

Annual Report

of Town Officials, Departments,
and Committees

Town of Acworth New Hampshire



Before

After

Acworth citizen volunteers worked with funding from the NH Department of Environmental Services to repair flood damage to Bowers Brook in South Acworth Village

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

Please bring this Report to Town Meeting
on Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Acworth Memorial Park



Centerpieces – flagpole, branch of service stone and our Acworth “welcome” stone



Individual Tributes



View from granite benches

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MEETINGS AND EVENTS

www.acworthnh.net

Selectmen 603-835-6879 Email: townoff@sover.net
Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Meetings: First, Third & Fifth Monday, 6:30 p.m.

Town Clerk 603-835-6879 Email: atclerk@sover.net
Wednesday 4:30 - 7:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 - noon

Tax Collector 603-835-6879 Email: taxcoll@sover.net
Monday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Planning Board Fourth Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission Second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment First Wednesday of the month for new business only at 7:00 p.m.

Cemetery Trustees Regular or Special meeting dates posted
Ken Gagnon, Sexton

Library Trustees As needed, Guy Russell

Trustee of Trust Funds Regular or Special meeting dates posted
Contact Ann Kosa

Health Officer 860-601-2223, Jennifer Bland

Emergency Management Director 860-601-2223, Jennifer Bland

Highway Garage 603-835-6866, Collin Crosby, Road Agent

Transfer Station 603-835-6602, Charlie Bradt; John Comeau
Wednesday 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Library 603-835-2150
Tuesday & Thursday 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Emergency 911
Fire 603-352-1100
State Police Troop C 603-358-3333

TOWN OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES

Jim Jennison	Selectman	Term Ends 2026
Ryanne Schoonover	Selectman	Term Ends 2027
Kathi Bradt	Selectman	Term Ends 2025
Charlotte Comeau	Town Administrator	
Charlotte Comeau	Town Clerk	Term Ends 2025
Marianne Nevelson	Tax Collector	Term Ends 2025
Melinda Loiselle	Treasurer	Term Ends 2025
Lisa DeValk	Local Auditor	Term Ends 2025
John Luther	Moderator	Term Ends 2026
Marianne Nevelson	Supervisor of Checklist	Term Ends 2030
Elizabeth Gowen	Supervisor of Checklist	Term Ends 2026
Karen Dillon	Supervisor of Checklist	Term Ends 2028
Sandra Binion	Inspector of Elections	Term Ends 2026
Linda Christie	Inspector of Elections	Term Ends 2026
Robin Luther	Inspector of Elections	Term Ends 2026
Overseer of Public Welfare	Board of Selectmen	
Health Officer	Jennifer Bland	Term Ends 2026
Ann Kosa	Trustee of Trust Funds	Term Ends 2026
Sandra Binion	Trustee of Trust Funds	Term Ends 2027
Laurie Luther-Houghton	Trustee of Trust Funds	Term Ends 2025
Guy Russell	Library Trustee	Term Ends 2026
Doug Robinson	Library Trustee	Term Ends 2026
Andrea Alderman	Library Trustee	Term Ends 2027
Mary Hildreth	Library Trustee	Term Ends 2027
Melinda Loiselle	Library Trustee	Term Ends 2025
Lillie LeBlanc	Cemetery Trustee	Term Ends 2026
Claudia Istel	Cemetery Trustee	Term Ends 2027
Helen Frink	Cemetery Trustee	Term Ends 2025
Ken Gagnon	Sexton	

TOWN OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES

Judy Aron	Budget Committee	Term Ends 2026
Sue Metsack	Budget Committee	Term Ends 2026
Jennifer Bland	Budget Committee	Term Ends 2027
John Balla	Budget Committee	Term Ends 2027
Claudia Istel	Budget Committee	Term Ends 2025
Cheryl Sanctuary	Budget Committee	Term Ends 2025
Kathi Bradt	Ex-officio Member	
Mike Aaron	Planning Board	Term Ends 2026
Victoria Wuest	Planning Board	Term Ends 2026
Stephen Murray	Planning Board	Term Ends 2027
Rob Vogel	Planning Board	Term Ends 2027
Jim Neidert	Planning Board	Term Ends 2025
Ann Marie Kosa	Planning Board	Term Ends 2025
Kathi Bradt	Ex-officio Member	
Gregg Thibodeau	Conservation Commission	Term Ends 2026
Mark Girard	Conservation Commission	Term Ends 2027
Jennifer Bland	Conservation Commission	Term Ends 2026
Janet Slocum	Conservation Commission	Term Ends 2025
Robert Traver	Conservation Commission	Term Ends 2026
Robin Ungeheuer	Alternate Member	Term Ends 2027
Lisa Hyatt	Alternate Member	Term Ends 2027
Ryanne Schoonover	Ex-officio Member	
Raymond LeClair	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Term Ends 2026
Jennifer Bland	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Term Ends 2027
Linda Christie	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Term Ends 2027
Mary Hildreth	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Term Ends 2025
Darren Young	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Term Ends 2028
Carl Henninger	Alternate Member	Term Ends 2028
Recreation Committee	Board of Selectmen	
FMRSD Board	Sarah Vogel	Term Ends 2025
Town Forester	Peter Rhoades	
Town Forester	Jeff Snitkin	
Tree Warden	Vacant	

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTIES AND VALUES

Town Hall and Land 229-1	185,900	
Flagpole Lot 229-2	20,400	
Town Common 229-3	30,500	
Library and Land 229-32	142,200	
Hill/Lynn triangle 229-49	11,200	
Town Garage and Transfer Station 253-11	148,700	\$538,900
Land Acquired Through Tax Collector's Deeds:		
Hurd 201-107	238,200	
Hurd 201-108	325,900	
Murzda 206-1	15,100	
Farrell 206-8	30,600	
Owner unknown 210-20.1	3,200	
Augustinowicz 210-27	40,100	
Town Forest 211-1	23,500	
Town Forest 201-135	99,600	
Owner unknown 222-21	3,600	
Farnsworth (Ball Field) 222-4	57,400	
Buss Lot 226-1	2,300	
Ball 230-3	12,000	
Callum 234-18	32,200	
Owner unknown 234-19	45,900	
Roberts 236-10	42,000	
Jennison 240-9	69,200	\$1,040,800
Land Acquired Through Gift or Purchase:		
Pierce Brook 209-7	48,700	
Ward 218-4	24,900	
Town Wetlands 225-6	7,300	
Town Wetlands 226-9	3,400	
Conservation Associates 225-7	7,900	
Hamblet 226-8.1	3,000	
Stebbins Road 229-58	10,800	
Five Points School House 231-8	12,400	
Nye Road Cemetery 234-8	2,700	
Lubetkin/Cemetery 234-13	17,900	
Hill Road Cemetery 234-24	4,600	
Mill Pond Acre/Mica Shed 246-17	37,700	
Prince 246-57	2,500	\$183,800
TOTAL		\$1,763,500

**ANNUAL TOWN OFFICIAL SAMPLE BALLOT
ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE - TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this:
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

SELECTMAN
3 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR ONE

KATHI BRADT

(write in)

TOWN CLERK
3 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR ONE

CHARLOTTE COMEAU

(write in)

TAX COLLECTOR
1 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR ONE

MARIANNE W NEVELSON

(write in)

TREASURER
1 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR ONE

MELINDA LOISELLE

(write in)

LOCAL AUDITOR
1 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR ONE

LISA DEVALK

(write in)

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS
1 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR ONE

LAURIE LUTHER-HOUGHTON

(write in)

CEMETERY TRUSTEE
3 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR ONE

ALISON FERRELL

(write in)

LIBRARY TRUSTEE
3 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR ONE

MELINDA LOISELLE

(write in)

PLANNING BOARD
3 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR TWO

JAMES NEIDERT

(write in)
(write in)

BUDGET COMMITTEE
3 YEAR TERM
VOTE FOR TWO

FRANK EMIG

CLAUDIA ISTEL

CHERYL SANCTUARY

(write in)
(write in)



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue Administration

2025
WARRANT

Acworth

To the inhabitants of the Town of Acworth, NH, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to bring your votes for Town Officers, and any other questions, to the Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Road on Tuesday, the 11th day of March next, at 10:00 of the clock in the morning at which time the polls shall be opened and shall close not earlier than 7:00 of the clock in the evening; and you are hereby notified that discussion and voting on Articles 02 through 13 shall commence at 7:00 of the clock in the evening on the same day, March 11 next at the Town Hall.

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before 2/20/2025 a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting at 13 Town Hall Road, at the Post Office and that an original was delivered to the Town Clerk

Name	Position	Signature
James Jennison	Selectman	<i>James Jennison</i>
Kathi Bradt	Selectman	<i>KATHI BRADT</i>
Ryanne Schoonover	Selectman	<i>Ryanne Schoonover</i>



Article 01 Election of Officers

To Vote by Non-partisan Ballot for the following Town Officers

Selectmen: 1 for 3 Years	Trustee of Trust Funds: 1 for 3 Year
Town Clerk: 1 for 3 Years	Library Trustees: 1 for 3 Years
Tax Collector: 1 for 1 Year	Cemetery Trustees: 1 for 3 Years
Treasurer: 1 for 1 Year	Planning Board: 2 for 3 Years
Local Auditor 1 for 1 Year	Budget Committee: 2 for 3 Years

Article 02 Alternate Project

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,033,324.03 for the FEMA-funded Alternate Project consisting of (a) restoration of Derry Hill Road and (b) purchase of a small truck for the highway department. This Alternate Project is to be carried out in lieu of the previously approved restoration of Nye Road following 2021 flash flood damage, it being determined that the public welfare would not be best served by such restoration. One hundred percent of the Alternate Project costs shall be covered by FEMA grant funding and no amount is to be raised by taxation. This special warrant article will be non-lapsing until December 31, 2030, per RSA 32:7, VI. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 4:Y, 1:N, 1A). (Majority vote required)

Article 03 Empower the Selectmen

To see if the Town will vote to empower the Selectmen to serve as pound keepers, measurers of wood and fence viewers.

Article 04 Apply for TANs

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of taxes.

Article 05 Fund the Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of \$2,192,401 for general municipal operations with \$549,000 to come from unassigned fund balance (This amount represents partial FEMA reimbursement funds received in 2024) This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 5:Y, 1:N). (Majority vote required)

Article 06 Fund the Fire Truck CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2020. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N). (Majority vote required)

Article 07 Fund the Highway Equipment CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2000. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N). (Majority vote required)

Article 08 Fund the Bridge CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate 10,000 for the Bridges Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2014. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N). (Majority vote required)



Article 09 Fund the Revaluation CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the Building and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund established in 2020. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N.) (Majority vote required)

Article 10 Fund the Building and Grounds CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 for the Building and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund established in 2020. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N.) (Majority vote required)

Article 11 Change the Class V portion of Russell Road to a Private Road

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue absolutely, pursuant to RSA 231:43, the Class V portion of Russell Road so-called and noted on Map 239, Lot 4 and State Nodal Map reference page 9 Nodal 0062-0063 (Anne Russell and Jennifer Mahoney) from its intersection at Grout Hill Rd. (Majority vote required)

Article 12 Replace the Road of the Alternate Project (By Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to replace Derry Hill Rd with Crescent Lake Road as the FEMA funded alternate project, reflecting that the town's best interest is in protecting Crescent Lake from contamination and that the continuing lack of maintenance of Crescent Lake Road is a key contributor to pollutants entering the lake. A contamination event in the lake would have a serious and detrimental impact on the current property assessments on the lake supporting tax revenue. (Majority vote required)

Article 13 Other Business

To transact any other business that may legally be brought before this Town Meeting.



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2025
MS-737

**Proposed Budget
Acworth**

For the period beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025

Form Due Date: **20 Days after the Annual Meeting**

This form was posted with the warrant on: 2/20/2025

BUDGET COMMITTEE CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
Susan Metsack	Budget Comm Chair	<i>Susan Metsack</i>
Cheryl Sanctuary	Budget Comm Vice Chair	<i>Cheryl Sanctuary</i>
CLAUDIA ISTEY	Budget Committee Member	<i>Claudia Istey</i>
JENNIFER BLAND	BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBER	<i>Jennifer Bland</i>
John W Billa	Budget Committee	<i>John W Billa</i>
Judy Aron	Budget Committee	<i>Judy Aron</i>

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<https://www.revenue.nh.gov/about-dra/municipal-and-property-division/municipal-bureau>



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2024	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2024	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)
General Government								
4130	Executive	05	\$34,761	\$33,900	\$33,900	\$0	\$33,900	\$0
4140	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	05	\$6,352	\$6,100	\$1,900	\$0	\$1,900	\$0
4150	Financial Administration	05	\$104,644	\$103,875	\$106,166	\$0	\$106,166	\$0
4152	Property Assessment	05	\$12,760	\$13,361	\$14,216	\$0	\$14,216	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	05	\$4,128	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$0
4155	Personnel Administration	05	\$33,893	\$29,913	\$33,169	\$0	\$33,169	\$0
4191	Planning and Zoning	05	\$5,358	\$5,425	\$5,444	\$0	\$5,444	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	05	\$12,976	\$15,860	\$15,662	\$0	\$15,662	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	05	\$17,889	\$25,930	\$26,230	\$0	\$26,230	\$0
4196	Insurance Not Otherwise Allocated	05	\$36,675	\$36,675	\$41,032	\$0	\$41,032	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Associations	05	\$1,376	\$1,426	\$1,467	\$0	\$1,467	\$0
4198	Contingency		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
General Government Subtotal					\$270,822	\$284,455	\$291,186	\$0
Public Safety								
4210	Police	05	\$3,400	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$0	\$3,900	\$0
4215	Ambulances	05	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$0
4220	Fire	05	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$0	\$53,000	\$0
4240	Building Inspection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4290	Emergency Management	05	\$371,958	\$365,300	\$600,832	\$0	\$600,832	\$0
4299	Other Public Safety		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Safety Subtotal					\$438,858	\$432,700	\$672,732	\$0



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Airport/Aviation Center								
4301	Airport Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4302	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4309	Other Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets								
4311	Highway Administration	05	\$14,934	\$14,560	\$15,260	\$0	\$15,260	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	05	\$379,046	\$390,964	\$428,601	\$0	\$428,601	\$0
4313	Bridges	05	\$103,784	\$228,640	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	05	\$3,583	\$3,700	\$3,500	\$0	\$3,500	\$0
4319	Other Highway, Streets, and Bridges	05	\$121,138	\$117,500	\$119,600	\$0	\$119,600	\$0
	Highways and Streets Subtotal		\$622,485	\$755,364	\$666,961	\$0	\$666,961	\$0
Sanitation								
4321	Sanitation Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	05	\$75,890	\$84,840	\$77,258	\$0	\$77,258	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Facilities Clean-Up	05	\$8,747	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$0	\$9,000	\$0
4326	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Sanitation Subtotal		\$84,637	\$93,840	\$86,258	\$0	\$86,258	\$0



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue Administration

**2025
MS-737**

Appropriations

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Water Distribution and Treatment								
4331	Water Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338	Water Conservation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4339	Other Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric								
4351	Electric Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4352	Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Electric Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health								
4411	Health Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4414	Pest Control	05	\$428	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550
4415	Health Agencies and Hospitals	05	\$6,826	\$6,826	\$6,711	\$6,711	\$6,711	\$6,711
4419	Other Health		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Health Subtotal		\$7,254	\$7,376	\$7,261	\$7,261	\$7,261	\$7,261



Appropriations

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Welfare								
4441	Welfare Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4442	Direct Assistance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4445	Vendor Payments	05	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0
4449	Other Welfare		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Welfare Subtotal		\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0
Culture and Recreation								
4520	Parks and Recreation	05	\$1,962	\$2,225	\$2,125	\$0	\$2,125	\$0
4550	Library	05	\$42,700	\$42,700	\$43,270	\$0	\$43,270	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	05	\$300	\$250	\$300	\$0	\$300	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	05	\$150	\$250	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$0
	Culture and Recreation Subtotal		\$45,112	\$45,425	\$45,945	\$0	\$45,945	\$0
Conservation and Development								
4611	Conservation Administration	05	\$11,962	\$14,710	\$11,050	\$0	\$11,050	\$0
4612	Purchase of Natural Resources		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	05	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0
4631	Redevelopment and Housing Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4632	Other Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651	Economic Development Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4652	Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4659	Other Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Conservation and Development Subtotal		\$14,962	\$17,710	\$14,050	\$0	\$14,050	\$0



Appropriations

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Debt Service								
4711	Principal - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Interest - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt	05	\$20,509	\$25,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
4723	Interest on Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes	05	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0
4790	Other Debt Service Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Debt Service Subtotal		\$20,509	\$25,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$0
Capital Outlay								
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	05	\$78,048	\$78,048	\$85,008	\$0	\$85,008	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	05	\$56,366	\$1,060,500	\$318,500	\$0	\$318,500	\$0
	Capital Outlay Subtotal		\$134,414	\$1,138,548	\$403,508	\$0	\$403,508	\$0
Operating Transfers Out								
4911	To Revolving Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4912	To Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Other Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Sewer Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Water Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Operating Transfers Out Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Total Operating Budget Appropriations			\$2,192,401	\$0	\$2,192,401	\$0	\$0



Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Not Recommended)
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	02	\$64,275	\$0	\$64,275	\$0
		Purpose: Alternate Project				
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	02	\$969,049	\$0	\$969,049	\$0
		Purpose: Alternate Project				
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	06	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
		Purpose: Fund the Fire Truck CRF				
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	07	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
		Purpose: Fund the Highway Equipment CRF				
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	08	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
		Purpose: Fund the Bridge CRF				
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	09	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
		Purpose: Fund the Revaluation CRF				
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	10	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	\$0
		Purpose: Fund the Building and Grounds CRF				
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$1,070,824	\$0	\$1,070,824	\$0



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Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2024	Selectmen's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025
Taxes					
3120	Land Use Change Taxes for General Fund	05	\$15,300	\$5,100	\$5,100
3180	Resident Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Taxes	05	\$14,881	\$15,000	\$15,000
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3187	Excavation Tax	05	\$20	\$20	\$20
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	05	\$36,570	\$37,200	\$37,200
			\$66,771	\$57,320	\$57,320
			Taxes Subtotal		
Licenses, Permits, and Fees					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	05	\$210	\$200	\$200
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	05	\$247,529	\$238,100	\$238,100
3230	Building Permits	05	\$2,300	\$2,500	\$2,500
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	05	\$1,352	\$3,000	\$3,000
			\$251,391	\$243,800	\$243,800
			Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal		
From Federal Government					
3311	Housing and Urban Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3312	Environmental Protection		\$0	\$0	\$0
3313	Federal Emergency		\$0	\$0	\$0
3314	Federal Drug Enforcement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3319	Other Federal Grants and Reimbursements	02	\$0	\$1,033,324	\$1,033,324
			\$0	\$1,033,324	\$1,033,324
			From Federal Government Subtotal		
State Sources					
3351	Shared Revenues - Block Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	05	\$84,484	\$84,160	\$84,160
3353	Highway Block Grant	05	\$186,942	\$186,942	\$186,942
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	05	\$116	\$125	\$125



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2024	Selectment's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025
State Sources					
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Railroad Tax Distribution		\$0	\$0	\$0
3360	Water Filtration Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3361	Landfill Closure Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3369	Other Intergovernmental Revenue from State of NH		\$0	\$0	\$0
3379	Intergovernmental Revenues - Other	05	\$0	\$9,333	\$9,333
State Sources Subtotal			\$271,542	\$280,560	\$280,560
Charges for Services					
3401	Income from Departments	05	\$14,168	\$16,000	\$16,000
3402	Water Supply System Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3403	Sewer User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3404	Garbage-Refuse Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3405	Electric User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3406	Airport Fees		\$0	\$0	\$0
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
Charges for Services Subtotal			\$14,168	\$16,000	\$16,000
Miscellaneous Revenues					
3500	Special Assessments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	05	\$5,300	\$600	\$600
3502	Interest on Investments	05	\$18,132	\$15,000	\$15,000
3503	Rents of Property	05	\$820	\$900	\$900
3504	Fines and Forfeits		\$0	\$0	\$0
3506	Insurance Dividends and Reimbursements		\$0	\$0	\$0
3508	Contributions and Donations		\$0	\$0	\$0
3509	Revenue from Misc Sources Not Otherwise Classified	05	\$2,363	\$2,650	\$2,650
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal			\$26,615	\$19,150	\$19,150
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3911	From Revolving Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2024	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025
Interfund Operating Transfers In						
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Other Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Sewer Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3914W	From Water Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds	05	\$0	\$11,050	\$11,050	\$11,050
			\$0	\$11,050	\$11,050	\$11,050
			Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal			
Other Financing Sources						
3934	Proceeds from Long-Term Notes/Bonds/Other Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance	05	\$0	\$549,000	\$549,000	\$549,000
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$549,000	\$549,000	\$549,000
			Other Financing Sources Subtotal			
			\$630,487	\$2,210,204	\$2,210,204	\$2,210,204
			Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			



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Budget Summary

Item	Selectmen's Period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Period ending 12/31/2025 (Recommended)
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$2,192,401	\$2,192,401
Special Warrant Articles	\$1,070,824	\$1,070,824
Individual Warrant Articles	\$0	\$0
Total Appropriations	\$3,263,225	\$3,263,225
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$2,210,204	\$2,210,204
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$1,053,021	\$1,053,021



Supplemental Schedule

1. Total Recommended by Budget Committee	\$3,263,225
Less Exclusions:	
2. Principal: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
4. Capital outlays funded from Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
5. Mandatory Assessments	\$0
6. Total Exclusions (<i>Sum of Lines 2 through 5 above</i>)	\$0
7. Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (Line 1 less Line 6)	\$3,263,225
8. 10% of Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (<i>Line 7 x 10%</i>)	\$326,323
Collective Bargaining Cost Items:	
9. Recommended Cost Items (Prior to Meeting)	\$0
10. Voted Cost Items (Voted at Meeting)	\$0
11. Amount voted over recommended amount (Difference of Lines 9 and 10)	\$0
12. Bond Override (RSA 32:18-a), Amount Voted	\$0
Maximum Allowable Appropriations Voted at Meeting: (Line 1 + Line 8 + Line 11 + Line 12)	
	\$3,589,548

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2024

ACWORTH TOWN HALL, 13 TOWN HALL ROAD

Elections – 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Absentee ballots opened at 3:10 p.m. and finished at 3:20 p.m.

Business Meeting – 7:05 p.m. – 9:10 p.m.

Polls closed at 9:12 and business meeting adjourned. Counting of ballots began

Counts given to Town Clerk beginning at 9:30

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Article 01: To vote by non-partisan ballot for the following Town Officers:

Results of ballots cast – declared winners' names are noted in **bold print**

Selectmen – One person for three-year term Ryanne Schoonover	99
Tax Collector - One person for one-year term Marianne Wierenga Nevelson	138
Treasurer - One person for one-year term Melinda R Loiselle	137
Local Auditor – One person for one-year term Lisa DeValk	135
Moderator – One person for two-year term John Luther	143
Trustee of Trust Funds – One person for three-year term Sandra Binion	135
Trustee of Trust Funds – One person for one-year term Laurie Luther-Houghton	135
Cemetery Trustee – One person for three-year term Claudia Istel	140
Planning Board – Two persons for three-year term Stephen Murray Robert Vogel	115 128
Library Trustee – One person for three-year term Andrea Alderman Mary J Hildreth	132 128
Budget Committee – Two persons for three-year term Jennifer Bland John Balla (write-in)	120 14

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

2024 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

John called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He announced that the polls were suspended and would be open after the meeting for those that had not had a chance to vote. He asked whether all had their ballots to vote. He welcomed everyone and set ground rules asking everyone be civil to one another. He then asked everyone to stand, the men to remove their hats, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Article 02 - Road Repairs Following the July 10, 2023 Flood

To see if the Town will vote (1) to raise and appropriate up to \$1,000,000 (gross budget) for the purpose of restoring, repairing, and improving Town roads, including Crane Brook Road, Sam Putnam Road, Forest Road that suffered significant damages during the flash flood of July 10, 2023 (the “Project”); (2) to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,000,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) to fund costs of the Project and to authorize Town officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest, maturity, and other terms thereon; (3) to authorize Town officials to apply for, obtain, accept, and expend federal (e.g. FEMA), state, or other aid or grant monies in respect of the Project and to use such monies to reduce the amount of bonds or notes issued for the Project, to prepay such bonds or notes, or to pay debt service on such bonds or notes; and (4) to authorize the selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. The borrowing authority granted by this Article shall be contingent upon the Town first receiving reimbursements from FEMA/State of New Hampshire to fully pay off the amounts borrowed in 2021 for prior flash flood repairs. *(Recommended by the Budget Committee, 5:Y, 1:N) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N). (3/5 ballot vote required)*

A motion was made by Mike Aron. Seconded by William Vannah.

The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. Kathi spoke on the 2021 loan, and we are still expecting further reimbursement of about 1 million. We may receive reimbursement in time not to take out the second loan but we are making provisions so we don’t lose an entire construction season.

After further discussion, the article was moved to vote by secret ballot vote. The Moderator announced to use ballot “G”. The Moderator announced that the vote will remain open for one hour. The ballots were collected at 7:37 p.m. and counted at 9:12 p.m.

Results of Cast Secret Ballot Vote Article 02: YES 99 NO 5

ARTICLE 02 PASSED

Article 03 - Long-Term Lease/Purchase of a 10-wheeler

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in the amount of up to \$300,000, payable over a term of five (5) years, to finance the purchase of a 10-wheeler truck to replace the Highway Department’s Ford F550, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for the first year’s payment under the lease/purchase agreement, with \$20,000 of those funds to come from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund established in 2000, \$22,133 to come from unassigned fund balance (this represents the one-time highway payment received November 2023), and \$17,867 to be raised by taxation. *(Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 1:Y, 2:N). (3/5 ballot vote required)*

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

2024 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

A motion was made by RYANNE SCHOONOVER. Seconded by DAVID GOODWIN

The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. After much discussion, the article was moved to vote by secret ballot vote. The Moderator announced to use ballot "H". The Moderator announced that the vote will remain open for one hour. The ballots were collected at 8:03 p.m. and counted at 9:17 p.m.

Results of Cast Secret Ballot Vote Article 03: YES 92 NO 15

ARTICLE 03 PASSED

ARTICLE 04 - Empower the Selectmen

To see if the Town will vote to empower the Selectmen to serve as pound keepers, measurers of wood and fence viewers. *(Majority Vote Required)*

A motion was made by Helen Frink. Seconded by David Goodwin.

The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. Being none, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 04 PASSED BY A MAJORITY

ARTICLE 05 - TANs

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of taxes. *(Majority vote required)*

A motion was made by David Goodwin. Seconded by Claudia Istel.

The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. Being none, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 05 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Article 06 - Fund the Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of \$1,515,778 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. *(Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N)* *(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N)*. *(Majority vote required)*

A motion was made by RYANNE SCHOONOVER. Seconded by JIM JENNISON.

The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. After some discussion, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 06 PASSED

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

2024 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

Article 07 - Drainage on Cold Pond Road

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000 to replace culverts on Cold Pond Road and grader shim the affected areas in anticipation of a pavement overlay of the whole road in 2025. *(Recommended by the Budget Committee, 0:Y, 6:N) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 0:Y, 3:N) (Majority vote required)*

A motion was made David Goodwin. Seconded by Jameson Norman.
The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. After some discussion, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 07 FAILED BY A MAJORITY

Article 08 - Fund the Fire Truck CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2020. *(Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N). (Majority vote required)*

A motion was made by Kevin Davey. Seconded by Daniel Young.
The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. After some discussion, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 08 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Article 09 - Fund the Highway Equipment CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 for the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2000. *(Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N). (Majority vote required)*

A motion was made by Ryanne Schoonover. Seconded by Jim Jennison.
The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. After some discussion, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 09 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Article 10 - Fund the Building and Grounds CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 for the Building and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund established in 2020. *(Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N). (Majority vote required)*

A motion was made by Steve Murray. Seconded by David Goodwin.
The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. Being none, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 10 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

2024 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

Article 11 - Fund the Revaluation CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2010. (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 6:Y, 0:N) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N). (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by Teresa Berntsen. Seconded by Steve Murray.

The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. Being none, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 11 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Article 12 - Engineering for Forest Road Bridge

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$228,140 for the cost of Engineering Forest Road Bridge replacement with the sum of \$60,000 to come from the Bridge Repair or Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2014; \$72,746 to come from unassigned fund balance (this represents the one-time bridge payment of \$54,948 received January 2023, and the one-time bridge

payment of \$17,798 received December 2023), and \$95,394 to be raised by taxation. (Recommended by the Budget Committee, 5:Y, 1:N) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3:Y, 0:N). (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by Judy Aron. Seconded by Mark Girard.

The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. After some discussion, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 12 PASSED BY A MAJORITY

Article 13 - Establish Position of a Building Inspector

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 674:51 and RSA 673:1 (III) to adopt the state building code (RSA 155-A) as the Town's local building code and to provide for the appointment of a building inspector who shall enforce the state building code. The building inspector shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen and shall be compensated according to the level of compensation authorized by the adoption of the annual budget by the Town Meeting.

A motion was made by Teresa Berntsen. Seconded by Charlie Bradt.

The Moderator asked for any questions or discussion on the article. After much discussion, it was moved to vote by voice vote.

ARTICLE 13 WAS DEFEATED BY A MAJORITY

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

2024 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

Article 14 - Other Business

To transact any other business that may legally be brought before this Town Meeting.

Mike Aron thanked Ray Leonard and Mike Girard for all their work on the Planning Board.

Kathi Bradt gave an update on Bowers Brook stating there is \$371k in ARPA funds that DES is giving us to work on this project and it is planned to be started in April.

Claudia Istel spoke on the drift track that is being put in in Lempster stating that Lempster has no zoning rules. The noise from this will carry into Acworth and would be louder than the motor cross. This would affect property values and asked that the Selectmen write a letter to the Lempster Selectmen. The Moderator said there is nothing under other business that can bind the Selectmen, but she could bring it up at one of their meetings.

The Moderator announced at 9:12 p.m. that the business portion of the meeting was adjourned and that anyone who wishes to vote may do so. There were none so Polls closed at 9:12 p.m. Meeting was recessed at 9:12 p.m. to count ballots.

The counting of ballots completed at 10:00 p.m. Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m. All the information was given to the Town Clerk to compile and complete the necessary paperwork.

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Comeau
Acworth Town Clerk

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TAX COLLECTOR

The Board of Selectmen issued warrants for the collection of 2024 property taxes in the amount of \$3,322,366.00. Tax Collector remitted to Town Treasurer \$1,703,111.43. The tax bills were not due until January 20, 2025. The bulk of the taxes were still outstanding on 12/31/2024. Warrants for Land Use Change Tax and Yield Tax were issued for \$15,600.00 and \$14,181.00 respectively.

I will mail the delinquency notice for the 2024 taxes at the end of February 2025 to taxpayers notifying them of their balance due and notifying them of the lien date for 2024 taxes: August 4, 2025. All properties with uncollected 2024 taxes on August 4, 2025, will receive a Tax Lien regardless of the amount of taxes due. Liens are an expensive proposition – 14% interest plus various fees. Please pay.

The unpaid Tax levy of 2022 is scheduled for tax deeding on September 1, 2025. I recommend that those taxpayers start paying off immediately and contact me with their plan regarding their tax debt. Having a plan places you in a little better position with Board of Selectmen when the decision must be made to execute a Tax Collector's Deed.

Tax Payments can now be made on the Town of Acworth website – The red property tax button at the bottom of the home page. The program (free to the town) does not give the amount of interest due if you are late paying. So do not be surprised if you have a balance due. Payments are entered as received on the day of the postal cancellation. You do not have to wait for a Monday to see me personally. Payments can be dropped off at the Town Offices, but I prefer that you put your payments in the mail. If everything else fails, you can call me to make an appointment for when it is convenient for you.

Thank you, taxpayers for your prompt payments, your cooperation and your good cheer.

Marianne W Nevelson
Tax Collector

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TAX COLLECTOR'S TRIAL BALANCE

Levy	Invoice Description	Ath Issue	Beginning Balance	New Charges	Payments	Other Credits	Refunds	Ending Balance
2025	PROPERTY CREDIT MEMOS				-61.00			-61.00
2024	PROPERTY TAXES		3,322,366.00		-1,703,111.43			1,619,254.57
	TAX ABATEMENTS					-1,074.00		-1,074.00
	INTEREST CHARGES			852.24	-852.24			
2023	PROPERTY TAXES		978,845.30		-892,048.29		2,717.91	89,514.92
	CONVERT TO LIEN - TAXES				-86,495.08			-86,495.08
	TAX ABATEMENTS					-3,019.84		-3,019.84
	INTEREST CHARGES			9,849.45	-9,849.45			
	OTHER CHARGES			19.50	-19.50			
2024	LAND USE CHANGE			15,600.00	-15,600.00		300.00	300.00
	TAX ABATEMENTS					-300.00		-300.00
	INTEREST CHARGES			230.40	-230.40			
2022	LAND USE CHANGE		120.00		-120.00			
2024	YIELD TAXES			14,181.83	-13,978.31			203.52
2023	YIELD TAXES		902.93		-902.93			
2024	EXCAVATION TAXES			20.00	-20.00			
2023	TAX LIENS			92,759.65	-24,199.11			68,560.54
	INTEREST CHARGES			566.29	-566.29			
2022	TAX LIENS		70,504.60		-22,047.59			48,457.01
	INTEREST CHARGES			9,186.71	-9,186.71			
2021	TAX LIENS		49,589.72		-49,589.72			
	INTEREST CHARGES			11,791.35	-11,791.35			
2020	TAX LIENS		7,271.47		-7,271.47			
	INTEREST CHARGES			2,728.53	-2,728.53			
2023	COSTS NOT LIENED			1,246.00				1,246.00
	CONVERT TO LIEN - TAXES				-1,246.00			-1,246.00
***** Grand Totals			1,107,234.02	3,481,397.95	-2,851,915.40	-4,393.84	3,017.91	1,735,340.64

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue
 Administration

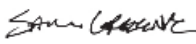
2024 \$27.04

**Tax Rate Breakdown
 Acworth**

Municipal Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
Municipal	\$1,097,737	\$123,606,016	\$8.88
County	\$382,315	\$123,606,016	\$3.09
Local Education	\$1,663,612	\$123,606,016	\$13.46
State Education	\$194,093	\$120,780,310	\$1.61
Total	\$3,337,757		\$27.04

Village Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
Total	\$0		\$0.00

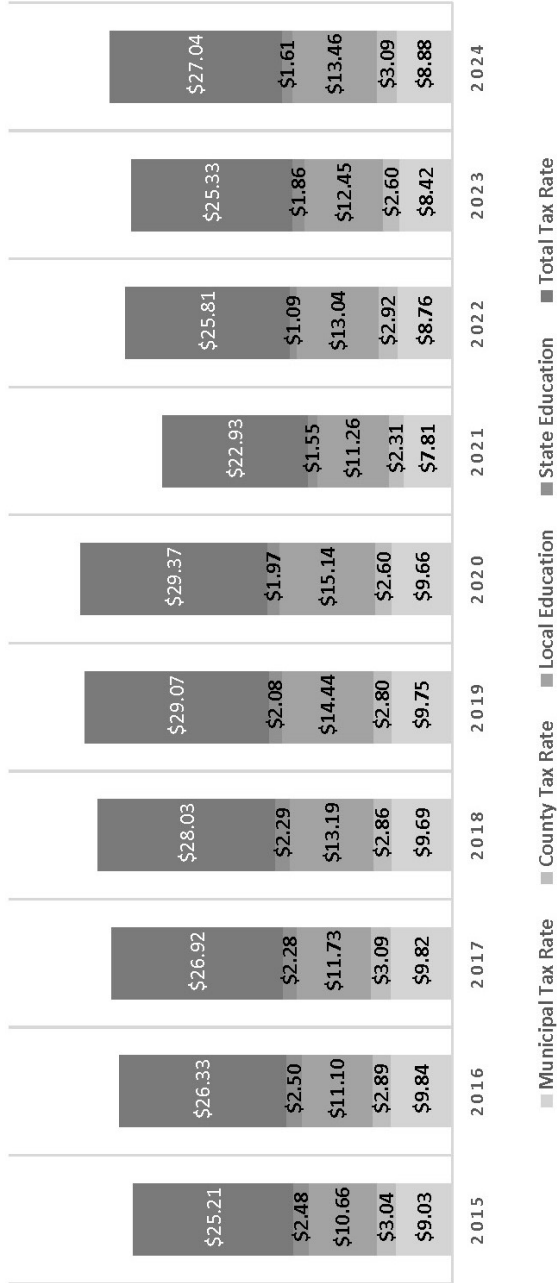
Tax Commitment Calculation	
Total Municipal Tax Effort	\$3,337,757
War Service Credits	(\$15,500)
Village District Tax Effort	\$0
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$3,322,257

 Sam Greene Director of Municipal and Property Division New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration	12/17/2024
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2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

HISTORICAL TAX RATE

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Municipal Tax Rate	\$ 9.03	\$ 9.84	\$ 9.82	\$ 9.69	\$ 9.75	\$ 9.66	\$ 7.81	\$ 8.76	\$ 8.42	\$ 8.88
County Tax Rate	\$ 3.04	\$ 2.89	\$ 3.09	\$ 2.86	\$ 2.80	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.31	\$ 2.92	\$ 2.60	\$ 3.09
Local Education	\$ 10.66	\$ 11.10	\$ 11.73	\$ 13.19	\$ 14.44	\$ 15.14	\$ 11.26	\$ 13.04	\$ 12.45	\$ 13.46
State Education	\$ 2.48	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.28	\$ 2.29	\$ 2.08	\$ 1.97	\$ 1.55	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.86	\$ 1.61
Total Tax Rate	\$ 25.21	\$ 26.33	\$ 26.92	\$ 28.03	\$ 29.07	\$ 29.37	\$ 22.93	\$ 25.81	\$ 25.33	\$ 27.04



2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN CLERK

I plan to run for office again in 2025 and I want to thank the residents of Acworth for your continued support. August 2024 marked 20 years as the Town Clerk.

Town Clerk hours are Wednesday 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 am - noon. **There is not always a car parked outside, however, there is a light as well as an open sign in the window when the office is open.**

As a reminder, when renewing your car registration, providing the prior year car registration is required by state law, ***RSA 261:148, IV***. We only accept checks and cash (smaller bills are appreciated). Two checks are required, one for "The Town of Acworth" and one for "NHDMV".

It will soon be time to renew your dog licenses for 2025. The 2024 license will expire on April 30th. Beginning June 1st a \$1.00 per month late fee is assessed. This is something many dog owners in Acworth are not complying with. Veterinarians send records of all Acworth dogs who have had their rabies vaccine. Many dog owners have never registered their dogs, and some have not renewed them. If you are one of those "pet parents" please take care of this immediately to avoid receiving calls, letters and/or the potential of being contacted by animal control. **Per state law RSA 466:100 "every dog, 3 months of age and older shall be vaccinated against rabies. Young dogs shall be vaccinated within 30 days after they have reached 3 months of age."**

Below is a list of some of the services available at this office:

- Register and title vehicles
- Complete marriage license applications
- Process birth, marriage and death certificates
- File wetland permit applications, and pole licenses
- Issue dog licenses
- Accept voter registration forms, mail absentee ballots, prepare the town ballot
- Administer the oath of office to any newly elected or appointed Town Official
- Notary Public services

There is more information as well as various printable forms on the Acworth website at www.acworth.net

For everyone's safety, the office may be closed during inclement weather and/or illness. If you are unsure or have any questions, please call the office at 603-835-6879. If you are connected to the answering machine it means we are not in the office. Updated information will also be posted on the town website.

Charlotte Comeau,
Town Clerk

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN CLERK FINANCIAL REPORT

MOTOR VEHICLES

Vehicle Registration	236,699.41
Clerk Fees	3,182.00
Title Fees	584.00
Title Transfer Fees	360.00
Municipal Agent Fees	4,752.00
E-Log Fees	179.00
Returned Check Fees	<u>50.00</u>
	245,806.41

DOGS

Licenses Issued: 157	
Town Fees	571.00
State Fees	302.00
Late Fees	<u>110.00</u>
	983.00

MARRIAGES

Licenses Issued: 4	
Town Fees	28.00
State Fees	<u>172.00</u>
	200.00

FILING FEES

Vital Record Copies: 16	
Town Fees	104.00
State Fees	<u>96.00</u>
	200.00

MISCELLANEOUS

Filing fee	6.00
UCC	210.00
NH Statewide Checklist	<u>435.00</u>
	651.00

REMITTED TO TREASURER **\$247,840.41**

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER

Detailed Statement of Appropriation Disbursements for 2024

	<u>Jan - Dec 2024</u>
4130 Town officers' salaries	
Selectmen - Jim Jennison	\$ 3,000.00
Selectmen - Rynne Schoonover	3,000.00
Selectmen - Kathi Bradt	3,000.00
Treasurer - Melinda Loiselle	3,115.26
Deputy treasurer - Linda Christie	1,000.00
Tax collector - Marianne Nevelson	7,892.37
Deputy tax collector -	1,038.42
Town clerk - Charlotte Comeau	9,346.05
Deputy town clerk	1,869.21
Health officer -	1,000.00
Deputy health officer -	-
Local auditor - Lisa Devalk	500.00
	<hr/>
	34,761.31
 4140 Elections and vital statistics	
Stipends-election officials	6,127.41
Public notices	-
Vital record fees	225.00
	<hr/>
	6,352.41
 4150 Town office expenses	
Wages-administrative assistant	59,543.68
IRA substitute	2,376.45
Health insurance	16,948.92
Computer, software and support	3,643.81
Deed office recording fees	12.00
Dues to Associations	1,214.00
Miscellaneous	67.64
Office equipment	3,203.94
Office supplies	1,780.36
Postage	615.73
Public notices	334.64
Services of forester	440.00
Telephone	1,736.37
Health officer expenses	700.00
Tax collector expenses	6,324.15
Town clerk expenses	4,856.33
Town reports and Town Meeting	846.00
Trustees of Trust Funds expense	-
Workshops and training	-
	<hr/>
	104,644.02
 4152 Revaluation of property	
Mapping	2,000.00
Property assessing	7,378.65
Revaluation and maintenance	3,381.00
	<hr/>
	12,759.65

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER (Continued)

Detailed Statement of Appropriation Disbursements for 2024

4153 Legal expenses

Compliance	\$ -
General Services	4,127.76
	<hr/> 4,127.76

4155 Payroll tax expenses

Payroll taxes - FEMA	-
Payroll taxes-cleaning/shoveling	161.37
Payroll taxes-dump attendant	1,252.24
Payroll taxes-election officials	468.74
Payroll taxes-forest fires	-
Payroll taxes-EMD	2,690.90
Payroll taxes-health officer	76.50
Payroll taxes-highway	19,962.67
Payroll taxes-highway admin	1,142.48
Payroll taxes-planning board	372.08
Payroll taxes-road projects	-
Payroll taxes-town office	5,183.63
Payroll taxes-town officials	2,582.70
Payroll taxes expenses - other	-
	<hr/> 33,893.31

4191 Planning and zoning

Master plan expenses	-
Miscellaneous expenses	-
Public notices and postage	390.15
Recording and other expenses	105.00
Wages - building compliance	3,000.00
Wages - planning board	1,863.00
	<hr/> 5,358.15

4194 Town hall expenses

Building compliance	197.00
Electricity	1,361.30
Fuel oil	4,642.52
Mowing	3,120.00
Repairs & maintenance	1,412.97
Supplies	132.86
Wages - cleaning and shoveling	2,109.56
	<hr/> 12,976.21

4195 Cemeteries

Brush removal	-
Corner markers	2,956.00
Lawn Care	10,170.00
Miscellaneous expenses	-
Tree work	4,772.50
	<hr/> 17,898.50

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER (Continued)

Detailed Statement of Appropriation Disbursements for 2024

4196 Insurance		
Property and general liability	\$	26,229.00
State unemployment insurance		2,380.00
Workmens compensation		8,066.00
		<hr/>
		36,675.00
4197 Regional planning associations		
UVLSRPC annual dues		1,375.89
4210 Police		
Contract services		-
Dispatch		3,400.00
		<hr/>
		3,400.00
4215 Ambulance		10,500.00
4220 Fire & Rescue services		53,000.00
4290 Emergency management		
Planning & Mitigation		-
Forest Fires other costs		576.10
Wages - EMD		35,175.40
Crane Brook Road		148,450.00
FEMA grant expense road repairs		187,756.74
		<hr/>
		371,958.24
4311 Highway administration		
Wages - highway admin	\$	14,934.40
4312 Highway maintenance		
Wages-highway		224,064.78
Overtime wages-highway		26,848.24
IRA substitute		10,036.52
Health insurance		33,898.00
Calcium chloride		5,757.88
Crack sealing		7,587.96
Culverts		-
Equipment Rental		-
Materials		4,510.93
Miscellaneous		185.94
Road signs		-
Roadside mowing		5,500.00
Salt		42,101.34
Small maintenance projects		2,174.53
Tree work		2,500.00
Trucking		13,880.00
		<hr/>
		379,046.12
4313 Bridge repairs		103,783.86

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER (Continued)

Detailed Statement of Appropriation Disbursements for 2024

4316 Street lighting		3,582.53
4319 Highway - general expenses		
Building compliance		253.10
Building maintenance		459.84
Diesel fuel		32,626.12
Drug testing		818.00
Electricity		3,669.41
Emergency tow		-
Gas		3,151.27
Heating fuel		5,490.59
Miscellaneous		2,860.00
New equipment		8,623.49
Radio communication		1,600.01
Repairs, parts		45,249.01
Safety		206.65
Supplies - office		552.20
Supplies - shop		8,147.77
Telephone/Internet		2,153.50
Training		3,955.00
Uniforms/clothing		1,322.50
		<hr/>
		121,138.46
4324 Solid waste		
Wages-dump attendant	\$	16,368.96
Capital improvements		295.98
Clothing		87.97
Comingle bin w/o glass disposal		2,970.50
Compactor truck/rent/disposal		25,338.84
Compliance		39.00
Demolition disposal fees		14,808.20
Electricity		1,198.89
Electronics recycling		622.01
Equipment		-
Fluorescent disposal		329.04
Freon extraction		328.00
Glass/ceramic disposal		750.64
Hazardous waste disposal		1,255.55
Metal disposal fees		1,500.00
Miscellaneous		195.66
Mixed paper disposal		5,261.55
Propane		279.25
Repair, maintenance, and permitting		1,827.41
Safety		114.55
Telephone		756.21
Tire disposal		1,337.10
Training		225.00
Waste Oil Disposal		-
		<hr/>
		75,890.31

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER (Continued)

Detailed Statement of Appropriation Disbursements for 2024

4325 Landfill closure		
Monitoring and maintenance		8,747.29
4414 Animal control		
Dog tags		96.07
State fees		331.50
Vet and boarding		-
		<hr/>
		427.57
4415 Health and other agencies		
American Red Cross		413.00
Fall Mountain Food Shelf		1,000.00
Fall Mountain Friendly Meals		1,000.00
Home Healthcare Hospice & CS		1,000.00
Hundred Nights		200.00
Monadnock Family Services		1,066.00
S W Community Services		1,297.00
West Central Behavioral Health		850.00
		<hr/>
		6,826.00
4445 Welfare		-
4520 Recreation		
Electricity	\$	227.15
Mowing		1,735.00
Recreation - other		-
		<hr/>
		1,962.15
4550 Library		
Wages-library		26,080.37
Payroll taxes-library		1,995.15
Lawn maintenance		1,845.00
Miscellaneous		35.22
Library appropriation paid		12,744.26
		<hr/>
		42,700.00
4583 Memorial Day expenses		300.00
4589 Other culture and recreation		
Maintain items of value		-
Other		150.00
		<hr/>
		150.00
4611 Conservation commission		
CC association dues		50.00
Crescent Lake testing		291.00
Miscellaneous expenses		11,620.84
		<hr/>
		11,961.84
4619 Conservation preservation		
Crescent Lake Host Program		3,000.00

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER (Continued)

Detailed Statement of Appropriation Disbursements for 2024

4721 Long Term Note Interest (2021 Loan for Flood Repairs)	20,508.78
4723 Interest on Tax Anticipation Note	-
4902 Machinery, vehicles & equipment	
Equipment lease - 2024 Truck Replace	60,000.00
Equipment lease - Loader	18,048.66
	<hr/>
	78,048.66
4909 Improvements other than buildings	
Gravel crushing	49,997.00
Culvert replacement	-
Road/Town Projects and paving	1,708.29
Town pit development	4,660.65
Town properties	-
	<hr/>
	56,365.94
4912 To special revenue funds	
Cemetery lot sales reimbursement	\$ -
4915 To capital reserve funds	
Capital reserve - bridges	-
Capital reserve - buildings & grounds	2,500.00
Capital reserve - Fire truck 2020	10,000.00
Capital reserve - highway equipment	20,000.00
Capital reserve - revaluation	5,000.00
Capital reserve - transfer station	-
	<hr/>
	37,500.00
4916 To expendable cemetery trust fund	
Transfers to trustees of trust funds	-
4919 Conservation commission fund	-
	<hr/>
	<hr/>
Total Appropriation disbursements for 2024	\$ 1,676,554.36
Other Expense	
4931 Sullivan County	382,315.00
4933 FM Regional School District	1,857,704.98
4199 Abatements/tax refunds/prepaid items	3,304.43
ARPA Bowers Brook	328,287.38
Charlestown Road Encumbered Funds 2023	255,653.83
UVLSRPC Encumbered Funds 2023	2,922.61
2021 Flood Loan Repayment	1,356,160.91
CC - Conservation Commission expenses	-
FMF - Forest maintenance plan expense	-
	<hr/>
Total non-appropriation disbursements for 2024	\$ 4,186,349.14
	<hr/>
Total disbursements for 2024	\$ 5,862,903.50

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER (Continued)

Detailed Statement of Appropriation Disbursements for 2024
Summary of Conservation Commission Accounts

Conservation commission savings account

Beginning balance 1/1/24	\$	21,264.75
Land Use Change Tax Deposited		7,710.00
Expenses		(12,186.84)
Interest income		20.83
Ending balance 12/31/24	\$	<u>16,808.74</u>

Cons. Comm. forest maintenance savings account

Beginning balance 1/1/24	\$	3,909.33
Timber sale proceeds		-
Forester expense		-
Interest income		3.92
Transfer to general fund		-
Ending balance 12/31/24	\$	<u>3,913.25</u>

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER (Continued)
Detailed Statements of Receipts for 2024

	<u>Jan - Dec 2024</u>
3100 Received from tax collector	
See tax collector report for breakdown of details	\$ 3,621,843.45
	<u>3,621,843.45</u>
3200 Received from town clerk	
See town clerk report for breakdown of details	247,739.41
	<u>247,739.41</u>
3319 From Federal sources	
3319.1 FEMA funds for 2021 Flood road repairs	-
3350 From State sources	
3352 Meals and rooms distribution	84,484.48
3353 Highway block grant	186,941.75
3356 Forest land reimbursement	116.06
3359.2 Other State grants	-
	<u>271,542.29</u>
3400 Revenue from services	
3404 Transfer station fees	14,167.50
3500 Miscellaneous sources	
3230.2 Building permit fees	2,300.00
3292.1 Driveway permit fees	150.00
3292.2 Planning board fees	609.00
3292.3 Sale of histories and maps	252.50
3292.5 Miscellaneous fees	232.00
3292.7 Equipment purchase reimbursement	-
3292.8 ZBA fees	108.15
3501.1 Sale of Municipal properties	5,300.00
3501.2 Cemetery lot sales	-
3502.1 Interest income on deposits	18,131.68
3503.1 Rent of town property	820.00
3509.1 Income from departments	-
3509.21 Recycling proceeds - fibers (mixed loose)	-
3509.22 Recycling proceeds - metal	2,362.84
	<u>30,266.17</u>
3915 From special revenue funds	
3915.2 Transfer from capital reserves for equipment	20,000.00
3915.4 Transfer from capital reserves for reval/maps	-
3915.7 Transfer from capital reserves for bridges	60,000.00
3915.8 Transfer from capital reserves for Bldg & Grounds	2,860.00
	<u>82,860.00</u>
3916 Trust and agency funds	
3916.1 Cemetery grants and trust funds	-
3917 Transfers from Conservation funds	
3917.1 Transfers from forest maintenance funds	-
3934 Proceeds from L/T Bonds (Loan for Flood Repairs)	-
Amount voted from fund balance (Surplus)	-
	<u><u>4,268,418.82</u></u>
Unanticipated Income	
Interest Income - ConsComm Savings Acct	20.83
Interest Income - FMF Savings Acct	3.92
ARPA Bowers Brook	328,287.38
2021 Flood - FEMA reimbursement	1,733,139.34
2023 Flood - FEMA reimbursement	376,857.21
	<u>2,438,308.68</u>
Total cash receipts for 2024	<u><u>\$ 6,706,727.50</u></u>

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TREASURER (Continued)
Balance Sheets (General Fund, Comparative)

	<u>12/31/2024</u>	<u>12/31/2023</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents		
Checking	\$ (8,460.41)	\$ (427,817.36)
Money market	923,422.31	769,349.92
Savings - Conservation Commission	16,808.74	21,264.75
Savings - Forest Maintenance Fund	3,913.25	3,909.33
Admin & Highway Dept Debit Card Account	5,741.31	3,137.95
Petty cash	150.00	150.00
Savings - performance bonds	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
	943,075.20	371,494.59
Taxes receivable		
Taxes receivable - property tax	1,618,184.93	985,095.34
Taxes receivable - timber yield tax	203.52	902.93
Tax liens receivable - 2020	-	7,271.47
Tax liens receivable - 2021	-	49,589.72
Tax liens receivable - 2022	48,457.01	70,504.60
Tax liens receivable - 2023	68,560.54	-
Allowance for abatements-property tax	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	1,735,406.00	1,113,364.06
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 2,678,481.20</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,484,858.65</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	(405.81)	806.52
Deferred revenue - Prepaid property taxes	4.36	6,250.04
Employee advances	(720.96)	-
School district payable	1,099,375.60	741,094.70
Performance bond refundable	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,099,753.19	749,651.26
Long Term Liabilities		
Flood Loan	-	1,356,160.91
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u><u>1,099,753.19</u></u>	<u><u>2,105,812.17</u></u>
Fund equity		
Opening balance Equity	-	(1,356,160.91)
Retained earnings	54.28	-
Fund equity - assigned	-	94,878.39
Fund equity - unassigned	582,018.89	202,340.81
Fund equity - encumbered 2023 - R&D Paving	-	274,987.50
Fund equity - encumbered 2023 - UVLSRPS Culvert Inventory	-	4,437.50
Fund equity - encumbered 2024 - UVLSRPS SADES	5,000.00	-
Fund equity - encumbered 2024 - FRB Engineering	124,356.14	-
Fund equity - encumbered 2024 - Cemetery Monuments	2,500.00	-
Fund equity - encumbered 2024 - Groundwater monitoring	252.71	-
Fund equity - Conservation Comm.	16,808.74	21,264.75
Fund equity - Forest Maintenance	3,913.25	3,909.33
Potential Net Income	<u>843,824.00</u>	<u>133,389.11</u>
	1,578,728.01	(620,953.52)
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	<u><u>\$ 2,678,481.20</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,484,858.65</u></u>

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

SELECT BOARD

In April of 2024 the Town paid the balance of the 2 million dollar loan which was taken out in 2021 in order to repair damage from that year's flood which devastated 31 Acworth Roads. Carrying that kind of debt is nerve wracking. The repayment was made with money reimbursed to the Town by FEMA for completed repairs. Over the year, additional reimbursements were received. That money went into the Town's fund balance and is being used to cover the remaining flood project expenses for the year 2025.

Of those remaining projects, three are major: Replacement of the Forest Road Bridge and restoration of Crane Brook and Thayer Brook Roads. The bridge is being funded 80% by the State Bridge Program. Crane Brook and Thayer Brook continue to be overseen by FEMA, which covers 75% of eligible expenses. Because they directly involve waterways, all three projects face extensive engineering and wetlands permitting. Originally, we hoped for a 2026 reconstruction of all three. Now that engineering has begun, we were told to expect a 2027 reconstruction. In a way this is better for the Town. Keeping in mind that flood repair reimbursements always come after the work is completed, it gives the Town more time to accumulate money to cover initial costs.

By applying the additional reimbursements mentioned above to the 2025 budget, Selectmen were able to include non-flood road projects in the new budget for the first time since 2021. Those non-flood road projects will cover needed drainage work on Forest and Cold Pond Roads. Separately, FEMA has offered the Town the opportunity to apply funds which were designated for Nye Road to be used for restoration work on Derry Hill Road where they are sorely needed. Acceptance of that offer will require a Town Meeting vote and will appear as an article on the Town Meeting Warrant.

In regular business over the year, Selectmen reviewed twenty-one building permit applications and updated the Road Improvement Permit application to require site documentation intended to protect our Class 6 Roads from damage which the Town is denied under State law from repairing. An update of the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan was initiated by Jennifer Bland and Jennifer and Charlotte worked together to set up an Emergency Notification System for Acworth residents.

Selectmen supported the efforts of citizen volunteers who worked with the NH Department of Environmental Services on the restoration of Bowers Brook which overflowed its channel during the 2023 flood and inundated South Acworth Village. The Crescent Lake public boat ramp was reconstructed by citizen volunteers and the Crescent Lake Association. Acworth Volunteer Fire and Rescue worked tirelessly with area firefighters to extinguish a fire in the northwest corner of Town during the extensive drought our region experienced last fall. We are so fortunate to have people who volunteer.

The 2024 Town tax rate was \$8.88. The Selectmen's 2025 proposed budget and capital reserve fund Town Meeting Warrant articles result in an estimated Town tax rate for 2025 of \$8.37; a significant decrease. The Budget Committee will review the figures during their January meetings.

All Town boards' and committee meetings are posted around Town and on our website. It takes all of us to keep this small Town going. Selectmen meet on the first, third and fifth Mondays monthly in the Town Hall. We hope you will come.

Jim Jennison, Ryanne Schoonover, Kathi Bradt

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

HIGHWAY



The Highway Department began the new year with back-to-back snow and ice storms which kept the four-man crew out on the roads creating safe travels for all. Presently all drivers are CDL certified with 3 of them holding their class A and allowed to haul equipment.

Spring arrived in Acworth, and the Highway Dept. completed regular annual maintenance which included, ditching, grading roads, brush removal, checking and cleaning culverts while continuing with regular maintenance on all our town trucks and equipment. Collin, Eddie and

Jennifer attended our recertification for our Certified Culvert Maintainer, successfully completed the recertification.

There is a significant amount of work that continues to be done on an annual basis. The Highway Dept. has observed what insufficient maintenance does, which not only increases town wide vulnerability, but it also can decrease our eligibility for reimbursement in future weather-related events. We are working to implement a regular maintenance schedule and have a crew that can complete these repairs, while keeping costs down.

The new Highway truck arrived in November just before the snow started to fly. This new truck will allow highway to continue to keep the work in house cutting the costs of contracting work out. It is essential to have the proper equipment to be able to maintain our roads on a regular basis, preventing further deterioration of our many miles of roads and, even more important, to keep the majority of this work in-house, using money saved for continued imperative flood repairs.

Highway personnel continue to interact with FEMA and NH Homeland Security, (HSEM) attending meetings and site reviews of our previous flood damage. It is anticipated that these meetings will continue with these organizations as there is still a considerable amount of damage from the 2023 flood.

The Acworth Highway Dept. would like to thank everyone who supported the department this past year.

Road issues can be reported by phoning Highway Garage, 835-6866. Highway matters are discussed at every regular scheduled Selectmen's meeting, the first, third and fifth Mondays of the month. Suggestions are always appreciated.

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

As we started 2024, work continued with the damages sustained from the July 2023 flood with FEMA and HSEM. Acworth was assigned to a Navigation Team which will prevent several representative changes with FEMA and HSEM that we experienced in the 2021 flood. The Navigation Team assigns the same FEMA and HSEM individuals until our 2023 flood projects are completed. This has made working on the 2023 a positive experience and has sped up our reimbursement for the 2023 flood.

Currently FEMA has reimbursed the town \$653,493.29 for the 2023 flood. The town has requested a 50% portion of reimbursement for both the 2021 and 2023 flood from the state in the amount of \$215,033.30. Our four remaining projects from the 2023 flood are, Crane Brook Rd, Sam Putnam, Thayer Brook and Underwood and being worked by HEB Engineering due to the challenges of repairs.

We have started the process with the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission to update our 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan through a federal grant. Hazard Mitigation is a community driven plan to help reduce or eliminate long term risks caused by hazards or disasters. Hazard Mitigation is beneficial to the town as it creates awareness of hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities that would impact our community. There was lots of progress being made with road repairs, The most impactful one was getting the bottom portion of Crane Brook Rd open for travel. Currently we are working with HEB Engineering on final permanent repairs to Crane Brook Rd. Crane Brook presents with several challenges which includes the 30 culverts that were in the impacted damage area, with Crane Brook crossing Crane Brook Rd 10 times, making this project very difficult on permanent repairs preventing the road from washing out in future storms.

It was determined that the Town qualified for an Alternate Project instead of the Nye Rd Culvert. An Alternate Project with FEMA is a permanent project that uses Public Assistance funding to replace a damaged facility with a new one that serves the same community. The Town requested FEMA approval for Derry Hill Rd and a small truck for the Highway Dept. The Scope of Work for Derry Hill Rd and a quote for the small truck have been reviewed and approved by FEMA and was in the process of being obligated before town meeting. However, due to a recent petition warrant article submitted requesting to change the road from Derry Hill to Crescent Lake, it will need to wait until the result of the vote, delaying the obligation process. The alternate project reimburses at 90% and 5% from the state leaving the town portion at 5%.

Emergency Management and the Highway Dept. continue to meet with FEMA and HSEM weekly as we still have a lot of work that needs to be completed for the 2023 flood.

Special thanks to everyone for their continued patience and support. Acworth is truly a very special place to live.

Jennifer Bland
Emergency Management Director

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TRANSFER STATION AND RECYCLING

	TYPE	SHIPMENTS	TONS/UNITS	COST	INCOME
Waste Disposal	C&D	18	93.14	15,559.12	
	MSW	23	187.03	26,449.24	
Waste Recycled	Batteries	1	/2	7.28	
	Bulbs	1	/677	119.79	
	Comingle	10	13.01	3,215.55	
	Electronics	1	2.23	838.14	
	Freon	1	/41	328.00	
	Glass	1	10.43	750.64	
	Metal	6			2,362.84
	Paper	21	29.6	5,297.75	
	Propane	1	/95	279.25	
	Tires	2	5.33	2,239.50	
Total Cost				55,084.26	
Transfer Station Fees					<u>14,167.50</u>
Total Income from fees and recycling proceeds					16,530.34
Total Cost after fees and proceeds				38,553.92	

Measurable tonnage shipped for disposal:

Construction, Demolition Debris, Bulky Waste	93.14 tons
Municipal Solid Waste (Houshold Refuse)	187.03 tons

Measurable recyclables shipped for processing: 60.6 tons

Total Waste and Recyclables 340.77 tons

Acworth paid \$1,255.55 for residents to participate in the Keene household hazardous waste collections. This consists of 24 collections per year with 12 in the Spring and 12 in the Summer/Fall. The dates are posted at the PO, the transfer station and on the website when available. The collections are held at the Keene Solid Waste Facility off Route 12 North from 8am-1pm.

A sticker is required to use the transfer station. This can be obtained through the town office.

If you have any questions about where to place disposables, please ask the attendant.

Board of Selectmen office






Northeast Resource Recovery Association

"Partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions"

ACWORTH, NH

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING SUCH ACTIVE RECYCLERS!

Recycling isn't just good for your wallet, it's great for the environment, saving energy and resources. From October 2023 through September 2024, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) helped your community move the recyclable materials listed below to market to be processed into raw materials, ready to be remanufactured into new products! NRRA – **your recycling nonprofit** – partners with communities like yours to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions.

RECYCLABLE MATERIAL	2024 RECYCLED AMOUNTS	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT! Here is just one benefit of recycling materials, rather than manufacturing new products from virgin resources.
ELECTRONICS	4,466 LBS.	 You saved enough energy to power 143 homes for 1 day!
GLASS	40,320 LBS.	 You saved about 241 trash bags from ending up in a landfill!
PAPER &/OR CARDBOARD	54,060 LBS.	 You saved 460 trees!
TIRES	5,610 LBS.	 You saved 133 gallons of oil!

AVOIDED EMISSIONS



Recycling uses much less energy than making products from virgin resources, and using less energy means fewer greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere.

By recycling the materials above, you avoided about **230,594 lbs.** of carbon dioxide emissions. This is equivalent to removing **23** passenger cars from the road for an entire year!

***The above data was calculated using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model (WARM).*

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

The Trustees of Trust Funds met six times in 2024: January, February, April, July, October, and December.

January Meeting:

Funds were disbursed to the library trustees in the amount of \$2,000 based on interest income in 2023.

February Meeting:

The bylaws were reviewed, and the following statements were added: "Requests for funds: Any requests for funds shall be submitted in writing using the voucher entitled "Application for all funds" per RSA 31:22, 35:15 V, 289:7-I-d." and "Forms shall be available at the town clerk's office." A list of Capital Reserve Funds and Common Funds was also added. The current Investment policy was reviewed and approved. Ann Kosa filed MS-9s/MS-10s with the State. A new voucher for "Application of Funds" was made available at the Town Hall.

(March) At the town meeting, Sandra Binion was re-elected for a 3-year term and Laurie Luther-Houghton was elected for a one-year term.

April Meeting:

Officers were elected: Sandra Binion, chair; Ann Kosa, bookkeeper; Laurie Luther-Houghton, recording secretary. The amended bylaws were approved and posted on the town's website. A. Kosa reported that corrections were made to the 2023 MS-9s to reflect proper withdrawals of funds. The Cemetery Trustees confirmed that the Acworth Cemetery Trust is a General Maintenance Account and not Perpetual Care, and that the Mitchell accounts are interest-only accounts.

July Meeting: A. Kosa reported that a check for \$2,500 had been received from the town for the Building and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund in accordance with Article 10 of the 2024 Town Warrant. A \$60,000 request for bridge repair pursuant to article 12 was reviewed and approved. The money was left in the fund to collect interest until it was needed later this year.

October Meeting: A. Kosa reported that the 2023 audit was completed with no issues. Members of the library trustee board attended the meeting to discuss how interest funds are to be disbursed. Since the bank withholds its fees from the amount of interest made available, the full amount of interest can be disbursed.

December Meeting: \$35,000 was submitted to Bar Harbor Bank for the amounts stated in warrant articles 8, 9, and 11, thereby completing all warrant articles for 2024.

2024 Summary:

The ending balances (principal and income) on December 31, 2024, are as follows: Capital Reserve Funds \$304,095.47, Perpetual Care Funds \$153,891.90, Library Funds \$99,272.73, and Mitchell and Jeffrey Funds \$76,683.66.

For the Trustees of Trust Funds
Laurie Luther-Houghton, Recording Secretary

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS

Town of Acworth MS-9
Year Ending December 31, 2024



Date	TRUST NAME	Type	Purpose	How Invested	% OF TOTAL	BALANCE 1/01/24	NEW FUNDS	GAIN/LOSS	EXPEND	BALANCE 12/31/24	ANNUAL TOTALS					Total Tax Cost	Unrealized Gain/Loss	Market Value					
											BALANCE 1/01/24	BALANCE 12/31/24	Transf/Income/Exp	Mgmt Fees	Gross Income				BALANCE 12/31/24				
03/14/2000	Highway Equipment	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Capital Reserve (Other)	Common Investment	14.19%	45,228.46	20,000.00	8.10	(20,000.00)	45,236.56			(233.84)	1,695.92	49,558.16	(597.76)	48,960.40						
03/12/2002	Dump Closure	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Capital Reserve (Other)	Common Investment	4.85%	13,185.60	-	3.88	-	13,189.48		(83.05)	607.41	16,956.02	(204.52)	16,751.50							
03/14/2006	C P Road Paving	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Capital Reserve (Other)	Common Investment	0.34%	7.41	-	0.26	-	7.67		(5.86)	42.86	1,196.34	(14.43)	1,181.91							
01/05/1900	Ac. Elementary School CRF	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Capital Reserve (Other)	Common Investment	16.08%	51,964.23	-	12.86	-	51,977.09		(275.48)	2,014.72	56,240.38	(678.36)	55,562.02							
03/09/2010	Reval CRF	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Capital Reserve (Other)	Common Investment	9.83%	31,813.93	5,000.00	7.87	-	36,821.80		(168.46)	1,231.96	39,390.19	(475.11)	38,915.08							
03/11/2014	Bridge Repair or Replacement	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Capital Reserve (Other)	Common Investment	22.26%	70,898.08	-	8.09	(60,000.00)	10,906.17		(353.58)	2,543.29	17,652.14	(212.92)	17,439.22							
03/10/2020	Acworth Fire & Rescue Fire Truck Purchase	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Police/Fire	Common Investment	11.99%	39,817.26	10,000.00	9.60	-	49,826.86		(205.46)	1,502.75	51,948.99	(626.60)	51,322.39							
03/12/2019	Building and Grounds CRF	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Maintenance and Repair	Common Investment	3.01%	9,912.30	2,500.00	2.13	(2,860.00)	9,554.43		(46.14)	341.25	10,152.41	(122.46)	10,029.95							
12/15/2021	Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Capital Reserve (Other)	Common Investment	6.05%	19,980.85	-	4.83	-	19,985.68		(103.60)	757.71	21,151.40	(255.12)	20,896.28							
12/21/2022	Fall Mt Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Reserve (RSA34:35)	Capital Reserve (Other)	Common Investment	11.39%	37,798.48	-	9.13	-	37,807.61		(195.18)	1,427.54	39,849.44	(480.64)	39,368.80							
Capital Reserve Fund Totals											100.0%	320,606.60	37,500.00	66.75	(82,860.00)	275,313.33	18,287.16	12,165.41	(1,670.65)	28,782.12	304,095.47	(3,667.92)	300,427.55

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

ACWORTH SILSBY LIBRARY - LIBRARIANS

Our Summer Reading Program in 2024 included four interactive arts and crafts programs led by Opal and Lindsey: drawing, jewelry making, music and origami. All readers received a new book at the end of summer. We will be planning our 2025 program soon.

We are happy to have the Acworth School students visit us weekly.

During 2024, we had 2,873 patron visits; 2,360 adult books were borrowed; 1,121 children's books and 239 DVDs were borrowed. Our patrons borrowed 396 books and DVDs from other libraries through the State Library's Inter-Library Loan service. We had 224 patron visits to use our computers or wireless internet. We welcomed 17 new patrons.

During 2024, we added 371 titles to our collection, adding new books -fiction, non-fiction and childrens - every month.

In October, we joined the New Hampshire Downloadable Books program. This allows patrons access to eBooks, audiobooks and magazines. We have 42 patrons signed up for NHDB. In three months, they checked out 140 audiobooks, 124 eBooks and 49 eMagazines. This service has been very popular, and we expect more patrons in 2025.

Please visit or email/phone us with questions or requests. We thank our patrons, visitors, trustees and all who have assisted us during the past year.

Susan Metsack, Kathi Bradt and Opal Wright, Librarians

Phone 835-2150; Email: acworthlibrary@gmail.com.

Hours: Tues/Thurs 11:30am to 5:30pm, Sat/Sun 11:30am to 4:30pm.

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

ACWORTH SILSBY LIBRARY - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2024 events and programs began on a sweet note, with the Library hosting its 7th Annual Dessert Event on February 15th. In addition to a varied selection of the most delectable and decadent desserts imaginable, attendees were treated to a raffle, activities for children, puzzles, and origami instruction. This much-anticipated community event has been well-attended and offers a chance for our community and beyond to socialize on a mid-winter afternoon.

To celebrate Poetry Month, Peri Best read from her collection of poems entitled, “Scaffolding” in the reading room at the Library on April 7th. The attendees enjoyed a pleasant afternoon of poetry followed by refreshments.

On April 28th, the Library sponsored a presentation by the Loon Preservation Committee at the Town Hall. This informative program supported the Loon Preservation Committee’s mission which is, in part, “to promote a greater understanding of loons and the larger natural world.” Refreshments were served after the program.

Thank you to all the volunteers, contributors, and attendees who made this year’s events both enjoyable and successful.

In May, the windows at the Library were cleaned both inside and out, making the interior look much brighter, and the tree trimming around the building was completed. Leon Newton’s 1926 diploma from Acworth High School was re-framed and now hangs in the stairwell at the Library. Thank you to Dean and Wendy Gowen and Helen Frink for ensuring this piece of Acworth history was preserved for all to enjoy. The trustees purchased a new picnic table for the front lawn, which Melinda and Alfred Loiselle delivered and set up.

We were saddened by the passing of Trustee Chairman, Guy Russell’s, wife, Aija, on February 22, 2024. Aija was a long-time volunteer book buyer for our Library, spending hours every week to research and select books that she thought would delight our patrons. To that end, a book fund was established in her honor to purchase books for the Library’s collection. As of the end of 2024, over \$3,500.00 has been raised. Because of Aija’s love of books and the library, Guy and his family hosted a Lawn Party at the Library on August 17th to celebrate her life. Aija’s family, along with the trustees and staff of the library worked together to create a lovely day of remembrance.

On October 1st, the Library joined the New Hampshire State Library’s Downloadable eBooks and Audio Books Program. This service is free of charge for Acworth residents and property owners.

We look forward to 2025 with optimism and thank our wonderful library staff for making the Acworth Silsby Library a welcoming, friendly place of life-long learning.

Respectfully Submitted,
Acworth Silsby Library Trustees
Guy Russell, Melinda Loiselle, Doug Robinson, Andrea Alderman, Mary Hildreth

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

ACWORTH SILSBY LIBRARY - TRUSTEES FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>ACCOUNT BALANCES</u>	<u>12/31/2023</u>	<u>12/31/2024</u>
CHECKING	\$64.71	\$168.47
SAVINGS (Gen & Income Accts)	\$3,848.13	\$5,829.57
SAVINGS (Building Maint Acct)	\$2,981.31	\$2,768.49
SAVINGS (Aija Russell Mem Bk Fund)	\$0.00	\$3,344.96
CD	<u>\$12,210.31</u>	<u>\$12,865.20</u>
	\$19,104.46	\$24,976.69

	2024 <u>BUDGET</u>	2024 <u>ACTUAL</u>	Variance to <u>Budget</u>
<u>INCOME</u>			
TOWN APPROPRIATION	\$42,700	\$42,700	\$0
(SALARIES / TAXES / OTHER)			
OTHER INCOME			
CD & SAVINGS INTEREST	\$400	\$674	\$274
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$750	\$2,508	\$1,758
RESTRICTED INCOME :			
DESIGNATED INCOME :			
UNRESTRICTED INCOME	\$7,500	\$8,125	\$625
TRUST FUNDS & GIFTS, GRANTS	\$1,085	\$308	(\$777)
BK SLS, FINES, EQUIP FEES	<u>\$961</u>	See note below	
USE OF RESTRICTED LIBRARY FUNDS (Jeffrey Fund Int. for books)	\$53,396	\$54,315	\$919
<u>EXPENSES (Library & Town Funds)</u>			
SALARIES & PAYROLL TAXES	\$28,000	\$28,076	\$76
(includes snow removal)			
BOOKS (ADULT) & PERIODICALS	\$6,600	\$5,382	(\$1,218)
BOOKS (CHILDREN)	\$1,171	\$1,109	(\$62)
OTHER MATERIALS - DVDs	\$0	\$0	\$0
HEAT SYSTEM / HEATING FUEL	\$5,000	\$2,464	(\$2,536) (a)
ELECTRICITY	\$2,000	\$911	(\$1,089) (b)
COMMUNICATIONS (PHONE & INTERNET)	\$2,000	\$2,111	\$111
SUPPLIES & EXPENSES	\$500	\$293	(\$207)
POSTAL / BANK FEES / SVC CHG	\$165	\$154	(\$11)
GROUNDSKEEPING (MOWING)	\$2,000	\$1,845	(\$155)
DUES / FEES / TUITION	\$60	\$120	\$60
PROGRAMS / EVENTS	\$1,200	\$529	(\$671)
COMPUTER / COPIER (HARDWARE & SOFTWARE)	\$1,450	\$1,631	\$181
MISC. EXPENSE	\$250	\$796	\$546
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	\$3,000	\$3,021	\$21
	<u>\$53,396</u>	<u>\$48,442</u>	<u>(\$4,954)</u>

2024 RESTRICTED / DESIGNATED / RESERVED LIBRARY FUNDS

Richard & Clarence Jeffery Memorial Library Fund Accumulated Interest	\$11,588	(restricted gift)	(in CD & Savings)
Codman & Gertrude Hislop Book Fund Accumulated Interest	\$4,122	(restricted gift)	(in CD & Savings)
Designated account for building repairs	\$2,768	(designated income)	
Designated income account from income-producing equipment	\$272	(designated income)	

- (a) Heating fuel - budgeted high for unpredictability of temps & fuel prices
 (b) Electricity - budgeted high for fluctuation in rates

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

PLANNING BOARD

Throughout 2024 the Planning Board worked monthly on the Master Plan update. Questionnaires were distributed to all property owners in the fall of 2023 and 198 completed questionnaires were returned. Respondents favored the Town's uncrowded nature and sense of community. They expressed strong support for local farms, clean water, local businesses and land conservation. They also supported encouraging vacation, recreation and business which could improve our tax base. An overwhelming number of respondents (99%) want to maintain the character of the Town.

Once the questionnaires were tallied the Board turned to the subject areas required by the State for inclusion in all town master plans. Most were already part of our original Master Plan and its Addendum which are posted on the Town website. Board monthly meeting discussions frequently revolved around how to plan for housing which accommodates young working families and lifelong residents approaching retirement. Housing was found to relate to roads and transportation. Candy Reed from Sullivan County Service's Volunteer Driver Program provided insight into a regional approach to transportation which is already in place.

The purpose of a master plan is to name as many of the potential goals a town has for itself as possible at a particular point in time. Once those goals are named, a town has the foundation to build programs to implement those goals. In their discussions the Board noted, for example, that encouraging low impact small business may require an update of the Town's Nonresidential Site Plan Review Regulations.

To finalize this Master Plan update, the Planning Board will hold a public information meeting in February and offer a brief introduction during the 2025 March Town Meeting. Subsequent to that, the update will be posted on the Town website.

Under regular business, the Board reviewed three minor subdivisions, a merger and six driveway permit applications. Under State law, towns' driveway permitting jurisdiction involves the curb cut and drainage implications. The Planning Board is currently updating our permit application for clarity and consistency with State law and the inclusion of the Highway Department in drainage decisions.

Fall Board meetings were joined by Road Agent Collin Crosby and Glenn Elsesser who helped with the annual update of the Town Capital Improvement Plan. The Board will be looking for ways to incorporate more detail in future updates.

The Board hosted a spring Joint Boards' Meeting (JBM) in which the Conservation Commission presented its work on a Town Conservation Plan, part of which will now be included in the 2025 Master Plan. An additional JBM issue of how to protect Class 6 roads was taken up by the Board of Selectmen with road condition documentation becoming part of the permitting for Class 6 road alteration.

The Planning Board meets on the fourth Monday monthly. All meetings are open, and the public is welcome.

Acworth Planning Board

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2024 was a great year for our Acworth Conservation Commission (ACC). Thank you to those who support our Commission. We hope you will consider attending some of our meetings or joining our Commission.

Our Conservation Commission (Concom) has been focusing on the following areas:

- Improve and Increase Forest and Wildlife Habitats.
- Assess the state of our major wetlands (> 10 acres); determine best management practices (BMP); add identified BMPs to the Conservation Plan (CP).
- Improve Water Quality in major waterbodies (lakes, ponds > 10 acres, 3rd and 4th order rivers and streams)
- Address Climate Change – Assess town/county climate change ecological impacts determine applicable adaptative measures and add to our CP.
- Engage the Community via education, training, and volunteer events. This could be a separate effort or part of any of the identified topics above.

2024 accomplishments

- Improve and Increase Wildlife Habitats
 - We created a Forest Management Plan for our South Acworth Forest with a focus on improving the forest stand for wildlife and being more resilient to climate change.
 - We completed the conservation of 28 acres by adding the property to the Honey Brook State Forest.
 - We continue to monitor over 2400 acres of conserved land for any issues or misuses.
 - We continue to work on the survey of 2 town-owned properties on Crescent Lake that have significant wildlife and conservation value. It's our intent to recommend these properties for conservation.
 - Our commission reviewed 13 intents to cut, 12 permit reviews, complaints or inquiries.
 - Each year we continue to advocate our Green-Up Day to remove garbage and debris from our roadsides.
- Protect Wetlands
 - We initiated an effort to conduct a wetland assessment of the Keyes Hollow wetland. It is the largest wetland on the Cold River and plays a critical role in flood mitigation. We are in the process of identifying other towns that have completed a wetland assessment to leverage plans they may have created.
- Improve Water Quality
 - Concom is supporting a water quality effort for the Crescent Lake Watershed. Funds were raised and a vendor, Stone Environmental, was hired. The assessment is due in July of 2025 and will include a model and status of nutrient loading in Crescent Lake along with recommendations.
 - We purchased a turbidity meter that will enable our own testing of water quality in the smaller body of water that is not monitored by NH DES.
 - We identified turbidity issues in Dodge Brook and engaged Lempster Concom and they were able to identify the source of the contamination and work with a vendor to mitigate the issues. We identified contamination that was occurring in Crane Brook and worked with the source of the contamination to clean up the current issue and put in place mitigation to prevent any future issues.
 - Our commission is working with the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) to complete an assessment of our culverts and drainage areas. The assessment is due to be completed in 2025 and will include a geomorphic and structural assessment, aquatic life assessment, and hydrology model for all of our Acworth culverts/stream crossings.
- Address Climate Change
 - One of our Concom members attended an 8-week, 2-3 hours per week, USDA-led training that provided practical options to help land managers adapt forests and ecosystems to changing conditions.
 - We incorporated aspects of climate change resiliency in our South Acworth Forest Management plan and the Crescent Lake Watershed Assessment.
- Engage the Community – We began a quarterly newsletter article published in the town's newsletter and have published updates on our work as well as seasonal wildlife and habitat articles.

The Acworth Conservation Commission – Gregg Thibodeau (Co-chair), Jennifer Bland (Co-chair), Ryanne Schoonover, Select Board Rep., Janet Slocum, Mark Girard, Rob Traver, Robin Ungeheuer (alternate), Lisa Hyatt (alternate).

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

CRESCENT LAKE ASSOCIATION

CLA Board:

Rob MacLeod - President, Shelly Bonomo - Secretary, Taysa Lynch - Treasurer, Mark Richards - Director, Zig Lisischeff - Director, Greg Palulis- Director, Chris Gladding - Director, Tim Grinaski - Director

2024 Overview/Introduction:

The summer of 2024 was pleasant, with a slight increase in boat traffic and inspections. From May 24 to September 8, 1105 boat owners were engaged. The team included six employees, mostly local taxpayers. Funding ensures thorough inspections, preventing invasive species. Inspections ran daily from 7 AM to 7 PM, with no invasives found, though nearby lakes continue to struggle. NH DES warns of microscopic invasive larvae, but none have been detected. Cyanobacteria remains a concern due to stormwater runoff, though no outbreaks occurred. A Water Quality Forum on July 1 drew 100 attendees, and a CLA Water Quality Group was formed to address ongoing challenges.

Detailed Reports:

Water Quality Group (WQG):

Mark Richards - Chair, Stan Rastallis, Gregg Thibodeau, Donna Stampone, Terry Mattson, Mark Wilson, Lionel Chute

- Kevin Brenker stepped down from the WQG. Mark Richards is acting Chair until a replacement is identified.
- The WQG is focusing on the Watershed Management Plan process; membership education via Newsletters and: developing a plan with Gregg Thibodeau as the lead person.
- The group is brainstorming ways to include more members into the WQG. The goal is to promote lake member inclusion. There will be several projects coming up because of the Watershed Assessment.

Watershed Management Plan:

In September of 2024 the CLA Board hired Stone Environmental to create a Watershed Management Plan for Crescent Lake and the surrounding community. The cost of the plan is \$52,650 with the funds being provided by the CLEAR Trust who launched a fundraising campaign in 2024 and has raised over \$70,000 to date to fund watershed related projects.

The plan consists of seven Tasks:

- Task 1: Engage Stakeholders and Build Partnerships (Completed)
- Task 2: Compile Existing Data and Create a Watershed Inventory (Completed)
- Task 3: Model Non-Point Sources
- Task 4: Assess Watershed Core Field Areas
- Task 5: Finalize Goals and Identify Solutions
- Task 6: Design Implementation Program
- Task 7: Prepare Watershed Management Report

- A big thank you to property owners and the towns of Unity and Acworth for their support during the survey process.
- Stone assessment employees did not walk any property on the lake.
- From the shoreline, they assessed 25ft of each property.
- Stone invoiced CLA \$7,700 for task 1 & 2 completion.

Lake Host Program:

- Kevin Brenker stepped down.
- Bob Woolner will manage the program with his team and be the interface with Unity and Acworth.

Milfoil Swim Team:

- Tim Grinaski will team with Stan Rastallis to manage the Milfoil Swim.

Thank you! Your CLA Board

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Acworth cemetery trustees Claudia Istel, Lillie LeBlanc, and Helen Frink met monthly from April through December. Managing our cemeteries without the help of a Sexton was difficult; we are pleased that Ken Gagnon has accepted the Sexton's position for 2025.

No cemetery lots sales occurred in 2024. While townspeople are interested in lots surrounding the knoll in the northeast corner of the Hill Road cemetery, that space is not yet available. Trees have been cut, but mapping cannot proceed until stumps are removed and a vehicle pathway has been cleared.

Eleven burials took place in the cemetery; seven were interments of cremains. A six by twelve-foot space adequate for one full body burial is suitable for three sets of cremains. As more people choose cremation, cemetery space requirements will be smaller. A survey of a half-dozen nearby towns revealed that most cemeteries measure newly sold lots using five by ten feet as space for one full-body burial. Trustees discussed using the smaller size or designating a space for cremains only.

Current prices and dimensions of Acworth cemetery lots are:

12 x 24' lot \$1,050 (4 bodies)

12 x 12' lot \$550 (2 bodies)

12 x 6' lot \$400 (one body or 3 sets of cremains)

Granite corner markers are installed when a lot is purchased, with the cost included in the price of a lot. The cost of corner markers is now \$300 per set of four. Many lots sold years ago for prices of \$25 or \$50 have no corner markers, and paying for them at today's prices causes a budget deficit. This year we ordered ten sets at \$250 per set, paid \$2,250, with Keene Monument Company owing one set to be used next year. Going forward it may be advisable to raise lot prices, reduce sizes, or introduce other pricing and sizes for cremains spaces.

We are fortunate to be able to return a small amount from our 2024 budget to the town's general fund, thanks to modest mowing costs and no need for emergency tree removal. We have encumbered \$2,500 from our 2024 budget to be spent in 2025 for monument repair, which we have not been able to do for the past few years.

Record keeping and updating the map of the new part of the Hill Road cemetery continue, thanks to volunteer Lorraine LaCasse. The 1877 map of the old part, including new corrections, has now been photocopied. Both maps are available in the town office. However, the easiest way to find grave locations and headstone epitaphs is by visiting www.findagrave.com.

Next spring Acworth geologist Lindley Hanson and her students from Salem State University will use a non-invasive forensic archeology process to locate remains in the Batchelder Nye cemetery and old Hill Road cemetery. The process does not involve any ground disturbance.

The volunteer Wreaths Across America program will decorate the graves of veterans with evergreen Christmas wreaths next December. Anyone with questions about this project or people wanting to volunteer can contact Jennifer Bland for more information.

After fifteen years as a cemetery trustee, I am not running for re-election in 2025. It has been a pleasure to work with dedicated townspeople to preserve our beautiful cemeteries.

Helen Frink, Chair, Trustees Lillie LeBlanc and Claudia Istel

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT
VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE COMPANY, INC

Incident Type	Total
Incident Type Category: 1 - Fire	
100 - Fire, other	1
111 - Building fire	7
142 - Brush or brush-ad grass mixture fire	5
	Total: 13
Incident Type Category: 3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	
300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	3
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	1
320 - Emergency medical service, other	3
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	65
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	4
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	5
	Total: 81
Incident Type Category: 4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	
400 - Hazardous condition, other	4
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	2
444 - Power line down	11
460 - Accident, potential accident, other	3
	Total: 20
Incident Type Category: 5 - Service Call	
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	1
554 - Assist invalid	4
561 - Unauthorized burning	1
571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	1
	Total: 7
Incident Type Category: 6 - Good Intent Call	
611 - Dispatched and cancelled en route	2
	Total: 2
Incident Type Category: 7 - False Alarm & False Call	
700 - False alarm or false call, other	1
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	1
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	5
744 - Detector activation, no fire – unintentional	3
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	6
	Total: 16
Grand Total:	139

2024 TOWN OF ACWORTH ANNUAL REPORT

VITAL STATISTICS

Acworth Resident Marriage Report January 1 - December 31, 2024

<u>Person A's Name</u>	<u>Person B's Name</u>	<u>Place of Marriage</u>	<u>Date of Marriage</u>
Meadows, Jonathan Andrew	Whalen, Amanda Natalie	Acworth	10/12
Scott, Hayden Michael	Laskevich, Laura Nikele	Acworth	10/19

Acworth Resident Birth Report January 1 - December 31, 2024

<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Father's/Mother's Name</u>
Walsh, John Louis Schaal	03/07	Keene	Shaffert, Kurt Frank Walsh, Kathryn Marie
Cammarata, Ezio Salvatore	03/15	Keene	Knically, Suzannah Marguerite

Acworth Resident Death Report January 1 - December 31, 2024

<u>Decedent's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Place of Death</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Adams, Adam T	76	Keene	02/01
Russell, Aija Ambats	80	Lebanon	02/22
House, Polly Claire	78	Keene	03/30
Elsesser, Richard	93	Keene	04/05
Duffy, Tanya Rudin	80	Acworth	04/22
Rowley, John M	75	Lebanon	05/06
Balla, John M	47	Langdon	05/11
Fowler, Thomas Keith	67	Gilsum	05/29
Moore, Kevin James	59	So. Acworth	07/19
Decelle, Joan A	83	Claremont	08/07
Kish, Julius Stephen	90	So. Acworth	09/13
Wallace, Richard A	94	So. Acworth	09/21
Melitonov, Michael	84	Acworth	10/10
Toner, Karen A	72	Lebanon	10/15
McLaughlin, Dennis	73	Manchester	10/23
Perry, Greta S	86	Newport	11/01
Whitcomb, Kathleen L	45	Acworth	11/15
Rhoades, Mabel L	99	Keene	11/21
Haas, Peter Hudson	79	So. Acworth	12/29

STATE OFFICIALS

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Kelly Ayotte
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Concord, NH 03301
603-271-7680



United States Senators:

Jeanne Shaheen

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Keene, NH 03431 Washington, DC 20510
603-358-680 202-224-2841



Maggie Hassan

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Manchester, NH 03101 Washington, DC 20510
603-622-2204 202-224-3324



NH State Senator: District 8:

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603-271-2609



Representative: District 4:

Judy F. Aron

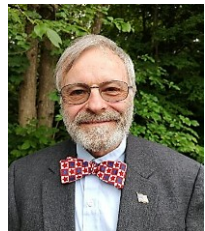
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Representatives: District 8:

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