

## Selectmen's minutes of meeting May 6, 2019

Members present: Mark Newman, Brian O'Rourke, George Riley, Fred Ventresco  
Dolores Harasyko, Admin. Asst.

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Reviewed and signed minutes of meetings.

Consideration and vote on an offer for Broadband from Charter Communications. Brian read aloud the Revised Broadband Committee Proposal Acceptance Recommendation (copy on file with minutes). They received three quotes and are recommending Charter Communications. Crocker Communications was unable to secure the funding for the project. The Broadband Committee thanked Matt Crocker for his dedicated service in trying to secure the funding. The offer from Charter will not cost the town any additional funds. There is an 11 step process from MBI in order to move forward. We will follow the process the town of New Marlborough is using. It will be approx. 2 years before we start lighting up houses, maybe sooner. There is no minimum requirement of number of houses. There will be packages for cable tv, internet (which is 30 times faster than DSL) and phone for \$50.00 to \$75.00 monthly depending on the package the homeowner chooses. There will not be an installation fee, with Crocker there was a fee of \$500.00 to hook up each house. George reviewed the low income option, if income criteria is met the cost could be as low as \$19.95 per month.

Motion by Mark, second by Brian, passed unanimously to accept the offer from Charter Communications. George voted in favor but with misgivings regarding the clause about forced arbitration. This is an item that can be negotiated.

Discussed the cardboard compactor. Fred received another quote for \$21,000 for a new compactor. The grant gives us \$6,000 towards the compactor and the rest would come out of the revolving transfer sticker account. The Master Garbologist has offered us a 3 year rent to own option but then we would not be able to use the grant towards it. There is some confusion as to whether this compactor is new or used. The selectmen unanimously agreed that it should be new. Motion by Brian, second by Mark, passed unanimously to purchase a new cardboard compactor.

Discussed the Website administrator job. There has not been a response for the senior tax workoff program for this position. Dolores recommended hiring Pauline Bakunis. She is already established at the Town Hall with a town computer and availability to the public during regular office hours. She is willing to do the work for an average of 3 hours a week at \$15.00 per hour. Pauline suggested that as the website administrator she will be responsible for posting all agendas and minutes of meetings for all boards. We have held training sessions for all boards and committees and members are still having trouble navigating the website. Motion by Brian, second by Mark, passed unanimously to hire Pauline Bakunis at \$15.00 per hour for 3 hours a week.

Update on camper violations. We were able to find out who the owners were from the New Hartford Road camper. Our police officer contacted them and instructed them to come to the selectmen which they did. Fred reviewed with them our bylaws that do not allow camping or living in a camper. The owner would like to store it on his property and move it to nearby campgrounds. There is nothing in our bylaws preventing them from storing it on their property as long as they are not living in it.

Selectmen's updates:

They have all been working on broadband. George presented the check for the Green Communities designation for \$128,805. We are the only town in this area that has the Green Comm. designation. We also hold the state record for accomplishing this project from start to finish so quickly. A round of applause for all that worked on this.

Town Administrator updates:

Fred continues to work on the cardboard compactor and the complete streets grant.

Future agenda items:

Follow up on cardboard compactor, small bridge grant, letter of resignation from Bob Tarasuk from the Yanner Park Comm., letter from John Skrip requesting to be appointed to the Cultural Council.

Topics not anticipated:

Barbara Cormier would like a distinction of what is a full time employee and what is a part time employee. Fred will research and have the information available by next week.

Ron Bernard asked about Cold Spring Road. Brian responded that we have not accepted the work done on that road and will be following up with the road superintendent at his work session this Wednesday.

Mail reviewed

Warrants reviewed and signed

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

---

Mark Newman

---

Brian O'Rourke

---

George Riley

