

**TOWN OF CRAFTSBURY
SELECT BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 17, 2022
7 PM at Craftsbury Town Hall**

Present: Jim Jones, Bruce Uri, Susan Houston | Michelle Warren, Penelope Doherty, Brian Machesney

SELECT BOARD AGENDA

Jim Jones called the meeting to order at 7pm.

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

Hazard Mitigation Plan Working Group to present report.

● **Action** -Approve Minutes of April 26, 2022 Special Meeting

Bruce Uri motioned to accept the minutes of May 3 as submitted. Susan Houston seconded; all aye. Motion passed.

● **Discussion** – Hazard Mitigation Plan Working Group

Penelope Doherty and Brian Machesney with the Hazard Mitigation Plan Working Group provided advance information packets containing results of Hazard Mitigation Plan Working Group efforts to date: survey results; items for public meeting scheduled next week on Tuesday; process descriptions; hazard descriptions; state listing of existing hazards; scoring results and explanations; proposed mitigation strategies. The Select Board should review the materials, especially proposed mitigation strategies, and ask whatever questions they may have prior to the Tuesday, May 27, public meeting.

The public meeting will be available online and be publicized on website. Items for discussion include next steps and a “parking lot list” containing other areas of discussion that may be related but not applicable to the hazard mitigation plan, e.g., terrorists threats, which are considered man-made hazards and no longer part of the state-level hazards. The HMP contains only natural hazards; terroristic threats belong in the emergency response plan, which is different than, but a partner to, hazard response. The Craftsbury HMP list mirrors the FEMA and state of Vermont lists of hazards. After the HMP is approved, the HMP Working Group recommended an annual review along with LEMP (Local Emergency Management Plan) to streamline and improve review efficiency. Would help eliminate excessive work. Working Group had good broad community and town representation: from planning, road crew and energy committee to Neighbor-to-Neighbor members.

● **Discussion** – Decide Bulky Day Items for Disposal

Bulky Day on Saturday, June 18, 2022 | 9 am to noon | Two dumpsters | For Craftsbury residents only

- Tires will be accepted – up to four; \$5 for each additional.
- Other acceptable items: couches, mattresses, household furniture; large plastic items, i.e., toys, chairs.
- Not acceptable: clothing, bedding, household hazardous wastes, untreated woods, electronics, batteries.
- To be considered: appliances? construction and building materials (limit to one truckload?), sheetrock? anything containing freon?

How to measure use: vehicle loads, tonnage, number of people? Signage will be made; will be publicized on social media and FPF. Volunteers needed: for counting, at transfer station, traffic direction assistance during busy times. Penelope will lead recruitment. Further details to be determined.

- Discussion – Decide on Quarterly Craftsbury Volunteer Details, Gift, Certificate

How to acknowledge the work of the many volunteers who make significant contributions to the town. Timing: done quarterly or monthly? Nothing monetary; a certificate? Post certificate on Town Hall bulletin board? Include in annual report? Mention to media outlet? Topic to be added to future Select Board meeting agenda for further discussion and action; Town Clerk Michelle Warren to bring ideas and proposed certificate designs.

- Discussion – ARPA Funds

What amount should Select Board should set-aside as a reserve? Recommendation to allocate monies for the school generator – Select Board member attended the school board meeting, which included talks about the town using ARPA funds to purchase the generator; school would cover maintenance costs. Fire fighter request should be part of other proposals presented before ARPA; public should have a say in how much to earmark. Is a check sent to each person in lieu of providing funding for public safety the fairest, wisest use of ARPA dollars?

- Discussion – Block Party/Retirement Party

Various talks with those involved with the Block Party planning resulted in confusion about whether it will happen.

Lots of work to prepare, timing, number of attendees (many from out of town), lack of volunteers, bookings for music and other entertainment, tables/chairs set-up. Town Neighbor Fund typically contributed \$1500; if event does not happen, return funds to the town coffers. The requirement of state police presence at last event cast a pall over it. Will decide on retirement party based on the final disposition of the Block Party.

- Committee Reports

Announcement made regarding:

Craftsbury Academy Woodlot: celebration of 200-year birthday party of canal in September in the woods; canal is true archaeological gem. Repair to board walk planned for this year. The woodlot kiosk was defaced sometime last week; police reported this has happened at other state parks; first time for the Craftsbury Academy Woodlot. Will require substantial repairs. Contains the trail map and other information.

Susan presented reports for the following:

Conservation Commission: June 4 Bio Blitz cancelled. A big tree identification and competition may happen instead. Its recently completed guideline for new conservation committee members could be a template to be used for other town committees. Conservation Committee continue to update the natural heritage section of the town plan. Town plan update is due in Fall 2023; will include maps.

Municipal Forest Committee: Jim announced the upcoming Walk Around the Common – May 26, 6:30 pm. History of the trees.

Energy Committee: measured 18 of the 22 households that signed up for window inserts equating to 172 inserts (68 of those are subsidized) within those 22 households. Almost completed. Lots of work. Greensboro is picking up Hardwick houses; continue to post energy tips on FPF.

Planning Commission: walk all morning Wednesday, May 18, starting at 8:30 with Dubois and King consultants for the Village Master Plan work. Anyone can join.

- Clerk Report

- **Action – Use of the Common:** Craftsbury Chamber Players submitted request to use The Common on July 9 (5 pm set up; 6 to 8 pm for event). Estimated 500 attendance. **Bruce motioned to accept the form and approve the use of The Common as requested. Susan seconded; all ayed. Motion passed.**
- Budget vs Actual: April through December data provided for an update of YTD spending.
- Sign Oaths of Office: various signatures completed to bring in alignment with legal requirements for various town offices / commissions / committees.

- VMERS Rate Change: notification of change in Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System effective at start of state fiscal year (July).
- New Game Warden: announcement of the new game warden Katie Palmer.
- Official Town Dropbox – haven't determined exact location... outdoors; Municipay... official drop box... folks can drop taxes in box... should be available next week...for tax drops...

● **Road Foreman Report**

No report. Two topics discussed:

The 2022 Volvo L70H loader purchased for the Craftsbury Town Highway Department arrived; is parked in department garage.

Action – Road Crew Seasonal Work Schedule: Road crew work schedule changed to four days/10 hours for seasonal work: April to September. **Bruce motioned to allow the road crew to experiment with four days/10-hour work week: Monday – Thursday. Susan seconded; all ayed. Motion passed.**

● **Other Business & Walk-ins**

Review of bills; need for town to have its own credit card.

Little League group wondered about doing one night game to provide children the experience of doing a night game; would need to know age of children involved, obtain neighborhood input.

State notified Craftsbury of extra dollars it received from the October flood federal dollars; state will recoup some and make an adjustment: somewhere between \$8K-\$10K; FEMA fund account.

The Young Bridge requires repairs; Green Team might be available for work; able to use its excavator. Will obtain review/repair specs from road crew. Discourage vehicle traffic. Bruce to coordinate discussion meeting.

Landlock Property access put in deeds; Vermont law requires that if it doesn't have an access, the Select Board must determine how to get access to a landlocked property. Already been challenged in court; can it be split among contiguous landowners? Can Select Board sell to them?

● **Decide Next Meeting Date & Adjourn**

Next meeting will be 7 pm Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at Craftsbury Town Hall. Meeting adjourned at 9:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Victoria Hudson
Select Board Clerk