

**TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Budget Committee**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601**

**BUDGET COMITTE PRESENT:** Judy Aron, Jennifer Bland, Conan Cook, Claudia Istel, Susan Metsack, Cheryl Sanctuary

**BOARD OF SELECTMAN PRESENT:** Kathi Bradt, Jim Jennison

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Charlotte Comeau, Brenda Melius, Gregg Thibodeau

**CALL TO ORDER FOR MEETING:** Susan Metsack called the meeting to order at 07:06PM

Previous Meeting Minutes were reviewed, and CC pointed out that a change had to be made to correct the date, January 11<sup>th</sup> in paragraph four to January 18<sup>th</sup>. Correction was made.

Gregg Thibodeau and Brenda Melius from the Small Roads Committee attended and spoke about the goal of the small roads committee that was appointed by the BOS in April of 2022. The committee has 7 members and reviewed class V roads based on criteria established by the committee to see if they should be reclassified to class VI roads. 19 roads were evaluated and 11 have been recommended to be reclassified to class VI as many of these roads are driveways. GT passed out the Frequently asked questions to the committee and explained the criteria for evaluating each road and how roads were recommended for reclassification. He advised that there will be a public hearing on 28 Jan 2023 at 1 pm to discuss the committee's findings.

The July 2021 flood projects were reviewed. JB provided a chart of the 13 projects that the town has. Of the 13 projects, 5 have been submitted to the CRC for reimbursement in the amount of \$8884,536.59, The remaining projects are as follows: 3 are pending submission to CRC, 2 projects are in review for mitigation, 2 projects are in review with FEMA and 1 is in review with DES for a total of \$2,196, 808.99. The town has spent 3 million dollars in repairs from the flood and are at a standstill until we obtain FEMA reimbursement. There is a warrant article that the Budget Committee must review with another million-dollar loan to continue with FEMA repairs. JA states that the state has a loan program that the town could be eligible to apply for. JA is going to see what the status of HSEM is with this loan process. JA states there is possibility of the town applying for this loan with a low interest rate. Questions were asked by Budget Committee members about where we stand with the FEMA process and if the process could be explained. The budget Committee would like to know where money from the new million-dollar loan would be allocated to repairs of what roads. There is concern overusing the last of the towns credit to obtain this loan and what roads can be repaired and if the town will be reimbursed for the money spent. KB advised that if we don't obtain this loan we can't move forward with continued repairs and will just have to use the capital reserve \$500,000. CC asked if there are notes from weekly FEMA meetings and where they are kept. JB will ask at the next FEMA meeting.

The Budget Committee won't vote on Warrant Article 4 until either 25 Jan 2023 or 01 February 2023. The public hearing for the Budget Committee will be held on 08 Feb 2023, with a snow date of 13 February 2023.

The School Budget Deliberative session will be held on 09 February 2023.

CC requested the most UpToDate YTD budget. Charlotte C will get that sent to the Budget Committee.

In the next Budget Committee meeting on 25 January the committee will continue reviewing and discussing the proposed budget & warrant articles.

Next Meeting is January 25, 2023, 07:00PM

**Meeting Adjourned:** 08:38 PM Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Bland