

## Craftsbury Energy Committee Minutes: April 21, 2022

Attending: Kevin Gregoire, Mabel Houghton, Jen Forbes, Vince O'Connell, Ned Houston, Catherine Cusack

### 1. Micro Grid update

- Hardwick Electric did not support the initiative at their meeting Monday, 4/18, citing needing more info and reassurances of any possible contract, and citing that they do not support Net Metering in the Utility area. Plus, VPPSA is currently looking into a battery storage for peak shaving at "Ideal" locations. Passage by the Craftsbury Select Board was also questionable if HED had passed the proposal
- A huge thanks to Vince for putting in hundreds of hours on this project. We learned a lot that we can possibly apply the next time a grant offering comes around.
- Vince and Ned are collaborating with the Craftsbury Library to look into a small Microgrid for the Library with roof-mount solar.

### 1. Town Hall Basement Weatherization

- Craig finished insulating the hot water pipes. He also first sealed the joints of the hot air ducts leading to the main hall upstairs with a mastic and then insulated them with a 3" duct wrap.
- Buildings with unsealed heating ducts have been shown to lose as much as 20% of the forced air output through seams and joints so the combination of sealing and insulation should make some difference in heating the main hall.
- Thanks go to Bill Chidsey for sourcing the insulation at wholesale price which was a significant savings for the Town.
- The Select Board is going forward with Spray Foaming the rock foundation walls in the Town Hall basement, along with weatherizing the door on the east end. In order to prep for this they will hire someone to fill in the 1 ½' x 2 ½' basement windows on the south side with brick and mortar.
- There also needs to be some extraction of sheet rock and fiberglass insulation on the North wall, along with boarding up the 3 large windows to prep them for spray foaming from the inside. We will discuss at our May meeting whether we want to volunteer to do this prep work.
- Also, discussion is still happening on how to weatherize the Town Clerk's Office foundation.
- Kevin will contact the lowest bid Spray Foam installer to schedule the spray foaming. It could be as much as 8 months out because of the supply shortage.

### 2. Firewood Project

- On Wed., 4/20, six Sterling College students, Craig, Ned, Kevin, and Pete Reel processed half of the 10 - 11 cords of log-length wood available.
- We are scheduling a Firewood Processing Bee on Saturday, 4/30/22 to finish processing and delivering the firewood. Kevin will organize the event and the delivery of the firewood.
- Susie Houston is applying for a grant to pay for the firewood delivery and chainsaw gas, etc. for the program

### 3. Window Insert Program:

- Workshop dates at the COC with WD Jigs: Monday, 10/24 - Wed. 11/2.
- 120 inserts committed so far. 175 is our goal.
- Window measuring to happen on 5/3, 5/5, and 5/6
- Jen will put a posting on FPF this weekend announcing that local Craftsbury residents have until 5/1 to sign up to receive inserts in 2022. After 5/1 we open it up to the waiting list of out-of-town folks which would probably get us up to our 175 insert goal for 2022.
- Susie Houston is applying for another 2022 grant for the free inserts that we are offering.

- Kevin and Craig are looking into a possible Blower Door Test of a local home with Inserts to determine the amount of air sealing that Window Inserts offer.

6. Efficiency Vt's Better Buildings By Design annual in-person conference, April 27 and 28

The next Craftsbury Energy Committee meeting: Thursday, 5/19/22 - 7 pm.