

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Meeting of December 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

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

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Administrative Assistant; Collin Crosby, Highway Foreman

OTHERS PRESENT: Gary Baber; Jennifer Bland; Frank Emig; David & Lorna Kelin Ray LeClair; Mark McIntire; Ted Marple; Steve & Lori Murray; Gregg Thibodeau; Rob Vogel

Guest: Bob Porter

CALL TO ORDER FOR MEETING: Jim called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Board acknowledged Bob Porter. Discussion took place on potential services Bob could provide Acworth as a Licensed Home Inspector. He also stated that by adopting a more vigorous building permit fee schedule it would bring more revenue to the town and that the flat fee we charge is outdated. He indicated that he believes there is a lot of building taking place in town with no permits and he could help the town enforce this. As a building inspector he could provide a certificate of occupancy for new homes when needed. Kathi said we would be looking more for a code enforcement officer who would work with the Selectmen. Bob said that the code enforcement falls under the building inspection part of the job in his town and in his opinion, in order to be a code enforcement officer, one would need to have a building inspector background.

FLOOD RESPONSE:

- Nothing new to report

MINUTES: Meeting minutes of 12/5: on a motion by Ray, seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to approve minutes as written. Motion passed.***

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

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

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- Collin said the dept. is in good shape. Nothing to report.

PUBLIC:

The Board acknowledged David Kelin. Discussion took place on site development on Gove Rd M211 L5&6 with no permits. David said he was looking to get permits. He only has a P&S agreement right now but made arrangements with current owner to put a temporary trailer for storage in the back. They are not living there right now. He laid down gravel on the former logging trail. He isn't proceeding to do anything that wasn't suggested that he could do. He didn't think he needed a building permit. Kathi stated he would need to file a driveway permit as the one there was probably temporary if it was for logging. She also said that to bring on any type of storage container or trailer he will need a building permit. Jim asked if the property has been transferred to him. David said they only had a P&S agreement. Jim stated that he can't apply for any permits until the deed comes through showing the property is in his name.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Building Permits: Wilson/Auten M 239 L8. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; the Board voted to approve and sign. ***Motion passed.***
- Intent to Cut: D Hoagland M233 L5&6. On a motion by Ray, seconded by Jim; the ***Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Compliance: W Desrosier, Mr. Barcomb: In both cases they are living in campers. The Board asked Charlotte to send a second notice and request a response by the next meeting. Charlotte will send a letter to the Fong's regarding the construction debris.

DISCUSSION:

- On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to schedule the County Commissioner to attend the January 30th meeting. Motion passed.***
- Discussion on whether to engage a bond attorney. Consensus was to hold off until after the public hearing.

- Review proposed budget: Kathi mentioned she and Charlotte reviewed some more. She said from the initial draft we have come down about \$45k. Kathi said that how this translates into the tax rate is estimated at 8.98 for next year. The tax rate this year is 8.76. Some discussion on increasing the line for legal expense. This was not done. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to pass the draft budget to the Budget Committee. Motion passed.***
- Review Draft Warrant Articles: Discussion took place on the draft warrant articles and the amount to increase for the veteran credit. The Board asked Charlotte to present a list at the next meeting of what other towns are giving for the credit. Gregg said the small road committee voted on the effective day as May. The public hearing will be Saturday, January 28th at 1:00. There was discussion on the solar exemption article and whether to include this or not as the Board didn't have enough information.
- Review Draft Winter Weather/Parking Ordinance: Discussion took place on having the public hearing in January. Consensus was this looked fine and to hold the public hearing before the Selectmen meeting on January 16.
- Kathi let everyone know about the increase in the school bill. Last year it was around \$108k/month. Beginning in December and next year it will be \$168k/month.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION (NPS): On a motion by Jim seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into NPS pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 7:20 p.m. Motion passed.***

On a motion by Kathi, seconded Ray; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Motion passed.***

There was some additional discussion on the one warrant article regarding the solar exemption. Consensus was to remove this article for this year.

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Comeau
Administrative Assistant