

CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COUNCIL

January 13, 2022

The regular scheduled meeting of the Cable Television Advisory Council (CTAC) was held on **Thursday, January 13, 2022 at the Litchfield Fire House.**

CTAC Members Present: Chairman, Stephen Simonin, Litchfield; Secretary, Lucille A. Paige, Torrington; John Angevine, Warren; David Rosaler, Goshen; Gary Lafferty, Watertown;

Excused: Garry Bernier, Denise Russ, Watertown; Jeff Dunn, Thomaston

Esme Lombard, Optimum/ALTICE representative of Government Affairs attended by phone recording.

1 Call to order: Chairman Simonin called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2 Approval of the agenda: In a **motion** made by Lucille A. Paige, seconded by John Angevine, it was **voted** to approve the agenda as submitted. Voted unanimous.

3 Public Participation: No public in attendance.

4 Correspondence: None

5 Secretary's Report:

In a motion made by John Angevine, seconded by Stephen Simonin the minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2021 were voted approved unanimous.

6. Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Lafferty reported a balance of \$6472.24. Ending balance as of 1-13-2022 \$6048.00. In a motion made by Lucille Paige, seconded by John Angevine, it was voted to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Voted unanimous.

7. Town Representative's Report: None

8. Update from Chairman Simonin was turned over to Esme Lombard, Optimum/ALTICE representative for an update on Fiber to the home.

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Ms. Lombard stated that the design is almost complete for “fiber to the home” for the town of Litchfield. The locations have been approved, letters to surrounding property owners have been sent; this new design and installation is moving along. The fiber system is going to be installed in parallel to the existing HFC system.

The Altice engineers are contracting installation crews and will meet with the First Selectman, and the Town Manager of the 7 town in this system. They need to establish location for the interface cabinets for the fiber system. The CTAC members will get copies of notes and cabinet locations for the towns.

Building a new network, which requires a set of new fibers and system routing. This network will provide equal high speed bidirectional bandwidth on fiber. The fiber connections to homes will be installed in approved locations; this is only for people who want it. 1G band-width will require subscribers to pay a cost of up to \$200.

The existing HFC video and data service will be maintained for all users that want to keep it. The new fiber system will have its own feed and costs for the data services. The details of service were not available to us yet.

Battery backup still in place. We did not get definitive answers on the battery back up for the present HFC but the new fiber system will have battery/ generator back up.

ALTICE is dropping clear-QAM for all local broadcast signals on 18 Jan. This means that a set top box is now needed to decode the signals. TVs with QAM decoders will no longer display the video without the added costs of a set top box. Altice offered to provide 1 year free set top boxes to those impacted.

Details of cabinet locations will be reviewed in all seven (7) towns. Details will be sent to all 7 towns and to CATC members.

A brief discussion took place on battery backup to the home for Warren residents.

Operation of Individual Broadband installation was discussed .

9. New Business: None

10. Adjournment: In a **motion** made by David Rosaler, Goshen, seconded by Gary Lafferty, Watertown; voted unanimous; the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Lucille A. Paige, Secretary