

Islesboro Municipal Broadband Network (IMBN) - Select Board Update 4/6/16

- Goals
 - 100% residential and business properties connected at 1-gigabit at one low price for all
 - 775 *known* residential and business properties at this time
 - Internet speed and capability at least as good as nearby mainland now and for generations
 - 1-gigabit is 300 times faster than DSL Internet currently available on the island.
 - Can stream multiple TV signals and replace satellite TV
 - Wi-Fi, wired Ethernet and optional unlimited phone service
 - Supported by on-island techs plus 24x7 phone support
 - Fiber repairs, installations and service restorations
- Principles
 - Town owns the system & contracts with GWI to operate, monitor, manage, support, repair
 - Must be good deal for subscribers and manageable for taxpayers
 - Designed to be robust for island environment, last several generations and be upgradable as time and technology change.
 - 1-gigabit is on par with larger US metro areas. The IMBN fiber backbone could deliver much faster speeds/capacities in future with new electronics
 - Construction to start ASAP after positive vote and bond funds available to pay bills.
 - Straightforward financial & operational processes so that town can manage it as a department much like the Health Center.
- High momentum preparing for a Town Meeting vote on June 18th
 - May 16th - package and presentation ready for Select Board Meeting May 18th
 - Construction Scenario, Schedule, Costs
 - Bond Measure details
 - Subscriber Deal - Schedule of Fees, Support, etc.
 - Operating Business Plan – revenue, expenses. How it operates, who fixes it, etc.
 - Who Does What? Responsibility Matrix of all the stakeholders.
 - Town Budget implications for construction & partial year operation in 2017 as well as estimates for the operational years beginning in 2018
 - Warrant article(s) draft
 - May 26th Town Public Info Meeting
 - Prepare Voters to make an informed decision
 - Detailed IMBN presentation with questions and answers
 - Written Package a la the May 16th Select Board package - available to all
 - *Becoming an IMBN Subscriber* pamphlet
 - May 26th thru June 17th -info meetings, public sessions at CC, 1x1 meetings as requested.
- Finalizing the Bond Measure - Status
 - Primary Construction Bids
 - Town opened bids from 5 companies. Bidders could bid on 1, 2 or 3 of the scopes. These scopes and their relative cost are:
 - Scope A – Outside fiber backbone cabling, Central Office building - \$\$\$\$\$
 - Scope B – Install and configure electronics inside Central Office - \$
 - Scope C –Installation service at 775 premises (one per property) - \$\$
 - Signup process – Contract adjustable for the number actually installed.

- Owners may *opt out* of construction time installation but deciding later will incur an install fee, as it will be more expensive to do later.
- Notified Waveguide, the Scope A and C low bidder, and will soon begin value engineering (looking for savings) and drafting a contract (with schedule) that could be signed after a positive vote. In addition to being the low-bidder, Waveguide is very experienced building similar systems, has good references and several suggestions for value engineering.
- Working to clarify Scope B bids (may need to rebid in a quick turnaround process)
- Other Construction Bond Items
 - OPM Bid – The *Owner's Project Manager* bids open in 2 weeks. OPM is Town's day-to-day construction project manager and in-house expert on the construction contracts, who does what, and the schedule. Reports to Town Manager. A highly specific, trained person/company. OPM will start ASAP after positive vote and depart just after our acceptance testing is done and subscribers are lit up.
 - Pole Make Ready – We have CMP & Fairpoint estimates re roughly 1800 utility poles. Estimates are high but we can't value engineer these until after vote when we can pay a deposit.
 - Draft contracts with CMP (undersea cable fiber lease) and Maine Fiber Company (*Three Ring Binder* fibers on mainland).
 - Tilson – final design drawings work order, if needed
 - GWI - Construction Phase Oversight work order – testing and acceptance
 - Construction Contingency Fund
 - Initial Inventory of spare parts, used bucket truck with tools
 - Initial Capital Reserve for storm restorations, out of warranty electronics replacement, etc.
- Operating Business Plan
 - Drafted *Terms and Conditions* with GWI awaiting contract draft and estimated operating costs
 - Drafted Subscriber deal, fees schedule, policies and procedures
 - Pro forma Financial Model - Revenues and Expenses to inform fee schedule decisions
 - Operational Overview for Town Manager with Responsibilities Matrix
 - *Becoming an IMBN Subscriber* pamphlet
 - What do you get and why is it a benefit?
 - Preparing your property for installation
 - Subscriber Agreement
- Other Status Items
 - Sally Daggett, the town attorney, is fully involved in all aspects of the legal work
 - Baller and Herbst, Washington DC attorneys & experts in FCC and Federal rules consulted
 - We asked for and received help from Corning and Cienna – vendors with ties to Islesboro.
 - We continue to pursue any and all potential grants, etc. to offset the cost to construct or help people with subscription cost.

Prepared by Roger Heinen on behalf of the Broadband Committee - Sunday, April 3, 2016

Islesboro Broadband Committee
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