

**OFFICE OF SELECTMEN  
6 HOLLAND STREET  
PO BOX 139  
MOULTONBOROUGH, NH 03254**

Selectmen's Meeting

March 28, 2013

**MINUTES**

Selectmen: Joel R. Mudgett, Chair, Jonathan W. Tolman, Edward J. Charest (absent with prior notice), Christopher P. Shipp, Russell C. Wakefield; Town Administrator: Carter Terenzini.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Joel called the meeting to Order at 4:01 P.M.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**III. REVIEW / PAYABLES/PAYROLL SIGNATURE FILE:**

| <b>DATE</b> | <b>DOCUMENT</b>                                      | <b>MAP/LOT#</b>   |
|-------------|--|-------------------|
| 3/20/13     | Application for Construction of Driveways - Approved | 243-028           |
| 3/21/13     | Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed                | 134-003 & 116-005 |
| 3/28/13     | Abatement 2012 Values – Granted                      | 192-020           |
| 3/28/13     | Abatement 2012 Values – Granted                      | 145-042           |
| 3/28/13     | Abatement 2012 Values – Granted                      | 235-032           |
| 3/28/13     | Abatement 2012 Values – Granted                      | 196-004           |
| 3/28/13     | Abatement 2012 Values – Granted                      | 247-002           |
| 3/28/13     | Elderly Exemption, Renewed & Approved                | 176-014           |
| 3/28/13     | Elderly Exemption, New & Approved                    | 142-020           |
| 3/28/13     | Elderly Exemption, Renewed & Approved                | 177-004           |
| 3/28/13     | Elderly Exemption, Renewed & Approved                | 094-021           |
| 3/28/13     | Payables/Payables Signature file \$721,584.57        | N/A               |

Russ Made the Motion to approve the Payables/Payroll Signature File for March 28, 2013. Chris Seconded. The Motion carried Unanimously.

**IV. BroadBand Build-Outs:**

- Mike Edgecombe of Time Warner Cable joined the meeting by Skype and spoke about the Town's franchise agreement, pointing out that Moultonborough's standard of 15 homes per mile is below the density they actually need (20-25/mile) to recover their investment. They look at the total cost in a formula to see if it meets a reasonable rate of return. Where the area does not meet franchise standard they use a formula to determine how much they might "chip-in" for a build-out. Joel asked and learned that they have no current plans for a further build-out of their network.
- Fairpoint's Cory Peterson, Network Planning Engineer, Jim Doyle, Sales Engineer, and Ryan Tyler, Regulatory Officer attended. Mr. Doyle said that there are several broad band technologies (high speed always available). There are two types of BroadBand; Symmetrical (up and down speeds are the same) which are best for architects, engineers

and data driven businesses, and Asymmetrical (Download and Upload speeds are different) which are fine for many small businesses and homes which are ok with a higher download speed. The higher speeds need fiber. Mr. Peterson said that Moultonborough is fed from several offices, Center Harbor, Moultonborough and “remote” offices. 96% of their customers can get some form of broadband and of those 60% can get 7 mbs to 15 mbs. They have about 100 customers yet to be served and that would cost \$180K+/- . Those along the route to these customers would see a boost of 3 to 15 mbs. Chris asked for a coverage map and learned that Fairpoint feels this is confidential information. However, if they can protect this in some way they would be willing to work with us. Carter reminded everyone of RSA 91-A and the limited exceptions under which this information could be “shielded”. It would need to occur in the context of much deeper business negotiations. Russ asked about the “drag” that seems to occur on the speeds at 2:15 pm when schools let out and asked if there is a plan over time to replace the “copper” wires noting that there has been overall some improvements in speed. Mr. Doyle replied that Fairpoint inherited these old legacy lines, and part of the improvement is their new equipment. It was also noted that as they move people over to the new lines it does seem to free up speed on the old lines. Mr. Tyler said that they’ve done their best to move from copper to fiber, but must stop short of running it to the houses, as a “direct pipe” is not a “winning business model”. Mr. Peterson said that there is some potential to upgrade the Moultonborough and Center Harbor to Ethernet DSL as they are currently the older legacy lines. Carter asked and learned that the Moultonborough office primarily serves Moultonborough customers while the breakdown on which towns the Center Harbor area serves proportionally was not known. TDS also has some customers (544 exchange) in Town although Mr. Tyler did not know how many. Mr. Jensen asked what the service was from Sandwich and if there are plans for an upgrade. Mr. Peterson said they would need some improvements beyond the central office. Carter asked if the re-cap was that a “Fairpoint Build-Out” would cost 180K+/- with some uptick in speeds for those in the new service areas and the balance being improved by a variety of fixes all providing (anecdotally) some uptick for all. The Fairpoint representatives agreed that to be a reasonable summation. Mr. Tyler pointed out that Fairpoint does not have TV cable, but does have a partnership with Direct TV. The TA pointed out that in this discussion of building out the Broad-Band network in Town the cable company is not the only way to go. Joel asked and Mr. Tyler confirmed they would be interested in a partnership with the community. He continued to say that Verizon had 63% of the state covered with its BroadBand footprint while Fairpoint has spent \$70M in the past five years to move that dial to 95% (they need until the end of this year to get the last 1.7% built out). Mr. Jensen asked what the target would be without the assistance of a client town. Mr. Tyler said that right now they want to hit 95% and frankly would have to then look at what comes next. He continued that the FCC has been looking at a combination of incentives and regulation to move that up above 95%. Joel asked if any other towns are putting money into such efforts and learned that Dover, VT had done such a partnership with Fairpoint. Mr. Tyler will get us the contact information and look into the other questions that had been raised as well.

- Michelle Therrien of Lakes Region Planning Commission described the regional activities of NH Broadband Mapping and Planning Program with federal dollars through the state. Mapping (with speeds) component needs to be done to understand who and how areas will be served. She described the BroadBand Stakeholders Group (which is the most active in the state and meets monthly). They are developing a pilot project to help communities identify gaps and practices, and a chapter for their master plans.

Danbury is the first pilot project as they are the most enthusiastic and have definite needs. They are currently physically surveying and mapping the cable network in the town. She does have data, but it is by census tract so if there is only one person in the tract with coverage it looks like all do.

- Dennis Quinn of Tamworth Wireless Cooperative reported they are serving 120 households with fixed wireless network fed from a Time Warner Business Class connection. There are 3 towers on 3 mountain tops (funded through a \$100K grant), with 4 levels of service speeds ranging from 1 mbs to 4 mbs. Their effort is modeled on the original electric co-ops.
- Gunner Berg of Cyberpine, a non-profit cooperative serving primarily Sandwich pointed to the book Captive Audience as the best description of the fight between the need for BroadBand and the profit motive, the monopolies of different carriers within their own service areas, and the need for reregulation to solve much of the problem. He said Fairpoint has now connected 95% of Sandwich. His wireless is the best at getting out the signal from the end of the cable system to “light up” the rest of the neighborhood, but acknowledged it does not excel at high speed access. He said that if you want to be thinking ahead you really should be thinking about fiber. Wireless does some things well, but it can’t compete with wired networks. He distributed numerous case studies of other systems and the issue at large. Joel thanked everyone for presenting their information. Carter said the two baseline issues the BoS needed to be considering are (a) the difference between trying to build out the cable system (full service) and/or building out the BroadBand system and (b) the appropriate relationship of expending public money on building out the system for the benefit of the private/profit sector.

V. Projects Update: Carter distributed a timeline of processes and decision points for the major capital projects now on our plate. The general consensus seemed to be in agreement with the proposal except for the Landfill Study where it was not settled as to how the Selectmen wanted to proceed. He will put the checklist onto the 04/04 agenda to try to move that forward.

IV. **ADJOURNMENT:** Russ Made the Motion to Adjourn. Jon Seconded the Motion. Motion Carried Unanimously.  
Joel adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

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Approved

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Carter Terenzini, Town Administrator Date