

Town of Paxton, MA Cable Meeting Minutes September 16, 2022

Attendees: Scott Wilson, Robin Tasca, Nick Powlovich, Howard Root, Consultant
Meeting Opened 3:30 pm

Approval of August 22, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- With edits (correcting typos)
- Unanimously Approved (Nick 1st, Scott 2nd)

Selfie Body Camera

Discussion:

- Nick would like to table, not sure its needed. Robin reminded him of discussion with Heather & Mike on 8/22/22 and 8/23/22 and how it would benefit the committee to get one.
- Howard thinks its a good idea for us to get one if/when we ramp up future production. GoPro is like Apple a well known brand. What you see is what you get. Like cellphones, getting the latest model is best. When purchasing be sure you get the adapters and accessories needed, not all come with them.
- Discussion tabled per Nick.

Paxton Fire Dept. Segment

- National Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 9-15, 2022 - <https://www.nfpa.org/>. October is Fire Safety Month.
- Paxton Fire Dept. is hosting its open house on Sat. Oct. 15th 10 AM to 5 PM - this should be recorded
- Soctt will run old Fire station recording in Oct.
- Nick is getting footage from AMC Mass Casulity event that took place this summer
- Nick sent interview questions to Mike (Pingitore), he liked them. Interview will take place in his office on Friday 10/7.
- *Who will do the interviewing and recording?*
- We have 2 mics, camera and tripod we can setup in his office
- We should have someone asking the questions

Discuss/Mapout a rough calendar for the other dept. segments

- Tabled
- Nick wants to see how the PFD segment goes

Upcoming town events

Robin thinks we should be recorded to enhance our programming:

1. Wellness Day 9/28 10 AM - 1 PM - Robin to do
2. Halloween Bonfire 10/31 6:30 - 8:30 PM
3. Paxton Center School Trunk or Treat date 10/23 5-7 PM
4. Holiday Tree Lighting date TBD

Scott commented he has done these things in the past. Robin, correct, however those segments are from a long time ago and the town has changed. Its important to keep programming fresh. Howard commented that families like to see their children on TV so its good to record the community events.

Tracking Scott's Hours

- 8/14 to 9/15/22: 23 hours and 28 minutes
- Equates to \$46/hour rate

COA: Currently Scott's work at COA is paid out of cable. Once we move COA will need to pay Scott for any work out of their budget. COA needs to be informed. **Action: Nick to speak with Cindy.**

Discussion: What should we be charging for video recorders?

- Howard mentions other area stations are paying \$17/hour.
- Minimum wage is \$14.25 and will increase to \$15 1/1/23.
- Committee agreed to offer between \$17-18 depending.
- We will need to create a time sheet to track persons hours
- We need more than one person recording. **Action: Robin to create a news announcement on the website looking for recorders and will push on social as well**
- Howard also recommends that we purchase a laptop/desktop with video editing software for hired recorders to edit etc. We should not be relying on folks personal equipment & software.
- Robin said its important that whatever software we go with has close caption transcribing capabilities. Adobe PremierePro does not sure what Danielle is using and if it does. Nick to ask. **Action: Nick to be sure we get a laptop/desktop with software for our station office/production room**

WPAX-TV Branding & Identification

Discussion:

- Robin mentions its important that we (and whoever we hire for recording) have an identity and credentials.
- Scott showed the current/old yellow ID badges we have. He believes Danielle has extras.
- Howard mentioned that they should include our photo, role, and town seal. Howard has offered to make them for us. We agreed. Scott, declined.
- Nick we will get logoed apparel once we are officially moved into the new station

Cable Contract Negotiation

- The Charter/Spectrum contract is up in Sept. 2023
- Last time there was a subcommittee led by then Selectman Peter Bogren
- BOS member Kirk Huhles is our appointed liaison.
- Nick should we get a lawyer? Holden has one, paying \$200/hour (their contract expired and they are holding out for hi def)
- Howard recommends that we negotiate ourselves and bring the new contract to BOS for review/approval. We have the ability to look at, hashout and then present to BOS. He does not think we should hold out for hi def
- If we cannot negotiate before current contract expires what is the carry over from our current contract **Action: Nick to check**
- We also need to take into account that the subscriber base is going down, Paxton is not a growth town and this will impact our new contract rate. Also we met with PMLD and while they are only going to offer broadband internet that may impact a new/future contract
- We have no Spectrum/Charter rep so that puts us in a better position to negotiate

Meeting adjourned at 5:38 pm

Submitted by: Robin Tasca, Clerk