

Belmont
Cable Television Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: February 14, 2022

Location: Zoom meeting

Committee Members present: Mark Carthy, Chet Messer, Jonathan Birge

Others: Peter Epstein, Jeff Hansell

Chairman Mark Carthy call the meeting to order at 3 PM.

Peter Epstein opened the meeting describing the recent five-year agreement between the Town of Lexington and Verizon. It contains a provision that would permit Verizon to terminate the agreement after three years upon notice after 24 months. He recommended to the committee that the Town of Belmont propose a similar agreement to Verizon. There was general agreement to proceed. Peter indicated he would draft a memorandum to the committee with the proposed language.

The committee then discussed the “drops” to town public buildings and school buildings. Hansell indicated he has previously provided a list to Peter of drops to be retained. For this subject, it was agreed the proposed term include language regarding the FCC’s 2019 Section 621 Order.

After discussion it was agreed that Peter would include in Section 5.1 the proposal to move to all HD channels starting in 2023 with a request that Verizon explain how this change will impact Basic service customers.

Jeff Hansell agreed the interconnection with Verizon continue to be at 9 Lexington St.

It was agreed to propose \$250,000 of capital funding payable in three installments during 2022, 2023 and 2024. It was also agreed that the section regarding annual funding by Verizon remain at 5% payable quarterly.

Regarding the issue of a bill payment office, Verizon is to provide a location reasonably convenient to the town of Belmont and offer a equipment pickup option.

Peter agreed to provide to the attendees the proposed language to be forwarded to Verizon.

The minutes of the joint meeting with the board of selectman held on May 17, 2021, were reviewed, and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chet Messer, Secretary Pro Tem

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DATE: July 29, 2022
TIME: 8:38 AM