

**TOWN OF CRAFTSBURY
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 5, 2022
Craftsbury Town Hall**

SELECT BOARD AGENDA – 7PM at Town Hall

- **Action** – Adjustments / Changes to Agenda
No adjustments to the agenda.
- **Action** – Approve Minutes of March 22, 2022, and Feb. 26, 2022, for the Informational Public Hearing
Jim Jones motioned to approve the minutes as printed for the March 22, 2022 meeting and the Feb. 26, 2022 Informational Public Hearing; Susan Houston seconded, all aye; motion passed.
- **Action** – Approve Use of the Common: Soccer & BBQ June 11 and Farmers Market
Bruce Urie motioned to approve use by the Soccer & BBQ on June 11 (3 to 6 pm); Susie seconded, all aye; motion passed. Jim motioned to approve use by the Craftsbury Farmers Market on Saturdays (8:30am to 2 pm) from May 21 to October 8, 2022.; Susie seconded, all aye; motion passed.
- **Action** - Approve Two COC Summer Running Events 2022
Susan Dunklee notified the Select Board about two running events: a half marathon and Genny Tenny. Events are fundraisers benefitting the Center for an Agricultural Economy and the Albany Community Trust. Map of events provided. Signage and volunteers will help with auto traffic; both events have been done the same way in prior years.
August 20 – Half Marathon (from the COC to Highland Lodge); roads affected: Town Highway 19, King Farm Road, Young Road, Ketchum Hill, East Craftsbury Road to Whetstone Road
September 11 – Genny Tenny (10-mile run from Craftsbury Genny to Albany Genny)
Roads affected: the Village, Creek Road, Page Pond Road, Pitkin Road
Bruce motioned to approve the two 2022 COC running events for August and September; Jim seconded, all aye; motion passed.
- **Action** - Create Booster Club, Town Checking Account
Tom Silva and Laurie Silva, part of a local athletics committee, discussed efforts to establish a town Booster Club to support all athletics programs/groups in Craftsbury: pick-up men’s soccer, the academy, girls basketball, etc. Its efforts would include:
 - fundraising
 - providing simple refreshments at all home games

- holding/sponsoring pep rallies and dinners to recognize student athletes and senior graduates for their honors, league awards, championships, etc.
- maintaining the fields on the Commons
- supporting the local athletic program and athletic director

Want to establish Booster Club under town auspices rather than the schools – allows broader service opportunities. **Bruce motioned to allow group to proceed with formation of the Booster Club and instruct the Town Clerk (Michelle Warren) to setup a township checking account; Jim seconded, all aye; motion passed.**

- **Action** – Review and Approve Letter of Intent for the Micro-Grid Project
Energy Committee Member Vince O’Connell provided an update on the Micro-Grid project, which included:
 - a review of the numbers by an energy analyst for Vermont municipal utilities
 - questions about the MOU with Hardwick
 - discussion about the USDA grant application and process/possibility
 - details about cash potentials to Craftsbury/the ROI
 - public turnout and input
 - description of the project partners/relationships
 - utility partner would be Hardwick Electric
 - consulting partner is Clean Energy Group (Todd Olinsky-Paul, senior project director at Clean Energy States Alliance and Clean Energy Group, would/could give a detailed presentation)

Discussion ensued about financing, involvement and input required from landowners/town fire and other departments, the next steps - letter of interest, etc. - advisory groups, public meetings, public votes, ballots, audits, etc. Craftsbury Town Clerk Michelle Warren agreed to put the Micro-Grid project plan on the town website.

Craftsbury School Board Vice Chair Jared Nunery thanked Mr. O’Connell for his and the committee efforts and work; said it was an interesting project and opportunity for the town. Further public input and involvement is needed.

The Letter of Interest states that the Craftsbury Select Board "endorses and supports the USDA Rural Energy Partnership (REPP) Letter of Interest" submitted by the Craftsbury Energy Committee and that it indicates "its desire to enter into a collaborative agreement with other partners to form and become the lead partner of the Craftsbury Rural Community Energy Partnership, duly formed for the purpose of submitting the REPP grant application..." **Susie motioned to approve the language of the LOI as what the Select Board would want; Bruce seconded, all aye; motion passed.**

- **Discussion** - Dog Park, Jen Keppel
Group working toward establishing a Craftsbury dog park provided an update on efforts begun a little more than a year ago; a visit to Morrisville dog park was done; suggestions, support, guidance from throughout Vermont being received; want to start conversation and obtain ideas about where to put the dog park. Ms. Keppel shared a draft budget, agreed to continue to gauge interest and added that the group would continue to make contacts related to proposed possible sites.

- **Action** – Craftsbury Hazard Mitigation Plan | Approve Workgroup’s Proposal for Gaining Additional Public Input.

Penelope Doherty reported on progress about the town HMPN update and distributed preliminary hazard rankings, a proposed outreach plan along with a draft community survey. Tonight's report/presentation suffices as one of two required public meetings. Final hazard management plan due to state of Vermont in June 2022. Requested the second public meeting be held on May 24. **Bruce motioned that the Select Board propose a public meeting for 7 pm on the 24th of May; Susie seconded, (caveat being that, if for any reason, the date must be changed from the 24th, there will be sufficient time to alert the public); all ayed; motion passed.**

Brian Machenney said the team composition reflected a thoughtful and respectful group who meshed well together and congratulated those responsible for organizing them. The outreach plan requires approval. **Bruce motioned for approval of the outreach plan, including expenditures associated with Every Door Direct mailing to notify citizens of input options; Susie seconded, all ayed; motion passed.**

- **Discussion** – Update on ARPA Group, Susan Houston | Update included a draft outline of topics to be discussed before the Select Board when the ARPA Group next appears with ideas in the Fall. Still seeking public input and defining submission and input logistics. April 30 is deadline for any submission.
- **Discussion** – Decide if VCDP SUBGRANT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES / PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT requires Town lawyer review, Susan Houston | March 31 deadline extended six weeks from that date; Sarah Davies, an attorney hired by the Town, is reviewing documents; discussions and policy reviews to continue.
- **Action**- Appoint Fence Viewer
Ed Williams declined fence viewing position. **Bruce motioned to appoint Rob Strong into position; Susie seconded, all ayed; motion passed.**
- Weight Permits
Permits were signed for Amerigas; Beacon Sales; Casella; Fred Vance; Fred’s Energy; Vaillancourt Transport, LLC

- Committee Reports
 - Planning Commission – nothing to report
 - Energy Committee – seeking funds for window dresser and firework projects
 - Mental Health – did not meet
 - War Memorial Committee -- still pending on replacement position
- Clerk Report

Discussion – Review of invoices for payment; P & L presented for March with comparison from YTD

Action- Approve \$150,000 Loan to Pay Bills
Bruce motioned to borrow \$150K from Preservation Account LOC; Susie seconded, all aye; motion passed.
- Road Foreman Report

Road foreman absent; no report given.
- Other Business & Walk-ins that have business to come before the Select Board

No other business or walk-ins.
- Decide Next Meeting Date & Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM. Next Meeting set for 7 PM on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at the Craftsbury Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Victoria Hudson
Select Board Clerk



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March 22, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

The Craftsbury Selectboard endorses and supports the USDA Rural Energy Partnership(REPP) Letter of Interest(LOI) submission by the Craftsbury Energy Committee, an appointed Town Committee, on behalf of the Town of Craftsbury. Further, the Town of Craftsbury hereby indicates its desire to enter into a collaborative agreement with other partners to form and become the lead partner of the Craftsbury Rural Community Energy Partnership, duly formed for the purpose of submitting the REPP grant application in which it will be the lead applicant.

Sincerely,