

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of October 16, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Jim Jennison; Ray Leonard; Kathi Bradt

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael & Judy Aron; Greg Bascom; Linda Christie; David Clark; Glenn Elsesser; Bill & Mary Hildreth; Melinda Loiselle; Steve & Lori Murray; Gregg Thibodeau; Robin Ungeheuer; Linda Volpe

CALL TO ORDER: Jim called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2021 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- Loan extension: Melinda stated Mascoma bank is offering up to a 12 month extension on the loan since we are close with being reimbursed. The interest rate would be 5.25%. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to extend the loan for 12 months. Motion passed.*** Melinda will notify the bank.

2023 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- Forest Rd Bridge: Darlene Frost from DES will be visiting to assess the damage on November 9th. Time to be determined.
- Bowers Brook Meeting: Representatives from DES, HSEM & DOT meeting on Tuesday the 31st at 3PM. Charlotte stated that some of the representatives haven't seen the site. Because of this, consensus was to meet at the site.
- Authorize Charlotte & Jennifer to sign documents for the Forest Rd Bridge State and Federal Bridge Aid Project: After some discussion, on a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to give Jennifer and Charlotte the authority to be signers as they are the point of contact, stating we want to facilitate this process the best we can. Motion passed.***

MINUTES: Meeting and NPS minutes of 10/2 and 10/4: On a motion by Ray, seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to approve the minutes. Motion passed.***

BILL MANIFEST: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

PAYROLL MANIFEST: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- Work report/work plan: Nothing this week as Collin couldn't be there.

PUBLIC:

- Glenn asked about the RFQ and RFP for upcoming projects. Kathi said that Jennifer is working on them and will be ready to present at the next meeting to be due at the end of November.
- Judy asked if we heard any more on reimbursements as she was told by Counselor Warmington there was a lot more money on the way. Kathi said we are expecting more than \$500 obligated to us. We have several projects at the CRC. The ones that are not at CRC, Jenn is working with FEMA on trying to get those wrapped up before they start on the 2023 disaster by the end of October. The amount of everything after the \$500k comes up to \$1.8M.
- Judy asked if we heard anything more on whether HSEM has the application forms available for the 50% match. Kathi said we asked again and they still have not produced the paperwork.
- Glenn asked about paving Charlestown Rd. Charlotte said Collin still had not heard back yet.
- David C. said something needs to be done about the tractor trailers turning around on Ryan Rd. He doesn't know if Collin knows about it or not but a culvert has been ruined by a truck turning around. The Board asked Charlotte to reach out to highway and ask them to look at the culvert and to put a load of gravel right by the mailbox.
- Greg B asked about paving Luther Hill. Charlotte said they hadn't heard back from Pelow yet and if they don't soon they will do it themselves.

ACTION ITEMS:

Intent to Cuts: B Bascom M243 L1, M242 L3; Bascom Maple Farms M232 L5. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

DISCUSSION:

- Crescent Lake Public Boat Launch Maintenance: Gregg had given the Board information in their packets to review over the weekend which stipulates that legally the town is responsible for the maintenance of Crescent Lake public boat launch. He stated the boat launch has erosion issues and some of which is in the water has damage. It has become difficult for boats to go in and out. He said the deed says the state owns the land but through statutes and over time and according to Fish and Game, the town is responsible for the maintenance. Gregg is willing to apply for the needed DES permits. People on the lake have offered construction services and experienced. Gregg stressed that he wanted the Board to know that the town owns responsibility for the maintenance. Kathi motioned to support this. Although Gregg gave a clear presentation and included many documents which showed this is the town's responsibility and has been since 1987, Ray said he doesn't like the idea of the town being on the hook for it. Kathi stated this could be a liability if we don't fix it and if someone damages their boat, they could sue us. After much more discussion there was no second. **Motion failed.**

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: On a motion by Jim and seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into NPS pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at 7:18 p.m. Motion passed.***

On a motion by Jim, seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to exit NPS and reconvened public meeting at 7:20 p.m. Motion passed.***

On a motion by Jim and seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. Motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator