

MLP Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Leyden Town Office Building
October 17, 2023
5:30pm

MLP Board Members Present: Jack Golden, John Wallace

Advisory Board Present: Erica Jensen, Al Woodhull

Jack called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Discussion

Minute taker for 10/17 meeting:

Motion: John moved that Erica take minutes for the 10/17 meeting. Jack second. Vote: unanimous

Review of Minutes:

Motion: John moved to approve June 28 minutes. Jack second. Vote: unanimous

Redundancy Update:

All (3) 10gbs services are up and running. One to Leyden, one to Rowe, one to Charlemont. Paying \$800 per month for all (3). Previously paying \$1800. Much more reliable, and cost efficient for the town. These redundancies maximize our reliability to have service. Whip City is billing Leyden for the 1gb from Greenfield and 1 gb coming from Charlemont. Rowe is billing us for the 1 gb from Crown Castle (billed by Wired West).

2023/2024 Budget Discussion:

John created a Broadband income statement based on information that has been gathered to date. Whip City invoices – come directly to Jack/Michele. Jack walked us through the line by line charges/usage for Whip City invoices(expenses) to the town. Plumes/Stamper Box relate to CAF2 grant. Update on CAF 2 monies: possibly coming Q1 – Q2 of 2024.

John walked us through the Income Statement – through Q1 of FY24 – MLP is +\$43,640. John would like to have a paper file of invoices and bill warrants to be able to reconcile the monthly statements. Erica to make copies when signing warrants at the Select Board meeting every two weeks.

New Customers:

Jack: what are goals and strategies for getting new customers. We currently have 288 customers – which is the top of the 1GB bandwidth. With redundancy – we will now have the bandwidth for new customers. There is natural growth with new home owners moving in. There are approx. 330 sites in town. How do we get those homes that may want internet – a start up offer? a partial payment towards a cold drop? Al will research cost comparisons between company contracts in Bernardston and Greenfield. Jack will reach out to other towns to see if they have any sign up deals and if they are working. Jack and John to do CRM and STRIKE training with Whip City.

Hut Landscaping:

Jack – the look of the land around the hut doesn't bother him. There should be access to the hut and weeds do need to be cleared occasionally to make sure that happens. John, Al and Erica are in agreement that landscaping is not necessary at this point.

Public Comments:

N/A

Next Meeting:

Quarterly meeting: Wednesday Jan 17, 5:30pm

Motion: John moved to adjourn at 6:33pm. Al seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

Respectively submitted,
Erica Jensen