

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of August 19, 2024 at 6:15 p.m.
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Jim Jennison; Kathi Bradt; Ryanne Schoonover

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator; Jennifer Bland, EM/Hwy Admin; Melinda Loiselle, Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT: Diane Bildstein; Linda Christie; Glenn Elsesser; Mark Goodwin; Bill & Mary Hildreth; Louise Peyton; Steve & Lori Murray; Gregg Thibodeau; Mark Wilson

CALL TO ORDER: Jim called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

On a motion by Kathi seconded by Ryanne; *the Board voted to accept the funds for an alternate project. Passed.*

2021 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- There are just a few project still hung up at EHP, which is environmental.

2023 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- For Crane Brook and Thayer Brook Rds. the engineer has to develop a plan and scope of work. The permitting that FEMA requires is going to take 2 years. Currently the engineer is focusing on these two roads.
- Glenn said there are a lot of pot holes and ruts on CBR. He asked if we could reclaim it. Jennifer said FEMA advised us not to do any additional work. We need to get their permission or it could jeopardize our funding unless it is maintenance.
- Kathi mentioned the amount FEMA has put in for a place holder for CBR is \$3M.

MINUTES: Meeting of 8/5/24: On a motion by Ryanne, seconded by Kathi; *the Board voted to approve. Motion passed.*

BILL MANIFESTS: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; *the Board voted to approve and sign with additions. Motion passed.*

PAYROLL MANIFEST: 8/12/24: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; *the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.*

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- Cleaned culverts town wide; checked and cleaned ditches town wide; packed the Transfer Station; worked in pit with Fuzzy Brothers; graded Lynn Hill Rd; Gravel on Gove Rd; storm prep; cleaned up trees and brush around town; repaired the grader.
- WS back at ATG with issues, they are checking it out.
- 28th is a virtual culvert maintainer recertification class and they will be walking Derry Hill Rd.
- Jennifer requested the town draft a letter for 199 Crescent Lake Rd with the large culvert and manhole cover. They need to start cleaning the inlet in their yard as it is blocking up. If not maintained it blocks up the big culvert and the additional culverts that go 3 different ways. There is also a manhole cover in the town right of way which the previous owner installed that isn't legal. The manhole cover is so heavy the backhoe or loader is required to lift it. It gets so plugged up the water runs out and freezes in the winter and the plow hits it.
 - Gregg said he spoke with the Mulhern's last year who told Gregg he was going to clean it.
 - Ryanne said although it is in the town right of way, the town shouldn't be spending money or manpower hours on this, it should be the landowner since they installed it.
 - Glenn asked if DES was contacted. Jennifer has contacted DES about this and waiting to hear back.
 - Consensus was for Charlotte to send a letter to the landowner.

PLANNING BOARD UPDATE: None

CONSERVATION COMMISSION UPDATE: Ryanne: Met on 8/14. Reviewed bylaws. Reviewed and discussed the forester plan for the South Acworth forest. The Town property AKA the "Prouty land" M250 L2 is now deeded to the State to add to Honey Brook State Forest.

- Gregg spoke on the Crescent Lake Watershed Plan meeting scheduled for August 24th at 10AM at the Unity Elementary School. Gregg said this was critical to ensure Crescent Lake water remains a good quality. CLA wants the town to be informed as this goes on. CLA is asking for donations as the total cost for the plan is around \$54k. The plan should be complete next year. There will be a list of improvements and recommendations. This part of the process has some revolving state funds that are available but will have to work through the municipality. He said this is not asking for funding but might involve support to access state funds.

PUBLIC: None

ACTION ITEMS:

- Building permits:
 - Adams M242 L5: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.***
 - Hanson M253 L12: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.***
 - Bildstein M202 L9: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.***
 - Peyton M201 L77: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.***
- Draft MS-1: Kathi pointed out that our values have increased by \$1.4M in value. Charlotte will bring back final version to sign at next meeting.
- Abatement for Northern New England Telephone: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Deeding: Reviewed the list of upcoming properties to be deeded. The Tax Collector will have any that are still on the list prepared for the board to sign at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION:

- Compliance:
 - Kelin: At the last meeting it was discussed to push the dates on the agreement out. Consensus was this is now obsolete. Jennifer said a construction trailer is to be used only during construction and they haven't started. They have to comply with the DES letter which documents a violation of culvert installations with no permit. Charlotte suggested we wait to see if they will come into compliance with DES first. Jennifer will reach out to DES to get more info.
- Email from S Murray re Traffic control at CLR: Ryanne suggested we have a speed study done. It's a small box which we may be able to borrow from Alstead. She said UVRP may have some equipment to borrow. Charlotte said she looked on the website. Jennifer said she has a contact there and will reach out to them. She also said there is only one speed limit sign and it's on the Unity side. They could put up additional speed limit signs. The trooper told her it's hard to enforce speed when there is no signage.
- Outside lighting: Charlotte mentioned she spoke with Will Starks about installing a motion light. He said he could do that the middle of Sept.

On a motion by Ryanne and seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau
Town Administrator