June 24, Washington Town Hall

Meeting called to order 9:30

Previous minutes approved: Moved by Doug McNally and seconded by Steve Nelson

David Dvore walked through the contract template from with Westfield Gas and Electric. He noted that it had been approved by their legal team and the by the municipal law for KP law. David Dvore asked and was given a copy of the spreadsheet from WG+E that they use to come up with an estimate. Aaron said he was putting an FTP site to upload town’s data.

**Bylaw Update:**

Most recent version of Bylaws handed out. The EC explained the changes. Board discussion ensued. Language was tightened, and terms for new, returning, and non-voting/affiliate members were clarified.

* New members may be admitted by a majority vote of the Board under terms to be negotiated. Terms may include payment of back dues, payment of costs necessary to connection their network, etc.
* Members who do not sign the MOU (or operations contract once it is available ) may retain membership in WW but will not have voting rights. The deadline for entering into the agreement is Nov 1.
* Non-members who wish to have their network managed by WiredWest may become an “Affiliate.” An Affiliate may participate in the regional management plan including shared revenue, however Affiliates will have no voting rights

**Regional Broadband Solution:**

MOU finalized

Final of the MOU was handed out. The EC explained the changes. Board discussion ensued.

* Language was tightened and conditions and definitions tweaked
* Terms for new, returning, and non-voting/affiliate members were clarified.

To note, the date for signing the MOU, and therefore staying a voting member of WW was extended until Nov 1, 2017. The Board understands that towns need time to conduct their due diligence; on the other hand, knowing who allow a design that optimizes regional backhaul connections which will minimize costs for the member towns and maximize resilience of the network. The number of towns and the degree of adjacency help to bring the costs down. Knowing that other towns have made this commitment will instill confidence that towns will be able to enjoy the mutual benefits of regional management once networks are built.

MOU to go to lawyer for final review. Expect it to be returned on Friday, June 30.

EOHED grant update

Reviewed status of town vis-à-vis their EOHED grant progress. Noted that Lt Governor Polito will be visiting 3 (Rowe, Ashfield, Shutesbury) of the 11 towns that have been awarded grant funds. Noted that the Lt Governor might take this opportunity to announce that the funds have been transferred.

Reviewed accounting models for grant money: Jim recommends two sets of books as opposed to an enterprise model.

Committee Reports:

Outreach

* Has an email ready to go out to delegates detailing and linked to the final, approved the MOU.
* OC to contract to those delegates/towns that did not attend Board meeting to familiarize and contextualize the MOU and the bylaw changes.
* Presentation on Monday 6/26 in Charlemont. Same team as Plainfield. Goshen thanked Plainfield for hosting and acknowledged that it might have contributed to the unanimous vote to build their own network.

Finance

* Books will be closed and reconciled at the end of the month.