Minutes Craftsbury Energy Committee Meeting Thurs., 6/18/26, 7 pm

Present: CT, NH, KG, SB, JM

1. NH will do minutes for this meeting

2. Minutes from June 18 read and approved: JM moved, SB second, unanimous approval vote.

3. MERP Update - Craig / Jamie

- Town Hall: - Selectboard has approved the HVAC system proposal by Bill Chidsey on Tuesday 6-16. Heat pumps are ordered from the Granite Group to arrive Fri 6-26 and be picked up in M'ville and a check delivered to them We need plans and materials to build the support platforms for the heat pumps and get them built prior to pick up. Interesting issue to consider. If the Town spends all of its MERP project funds, we can apply for rebates from Efficiency Vt for the heat pumps which would amount to about $8000, in effect giving us that much more budget for the project. We need to get accurate figures on what we have left to spend and if there is unspent grant money we should spend it on other energy needs in the building. Two ideas are in mind: #1. Increase the air sealing and insulation in the ceiling to R-55; #2. Install shades for the large windows to reduce glare and prevent excess heating in summer and provide some extra cold protection in winter. We should do some pricing for these ideas. There is also the possibility of upgrading the existing installed solar generation at the garage which would also be eligible for some rebates. We need to build the battery box for the Town Hall installation. We also need to hire out or set up a work day to deal with the clapboards where insulation was installed.

Town Garage: We are waiting for word from HED on adequacy of the transformer serving the Garage. Jeff Holmes has received a letter specifying that work needs to be underway by July 1, 2026. Rick Paradee notes that he could include the battery box there as part of his work since the CEC has done the airsealing of the block walls in the Garage The main work will be done mid-to late July.

If we do a work day it would have to be latish in July.

4. Firewood Project - Kevin

There is a half cord of rounds yet to split and deliver locally. After the half cord delivery, we will have delivered to 24 homes this year; 19 trailer loads and 5 pickup loads. The chain Link fence should be stored at the Town Garage area. We need to clean up the landing.

Long discussion of future of the firewood project, what to do if we have to buy the wood rather than have donations from the State and how to balance the labor demands so that the burden is more widely shared. Kevin noted that he needs to step back from the heavy physical part and passed along some ideas for others who might be willing to take on more of the planning and actual work. There is general consensus that it is a useful and good program but also concern over the need for funds to pay for wood and delivery and the need for more physical help if the program is to go forward.

5. Grants - Kevin

We received a $500 grant from VEC and $500 from the Concrete Foundation, (COC), General Operating Grants

6. Window Insert Program - Kevin

Craftsbury Program currently has 184 Inserts, 34 Households signed up; no Albany update reported.

7. Other Business. None. Move to adjourn by JM, SB second; unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned @8:34pm

Next Meeting, 7/16/26