

TOWN OF PRESQUE ISLE

Broadband Committee

Minutes

May 15, 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 Nick Williams and seconded by Dave Bogan to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2023 meeting of the Broadband Committee. Motion carried.

Item 2). Dave Bogan and Paul Specht discussed the status of the drafts the Contribution Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding Documents submitted to Spectrum for review and possible edits. It is expected that Spectrum legal will combine the two documents into one and provide additional feedback on the combined document content within the next week. Once Spectrum's feedback is reviewed on our end, a meeting with Spectrum will be held to finalize the document. At that point the document will be shared with Town Counsel prior to presentation to the Town Board in a Special Town Meeting for review, discussion and approval. It was suggested by the Committee that once approved by the Board, a Public Education Session be considered to update interested property owners and other stakeholders on the current status, and related timeline, of the Broadband project going forward and to answer questions of the group.

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. Is anticipated that Spectrum's "Walk Out" will be completed and available for reconciliation by late summer. It is anticipated that as portions of the "Walk Out" are completed between now and then, they will be provided to the Town to expedite the reconciliation process. A successful reconciliation is necessary before the Town will be required to pay its first contribution (\$300,000) to the project.

Item 4.). Dave and Paul gave a brief update on a recent meeting of the broader Vilas County EDC providing the Committee with an update on status of project work in other Towns in the County. The Committee was also informed that the main Fiber trunk needed to service Presque Isle will be coming up Hwy M to HWY B before heading west to provide connectivity to the rest of the Town.

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 208. Work continues providing additional content to be included in the popular FAQs section of the Website. The Committee approved the release to website subscribers a discussion on the need for easements, especially on private roads, to make broadband connectivity available to all property owners and the need for cooperation by property owners to make those easements a reality. This discussion will also be posted to the

Website. Having a “Neighbors Helping Neighbors” theme to support cooperation for providing necessary easements was suggested.

Item 6). The Committee discussed various ideas for getting the word out about the project, its status and its dedicated website. Suggestions included having an information table on Main Street during Presque Isle Days, continued the informational piece postings to the website and pushed to subscribers, narrative text to lake and other associations for inclusion in their regular newsletters, informational postings at Boat Landed kiosks, etc.

Item 7). The next Meeting of the Committee was schedule for Monday, June 19, 2023 at 7:00pm via Zoom.

Item 8). On a motion from Dave Bogan seconded by Eric Benn, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Specht