

# TOWN OF PRESQUE ISLE

## Broadband Committee

### Minutes

April 4, 2022, 7:00pm, Zoom Meeting

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

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

Item 1). A motion was made by Philip Schaffner and seconded by Nick Williams to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022 meeting of the Broadband Committee. Motion carried.

Item 2). Paul Specht and Dave Bogan brought the Committee up to speed on the PSC application submitted by Brightspeed for a corridor of the Town along Crab Lake Road. The Committee nor the Town was approached or consulted with by Brightspeed prior to the application submission. Paul and Dave indicated that it was their belief that the application was an attempted by Brightspeed to “cherry pick” a potentially profitable area on the Town in that Brightspeed would be leveraging portions of Fiber infrastructure previously placed by CenturyLink/Lumen back in the 2008-2009 time frame but never made available to individual customers. Brightspeed’s intended project does not address the town’s underserved areas in any significant manner and could/would take away a portion of the customer base Charter is counting on in its project proposal. This situation has been discussed with Charter and Paul and Dave are working and “objection” letter addressing the situation to be filed with the PSC during the official “comment” period which ends on April 14.

Item 3). Paul Specht informed the Committee that his request of Charter for Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and ultimate contract templates has yet to be filled by Charter. MOU template is forthcoming once Charter has caught up with its PSC application and comment review work. As for the contract template, Charter explained that they believe the Contract needs to be between Charter and the PSC. They did, however, indicate that they will work with the Town, possibly through the MOU, to address any commitments and responsibilities between the Town and Charter that the Town would like to see formalized in writing.

Item 4). Paul Specht reported that Gary Owens is interested in becoming a member of the Committee and that he will work with the Town to make that happen.

Item 5). Dave Bogan shared with the Committee an approach for the development and management of a dedicated website for access by the public looking for information about and progress made on the Charter/Town fiber-to-the premise project. The intent is to have the website up and running in conjunction with the receipt of grant approval from the PSC.

Item 6). The upcoming All Town Committee Planning session was discussed and Paul Specht and Chris Wolter at a minimum agreed to attend.

Item 7). On a motion from Dave Bogan seconded by Eric Benn the meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for May 2, 2022 at 7:00pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Specht

