

SELECTBOARD MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2019

Meeting opened at 6:00pm

Present: David DiNicola, Chair; Judith Hoag; Albert Sirard
Duane Pease, Town Administrator

Chris Lynch of Matrix met with the Board to present their plan for providing high speed internet to the town. He gave a brief history of Matrix and the projects they have completed. He provided the Board with various handouts (attached to minutes). The Middlefield project would have a cost of \$1,775,450 with the Town responsible for \$568,000 which would be eligible for payment by the MBI grant allotted to the Town. There would be an option for the Town to purchase the system at any time with a yearly reduction of \$58,120 until the 20th year of operation when the purchase price would be \$10. The Middlefield construction is dependent on Worthington also agreeing to use Matrix for their high speed internet constructor and operator.

The design, construction and operation of the system would be Matrix's responsibility. They would handle the "make ready", all pole rental, etc. the Town would have to provide a shelter building for the electronic equipment, this could be an area in the Town Hall that is secure and available to Matrix personnel when needed for repairs, updates, etc. as well as providing a surety bond for the utility companies for the pole usage.

Chris has determined there are 28 miles of roads in town and that represents 10.1 residences per mile. There would have to be 170 residence sign-ups for this to work for Matrix, less than that and the system would not survive. There would be \$500 installation fee with \$250 up front and the remainder could be spread over 12 months with a 2 year commitment on behalf of the users.

The \$500 would cover up to 300 feet of fiber from pole to home, beyond that would be an additional \$1/ft as well as the equipment needed in the home.

The cost of the service would be \$95 per month plus any fees the MLP might impose and taxes. Phone service would also be available for an additional \$20/month for unlimited use. The cost would be frozen for 2 years and the only increase allowed would be tied to any increases in the Consumer Price Index and approved by the MLP board.

Board suspended the meeting to attend a Special Town Meeting at 7:00pm.

Board returned at 7:35.

Lynch continued with his presentation. Matrix would collect all charges, pay pole rental fees, and refund any enterprise Fund charges to the Town. The electronics would be updated about every 7 years. There was continued discussion with the Board. The Board thanked him for his presentation.

New business: Dave felt Accountant, Bev, and Treasurer, Jane, should be more vigilant and provide monthly income statements and quarterly bank statements to the Selectboard.

Dave motioned to adjourn, July 2nd; vote 3-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Town Administrator

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

David DiNicola, Chair

Judith Hoag

Albert Sirard