

CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

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

1. Approve Meeting Notes from 7/19/2021

ACTION TAKEN: Val=yes, Mary Ellen - yes, Doug=yes, Cheryl- yes, Bob- yes, Ken=yes

2. Status of Make-Ready

- a. West Hawley Road residence
 - i. Resident was called to give her a status at this time.
- b. Town Hall Generator
 - i. No update.
- c. Shunpike
 - i. Grid has been contacted about tree trimming
 - ii. Pole replacement expected the week of Aug 23rd
 - iii. Check regarding the top of Legate / Maxell loop is on the list
 - iv. If TriWire is completely blocked, we could go into FSA 03
- d. Tower Rd is being coordinated
- e. Wires have not been relocated on Riddell Road

3. Distribution Network

- a. FSA 05
 - i. 3 cases remaining in FSA 05
 - ii. Late pole locations on Rt 2 (splice and move to new pole, clear path)
 - iii. 56 Burrington easement access, but possible path from Rt 2.
- b. FSA 04
 - i. Fiber on Heath Stage Terrace
- c. FSA 02
 - i. Shunpike continues to be a blocker
- d. Future FSAs will not need Friendlies. Only FSA 01.

4. Drops

- a. FSA 01 Friendlies
 - i. Some Friendlies have been installed, testing is on-going
 - ii. Identified issues with the process in FSA 01 access to the MSTs in the construction zone
 - iii. Installers are freeing up in other towns, WCF may be ready to bring in to begin installations this week as capacity is available.
- b. Schedule for all FSA 01 go-live installations
 - i. Might be started this week, definitely next week.
- c. Johnson Road address
 - i. Consultation has been completed

- ii. Determine the road crossing method
- d. Tea St. Ext
 - i. Follow up with the new location 15 Tea St. Ext.
- e. South River Rd condos
 - i. Signed up residents and letters will be sent
- f. 122 Main
 - i. Consultation has gone ahead. There is a limited number of units available that could take service at this time.
- g. Woodland Park
 - i. Distribution pieces have been worked out and is being sent to TriWire
 - ii. Final installation design
- h. Underground Drops requiring communication

5. Heath IGA

- a. Charlemont has checked with EOHED re: make ready reimbursement
- b. Charlemont has checked that the pole licenses are there.
- c. Next Select Board meeting scheduled for 8/16
- d. Bob will circulate the draft for Broadband review

6. Commercial Pricing

- a. Discuss updates to seasonal business pricing based on WCF conversation
- b. WGE has a preference for average pricing
- c. They might be able to accommodate changes to the pricing at customer request.
- d. Are there industry standards that will be followed?
- e. Can we throttle down our costs in the quieter times? It might not be possible to save a lot?
- f. Allow monthly changes only.
- g. Consider a monthly average as a 'first year' policy.
- h. Next action: Rewrite the seasonal aspirational area of the policy.

7. Subscription Campaign

- a. Subscription Update
 - i. Outreach in FSA 01
 - ii. Plan an information: Saturday Aug 11th
- b. Data Privacy

8. Project Finance Update

- a. ARPA public testimony sent from the town
- b. Expenses are ramping up, BOMB is watching the cash flow. So far on budget and hoping for supplemental funding from ARPA.
- c. Out of what account should we be paying operating expenses?
- d. Is it the committee's responsibility to review the financial transactions? Perhaps it should be?

- e. Out of pocket expenses were underestimated from WG&E. About 30 of the drops out of pocket costs.

Next meeting, Aug 2 @ 6 PM

Adjourned 7:47 PM