

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of May 20 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

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

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator; Collin Crosby, Road Agent; Jennifer Bland, Hwy Admin. Assist. /EMD; Melinda Loiselle, Treasurer; Bob Porter, Code Enforcement

OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Bascom; Bill & Mary Hildreth; I McShane; Dan McShane; Steve & Lori Murray; Chris Noonan; Gary & Judith Robinson; Dan & Lori Williams

CALL TO ORDER: Jim called the meeting to order at 5:56 p.m.

On a motion by Jim seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into NPS pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 6:00 p.m. Motion passed.***

On a motion by Jim, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to exit NPS and reconvened public meeting at 6:25 p.m. Motion passed.***

2021 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- Haven't had any meetings the past couple weeks as the contact person is away.

2023 FLOOD RESPONSE:

- HEB contracts for Lynn Hill; Underwood Rd; Nye Rd; Sam Putnam Rd: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; after confirmation from Jennifer that she had spoken with Chris at HEB regarding questions she had and everything was fine, ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

MINUTES: Meeting of 5/6/24: On a motion by Ryanne, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve. Motion passed.***

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

PAYROLL MANIFEST: This was tabled until next meeting as payroll was today and wasn't in their packets to review.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- Worked on Crane Brook Rd.
- Graded & rolled Black North; Turkey Shoot; Duncan; Heino. Graded Nye and Lynn Hill.
- Filled pot holes on Allen Rd, Crescent Lake & Derry Hill Rd.
- Cleaned Gove Rd culvert.
- Dealt with Allen Rd complaint/accusations of removal of multiple beaver dams & removal of beavers. Collin asked the board if they felt he was in the right by removing the one dam on River Rd. He felt there was potential for damage to the bridge due to the upcoming weather so removed the dam (back in March). He said people are upset about it and asked what the board wants him to do going forward as there are beaver dams on Gove Rd and Charlestown Rd with a culvert completely blocked up with debris. Kathi said according to emails Collin had contacted DES and everything was done by state law and he was told it's their job to protect infrastructure. She told Collin he has her support, Ryanne stated she supports the highway dept. in the removal of things that are going to damage our roads in any way, and Jim concurred.
- The Int'l has voltage problems. Collin wants to send to Reeds so Brian can still stay in the grader. All agreed.
- Glenn will be coming Wednesday to check out the Ford in order to put on Municibid.

PLANNING BOARD UPDATE: meeting is 5/21 public hearing and joint boards meeting.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION UPDATE: Ryanne

- They met on the 8th and approved a \$500 donation to Orchard Hill to sponsor kids for a local summer camp. This is the only ecological camp in our area.

- Green day event was successful and the community collected about the same amount as last year. Ryanne thanked all that participated.
- Reviewed the draft report for the community newsletter which will have information on pollinators and some community outreach information.

PUBLIC: None

ACTION ITEMS:

- Building Permit:
 - Wilson M253 L13: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
 - S&C Haynes M201 L7: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approved and sign. Motion passed.***
 - Jones/Duran M229 L232: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board vote to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Approve Social Media Policy: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Accept Chief Connors recommendations: On a motion by Ryanne, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Class V/VI Road Improvement G&J Robinson: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Proposal from SVE Assoc. (New consultant to renew AoT permit for pit (due in July): On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; Ryanne asked if we budgeted for this \$8,000. Charlotte mentioned that previously this was taken from building and grounds capital reserve funds. She proposed to add the \$2,500 which was voted on in March. She can have it on the next bill manifest and give to Trustees to deposit. This will increase the balance and be more than enough to cover the cost. All were in agreement with this. ***The Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***
- Compliance: Letter to Kelin's asking for update on septic and well: On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Jim; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Motion passed.***

DISCUSSION:

- Letter from McShane/Hackman-70 Turkey Shoot re: bldg. permit: There was much discussion regarding approving this permit without a septic approval from the state. Kathi said nothing has changed since the original denial of the building permit and we were basing our decision on what is in the zoning ordinance. The owner said this is gravity fed and not considered pressurized water. Bob P said according to DES, as long as you can open a faucet and water comes out it is considered pressurized water stating this can be found on the DES website. After much discussion, Dan asked where to go from here. Kathi said the permit was denied for lack of septic approval and asked if he had engaged with a septic designer. He had and that person spoke with DES and said "DES didn't want to hear anything about it." Dan doesn't want to go the route of a full septic system and that he will seek other avenues. Jim suggested that Charlotte reach out to legal to find out how to move forward since they were denied a variance by ZBA. Charlotte mentioned that she believed ZBA wasn't able to do anything about it as they can't override state septic regulations. Kathi stated they hadn't seen anything from ZBA and perhaps we could ask for that.

On a motion by Ryanne and seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7.27 p.m. Motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau
Town Administrator