

Communication and Technologies Committee
May 11, 2021
Meeting Minutes

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 3:31 p.m. In attendance were Committee members George Grohs, Matt Hochman, Lucas Callado, and Todd Edgar. Staff present was Steve Cornell. Ethan Genter and Brian Booher also joined.
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** There were no comments from the public.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the Communications and Technologies Committee on April 26, 2021, were unanimously approved.
- IV. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** The agenda was unanimously approved as posted.
- V. **REGULAR BUSINESS:**

A. Discussion to best present request to public and provide information on fiber build, helping the public understand

The committee discussed the possible benefit of an FAQ for the fiber project. Developing such a document would be a good exercise for the committee in order to be prepared to respond to questions that may arise as well as providing a resource that could be posted on the town website should residents have questions. Todd will draft the FAQ and share with the committee for comment.

B. Broadband Funding Availability

Steve shared that there are grant opportunities available that may be worth investigating with the approval of town council. After the vote at the June 1 town meeting, the CTC will survey available grants.

Casco Bay Advisors sent recommendations related to “Rebuild America,” a federal grant. The CTC discussed endorsing that letter, asking for some of those funds to be used for expanding broadband access, for council recommendation. Todd made a motion to endorse the letter to council and George seconded. The motion passed unanimously. George will draft the letter endorsing the recommendations which Steve will present to the town manager.

Casco Bay Advisors recommends limiting new communications efforts with potential partners and ride-out activity until after the budget is passed. After budget approval, third parties will see town commitment at that time and answers to their questions can be given. Partner communication efforts can proceed in a more informed manner after that approval.

C. Discuss process and approach for town meeting

CTC will prepare through FAQ development and sit in proximity to each other during the meeting. Steve will be working to record the meeting but will be available to answer questions in regards to the town’s use of the fiber network.

- VI. OTHER BUSINESS:** The next meeting of the CTC will be on Monday, June 21, 2021, at 3:30 p.m.
- VII. COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:** No comments or requests for future agenda items were made.
- VIII. ADJOURN:** At 4:09 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Todd Edgar, Secretary, on May 20, 2021.
