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## **SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES**

### **October 1, 2020**

Ms. Pitt stated, as Chairman of the Marlborough Board of Selectmen, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during the meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

Roll call attendance:

Chairman Pitt	Yes – Present on conference call	No one else in the room
Selectman Paight	Yes – Present on conference call	No one else in the room
Selectman Nelson	Yes – Present on conference call	No one else in the room

The Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm. Present in the Town Office was Ellen Smith, Town Administrator and Bob Hill, Broadband Committee Member. Jeffrey Miller, Susan Jenkins and Rich Jenkins, also Broadband Committee Members, were in attendance via Zoom.

Chairman Pitt noted that the purpose of this meeting was to receive and open responses to the Town's RFP for the improvement of broadband coverage in the Town to unserved locations as defined by NH RSA 38:38, I c. An unserved location is defined by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and in the RFP as a location that does not have access to at least 25 Mbps download/3 Mbps upload speeds. The locations do not need to be subscribing to this service, but the service must be available at the "street level" as hereinafter defined. The Town currently has very uneven broadband access, availability and speeds. Approximately 86% of the Town does not have the availability of 25 Mbps download/3 Mbps upload speeds. Broadband service is currently provided by Consolidated Communications, Inc., Spectrum and other providers.

Consolidated Communications, Inc. submitted the only proposal. The estimated project cost is \$1,008,000. The RFP states that the Board of Selectmen will make its decision to accept or reject the proposal no later than November 2, 2020. Please note that Section 6. of the RFP states that "The Board reserves the right to cancel this RFP at any time, to reject any and all Proposals, to waive any defect or informality and to accept the Proposal deemed by the Board to be most favorable to the best interests of the Town".

Chairman Pitt noted that if the Board of Selectmen decide to accept the proposal, the contract will be negotiated and presented to the Town Meeting in March of 2021 for final approval.

There was a brief discussion of what other funds may be available for this project that may reduce the total amount of the bond. Senator Jay Kahn did provide some information on another possible funding source through the FCC. The Committee will investigate this further.

Broadband Committee Member Cody Lee, who was not able to attend today's meeting, has prepared a checklist to review the RFP. Missing information or items that need clarification will be requested of Consolidated Communications, Inc.

Selectman Paight moved and Selectman Nelson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:17 pm. Roll Call Vote Chairman Pitt - Yes, Selectman Nelson - Yes, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Smith  
Town Administrator