

CHARLEMONT BROADBAND COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 12, 2026, 6PM

ATTENDING: Bob Handsaker, Cheryl Handsaker, Mary Ellen Banks, Amy Wales, Ken Hall

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM.

1. Review and approve meeting notes from [1/22/2026](#)

- a. Minutes approved unanimously. Moved by Amy, seconded by Mary Ellen.

2. Update on Digital Equity Grant

- a. Grant halfway report has been submitted - thanks Sarah! Reimbursement expected within two weeks.
- b. 26 devices have been distributed, 2 more promised
- c. Grant has marketing budget we can use toward promotion of subsidies

3. [Budget Review](#)

- a. Amy will follow up on adding Administrator time in the broadband budget and follow up on the how that payment will be transferred.
- b. Confirmed an additional couple of years on the WGE contract
- c. Propose increasing the first-time installation costs by \$200.
 - i. MOTION: Increase the first-time installation subsidies by \$200. Moved by Amy, seconded by Mary Ellen.
 - 1. Unanimously approved.
 - ii. Bob will check with Sarah about anticipated new roads for the new year.
 - iii. Amy will follow up with the accountant about final numbers.
 - iv. Bob will follow up with Sarah regarding hub insurance.
 - v. Bob and Amy will meet to review budget
 - vi. Timeline for final budget is tentatively March 11.

4. National Grid feeder project

- a. Pole transfers completed by WCF have been reimbursed
- b. A process has been developed to avoid future inadvertent transfers by WCF.

5. Updates on pole attachment regulations

- a. Bob has been working with Senator Mark's office to modify statewide pole attachment regulations.
- b. The next step is to meet with DPU.
- c. Rulemaking will begin shortly.

6. Any other business not reasonably foreseen 48 hours in advance of the meeting

- a. Bob will follow up with the change to the grace period to one month.
- b. Stripe portal terms of service. New terms of service must be approved or Stripe will stop payment and service could be terminated.
 - i. Terms of service changes have not been provided despite a request. Bob will follow up with WCF
- c. Rec tax is being reconsidered. Public comment is open now - please write in to support this bill.

Next meeting 3/10 @ 6PM

Vote to adjourn 7:30 PM - unanimous

Moved by Amy, seconded by Ken