

**TOWN OF CRAFTSBURY  
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING  
October 5, 2021  
7 PM at Craftsbury Town Hall**

~approved~

**Present:** Jim Jones, Bruce Urie, Susan Houston, Michelle Warren, Rudy Chase and Barbara Orlovsky.

**Jim called meeting to order at 7 PM.**

- **Action** - Adjustments/Changes to Agenda:

Michelle spotted that the Clerk Report needs to be in its own section.

- **Action** - Approve of Minutes:

Susan requested that the state payment and Craftsbury portion of the county payment for ARPA be acknowledged in the September minutes. **With that amendment, Bruce made a motion to approve the September 21, 2021 minutes, seconded and approved.**

Bruce will send the September 29, 2021 minutes to Michelle to publish.

- **Action** - Approve Trails Grant-Matt Krebs, Trails Committee:

Matt requested to be taken off the agenda.

- **Update** - NEK Community Broadband - Rudy Chase:

Rudy updated the Select Board on the progress of the NEK Community Broadband. He explained the reason for the survey, that it's important to make sure there is infrastructure to move ahead. The survey covers things such as if the town has place to store fiber, if a town building is available near a generator. Rudy said they hope to have a facebook page and/or pdf notices to keep people informed.

- **Discussion** - Little Hosmer Pond Graffiti:

Susan reported there was graffiti on the Little Hosmer dam last week. Jared Nunery went over and painted over the graffiti for now, so the Fish and Game didn't have to make a trip over to Craftsbury to fix it. The Select Board thanked Jared for helping out.

- **Action** - Fill Out NEK Broadband Member Community Survey:

Bruce filled out the survey with Jim and Susan (see attached).

- **Action** - Planning for Public Meeting to Discuss ARPA Dollars:

Susan said the Monday Town Fair meeting was about ARPA. Bruce said he was talking with others at the Town Fair, and thought Craftsbury should just get together to talk about

community ideas. He said we've been caught up that some one from VLCT has to be here. He explained further, Craftsbury should make it simple, just have an open meeting. Although it can't be used on roads, water or sewer, there is many other things ARPA funds can be used for. Susan loved the brainstorm idea. Susan also suggested the Select Board appoint a team to organize the meetings, contact people for meetings and become knowledgeable on the ARPA funds. The Select Board will consider this for the next meeting, and think about possible people to appoint. They will also need a facilitator.

- [Update - Trading John Deere Loader:](#)

Brue reported that only Steve, Jim and Bruce were at the September 29, 2021 meeting. Steve gave the pros and cons of both loaders. All three decided to trade for the Volvo loader. One of the pros for the Volvo loader is that it could be raised higher.

Jim explained if we didn't use the money the town received this year from the 2019 Halloween storm FEMA reimbursement, taxes would drop sharply one year and then back up again, along with 2 big ticket equipment items coming due for replacement, just trying to keep taxes even. Not necessary to bring to town meeting, because using FEMA money, not town money.

- [Update - Signed Common Use form for Textile Recycling Drop Off on October 16<sup>th</sup>:](#)

Bruce reported that last week he signed the Common Use form to allow the Textile Recycling Drop off scheduled October 16, 2021.

- [Update - Signage Big Hosmer:](#)

Bruce said the fire department needs to replace the no parking sign in front of the hydrant.

- [Update - Young Bridge Status:](#)

Bruce said he is still waiting to hear back from Donny.

- [Update - Speed on Mill Village Road:](#)

Steve has ordered a curve sign with a suggested 25 miles per hour. Steve is checking with district to get flashing speed sign as well.

- [Committee Reports:](#)

- Susan reported that Heidi Rich has resigned from the Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission will recommend to the Select Board their choices. For new members.
- Susan said the Energy committee was thankful for \$500 to help subsidize more window dressing. They are up to about 160 windows so far. Jim wanted to thank the committee on their work for the window dressing project.
- Susan said the Neighbor to Neighbor Committee meeting will be on Thursday. They are working on 7 members, representing different sectors.

- Susan mentioned the Nami Walk would be Saturday. She also commented about the excellent book discussion recently the Library. Michelle said the Mental Health Group may also be meeting at the Town Hall October 26<sup>th</sup>, at 6 PM.

- Clerk Report:

Michelle said tax money still coming in. She will be planting yellow tulips at the Town Hall on Friday.

- Road Foreman's Report:

Bruce reported that the paving was finished as of today, only one complaint.

Bruce said the Margo would like a comparison for the sand, same as the town did for the gravel. Bruce said he will work on that.

Barbara said to thank Steve and the Town crew for all the work they have done and asked for the Select Board to give Steve a letter, a small request on Coburn Hill Road.

- Other Business & Walk-ins that have business to come before the Select Board:

- Town Fair -

After watching Equity sessions on the Town Fair, Susan was reinspired to get a working group together. She explained many town are struggling with this. An education piece was suggested. Maybe need to look at things through a different lens, brainstorm with other communities like Hardwick and Craftsbury, or use ARPA funds for equity.

- The Select Board filled out the Healthy Lamoille Valley - Municipal Planning, Substance Policy and Impact Informational Survey – online.

- Bruce said the new gas furnace should be in by Halloween. Keith will be starting on the Town Hall Monday. Oil furnace is fixed for now. Lift will be here on Monday as well. Bruce will let neighbors know about the work being done.

- The Select Board talked about getting the window above the Town Clerk's office repaired.

- Decide Next Meeting Date & Adjourn:

October 19 Craftsbury Community Care hearing is 6:30 PM at CraftsburyTown Hall.

Regular Select Board Meeting is Tuesday, October 26, 2021, 7 PM at Craftsbury Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned 9 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Warren, Select Board Clerk