

## Meeting Minutes – Rye Telecommunications Committee (October 30, 2023)

Attendees: Howard Kalet, Kathy McCabe, Brett Zola, Steve Borne and John Bellino

- Meeting Called to order 6:02 PM and Adjourned 7:06 PM
- Unanimous vote to appoint Howard Kalet as Chairman and John Bellino as secretary.
- HK provided an update related to the following items.
  - N. Hampton (Mill Road(Cell tower) project coordinated by Vertex
    - Cell tower will require approvals by both N. Hampton and Hampton
    - Discussion related to impact on improving Rye coverage. A meeting with Dave Maxton to determine impact.
  - HK reviewed previous and potential new cell tower locations.
    - Breakfast Hill (Bethany Church) this area has a gap and population is growing.
    - Rye Central Cemetery. This is viewed as the ideal location for improving coverage in the center of town with hopeful impact at the beach.
    - Rye recreation field- Revisit with appropriate town committees.
    - Abenaqui CC will not be viable.
    - Water district will not be able to accommodate any additional carriers on the water tank.
    - Potential for property behind the Rye Elementary School.
- Discussion related to meeting with vertex to determine the potential for assistance in Rye to drive private cell tower locations. HK to coordinate meeting.
- Discussion related to the Dave Maxson study.
  - BZ suggested the committee request the coverage gaps be adjusted to reflect deficiencies by each carrier as opposed to the current budling. This will provide more accurate gap data.
  - HK to discuss with Dave Maxton and determine associated cost for budget inclusion with select board.
- Immediate committee goals
  - Circulate and review the previous Maxton study to align all members with coverage gaps.
    - Potentially augment study with more carrier specific gap data
  - Determine if the recommended two towers will need to be increased.
  - Research potential partnerships to drive cell tower location commitments.
  - Ideal path would be for placement on town property but also continue due diligence on private property opportunities.
  - Once the due diligence is completed identify 2 to 3 premier locations and present to the select board and all town committee stakeholders.
    - This will help identify the required overlay districts.
      - Approval will be required at the annual town meeting and timeline would target the 2024 vote.
- Next meeting December 12, 2023, at 6PM. Location to be determined.