

TOWN OF ORFORD

Broadband Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2021

(Meeting by ZOOM)

DRAFT

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM

Roll Call of Committee Members

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, Mark Burger, Lisa Camarra, Edmond Cooley, Charlie Smith, Ronald Smith, Martha Tecca, Jeff Thurston, E. Schwendler

OTHERS PRESENT:

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of May 27, 2021 were approved as written.

Old Business

A. Broadband Usage Survey - *Tecca* advised that the mailers were at Staples and should be delivered to mailboxes and PO Boxes in Orford on Friday and Saturday. There are a total of 650 mailers– 500 of which are to physical addresses and 150 to P.O. boxes. *Adams* thought that there are approximately 1000 individuals on the town's voter rolls and that 650 addresses should be a good representation of the town's population.

Burger indicated that his conversation with Rivendell had been positive and that the school is willing to help connect the Broadband Committee with the Orford school's parent link after graduation for further needs assessment. *Tecca* asked if it would be useful to find out what businesses in town rely on strong Wi-Fi connections and that the surveys won't help with that answer as it is geared to individuals. *Burger* asked if there were lists of registered businesses in town. *Adams* said he would check with the town office, and that they might also check to see if there is a way to find businesses that are listed with the State.

B. RFIs- The companies that RFIs have been sent to have 60 days to respond to the request. If they don't respond, the areas that they cover will be considered to be of an "unserved designation". This would mean that those unserved areas would be open territory to rival companies wishing to bring broadband to the area. *R Smith* asked how the RFIs were sent out and after determining that they were sent via regular mail, asked if the town attorney should be consulted to see if the RFIs should be sent in a way as to confirm that they had been received by the company. *Adams* advised that he will reach out to Attorney Shawn Tanguay on this topic.

New Business

- A. **Future meetings** – *Adams* advised that due to the expiration of New Hampshire's state of emergency order on Friday, June 11th at midnight, meeting formats will revert to in-person on that date. Although there was a legislative vote at the state level to continue remote meetings, any implementation would not happen until perhaps August or September. **Therefore, the July meeting will be held in person at the Town Office.**

The next meeting has been scheduled for July 8th at 7:00 PM

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Camarra