

Town of Somerville, ME Municipal
Broadband Board Minutes
February 10, 2025

Location: Zoom only

Members Present: Sharon Reishus, Jim R. Grenier, Bobbie Creamer, Jim Scheid, Doug Shartzter

Guests Present: Chris Johnson- Project Manager for the Town of Somerville, ME, Mark Oulette – Axiom Technologies

Call to Order: 6:00 PM

- * Sharon Reishus called the meeting to order.
- * No meeting minutes to review

Project status update from Mark Oulette

190 Customers signed up
85 installations completed
16 are scheduled to be installed
6 Deferred (Seasonal)
5 Cancelled for a variety of reasons

Hawkeye Counts

58 complete
22 ready to test and turn over to Axiom.

Chris Johnson gave an update that the Central Office had the heat register removed and the walls would need some sheet rock work to finish the walls. Also, the Security Bars had been installed.

Chris Johnson also reported that the town Selectboard is requesting that all bills that have been paid by the Town Treasurer for the Broadband Project operation costs and past legal fees be paid by the Broadband Project immediately.

Mark Oulette responded to ARPA Grant money and materials that need to be inventoried before the grant closes

Doug Shartzter asked, “How many subsidized customers are getting underground conduit runs using ARPA funds?” the answer Mark O gave as “ZERO”.

The Broadband Board Received a new quote for Catastrophic Insurance from PURMA that covers unexpected damage to the system including, but not limited to ‘Terrorism’. The new quote was for one year of coverage at a premium of \$3091.00. This would allow the town of Somerville

to have up to \$500,000.00 of coverage per incident with a \$1000.00 deductible.

Doug Shartzter Made a motion that the Somerville Municipal Broadband Board recommend that the Town of Somerville Selectboard Members to adopt and pay the yearly premium through PURMA for one year of Catastrophic Insurance to protect the fiber optic infrastructure for the year 2025 at a cost of \$3091.00 per year with a binding start date of April 1, 2025.

The motion was seconded by Bobbie Creamer

All members were in favor, the Motion Carried.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony;

The school gymnasium is secured
Doug and Chris to make a short video of the new Connectivity office.
refreshments were discussed

Next meeting date set for March 10, 2025, at 6 PM

Bobbie Creamer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Doug Shartzter

All members were in favor, Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjournment 7:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Shartzter, Somerville Municipal Broadband Board, Secretary

Accepted:

Sharon Reishus (Board Chair)

Doug Shartzter (Board Secretary)