

**ROXBURY SELECTBOARD SPECIAL MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2024**  
**5:00PM – 5:28PM**  
**COMMUNITY HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Rene Bouchard, Vice-Chair Tim Martin, Nathan Donahue and Road Commissioner Dave McShane

STAFF PRESENT: None

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Discussion points included:

- the letter before the Board was prepared by our Attorney to start the consultative process with CV Fiber to claw-back our \$20k ARPA investment
- this was not a decision on proceeding rather just to begin a discussion
- we talked about the area covered by CV Fiber as well as the much larger Northeast Kingdom district they are merging into. The combined district will have many small towns like Roxbury and encompass the largest amount of rural area of any district. It will be very expensive to build out and we question their long-term viability.



- in terms of any rollout activity in Roxbury, the Selectboard discussed and approved a communications box for CV Fiber and suggested alternate locations. Nothing has been heard back on this issue since and no construction by CV Fiber has been started.

- a question was posed that if we took the \$20k back then we would still be in a hole left with no fiber. The concern being that if we lose internet, we lose the ability for people to work from home and therefore the Town will lose people. This fear was mitigated by the fact that TDS has jumped in to fill the void of inaction by rolling out fiber in Roxbury. Further, portions of East Roxbury have access to EC Fiber
- how did we end up in CV Fiber and not EC Fiber? It was stated that the Selectboard some years ago voted not to join EC Fiber when the opportunity first came up.
- it was suggested that perhaps we could approach EC Fiber to determine if we had an option to switch districts...would EC Fiber consider taking on Roxbury? Nate agreed to give EC Fiber a call to start that discussion.
- could we tentatively approve a decision at our next mtg rather than wait until July 31<sup>st</sup>? The language in the Appendix is specific about a decision being made on July 31<sup>st</sup> so it was thought, no.
- Nate made a motion to approve the letter to be sent to CV Fiber. Dave seconded and it was passed 4-0-0
- it was suggested and agreed that Rene would email the letter to the two recipients and that Tammy could follow up with a mailed hard-copy
- it was further agreed to put a CV Fiber item on our next agenda just in case we something heard back by the 22<sup>nd</sup>

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm.

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Rene Bouchard, Selectman

Draft on July 16, 2024