

**Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
Approved  
June 9, 2021**

**Members present:** Chairman Linda Murray, Dave Senecal, Brad Harriman, Luke Freudenberg and Brian Deshaies.

**Staff present:** Town Manager, James S. Pineo, Wolfeboro Police Chief, Dean Rondeau, and Recording Secretary, Amelia Capone-Muccio.

Chairman Murray opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

**Non-Public Session RSA 91 A: 3 e**

Mr. Pineo stated a non-public session is needed to discuss pending litigation and reputation.

**1. Consideration of Minutes**

N/A

**2. Public Hearings**

**i. As part of the cable franchise renewal proceedings between the Town of Wolfeboro, NH and Atlantic Broadband (NH-ME), LLC pursuant to NH RSA 53-c:3-a, the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on June 9, 2021 at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall, Great Hall to hear comment on the proposal for renewal of the cable television franchise agreement. Copies of the proposed cable television franchise renewal agreement are available at the Town Manager's Office, 84 South Main Street, Wolfeboro NH, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday and or on the Town's website. Any interested person may attend this public hearing and present information and/or opinions related thereto.**

Chairman Murray opened the public hearing.

Mr. Pineo summarized that the Town is at the end of its ten year cable franchise agreement with Atlantic Broadband and the Cable Franchise Committee is currently in negotiations on a new agreement. He stated that the Board has been provided with a proposed contract that is currently being review by Town Council and although the current contract is due to expire, the Town will continue under the old contract until the new one is agreed upon. He stated he would like to thank the members of the Cable Franchise Committee; Pete Schneider, Timothy Goodwin, Lynn Hinchee, Marshall Goldberg, Beverly Woods and David Wells for all their work on this. He also thanked former Selectmen Paul O'Brien for all his efforts and work on the cable agreements. He stated that before the contract is agreed upon that Board will hold a meeting with Atlantic Broad Band representatives present to discuss the results of the survey put out to the residents with their feedback on the company.

Chairman Murray stated the Town received an email that she read and will be included with the minutes.

Mr. Pineo noted that if people are having chronic issue with Atlantic Broadband, they have gone through all the proper channels but are not getting a resolution they can reach out to the Town.

Jeane Mitchell addressed the Board to ask if the Town plans to entertain any other cable companies other than Atlantic Broad Band. She said that by not having competition the rates get so high.

Mr. Pineo replied they have discussed that with Town Council and although competition would be good it is not something on the table at this point. He stated they are working to negotiate better options.

Paul O'Brien addressed the Board and thanked the Committee for all their hard work. He stated that rural America lacks competition in the cable/internet department, but the competition is coming. He said the wireless and telephone options are making their way here and that will provide affordable competition for the cable companies. He explained Cable Franchise Agreements are federally regulated, but their ability to be the only one is coming to an end as the wireless opportunities grow.

Being no one present to speak on the permit, Chairman Murray closed the public hearing. She stated the Board will not be making any decisions tonight as they do not have a fully negotiated contract at this time and the next step will be continuing the negotiate process and holding a public meeting with Atlantic Broadband.

### **3. Public Comment**

N/A

### **4. Bulk Vote**

N/A

### **5. Appointments**

None

### **6. New Business**

None

### **7. Other Business**

#### ***Milfoil***

Chairman Murray provided an update on the Milfoil Eradication taking place in Back Bay. They have a boat in back bay that is currently hand pulling areas that need it over the next few days

and on June 24<sup>th</sup> the chemical treatment will take place in the area known as frog pond to treat the hard to keep under control area. This project is permitted by NH DES and they always do their best to get it by hand first but there are just some areas that they cannot get under control without the chemical.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> of July**

Mr. Deshaies noted at the meeting when they approved the fireworks display for 7/2, they neglected to approve the rain date, which is 7/5 at 9:30 PM.

**It was moved by Brian Deshaies and seconded by Luke Freudenberg to approve a rain date of 7/5 for the Independence Day Fireworks display scheduled for 7/2 at 9:30 PM. Members voted, being none opposed, the motion passed.**

Chairman Murray thanked Brian for working on this and Wolfeboro Jetski Rentals for their support on this.

Mr. Pineo stated that Wolfeboro Jetskis and the Town of Wolfeboro are splitting \$7,500 each for the show.

#### **8. Committee Reports**

None

#### **9. Town Manager's Report**

None

#### **10. Questions from the Press**

None

#### **11. Public Input (Limited to 3 minutes per resident and not to exceed 15 minutes in total)**

Paul O'Brien added that the Cable Franchise Committee helped the Town obtain a contract for the Brown's Ridge Road area of Town who was without cable through Charter Communications and with that Wolfeboro Community TV is working to get the local station broadcasted out there so folks from that area can enjoy the local channel vs. another Town local channel. He stated with this discussion there is also talk of Brookfield joining in on this as well.

#### **12. Non-Public Session RSA 91-A**

None

*Being no further business before the Board, Chairman Murray entertained a motion to enter non-public session to discuss pending litigation.*

**Dave Senecal moved the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen to enter non-public session RSA 91 A: 3 to discuss pending litigation and reputation with the Town Manager at 7:03 PM. Brad Harriman seconded. Roll call vote: Linda Murray- yes, Brian Deshaies-yes, Brad Harriman-yes, Dave Senecal-yes and Luke Freudenberq-yes, the motion passed.**

The Board re-entered public session at 7:31 PM.

**It was moved by Dave Senecal and seconded by Luke Freudenberq to seal the minutes of June 16, 2021. Roll call vote; Linda Murray-yes, Dave Senecal-yes, Brad Harriman-yes, Brian Deshaies-yes and Luke Freudenberq-yes, the motion passed.**

*Being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Murray entertained a motion to adjourn.*

**Dave Senecal moved the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen to adjourn at 7:32 PM. Luke Freudenberq seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,  
**Amelia Capone-Muccio**