

DRAFT MINUTES

CATV Advisory Committee Minutes January 6, 2010

Place: Wheelwright Room, Town Offices
Time: 5:30 p.m.

Present: Russ Dean, Sam Bruno, Jim Fellows, Pam Darlington, Candance Hoene, Andy Swanson, Kate Miller.

Absent: Quandt, McCarthy.

The article establishing a separate expendable trust fund for EXTV was presented. At least fifty percent of revenues from the franchise fees would go into the fund. This would allow the Selectmen to set a floor especially since it is an unknown what the franchise fee might be at this point.

The analog and digital components of the new channels were discussed. Improving signal quality needs to be codified into the contract. Comcast specified a model for \$1,000 to improve digital sound quality and this should be documented.

Review of business terms. 7 year agreement is proposed. No capital grant from Comcast with that length of term, and no non-pass through money with that length of term. Kate Miller discussed the various options. The committee expressed its unhappiness with Comcast's proposal. The origination points were discussed and it was agreed it was about \$40,000 to do this work.

Herb Moyer arrived at 6:00 p.m.

The I-Net was discussed. It is no longer useful but is in the contract to maintain at Comcast expense. The committee agreed it would propose the 2 origination points not be passed through in exchange for dropping the I-Net.

Franchise fees were discussed. There was no issue from the committee at recommending 3 percent to start. There is a pre-payment of franchise fees available. The capital grant is passed through with interest to subscribers.

Sam Bruno asked about a written proposal from Comcast, there hasn't been one, since the Town submitted in June of last year. Kate suggested Comcast will work from our language given their recent practices.

Jim asked about the cost of the line to the new High School. Why did this cost \$20,000? Cost of equipping the new origination points was discussed, and whether these would have cameras.

DRAFT MINUTES

The Lincoln Street school, EOC and Tuck feeds were discussed. Sam will send Kate an email detailing the issues at the Tuck learning center and why this is a Comcast problem not an internal wiring problem.

Next week's items were then briefly discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Dean
Town Manager