

Cable Advisory Committee  
Minutes of September 26, 2013

Present for the Cable Committee were: Chairman Christopher Ferguson, Vice Chair Hank Noel, Gordon Lutz and Louis Rousseau. Also present were: Dennis E. Piendak, Town Manager and Samantha Carver the recording secretary. The meeting was held in the Varnum Room in Historic Hall located at 1660 Lakeview Avenue, Dracut, MA.

Absent: Ted Kosiavelon, Len Proposki

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The first topic of discussion was that Channels 8, 22, & 99 being scrambled. Mr. Piendak clarified that it was not only these channels. A letter had been sent out from Comcast dated July 18, 2013 regarding encrypting the limited basic service customers whom do not have equipment supplied from Comcast.

The Chairman asked the Committee their thoughts on trying to hold public hearings on contract violations from Comcast. The Committee discussed the INET issue as it relates to the current contract.

Mr. Piendak stated that the Committee is two months away from the ascertainment period to begin negotiating a new cable contract and stated the Committee probably would be in a better position at that time to try and get concessions from Comcast. Mr. Piendak also suggested the Committee may want to consider having Jack Lyons who has negotiated each cable contract the Town has had as an advisory source to participate.

Mr. Ferguson discussed the costs of having separate cable connections at the town buildings and would like to keep a running total of what this costs the Town from year to year. He would like to see what it has cost for the last five years.

**Minutes**

Mr. Rousseau made a motion to approve the minutes of May 2, 2013 as presented. Mr. Noel seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Adjourn**

Mr. Noel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Mr. Rousseau seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

  
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Absent: Ted Kosiavelon

**CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

  
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Absent: Len Proposki