

**TOWN OF CRAFTSBURY**  
**REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, June 7, 2022**  
**7 PM at Craftsbury Town Hall**

**Present:** Jim Jones, Bruce Urie, Susan Houston | Michelle Warren, Penelope Doherty,  
James Sawyer, Alan Turnbull

**SELECT BOARD AGENDA**

- **Action** – Call Meeting to Order

Jim Jones called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

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

No additions.

- **Action** - Approve Minutes of May 17, 2022 Meeting

**Bruce Urie motioned to approve the meeting minutes of May 17 and May 24, 2022; Susan seconded. All aye. Motion passed.**

- **Administrative Action** – Grant in Aid Form, Finalize

Approved, signed the *Letter of Intent to Participate in the SFY23 Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Program* SFY23 Eligible for \$25K with match of \$6,250 for \$32,250; road, bridge projects with “best management practices (BMPs) to bring connected road segments into full compliance with municipal roads general permit (MRGP) standards.”

**Voice Approval.**

- **Action** – Accept Emily Thompson Dog Warden Resignation

Bruce read Emily Thompson resignation letter; she will remain in position until someone else is appointed.

- Irasburg Animal Control and Humane Officer Kelly Carpenter has expressed interested in position.
- Town guidelines show no Craftsbury residency requirements for the position, which is appointed.

Select Board expressed gratitude for Emily’s nearly five years of service as warden. “She’s done excellent work.”

**Bruce motioned to accept with regret her resignation and send a note of thanks; Susan seconded. All aye.**

**Motion passed.**

- **Action** – Appoint Dog Warden Position

Bruce read letter of interest from Kelly Carpenter regarding the dog warden position. Currently serves in Albany and Irasburg as animal control, humane officer. Has assisted Emily; background includes working with animal shelters, AKC dog training, livestock. Bruce will follow up with Kelly.

**Susan motioned to accept Kelly Carpenter’s interest in the position; Bruce seconded. All aye. Motion passed.**

- **Action** – Request the Town of Craftsbury Support a Petition to Manage Wake Boats and Wake Sports on Vermont Lakes

Eligo Lake Association President James "Jim" Sawyer, representing a group formed about a year ago, shared lakefront property owners’ concerns regarding wave sizes, hazards relative to wakeboard use on various lake sizes. Group seeks support of a letter to the Agency of Natural Resources Department of Environmental Conservation requesting a review and amendment of public water use rules; circulating among towns to obtain as much support as possible from towns, lake associations, citizens throughout Vermont. Thetford, Elmore, Greensboro,

Responsible Wakes for Vermont Lakes among supporters. Group seeks a 1,000-ft shoreline protection zone; a 20-ft minimum depth protection zone; allowing wake sports only on lakes w/a minimum 60 contiguous acreage that satisfy requirements.

**Discussion** – the wake boat design (ballast system) enables it to plow through water creating ocean-rivalling waves/wakes; used for wakesurfing, wakeboarding. To make a wave that's big enough to surf without having to pump the whole time requires displacement; ballast systems provide that. Top-of-the-line boats have automated systems with subfloor tanks throughout the boat. Most boats' ballast systems use pumps to fill and drain; newer models feature a "rapid-fill" when boats travel a set speed; for larger boats it means adding more than 3,000 pounds of subfloor ballast in less than 90 seconds.

- Ballast systems cannot fully drain; so, potential of dumping water from one lake into another → foreign species distribution / spread among lakes, ponds.
- No way to disinfect ballast interiors.
- Wake boats dredge up significant sediment containing phosphates from water run-off.
- Biologists report show they destroy loom nests; the wash leads to shoreline erosion.

Just some of the issues. Impacts to existing statutes, rules, etc.: Shoreline Protection Act; Invasive Species Act; Dept. of Environmental Protection. Two proposed letters of support for Select Board to use on town letterhead read; public meetings on the topic to start at end of June.

**Next Steps** – Town Clerk Michelle Warren and Jim will draft specially worded support letter leaving it up to ANR to determine how best to amend public water rules, water limits, zones; Select Board should not specify extent of changes; instead, it requests the ANR/Dept of Environmental Conservation use its departmental expertise to amend, accordingly, all Vermont water / public use laws. Select Board to review and vote / act on at draft letter at its next regular meeting.

● **Discussion** – ARPA Committee Update – Alan Turnbull

Sitting in for Lisa Erickson and appearing for ARPA Committee; group statement requesting clarification/confirmation of the Select Board initial charge/purpose/goal of committee:

Status reports provided: two ways to proceed.

Committee cannot agree on process until it gets clear on this fact; asking for Select Board clarification:

- One way – Select Board charged the Committee with the creation/management of funds-distribution program: the committee solicits, reviews community/group proposals created based upon criteria approved by the Select Board; after committee review, the list of proposed recipients along with a full list that includes explanations for each determination (to grant/not to grant) to the Select Board.
- Second way – Select Board charged the Committee with planning the creation/management funds distribution but Select Board starting it by being part of the proposal solicitation review public meetings, process. In other words, there'd be no pre-screening of any requests: no independent reviews before presentation before the Select Board.

**Discussion** – Susan said the initial criteria for moving forward with the committee was to have the ARPA Working Group filter the proposals presented to the Select Board; she wants it revised to reflect the Committee and Select Board together hear all proposals. This prevents Select Board from getting second-hand through a third-party rather than first-hand information from the source; does not think there will be a high number of proposals. She suggested proceeding the second way.

Group is finalizing a list of criteria to be used for assessing/rating proposals; Select Board decision on how to proceed would facilitate its completion. Public input is important. ARPA Committee members have become SMEs (Subject Matter Experts) on the ARPA guidelines, processes, rules and deadlines. The Select Board will leave it up

to them to make funding award recommendations with a full list of proposals received and explanations for those not selected for funding. Select Board also requests the ARPA Committee weigh in on setting aside funding for the school generator. Alan will convey the Select Board decision to ARPA Committee members and provide committee response to the generator set-aside.

- **Discussion – Decide on Volunteer Gift Certificate**

Proposed design for Certificate of Volunteer Appreciation reviewed; signed. To be mailed to recipient with a letter of thanks.

- Volunteer recognized for first-ever distribution of town certificate: Carole Hodgdon
- The owner of the Craftsbury Garage efforts in a community drop-off bottle redemption campaign has generated many dollars provided to the Lamoille Area Cancer Network.

- **Discussion – Gravel Pit | Meeting with Margot Mellet: Expansion, Crusher Estimate Schedule, Market Value**

Bruce reported ongoing discussions regarding potential expansion of the gravel pit. Landowners in area want to know expansion plans, which won't be known until end of summer. There's sufficient quantity to cover this year's materials. Bruce to keep members updated on meeting with Margot Mellet.

- **Discussion – Block Party/Retirement Party**

July 3<sup>rd</sup> Block Party is on; early end time. No fireworks. Stage with band. Recognition for Effie to be held same time at Town Hall with cake and beverage; signage. Seating for Effie. Bruce to order cake; check with local vendors, Posters. Balloons.

- **Discussion – Bulky Day – Finalizing**

Penelope Doherty reviewed final details including volunteer lists and questions about disposal of a 16-ft kayak

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

Town clerk to create appropriate road direction signage; volunteers show up at 8:30.

- **Discussion – Chairs in Basement**

Susan to follow up with crew on its plans.

- **Weight Permits**

Consolidated Communications and Cardinal – signed

- **Committee Reports**

- *Conservation Commission*: planning more willow trees for invasive species control – Great Hosmer Pond
- *Planning Commission*: met with Dubois & King, Inc. representatives for several hours in village; feedback from the group is pending receipt

- **Clerk Report**

- P&L for May – provided for YTD and comparison; account details; town credit card obtained
- Delinquent Dog List – updated list provided; 10 residents
- Schedule Date to Set the Tax Rate – do on June 28 at 11 am
- Block Party Contribution - \$1,000 (in 2017, 2018, 2019); provide \$1500 out of Good Neighbor Fund
- Review Bills (including work done by Jason Santamore for windows)
- Raid Lamoille Bicycle Ride – July 16 (advisory and information with certificate of insurance); passed through Craftsbury annually; about 300 riders (8 to 8:30 am)
- Ballot Box – set up outside: must be installed by June 27 (road crew will do); Bruce will discuss with them
- Green Up Day Update – \$101 worth of trash; brought to Casella; 860 pounds of tires

- **Road Foreman Report**

An ongoing prioritization of regional bridge plan projects in the area of the Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) has a high possibility of including Craftsbury: the Village Bridge would be selected as one of its projects. Should Craftsbury be selected to be part of this regional program:

- ✓ state will design and install the bridge | \$500K - \$600K (with inflation close to \$1M). State covers 95% of costs and Craftsbury pays 5%.
- ✓ state will present proposed designs and hold public hearings

State will assume project management; road detours more a temporary bridge would be most likely.

- **Other Business & Walk-ins** (having business to come before the Select Board)

- Letter for Steve Marckres, road foremen; requires signature
- Letter – Barbara Orlousky: thank you letter – need for road maintenance
- Equity & Substance Prevention – June 9 (Healthy Lamoille Valley June Coalition) via Zoom
- Renewal Notice of Environmental Conservation Permit -
- Village Improvement Society Newsletter – concerts

- **Executive Session – Decide Insurance Change for Employee**

Select Board went into Executive Session.

- **Decide Next Meeting Date & Adjourn**

Next meeting will be 7 pm Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at Craftsbury Town Hall. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Victoria Hudson  
Select Board Clerk