TOWN OF CRAFTSBURY
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025
7PM | CRAFTSBURY TOWN HALL

Present: Alison Blaney, Jim Jones, Bruce Urie | Michelle Warren

Meeting Agenda

Jim called meeting to order at 7 PM.

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

  None.

- **Action – Approve Select Board Regular Meeting Minutes of August 5, 2025**

  Change last line of P&L item under Clerk report to: "some expenses are higher; heating doubled. Solar is helping to offset the electrical costs." No further discussion. **Alison motioned to approve with the meeting minutes with the change as noted; Bruce seconded. All ayed. Motion passed.**

- **Action – Approve LMERP Grant HVAC and Insulation Bid | Jamie Milholland**

  Construction Contract submitted by Peters General Contracting (structural design by Waite Design & Engineering LLC). Review of the contract specifications; expected work. Work involves less digging/excavation: for example, piping for storm water - one from street and other from roof (one contains debris and other is filtered). Not blending the two; would lead to more potential trouble, e.g., sediment within line. One consideration: moving propane tanks (will have to for some excavation work: three 120-gallon tanks. 500 gallon requires minimum of 10 feet away). Select Board signed the contract approved at last meeting.

  Insulation: only company to provide bid on time was also lowest bidder – New England Foam & Coating. One thing missing from quote: crawl space area. Owner of company now on vacation and will return next week for discussions. Balloons and cellulose – walls – October; foam reliant upon concrete work being done. Other: moving electrical panels possible. Will have contract available by next Select Board meeting for signing. Big spread on insulation bids: partial reason, did not have the crawl space figured in. For example: MP Foam – detailed quote included $1,900 just for crawl space(almost double New England Coating bid); total quote for job from St. J. almost what MP Foam wanted just for the basement costs. MP Foam total bid just under $25K; New England Coating was $12K.

  HVAC: bit of a conundrum in some ways. No bid replies within timeframe. Working with Solar Harvester (most knowledgeable about heat pump water heaters in state; the expert used by Efficiency Vermont; best work for best cost). Has been swamped; will update Select Board when info provided. Project is in an odd position: too big for smaller operator and too small for big, larger firms. One call from New York as a potential last resort. Will keep Select Board informed.

Water Heater – (topic under Clerk Report): found good 2.5 gallon tank that's big enough for floor mapping (also a four gallon). Less expensive to run and will fit beneath the sink; only draws 12 amps. Bosch Water Heater. Town Clerk will order and advise when arrives for installation.

- **Discussion – Concern Forms**
  - Concern Form – Emma Stout | The section of the road where Guy Lot Road crosses RT 14 is pretty dangerous due to some tree growth blocking the road, so you can't see any approaching vehicles until they are extremely close. That road is frequented by plenty of box trucks and people move fast; some tree trimming in the area on the right coming from Cemetery Road and also on the left coming from Guy Lot would be greatly appreciated! Trees are on Route 14; Town unable to touch.
  - Concern Form - Belinda Brown | King Farm Road / Town Highway: dangerous intersection due to Outdoor Center traffic; despite stop sign, vehicles rarely stop or slow down. Cars with out-of-state plates pulled out in front of me. Stop sign might help to slow down.
  - Concern Form – Joanne Chase | Speeding Traffic
  - Concern Form – Stark Biddle | Motorcycles / trucks going through; dangerous.
  - Concern Form – Vice Principal of School | Village signage can be confusing; not good placement

  We are in the process of discussions with the State police; once relationship determined, will request Orleans County Sheriff present costs, suggestions for deterring these violations.

- **Committees**

  Conservation Commission – Replacement needed for Colin.

- **Clerk Report**
  - Dog Bite – 40 stitches; not registered. Jumped between two dogs that were fighting. Dog does have vaccines confirmed.
  - Unregistered Dog List – will send to Animal Control Officer (frequent repeaters); statute states can take down away from owners when unregistered.
  - Water heater – Bosch (see notes under LMERP Grant item)
  - Records Request – James LaRock re all communications, emails etc., with the Mellets, etc.

- **Road Foreman Report**

  Work on North Wolcott Road – project has now doubled in size (16 feet closer to road). $30K will not be enough to do the project. Will lose $20K if do not do by end of the month. River Basin Project Funds (Lamoille County Commission) for additional funds. 9th of September is start and October end. If not fixed, road will be gone next spring. Transportation Agency is aware of it. Riverbank stabilization work.

  Gravel Pit – will need to go into Executive Session regarding the Mellets emails, etc.; 8:30 am on Friday, the 22nd. Will review Friday.

  Road Segments – reminded Steve about need to pull up road segments; has road been chosen. Not sure if must be done this year. Need pre-work approval.

  Action – Approve Auction Choice to Sell Truck | Bruce held discussions with MuniciBid (similar to Auctions International) and Auctions International (out of NY): will visit, take pix, help develop ad.

Town doesn't pay a commission; Auctions International holds check in escrow until clearance. With MuniciBid, Town must deal with buyer directly for payment. Set own reserve price. Some 6-wheel similar age $30K-$34K range. Go with Auctions International for the 2017 International Dump Truck. State of Vermont uses Auctions International. Have form, descriptions of pictures. **Bruce motioned to go with Auctions International for sale of the 2017 International truck; Alison seconded. All ayed. Motion passed.**

Traffic Discussions: Two conversations with Lt. Jensen; may be able to show up a couple times monthly. May not lose the coverage. Going through conversations with him before inviting Sheriff to come. Question again: how to pay for it, when already over budget for year. More costs. And hit from power companies to not having to move on to taxpayers. All for safety. Locals do not want a lot of police presence. Then others – for example from the Common – want sheriff presence (would cost $150K).

- **Upcoming Projects to Keep on Agenda**
  - Get Traffic Numbers for Common Traffic
  - Cell Tower Regulation
  - Contractor Letters
  - Unclaimed Parcels
  - 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**

  Friday, 22nd for the Executive Session; September 9 (purge list). Regular meeting will be Tuesday, September 2, at 7 pm. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Victoria Hudson
Select Board Clerk