

Meeting Minutes
Towns of Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox, Sheffield, and Stockbridge
Five Town Cable Advisory Committee Negotiating Subcommittee for Negotiating
Renewal Cable TV License with Charter Communications (Spectrum)
Monday November 1, 2023 at 3:30pm; Virtual Meeting over Zoom

Subcommittee members present: Linda Miller, Chair

Dennis Arseneau

Rene Wood

Rich Fredericks, Exec. Director, CTSBTV

Charter Communications:

Paul Abbot, Esq.; VP, Local Government Affairs

Trish McCausland, Esq., V-P, Associate General Counsel

Dan Reing, Esq.; Outside Counsel; Mintz

The meeting was called to order by Chair Miller at 3:35pm and was recorded. The CAC began its discussion on the contract review, while waiting for P. Abbot to join the meeting.

In Definitions, Cable Service was revised. R. Wood went through her comments on the latest contract from D. Reing, most of which were minor and all agreed. D. Reing will do another version with “accept all” where previous revisions were accepted and incorporate the discussed/agreed upon changes. It will DRAFTArseneau will provide an update on Appendix B to all participants.

The remaining issue of PEG Capital was reviewed by D. Arseneau, who reviewed several conversations including with DTC and gave \$213,000 as the CAC final position on this matter. This number, not adjusted for net present value, is the same PEG Capital received with the 2013 renewal license. P. Abbot indicated that, given the contract is finalized based on final legal review by CAC’s attorney, B. Hewig of KP Law, he will review with appropriate hierarchy and felt he would be able to discuss in 2 weeks.

Two other issues discussed were 1. Spectrum’s resolution of customer complaints and their reporting system to DTC. P. Abbot felt this could be discussed and possibly updated numbers provided; and 2. The provision of service to a group of residents in Lee. D. Reing discussed the lack of public right of way and utility pole access to these residents and Spectrum’s potential provision of service via Spectrum’s access through Tyringham. The residents have Spectrum’s cost proposal, and Spectrum is waiting for their response. They have been encouraged to see if there are other unserved residents who wish service. Chair Miller and D. Arseneau may review with resident’s or Lee’s Town Manager, C. Brittan, as Lee currently has no CAC representative.

To do’s were reviewed and agreed upon, as listed above. Next meeting was set to be either 11/15 or 11/16, at a start time from 2:30 to 3:30, depending on schedules. D. Reing and members of the CAC will let Chair Miller know of availability and a date/time will be decided. **On a motion made by R. Wood and seconded by D. Arseneau, the meeting adjourned at 4:27pm.**

Respectfully submitted,
Rene Wood; Sheffield’s Delegate to the 5 Town Cable Advisory Committee; Negotiations Subcommittee

Documents used in the meeting: Agenda: 11/1/23 and DR latest version (8.16.23, 9.6.23, and RW comments)