

**TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN
SELECTBOARD NON-PUBLIC WORKSHOP
MAY 7, 2019**

Selectboard Present: Steve Neill, Chair; Albert St. Pierre, Jeffrey Lessels
Staff Present: Jessica Dennis

The Board discussed the proposed settlement offer presented by Fairpoint Communications. As this is an ongoing appeal, which starting in 2012, Mr. Dennis gave the Selectboard members a brief synopsis of how the appeal got to this point, the attorneys recommendation to accept the settlement and why. A discussion was had about overlay, allowances available for uncollected taxes and what monies are available to settle the appeal. A motion was made by Mr. Neill, seconded by Mr. St. Pierre to offer Fairpoint \$41,015 in the form of a payment in the 2019 year and the remaining \$100,000, in the form of reductions on their tax bills over the next three or four years. With all those in favor, the motion passed. Ms. Dennis will provide this information to the Town's attorney so they may continue negotiating the settlement.

A discussion took place about the Eversource/PSNH Settlement Offer. This settlement offer has been presented to all Towns being represented by Upton & Hatfield. The settlement offer is:

1. No money back for Tax Years 2014 through 2018;
2. For purposes of HB 700 only [if passed into law], the 2018 Assessment for the Company's Distribution Assets would be reduced by 5% - but Fee Land and Buildings, use of the Public Right of Way, Transmission or Generation assets, if any, would not be reduced;
3. The so-reduced 2018 Assessment would be used for Tax Year 2019 and 2020, subject to normal processing of additions and deletions.

A motion was made by Mr. Neill, seconded by Mr. Lessels to accept the settlement offer. With all those in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Neill moved to exit the non-public session, Mr. St. Pierre seconded the motion. With all in favor, the meeting returned to regular session.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Dennis

Approved,


Steven A. Neill



Albert St. Pierre



Jeffrey Lessels

(Note: These are unapproved Minutes. Corrections, if necessary, will be found in the Minutes of the May 15, 2019, Selectboard meeting.)