

CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE

Monday, July 6, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Meeting held via conference call

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

Missing: Ken Hall, Bill Tucci

Guests: Valentine Reid

Meeting

1. Approve Minutes and Meeting Notes from 6/29/2020

a. ACTION TAKEN: Vote to approve the minutes of 6/29/2020

i. Trevor - yes, Mary Ellen - yes, Doug - yes, Cheryl - yes, Bob - yes

2. Status of NEE

a. Update on Construction

i. Nothing more

ii. Bob Obear got go-ahead for the water sensor, no audible alarm and that's OK.

3. Status of Make-Ready

a. Long Bridge

i. No update.

b. Tower Road

i. No update.

c. West Hawley Road residence

i. Chris Gray responded that line of site can support 1GB symmetrical. \$15/month, \$2800 for equipment.

ii. Weather may be an issue.

iii. Trevor needs to follow up about the clearance. Tree trimming may be needed for maintenance.

d. Town Hall Exterior

i. No update.

4. Status of Distribution Network

a. Verizon one license application came back!

b. Path preparation status (Heath Stage Terrace, Hawk Hill Rd., Warner Hill Rd.)

i. Heath Stage Terrace

1. Two more letters of support received to come up to 10 or 11. That brings us to 70%.

2. ADD to Selectboard agenda to make a decision on this build at the meeting on July 13.
3. Recommendation stands, and since we have reached the 70% threshold we recommend they go forward.

ii. Hawk Hill Rd

1. Email from resident regarding road painting for pole placement.
2. Trevor will reach out to Parks&Rec regarding use of the Fairgrounds 6PM on July 15.
3. Get letters out to the residents to come to the meeting. Don't let the bureaucracy slow us down.
4. Hawk Hill Resident asked whether Heath Stage Terrace had the same aerial calculus. National Grid indicated it was a different situation because it is much more open.

iii. Warner Hill Rd.

1. WG&E approved Tom Danek as the lowest qualified bidder to award the contract.
2. Meeting with Tom and the Highway Chief for a meeting to insure all are on board with next actions.
3. **ACTION TAKEN:** Recommend Charlemont sign the contract with Tom Danek as the lowest qualified for the work on the Warner Hill Rd. procurement for \$39,750.
 - a. Trevor - yes, mary Ellen - yes, Doug-yes, Cheryl-yes, Bob-yes

c. Status of edge cases

i. Rowe IRUs

1. These are still in the Charlemont box. Two signatures are still needed: Marguerite and Jay.
2. Bob will nudge remaining Select Board members.

5. ISP Contact

a. Update on contract and amendment draft

- i. John Leary and Rich Carnall have asked to have a week to review our proposed changes.
- ii. DigSafe amendment update has been sent along.
- iii. Network Operation base agreement is the goal for this signing at this point. Review the amendment separately.

- iv. Look at maintenance experience to see what we are buying.
- b. DigSafe amendment has been updated and will be sent along.

6. Drops

- a. Update on drop policy review
 - i. Valentine will review and bring some items to the next meeting. He will send this out by email and document review.
- b. New PPR report has been received. It was not what we were expecting. We will follow up with Chris LaVertu - not reliable on pricing. Bob will follow up with WG&E about the misunderstanding.
 - i. Draft of PPR lookup was reviewed, but no longer valid with new cost numbers from WG&E.

7. Project Finance Update

- a. 2021 budget update
 - i. Railroad paperwork
 - ii. Tower Rd. IGA can go-ahead.
- b. Status of additional funding sources
 - i. RBDG
 - ii. Non-governmental sources some public disclosure on these non-governmental agencies.
 - 1. Valentine may be able to help us work on these non-governmental sources of funds.
 - 2. Cheryl will send this to Mary Ellen Banks.
 - 3. Cheryl will reach out to FSB

8. Project Schedule Update

- a. Verizon is in town.

9. Communication Notes

- a. Expression of Interest form
- b. One-pager for ATM
 - i. Annual Town Report submitted?
 - ii. Drive people to the website. Piece of paper needed?
 - iii. Poster?
- c. Wired West closure

Next meeting, July 13 @ 6PM

Meeting adjourned at 7:23