

SELECTBOARD MEETING
MARCH 4, 2015

Meeting opened at 11:00am

Present: Alan Vint, Chair; David DiNicola; Robert Costa
Duane Pease, Town Administrator

Also present: Steve Harris and Joe Kearns, Communication Committee
Fred Goldstein, Interisle Consulting
Todd Corcoran and Cornell Robinson from the MBI Tech Team

Meeting was held to provide information to the Tech Team regarding the Town's possible installation of a wireless internet system.

Todd said MBI's role in the project is oversight of the towns involved in bringing the "last mile" internet to the individual homes. MBI has the funding for a portion of professional services and construction to allot out to the towns. He agreed that fiber is the most costly construction for both engineering and construction.

Alan said the majority of towns not served have small populations and the economic cost of fiber is not likely to be voted for by residents so towns do need an alternative system. In light of this, MBI needs to be flexible.

Steve stated that he believes MBI has gone from all fiber to considering wireless networks. Fred said the engineering costs for wireless are much less than fiber.

There was extended discussion on the operation, installation and technical aspects of wireless between Fred, Steve and the MBI reps. The FCC has required 25mb download speed and 3mb upload speed and wireless is not able to bring that to each house at this time. However, there is new technology that is in the process of licensing that may do that. MBI would require the system be engineered to provide the 25mb at this time.

Steve would like MBI to approve funding for the pilot plan that Middlefield has laid out. MBI reps said they would take all this information back and discuss with the proper persons as they are only here on the technical aspect of the Town's request.

Dave questioned if the cost of service could go up from the project \$60 rate. He was advised it could depend on the amount of users that sign up and what charges could be negotiated with providers.

Sherri Venditti questioned since a wireless network has not been done in this area how successful could it be and what happens if it fails. The moneys allotted by MBI would be wasted and the Town would be left with nothing to show for it.

Steve said he would tweak the plan, show a 2 year plan, break out the pilot costs, and update the tables and then send to MBI.

Alan motioned to adjourn, Bob 2nd; vote 3-0 and meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Town Administrator

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

Alan Vint, Chair

David DiNicola

Robert Costa