

Economic Development Update

December 6, 2011

Telecommunications

Fairpoint (Broadband to East Dover)

Fairpoint celebration is set for December 7 at Town Hall at 6 PM. Service is now available in zones 1 and 2.

Cell Service

There is nothing to report on Earthtone. I've tried to call them several times and left messages with no return phone call. I can assume they have no further interest. Our offer to absorb the first 5 years of charges (\$60,000) for the initial carrier to use an Earthtone tower ends on January 19, 2012.

The cell towers on both Rice Hill and Dover Hill are still operational. I've made some strides in contacting AT&T myself about making the Dover Hill site permanent. My quandary is that the more I pursue this, the more I get into issues such as permits at Stubb's tower and potential AT&T issues. It's probably not a good assumption that AT&T and Verizon forgot about those cell towers.

I'm going to try to meet with Stubb Thomas, now that he has moved back to the Dover Hill location and formulate an approach.

VTEL

Nothing to report. I left messages with no return phone call. I think we should use our contacts with FEMA to try to gain some insight as to what Vtel is doing and when. They are operating under a Federal grant – someone should know.

Survey

Interesting results on the survey. Everytime I look at it, I get another perspective. Cell service and broadband are once again paramount as is high taxes.

eVermont

Wi Fi Hotspots

We have 2 remaining issues to resolve. The first is to finalize the use of which repeater we use. The second is to resolve who will supply the Internet gateway to the zone. I expect these to be resolved within the next week or two. Neither issue will dramatically affect the cost. I am requesting that the board authorize Linda Holland to sign the MOU after these issues are

satisfactorily resolved with a not to exceed cost of \$14,000. This is due to the lengthy timeframe to the next meeting.

Website

I have completed the first draft of the job description but want to consider it further with Linda before presenting it to the board.

Trails

We have finalized the letter to the abutters and they will be mailed out shortly.

Beautification

We got 8 responses to our Landscape Architect RFP.

These will be sent under separate cover. We are finalizing our evaluation team and the evaluation process will begin thereafter.

The Dover Bright Lights look fantastic. Linda has gotten Sylvania to give LED lights to businesses in all 7 towns that are sponsoring Bright Lights for sales tax only. Not only are they energy efficient, but they are virtually free to businesses. We should exploit that from a marketing perspective.

Marketing

Nothing new to report.

Events

Living History's Time Line event will be presented.

Interpretive Signs

RFP is enclosed for your review.

Financial

The revenue through Q3 of 2011 will be given out under separate cover as will the YTD expenses through November 2011.

FEMA

Nothing new to report. Summit meeting is set for December 5, 2011.