Craftsbury Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes March 19, 2026

Attendees: Ned Houston, Alan Turnbull, Christina Finkelstein, Seth Bond, Jamie Milholland, Craig Taylor

Meeting was called to order by acting Chair Ned Houston at 7:05 PM.

Motion to approve minutes of the 2/19/2026 EC meeting, seconded, approved on a voice vote.

Jamie and Craig update on MERP:
-Paradee Construction was chosen by Select Board action to work on the Town Garage including demo and repair, thermal envelope, new siding and trim, weatherstrip all doors, fire-tape interior seams, attic insulation.
To start May 11 or later if another job has priority. We may want a committee work day early May to air seal the top of the block fire wall. The contractor estimates the job will take 26 days. The Town will obtain a permit for this work.
-Sterling Mountain Solar was chosen by Select Board action for solar and battery installation at the Town Hall and battery and generator installation at the Town Garage. Jeff Holmes, owner, will obtain all permits and schedule a meeting with the Division of Fire Safety inspector before any work starts. Fire-resistant enclosures will probably be needed for batteries; these could be built with committee labor or built under contract with a party of our choosing. Propane tanks at the Garage will also need to be moved, work not included in the Sterling Mtn proposal.
-At this point we are not pursuing an upgrade of the electric service based on electrician Holmes' analysis.
-Contractor Sam Peters has the required materials and will complete the Town Hall drainage work when possible this spring.

A drawing was held for 5 free window inserts to be built this year. The winner of the drawing is Gayle Kroeger of Craftsbury.

The committee discussed the firewood project.
-The consensus is that for firewood not delivered before winter and needing to be stored, the best solution is to surround firewood, either stacked or in a pile left after processing, with 6' tall linked steel fencing of the type available from a source such as Tractor Supply. The split wood could either be tarped or left uncovered. The firewood would be relatively secure behind a locked gate.
- For an upcoming Sterling College Service Day April 8, the committee is not available to cut up logs for students to split and not available to transport splitters so is not committing to participation.

-Alan solicited ideas for the committee to potentially present a session for the Craftsbury University coming up. A class on how to address energy efficiency in an old house/building,

using the work at the Town Hall as a demonstration, got the most traction. Alan will follow up with the likely presenters to pursue this further.

The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at approximately 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Taylor, acting secretary