

Shutesbury Broadband Committee		
6_15_2022	5:00 PM DST	On Line Zoom Meeting
Facilitator	Gayle Huntress	
Minutes keeper	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"/> Graeme Sephton	
Other		
Approved minutes May 18, 2022		

Hut report: minor problem with the SimpliSafe camera in the hut having a problem with making a recording. 31 trouble tickets in May, 16 of which were administrative. 6 VOIP ones and 9 having to do with internet speed issues. There was a problem with call routing systems with VOIP which caused some dropped calls, something that Crocker fixed on June 8th. It is hoped that some of these VOIP problems may occur less often with the switch to Deep River July 27th.

Steve, budget report: \$89,965 in our account, roughly \$30K of bills coming due this month, and so it looks like we will have roughly \$100K going into retained earnings beginning July 1, 2022 when we get this month's check from Crocker. The pole bond fee bill is about to be paid, including the one for the 50 poles owned by Eversource in SW Shutesbury. Steve has just recently turned over the budget info that he has been keeping track of up to now to Gayle, who will in the future be managing the budget.

The transition from Crocker to SHELD: everything seems to be moving along fine except for getting our primary 10 gig backhaul Crown Castle connection ported over to SHELD in a timely manner. We are trying to make this Crown Castle connection happen at the latest by early July rather than August 17th which is the date that Crown Castle has given SHELD and HG&E. This could be a problem for the transition if Crown Castle can't move the install date up to July. HG&E is working on this problem. It's not an emergency yet, but this problem is yet to be resolved.

The transition email notification (Crocker to SHELD) went out to our subscribers on June 6th; the FAQ on the Town's web page about the transition has been updated as well. Big River uses a separate and specialized service to handle E911 calls which will be updated in the near future.

The \$250 MLP reconnection fee issue was discussed. Very few of our subscribers have had to make use of this billing feature. There doesn't seem to be a problem with the way it is now, but Steve suggested we lower the reconnection fee to \$175 after doing some calculations. And so it was decided, given the proposed drop in our subscriber rate by around \$15, that we should lower this reconnection fee as well. The up to 3 month seasonal suspension fee discussion then followed. Should we reduce this monthly fee as well? General consensus was that this fee should be reduced from \$50/mo (internet only) and \$58.95/mo (internet and phone) to \$35/mo (internet) and \$39.99/mo (internet and phone) once SHELD becomes ShutesburyNet's ISP on July 27th.

ARPA funding requests that the MLP would like to submit to the Select Board by the end of June were discussed, a part of which would go to a new fiber installation in Shutesbury. We will consult with SHELD about the cost of this one particular new install to a Shutesbury household that does not currently have a fiber connection which ARPA funds could be used for. We would also like to order 25 U6 Calix routers that could be used for various town departments, the cost for which would be a part of our request for ARPA funding.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.