

Minutes of Public Hearing/Selectmen's Meeting

17 June 2008

Members present: R Stephen Leighton, Chairman, Lynn Sweet and Stephanie Gray.

Public hearing was opened at 6:07 P.M.

The purpose of this public hearing is to provide information and to receive public input pertaining to renewal consideration of the Town's cable franchise with Metrocast Cablevision in 2009.

Notice was published in Foster's Daily Democrat and the Suncook Valley Sun, and was posted.

Jeffrey Drapeau, Moira Campbell, Sheri Sirus, Brad Koracz and Roland Ranceur were present representing Metrocast Cablevision. Michael Harrington, Rick Ferreira and Jean Chatrand-Ewen, residents, attended.

Mr. Harrington cited his concerns and past problems with customer service, stressing the lack of response to his calls and e-mails. He noted the necessity of having to contact a Selectman to intervene. He was assured by Moira Campbell (Metrocast Gen. Mgr.) that there had been extensive restructuring and those issues had been addressed and customer satisfaction has been improved.

The process used in determining which channels will be carried was discussed. It was noted that they do give consideration to the information included in the responses to their surveys. Metrocast is in favor of "al a carte" programming, however, there are some bargaining limitations due to their size.

Rick Ferreira discussed the density requirement and the prohibitive costs associated with requesting services in remote sections of Town (i.e. Barn Door Gap Road, Wingate Road, Evans Mountain Road, etc.). He stressed the need/desire to have more people (even in remote areas) receive service. It was noted that the existing density specifications were part of the original agreement signed with Northeast Cablevision.

A motion was made, seconded and voted to close the public hearing. The public hearing was closed at 6:36 P.M.

Selectmen's meeting was held directly after the close of the public hearing.

Ben Francum attended to discuss possible changes/improvements at the Recycling Center. He has been working with NRRA on ways to reduce operating costs and increase revenues for operations at the Recycling Center/Transfer Station. It was noted that the

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existing damage to the gate still needs to be fixed. Board was in agreement that gate should be fixed and bill forwarded to the party who did the damage.

Stephanie mentioned recent discussion with Barnstead Board of Selectmen and their affiliation/participation with B CEP (Barnstead, Chichester, Epsom and Pittsfield). Board was in agreement that Stephanie should attend their June 24th meeting, if possible, to gather information pertaining to the benefits of participating in B CEP (i.e. negotiating for the best prices on gas, equipment and some supplies, addressing mutual aid concerns, etc.).

Dave Copeland met with the Board to discuss his temporary position as "Interim Building Inspector".

There was further discussion with regard to the Recycling Center/Transfer Station. Possibility of using a bailer was mentioned. Concern was raised over find space available and caliber of bailer needed.

After review and consideration, a motion was made, seconded and voted to approve the minutes taken at the June 3rd meeting of the Board.

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.