

Minutes of the Heath MLB Meeting
September 24, 2024 at 11
Virtual meeting

Present: MLB: Art Schwenger (Chair), Anne Emmet, David Gordon, Bill Fontes,
Ned Wolf, and MLP Manager, Sheila Litchfield

Art called the meeting to order at 11.

Members read the minutes of the August 27th MLB meeting as well as Sheila's proposed edits. Anne moved that the minutes be approved with edits. David seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 ayes and 1 abstain.

MLP Updates

Sheila said that during the September 4th Wired West Board meeting the representatives of a couple of towns spoke of the problem of the highway department mistakenly digging up broadband cable.

Sheila has alerted the Heath Highway Department to the possibility of this happening with a Heath drop wire. In other towns it was the town that had to pay for repairs. Bill suggested that there should be a metal tracer in the cable.

Sheila said that Wired West is still reviewing the excess reserve account. Does Wired West still need it? There might be a decision to distribute it to the towns.

Hut HVAC Maintenance

Sheila said that Jamrog has not replied to her inquiry about HVAC maintenance for Heath's hut. We still need to get an HVAC maintenance company.

Bill said that he will change the hut filter.

It was suggested that the company doing HVAC maintenance for 18 Jacobs Rd. might be willing to include the hut. The MLP would pay the portion of the bill that applies to the hut. Sheila said she will follow up on this.

Meeting with Charlemont about Pole Replacement Project

On Oct. 8th there will be a meeting of Heath and Charlemont officials to talk about the cost that would be incurred by moving each town's broadband lines to new poles.

Sheila said that National Grid has made a claim regarding the new poles it is proposing to install. It claims that of 30 power outages 8 or 12 would not occur with the new poles.

From July 1 – December 31 the Verizon bill for pole attachments was \$3,128.60. We do not have a cost estimate for the transfer of Heath's broadband cable to the new poles. Sheila wants more information before Oct. 8th. Jamie Cincotta of Whip City Fiber has said he is awaiting more information.

MLP Finances

David sent on September 24th a revised cash flow projection worksheet. There are 2 columns, one reflecting information received from the accountant according to his report on 9/2/24, the other has corrected balances as of 9/13/24.

The Accountant has changed the year end procedure. It appears that he zeros funds not yet moved over. The information received in September is actually year-end information. The only expenses so far are the MLP Manager's salary for July and August.

Providing Data for the Tax Recap Sheet

It appears that by meeting on Oct. 1st the MLB can recommend an amount to be transferred to the town sufficiently soon for it to appear on the Tax Rate Recapitulation Sheet.

Dates of the Next Meetings: Oct. 1st at 11 am

Nov. 12th “

Dec. 10th “

Anne moved that the meeting be adjourned at 12:36. Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf

