

Town of Readsboro, Vermont
Broadband & Cell Committee
Regular Meeting
March 9, 2016

Present: Omar Smith, Robert Marechal, Rebecca Stone – Broadband & Cell Committee members

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Added review summary of survey results under Old Business.

Approval of Agenda

Approved as posted.

Reading & Approval of Records

Omar moved to approve the minutes of March 2, 2016. Becky seconded. So voted.

Communications

None

Old Business

- A) Reviewed summary sheet of survey results, noting that compiling of information will be ongoing.
- B) Review & Finalize letter to Department of Public Service. Finalized letter to Vermont Department of Public Service. Copies will be sent to legislators.

New Business

A) Preliminary Discussion with Representative from Fairpoint

French Scott, Director of Innovation & Business Development with Fairpoint provided a presentation on municipal broadband economic development and planning. He provided an overview of broadband technology and the Connect America Program (CAFII). Discussed carrier class products, BBE and CES, and Readsboro broadband infrastructure as it relates to being wired into the Central Office versus into remote terminals (RTs). The CAFII program began in August 2015 of which Fairpoint is dedicating \$8.8 million in Vermont which ends in 2020. Fairpoint plans to connect to 105,000 locations in rural, high-cost areas in 14 states, including Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Mr. Scott provided a subscriber analysis, stating that 77% of Readsboro is undersubscribed (meaning the capability of residents to get more services is available, but they just haven't asked for the services). The presentation included a summary of speed eligibility in Readsboro, 71% of customers are eligible for 10 Mbps+, 17% are eligible for up to 3 Mbps, and 11% do not qualify for any speed. Becky left the meeting to attend a Selectboard meeting. Discussions continued.

Hearing of Visitors

None

Adjournment

Bob made motion to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Omar seconded. So voted. Noted the next meeting will be held March 16, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Stone, Member, Broadband & Cell Committee