

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES

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Date: January 25, 2017

Time: 1:03pm

Place: Town Hall - upstairs meeting room  
Egremont

Present at the table were Chairman Flynn, Vice-Chairman Turner, Selectman Brazie, Present from the Technology Committee were Jonathan Taylor, Laura Allen, Mark Roggen, and on the phone was Jeffrey Lazarus. Present from MBI was Bill Ennen and Todd Corcoran. See attached sign in sheet for others present.

The meeting was audio and visually recorded.

The meeting was held with MBI to help the town to clarify MBI's role and position at this time.

MBI reported that four vendors, Fiber Connect, Westfield Gas & Electric, Crocker and Charter all included Egremont in their proposal for broadband. None of these vendors have been qualified.

Mr. Ennen said if speed was a priority then MBI should not be Egremont's top choice. Leaving the town's options with a private vendor funding on its own, or a private vendor funded by the Town.

State funds will be given when applied for after certain milestones have been met. No state funds will be given to the town's or up front. State funding is protected. Bill Ennen will contact Peter Larkin to clarify the funding mechanisms.

The pole survey data gathered by MBI is the town's. We can plan to move forward with the make ready work. There are state funds available for make ready work. If a vendor places their wires, the town does not have to do another pole survey. We would have to do additional make ready work on those poles that are full.

There are no laws that would allow the town to stop a private vendor even if the town wanted to.

The Town must conform to procurement laws and the requirements are higher for the town than for MBI.

There are still funds available to the Town for design and engineering. MBI paid for the pole survey from these funds.

The Town will meet with Peter Larkin in the very near future to let MBI know how it plans to move forward. The Board will try to do this at its upcoming Tuesday morning meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm.

Mary Brazie,  
Office Administrator

minutes.17/jan251pm

*The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.*