

Alexandria Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2021

- ❖ **Members Present:** George Tuthill, Chet Caron and Robert Piehler
- ❖ The meeting came to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- ❖ The minutes for May 18, 2021 were approved
- ❖ **Items Reviewed & Signed**
 - Abatement Response: John & Barbara McCarthy Map 202 Lot 5
 - Abatement Response: Jo-Ann & Edward Sharp Map 410 Lot 32
 - Abatement Response: Raymond & Jill Dulude Map 411 Lot 87
 - Notice of Intent to Cut: Map 411 Lot 186 Fowler River Road
 - Memorandum of Agreement: NH State Parks and Town of Alexandria for Wellington State Park Beach
 - Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber: Map 404 Lot 11 Logger: Mike Sharp Owner: State of NH (cleaning up downed trees from storm damage in Welton Falls State Forest)
- ❖ **Business**
 - Mr. Tuthill mentioned the passing of Larry Stickney, thanked Mr. Stickney or his service to the Town, and offered condolences to his family.
 - LRPC Transportation Advisory Committee
 - George Tuthill was appointed as voting member and Chet Caron appointed as alternative to the Lakes Region Planning Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee.
 - The Selectmen authorized the placement of a book donation bin from Discover Books at the transfer station
 - The Selectmen discussed the need for repairs to the Highway Department's 2009 Sterling that will be around \$31,000; the Selectmen signed a purchase order authorizing the repairs.
 - There was discussion confirming that it was OK for the Conservation Commission to use their funds for repairs to the class VI portion of Hutchins Hill Road leading to the Town Forest without changing the designation of the road.
 - Paul Sirard, Road Agent, met with a representative from Atlantic Broadband regarding having internet service installed at the transfer station. Instead of digging a trench to run wires underground, they would like to run the wires overhead. The Selectmen authorized moving forward with the overhead wires.
- ❖ **Public Hearing**
 - The Selectmen opened the Atlantic Broadband Cable Television Franchise Renewal Public Hearing at 6:13 pm. Mr. Tuthill read the following:

The purpose of today's hearing is to receive the public's input on the proposal for renewal of the cable television franchise with the cable operator in our community, Alexandria.

The Board of Selectmen is the franchising authority under New Hampshire law. Our Town engaged in a process to determine whether Atlantic Broadband (NH-ME), LLC has complied with the provisions of the current cable television franchise agreement. We have also ascertained the future cable related needs and interests of the community, to inform our negotiations of a renewal franchise with Atlantic Broadband.

The proposed cable TV franchise renewal agreement that is the subject of this hearing is the product of that work.

The Board has scheduled this public hearing to consider, in accordance with RSA 53-C:3-a:

 - the financial ability of Atlantic Broadband to perform;
 - Atlantic Broadband's ability to provide adequate and technically sound facilities, equipment, and signal quality;
 - Adequate channel capacity and appropriate facilities for public, educational, or governmental use;
 - The prohibition of discrimination among customers of basic service;
 - Reasonable service quality in terms of available technology, subscriber interest, and cost;
 - Construction and installation that conforms to applicable state and federal laws and regulations and the National Electric Safety Code;
 - A competent staff able to provide prompt, adequate service and to respond comprehensively to customer complaints or problems; and
 - Reasonable rules and policies for line extensions and disconnects, customer deposits, and billing practices.

The public has been invited to attend this hearing through the Public Notice which was posted at least two weeks before the hearing on May 5, 2021. The proposed renewal agreement has been available during that time for public review. Any resident or representative of a local organization who wishes to speak will

Alexandria Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2021

have that opportunity tonight. Please note that some topics are not included in the proposed cable TV franchise renewal agreement, such as cable rates and channel selection, as the City/Town has no jurisdiction over those items. Likewise, the cable TV franchise agreement does not deal with telephone services or internet services provided by Atlantic Broadband, as those are also outside the jurisdiction of the Town.

The Selectmen opened the hearing for public input. There was brief discussion regarding items such as cable rates and various alternatives.

Public Hearing was closed and the Selectmen returned to their meeting.

Mr. Tuthill made a motion to approve the Cable Television Franchise Renewal Agreement with Atlantic Broadband; Mr. Piehler seconded; all aye. The Selectmen signed the renewal agreement.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Dostie, Administrative Assistant