



## Town of Middlefield Communications Committee

Open meeting: June 23, 2015

### Committee members present:

Howard Knickerbocker  
Joe Kearns  
Steve Harris

### Also attending:

Bill Stathis, Crocker Communications  
Joshua Levin, Crocker Communications  
Hussain Hamdan, Hawley Broadband Committee

### Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 2 pm.

Held a wide ranging discussion on Crocker Communications:

- They presented detailed estimates of Middlefield's operational costs for a fiber-to-the-home network, based on Leverett experience.
- Per subscriber monthly charge of \$66.20 in service, maintenance, and replacement costs:
  - Plus \$25 broadband fee = \$91.20.
  - Plus \$45 broadband & phone = \$111.20.
- By such a measure based on actual experience, WiredWest advertised broadband rate of \$49 to provide to cover all these costs **plus** bond replacement, appears highly unrealistic, even allowing for their projected profits from phone & TV.
- Crocker provided a rundown of the WiredWest business plan from the perspective of an actual service provider.
- Crocker is planning to launch an alternative "minimalist" municipal cooperative in which town will retain ownership and control of their last mile infrastructures.
- Crocker invited to Hawley June 29 Broadband Committee. Communications Committee members may attend as well.

Postponed discussion of MBI broadband planning grant due to lack of time.

Approved previous meeting's minutes as read.

Meeting adjourned at 4 pm.