

Minutes of the Heath MLPAC Conference Call with WG&E

June 19, 2020 at 2 pm

Present: Tom Kolek, Rich Carnall, and Joe Parda of WG&E

Art Schwenger, Sheila Litchfield, Jan Carr, and Ned Wolf from the Heath MLPAC

There was a discussion of the number of seasonal drops. Jan's numbers for the number of seasonal drops by FSA are as follows:

FSA1 14

FSA2 23

FSA3 16

FSA4 160

213 seasonal out of 517

Rich noted that installations will be taking place in Mohawk Estates next winter. The cost of each install will be around \$700 while the revenue from a seasonal customer could be only \$225 for 3 months of service. To reduce that revenue loss he suggested our putting a condition in our drop policy that would be town wide and require a seasonal person to sign up for a full year.

Rich expressed some concern about what happens to the ONT when a seasonal customer drives away leaving no heat.

When asked about costs, Rich said that Heath has paid the \$77,000 for the hut, but has not been billed yet for the active and passive components in the hut.

Rich confirmed that there had at one time been confusion about the total drop numbers for FSA2 and FSA4 caused by certain streets being included in FSA2 that should have been in FSA4.

Members asked Rich about the billing process for drops. He said that Tri Wire will send WG&E a bill for each drop. WG&E will in turn send the Town a paper bill for each drop. If the installation cost exceeds the drop subsidy, then the difference will appear on the customer's first bill. That bill will also include a \$99 installation fee plus the cost of one month of service, plus in some cases the cost of 1 or 2 additional weeks of service during the preceding month. The responsibility for unpaid bills falls on the Town.

Answering a question about the timing of bills, Rich said that if Tri Wire installs a drop in May, the town will get the bill sometime in June. He said that by the time you get a bill in your hands some customers will have paid their bills.

Rich said that the CAFII money can't be released until 95% of CAFII residences have access to broadband. This could occur upon completion in Goshen without Charlemont necessarily being complete. Rich estimates it will be sometime between February and July in 2022.

Regarding the time when a town can expect to receive the \$500 drop aid from the state, Rich said that it's generally been 6 to 7 months after the completion of 70% of the drops.

Joe's current estimate for the time of Heath's pre-construction conference is mid-July.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf