

CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 26 at 6:00 pm at the Tyler Memorial Library

Attending: Bob Handsaker, Trevor Mackie, Doug White, Mary Ellen Banks, Cheryl Handsaker

Missing: Ken Hall, Bill Tucci

Guest: Phil Banks, Sarah Reynolds

1. Approval of minutes from 11/18/2019

- a. **ACTION TAKEN:** Approved Unanimously.

2. Status of NEE

- a. Status of Obear contract
 - i. No update.

3. Status of Make-Ready

- a. Town Hall Exterior
 - i. Payment is in process.
 - ii. Discussion on the height of the soil surrounding the vault.
 - 1. Follow up w/ WG&E in the spring about the height above the soil line.
- b. Railroads
 - i. Long Bridge
 - 1. Doug reviewed the site of the railroad.
 - 2. Paved amount is wider than the town ownership
 - 3. Go through the center of the crossarms?
 - 4. Pole height is a problem but it is scheduled to be replaced.
 - 5. Issue is that we need to be 27' above the railroad, clear the crossarms, and land in the proper section of the pole for fiber outside of the electrical space.
 - 6. Propose an aerial RR crossing from a town owed extra tall pole on the North side of 8A to a new pole on the South side of 8A as close to National Grid pole as allowed. Getting permission to run the fiber down the pole to the fiber space. Sketch was created in the meeting. Bob will check this with WG&E.
 - 7. Sarah Reynolds will ask Gordon Hathaway to provide the easements around the Long Bridge. Jonathan Eikman at Doppelman and Page is

handling the easements. Sarah will also reach out to Gill Engineering for any survey information.

8. Confirmed no conduit under the railroad by Berkshire East.

ii. Tower Road

1. No update.

2. WG&E agrees the RR crossing is a part of path preparation.

iii. South River Road

1. Status of utility applications - No update.

iv. West Hawley Road residence

1. No update.

4. Status of Distribution Network

a. Next actions on Heath Stage Terrace and Hawk Hill Rd. IGA

i. WG&E is no longer doing these projects through the same IGA. They will instead do this like the distribution contract - they put it out, contract is with the private contractor.

b. Edge Cases

i. Heath

1. Phone call with WG&E and Sheila Litchfield and face to face meeting.

Draft agreement over the next couple of weeks. Cheryl will reach out to Heath to see if we can meet with WG&E together.

ii. Rowe

1. No update.

5. Project Schedule Update

6. Project Finance Update

a. Payments/ Income of Broadband project

i. EOHEd is waiting on approval for payment.

b. Status of additional funding sources

i. No update on ReConnect.

7. Drop Policy Discussion

a. Continue Drop Policy Discussion

i. Drop Policy changes were viewed and document changes were accepted.

Committee to review and comment

8. Communication Notes

a. Workshop planning?

i. No update.

b. Wired West communications with folks without provided email contact information

i. No update.

Next meeting: Monday, December 2 @ 6PM

Meeting adjourned 8:12 PM