

Town of Readsboro
Broadband & Cell Committee Meeting
The Readsboro Town Office
September 18, 2019

Attendance: Karen Boisvert, Omar Smith, Bruce Busa, David Marchegiani, Raymond Eilers, Laura Sibilia

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 4pm

Agenda Additions/ Deletions

Phone call with Carole Monroe to be added under New Business.

Approval of Agenda:

Omar made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Bruce seconded. So voted.

Reading & Approval of Records:

Minutes of the previous regular meeting of 8/14/19:

Omar made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting of 8/14/19 as written, Bruce seconded. So voted.

Communications:

Omar stated he had been in contact with Todd Rich from Wireless Partners. He gave Todd contact information for Raymond Eilers, Selectboard Chair and Karen Boisvert, Towns Administrative Assistant. David asked Laura if she feels Wireless Partners is a legitimate company. She feels it is but they will need to be watched closely.

Old Business:

- 1) **Proposal from Matrix design regarding fiber install:**
Tabled
- 2) **Update on North Hill Project:**
Project is done and is up and running.
- 3) **Discussion on pole study RFP to enable grant funding:**
Carole Monroe and Chris Lynch will be helping to get this together.

New Business:

- 1) **DPS meeting in Wilmington 9/11/19:**
- 2) Omar stated that it was his understanding from the meeting that Towns could not use their tax money to build networks but would need to use a Revenue Bond to do so. CUD's (Communication Union Districts) are being strongly encouraged for the future. Omar also reported that 25/2 is the new standard in broadband.
- 3) **Phone call with Carole Monroe from ValleyNet:**
Omar started with a brief summary of what the BCC has done up to this point. Carole from ValleyNet explained to the audience that the funding from the RCDI grant would be available in October and is good for 3 years. This grant is for Technical support. She stated that VETA funds may not be available for Matrix but might be available for poles. Poles would need to be mapped electronically. Carole offered to help draft an RFP for the Pole Study as well as a list of contractors. She also gave an estimate for us to go by of

\$17/\$26 per pole and 30 poles per mile. There is also a fee that is somewhat less than \$875 per utility.

Hearing of Visitors:

None

Adjournment:

Karen made a motion to adjourn at 5:45pm, Bruce seconded. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Boisvert
September 19, 2019

UNAPPROVED