

# TOWN OF PRESQUE ISLE

## Broadband Committee

### Minutes

April 17, 2023, 7:00pm, Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Dave Bogan, Paul Specht, Nick Williams, Eric Benn, Christine Wolter, Gary Plouff. Absent: Philip Schaffner. Also Present: Cathy Logan Weber

Co-Chairmen Paul Specht called the meeting to order at 7: 00pm.

Item 1). A motion was made by Eric Benn and seconded by Nick Williams to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2023 meeting of the Broadband Committee. After a correcting of a spelling error the Motion carried.

Item 2). Dave Bogan reviewed and discussed the current draft language of the Broadband Grant Contribution Agreement (BGCA) (timing of payments from the Town) and a broader Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Spectrum and the Town with the Committee. Dave and Paul Specht discussed the status of these drafts at Spectrum and the potential for a meeting with Spectrum soon to finalize them for presentation to the Town Board for approval. Questions from the Committee, primarily about the provisions in the MOU draft, were addressed. Eric Benn asked where a commitment from Spectrum for the dependability (up time) of the services to be provided would be addressed. The group was told that such a commitment is most likely addressed in the Spectrum Customer Agreement.

Item 3). Dave and Paul also updated the status of the “Walk Out” work underway by Spectrum to determine serviceable addresses for final reconciliation with County and Town records. This successful reconciliation is necessary before the Town will have to pay its first contribution (\$300,000) to the project as put forth in the BGCA.

Item 4). Dave shared project update slides to be shared at the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for April 18. Committee member comments were received and slides adjusted where appropriate.

Item 5). Dave Bogan updated the Committee on Broadband Website development activity since the last meeting. Property owner subscriptions to the website continue to grow and currently number 194. Work continues on the content to be included in the popular FAQs section of the Website. The intent is to utilize direct links to FAQ sections on the Spectrum website to avoid duplication and possible discrepancies between the Town and Spectrum websites.

Item 6). Addressing a question posed by Christine Wolter, Dave and Paul clarified the working relationship between the Committee and the Vilas County Economic Development Committee Broadband subcommittee. Even though the Town of Presque Isle has chosen to take an approach independent of the VCEDC work with other Towns with considerably smaller projects, the sharing of information between the groups has provided benefit to this Committee’s project planning and related document preparation.

Item 7). The next Meeting of the Committee was schedule for Monday, May 15, 2023 at 7:00pm via Zoom.

Item 8). On a motion from Eric Benn seconded by Nick Williams, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Specht