Montague Broad Band Committee

minutes January 7, 2015

Members Present: Kevin Hart, Peter DeVichi, Lisa Enzer Walter Ramsey as town advisor 1 member of public in attendance

5:15 PM Meeting commenced with Kevin and Peter being sworn in.

Kevin gave update on Comcast's installation of cable at industrial park. Anticipates project completed within 30 days.

Kevin also reported on conversation with Representative Kulick held December 2014, in which the Representative was unaware that the Montague Center Fire Station does not have fiber optic cable as indicated on MBI maps.

Another meeting, yet to be scheduled at Rep. Kulick's request with MBI, FRCOG, Montague BB members and fiber optic provider Matrix, to discover means and methods to efficiently remedy this oversight.

Walter briefed committee on his attendance at MASS BROADBAND123 meeting, held December 2014. Current estimate from MBI is to work with Comcast to cable 96% of each town that is now partially served, potentially eliminating 4% of population from receiving services of any sort. This is in discussion phase and not finalized.

Discussion on merits of fiber vs. cable and need for entire population of town to receive equal consideration, ensued.

Then discussed submitting report on research, dynamics of funding and future needs of town, with specific emphasis on reaching un-served areas. Walter offered to draft report with addendum by members. Plan to present to BoS as soon as possible and then at a town meeting.

Drafted questions for Rep. Kulick in order to be transparent and prepared for as yet to be arranged, meeting.

Next meeting: Officers for BB committee be voted upon, and still seeking two more members. Date TBA.

6:30 concluded meeting

Submitted by Lisa Enzer 1/12/15