

Town of Liberty Grove
Minutes of the Technology Committee meeting on August 15, 2022
(This meeting was posted correctly)

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve Minutes: 7/18/2022
5. Public Input
6. Project Status Reports:
 - a. Business Continuity Project
 - b. Broadband Information on Town Website
 - c. Northern Door Intercommunity Broadband Efforts
 - d. Engineering Design Project
 - e. Northport Pilot Project
7. Town Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
8. Town Phone System Upgrade
9. County Broadband Survey
10. Liberty Grove Broadband Survey
11. Public Communication/Education Regarding Broadband Implementation
12. 2023 Technology Committee Budget Request
13. Correspondence
14. Future meeting
15. Adjourn

Chair David Studebaker called the meeting to order at 7:04pm. Committee members Cathy ward, Joel Asher, Dan Watts, and Kirk Scattergood were present along with Administrator Walter Kalms, Clerk/Treasurer Anastasia Bell, and 0 members of the public. Committee member Les Keeper was absent.

Studebaker moved, Ward second to approve the agenda as posted. Carried 5-0.

Ward moved, Asher second to approve the 7/18/2022 minutes as presented. Carried 5-0.

Public Input – Ward reported being approached by citizens about Door County Broadband’s fiber project near North/South Maplewood Lane. Asher noted this service will be line-of-sight from small towers to the main towers with a shared wireless connection distributed to the homes through fiber. Studebaker noted Bertram (DCB) presented information to Baileys Harbor. From that information he has concluded active networks are not justifiable for small users, and active networks typically cost 50% more than passive networks. The current FCC maps show DCB as covering the whole Town which may negatively affect federal funding because this information is incorrect. Watts noted individuals will need to make their own decisions with the understanding that the Town project may serve them in the future.

Business Continuity Project – Watts requested Asher confirm the current systems are adequate.

Town Website – Bell confirmed a link to the Broadband survey is present on the Broadband page and the homepage of the Town Website.

Intercommunity Broadband Efforts – Scattergood noted the next meeting between the Towns is 8/29/22. Washington island is installing fiber and Baileys Harbor has started engineering.

Engineering Design Project – Studebaker reported that Nsight recommended FARR and can reduce the price if the project starts by 9/5/2022. Kalms indicated the Town is working on the Town-wide agreement with Nsight and the engineering design agreement with FARR.

Northport Pilot Project – Studebaker noted the make ready is done, construction has started, and sign-ups have been slow. Watts asked how much the customers were incentivized to sign-up.

EV Charging Stations – Bell noted the \$400 upgrade was approved and waiting for Town signatures.

Phone System – Asher reported VOIP is not a viable option based on the current internet speeds and faxes are not possible over VOIP. **Scattergood moved, Watts second** to recommend the phone system as presented from Quantum. Carried 4-0 (Asher abstained).

County Broadband Survey – It was the consensus that the survey was simple to complete. Scattergood will request a status report for the next meeting.

Liberty Grove Broadband Survey – It was the consensus that efforts will be best spent in promoting the current County survey. Studebaker noted there is \$25 per household available for use by the Town. Studebaker will ask if the County can assist with a direct mailing.

Public Communication – It was noted the broadband survey link should be made more visible. Watts noted people want to see the cost and the completion date. Watts will draft a FAQ for review at the next meeting.

2023 Budget – The 2023 budget draft was reviewed, and no changes were made.

Correspondence – None.

The next Technology Committee meeting will be Monday, September 19, 2022 at 7:00pm.

Asher moved, Scattergood second to adjourn at 9:01pm. Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the 9/19/2022 Technology Committee Meeting