

Board of Selectmen
March 4, 2013

Present: Kenneth Paul, Chairperson; Peter M. Kasprzyk; Richard C. Edwards; Teresa A. Williams, Town Administrator; and Michelle MacDonald, Substitute Secretary. Let the record show Michelle MacDonald, Planning Board Secretary sat in for Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Also present were: Connie Twombly; Jim Miller, Clearview Tv; Relf Fogg; Jerry O'Connor (videotaping); Ed Comeau(videotaping),Tom Beeler, *The Granite State News*

Mr. Paul called the posted meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Paul stated that main objective of this session is to review TWC's proposed revisions to the draft cable contract. Mr. Paul invited Mr. Miller to approach the table.

Mr. Miller stated he had reviewed the contract. Mr. Miller referred to page 16 (Customer Service Standards). Mr. Miller felt this section was informative but stated the Peg Channel could help with Public Service Announcements.

Mr. Miller referred to page 20, section D (Performance Standards). Mr. Miller stated this section was unclear. This section talks about relevant technology involving in areas not close to Wakefield. Mr. Paul stated thought it was the biggest cities TWC has contracts with and is similar to analog verses digital. Mr. Miller stated he doesn't see anything about the quality of video which is concerning. Mr. Miller wanted to know what TWC was going to do to upgrade the channel quality. The Board had a discussion.

Mr. Miller referred to page 24 & 25 section 21 (Service Area). Mr. Miller stated he knew the build out was a major concern to the Selectmen and mentioned some residents have stated former contracts might have said the Town should be completely built out by now. Mr. Miller stated he didn't think TWC had agreed to any of the contract yet but mentioned the Attorney has made a good attempt to get the Town Built out in 5 years. The contract mentions the last 5 miles being finished in five years. Mr. Edwards didn't like the verbiage of 15 houses per mile. He felt TWC should commit to a mile a year until build out. The Board had a discussion. Mr. Edwards just wants to make sure that every resident in this town have the option to have cable.

Mr. Miller mentioned the contract talked about dwellings. Mr. Miller stated he had a concern about a letter that was sent from TWC involving Senior Citizen Discount. Mr. Miller was wondering if Branch River Commons, where there are multiple units would still get the discount. Mrs. Williams stated that the discount was only on the basic cable portion of a bill not on a bundled package such as phone, internet and TV. She mentioned that each unit is probably responsible for their own bill and would get the discount if allowed.

Mr. Miller referred to Exhibit C in the TWC contract page 42 (Municipal & School Facilities Receiving Free Cable Drop & Free Service). Mr. Miller asked the Selectmen if they would consider asking TWC if they would add the Peg Channel to the list since they will need their own internet access as well as the Wakefield Library. Mr. Kasprzyk thought the Wakefield Library already had internet access. Mrs. Williams stated "They might but they might be paying for it." The Board had a discussion.

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Mr. Miller referred to Exhibit D on page 43 (Peg and Funding). Mr. Miller stated the contract talks about getting a second channel after a year. Mr. Miller mentioned he feels they will need this second channel due to the fact the channel has been busy. The Bulletin Board could run on one channel all the time while the second channel could be used for programming. Mr. Miller stated his concern was where it read "at no additional cost to subscribers" it has been crossed out. Mr. Miller wasn't sure if that meant someone will have to pay for this service. The Board had a discussion.

Mr. Miller referred to Exhibit D, Section C (Origination Points). Mr. Miller was thinking TWC was talking about putting in an origination point at the Paul School at some point. Mr. Miller stated if you read further it stated the cost was going to be on the Town.

Mr. Miller referred to Exhibit D; Section E. Mr. Miller stated the Selectmen were supportive of asking TWC for \$10,000.00 as a startup of our money. The contract states "Grantee agrees to provide, without passing through to subscribers, externalizing or itemizing the cost in subscribers' bills in anyway, \$10,000.00 as a capital grant to the Town, to be used for Peg access channel equipment." Mr. Miller stated he was concerned due to a letter he received from TWC stating "Monies paid by TWC will be subject to pass through to the customers and the amount is subject to negotiations." Mr. Miller wanted to know what this meant. The Board had a discussion on how the monies would affect the residents.

The Board directed Teresa Williams to type up a bullet point letter to the attorney for TWC to review. Mr. Kasprzyk stated he felt this should be discussion further in a non-public session.

Mr. Paul moved on to correspondence. Mr. Paul stated the Tax Collector had a recommendation for an Assistant. Mrs. Williams stated Rose Zacher is currently the Deputy Tax Collector in Brookfield. She is already trained on Avitar and is familiar with the tax collection process. Both Mrs. Williams and Mr. Kasprzyk thought it was a great idea. The Board had a discussion. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to appoint Rose Zacher as Assistant Town Tax Collector. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

The Board accepted with regrets the resignation of Deborah Gauthier as Secretary of the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Paul mentioned the Board received an invitation for Landowners who let the Seven Lakes Snowmobile Club use a portion of their land for a snowmobile trail to a potluck supper at the Public Safety Building on Saturday March 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. RSVP Nancy Clifford, Secretary, 522-6119 or cliffordprp@yahoo.com.

Mr. Paul stated in March the Food Pantry will begin a more rigorous approach to screen applicants.

Mr. Paul moved on to administrative matters. Mr. Paul and the Board signed the deed for a redemption of Tax Acquired Property. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to accept. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Paul and the Board signed a Private Road Release for Cozy Cove Road. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved the motion to approve. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

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Mr. Kasprzyk presented a proposal from the Heritage Commission. Mr. Kasprzyk stated he had a meeting with some members of the Heritage Commission as well as Wayne Robinson from Parks & Rec earlier that day. Mr. Kasprzyk stated the fence at the Garvin Building is collapsing and the Heritage Commission would like to put up a wrought iron fence in its place. Mr. Robinson would like to see the fence up by May 1st to beat Pride Day. Mr. Robinson also told Mr. Kasprzyk that Parks & Rec will pitch in \$800.00 if needed. The fence should cost around \$2000.00, which the Heritage Commission has already raised \$600.00 towards that. The Heritage Commission and Wayne Robinson are looking for the Boards approval to go ahead with the project. The Board had a discussion on how the fence will be built. The Board gave the approval.

Mr. Paul asked the Board if they had time to review the AP that was sent to them. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve the AP. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passes 3-0.**

Mr. Kasprzyk asked the Board if and when they would be posting the roads. Mr. Edwards stated he was not for posting the roads. The Board had a discussion about limiting the travel throughout the day. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to allow Fred Clough, Road Agent to use his discretion as to what roads and when as well as his cell number on the signs. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 2-1.**

Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2013 as written. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Paul asked if there were any Public Comment. Jim Miller mentioned he wasn't looking for a decision now. Mr. Miller stated he was addressing quality issues with channel 3 and turned the conversation over to Jerry O'Connor. Mr. O'Connor stated they thought it was a grounding problem and thought moving the transmitter would solve the problem. Mrs. Williams stated that this discussion was going to be discussed during her administrative update at the following meeting.

There was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle MacDonald, Secretary

Kenneth S. Paul, Chairperson

Peter M. Kasprzyk

Richard C. Edwards