



Town of Middlefield Communications Committee

Open meeting: June 17, 2014

Committee members present:

Howard Knickerbocker
Joe Kearns
Steve Harris

Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 3:30 pm

Approved minutes of 6/4/14 as read.

Howard reported on 6/14 WiredWest meeting:

- Insufficient attendance for quorum
- It was reported that MBI is in a "holding pattern"
- Draft letters to MBI urging support for WiredWest were sent to selectboards
- Bonding expert told WiredWest executive committee that member towns will have to pay interest on any bonds issued by WiredWest until there are sufficient revenues to cover same.

Voted to recommend that Selectboard be keepers of administrative access to town hall computers for appointed positions, with a log to be kept of access.

Discussed holding kickoff meeting of emergency communications group.

Discussed arranging test of the emergency communications antenna atop the Chester Fire Tower, to see how much of Middlefield could be reached from there.

Agreed that we should pursue replacing town hall phone service and implementing reverse 911 now that fiber service has been operating smoothly. Steve to call Jean Attwater-Williams to check on progress.

Howard reported on extensive discussion with John Savery re the town's electrical service, and the need to hire a town electrician. Steve reported arranging with Axia to bury the fiber cable when we're ready. All agreed with Joe's suggestion that we must at least put the conduit in by October.

Steve presented recommendation that the Selectboard be designate Communications Committee as “special municipal employees”. The recommendation was approved and signed by all.

The auditorium was measured for hanging of overhead projector & screen. Steve to research projector & screen, and there are a number of other items to look into for comprehensive solution.

Meeting adjourned at 5 pm.