

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for the Public Hearing of August 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
Relating to FEMA Funds for an Alternate Project
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

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

STAFF PRESENT: Jennifer Bland, Hwy AA/EMD; Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator;
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

Jim called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00.

Kathi explained that when we decided not to do the repairs for Nye Rd from the 2021 flood, FEMA advised us there is a process to use the funds somewhere else and it didn't have to be FEMA related. We just heard of this recently. We've settled on Derry Hill Rd and the purchase of a small used "run-a-round" truck for the Highway Dept. On the 29th FEMA is sending a Site Inspector out to assess the road and do a scope of work for us as it's better to get this from FEMA. After the Board agrees to accept the money and the inspector drafts the scope of work, we draft a letter with this info as well as an estimate on how much a used truck will cost and send to the state and FEMA for approval. Once it is approved, FEMA will send the money for the state to hold.

The amount is \$1,148,137.81 of which FEMA will pay 90% and the state would pay 5%.

Jim asked if we need to pay the bill up front. Jennifer said the state holds it and we send the invoices to the state and the state pays them so we don't need a loan. Kathi asked if the payment will go to the town or to the contractor. Jennifer is waiting for confirmation on this.

Charlotte mentioned there will need to be warrant articles on this and a vote at town meeting to approve.

Steve asked what would happen if doing Derry Hill didn't pass at town meeting. Jennifer said Derry Hill should come before any other road. If it didn't pass, we would have to start the process over again. If it would be something we wanted to do next year we would need to have a special town meeting.

After some discussion, on a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; **the Board voted to close the public hearing at 6:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau
Town Administrator