

## **CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING**

**ATTENDING: Bob Handsaker, Valentine Reid, Trevor Mackie, Doug White, Mary Ellen Banks, Ken Hall, and Cheryl Handsaker**

**GUESTS: Sue Peterman, Amy Wales, Sarah Reynolds**

Called to order 6pm

### **1. Approve Minutes and Meeting Notes from 9/21/2020**

- a. Minutes approved
  - i. Trevor - yes, Cheryl-yes, Bob-yes, Doug - yes, Valentine - yes, Mary Ellen - abstain, Ken-missing

### **2. Update on service for Mountain Rd, guest question**

- a. Based on Verizon's timeline
- b. Looking at Spring 2021 at the earliest unless Verizon comes in earlier

### **3. ISP Contact**

- a. Update on contract and amendment draft
  - i. Conversation with WG&E and they want a 36 month term which begins when we go live in order to begin reviewing and modifying the agreement.
- b. Agreed to try to draft a letter of intent during the first six month. What terms will we want?
  - i. Add a clause that allows us to get out of the commitment if we fail to negotiate terms after the first six months.
  - ii. Get a letter drafted and put this in front of WG&E and the Select Board.
- c. Recommend Charlemont draft a strong letter that can be reviewed
- d. Nokia equipment, Val reports on how much of a lock in is this
  - i. AdTran, Calix are more simplified for this application.
  - ii. Crocker would bid on ISP even if we go forward with Nokia
  - iii. Looking into eol for the equipment
- e. ACTION TAKEN: Recommend the Select Board sign a 3 year agreement with WG&E for ISP services, with a companion letter of understanding that will specify that Charlemont can withdraw from the agreement if we cannot come to agreement on clarifications agreed upon in principal enumerated in the letter within six months of signing of the agreement.

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

#### 4. Status of additional funding sources

- a. Community Compact IT, can be up to \$200,000 open now to October 15, award by Thanksgiving
  - i. Grant funding for the generator T-2, M-3
    - 1. We applied and are in process but would be great to simplify and get it done.
  - ii. Passive electronics if not CARES Eligible B-1, C-1, M-1, V-1, K-1, T-1
  - iii. Broadband test equipment for the network B-2 - Bob will get this one together
  - iv. UPSs, ONTs for Drops? C-2, T-2 - Cheryl will get specs, how you describe this and how many, Val can research costs?
  - v. Training for broadband installations and equipment, about \$10,000 V-2, T-3, K-2, B-3, C-3, M-2 - [Cheryl will write narrative]
    - 1. Ditch witch?
    - 2. Computer and equipment for training
    - 3. Conduit
    - 4. Reel
    - 5. Marking tape & tracer wire (built into the microduct but needed for other conduit types )
  - vi. Wireless access for the town hall using this as a test location- public high speed hotspot - can this be configured. Live stream town committee meetings from the town hall? V-3, K-3 -Val
    - 1. 2-4 hotspots
    - 2. Controller
    - 3. Wiring & Install
  - vii. Remote monitoring for the broadband network
- b. CARES Act Funding
  - i. Passive electronics being applied for in competitive grants?
- c. CARES Act Allocation Funding, \$109,000, Sarah Reynolds is managing this, we think.
  - i. Allocate to passive electronics. (1)
  - ii. Is this FEMA? No but you can use this grant as a part of the matching grant?
  - iii. Spend by December date.
  - iv. Bob and Sarah will met on Weds at 3PM
- d. Ranked ideas:  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BnUnC3tDYG9zoZdqwW9E37bYcAimlu0W-hK0L5Cn\\_Dk/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BnUnC3tDYG9zoZdqwW9E37bYcAimlu0W-hK0L5Cn_Dk/edit#gid=0)

#### 5. Status of Make-Ready

- a. General
- b. Long Bridge

- c. Tower Road
- d. West Hawley Road residence
- e. Town Hall Exterior
- f. Town Hall Generator
- g. Heath Stage Terrace
- h. Hawk Hill Rd
- i. Warner Hill Rd.

**6. Drops**

- a. Update on one-page document
- b. Material storage

**7. Presubscription Prep**

**8. Project Finance Update**

- a. 2021 budget update
- b. Status of additional funding sources
  - i. Non-governmental sources
  - ii. CARES Act Funding
  - iii. RBDG Grant

**9. Project Schedule Update**

**10. Communication Notes**

- a. Fairgrounds hotspot

**11. Any other business not reasonably foreseen 48 hours in advance of meeting**

- a. Change in meeting format - Google Meet will no longer be offering dial in numbers after Sept 30