

Leyden Broadband Committee Meeting
Minutes
February 7, 2017 Rescheduled to February 14, 2017
7:00 PM
Leyden Town Hall

Committee members present: Bob Ryan, Bob Anson, Lance Fritz, Dave Curtis, and Tom Luck.

The meeting was called to order by Chm. Ryan at 7:00 pm.

The minutes from our last regular Broadband Committee Meeting of January 3, 2017 were accepted.

The Committee discussed the possible wireless alternatives to fixed fiber lines for the Town of Leyden. Tom luck, David Curtis and Bob Ryan reported back on a January 25th meeting they had with David Young, the Town Administrator for Warwick. They had met with him to review Warwick's wireless network and whether a similar network could be replicated in Leyden. Their take away from that meeting was that Warwick's wireless network is overly dependent on David Young's unique technical skills and without him it would be very hard, if not impossible, to maintain. It became clear during that meeting that from a cost point of view wireless was Warwick's only option and that had cost not been a factor that David Young would have preferred a hard fiber network.

The Committee also discussed another informational meeting that Bob Ryan and Lance Fritz had with Bill Ennen on January 27th. In that meeting Bill indicated that MBI was considering pulling back from helping Towns manage their complete build out. He said that MBI was now considering putting out an RFP to find a design engineering firm to work with individual towns during the make ready/design engineering

stage and leaving the actual construction itself up to the Town's to bid out and manage. This proposed new approach is being called "The MBI Assisted Build Program" and is to be voted on at the next MBI Board meeting. He suggested that if we had more questions on this, or wanted to have input into the structuring of the program, that we should probably speak with Peter Larkin directly. Bob Ryan indicated that he planned to setup a meeting with he, lance and Peter Larkin as soon as possible to discuss this sudden change in MBI policy and what it meant for Leyden.

The final issue discussed was whether the Town of Leyden's Broadband network should be run as an MLP or an enterprise fund. General consensus was that it should be run as an MLP because of the depreciation reserve funding disciplines involved.

The meeting voted to adjourn at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Anson, Clerk