

**TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Budget Committee**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601**

**BUDGET COMMITTEE PRESENT:** Judy Aron, John Balla, Jennifer Bland, Claudia Istel, Susan Metsack, Cheryl Sanctuary

**BOARD OF SELECTMAN PRESENT:** Kathi Bradt, Ryanne Schoonover

**Others Present:** Charlotte Comeau Administrative Assistant

**Public:** None

**CALL TO ORDER FOR MEETING:** Susan Metsack called the meeting to order at 06:33PM

Claudia Istel & Cheryl Sanctuary are up for term renewals and Charlotte Comeau will have the paperwork for them later in the month if they want to run for reelection.

The committee reviewed the 2025 Proposed Budget and asked questions about several lines which needed some clarification, some of the items questioned was Conservation, Library, Town Hall, Health Officer Line, Legal expenses, and Transfer station revenue. Charlotte and Kathi explained each line. Judy Aron asked about trucking fees for the Transfer station, and Hazard waste cost which was explained that Acworth has a contract with Keene to drop off these materials at Keene's location.

Cheryl Sanctuary asked about the Emergency Management line and for clarification on the loan that we took for the 2021 flood the loan was paid off. The loan was paid back in April of 2024.

John Balla asked if we can make temporary repairs to the Forest Rd bridge to make it passable until the bridge is complete with the state bridge program. John Balla states this would be inexpensive and save the town in excess of \$12,000 in trucking expenses when the budgeted Forest Rd repairs are made. Kathi advised that we are under contract, and that we couldn't do this because DES permitting and regulations as well as we don't want to upset DES anymore than what we have.

Charlotte brought up the date for the Public Hearing, the committee agreed that the hearing could be held on January 29, 2025. The hearing will be held at 6:30PM at the Town Hall, there will be a Budget Committee and Board of Selectman meeting after. A snow date will be determined later.

John Balla would like to meet with Highway, the rest of the committee had no questions for Highway. John Balla also had several questions for Highway, Jennifer Bland took all of John's questions and will get answers for him. The Alternate project was discussed and how it needs to be written, this article includes Derry Hill Rd repairs as well as a small truck for the Highway Department. John voiced his concern about the 'small truck' could be any amount of money, perhaps as much as \$250,000 or more. It was explained to the committee that we had to obtain quotes for Derry Hill Rd and the small truck for Highway, Derry Hill was quoted at 850,000 and 56,000 for the small truck. These quotes had to be submitted to FEMA as a part of the application process for this project. The process for applying for the Alternate project was explained in detail and how the funds must be used and that the project can't be separated into separate warrant article's.

Judy Aron made a motion to approve the January 08, 2025, meeting minutes, John Balla seconded, and the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved.

Next Meeting January 22, 2025

**Meeting Adjourned:** 19:51PM Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Bland