



CITY OF SOMERSWORTH  
AGENDA FOR MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019

6:00pm Veterans Memorial Design Presentation  
7:00pm City Council Meeting

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1. Roll Call of Members
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Hearings
  - A. Ordinance No. 19-19 - To Amend Chapter 6, City Officials, by Deleting Section 6.1, Exemption For Prisoners of War and Section 6.9, Veteran's Property Tax Exemptions, Blind and Solar Exemptions
  - B. Ordinance No. 20-19 - To Create New Chapter 34, Exemptions and Credits
  - C. Ordinance No. 21-19 - To Amend Chapter 4, Personnel Rules & Regulations, Section 7.3, Holidays, Regarding Holiday Work Pay
4. Comments by Visitors
5. Consent Calendar
  - A. Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting held on May 6, 2019
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 Elections
  - A. Mayoral Appointment
    - a. Denis Messier, as a Commissioner for the Somersworth Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, with a term to expire, May 2024

13. Lay on the Table

- A. **Ordinance No. 4-19** – To Amend Chapter 19, Zoning Ordinance, Section 14, Historic District

14. Unfinished Business

- A. **Ordinance No. 18-19** - To Amend Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 3.4, Motor Vehicle Operation, by Prohibiting Tractor-Trailers from Making a Left Hand Turn onto Station Street from Government Way (Referred to Traffic Safety Committee)
- B. **Ordinance No. 19-19** - To Amend Chapter 6, City Officials, by Deleting Section 6.1, Exemption For Prisoners of War and Section 6.9, Veteran's Property Tax Exemptions, Blind and Solar Exemptions
- C. **Ordinance No. 20-19** - To Create New Chapter 34, Exemptions and Credits
- D. **Ordinance No. 21-19** - To Amend Chapter 4, Personnel Rules & Regulations, Section 7.3, Holidays, Regarding Holiday Work Pay

15. New Business

OTHER

- A. Vote to Accept the Master Plan from the Tri City Mayors' Task Force on Homelessness

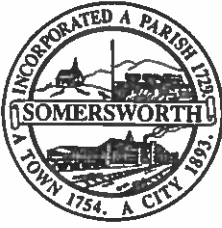
16. Comments By Visitors

17. Closing Comments by Council Members

18. Future Agenda Items

19. Nonpublic Session (as necessary, pending roll call vote by Council)

20. Adjournment



## City of Somersworth – Ordinance

Ordinance No: 18-19

**TO AMEND CHAPTER 13, POLICE OFFENSES, SECTION 3.4, MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATION, BY PROHIBITING TRACTOR-TRAILERS FROM MAKING A LEFT HAND TURN ONTO STATION STREET FROM GOVERNMENT WAY**

April 1, 2019

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 3.4.G Left Turns, by adding:

When signs are erected giving notice thereof, it shall be unlawful for anyone operating a Tractor-Trailer (See RSA 259:109) to turn left onto Station Street from Government Way.

(RSA 259:109 Tractor-trailer. – “Tractor-trailer” shall mean any truck-tractor and semi-trailer.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by Councilors:</i> Dale R. Sprague David A. Witham Marty Pepin Kenneth S. Vincent	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

**City of Somersworth – Ordinance 18-19**

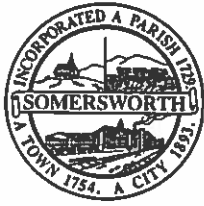
**History**

First Read Date:	04/01/2019	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:	04/15/2019	Removed From Table:	
Second Read:	04/15/2019		

**Discussion**

04/15/2019, Re-referred to Traffic Safety Committee.

<b>Voting Record</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
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	Sprague *		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Levasseur		
<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>			
On / / . Ordinance 18-19		<b>PASSED</b>	<b>FAILED</b>



## City of Somersworth – Ordinance

Ordinance No: 19-19

**TO AMEND CHAPTER 6, CITY OFFICIALS, BY DELETING SECTION 6.1, EXEMPTION FOR PRISONERS OF WAR AND SECTION 6.9, VETERAN'S PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS, BLIND AND SOLAR EXEMPTIONS**

May 6, 2019

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:

1. Amend Chapter 6, City Officials, Section 6.1, Exemption for Prisoners of War, by deleting the section in its entirety,
2. Amend Chapter 6, City Officials, Section 6.9, by deleting the section in its entirety, to include:
  - 6.9.1 Veterans Exemptions
  - 6.9.2 Service Connected Total Disability
  - 6.9.3 Surviving Spouse
  - 6.9.4 Exemption for the Blind
  - 6.9.5 Solar Exemption
3. Renumber Chapter 6 accordingly.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage

### Authorization

*Sponsored by Councilors:*

Martin P. Dumont, Sr.  
Nancie Cameron  
Edward Levasseur

*Approved:*

City Attorney

**City of Somersworth – Ordinance 19-19**

**History**

First Read Date:	05/06/2019	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:	05/20/2019	Removed From Table:	
Second Read:	05/20/2019		

**Discussion**

NOTE: This Ordinance is a housekeeping amendment, to move the Exemptions and Credits to a new Ordinance Chapter.

*On May 6, 2019, Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Levasseur, made a motion to waive Council Rules to have Ordinance 19-19 read by title only. The motion passed, 8-0. Ordinance 19-19 will remain in first read until the May 20, 2019 City Council Meeting. A Public Hearing is scheduled for May 20, 2019.*

<b>Voting Record</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
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	Sprague		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Levasseur		
<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>			
On / /		<b>Ordinance 19-19 PASSED</b>	



## City of Somersworth – Ordinance

Ordinance No: 20-19

### TO CREATE NEW CHAPTER 34, EXEMPTIONS AND CREDITS

May 6, 2019

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 by adding new Chapter 34 as follows:

#### Chapter 34, EXEMPTIONS AND CREDITS

##### Section 34.1 Elderly Property Tax Exemption

###### A. Amount of Exemption

The elderly exemptions from property tax in the City of Somersworth, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, are as follows, effective April 1, 2016.

1. For a person 65 years of age up to 74 years, Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars.
2. For a person 75 years of age up to 79 years, Sixty-Five Thousand (\$65,000) Dollars.
3. For a person 80 years of age or older, Seventy-Five Thousand (\$75,000) Dollars.

###### B. Qualifications

1. The taxpayer must be a New Hampshire resident for at least three (3) years and own the real estate individually or jointly or, if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married at least five (5) years.
2. The taxpayer must have a net income of not more than Thirty-Two Thousand, (\$32,000) Dollars or, if married, a combined net income of less than Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars.
3. The taxpayer must not own assets in excess of One-Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars, excluding the value of the person's residence and up to 2 acres of land.
4. The property cannot have been transferred to the applicant, from a person under the age of 65, if they were related to the applicant by blood or marriage, within the past five (5) years, per RSA 72:40-a, or as subsequently amended.
5. The property must meet the definition of a residential real estate, per RSA 72:29-II, or as subsequently amended, which includes the housing unit which is the person's principal home and related structures. It does not include attached dwelling units and unattached structures used or intended for commercial or other non-residential purposes.

### C. Application

1. The application form for tax exemption, as authorized by RSA 72:33, or as subsequently amended, must be filed by the taxpayer with the Assessing Department by April 15<sup>th</sup>, prior to the setting of the tax rate and showing that the applicant was duly qualified upon April 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the exemption or tax credit is first claimed
2. The following documentation must be provided at the time of application:
  - List of assets, value of each asset, net encumbrance and net value of each asset (Provide year end statements for each of the assets);
  - Statement of applicant and spouse's income;
  - W-2 and 1099 forms;
  - Federal Income Tax Forms;
  - State Interest and Dividends Tax Form;
  - Property Tax Bill for any other property owned;
  - November and December bank statements for all accounts;
  - Copy of license or birth certificate;
  - Copy of Vehicle registrations.
3. Additional documentation may be requested to verify income and assets. Documents are considered confidential and are returned to the applicant at the time a decision is made on the application

#### Section 34.2 Veteran's Property Tax Credit

The City adopts the provisions of RSA 72:28, V and VI for an optional veterans' exemption and an expanded qualifying war service for veterans seeking the exemption. The veterans' tax credit shall be \$250 with \$50 additional tax credit each successive tax year of 2005 through 2009. This veteran's tax credit of \$250 shall be effective for the tax amounts due for tax year 2004 (final bill due December 2004).

<u>Veteran's Tax Credit Amount – Tax Year Effective</u>		
\$250 - 2004	\$350 - 2006	\$450 - 2008
\$300 - 2005	\$400 - 2007	\$500 - 2009

#### Section 34.3 Service Connected Total Disability

The City adopts the provisions of RSA 72:35, for an optional property tax credit on residential property for a service connected total disability. The service connected total disability tax credit shall be \$2,000.

#### Section 34.4 Surviving Spouse

The City adopts the provisions of RSA 72:29A, for an optional property tax credit for surviving spouses. The surviving spouse tax credit shall be \$2,000.



Section 34.5 Exemption for the Blind

Every inhabitant who is legally blind as determined by the administrator of blind services of the vocational rehabilitation division of the education department shall be exempt each year on the assessed value for property tax purposes of his/her residential real estate to the value of \$25,000. The term "residential real estate" as used in this section shall mean the same as defined in RSA 72:29. All applications made under this section shall be subject to the provisions of RSA 72:33 and RSA 72:34. This exemption shall be effective as of April 1, 1993.

Section 34.6 Solar Exemption

The City adopts the provisions of RSA 72:61-64, an exemption from the assessed value for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property which is equipped with a solar energy system as defined in RSA 72:61. Such Solar property tax exemption shall be in an amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying solar energy system equipment as defined in RSA 72:61 and as may be amended. This exemption shall be effective for the tax year that begins April 1, 2017.

Section 34.7 Exemption for Prisoners of War

Pursuant to RSA 261:157-a, the City of Somersworth hereby waives the fee charged for a permit to register one motor vehicle owned by any person who was captured and incarcerated for 30 days as defined in RSA 72:28 IV, and who was honorably discharged, provided the person provides to the Tax Collector satisfactory proof of these circumstances.

This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage, and any person entitled to said waiver who registered one vehicle prior to the effective date and after September 1, 1985, shall be entitled to a refund upon application and proper documentation.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by:</i> Martin P. Dumont, Sr. Nancie Cameron Edward Levasseur	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

**City of Somersworth – Ordinance 20-19**

**History**

First Read Date:	05/06/2019	Tabled:	
Public Hearing:	05/20/2019	Removed From Table:	
Second Read:			

**Discussion**

*On May 6, 2019, Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Levasseur, made a motion to waive Council Rules to have Ordinance 20-19 read by title only. The motion passed, 8-0.*

*Ordinance 20-19 will remain in first read until the May 20, 2019 City Council Meeting.*

*A Public Hearing is scheduled for May 20, 2019.*

<b>Voting Record</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
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At Large Councilor	Witham		
At Large Councilor	Sprague		
At Large Councilor	Cameron		
At Large Councilor	Levasseur		
<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>			
On / / Ordinance 20-19		<b>PASSED</b>	<b>FAILED</b>



## City of Somersworth – Ordinance

Ordinance No: 21-19

**TO AMEND CHAPTER 4, PERSONNEL RULES & REGULATIONS,  
SECTION 7.3, HOLIDAYS, REGARDING HOLIDAY WORK PAY**

May 6, 2019

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:

1. Amend Chapter 4, Personnel Rules and Regulations, Section 7.3, Holidays, by deleting the second paragraph in its entirety and adding:

When a holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday is observed as the holiday. When a holiday falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday is observed. Any employee required to work on a holiday will receive pay for the time worked at one and one-half times the adjusted base rate in addition to holiday pay for that day.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

### Authorization

*Sponsored by Councilors:*

Martin P. Dumont, Sr.  
Nancie Cameron  
Edward Levasseur

*Approved:*

City Attorney

## City of Somersworth – Ordinance 21-19

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Voting Record		YES	NO
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Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent		
Ward 3 Councilor	Dumont *		
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Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud		
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At Large Councilor	Sprague		
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<b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>			
On / / Ordinance 21-19		<b>PASSED</b>	