

CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE

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

MISSING: Valentine Reid

1. Approve Meeting Notes from 3/9/2022

ACTION TAKEN: Motion by Trevor, seconded by Mary Ellen.

- i. Bob - yes, Mary Ellen - yes, Cheryl-yes, Trevor-yes

2. Status of Make-Ready

- a. True-up update
 - i. One payment to Verizon is off by \$0.63 due to an accounting error. Bob has to follow up to see how much of a nightmare this will be.
- b. West Hawley Road residence
 - i. No update

3. Distribution Network

- a. Construction Update
 - i. Testing is ongoing and likely completed in FSA02 but there are issues with uploading the test sites.
 1. Suggestions on getting the files uploaded
 - ii. Rowe interconnect fibers are not functional on Tatro Rd.
- b. Resiliency Update
 - i. Merged Legal Cost Sharing is being reviewed by the towns
 - ii. Reviewed the grant application
 - iii. Looking for a secondary backhaul solution with MBI or another Vendor
- c. Hub Monitoring/ Emergency Response Update
 - i. Unsure if the town hall lost power this week.

4. Drops

- a. Moving ahead on anything that will need underground construction
- b. Identified accounts that have subscribed for service but are not yet installed.
- c. Plan to discuss the end of the subsidy period in the next call or a call in the near future.

5. Commercial Pricing

- a. No update.

6. Subscription Campaign

- a. [Subscription Update](#)

- b. Sarah wants an article for the town newsletter to encourage people to sign up. Outreach committee is
- c. Townwide robo call for the subsidy? Discuss in future but potentially fall?
- d. Messaging around subsidies should be prepared
- e. Last call for cold drops with the items. This summer is the time for cold drops
- f. Consider a tax bill insert
 - i. Cheryl will call Lynn to set this up.
 - ii. Sit at the transfer station regarding the last call

7. Project Finance Update

- a. Bob met with the Finance Committee and the Select Board to introduce the budget. Kudos to the committee for their good work on this project.
- b. Perhaps we'll get the month-over-month budget can be reviewed in the future.
- c. Interest rates for fiscal year '23, long-term financing in November, interest rates might be in the historical range of 3.5 %.

8. Internet speed optimization

- a. No update

Next meeting: April 6 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting adjourned 7:50 PM