

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Public Hearing and Business Meeting of January 16, 2023 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, BOS Admin. Assist.; Jennifer Bland, Hwy Admin. Assist.

OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Bascom; Glenn Elsesser; Torrey Greene; James Magliano; Peter & Marcie Maynard; Stephen & Loriann Murray; Gregg Thibodeau; Robin & Doug Ungeheuer

CALL TO ORDER FOR PUBLIC HEARING: Jim called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

Jim announced there is going to be an ordinance with a fine attached illegal for winter parking and pushing snow into the road right-of-way. There was some discussion about defining what a drivable way is. It was noted that Crescent Lake Rd doesn't have enough room to have a correct right of way of 15 feet after plowed. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray, ***the Board voted to wait until the next meeting when Collin is in attendance to vote on the ordinance.***

CALL TO ORDER FOR BUSINESS MEETING: Jim called the business meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

FLOOD RESPONSE:

- There was no check-in today as it was a holiday
- Of the 14 projects that have been established with FEMA, 5 have been submitted to FEMA for a total of \$884k. This doesn't include Crane Brook. Kathi feels we are making progress.

MINUTES: Public Hearing, meeting minutes and NPS of 01/04: on a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***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:

- Jennifer said Collin located the town line on Cold Pond Rd.
- 5500 is going into Claremont on Thursday for repair under warranty.

PUBLIC: The Board acknowledged the Ungerheuers. Robin stated Polly Hill Rd runs through their property and doesn't serve any purpose stating Mclaughlin Rd. and Beryl Mtn Rd could be used instead. She stated the neighbor, Joanne Smith is also on this road but has a well-established driveway that takes her out to Mclaughlin Rd and the discontinuance of Polly Hill Rd would not pose a hardship for her. In addition it was stated that she uses this driveway frequently and is plowed after every snow storm. Another fact noted by the Ungerheuer's is they don't feel safe using Polly Hill Rd being so steep and washed out. They also mentioned that their deed stipulates that their parcel is one large parcel and not two parcels divided by Polly Hill Rd. which means they own the land the road is on. They asked the board to consider discontinuing Polly Hill Rd. After further discussion on a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to add to the warrant to discontinue Polly Hill Rd. rather than changing from Class V to Class VI.***

The Board acknowledged Torrey Greene. Torrey advised the Board that on the town portion of River Rd there are very deep pot holes and one destroyed a \$325 new tire. He said it has become dangerous. Jennifer mentioned that the crew is picking up cold patch and will be going out to patch them tomorrow.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Building Permits: J Magliano M201 L103. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Vet Tax Credit: Bantle. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Intent to Cut: S. Sirkin M11 L221; J Morales M252 L9. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Contract with Underwood Engineers-Acworth Landfill: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

- UVLSRPC Stream crossing assessment, 2023 season: Kathi mentioned that this is for culvert inventory and about a \$20k cost. There has been joint board meetings and consensus was this would be valuable information. The PB recommended the Conservation Commission be the overseer of the project. The PB recommendation was to put it in the budget for \$10k and take a couple years to do this. In developing this year's budget we asked UVLSRPC if they could work with \$5k for this year and they agreed. Consensus was to bring the contract back after the budget has been finalized.
- Equalization Certificate: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Compliance:
 - Barcomb-not living in the trailer
 - Desroisier haven't heard anything back. Letters are being sent and received at an out of town address. There are no registered cars in Acworth. Bring up at next meeting.
 - Sargent/Wilke-sent letter last week, consensus was to give more time for response.

DISCUSSION:

- Email from Acworth Cemetery Trustees: On a motion by Jim, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to accept the cemetery proposed work. Motion passed.***
- Annual Town Report-Selectmen/Highway/Hope Damon: All in agreement with Selectmen and Highway Report but not to include the report from Hope Damon.
- Time to meet re: Floodplain management program: Kathi said that perhaps she and Charlotte could meet with them during office hours. Charlotte will set a time with them.
- Clothing allowance increase: Kathi mentioned that this increase of \$250-\$300 was considered when preparing the budget. ***Kathi motioned to increase to \$300. There was no second. Jim thinks \$250 is sufficient. Motion defeated.*** Jim asked Jennifer to check with Collin on what they need and bring it back to the next meeting.
- Class V to Class VI roads: Gregg presented the FAQ's to those in attendance and explained how they made the determinations. He said there were 19 roads they were asked to look at and out of those, 11 were determined to qualify. 8 of the 11 end at a person's house. He said they will be having a presentation on the 28th going through all of this in detail. Kathi made some notes on the FAQ's and asked for maps. Gregg said this will be in the presentation at the hearing. Based on the email from NHMA and Primex Insurance, we don't have grounds to require a waiver for houses that are already there. Both Kathi and Ray agreed, Jim abstained.
- Change fee schedule for building permits: As far as Bob Porter approving the building permits, consensus was to send the building permit to Bob for review/recommendations and then bring it back to the Board for approval. After some discussion on the samples provided, Charlotte recommended the Board look at it over the next two weeks and make any notes of what they would like to change and bring it back next meeting.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION (NPS): None

On a motion by Jim, seconded Ray; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Comeau
Administrative Assistant