

CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE

Monday, June 15, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Meeting held via conference call

ATTENDING: Bob Handaker, Trevor Mackie, Doug White, Mary Ellen Banks, Ken Hall, Cheryl Handsaker

MISSING: Bill Tucci

1. Approve Minutes and Meeting Notes from 6/8/2020

a. ACTION TAKEN: Approve meeting notes as amended.

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

2. Status of NEE

a. Update on Construction

- i. Electrical is substantially complete and the lights are on.
- ii. Small punch list remaining before verification is complete.

3. Status of Make-Ready

a. Long Bridge

- i. Timeline for construction
 - 1. No update

b. Tower Road

- i. Timeline for construction
 - 1. No update

c. West Hawley Road residence

- i. No update
 - 1. Cheryl will reach out to Williams colleagues

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. Status of bid awards

- 1. No change on Warner Hill
- 2. Hawk Hill Rd - no definitive answer from National Grid as to whether they will do the update and add our conduit
- 3. Heath Stage Terrace

a. Meeting with TriWire & WG&E regarding how we might be able to reduce the cost by cutting some items from the scope of work.

- b. Doing drops at the same time will be unlikely to save money but might be better for the homeowners.
- c. Select Board asked Broadband Committee to make a recommendation regarding what to do with this cost overrun.
 - i. Project remains on budget at this time.
 - ii. Cost is coming in \$26,700 over the aerial estimate, assuming no ledge
 - iii. Possible ideas: Cost sharing? Delay? Get a commitment? Scale back the project?
 - iv. **ACTION TAKEN:** Recommend to the Select Board that the town require 70% of residents on Heath Stage Terrace commit to installation and 1 year of broadband service before the underground distribution network is built. The drop subsidy would still be provided.
 - 1. Mary Ellen - yes, Ken- yes, Trevor- yes, Bob- yes, Cheryl-yes, Doug-yes
 - v. Next Actions
 - 1. Identify the award date for preserving the pricing
 - 2. Ask Select Board about inviting the residents.

b. Status of edge cases

i. Rowe IRUs

- 1. Heard back from Rowe and Bob will iterate on the items raised.

5. ISP Discussion

a. Follow up on ISP / NO questions

- i. Reviewed responses from WG&E regarding ISP/ NOC agreement.
- ii. Put together a list of changes and set up a call with WG&E to revise

6. Drops

a. No update

7. Project Finance Update

a. 2021 budget update

i. No update

b. Status of additional funding sources

i. Status of additional COVID-19 related funding.

- 1. No update

8. Project Schedule Update

- a. Project plan review
 - i. No update.

9. Communication Notes

- a. Wired West closure
 - i. No update.

Next meeting: Monday, June 22 @ 6PM

Meeting adjourned: 8:45PM