

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2015

Time: 7:33 - 7:54 PM

Place: City Hall - third floor

Present: Karen Spencer, Tom Manning, Grant Harris (*videotaped by Cape Ann TV*)

Absent: Robert McGillivray, Ryan Sawyer

Summary:

Discussion on committee research and next steps per attaining funding for city or regional broadband expansion analysis.

Decisions/Votes:

1. Vote to accept minutes from Feb 28, 2015 meeting. *Approved*

Action Items:

1. Karen to continue to try to contact Tim Wilkerson, state house liaison to MA Broadband Institute (per intro from Carolyn Kirk)
2. Grant to schedule a meeting with John Dunn to review the status of the permitting.
3. Ryan's exploration per funding opportunities.

Details:

1. Grant reported that Permitting was still in Legal. Taking more time due to a change of staffing in legal.
2. Karen reported that Salvatore Di Stefano was continue as chair of the Regional Cable Committee
3. Karen received an email from Carolyn with contact info (Tim Wilkerson) Director of Economic Dev Policy Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development and liaison to MA Broadband, but has not gotten feedback (voice mail & email).
4. Tom did not hear back from MA Broadband and did not pursue
5. Grant reported that fiber testing has been done on the new conduit instead of the Spooner Tunnel and they will start pulling cable. Verizon is to pull fiber in June of this year. This will be an bandwidth and service ability upgrade. Grant is waiting to hear from Comcast.
6. Grant reported his problems to solve was infrastructure and building facilities work; getting additional services from a broadband provider would not solve the large problems.
7. USA-I is the internet service provider. Comcast is not the internet provider. Grant deals with Jane Lyman from Comcast for television services and governance.
8. Grant indicated the wireless permitting would be the hardship for getting new services to Gloucester, not the landline permitting, which could enable new service providers.
9. Karen: The FCC approval of Net Neutrality rules and re-classification of cable as a utility in February is likely to result in more money and opportunity for innovative growth. More.

Next Meeting: May 19, 7:30PM

Attachments: None

Submitted By: Tom Manning