

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

Attending: Bruce Urie, Jim Jones, Susan Houston, Michelle Warren, Kris Coville,
Chris Rabe, Kathy Rabe, Christina Goodwin, Lori Collins-Hall, Chris Burgher,
Gabriel Roberts, Joey Lamare and Penelope Doherty

SELECT BOARD AGENDA:

Jim called meeting to order at 7 PM.

- **Action** – Adjustments/Changes to Agenda
Susan added the estimate for front oval window for discussion. Also, Kris Coville is here for N2N.
- **Action** - Approve of Minutes
Susan made a motion to approve the November 16, 2021 minutes as printed. Jim seconded, all aye, motion passed.
- Sterling updates and meet the new president
Susan welcomed Sterling College's new interim president Lori Collins-Hall and her wife Chris Burgher, and VP for Advancements/Board Trustees secretary Christina Goodwin.

Christina gave an update on building projects at Sterling College. They have completed renovations to Simpson Hall, including the science lab with \$100,000 of lab equipment. They are finishing the renovations for the Fiber Arts space. For the newest project for \$1.2 million including the community wellness center and the post office and possibly for the food shelf, the donor has lifted the matching limitation. The grant includes the post office building, paradise hall and the carriage house plus a small storage facility. This will need to go through act 250 and historic preservation. They will be stay in line with aesthetics on the common. There also is a parallel \$200,000 outdoor recreation grant. Susan added she hopes the Saplings can also be part of this community space. Jim said it sounds good.

Lori thanked the Select Board for inviting her to their Board Meeting. On November 1st, she stepped into the interim president role, but has been in the community since August. Both She and Chris grew up in upstate NY, small farming communities.

Christina also gave the Board copies of a summary booklet that she helped put together about Sterling.

- Action - ARPA update and Planning for Public Meeting
Susan had sent out the invitation to people for the ARPA committee, plans to convene in January when she hears back from people. Annie Mclane contacted her and wants to come to meeting to help chart our course. After discussion, Susan said she would put out on FPF this week, asking for people interested to be on the committee. Sue read what she had sent out for the invitation.
- Update - Young Bridge Status:
Bruce said no update, to take off the agenda for now.
- Action - Festival of Lights December 11 sponsored by Recreation Committee
Susan is looking for ideas, for people to participate in the Festival of Lights parade.
- Discussion-Town wide mask policy
Kathy Rabe was concerned if we had a town wide mask policy, can make community divisive. She mentioned Hyde Park had voted it down. Bruce was concerned if there was a mandate, who would enforce it. Gabriel and Chris agreed. **After discussion, the Bruce made motion to require mask only in the Town Hall, including the Town Office, until future notice. Susan seconded, all aye, motion moved.** Michelle will make a sign.
- Discussion -Budget Preparation:
Steve M. and Yvette will be at the budget meeting Tuesday, December 14th at 10 AM. Michelle left then a copy of expenditures so far against the budget, although just a quick draft.
- Committee Reports:
Susan reported that Kevin from the Energy Committee found water in the basement, mentioned the insulation. Susan gave an update on the window program, taking off with 16 communities in Vermont, 21 in Maine. Made 6000 window frames this year, has a goal of 9000 next year.

Susan mentioned the Energy Committee is looking for location on another array. Michelle said Craig Taylor had been in the Town Office, reviewing the electric bills.

Planning Commission meeting Thursday Susan reported. Susan said they would be talking to Alison Low about the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Bruce wanted the town crew involved with the plan, Steve M. can help answer many of the questions. Since Craftsbury has received grant funds for someone to help write the plan, he suggested Craftsbury try that. Bruce will contact Bruce Melendy, and Harry from the State has offered to help. Penelope believed

that she has been excluded from participation in the Hazard Mitigation communication, even though chosen to be in the group.

Kris, chair of N2N, said they have decided on 7 members for their committee, 4 for a quorum. Kris Coville - food pantry, Kim Larose - Mental Health group, Tim Fritz- town officer, Kit Basom - Church/School/Business rep, Penelope Doherty - Emergency Rep, Leslie Taylor- committee member with mutual aid experience. Susan Houston will remain the liaison. One more community position is open. **Bruce made a motion to appoint the names above for the N2N Committee, Susan seconded, all aye, motion passed.**

- Clerk Report:

Michelle noted there was some last minute changes in current use, affecting some tax bills. New tax bills have been sent out.

Bruce said that Yvette noted quite a bit of the delinquent taxes have been turned in.

Susan asked for a timeline of Yvette retiring. Bruce said the Select Board would be having that discussion with Yvette at next Tuesday's meeting.

- Road Foreman's Report:

Bruce said that Kent's truck is back on the road, the computer chip has been fixed. The Town Crew has been out several times plowing and sanding.

Bruce said that the Town Crew will help move the wood down for the Energy Committee.

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

The town received a quote from Jeff Fellingner for repairing the oval window at the Town Hall. Before making a final decision, they wanted to get at least one more quote for comparison.

- Decide Next Meeting Date & Adjourn:

Budget meeting is scheduled 10 AM on Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2021. Next regular meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021 at 7 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Warren