

Shutesbury Broadband Committee		
11_17_2021	5:00 PM EST	On Line Zoom Meeting
Facilitator	Gayle Huntress	
Minutes	Jim Hemingway	
Committee Attendees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gayle Huntress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Schmidt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graeme Sephton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Hemingway Craig Martin
Other		
Approved minutes for 10/20/2021		

Hut Report – Graeme flipped the HVAC units.. Trouble reports from Crocker – not that many. One VOIP problem, however. Turned out to be a house wiring problem...

Crocker will run a fail-over test for our 1 gig MBI backup service early morning December 2. To do the test, Crocker will have to halt temporarily our Crown Castle connection to be sure the test of the fail-over actually works. As long as the test works, service will not be disrupted.

We have 7 Linksys routers in stock for backup. Do we need to order a few more? If one fails, do we subsidize the purchase of a new one for our subscribers in order to help keep everyone using the same router? We decided to purchase another 10 new EA7300 Linksys routers. We will also order some spare power supplies for our subscriber's ONTs which may be needed if one of the battery backup units fail and has to be disconnected.

Currently there are 527 customers who are using ShutesburyNet's VOIP service.

The four of us will meet this coming Saturday to move the cable reels that are currently behind the Highway Department's sand shed up onto pallets for safer, long-term storage. Half of these reels contain various lengths of 144 conductor fiber. Graeme will catalogue the inventory of these reels for future reference.

Steve: Financial report: \$131,655 current MLP balance. Nothing unusual to report; all is well.

Steve and Gayle will work on a budget in late December to be presented to FinCom early next year when Fincom reviews the budgets from all the Town's departments for FY2023.

Gayle is working with EPlus, a company that analyzes internet security concerns, for a security evaluation proposal. What would be our upper limit for paying for such a proposal? We are concerned about following 'best industry practices' when it comes to internet security. We might be willing to spend up to \$15,000 for this proposal.

Tri-Wire has been acquired by another company, and so our service contract with them is now void. Crocker will be negotiating with Sertex and possibly Collins Electric to take over our service needs.

How to spend the \$1,500 money in the Town's budget that was a gift to us some years ago from a company that Asha worked with during the time she was living in Shutesbury. Some ideas were presented, but we decided to table this discussion for the time being.

Given all the Federal Infrastructure money that was just approved by Congress with much of it allocated for Broadband construction, we discussed a variety of ways we might be able to spend some of these funds once they become available. Some of the ways included the equipment we will need to connect ShutesburyNet to our ring backup system, and, given the timeline for the use of the Federal grants, we might be able to use it to replace a lot of our hut equipment once our initial 7 year cycle for replacement of much of the equipment in our hut takes place in four years.

Crocker's current contract can be extended for 1 to 3 years if we decide to go with them once their current contract with us expires this coming June. This renewal can not be done incrementally. We can talk to anyone else about contracts up until an RFP goes out. Gayle wants to work with Crocker on a possible renewal contract that she would like to accomplish by this coming February. If no agreement is made by then, we would send out a RFP in March or April which would invite others to bid on our needs for an ISP once our contract with Crocker expires next June.

Meeting concluded at 6:15pm.

Set Next Meeting	
	Wednesday, December 15, 2021, 5:00pm EST