

Town of Goshen

Broadband Advisory Committee Special Meeting for January 21, 2022

This meeting was held in person at Town Hall as well as on Zoom. This meeting is also available to be reviewed as a recording.

In attendance: Scott Olson, Marc McCarthy, Peter Kujawski, Gary Stango, Todd Carusillo

1. The meeting was called to order by Marc McCarthy at 2:09
2. Marc welcomed new BAC member Gary Stango
3. Scott Olson made a motion to adopt the minutes of the December 21, 2021 meeting and was seconded by Peter Kujawski. The minutes were approved unanimously with the caveat that the presentation (provided by Marc) at the meeting was to be attached to the minutes.

The remainder of the meeting followed the presentation attached to the meeting agenda. The below references to page numbers refer to the same presentation which is attached to these minutes.

4. Marc recapped his recent discussion with Berton Cohen of the CT Office of Consumer Counsel. Marc advised Mr. Cohen indicated (and research supports) that based on current federal guidelines, Goshen is not considered an “unserved” or “underserved” community and that this will likely affect the potential availability of funding Goshen may receive and utilize for high speed broadband. Marc further advised that Mr. Cohen indicated that DEEP was a potential source of funding. It was decided to continue to research what, if any, potential sources of funding may be available for Goshen.
5. Marc then provided an overview of “What we’ve learned since our last meeting” including “prospective connects” in Goshen, the location and respective neighborhood (or “fiberhood”) densities for these connections, potential costs involved in construction of fiber network and whether companies contacted would be likely to enter the Goshen market (See attachment pgs 3-6). Peter said it seemed that, based on his (and Marc’s) call with Fiber Connect, it would be unlikely that an outside fiber provider would compete with an incumbent provider (Optimum) if the current provider had plans to provide fiber. Marc agreed with this assessment
6. Marc then led a presentation and discussion regarding AlticeUSA’s (Optimum) intent to start Fiber To The Home (FTTH) in Goshen. See attachment pgs 7-13 for information regarding public right of way issues, pricing models, optical network terminal (ONT) requirements, marketing and fine print issues.
 - a. First Selectman Todd Carusillo advised the committee that he had been told that fiber already exists at “street level.” This may expedite FTTH connection.
 - b. Todd further advised of communication from Optimum to the First Selectman’s office.
 - c. Marc provided his opinion that demand will drive deployment speed.
 - d. The committee will continue to continue to research and monitor progress on this program and will advise the First Selectman’s office accordingly.

7. Cognizant of Optimum's plans, the committee then discussed whether to modify its mission and near-term goals, including a planned survey. It was decided that the committee members will review the draft mission statement and survey and provide edits with the goal of final approval at the committee's next regular meeting.
8. Peter made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Scott. Meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

Peter Kijamwaki L. Esq.

Received January 25, 2022 ^{2:45 P.}
Attest [Signature] ^{2:45 P.}
Goshen Town Clerk