

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of February 5, 2024
Followed NHDOT Public Hearing Re: 123A Culvert
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

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

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator; Collin Crosby, Road Agent; Jennifer Bland, HWY Admin/EMD

OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Bascom; Melinda Loisel; Mark Girard; Steve & Laurie Murray; Ryanne Schoonover; Gregg Thibodeau

CALL TO ORDER: Jim called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2021 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- Discussion on Nye Rd. Jennifer said they have some before pictures. She thinks we should move forward and get more information.
- Discussion again on letter the Emergency Management Director sent to the HSEM Director requesting the states 5% reimbursement. On a motion my Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to authorize the submission of the “application” to the HSEM Director. Motion passed.***

2023 FLOOD RESPONSE: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to “OK” the agreement with HEB in order for HEB to send to the state for review and approval of the contract for Forest Road Bridge. Motion passed.***

MINUTES: 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 Ray; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

PAYROLL MANIFEST: None

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- Work report/work plan:
 - Had to do more work on Ford. The piston came off and broke the back window. This was repaired.
 - Had to replace the wheels and studs on the Dodge.
 - Got some cold patch and planning on filling holes on Cold Pond and Crescent Lake Rd.
 - Gregg questioned how frequently the vehicles are down. Collin said they haven’t made it through a snow storm yet.
 - Jennifer called Page St regarding containers. They have used containers for \$2,800 and \$260 for delivery which are wind and water tight. Some discussion on the possibility of putting doors on the other end. There is a storage trailer at the transfer station, consensus was to ask the vendor if they would move that when they are out delivering the other. Collin will be checking out the containers to be sure they are suitable. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve for Collin to approve to move forward. Motion passed.***

PUBLIC: Greg B. asked if Charlestown Rd, a portion of Crane Brook Rd and Luther Hill Rd. not be posted in the spring as the tractor trailers still use it and they have no place to turn around. Jennifer said these roads have been paved and should support the traffic. On a motion by Ray, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to not post these roads. Motion passed.***

ACTION ITEMS:

- Transfer Station Post Closure Report from Underwood Engineering: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

- Letters to FEMA for Crane Brook and Milliken Brook Roads: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

DISCUSSION:

- Honey Brook Update: Gregg gave an update on the Prouty property. They recently got through the deed process working with the state and our attorney. Now the Conservation Commission can move forward with the transfer.
- Review of Warrant Articles: Kathi gave an update on what the budget committee determined over the month of January.
 - Funding was added to the truck article to use what was left of the 2024 one-time highway block grant received in 2023.
 - The operating budget increased to provide for the opening of Crane Brook Rd.
 - Cold Pond Rd is separated over 2 years to make it more affordable. The fund balance application was removed because there wasn't enough to apply.
 - There were changes made to reduce the amounts to the capital reserve articles so they could be included in an affirmative vote without having an unfavorable effect on the tax rate.

Jim asked Melinda what the loan balance is. \$428,044. There is a pending \$334k which will bring the balance to \$93k. Kathi mentioned the payment pending from the state is \$105k.

On a motion by Kathi and seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau
Town Administrator