

TOWN OF WALPOLE  
BROADBAND COMMITTEE  
MINUTES, JUNE 3, 2019

Present: Dennis Marcom, Paul Looney, Dick Hall, Bill Moses, Bob Anderson and Peggy Pschirrer

Absent: Rod Bouchard, Steve Grenier

Peggy Pschirrer called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm.

Ms. Pschirrer distributed updated lists of the committee members.

Ms. Pschirrer reported that Consolidated is upgrading poles in Walpole by increasing the height of the poles. Work has begun on Wentworth Road. Some local citizens are concerned about the height. Its purpose to try to reduce the potential for power outages by raising the wires and changing the manner in which wires are strung.

Following the first meeting, May 1, 2019, and the committees' agreement to apply the Chesterfield model to Walpole's efforts to bring Broadband, letters were sent to Comcast Cable and to Consolidated Communications, Inc. asking for subscriber information from each company for the purpose of determining broadband connections could be pursued with either party.

Consolidated Communications returned a Mutual Confidentiality and Nondisclosure Agreement to be signed by the Town Selectboard before any disclosure of any consumer information, considered confidential, could be made. The Selectboard signed the Mutual Confidentiality and Nondisclosure agreement. The Agreement was shared with the Broadband Committee as an attachment to this meeting. It is expected that all members will observe the agreement.

Comcast Cable has not responded to our request for information.

Bill Moses reported that he had found Atlantic Broadband sites on the internet indicating services available in New Hampshire. Paul Looney called the company headquartered in Quincy, MA; a spokesperson indicated that Atlantic is not ready to enter NH at this time as they are concentrating on CT.

Paul Looney volunteered to Chair the Broadband Committee if everyone agreed to take on various aspects of the work. He will distribute by email attachments some more detailed information distributed by Chesterfield. Hard copies will also be available.

Bob Anderson volunteered contact Brad Roscoe, the Chair of the Chesterfield Committee: [baroscoe@gmail.com](mailto:baroscoe@gmail.com). Bob is to ask Brad Roscoe if he will speak with our committee.

Dennis Marcom reported he had been reading about Microsoft's efforts to expand services. He agreed to do more research on Microsoft.

Paul Looney agreed to contact John Snowdon in Westmoreland to learn about their efforts to work with Consolidated for expansion of broadband services in their town. Westmoreland's committee or a representative from that group will be asked to meet with us.

In 2018 the New Hampshire legislature passed SB 170 giving communities the right to Bond in order to expand broadband services. The legislation provides that bonds for expanding broadband service will not be considered debt incurred by the community which could limit other bonding needs of the community. Dick Hill agreed to review bonding regulations.

Steve Grenier has agreed to join the committee.

The next meeting of the Committee will be July 3, 2019 in Town Hall in the Selectboard Office.

Peggy Pschirrer