



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Southwick

454 COLLEGE HIGHWAY, SOUTHWICK, MA. 01077

Telephone (413)569-0515 Fax (413)569-0515

High Speed Internet Sub-Committee

Tuesday, September 19th, 2023 @ 6:00pm

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MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Doug Moglin, Chairman
Christopher Boyd
Marlene Quinlan (Zoom)
James Johnson (Zoom)
Jason Giguere (Zoom)
Jessica Bishop (Zoom)
Bob Boyd
Jim Crowley
Robert Boyd
Ryan Peace

ABSENT: David LaBombard
Ian Creswell
Thomas Colic

GUEST: No Public Comment

The meeting was called to order at 6pm

2. Reorganization of the Committee- Christopher Boyd made a motion to reselect Doug Moglin as Chair of the Committee. Jessica Bishop seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Doug Moglin, Chairman- Yes, Bob Boyd - Yes, Christopher Boyd - Yes, Jim Crowley Yes,
Marlene Quinlan- Yes, Robert Boyd Yes, James Johnson- Yes, Ryan Peace- Yes, Jason Giguere- Yes,
Jessica Bishop- Yes.

Christopher Boyd made a **motion** to reselect Ian Creswell as Vice Chair of the Committee. James Johnson **seconded** the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Doug Moglin, Chairman- Yes, Bob Boyd - Yes, Christopher Boyd - Yes, Jim Crowley Yes,
Marlene Quinlan- Yes, Robert Boyd Yes, James Johnson- Yes, Ryan Peace- Yes, Jason Giguere- Yes,
Jessica Bishop- Yes.

3. The MLP process paperwork has been submitted. Chairman Moglin commented on the status as being in conversation with the attorneys as far as what needs to be done and organizationally by the Select Board, which has to determine the organization of what the Municipal Light Plat will look like. Once a decision has been made the discussion will come back to the Committee. The MLP piece allows the Town access to the polls and rights away.

No Commitment has been made from the Select Board, Town, or Committee as to which provider will be used for this project. The Town has asked Westfield with no obligation if they are willing to help with applications for the polls, they approved and have started. There is no design in the works as of now and there are also no shared information of location of polls as of now.

New Business:

Providers of Municipal Fiber (Providers taking on this project will be obligated to connect all of Southwick) -

- Whip City Fiber- adjacent to Southwick, connected to the Rail Trail and lit up a dark fiber between Town Hall and Westfield for Regional Dispatch Operations. One circuit has been installed at the Town Hall as a demo station to look over the Symmetrical Gigabit. Whip City would like to operate now own the system.
- Go Net Speed
- South Hadley is looking to expand their Network Services

Building a Hub for the new service regarded of which one is used is something that will have to be. Possible locations could be Southwick Police Station and Southwick Fire Department. All of which have generator power and 24/7 staff on grounds. Southwick Town Hall is also an option.

Potential Grants and Financial Assistance for a community our size that will help implement Municipal Fiber in the Town of Southwick.

- State Grant for a community fiber program a significant amount of money
- Federal Money- more information needed
- The Last Mile- depending on qualifications Mass Broadband Institute
- Community compact- BayCare Polito Administration
- Muni Fiber Grant Program

Pole Survey will be needed for data qualifying homes as part of the design process.

The committee is going to reach out to Towns in Massachusetts to get copies of the RFP that were issued that the contractors responded. This would help the committee to be organized with the best questions on moving forward. These documents are publically accessible.

Next Meeting October 3rd 2023 at 6 PM

MOTION made by James Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm **SECONDED** by Chris Boyd.

VOTED: Doug Moglin-Yes, Bob Boyd-Yes, Marlene Quinlan-Yes, Chris Boyd-Yes, Jessica Bishop -Yes, James Johnson-Yes, Ryan Peace-Yes, Jason Giguere-Yes, Robert Boyd-Yes, Jim Crowley- Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Barton

9-19-2023