

## **Wareham Cable Advisory Committee (CAC) Minutes**

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Hybrid In-person Town Hall Rm 24 and Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm

### **I. Call to Order/Roll Call**

- a. Matt Underhill                      present
  - b. Dan Butler                              present remotely
  - c. Dave Rogers                          present remotely
- All members were present. A quorum was established.

### **II. Public Participation**

- a. Representatives of WCTV (Steve Ruiz and Jon Day) and attorney Bill Solomon were present. There were no other members of the public present.

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Members reviewed draft minutes of the April 21, 2022 CAC meeting.
- b. Mr. Butler moved to approve and post the minutes, seconded by Mr. Rogers. Vote:
  - i. Chairman Underhill                      Aye
  - ii. Mr. Butler                                      Aye
  - iii. Mr. Rogers                                      AyeMotion Passed 3-0-0

### **IV. Discussion with counsel**

- a. Attorney Solomon reviewed various negotiation options. By the second week in July, Mr. Solomon will provide his draft, recommended contract for the Verizon negotiation for CAC review. Negotiations with Verizon should commence in August 2022.
- b. To assist with negotiations, Mr. Ruiz stated he would provide WCTV capital planning requirements to Mr. Underhill by early July.
- c. Mr. Ruiz stated he would extend a formal invitation to CAC members to attend the next WCTV Board of Directors meeting (scheduled for 7pm Tuesday 21 July 2022). Mr. Underhill stated he would post publicly notice that the CAC would be meeting with the WCTV Board on 21 July.

### **V. Discussion on Broadband**

- a. Discussion ensued regarding whether and how to examine/study if Wareham should build a fiber optic network to compete with Verizon and Comcast. It was agreed that a joint meeting of the Wareham Redevelopment Authority and the CAC should be arranged to hear a presentation from Mr. David Isenberg, Falmouth citizen-advocate for municipal fiber optic systems. Mr. Butler will coordinate such a meeting for late summer/fall with Mr. Underhill and Mr. Isenberg.

- b. Mr. Underhill briefed the CAC on a successful public safety grant request in the amount of \$197k that will allow Wareham to extend fiber optic connectivity to and between various public safety facilities and schools in Wareham (fire station, police station, town hall, elementary school, potentially the Decas School, etc.). Mr. Butler advised he had received an unsolicited email expression of interest in the grant from an OpenCape representative and would direct the representative to the Wareham IT Director for further information.

VI. Business unknown until the previous 48 hours.

- a. Mr. Underhill reported very few citizens have submitted the CAC ascertainment survey. He stated he would ask the Board of Selectmen to call attention to the survey. Mr. Jon Day, WCTV, stated he would use the WCTV Bulletin Board to direct attention to the survey.

VII. Adjournment. In summary, it was agreed the following action would be taken before the next CAC meeting:

- a. Mr. Butler will forward approved meeting minutes to the Town Clerk for posting.
- b. By the second week in July, Mr. Solomon will provide his draft, recommended contract for the Verizon negotiation for CAC review.
- c. Mr. Ruiz will provide WCTV capital planning requirements to Mr. Underhill by early July.
- d. Mr. Ruiz will formally invite CAC members to attend the next WCTV Board of Directors meeting (scheduled for 7pm Tuesday 21 July 2022).
- e. Mr. Underhill will post publicly advanced notice the CAC would be meeting with the WCTV Board on 21 July.
- f. Mr. Butler will coordinate a joint meeting of the Wareham Redevelopment Authority and CAC for late summer/fall with Mr. Underhill.
- g. Mr. Underhill will ask the Board of Selectmen to call attention to the CAC ascertainment survey.
- h. Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Butler. Vote:

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| i. Chairman Underhill | Aye                          |
| ii. Mr. Butler        | Aye                          |
| iii. Mr. Rogers       | Aye                          |
| Motion Passed 3-0-0   | Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm. |

Submitted: Daniel S. Butler

