

## CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Monday, Aug 3, 2020 at 6:00 pm

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

**MISSING:** Ken Hall

**GUESTS:** Valentine Reid, Ben Gagnon

### **1. Approve Minutes and Meeting Notes from 7/27/2020**

- a. ACTION TAKEN: Vote to approve the minutes of 7/20/2020
  - i. Trevor - yes, Doug - yes, Cheryl-yes, Bob-yes

### **2. Status of NEE**

- a. Paint color received
- b. Waiting on building inspectors sign off
- c. OBear will drop off documentation on the HVAC unit
- d. Bob has made keys for the NEE. Keys will be distributed to fire chief, Select Board
- e. Bob is meeting tomorrow with Dennis Annear regarding the generator and conduit.

### **3. Status of Make-Ready**

- a. Long Bridge
  - i. WG&E will prioritize. No drawing yet.
  - ii. Bob will nudge tomorrow
- b. Tower Road
  - i. Amended the minutes - WG&E cannot do the work as expected.
  - ii. Looking for more bidders for the pole sets and keep EOHED in the loop.
- c. West Hawley Road residence
  - i. No update.
- d. Town Hall Exterior
  - i. No update.
- e. Heath Stage Terrace
  - i. Meeting Weds morning @ 10AM, Highway Superintendent invited, last meeting prior to construction.
- f. Hawk Hill Rd
  - i. Email from Diane Clowse. Planning to file the pole petition looks like 2-3 weeks in advance.
  - ii. Some residents are eager to go ahead.
  - iii. Not too hung up on what Verizon might do. Limited investment seems to be the way of the Verizon plant.
    - 1. Committee agrees that Verizon can go their own way.
- g. Warner Hill Rd.
  - i. WG&E will come check pole location
  - ii. Team will meet Weds at 11AM; Danek Excavating, Highway Superintendent, and WG&E to check on the potential pole hearing.

- iii. Scott Randall's service pole has not been updated. 26-1 was not listed as a replacement but it has not been added.
- iv. Bob has gotten the abutters list and the pole petition language.
- v. Kendrick's have given permission to use area for staging area.
- h. Rowe IRUs
  - i. Rowe IRUs are complete. Bob will drop them at the town hall!
- i. East Oxbow Rd. FSA 04 stub pole vs concrete base for the field split box. Check if TriWire can do this?

#### 4. **ISP Contact**

- a. Update on contract and amendment draft
  - i. No update.
  - ii. Rich Carnall will talk with John Leary regarding the contract.
  - iii. We can move the equipment room forward. WG&E scheduling resources out to late August.
  - iv. Bob will send Valentine information about connecting with other ISPs/NOs regarding equipment. Valentine will do some investigation on other vendors.

#### 5. **Drops**

- a. Update on drop policy review
  - i. Cheryl will send along edit link for Valentine.

#### 6. **Presubscription Prep**

- a. One-pager on the policy
  - i. Cheryl will reach out to Mary Malmros and introduce them to work on one-pager
- b. FAQs
  - i. Cheryl will give edit to Valentine
  - ii. Valentine will review Ashfield on Whip City Fiber
  - iii. Valentine will share in-progress FAQ doc for 'hyper care'
- c. Finalized pricing for phone service. Do we want to increase costs on phone as needed?  
Do we welcome some cushion on the phone side?
  - i. Follow up with agenda item in two weeks.
  - ii. Double check WG&E wholesale rate as prep. Look at the CAF-II and LifeLife costs from the phone rate?
  - iii. Outcome will be pricing for phone package.
  - iv. 9-1-1 rate? Is this included?

#### 7. **Project Finance Update**

- a. 2021 budget update
  - i. No update.
- b. Status of additional funding sources
  - i. Non-governmental sources

## **8. Project Schedule Update**

- a. Project plan review
- b. Can we accelerate MBI? Bill Ennen gets involved, takes about 3 weeks. How many miles of fiber do we have in town? How far West does it go?
- c. Can we be inspecting Verizon as we go?
  - i. We can ask but unlikely to accelerate.

## **9. Communication Notes**

- a. Wired West closure
  - i. Trevor will reach out WiredWest to see who has gotten money.
  - ii. 4/15/2020 WW meeting, residents return information can be sent to former delegates.

## **10. Select Board Agenda**

- a. Valentine appointment
- b. Path Prep Project update

## **11. Other items**

- a. Hotspot 5G was offline. Trevor will check.
- b. Cheryl can call WG&E directly in the future

Next meeting, Monday August 10 @ 6PM

Meeting adjourned 7:27 pm