

Town of Craftsbury Selectboard Minutes

~approved with correction~

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

AGENDA REGULAR MEETING

- Approval of Minutes
- Hilary Menard – Her Work on Equity with OSSU & Wider Community
- Town Hall Safety
- Baseball Diamond on the Common
- Committee Reports & Appointees
- Road Foreman’s Report
- Clerk Report
- Walk-ins that have business to come before the Select Board
- Other Business
 - Amended Political Sign Policy
 - Delinquent Taxes
 - Water Ordinance Request
 - Town Beach Trash
 - Use of Common Protocol
 - Next Regular Meeting Date

The Selectboard met at Craftsbury Town Hall 7 PM on Tuesday, September 1, 2020. Selectboard present were Bruce Urie, Jim Jones and Susan Houston. Linda Ramsdell and Michelle Warren (Selectboard Clerk), were also present.

Approval of Minutes:

Jim made motion to approved the minutes of August 18, 2020 as printed. Seconded and approved.

Hilary Menard – Her Work on Equity with OSSU & Wider Community

Hilary sent Susan an email, see page 3. She invited the Craftsbury and Hardwick Selectboard to a collaborative conversation with a coalition group she is part of. This coalition group has been meeting weekly discussing just and equity practices. The Selectboard discussed and agreed to meet with her.

Town Hall Safety:

Susan said she has been approached by some residents, requesting the Selectboard have meetings via Zoom, because they feel unsafe attending Selectboard Meetings in person. Bruce explained that we are in compliance with state requirements regarding open meeting law. Michelle is working on having Zoom available, but it is difficult to monitor Zoom and also take minutes. She has purchased a camera for Zoom and will test out in the next few meetings. Susan also had concerns about the Town Hall not being cleaned. Michelle said that that office staff is cleaning the Town Hall now, wiping down the tables daily.

Baseball Diamond on the Common:

Bruce said that some one has offered to fund a project to restore the baseball diamond, back stop and benches on the Common. There will be no cost to the Town. The Selectboard were in favor of the project.

Committee Reports & Appointees:

Susan reported that the Energy Committee has 16 cords of wood split. 4 Cords are at the Town Garage right now, a group is arriving to stack and cover.

Michelle requested permission for a small Craftsbury group to walk on the Common to benefit AFSP "Out of the Darkness". The Selectboard agreed to Michelle's request.

Road Foreman's Report:

The town crew is working on road ditching currently.

Right now, the new truck body is still In Canada.

Kent will be out a few weeks for hip surgery, starting September 3.

Clerk Report:

Taxes are still coming in steadily, over \$700,000 so far.

Walk-ins that have business to come before the Select Board:

None

Other Business:

- The Selectboard decided to revise their decision on political signs. **The have amended their policy, stating no political signs permitted on the Common or the Town Hall, not even if in the right of way.**
- The Selectboard discussed creating a policy for delinquent taxes, in which the delinquent taxes will automatically go into a tax sale. They will check with Yvette to see how much is in delinquent taxes, for each year.
- Susan will contact Angela Ross regarding the water ordinance request on the Common.
- Jim reported that Tony Jones picked up the trash at the Beach. Jim will ask if he can pick up the trash for the remainder of the season.
- Michelle will email Susan a protocol the United Church of Craftsbury uses for events, for a sample.

The Selectboard Meeting adjourned at 8 PM. Next Selectboard Meeting is scheduled Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Warren, Selectboard Clerk

Hello Craftsbury Selectboard:

I wanted to introduce myself to all of you. My name is Hilary Maynard, and I live over on Morey Hill Road. I work at Hazen Union, and have recently been recruited by the school district to design and implement an equity initiative--around race, class, gender and other identities--to grow a culture of equity in our wider community. That begins with the adults who work for the district. One facet of this plan that is an important first step in any cultural shift is the willingness for our teachers, administrators, staff, and school board members--adults in our community-- to show up and participate in new learning that may influence the ways in which they build community with youth and families. In an effort to share some of those learning opportunities and pivotal moments beyond the walls of the school, I am connecting today as a resource for you to utilize as the board continues to grow their capacity for equitable practices as a governing body in the town of Craftsbury and models and leaders to the folks who live here.

I have also been working with a coalition of local folks doing social justice work this summer. This work in service of our wider community, in combination with my work in the OSSU is what brings me here today. This coalition group has been meeting weekly to discuss just and equitable practices and structures as a way of holding ourselves in accountability to learning and growing our practices individually and collectively. We wanted to invite the Craftsbury select board along with the Hardwick select board to a collaborative conversation with us, as a sort of system of accountability in regards to equity and social justice work. We know you are in the early stages of forming an Equity Team, and we hope we can provide a space in which you feel like you can collaborate around just and equitable process in forming that group. Please let me know if getting together is of interest to you; if putting your heads together with the Hardwick select board and this team of local folks might be helpful in holding accountability for all of us to making our towns more caring communities for each and every person who calls them home. Looking forward to connecting with you.

Hilary Maynard