TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Selectmen

Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of June 2, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Kathi Bradt; Jim Jennison; Ryanne Schoonover

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator; Jennifer Bland, Hwy AA/EMD/HO; Melinda Loiselle, Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Aron; Glenn Elsesser; John & Terry Mattson; Lori & Steve Murray; Amy Richards; Kurt Shaffert; Gregg Thibodeau

CALL TO ORDER: Kathi called the meeting to order at 6:30

ALTERNATE PROJECT UPDATE: No updates and we should hear back by the end of the week.

2023 FLOOD:

- <u>Forest Rd Bridge remaining engineering design phases</u>: The board reviewed this and on a motion by Jim, seconded by Ryanne ***the Board voted to ok this and agreed for HEB to send it to NHDOT for their review and approval. Passed.***

MINUTES: On a motion by Ryanne, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.***

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

PAYROLL MANIFEST: On a motion by Ryanne, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.***

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- <u>Work report/work plan:</u> The crew have been upgrading roads, ditching, checking culverts and removing brush. They had to bring the Dodge to Hillsboro for repair. They attended a meeting with DMS Quarry and the State. CPR RFP is still a work in progress and should be ready by the next meeting.

- **PLANNING BOARD UPDATE:** Ryanne: Met on 5/27 and began with a joint meeting where there was discussion about the master plan, property owners doing work without permits, ZO amendments and merging small nonconforming lots on Crescent Lake. At the PB meeting the Ledbetter's presented their mylar for signature, which finalized their subdivision. Mr. Tarmey came and presented photos, maps and other documentation of the property. He intends to use the property in the same way as Mr. Duggan, so there are no changes, the PB did approve the application. Discussed DMS Quarry and non-residential site plan review which Collin, Jennifer and Mike A. went to look at. The State will be holding a public hearing. Had a third reading of the PB rules & procedures and passed. The change was their meeting from Wed to Mon and changing the time from 7PM to 6:30PM. Talked about PB fees and finalized those. Mike will be checking other applications to be sure the fees are consistent.

- **CONSERVATION COMMISION UPDATE:** None

PUBLIC: Kurt brought up the fact it is hard to know Dodge Hollow Rd. is a public road and a public trail as the signs have been removed. When he walks there, it seems as though it is someone's driveway rather than a Class VI Road. Kathi asked Jennifer if a sign could be put up. Kathi mentioned the Class VI Road ends 900' in from River Rd. She understood ConCom was working on the Trail info. Gregg said the parking area they proposed is within the 900' just off the class VI road and on Kurt and Katie's property where you could walk to the trail. Discussion on seeking an easement from Kurt and Katie. Kurt said they are willing to help in any way which would gain public access to the trail. Kathi asked Charlotte if she could check with NHMA on the process of getting an easement that will allow the town to use a piece of private property adjacent to a Class VI Road. Gregg said Mark G had suggested forming a group of volunteers which would be a group maintaining the trail and not the town. The Lempster ConCom has created a picnic area at the other end of the road in Lempster on Linda Perry's property. Gregg will speak with Linda to see what they did.

ACTION ITEMS:

- <u>Building Permit:</u> Richards M201 L56: Kathi noted that although this is less nonconforming than the current building, it is still nonconforming, the board referred Amy to ZBA for a special exception. Amy will work on altering the plan to avoid going through ZBA and present it at the next meeting.
- <u>Intent to Excavate:</u> Tarmey M250 L1: A plan was given to the PB. On a motion by Jim, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.***

COMPLIANCE:

- Desrosiers: violation issues: Bob has been in conversation with him. The owner has been emailing Charlotte and giving an update regarding the clean-up of trash. No action taken at this time.
- Kelin: Expired building permit/no septic: It was noted that he hadn't started building and the building permit has expired. The Board would like him to attend a meeting to provide an update. Charlotte will let him know.
- Reporting of buildings/sheds/garages/decks etc. w/o permits: Charlotte mentioned that if people in town notice that buildings are being built and there is not a building permit posted, they could call the office to see if there is a permit on file and if not, she would reach out to the owner to let them know to submit a permit application. If it is something that has been built for awhile and there is no permit, she could notate it in the assessing program for the assessors to look at the next time they are out.

DISCUSSION:

- Kathi was advised that there was activity around the wood shop on 123A by the bridge. The property in its entirety is in the shoreland protection zone and there were trees and stumps removed. She asked Gregg if it was something ConCom could look at. He had looked at it and said any amount of tree removal does require DES permitting. Gregg said if he receives the contact information he will reach out to the owner.
- Gregg said the intent to cut which was approved for Black North Rd, in reviewing the stewardship plan that is in effect, he is concerned the plan may not be adhered to. Gregg has not been able to contact the owner. Charlotte will email the owner and ask them to email or call Gregg.
- Fall Mountain withdrawal study update: Ryanne: Had 2nd Langdon subcommittee meeting. Met on the 29th and reviewed changes on the draft report as well as budgets. They decided it is not feasible to build on to the Sarah Porter School due to the location. Looking into what the budget would look like if they closed Sarah Porter School. They will continue looking into this and will be meeting again on June 9th.
- There was a conversation regarding the email from Mr. Watson on recipients of US DOT funding. Kathi questioned where we would take in Federal transportation funding, if it would be the highway block grant or maybe the construction phase of the bridge program. Ryanne wasn't concerned about this as she said we are not violating any of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) things they are mentioning in the letter. Ryanne said the school districts received a similar letter and she is familiar with what they are asking for DEI and can't think of anything we could be doing to violate that.

Jim mentioned the blue house again. Charlotte said there has been no change. Jennifer said she did find out where the owner lives and passed the information on to the mortgage holder.

Jim asked if the demo permit expired on Charlestown Rd. Charlotte will check.

Ryanne asked about the 2nd mobile home on Beryl Mtn Rd that needs to be removed. Charlotte said she is waiting for a picture, and she will type a letter.

On a motion by Ryanne and seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. Motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau
Town Administrator