TOWN OF CRAFTSBURY
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2025
7PM | CRAFTSBURY TOWN HALL

Present: Alison Blaney, Jim Jones, Bruce Urie | [Town Clerk] Michelle Warren, Matt and Judy Mannix, [Highway & FD] Steve Perkin

Meeting Agenda

Jim called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

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

  Liquor Licenses – four (catering, second-class)
  Employee Questions (executive session)
  Baseball - MOU (who should sign: Town or School)

- **Action – Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes** (Special Meeting of Friday, May 30th and Regular Meeting of Tuesday, June 3rd) | **Alison motioned to approve the May 30th Special Select Board Meeting minutes (response to Open Meeting Law violation); Jim seconded. All ayed. Motion passed. Alison motioned to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of Tuesday, June 3rd; Bruce seconded. All ayed. Motion passed.**

- **Discussion – Traffic Speed on the Common Follow Up - Judy Mannix**

  Judy and Matthew Mannix shared two attached handouts (speed radar readings; 2016 study completed by the Road Safety Committee following Community Visioning Process in December 2015 facilitated by Vermont Council on Rural Development). Conclusion: if Town wishes to have traffic police patrol, will cost $65/hour. Requires an article on Town warning notice. Mr. & Mrs. Mannix contacted Orleans County Sheriff's Office (Lt. Wells) regarding speed on the Common; the Sheriff's Office set up a speed indicator sign. Lt. Wells offered to appear before Select Board for further discussion. Matthew reviewed the copy of the 2016 Road Safety Committee report he had obtained. He complemented its quality, content and metrics for measuring progress; recommendations implemented: number of 30 mph signage, cross walks, stop sign. Discussion about speed - 50 mph (going uphill out of village near curve by elementary school to right before welcome to the common sign). Not posted. Hope to keep at 30 pm. 50 mph sign posted was torn down. A "school zone" sign is also posted. Judy reviewed the radar sign speed data provided by Lieutenant Wells: covers May 14th-29th. Slowed down traffic. Speed: highest - 63 mph; average - 28 mph; 50% of traffic is above 30 mph. Number of cars: 6,782 (about 450 cars per day - in one direction going down toward village). A high volume of traffic. Recommendations: speed enforcement (with fines, small percentage would go back to Town); Stop signs on Craftsbury Road: one on each side of Common Loop. NDVA has Town traffic data. Judy and Matt will get together with committee members. Select Board thanked them for their time and information.

- **Discussion – 911 Help**

  Cheryl Bailey is considering asking Evan LaMare, Fire Department, to help with 911; a great idea.

- ~~**Discussion – Kris Coville | N2N Update & Food Shelf Update**~~ (cancelled)

- **Discussion – Update | Bulky Days Electronics**

  Should it be held every-other year; not much traffic? No where near traffic of last year. Mostly electronics and metal. People who just throw metal on road; put a dumpster there. Will mention it to the Road Foreman; will look better than the junk pile. Will take up the same space as the pile. Safety reasons (sharp items). Metal sales will offset the cost. $1600 cost to Town.

- **Committee Reports**
  - Recreation Committee | **Action – Approve following dates for Bike Nights**

    5 – 7 pm Friday, June 20; Friday, July 18; Friday, August 15
    Alison motioned to approve the above dates/times for Bike Nights; Bruce seconded. All ayed. Motion passed. Discussion: Soccer Camp (was it approved? Details / logistics and dates. Porta-potties); Bruce signed.
  - Antiques & Uniques Road Closures | Library has two options: parking people out there or shut off the road. Library must provide five people all day to ensure no parking; will have to close roads. Five people will work on a rotational basis (8 am to 3 pm). Bruce advised them. Vendors will arrive early; Fire Dept will be there starting at 6 am. Few from Albany. We pay department and Department uses as a fundraiser (Greensboro and Wolcott also possible).
- **Discussion – Letter of Intent to Retire (Steven Marckres)**

  Held over for Executive Session.
- **Clerk Report**
  - Set Date for calculating the Tax Rate: 9 am Friday, June 27 for meeting to set tax rate
  - Flyer to go out ahead of taxes: provide Q&A and understanding about transfer of taxes, etc. Helpful information. Included notice regarding clearance for snow plow/mow. Can send a mowing notice also. Mowing throughout summer; if you feel you may have something that might interfere / be in the way of the mower, please contact Town Garage prior to July 1.
  - **Action – Approve borrowing $50,000 from Dustan Preservation fund** (if needed to make it thru end of month; additional) (lots of road materials) **Alison motioned to approve borrowing $50K from the Dustan Preservation Fund; Bruce seconded the motion. All ayed. Motion passed.**
- **Road Foreman Report**

  New culvert added above neighbor's pond; looks as if it could get clogged. Who to call? Contact the Town Garage. Driveways/culverts discussion. new material: Staymat (half/half with gravel).
- **Action – Approve Liquor License**

  BlackBird Bistro
  - Third-class restaurant bar license (beer & wine)
  - Outside consumption permit (outdoors)
  - First-class restaurant bar license (liquor/inside)

  Eden Ice Cider – one day special event permit

  Bruce motioned to approve the Eden Ice Cide one-day special event permit; and the three licenses for Blackbird Bistro; Alison seconded. All ayed. Motion passed.

- **Baseball MOU**

  Regarding use of field and liability for any accidents/injuries on field. Chair of Craftsbury Baseball (Little League, Babe Ruth) asking; different groups of baseball under Town Umbrella; use of Common. Craftsbury utilize baseball diamond at Dusten Field. Town will sign.

- **Executive Session to Discuss Employee Benefits – 8:10 pm**

  Select Board adjourned to the Executive Session to discuss employee benefits (and employees)

- **Upcoming Projects to Keep on Agenda**
  - Traffic/Speed on the Common- Matt & Judy Mannix
  - August 5, 2025 – tax sale
  - Cell Tower Regulation
  - Contractor Letters
  - Schedule meeting with Kurtis
  - Unclaimed Parcels
  - Appropriation policy
  - 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**

  At 9:08 pm, the Select Board returned from Executive Session where they answered questions the Clerk had about employee benefits and accepted employee Steven Marckres' Letter of Intent to Retire effective October 31, 2025. Town Clerk will create a job posting for review next Friday at Special Meeting for setting tax rate. Special Meeting (tax rate) 9 am Friday, June 27; Regular Select Board Meeting, 7 pm, Tuesday, July 1, at Town Hall. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Select Board Clerk