

**Town of Islesboro
Board of Selectmen - Special Meeting
October 26, 2016, 10:00 AM
Town Office Meeting Room**

MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Arch Gillies, Gabe Pendleton and Jay Zlotkowski

Excused: Hanna Kerr and Sandy Oliver

Others Present: Janet Anderson - Town Manager, and Vernon Ziegler - Broadband Committee Member

Chair Gillies called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM, and a quorum was established.

AUTHORIZE TOWN MANAGER, JANET ANDERSON, TO SIGN:

- 1) **A non-binding Letter of Intent, dated October 26, 2016, to purchase certain assets of Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a Fairpoint Communications - NNE.**

- 2) **A Confidentiality Agreement by and between The Town of Islesboro and Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a Fairport Communications- NNE, related to the “Non-Binding Letter of Intent to Purchase Certain Assets of FairPoint Communications, Inc., dated October 26, 2016.**

Vern Ziegler explained to the BOS the reasons and goals for signing the aforementioned Letter of Intent and Confidentiality Agreement. He has met several times with Fairpoint representatives, beginning with their first meeting on June 24, 2016, in which they discussed acquiring certain assets owned by Fairpoint. The goal of the non-binding agreement is to allow continued discussions regarding what assets the Town wants to acquire and what assets Fairpoint wants to sell while the Confidentiality Agreement allows the Town and Fairpoint to continue discussing potential purchase of certain assets while allowing the exchange of nonpublic information to remain confidential.

Mr. Ziegler said that the goal is to lower make-ready costs, saving the town both money and time. He said, for example, that “we won’t have to reinvent the wheel if over-lashing becomes an option”. The final goal is that there will be an eventual agreement with Fairpoint that will be signed by the Board of Selectmen, and depending on what assets are acquired, it may also be necessary for a vote at Town Meeting.

J. Zlotkowski voiced his concern regarding changeover to GWI phone service and if people will still have access to 911 if they turn off their phones during the off season. Vern is unsure of the answer, but assumes that would be a PUC regulation to have access to 911.

G. Pendleton said that he sees “no harm” in going forward with this plan and supports pursuing talks with Fairpoint.

A. Gilles said the net result is to save the town both money and time, and he also supports going forward.

MOTION BY J. Zlotkowski, seconded by G. Pendleton, to authorize Janet Anderson to sign both the non-binding Letter of Intent, dated 10/26/16, and the Confidentiality Agreement, dated 10/26/16, with Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC, dba Fairpoint Communications - NNE. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Pike, Secretary to the Board of Selectmen