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# Annual Report 2000-2001



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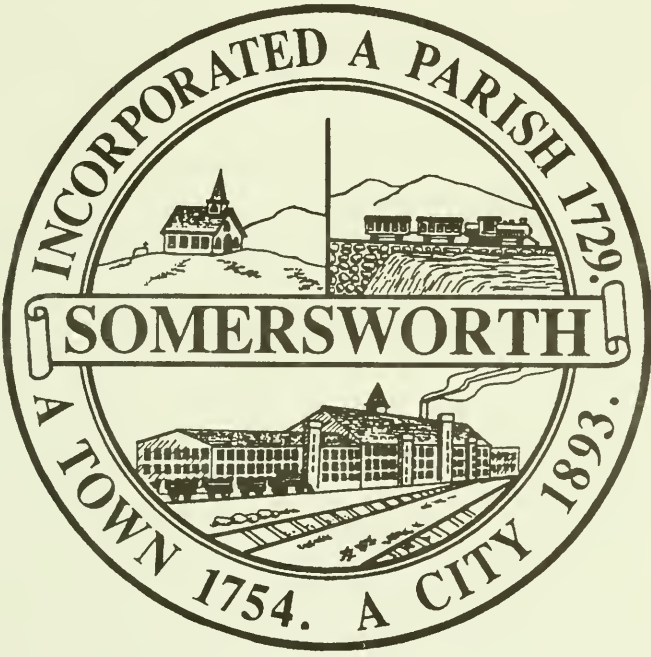
SOMERSWORTH



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# Annual Report 2000-2001



New  
Hampshire

SOMERSWORTH

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# CITY OFFICIALS

**Mayor**

James M. McLin  
Term Exp. Jan. 2002

**City Manager**

Douglas R. Elliott, Jr.

**Councilor Ward 1**

William Guilmette  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004

**Councilor Ward 2**

Roger Gagne  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004

**Councilor Ward 3**

Mike Micucci  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004

**Councilor Ward 4**

Stephen Fournier, resigned  
William Boulanger, replaced  
Dana Hilliard, replaced  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004

**Councilor Ward 5**

Romeo Messier  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004

**Councilors At Large**

Brian Tapscott  
Term Exp. Jan. 2002  
David Littlefield, resigned  
Sherie Dinger, replaced  
Term Exp. Jan. 2002  
Roger Berube  
Term Exp. Jan. 2002  
Arvid Wiggin  
Term Exp. Jan. 2002

**Assessor**

Shirley White

**Code Enforcement Officer**

Carroll Seigars

**City Clerk**

Nancy A. Liebson

**Clerk of Court**

Jean M. Flayhan

**District Court Judge**

Clyde R. Coolidge

**Special Justice**

Stephen H. Roberts

**Fire Chief**

Paul Vallee

**Police Chief**

Dean Crombie

**Welfare Director**

Gwen Erley

**City Engineer**

David Foster

**City Attorney**

Coolidge Prof. Assn.

**Director of Public Works**

John Jackman

**Tax Collector**

Margaret Wagner

**Director of Finance  
and Administration**

James Lane

**Director of Development  
Services**

Robert Belmore

**City Planner**

James Steffen

**Assessors**

Term 3 Years  
Irving Liebson  
Term Exp. March 2001  
James Cowan  
Term Exp. March 2002

**Board of Adjustment**

Term 3 Years  
Ronald LeHoullier  
Term Exp. July 28, 2004  
Sam Reid  
Term Exp. Feb. 7, 2003  
Stacy Hall  
Term Exp. July 28, 2002  
Michael Smith  
Term Exp. July 28, 2004  
Steven Stout  
Term Exp. May, 2003  
Harvy Irwin  
Term Exp. Jan. 2005

**Planning Board**

Douglas R. Elliott, Jr.  
City Manager  
David Foster  
City Engineer  
Roger Berube  
City Councilor  
Term 3 years  
Larry Masse  
Term Exp. March 2004  
Francis Vincent  
Term Exp. March 2002  
Martin Dumont  
Term Exp. March 2004  
Ronald LeHoullier  
Term Exp. March 2002  
Alan Marquis  
Term Exp. March 2002  
Sherie Dinger, resigned  
Paul Robidas, replaced  
Term Exp. March 2003

**Traffic Safety Committee**

David Foster, City Engineer  
Daniel Gagne  
Paul Vallee, Fire Chief  
John Jackman,  
Dir. of Public Works  
Romeo Messier, Councilor  
Jamie Steffen, Planner  
Paul Robidas  
Duane Ford, SAU 56

**Personnel Advisory Board**

Term 3 Years  
John Meserve  
David Melanson  
Roderick Boivin

**Trustee of Trust Funds**

Term 3 Years  
Kevin Ferland  
Term Exp. Jan. 2003  
Vivianne Derosier  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004  
Roderick Boivin  
Term Exp. Jan. 2002

**Somersworth Housing  
Authority**

Term 5 Years  
David Roberge  
Term Exp. Feb. 2005  
George Bald  
Term Exp. Feb. 2006

Jean Gill  
Term Exp. Feb. 2002  
Teresa Johanson  
Term Exp. Feb. 2003  
Joan Lynch  
Term Exp. Feb. 2004

#### **Water Commissioners**

Douglas R. Elliott, Jr., Ch.  
David Foster  
Romeo Messier  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004  
John Chick  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004

#### **Conservation Commission**

Term 3 Years  
Brian McKay  
Term Exp. Mar. 2004  
Raymond Boulanger, resigned  
Term Exp. Mar. 2003  
Frank Richardson  
Term Exp. March 2002  
Imants Millers  
Term Exp. March 2002  
Scott Gessis  
Term Exp. March 2003  
Peter Eldridge  
Term Exp. March 2003  
Barbara Flynn  
Term Exp. March 2003

#### **Cemetery Trustees**

Term 5 Years  
Kathy Walsh  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004  
Stanley Merrill  
Term Exp. Jan. 2003  
David Eastman  
Term Exp. Jan. 2007  
Phil Wentworth  
Term Exp. Jan. 2006  
Charles Kennedy  
Term Exp. Feb. 2005

#### **Library Trustees**

Term 5 Years  
Pam Landry, resigned  
Marion Crombie, replaced  
Pamela Stuart  
Term Exp. Jan. 2004  
Joan McNally  
Term Exp. Jan. 2002  
Thomas Tetreault  
Term Exp. Jan. 2006  
Ellen Dozier  
Term Exp. Jan. 2005  
Librarian: Debora Longo

#### **School Board**

Terms Exp. Jan. 2004

##### **Ward 1**

Leroy Nash

##### **Ward 2**

Clair Snyder

##### **Ward 3**

Roland Dumont

##### **Ward 4**

Alan Schlemmer

##### **Ward 5**

Denis Messier

##### **At Large**

Terms Exp. Jan. 2002  
Matt Keiser  
Mark Richardson  
Nancie Cameron, resigned  
James Cowan, replaced  
Michael Watman

#### **Fair Hearing Board**

Raymond Roberge  
Term Exp. June 1998  
Ralph Pope  
Term Exp. June 1999  
Samuel Reid  
Term Exp. August 1997

#### **Historic District Commission**

Sally Goodwin  
Term Exp. March 2003  
John Jackman  
Term Exp. March 2003  
Monica Zulauf  
Term Exp. March 2002  
Daniel Vincent  
Term Exp. May 2003  
Beth Poulin  
Term Exp. June 2003  
Catherine Pritchett  
Term Exp. Jan. 2000  
Roger Berube, Ex Officio

#### **Election Officials**

Terms Exp. Jan. 2000

##### **Ward 1**

**Moderator:**  
Richard Heon

**Ward Clerk:**  
Henriette Guilmette

**Selectmen:**  
Fernande Bourque  
Marjorie Goldberg  
Virginia Gorman

##### **Ward 2**

**Moderator:**  
Arthur Pilley, resigned  
William LaBonte replaced & resigned  
Arnold Kretschmar, replaced

**Ward Clerk:**  
Connie Kretschmar

**Selectmen:**  
Pauline Labonte  
Jack Labonte  
Rita Sullivan

##### **Ward 3**

**Moderator:**  
John Meserve

**Ward Clerk:**  
Donald Gelinis

**Selectmen:**  
Martin Dumont  
Jeanne Ambrose  
Dorothy Gauvin

##### **Ward 4**

**Moderator:**  
Michael Browning, resigned  
Vacant

**Ward Clerk:**  
Lucille Frechette

**Selectmen:**  
Lillian Roberge  
Helen Demers  
Vacant Position

##### **Ward 5**

**Moderator:**  
Joanne Demers

**Ward Clerk:**  
Cheryl Gagnon

**Selectmen:**  
Vacant Position  
Mary Dumais  
Marie Ange Dumais

#### **Supervisor of Checklist**

Term 5 Years  
Nancie Cameron  
Term Exp. Sept. 2005  
Janet Gagne  
Term Exp. Sept. 2002  
Antoinette Harvey  
Term Exp. May, 2005  
Vacant Position  
Raymond LaPointe  
Term Exp. Sept. 2003

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## 2000/2001 ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance No. 1-01 Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Table 4.A.5 Mini Warehouses. 8/14/00.
2. Ordinance No. 2-01 Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Section 9 Manufactured Housing District. 8/14/00.
3. Ordinance No. 3-01 Zoning Map Amendment, Manufactured Housing District. 9/5/00.
4. Ordinance No. 4-01 Amending Chapter 13 Police offenses. 9/5/00.
5. Ordinance No. 5-01 Amendment to Chapter 13, Police Offenses, Section 3.1 Snow Emergency. 10/2/00.
6. Ordinance No. 6-01 Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Section 12, Flood Plain District. 12/11/00.
7. Ordinance No. 7-01 Zoning Ordinance Amendments: Manufactured Housing. 3/19/01.
8. Ordinance No. 8-01 Transfer Between Departments. 3/19/01.
9. Ordinance No. 9-01 Amending Chapter 13 Police Offenses. 5/7/01.
10. Ordinance No. 10-01 Amending Chapter 30, Section 8. 5/7/01.
11. Ordinance No. 11-01 Zoning Ordinance and Map Amendments Hilltop Zoning Districts. 5/21/01.
12. Ordinance No. 12-01 New Chapter 11A - Dumpsters. 5/21/01.
13. Ordinance No. 13-01 Amendments to Chapter 29 - Administrative Code. 5 / 21 / 01 .
14. Ordinance No. 14-01 FY 2001/2002 Budget. 5/29/01.
15. Ordinance No. 15-01 Amendment to Chapter 12 - Streets and Sidewalks. 6/18/01.
16. Ordinance No. 16-01 Amending Chapter 4 Personnel Rules and Regulations. 6/18/01.
17. Ordinance No. 17-01 Transfer Between Program Areas. 6/18/01.
18. Ordinance No. 2-02 Amending Chapter 13 - Police Offenses, Section 3.4.D Weight Limits. 10/1/O1.



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# 2000/2001 RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution No. 1-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Receive and Sign Architectural and Engineering Proposals and Contracts for the Construction of a New City Hall. 7/ 17/00.
2. Resolution No. 4-01 Supporting the Exploration of a Somersworth Location for the New District Court Building. 8/14/00.
3. Resolution No. 5-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Contract with John L. Lyman for the Replacement of Sidewalks on High Street. 8/14/00.
4. Resolution No. 6-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Complete Replacement of Sidewalks on the West Side of High Street from Horne to Pearl Streets. 8/14/00.
5. Resolution No. 7-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Lease Purchase Agreement for a One Ton 4WD with Dump and 9 ft. Plow. 9/18/00.
6. Resolution No. 8-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Lease Purchase Agreement for a Plow and Dump Truck Setup with Wing and Sander. 9/18/00.
7. Resolution No. 9-01 Bond for the Renovation of 3 Elm Street into the New City Hall. 10/16/00.
8. Resolution No. 10-01 Bond for the Façade Renovation and Parking Lot Improvements to the Somersworth Plaza. 10/16/00.
9. Resolution No. 11-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign an Architectural and Engineering Contract for the Façade Renovation for the Somersworth Plaza. 10/ 16/00.
10. Resolution No. 12-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Tax Collection and Accounting Software. 10/16/00.
11. Resolution No. 13-01 on Proposed Brick Street. 11/20/00.
12. Resolution No. 14-01 Bond for City's Share of Remedial Action Costs in Connection with the Closing of the City's Landfill. 1/2/01.
13. Resolution No. 15-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into a Land Lease with Ocean Bank. 1/2/01.
14. Resolution No. 16-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into a Land Lease with Wentworth Douglass Hospital. 1/2/01.

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15. Resolution No. 18-01 Authorizing the City Manager to File an Application for a Loan re Upgrade of Wastewater Treatment Facilities. 2/5/01.
  16. Resolution No. 19-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Engineering Services for the Design and Construction Management of the Two Wastewater Pump Stations. 2/5/01.
  17. Resolution No. 20-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Engineering Services for the Design and Construction Management of Dewatering and Sludge Disposal System for the Wastewater Facility. 2/5/01.
  18. Resolution No. 21-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Engineering Services for the Facility Study of the Wastewater Facility to Meet our New Permit Requirements and Future Needs. 2/5/01.
  19. Resolution No. 22-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Receive Bids for the Resurfacing of Certain Streets. 2/20/01.
  20. Resolution No. 23-01 Amendment to the Triangle Urban Renewal Project Development Plan. 2/20/01.
  21. Resolution No. 24-01 Reaffirming Support for the Expansion of Legal Gambling in the State of N.H. 2/20/01.
  22. Resolution No. 26-01 Authorizing the Director of Public Works & Utilities to Negotiate and Accept Grant Funds for a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. 3/7/01.
  23. Resolution No. 25-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit a Land & Water Conservation Fund Program. 3/19/01.
  24. Resolution No. 27-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Contract for Renovation of the Citizens Bank Building for City Hall. 4/16/01.
  25. Resolution No. 28-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Contract for the Somersworth Plaza Renovations. 4/16/01.
  26. Resolution No. 29-01 Supporting Submission of N.H. Land and Community Heritage Investment Program Grant Application. 4/16/01.
  27. Resolution No. 30-01 Supporting Bond for the Renovation of 3 Elm Street Into the New City Hall. 4/16/01.
  28. Resolution No. 33-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Contract with Elf's Landscaping for Grounds Maintenance. 4/16/01.

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29. Resolution No. 31-01 Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program - Pumper. 5/7/01.
  30. Resolution No. 32-01 Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program - Radios. 5/7/01.
  31. Resolution No. 36-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Three-Year Lease Agreement with TTLC. 5/7/01.
  32. Resolution No. 34-01 For Order of Charter Amendment - Technical Revisions. 5/21/01.
  33. Resolution No. 35-01 For Order of Charter Amendment - Abolish Water Commission. 5/21/01.
  34. Resolution No. 37-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Select a Designee to Sit on Planning Board. 5/21/01.
  35. Resolution No. 38-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Contract for Resurfacing Certain Streets. 5/21/01.
  36. Resolution No. 39-01 Authorizing the City Manager to Accept Funds and Enter Into a Contract with NH Department of Environmental Services for the Estuaries Grant. 5/21 /01.
  37. Resolution No. 40-01 City of Somersworth Community Development Block Grant. 6/4/01.
  38. Resolution No. 1-02 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Lease Purchase Agreement for a Replacement Fire Pumper. 9/4/01
  39. Resolution No. 4-02 Real Property Revaluation Update. 9/4/01.
  40. Resolution No. 5-02 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Lease Purchase Agreement for the Replacement of a Dump Truck with Plow. 9/4/01.
  41. Resolution No. 6-02 Issuance of Tax Warrant for Costs Incurred from Violation of Property Maintenance Code from Cease and Desist Orders Against Sherry L. Allman. 9/17/01.
  42. Resolution No. 7-02 Supporting the Efforts of the President and the U. S. Congress to Bring Justice to All Who Were Involved in the Terrorist Attack on our Nation on September 11, 2001. 10/1/O1.
  43. Resolution No. 8-02 Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the Community Development Block Grant Program: Bonair Enterprise, LTD, (A Pella Windows & Doors Distributor). 10/15/01.

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44. Resolution No. 9-02 Community Development Block Grant Program - Displacement and Relocation Plan Bonair Enterprise LTD (A Pella Windows & Doors Distributor). 10/15/01.
  45. Resolution No. 10-02 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Contract for Snow Plowing and Removal at Somersworth Plaza. 11/19/01.
  46. Resolution No. 13-02 Renaming a Portion of Elm Street. 11/19/01.
  47. Resolution No. 12-02 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign Extension of Contract for the Provision of Emergency Ambulance Service. 12/10/01.





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# FIRE DEPARTMENT

*Paul N. Vallee, Chief of Department*

The Fire Department was extremely busy during Fiscal 2000/2001. Our Department handled 802 fire incident calls.

On February 8, 2001, the Department purchased its first THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA for \$17,500. The funding for this camera was made possible by donations from Local and Outside Businesses and also Local Residents.

A comprehensive training session was held on March 23, 24 and 25, 2001 on the abovementioned Thermal Imaging Camera. In attendance were several firefighters from Mutual Aid Communities. The purpose of this training session was to provide Level I Practical Structural experience to new members and to offer an opportunity for experienced firefighters to gain familiarity with the use of the Thermal Imaging Camera.

October was once again a successful and enjoyable Fire Prevention Month. Several hundred pre-school children were given guided tours of the Fire Station and shown fire safety videos. Another fire safety program called "Officer Phil" was presented to the grade school students and faculty as well promoting the many facets of fire safety. This program, supported and endorsed by area businesses, targets grades 1 through 4 at Maple Wood and Hilltop Schools. The students were given fire safety coloring books to bring home and discuss with their families.

Five of our Firefighters, namely Capt. Martin Pepin, Lt. Marc Vaillancourt, Lt. Donald Messier, Firefighters Greg Guilmette and Nicholas Milinopolous received a Unit Citation at an awards ceremony in Concord for rescuing a resident from his burning apartment.

Firefighter Harry Irwin retired on April 30, 2001, after serving 16 years as a full-time firefighter.

During the course of this year a few of our firefighters left our Department to pursue careers with other Departments. As a result of this, Firefighter Kenneth Vincent was promoted on May 5, 2001 to the rank of Lieutenant.

The Fire Department is very pleased to have hired Jon Anderson as our newest firefighter on June 6, 2001. This position was filled as a result of Lt. Donald Messier leaving our Dept. to work for the Windham Fire Department as a Deputy Chief. Jon is a Certified Firefighter II, a Certified EMTI and Certified in Hazard Material Operations. He resides in Somersworth with his wife and children.

The following incidents occurred during Fiscal Year 2000-2001.

ALARMS RECEIVED: 802

Days of Week	Incidents	Structural
Sunday	95	5
Monday	117	3
Tuesday	131	2
Wednesday	111	0
Thursday	115	2
Friday	124	1
Saturday	109	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>16</b>

Time of Day	Incidents	Percent Structural	Percent
07:00 to 18:00	539	67%	8 50%
18:00 to 07:00	263	33%	8 50%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16 100%</b>

Type of Situation Found	FY 99/00	FY 00/01	Increase	Decrease
Structural Fire	18	16		11%
Outside of Structure Fire	1	0		50%
Vehicle Fire	12	6		50%
Non-structural: Brush, Grass	18	25	28%	
Air, Gas Rupture	2	4	100%	
Medical, Rescue, Extrication	207	227	9%	
Hazardous Conditions	94	116	10%	
Service Calls	213	154		38%
Good Intent	85	81		5%
Malicious	9	9		
Bomb Scare	2	0		100%
System Malfunction	111	98		12%
Unintentional	57	65	12%	
Other	0	1	100%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>802</b>		<b>3.3%</b>

Ignition Factors	All
Intentional	14
Unintentionals	5
Failure of Equipment on Heat Source	9
Act of Nature	1
Cause Under Investigation	2
Cause Undetermined after Investigation	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>

<b>Mutual Aid</b>	<b>Given</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Air Van</b>
Barrington	0	0	2
Berwick	6	4	0
Dover	4	3	6
Durham	1	1	1
Eliot	0	0	1
Lebanon	0	0	1
Newington	0	1	0
Pease	0	0	0
North Berwick	2	1	0
Rochester	4	3	5
Rollinsford	2	3	0
South Berwick	2	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>

<b>Apparatus Usage</b>	<b>Number of Responses</b>
Engine 1	16
Engine 2	722
Engine 3	38
Ladder 1	26
Car 2	41
Forestry 1	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>856</b>

<b>Fixed Property Use</b>	<b>No. of Responses</b>	<b>% of Responses</b>
Public Assembly	54	6.7%
Educational	29	3.6%
Institutional	8	9.0%
Residential	377	47.0%
Store/Office	85	10.5%
Basic Industry/Utility	8	9.0%
Manufacturing	31	3.8%
Storage	11	1.3%
Special	158	19.7%
Unclassified	41	4.9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Incidents by Shift</b>	<b>No. of Responses</b>	<b>% of Responses</b>
A Shift	204	25.4364%
B Shift	189	23.5661%
C Shift	213	26.5586%
D Shift	196	24.4389%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>100%</b>

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**Building Inspections**

Complete Annual Inspections	668
% of Buildings Complied With	100%
Violations issued	323
Violations Complied with	311
Hours	203:98

**Dollar Loss**

Structure	\$107,500.00
Vehicle	\$9,600.00
Other	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$117,100.00</b>

**Partial & Miscellaneous Inspections**    **No. of Inspections**

Partial Misc. Inspections	245
Reinspections	124
Total Hours For Inspection	203:98
Total Hours For Reinspection	27:79
Total Hours For Partial/Miscellaneous	145:73
Total Hours	377:50
<b>Combined Inspections</b>	<b>1,037</b>

**Breakdown of Structure Fires**

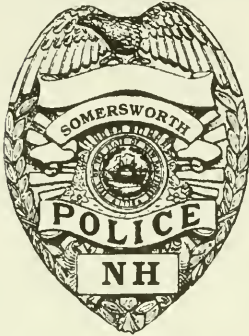
Structure Fire, 2 Family Dwelling	1
Structure Fire, Group Home	1
Washing Machine, 1 Family Dwelling	1
Bedroom Fire, 1 Family Dwelling	1
Frying Pan, Kitchen, 1 Family Dwelling	1
Stove Fire, 3-6 Unit Apartment	3
Dryer Fire, Business/Residential	1
Clothing Fire, Mercantile/Business	1
Microwave (Food) Fire, 2 Family Dwelling	1
Stove Fire, Business	1
Toaster Fire, 1 Family Dwelling	1
Oil Burner Malfunction, 1 Family Dwelling	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>



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# POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Police Department had another busy year in 2001. Important programs were added that continues our commitment to the philosophy of community policing.

- We have had a School Resource Officer at the High School for a couple of years through a grant that paid most of the salary and wages. We were very pleased that through a 3-year, \$118,634 grant through the Department of Justice, we were able to place a second School Resource Officer in the Middle School, as well as the High School. Officer Brandon Drysdale was chosen for the position and has received specialized School Resource Officer training as well as DARE training. In previous years, a Dover officer taught our DARE program to our students at the Middle School. The continuity of seeing the same officer day in and day out throughout the school year will build bonds of trust, as well as aid in assuring our children's safety in our schools
- Sergeant David Pratt, a 20-year veteran of our department became our first Housing Officer. Sgt. Pratt began by visiting with the elderly residents of Somersworth and working with the children in our Housing Projects. Through a grant that the Somersworth Housing Authority was able to obtain through the Eisenhower Foundation, The Safe Haven/Mini-Station was created in the heart of the Bartlett Avenue Project. Sgt. Pratt has been involved in many activities including homework labs, bicycle rodeos, field trips, parades, choirs and other activities with the children as well as the elderly. Sgt. Pratt now serves the community through his office at the Safe Haven/MiniStation and makes regular visits with the Elderly of Somersworth. Keep your eye out for the vehicle pictured below. It is our Public Housing cruiser (totally refurbished with funds from drug seizures).
- From a grant through the State of New Hampshire we were able to join forces with Dover and Rollinsford for special patrols to combat underage drinking. This grant allows us to conduct special patrols, use officers for surveillance at functions where we believe there will be underage drinking, conduct sales compliance checks and raise awareness of this very serious problem.

- We also received a local law enforcement block grant from the Department of Justice in the amount of \$10,313 that will allow us to purchase much needed equipment.
- We obtained funds from the Highway Safety Agency to perform traffic enforcement patrols in different areas of our City.
- We obtained matching funds from the Highway Safety Agency to purchase in-cruiser video equipment. This is the second cruiser we have equipped with this valuable evidence gathering equipment.

We continue to receive numerous crime tips on our crime line: 692-9111 and our Detective Division email at [spdinves@ttlc.net](mailto:spdinves@ttlc.net). Anyone may leave an anonymous tip and all leads are held in the strictest confidence.

### Statistics

We responded to 14,926 calls for service. This is a 22% increase over the previous year.

#### 2001 City Totals Case Activity Statistics

Total Offenses Committed:	3570
Total Crime Related Incidents:	2168
Total Non-Crime Related Incidents:	2856
Total Arrests (On View):	305
Total Arrests (Based on Incident/Warrants):	604
Total Summons Arrests:	133
Total Arrests:	1042
Total P/C's:	196
Total Juvenile Arrests:	190
Total Juveniles Handled (Arrest):	202
Total Juveniles Referred (Arrest):	53
Total Summons	5
Total Open Warrants:	49
Total Open Default Warrants:	0
Total Restraint Orders:	108
Stolen Property-Value	\$138,766
Stolen Property Recovered Value	\$357,141

	<u>Occurrence(s)</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Restraint Orders Involving Alcohol	0	0.0
Restraint Orders Involving Drugs	0	0.0
Restraint Orders Involving Illness	0	0.0
Restraint Orders Involving Children	3	0.0
Crime Incidents Involving Domestic Violence	154	7.1
Crime Incidents Involving Gang Activity	0	0.2
Arrests Involving Domestic Violence	109	10.5
Arrests Involving Gang Activity	0	0.0
Total Motor Vehicle Accidents	469	
Total Motor Vehicle Violations-Civil	4	
Total Motor Vehicle Violations-Warnings	2830	
Total Motor Vehicle Violation-Arrests	896	
Total Parking Tickets	997	



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# RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Somersworth Recreation & Parks Department has enjoyed another wonderful year filled with many new and exciting programs, activities, trips and special events. We have continued to offer a diversity of programs and activities for all ages and to encourage wholesome and healthful use of leisure and recreation within the community.

Some of the new additions to Recreation Special Events in 2001 included "**Hop Along The Bunny Trail**". We created a bunny trail with many games and activities along the way, lots of candy and special greetings by the Easter Bunny. It was held inside the Middle School from 6:00-8:00 pm and was enjoyed by over three hundred people. The Recreation Department also established "**Somersworth Celebrates Wellness**" which was added to our newsletter as a way to introduce nutrition, health and wellness classes for all ages in the community. We offered a **Senior Walk for Wellness** program for 12 weeks in June 2001, which incorporated clinics, walking, breathing techniques, and scenic trips. Twelve Seniors participated in this first time program. We also offered a variety of **Cooking Classes** throughout April, May & June 2001. They included **salads, desserts, international cuisine and cooking with herbs**. Many adults took advantage of the art of cooking held at the Somersworth Vocational Center.

The Recreation Department held many wonderful programs and activities in 2000-2001. We offered a variety of preschool programs that continue to be very popular. They include **Little Tykes Fun Station, Kiddie Kickers, and Pee Wee Basketball**. Children's Activities for ages 6-12 years continues to grow and offer a diverse selection of quality programming. These include the after school program, **Kids On The Move** for children in grades 1-4 held from 2:45-5:30 pm at the Hilltop Elementary School. This program has offered parents a safe, affordable & fun alternative for children after school. The Recreation Department offered many Saturday morning programs such as: **Basketball, Indoor Floor Hockey, Indoor Soccer, Girls Basketball and Youth Soccer**. Hundreds of enthusiastic children participated in these programs. The Teens enjoyed **Intramural Floor Hockey and Basketball** held Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. There were also **5th & 6th Grade Dances** held at the Flanagan Community Gym that were attended by over 100 teens regularly.

There were many summer programs that were well attended. We held our **Summer Daycamp Program** at the Noble Pines Playground Monday through Friday from 7:30 am - 5:30 pm for children in grades 1-5. The

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children enjoyed a variety of arts & crafts, theme weeks, sports, games, entertainment and field trips. Funshine was held for children ages 3-5 years old Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Noble Pines Park. **Tennis Lessons** were also held at the Noble Pines. **Play Soccer Camp** was held at the High School Soccer Field. **Hershey Track & Field** had 20 children, ages 9-14 who participated in track and field events.

There were many Special Events held by the Recreation Department. We held the everpopular **Daddy/ Daughter Date Night**. Dads and their daughters were treated to pizza, treats and bowling on a fun filled Friday evening. The **Diamond Skills Competition** was well attended with girls and boys ages 7-14 demonstrating their skills at batting, throwing, and base running. The **Family Fishing Derby** held with Dover Recreation at Willand Pond was a huge success with well over 150 children participating by casting their reels for fish and prizes!

The Recreation Department enjoyed some wonderful Family Trips. Some of the most popular trips have been; **Boston Day Trip, Red Sox games, Portland Sea Dogs Game, Christmas Tree Shop** trips, **Boston Pops Concert** at the Whittemore Center, **Champions On Ice** also at the Whittemore Center, and **Monster Truck Show** at the Whittemore Center.

The Senior Citizens have enjoyed traveling to many fun and pleasurable places. We have taken trips to: **Amesbury Dinner Theater, Seacoast Repertory Theater, Rainforest Cafe, Indianhead Resort** for the annual Christmas shows and Shamrock Festival, **Boothbay Harbor Cruise & Lobster bake, Hilltop Steakhouse & Christmas Tree Shop, Pickety Place, Rockingham Race Park, and Mt. Washington Cruises**. The Seniors have also participated in Senior Exercise held at Preservation Park, Filion Terrace and Queensbury Mill. The Recreation Department has also offered **55 Alive** Driver refresher courses for those 55 and older.

The Recreation Department has been quite fortunate to have applied for and received some funding for Kids On The Move after school program through Strafford County Human Services Incentive Funds and the Frisbie Memorial Hospital Foundation. The teen summer camp, TRENDS also received funds through the Frisbie Memorial Hospital Foundation. These funds continue to help us develop and grow and ensure the best in quality staff and programming.

We continue to strive to offer the community quality recreation and leisure activities for everyone. If you have any questions, ideas, suggestions or comments about programs, activities or trips please share them with us.

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We encourage all individuals and families in our community to participate in the many recreational opportunities offered through activities, programs, special events and trips.

**The Benefits of Recreation are Endless!**

The Recreation Staff





# HOUSING AUTHORITY

## 40th ANNIVERSARY: 1961-2001

The Somersworth Housing Authority continues to own and operate the following public housing developments, which pay a payment in lieu of taxes to the City of Somersworth:

Albert J. Nadeau Homes, Bartlett Avenue, 56-units of family housing  
R.H. Fillion Terrace, Washington Street, 64-units of elderly housing  
Charpentier Apartments, Franklin Street, 49-units of elderly housing

The Somersworth Housing Authority continues to manage the following housing developments, which pay full taxes to the City of Somersworth:

Queensbury Mill Apartments, 24-units of elderly housing  
Preservation Park Apartments, 26-units of elderly housing  
Smokey Hollow Common, 16-units of family housing  
Park View Terrace Apartments, 20-units of elderly housing

The Somersworth Housing Authority continues to operate the Section 8 Voucher Program in the City of Somersworth that provides subsidies to low income renters to assist them in renting privately owned units in the City of Somersworth. We currently provide assistance to 175 households.

In 2001 the Somersworth Housing Authority expended \$282,360 on capital improvement projects for its owned units. Funds were expended at the R.H. Fillion Terrace development on Washington Street to up-grade the exteriors of the buildings. This project will be on going until all 17 buildings are complete. We also expended funds at the Somersworth Early Learning Center, the childcare owned and operated by the Authority, to up-grade playground areas for the children. We also constructed a new maintenance facility building at the Albert J. Nadeau Homes to accommodate an expanding maintenance operation.

The Somersworth Early Learning Center continues to provide childcare to 110 children per day between the ages of six months old and twelve years old. We offer a full nutrition program with the childcare as well as transportation to and from school. In the summer a full recreation program is offered to the children.

The Martin J. Flanagan Community Center, which was constructed in 1972, continues to be the main office of the Authority as well as providing space for the Head Start Program, which is provided through the Strafford County Community Action Program. The facility also provides space for the Somersworth Early Education Program, which is a program of the

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Somersworth School Department. The gymnasium at the Flanagan Center is busy every day with a varied schedule of activities including child, adult and senior programs.

The Authority also sponsors a Safe Haven/Police Ministration Program at the Albert J. Nadeau Homes in partnership with the Somersworth Police Department, the Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, the State of New Hampshire Department of Justice, and PlusTime NH. This program is basically aimed at providing an after school homework program for development of children between the ages of 6 and 18 years. It is offered after school and early evenings in order to provide children with a safe place to be during the time when parents have to work. Our goal is to help the children succeed in school and to stay out of the criminal justice system. A six-week summer program is also offered to the children.

A Congregate Housing Services Program is offered to frail elderly residents who reside at the Charpentier Apartment complex. We provide case management, nutrition, housekeeping/homemaker, and transportation services to 23 of the 49 apartments in the building. We have a full time staff that responds to the needs of these clients Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a program aimed at preventing premature institutionalization into nursing homes by providing assistance with daily living.

The Strafford Nutrition/Meals on Wheels Program has been under the administration of the Somersworth Housing Authority since 1973 providing both congregate meals and meals on wheels to the communities in Strafford County. Currently the program serves approximately 1,800 meals per week to senior citizens and disabled persons. Congregate meals are served in Somersworth, Dover, Rochester, and Farmington Monday through Friday. Meals on Wheels are provided to homebound elderly and disabled persons throughout Strafford County Monday through Friday with a provision for weekend meals.

The Somersworth Housing Authority continues to be the authorized agent for the City of Somersworth in all matters relating to Community Development programs. The Authority applied for and received a \$500,000 grant in 2001 with which to upgrade the Franklin and Green Street area of Somersworth. Low interest loans were provided to homeowners in that area to up-grade properties for the benefit of low/moderate income persons in rental and single family properties. The Authority was able to renovate 62 units with these funds. The Authority continues to apply for community development funds on a yearly basis to the State of New Hampshire, Office of State Planning.



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The Somersworth Housing Authority employs 74 people in its various programs both full time and part time. It has an annual budget of approximately \$3,800,000 and owns assets in excess of \$8,315,000. Since its beginning the Authority has received grants in excess of \$30,000,000 in federal and state funding.

Joseph N. Couture  
Executive Director

David L. Roberge, Chairman  
Jean R. Gill, Vice Chairman  
George M. Bald, Commissioner  
Joan A. Lynch, Commissioner  
Teresa Johanson, Commissioner

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# WELFARE DEPARTMENT



The Welfare Department is required by state statute to provide general assistance to Somersworth residents who encounter financial hardship. The majority of requests received are for help with rent, utilities, food and medication. Every applicant must go through a complete budget

review to determine areas where expenses might be trimmed and provide guidance for future months thereby eliminating the need for further assistance. This continues to be the most important part of the application process.

City Welfare works closely with federal, state and local agencies to provide "outside" assistance to Somersworth residents. One of our most important functions is to refer applicants to programs being offered by the other agencies so that the City is not expending funds for services that are available elsewhere. In many cases, we provide interim assistance to disabled applicants until state and federal programs begin, at which time we pursue reimbursement from those programs. The approval process for such programs as Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and Medicaid can be anywhere from 90 to 180 days, during which the applicant may have no means to pay rent, utilities or medications. This continues to be our greatest budgetary burden.

With five year time limits now in place, many families have exhausted their TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) benefits through the Division of Health and Human Services. Our mission is to ensure that these families have the tools in place to support themselves.

The housing crisis is reflected in rents that have continued to rise in the Seacoast area, and the state in general, creating a greater strain on working families. The waiting list for state and local subsidized housing programs continues to run one to two years. Additionally, all three local shelters continue to maintain full capacity.

The economic pressure of layoffs and closures have been a hardship for many families who rely on two incomes to pay their bills. Unemployment benefits may not begin for four to six weeks which necessitates City intervention in many cases.

Home heating costs continue to create hardships to those on fixed and minimal incomes. Strafford County Community Action's Fuel Assistance Program was available to a greater number of Somersworth families and individuals due to expanded program guidelines. The new

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Interim Electric Assistance Program through PSNH now offers electric discounts of up to 25 percent to those who meet the income guidelines. The proposed deregulation of electric utilities will pose substantial challenges to those with poor payment histories in the future.

The Food Pantry, located at the First Parish Church on West High Street, continues to serve residents of Somersworth, Rollinsford and Berwick, with both food and household necessities.

The Welfare Dept. continues to administer a Workfare Program for unemployed, able-bodied individuals. Workfare participants are required to work a portion of each day in one of the City's departments and search for employment when not working. While no wages are paid, the hours worked are credited against the assistance rendered by the City. Most participants involved in this program are able to secure employment within a couple of weeks.

It is our intent to provide basic assistance to our residents who are unable to provide for themselves, refer applicants to other available programs, require those who are able to work to find employment, recover City expenditures from federal and state programs and require repayment arrangements from individuals who are in a financial position to do so.

Gwen L. Erley  
Welfare Director

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# FOREST GLADE CEMETERY

Forest Glade Cemetery is a very popular walking area with many of the City's walkers because of its picturesqueness. We have many people who take their daily exercise there. It offers a quiet peaceful place for them to unwind. Those who have recently lost a loved one, come to visit often. This helps their grief process. We have many visitors coming to look for their ancestors. They want to see the place their grandparents, great grandparents, etc. are buried and take pictures to bring home and keep for future generations.

In year 2001, we had thirteen burials and installed six foundations for markers and monuments. We also repaired sunken markers and graves. Pre-need lots were sold. A lot of people are planning where they want to be buried and purchasing lots for future needs. We hope to have a cremation burial area in the near future.

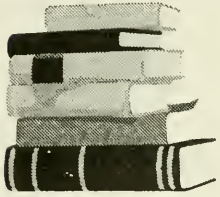
## BULKY WASTE

How much Solid Waste does Somersworth generate? For fiscal year 2001, Somersworth generated 2,065.66 tons of rubbish and bulky waste, 921.31 tons of recyclables and 36.9 tons of metal and appliances. As you can see, we, the residents of Somersworth, generate a lot of waste. These figures do not include the leaf and yard waste that is put in the City's compost pile and all the brush that is chipped curbside.

## ADOPT-A-SPOT

In 2001, twenty-four spots were adopted. With the completion of the High St. Construction, High Street looked great last summer. More and more businesses are sprucing up their landscaping. Combined with the Adopt-a-Spot locations, Somersworth is looking better every year.





# PUBLIC LIBRARY

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Somersworth Public Library will provide the citizens of the City of Somersworth the materials and services necessary for their informational, educational, and recreational reading needs. The Library will actively encourage young children to read and appreciate learning. It will also preserve materials needed to provide future generations with a record of the history of the city.

Great progress was made this last year towards the completion of the Library's long-term automation project. Over 8 more volunteers were trained to add locations to the records on the New Hampshire State Library database to create our own database for the library. We thank Jerry Lemelin (our first volunteer), Philip Lessard, Jennifer Sakash, Martin Canney, Richard Arseneault, Rose Lemay, Mary Oliver and Candace Yost for all their hard work. Each item in the library must have a unique bar code, and bar coding the collection also began this year. Jeff Nolin a high school student, and Berta Minnick, a long-time volunteer, both worked hard and have completed a good portion of the children's room collection. Flora White, a Senior Employment Community Employment Program employee, joined the library this winter and has worked daily on both aspects of this project. Next year, the hardware and software will be purchased to bring the database from the NHSL to the Somersworth Public Library, when volunteers will add those records not found at the State Library, with a projected start of service for the system in 2002-2003.

Several small projects were completed this year to maintain the library. A water cooler was installed in July, a drive-up book drop was placed by the rear entrance of the building for handicapped accessibility to that service, and for the third time since the building was opened in 1969, the front steps were repaired. The building originally had concrete steps, which were capped with granite blocks when they had deteriorated in the mid-1970's due to salt. This year, concrete was poured and leveled for a new base for each step to keep the steps secure and without any tripping hazards. The metal posts and railings in the main library were primed and painted by community service volunteers.

The picture book collection in the Children's Room has grown by one-third in the past ten years. The plastic bins, which contained the original collection that moved into the basement space in 1988, had risen from a single row to double and then some that were 4 shelves high. It was often difficult, if not impossible to find a specific picture book. Through the

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assistance of the Somersworth Rotary Club and a student volunteer and the generosity of two benefactors and the hard work of Mr. Patterson's Building Trades Class at the Somersworth Vocational Center, new shelves were constructed and installed and all 4,000 picture books transferred from the old bins to the new shelves. Please check them out when you visit the library.

The Library's hours were changed for the first time in 10 years. The pattern of customer use on Saturdays had staff members pushing customers out when we closed at 3:00PM in the fall, winter and spring, and finding that few customers came into the building after lunchtime in the summer. We are now open 9AM - 5PM on Saturdays from Labor Day through to Memorial Day, and 9AM - 1 PM in June, July and August. These Saturday hours match our neighbor library in Dover for both the summer and winter, and we match the Rochester Public Library for the winter and actually improve on their summer Saturday hours as they are closed on Saturdays during the summer.

As of June 30, 2001, the following statistics were reported for the Somersworth Public Library:

Total Book Collection . . . . .	47,391
Children's Book Collection . . . . .	14,840
Audio Material Collection . . . . .	993
Video Material Collection . . . . .	851
Magazine & Newspaper Subscriptions . . . . .	117
Number of Items Circulated . . . . .	55,657 (1,112 on ILL)
Number of library Cards in Force . . . . .	5,321
Total Annual Library Visits . . . . .	42,796
Children's Program Attendance . . . . .	2,368
Reference Questions Answered . . . . .	8,216
Hours Open Weekly 59.5 hours	

The annual Summer Program continues to provide the children of the city the opportunity to practice their reading skills learned over the previous school year, participate in fun and interesting craft activities and programs, and bring families together in a positive experience for the summer: Over 150 children signed up for the program in the summer of 2000, titled "It's Reading Cats & Dogs".

The Board of Trustees of the Somersworth Public library began an exploration of long-range planning this past year. Several meetings have been spent on pre-planning, with decisions made about how the process would be done, the start of goal-setting by the Board, and a preliminary survey of library customers completed. The planning will continue into 2001-2002. The Board welcomes the public to attend their monthly meetings, held in the library office at 7 PM the first Tuesday of each month excepting July and December.

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## STAFF

Debora Longo, Library Director  
Nancy Polito, Children's Librarian  
Kathleen Dill, Library Assistant  
Trudy Grant, Circulation Assistant  
Eliza Warfield, Circulation Assistant  
Laura Melisi Page  
Barbara Ashworth, Page  
Linda Wheeler, Page

## TRUSTEES

Thomas Tetreault, Chairperson  
Gregory Bailey  
Ellen Dozier  
Pamela Landry  
Joan McNally



*Library steps under renovation*



*The new steps all set for the next season of sand and salt*



*New shelves in the Children's Room  
built by the Building Trades class of the Somersworth Vocational Center*



# DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The City's Administrative Code defines Somersworth's city government by operational departments. As stated in the Code, ***the Department of Development Services shall be responsible for the Divisions of Economic Development and Planning, and the Offices of Assessing, and Code Enforcement.***

The various missions of each are also spelled out in the Administrative Code. They include the following:

- The Division of Economic Development and Planning shall provide land use & economic growth planning services to all City Departments and Boards; and recommend changes in land use and other regulations to provide harmonious and economical growth for the City.
- The Office of Assessing shall maintain a complete roll of the appraised value of property and improvements of the City; and maintain all assessment and tax rolls as required by state law or City ordinance.
- The Office of Code Enforcement shall receive applications and issue permits for the construction and renovation of structures under the City's building code; and, with the assistance of the City Planner, interpret the zoning ordinance and other land use regulations and enforce the building code, zoning ordinance and related land use regulations.

In accordance with these goals, the Department of Development Services, along with the dedicated service of individuals serving on the City's various land use boards, continues to promote development that ensures Somersworth growth as a premier place to live and conduct business.

## **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The 2000-2001 fiscal year was marked by a slowing economy that eventually turned into a recession. The economy continued to slide in the wake of the September 11, 2001 tragedy. However, most economists now predict an economic turnaround by mid-2002. In the meantime the general economy poses a challenge for Somersworth and its neighbors before a recovery gets underway. It is anticipated that New Hampshire will be the first of the New England States to recover. The New Hampshire advantage being founded in its strong communities and quality of life.



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Development that occurred within the City over the last year included the following new and expanded business projects:

- Aroma Joe's Coffee: drive-thru coffee - 422 Route 108
- AutoZone Store: auto parts facility - 503 High Street
- The Frisbee Foundation - Medical facility - 353 High Street
- High Street Professional Offices- offices - 388 High Street
- Kohlhase: renovation to electrical supply & storage facility - 302 Main Street
- NADCO: industrial expansion - Willard Drive
- Rehab 3 Athletic Center: medical facility- 237 Route 108
- Seacoast Vascular Center, LLC: medical facility - Route 108
- R.D. Sedgewick: industrial office/storage expansion - Route 108
- Somersworth Health Center: medical facility - 85 Main St., Somersworth Plaza
- Sumner Printing: industrial expansion - 433 Route 108
- Tri-City Bingo, LLC: renovation - 451 High Street

In addition to these, new residential construction activity remained high. The total number of new living units constructed in 2001 was 39. There were also 22 new single-family homes built during the year. The total estimated construction cost taking place during the 2001 calendar year was \$8,825,236. The building permits issued for these construction projects generated \$41,660 in general fund revenues for the City.

### **MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR THE YEAR**

During the past year the City completed the reconstruction of a 1.5-mile section of High Street. The road was widened from two (2) lanes to four (4). The \$7 million dollar project included the replacement of existing utilities and the upgrade and signaling of several intersections. The City continued to focus on the development of an exit 10 from the Spaulding Turnpike to the City of Somersworth. The State of NH Department of Transportation has selected a preferred alternative, which involves the upgrade of NH Rte 108 through Somersworth and the building of a new corridor; know as the B-1 (b) corridor, which would join West High Street with the Spaulding Turnpike via Interstate Drive in Somersworth. The next step in the development process is to complete the Environmental Impact Statement and take the project to a final public hearing.

The City and the Somersworth Housing Authority hired Civil Consultants to conduct a feasibility study for the creation of a community center for the City of Somersworth. The goals of the study were to develop criteria that could be used to determine the needs of the City, the location of the facility, select viable options, and to evaluate those options. The VFW building and the Flanagan Center were identified as sites for consideration.

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Through a Seacoast Metropolitan Planning Organization local technical assistance grant the City's Department of Development Services commissioned Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) to conduct a one-way traffic study for the downtown area. SRPC evaluated a counter clockwise one-way alternative of traffic flow along the downtown corridor. Traffic and infrastructure issues were examined and evaluated and presented in a report to an adhoc committee of the City. The study provided a conceptual framework and a point of departure for a future engineering effort that would be required to accomplish the tasks outlined in the report.

Various amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance were proposed by the City's Planning Board and adopted by the City Council, which included Manufactured Housing District regulations, changes to the Flood Plain District regulations, and two (2) new zoning districts, R1A and Historic Moderate Density (HMD), for the Hilltop area.

The City continues to enforce its Property Maintenance Code. Currently there are nine major codes that are enforced on a regular day-by-day basis (BOCA building, BOCA fire prevention, International plumbing, International mechanical, International private sewage, International fuel gas, CABO one and two family, National electrical code, and BOCA property maintenance code).

The City completed renovations to the Somersworth Plaza facade and parking lot. The new City Hall at One Government Way was completed and City administrative staff opened their offices to the community for business on Monday, January 7, 2002.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT - BUILDING INSPECTOR**

The year 2001 brought many new, exciting and attractive businesses to the City. Overall, it was an extraordinary year of development for the City of Somersworth. We saw the old Great Falls School that was abandoned for so long revitalized with 16 new upper scale apartments and all new exterior landscaping. The old Dover Shoe warehouse was sold after many years of inactivity and is making its transformation into a large multi-use business facility. American Velcro took occupancy of their enormous facility on State Route 108 (a wonderful neighbor to have). Three new medical facilities were finished and three more are works in progress. Staples and AutoZone are complete and add greatly to convenient retail businesses. Many new houses were constructed and sold in the Turgeon development on Cornfield Drive. The oldest home in Somersworth at 5 Prospect Street was totally renovated, keeping its historical features. Interesting pictures are on display in the Code Enforcement Department.

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Property maintenance was amplified greatly by public awareness. Currently approximately 400 structures have been addressed and most were given a well-needed face-lift. We hope the public has noticed the changes. Here are some statistics of Code Enforcement activity:

*510 permits were issued in total -the highest amount on record.*

257 were building permits.                      162 were electrical permits.

55 were plumbing permits.                      27 were mechanical permits.

4 were demolition permits.                      5 were septic repair permits.

Construction included 39-new residential units, 6-new commercial buildings, and 8-major commercial renovations. There were also 1,250-building and property inspections performed.

### **OFFICE OF ASSESSING**

The City Assessing Office falls under rules and regulations promulgated by the State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration (NH DRA). Through recent legislation DRA has assigned State property appraisers to work with cities and towns to assure compliance in meeting DRA property valuation certification standards. DRA has also set a 4-year schedule to complete this process with all NH cities and towns. Somersworth is scheduled for certification by the NH DRA in the year 2004.

State guidelines require that property valuations must meet 5 main criteria to be certified. Properties must fall between 90-110% of true value. Property values must have a maximum of 5% variation among classes of property. Municipal assessing records must be kept in a clear and accurate fashion. All assessing practices must comply with State Law, and finally, exemptions and credits must be applied fairly.

As a practical matter the real estate market in New Hampshire has seen some significant peaks and valleys over the past decade or two. What most property owners will find when they look at recently sold properties in their neighborhoods is a 30-50% higher market sale price than current City assessments for that property. It has been our goal to keep all properties at 100% of true market value insofar as it is possible. As such, Somersworth has attempted to make necessary and proper adjustments to property values every 2 years since 1992. This better assures the City of Somersworth is assessing properties proportionally so that each property owner pays its fair share.

As we move forward, our approach will remain pretty much the same as it has been. We believe it will both serve the community better as well as ensure State requirements are met. This approach includes:

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- Scheduling a Citywide revaluation update for April 1, 2002. These new property values will be reflected in your May-2002 property tax bills.
  - Using the remaining time before the certification process in 2004 as a working schedule to make any necessary adjustments. Our office will continue to be proactive in addressing any concerns raised by property owners. We appreciate your assistance in bringing your concerns to our attention.

### **FOR THE FUTURE**

In his inaugural address on January 8, 2002 Mayor James M. McLin identified several major initiatives for the City of Somersworth. These included renovations of the Hilltop School, the relocation or remodeling of the City's Police Department building, and pursuit for the City's inclusion into the 2002 New Hampshire Main Street Program. The Mayor asked the Council and Community to unite behind these projects in an effort to keep the City moving forward and to continue to make Somersworth the best kept secret in the New Hampshire Seacoast.

City Manager Douglas R. Elliott, Jr. identified additional direction for the City in a January 2002 interview with the local press. As well as those listed by Mayor McLin, Elliott listed securing exit 10 off the Spaulding Turnpike, City Library renovations, and development of the 80-acre Garabedian property off Route 108. To expand recreational opportunities for the community, City Manager Elliott pointed to a re-examination of a proposal to lease city land to investors for use as a golf course and consideration of a plan for a new municipal pool.

In December, the Main Street Program initiative began. Early community support has been centered in the belief that it can be the catalyst for further revitalization efforts of Somersworth's Downtown District. It would seem to reason that this program could continue the City's momentum by linking its work to the new City Hall and Somersworth Plaza projects. In the City's Letter of Intent to apply for the New Hampshire Main Street Program it is noted, "The entire Somersworth Community can be enriched and energized by the many attractive facets and smart planning features of Main Street Program".

Perhaps, the City's slogan says it best - *"Proud past, bright future."*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Department of Development Services*

*Robert M. Belmore, Director*

Sheila Gowen, Planning Secretary	Carroll Seigars, Building Inspector
Jack Kenyon, Code Enforcement Officer	Jamie Steffen, Planner
Kerrie McCarthy, Development Services Clerk	Shirley White, Assessor

**Detail Schedule of Revenues and Other Financing Sources  
Budget and Actual - General Fund  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2001 - Schedule A-1**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<u>Revenues</u>			
<u>Taxes</u>			
Property taxes	\$ 10,747,918	\$ 10,747,918	\$ -
Resident taxes	70,000	70,790	790
Interest, penalties and other taxes	<u>181,000</u>	<u>136,569</u>	<u>(44,431)</u>
Total Taxes	10,998,918	10,955,277	(43,641)
<u>Licenses, Permits and Fees</u>			
Motor vehicle permits and fees	1,070,240	1,268,007	197,767
Dog licenses	5,000	9,494	4,494
Business licenses, permits and fees	<u>50,000</u>	<u>82,151</u>	<u>32,151</u>
Total Licenses, Permits and Fees	1,125,240	1,359,652	234,412
<u>Intergovernmental</u>			
City:			
Shared revenues	268,611	268,611	-
Highway block grant	166,659	173,131	6,472
Railroad tax	2,000	2,235	235
Landfill grant	22,235	6,406	(15,829)
Business profit tax	392,348	392,348	-
Payment in lieu of taxes	<u>27,000</u>	<u>31,440</u>	<u>4,440</u>
Sub-total City Intergovernmental	878,853	874,171	(4,682)
School:			
State adequacy grant	4,865,760	4,865,760	-
Medicaid reimbursement	199,959	142,370	(57,589)
Building aid	220,771	220,921	150
Catastrophic aid	197,675	192,329	(5,346)
Kindergarten aid	93,750	87,750	(6,000)
Tuition	730,725	870,709	139,984
Vocational aid - Transportation	64,870	62,191	(2,679)
Other	<u>1,600</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>(1,593)</u>
Sub-total School Intergovernmental	<u>6,375,110</u>	<u>6,442,037</u>	<u>66,927</u>
Total Intergovernmental	7,253,963	7,316,208	62,245
<u>Charges for Services</u>			
Income from departments	\$ 210,000	\$ 240,552	\$ 30,552
Hydro lease	<u>25,000</u>	<u>86,809</u>	<u>61,809</u>
Total Charges for Services	235,000	327,361	92,361
<u>Interest Income</u>	200,000	264,021	64,021
<u>Other Revenues</u>			
Insurance refunds	45,000	8,588	(36,412)
Sale of town property	15,000	11,650	(3,350)
Miscellaneous	<u>-</u>	<u>5,179</u>	<u>5,179</u>
Total Other Revenues	60,000	25,417	(34,583)
<u>Other Financing Sources</u>			
Use of fund balance	<u>450,000</u>	<u>450,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	<u>\$ 20,323,121</u>	<u>\$ 20,697,936</u>	<u>\$ 374,815</u>

**Detail Schedule of Expenditures and Other Financing Uses  
Budget and Actual - General Fund  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2001 - Schedule A-2**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<u>Expenditures</u>			
<u>General Government</u>			
Mayor/council	\$ 30,277	\$ 27,584	\$ 2,693
City manager	142,443	142,443	-
City clerk	93,004	93,003	1
Elections	14,105	13,050	1,055
Assessing	76,925	76,422	503
Finance	161,523	161,523	-
Tax collector	112,728	110,771	1,957
Administration	128,000	128,000	-
Planning and zoning	196,509	193,014	3,495
Economic development	38,750	36,346	2,404
Municipal building	61,910	61,899	11
Civic promotions	32,200	32,167	33
	<u>1,088,374</u>	<u>1,076,222</u>	<u>12,152</u>
Total General Government	1,088,374	1,076,222	12,152
<u>Public Safety</u>			
Police administration	243,939	242,193	1,746
Police patrol	858,100	858,100	-
Investigation	170,930	170,565	365
Police support	159,952	159,952	-
Traffic	35,150	34,540	610
Prosecution	63,156	62,318	838
Fire administration	103,515	98,169	5,346
Firefighting	710,907	703,374	7,533
	<u>2,345,649</u>	<u>2,329,211</u>	<u>16,438</u>
Total Public Safety	2,345,649	2,329,211	16,438

**Detail Schedule of Expenditures and Other Financing Uses  
Budget and Actual - General Fund  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2001 - Schedule A-2 (Continued)**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<u>Highways and Streets</u>			
Engineering	\$ 77,599	\$ 77,598	\$ 1
DPW administration	369,003	368,614	389
Snow removal	165,217	164,674	543
Street maintenance	222,222	222,220	2
Street cleaning	21,706	21,705	1
Drains	45,524	45,524	-
Equipment acquisition	79,800	79,559	241
Equipment maintenance	81,289	80,512	777
Solid waste collection	146,564	140,856	5,708
Street lights	94,000	84,510	9,490
Buildings and grounds	40,160	36,211	3,949
Code enforcement	84,952	83,550	1,402
Cemetery	21,548	10,983	10,565
	<u>1,449,584</u>	<u>1,416,516</u>	<u>33,068</u>
<u>Health and Welfare</u>			
Health	44,330	36,330	8,000
Welfare	174,450	172,430	2,020
	<u>218,780</u>	<u>208,760</u>	<u>10,020</u>
<u>Culture and Recreation</u>			
Public library	211,496	207,629	3,867
Recreation	154,675	153,210	1,465
	<u>366,171</u>	<u>360,839</u>	<u>5,332</u>
<u>School Department</u>	11,982,924	11,879,479	103,445
<u>Debt Service</u>			
<u>City</u>			
Principal	\$ 442,176	\$ 442,174	\$ 2
Interest	166,678	166,663	15
<u>School</u>			
Principal	567,400	567,400	-
Interest	385,278	384,289	989
	<u>1,561,532</u>	<u>1,560,526</u>	<u>1,006</u>
<u>Intergovernmental Assessment - County</u>	875,107	875,107	-
<u>Other Financing Uses</u>			
Transfers (out)	435,000	435,000	-
	<u>435,000</u>	<u>435,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</u>	<u>\$ 20,323,121</u>	<u>\$ 20,141,660</u>	<u>\$ 181,461</u>

**Enterprise Funds**  
**Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenses, Budget and Actual**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2001 - Schedule E-3**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Water Fund Actual (Budgetary Basis)</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
Operating Revenues:			
Fees and miscellaneous	\$ 916,796	\$ 1,019,610	\$ 102,814
Total Operating Revenues	916,796	1,019,610	102,814
Operating Expenses:			
Sewer expenses	-	-	-
Water expenses	378,411	337,546	40,865
Solid waste operations	-	-	-
Distribution	100,537	137,357	(36,820)
General and administrative	180,208	193,896	(13,688)
Debt service	135,000	135,000	-
Miscellaneous	86,736	110,671	(23,935)
Total Operating Expenses	880,892	914,470	(33,578)
Nonoperating Income and (Expenses):			
State grants	49,884	46,157	(3,727)
Interest income	10,000	9,989	(11)
Interest expense	(95,788)	(73,326)	22,462
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	(1,794)	(1,794)
Total Nonoperating Income and (Expenses)	(35,904)	(18,974)	16,930
Net Income (Loss) Before Operating Transfers	-	86,166	86,166
Operating Transfers:			
Transfers (out)	-	-	-
Net Income (Loss)	\$ -	\$ 86,166	\$ 86,166



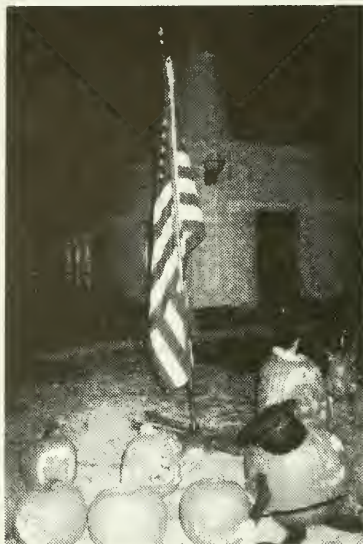
Schedule E-3 (Continued)

Sewer Fund			Solid Waste		
Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
\$ 832,114	\$ 1,055,213	\$ 223,099	\$ 300,000	\$ 270,573	\$ (29,427)
832,114	1,055,213	223,099	300,000	270,573	(29,427)
648,850	599,115	49,735	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	300,000	257,308	42,692
-	-	-	-	-	-
33,010	33,010	-	-	-	-
63,924	63,924	-	-	-	-
12,500	14,657	(2,157)	-	-	-
758,284	710,706	47,578	300,000	257,308	42,692
47,505	47,505	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
(21,335)	(16,344)	4,991	-	-	-
-	(1,406)	(1,406)	-	-	-
26,170	29,755	3,585	-	-	-
100,000	374,262	274,262	-	13,265	13,265
(100,000)	(100,000)	-	-	-	-
\$ -	\$ 274,262	\$ 274,262	\$ -	\$ 13,265	\$ 13,265

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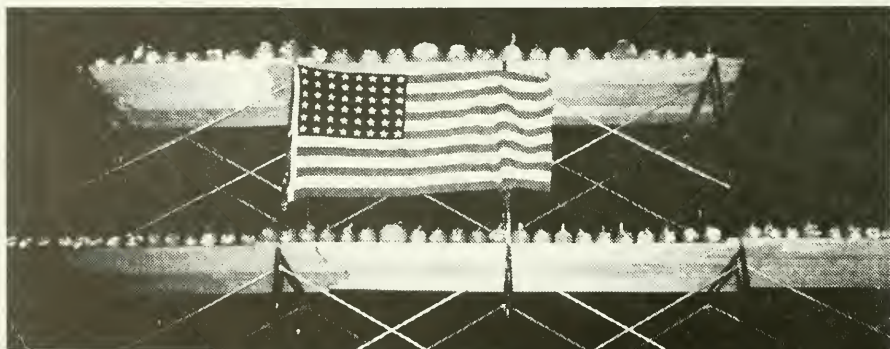
# First Annual Somersworth Pumpkin Festival



*Photo courtesy of Nancy Liebson*



*Photo courtesy of Nancy Liebson*



*Photo courtesy of Nancy Liebson*



# City of Somersworth

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## Service Directory



Adopt-A-Spot Program . . . . .	692-4266
Auto Registration . . . . .	692-9555
Betterment Assessments . . . . .	692-9555
Birth/Marriage/Death Certificates . . . . .	692-9511 or 692-9512
Blocked Storm Drains . . . . .	692-4266
Building Permits and Inspections . . . . .	692-9522
Compost Facility . . . . .	692-4266
Council Agenda Information . . . . .	692-9511 or 692-9512
Dog Licenses . . . . .	692-9511 or 692-9512
Elections/Voter Registration . . . . .	692-9511 or 692-9512
Emergency Welfare Assistance . . . . .	692-9509
Historical Reference Questions . . . . .	692-4587
Library Information . . . . .	692-4587
Marriage Licenses . . . . .	692-9511 or 692-9512
Museum Pass Reservations . . . . .	692-4587
Pay Per Bags / Bulky Waste Stickers . . . . .	692-9511 or 692-9512
Police . . . . .	692-3131
Road Repairs . . . . .	692-4266
Property Maintenance Inspections . . . . .	692-9521
Property Taxes . . . . .	692-9555
Recycling Info . . . . .	692-4266
Resident Taxes . . . . .	692-9555
Service Agency Referrals . . . . .	692-9509
Sewer Backups . . . . .	692-4266
Snow Ban Info . . . . .	692-9131
Street Light Problems . . . . .	692-4266
Traffic Light Problems . . . . .	692-4266
Trash Info . . . . .	692-4266
Water Main Breaks . . . . .	692-9523
Water / Sewer Bills . . . . .	692-9523
Water / Sewer Payments . . . . .	692-9555