



SHUTESBURY PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

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

Shutesbury Broadband Committee/MLP Board -Minutes

Wednesday, Feb 13, 2019

5:00 PM – 7:30 PM Committee Meeting

Shutesbury Town Hall

AGENDA

1. Take Attendance

Eric Stocker

Gayle Huntress (minutes)

Craig Martin

Steve Schmidt

Kent Whitney

Jim Heminway

2. Approve Minutes from 1/28 – Approved

3. Bid Opening And Review

-Input bid results into chart for discussion later,
but bid amounts opened publically on Tuesday.

4. Router Discussion and Calix Support

-The routers we were planning to get from Calix are not as great as they seemed to be because in order to use all of their features, we would have to buy an expensive support package to have the capability to manage, diagnose and fix router issues for the customer. It would be between 2 and 8 dollars per month per subscriber. Crocker is looking into other options. (Crocker confirmed \$5/mo/subscriber)

Google Wifi - A single unit will be adequate for most homes and the mesh feature (seamlessly adding units) will eliminate the problem of dead spots or slow performance that you sited as one of the major concerns you deal with. It is capable of 500 Mbs in close proximity and has a range up to 105 feet for a single unit, which is very good. Gayle called Google, seeing if they provide bulk discounts for their \$100 units (right now there is a special for \$30 off). They do have a partners program, see if we can in on that.

Looking looking at a fully managed solution built on MicroTik wifi routers. The devices are \$50 and managed service would be \$3-5/month. It supports parental controls, bandwidth controls, remote access, etc. It will also allow for meshed extenders (+\$2/month per managed extender).

**Important point – any unit we choose, it would be good to have mesh options.

5. Budget Review

Review of current budget and discussion. We're on budget. Discussion of \$200 charge. Is it regressive? It shifts the expense for installations to the least expensive homes (not progressive). Complicated – not an exact relationship between long driveways and high property values. More likely the homes have more value, but not always. At the lake some of the shortest drops go to the wealthiest lakeside homes and the rest go to some of the lowest value homes. One way to explain it is that homeowner is getting \$200 in equipment. But it really is just shifting costs. Suggest presenting FinCom with alternatives next week.

What do we need to do to get ready for meeting with FinComm next week? Gayle to clean up spreadsheet, put contingencies at the bottom, make spreadsheet clearer-approve on Saturday and send out.

6. Other Items

Logo contest Saturday 10AM

Contract negotiations with Crocker proceeding, aiming to sign by March 1.

Ethics – Sign green sheet (Kent)

Backhaul provider (Jim C. talking to ISP to figure out solution)

Ring protection document – any concerns, flags, questions?

7. Review/discuss bids

8. Adjourn 7:31 PM