



## SHUTESBURY PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Posted in accordance with the provisions of MGL 30A §§18-25

### **Shutesbury Broadband Committee/MLP Board**

**Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Shutesbury Town Hall

#### **AGENDA**

##### **1. Take Attendance**

Eric Stocker  
Frank Citino  
Ayers Hall  
Gayle Huntress  
Craig Martin  
Graeme Sephton  
Steve Schmidt  
Kent Whitney  
Becky Torres (arr. 6:15)  
Jim Hemminway

##### **2. Make-Ready Update**

We have 80% of the poles licensed but not 80% of the licenses. Pole Agent Rick Durant has been waiting for over a year to get paid so we're processing his payment – did meet requirement of 80% of poles with issued licenses so far.

Filed complaint with the DTC last week, it was escalated and I got a call today from: *Jacob Levine*, Market Policy Economist. Competition Division. Department of Telecommunications and Cable. I contacted Rob Davis at Eversource, says he was the hold up on a few Jan. Hills poles and they're going to meet there tomorrow with crews from Verizon to resolve the issue. DTC is calling Verizon to push them to finish the work, too.

Email sent to HG&E saying we're close to make-ready completion, let's get that IGA for project management signed.

\*Gayle to contact HG&E to see if TriWire can start putting up strand in advance of make-ready completion on the places where licenses have been issued. Check insurance requirements for this.

Bill Ennen suggested that Selectboard send a letter to Lt. Gov. Polito – have a draft sent to Selectboard to sign and send for tomorrow night.

### **3. Drop Installation Policy Discussion and Budget**

Alford amended their drop policy again (not posted yet) where overhead is included and underground is a case by case basis. Used to be that the Alford MLP will provide all the materials and \$200 toward labor for the Service Drop installation (they covered the ~\$400 of in home installation and electronics but NO router) But they are now covering more for underground installs. Not enough people may have been signing up. Now more in line with Otis policy, but have not compared details. Ashfield is going with a 3K per home drop limit. Above that is on homeowner. We'll continue to investigate the best policy for Shutesbury and what we can afford.

\*Graeme will continue to work on drop installation procurement document, including both in-home and outside work.

### **4. Calix Review – Need to put out bid for hut materials/electronics. Graeme to write. Will ask Nokia (via WGE) to come in and present to committee.**

### **5. Items not anticipated within 48 Hours**

Gayle is exploring asking to be made part-time employee of town for one year to bring project to completion through the build and home deployment process. Her flexible technology contractor job has allowed her to spend 10-20 hrs. a week on broadband for 6 years, but now needs a job with benefits. If she takes a second job or a new job there will be significant reduction in time she can devote to broadband. Requesting minimum wage for 20 hrs. week with benefits. (Group discussed without Gayle present). Unanimous support but ultimately the decision of personnel, Selectboard, finance and likely Special Town Meeting. After one year term will go back to volunteer status.

**6:45 Voted to move into Executive Session : RFP Discussion (Exec Session)  
Crocker chosen as vendor award pending contract negotiations to commence immediately.**

**Adjourn: 7:35 PM**

\*Note: The second half of this meeting was held in Executive Session so will not be open to the public because we will be reviewing proposals from vendors bidding on network operations. The bids contain proprietary information. Legal wording below.

Reason for executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, section 21, 7 “to comply with or act under the authority of any general or special law ...” The general law being M.G.L. c. 164, section 47D.

(M.G.L. c. 164, section 47D which states that "A municipal lighting plant created pursuant to the provisions of this chapter or any special law shall be exempt from the public record requirements of section 10 of chapter 66 and the open meeting requirements of sections 20 and 21 of chapter 30A in those instances when necessary for protecting trade secrets, confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of proceedings conducted pursuant to this chapter when such municipal lighting plant board determines that such disclosure will adversely affect its ability to conduct business in relation to other entities making, selling or distributing electric power and energy pursuant to this chapter."

M.G.L. c. 164, section 47E states "When ever apt, the provisions of this chapter and chapter 44, which apply to the operation and maintenance of a municipal lighting plant, shall apply also to the operation and maintenance of such telecommunications system.")