



Laconia Links

December 6, 2013 - Edition #112



Santa, the Grinch and Mrs. Claus!
See page [five](#) for more Holiday Parade photos



Laconia Police Department

[Link to Laconia PD Here](#)



Laconia Police Department officers served parents and students a turkey feast recently during the annual Thanksgiving luncheon at Woodland Heights Elementary School. The luncheon is an ongoing tradition that is greatly enjoyed by the officers and families alike!

Shown at left is Captain Clary serving a Thanksgiving feast to Woodland Heights students.



Welcome to *Laconia Links* a weekly email newsletter update devoted to keeping you informed of City of Laconia department news, City projects, useful links, activities and events!

Look for a new edition of the newsletter each Friday. If you have already signed up to be on our distribution list to receive your newsletter by e-mail, thank you for your interest! If you would like to be added to our e-mail list (or to unsubscribe), please click [here](#).

As always, we welcome your ideas and comments as to what you would like to see included in future issues. Just give us a call in the City Manager's office at 527-1270, or contact us by e-mail at info@city.laconia.nh.us

We look forward to keeping you up to date on our beautiful City!



Shown above, left to right: Commissioner Maheux, Captain Canfield, Detective Wholley, Officer Enis, Officer Allen, Officer Tucker, Lieutenant Simmons and Detective Butler getting ready to serve lunch!

Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....

Check out the
Library's
Website [here!](#)

Teen Cookie Decorating!



Tuesday, December 10th
3:30 Laconia Rotary Hall
Bring your friends!

Health
Insurance

Don't miss a free one-hour educational session to learn about coverage that's available from the new Health Insurance Marketplace! Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 pm at the Laconia Public Library.

Old Fashioned Herbal Christmas!

Please join us on December 12th @ 6:30pm in Rotary Hall when Master Herbalist Melissa Morrison will present a workshop on herbal gifts and crafts. Come share the warmth of the holidays! Please register by Dec. 10th—a materials fee of \$3 is due upon registration. See you there!

Movies at the Library!



Turbo, rated PG
Dec. 13th, 3:45 pm



Santa Clause 3,
rated G, Dec. 23rd
@3:30 pm

Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult or caregiver 14 yrs or older, and adults must bring a child. Admission is free, snacks are provided!

Upcoming Meetings...

Keeping the public updated and aware of what's going on in our community and receiving residents' feedback is an important goal of the City Council. Check each week's issue of *Laconia Links* for a schedule of the upcoming week's meetings. As agendas become available, they will be posted to the City's website.

You can also contact any of the City's departments for more information on a meeting or to obtain a printed copy of the agenda. Meetings are open to the public. You are invited and encouraged to attend and provide input.

Follow this [link](#) to the "Calendar" page of the City of Laconia's website.

Click on a specific meeting for more information. Please check the "Calendar" page often for updated info and changes.

*Become involved in
your City and
make a difference!*

**Joint City Council/
Downtown TIF Meeting**
December 9, 2013, 6pm
City Hall, Room 200A
(more info on page [four](#))

City Council
December 9, 2013, 7 pm
City Hall, Room 200A
[Agenda](#)

Zoning Task Force
December 10, 2013, 10 am
City Hall, Room 200A

Heritage Commission
December 11, 2013, 5 pm
City Hall, Room 200B

Technical Rev. Comm. I
December 11, 2013, 10 am
City Hall, Room 200A



LACONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ensuring success with every student, every day, in every way



Laconia High School



[Laconia High School Website](#)

Huot Career Tech Center



[Huot Career Tech Center Website](#)

Laconia Middle School



[Laconia Middle School Website](#)

Elm Street School



[Elm Street School Website](#)

Pleasant Street School



[Pleasant Street School Website](#)

Woodland Heights School



[Woodland Heights School Website](#)

WEEK AT A GLANCE IN LACONIA

12/9	12/10	12/11	12/12	12/13
	<p>*WHS PTO @ 6 pm *LMS Holiday Concert @ 7 pm/Gym</p> <p>*PSS Walk to School Wednesday - Opechee Park @ 8:15 am *Holiday Band Concert @ LHS ~ 6:15 pm</p>	<p>*Penguin Patch Holiday Store @ WHS</p>		<p>*LMS Family Fun Night 5-7 pm</p> <p>12/14 *WHS Family Winter Festival</p>

HUOT TECH CENTER STUDENTS ATTEND STATE CONFERENCE



18 Students from the Huot Technical Center attended a leadership conference offered by SkillsUSA in Alpine Grove, Hollis, on November 13, 2013. SkillsUSA has approximately 15,000 school chapters and serves more than 300,000 members annually. The program is an applied method of learning where students practice skills and build self-confidence while helping their school and communities.

The conference is designed to help students become confident and competent in team building and leadership techniques. Student sessions included: Opening your own business; interview skills; leadership styles; self-esteem/defining your skills; effective social media and team building.

The students chosen to attend were young leaders from various classes at the Huot Technical Center: Automotive Technology, Building and Construction, Business Education Program, Careers in Education, Health Sciences, Technology and Plumbing and Heating. All the students were nominated to attend due to their hard work ethic and superior leadership skills.

LMS RED RIBBON WEEK CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Laconia Middle School Student Council students collected non-perishable food items during the Red Ribbon Week. As you can see from the photo this was a very successful effort on their part.



NHMEA JAZZ AND CLASSICAL ALL-STATE FESTIVALS

Laconia High School Music Department is proud to congratulate the following students on successfully auditioning for the NHMEA Jazz and Classical All-State Festivals.

These students, along with the top students in our state, will attend a three day festival under the baton of guest conductors. The Festival concludes with a Saturday concert. The Jazz Festival will be held at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, February 6-8th. The Classical All-State Festival will be held at the Capital Center for the Arts in Concord, April 10-12th.

Mitchell Bailey will perform for the Jazz All-State Festival on bass voice. The Classical All-State Festival performers will be Andy Emanuel on clarinet, Marissa McDermott on piccolo and Sebastian Huot on French Horn. Congratulations to our students!!!

Picture: left to right - Andy Emanuel, Marissa McDermott, Sebastian Huot, Mitchell Bailey

ESSENCE OF GIVING FOR ELM STREET SCHOOL STUDENTS

Elm Street Students are invited to join us for our 2nd annual ESSence of Giving event, Saturday, December 7 from 8-12 pm. Once again, over 1,000 gifts have been donated by you! Black Cat Coffee is donating their coffee for family members to enjoy while their children "shop." Baked goods will be available as well. There are no prices on items. Children may choose a gift for each of their family members. Gift wrapping stations will be set up allowing your children to surprise you. If you are able to offer a donation towards the gifts, the money collected will be given to St. Vincent De Paul to use for the food pantry. Any leftover gifts will also be given to this organization. If you have any questions about this wonderful event please contact Mrs. Gamlin at school ext. 107. We look forward to seeing all our ESS smiling faces on December 7!!!!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOLS



Click [here](#) for December message from WHS Principal Dobe.

Click [here](#) for the new PSS Photo Album.

Click [here](#) for the December ESS Calendar of Events.

Click [here](#) to see what's happening at Laconia Middle School.



Follow Laconia School District on Twitter

City Manager Updates

Two new updates have been posted to the City's website to keep you up-to-date and informed on what's happening in your City!

First, check out the newest version of [Project Updates](#) providing a concise update of projects in the community.

Next, take a look at the updated [Financial & Operational Trends](#) report. In this document you'll find financial information for the current year compared to prior years in several departments, such as fire and rescue call data, revenue from motor vehicle registrations and property taxes, winter storm costs, police incidents, overtime costs and much more!

We hope you find these documents helpful and informative!



Contact the City Mgr's office at 527-1270, or info@city.laconia.nh.us

Assessing



[Click for Assessing Dept.](#)

The abatement filing period is now open.

If you disagree with your final 2013 value, you may obtain an abatement form from

our office or we can mail you one upon request. Just give us a call at 527-1268.

Questions? Call 527-1268



A Medication Collection and Disposal Box is located in the lobby of the Laconia Police Department for your convenience in disposing of old or unused prescription drugs in a safe manner. Open 24 hrs/day, 7 days/wk. The collection box is accessible 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week!

Questions? Call the Laconia PD at 524-5257



GREENS & GIFTS BOUTIQUE

THE BELKNAP MILL, *Downtown Laconia*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 1 PM - 7 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 9 AM - 3 PM

FRESH GREENS & MORE for YOUR HOLIDAY HOME!

DECORATIVE WREATHS . CREATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

HANDCRAFTED GIFTS & ACCESSORIES

SWAGS . BOXWOOD TREES . PATIO POTS

CACTUS . CYCLAMEN . BULBS

Holiday Bake Shoppe & Raffle!

www.opecheegardenclub.com, 524-8813



Joint Meeting of the City Council and Downtown TIF Advisory Board

A special meeting of the City Council and Laconia Downtown TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Advisory Board will be held December 9th at 6 pm in City Hall, Room 200A. TIF funds are used for structural and other improvements in a designated area in and around downtown. Ultimately, the City Council will make the decision regarding how much will be spent and what it will be spent on, but your input is needed. How do you want your downtown to look and what ideas do you have for improvement of the area for businesses, visitors and residents? Please plan to attend the meeting and have your voice heard!



2013 HOLIDAY PARADE!

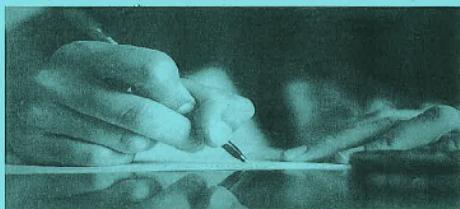


Mark your calendars for next year's Holiday Parade on Saturday, November 29th at 4:30 pm — IN THE DARK!!

Are you interested in helping with the parade, or do you have ideas to share? Please call Sue Bullerwell at 528-8541, or e-mail rsbmoose@yahoo.com. The brainstorming will start in January!



Need Help Signing up for the Affordable Care Act?



On **Saturday December 14th** from **10-2 pm**, certified counselors will be at the Lakes Region Community College-CAT Building to assist you in signing up for insurance in the Health Insurance Marketplace, either online or using a paper application.

What to Bring:

1. Social Security number or a document number.
2. Employer name and current income for yourself, as well as for anyone else in your household. (You can find this information on a current pay stub or recent W-2 form)
3. If you or anyone else in your household currently has health insurance, you will need information on the insurance, including the current policy number(s).

This service is free and open to the public.

Holiday Reminder!

Don't miss this great holiday tradition!

This year's Christmas Village, held at the Community Center, is December 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th!

The Christmas Village is open on Thursday and Friday (December 5th and 6th) from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and on Saturday and Sunday (December 7th and 8th) from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.



FREE with donations accepted and appreciated!

Plan to come see Santa, Mrs. Claus and all their friends from the North Pole! Pictures available for \$3.00.

We hope to see you there!



The Family Resource Center of Central NH
719 No. Main St., Laconia, NH
603-524-8811 FRC@LRCS.org

Engage. Empower. Inspire.

Please feel free to join us at an upcoming event, "Internet and Social Media Safety" on December 11th at the LRCS Main Office, 719 No. Main St. in Laconia. Arrival/Dinner is at 5:30 to 6 pm, presentation to follow from 6 to 7 pm.

Are you concerned about the time your child or adult family member is spending online? Do you know who they are communicating with on the Internet? Are you sure they do? Would you like to be better informed about social media and how it works so that you have an understanding of how to keep your family member safe from predators? Then please plan to join us!

Laconia School Resource Officer Steve Orton will lead this discussion on Social Media Safety. This program is appropriate for parents, teens, families, caregivers or anyone who would like more information to be able to better protect themselves online.

The event is free and open to the public! RSVPs are required. To RSVP, please contact Family to Family Coordinator Karen McDowell (karenmc@lrcs.org or 581-1544).

We hope to see you there!



LACONIA
HOUSING
AUTHORITY

25 Union Avenue Laconia, NH 03246-3510 • 603.524.2112

Laconia Housing Authority

Who are we?

Laconia Housing Authority is a quasi-governmental non-profit agency that is affiliated with the City of Laconia but is not a City department. The Authority is governed by a five member Board of Commissioners, each member being appointed by the Laconia City Manager for staggered five year terms. Laconia Housing Authority is not included as part of Laconia's annual operating budget as it is entirely self-supporting through contracts with the federal government and property management and service fees.

Today Laconia Housing owns over 300 units of rental housing in Laconia and surrounding towns. Through a variety of funding mechanisms, the rents at these units are kept affordable to workforce families and to eligible elderly and disabled persons. In addition to housing owned and managed, Laconia Housing also operates the federal Section 8 housing program with over 400 Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) in the greater Laconia area. Under the HCV program, eligible elderly and family households find decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private rental market and a portion of their rent is subsidized based on their household income and their ability to pay.



The central office of Laconia Housing Authority is located in the Sunrise Towers building at 25 Union Avenue. In addition to the 98 studio, one, and two bedroom units, an array of services are offered to the elderly and disabled tenants on a voluntary basis. The amenities provided include two meals daily, 365 days a year, as well as housekeeping, personal care, and limited nursing services. In addition, a variety of social activities are made available. Although Sunrise Towers houses the office staff of Laconia Housing, most of the nearly 40 full and part time employees spend their day assisting tenants in their activities of daily living, preparing and serving meals, or maintaining Sunrise Towers and the four other projects managed by Laconia Housing Authority.

For more information about our housing or supportive service programs, call 524-2112 or visit us on-line at www.laconiahousing.org.



“Christmas Sing-a-Long With Archie Richards



Classical Pianist Archie M. Richards, Jr., will present a program of Christmas music everyone can sing along with on Monday, December 16 at 2 p.m. at Taylor Community.

A former stockbroker, financial planner and now journalist, Richards has played piano all his life. In the 1970's he benefitted from teacher Kyriena Siloti – she was the daughter, student and assistant of Alexander Siloti, a renowned Russian pianist. The elder Siloti was a student of Franz Liszt, one of the world's greatest pianists.

The performance is free and open to the public, but reservations are required. Please call 524-5600, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or email rsvp@taylorcommunity.org.



Friday December 6, 13, and 20

*1- 4pm LRCS Main Office
719 N. Main Street Laconia*

*Basket Raffles at the Belknap Mall
~One Day Only~*

Friday, November 29, 9am – 1pm

*Raffle Drawings will be held at
LRCS Main Office on 12/20 at 4pm*

 **LAKES REGION
COMMUNITY
SERVICES**
Engage. Empower. Inspire.

To benefit the Employee Assistance Fund

News From the City Clerk's Office

Special Election Absentee Ballot Requests

The District 1 Executive Council Primary Election will be held on January 21, 2014.

If you would like to request an absentee ballot, please click [here](#) for the request form.

Please allow one to two weeks for delivery of your absentee ballot after the filing period on December 2, 2013.



Click [here](#) for Clerk's website



Laconia Police Department

[Link to Laconia PD Here](#)

Winter Driving Tips

Driving in Snow and Ice

The best advice for driving in bad winter weather is not to drive at all, if you can avoid it. Don't go out until the snow plows and sanding trucks have had a chance to do their work, and allow yourself extra time to reach your destination.

If you must drive in snowy conditions, make sure your car is prepared, and that you know how to handle road conditions. It's helpful to practice winter driving techniques in a snowy, open parking lot, so you're familiar with how your car handles. Consult your owner's manual for tips specific to your vehicle.

Driving safely on icy roads

- Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
- Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
- Keep your lights and windshield clean.
- Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.
- Don't use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.
- Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently travelled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the conditions are wet, you might encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.
- Don't pass snow plows and sanding trucks. The drivers have limited visibility, and you're likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.



Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.

If your rear wheels skid.

- Take your foot off the accelerator.
- Steer in the direction you want the front wheels to go. If your rear wheels are sliding left, steer left. If they're sliding right, steer right.
- If your rear wheels start sliding the other way as you recover, ease the steering wheel toward that side. You might have to steer left and right a few times to get your vehicle completely under control.
- If you have standard brakes, pump them gently. If you have anti-lock brakes (ABS), do not pump the brakes. Apply steady pressure to the brakes. You will feel the brakes pulse—this is normal.

If your front wheels skid . . .

- Take your foot off the gas and shift to neutral, but don't try to steer immediately. As the wheels skid sideways, they will slow the vehicle and traction will return. As it does, steer in the direction you want to go. Then put the transmission in "drive" or release the clutch, and accelerate gently.

If you get stuck . . .

- Do not spin your wheels. This will only dig you in deeper.
- Turn your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way.
- Use a light touch on the gas, to ease your car out.
- Use a shovel to clear snow away from the wheels and the underside of the car.
- Pour sand, kitty litter, gravel or salt in the path of the wheels, to help get traction. Try rocking the vehicle. (Check your owner's manual first—it can damage the transmission on some vehicles.) Shift from forward to reverse, and back again. Each time you're in gear, give a light touch on the gas until the vehicle gets going.



Disposal of Christmas Trees
IMPORTANT CHANGE IN PROCEDURE

In an effort to more efficiently and effectively utilize DPW personnel and equipment time, **Christmas Trees will no longer be picked up curbside by Laconia DPW** in the weeks immediately following the Holidays. Laconia residents can transport and drop-off their tree(s) at the following locations for ultimate disposal by DPW:

1. Hilliard Road Brush Dump on Wednesdays in January (Jan 8th, Jan 15th, Jan 22nd and Jan 29th) from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. An attendant will be there to assist you.
2. Laconia Transfer Station, 385 Meredith Center Road. Monday thru Friday from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 am to Noon. Place trees in the specifically marked/designated area ONLY. PLEASE PULL ON SCALES FIRST!
3. Memorial Park Softball Field off Pearl St (on Memorial Park Drive). Place trees in the specifically marked/designated area ONLY.

Please call Ann, Department of Public Works with any questions, 528-6379, ext.300.

LAKES REGION SLED DOG CLUB AUCTION

TO BENEFIT
 THE 85th ANNUAL
 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SLED DOG DERBY



Doug Butler, Bristol, VT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013

HORS D'OEUVRES 5:30-6:30
 AUCTION BEGINS @ 6:30

PATRICK'S PUB & EATERY
 Gilford, NH
 JESSE THOMPSON, AUCTIONEER

FOR MORE INFO: www.LRSDC.org OR 524-4314



Celebrate the Holiday Season with Trillium at Taylor Community



The next concert of the 2013 Taylor Community Music Series, sponsored by Bank of New Hampshire, features Trillium, a vocal trio from the Concord Community Music School. The event is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 pm in Taylor's Woodside Building, 435 Union Ave.

The trio is comprised of Jane Berlin Pauley, Hannah Murray and Peggo Horstmann Hodes. Pianist Calvin Herst will accompany the vocalists. The group will present a full program of Christmas music. This event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required.

LACONIA PARKS & RECREATION

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

524-5046

Hurray for the Holidays

Date: December 11th

6:00 ~ 8:00pm

\$2.00 per person

Let's have some holiday fun at the Community Center. Bring the family and make ornaments, etc.

Must register & pay by December 7th



Mother/Child

Cookie Decorating

Date: December 13th

6:00 - 8:00pm

\$10.00 per family of 4,

\$2.00 each additional person

Moms and kids make a date and come decorate some sugar cookies.

Must register & pay by December 7th

Snowman Contest

December 1st through March 1st

Make a snowman with your family and take a picture of it. Send the picture in to us by March 1 and possibly win a prize!



News

From the Laconia Water Department

Important Notice to Laconia Water Department Customers!!

The November 2013 Water & Sewer Invoices contain a printing error which was not detected until after being mailed.

The correct due date is January 6th, 2014.

This does not include the sewer only invoices due December 30th to the City of Laconia Tax Collector.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Questions? Please call the Water Dept. at 524-0901

Please click [here](#) for the Water Dept. website!

Go Green - Pay Online



Less Clutter, Better for the Environment



Don't have time to wait in line?
View and/or Pay your Bill Online

Go To: www.city.laconia.nh.us

Select "Online Payments"

Announcing a **new**, easy way to View & Pay your Bills Online!

You can access and manage your City of Laconia tax & sewer only accounts online at your convenience.
It's easy, safe and secure!

- No registration is required to view or pay* your bill.
- Receive an email confirmation of payment.
- Avoid late payments by enrolling in Auto-Pay - **new!**
- Pay online with e-check for less than the cost of a stamp!

* Service fees apply



News From the Tax Department...

PROPERTY TAX BILLS ARE OUT!

Tax bills were mailed on Wednesday, November 27, 2013. They are due on December 30, 2013. Payments are accepted by mail and at the counter in City Hall during normal business hours. Office hours are Monday – Friday 8:30-4:30. For your convenience there is a drop slot located on the side door of City Hall. We are now accepting credit cards over the counter and online. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted.

Convenience fees apply to all credit card transactions.

Please call the Tax Office at 527-1269 if you have any questions.

Follow this [link](#) to our Tax Department for more info...



Don't forget !
ServiceLink
Resource Center
(1-866-634-9412 or
528-6945)....it's the first
number to call for
senior services.

*See What's
Happening in
December at the
Laconia Senior Center!
Click [here](#) to read the
December issue of the
"Senior Sentinel"!*



Happy Holidays!

*Laconia Senior Center is located at
17 Church Street in Laconia.
Questions? Call 524-7689*

*We hope you have enjoyed this
Edition of Laconia Links*

*We welcome your input, comments
and suggestions!*

Feel free to contact us at the
City Manager's office, 527-1270,
or by e-mail at info@city.laconia.nh.us

Have a great weekend!



Scott Myers, City Manager
City's Website: www.city.laconia.nh.us



CITY OF LACONIA PHONE DIRECTORY

Assessing	527-1268
Assessor - Jon Duhamel	
City Clerk.....	527-1265
City Clerk - Mary Reynolds	
City Manager.....	527-1270
City Manager - Scott Myers	
Code Enforcement.....	527-1293
Planning & Zoning Dir. - Shanna Saunders	
Finance	524-3877
Finance Director - Donna Woodaman	
Licensing	528-6331
Licensing Clerk - Katie Walsh	
Planning & Comm. Dev.	527-1264
Planning & Zoning Dir. - Shanna Saunders	
Tax	527-1269
Tax Collector - Lindsey Allen	
Welfare.....	527-1267
Welfare Specialist - Suzi McCormack	
Welfare Director - Donna Woodaman	
Fire Dept. (Central Station)	524-6881
Fire Dept. (Lakeport)	524-7777
Fire Dept. (Weirs Station)	366-2229
Fire Chief - Ken Erickson	
Library	524-4775
Library Director - Randy Brough	
Parks & Recreation.....	524-5046
Parks & Rec. Director - Kevin Dunleavy	
Personnel	524-3877
Personnel Administrator - Paula Baumel	
Police (Administration)	524-5257
Police (Crime Line)	524-1717
Police Chief - Christopher Adams	
Public Works (Main Office)	528-6379
Public Works (Transfer Station)	528-5822
Public Works Director - Paul Moynihan	
Water.....	524-0901
Superintendent - Seth Nuttelman	

City Council Contact Info:

Mayor Michael Seymour	524-6552
Ava Doyle (Ward 1)	393-6533
Matthew Lahey (Ward 2)	524-4283
Henry Lipman (Ward 3)	528-0191
Brenda Baer (Ward 4)	524-6349
Robert Hamel (Ward 5)	524-6360
Armand Bolduc (Ward 6)	524-2514

E-mail: citycouncil@city.laconia.nh.us

Visit the City's website at:
www.city.laconia.nh.us