

Town of Liberty Grove
Minutes of the Technology Committee meeting on January 14, 2021
(This meeting was posted correctly)

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approve agenda
4. Approve minutes: 12/17/2020
5. Public input
6. Discussion and possible action: 2018 PSC Grant
7. Discussion and possible action: 2021 Technology budget activities
8. Discussion and possible action: Technology Committee 5-year plan
9. Preparation of materials for future Broadband expansion funding opportunities
10. Schedule next meeting
11. Adjourn

Chair David Studebaker called the meeting to order at 4:05pm. Committee members Peter Brooks, John Dwonch, and Less Keepper, and Cathy Ward were present along with Administrator Walter Kalms, Clerk/Treasurer Anastasia Bell, and 1 member of the public via teleconference (Zoom).

Ward moved, Brooks second to approve the agenda as posted. Passed 5-0.

Ward moved, Brooks second to approve the 12-17-2020 minutes as presented. Passed 5-0.

Public Input – Ward reported that Starlink is expected to provide service in the Ellison Bay area by the middle of February.

2018 PSC Grant – Studebaker reported that all the work is complete, and the towers are operational. As expected, the project cost was higher than the original application and Door County Broadband (DCB) has requested the Town split the overrun. Kalms reported that the financial figures will need to be confirmed by the office and Bell confirmed that the Town has not received any reimbursements, the PSC has sent payment to DCB. **Studebaker moved, Keepper second** to table this item until the finances have been confirmed. Passed 5-0.

2021 Technology budget activities – Brooks reviewed the business continuity proposal provided to the committee and requested the members review the document and provide potential changes before it goes out for bids.

5-year plan – Keepper noted the focus should be on what comes out of the security and basic infrastructure project. Studebaker requested this be an exercise to create a long-range plan which is subject to be changed as needed. Ward noted there is a Digital Equity Act which may assist in getting more households internet. Studebaker requested each committee member think of 2 additional items for the following list.

- Public access to Wi-Fi to increase convenience of people in the community
- Additional car charging stations or improving the quality of current ones
- 2021 PSC grant application
- Federal grant opportunities would require a professional grant writer
- Using the current copper lines for internet

- Encouraging businesses to investigate technology which will enhance their operations
- Office phone system – consider VOIP
- Security cameras for the exterior of the Town Hall
- Dash cameras for safety
- Monitors at board dais
- Solar panels for Mariners Park at Gills Rock pressure tank
- Generator for back-up power at charging station locations
- Matching grant funds
- Car charging station at the Town Hall and/or North Fire Station

Broadband expansion materials – Studebaker requested the committee members start considering service beyond fixed wireless. He asked each member to create a list of 4-5 items identifying benefits of having high-speed internet. The question to answer is “why does anyone need more than what we have?”

The next Technology Committee meeting will be Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 4:00pm

Brooks moved, Dwonch second to adjourn at 5:55pm. Passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the 2/11/2021 Technology Committee meeting.