
STC Meeting Minutes – October 5 , 2018

Call to order

A meeting of the Sherman Telecommunications Committee was held at Mallory Town Hall on October 5, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 11:13 AM.

Attendees included First Selectman Don Lowe [DL], Gail Maletz [GM], Steve Maletz [SM], and Al Zeisler [AZ]. Absent were Terri Hahn (TH) and Zoe Sochor (ZS). SM served as Secretary in ZS's absence.

Approval of minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2018 STC meeting was made by DL and seconded by AZ; approved unanimously.

Correspondence/Public Comment

See SVFD Captain Chris Fuchs' (CF), TH and ZS input via email below. No additional correspondence or public comment.

Old Business

A and B. Emergency equipment installation and Firstnet updates:

- DL received lease agreement from Aquarion and is awaiting Eversource and Timber Trails Associates' agreement on terms of the easement.
- Via email, CF reported that:
 - the easement information is currently in the hands of the surveyor and that once his maps are made, it will go to attorneys for review.
 - there is no system in place in Connecticut such that a civilian radio system could be monitored by a dispatcher.
 - Firstnet cellular and data network has been government authorized for exclusive use by first responders (fire, EMS, law enforcement, emergency management personnel,) and that all of Sherman's emergency management personnel are aware of the Town's adoption. This includes the Sherman School's designated members of the emergency management team. AZ suggested that a public announcement of this adoption be made.

ACTION: DL will include Firstnet adoption information in a public announcement.

C. T-Mobile lease at Happy Acres Farm: DL reported that construction can now proceed. T-Mobile expects to be broadcasting from the site on or about January 1, 2019.

D. Possible additional cell tower sites: Berger property on Coote Hill and Timber Trails property at top of Long Meadow are still under consideration. AT&T's Harry Carey and Homeland Towers' Ray

Vergati (RV) are involved in this discussion, though a tower broker (not RV) was present at the last meeting with DL.

E. NWConneCT: TH reported via email that per her conversation with Felicia Jones:

- the State grant money is running out and other means of revenue are being explored,
- the Board membership has increased from 4 to 12,
- they are filing for 501-C (non profit) status,
- the RFP that was sent to telecommunications companies had no responses, and
- they are now sending RFIs to those companies.

The following action was tabled to the November meeting:

ACTION: TH and **ZS** to collaborate on a letter to the editor regarding impact of the Route 37 closure on need for reliable cell service.

New Business

- A. Consideration of town purchase of land (e.g. foreclosed property) on which to construct cell tower(s).

ACTION: AZ to map currently foreclosed properties in Sherman

- B. Request cell carriers provide us with engineering needs for a cell tower.

ACTION: AZ to use previously distributed contact list to make this request of the major carriers.

- C. Encourage carriers to locate equipment so as to provide increased coverage.

ACTION: DL will contact Verizon regarding locating their equipment at Happy Acres.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 AM.

Next meeting: Friday, November 2, 2018, 11:00 am, Mallory Town Hall