

CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE

Monday, July 13, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Meeting held via conference call

Attending: Bob Handsaker, Trevor Mackie, Doug White, , Ken Hall, and Cheryl Handsaker

Missing: Mary Ellen Banks, Bill Tucci

Guests: Valentine Reid

1. Approve Minutes and Meeting Notes from 7/6/2020

- a. Vote to approve the minutes of 7/6/2020
 - i. Trevor - yes, Doug-yes, Ken-abstain, Cheryl-yes, Bob-yes

2. Status of NEE

- a. Mini-split is in and working
- b. Hoses still exposed
- c. Smoke alarm is not connected at this time
- d. Next Actions: Check the mini-split, check legality of smoke detector needed?, Group meeting at the Town of Charlemont, final building inspector permit? Electrical inspections? All permits.
- e. Meet together on Weds prior to the Hawk Hill Rd meeting. Meet at the town hall at 5:00.

3. Status of Make-Ready

- a. Long Bridge
 - i. Railroad permitting - WG&E have the site plan in the queue. Dave Thomas is engaged to work on the permitting.
 - ii. After permitting, reach out to TriWire
- b. Tower Road
 - i. Go ahead was given on Tower Rd. WG&E might use a third party.
 - ii. If estimate is changed we might need a reevaluation.
- c. West Hawley Road residence
 - i. No update.
- d. Town Hall Exterior
 - i. No update

4. Status of Distribution Network

- a. Path preparation status (Heath Stage Terrace, Hawk Hill Rd., Warner Hill Rd.)
 - i. Heath Stage Terrace
 - 1. A decision on this will be discussed at the Select Board meeting this evening.

2. Should we recommend that we withhold service to homes that have not taken service yet as a change order?
 - a. At this time we will not recommend a reduction of the project scope.
- ii. Hawk Hill Rd
 1. Resident meeting 6PM @ July 15. Gordon Hathaway may attend. He indicated that he will review the location and is slightly in favor and certainly not opposed to installing poles.
 2. Underground would be a minimum of \$2500 from the town project, plus about \$50,000 in state funding and risk to the town if the project goes over.
 3. Three residents called with questions: one is quite opposed, one is opposed due to reliability of aerial and concern over property values, one resident does not have a concern and would not be directly impacted.
 4. If National Grid puts poles there, broadband will definitely use them. If the town opposed it, the state may not reimburse for any of the cost of the conduit. If Grid does not choose to run aerial, then we expect the same make-ready reimbursement.
 5. Preparation for the meeting needed? No, we are hosts only.
 6. Residents were told to bring masks and chairs in the invitation letter.
- iii. Warner Hill Rd.
 1. Warner Hill Rd project is waiting on the Select Board to sign the contract.
- b. Status of edge cases
 - i. Rowe IRUs
 1. Check with the Select Board regarding signatures

5. ISP Contact

- a. Update on contract and amendment draft
 - i. John Leary is in the process of renewing the contract with Otis
 - ii. Perhaps Charlemont will be able lead the way on language changes for renewal

Adjourned 6:58 PM, next meeting Weds evening following Hawk Hill Rd.