

Town of Heath

Meeting minutes

Heath Municipal Light Plant Advisory Committee

Date/time: 6/25/19 at 9:00 am

Location: Sawyer Hall

Called to order at 9:07 AM by Art with Jan, Ned, Art and Sheila present.

Agenda was reviewed.

Review of minutes was postponed to next meeting.

Charlemont Broadband representatives Bob Handsaker and Trevor Mackie arrived at 9:17 am

Edge cases between Charlemont and Heath were discussed. Discussed concept that an IRU (Indefeasible Right of Use) for fiber from Heath to Charlemont to enable Charlemont to serve their residents at the town borders was perhaps the best way to achieve resolution of those particular edge cases rather than Heath acquiring those Charlemont customers. Agreed to a joint conference call with WG&E on July 2. Agreed to collaborate on questions to send to WG&E for that call. Sheila will follow-up with Bob Bourke and WG&E.

Questions to WG&E include:

- Does WG&E have a suggestion about pros and cons of how these edge cases could best be resolved?
- How would the responsibilities or ownership of fiber and costs of installation and then on-going repairs to downed lines, maintenance or other connection issues be allocated in each option?
- What options do the design plans for both towns currently support?
- What is the exact number of fibers available at Heath border to Charlemont at both Bassett Rd. and Judd Rd.
- Does Heath need a network extension at either location in order to provide sufficient fiber to Charlemont? (note: Charlemont desires 4 fibers at end of Judd Rd. and plans for a field split on their end to service Warner Hill Rd.
- How would depreciation be handled for the edge case infrastructure?

The IRU will need to be reviewed by Counsel for both towns. Charlemont uses David Doneski at K&P, so this may be a smooth legal review with both Towns sharing the cost of review.

Bob Handsaker agreed to draft the IRU.

Goal will be for MLP Advisory Committee to recommend IRU in time for BOS to sign it on 7/16/19.

Meet again 7/9/19 to finalize IRU.

Bob H and Trevor left meeting.

Discussed use of PDU to develop Drop Policy. Agreed to bring laptop computers to net meeting to ensure everyone on committee can access the PDU report.

Discussed conducting a survey at Mohawk Estates during the summer to ascertain extent to interest in subscribing to broadband service. Jan will draft survey questions and discuss with Bob Bourke.

It was noted that if Heath use WG&E for construction customers will be able to have 12 month financing to assist with their portion of Drop cost.

Next meeting: 12:30 PM on 7/9/19 prior to conference call with Bill Ennen at 1 pm that day.

Jan moved to adjourn; Ned seconded; motion carried.

Adjourned at 12:15 PM