

## Minutes of the Heath MLPAC and the WG&E Meeting

July 31, 2020 at 2 pm

Present: Art Schwenger, Sheila Litchfield, Jan Carr, Margo Newton, and Ned Wolf of the MLPAC; Lisa Blasak of marketing, Tom Kolek, Rich Carnall, and Joe Parda of WG&E

Joe said he will be contacting Tri-Wire to identify any residual make ready. He said that trucks will be coming to town to stretch wire in September. Tom Broderick will likely be the Project Manager.

Art asked whether once construction starts it will follow the schedule. Rich said yes and that depending on winter weather they are sticking a 14 month time span to complete the project. Art asked whether the first customer getting connected would happen in February. Rich said they would try to get something going in December, maybe a soft launch of customers. Rich said that Lisa, who is working on the website, needs final addresses from Mohawk Estates. Members of the MLPAC told Rich of the continuing difficulty of getting the final addresses. Rich said that that would not delay the project. He said he would appeal to the engineers to push out the other FSA's while waiting on Mohawk Estates. Lisa said that adding localities later should be doable.

Sheila suggested there be a walkthrough with a CAD drawing and possibly Jenny's involvement.

Joe said that the field-split cabinet offers flexibility and that Mohawk Estates would not hold up the rest of the town. Rich told Joe he would spend some time on a map of Mohawk Estates and get back to him by August 14<sup>th</sup>. Rich has a copy of Margo's map which has fulltime in red and seasonal in blue. The goal is to be done by August 28<sup>th</sup> when there will be a virtual kick-off meeting with Tri-Wire. Police detail and staging areas will be among the items on the agenda. The target is to get started on construction by mid-September.

Rich said that the high estimates for the drops at Sherman Drive and Vincent Road are due to the length and to their being no utility path. Art spoke of the interest of the owners doing the underground themselves. Rich said that the length for each drop is greater than what they recommend for microduct.

For the drop on Vincent Road Rich said there would be no problem in attaching the fiber optic cable to poles that are strictly phone poles. But the preliminary estimate calls for 10 poles over an 800' stretch. Rich said they would check the estimate. He said that if the homeowner is willing to bury the conduit, WG&E is happy to sell microduct to that person. For Sherman Drive Joe said there would need to be pole boxes every 500'. A conduit would have to be buried 12"-18". When asked about the cost of the out-of-scope work associated with the 3 properties not I

on the PDU, Rich said that he thinks there is room within the original estimate of \$2500 to do the work.

Sheila said that we want to approach the 3 property owners and tell them what they have to do. Rich said that they have to create a 'utility path' and put in a pedestal and an MST Tri-Wire would insert cable in the conduit, pull it, and test it.

The DocuSign for out-of-scope items was voided when we told WG&E there were things we wanted changed. Sheila said that we thought we had paid for hut active and passive. The DocuSign suggests that we have not. Rich said that their notion of out-of-scope may include more than we've imagined. Rich said he would contact Sheila for a discussion of the items on the original DocuSign.

Jan asked whether the estimate on the PDU of \$719.78 for 20 West Main St. Is accurate. Rich said the estimate looks correct. Although it's a long drop, it is partly set up.

Art asked when marketing begins. Rich said anytime after the kick-off on the 28<sup>th</sup>. He has worked on setting up Heath's website. The plan is to use WiredWest's list of FAQ's. Jan has sent a drone shot of Heath Center.

Rich recommended lawn signs to encourage broadband signups. He credits using such signs with the 70% signup in Leyden.

Joe said that if there is a loss of electrical power, the Ooma phone and the router will go down. The kind of UPS one gets will determine how long these 4 items will continue to run following the loss of power: the ONT, the router, the tel-O, and the base unit for portable phones. A person's medical device may not be built to work with VOIP. That person may want to buy a new device.

Joe said that right now Tri-Wire is in the process of doing the final ride-out. By the time of the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting that ride-out will be done.

Sheila said that she has been working with Laura Dorman of WG&E to verify the final pole application.

The meeting adjourned at 2:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf