Craftsbury Planning Commission

Agenda

1. Approval of the July 9, 2020 meeting minutes

2. Review and take action on the proposed Craftsbury Common Community Water System Ordinance (see information below)

3. Introduction to the VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program (see information below) "The intent of the VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program is to improve access and safety for bicyclists and/or pedestrians through the planning, design and construction of infrastructure projects"

4. Webinar: Housing Committees as a Tool to Meet Local Housing Needs, Friday, August 21 – 12:30 to 2:00 (see additional information below)

5. Next PC meeting: Thursday, Sept. 10. Question: Is the second Thursday of the month the best option for the meeting time?

6. Other business

Additional Information

<u>2. Craftsbury Common Community Water System Ordinance</u> (from an email from Tim Patterson)

The key action item that the prudential committee needs is for the planning commission to recommend that the ordinance be approved by the Selectboard. Almost all of the ordinance could be limited to committee bylaws for residents served by the water system, with the exception of the bit that gives the prudential committee the power to review any new well that's proposed for our service area and, if necessary, deny permission for a new well to be drilled if it would compromise our water supply. For this measure, I believe we need Selectboard approval, and the Selectboard asked the Planning Commission to review and recommend further action.

Here's the explanation that I sent to the Planning Commission back in March: Many thanks for devoting valuable time to the proposed water system ordinance. I've served on the Prudential Commission that oversees the Common's water system for about 10 years, and it's become clear that we need a set of policies to govern our operations, so that we have something to go on when questions come up rather than just making decisions on the fly. The proposed ordinance is adapted from the Town of Hardwick's ordinance, and produced with help from the Vermont Rural Water Association.

Most of the ordinance deals with internal operations and procedures, and could simply be a policy manual for the Prudential Commission rather than an ordinance. The piece that would require formal town approval is a provision that requires folks to get permission from the Prudential Commission before drilling any new well within the water system area, which covers

most of the Common. I don't foresee the Prudential Commission denying permission for new wells except in extraordinary circumstances, but it's best practice to have that authority in place in case it's necessary to protect our ability to reliably provide potable water in the future.

Here's the proposed ordinance text in question:

4. Connection to Community Water System

a. Within the Water Service Area boundaries no new drilled wells, dug wells or springs shall be permitted as a potable water supply without the written permission of the Craftsbury Prudential Committee.

3. The 2020 VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program is now open. Applications are due by Wednesday, September 30 at 1 PM.

Hi designated village centers,

Please find VTrans funding announcement for the bike/ped grant program attached and <u>online</u>. The intent of the VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program is to improve access and safety for bicyclists and/or pedestrians through the planning, design and construction of infrastructure projects. The Bike/Ped Program provides funding for either a scoping (planning) study or a design/construction project for the following facilities:

- Bicycle lanes (on-road facility delineated with pavement markings and signs)
- Shoulders (generally a minimum of 3-feet wide to accommodate bicyclists)
- Sidewalks
- Pedestrian crossing improvements, including median pedestrian refuge islands
- Pedestrian signals
- Improvements that address requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Shared-use paths (designed for use by both bicyclists and pedestrians)

4. Webinar: Housing Committees as a Tool to Meet Local Housing Needs

A local housing committee can be an effective tool for addressing housing needs and promoting equal housing opportunity in towns and cities of all sizes. These committees can take the form of a municipally-supported committee, subcommittee of the planning commission, resident advocacy group, housing discussion meet-up, or any other group that seeks to support or change the quality, quantity, affordability, and/or inclusiveness of housing in a community.

This interactive webinar provides an overview of the role and function of Housing Committees with examples from municipalities around the state. We will discuss how a local Housing Committee can help your community address housing needs and challenges, engage residents, and help advance community planning priorities. **To register, go to** <u>https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1378088700575288587</u>.