Craftsbury Energy Committee

April 16, 2026 | Town Hall and via Zoom

ATTENDEES

Kevin Gregoire, Ned Houston, Jamie Milholland, Seth Bond, Alan Turnbull, Christina Finkelstein, Craig Taylor, Buzz Burhans, Bill Chidsey

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.

MINUTES

1. **Approve March 2026 Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Ned made a motion to approve the March 2026 meeting minutes. Seth seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **CEC Secretary needed**

Craig volunteered to take minutes.

3. **MERP Update**
   - Paradee Construction was scheduled to start work at the Town Garage on May 15th, but another contract will come first for them so they are now scheduled to start on July 15th.
   - Jamie spoke with Sam about completing drainage work. Materials are in hand. Work will start when the ground is dry enough.
   - Jeff Holmes, Sterling Mountain Solar, met with the fire inspector. Confirmed we need to have an enclosure for the batteries, but it doesn't need to be outside. The enclosure for the Town Hall battery will be built in the basement. The enclosure for the Town Garage will be outside. Down payment was sent to Jeff Holmes and he should start work soon. Note, for the Town to receive Elective Pay, he needs to start work by July 4th.
   - Bill provided background and a summary of the extensive testing and monitoring he and Craig performed at Town Hall. All work was done independently, using different methods, and they both got the same results. The results will inform Bill's recommendation for the most appropriate size heat pump. Tentatively, Bill suggests two heat pumps–one to operate at moderate temperatures and the other to add heating capacity at lower temperatures. The units can switch roles as needed to reduce wear and can integrate with the ventilation unit.
   - Next steps: Bill will provide a budget with detailed scope of work. The CEC will study and make recommendations to the Select Board.
   - Work Day at the Town Garage tentatively scheduled for May 30th, with June 6th as back-up.

4. **Firewood Project**
    - Kevin reported that we are waiting to hear from the Greensboro Association re: a grant to fund the rental costs for the firewood processor.
    - Sterling All College Work Day is on May 6th, but CEC schedules do not align.
    - Tentatively scheduled May 27-29 as firewood processing days. Green Mountain Tech students available to assist on the 27th and 29th.
    - Kevin reported that Jared Nunery shared that other towns are looking to start their own firewood banks and that it is unlikely Craftsbury will receive logs from the state next year. So, we will need to get a grant to cover the cost if we want to continue the program.
    - Anti-theft fencing. Kevin will look into the cost of the fencing and get more exact measurements.

5. **Grants**
    - Kevin provided a summary of grants received (Town of Craftsbury, general operating grant; VT Community Foundation) and submitted to date, NEGEF, VEC, Concrete Foundation)
    - Kevin noted that last year he paid out-of-pocket for expenses that exceeded the amount we received in grants. The VT Community Foundation granted $4k to cover expenses for 2025 and 2026. Kevin will submit receipts to the Town Clerk.

MOTION: Christina made a motion to reimburse Kevin $2100 for expenses he paid out-of-pocket in 2025. Jamie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Window Insert Program**
    - Wolcott has two volunteers managing the measuring and scheduling for Wolcott and Morrisville residents
    - Chris and Buzz Burhans overseeing the measuring and scheduling for Albany
    - May 3rd-9th - measuring days for Craftsbury (~13 homes) and Hardwick.
    - Window insert recipients will be notified before measuring that they must clear any objects/furniture in front of the window.

7. **Other Business**
    - Jamie provided a brief overview of key takeaways from the 2026 LEAP Energy Fair.
    - Kevin noted that he is looking into facilitating an electronics collection day.
    - Efficiency Vermont conference May 6-7

MOTION: Christina made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jamie seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

Submitted by Craig Taylor, Christina Finkelstein

Action Item	**Member(s)**	**Dates**
Follow-up with Sam about drainage work	Jamie	April
Coordinate measuring for window insert recipients; notify that any objects/furniture in front of the window must be cleared in advance	Kevin, Christina	April
Provide recommendations for heat pump model and SOW	Bill Chisdey	April-May
Window inserts - Measure Craftsbury & Hardwick	CEC	May 3-9
Efficiency Vermont Conference	Kevin, Jamie, Craig	May 6-7
Follow-up with Jef Holmes about solar battery related work	Jamie, Craig	Before 5/21
Cost of chain-link fencing & measurements	Kevin	Before 5/21
Submit receipts to Town Clerk	Kevin	Before 5/21
Firewood Processing	CEC, community members	May 27-29
Work Day at the Town Garage	CEC	May 30th
Cost and availability of 36" rolls of poly-vinyl for optional cat-proofing of window inserts	*Seth, Kevin*	*Jan-Feb*
Share CEC annual report and MERP report to larger community	*Kevin*	*mid-March*
Informational table at Craftsbury Transfer Station	*Kevin*	*Weather-permitting*