

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of July 13, 2023 which followed the Public Hearing
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

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

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator; Collin Crosby, Road Agent; Jennifer Bland, Hwy Admin. Assist./EM

OTHERS PRESENT: Bruce Bascom; David Bascom; Gregg Bascom; Norm Bernaiche; Charlie Bradt; Linda Christie; Rep. Hope Damon; Tom Esslinger; Frank Emig; Mark Girard; Mark Goodwin; Bill & Mary Hildreth; Claudia Istel; John Luther; Brenda Melius; Susan Metsack; Chris Robbins; Gregg Thibodeau; David Thomas; John Tuthill; William Vannah; Rob Vogel; Cinde Warmington, Exec. Council

CALL TO ORDER: Jim called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

7/10/23 FLOOD RESPONSE:

Collin said the crew is currently out opening roads. Still have one person stranded. They're working on Ryan Rd and Duncan Rd to get open for people to get out. The other end of Crane Brook Rd has severe damage so they aren't able to get out that way. Gregg B thinks that any work on Crane Brook will be wasted until we figure out how to get the box culvert to take the water. Consensus by the board was to continue with what they are doing with other roads until we figure out what has to be done with Crane Brook Rd.

Kathi asked Jennifer the status of speaking with the DOT engineers and Army Corp of Engineers. Jennifer said they will be out Tuesday morning at 8AM to look at Crane Brook and Forest Rd. They're coming out with three engineers and they've already started the emergency authorization permitting.

Jennifer said we have over 26 roads with damages we can get to and some have stream crossings.

Collin has called United Construction to lease a dozer for a month to help with these roads.

Norm Bernaiche has an excavator and is willing to volunteer his time to help. Kathi said to see Charlotte for filling out a volunteer form.

Jennifer met with Ruth Ward today to show her Crane Brook and Forest Rd. She told Jennifer there is a program where the state can provide money. Cindi W. said the legislature did pass a bill to receive an upfront loan until FEMA reimburses us but the rules are not in place. Cindi will look into this for us.

Jennifer stated that the county would have to meet a set threshold in order for the Governor to declare a disaster and then we can deploy FEMA. HSEM looked at Crane Brook Rd and Forest Rd. on Tuesday. There has been 310 different places that reached out to offer assistance.

Kathi asked about cancelling the R&D contract. Jennifer said she spoke with Gerry and he said they have no problem backing out of the contract but ask that the board not award to anyone else as they would still like to come in and do the paving when the time comes. They will be reaching out to Charlotte.

Jennifer mentioned the Governor flew out yesterday and went to Keene, then flew over Walpole and Alstead but not Acworth.

Charlie said there are some problems with washout at the transfer station. Jim asked Jennifer if Highway could check it out.

On a motion by Jim, seconded Ray; **the Board voted to adjourn at 3:45 p.m. Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator