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**November 2020**

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## **General Election**

**November 3, 2020**

**Polls are Open from 7:00 am - 8:00 pm**

For the 2020 General Elections, voters are allowed to appear at their Ward's polling place and deliver their own completed absentee ballots in the same manner they would deliver an absentee ballot to the City Clerk prior to Election day.

**PLEASE NOTE: Absentee Ballots must be received no later than 5:00 PM on Election Day. After 5:00 PM on Election Day, absentee ballots cannot be accepted but the voter can still vote in person at their Ward polling place.**

### **The Polling Places are as Follows:**

- Ward 1 – City Hall, One Government Way
- Ward 2 – Summersworth Historical Museum, 157 Main Street
- Ward 3 – Somersworth High School Cafeteria, 11 Memorial Drive
- Ward 4 – Idlehurst Elementary School Cafeteria, 45 Stackpole Road
- Ward 5 – Romeo J. Messier Building, 218 Main Street

Samples Ballots can be viewed on the City Website along with Street Locations by Ward. Please click on this [link](#) to be directed.

Please be aware that the State of NH requires voters to show identification when they vote. If they do not have identification they will be required to sign a certificate which is then sent to the State.

If you have any question regarding the upcoming State Primary Election, Please feel free to call the City Clerk's office at 692-9511, or email the City Clerk [Jonathan Slaven](#), or the Deputy City Clerk Ammy Ramsey at 692-9512 or email [Ammy Ramsey](#)

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of Somersworth**  
**City Hall – Open for Voting ONLY**  
**Tuesday, November 3, 2020**

**VOTING**

On Tuesday, November 3, 2020 the Somersworth City Hall will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. as the Ward 1 Poll for voting in the General Election.

In accordance with the recommendations made by the City's Election Review Planning Commission and endorsed by the Somersworth City Council, City Hall will be closed to the general public for all other purposes other than voting. Residents coming to vote are reminded to use the High Street (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) main entrance to vote.

All residents are highly encouraged to wear a mask and please be mindful to remain socially distanced as you enter the polls and vote.

### **Options on Conducting City Business at City Hall:**

Residents are welcome to use the drive-up window, drop off payments in the lock box near the 1<sup>st</sup> floor entrance, or utilize the on-line services available.

Visit [www.somersworth.com](http://www.somersworth.com) for individual office contact listings.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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### **City of Somersworth, NH**

One Government Way  
Somersworth, NH 03878  
603-692-4262

### **City Hall Hours**

#### **Monday - Friday**

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### **Wednesday**

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

### **The Mayor's Corner**



### ***Turn Right or Turn Left***

Life is a series of direction changes. Each day we bombard ourselves with a series of choices, choices that affect not only the direction we continue in but also the direction of those around us. At any moment, we are in constant motion to process the information presented before us. Our experiences, training, education, understanding of self and others comprise the decisions we make and the outcomes. While most strive to navigate the maze of life and professional surroundings as independent persons, we are linked together as interdependent beings. We

Visit our  
website



### **Scheduled November City Council Meeting**

Monday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Keeping with CDC guidelines and following social distancing the City Council Meetings will be taking place at the Blackbox Theater at Somersworth High School Career Technical Center,

**18 Cemetery Road (subject to change).**

**City Manager Reports for the  
City Council Meetings available [here](#)**

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**Land Use Board Meetings – Planning.  
Zoning Board of Adjustment, etc.**

These meetings will continue to be held in a ZOOM meeting format as being conducted now from the Council Chambers with the Chair and minimal attendance of other Board Members and Staff to allow for social distancing.

The Public will be allowed to attend, although we continue to encourage watching remotely and submitting comments in advance.

**Committee/Board Meetings this  
Month**

**Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Wednesday, November 3 at 7:00 p.m.

**Cemetery Board of Trustees**

Thursday, November 5 at 3:30 p.m.

**School Board Meeting at the Blackbox  
Theatre at the Career Technical Center**

Tuesday, November 10 at 7:00 pm

**Minor Site Plan via Zoom**

Thursday, November 12 at 2:00 p.m.

**Conservation Committee via Zoom**

Thursday, November 12 at 6:00 p.m.

**Planning Board via Zoom**

Wednesday, November 18

5:30 pm: CIP Planning Board Workshop

6:30 p.m: Planning Board Meeting

**Historic District Commission via Zoom**

Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00 p.m.

are nurtured, educated, and conditioned to believe that the choices we make are ours alone. The goals we structure are linked to interdependent choices and influence from others. Our friends, colleagues, and the communities we choose to settle in are bound by interdependent connections.

[Read More](#)

**Mayor's Office Hours**

Monday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

People are welcomed to stop by during this time. Or, if you prefer, you can make an appointment by calling Brenda at 692-9503 or email

[bbreda@somersworth.com](mailto:bbreda@somersworth.com)

Residents are encouraged to wear face coverings/masks and meetings will take place in the Council Chambers to adhere to CDC Guidelines of Social Distancing.

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## **COAST to Offer Free Rides to the Polls on Election Day**

Dover, NH – COAST is honored to offer free rides to anyone on their way to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3. Please do not forget to wear a mask while using COAST on your way to the polls.

While the COAST public transit system does not provide transportation to each individual polling station directly, they are helping voters get to the polls by offering a free ride to everyone who is on their way to vote!

Passengers are simply asked to tell their driver that they are on their way to vote, or on the way back from voting, and they will not be charged for the ride. Not sure where your polling place is? The Secretary of State's website can help you find it

<https://app.sos.nh.gov/Public/PollingPlaceSearch.aspx>

ADA, Route 7 On-Demand, and Portsmouth Senior Transportation Clients: Please call TripLink for details 603-834-6010. Should we have capacity constraints for trips to the polls on these specific services, we may offer alternative travel times throughout the day.

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## The new Dog Park at Millennium Park is now open for use!!

Millennium Park is located at 99 Stackpole Road in Somersworth.

Please remember to follow COVID-19 guidelines when visiting the park and help us keep the Dog Park clean and tidy by picking up after your dog.



**Department of Public Works & Utilities**

**Solid Waste and Recycling News Updates**

Thanksgiving Holiday: There will be **No Change** to the regular schedule residential

trash and recycling collection.

Reminder the next Metal/Electronics curbside collection by Public Works crews will occur on November 10. Residents should call by Friday, November 6 to be placed on the pick-up list. Use of bulky waste/metal waste stickers is required and can be purchased at City Hall, City Clerk office. Bulky waste/metal stickers can also be purchased at the DPW building at 18 Lilac Lane by check only. The number to call at Public Works is 692-4266.

### **Fall Clean up Services**

**Brush pick up:** Public Works Highway crews will start collecting **residential brush** during the week of November 16 through November 20. Residents need to call Public Works at 692-4266 by Friday, November 13 to be placed on the pick-up list.

Department Highway crews will also be collecting **bagged leaves** the week of November 23 through November 27. Residents should place their bagged leaves curbside on their regular trash pick-up day. The paper leaf bags can be purchased at grocery store chains, hardware stores, and Home Depot.

### **Malley Farm**

Reminder that the Malley Farm brush and leaf pile will remain open through the Fall and early Winter as long as the weather conditions permit. Typically Malley Farm will close after the first major snow event in the City.

Hours of operation are:

- Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Saturday & Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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## **Somersworth Fire Department & Emergency Management**

### **Pandemic, Complacency, and the Heating Season** **A safety message from the Fire Chief's Office**

**COVID-19 Reminders:** Unless you have been fortunate enough to take a page out of Rip Van Winkle's play book, you know that there may be a resurgence in the number of Corona Virus cases in the near future. In order to avoid complacency, reduce risk, and protect yourself with the best information we have – remember to:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid close contact with others. When outside your home, keep a distance of at least 6 feet between yourself and others. This is known as social distancing.
- Wear a cloth face covering that covers your mouth and nose to protect others when in



- public areas.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home if you have a fever or are not feeling well.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

**Fire Prevention – Smoke Detectors & other Home Safety Tips:** So far in 2020, New Hampshire has experienced one of the deadliest stretches of fire deaths in the State's recent history with the common factor being a lack of working smoke detectors. The state fire marshal's office said 8 people died in 7 home fires this year and there were no confirmed, working smoke alarms. Across the country, an average of over 3,000 people a year lose their lives in house fires. If you do not have a 10-year battery in your smoke alarm, please change the batteries when you change your clocks and test the smoke alarms once per month. Most house fires occur between 6 PM and 6 AM. Consequently, we ask everyone to sleep with their doors close to block the smoke. Continuing with our Fire Prevention theme, we ask that if you are cooking, do not leave your stove unattended.

Cold weather is starting to set in: "Give space heaters plenty of space" - place a space heater at least three feet from anything that can burn and don't use them as the main source of warmth. Don't leave a space heater unattended. If you leave the room or go to sleep, turn off and unplug the space heater. Don't use space heaters near water (in the bathroom) and ensure you use the type of space heater that automatically shuts off when it tips over.

**Active Fire Scene Safety:** A key aspect of fire rescue and suppression is to establish a water supply from a fire hydrant to the pumper truck. We make this connection using a very large yellow hose. Occasionally, the public may try to drive over a fire hose. Unfortunately, if a fire hose is driven over with a motor vehicle, the added pressure can cause the hose to burst or damage to the pump thus endangering firefighters and trapped civilians. If your vehicle is blocked in by a fire hose, please do not drive over the hose and if experiencing an emergency, please see a uniformed fire official.

**Some History – Burn Permits & Dry Season Safety Tips:** Last month we provided a short discussion on how Fire Prevention Month is tied to the famous Great Chicago Fire. However, a lesser known but more deadly fire occurred on the same day in the vicinity of Peshtigo Wisconsin. The summer of 1871 had been extremely hot and dry in northeastern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. Farming, logging, and the wood products industry had created many brush and branch piles. Low humidity, dry conditions, strong winds and a spark resulted in the death of over 1500 people.

In present day Somersworth, we had a very busy August due to dry conditions, high wind, and many brush fires. As I write this column, snow is forecast for tomorrow. However, before we know it, Red Sox pitchers and catchers will report to Ft Myers, Florida and the branches, leaves, and other natural vegetation left over from our recent drought may become fuel for the next round of drought and brush fires. Consequently, we ask everyone to clean up the immediate vicinity around homes and buildings to ensure dry vegetation that may catch fire does not lead to a structure fire. Although bark mulch requires little maintenance, holds moisture in the soil, and can reduce erosion, the material can become combustible tinder in dry weather. We also ask the public to be very careful with opening burning and comply with all restrictions and warnings.

Feel free to call the Fire Station if you have questions about any emergency management, fire prevention, or life safety topics.

Please stay safe, be careful, and look out for each other.  
George Kramlinger, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director



Elected officials, City Staff, members of the Somersworth Fire Department, and our Chaplin participated in a ceremonial washing, blessing, and ceremonial push into the Fire Station of our new Forestry Unit. The new truck has 200 gallons of water, a 65 gallon per minute pump, numerous hand tools, four wheel drive, and an elevated suspension to combat brush, grass, and forest fires. The ceremony dates back to the days of horse drawn steam fire engines.



Somersworth Firefighters practice tactical emergency casualty care (TECC) while wearing ballistic personal protective equipment in response to a simulated active shooter/hostile event scenario.





During the month of October, Somersworth Firefighters pressure tested nearly two miles of fire house to ensure safe and effective fire suppression operations and comply with national standards.



Somersworth Firefighters practice roof ventilation tactics using a chain saw and roof ladder on a building slated for demolition.



# DONATE TODAY



**BEARDS FOR BUCKS TOP FUNDRAISER**

[beardsforbucks.org/Donate](https://beardsforbucks.org/Donate)

TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL  Child Advocacy Center

## Beards for Bucks

To raise money for Strafford County Child Advocacy Center, Somersworth Police officers will be growing beards through the month of October.

Participating officers donate a registration fee to wear facial hair throughout the month while encouraging public donations to support Child Advocacy Centers statewide who help child victims of abuse.

You can also donate by going to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/StraffordCountyCAC>

## SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING

Permits for Noble Street and River Street parking during snow emergency parking bans will become available beginning October 1, 2020.

Permit parking during snow emergency parking bans is allowed on Noble Street adjacent to the Noble Pines Park, and on River Street adjacent to Jules Bisson Park.

There are 17 spaces available on Noble Street and 5 spaces available on River Street. Permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis. The permits are only valid during the dates listed when there is a snow emergency parking ban in effect. Vehicles parked in this area with a valid permit must be moved by 8 am on the day following the completion of the parking ban to allow for snow removal from the designated area. Vehicles not moved per the Ordinance will be subject to being towed at the owners expense.

Permits to park during parking bans resulting from a snow emergency are available from November 1st thru March 31st at a rate of \$20.00 per month, and are available at the Police Department. Please call 692-3131 for more information.

## SUBSTANCE MISUSE ASSISTANCE

We have a partnered with Avis Goodwin, Wentworth Douglass Hospital and volunteer Recovery Coaches to offer “**Community Access to Recovery**” aimed at providing help to those suffering from substance misuse disorders. Simply come into the police station and ask for assistance. We will arrange assistance for you.

# PROTECT YOUR EVERY DAY

If you **see** something,  
**say** something®

**REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**  
**Call 9-1-1**

Somersworth Police Dispatch  
Somersworth Police Crime Line

603-692-3131  
603-692-9111



"If You See Something, Say Something" used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority.



## **Somersworth Crime Line:**

You can leave anonymous information at  
692-9111 - 24 hours a day/7 days a week.



Somersworth Police Department also uses our Facebook page to give important community information.

## **What's Happening in Recreation**

### **Youth Rec Basketball & Biddy Basketball Program Cancellation Notice**

Due to the many safety challenges resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City

has made the difficult decision to cancel our 2020-2021 Rec Youth Basketball Program for children in grades 1-6 and our 2021 Biddy Basketball Program for children ages 3-6. Please know this decision was not made lightly as we recognize the important role our programs have in the community.

In lieu of offering our basketball programs, Recreation staff will focus on providing virtual resources and ideas to help families stay active and creative during the winter months. We encourage you to follow “Somersworth Recreation” on Facebook & visit our website as we’ll be posting our weekly RECsperation activity newsletter as well as providing additional resources, ideas, program updates, and more.

Best Regards-  
Somersworth Recreation Staff

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## What's Happening at Somersworth Library



The library will start posting the NY Times bestseller lists and marking what we have. If you can't make it into the Library, call us. We're happy to place hold for you.

Another way you can check and see what's new is to go here <https://somersworth.nhais.bywatersolutions.com/> and click New Fiction, Non-Fiction or Movies. Once you click one of the categories, look to the top of the page

where it says Acquisition Date. You can change it to Publication Date to find the newest published materials the Library owns. Remember, we are always happy to help you, call us at 692-4587 and we will read off the newest titles, walk you through placing holds or do it for you. We want to help!

The DVDs found a new home but not too far away. When you walk into the media area, they are to your right, against the wall. Our efforts the past few months have been to create more spaces where you can relax, meet with friends and attend events. Hopefully, by next year we will be using these spaces.

The Grandfather Clock is in the process of being repaired. Our patron Phil tells us it makes a lovely sound. It will likely reside on the upper level...It's a beauty!

Dorling Kindersley or DK publishes wonderful non-fiction books lavishly illustrated. Recently acquired titles include History of the World in 1000 objects, Man-made Wonders of the World, The Islam Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained and History of Britain & Ireland. You may find all of these and more in the new non-fiction section on the main floor.

We're so happy to see you again! We are still offering curbside service though for anyone not ready to enter public buildings. Curbside is available all hours the library is open. Programming will not resume until it is safe to meet in groups.



While the library regularly purchases best sellers, please let us know if you read a review or hear of a title you'd like the library to purchase. We aim to create a collection that serves the needs and interests of the community.

### **The Hours of the Library are:**

Tuesday & Wednesday: 11 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday & Monday: Closed



We're glad to be open and happy to see all your faces!  
If you have question please call us here at 692-4587



Have you seen our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/SomersworthLibrary/> It's updated at least once a week and usually more. You don't have to be on Facebook to find links to author-related videos, new books and virtual events.

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## **Seacoast Region Virtual Job Fair**

**NOVEMBER 17, 2020**  
**11 AM – 2 PM**

### **Event Description**

The Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth and New Hampshire Employment Security are excited to join forces to bring this dynamic virtual event to you. This virtual job fair will showcase many different industries with hundreds of positions around the Seacoast area.

### **During the Event:**

- Virtually explore and engage with a wide variety of employers
- Participate by logging in from any computer or laptop. (A link with instructions will be sent to the email you register with prior to the event.)
- Talk with recruiters via live video or text
- Resumes can be uploaded and sent directly to the company representative while you are talking
- There is no cost to participate in the virtual hiring event

### **Before the event:**

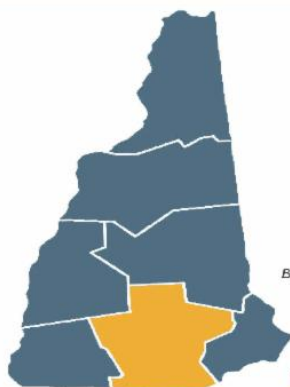
- Register with your name and email address by clicking the appropriate button to the right.
- This event is free, but employers and job seekers MUST register.
- Check back here to view participating employers – more are being added daily!
- You can test your computer ahead of time by [\*\*visiting this page\*\*](#).
- Questions can be emailed to: [\*\*jobfair@nhes.nh.gov\*\*](mailto:jobfair@nhes.nh.gov)



If you're looking for a job: **REGISTER TO ATTEND**  
If you're a business interested in participating in this event:  
**REGISTER AS AN EMPLOYER**



**DISCOVER THE OPPORTUNITIES IN  
NH'S COMMERCE CORRIDOR!**



- WORK** Jobs in: Manufacturing, High Tech, Health Care, Life Sciences, Finance and MORE!
- LIVE** Information on Local Real Estate, Educational Institutions, and Health Care Facilities!
- PLAY** Information on Young Professionals Groups, Local Attractions, and NH Lifestyle Activities!

**FREE EVENT! EMPLOYERS AND JOB SEEKERS  
MUST REGISTER AT [HTTPS://VIRTUALJOBFAIRS.NH.GOV](https://virtualjobfairs.nh.gov)**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Please register [here...](https://virtualjobfairs.nh.gov)

GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH

**Goodwin**  
Community Health

**Families  
First**

**Lilac City  
Pediatrics**

To stay on top of what's going on at Families First, please sign up for their [newsletters](#).

Family Focus: Info on each month's

parent and family programs, monthly parenting tips and ideas, useful links and more. Sent monthly. ([Read issues.](#))

## Individual Support & Group Programs for Parents

While the pandemic keeps us from meeting in person, we still offer many options for group and individual parent education and support. Parenting is one of the hardest and most important jobs there is. Let us help you build your network of support, connect to local resources, manage stress, learn about child development and expand your parenting toolbox. See our Fall 2020 programs by below:

## Parent & Family Programs | Fall 2020

All families are welcome. All services are free.

Learn more at **(603) 422-8209** | [FamiliesFirstSeacoast.org](http://FamiliesFirstSeacoast.org)

### Individual Support

#### PARENTING CHATS

Sign up for a confidential conversation to discuss parenting challenges you are facing. Chats can be by phone or Zoom. Look for "Parenting Chat" on Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays at [tinyurl.com/FFParenting](http://tinyurl.com/FFParenting)

#### KINSHIP CAREGIVER PROGRAM

Our Kinship Navigator provides resources, information and support to grandparents and other relatives who are raising children.

#### PHONE SUPPORT

Family Center staff are available if you need help finding resources for your family or you have a parenting question or concern: **(603) 422-8209**.

### Fall 2020 Classes & Groups

We offer a rotating schedule of parenting classes and support groups using the Zoom app. Coming up:

- Mother-to-Mother Group
- Relative Caregiver Group
- Positive Solutions for Families
- Parenting Journey
- ACT for Strong Families
- and more

Program listings and links to sign up:  
[tinyurl.com/FFParenting](http://tinyurl.com/FFParenting)

Monthly e-newsletter:  
[tinyurl.com/FamilyFocusSubscribe](http://tinyurl.com/FamilyFocusSubscribe)

GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH

**Goodwin**  
Community Health

**Families**  
First

**Lilac City**  
Pediatrics

### Home Visiting

Your home visitor will help you set goals and move forward to achieve them. Meetings usually take place on Zoom; limited in-person meetings, including outdoors, are also offered.

Home visitors assist with navigating school, insurance and medical systems, connecting to local resources, and helping you support your children as they grow and learn.

The **Partners in Health** program offers home visiting services specific to families with children who have chronic health conditions.

Call us to learn more or to sign up:  
**(603) 422-8209**.

Parents, grandparents, foster parents and relative caregivers parenting children of any age are welcome. Programs are free. Fall 2020 programs are offered by Zoom or phone, with limited in-person meetings. Give us a call to learn more: **603-422-8209** or sign up [HERE](#)

**All-in-One Children  
Care**  
Medical, Dental and  
Behavioral Health Care for  
your Child

[READ MORE](#)



Visit us in Somersworth,  
Rochester and Portsmouth.

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**The NH COVID-19 Parent Resource Guide** includes ideas for everything from setting up a daily routine to cooking with kids and family fitness strategies. It's a resource you can turn to over and over again for information and support.

**[Open the Parent Resource Guide](#)**



# PENNY SALE

**Sunday, Nov. 15th**

**American Legion**

**94 Eastern Avenue, Rochester**

*(This is the same great penny sale that is usually held  
in November at Somersworth High School.)*

**Doors open 11:00 a.m.**

**Drawings start at 3:00 p.m.**

We have modified our Penny Sale this year.  
A limited amount of people will be admitted  
at one time. Facial coverings and social distancing  
will be required. You will not have to write  
your name on all of the tickets. We will take  
down your name and phone number.  
Winners will be called on the phone.



*Help support our family-oriented activities, such as the Somersworth  
International Children's Festival, Kids' Koncerts, and Pumpkin Festival.  
[www.nhfestivals.org](http://www.nhfestivals.org) • 603-692-5869*

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**City Hall will be Closed for the following Holidays in November.**

**Wednesday, November 11 for Veteran's Day**

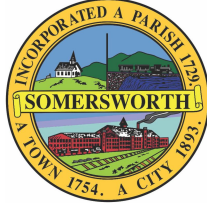
**Thursday & Friday November 26 & 27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday**





**Quality Service, Quality Schools, Quality Somersworth**  
**Vision 2020**

*"We Believe in Somersworth"*



*Proud Past, Bright Future*

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