

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of February 20, 2024
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

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

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator

GUEST: Derek Ferland, Sullivan County Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: David Clark; Claudia Istel; Melinda Loiselle; Steve Murray; Steve Murrell; Ryanne Schoonover; Gregg Thibodeau

CALL TO ORDER: Jim called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Board acknowledged Derek Ferland. Derek explained about "Welcome to Sullivan County" gateway sign project. Derek gave a brief overview and stated the plan is to place signs on state highways that enter Sullivan County. They are working with NHDOT, municipalities and landowners to obtain necessary permissions/approvals. The proposed location for Acworth is on Rte. 123A coming from Rte. 10 in Marlow into Acworth. After some discussion, due to the sign size being a 4x6' on a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to refer to ZBA for approval because it's not in compliance with the zoning ordinance as written. Motion passed.***

2021 FLOOD RESPONSE: We received a series of questions from FEMA about Nye Rd. Jennifer is working on answering these as there is a deadline

2023 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- Discussion on the ARPA fund grant application in the amount of \$371k for repairs of Bowers Brook. Kathi mentioned the signatory for the town is the Board of Selectmen. They will need to appoint an authorized representative to carry on through the project. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to sign the grant application partnering with DES for repairs to the So Acworth village, Bowers Brook. Motion passed.***
- The second step is a certificate of vote of authorization. Kathi said an authorized representative needs to be selected who will work with DES at facilitating this ARPA grant. After some discussion with Gregg, he is willing to serve as the authorized representative as he has the experience with working with ARPA grants in the past. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim, ***the Board voted for Gregg to be the representative for the town. Motion passed.***
- Kathi stated in two weeks there will be a draft request for qualifications for a contractor which we want to get out as soon as possible. Gregg and Mark are working on this. The EA wetlands permit from DES has a 6 month time frame which means we have until June.

MINUTES: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve the minutes of 2/5. Motion passed.***
On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve the minutes of the public hearing of 2/7. 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:

- Kathi said she had a note from Jennifer that they are working with the container company to arrange for delivery next week.

PUBLIC: David said the road closed sign that highway put up is on his telephone pole and asked it be taken down. Charlotte will contact highway in the morning.

ACTION ITEMS:

Intent to Cuts: Bascom Maple Farms M220 L2: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

DISCUSSION:

Engineering Contract with HEB for Phase 1: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ray; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

Jim talked about having a hazardous waste collection in Acworth. He was in touch with Upper Valley which has 5 hazardous waste collections in the Upper Valley Region. They will be in Claremont and will do a satellite in Acworth. Charlotte mentioned that Keene hazardous waste has 12 collections in spring and 12 in summer/fall.

Jim felt education is the best idea for letting people know about Keene. Gregg said they're putting together a conservation plan and one of the sessions will be hazardous waste handling.

On a motion by Kathi and seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. Motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau
Town Administrator