



City of Somersworth
City Council Meeting Agenda
City Council Chambers
December 13, 2021
7:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call of Members
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Hearing
4. Comments by Visitors
5. Consent Calendar
 - A. Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting held on November 15, 2021
6. Comments by City Councilors
7. Communications
8. Presentations of Petitions and Disposal Thereof by Reference or Otherwise
9. Mayor's Report
10. Report of Standing Committees
11. Report of Special Committees, City Officers and City Manager
12. Nominations, Appointments and Election
13. Lay on the Table
14. Unfinished Business
15. ORDINANCES
 - A. **Ordinance No. 4-22** – City Council Meeting Schedule for 2022
16. New Business

ORDINANCES

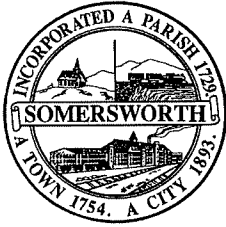
- A. **Ordinance No. 5-22** – Supplemental Appropriation for Emergency Repairs to a Culvert on Blackwater Road

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution No. 18-22** – Proclamation Declaring January Diversity Month in the City of Somersworth
- B. **Resolution No. 19-22** – City Council Vote to Oppose Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Order # 20-092

OTHER

- A. Vote to Authorize the City Manager to Take all Necessary Action for the City to Participate in the New Hampshire Department of Justice Nationwide Settlement Agreement regarding Opioid Litigation Against the Three Largest Pharmaceutical Distributors
17. Comments by Visitors
 18. Closing Comments by Council Members
 19. Future Agenda Items
 20. Nonpublic Session (as necessary, pending roll call vote by Council)
 21. Adjournment



City of Somersworth – Ordinance

Ordinance No: 4-22

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2022

November 15, 2021

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH THAT, in accordance with Chapter 3.7 of the City Charter which provides that the City Council’s “regular meetings shall be held on the first and third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise designated by Ordinance...” and Chapter 6, City Officials, Section 6.8.2 of the City Ordinances which also provides that the “City Council shall meet in regular session on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise agreed on by a majority of the members of the Council” that the City Council Meeting schedule for 2022 shall be as follows:

- Monday, January 10th and Monday, January 24th
- Monday, February 7th and Tuesday, February 22nd
- Monday, March 7th and Monday March 21st
- Monday, April 4th and Monday, April 18th
- Monday, May 2nd and Monday, May 16th
- Monday, June 6th and Tuesday, June 21st
- Tuesday, July 5th
- Monday, August 1st
- Tuesday, September 6th and Monday September 26th
- Monday, October 3rd and Monday, October 17th
- Monday, November 14th
- Monday, December 12th

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by:</i> Mayor Dana S. Hilliard	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

City of Somersworth – Ordinance 4-22

History

First Read Date:	11/15/2021	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:		Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

Discussion

11/15/2021

Councilor Witham made a motion to waive Council Rules to allow a first reading of Ordinance No. 4-22 by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilor Austin and passed 7-0. Clerk Slaven performed a first reading of Ordinance No. 4-22 by title only. The Ordinance will remain in first read until call of the Chair.

Voting Record		YES	NO
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		
TOTAL VOTES:			
On	Ordinance 4-22	PASSED	FAILED



City of Somersworth – Ordinance

Ordinance No: 5-22

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO A CULVERT ON BLACKWATER ROAD

December 13, 2021

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 21-22 is amended as follows:

Appropriate \$50,000 (Fifty Thousand dollars), with \$23,538 (Twenty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Eight dollars) coming from the General Fund unassigned fund balance and \$26,462 (Twenty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Two dollars) coming from funding provided by the Federal American Rescue Plan Act, to the Capital Outlay section of the General Fund Budget as follows;

Original Budget	Amendment	Revised Budget
\$ 78,475	\$ 50,000	\$ 128,475

Approved as to Funding:

Recorded by:

Scott A. Smith
Director of Finance and Administration

Jonathan Slaven
City Clerk

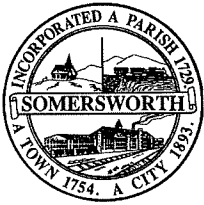
Background:

This Ordinance appropriates funding for emergency repairs to a collapsed culvert on Blackwater Road located near the Blackwater Road Pump Station. The \$26,462 (Twenty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Two dollars) is the balance of funds available from the first payment received through the American Rescue Plan Act, with \$23,538 (Twenty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Eight dollars) coming from the General Fund unassigned fund balance for a total project cost of \$50,000 (Fifty Thousand dollars).

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.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by:</i> David A. Witham Donald Austin Martin Pepin Matt Gerding Richard Michaud	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: 18-22

PROCLAMATION DECLARING JANUARY DIVERSITY MONTH IN THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH

December 13, 2021

WHEREAS, January 15, 2022 will mark the 93rd birthday of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, the “dream” of equal treatment, is the foundation of human rights and democratic values; and

WHEREAS, our nation has worked towards the goal of fulfillment of this commitment for over 245 years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth has become a model of a community which embraces and promotes its diversity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth is committed to the values of equality and liberty stated in the Declaration of Independence, United States Constitution, New Hampshire State Constitution and City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. reminded us that freedom, liberty and equality must be protected for all citizens and that “from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire, let freedom ring.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Somersworth encourages all residents, including community groups, schools and institutions to continue to work toward fulfilling Dr. King’s dream of the elimination of all barriers to the fulfillment of equal opportunities and human rights; and

The City of Somersworth calls upon all citizens to reflect during this month on the message of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and commit themselves throughout the year to join the fight for the elimination of all forms of discrimination and disadvantage and to ensure that everyone has the right to live in conditions of dignity, respect and peace; and

The Somersworth Mayor and City Council hereby declare that January, 2022 be Diversity and Equality Month in the City of Somersworth and that the City of Somersworth along with all of its citizens hereby recommits itself to the fulfillment of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Dream.”

Authorization

Sponsored by:

Mayor Dana S. Hilliard

Councilors:

David A. Witham

Donald Austin

Richard R. Michaud

Nancie Cameron

Kenneth S. Vincent

Martin Pepin

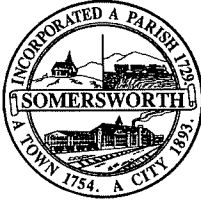
Martin P. Dumont, Sr.

Matthew Gerding

Crystal Paradis

Approved:

City Attorney



City of Somersworth – Resolution

Resolution No: 19-22

CITY COUNCIL VOTE TO OPPOSE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC) ORDER #20-092

December 13, 2021

WHEREAS, energy efficiency is the most cost-effective way for us to meet our energy needs; saving a kilowatt hour by investing in better lighting, heating, or processes typically costs around half as much as building new power plants to supply rising demand; and investing in efficiency keeps electricity rates low for all Granite Staters, even those that don't take part in the incentive programs; and

WHEREAS, Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Order 20-092 directly contradicts the focus on energy efficiency in Governor Sununu's 2018 update to the 10-year energy strategy; and the order significantly and negatively impacts small businesses that offer energy efficiency services in NH, and municipalities like the City of Somersworth, who just last month saved over \$122,000 through the Energy Efficiency program; and

WHEREAS, this order rolls back years of progress on energy efficiency, ignoring the State of New Hampshire, energy savings goals and capping and reducing budgets; and there is already overwhelming evidence in the record that the settlement agreement in this docket is just and reasonable, serves the public interest, and is cost-effective; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's efforts to ignore the well-established record of cost-effective energy efficiency programs in this docket is blatantly dismissive; and this order strips away opportunities for the Granite State's most vulnerable populations to take advantage of energy efficiency programs at little to no cost, and energy efficiency programs protect lives, keep homes warm, reduce energy bills and saves municipalities like the City of Somersworth thousands of dollars that would otherwise be paid for by Somersworth property taxes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Somersworth strongly opposes Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Order #20-092 and urges immediate reversal of this order by the PUC, and a return to the settlement agreement agreed upon by industry and statewide stakeholders, which would reinstate public interest and ensure more energy efficient progress and cost savings for Granite Staters and Hilltoppers.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilor:</i> Crystal Paradis	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney