

**TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Budget Committee**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601**

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

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Collin Crosby Road Agent, Brian Clough Highway Department, **Mark Girard**

**CALL TO ORDER FOR MEETING:** Susan Metsack called the meeting to order at 07:00PM

The meeting started with the Highway Dept Road Agent, Collin Crosby, and Highway employee, Brian Clough, informing attendees about the need to replace the 2012 Ford 550. Collin and Brian spoke on the cracked frame, missing cab mounts, and the bend in the rear. The truck is safe to use if it is not freighted with material but will not pass inspection in September 2024. Collin and Brian stated they are completing as much work as possible without contracting out. However, to keep the cost of contracting out low, the 550 Ford needs to be upsized to a 10-wheeler. Judy Aron asked about a used truck for replacement. Brian answered that the town of Unity recently purchased a used truck, which already requires work. Brian advised that the Highway Department wants to get rid of trucks when they still have good value, roughly between 5-7 years. Both Collin and Brian explained the use of different sizes of trucks, the material they can hold, and the need for the town to have two 10-wheelers. Mark Girard stated that we need to look at all the assets that the town has brought in. Conan asked if our current western star was still under warranty and Brian advised that the western star is no longer under warranty, and we should be trading it in replacing it. The Highway Dept is going to pull the costs for the amount for contracted trucking in 2023, the current issues and cost of the repairs for the Ford 550. This information will be ready for the February newsletter and Town Meeting in March.

Conan Cook requested the 2021 FEMA Project status table presented to the BC be amended to include the actual cost to the town for each completed/ obligated project. We discussed the 2021 and 2023 flood as well as the interest on the loan. This information on the interest was submitted to FEMA, for repayment of the interest of the loan. Judy Aron asked about the status of HSEM paying the 50%, Kathi advised that a letter was drafted to request reimbursement from HSEM, and we are in the process of getting that submitted. We will receive the reimbursement from Crane Brook Rd and Derry Hill before town meeting in March. We still have 5 projects that were taken back, reconfigured and these will be heading into EHP for request for information.

Next Meeting January 17, 2023

**Meeting Adjourned:** 08:45PM Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Bland

**CC made a motion to approved minutes and seconded by CS Minutes were approved. JLB**