Broadband Implementation Committee

August 25, 2023, 1pm, Zoom

Attendees

Tom Sevigney, Craig Mansfield, Bruce Harris, Stan Conover, Stu Palmer, Irene Haines, Laurel White, Linda Zenienieski

Absent: Theresa Govert

Entry Point Members: Jeff Christiansen, Erik Banyai, Nicole Banyai, Brad Banyai

Meeting is called to order at 1:03pm

Minutes for the August 11, 2023 meeting are approved, motion made by Stan, 2nd by Stu

Discussion of Entry Point's **Scope of Work** proposal

Nicole from EP gave an overview of the paperwork we received as the Scope of Work which includes

Initial Community Engagement Campaign

EP will update our website, add tabs, reorganize and add relevant up to date information.

Tasks to be accomplished, costs, QR code

Work with us to tailor literature and modeling for target audiences, make yard signs,

There is a video component to this feature which we might consider adding local people and businesses, with their agreement, to help us advertise the benefits they might experience with broadband

Nicole mentioned one of us having a list of volunteers- Theresa has this list

We do not need to worry about a brand logo at this point, Bruce mentions this can be developed through community engagement feedback because we will gain a perspective with that info. Entry Point will also assist with the design of the logo if needed.

The estimated cost of this Scope of Work (SOW) with Entry Point is $8,750. Any additional visits or webinars outside of the proposed SOW will be billed at the hourly rate of $250/hr

We discussed the next potential opportunity to engage with the public. At our last meeting we considered the election days, voting days, town meeting days. With consideration to the budget referendum and ongoing strife in the public around budget related expenses, we decided that waiting to start the campaign until after the referendum and into October would be more appropriate. October 26, 2023 is agreed to by all parties as the official Kick Off Campaign for Broadband engagement. A public information meeting will be held at the Municipal Office Complex rooms 1&2 at 7pm. Entry Point will join us to begin the Information Session. This gives us time to work with EP on flyers, logo, branding. Irene will confirm the $8,750 is available to begin this phase.

The next step for this committee is to present to the Board of Selectmen to get a formal commitment for this agreement. With respect for Theresa's investment and interest in this matter, the meeting agreed to is September 20, 2023, EP will Zoom in.

Municipal Gain Discussion

According to the 2019 CT Superior Court decision, all towns, cities, boroughs, fire districts and the Department of Transportation have access to one gain per pole by a *Public Service Company.* The term Public Service Company (PSC) is the area of concern around our ability to use this gain. Is our 501c3 incorporation with OAT going to count as a PSC in the eyes of the state? Craig suggested and Irene agreed that the Secretary of State can answer this for us. Irene will look into this.

Furthermore, this incorporation will be a CT incorporation and not in another state per Jeff Chrisitiansen.

Additional discussion-Laurel was late to get into the Zoom and missed the first of the meeting. In reference to the August 11, 2023 minutes Laurel stated the attendees were not listed. An addendum copy of the minutes will be given to the group.

Next Meeting

September 8, 2023, 1pm in person, remote access for Entry Point

Meeting adjourned at 1:31pm