It was a light agenda.

Joint Building Committee - Councilor Pepin reported that they met with the new architects. They discussed the time schedule for the Maple Wood construction.

COAST – Councilor Pepin reported that they met on December 19, 2018. They are planning for the future, handicap, and working on time schedule. The government shutdown may effect COAST bus if not resolved soon.

Historic District Commission – Councilor Levasseur reported that they had one application; the applicant was not present to answer question and clarify, so the application was denied.

City Manager's Report



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH
Office of the City Manager

TO: Mayor Dana S. Hilliard and City Council Members

FROM: Robert M. Belmore, City Manager

DATE: Friday, January 4, 2019

SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for Monday, January 7, 2019
City Council Agenda

*6:45 pm: Non-meeting
Somersworth Public Administrators Association (SPAA) - Tentative Agreement*

Lay on the Table (Under Section 13 of Agenda)

- A. Ordinance No. 4-19: To Amend Chapter 19, Zoning Ordinance, Section 14, Historic District.**
- B. Resolution No. 22-19: To Authorize the City Manager to Take the Necessary Actions to Discontinue Fair Court as a Class V Highway.** I have made attempts to arrange a meeting with the abutter and/or their Attorney – as of this date, not yet scheduled.

Unfinished Business (Under Section 14 of Agenda)

Ordinances

- A. **Ordinance No. 7-19: To Amend Chapter 13 Police Offenses, Section F.1, Time Limited Parking – Washington Street Parking.** This is a Traffic Safety Committee recommendation.
- B. **Ordinance No. 9-19: To Amend Chapter 13 Police Offenses, Section G, Permit and Reserved Parking – Snow Emergency Parking on Noble Street and River Street.** This is a Public Safety Committee recommendation. Attached are copies of maps for these areas.

Resolutions

- A. **Resolution No. 21-19: To Support an Initiative to Voluntarily Reduce the Distribution and Use of Single-Use Plastics and Expanded Polyesterstyrene (EPS) Products in an Effort Towards Sustaining a Cleaner and Safer Ocean, Salmon Falls River and Healthier Environment.** The Government Operations Committee met on December 12th and recommended deleting the last two (2) paragraphs of this Resolution. Attached is the *red-lined* proposed amendments for this Resolution.

New Business (Under Section 15 of Agenda)

Ordinances

- A. **Ordinance No. 10-19: To Amend Chapter 4, Personnel Rules & Regulations, Section 7.4.9 Family and Medical Leave Policy.** The Government Operations Committee met on November 14, 2018 and accepted the City Manager's recommendation to remove this section from the City's Ordinance; Personnel Rules & Regulations, in order to allow for any policy to be easily changed in order to stay current with federal law. This action directs the City Manager to be charged with issuing an administrative policy for the City that complies with prevailing law. I recommend a Public Hearing at the next regular Council meeting on Tuesday January 22nd. Attached is a copy of the City Manager's administratively issued (City) FMLA policy dated October 23, 2018.

The public hearing was scheduled without objection from Council.

- B. Ordinance No. 11-19: To Add New Section to Chapter – 6 City Officials, Declaring January Diversity Month.** This action codifies the City’s intent to take action to recognize January as Diversity Month in the City, each and every year. I recommend a Public Hearing at the next regular Council meeting on Tuesday January 22nd.

The public hearing was scheduled without objection from Council.

Resolutions

- A. Resolution No. 28-19: To Authorize the City Manager to Contract with Resilience Planning and Design, LLC of Plymouth, New Hampshire to Develop a Form Based Code Section of the Zoning Ordinance.** Both the Finance Committee & Economic Development Committee met in December and voted to support this Resolution to contract with Resilience Planning and Design, LLC of Plymouth NH, to develop a Form Based Code section for the City’s Zoning Ordinance. City Staff reviewed the four (4) consultant proposals received and then interviewed three (3) consultant teams. Attached is a copy of the revised project approach and scope of work negotiated with the Resilience team.

Other

- A. Vote to Ratify a Tentative Three (3) Year Wage and Working Agreement between the City of Somersworth and the Somersworth Public Administrators Association (SPAA).** Attached is a “*confidential*” summary of the terms and associated costs of this proposed Agreement.

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

A. Informational Items.

- 1. Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) – City of Somersworth Grant Partnership.** SRPC has received a \$30,000 - 2018 New Hampshire Children's Health Foundation (HNH) Grant. As part of the scope of work for this Grant, SRPC will compile a regional recreational facilities GIS map. SRPC will partner with our City specifically to develop data and maps to create a customized recreation accessibility plan for the City. Attached is a memorandum from Director Shanna Saunders regarding this Grant.
- 2. Continuity of Operation Plan (COOP).** I am pleased to report that this Grant funded project has been completed. Copies of the Plan have been distributed to the Mayor, City Manager and Staff, SAU Office, as well as Somersworth Housing Authority. Attached is a summary from Fire Chief Keith Hoyle who led this project.

3. **NH DOT Road Safety Audit (RSA).** I wanted to mention that I sent the Council a copy of the “*draft*” Report completed in regards to the RSA conducted on the Old Rochester Road and Blackwater Road intersection. Safety improvements for the intersection will be pursued as next steps take place. I will provide further updates as they occur. Attached is an email regarding next steps.
4. **Aclara Proposed Hydro License Surrender.** Attached is a copy of a memorandum from City Engineer Gary Lemay. New updates are provided including staff’s meeting with Aclara representatives; please note that Berwick’s Town Manager was invited and attended. Without objection, I will file a request to intervene in the matter with FERC at the appropriate time. This action will ensure the City maintains involvement during the FERC process.
5. **FEMA Storm Event Reimbursement.** Attached is a copy of an email from Public Works Director Mike Bobinsky and FEMA. It updates our continued pursuit to secure approximately \$36,000 in eligible costs for the March 13-14, 2018, winter storm response.
6. **Fidelity Charitable – Liberty Mutual Grant.** I am pleased to report the receipt of a \$5,000 Grant from Liberty Mutual Fidelity Charitable to assist in the City’s efforts to make repairs to the Millennium Park ball field. Without objection, staff will solicit proposals to utilize these funds along with budgeted City funds of approximately \$3,000 to complete repairs. Attached is the letter/copy of check from Liberty Mutual.

B. Attachments.

- a. **City Attorney Certifications Three (3)**
- b. **NHDOT Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grant Proposed Action Meeting Tuesday, January 22nd at 5:30 p.m.**

Councilor Witham asked if we had been awarded this grant already. City Manager Belmore stated that we have.

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

A. Nominations requiring Council approval:

- a. Brad Fredette, from alternate member to a full member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment, with a term to expire May 2021
Councilor Pepin, seconded by Councilor Michaud, made a motion to confirm the nomination. The motion passed, 8-0.

- b. Mercedes O'Donohue, as a member of the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire November 2021
Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Pepin, made a motion to confirm the nomination. The motion passed, 8-0.

B. Nominations requiring Council approval:

- a. For Members of the SAU Withdrawal Planning Committee, with term to expire January 2020:
 - i. Todd Marsh
 - ii. Denis Messier
 - iii. Todd Patten
 - iv. Dana Rivers

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Dumont, made a motion to suspend rules to act this evening. The motion passed, 8-0.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Cameron, made a motion to approve the slate of nominations. The motion passed, 8-0.

LAY ON THE TABLE

- A. **Ordinance No. 4-19** – To Amend Chapter 19, Zoning Ordinance, Section 14, Historic District
- B. **Resolution No. 22-19** - To Authorize the City Manager to Take the Necessary Actions to Discontinue Fair Court as a Class V Highway

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

- A. **Ordinance No. 7-19** - To Amend Chapter 13 Police Offenses, Section F.1, Time Limited Parking – Washington Street

Councilor Pepin, seconded by Councilor Vincent, made a motion to approve Ordinance 7-19.

Councilor Witham stated that there are a lot of locations in the downtown area that have time limited parking. Fillion Terrace is closer to Main Street and parking than other locations like the Hall at Great Falls. He is concerned about the precedent that this will set.

Councilor Vincent stated that the problem with the parking at the Hall is that it is near other businesses, like Villa that needs parking for dinner, etc.

Councilor Dumont stated that he familiar with Filion Terrace which services the elderly. A lot of these people don't drive cars to start with. He supports the ordinance for no parking time limit on Washington Street.

Councilor McCallion stated he doesn't see the unlimited parking as a problem. The GE night shift used to park there. He stated that the City needs to be cautious of overnight parking.

Councilor Witham said that if Washington Street is changed to no time limit, what about residents on other streets? Maybe they could increase the parking time on Washington, but no time limit is a mistake.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor McCallion made a motion to table and have this topic re-examined by the Traffic Safety Committee. The motion passed, 8-0.

- B. **Ordinance No. 9-19** - To Amend Chapter 13 Police Offenses, Section G, Permit and Reserved Parking – Snow Emergency Parking on Noble Street and River Street

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Pepin, made a motion to approve Ordinance 9-19.

Councilor Witham stated that this is a brilliant change to parking ordinance from the Police Chief.

Councilor Pepin said this was brought up because we charge for parking throughout the community.

The motion passed 8-0.

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution No. 21-19** - To Support an Initiative to Voluntarily Reduce the Distribution and Use of Single-Use Plastics and Expanded Polyesterstyrene (EPS) Products in an Effort Towards Sustaining a Cleaner and Safer Ocean, Salmon Falls River and Healthier Environment

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Levasseur, made a motion to amend Resolution 21-19 by omitting the last 2 paragraphs.

Councilor Witham stated that acknowledging businesses is a good thing, but he is not sure how it would be followed through. This is not in the cities best interest.

The motion to amend passed, 8-0.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Levasseur, made a motion to approve Resolution 21-19, as amended.

Councilor Vincent voiced his concern about the blue bag program, stating that adopting this does not make us look good. If we make these resolutions we need to follow them too.

Councilor Levasseur stated that this ordinance is to encourage businesses and residents to decrease their plastics. The Sustainability Committee is looking into alternatives for the blue plastic bags.

Councilor Dumont said this is a feel good thing. Because of the world influences, we are not able to get rid of recyclables.

Councilor Witham stated that he agrees that the resolution is a feel good measure, but it has germinated a conversation that will continue with the blue bags. The tipping fees for the recycling have gone up. There will be more discussion about this during the budget season.

Councilor Pepin stated that this is way beyond us, there is a market for recyclable bags. We need our own recycling plants in the US instead of shipping it to China. This is way above us.

Councilor Levasseur said that they seem to be focused on Recycling, but there are two other R's; reduce and reuse. This is about the future of our community. The Sustainability Committee will be holding some forums. As legislation catches up in the State, it will allow us to move further. We are a consumer culture. This is a good start.

Councilor McCallion said that they have been looking at this for more than 20 years. Being in the hospitality business, there are sugar based and bamboo based products. He remembers receiving paper bags at grocery stores. When did we go from paper bags to plastic bags.

Councilor Cameron said that this is one small step to a more sustainably community. It has to start somewhere and it should start with us.

Councilor Witham stated that Councilor Levasseur makes a good point that we need to reduce the amount of materials that we bring into our homes. He had to bring cardboard to the containers at the Public Works facility. The dumpsters were full. Online ordering brings a lot of boxes.

Councilor Dumont said that he thinks it is Massachusetts that they can no longer use the plastic bags. It is good to encourage others to use reusable bags. Start saying thank you to those who do make an effort. A local business in Rochester, Viels, gives their bags for free to those who purchase their corn.

Motion to approve Resolution 21-19 passed, 8-0.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

- A. **Ordinance No. 10-19** – To Amend Chapter 4, Personnel Rules & Regulations, Section 7.4.9 Family and Medical Leave Policy

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Dumont, made a motion to waive Council rules to allow Ordinance 10-19 to be read by title only. The motion passed, 8-0.

Ordinance 10-19 will remain in first read until the January 22, 2019 City Council Meeting.

- B. **Ordinance No. 11-19** - To Amend Chapter 6, City Officials, By Adding New Section, Declaring January as Diversity Month

Ordinance 11-19 will remain in first read until the January 22, 2019 City Council Meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution No. 28-19** - To Authorize the City Manager to Contract with Resilience Planning and Design, LLC of Plymouth, New Hampshire to Develop a Form Based Code Section of the Zoning Ordinance

Resolution 28-19 will remain in first read until the January 22, 2019 City Council Meeting.

OTHER

- A. Vote to ratify a Tentative Three (3) Year Wage and Working Agreement between the City of Somersworth and the Somersworth Public Administrators Association (SPAA)

Councilor Witham stated that this agreement is in line with other agreements that have recently been ratified.

The agreement was ratified by a vote of 8-0.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY VISITORS

Richard Brooks stated that at the last council meeting there were a couple residents that commented on the code compliance problems, which I agree with as well. Having lived here for 17 years, I see far too many properties not being properly maintained. The Council discussion noted the same lack of code compliance and implied the Historic District may be bit of the problem as well by referencing the June 2018 code compliance report listing several addresses in the Historic District. I took the time to research some facts about these topics. The June code compliance report had 86 violations listed and 17 of those were located in the Historic District. Seems like a lot, but let's consider the fact that 57 of those violations are absentee landlords. How did I determine that? I compared the address of the property with the address of the property owner. If a property is owned by someone outside of Somersworth, I counted it as an absentee landlord. That figure indicates that 66% of the total code violations are properties owned by absentee

landlords. Actual facts that prove property owned by absentee landlords are a major part of the code compliance problem here in Somersworth.

Back to the 17 code violations located in the Historic District, would you believe 13 of those were absentee landlords? Only 4 of those violations in the Historic District are property owners that live at the same address. Again the majority of the problems are the absentee landlords. I went a step further in this research and found that about 113 out of the roughly 300 properties in the Historic District are absentee landlords. Makes me wonder how much of our ten square miles are owned by them? I don't have that answer tonight, but they clearly own more than enough. Now, I am not saying every absentee landlord is a bad landlord. I'm sure there are many good responsible landlords, but we need to find a way to sort them out and start focusing the on the landlords that do not care for anything more than the steady flow of rent checks.

Absentee landlords and in some cases their tenants are clearly the cause of a large majority of the code violations, and with absentee landlords owning 38% of the Historic District they are significantly contributing to the poor or negligent condition of buildings in the Historic District and probably other areas of Somersworth. Many of these properties are multi-unit and I wouldn't be surprised if rental tenants outnumber homeowners in the Historic District, another detail that matters since homeowners typically will have more pride in their property than a renter will. I hope the City Council will understand how the Historic District is falling victim to this ongoing problem. It is easy for anyone to single out the HDC and not consider the impact of other factors such as absentee landlords. Just as one councilor pointed out, "an HDC approval included painting of steps, and that still has not happened". Code Compliance is the enforcement department that should be handling that situation. It's no fault of the HDC when a particular absentee landlord does not fully complete the conditions of an approval. I also looked at the July and August 2018 code compliance reports and found a smaller percentage of the violations were located in the Historic District those months, more recent reports are not good examples, as the Code compliance officer has since found employment elsewhere.

I'm sure the HDC does have the best interest of Somersworth in mind, but they have an uphill battle due to many factors, whether it be absentee landlords, misconceptions, or the current vague ordinances to name only a few. Please consider these facts and have an open mind when you do sit down with the HDC for a workshop on their proposed ordinances, I'm sure everybody involved wants to improve Somersworth. Let's work together to do just that.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Pepin stated that he was on the Fire Department for 32 years. During that time, they did regular inspections of apartments. Absentee landlords are hard to get ahold of, and courts don't want to hear it because the courts are too busy. Absentee landlords are a problem. Fire Department is not doing inspections as they should. The issue of absentee landlords and code violations has to go through the courts somehow.

He shared his concern with the government shutdown and how it could affect COAST, because of those who are in office cannot even talk to each other. With the budget coming up, if this council disagrees, they still leave as friends, with a balanced budget. If that was they City, they would work all day and night until it was resolved.

Councilor Vincent said he was a code officer. Property maintenance and absentee landlords is frustrating. It is wrong that a property value could go down because of the neighbor.

In concord, he will be talking to them about the hydro situation here. Things have been voted down regarding megawatts and hydro power is the cleanest energy.

Councilor Dumont said the term ‘absentee landlords’ carries a negative connotation. There are some who do well in this community. It is hard to get a landlord to respond and to realize that a little paint can take care of a big problem. As a community, we struggle, and are frustrated with the things that are allowed to continue.

Speaking of Culture, Moxie was popular in Somersworth. It is a great memory and it is still around. Can’t find Knickerbocker anymore.

Councilor McCallion said that many years ago he worked on a code enforcement bill with many communities. They were trying to pass a tough amendment; license or permit landlords with 2 or more rentals in the city. The room was filled with all of the “good landlords.” It was a little harsh and was never brought forward. He would like to look at that again. Code compliance should have an ipad and printer in the car to print violations.

Councilor Michaud thanked McCallion for looking into a solution to a problem. He stated that he is interested in resurrection of that bill.

Councilor Witham said that code compliance needs to ratchet up a lot. We’ve been down a staff person. He reminded DPW that with the parking change on Noble and River Streets to keep the areas clear of snow. He also reminded that Fair Court is still officially a City road and they the upper area of the street should be kept clear of snow.

He appreciates the efforts of DPW and Director Bobinsky in dealing with Eversource and Infinity LED during the street light replacement project. There is still some work to be done. He stated that he has noticed that the performance is a little less than he thought. There have been some outages with the new LED lights. Part of the task was to do some parking lot lighting. There is a large spot light that lights the front of the Public Works facility. It is not an LED.

As for the Aclara Hydro project, and their desire to discontinue that, this is super important for our water treatment plant. The level of the river needs to be maintained and if the dam goes away it could jeopardize the water intake.

Shout out to Gary Lemay, remarks in memo.

As for the Ordinance 4-19, the proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance, he stated that he does not support it. He finds no value in meeting with the Historic District Commission and will not attend that meeting. It is a waste of time. He will look into legislation to abolish the HDC entirely.

Councilor Cameron wished everyone a Happy New Year. She is looking forward to continuing the work as a Council in 2019 and continuing to do great things and introduce new things and move Somersworth forward. We are all diverse in our backgrounds. She stated that she is honored to serve with an inspiring group of individuals.

Councilor Levasseur thanked everyone that made the 125th a special year; many memories made. We need to look forward to the next 125 years by doing things like passing more resolutions like we did tonight and look at more ways to achieve the goals about reducing plastics.

On apartment registration, Biddeford Maine recently passed an initiative. Some landlords are not here and they don't care about the condition of our community.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Michaud, made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Trish Harris, City Clerk

Dana Hilliard, Mayor