

Approved as submitted 2-0-1

Town of Ashfield

Select Board Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2015

The Ashfield Select Board meeting was held on Wednesday October 14, 2015 at the Ashfield Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Finance Committee, IT Committee, for the purpose of meeting with MBI regarding Broadband installation. There were approximately 7 audience members in attendance. There was 1 video recorder in use.

Previous Select Board Meeting was October 05, 2015

Select Board: Ron Coler-Vice Chair, Todd Olanyk

Finance Committee: Ted Murray, Tom Schrieber

Assistant Municipal Clerk/Scribe: Lynn Taylor

Town Administrator: Derek Brindisi

Meeting was called to order by Ron Coler @ 7:05 PM

David Kulp Chair of the IT Committee starts the meeting giving an outline of the process of making a decision first of the direction the Town wants to go either with the Regional Network Option or the Enterprise Option (Axia). Once the decision has been made on which option to proceed with the next step would then be do we use MBI to design and get made ready or do we look for an independent firm to design the system.

Eric Nakajima from MBI has been invited to the meeting to make a presentation for MBI. He starts off by explaining who and what MBI was created for. MBI is a State Agency that was created in 2008 for the purpose of solving broadband gaps around the State. MBI constructed the “Middle Mile” containing 1200 miles of fiber throughout 120 Towns around the State. MBI also works with the Towns throughout the surveying, permitting and design stages and this process can be completed even before the Towns make a decision of who they may use for the

construction phase of the project and oversee the actual build itself. Eric explains that 28- 30% of the total cost will go into making the project “make ready”. Eric explains the differences in the options that the Towns have that being Regional or Enterprise options, giving pros and cons of each. If towns go with the Enterprise Option they will be giving up control as the infrastructure is not owned by the Towns and would not receive as much of the State funding but yet upfront costs may be cheaper. The Regional Option the Town will have more control and will be able to make use of all of the allocated State Funds.

Erik and David Kulp have a question and answer discussion with Board members and citizens at the meeting.

David Kulp will send the Boards information on a Wired West Meeting that is scheduled for November 6, 2015.

Kulp asks that at the next SB meeting that the IT Committee be put on the agenda for broadband discussion to discuss and make a decision as to move forward with either the Regional Approach or Enterprise approach. Coler agrees and advises they can be the first thing on the agenda at 7:00 PM. The Finance Committee will also be meeting with the SB for this discussion and also to discuss the audit results and next steps with the DLS audit.

Next Select Board meeting will be October 19, 2015 @7:00 PM

Olanyk makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Coler. 2-0-0

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Document List

1. Agenda for the 10/14/2015 SB Meeting