## City of Somerset

Eddie R. Girdler Mayor

David Godsey City Clerk 400 East Mt. Vernon Street P.O. Box 989 SOMERSET, KENTUCKY 42502 (606)679-6366 (606)679-2481 (FAX)



## **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the City of Somerset is one of the most financially sound cities in America providing services that are rated as the best in the nation and state; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somerset is one of the most efficient and effective cities in America and has been for over 125 years with outstanding streamlined city government that provides the most services at the least possible cost for any city/county in nation or state; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somerset has gross assets of nearly \$175 million and net assets of \$100 million with liquid assets envied and wanted by local county government who has little assets and virtually no liquid assets; and

WHEREAS, the county appears to be willing to encourage other smaller cities to join together to establish a welfare system whereby the hard earned assets of the citizens of Somerset are taken from the citizens of Somerset of which 70% are on fixed income and given to others that do not have the legal or moral right to obtain; and

WHEREAS, small cities will see an increase of at least 25% in utility rates if the city is not able to plan for the future; over 5,000 jobs will be in danger because the natural gas system must operate on a long term basis; and all future major projects will cease due to uncertain future condition; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somerset has reduced property taxes by 50 % over the past five years, utility rates for city residents the same or lower for six years; constructed new water and sewer plants; expanded natural gas to exceptional levels for economic growth and heating of our homes; saved the YMCA (Somerset Family Fitness Center) by paying off \$2.5 million in debt so that residents, children, and swimming teams could have healthy and fun environment; built a \$11 million water park with over \$2 million in expansion so that nearly 100,000 visits were made to the park without increasing rates for families and admissions for over 7 years; provided over \$40 million in new construction to meet city and county needs; implemented a fueling center saving money for city schools; lowered rates on city and county school buildings

in city saving hundreds of thousands of dollars to keep teachers and aides employed; provides over \$750,000 a year in utility subsidies so that our friends and neighbors have jobs; expanded the natural gas system processing and transmission systems to meet any future demand; started the first natural gas fueling center in Kentucky to help reduce the cost of gasoline and diesel and will save the taxpayers over \$200,000 a year; the only city with no help from any agency or government in passing a smoke free ordinance; reduced rates for sports programs for example so that over 600 kids are playing soccer with 70% of kids that live in county; over 500 children are provided water park passes because of achievements in education; completed contracts through 2015 for natural gas purchases so city residents and small business will not have any increase for next three years making a total of 10 years of same or less rates; provided over \$1 million to local service agencies in past five years to care for our needy families; city provides 750 units of low income housing to meet our housing needs of elderly, disabled, and working families with over 2,000 apartments in Somerset having lower rental rates because of the cities low utility rates and services; all being done without the support of county government, chamber of commerce or industrial foundation.

NOW THEREFORE, the Common Council of the City of Somerset does hereby reject any Unified Government proposal, Charter County Government, or any other unified (consolidated) government proposal and will not provide funding for any study.

IN ADDITION, the Common Council of the City of Somerset does authorize the Mayor and City Attorney to contract for any needed legal services to protect the continued existence of the City of Somerset.

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013.

Mayor