**Town of Paxton, MA**

**Cable Meeting Minutes**

**July 13, 2022**

**Attendees**: Scott Wilson, Robin Tasca and Nick Powlovich

Meeting Opened 2:11 pm

**Old Business**

1. **Approval of July 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes -** Robin 1st, Scott 2nd. -**Approved**
2. **Committee Reorganization –** Motions made and accepted:
* Nick Powlovich – Chair
* Scott Wilson – Vice Chair
* Robin Tasca - Clerk
1. COA Activity Room Wireless Mics & HD camera update buy Nick. The bid is awaiting the MHEC ruling on awarding Ockers their quote.

**New Business**

1. **Station Manager Raise** – Nick proposed raising Scott’s monthly stipend a for running the station and managing the COA studio space. Robin recommended $200 after checking similar positions in the area. Pay range from $40 ah hour to $35K a year. However, with the upcoming Cable Contract negotiations, and not knowing if the cable income will go down, up or out. It was agreed upon that the salary be increased $100 a month until we have an idea of the direction. Scott will keep track of his time for reference.

1. **Communication Exchanges with BOS. -** Robin asked if the selectboard liaison, Kurt Huehls was invited to our meeting. He was not, it is not something the Committee has done in the past. Robin recommended as a best practice we should invite our selectboard liaison and if he attends, he does. We will do this moving forward. Robin also asked if there is any correspondence that should be added to the cable website section, the last Spectrum-Charter correspondence is from 2019. It was said the BOS receives the communication. Robin will reach out to BOS (Donna Parsons) and see if there is any recent correspondence that should be added.
2. **Cable Survey -** Discussion onwhether or not we need a public survey prior to 9/2023 Cable contract negotiations. Robin referred to the PLMD’s survey on internet/TV programing use. What happens if we negotiate a new 10-year contract with Spectrum-Charter and the Light Department offers broadband internet that effectively kicks Spectrum-Charter out of town? Committee agreed to have a meeting with Tara the PLMD manager to discuss their future plans.
3. **Bill August Attorney** – As per the committee’s decision in April’s meeting, and the Town’s Administrator’s direction, Nick reached out to the attorney. Bill is handling several Public Access towns in negotiating with Spectrum-Charter. For example: Holden is six months past their contract end date. They continue to receive the same amount as the old contract. The cost of Bill’s fee is $200 an hour with an estimated 5-hours a month. It was decided that we would hold off hiring an attorney until we have more insight as to what the PLMD is working on.

1. **Studio Location Space -** Does the Light Department have studio space? This can be discussed during the meeting with Tara. Robin mentioned the old school basement adjacent rooms as a possible studio. Unfortunately, the condition of the space would necessitate a major renovation. – Tabled until after site visit by Nick.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm**

Respectively:

Nick Powlovich - Chair