

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of November 20, 2023 following the Public Hearing
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

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

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, TA; Collin Crosby, Road Agent

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Allen; Michael Aron; Greg Bascom; David Clark; Glenn Elsesser; Mary & Bret Lord; Jim Neidert; Melinda Loiselle; Sharon & Bill Symonds; Robin Ungeheuer; Gregg Thibodeau;

CALL TO ORDER: Jim called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2021 FLOOD RESPONSE:

Letters requested by FEMA regarding work in flood zones on Derry Hill and Crane Brook Rd. The letters are to show we were in compliance with our flood plain regulations in the zoning ordinance, on a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

2023 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- Discussion on the interview with Engineer consultants for the Forest Rd Bridge. Kathi said this was a request for qualifications and the state sets the budget on state bridge replacements. We don't talk about money but what they do. We asked them all the same questions, then we rated them. HEB Engineer in Conway came out with the most points. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to select HEB for Forest Rd Bridge. Motion passed.***
- Gregg said he has been working on the EA DES recommended for Bowers Brook. They waived the time requirements. The next step is to work up a plan and submit it to DES. He and Mark Girard will work up a diagram and plan, Gregg will work up the sequence of events. Kathi said the state representatives are helping us with this. They are talking amongst themselves (DES, DOT and EM) about where funding could come from. Kathi says the applicant has to be the town because there are multiple property owners and we invited them in.
- RFP for Engineer for 2023 Flood. This has been reviewed by FEMA since the last meeting and hadn't been sent out yet. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to authorize Charlotte to send out the RFP. Motion passed.***

MINUTES: Meeting and NPS minutes of 11/6 and 11/13: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***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: This will be presented at the next meeting.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- Work report/work plan:
 - Getting trucks ready for winter.
 - Received 300 delineator posts and will begin putting them up.
 - The crushing will be starting in 2 weeks.
 - Will be working on a culvert on Brier Rd.
 - Fixed Underwood Dr., everything is all set. There is enough room for the oil company to get through.
 - The Board asked Collin if he would get in contact with the logger that will be accessing Livermore Rd. for logging on the Roy property and if he would keep an eye on the condition of Livermore Rd. for this cut.
 - Gregg asked if Collin spoke with R Chase about the road. Collin said he told him he needed to smooth the road before it freezes and bring in material next year. Collin said as of last week this had been done.
 - Greg asked about salting and sanding on Bascom Hill as this is traveled frequently. Collin said now with the extra help they will get to this quicker.

PUBLIC:

ACTION ITEMS:

- Building Permits: A Wilson M253 L13 (solar) On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Intent to Cut: R Miller M257 L4. Collin will check out the road as it is now and talk with the logger about accessing the road, on a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Letter of support for UVLSRPC: This is a letter in support to create a position for a grant person to work on climate resilient issues for UVLSRPC. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Letter to Trustee for Capital Reserve Fund payments: On a motion by Jim, seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

DISCUSSION:

- Tax Warrant: Charlotte asked the Board if the tax rate comes in next week if they could come in and sign the tax warrant so the tax bills could be sent out. Consensus was they would come in and sign and capture in the next meeting.
- Review draft operating budget: Kathi mentioned that the revenue has increased by about \$60k. Some departments don't have info in so it's not the complete budget but the total so far is lower than last year. Charlotte said everything should be finished up by next meeting and is hopeful that at the Dec 4th meeting the board can finalize and approve in order to pass on to the Budget Committee.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: On a motion by Kathi and seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into NPS pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 7:03 p.m. Motion passed.***

On a motion by Jim, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to exit NPS and reconvened public meeting at 7:50 p.m. Motion passed.***

On a motion by Jim and seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator