

Town of Waterford 5G Task Force Committee

Meeting: January 21, 2021

Hurst Visitor Center

9:00 AM

Minutes

Attendance: Dave Woodin, Paul Henry (phone), Judy Houbre (phone), and Brian Gidley.

Task force members and the public were allowed to call in at **(518)694-5646 Participant Code: 310506.**

After introductions, Dave Woodin reviewed what has previously occurred with the three major items that the committee was concentrating on: the Master License Agreement (MLA), the fee structure, and the Aesthetic Design Standards.

It was agreed that the MLA was complete and no further revisions necessary.

The next item was a review of the fee schedule. Woodin explained that he had found some articles that stated that the FCC has a soft cap (referred to as a safe harbor) on fees. For the most part, our earlier discussions had been in the ballpark as to what fees we could charge. It was the consensus of the committee that we apply the maximum fees possible. For a one time application fee, we encouraged batching of pole requests and it would cost \$500. That would allow up to five separate pole requests. Any additional poles in the application would add an extra \$100. These costs would apply to applications for collocations and replacement poles. For a new pole location, the application fee would be \$1000.

As to the recurring fees that cover maintenance and rental of the space, the Town would collect \$270 for every Town owned pole. There are very few of these, mostly in the parks. Poles owned by a non-Town entity such as National Grid would garner a fee of \$135 for the Town.

The Town is not authorized to issue a permit in a non-Town ROW. Therefore, any application on a state highway (Saratoga Avenue and Hudson River Road) and on a County highway (Middletown and Fonda Road) are handled by NYSDOT and Saratoga County respectively. As a result, the Town will also not collect any fees associated with poles in the non-Town ROWs.

The next item was a review of the Aesthetic Design Standards. Each member had been issued a draft copy. Nobody had any comments requesting changes, so the consensus was that the design standards were acceptable.

Woodin then moved onto developing content for a potential web page. Woodin prepared a draft web page utilizing portions of material sent by Verizon as well as various websites that committee members had found and they had FAQ sections re: the implementation of 5G. Brian Gidley requested several minor editorial changes and also asked if a map of the Town could be provided in which the map would indicate the eligible streets where 5G could be implemented. Woodin agreed to take care of the requests. The committee was otherwise agreeable to the proposed web site content and Woodin said that the website could be updated with more information as we proceed through the workshop and public hearing phase and more questions and comments are generated.

Woodin explained that the next step would be to forward the package of the MLA, fees, aesthetic design standards and website FAQs to the Town Board in anticipation that they will call for a workshop followed by a public hearing. He thanked the committee for their efforts and that they will convene again when a workshop is scheduled to go over the material with the Town Board.