

Town of Readsboro
Broadband & Cell Committee Meeting
The Readsboro Town Office
July 10, 2019

Attendance: Karen Boisvert, Omar Smith, Bruce Busa, Chris Lynch

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 3:54pm

Agenda Additions/ Deletions

None

Approval of Agenda:

Omar made a motion to accept the agenda as written, Bruce seconded. So voted

Reading & Approval of Records:

Minutes of the previous regular meeting of 6/12/19

Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting of 6/12/19, Omar seconded. So voted.

Communications:

Phil Edelstein has given Omar an update that the VTEL tower would be constructed in July and is planned to be operational by the end of August of this year. The tower will provide wireless internet and their cell/network services and has a projected range of approximately 8 miles. VTEL is currently in negotiations with AT&T to add that service as well.

Old Business:

1) Review/Update/Discuss status of existing projects (Consolidated)

North Hill project is expected to be complete by the end of the summer

2) Update on Grant request for Feasibility Study

The Town of Readsboro was awarded the grant however there was an error in the amount that the grant would cover for receiving towns. Instead of \$30,000 we will be receiving \$29,000. All required paperwork is to be forwarded to both Omar and Bruce for review.

New Business:

None

Hearing of Visitors:

Chris Lynch from Matrix Design came to give the board an update.

Mr. Lynch spent some time driving the roads in Readsboro and feels the Town would meet the required homes per mile ratio. He stated that Matrix would be sending a proposal within the next few weeks. There was much discussion on what the proposal would include as well as what it would not include. Some of the things that would be the towns responsibility are the making ready of the poles, flagging services as well as a place and structure to house the equipment. Omar provided him with a map of the electric poles from Windham Regional Commission Omar asked if there would be a less expensive package available for customers in light of the fact that we had a high elderly/fixed income population. Mr. Lynch stated that the company does not but does offer a lower cost/speed to low income families such as those that qualify for free lunch

through the school. Mr. Lynch was invited to come back at the next meeting that will be held on 8/14/19 at 4pm to discuss the proposal. The Selectboard will also be invited to attend.

Adjournment:

Karen made a motion to adjourn at 5:02pm, Bruce seconded. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Boisvert
July 11, 2019