

Minutes of the Heath MLPAC Meeting
October 20, 2020 at 11 am

Present: Art Schwenger, Sheila Litchfield, Jan Carr, Margo Newton, and Ned Wolf

Art called the meeting to order at 11:02 am.

Art reported on a meeting on October 19 at 4 pm intended to arrive at a process for improving the situation of police details. Those attending besides Art were Chief John McDonough, Robyn Provost Carlson, Hilma Sumner, and calling in from TriWire: Jordan Hawes. As agreed in the meeting, Eric will report to John a couple of days in advance the planned work location(s) and if details are expected. John then emails Art who will relay the information to the Town Coordinator and to the Highway Superintendent. The email will tell when and where the details are expected. Later that day John will email where the details happen and the number of hours.

Sheila noted that in the case of 2 invoices from the HPD the information hasn't matched the daily crew assignment we got earlier in the day from Marsha Paegle of TriWire. Art said that the second email from John right after the completion of a detail should allow us to correct any earlier mistake.

Jan asked whether Robyn referred to the list of road sites around town that the MLPAC submitted. Art said that Robyn asked that John and Eric take the list and revise it and come up with a proposal for police details and an estimated cost. Art remarked that the starting point of the conversation was acknowledging that when TriWire, as represented by Jordan and Eric, thinks a detail is needed, there will be a detail. When the MLP Manager is hired, John will communicate with that person instead of with Art.

Once a budget for the details is developed, it goes to the Select Board, the MLP Manager, and the MLPAC. There is a discussion of where the money comes from. Can we rework our budget to include it?

Art said there's a willingness to consider flaggers, and flagger training might be possible in Heath. Flagger going rate is near \$50/hr.

Also, when a road is too narrow for passing, Art will talk with John about how Jeff is to be involved in the closing of the road.

Members noted that because the invoices have not been approved there would be some delay in the town's paying the invoices that have come so far for police details. Margo said that time lags in the paychecks for details are not uncommon. Art said that the Select Board prefers to have emails sent to Hilma. The problem in sending emails to all 3 Select Board members is that the Select Board can't take action until the next meeting.

Sheila reported 2 invoices received:

Sept. 3 – Oct. 5	National Grid	power to the hut	\$102.01,
and			
Oct. 12	John McDonough	8 hrs. on Rte. 8A	\$400.
Oct. 14	Lee Lively	8 hrs. on Dell Rd.	\$400.
Oct. 15	Lee Lively	8 hrs. on W. Main St.	<u>\$400.</u>
			\$1200. for details

Members request that the detail invoices include the same level of information that the detail invoices from the sheriff's office provides. Sheila moved that we approve the invoice from National Grid and wait until further notice for the invoice for police details. Margo seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Sheila said that the MLB is supposed to make a decision about the MLP Manager during their meeting October 20th. The Select Board needs to have a discussion of the MLP Manager's salary because they have not voted on it.

Sheila said that the art room in the former school building at 18 Jacobs Rd., which TriWire will be renting for \$500/mo., might be a place to meet with Jordan.

Art has heard from his neighbor Rol that he has received a letter about his underground conduit from Whip City Fiber. Art thinks that WG&E may be moving fast on underground conduits irrespective of FSA before the ground freezes.

Art asked members for feedback on informational emails sent by Rich Carnall. Sheila and Jan said they had looked through them and saw no misinformation. Jan reported that the number of subscribers so far is 175.

Sheila reported on her investigation into an MLP Network for Heath, recalling Jordan's offer to barter with the town by taking cost off the building of Heath's MLP Network. The MLP Network

would enable one subscription for all town buildings. She said that in subsequent emails with Rich and Joe that a municipal hub for Heath is not in the design plan. Jim Drawe has said that Wired West is not charging for municipal connections. Sheila noted that our offices are not all in one building and a drawback to one subscription would be that all town offices would be sharing that connection. The committee agreed that Northeast IT (NE IT) needs to be involved in broadband to town offices. It was also agreed that we send Hilma a question for her to send NE IT as to whether Heath will need anything unique to ensure a good server connection. Jan said she will do this.

Sheila asked Art whether he can confirm that no municipal connection through Wired West is being charged. Art said he would ask about that matter at a Wired West Board meeting.

Sheila said that we are still waiting for the estimated cost at each of the 3 properties not on the PDU if the underground work is done by the customer. WG&E has said that Rich Carnall will be our contact for these special cases as well as others. The committee agreed that the MLP Manager should be the keeper of a log for communications about these cases. Jan said that we can tell customers that we are relaying their concerns to WG&E and send communications to Sheila for her log.

The committee listed 3 additional items to bring up in our 2 pm meeting October 20th with WG&E and TriWire:

- Ask for clarity on CAFII and whether there is any follow-up responsibility for us.
- Ask if they are seeing comments when people sign up.
- Do we connect with Dave Loiko or not?

At 12:25 pm Margo moved to adjourn. Jan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Ned Wolf