MINUTES
BROADBAND FEASIBILITY COMMITTEE
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2022
REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

11:00 AM

YouTube Recording:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PkNeckvRmmE

Minutes of the meeting of the East Haddam Broadband Feasibility Committee

1. Meeting called to order by committee chair Tom Sevigny (chair) at 11:01 am
    a. **Members Present**: Irene Haines (First Selectman), Tom Hays,Craig Mansfield, Wayne Schulz, Tom Sevigny (chair), Patty Stricker
    b. Also attending: Linda Zemienieski, East Haddam Selectman's office - Executive Manager
    c. **Entry Point:** Jeff Christensen, Nicole Banya
2. Approval of the minutes of the 10-28-2022 meeting

3. Nicole Banyai - Entry Point - Survey overview - 192 residential responses and 8 business responses as of 11/4/2022. The survey just went live 10/31/2022. Nicole said she is pleased with the number of responses.

4. Wayne: What would our goal number of responses be - Tom S - 400 would be our goal. We are about ½ way there and next Thursday this goes into the E Haddam News and we expect a spike in responses.

5. Nicole Banyai - goal is to have first draft report first week in December 2022

6. Tom Hayes - Do you still need/want bills - forward them to Nicole Banyai
    a. Will drop off flyers at the schools, town hall, senior center, transfer stations, library

7. Craig Mansfield will work with town to obtain bills from the town for what they pay for Internet
8. Craig Mansfield - there appears to be a pretty detailed opinion from Bristol about what can and cannot be done (regarding use of telephone poles) and whether there could be a challenge from incumbent providers

a. Jeff C - ultimately that question might be more about the ability of the town to get this financed and there's a possibility that one or more incumbent providers could challenge this legally.
b. Craig M - concern is the ability to use the existing poles - how does that affect the cost model ultimately
    i. Jeff C - Entry Point will factor that into the report - roughly $17 per pole per year to use existing infrastructure
    ii. Irene H - For right now we are considering if this is a feasible project, not addressing legal (due to expense of legal opinions) at this time, not saying that it's not important but it might be early to incur legal fees until we see the results of the feasibility study.
c. Tom S - Conference of municipalities may offer some defense

9. Craig Mansfield - Has there ever been a cooperation between incumbents and towns
    a. Wayne Schulz - the city of New Haven recently undertook a study during 2022 which appears to have concluded just what Craig asked – that New Haven would encourage incumbents to build out fiber - source - https://ctmirror.org/2022/10/08/new-haven-ct-justin-elicker-public-broadband-internet-network-plan/
10. Tom S - East Hartford is presently in the midst of laying fiber
    a. Jeff C - The East Hartford project is not owned by East Hartford but is being developed by SiFi Networks https://sifinetworks.com/residential/cities/east-hartford-ct/

11. Next meeting November 18, 2022 via Zoom
12. Meeting adjourned at 11:36 am

YouTube - Broadband Feasibility Committee - 11.4.2022