**May 23, 2022**

**Meeting of Cable Franchise Committee – The Great Hall**

**Meeting Called to Order 6:30 PM**

Members present: James Pineo, Luke Freudenberg, Brian Deshaies, Denise Velasco, Timothy Goodwin, Marshall Goldberg, and David Wells

Introductions: Each member of the committee introduced themselves and discussed their affiliation with the committee and background. Jim Pineo advised all members they needed to see the Town Clerk to be sworn in.

Old Business: Jim Pineo asked Timothy Goodwin about PEG access availability to other communities. Timothy stated that he has spoken to several different engineers however there has been no resolution. Timothy further spoke about wanting High Definition for the PEG assess Channel, he was also curious about what the percentage of franchise fees the town is receiving. Jim Pineo advised he would look into these items for the next meeting

New Business: Jim Pineo asked if everybody had a copy of the proposed contract from Breezeline which superseded the proposed contract from Atlantic Broadband (ABB). All individuals had the contracts for review.

Brian Deshaise discussed his experience with Breezeline customer service where he was on hold for a lengthy amount of time however, when he called about a new service an agent picked up immediately. He then stated to the agent he wanted to dispute his bill at which time he was transferred and placed on hold for a lengthy period of time. The committee noted there were a number of issues reported with customer service. Jim Pineo noted that when there was active conversations happening with ABB there were significant document improvements being made however these improvements seem to have slipped backwards.

Discussions took place regarding the length of the contract, and the suggestion of a 5 year vs. 10 year contract was debated. The idea of a 5 year contract was that technology is changing, inviting other vendors in to overbuild to enhance competition as allowed in the Non-Exclusivity of Franchise language.

Discussion took place regarding alternate internet providers including wireless. This conversation referred back to a 5 year contract, or the need to sign a contract at all. There was concerns about the need to have a legal reason not to sign the contract, and if there were service issues would Wolfeboro be a priority or not. Jim Pineo stated he would look at the Emergency Operations Plan to see if ABB/Breezeline is represented.

The Committee discussed review of the contract for the next meeting. The committee decided that a review of sections 1 through the end of section 4 for the discussion at the next meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for 6:00PM on June 20, 2022 in the Great Hall.

Public Input: None

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn @ 7:25PM: Marshall Goldberg, Second Timothy Goodwin, all in favor 7-0