

TOWN OF BEDFORD
January 28, 2022
BEDFORD TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Bedford Telecommunications Committee was held on Friday, January 28, 2022 at the Town Meeting Room, BCTV, 10 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, NH. Present were: Bill Duschatko (Chairman/Town Council Rep), Kathleen Bemiss, Gregory Handy, Chris Swiniarski, and David Tuttle. Also present: Rick Sawyer, Town Manager, and Rebecca Hebert, Planning Director.

Chairman Duschatko called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

New Business

- Presentation by Comcast – Bryan Christianson and Christopher Hodgdon from Comcast presented their current network structure in Bedford, the products they supply for internet service, the upload and download speed currently provided, and the usage patterns they see in Bedford. Then they presented the transition Comcast is committed to making utilizing new hardware and software technology that would allow them to deliver multi-gig upload and download service in the next 18-24 months.
- Legislation – Chairman Duschatko indicated that he testified before the Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee on SB247 which is sponsored by Senator Ricciardi and looks to remove the definition of unserved as it applies to municipal bonding for broadband improvements. This is the prime piece of legislation that the Telecommunications Committee had sought in support of the work and findings that the Committee has completed over the last couple of years. He further indicated that the bill had support from the NH Municipal Association, Southern NH Planning Commission, and the Southwest Region Planning Commission. The Senate Committee took no action on SB247 at the close of the session.

Chairman Duschatko also mentioned that the Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee voted to recommend SB395 that allows municipalities and cell phone service providers to apply for broadband matching grant funds to upgrade local cell phone service to the standard necessary to support broadband and other advanced communication services.

- Future Meeting Dates and Times – Following a discussion the Committee agreed that future meetings will be held on the fourth Friday of the month at 9:00 AM.

Chairman Duschatko adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Sawyer, Town Manager