TOWN OF CRAFTSBURY
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025
7PM | CRAFTSBURY TOWN HALL

Present: Alison Blaney, Jim Jones, Bruce Urie | TOWN CLERK Michelle Warren, ROAD FOREMAN Steve Marckres, Kris Coville, Penelope Doherty, ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER Abbie LeBeau

Meeting Agenda

Jim called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

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

  Animal control item.

- **Action – Approve Select Board Regular Meeting Minutes of February 5 and 19, 2025 and the Special Meeting Minutes of February 28.**

  Alison motioned to approve all three February meeting minutes as submitted; Bruce seconded. All ayed. Motion passed. (Vote certification: held over).

- **FEMA Update – Bruce Urie**

  Having a back-and-forth regarding Tow bridge. Engineer inspected: trying to determine whether to bid on design. Town Garage Bridge on difficult river location. Reviewed assessment and recommendations. Earliest project date: 2026 for construction. Cost allocation in excess of $750K ($1M bridge). Would be higher and wider to adjust for drainage area, etc. FEMA can go as high as $110K for design/service; rough estimate (without design) $750K. If FEMA pays, covers 90% of cost. Design completed by this summer; bid by winter.

- **Animal Control Officer Update – Abbie LeBeau**

  Only need to establish a way to house stray dogs: can care for cats but must determine kennel situation. Invoicing logistics. County officer: can handle dependent upon availability; only 3-5 kennels (and dependent upon size of animal). Will send notice to pet owner regarding problematic dog situation.

- **Neighbor-to-Neighbor – Kris Coville and Penelope Doherty**

  Add: five individuals – formal way: warrant. Have spoken with individuals; have gotten a strong group together including skill sets. Putting forth before the Board; added additional spots. Add Deborah McKinley and Maddox Wilson. Will total 11 members with additions. Alternative locations: Town Hall for smaller storage. Minimal supply bins (coordinated with Red Cross). Safety net locations (alternatives to opening the shelter).

- **Weight Permits**

  Signed Three: SD Ireland Concrete Construction Corp; RK Miles; VT Outdoor Services

- **Committees**

  Update Town Committee Members: review Committee members shown in Town Report.

Action | Approve additions to the Energy Committee: Jim motioned to add Seth Bond to the Energy Committee; Bruce seconded. All ayed. Motion passed.

Action | Bruce motioned to add the five recommended members to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Committee (Deb McKinley; Maddox Wilson; Nathalie Jonas; Jen Cornelius; Jamie Mulholland); Jim seconded the motion. All ayed. Motion passed.

- **Clerk Report**
  - Town Meeting Certificate – review of details
  - Consider Michelle / Geoff B. (a lawyer) work on drafts for possible appropriation request policy (samples) to present to Select Board. He can provide legal suggestions and input. Informal assistance offered to the Town.
- **Review Contractor Letter – Bruce**

  Postponed until next meeting.
- **Road Foreman Report – Steve Marckres**
  - Truck Discussion: distributed the quotes; Mac or Western Star preferred. Service / repair logistics. Provide info to Board; trade, service and specs.
  - Tractor Discussion: key and manual provided
  - Contractors List: need to complete list of contractors available and to send letter (need insurance coverage confirmation and rates).
- **Upcoming Projects to Keep on Agenda**
  - Schedule meeting with Kurtis
  - Unclaimed Parcels
  - Freedom & Unity Task Force - Becoming Committee-members/terms
  - Triggers for Opening the Emergency Shelter, Providing Assistance, Activating N2N
  - VT Route 14 - Slow Down Sign Request - Karen Lapoint
- **Other Business & Walk-ins That Have Business to Come Before the Select Board**

  None.
- **Public Comment**

  None.
- **Decide Next Meeting Date & Adjourn**

  Next meeting: April 1 at 7 pm at Town Hall. Alison motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm; Jim seconded. All ayed. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Hudson, Select Board Clerk