

**DRAFT: Communications Technology Committee
Meeting Agenda
Waldoboro Town Office
5:00 PM Aug 7, 2017**

Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

John Lawrence called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Reuben Mahar, Dick Glidden, Richard Hoffses, and John Lawrence were the committee members present. They constituted a quorum. Also present was Julie Keizer, Waldoboro Town Manager, and Bob Butler, resident.

Approve Minutes from last meeting

Were the previous minutes on hand?

Election of Committee Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary

Reuben Mahar made a motion that John Lawrence be elected as Chairman, this was seconded by Richard Glidden. John Lawrence approved a chair.

There was a discussion around the combination of the secretary and vice chair positions. Reuben Mahar made a motion that these positions be combined, it was seconded by Richard Hoffses.

John Lawrence made a motion to elect Reuben Mahar as Vice Chair / Secretary. This was seconded by Richard Hoffses. Reuben Mahar approved as Vice Chair / Secretary.

Old Business:

State Legislature Update.

Utility Pole Attachment Bill LD406

LD 406 was passed. The actual execution process for pole attachment is a work in progress. LD406 streamlines the process of applications to get on the poles and should reduce make-ready costs by about 30%.

Revamping ConnectME vs. LD1399 status

LD1399 restructures ConnectME, which would fall under the Department of Community and Economic Development. This was approved but not funded. The only funding source for this would be through a telecom tax. Watching to see what happens with the new state advocate.

New Business:

Establishing Town Internet use educational programs

A discussion about what kind of bandwidth needs exist in our town. Reuben Mahar explained the needs of newer services like Vudu and Netflix at very high resolutions. Needs for video conferencing were also covered.

Lack of broadband and the potential effect on real estate sales was discussed. Reuben Mahar pointed out that some people won't buy homes or businesses if wired Broadband isn't available.

Pros and cons of all the ISPs available to our residents were discussed.

What speeds are guaranteed by Charter, LCI, Fairpoint?

We'll reached out to these companies for comment.

What speeds are needed?

The State definition of broadband is currently 10Mbps download and 10 Mbps Upload. This means one hundred photos on a modern iphone would take about 40 seconds to download or upload if the full speed of 10 Mbps is available.

Locations and times for possible educational sessions were discussed.

Round 11 grant plan for LCI were discussed.

There was a grant for Manktown road. More information should be available in September.

Additional new business from committee and town management.

Citizen Comments

Adjourn, 6:30PM, 8/7/2017

**Respectfully Submitted
Reuben Mahar, Secretary and Vice Chair**