

Shutesbury Broadband Committee		
05_15_2024	5:00 PM DST	On Line Zoom Meeting
Facilitator	Gayle Huntress	
Minutes keeper	Jim Hemingway	
Committee Attendees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gayle Huntress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Schmidt Graeme Sephton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Hemingway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Craig Martin
Other		
Approved minutes April 17, 2024		

Hut Report: PV&E, our new service provider for our HVAC Mini-splits, gave us a quote of \$1,623 to add surge protectors to both units along with some other minor repairs. These new parts should correct the troubles that we have had with both units over the past few years. Graeme has also asked Pachoriek, who provides maintenance and service for the hut's generator and transfer switch, to make some adjustments to the timing and interaction of both units when there are power fluctuations and failures. The cost of making these programming changes will be \$300 unless we decide it can wait until Pachoriek does his yearly maintenance in October. This delay until October would eliminate the \$300 service call and was agreed to by Steve, Jim and Gayle provided PV&E will be able to install the HVAC surge protectors in the very near future.

36 case service tickets last month, somewhat less than normal. Sertex has been working on the 585 Wendell Road fiber network extension which stretches out over 7 new poles. Work on this extension should be completed shortly. Gayle is working with the police chief who was concerned about the lack of traffic flaggers/police detail during this installation process. Gayle has also notified the pole authority (NJUNS) that the transfer of our fiber from the old single phase poles to the 189 new three phase poles along Locks Pond Road and Lake Shore drive is now complete. This will enable Verizon to move ahead with transferring their cables over to the new poles as well as the removal of the old ones now that our work is completed.

Financial Report: Thanks to the Special Town Meeting vote earlier this year that enabled us to move our retained earnings from FY23 into our emergency reserve fund, the MLP will be able to pay all of its bills that will be coming due by the end of FY24 which amount to roughly \$77,800. Consequently, retained earnings for this current fiscal year will be much lower than in previous years due to some significant, unexpected expenses having to do with the cost of transferring our fiber from all of the old single phase poles along several Shutesbury roads over to the new three-phase ones.

The MBI/MassTech survey that Gayle has been working on with Leverett is lengthy but is now complete, and she will be sending this survey out to all Shutesbury residents in the next few

weeks. \$56K has been set aside for us once the survey is administered, and, depending on what we and Mass Tech learn about our fiber network from the survey, the MLP may be able to receive an additional \$44K of grant funding.

Gayle was reappointed as MLP manager for the upcoming fiscal year. The MLP vote – Hemingway, aye; Schmidt, aye. Gayle will bring the final balance sheet for the current fiscal year to our next meeting in June.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.