

## CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE

Monday, Aug 24, 2020 at 6:00 pm

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

**MISSING:** Mary Ellen Banks

**GUEST:** Valentine Reid

### **1. Approve Minutes and Meeting Notes from 8/17/2020**

**a. ACTION TAKEN:** Vote to approve the minutes of 8/3/2020

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

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

a. Long Bridge

- i. Bob spoke with Dave Thomas and we decided not to submit a certificate of insurance.

b. Tower Road

- i. All 8 poles are in. Trevor, Bob and Doug have looked at them.
- ii. Tree trimming is still needed. Bob reached out to TriWire to see the extent of the make-ready. Should we do enough to get the line through or should we do an extensive trimming for future maintenance?
- iii. Asked WG&E for a recommendation. The rule is the more the better.
- iv. 5' below the top of the pole is our space on the pole (20-23').
- v. Make sure it's cleaned up and chipped so that it doesn't cause trouble for road maintenance (Highway Superintendent).
- vi. NEXT ACTION: Find a tree-trimming company to give us an estimate. Ask WG&E for a recommendation. Next actions on procurement. Trevor will take the next action.
  1. Winfisky - Cheryl
  2. Colrain tree work - Trevor
  3. Lanoue - Cheryl

c. West Hawley Road residence

- i. No update.

d. Town Hall Exterior

- i. Danek has looked over items remaining in the punch list.
- ii. Will do this around the same time as Warner Hill.
- iii. Danek will call Charlemont when the work will be done.

e. Heath Stage Terrace

- i. Heath Stage Terrace is complete.
- ii. Trevor has reached out to Gordon to approve road cuts on the pavement
- iii. Ken reports residents complimented the speed of the installation.
- iv. Rich Carnall said he'd make a recommendation about the remaining materials.

f. Hawk Hill Rd

- i. Pole hearing scheduled for tonight.
- g. Warner Hill Rd.
  - i. Pole petition has been sent into the town.
  - ii. Bob has reached out to the residents and all were fine with it.
  - iii. Material is on-site and ready for installation.
  - iv. Trevor and Bob will pester Gordon to dig and see if there was ledge.

### **3. ISP Contact**

- a. Update on contract and amendment draft
  - i. Bob reached out to Rich Carnall last week. No update from WG&E.

### **4. Fairground Hotspot**

- a. Cheryl has reached out to Axia, Superintendent to see if we could get that one moved.
- b. Discuss that with the school, superintendent and principal.
- c. Work with other towns to push for a second hit spot
- d. Hot spot date extension.

### **5. Drops**

- a. Update on one-page document
  - i. No update.
- b. Materials for the conduit installation, lead time and storage
  - i. Where can we store excess materials for the drops?
  - ii. Outdoors is OK, shed for equipment would be nice.
  - iii. McCloud property, possible. Solar property.
  - iv. Ask regarding lead time on drop conduit
  - v. Sales tax? How do we handle this?
  - vi. Full cost? Delivery, waste, etc?

### **6. Presubscription Prep**

- a. We haven't heard anything from Verizon. No update on percent complete.
- b. Not urgent but plan for early completion.
- c. More money is unlikely to help move things forward.

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

- a. 2021 budget update
  - i. Unibank meeting is on Thursday to determine borrowing amount.
  - ii. Perhaps October 5th special town meeting.
- b. Status of additional funding sources
  - i. Non-governmental sources
    - 1. No update.
  - ii. CARES Act Funding
    - 1. In progress

Next meeting August 31 @ 6PM

Adjourned to join the Select Board meeting at 6:58 pm