

# Town of Craftsbury Selectboard Minutes

~ approved – revised ~

August 20, 2013

## Agenda:

- Green Mountain Power (GMP) Meeting
- Approval Select Board Minutes
- Clerk's Report — Antiques & Uniques Update
- Hosmer Pond Group
- Road Foreman's Report
- MNE Update
- Committee Reports
- Other Business:
  - Power Outage
  - Town Hall Renovation

The Selectboard met at the Craftsbury Town Hall on Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 7 PM. Selectboard present were Bruce Urie, Susan Houston and Jim Jones. Yvette Brown (Town Clerk), June Cook (Hardwick Gazette), Michelle Warren (Clerk of Selectboard), Josh Castonguay (GMP), Dorothy Schnure (GMP), Jason Lisai, (GMP) were also present.

The following Craftsbury Residents present for the Green Mountain Power Update: Carol Maroni, Elinor Osborn, Mabel Houghton, Margaret Ramsdell, John Zaber, Diane Morgan, Ned Houston, Sung Hee Chung, Tony Jones, Ross Morgan, Steve Wright, Amelia Fritz, and Kevin Gregoire. Don Nelson (Lowell resident), Shirley Nelson (Lowell resident), Kevin McGrath (Lowell resident), and Annegrel Pollard (Walden resident), were also present.

## Green Mountain Power Update:

Dorothy updated the Selectboard on the progress of the Lowell Wind Project. She explained it had been opened since November of 2012 and performing well, with 28 MW of hours last week, even with curtailment regulations. Working with the Agency of Natural Resources, the stormwater systems have been tested and working well. Tours are still being offered up to the top of the mountain explaining the project, with over 1000 people so far. They are committed to using the OCAS system, which uses nighttime radar instead of lights to detect airplanes. With this new system, the lights would remain off unless a plane was in the area. Green Mountain Power is still awaiting FAA approval. Steve Wright questioned the OCAS system in the US.

The Selectboard asked about payment amount and timing of the good neighbor fund. Green Mountain Power will look into and get back to the Selectboard with more information. Josh explained questions regarding the condenser, stating the condenser is on schedule, planning to be complete by the end of December. It would basically smooth out the voltage. Condenser cost is estimated at 10 ½ million dollars, total project cost is approximately 167 million dollars. Questions were raised about the bat study. Josh noted that surveys were done daily, 7 turbines each day, rotating until October 1. Scavenged bats were also calculated in the study. Curtailment regulations have lowered production, but it is still ahead of minimum projection. Green Mountain Power explained that although they have talked with a Connecticut company considering building nearby wind turbines, Green Mountain has just offered information and not in any type of partnership. Questions were asked about invasive species, and Jason said they have a plan in place, working with Agency of Natural Resources for the next 3 years, to address that. Many of these reports are available online through the State, public information. Jason noted herbicide is used in site specific areas. Energy credits were discussed.

Green Mountain Power also discussed the noise monitoring and steps they have done to alleviate future sound issues. Dorothy understands there are affects to wind towers, as there is with any energy project, such as solar or nuclear. Green Mountain Power noted there is a decomposition fund to restore the area after the life cycle.

Approval Select Board Minutes:

**Jim made a motion to approve the August 12, 2013 Selectboard minutes, seconded and approved as printed.**

Clerk's Report:

Antiques & Uniques totals were in and discussed.

**Income:**

Bake Sale	\$ 217.85
Grill	\$ 4,885.18
Vendor Fees	\$ 9,765.00
Sponsorship	<u>\$ 1,100.00</u>
Total Revenue	\$15,968.03

**Volunteer Distribution:**

CCCC	56.50 hours	\$1,130.00
E. Craftsbury Church	17.50 hours	\$ 350.00
Public Library	29 hours	\$ 580.00
Art House	51 hours	\$1,020.00
High School	32 hours	\$ 640.00
United Church	5.5 hours	\$ 110.00
Catholic Church	9 hours	\$ 180.00
Horse & Buggy	4 hours	\$ 80.00
<u>Ladies Union</u>	<u>28.50 hours</u>	<u>\$ 570.00</u>
Total	233 hours	\$4,660.00

**Expenses:**

Trash	\$ 30.00
Sound System	\$ 100.00
Advertising	\$ 202.50
Ads	\$ 108.00
Cash Boxes	\$ 840.00
Food:	\$ 838.15
Shuttle	\$ 117.00
Admin	\$ 2,700.00
Postage	\$ 124.60
Signs/Flyers	\$ 210.83
Portalets	\$ 542.00
Tent rental	<u>\$ 3,800.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 9,613.08

Net Income	\$ 6,354.95
Less bonus	-\$ 300.00
Less ½ Grill	-\$ 600.00
Less Start Up	-\$ 400.00
Misc.	-\$ 394.95

= Income to be distributed to Volunteers \$4660.00 (\$20/hour per volunteer)

**Jim made a motion to payout \$20 per hour for volunteers, give \$300 bonus to Anne-Marie Keppel, with remainder (\$1354.95) of funds to be kept for purchasing ½ of a new grill, miscellaneous accessories, and start up funds, seconded and approved.**

Hosmer Pond Group:

The Selectboard is still gathering information.

Road Foreman's Report:

Bruce said that Steve just returned from vacation. All is well, a few road signs were stolen. Working on grading.

MNE Update:

The Selectboard received a request from Roy Ward for language on the town sign at the trail entry: "Use of this trail is limited to pedestrians, horses and non-motorized vehicles during daylight hours only. Hunting is strictly prohibited on or from the trail. The trail is bordered by private property. Please stay between the blue markers to avoid trespassing."

Committee Reports:

No committee reports given.

Other Business:

- Jim mentioned there will be a power outage on Thursday. Michelle will post on the website.
- Sung-Hee is working on renovating the Craftsbury Inn and applying for Village Re-designation. Since there is a historical connection with the Inn and the Town Hall, she asked if the town was interested in collaborating with Town Hall renovation. Selectboard welcomed the idea and Susan will talk with her further.

The Selectboard Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM. The next Selectboard Meeting is scheduled 7 PM on Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at Craftsbury Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Warren, Clerk of the Select Board

Upcoming Project Considerations:

- Speeding concerns on the Common
- Dog ordinance discussion
- Ancient road meeting
- Sidewalk between IA & Academy buildings
- Telecommunication ordinance amendment
- Wastewater feasibility study
- Emergency Management Plan discussion
- Town Hall Relocation possibilities
- Brainstorm needs of Town Hall interior