

Shutesbury Broadband Committee		
1_19_2022	5:20 PM EST	On Line Zoom Meeting
Facilitator	Gayle Huntress	
Minutes eeper	Jim Hemingway	
Committee Attendees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gayle Huntress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Hemingway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Schmidt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Craig Martin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graeme Sephton	
Other		
Approved minutes December 15, 2021 and January 13, 2021 meetings		

Hut report: about 20 service calls last month, no problems of note. Paciorek apparently has done the yearly generator maintenance service at the end of December which we asked them to do last month.

Crocker did order the wall-warts we want to have on hand in case some of our subscriber's battery backup power supplies fail and they need to power up their router.

We will order more routers when we actually need them. The price on the EA7300 went up \$50. Craig suggested purchasing some refurb alternatives from Amazon given the extremely high price of the currently available new ones.

The WG&E ring proposal meeting today. Nothing actionable right now; a new revised proposal is in the works. It might be possible to share a 10 gig Crown Castle connection with Wendell and New Salem, perhaps. Gayle also plans on asking WG&E for a non-binding estimate of what it would cost to provide ISP and NO(network operator) services to ShutesburyNet once our contract with Crocker comes up for renewal on July 1, 2022.

Budget report: \$54,666 current balance. Steve asked Crocker about why we should be paying the \$1,000 truck retainer fee given the fact that Tri-Wire is currently bankrupt and no longer providing any service. Crocker has granted us a credit back to last November for the truck retainer fees which is when Tri-Wire closed their doors. Steve will also produce a proposed budget for fiscal 2023 that will be ready for when the MLP meets with FinCom next month.

The MLP wishes to transfer its day to day fiscal activity to the MLP's manager's position given its growing complexity – a task which Steve has been doing up to this point and which will become even more demanding should any change to our ISP and NO occur at the end of this fiscal year. Such a change or shift would increase Gayle's workload substantially. A proposal was made to increase the General Manager's annual salary to \$24,000 due to the high level of responsibility, complexity of ISP/NO oversight and negotiations, increased hours required for financial tasks, and ongoing time demands for which our GM has not been adequately compensated.

The motion to raise the General Manager's salary to \$24,000 beginning July, 2022(FY23) was discussed by the MLP after Gayle left the meeting temporarily. The MLP felt that such a raise was necessary to cover the additional hours and effort required to manage the financial side of the MLP. The Personnel Committee will be notified about this proposed change. Steve will edit and revise the new MLP Manager's job description in the coming weeks. MLP vote for this proposal - Graeme proposed, Schmidt seconded, Hemingway, aye; Sephton, aye and Schmidt, aye.

There was an extended discussion of whether we can or should reduce subscriber fees beginning this upcoming fiscal year and if so, by how much.

Gayle asked a question about the co-insurance line in our insurance policy which we will take up next month.

The MLP then voted to switch to an executive session at 6:40pm. Schmidt proposed; Sephton seconded, Hemingway aye, Schmidt aye, Sephton aye.