

TOWN OF ACWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Selectmen
Approved Minutes for Business Meeting of August 4, 2026
Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd, Acworth, NH 03601

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Kathi Bradt; RYANNE Schoonover

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Town Administrator; Jennifer Bland, AHD, EMD, HO; Collin Crosby, Road Agent, Melinda Loiselle, Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Ashley; Glenn Elsesser; Lori & Steve Murray; Tanya Holt; Peggy & Will Starks; Gregg Thibodeau; Robin Ungeheuer

CALL TO ORDER: Kathi called the meeting to order at 6:00.

On a motion by Kathi seconded by RYANNE, ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into NPS pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (I) at 6:00 p.m. Passed.***

On a motion by Kathi, seconded by RYANNE, ***the Board voted to exit NPS and reconvened the public meeting at 6:20 p.m. Passed.***

On a motion by Kathi seconded by RYANNE, ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into NPS pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at 6:20 p.m. Passed.***

On a motion by Kathi, seconded by RYANNE, ***the Board voted to exit NPS and reconvened the public meeting at 6:27 p.m. Passed.***

MINUTES: On a motion by RYANNE, seconded by Kathi; Kathi ***the Board voted to approve. Passed.***

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

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

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- Work report/work plan (current work completed but not limited to):
 - Performed roadside mowing along Derry Hill Rd
 - Graded CBR, Hilliard and Ball Rd
 - Met with BETA engineering for site visit on CLR
 - Repaired culvert on Heino Rd that a beaver dammed up
 - Inspected culverts townwide
 - Monitored beaver dams
 - Loaded Springfield paving trucks for shouldering CPR
 - Inspected Polly Hill Rd
 - Performed maintenance and repairs on the roadside mower and loader
 - Corresponded with DES regarding a site visit on Thayer Brook Rd
- Polly Hill Rd letter: There was much discussion on the letter from the Ungeheuer's regarding maintenance issues on Polly Hill Rd and the narrowness of the space. The first item asked for in the letter was for a temporary closure. Kathi said the Selectmen can issue a temporary closure for downed power lines or an active fire emergency, and the authority needs to be exercised with caution. The next item was whether we could organize a site visit. The highway dept has been out looking at the site. There are a number of photos shared with the board attached to the letter and from highway. The next item was inquiring about road records and establishing minutes on road maintenance going forward. Jennifer said the last time material was added to the road was after the 2023 flood. Jennifer is still waiting for more information from DOT and the electric company on the ROW. Robin said the Selectmen have the power to divert the traffic because there is another road there. Kathi said unless the road is closed you can't have a detour. Kathi said we have a historically narrow ROW and the issue is how mindful we can be of that in the way we handle ourselves. In the 100+ years the buildings have been there, we have no evidence of structural damage to either of the buildings. We can make it part of our practice to take care when we are working in a small space. Jennifer said there is no justification at this point to shut down the road. Robin asked if we could schedule a meeting with the board and the lawyers on site to go over this. Kathi said it is not a

legal matter rather a highway maintenance matter, so we won't be engaging legal unless someone files something legal against the town. Highway will defer mowing and won't run the grader until they have all the documentation. Any new findings will be presented at a board meeting.

- Work will start on Derry Hill Friday.
- Kathi mentioned that the CIP needs to be done by the November PB meeting.
- Possible Crescent Lake grant funding: Gregg spoke on the possible grant money for some of the Watershed Management plan work on CL. The money wouldn't be awarded until 2027. This will be an ongoing conversation.
- Field review meeting on the 23rd: Jennifer said there is nothing to report. It was just a public relations meeting
- Gregg said we were approved for the maintenance at Bowers Brook. This is state money and had to be done by the end of August.
- Collin said there is a culvert on Sam Putnam Rd that needs to be changed and our equipment can't reach it. He said Fuzzy Brothers can install for \$4,500. He asked if this amount can be taken from the crushing line. Consensus from the board was this can be done if he will be within budget.

PLANNING BOARD: None

CONSERVATION COMMISSION: None

PUBLIC: None

ACTION ITEMS:

Debit card statement: On a motion by Ryanne, seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to approve and initial. Passed.***

Abatement for LUCT: M254 L11 N. Gutierrez. On a motion by Kathi, seconded by Ryanne; ***the Board voted to approve and sign. Passed.***

DISCUSSION:

Community power program: This program is available for Sullivan County rate payers both residential & commercial to join on an "opt in" basis. It offers consumers choices among various third-party suppliers of electricity. The County has partnered with the Community Power Coalition of NH which offers different plans to choose from.

On a motion by Ryanne and seconded by Kathi; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Passed.***

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Comeau
Town Administrator